



Palm and Pine



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

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

Volume 41 Number 3

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

MAY/JUNE 2011

In This Issue

Contacts for Chapter Office and Groups	2
Group News	3-4
<i>Big Bear, Los Serranos, Mojave, Moreno Valley</i>	
Calendar	5-8
Group News <i>Mountains</i> ;	9
EarthShare California; Sierra Student Coalition	
Across CA, a Trek from Colorado River to the Pacific	10
Group News	11
<i>Santa Margarita, Tahquitz</i>	
Preserve Our Future; Membership Application	12

Membership Meetings

Tuesday, May 3

“Restoring Wilderness in the California Desert with the SCA”

Speaker: Chris Roholt, BLM Landscape Program Lead, Retired
(see write up Page 1)

Tuesday, June 7

“Southern California Geology; Our Landscape and Our Threat”

Speaker: Kathleen Springer, Senior Curator of Geological Sciences, San Bernardino County Museum (see write up Page 1)

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

Mark Your Calendars For These Two Chapter Programs!

On Tuesday, May 3rd, Chris Roholt will present a program illustrated with slides on wilderness restoration work in the California Desert. Chris, recently retired after 20 years with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), was Program Lead for the BLM's National Landscape Conservation System. Many of the restoration projects that Chris managed involved the Student Conservation Association (SCA).

The BLM's National Landscape Conservation System contains some of the West's most spectacular landscapes. It includes over 886 federally recognized areas and approximately 27 million acres of National Monuments, National Conservation Areas, Wilderness Areas, Wilderness Study Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Scenic and Historic Trails, and Conservation Lands of the California Desert.

The BLM's California Desert District manages almost half of the wilderness acreage in the BLM. There are many tasks associated with managing that resource, such as monitoring wilderness resources, restoration of damaged lands, and eradicating non-native vegetation.

The Student Conservation Association (SCA) has worked with the BLM and many other agencies to provide conservation service opportunities for young adults. A decade ago, the SCA formed working corps of college age students to focus on conservation tasks.

Chris obtained funding and helped organize one of the first three SCA Corps in the country. He will share their journey of doing good work in BLM's desert wilderness. Then . . .



On Tuesday, June 7th, we'll have a great presentation! Our beautiful Southern California landscape – our mountains and our deserts – is the creation of our dynamic geology. We live along the San Andreas Fault, one of the world's most famous. It's been over 300 years since there has been a major earthquake on our part of

Continued on Page 2 > > >



Lead The Way! Leadership Training Course Set for June 4-5

by Ralph Salisbury

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

Enjoying their recent Leadership Training hike on Sunday, April 3rd to the Pinnacles are soon-to-be leader Don Fischer (far left) acting as Assistant Leader and next to him required Hike Leader Heather Sargeant. Both are members of the San Bernardino Mountains Group.



Photo by Sylvi Brown.



To All Fund Appeal Donors,

Our sincere thanks to you, our donors to the March 2011 San Gorgonio Chapter fund appeal. Your support makes our conservation work possible. We acknowledge your contributions by listing your names here. If your donation was mailed after March 31, your gift will be acknowledged in the next issue of the *Palm and Pine*. Thanks again!

JOSHUA TREE DONORS

Ladd & Gail Seekins
Joan Taylor

OAK DONORS

Esther Hays
Maureen E. Mann
Lee Shiloh
Dean Shimek
Gary & Teresita Strickland
Tim Taylor

PONDEROSA DONORS

Al Anderson
Clifford & Jeanette Arnquist
Dave & Mary Barrie
Ellen R. Baum
Bob Best
Mr. & Mrs. William Cunningham
Elizabeth & Jim Goza
E. W. Green
Jenny Grootendorst
Jay Hadley
Bill & Gloria Harrison
Eleanor Hughes
Barbara Iyer
Eric Lesser
Joe Migliore
Don & Beth Miller
Evangalina Mirande
Kelly Montegna
Carole J. Oliver
Stuart Pinto
Delbert & Jessie Powell
Barbara Reul
Karen Roholt
Mary Rosczyk
Rodolfo Ruibal
Mary Ann Ruiz
Neil A. Sagle
G. Sidney Silliman
F. Alton Tybout
Carl & Anne Wood
Bonnie Yelverton

LODGEPOLE DONORS

Lindsay B. Abercrombe

Continued on Page 12 > > >

Contact Us . . .

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

San Gorgonio Chapter Excom
Chair *Ralph Salisbury
 951-686-4141
 ralphsalisbury@att.net

Vice-Chair Open

Secretary Kim Floyd
 760-680-9479

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

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

Litigation Chair *Joan Taylor

Membership Chair *Ralph Salisbury

Outings Chair *Ralph Salisbury
 (Contact info above)

SC Council Delegate *Ralph Salisbury

CNRCC Delegates

*George Hague 909-924-0816
 Pam Nelson 951-767-2324
 pamela05n@peoplepc.com

Wilderness Skills/Leadership Training:

..... ralphsalisbury@att.net

Group Representatives To Excom

Big Bear Group:

..... *Christie Walker 909-866-5006

... Christie.mountaincreative@verizon.net

Los Serranos Group:

..... *Mary Ann Ruiz 909-815-9379

..... ruizmaryann@gmail.com

Mojave Group:

..... *Jenny Wilder 760-220-0730

..... jensoasis@aol.com

Moreno Valley:

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

San Bernardino Mtns. Group:

..... *Dave Barrie 909-337-0313

..... barriemail@mac.com

Tahquitz Group:

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

Santa Margarita Group:

..... *Jim Mitchell 951-506-9607

..... sierraclubsmg@gmail.com



Programs . . . Continued from Page 1



the fault. What would happen if we were to have one now? Scientists say that it's likely to happen in our lifetimes.

Kathleen will tell us how our mountains and deserts were created – and what we can do to protect ourselves if an earthquake happens. She will explain what government is doing to help us prepare. Now in its fourth year, the Great California Shakeout, set for 10:20 am October 20, is the world's largest earthquake drill. Kathleen will tell us how we can take part and how it will help make all of us safer.

Kathleen Springer has over nineteen years' experience in leading geologic and paleontological investigations throughout southern California, Arizona and Nevada. Kathleen specializes in paleontological field work, and she emphasizes the importance of detailed data recovery and full preservation of recovered resources. Her efforts have led to the discovery and protection of thousands of significant fossils and their associated data that currently reside in the San Bernardino County Museum.

A resident of Claremont, she has been recognized by the Association of Environmental Professionals for environmental education and by the California Mineralogical Society.



Palm and Pine Advertising

Display Advertising Rates (Black and White)

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

Classified Advertising Rates

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

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

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

Circulation and Distribution

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

Deadlines

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

Submission

E-mail copy directly to ralphsalisbury@att.net

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

Santa Margarita Group:

Chair – Jim Mitchell 951-506-9607
 sierraclubsmg@gmail.com
 Meets 4th Thur., except meets 3rd Thur. in Nov and Dec 7 p.m. at Rancho California Water District Hqtrs.
 42135 Winchester Rd., Temecula

Tahquitz Group:

Chair – Jeff Morgan 760-324-8696

Palm and Pine

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

<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.

Editor

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

Outings Calendar Submissions

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

Webmaster

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

Meetings Calendar Submissions

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

Non-Member Subscriptions (\$12.00)

Sierra Club, San Gorgonio Chapter
 4079 Mission Inn Ave
 Riverside, CA 92501-3204
 (Sierra Club members not members of the San Gorgonio Chapter: Supply Club membership number.)

Member Change of Address

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

The *Palm and Pine* is published bimonthly.
 Periodicals postage paid at Riverside, CA

Membership Information

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

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to:
 Palm and Pine
 Sierra Club San Gorgonio Chapter
 PO Box 421041
 Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

Group News

Big Bear Group

by Christie Walker

Meetings Changed To Thursdays

Due to changing hours of operation at the Big Bear Discovery Center, the Big Bear Group's monthly general meetings will now be on the third Thursday of the month, instead of the third Tuesday. Meetings will still start at 6:30 pm unless otherwise stated.

Get Ready for Summer

At our May general meeting, now on **THURSDAY, May 19th** at 6:30 pm, hike leader, Ed Wallace will present hiking essentials and preparedness. He will also talk about his annual wilderness backpacking trip up San Gorgonio. Learn how to be prepared whether it's a day trip or an overnigher.

What's Up with the Lake?

Find out everything you want to know about our blue jewel, Big Bear Lake, including lake levels, weed control, fishing information and more from the experts at the MWD. Come join us on **THURSDAY, June 23rd** at 6:30 at the Discovery Center.

Second Annual San Gorgonio Mountain Backpacking Trip

The Big Bear Group has scheduled its second annual three-day wilderness backpacking adventure to the top of the San Gorgonio Mountain starting on Friday, September 16, 2011, and completing Sunday, September 18, 2011. The adventure gets underway at 7:30 a.m. Friday morning from the South Fork Trail Head and completes its first day of backpacking by reaching Dry Lake camp grounds. This is a 7.2 mile distance.

On Saturday, we leave our camp site and hike to the top on San Gorgonio Mountain. Along the trail, we will have the opportunity to see the aircraft remains of a C-47 military cargo plane that crashed into the mountain killing all 13 passengers aboard in 1953. Later, we will reach the top of the San Gorgonio Mountain, the highest peak (11,500') in Southern California. After taking in the views below and photos, we return to our base camp at Dry Lake.

