



Palm and Pine

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



Volume 39 Number 2

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

MARCH—APRIL 2009

In This Issue

Contacts for Chapter office	2
<i>Plus website & membership</i>	
Hiking is Irrelevant	2
<i>So says a State Commission</i>	
Volunteers Needed	2
<i>Solar Permit Fee Survey</i>	
Group News	3
<i>Moreno Valley, Los Serranos, Mountains, Mojave</i>	
Calendar	5
<i>Something for everyone: Outings, Activities and meetings</i>	
Chapter Positions	8
<i>Contact information</i>	
Island Hopping in Channel Islands	9
<i>2009 Fundraising Trips</i>	
Huts, lodges available	10
<i>Local Club mountain facilities</i>	
Sierra Club Elections Coming	10
<i>Voting Instructions</i>	
Membership Application	11
<i>Not a member yet?</i>	
The Desert Institute Classes	12
<i>Exciting outdoor classes for all</i>	
To Arizona for Birds	12
<i>Bill Eng's early SC experiences</i>	

Membership Meetings

Tuesday, March 3

San Gorgonio Wilderness Association

Ted Schofield of the San Gorgonio Wilderness Association will be speaking on "Preserving the San Gorgonio Wilderness: A Volunteer Effort".

Tuesday, April 7

Center for Biological Diversity

Kassie Siegel, Senior Counsel and Climate Law Institute Director will highlight the Center's work, particularly its strategies to address the threat of global warming.

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

San Gabriel Mountains Forever Campaign Comes to the Inland Empire

By Mary Ann Ruiz

Over the past year, the San Gabriel Mountains Campaign East Group has been working to build a base of support in the Inland Empire. Volunteers have been planning events and activities to engage the local communities in an effort to preserve our mountains. The campaign has three basic goals:

- Preservation of wilderness.
- Protection of rivers for clean drinking water and recreation.
- Expanded recreational opportunities to promote health and connect communities and youth with the outdoors.

On January 29 a meeting in Claremont drew 60 interested local community members. Speaker Mark Acuna captivated the group with his program about the Tongva people and their ties to the land and the mountains for Southern California over the past 8000+ years. The

group also participated in a letter writing campaign to Congressman Dreier, resulting in over 60 letters that were presented to him in support of the Omnibus Lands bill before Congress now. Another 200 letters were gathered at a recent tabling at REI in support of additional potential wilderness areas recommended by the Forest Service.

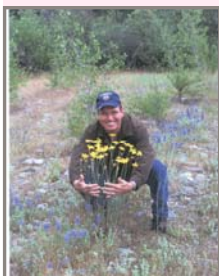
In this past year, volunteers have led hikes, organized a restoration in San Antonio Canyon, held potluck parties in their homes, and two other community program nights. These efforts will continue to grow over the coming months. Sign up for this campaign to receive



Mary Ann Ruiz/Los Serranos Group
San Gabriel Mountains Forever Campaign Trash Pick-up

notice of upcoming events to include another restoration, hikes and opportunities to help. The next event will be another letter writing tabling at REI on March 7. To join this campaign, go to <http://www.sierraclub.org/ca/socalforests/signup.asp> and sign up. Or, for further information contact Juana at juana.torres@sierraclub.org

San Gorgonio Wilderness Association



Ted Schofield/SGWA
Flower Hugger

The San Gorgonio Wilderness Association (SGWA). Presently, the group is at 125 volunteer members. The San Gorgonio Wilderness Association works in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service in caring for the San Gorgonio Wilderness and neighboring areas on the San Bernardino National Forest.

Because of declining funds in the late 1970's, the Forest Service closed the Barton Flats Visitor Center. Today the Center is totally staffed by volunteers and serves up to 10,000 visitors each summer. In the San Gorgonio Wilderness, the SGWA single-handedly provides the bulk of trail patrol and maintenance. Often, the only contact the visitor has with a 'ranger' is with an SGWA volunteer. Because of the cooperative association the SGWA has with the Forest Service, all volunteers wear the official U.S. Forest Service uniform and are dispatched on assignments in which they utilize Forest Service hand-held radios. They have proven themselves an invaluable asset to the Forest Service as well as to the public. The official duty of those on trail patrol is to check Wilderness Permits, enforce all regulations from an educational standpoint, conduct trail maintenance, and answer the visitor's questions. However, they have often been instrumental in finding lost hikers, aiding the injured, and reporting fires and other hazards.

SGWA volunteers also serve at the Mill Creek Ranger Station, which is the hub of activity for the San Gorgonio Ranger District. The majority of visitors to the Wilderness stop at the Mill Creek Ranger Station to get their required permit -- it is here they are greeted by SGWA volunteers.

Center for Biological Diversity



Brendan Cummings

The Center's innovation was to systematically and ambitiously use biological data, legal expertise, and the citizen petition provision of the powerful Endangered Species Act to obtain sweeping, legally binding new protections for animals, plants, and their habitat — first in New Mexico, then throughout the Southwest, next through all 11 western states and into other key areas across the country. With each passing year the Center has expanded its territory, which now extends to the protection of species throughout the Pacific and Atlantic oceans and international regions as remote as the North and South poles. As our range grew, and first tens, then hundreds of species gained protection as a result of our groundbreaking petitions, lawsuits, policy advocacy, and outreach to media, we went from living and working on a shoestring to having offices around the country — from relying on donated time from *pro bono* attorneys at large firms to building a full-time staff of 15 prominent environmental lawyers and eight scientists who work exclusively on our campaigns to save species and the places they need to survive.

At the Center for Biological Diversity, we believe that the welfare of human beings is deeply linked to nature — to the existence in our world of a vast diversity of wild animals and plants. Because diversity has intrinsic value, and because its loss impoverishes society, we work to secure a future for all species, great and small, hovering on the brink of extinction. We do so through science, law, and creative media, with a focus on protecting the lands, waters, and climate that species need to survive.

We want those who come after us to inherit a world where the wild is still alive.

Kassie Siegel, Senior Counsel, Climate Law Institute Director, develops and implements campaigns for the reduction of greenhouse gas pollution and the protection of plants and animals threatened by global warming, including the Center's petition to protect the polar bear under the Endangered Species Act. Prior to attending Berkeley's Boalt Hall School of Law and working for the Center, she was a natural-history guide leading wilderness trips in Alaska.

Annual March Fund Appeal Underway

Every year in March the Sierra Club allows the chapter its only opportunity all year long to send a chapter-wide direct mail request for donations. Chapter members should receive this letter soon. The letter outlines the many priorities and accomplishments of the San Gorgonio Chapter.

And once again, your entire donation is Tax Deductible!

There is so much work to be done; it takes time and effort; it's expensive and we can't do it without your help. Please send your generous tax deductible gift as soon as you receive your Fund Appeal

letter. Only a small portion of your National Sierra Club dues returns to our Chapter so we must turn to our members to do meaningful conservation work locally.

In case your letter doesn't arrive, remember to make your checks out to: The Sierra Club Foundation. Send them to: San Gorgonio Chapter, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside, CA 92501.



*The Sierra Club San Gorgonio Chapter
has received a
Gift in memory of
Charles Rice
from
Jim & Nancy Lane*

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. Write or e-mail for Advertising Rate Schedule.

Classified Advertising Rates
Personal: \$0.25 per word. \$3.00 minimum.
Commercial: \$0.50 per word. \$5.00 minimum.
Classified advertising is accepted to a maximum of 8 lines (40 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

Hiking Is No Longer Relevant To Kids

“Motorized recreation programs and activities offer an alternative...”

California State Parks - Off Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division Strategic Plan 2008 states: "In recent years a number of dramatic trends have evolved that indicate overall use and support of "traditional park" opportunities are becoming less important to park visitors as young visitors desire more diversified recreation opportunities. This trend is described in books, in the popular press and is discussed in a variety of public forums. People are coming to realize that our youth no longer have a relationship with the natural environment to the lack of participation in traditional recreational opportunities by an increasingly diverse California population. This trend is evident in the reduced participation in traditional recreational opportunities by an increasingly diverse California population. In fact, a segment of Californians find many of the current traditional park opportunities, such as hiking, not only irrelevant but sometimes even culturally unapproachable. The implications in the future of this shift from passive parks to active parks are immense. As discussed more fully in the Plan below, motorized recreation programs and activities offer an alternative for experiencing and enjoying the outdoors by a more diverse, as well as younger population." http://www.ohv.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=24436

Ruth Coleman, Director, California State Parks, Daphne C. Greene, Deputy Director, OHMVR Division of California State Parks, OHMVR Division Headquarters, PO Box 942896, Sacramento CA 94296-0001
TEL: (916) 324-4442 FAX: (916) 324-1610. ohvinfo@parks.ca.gov

ter; and the Committee on Appropriations of each house on or before January 1, 2011 and every three years thereafter.

Commission meetings (open to the public) for 2009 are scheduled for the following dates and are expected to be conducted in various locations around the state:



Jenny Wilder/Mojave Group
Cut in fence to spillway.

March 13-14, May 8-9, July 15-16, September 24-25, November 13-14.

The Commission wants to hear the views of the OHV Community and others about what is happening in riding areas. The Commissioners welcome your thoughts on ways to improve OHV recreation, where you feel grant money should be spent, or any problems you may see, along with suggestions for solving them. If you cannot attend a local meeting, please submit your written comments to: OHMVR Commission, PO Box 942896 - Sacramento, CA 94296-0001
Tel: (916) 324-5801 Fax: (916) 324-0271E-Mail: ohvinfo@parks.ca.gov URL: <http://www.ohv.parks.ca.gov>

The OHMVR Commission Wants to Hear From You!

The OHMVR commission has nine members of which 5 are appointed by the Governor, 2 by the Senate Committee on Rules and 2 appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly). This Commission membership is intended to represent a broad range of groups including OHV recreation enthusiasts, biological or soil scientists, rural landowners, law enforcement, environmental protection organizations, and non-motorized recreation interests.

The duties and responsibilities of the Commission include: being informed, holding regular public meetings and hearings, consider private property trespass complaints, review and comment on the annual budget and strategic plan of the OHV division. The Commission has the responsibility of preparing and submitting a program report to the Governor; the Assembly; Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee; the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wa-

If you agree that hiking is irrelevant then you need do nothing.

On the other hand, if you consider hiking is an important part of getting in touch with natural ecosystems, then perhaps you will seriously consider letting the OHMVR Division of the California State Parks and their Commissioners know your thoughts and experiences. Perhaps you too recognize that we use OHV opportunities when we drive on a dirt road to a desert or mountain trailhead for a hike, or drive and hike in the Calico Hills or elsewhere. You might also consider contacting your local representatives and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, State Capitol Building, Sacramento, CA 95814 Phone: 916-445-2841 Fax: 916-558-3160

Please remember that the OHMVR Commission wants to hear from YOU! The Mojave Group appreciates your help with this important issue. For more information please contact Jenny Wilder at Jen-Oasis@aol.com or call 760 220 0730.

Volunteers Needed - Solar Permit Fee Survey



Help set local policy to support more solar power

Sierra Club expands solar permit fee campaign to Southern California

- * Would you like to be part of a successful campaign to improve solar permitting?
- * Help lower the cost of solar power in California via affordable solar permit fees!
- * Interface with city leaders to help usher in a new era of affordable solar power.
- * Do you have a few hours in March to survey Southern California jurisdictions?

The San Gorgonio Chapter of the Sierra Club will be conducting a survey in early 2009 to learn what each local jurisdiction charges for a solar permit fee to install a residential solar electric or solar hot water system. After all jurisdictions are surveyed a report will be issued and a campaign commenced. The campaign will include contacting jurisdictions with unreasonably high permit fees requesting that fees be reviewed and possibly reduced. We will encourage jurisdictions to set good local policy (low permit fees) to encourage more clean local solar power generation.

We need several people to help in a solar permit fee survey and campaign

Please contact Kim Floyd by phone at 760-680-9479. Learn how you can get involved in the survey and campaign to focus on the solar permitting problem areas in Southern California. Weekly teleconference calls on Saturday at 9:30 a.m. for February and March 2009.

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USPS 341-430
ISSN 1090-9974
A bi-monthly newspaper serving
Riverside and San Bernardino
counties.
Published by the
Sierra Club
San Gorgonio Chapter
4079 Mission Inn Avenue
Riverside, CA 92501-3204
(951) 684-6203
Fax (951) 684-6172
<http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org>

The Palm and Pine is published six times per year January/February, March/April, May/June, July/August, September/October and November/December. Submit all articles to the Editor by the 5th of the month prior to issue. Preferred format is electronic mail. The Editor reserves the right to edit all work for reasons of space, clarity or libel. If you wish to have your photos or disks returned, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Outings must be submitted to the appropriate Outings Chair.