Sunday morning, we will break camp and return to the base of the mountain and the South Fork Trail head. You will have completed a 25 mile hike, gained backpacking hiking skills, overnight camping, and experienced a 5,000 foot elevation gain during the trip. This is a strenuous effort worth taking.

Sign up early as the group is limited to twelve. Look for the extended hiking trip description in the Palm to Pines newspaper or check it out on-line at <http://sangorgoniosierraclub.org> for trip details and hiking leader information.

Big Bear Group Challenge Recognition Program

Each calendar year the Big Bear Group awards special recognition badges for accomplishing special hiking achievements. A new program for 2011 is described below:

Hike Section C of the Pacific Crest Trail: Hike the historic Section C (between San Bernardino, Interstate 10 to Interstate 15 near Cajon Pass) Pacific Crest Trail during the summer of 2011 and/or 2012 and receive a special achievement patch and recognition in the Palms to Pines bi-monthly newspaper. Background: The Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) designated for hikers to travel from the Mexico border to the Canadian border covers a total of 2,638 scenic miles. Section C of the PCT travels through the San Gorgonio wilderness and the Big Bear area for a total of 132.9 miles. Challenge Description: The hiking challenge is separated into eleven (11) segments, culminating in a three-day backpacking trip. The hiking segments can be accomplished over the years 2011 and 2012. In other words, a hiker may choose to complete all segments over a two-year period. Enthusiastic hikers may contact Hiking Leader, Ed Caliendo, at (909) 878-3813 or contact either co-leader Ed Wallace at (909) 584-9407 or co-leader Vicki Hobbs (909) 771-9899 for additional information. The hiking schedule will be confirmed by-monthly and published in the Palms to Pine publication and on the Sierra Club website. The 2011 tentative hiking schedule is provided below.

Hike#1: May 14, 2011 – Interstate 15 near Cajon Pass to Silverwood Lake Area entrance road – This is a 13.1 mile PCT through-hike.

Hike#2: May 21, 2011 – Silverwood Lake Area entrance road to 2N33 near Cedar Springs Dam – This is a 6.0 PCT through-hike.

Hike#3: June 4, 2011 – Cedar Springs Dam to Mojave River Forks Reservoir Dam – This is an 11.1 PCT through-hike.

Hike#4: June 11, 2011 – Mojave River Forks Reservoir Dam to Deep Creek Bridge (near Lake Arrowhead) – This is a 14.4 mile PCT through-hike.

Hike#5: June 25, 2011 – Little Bear Springs Trail Camp to Deep Creek Bridge/Lake Arrowhead – This is a 12.8 mile PCT through-hike.

Hike#6: July 2, 2011 – Van Dusen Canyon Road to Little Bear Springs Trail Camp, northwest of Fawnskin, CA – This is a 10.7 mile PCT through-hike.

Hike#7: July 16, 2011 – Van Dusen Canyon Road, near Big Bear City to Hwy 18 Cushenberry Pass near Baldwin Lake – This is an 8.9 mile PCT through-hike.

Hike#8: July 30, 2011 – 2N02 to Hwy 18 Baldwin Lake Cushenberry Pass – This is a 10.5 mile PCT through-hike.

Hike#9: August 13, 2011 – 2N02 to Cienaga Seca Creek turn-off on Hwy 38 – This is a 7.0 mile PCT through-hike.

Hike#10: September 10, 2011 – Cienaga Seca Creek turn-off to Mission Creek Trail Camp- Day Hike – Southeast of Big Bear, located on Hwy 38. This is approximately an 8.9 mile PCT through-hike.

Hike#11: October 21, 2011 to October 23, 2011 – This is the final leg of our PCT Section C journey, a three-day backpacking adventure from Mission Creek Trail Camp to Interstate 10 near Whitewater River Canyon Preserve. This last leg of the journey is a 29.5 mile PCT through-hike. This completes the 132.9 mile PCT Challenge.

Los Serranos Group

by Mary Ann Ruiz



GREAT view of Mt. San Jacinto from Whitewater Preserve on April 3, 2011. Photo taken by Gary Mumaw.

San Antonio Creek Cleanup Volunteer Opportunity Sponsored by Los Serranos Group

Here's a chance to get outside on a nice spring day and do something to improve our San Gabriel Mountains experience. By May of a wet year, all manner of trash will have washed down the stream, or, be left along the banks. There are not many places in So California offering such an accessible yet wild river experience. Families and friends come to picnic by the stream. There is very little signage and trash receptacles, and many of these visitors simply leave their picnic residue among the rocks and bushes.



Local Cub Scouts helping with June 2010 cleanup.

We will seek volunteers from throughout the chapter to come help pick up trash. Pickers and trash bags are provided, and it makes for a fun and interesting day. A trash-free picnic spot makes for a better experience, and also encourages the net visitors to keep it clean. See Outings Calendar notice for May 21 for details, or contact Mary Ann Ruiz, Los Serranos Group, at ruizmaryann@gmail.com

June Picnic in the Garden at RSABG

RSABG is the largest botanical garden dedicated exclusively to California's native plants. Founded in 1927, the Garden is nestled into 86 acres in the city of Claremont, near the foothills of the San Gabriel mountains. The diversity and beauty of our native flora will surprise the new visitor to RSABG. Walking through this landscape will inspire anyone to rethink their yard. In fact, the new book "Reimagining the California Lawn: Water-conserving Plants, Practices, and Designs" by Carol Borsntein, David Fross and Bart O'Brien, available here at the Garden, can help you get started!

In June the Los Serranos Group meeting will again be held at the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont. Our friends at the Garden are graciously inviting us to enjoy our fifth annual evening picnic and tour. This has been very successful event and we invite any and all from the Chapter to attend this great evening. This year our meeting on June 21 will start early, at the Garden, with gates opening to Sierra Club guests at 5:00 pm. Bring a picnic dinner to enjoy under the oaks and sycamores at your leisure. At 7:00 pm, we will have a tour through the garden. After the tour our normal business meeting and announcements will wrap up a super evening. We especially invite NEW MEMBERS to come to this meeting event to get to know our group and see this wonderful resource.

Group News

Mojave Group

by Jenny Wilder

The real cost of generating Solar Power in the Desert will be the burden of rate payers through new transmission lines. While companies get huge subsidies from the Federal Government to destroy the desert landscape and make a profit for their investors, YOU, the customer (or rate payer) will bear the burden of the BILLIONS of dollars needed to get that energy to the Southern California grid.

Southern California Electric Company says that they need to upgrade or build a new transmission line to accommodate solar power generated east of Lucerne Valley and get it to the Southern California grid. Alternatives were discussed at a meeting in Hesperia on March 3. Green Path North is dead, but the Lugo-Pisgah Transmission line may take its place through our local communities of Lucerne Valley, Apple Valley and Hesperia or around the Juniper Flats Area.

Stated NEED (this is the biggest question of all and was not adequately answered):

Currently, there are two sets of power lines in this area. One corridor coming from Hoover Dam has two 220 Kv capacity. This one crosses Roundup Way east of Kiowa in Apple Valley. The other one is the corridor with two 500Kv capacity. This one goes through Johnson Valley, Lucerne Valley and above Milpas Highlands and goes through primarily BLM land (Juniper Flats Area) and crosses Deep Creek Road about 5 miles south of Rock Springs Road (where does this line originate and what kind of electrical power does it carry?). Both then go through Hesperia to the LUGO station. SCE stated they need 1400Kv capacity. Don't they have that with the existing lines? Apparently not. They stated the corridors are not wide enough to accommodate the height needed for 500Kv lines (180' to 200' high). They need two more 500Kv lines. Lines can lose from 7-10% of the power generated.

Alternatives included widening the corridor through the Juniper Flats BLM lands or upgrading the other existing 220Kv lines which necessitates a widening of the corridor. That is feasible only up to the point of crossing the Mojave River because on the Hesperia side of the river there are too many houses in the way. So one alternative is to use this corridor up to a point east of Kiowa and then run a NEW TRANSMISSION line south to meet the Juniper Flats one and cross Deep Creek and the Mojave River along the same, but widened, corridor. The Lugo station is already upgraded, but the Pisgah station would need an expanded location for needed upgrades. The following impacts are regarding the transmission lines.

NONE of the alternatives includes one for distributed solar where it can be generated closer to where it will be used. This is called "distributed Solar" or "Roof top Solar" and should be considered thoroughly.

COST: \$21.5 billion will be the burden of (all?) SCE rate payers with a general rate increase and will be paid for in 3 years. This rate increase will have to be approved by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and proposed to the customers (rate payers). What is the cost per megawatt? How many customers does SCE have? **JOBS:** SCE and other companies rely on the public need for jobs to push their project through. However, the jobs that SCE is talking about are very limited and very temporary jobs. Transmission lines do not need a lot of maintenance, and do not provide ongoing jobs once they are built. However, the alternative that is not mentioned- distributed solar- would provide a lot of local, less specialized jobs which would continue with every house built and ever more retrofitting for houses as people need new roofs. This alternative MUST be discussed in the Environmental documents.

Significant IMPACTS:

SCE will conduct an environmental review and impacts for various criteria will be evaluated from low to high. When evaluating the suitability of

the line routes SCE also considers the mitigation potential of different locations. This review includes the impact on aesthetics, biology, community, cultural resources, electromagnetic fields, existing land use, geology, and land acquisition (none required only easements, although in reality it could be a big chunk of a 2.5 acre parcel).