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Non-Member Subscriptions (\$9.00)

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Boulder, CO 80322-2968
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The Palm and Pine is published bimonthly. Periodicals postage paid at Riverside, CA

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.

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to:
Palm and Pine
Sierra Club San Gorgonio Chapter
PO Box 53968
Boulder, CO 80322-2968

Group and Section News

Moreno Valley Group

By Ann Turner McKibben

The City of Moreno Valley Planning Commission held two public hearings on January 8 and 15 to hear comments on the proposed Highland Fairview Corporate Park (HFCP) project. Approximately 600 people attended the first hearing with the overflow crowd watching a video feed in the city's Conference and Recreation Center. According to a Press-Enterprise article about 60 people spoke at the first hearing where the public gave comments. At the second hearing on January 15, the project proponents spent time rebutting criticism of their project. At the end of the second hearing the Planning Commission voted 4-2 against the project. Some of their concerns were increased traffic, other areas in the city are already zones for industrial uses, and

hearings were held immediately after the 20 day review period. A special City Council meeting was scheduled to consider the project on February 3. Please call George Hague, Group Conservation Chair at (951) 924-0816, or e-mail the Moreno Valley Group at: movalleygroup@yahoo.com for more information. City council meetings agendas can be found at: <http://www.moreno-valley.ca.us/> Project planner is Mark Gross, Moreno Valley Planning Department, (951) 413-3222.

According to the Riverside County Planning Department, project proponents working to get the McAnally Chicken Ranch approved (a chicken ranch that would have housed 2.2 million chickens adjacent to the San Jacinto Wildlife Area) have withdrawn the project.



Nature Walk, San Jacinto Wildlife Area January 19, 2009

George Hague/Moreno Valley

some of those areas are closer to I-215.

The project proponent wants to build a 2.42 million square foot logistic center for Skechers Shoes along the southern edge of Highway 60 between Redlands Boulevard and Theodore Street in eastern Moreno Valley. (Skechers has signed \$100 million 11-year lease with the developer for a distribution center at the proposed corporate park center. The developer is leasing other facilities for Skechers since the project has not yet been approved by the city.) Some of the concerns regarding the project are: increased truck traffic (2,200 truck trips per day for HFCP), increased air pollution and levels of diesel particulates, poor traffic analysis, loss of farmland, and loss of viewshed. The city is fast-tracking the project. The public had 20 days to review the final environmental document (it was released December 19, 2008) and planning commission public

The county was fast-tracking the project, and it would have bypassed the county Planning Commission and gone directly to the county Board of Supervisors for approval if the project had gone forward. The approval of Proposition 2 in this fall's election was cited as the reason the project was withdrawn.

The McAnally Chicken Ranch project has been closely tied to Lewis Operating Corp's project, the Villages of Lakeview (TVOL). Since the chicken ranch project has been withdrawn, Lewis Operation Corp is moving quickly to seek approval of the TVOL project. Instead of releasing their draft environmental impact report (DEIR) during the summer 2009 as originally planned, they are hoping to release the report as early as February 2009. It is possible that the project will go before the Riverside County Planning Commission this summer, and it may go before the Riverside County Board of Supervi-

sors for approval before the end of the year. If approved, the Villages of Lakeview project would put 10,000+ homes in the rural communities of Lakeview and Nuevo. The project proponent plans to build 3,000 units of the project on 350 acres between the southern boundary of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (Marvin Road) and the northern border of the Ramona Expressway. Putting 3,000 units next to the wildlife area, a cornerstone reserve in Riverside County's Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan, is not good land use. Other issues of concern include: loss of prime agricultural lands, leap frog development, and creating a 'divided city' since the Ramona Expressway is slated to expand to three to four lanes in each direction as part of the Mid County Parkway. There is strong opposition to the project from Lakeview and Nuevo residents. 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/](http://www.rctlma.org/planning/content/hearings/pc/current_pc.html)

[content/hearings/pc/current_pc.html](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 to be notified when the DEIR is released. Please take time to submit your concerns about the project and its significant impacts when the DEIR is released.

Comments on the draft environmental impact report/draft environmental impact statement for the Mid County Parkway (MCP) were due January 8, 2009. The proposed project would expand the Ramona Expressway from the city of San Jacinto to the city of Corona to a six to eight lane road. The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) held a number of public meetings on the project. The preferred project route would displace about 100 homes, a fire station and businesses in the city of Perris. It would leave existing homes next to

(Continued on page 10)

Los Serranos Group

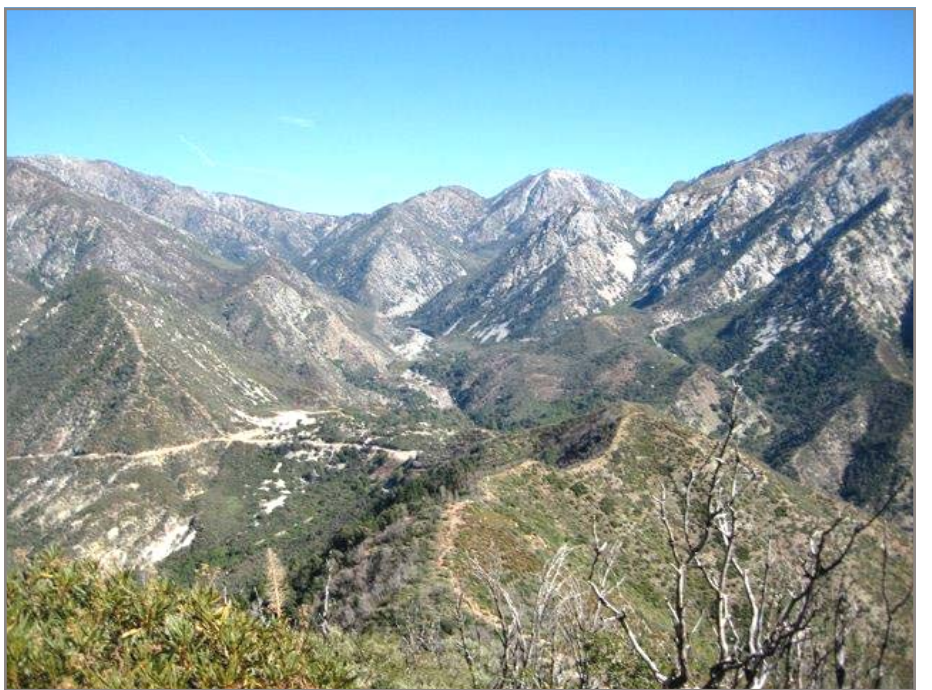
By Mary Ann Ruiz

The Los Serranos group has an active spring calendar this year. March will see a New Member Orientation meeting. Mailings will go out to a large number of new members to advise them of this meeting. Everyone joins the Sierra Club because of their commitment to the environment, yet many don't recognize the abundance of opportunities to become involved. Hikes and outings led by certified trained outings leaders, local meetings with interesting programs and speakers, and opportunities to be locally involved in conservation activism are all available with the Los Serranos Group.

Our April meeting will bring us information about the recovery of Chino Hills State Park after the devas-

tating Freeway Complex Fire burned 13,800 acres of the 14,201 acre park. Look for news in the next Palm and Pine about a service day removing barbed wire in the park. The burn revealed old barbed wire still there from ranching days.

Our outings leaders have interesting hikes scheduled.. Joe Whyte is continuing his exploration of sections of the Pacific Crest Trail. Our traditional Moonlight Hike is a pleasant walk in the moonlight every full moon. Look for other outings in the calendar and on the LSG website. Many of our members are active in the San Gabriel Mountains Forever campaign. Look for future information about other conservation initiatives and activist opportunities. We hope to see you at an event soon!



View of San Geronio Mountains from Sunset Peak

Mary Ann Ruiz/Los Serranos Group

Group and Section News

Mojave Group

By Jenny Wilder

Youth in the Desert and Wilderness

The Mojave Group of the Sierra Club began a Youth in the Desert Hike program in 2008, following an event that we held in 2007 for local youths in the Juniper Flats Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). Our purpose is to invite families with children on our explorations and hikes in the Mojave Desert – a place so many are now calling home and yet where so many are not “at home”. We do a bit more research on the areas than we normally would and the program has helped us to gain more knowledge about our area. We have pooled our resources and partnered with other agencies and experts to help make these hikes more educational for youth and their parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts or guardians.

We continue to offer Youth in the Desert Hikes in 2009. In January, we were again joined by Robert Hilburn in the Rodman Mountain Wilderness. We explored a small canyon with petroglyphs, found some sleeping circles and climbed a hill which offered an exceptional view of the surrounding mountains and desert. We were joined on this hike by Vicki Hoover from Sierra Club California, and Laurel Williams from the Cali-



Boys on a rock near the top of the hill.

Jenny Wilder/Mojave Group

fornia Wilderness Coalition. Wilderness is a treasure for hiking because of the absence of the noise and scarring from motor vehicles. Wilderness Areas are areas untrammelled by man, most have no trails or roads and all are being protected as complete, undamaged ecosystems. Wilderness Areas do not allow the intrusion of motor vehicles. Intact ecosystems are as important for human survival as for wildlife. They protect our supply of fresh water and help keep our air clean. They provide a place to study flora and fauna, and the effects of global

warming on our home planet. They provide a place for us to preserve our connection with the natural environment.

In February we join with the California Wilderness Coalition to visit Afton Canyon where the Mojave River surfaces year round. In March we are off to the Calico Hills (with perhaps a visit to the Early Man Site), and April we hope to find wildflowers in the Juniper Flats Area on the Hidden Arch Hike. In May we will explore the history and unique rock formations at the Vasquez Rocks Park. We hope that you will bring a youth to enjoy these special outings. It's a great way to visit our desert and to keep in shape!

Mojave Group & Pacific Crest Trail Association Team Together

By Melody Nichols

The Mojave Group will be co-sponsoring a trail maintenance day with the Pacific Crest Trail Association's Trail Crew on April 4 and we are hoping you will join us. Please see the Outings Section for more information.

The trail work in Section “C” will be determined and planned in advance by the PCTA Section Chief, so all we have to do is show up ready to work. This crew happens to be a great bunch of

people; all volunteers, who need a little help.

The Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail is used by so many of us for personal use. It would be great if a little time from Sierra Club volunteers could be donated back to its care and maintenance. The trail has always been maintained by volunteers – all 2600 miles of it - and you could be one of them!

So, the Mojave Group is asking for your attendance on the 4th. Let's get something accomplished!

Mountains Group

By Bob Sherman

First and foremost, the **Mountains Group** is pleased to report the good news of our Appellate win over the Hawarden/Blue Ridge development in Lake Arrowhead. The state's 4th District Appeals Court, on October 27, affirmed a lower court decision that the County of San Bernardino

SPLINTERS to DEVIL'S HOLE. . . The Group was thrilled by the sight of yellow fall foliage in the canyon. Heather Sargeant and Bill Eng used GPS to log places on trail that were damaged. The information was relayed to Pacific Crest Trail Association so that a crew can make repairs. On **November 7-9**, (Friday to Sunday)



Bob Sherman/Mountains Group

Mountains Group Chair Dave Barrie celebrates 50 years of Sierra Club involvement and leadership by Mountains

violated state law in approving the controversial Lake Arrowhead subdivision in November 2005. The project had been planned for a steep slope near Cedar Glen, an area largely burned by the catastrophic Old Fire of 2003 and still prone to hazardous wildfire. We, along with co-litigants, the Center for Biological Diversity, the Save Our Forest Association and the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society, were supported in our contentions: (1) we were upheld on the lower Court's determination of a General Plan inconsistent with public safety policy and that required a completed evacuation route as a condition of development. And we won a reversal from the lower court ruling on (2) the arbitrary and indefensibly minimal CEQA determination of impacted critical habitat for Southern Rubber Boa. Finally, (3) The Hawarden/Blue Ridge development projects lacked an unidentified (and therefore unevaluated) water supply. The appellate court ruled that the County violated its own development code as well as state environmental law by failing to identify an adequate water source for the project.

The **Mountains Group** would especially like to express our appreciation to our Conservation Chair, Steve Farrell, who was instrumental in helping to forge our legal arguments. Every once in a while, the “good guys” prevail.. but we're still awaiting any further developments,, such as a possible appeal.