Private property along ALL of the



220Kv power lines crossing Roundup Way in Apple Valley.

Photo taken by Jenny Wilder

alternatives will be impacted. Some property will be **taken** by an expanded width of the current easement or by a new easement (SCE will give the owner fair market price). Towers no longer used across easements that contain the 220Kv lines west of Kiowa will NOT be taken down and the easement will NOT be given up (SCE may need to use that easement in the future). Do these land owners get reduced rates for electricity? Why not?

Aesthetics: All alternatives have a significant impact on viewshed from private properties and points around the valley. None would have more impact than the proposed connection around the corner of the Ord Mountains South of Roundup Way to the existing Powerlines through the Juniper Flats Area (alternatives A and C). This new line would spoil the view of the mountains from everywhere in the Victor Valley. Views from and of the Juniper Flats ACEC (Area of Critical Environmental Concern) will be severely compromised with the proposed increase in powerlines and towers.

Biology: Habitat loss due to fire has ravaged the area and the proposals will increase that habitat loss. Wildlife movement will be impacted, but especially along the ridges of the Ord Mountain escarpment where raptors are seen enjoying the thermal currents (alternatives A and C). The Powerline Road through the Juniper Flats area has caused the flooding near the Waterfall in 2005 and that road has not been repaired. That road has been subjected to increased OHV play and that activity is now spreading like wildfire south into Arrastre Canyon, destroying riparian habitat and causing erosion on the hillsides. This illustrates how poorly SCE views their use of **YOUR** public lands. These are just a few of the noted impacts of the Lugo-Pisgah Renewable Transmission Corridor Project.

To keep in touch with developments for this project and to find out which will be the preferred alternative contact:

Apple Valley: Nancy Jackson, Region Manager Nancy.Jackson@sce.com or (760)951 3237

Hesperia: Jennifer Menjivar, Region Manager Jennifer.Menjivar@sce.com or (760)951 3281

SCE Website:

<http://www.sce.com/PowerandEnvironment/Transmission/ProjectsByCounty/SanBernardinoCounty/LugoPisgah/lugopisgah.htm?from=lugopisgah>

The alternative that would decrease the harm to the desert and benefit our communities:

Distributed Solar or SOLAR DONE RIGHT: <http://solaronright.org/>

Please help to stop the madness by becoming a part of the community **for** Distributed Solar/ Energy.

WAIT, there's more: Solar and wind energy needs to be brought from New Mexico to Southern California! *Really.*

"The Centennial West Clean Line will bring many

benefits to New Mexico, Arizona, California and the surrounding region:

Clean Line Energy is pleased to announce the new name of its western project – Centennial West Clean Line – previously known as the Santa Fe Clean Line. The Centennial West Clean Line will transport 3,500 MW of new renewable energy generation from Eastern New Mexico and deliver directly to southern California. Clean Line acquired the project from Integration Transmission Services in May, 2010 and believes the new name will reflect the breadth of the project, as a means to provide wind integration solutions and economic benefits to the western region of the United States.

In 2012, New Mexico and Arizona will celebrate their respective 100 year tenure as States in the Union and are on the leading edge of growth and renewable energy development in the U.S. for the next century. Clean Line believes the name "Centennial West" honors the importance of these two states and the successful arrival of the 100 year anniversary for each, while setting the course for the next century for the southwest: clean, renewable, energy to power the fastest growing region in the United States."

Project Highlights

- \$2.5 billion investment
- Up to 3500 MW of Transmission Capacity
- 800 miles long
- 500 to 600 kV DC lines
- Over 5,000 construction jobs created
- Over 500 operations jobs created
- Making possible \$7B in new generation
- CO2 reduction of 5M tons, equal to the removal of over 960,000 cars off the road
- Over 1.9 million homes will be powered from renewable energy generation as a result of this project-based on the average annual electricity consumption per home in California.

Clean Line Energy Partners website: <http://www.cleanlineenergy.com/our-projects/centennial-west/>

Another transmission line????

What would the cost and job equivalent be if this kind of money were spent to put solar power on rooftops and in brown fields. That is the alternative. Please help to get this alternative in the discussion. Write letters to the editor, learn more. Why does New Mexico need to produce solar and wind energy to California where there is plenty of both? Who will pay for that transmission line – probably the rate payers, the Southern California customer!

Moreno Valley Group

by Ann Turner McKibben,
Secretary

With our local winter rains, which have lasted into March, there is the possibility of some good stands of wildflowers. The Box Springs Mountain Regional Park, Lake Perris State Recreation Area, the San Jacinto Wildlife Area and Sycamore Canyon Park are some of locales that are worth exploring for some showy stands of flowers and plants. Time to pack up a picnic lunch, put on your walking shoes and explore our wonderful local open spaces that we are so fortunate to have.

Group outings are planned for Hidden Springs, Olive Mountain, and other places here in Moreno Valley in May. Please look at the list on our group web site at: <http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org/moreno-valley/index.html> and this issue of the *Palm & Pine*. You can also contact Theresa at: (951) 660-724 or tcarsen22@msn.com and Dan Clark at (951) 924-2454 or dancrlk@roadrunner.com for more information.

The San Jacinto River Levee Project, Stage 4 has been in the planning stages for many years (since 2000). The project would build a levee from State Street to Sanderson Avenue in San Jacinto (approximately five miles) so 2,000 acres of flood plain could be filled for development. The project will have impacts on the San Bernardino kangaroo rat, burrowing owl, least Bell's vireo and destroy riparian habitat for wildlife. It will ultimately affect Mystic Lake (where the San Jacinto River naturally pools) and the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. The draft environmental impact report for the project will be released this some time this spring.

The Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley and the Sierra Club filed a lawsuit in April 2010 to challenge the approval of the Villages of Lakeview (Specific Plan 342) development on the southern boundary of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. The 11,250 unit project will have devastating impacts on the wildlife area and the communities of Lakeview and Nuevo. The project is the centerpiece of Riverside County's plan for a new 'city' in the middle of this rural valley. Please take time to support this lawsuit and make a donation. You can make your check payable to the Sierra Club. Your donation will be used only for the expenses related to fighting this project. No amount is too small. Mail your check to the Sierra Club, P.O. Box 1325, Moreno Valley, CA 92556-1325. **If you wish to have your donation remain anonymous, please indicate that and we will respect your wishes. We sincerely thank you for your help.**

The California Department of Water Resources hopes to release the final environmental impact report on the Lake Perris Dam Project in the summer of 2011. If you are interested in following the project (which will make seismic upgrades and repair the Lake Perris dam), please check: <http://www.water.ca.gov/lakeperris/> You can also e-mail them for more information from the site.

According to county planners, the draft environmental impact report for the update of Riverside County's General Plan (GPU) is still a work in progress. They hope to have the next General Plan Advisory Committee meeting in either late spring or early summer. George Hague and alternate Ann McKibben have represented the environmental community on the committee which is dominated by those connected to development interests. The GPU will impact all of us within Riverside County as it will lay out land use designations for years to come; address sprawl, global climate change, noise and open space issues. Land use designations will significantly impact the San Jacinto Wildlife Area and open up valuable agricultural lands for development. County planner for the general plan update is Mitra Mehta-Cooper, Riverside County Planning Department, (951) 955-8514; MMEHTA@rctlma.org

Continued on Page 9 >>>

Calendar of Outings, Meetings, and Other Events

MAY/JUNE 2011

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

CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: Items for the July/August 2011 Calendar are due by June 1, 2011.

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

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

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

GENERAL INFORMATION, RULES & DISCLAIMERS

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

WHAT TO BRING

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

ADVENTURE PASS SPECIAL NOTICE

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

CARPPOOLING POLICY

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

LIABILITY WAIVER

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

RECURRING MONTHLY MEETINGS

(LOOK IN CALENDAR FOR DATES)

(1ST MON) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
Alpine Conference Room 27236 Blue Jay Mall on Feb. 7, Apr. 4, May 2, Oct. 3, Nov. 7.
INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

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

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

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

(2ND MON) 7:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING
Monthly program meeting. No meeting in August or December. PLACE: St. Richard's Episcopal Church, 28708 Highway 18, Sky Forest. **Fog/Bad Weather Policy:** Board members will report their weather conditions by 12 noon on the day of meetings at St. Richard's or 9 am for events at Shady Cove or Keller Hut. (To the Chair, or to the Vice Chair, in the Chair's absence.) Based upon those reports, a decision to "Go Ahead" with the meeting or "Call It Off" will be made. The decision will be communicated to members by e-mail (everyone that we have on our list) and will be posted (if possible) on the Mountains Group website.
INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

(2ND TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Monthly meeting or conference call. Take part in working on important conservation issues. Please participate: we need your help! INFO: KIM FLOYD, Conservation Chair, <kimffloyd@fastmail.fm> (760) 249-5385. CHAPTER

(2ND WED) 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except for July & August. PLACE: Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17738 Francesca, Victorville. (One block north of Bear Valley Rd. on Ridgecrest.) Enter on Ridgecrest side of the building. INFO: CAROL WILEY, (760) 245-8734, <desertlily1@verizon.net> MOJAVE GROUP

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

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

(3RD TUE) LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except August, usually at 7:00 pm. The June meeting is a picnic at 5:00 pm at Rancho Santa Anna Botanic Garden, Claremont, and is limited to Sierra Club members and their guests. The public is welcome at all other meetings. Refreshments will be served at the Upland meetings. USUAL PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, (909) 815-9379, <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

(3RD THU) 7:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting. The public is welcome. PLACE: Rancho California Water District Headquarters, 42135 Winchester Rd., Temecula 92589. INFO: JIM MITCHELL (951) 506-9607 <sierraclubsmg@gmail.com> SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

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

WEEKLY RECURRING OUTINGS & FITNESS ACTIVITIES

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings

MON 6:00 PM RIVERSIDE MT. RUBIDOUX ONE HOUR FITNESS WALK
MEET: Ninth Street entrance to Mt. Rubidoux. INFO: JUDY SMITH, (951) 369-5117. CHAPTER

MON 7:00 PM APPLE VALLEY CONDITIONING HIKE HIKE
Please join me for a 3-6 mile *fast paced* conditioning walk along the Mojave River. MEET at the Victor Valley Museum on Apple Valley Road in Apple Valley. Please bring flashlight, jacket & comfortable walking shoes. BRING flashlight, jacket & comfortable walking shoes. Rainy/Foul weather cancels, so please call before hike. LEADER: MELODY NICHOLS (760) 963-4430 <Labelady@msn.com> MOJAVE GROUP

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

APRIL 25 – MAY 1

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

APR 26 (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 27 (WED) 5:00 PM HIKE TO THE "M" HIKE
4 mile round trip hike to the "M" on Box Springs. Difficult trail with some very steep areas. BRING: water, flashlight, and sturdy shoes. Well behaved dogs on a leash with poop bags are welcome. 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 on the left off Hidden Springs Drive. Drive up the gravel road and park near the picnic tables. Rain cancels. INFO and LEADER: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246 or tcarson22@msn.com. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

APR 29-MAY 1 (FRI-SUN) DEATH VALLEY WILDERNESS RESTORATION
Come help with wilderness restoration in this beautiful and remote desert national park. Current plan is to work in Saline Valley and camp at Warm Springs. May change due to weather/road conditions. MEET Friday at noon and car-caravan to work areas and camping. Happy hour potluck Saturday night. BRING work gloves, camping equipment, and food for the weekend. LEADER: KATE ALLEN, kj.allen@wildblue.net, (661) 944-4056. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

****APR 30 (SAT) 8:00 AM SPITLER PEAK TRAIL HIKE**
The views at the top show the panorama of the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto mountains with glimpses of the Palomar Range. The first 3-4 miles of this 10 mile hike and 2000' elevation gain are especially scenic and offering great views of Lake Hemet. RATING: Strenuous. MEET: Turn north on Apple Canyon Road off of Hwy 74 and drive north approximately 3 miles and you will see a sign for the Spitler Peak Trail, park there. A National Forest Adventure Pass is required to park at the trail head. BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, adequate water, lunch, sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat. RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER ED CALIENDO (760) 328-1090. BIG BEAR GROUP

Calendar . . . Continued from Page 5

MAY 1 (SUN) 8:00 AM WEST FORK SAN GABRIEL RIVER HIKE
Explore the rugged canyon of the West Fork up into the narrower part of the canyon, steep sidewalls and sheer rock faces. Walk along the shady south bank of the river in spring. The river here forms the south boundary of the San Gabriel Wilderness. This is a moderate hike with elevation gain of up to 800 feet, depending on how far up the river we walk. Depending on the group, 8 to 14 miles round trip. BRING 3 liters of water, snacks, lunch, hiking boots and layers. MEETR: Contact leader for meeting place RAIN CANCELS. LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ ruizmaryann@gmail.com (909) 815-9379
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAY 1 (SUN) 8:00 AM SANTA ANA RIVER BOTTOM BIRD WALK
MEET: Sierra Club office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. Bill will guide you to the birds. Breakfast at local restaurant after walk (optional). LEADER: BILL ENGS (909) 338-1910.
SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

****MAY 1 (SUN) 9:00 AM MORGAN TRAIL HIKE**
This is a easy/moderate out and back hike of 9 miles. From the Morgan trail head we travel east through an oak woodlands with the sound of a stream below the trail. After about two miles the trail opens up into a forest of chaparral with some great vistas of the mountains and valleys. Because the trail ends at the junction with the Bear Canyon trail, there is an option for a shorter hike if 9 miles is more than you are looking for. From the Bear Canyon Trail junction it is an easy 1 mile hike down to the Candy Store on The Ortega Highway. You would need a car parked at that trail head. The parking lot is on the north side of the road. Those hikers could ride share back to The Morgan Trail head and pick up their cars. A wilderness pass is required for the car at both parking lots. The hike should take about 3.5 hours. DIRECTIONS: From the Ortega Highway in Lake Elsinore head west up the mountain. When the road begins to level out there is a left with a turn lane. This is South Main Divide Road. Turn left and the trail head is about 2.8 miles on the right. BRING plenty of water, a lunch, comfortable hiking shoes, dress in layers and don't forget the sunscreen and a wilderness pass is required for all cars parked at trail heads. RAIN CANCELS. INFO & LEADER: BOB AUDIBERT, bob.takeahike1@gmail.com, (951) 302-1059
SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

MAY 2 – 8

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

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

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

MAY 3 (TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING
PROGRAM: See front-page notice. Afterwards, SAN GORGONIO SIERRA SINGLES will adjourn for food & drink. COST: \$1 donation requested. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS (909) 800-3911 <ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com>.
CHAPTER

****MAY 4 (WED) 9:00 AM PINE KNOT TRAIL TO GRANDVIEW POINT HIKE**
This is approximately a 6-mile, 3-hour, moderate hike, with about 800' of elevation gain. MEET at the east parking lot of the Big Bear Lake Performing Arts Center, where we will carpool to the trailhead. Drivers will require adventure passes. BRING sturdy boots, water, weather appropriate clothing and snacks. LEADER: DICK BANKS (909) 866-9232.
BIG BEAR GROUP

MAY 4 (WED) 5:30 PM HIDDEN SPRINGS HIKE
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. Well behaved dogs on a leash with poop bags are welcome. BRING: jacket, flashlight, water, and sturdy shoes MEET: from 60fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Pigeon Pass to left at the light on Hidden Springs Drive. Follow Hidden Springs Drive to Hidden Springs School on the left. Park in the school parking lot or on the street. RAIN CANCELS. INFO & LEADER: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246 or tcarson22@msn.com.
MORENO VALLEY GROUP

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

MAY 7 (SAT) 8:00 AM MOJAVE NARROWS HIKE & CLEANUP
Your are invited for a short 3-5 mile hike to the riparian forest in the Mojave Narrows Regional Park. We are partnering with the United Way for this cleanup hike. We will help to clean up windblown trash and get back in time to enjoy the Pow Wow events starting with the Gourd Dancers at 11am in the Main Circle. COST: There is a \$10 per carload fee to enter the park. MEET at 8am on Yates road near the turn into the park to gather and carpool in. BRING cash for the entry, and work gloves as well as the usual layered clothing, hiking stick, boots, hat etc. You will be able to purchase food at the POW WOW including frybread! LEADER: JENNY WILDER, JensOasis@aol.com, 760) 220 0730.
MOJAVE GROUP

MAY 7-8 (SAT-SUN) OWENS PEAK WILDERNESS SERVICE
This outing is principally service to preserve the boundary of the Owens Peak Wilderness Areas. Working with Marty Dickes from the Ridgecrest BLM office, we will be camouflaging illegal roads and placing signs and barriers along the wilderness boundaries. We will be joined by an SCA crew, college age interns who have been doing restoration work in this area for several months. Car camping, potluck dinner, and story telling are the evening features. RESERVATIONS & LEADER: CRAIG DEUTSCHE, (310) 477-6670, craig.deutsche@gmail.com.
CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

MAY 7-8 (SAT-SUN) 11:00 AM KELLER HUT SPRING GATHERING LODGE
Join us at Keller Hut for group meals, hikes, bird and nature walk, games, and conversation. BRING food for the weekend including a dish (salad, dessert or main dish) for a potluck dinner on Saturday. We furnish hot beverages and table service. We will provide breakfast on Sunday. **Fog/Bad Weather Policy:** Board members will report their weather conditions by 12 noon on the day of meetings at St. Richard's or 9 am for events at Shady Cove or Keller Hut. (To the Chair, or to the Vice Chair, in the Chair's absence.) Based upon those reports, a decision to "Go Ahead" with the meeting or "Call It Off" will be made. The decision will be communicated to members by e-mail (everyone that we have on our list) and will be posted (if possible) on the Mountains Group website. INFO & OVERSEER, MARGARET SPIESS, (909) 867-9152.
SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

MAY 9 – 15

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

MAY 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. **Fog/Bad Weather Policy:** Board members will report their weather conditions by 12 noon on the day of meetings at St. Richard's or 9 am for events at Shady Cove or Keller Hut. (To the Chair, or to the Vice Chair, in the Chair's absence.) Based upon those reports, a decision to "Go Ahead" with the meeting or "Call It Off" will be made. The decision will be communicated to members by e-mail (everyone that we have on our list) and will be posted (if possible) on the Mountains Group website. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313.
SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