Our recent outings included: **October 4**, Bille Wolff led a hike from

a car camp was held at JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL PARK. This event, led by Bill Eng, included (besides camping) a hike through the Low Desert environment and one to Lost Palms Oasis. Campers stayed in Group Camp near Cottonwood Spring. **On November 11**, we held a SAN BERNARDINO MTS, EXPLORATION TRAIL HIKE. This hike (the trail, was built by the young people with the Children's Forest), was from the bottom to the top, and back and featured great views of Mt. Baldy and fall colors. And on **November 22**, we held our LAKE GREGORY FALL BIRD WALK, led by Bill Eng, where we observed what birds remain for the winter and possible winter arrivals, as we walked around the lake. A **Santa Ana River bottom bird walk** was held on **December 6**, led by Bill Eng. After the walk, participants enjoyed a breakfast at a local restaurant.

The **Mountains Group** continued its tradition of showcasing interesting and informative topics at its monthly meetings, held on Mondays at St. Richard's Episcopal Church in Skyforest. On **Monday, October 13**, Marta Hethmon, who is also our very skillful Web-site guru, presented and narrated a most fascinating photo program on a trip this past year to the Scandinavian countries. Her presentation focused on recent environmental progress, as well as on issues that still remain to be solved. It included insights and photos of animal species that were almost

(Continued on page 11)

Calendar of Outings, Meetings, and Other Events

MARCH—APRIL 2009

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

CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: Items for the MAY/JUNE 2009 Calendar are due by April 5, noon.
 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 or section Outings Chair.
 MEETINGS and other events: Send to iwfladd@eee.org

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
 Lake Ridge Escrow Conference Room 27236 Blue Jay Mall on Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Nov & Dec. 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 <iwfladd@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@verizon.net, (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

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. SAN GORGONIO SIERRA SINGLES

WED 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP, VICTOR VALLEY WALK
 Conditioning walk every Wednesday except Group meeting night 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

THU 6:00 PM LA SIERRA TRAILHEAD, CITY OF CHINO HILLS HIKE
 Shed those weekday worries with a rejuvenating walk, about 2-3 miles, some good ups and downs to get the heart-rate up! MEET: Trailhead. LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ ruizmaryann@gmail.com (909) 815-9379. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FEBRUARY 16 – FEBRUARY 22

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

FEB 16 (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. The path along the river bed has now been graded & is hard packed, which makes for nice evening walking conditions. BRING flashlights, jacket, & wear comfortable walking shoes. Rainy/Foul weather cancels walk, so please call if questionable. LEADER: MELODY NICHOLS (760) 963-4430 <Labelady@msn.com> MOJAVE GROUP

FEB 17 (TUE) 6:00 PM SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONS COMMITTEE MEETING
 Monthly conservation meeting. The public is welcome. LOCATION: Call or email for location & directions. CONTACT: SHAULI ROSEN-RAGER, (951) 767-2203, <gardens@netzon.net> SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

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

FEB 17 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
 Monthly meeting except August. The Program this month is to be determined at press time. 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

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

FEB 21-22 (SAT-SUN) E CALIFORNIA DESERT CLEAN-UP SERVICE & HIKE
 Immediately north of Trona, CA, Great Falls Basin borders on a Wilderness Study Area that has been subject to ORV abuse. On Saturday we will assist Marty Dickes with the BLM to build a fence closing off an illegal vehicle hill-climb. Sunday is reserved for hiking & exploring into the washes, dry falls, & nearby ridges. Carcamping & potluck Saturday evening. MEET: For time & place, contact LEADER CRAIG DEUTSCHE <craig.deutsche@gmail.com> (310) 477-6670. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

FEB 22 (SUN) 8:30 AM SYCAMORE CANYON HIKE
 Approximate 3 mile hike through Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Park in Riverside. Trails have some ups & downs but overall there is little elevation gain. We will try to explore some different trails than the previous hike. BRING: Water, sturdy shoes. MEET in the Sycamore Canyon parking area on the south side of Central Ave. between Canyon Crest Drive & the 215/60 Freeway. INFO: Call LEADERS: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246 & JANET DEEN (951) 616-4759. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

FEB 22 (SUN) 9:00 AM CHAPMAN TRAIL - ICE HOUSE CANYON TRAIL LOOP HIKE
 This hike will be part of the East San Gabriel Mountains Campaign to add wilderness acreage to Cucamonga Wilderness. We will write postcards to Congressman David Dreier on a break. Cards & mailing will be provided. This will be an uphill hike on Chapman Trail up Cedar Canyon through oak, spectacular stands of incense cedar, yucca, chaparral, Sugar pine, & Ponderosa pine to the junction with Ice House Canyon Trail. We will loop back on Ice House Canyon Trail. Moderate. 8.2 miles Round Trip, 2000 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: Extra warm layers, gloves, water, & extra snacks; wear sturdy shoes/boots. Rain/snow cancels. INFO: LEADER: DEAN SHIMEK, <dtsierra@msn.com> (909) 899-2795. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FEBRUARY 23 – MARCH 1

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

FEB 23 (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. The path along the river bed has now been graded & is hard packed, which makes for nice evening walking conditions. BRING flashlights, jacket, & wear comfortable walking shoes. Rainy/Foul weather cancels walk, so please call if questionable. LEADER: MELODY NICHOLS (760) 963-4430 <Labelady@msn.com> MOJAVE GROUP

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

FEB 24 (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>.

FEB 26 (THU) 6:00 PM DINNER ON THE TOWN SOCIAL
 Join us for an evening of fun & food. Your Sierra Club friends are planning another "Dinner on the Town" at a surprise location. This event to be announced on the LSG website. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com>

FEB 28 (SAT) 9:00 AM PACIFIC CREST TRAIL, SILVERWOOD LAKE HIKE
 As we hike 8 miles on the Pacific Crest Trail, from the park office to Cedar Springs Dam & return, we will have great views of the water & the park. Elevation gain & loss: about 500 feet. WEAR: hiking boots. BRING: water, snack, lunch, layered clothing. MEET: call for meeting place & RESERVATIONS. LEADER, BILLIE WOLFF (909) 338-2534.

MAR 1 (SUN) WHITEWATER PRESERVE - PCT TO MISSION CREEK HIKE
 Come check out what the Wildlands Conservancy has done with this former trout farm, and see some of the "sand to snow" lands they have preserved. We will meet in Ontario, or later for those that would like to meet at the Preserve. We will hike up the wash, join the PCT for a few miles, then head up to the conservancy's Mission Creek preserve. This is a 13.2 mile round trip, elevation gain about 1000 feet. Some cross country, rocky wash hiking. BRING: Hiking boots, 3 liters water, lunch, and snacks. Layered clothing depending on the weather. RAIN CANCELS MEET: Contact leader for meeting time and place LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> 909-815-9379.

MARCH 2 – MARCH 8

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

MAR 2 (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. The path along the river bed has now been graded & is hard packed, which makes for nice evening walking conditions. BRING flashlights, jacket, & wear comfortable walking shoes. Rainy/Foul weather cancels walk, so please call if questionable. LEADER: MELODY NICHOLS (760) 963-4430 <Labelady@msn.com >

MAR 3 (TUE) LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
 Odd-numbered months only (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov). PLACE: For meeting time & place, call MARY ANN RUIZ, (909) 628-1285.

MAR 3 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING
 The meeting place rotates. INFO: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006.

MAR 3 (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 <iwfladd@eee.org>.

MAR 4 (WED) 4:30 PM HIDDEN SPRINGS HIKE
 Enjoy the spring flowers with an approximate 3.5 mile loop hike on the Hidden Springs trail and arroyo. Trail has some ups and downs but basically follows the base of the hills and then returns through the arroyo of the housing tract. BRING: water, sturdy shoes MEET: from 60fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Pigeon Pass to left at the light on Hidden Springs Drive. Driveway into Box Springs Park is on the left off Hidden Springs Drive. We will meet in the parking area up the gravel road near the picnic tables. INFO: LEADER: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246.

MAR 6-8 (FRI-SUN) JOSHUA TREE N P - BLACK ROCK CAR CAMP
 Join us for day hikes and enjoyment of the High Desert environment. We'll hike to different spots each day. Arrive Friday or Saturday. RESERVATIONS: Space is limited--to reserve your place, SEND check for \$5.00 payable to Sierra Club, your name, and phone to Bill Engs, Box 3248 Crestline CA 92325 by February 28. Car pooling is encouraged. INFO: Call LEADER: BILL ENGS (909)-338-1910. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

MAR 7 (SAT) CROWN PRINCE HIKE- JOSHUA TREE NP HIKE
 The hike is named "Crown Prince" only because a name is needed, will be near it and we didn't know what to call it. This is a shuttle hike beginning at the White Tank/California Riding and Hiking trail parking area, heading west on the CRH trail as far as Crown Prince then looping south toward the Hexie Mountains and on to Stirrup Tank where will have a shuttle car waiting. This is an interesting area of the park with dramatic views only lightly used making it ideal for a Saturday hike. It should be warm but who knows? BRING clothes in your car for all weather and choose what you need in Joshua Tree. Like lots of others, when I'm unsure I carry a wind breaker in my pack. Otherwise, good hiking shoes, 2 litres of water, snacks and lunch. MEET: Contact leaders for meeting time and place. LEADERS: AL & ANN MURDY <al.murdy@gmail.com>

MAR 7 (SAT) 9:00 AM SANTA ROSA ECOLOGICAL PRESERVE HIKE
 "New Member" hike (all are welcome, though). Enjoy an easy 5 mile roundtrip hike to the Original Ranch Adobe and while you're there, meet local Group leaders and learn about your local Santa Margarita Group under the shade of ancient oaks trees. RESERVATIONS & INFO: LEADER: RICK ESTES (951) 303-4071 <rickestes92595@gmail.com>

MAR 8 (SUN) CHIHUAHUA VALLEY RD TO TULE CYN TRUCK TRAIL HIKE
 This is a 10.3 mile hike on the Pacific Crest Trail north of Warner Springs with a 1000 to 1200 foot gain. This is a one-way hike with a car shuttle. MEET: Call leader for meeting place and time. LEADER: JOE WHYTE (909) 949-0899

MAR 8 (SUN) 6:00 PM SYCAMORE CANYON BY MOONLIGHT HIKE
 Approximate 2 hour evening hike in Sycamore Canyon to enjoy the "full" moon. (Actual full moon is March 11.) BRING: Jacket, flashlight, water, sturdy shoes. MEET: in the Sycamore Canyon parking area on the south side of Central Ave. between Canyon Crest Drive and the 215/60 Freeway. INFO and LEADER: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246.

MAR 8 (SUN) 6:00 PM LOS SERRANOS AREA BY MOONLIGHT HIKE
 Come for a 2 to 3 hour evening hike in the foothills to enjoy the "full" moon. (Actual full moon is March 11.) Hikes are moderately paced. Between 4 & 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, & wear sturdy shoes/boots. RAIN CANCELS. INFO: LEADERS PATTY & DAVID THORNE (909) 981-5813.