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

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

****MAY 12 (THU) 9:00 AM JACOBY CANYON TO LUCKY BALDWIN MINE HIKE**
This is a moderate to difficult, 4-hour, 7-mile hike with about 1200' of elevation gain. MEET at Vons parking lot in Big Bear Lake and carpool to the trailhead. If more convenient, you may want to meet us at the trailhead, off Hwy 18 (Cushenberry Grade) near the 6000' elevation sign at about 9:30. Adventure passes are required at the trailhead. BRING sturdy boots, water, comfortable clothing and lunch. LEADER: DICK BANKS (909) 866-9232.
BIG BEAR GROUP

MAY 14 (SAT) 8:15 AM SILVERWOOD LAKE TO I-15 CAJON PASS HIKE
This is Hike #1 of the Pacific Crest Trail, Section C Recognition Program. Those hikers completing all eleven segments will receive a special recognition patch. This hike is a 13.1 mile through- hike. RATING: Strenuous. MEET: In McDonalds parking lot where the I-15 meets with Hwy 138 at the Cajon Junction. BRING: ten essentials, layered clothing, sun protection, adequate water, food, sunglasses, hat and good hiking shoes. RESERVATIONS & LEADER: ED CALIENDO, (909) 878-3813.
BIG BEAR GROUP

MAY 14-15 (SAT-SUN) LONE PINE LAKE & MANZANAR CARCAMP & HIKE
Join us at our beautiful creek-side camp in the high desert near Lone Pine. On Sat, we'll hike a moderate 6 mi rt, 1600' gain from Whitney Portal to beautiful Lone Pine Lake, followed by Happy Hour, a potluck feast and campfire. On Sun, we'll caravan to Manzanar, the WWII Japanese internment camp to visit the museum with its moving tribute to the internees held there during the war. Group size strictly limited. RESERVATIONS: Send \$8 per person (Sierra Club), 2 large SASE, H&W phones, email address, rideshare info to LEADER: LYGEIA GERARD, P.O. Box 294726, Phelan, CA 92329, (760) 868-2179.
CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

MAY 15 (SUN) 8:00 AM LAKE GREGORY IN SPRING BIRD WALK
MEET: South Shore parking lot, just east of the water slide. See new spring arrivals and year 'round residents as we walk around the lake. Optional breakfast afterward. LEADER, BILL ENGS, (909) 338-1910.
SB MOUNTAINSGROUP

MAY 15 (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 May 17.) Hikes are moderately paced. Between 4 and 5 miles rt, 400 to 1200 ft elev. Hike locations will vary. MEET: North parking lot of U.S. Bank, Claremont, at NE corner of Indian Hill & Foothill Blvds. BRING: Jacket, flashlight, water, and wear sturdy shoes/boots. RAIN CANCELS. INFO & LEADERS PATTY & DAVID THORNE (909) 981-5813.
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAY 16 – 22

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

MAY 17 (TUE) 8:30 AM HIGHWAY18 TO BEAR CREEK HIKE
A strenuous 8 mile hike with 2000 ft elevation loss and gain. This hike takes us to the bottom of woody Bear Creek canyon. We will lunch in the shade alongside babbling Bear Creek. BRING 2 qts. water, snacks, hat, layered clothing, hiking boots. MEET at Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 8:30 am. INFO & LEADER Ed WALLACE (909) 584-9407.
BIG BEAR GROUP

MAY 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

MAY 17 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
Speaker: Ladd Seekins, "Canyonlands to Isle Royal: A National Park Adventure." Ladd will present a slide show of the six-week camping trip across the country and back, camping and visiting national parks and historic sites. The public is welcome. Refreshments will be served. PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> (909) 815-9379.
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAY 18 (WED) 5:30 PM OLIVE MOUNTAIN HIKE
Enjoy the view from beautiful Olive Mountain with a 3 mile round trip hike. Full moon is May 17. Elevation gain about 1,000 ft. Well behaved dogs on a leash with poop bags are welcome. BRING: water, flashlight, and sturdy shoes. MEET: from 60 Fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Perris to right on Kalmia, left on Kitching. Park at the end of the road on Kitching. RAIN CANCELS. INFO & LEADER: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246, tcarson22@msn.com.
MORENO VALLEY GROUP

MAY 19 (THU) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. CONTACT: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006.
BIG BEAR GROUP

MAY 19 (THU) 7:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting. The public is welcome. PLACE: Rancho California Water District Headquarters, 42135 Winchester Rd., Temecula 92589. INFO: JIM MITCHELL (951) 506-9607 <sierraclubsmg@gmail.com>
SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

MAY 21 (SAT) 8:30 AM SAN ANTONIO CANYON CLEANUP SERVICE
Los Serranos Group members have organized several trash cleanups in the canyon, with Ranger Sarah telling us it is making a difference! We are partnering with the San Gabriel Mountains Forever Campaign to pull in a full crew to help with this work. Come and help clean up the trash washed downstream by the high water this year! MEET at 8:30 am at the lower fire station where Mt Baldy road crosses the bridge heading to Claremont or Upland. BRING: Sturdy shoes or hiking boots, sunscreen, hat, gloves, water, snacks. Bags and pickers will be provided. LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ, (909) 815-9379, ruizmaryann@gmail.com.
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAY 21 (SAT) 8:30 AM SILVERWOOD LAKE TO CEDAR SPRINGS DAM HIKE
This is Hike #2 of the Pacific Crest Trail, Section C Recognition Program. Those hikers completing all eleven segments will receive a special recognition patch. This hike is a 6.0 mile through- hike. RATING: Moderate. MEET: Silverwood Lake campgrounds near the Lake entrance. BRING: ten essentials, layered clothing, sun protection, adequate water, food, sunglasses, hat and good hiking shoes. RESERVATIONS & LEADER: ED CALIENDO, (909) 878-3813.
BIG BEAR GROUP

Calendar . . . Continued from Page 6

****MAY 21 (SAT) 9:00 AM S B MTS, EXPLORATION TRAIL HIKE**
Join us on a moderate 9-mile RT hike with 1,300 ft elevation gain from Running Springs. The route passes through the beautiful Children's Forest with great views of San Gorgonio Mtn, Mt San Jacinto and Mt. Baldy. As we gain elevation, we will pass through rock formations and see changes in vegetation. BRING: lunch, water, and the ten essentials. WEAR sturdy boots. MEET at 9:00 AM in the Children's Forest visitors' center parking lot on Hwy 18. Adventure Pass required. CALL to confirm. LEADER: DON FISCHER, (909) 939-0332; ASSISTANT LEADER: HEATHER SARGEANT, (909) 336-2836. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

****MAY 22 (SUN) 9:00 AM S B MTS, LITTLE BEAR CREEK HERE AND NOW HIKE**
While on this moderate hike, we will focus on what is around us at the moment; sights and sounds of the forest, and our reactions to them. While on the trail, by talking about only what we see, hear and experience, we should be able to better appreciate what is out there. We will hike the North Shore Trail to Little Bear Creek. Distance: 5 miles RT. Elevation loss and gain: 600 feet. WEAR: hat and boots. BRING: water, snacks and lunch. MEET: Call for place. Adventure Pass required. LEADER, BILL ENGS, (909) 338-1910. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

MAY 22 (SUN) 5:30 PM SYCAMORE CANYON HIKE
Approximate 2 hour hike in Sycamore Canyon from the Alessandro side. We will hike to Sycamore Creek and loop around. Well behaved dogs on a leash with poop bags are welcome. BRING: Jacket, flashlight, water, sturdy shoes. MEET: park in front of U-Store-It storage on Mt. Baldy Dr. - from the 215 go west on Alessandro to right on San Gorgonio to right on Mt. Baldy Dr.. Rain cancels. INFO & LEADER: THERESA CARSON, (951) 660-7246, tcarsen22@msn.com. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

MAY 23 – 29

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

MAY 24 (TUE) 8:30 AM GOLD MOUNTAIN LOOP HIKE
A moderate 5-mile loop trip utilizing a portion of the Pacific Crest and Forest Service Road 3N16. Great views of Baldwin Lake and the desert. Along the way we will past the remains of the Doble Mining operation. BRING water, snack, layered clothing and hiking boots. MEET: Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 8:30 AM. INFO & LEADER: ED WALLACE, (909) 584 9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

MAY 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>. CHAPTER

MAY 25 (WED) 5:30 PM HIKE TO THE "M" HIKE
4 mile round trip hike to the "M" on Box Springs. Difficult trail with some very steep areas. BRING: water, flashlight, and sturdy shoes. Well behaved dogs on a leash with poop bags are welcome. 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 on the left off Hidden Springs Drive. Drive up the gravel road and park near the picnic tables. RAIN CANCELS. INFO & LEADER: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246, tcarsen22@msn.com. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

****MAY 28 (SAT) 8:15 AM GOLD MOUNTIAN HIKE**
This is a "Peaks of Big Bear" hike. Those achieving all five peaks overlooking the Big Bear Valley will be given a commemorative patch. The hike is 8.0 miles, 1,640 ft. elevation gain. RATING: moderate/strenuous. MEET: Vons Shopping Center, Big Bear Lake. We will car pool to trailhead. BRING: layered clothing, adequate water, snack/lunch, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, and good hiking shoes. Adventure Pass will be required for parking at the trailhead. LEADER: ED CALIENDO, (909) 878-3813. BIG BEAR GROUP

****MAY 28 (SAT) 9:00 AM S B MTS FLOWER WALK WALK**
Join us to see plants blooming in the mountains. Easy hike. BRING: water and snack. MEET: Call: Barbara Levering, Interpreter & Guide, (909) 338-1253, for meeting place. Adventure Pass required. LEADER: BILL ENGS, (909) 338-1910. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