MARCH 9 – MARCH 15

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

MAR 9 (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. The path along the river bed has now been graded and is hard packed, which makes for nice walking conditions. 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>

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

MAR 10 (TUE) 5:00 PM OFF-TRAIL RAMBLE BEHIND RCC MO-VAL HIKE
 Let's celebrate daylight savings time with this late-afternoon ramble in the hills behind the RCC Campus in Moreno Valley. 2 hours, 500 to 700 feet of gain. Be prepared for rough and sometimes steep (but not dangerous) off-trail walking. WEAR: Long pants or gaiters are recommended. Because we will be off trail, THIS HIKE IS LIMITED TO 10 PEOPLE, SO PLEASE RESERVE AHEAD. NO DOGS allowed on this hike. MEET: by the flagpole at the front of campus. From the corner of Iris and Lasselle, take Lasselle south and turn left into campus. Pay parking is in the very first lot on the right, in the green slots only. (Otherwise, park

on nearby streets.) INFO & LEADER: DAN CLARK (951) 924-2454 <dancrlrk@roadrunner.com> MORENO VALLEY GROUP

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

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

MAR 13 (THU) 9:30 AM CACTUS FLATS WALKABOUT WALKABOUT
 A moderate 5 to 6 mile hike, most of which will be cross-country. Good views of the Mojave Desert and Bighorn Wilderness. Bring water layered clothing and hiking boots. We will meet at the Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 9:30 AM. Please call to confirm. LEADER: Ed Wallace 909 584 9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

****MAR 14 (SAT) 9:00 AM S B MTS, THE PINNACLES HIKE**
 Join us on a moderate 6 mile RT, 1,000 ft-elevation gain hike located north west of Lake Arrowhead. This hike includes some rock scrambling to reach the summit, which comprises an imposing stack of large granite boulders. Your efforts will be rewarded with mountain and desert views. BRING lunch, water, good boots and layered clothing. Adventure Pass required. MEET: Call for meeting place to carpool. LEADER: HEATHER SARGEANT (909)-336-2836. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

MAR 14 (SAT) 9:00 AM YOUTH IN THE DESERT – SUNRISE CANYON HIKE
 Come join other hikers for an easy 5 to 6 mile loop thru Sunrise Canyon, north of Barstow. This is a beautiful multi-colored rock canyon near the "Early Man" site, which if possible we will get permission to visit. BRING 2 to 3 quarts of water, sturdy boots, layered clothing, lunch & snacks. MEET at the Bureau of Land Management parking lot on south Barstow Road across from the entrance to Barstow College. LEADER: TERRANCE MCCORKLE (760) 252-2194, cell (760) 412-1683 <oldhikerdude@verizon.net>

MAR 14-15 (SAT-SUN) GHOST TOWN EXTRAVAGANZA CARCAMP
 Come with us to this spectacular desert landscape near Death Valley to explore the ruins of California's colorful past. Camp at the historic ghost town of Ballarat (flush toilets & hot showers). On Sat, do a very challenging hike to ghost town Lookout City with expert Hal Fowler who will regale us with tales of this Wild West town. Later we'll return to camp for Happy Hour, a potluck feast & campfire. On Sun, a quick visit to the infamous Riley town site before heading home. Group size strictly limited. RESERVATIONS: Send \$8 per person (Sierra Club), 2 SASE, H&W phones, email, rideshare info to LEADER: LYGEIA GERARD, P.O. Box 294726, Phelan, CA 92329; (760) 868-2179. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

MAR 15 (SUN) 8:30 AM HIDDEN SPRINGS HIKE/BRUNCH
 Enjoy the spring flowers with an approximate 3.5 mile loop hike on the Hidden Springs trail and arroyo, followed by a potluck breakfast/brunch. Trail has some ups and downs but basically follows the base of the hills and then returns through the arroyo of the housing tract. BRING: water, sturdy shoes, and food to share if staying for the potluck after the hike. MEET: 22484 Ridgewater Way, Moreno Valley. From 60fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Pigeon Pass to left at the light on Hidden Springs Drive, left Country Crest Drive, right Sunnybrook, right Ridgewater Way. We will meet at Linda's house on Ridgewater and return there for brunch. If you just want to join us for brunch be there around 10:00. INFO: LEADERS: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246 & JANET DEEN (951) 616-4759. INFO: LINDA CONSTANT (951) 247-0545, (909) 261-5928. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

MAR 15-21 (SUN-SAT) ESCALANTE RIVER CANYON, UTAH SERVICE
 Join us in our ongoing effort to eradicate Russian Olive from this beautiful red-rock canyon. We will work with Park Ranger Bill Wolverton to gather and burn the slash from previous trips. MEET in Escalante, Utah on the 15th, caravan to the trailhead and hike in. Four days of work, one day of hiking in the canyon. Hike out on the 21st. Expect knee to thigh deep river crossings, cold nights, mild days and spectacular scenery. Participants need to bring their own gear, food and heavy leather work gloves. For more information go to <http://home.comcast.net/~gorgescramble/site/> or contact leader Paul Plathe at 209-476-1498. DELTA SIERRA GROUP

MARCH 16 – MARCH 22

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

MAR 17 (TUE) 9:00 AM CITY CREEK TRAIL TO CITY CREEK PEAK HIKE
 Moderate trail along City Creek becoming more difficult; 10-to-12-mile distance with a 1400' elevation gain. MEET at the City Creek Ranger Station parking lot on Hwy 330, between Running Springs and Highland. For those coming from the Big Bear area, we will meet at the Performing Arts Center at 8:00 AM and carpool to the ranger station. BRING sturdy boots, water, lunch and layered clothing appropriate for this moderate climate area. INFO: For directions and details call leader. LEADER: DICK BANKS (909) 866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

MAR 17 (TUE) 6:00 PM SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONS COMMITTEE MEETING
 Monthly conservation meeting. The public is welcome. LOCATION: Call or email for location & directions. CONTACT: SHAULI ROSEN-RAGER, (951) 767-2203, <gardens@netzon.net> SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

MAR 17 (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

MAR 17 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
 NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION – Join us at this meeting, new members and veterans alike. We will have Chapter Chair Rick Estes, and Chapter Outings Chair Ralph Salisbury come to our meeting to welcome new members. They will help our new members learn more about what happens locally with the Sierra Club. This is also a great opportunity for our currently active group to show what an active membership we have, so please everyone come!! Refreshments will be served. PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, (909) 628-1285. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAR 19 (THU) 4:30 PM OLIVE MOUNTAIN HIKE
 Enjoy the view from beautiful Olive Mountain with a 3 mile round trip hike. Elevation gain about 1,000 ft. BRING: water, sturdy shoes. MEET: from 60fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Perris to right on Kalmia, left on Kitching. Park at the end of the road on Kitching. INFO and LEADER: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

MAR 20-22 (FRI-SUN) CA DESERT WILDERNESS IN SPRING SERVICE
 Please join the Mojave Group and Vickie Hoover of the Wilderness Committee and other volunteers for a weekend of wilderness work and fun in the northern Turtle Mountains. What a great time of year to visit this area which is south of Needles. Enjoy our tradition of spring equinox in this far-eastern California desert helping BLM's Needles office wilderness coordinator Mona Daniels by walking transects looking for mines. Car camping in a lovely area with Vicky's central commissary, which includes 2 dinners and 2 breakfast at a very nominal cost. RESERVATIONS & INFO: Call LEADERS: VICKY HOOVER (415) 977-5527, <vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org>. & CAROL WILEY (760) 245-8734 <earthlingwiley@aol.com>

MAR 21 (SAT) 8:00 AM MT WILSON HIKE
 The total distance is 15 miles with a 4,500 ft. elevation gain. BRING layered clothing with rain, and wind protection. It can get chilly up at the top. You should bring 3 quarts of water, and lunch. MEET at the trailhead at 8:00 am. INFO & RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER: MITCH ANDERTON <Mitchasn@aol.com> 909-881-7844. SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER

MARCH 23 – MARCH 29

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

MAR 23 (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

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Museum on Apple Valley Road. The path along the river bed has now been graded and is hard packed, which makes for nice walking conditions. 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>

MAR 24 (TUE) I-15 NEAR CAJON PASS TO SWARTHOUT CYN RD HIKE
This is an excellent hike for beginners. It is a 5.5 mile hike on the Pacific Crest Trail. The trail goes under the I-15 and heads west right on top of the San Andreas Rift Zone. This is a spectacular hike and easy to reach from home. MEET: Call leader for meeting place and time. LEADER: JOE WHYTE (909) 949-0899. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAR 24 (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>.

MAR 28 (SAT) 9 AM JUNIPER FLATS – ARRASTRE FALLS HIKE
Please join me for a leisure hike in the Juniper Flats Area, which includes an Area of Critical Environmental Concern. We will hike from the parking area to the waterfalls and back and maybe more. The Juniper Flats Area is a beautifully diverse landscape of mountains, canyons and washes. We will spend time exploring, looking for wildlife and wildflowers and other vegetation. Arrastre Stream is a year round stream and is critical for the wildlife's water, food and shelter. Human and especially OHV use has become uncontrolled in this special area and we will assess the current damage that has been caused. BRING plenty of water, sturdy hiking shoes, camera & lunch/snacks. It is especially important to wear layered clothing (wind resistant) as weather frequently changes in this area. MEET at Victor Valley Museum in Apple Valley at 9 am. LEADER: MELODY NICHOLS (760) 963-4430 <Labelady@msn.com>

MAR 28 (SAT) 8:00 AM OLIVE MOUNTAIN TRAVERSE HIKE
Let's see three sides of Olive Mountain, on a 5 or 6 mile hike, with about 1500 feet of gain; might include a bit of easy off trail hiking, so wear long pants and/or gaiters—3 to 4 hours. We'll go up the sunny south side, down the lush north side perhaps with a visit to a spring, and then back around the rolling open hills on the east side. MEET: from 60fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Perris to right on Kalmia, left on Kitching. Park at the end of the road on Kitching. INFO: LEADER: DAN CLARK (951) 924-2454, <dancrlk@roadrunner.com>

MAR 28 (SAT) 9:30 AM PCT—NORTH OF WHITEWATER TO SNOW CREEK HIKE
This is a moderate, 10-mile one-way hike with approximately a 500' elevation loss and gain along the PCT north of Palm Springs. Expect cool to warm desert conditions at this time of year. BRING plenty of water, sturdy boots, layered clothing and lunch. MEET: Exit on Hwy 111 toward Palm Springs from Interstate 10 (heading east) and we will meet there just beyond the off-ramp. For those coming from the Big Bear Lake area, we will meet at Vons at 8AM and carpool to the meeting place. RESERVATIONS & INFO: Call the leader for more information and registration. LEADER: DICK BANKS (909) 866-9232; cell: (909) 866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

MAR 29 (SUN) 8:30 AM CHINO HILLS STATE PARK HIKE
Fire swept through our local state park this last fall. Let's see how it is recovering. We will hike 6-8 miles, about 800 ft elevation gain, depending on the group, and try for the top of San Juan hill to have a great view out towards the Pacific. MEET at 8:30 am at Albertson's, Soquel Canyon Pkw. off-ramp west off Hwy 71 in Chino Hills. LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com>

MARCH 30 – APRIL 5

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

MAR 31 (TUE) 9:30 AM BIGHORN WILDERNESS WALKABOUT HIKE
There are few if any trails in this remote wilderness area so come prepared for a cross-country hike with some steep ups and downs. Our goal will be the granite peaks that are visible from route 18 to the Lucerne Valley. BRING water, layered clothing and hiking boots. MEET at the Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 9:30 AM. **Because of the need for high clearance vehicles space may be limited. MUST call to confirm.** LEADER: Ed Wallace 909 584 9407.

APR 3-5 (FRI-SUN) NOON WHITEWATER PRESERVE CAR CAMP
The Wildlands Conservancy is restoring the area along the Whitewater River, formerly occupied by the fish hatchery. The canyon preserve features desert as well as riparian lands and the steep vertical cliffs form a wildlife corridor between the San Bernardino and San Jacinto Mountains. Migrating birds, bighorn sheep and other wildlife can be seen, and we hope to see wildflowers. We'll take a half mile connector to hike on the Pacific Crest Trail. Join us Friday or Saturday. Space is limited. Reservation fee: SEND check for \$5.00, payable to Sierra Club, your name and phone to Bill Engs, Box 3248, Crestline, CA 92325 by March 28. Car pooling is encouraged. CALL LEADER, BILL ENGS (909-338-1910).

APR 4 (SAT) 7:15 AM MOJAVE GRP & PCTA TRAIL MAINTENANCE SERVICE
Please join the Mojave Group while we team up with the Pacific Crest Trail Association for a day of maintenance on a specific local section of the Pacific Crest Trail. This is our time to give a day of sweat, hard work & fun to a trail that we've spent so much time on. The PCTA will provide tools, training & instruction. MEET at the Mormon Rock Fire Station (approx. 2 miles west on Interstate 15 on Highway 138) at 7:15 am. Dress in Layers for weather; but long pants, and a long sleeved shirt are recommended. BRING gloves & hat and sunscreen. We will be working until approx 3 pm. Lunch, snacks & drinks will be provided by the PCTA, but bring water if you can. INFO & SIGN UP: LEADER: MELODY NICHOLS (760) 963-4430 or <Labelady@msn.com>

APR 4 (SAT) 9:00 AM SANTA ROSA ECOLOGICAL PRESERVE HIKE
"New Member" hike (all are welcome though) Enjoy an easy 5 mile roundtrip hike to the Original Ranch Adobe and while you're there, meet local Group leaders and learn about your local Santa Margarita Group (under the shade of ancient oaks trees). RESERVATIONS & INFO: LEADER RICK ESTES (951) 303-4071 <rickestes92595@gmail.com>

APR 5 (SUN) 6:00 PM MOONLIGHT HIKE HIKE
Come for a 2 to 3 hour evening hike in the foothills to enjoy the "full" moon. (Actual full moon is April 9.) Hikes are moderately paced. Between 4 and 5 miles rt, 400 to 1200 ft elev. Hike locations will vary. MEET: North parking lot of PFF Bank, Claremont, at NE corner of Indian Hill & Foothill Blvds. BRING: Jacket, flashlight, water, and wear sturdy shoes/boots. RAIN CANCELS. LEADERS: PATTY & DAVID THORNE (909) 981-5813

APR 5 (SUN) PCT: DEEP CREEK BRIDGE TO HWY 173 HIKE
This is a 16.1 miles hike on the Pacific Crest Trail near Lake Arrowhead to HWY 173 near Mojave River Forks Reserve. We begin at an elevation of 4580 ft. and descend to 3190 ft. There will be some elevation gains. MEET: Call leader for meeting time and place. LEADER: JOE WHYTE (909) 949-0899

APR 5 (SUN) 8:30 AM BOX SPRINGS PARK- MORENO VALLEY HIKE
Approximate 3-4 mile hike in Box Springs Park in Moreno Valley. Some elevation gain. There is a \$4 dollar parking fee per vehicle so we are car pooling from Vista Heights Middle School. BRING: water, sturdy shoes, and money for parking. MEET: At 8:30 at Vista Heights Middle School; from 60fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Pigeon Pass to right on Old Lake Road. The school is on the corner and we will meet in the northwest corner of the parking lot. Look for the green Subaru Outback. INFO & LEADERS: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246 & JANET DEEN (951) 616-4759.

APR 5-10 (SUN-FRI) FENCES & FLOWERS IN THE CARRIZO PLAIN SERVICE
This National Monument is famous for open spaces, for abundant wildlife, & for its springtime wildflowers. Fences significantly restrict the movement of the resident pronghorn antelope, and our service will be in modifying and removing fences for their benefit. We will plan a welcome hike on April 5, three and a half days of service, and a full day for exploring the monument. Use of accommodations at Goodwin Ranch is included. Limited to 12 participants; \$30 covers 5 dinners. RESERVATIONS & INFO: Contact LEADER: CRAIG DEUTSCHE <deutsche@earthlink.net> (310) 477-6670, or CO-LEADER MELINDA GOOD-WATER, <mgoodwater@sbcglobal.net> (408) 774-1257. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

APRIL 6 – APRIL 12

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

APR 6 (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

APR 6 (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. The path along the riverbed has now been graded and is hard packed, which makes for nice walking conditions. 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>

APR 7 (TUE) 8:00 AM SANTA ANA RIVER TO MORTON PEAK HIKE
This 12-mile round trip hike has a 2800 ft elevation gain. Great views of the Santa Ana River drainage. BRING water layered clothing and hiking boots. MEET at the Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 8:00 AM and Mill Creek Ranger Station at 9:00. Please call to confirm. LEADER: ED WALLACE (909) 584 9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

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

APR 7 (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 <iwfladd@eee.org>

APR 8 (WED) 4:30 PM BOX SPRINGS "M" HIKE
4 mile round trip hike to the "M" on Box Springs. Trail has some very steep areas. BRING: water, sturdy shoes. MEET: from 60fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Pigeon Pass to left at the light on Hidden Springs Drive. Take the driveway into Box Springs Park on the left off Hidden Springs Drive. Drive up the gravel road and park near the picnic tables. INFO & LEADER: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

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

APR 11 (SAT) 8:00 AM SANTA ANA RIVER BIKE TRAIL, SB TO RIVERSIDE BIKE
We will follow the Santa Ana River bike path to the end of Van Buren, further if you would like. It will be about 30 miles. MEET at the motel in San Bernardino at 8:00 AM just off of Waterman where it crosses the bike path. BRING water snacks, your helmet, and a spare tube. INFO & RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER: MITCH ANDERTON <Mitchasn@aol.com> (909) 881-7844. SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER

APR 11 (SAT) 8:00 AM BOX SPRINGS OFF-TRAIL RAMBLE HIKE
We'll leave the main trails to follow donkey and coyote trails on the steep eastern flanks of the mountain. Along the way, we might visit one or more of the "hidden springs" that give the nearby housing development its name. 2 to 3 hours, with 500 to 800 feet of gain. Be prepared for somewhat rough and sometimes steep (but not dangerous) "off-trail" walking—long pants and/or gaiters recommended. Because of the sensitive nature of the animal trails and the springs, this hike IS LIMITED TO 10 PEOPLE, SO PLEASE RESERVE AHEAD. We will discuss responsible off-trail hiking practices. NO DOGS will be allowed on this hike. MEET: from 60 fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Pigeon Pass to left at the light on Hidden Springs Drive. Then left into Box Springs. Drive up the gravel road and park near the picnic tables. INFO & LEADER: DAN CLARK (951) 924-2454 <dancrlk@roadrunner.com>

APRIL 13 – APRIL 19

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

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

APR 14 (TUE) MILL CREEK SUMMIT TO MESSENGER FLATS CG HIKE
This is a hike 11.8 miles along the Pacific Crest Trail in the western part of Angeles National Forest. MEET: Call leader for meeting time and place. LEADER: JOE WHYTE (909)-949-0899. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

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

APR 16 (THU) 9:00 AM JACOBY CYN—HWY 18 TO LUCKY BALDWIN GM HIKE
Moderate to difficult 7-mile round-trip hike with a 1200' elevation gain. MEET at Vons in Big Bear Lake and carpool to the trailhead. Those coming from the Lucerne Valley area may want to meet us at the trailhead (6000' elevation marker on Hwy 18) at 9:15 or so. A snowshoe or other hike may be substituted if conditions dictate. BRING weather-appropriate clothing, sturdy boots, plenty of water and snacks. INFO & RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER: DICK BANKS (909) 866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

APR 18 (SAT) 8:00 AM PCT: TO COON CREEK JUMP OFF HIKE
Come join me and other hikers for a moderate 9 to 10 mile hike along the PCT from the Wild Animal Training Facility just off Hwy 38 near Onyx Summit to Coon Creek Jump-off and back. A great hike that reaches the highest point (8750 ft) on the PCT in the San Bernardino Mts. BRING 2 to 3qts of water, sturdy boots, layered clothes lunch & Snacks. MEET at the Von's Supermarket in Big Bear at 8 am. LEADER: TERRANCE MCCORKLE (760) 252-2194, cell (760) 412-1683 <oldhikerdude@verizon.net>

APR 18-20 (SAT-MON) FURNACE CREEK, NEVADA BACKPACK
On the east side of the White Mountains near Dyer, Nevada, Furnace Creek is a beautiful stream, threatened by plans to rebuild a road that washed out sometime in the 80s. We'll backpack up the creek on Saturday, do a day hike beyond the head of the canyon at Tres Plumas Flats on Sunday, and backpack out on Monday. Water is available near our campsite. This is an easy to moderate trip with ample opportunity to explore and enjoy. We should be back at our cars by late morning on Monday. LIMITED to 12 participants. RESERVATIONS & INFO: Contact LEADER: JOHN WILKINSON (408) 876-8295 <johnfw1@mac.com>

APR 19 (SUN) 8:30 AM TWO TREES FROM MORENO VALLEY HIKE
Hike the "two trees" trail from Moreno Valley. 3 mile hike, downhill first. Elevation gain 1200 feet. Trail has

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.

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)

some steep areas. There is a \$4 dollar parking fee per vehicle so we are car pooling from Vista Heights Middle School. BRING: water, sturdy shoes, and money for parking. MEET: At 8:30 at Vista Heights Middle School; from 60fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Pigeon Pass to right on Old Lake Road. The school is on the corner and we will meet in the north/west corner of the parking lot. Look for the green Subaru Outback. INFO & LEADERS: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246 & JANET DEEN (951) 616-4759. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

APRIL 20 – APRIL 26

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

APR 20 (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. The path along the riverbed has now been graded and is hard packed, which makes for nice walking conditions. 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

****APR 21 (TUE) 8:30 AM HWY 38 TO WILDHORSE CREEK LOOP HIKE**
Moderate, 8 miles, 1400 ft. elevation gain. The trail climbs chaparral-covered slopes and descends into a lush forest along Wildhorse Creek. We will return on a seldom used and un-maintained trail along Wildhorse Creek. Great views of San Gorgonio Mountain. A short car scuttle is required. BRING 2 qts. water, layered clothing, hiking boots and snacks. National Forest Adventure Pass required. MEET at Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake. For information call leader. LEADER: Ed (909) 584-9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

APR 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

APR 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

APR 21 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
We watched in dismay as over 90% of our local State Park jewel, Chino Hills State Park, burned in the recent Freeway Complex fire. February 1 marked the re-opening of this park, and the slight winter rains have brought some green back to the charred hills. Claire Schlotterbeck, Executive Director of Hills for Everyone, will speak with us about recovery of the park and work that needs to be done. The public is welcome. PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, (909) 628-1285. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

APR 25 (SAT) 8:30 AM YOUTH IN THE DESERT - WILD FLOWER HIKE HIKE
This hike is a Youth in the Desert hike open to kids and their parents or grandparents. We will hike through a lovely area of Juniper Flats with hills, boulders and hopefully a wonderful display of wildflowers. Hike will go through a meadow, to interesting rock formation including a shelter, through a Juniper woodland that includes a couple of piñon pines, and ends up at the ancient Hidden Arch. Approximately 4 miles round trip, easy hike with very little elevation gain. You go through fields of flowers (goldfields & nodding bells mostly), past some interesting rock boulders (including one we call the Bowling Ball and another is a small rock cave), through an area of junipers that didn't burn in the 1999 Willow Fire, through a rock formation we call "The Narrows" where there is an interesting zenolith that looks like a road runner from a distance. If it is clear, we will also have a view of the Victor Valley. Flowers may include goldfields, nodding bells, desert parsley, bajada lupines, gray ball sage, coreopsis, phacelia (Washoe & laceleaf), Wallace's wooly daisy, white forget-me-nots, Joshua tree, antelope bush, and desert almond. BRING: Best to bring a hiking stick along with plenty of water, snacks/lunch, camera and binoculars. WEAR layers, hat and hiking boots/shoes. MEET at the Victor Valley Museum on Apple Valley Rd at 8:30 am. INFO & RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER: CAROL WILEY (760) 245-8734. MOJAVE GROUP

APR 26 (SUN) 8:30 AM SANTA ROSA PLATEAU HIKE
Spring at the Plateau can't be beat; green meadows, wildflowers everywhere, and pleasant temperatures. We will hike about 8 miles, 600-800 ft elevation gain/loss. BRING: Sturdy shoes, water, lunch - we will eat at the old adobe ranch house. MEET: Contact leader for meeting time and place. LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

APRIL 27 – MAY 3

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

APR 28 (TUE) 9:00 AM SANTA ANA RIVER TRAIL SOUTH OF GLASS RD HIKE
Moderate, 10 mile round trip hike along the Santa Ana River Trail with an 800' to 1000' elevation gain. MEET at Vons in Big Bear Lake and carpool to the trailhead. Those coming from the Redlands area can

meet us at the intersection of Glass Road and Route 38 at about 9:30. BRING sturdy boots, plenty of water, layered seasonal clothing and snacks. INFO & RESERVATIONS: LEADER: DICK BANKS (909) 866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

APR 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

APR 29 (WED) 4:30 PM BOX SPRINGS "M" HIKE
4 mile round trip hike to the "M" on Box Springs. Trail has some very steep areas. BRING water, sturdy shoes. MEET: From 60fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Pigeon Pass to left at the light on Hidden Springs Drive. Driveway into Box Springs Park is on the left off Hidden Springs Drive. Drive up the gravel road and park near the picnic tables. INFO & LEADER: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

FUTURE OUTINGS & EVENTS

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

MAY 8 (FRI) 6:00 PM MOONLIGHT HIKE HIKE
Come for a 2 to 3 hour evening hike in the foothills to enjoy the "full" moon. (Actual full moon is May 9.) Hikes are moderately paced. Between 4 and 5 miles rt, 400 to 1200 ft elev. Hike locations will vary. MEET: North parking lot of PFF Bank, Claremont, at NE corner of Indian Hill & Foothill Blvds. BRING: Jacket, flashlight, water, and wear sturdy shoes/boots. RAIN CANCELS. INFO: LEADERS: PATTY & DAVID THORNE (909) 981-5813 LOS SERRANOS GROUP