MAY 30 – JUNE 5

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

****JUN 1 (WED) 9:00 AM EXPLORATION TRAIL ROUND TRIP HIKE**
This is a moderate to difficult, 5-hour, 9-mile hike with about 1200' of elevation gain in the Running Springs area. MEET: In the Visitor Center parking lot and carpool to the nearby trailhead. Those coming from the Big Bear Lake area will meet at 8:30 in the east parking lot of the Big Bear Lake Performing Arts Center for carpool to the Visitor Center. BRING sturdy boots, plenty of water, appropriate clothes and lunch. Adventure passes are required at the trailhead. LEADER: DICK BANKS (909) 866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

JUN 4 (SAT) 8:00 AM CEDAR SPRINGS DAM TO MOJAVE RIVER FORKS DAM HIKE
This is Hike #3 of the Pacific Crest Trail, Section C Recognition Program. Those hikers completing all eleven segments will receive a special recognition patch. This hike is an 11.1 mile through- hike. RATING: Strenuous MEET: Cedar Springs Dam car park area. BRING: ten essentials, layered clothing, sun protection, adequate water, food, sunglasses, hat and good hiking shoes. RESERVATIONS & LEADER: ED CALIENDO, (909) 878-3813. BIG BEAR GROUP

JUN 4 (SAT) 10AM - 3:00 PM SB MTS, FOREST FESTIVAL OUTDOOR FAIR
A Non-Sierra Club event sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service, the National Forest Association and the Rim Recreation and Parks District. Join us for this year's Forest Festival, celebrating the San Bernardino National Forest. Learn about local, non-profit, service agencies, networks, groups, and organizations; all of the wonderful things the forest has to offer; and how we preserve, protect and enjoy our mountain environment. Arts and crafts, music, hiking at the nearby Children's Forest Exploration Trail, and lots of clean mountain air! LOCATION: The Brulte Baseball field on Highway 18 just east of Charles Hoffman Elementary School in Running Springs. INFO: DAVE BARRIE (909) 337-0313 <barriemail@mac.com> SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

JUN 4 (SAT) 10:00 AM S B MTS, FOREST FESTIVAL FAMILY HIKE
Join us at the Children's Forest Visitor Center, Running Springs, for a one hour hike on the Exploration Trail to get an idea of how beautiful our local mountains are in the San Bernardino National Forest. Bring your children with you on the hike so they get a chance to experience this and also see what interesting animals are on display in the Visitor's Center. (Children accompanied by an adult not their parent or legal guardian must have a signed release.) LEADER: DON FISCHER. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

****JUN 4-5 (SAT-SUN) LEADERSHIP TRAINING COURSE**
If you have enjoyed the Chapter's Outings program as a participant, consider now becoming a Chapter Outings Leader. The course involves an overnight stay at Sierra Club-owned Keller Hut near Running Springs and includes classes in outings administration, map and compass, the psychology of leadership, environmental considerations and a field exercise. Applicants need to be at least 18 years old and current members of the Chapter. COST: \$34 fee for training materials, food and the weekend use of the facility. REGISTRATION: for application form, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: RALPH SALISBURY, LTC CHAIR, 2995 Floral Ave, Riverside, CA 92507 or <ralphsalisbury@att.net> CHAPTER

JUN 5 (SUN) 8:30 AM BEAUTY MOUNTAIN HIKE
Because of the tremendous interest in Beauty Mountain and it's designation as a Wilderness Area, I would like to revisit this area and give you a close up view of the mountain. Shauli led us on this hike last April and was a great success. It is both a great hike and a chance to actually see the area we so often talk about at Sierra Club meetings. It is a moderately strenuous hike of between 5.5-7.0 miles depending on how we decide to hike it and about 800' of elevation gain. BRING plenty of water, a lunch, comfortable hiking shoes, dress in layers and bring sun screen. DIRECTIONS: Take 79s to the 371 and drive about 11 miles to Cahuilla Casino. MEET at 8:30 AM and ride share from the parking lot to the trail head, which is about 5 miles on a dirt road. RAIN CANCELS. RESERVATIONS & LEADER: BOB AUDIBERT, bob.takeahike1@gmail.com, (951) 302-1059. SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

JUNE 6 - 12

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

JUN 7 (TUE) 8:30 AM PCT FROM ROUTE 18 TO THE EYE OF GOD HIKE
Get ready for summer on this relatively flat 6 mile round trip hike along a portion of the Pacific Crest Trail. Views of Long Valley and the Big Horn Wilderness beyond. Our destination will be the Eye of God, a quartz dome named by the Serrano Indians. MEET: Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 8:30 AM. BRING: water, snack and hiking boots. INFO & LEADER: ED WALLACE (909) 584 9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

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

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

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

JUN 11 (SAT) 7:30 AM DEEP CREEK BRIDGE TO MOJAVE RIV FORKS DAM HIKE
This is Hike #4 of the Pacific Crest Trail, Section C Recognition Program. Those hikers completing all eleven segments will receive a special recognition patch. This hike is a 14.4 mile through- hike. This includes a rest stop in Deep Creek Hot Springs for a cool or hot swim. RATING: Strenuous MEET: Running Springs Fire Department parking lot. BRING: ten essentials, layered clothing, swim suit, water sandals, sun protection, adequate water, food, sunglasses, hat and good hiking shoes. RESERVATIONS & LEADER: ED CALIENDO, (909) 878-3813. BIG BEAR GROUP

JUN 11 (SAT) 7:30 AM ARRASTRE CANYON OAK GLEN HIKE
This lovely hike to the small Oak Glen in Arrastre Canyon is about 5 miles round trip. Arrastre Canyon is an important watershed that drains from the San Bernardino Mountains into the Milpas Highlands area and Lucerne Valley. The hike includes visiting unique plant assemblages, clusters of huge boulders and lovely views of the Victor Valley. Wear sturdy hiking boots, layered clothing, sunscreen and hat. To see photos of this hike visit: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/25273386@N08/sets/72157624138180023/>. BRING at least 2-3 quarts of water, lunch/snacks and a hiking stick. Don't forget the camera and binoculars! MEET at the Victor Valley Museum on Apple Valley Road at 7:30am. RESERVATIONS & LEADER: JENNY WILDER, JensOasis@aol.com, (760) 220 0730. MOJAVE GROUP

****JUN 12 (SUN) 9:00 AM SAN BERNARDINO MTNS ECOLOGY WALK**
In our local mountains we will learn about forest and stream side ecosystems and observe the effects of wild fire. Interpreter & Guide, Dave Ficke, (909) 336-4706. Distance: about 2 miles, Elevation gain: 500 feet. BRING: lunch, water, extra clothing WEAR: boots, sun hats. MEET: Green Valley Lake Trailhead, off SR 18 across from Snow Valley ski area, below Keller Ski Hut. Adventure Pass required. LEADER: BILL ENGS, (909) 338-1910. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

JUN 12 (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 June 15.) Hikes are moderately paced. Between 4 and 5 miles rt, 400 to 1200 ft elev.. Hike locations will vary. MEET: North parking lot of U.S. Bank, Claremont, at NE corner of Indian Hill & Foothill Blvds. BRING: Jacket, flashlight, water, and wear sturdy shoes/boots. RAIN CANCELS. INFO: LEADERS: PATTY & DAVID THORNE (909) 981-5813. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JUNE 13 - 19

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

JUN 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

****JUN 14 (TUE) 9:00 AM SANTA ANA RIVER TRAIL LOOP HIKE**
This is about a 10-mile, 5-hour, moderate to difficult hike with about 1,000' of elevation gain. We will hike north on the Santa Ana River Trail along a ridge to Heart Bar Road and return via the "Meadow Trail". MEET: Vons parking lot in Big Bear Lake and carpool to the trailhead. For those coming from the Redlands area, meet us at 9:40 AM in the South Fork parking lot on Hwy 38 between the Santa Ana and South Fork Rivers. BRING sturdy boots, plenty of water, appropriate clothing, sun protection and lunch. Drivers must display Adventure Passes. LEADER: DICK BANKS (909) 866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

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

JUN 16 (THU) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. CONTACT: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

JUN 16 (THU) 7:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting. The public is welcome. PLACE: Rancho California Water District Headquarters, 42135 Winchester Rd., Temecula 92589. INFO: JIM MITCHELL (951) 506-9607 <sierraclubsmg@gmail.com> SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

JUN 18 (SAT) 7:00 PM MT BADEN-POWELL BY MOONLIGHT HIKE
Come join me on a bright moon light night, hiking to the summit of Baden-Powell. 8 miles round trip with a 2800' elevation gain. Rated moderate. We will start at the trail head at Vincent Gap around 7PM. Moon rises at 1032 PM. The full moon is on the 15th so it still will be very bright. BRING plenty of water, snacks, flashlights, wear layered clothing. MEET: Contact leader for meeting place. LEADER: BILL SPRENG, (760) 951 4520, bspreng@verizon.net MOJAVE GROUP