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES

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

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

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

(1ST SUN) 3:30 PM RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE
Join us in for an afternoon of contra dance to live music. Dance Instruction at 3:30. Dance from 4:00 to 7:00. Refreshment will be served at the break. Potluck at 7:00, so bring a dish to share. COST: \$9 general admission, \$7.00 students with ID. PLACE: 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. Caller/Band Coordinator: PATTY MCCOLLOM (714) 267-4567 or <mccollom@sbcglobal.net> INFO: CAITLIN ST. JOHN (951) 522-2473 <caitlinstjohn@yahoo.com> Riverside Contra Dance Website: <http://bees.ucr.edu/riversidedance/cdclink.html>

(3RD TUE) 6:30 PM SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS OPEN SPACE MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS
Help us preserve Moreno Valley's northern skyline & secure a natural open-space corridor between the Box Springs Mountains & the Badlands, including the upper basin of Reche Canyon. We meet at the Coffee Grinder, 23580 Sunnymead Blvd., Moreno Valley. INFO: DAN CLARK, (951) 924-2454 <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 potluck holiday dinner starting at 6:30 PM. Come early to browse the gift
(Continued on page 9)

Chapter Executive Committee

San Gorgonio Chapter Website http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org	CNRCC Delegates *George Hague 909-924-0816 Sid Silliman 909-946-5027 gssilliman@csupomona.edu	Chapter Conservation Issue Chairs Desert Issues — High Desert Kim Floyd 760-249-5385 Kimfloyd@verizon.net Desert Issues — Low Desert Joan Taylor	Los Serranos Group Chair — Mary Ann Ruiz 909-815-9379 ruizmaryann@gmail.com Meets 3rd Tuesday Upland Presbyterian Church, Ed Building 7 p.m.
San Gorgonio Chapter Excom	Group Representatives To Excom		Mojave Group Chair — Jenny Wilder 760-220-0730 jensoasis@aol.com Meets 2nd Wednesday except Jul. & Aug. Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17738 Francesca, Victorville 7 p.m. (just north of Bear Valley and Ridgecrest) (also contact earthlingwiley@aol.com)
Chair *Rick Estes 951-314-3328 rickestes_92595@yahoo.com	Big Bear Group *Christie Walker 909-866-5006 Christie.mountaincreative@verizon.net	Desert — Eagle Mountain Donna Charpied 760-392-4722 laronna@earthlink.net	Moreno Valley Group Chair — Michael Millsbaugh 951-653-2068
Vice-Chair *Bill Cunningham	Los Serranos Group *Mary Ann Ruiz 909-815-9379 ruizmaryann@gmail.com	Forestry Issues — Mountaintop RD East—Ed Wallace 909-584-9407 West—Steve Farrell 909-338-2637 spamsqf@verizon.net	Mountains Group Chair—Dave Barrie 909-337-0313 barriemail@mac.com Meets 2nd Monday 7:00 p.m. Except Aug & Dec. St Richard's Episcopal Church, 28708 Hwy 18, Sky Forest
Secretary Kim Floyd 760-249-5385	Mojave Group *Estelle Delgado 760-241-7327 estelledelgado@verizon.net	Forestry Issues San Jacinto RD Holly Owen 951-303-7922 Joyce Burk 760-252-3820	Tahquitz Group Chair — Jeff Morgan 760-324-8696
Treasurer *Ladd Seekins 909-825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net	Moreno Valley *George Hague 951-924-0816	Forestry Issues Cleveland NF Gene Frick 951-689-2283 gfrick@cosmoaccess.net	Santa Margarita Group Chair—Jim Mitchell 951-506-9807 watermarkmail@gmail.com
Conservation Chair *Kim Floyd 760-249-5385 kimfloyd@verizon.net	San Bernardino Mtns. Group *Dave Barrie 909-337-0313 barriemail@mac.com	Water Issues Steve Farrell 909-338-2637	Santa Margarita Group Chair—Jim Mitchell 951-506-9807 watermarkmail@gmail.com
Litigation Chair *Joan Taylor	Tahquitz Group *Jeff Morgan 760-324-8696	California Wild Heritage Campaign Joyce Burk 760-252-3820	
Membership Chair Open	Santa Margarita Group *Jim Mitchell 951-506-9807 watermarkmail@gmail.com	Group Directory	
Outings Chair *Ralph Salisbury 951-686-4141 ralphsalisbury@att.net	Wilderness Skills/Leadership Training Ralph Salisbury 951-686-4141	Big Bear Group Chair—Christie Walker 909-866-5006 Meets 3rd Tuesday, Discovery Center North Shore, 6:30 p.m. www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org	
SC Council Delegate *Steve Farrell 661-449-2867 smamsqf@verizon.net			

(Continued from page 8)

tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I 10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

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

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

FEB 17 (TUE) 6:30 PM SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS OPENSACEMEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS
 Help us preserve Moreno Valley's northern skyline & secure a natural open-space corridor between the Box Springs Mountains & the Badlands, including the upper basin of Reche Canyon. We meet at the Coffee Grinder, 23580 Sunnymead Blvd., Moreno Valley. INFO: DAN CLARK, (951) 924-2454 <saveourskyline@roadrunner.com>

FEB 18 (WED) 6:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
Come & Celebrate the Holidays. Our traditional potluck dinner will be held at the San Bernardino County Museum, on Wednesday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m. Turkey, ham and beverages will be provided. Please bring your own table service & your favorite dish to share: a salad, vegetable, casserole, side dish, or dessert. Plan to do a little last minute holiday shopping at our bookstore. For our program please bring fifteen of your favorite nature slides to show. 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.

FEB 20 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
 Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 <lgseekins@sbcglobal.net>

MAR 1 (SUN) 3:30 PM RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE
 Caller: JoAnn Koppany from San Diego; Band: Atlantic Crossing (Georgiana Hennessy - fiddle; Patty McCollom - banjo; Matt Tonge - guitar). 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: 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. Caller/Band Coordinator: PATTY MCCOLLOM (714) 267-4567 or <mccollom@sbcglobal.net> INFO: CAITLIN ST. JOHN (951) 522-2473 <caitlinstjohn@yahoo.com> Website: <http://bees.ucr.edu/riversidedance/cdclink.html>

MAR 6 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
 Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$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>

MAR 20 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
 Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$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>

MAR 17 (TUE) 6:30 PM SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS OPENSACEMEETING
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>

MAR 18 (WED) 7:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
 PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I 10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

MAR 25 (WED) 7:00 PM BANFF MTN FILM FESTIVAL WORLD TOUR FILM
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN GORGONIO WILDERNESS ASSOCIATION
 The Banff Mountain Film Festival is an annual event that recognizes outstanding independent films dealing with mountain culture and the environment. The festival is held in early November and then a variety of these films are offered on a World Tour. This is the second annual tour visit to the Inland Empire. LOCATION: Redlands High School Clock Theater. TICKETS are available on-line at <www.sgwa.org> or at the door the night of the performance. COST: Tickets are \$10.00 and all proceeds go to serving the public and protecting the wilderness. The SGWA is hosting the tour in an effort to raise awareness of the recreational opportunities in the local mountains and the SGWA efforts to preserve the San Gorgonio Wilderness for future generations. "Whether you are an experienced mountaineer or an armchair adventurer, this event is for everyone. Don't miss the excitement." There will be drawings for door prizes so save your ticket stub and prepare for a night of adventure in the mountains of the world. INFO: <www.sgwa.org>

APR 3 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
 Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$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>

APR 5 (SUN) 3:30 PM RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE
 Caller and band TBA. 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: 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. Caller/Band Coordinator: PATTY MCCOLLOM (714) 267-4567 or <mccollom@sbcglobal.net> INFO: CAITLIN ST. JOHN (951) 522-2473 <caitlinstjohn@yahoo.com> Riverside Contra Dance Website: <http://bees.ucr.edu/riversidedance/cdclink.html>

APR 15 (WED) 7:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
 PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I 10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

APR 17 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
 Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice

monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$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>

APR 21 (TUE) 6:30 PM SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS OPENSACEMEETING
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>

APR 22-26 (WED-SUN) JOSHUA TREE EARTH DAY FESTIVAL FESTIVAL
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT JOSHUA TREE EARTH DAY FESTIVAL
 This festival will culminate with two theatrical presentations featuring Frank Helling as John Muir. For information regarding the April 25 production at 2:00 p.m. in Joshua Tree contact (760) 366-3777 and for information regarding the outdoor presentation April 26 contact (818) 384-2448.

Island Hopping in Channel Islands National Parks
2009 Fundraising Cruises: May 1-4; 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



San Miguel Island Hike

Joan Jones Holtz

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)

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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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.

Art at the Oasis

Joshua Tree National Park Art Festival

Seventeenth Annual Joshua Tree National Park Art Festival

April 3, 4 & 5, 2009 (9:00 am to 5:00 pm each day)

Joshua Tree National Park Visitor Center

74485 National Park Drive, Twentynine Palms, CA 92277

(760) 367-5500

Enjoy the arts in an outdoor setting at the Oasis of Mara Visitor Center. The Sixteenth Annual Art Festival will be held at Joshua Tree National Park's Headquarters in Twentynine Palms on April 3, 4, and 5, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You'll have the pleasure of seeing the work of more than twenty artists under the visitor center patio next to the .8 mile historic Oasis of Mara nature trail. A love and respect for the Joshua Tree National Park is the common bond between these artists and you can't escape the feelings of camaraderie that exist at this festival! Each artist will have work for sale and enjoy sharing their very personal interpretation of the Joshua Tree National Park with you.

Painting, sculpture, photography, ceramics, and jewelry are some of the media included in this year's Art Festival.

Joshua Tree National Park Association, sponsor of the Art Festival, is a non-profit organization that provides support and assistance to the Park's interpretive, educational and scientific programs. Open to the public, there is no fee to attend the Art Festival.



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.

MORENO VALLEY

(Continued from page 3)

the new freeway and expose residents to high levels of air pollution and diesel particulates. The 'old' Cajalco Road would remain in place, meaning that Cajalco Road and the Mid County Parkway would be parallel routes and disrupt the rural landscape and homeowners adjacent to each roadway. The RCTC hopes to certify the final environmental document and approve the project by mid to late 2009. Please check their web site for the project at: <http://www.midcountyparkway.org/> for updated information and the schedule for approval of the project. Or you can call George Hague, Group Conservation Chair at (951) 924-0816, or e-mail the Moreno Valley Group at: movalleygroup@yahoo.com for updated information.

Plans to expand Pigeon Pass Road in Moreno Valley to northern Riverside County have been in the planning stages for a number of years. In late January the Riverside County Transportation Department unveiled a web page for the Pigeon Pass Road Corridor Project. The project will expand Pigeon Pass Road from Hidden Springs Drive in Moreno Valley to Mount Vernon Avenue in Grand Terrace to a four lane, divided, limited access arterial road. It is a joint project of the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino and the cities of Moreno Valley and Grand Terrace. The justification for the project is to: improve safety, reduce peak period travel times, reduce congestion, improve transit opportunities, protect existing community character and environment, improve reliability of travel and access to highway network, and improve emergency access and reduce emergency response times. Please check their web site at: www.tlma.co.riverside.ca.us/trans/Pigeon%20Pass%20Overview.html for more information. You can call (951) 955-3322 or e-mail them at pigeonpassrd@rctlma.org for more information. You can also sign up to be added to the project mailing list at the Contact tab on their web page.

Another transportation project, the Reche Canyon Road Corridor Project, is moving forward and has also been in the planning stages for a number of years. The Riverside County Transportation Department has unveiled a web page dedicated to this project. The proposed project would widen and realign Reche Canyon Road to four lanes throughout the length of Reche Canyon Road from Washington Street in Colton to Heacock Street in Moreno Valley, approximately 7.5 miles. It is a joint project of the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino, Cities of Colton, Loma Linda and Moreno Valley. According to their web page, the benefits of the project are: increased safety, reducing peak period travel times, reducing congestion and improving existing and future operations on other existing north south routes,

improve transit opportunities, protect the existing community character and environment, improving the reliability of travel and access to highway network, and enhance emergency access and reduce emergency response times. Please check their web site at: www.tlma.co.riverside.ca.us/trans/Reche%20Canyon%20Overview.html for more information. You can call (951) 955-8564 or e-mail rehecanyonrd@rctlma.org for more information. You can also sign up to be added to the project mailing list at the Contact tab on their web page.

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, call Dan Clark at (951) 924-2545 or e-mail saveourskyline@roadrunner.com

For current outings offered by the Moreno Valley Group, please check our web page at: <http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org/moreno-valley/index.html> Theresa Carson and Janet Deen have organized some fun hikes for the group so join us as we explore our local hiking trails.

The Moreno Valley Group is selling Sierra Club calendars to support our activities. Please contact Theresa Carson at (951) 242-4752 or e-mail us at: movalleygroup@yahoo.com if you would like to buy some calendars.

The city of Moreno Valley Parks and Community Services Department Recreational Trails Board is sponsoring a "Hike to Lake Perris" on March 28, 2009. They will meet at 8:30 a.m. at Ridgecrest Elementary School, 28500 John F. Kennedy Drive, Moreno Valley. Please call the department at (951) 413-3702 for more information.

March, spring, and the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. Come and visit the wildlife at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. Migrating birds are on the move, swallows fill the sky, and shorebirds and waterfowl fill the wetland areas. It is a good time for bird watching, hiking, and wildlife photography in the northern San Jacinto Valley. 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 for current 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.

BIRDS

(Continued from page 12)
tered.

The dirt surface was like a stream bed: it was studded with embedded rocks protruding as much as 5 inches. There was no clear path through them. I was determined to get through, and I toughed it out for a mile or so until I reached the Miller Peak trailhead at 4 PM. I hiked 1-1/2 hours up the trail toward the peak. The new birds here were Mexican Jays. I was surprised to see conifers, agave and yucca all growing in the same area.

I made it to 8,400 feet elevation, at turn around time. After I descended to the car, it was slow going, again, driving back down the rocky road. I had dinner in the moonlight before heading back to the motel.

On the last day, I drove up Ramsey Canyon to Mile Hi Ranch and saw 5 of the 6 species of hummingbirds that visit the feeders, including Rivoli's and Blue Throated. Later I went to San Pedro River and got a Say's Phoebe before driving back to Tucson and boarding the plane.

I was pleased that since I had left Pullman, I had seen 85 species of birds, I would have stayed longer in Arizona, but I was obliged to fly to Santa Barbara for an Academy of Management meeting where I would check the job market.

A Field Study of Birds

In Spring, 1977, when I was completing my first year at Cal State San Bernardino, I saw a way to further my bird education: I enrolled in a 10-day University of California, Riverside Extension course taught by Gene Cardiff. It would take me to the area visited the year before. But this time it would be warm.

In June, I car-pooled with two students to Arizona. All participants met to bird at the "famous roadside rest" before driving to our base camp, the Smithsonian Institution Field Research Station in the Chiricahua Mountains located at

Cave Creek, near Portal. When we arrived we were assigned to cabins and had time for a swim in the pool before dinner.

Since this was an experiential course, we would spend almost all our time in the field. All in all, the station was a pleasant base of operations.

Over the next nine days we birded from first light to dark. Each day we birded before breakfast, then caravanned with our sack lunches to one or more of the different bird habitats. One night Gene led us out in the dark for "owling."

One excursion took us up in the mountains to about 8,000 feet, on Rustler's Peak. There we staked ourselves out under a towering Ponderosa Pine. Gene brought out his tape recorder and began playing owl sounds.

Soon there was pandemonium. Small birds suddenly appeared and called excitedly. That was the way we "got" the hard to see forest birds. We were excited to see a Red Faced Warbler among the birds who dropped in.

In addition to birds, we were introduced to some of the vegetation and mammals, such as peccaries (pig like ungulates) and tarantulas, that we had never seen before.

One of my most memorable sightings was the Coppery Tailed Trogon (now called Elegant Trogon). Along with the distinctive tail, the male has a green back and rose front. The ten inch long bird was not easy to find.

We managed to stalk it, and I got a glimpse of the bird before it flew away.

The course methodology was learning by doing in the field. To satisfy requirements for a bona fide course (a basis for grading, I suppose) there had to be a final examination. Our final exam, consisted of identifying a number of the birds we had seen. Inside a meeting room on a long table Gene laid out a selection of bird "skins" of birds. My task was to identify as many as possible. I thought it was a rather pathetic looking aggregation of dried up remnants. I asked myself, "Could that mass of disheveled feathers really be a Gila Woodpecker?" It was far easier to name the live bird in the wild. I made it through the procedure OK. Later, I was awarded an "A" in the course.

On the last day, we checked out the Station feeders. A Lucifer's Hummingbird was there. Gene had never seen one, and at the sight, he was practically jumping up and down, he was so ecstatic.

I saw 136 species, including many new ones, on my second trip to Arizona.

Sierra Student Coalition



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

MOUNTAINS

(Continued from page 4)

extinct and are now recovering. Ms. Hethmon also explored what is being done to reestablish wetlands in southern Sweden and to restore the ecology of the Baltic Sea. Also at this meeting, a milestone was recognized as we celebrated **Bill Eng's** (our Outings Chair) 50th anniversary as an active member and outstanding contributor to the Sierra Club!

At its Monday, **November 10** meeting, the **Mountains Group** featured environmental author and nature photographer Lee Reeder, co-author of *Hell on Earth: The Wildfire Pandemic*, which was released nationally

in hardback in August by Macmillan (Forge Books). Mr. Reeder will detail the destruction of the 2003 and 2007 fires in Southern California and explored the reasons for and ramifications of the marked increase in devastating wildfires throughout the nation and the world. He also explained some of the efforts now under way to protect water quality and habitat in the Santa Ana River Watershed, along with efforts to increase awareness of our water resources among the public.

Mountains Group members Heather Sargeant and Billie Wolff attended the partnership launch of Forest Aid, a collaboration of the San Bernardino National Forest Association, Tree People and the U S Forest Service. The event took place at the

Lake Arrowhead Resort and Spa on Tuesday, November 18, 2008, and was well attended. Activities included a press conference and then a tour of the Strawberry Peak Fire Lookout to view the burn areas. Forest Aid was formed in response to the devastating 2003 and 2007 wildfires, which burned 185,000 acres of our mountain forests. The immediate goal of the Forest Aid Program will be to train volunteers to plant tree seedlings, 40,000 in each of the next two years. Tree People have been given two major donations to help make this possible, \$1 million from Boeing and \$1.5 million from Disney. Jeanne Wade Evans, Forest Supervisor, spoke at the press conference, and was pleased to see so many groups

present. She noted that, after a massive effort to remove dead trees, the time has come for restoration and reforestation of the San Bernardino National Forest. Anyone interested in becoming involved in volunteering can contact Heather at 909-336-2836.

On **December 6**, the Mountains Group held its annual Keller Hut Holiday Gathering. It included a wonderful turkey dinner, with all the trimmings. Many of the participants, after the "white elephant" gif exchange, stayed overnight, enjoyed a communal breakfast, followed by a hike on Sunday a.m.

(Note the previous edition of Palm & Pine did not have the January/February Mountains Group Report. This version includes that, with some updated information.)

Membership

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

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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.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

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INTRODUCTORY	\$25	
REGULAR	\$39	\$47
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LIFE	\$1000	\$1250
SENIOR	\$24	\$32
STUDENT	\$24	\$32
LIMITED INCOME	\$24	\$32

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Sierra Club

P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968

National Club Election Coming This Spring

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

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

both a privilege and responsibility of membership.

Members frequently state that they don't know the candidates and find it difficult to vote without learning more. You can learn more by asking questions of your group and chapter leadership and other experienced members you know. Visit the Club's election website: <http://www.sierraclub.org/bod/2009election>. This site provides links to additional information about candidates, and their views on a variety of issues facing the Club and the environment.

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

The Desert Institute Classes

Experience Nature with the Desert Institute at Joshua Tree National Park. Joshua Tree National Park, CA, February 5, 2008 – The Desert Institute offers exciting, short outdoor courses in cultural history, natural science, survival skills and the arts where adults can explore the wonders of the park with expert instructors. Each student will have an intimate learning experience with the natural world. This is a great way to visit Joshua Tree National Park and the surrounding area, where sunshine is plentiful in this fascinating backdrop of ancient rock formations and desert vegetation. Below is a course calendar for fall 2008. For information on fees, locations etc, please call or email the Desert Institute to request a course catalog at (760) 367-5535 or desertinstitute@zippnet.net. or visit our website at www.joshuatree.org

February 14, 2009 Mining History of Joshua Tree National Park - Discover the captivating mining history and the unique geology that created the landscape of Joshua Tree National Park. Margaret Eggers will explain the natural processes behind the unique Joshua Tree landscapes and discuss how gold ore was mined and refined in the area. Participants will get to experience the rich connection between the mining and the geological stories in person as the class travels to various historic mining sites within Joshua Tree National Park. During the field session, participants will learn why there are over 250 abandoned mines in the park and how the gold and other minerals were processed and extracted in a harsh but beautiful desert environment created through weathering, erosion, and climate change.

February 15, 2009 Advanced Map & Compass - Hone your route finding ability with this advanced map and compass field class. Under the expert guidance of outdoor guide Karl VonHalle, learn how to plan a cross country route through the wilderness, practice navigation based on land features, calculate triangulation, and the tell the difference between flat terrain miles and energy miles. During this all-day desert adventure you will travel approximately 8 miles, charting a course through Joshua Tree National Park to locate specific rock formations and historical landmarks.

February 15, 2009 Explore Ruby Lee Well - Discover a part of Joshua Tree National Park's rich mining history in this all-day field class. Mark Wheeler will guide the class down a historic mining road that leads from Park Route 11 to the base of the Hexie Mountains. Participants will learn the importance of interior Colorado Desert ecology and Hexie Mountain geology on the journey to Ruby Lee Well. At the Well, Wheeler will explain the cultural history and significance of the site and Ruby Lee Mill. On the way back the class will travel via Porcupine wash and learn about wash ecology, alluvial fans, and maybe see early wildflowers that are unique to that area. Persons attending must be in good physical condition, and comfortable spending the day walking up to twelve miles in the park.

February 20-21, 2009 Tracking in Joshua Tree National Park - Investigate and learn about the natural world in this two day tracking field class. Jim Lowery will explain how to read the signs and tracks that create natural stories on the desert landscape. The class will then venture into the field where participants will become environmental detectives by identifying and measuring tracks, following gaits, and reading signs to piece together the patterns found in the desert sand. This class provides a solid background for beginning trackers with ample "dirt time" to provide the best and quickest track identification instruction.

February 21-22, 2009 Geology & Paleontology of the Pinto Basin - Discover the prehistoric past of Joshua Tree National Park with paleontologists Kathleen Springer, Eric Scott, and J. Chris Sagebiel in this two-day field class. A lecture describing their geologic and paleontologic research in the park, followed by a full-day field trip will reveal the park's buried riches of Pleistocene fossils. Participants will learn about the new discoveries that have provided scientists a revised hypothesis of the pre-history of the Southern California region. The class will also learn about the methodology of paleontology including discovery, recovery, curation and analysis of specimens.

February 22, 2009 Advanced Wilderness Navigation - Learn how to explore the desert using advanced navigation techniques with Karl VonHalle, wilderness traveler and educator. This all-day class starts indoors then moves to the field for an afternoon in the Wonderland of Rocks. Karl will instruct participants in advanced wilderness navigation by traveling through boulder piles, washes and canyons combining compass, GPS, USGS quads, and UTM coordinates to determine the classes' route. Be prepared to spend a day discovering one of the most scenic areas in Joshua Tree National Park covering up to six miles with moderate boulder scrambling. Prerequisite Map & Compass Basic Skills or prior map and compass abilities, call if you have any questions.

February 27-28, 2009 Photography: Nature to the Digital Studio - Capture the beauty of Joshua Tree National Park through your camera lens and learn how to enhance your images in a digital studio. Spelman Evans Downer will review camera basics and how to combine traditional photography skills with digital techniques to create dynamic images in the classroom session and then focus the field sessions on exploring the landscape using boulder towers, outwash plains, panoramas, close ups, and Joshua trees as subjects. Downer will teach participants to develop their personal photography styles against the backdrop of the Mojave Desert and how to optimize images using Adobe Photoshop including an introduction to creating professional quality multimedia presentations, how to stitch together panoramas and improve photographs.

February 27-28/March 1, 2009 Rocks & Minerals of Joshua Tree National Park - Learn the geologic story of tectonic plates, magma & time that formed the building blocks of Joshua Tree National Park. Bruce Bridenbecker will explain the critical principles that shaped the rocks and minerals of this area into the blonde granite and pre-Cambrian gneiss which are iconic of the Mojave and Colorado Deserts. During this combined three-day lecture and field class, participants will focus on identification of the three basic rock types: igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary and then apply their knowledge in the field by exploring examples of rock types, contact zones, and unique geologic formations like polka dot granite and pink feldspar megacrysts.