Continued on Page 8 >>>

Calendar . . . Continued from Page 7

JUN 18-19 (SAT - SUN) TELESCOPE PEAK CARCAMP & HIKE
Join us at our beautiful forest campsite at 8,000 ft. in the Panamint Mts. On Sat, we'll hike the tallest peak in this desert range with views of the highest (Mt. Whitney) and lowest (Badwater) points in the contiguous U.S. 14 miles rt, 3000 ft. gain. Moderate/slow pace for well-conditioned hikers only. NO TIGERS. After the hike, we'll enjoy Happy Hour, a potluck feast and campfire. Group size strictly limited. RESERVATIONS: Send \$8 per person (Sierra Club), 2 large SASE, H&W phones, email address, rideshare info to LEADER: LYGEIA GERARD, P.O. Box 294726, Phelan, CA 92329, (760) 868-2179.
CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

****JUN 19 (SUN) 9:00 AM S B MTS, MT. SORENSON HERE AND NOW HIKE**
While on this light hike, we will focus on what is around us at the moment; sights and sounds of the forest, and our reactions to them. While on the trail, by talking about only what we see, hear and experience, we should be able to better appreciate what is out there. Wildflowers will be in bloom and we will see how the area has recovered from the 2003 fire as we hike to Mt. Sorenson. Distance: about one mile RT. Elevation gain: 300 feet. WEAR: hat and boots, BRING water and snacks. MEET: Arboretum, east of Sky Forest, on highway 18. Adventure Pass Required. INFO & LEADER, BILL ENGS (909) 338-1910.
SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

JUNE 20 - 26

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

****JUN 21 (TUE) 8:30 AM FORSEE CREEK TRAIL TO ANGLES OAKS HIKE**
Strenuous 12 mile hike with a car scuttle required. This trail leads us through John's Meadow where the wild flowers should be in full bloom. MEET: Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 8:30 AM. This hike is in a portion of the San Gorgonio Wilderness which requires a permit. Also, Adventure Pass required for trailhead parking. RESERVATIONS: Please let the leader know in advance if you plan to participate. LEADER: ED WALLACE (909) 584-9407.
BIG BEAR GROUP

JUN 21 (TUE) 5:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
A chance to spend a summer evening at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden is something you don't want to miss! Join us for our fifth annual Picnic in the Garden, beginning at 5:00 pm for Sierra Club members and guests. Bring your picnic dinner and favorite beverage, bring your friends, and enjoy dinner under the trees. Then, we will have a docent lead tour of the gardens. Everyone is welcome, chapter-wide! PLACE: Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, Claremont. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> (909) 815-9379.
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JUN 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

JUNE 25 (SAT) 8:00 AM LITTLE BEAR SPRS TC TO DEEP CRK BRIDGE HIKE
This is Hike #5 of the Pacific Crest Trail, Section C Recognition Program. Those hikers completing all eleven segments will receive a special recognition patch. This hike is a 12.8 mile through-hike. RATING: Strenuous MEET: Vons Shopping Center in Big Bear Lake. BRING: ten essentials, layered clothing, sun protection, adequate water, food, sunglasses, hat and good hiking shoes. RESERVATIONS & LEADER: ED CALIENDO, (909) 878-3813.
BIG BEAR GROUP

****JUN 25 (SAT) 8:00 AM BRIDGE TO NOWHERE HIKE**
See the bridge in the middle of the backcountry San Gabriel Mtns. Many stream crossings - think wet boots. 9 miles rt, 1,000' gain, moderate pace. BRING 2 quarts of water, snacks, appropriate footwear, and layered clothing. MEET in the City of Azusa on Santa Fe St. just E. of Azusa Ave., one block N. of Foothill Blvd., just before the railroad tracks. RAIN CANCELS. LEADER: BILL JOYCE (909) 596-6280 bill@rollingtherock.com.
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JUN 25 (SAT) 8:00 AM NORTH ETIWANDA PRESERVE HIKE
This will be an EASY hike around the North Etiwanda Preserve loop, about 3.2 miles round trip with 624' elevation gain. This environmental gem is host to native wildlife and plants as well as historically significant sites. Plus the panoramic views are really out-of-sight. This hike will be part of the San Gabriel Mountains Forever Campaign to add wilderness acreage to Cucamonga Wilderness. We will write postcards to Congressman David Drier on a break. Cards and mailing will be provided. MEET: North Etiwanda Preserve Visitor Parking. (Exit Interstate 210 West off Interstate 15 to Day Creek - exit right (North) and follow Day Creek to the end, turn left on Etiwanda Ave and proceed to Visitor Parking. BRING: Water and extra snacks; wear sturdy shoes/boots. Rain cancels. INFO & LEADERS: MARYBETH HAYDON, <hikingwiththehighking@gmail.com> (909) 260.0818, CO-LEADER: DEAN SHIMEK, <dtierra@msn.com> (909) 899-2795.
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JUNE 27 – JULY 3

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

JUN 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

FUTURE SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES

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

AUG 20-21 (SAT-SUN) BRISTLECONE PINES CARCAMP & HIKE
Come with us to the beautiful White Mtns to camp, hike and just relax. On Sat, we'll hike the Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest on a moderate 5 mi rt interpretive trail, followed by a picnic lunch and a short optional hike to a nearby old mining cabin. Back at camp, we'll enjoy Happy Hour, a potluck feast and a campfire. Sunday pack up and head home. Group size strictly limited. RESERVATIONS: Send \$8 per person, 2 large SASE, H&W phones, email address, rideshare info to LEADER: LYGEIA GERARD, P.O. Box 294726, Phelan, CA 92329, (760) 868-2179.
CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

OCT 29-30 (SAT-SUN) GHOST TOWN EXTRAVAGANZA CAR CAMP
Spend Halloween weekend visiting the ghosts of California's colorful past. Visit this eerie desert landscape near Death Valley; camp at the historic ghost town of Ballarat (flush toilets & hot showers). On Sat, a challenging hike to ghost town Lookout City with historian Hal Fowler who will regale us with tales of this wild west town. Return to camp for Happy Hour and potluck feast, followed by a midnight visit to Ballarat's graveyard. On Sun, a quick visit to the infamous Riley townsite. 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

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES

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

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

(1ST FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

(3RD TUE) 6:30 PM SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS OPEN SPACE MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT
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. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I 10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

(3RD FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 <lgseekins@sbcglobal.net> or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

APR 30 (SAT) JUNIPER FLATS AREA RARE PLANT HUNT
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
The Sierra Club Mojave Group is partnering with the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) in an exciting treasure hunt for rare plants. NO experience or plant knowledge is necessary! It is a learning experience and a wonderful opportunity to be in the field with the experts. All rare plant findings are officially entered into the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) which is updated by the Department of Fish and Game. This database is part of the nation's "Natural Heritage Program." There is no better time than now to get involved with this exciting endeavor. The focus for this trip will be the northern slopes of the San Bernardino Mountains, known as the Juniper Flats Area. This area has an interesting diversity of plants in several different ecosystems and soil types ranging from clay to granitic with limestone outcrops. For more about CNPS visit their website: <http://cnps.org/> For photos of this area see Jensoasis page in the flickr photo site: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/25273386@N08/collections/72157617760663191/> We welcome all ages to participate and encourage youth groups, church groups and families to sign up. INFO: Contact JENNY WILDER as soon as possible for more details, Jensoasis@aol.com, (760) 220-0730.

MAY 6 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

MAY 14 (SAT) 9:00 AM SAN JACINTO WILDLIFE AREA BUG WALK
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT FRIENDS OF THE NORTHERN SAN JACINTO VALLEY
Check www.northfriends.org for current information. Join us while we learn about the importance of bugs and how valuable they are in the cycle of life. This walk is excellent for kids and adults who are interested in bugs and want a hands-on experience. Entomologist Gordon Pratt will be our guide. COST: Free. BRING: Hand lens, binoculars, bird book, sturdy shoes, hat, plenty of water, lunch, snacks, non-toxic insect repellent. MEET: San Jacinto Wildlife Area headquarters, 17050 Davis Road, Lakeview. DIRECTIONS: From Interstate 215, take Ramona Expressway east to Davis Road in Lakeview; north on Davis Road 2.3 miles to headquarters. Davis Road Is Closed From Moreno Valley. Only Entrance To Wildlife Area Is From The Ramona Expressway. INFO: ANN MCKIBBEN, (951) 924-8150 & SUE NASH (909) 228-6710; northfriends@northfriends.org

MAY 17 (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>

MAY 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.

MAY 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> or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

Sierra Student Coalition

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

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

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

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

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



Moreno Valley . . . Continued from Page 4

Heavy winter rains have filled one third of Mystic Lake and greened up the hills at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. Spring should be a good time to see migrating birds like swallows and others. The Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley will have a San Jacinto Wildlife Area Bug Walk on Saturday, May 14, 9:00 a.m. to Noon. This is an excellent walk for kids and adults who want to learn more about why bugs are so fabulous. For more information, call Sue Nash at (909) 228-6710 or Ann McKibben at (951) 924-8150 or check their web site at www.northfriends.org. The wildlife area is north of the Ramona Expressway in Lakeview. Take Davis Road (there is a traffic signal at the corner) 2.2 miles north to the area headquarters. The wildlife area is open from dawn to dusk seven days a week. For more information: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/lands/wa/region6/sanjacinto/>. Please do not drive on Davis Road if it has rained or the road is muddy.



For information on Lake Perris State Recreation Area, please check their web site at: <http://www.water.ca.gov/lakeperris/> for their hours of operation, events, and nature walks. Information on Limited Use Golden Bear passes can be found at: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=23800. Age 62 and older are eligible for this \$10.00 annual pass which allows access to all state parks. See the link for application and more information.