March 1, 2009 Secrets of a Desert Oasis - Explore the largest stretch of palm trees in Joshua Tree National Park with Mark Wheeler. The class will travel to an isolated canyon on the park's south boundary that has over 110 palms! Participants will walk through Munsen canyon to reach Munsen Oasis - a high secluded stand of 35 palms with the back drop of Eagle Mountain. Along the way the class will learn about the ecology of the Colorado Desert, geology of the Eagle Mountains, the importance of oases, the threats to the south boundary and the complexity of washes. The class may even see some big horn sheep who are known to occasionally inhabit this haven for wildlife. Persons attending must be in good physical condition, and comfortable spending the day walking and rock scrambling up to twelve miles in the park.

March 6-7, 2009 Archaeological Surveying - Uncover Joshua Tree National Park's historic past through archaeological surveying. During the classroom sessions, Wanda Raschkow will provide a background on historic archaeology and teach survey techniques. Participants will learn basic map and compass skills, artifact identification, and the use of transects. The class will then apply their new mapping skills and record an archaeological site in the park. Participants will document their findings and draw conclusions to create a picture of the people who inhabited the park. This is a great opportunity to get hands-on experience with archaeological field methods. Field sessions will focus on historic period sites.

March 7, 2009 Basic Desert Survival - Learn the essential "big four" skills needed to safely explore the sometimes harsh and often challenging desert landscape of Joshua Tree National Park. Tony Nester, survival expert and author of Desert Survival Tips, Tricks and Skills, will teach the physical skills and mental processes that will prepare participants to discover some of the most beautiful and most dangerous habitats of the world. Nester will offer suggestions and strategies to manage your mind in survival situations and how to set priorities when stakes are high. Some of the topics covered include: survival kits, edible and dangerous plants, stellar navigation, as well as desert hazards such as flash floods, venomous creatures, and heat-related injuries. The class will also engage in mock survival scenarios. This class is not to be missed if you plan on spending any time in the desert!

March 8, 2009 Primitive Skills: The Universal Tool Kit - Join Paul Campbell to delve into one of the oldest skills known to man: making and using stone tools in this all-day field class. The universal tool kit is the secret tool kit of primitive technology. It makes survival possible without a store-bought metal knife or hatchet. Campbell will discuss the process our ancestors used to pick up naturally fractured rocks or with a few deft strokes turn cobbles into basic tools that are rarely pictured or documented in the archaeological record. Then the class will get to feel the thrill of working directly with rock by breaking, shaping, and creating primitive tools. The tools will then be used to cut wood, haft simple flake knives and make a basic spear

March 8, 2009 Rare Species of Joshua Tree National Park - Joshua Tree National Park is a land of diversity, with ecosystems of the high, cool Mojave Desert and the low, hot Colorado Desert all within its boundaries. Katie Barrows, botanist specializing in endangered species, will explain what animals and plants are considered rare, threatened, or endangered and why in this one-day field class. Starting with a classroom session, Barrows will discuss the basics of what rare or endangered means from a legal and biological perspective, what plants, animals, and insects fall into those categories in the park, and whether extinction is a natural process or the current rate of plant and animal loss around the world is something to be concerned about. During the field component, participants will learn what is being done to ensure that rare species populations remain healthy and prosperous and the 'value' of rare or endangered species while exploring some of the habitats that are home to Joshua Tree's rare plants and animals. The class will also discuss some of the issues involved in conservation efforts in southern California. If lucky, participants may encounter one of the park's best loved residents – the threatened desert tortoise.

March 14, 2009 Malapai Hill's Fantastic Geology - Investigate the natural architecture and origin of Joshua Tree National Park's fantastic volcanic geology with Richard Hazlett. Starting in the classroom, participants will be introduced to basic geologic principles, and then Hazlett will focus on one of the park's spectacular examples of volcanism – Malapai Hill. Malapai Hill is a basalt tower that stands 400 feet tall in the middle of Pleasant Valley and contains unique features of olivine-rich peridotite intrusions called lherzolite. Hazlett will discuss this ancient volcano and how its formation provides a window into Joshua Tree National Park's geological past. The class will then travel to Malapai Hill for a field session. Participants will learn about differential erosion on the way to see the magnificent columnar jointed basalt formed by magma that rose 30 miles through the earth before solidifying at the top of what is now Mala-

To Arizona for Birds

By Bill Engls

The Coppery Tailed Trogon was the bird to get, but to see it in the United States, you had to go to the Chiricahua Mountains in the south-east of Arizona.

I had heard that many birds from south of the Border could be found in the southeast corner of Arizona. It contains a range of habitats—mountain forest, riparian, desert, grasslands and woodlands—each attracting different species of birds. I had to visit.

By 1976, I was enthusiastic about birding, and I was completing my second year on the Business Administration faculty at Washington State University. I decided that spring break was the ideal time to make the trip to visit one of the country's richest birding areas.

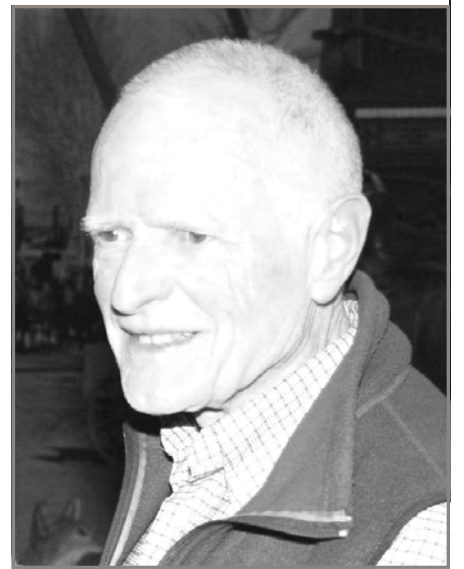
Learning on my own

In mid-April, armed with binoculars, bird book, Lane's, *A Birder's Guide to Southeastern Arizona* and minimal camping gear, I made my way by air to Tucson. Upon arrival I rented a car, checked into a motel for the night and purchased food for my five day trip. Immediately I began to see new birds.

My plan was to visit many of the birding spots recommended by Lane. My first stop was to see the plants and animals at the Desert Museum, south of Tucson. I was impressed by the size of the towering Saguaro cacti with their upstretched arms. New birds for me were; Pyrrhuloxia (looks like a Cardinal, but it's gray with a red crest), Cactus Wren (6-1/2 inches long and sounds like an old car starting), Curved Billed Thrasher and Gila Woodpecker. After a full day at the museum, I headed for a campground east of I-19 to spend the night.

The next day I drove to Madera Canyon and hiked a trail up through oak and juniper woodland to Mt. Wrightson, 7,000'. Along the route, I saw my first Mexican Chickadees. While I hiked this trail, I felt free and at peace for the first time since leaving Pullman, Washington. I hiked back down to the trail head and stopped briefly at the resort cabins to watch a man, with an elaborate setup, photographing hummingbirds.

That night I had dinner in a picnic area, and, after more birding, I drove up the road to deserted a turn out, spread out my sleeping gear and settled down for the night at 9 PM. At



12:30 AM, I heard a car pull up.

I was startled and felt fearful. After a minute or so, the car left, and I tried to settle down. At 1:20 another car came into the turnout and stopped. This time, I shot to a sitting position, pulled on my pants and shoved the sleeping gear into the car. It was the sheriff in pursuit of someone. He thought the someone might be me, so I got checked out. By 2 AM, believing the worst was over, I was able to get back to sleep.

On the following day I visited many of the birding sites described in Lane's guide; including, the famous "roadside rest," where I got a Bridaled Titmouse (with a face like a clown) and brilliant red, Vermilion Flycatcher, new species to add to my list. For my night's rest, having learned my lesson about sleeping at the side of the road the night before, I drove 11 miles out of my way to stay at a campground.

I spent most of the next day birding The Nature Conservancy Patagonia--Sonoita Creek Sanctuary. It was productive. I saw Arizona Woodpecker (plain brown back) and Ladder-Backed Woodpecker (black and white stripes on back).

About 3 PM I checked into a motel. Late in the day, I headed up the Miller Canyon Road. I was unprepared for the rough road I encountered.

(Continued on page 11)

pai Hill. For those new to geology or experienced geologists, Hazlett will make learning about this complex and unique landscape comprehensible and fun.

March 14, 2009 Drypoint Prints from Jumbo Rocks - Discover the fun of printmaking with visual artist Gretchen Grunt. Grunt will guide participants in a day of creativity through the process of making drypoint prints. The class will start with a field trip to Jumbo Rocks Campground in Joshua Tree National Park where participants will begin the printmaking process by scratching on a plastic plate with a needle. The class will finalize their art pieces in a printing session at the Twentynine Palms Creative Center. The use of inks and an etching press will complete the magical process of making unique drypoint prints. A variety of techniques will be demonstrated using brushes, brayers, Q-tips, scratching, cheese cloth and multiple colors. All art materials will be provided and no previous experience required.

March 15, 2009 Desert Literature - Be inspired by the literature of the desert! Michel Walker, who has taught numerous classes in environmental literature from Texas to Nevada, will present excerpts from some of the most influential authors in this one-day seminar. Walker will introduce participants to famous desert writers including: Abbey, Austin, Bowden, Harjo, Kingsolver, and Ronald while visiting unique locations within Joshua Tree National Park. There is no better way to read and discuss these famous writings than surrounded by the Joshua trees, vast vistas, and desert sand that create this unique landscape. Students will also have the opportunity to write their own nature inspired compositions during the class.

March 15, 2009 Southern California Rock Art - Pictographs and petroglyphs provide a fascinating glimpse into humanity's ancient past. Daniel McCarthy will discuss the universal media of rock art that serves as a testimonial for the ancient voices from the past. This one-day field class will include trips to three archaeological sites with representative rock art from Southern California. Class discussions will focus on who made these timeless images, how they were created, and their importance. McCarthy will guide participants to these fragments of the past that provide a valuable record of ancient societies. This is a great opportunity to learn about rock art's communication through stylistic imagery with an expert archaeologist!

March 20-22, 2009 Flora of Joshua Tree Park - Learn the secret of how plants survive in some of the hottest deserts in the world in this two-day field class offered by the Desert Institute. Stefanie Ritter and Mark Wheeler will guide the class in the identification of desert flora while unfolding the story of how plants have adapted to flourish in a land with little rain. The class will walk through the Joshua trees, getting up close and personal with the spring blossoms and perennial shrubs. Participants will learn the identification characteristics, indicator species and the importance of plants in the Mojave and Colorado Deserts.

March 21, 2009 Watercolor Painting in the Park - Indulge your creativity with a day of painting in Joshua Tree National Park. Participants will be immersed in the desert landscape and learn the observational skills that are essential to painting nature. Audrey Gillick will help students shift the desert scenery to paper with watercolor paint. Participants will learn basic methods for transforming nature into art through techniques that maintain color clarity and high quality value difference with glazes, washes, wet-on-wet, and dry brush. Learn how the characteristic transparency of watercolor painting brings landscapes to life by allowing light to pass through the film of paint and reflect back off the white paper to give brightness and sparkle to the artwork that matches the sunlit desert environment. This pleasant non-intimidating class provides ample time to relax, investigate and paint.

March 22, 2009 Light & Color: Oil Painting in JTNP - Capture the vitality of Joshua Tree National Park in this all-day plein air painting class with international art instructor Diane McClary. McClary will teach signature oil painting techniques such as 'fat over lean,' tone adjustment, underpainting, glazing, and ability to conceal brushstrokes while participants are immersed in the beauty of a desert spring. Participants will have the opportunity for individual instruction on effective use of light and shadow, defining values, and composition in oil. McClary is known for her unique use of color and will also share her approach to color harmony. This pleasant non-intimidating class requires no previous experience and provides ample time to relax, investigate and paint.

March 27-28, 2009 Photography Up Close & Personal - Record the beautiful intricacy of the desert using macro photography in this two-day field class. Spelman Evans Downer will teach participants the secret of small scale picture composition and encourage the development of unique photographic styles. During the classroom session, Downer will review basics such as exposure, shutter speeds and depth of field, and how to combine digital camera techniques with traditional photography skills. The field session in Joshua Tree National Park will explore the landscape focusing on flowers, insects, and detail oriented composition. A tripod is strongly recommended for this class. Downer will emphasize formulating personal images of this much photographed landscape.