The city of Moreno Valley Recreational Trails Board will sponsor a Hike to Olive Mountain (3.6 mi round trip, difficult) on Saturday, May 21. Meet at 7:30 a.m., parking lot of Palm Middle School, 11900 Slawson Avenue (north side of campus). Please call (951) 413-3702 to verify all information.

Please check Riverside County's web site for information on Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) disposal: <http://www.rivcowm.org/opencms/hhw/index.html>. There is a permanent HHW collection facility at: 1780 Agua Mansa Road, Riverside, Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please check their web site to verify all information or changes to their schedule.

For more information about our group and volunteering with the Moreno Valley Group, contact Ann McKibben at (951) 924-8150, Theresa Carson, (951) 242-4752 or George Hague at (951) 924-0816 or e-mail us at: movalleygroup@yahoo.com

Mountains Group

by Dave Barrie

I hate to say "mission accomplished" but we do have completion of the transfer of 50+ acres of forested property (see photo in next column) from the Royal Rangers (and their planned Adventure Camp) to the San Bernardino Mountains Land Trust. Lots of work by local environmental groups (including the Mountains Group) and more involvement from the community, in general, than we have seen in a number of years preceded the sale and helped convince the Royal Ranger organization that selling the property to the Land Trust was the best thing to do for all involved. Congratulations to everyone that helped make it happen!

In addition, here are a few words from Peter Jorris, Executive Director of the San Bernardino Mountains Land Trust:

On February 28, 2011, the San Bernardino Mountains Land Trust purchased the 50.31-acre Royal Rangers property in Twin Peaks that has been the center of controversy for a decade over a proposed large-scale camp complex and conference center.

The property lies within a prominent wildlife corridor, linking Strawberry Creek with the Grass Valley Creek area. It also is critical habitat for the southern rubber boa, a small friendly snake listed as "threatened" by the state Dept. of Fish & Game and found only in our local National Forest. The land will be offered for sale to the Forest Service as a protective buffer to the west flank of Strawberry Peak in addition to the site's other unique habitat values.

In March 2010, the Sierra Club partnered with the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society, Center for Biological Diversity, Save Our Forest Association and Christians for the

Continued >>>



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Earth in filing a court challenge against the Board of Supervisors for approving the Royal Rangers project. Issues included violations of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), like disregarded Biological impacts, major Aesthetic impacts, Fire Safety concerns, and inadequate Alternative Project analyses. The legal petition also cited significant conflicts with the policies and codes of the County General Plan, which had been ignored.

A standing offer by the San Bernardino Mountains Land Trust to buy the land persuaded the Royal Rangers to sell and settle the lawsuit, rather than undergo a protracted and costly legal battle.

A special letter-writing campaign (directed at both the Forest Service and Congress) is being planned to help identify this site as a major acquisition priority and to request the necessary LWCF appropriations for it to be added to the National Forest.



And that means we can focus all (almost all) of our attention on the next oversized, inappropriately located development – the Church of the Woods—"Sonrise" project in Rimforest.

The draft EIR (the sorriest example of an EIR I have ever seen) has been reviewed and commented upon and we are waiting to see if the next step is as poorly executed. Hard to imagine that it could be but, then again, San Bernardino County is always able to surprise us with creative and innovative reasoning (?) to support approval of development.

It would be nice, but unexpected, to see them do the right thing for a change and the documentation for this project is so inadequate that it would be easy for the County to decide that it cannot let it proceed. Just point to the CEQA violations; just point to the lack of adherence General and Community Plans; just ask that the requirements of other State agencies be properly addressed; and just insist upon conformance to development codes. Just say no!

Caltrans recently presented us with a traffic signal (on the Rim of the World Highway) that we neither needed, nor wanted, and this huge complex of church and recreation facilities would add another NINE traffic signals to our rural (currently anyway) community.

A letter writing campaign has been ongoing (thanks Sue Walker for your work there) and by the time you read this we will have had our first Town Hall meeting to further spread the word about the project and its problems.

On a more positive note, the Forest Festival is set for June 4 at the Brulte Baseball field on Highway 18 just east of Charles Hoffman Elementary School in Running Springs. Visit our booth any time from 10am to 3pm. Better yet, join Don Fischer for a hike on the nearby Children's Forest Exploration Trail at 10am and then come see us at our booth!

Check our website <http://www.sangorgonio.sierraclub.org/mountains> for details as the date approaches and for other Mountains Group information.

Across California, A Trek From The Colorado River to The Pacific

by Cal French of the Sierra Club's Santa Lucia Chapter

Cal, 74, a member of the Sierra Club for 42 years, is trekking 530 miles to highlight the threatened natural corridors between the Colorado River and the Pacific Ocean. Cal sits on the Sierra Club Santa Lucia Chapter Board. He is blogging from a BlackBerry.

In 1826, my much-removed cousin Jedediah Smith, a 27-year-old fur trapper, led a band of 16 men from Utah into California, which was then part of Mexico. Now, 186 years later, and 47 years older than he was, I will be following part of Smith's route, on which he reached the nearly-dry Mojave River. He was actually looking for the mythical great Buenaventura River, which of course he never found. It supposedly would connect the interior of North America to the Pacific Ocean, serving as a vein for commerce. I, on the other hand, will be looking to see how the different ecoregions from the eastern Mojave Desert across the mountains to the Pacific connect with each other.

The point?

Cousin Jedediah had only the sketchiest of maps if any, whereas my companions and I will have almost too much information with GPS, topographic maps, and Google Earth as resources. Thousands of articles, scientific papers, and books describe the areas my route covers. You can drive from the start to finish in a long day. So why do it? Aside from its being a personal accomplishment such as doing the Pacific Crest Trail, my larger purpose is to show that someone can walk on public and conservancy land, avoiding roads and highways, over an area that still looks natural. And it is through this personal connection with the land across about 530 miles that I hope to speak for the necessity of preserving and protecting what wildness remains. Not only that: If this wildness is isolated it will eventually die of starvation.



Jedediah Smith, first white man to travel from Rocky Mountains to California, led the first expedition of trappers from California to the Pacific Northwest. Although he lost most of his men and all of his supplies to Indian attacks on the way, he established the first link between California and the Pacific Northwest.

That starvation will come about when connections are severed. For example, biologists have told me that the San Joaquin Valley kit fox population on the Carrizo Plain National Monument—through which the trek will pass—could die out unless it maintains connections with populations to the north and south of the Monument.

Another example: Joshua trees in Joshua Tree National Park are starting to suffer from excessive summer heat; meanwhile, other groves of these picturesque spiny plants are extending west of the hottest deserts.

The Route

Beginning at the Colorado River near Laughlin, Nevada, on March 20, four of us will cross the Dead Mountains and head for Hole in the Wall in the Mojave National Preserve, which we'll reach in six days. Spencer Berman and Stacy Goss will leave the trek there. Four days later, Tom Landis and I will be at the strangely-named Zzyzx, now a center for desert studies, where Tom's wife Madeleine will join us.

Eventually, backed up by new supplies from my wife Letty, we'll reach the Pacific Crest Trail at Jawbone Canyon and take it south to the Tejon Ranch, probably the most vital ecological link between the desert, Sierra, San Joaquin Valley, and southern California mountains and valleys. With kind permission we'll cross the Ranch and enter the Wind Wolves Preserve, which also greatly enhances connectivity among ecoregions. Then we're on to Bitter Creek National Wildlife Refuge, the Carrizo Plain National Monument, the Carrizo Ecological Reserve, and the Los Padres National Forest ending in Morro Bay on May 1st or 4th or whenever we get there.

You can follow the trek on *Sierra* magazine's web site. Go to <http://sierraclub.typepad.com/explore/across-california/>.



Tom Landis, Cal and Spencer Berman figuring out which way to go.

Santa Margarita Group

by Jim Mitchell, Chair

About 100 Sierra Club members and area residents came to our February 17th General Meeting to hear Riverside County Supervisor Jeff Stone describe the Temecula Valley Wine Country Community Plan.



It was standing room only at our February General Meeting to hear Riverside County Supervisor Jeff Stone describe the proposed Temecula Valley Wine Country expansion plan. Photo by Jim Mitchell

The proposed plan as presently written would significantly expand the boundaries of the current Wine Country, as well as enlarge the types of development that would be permitted.

There are currently about 34 operating wineries in the Wine Country with that number projected to grow to more than 100 in the years ahead if the proposed plan is approved by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors. The long term plan is being compared by supporters as well as opponents to Napa Valley's famous wine country with its major hotels, convention centers, out-door entertainment venues and numerous bed and breakfasts. One of the primary goals of the Temecula Wine Country Plan is to create a setting that would attract large numbers of tourists. As most agree, the big challenge is going to be the creation of a world class wine growing area while at the same time preserving the Temecula Valley Wine Country's very unique rural and equestrian life style that prompted hundreds of homeowners to move into the area.

The Temecula Valley Wine Country Community Plan is still in the formative stage with many issues still to be resolved. Over the months ahead, the Sierra Club plans to participate with residents and local community leaders in guiding certain aspects of the plan that could impact the local environment. Among the issues we are concerned about are water availability, habitat preservation, trail systems as well as increased noise and traffic.

In addition, here are some of the other projects our Group is following:

Laurie Webster, Group Activities Committee Chair

The Santa Margarita Group had a great activity on Saturday, March 12th with a selection of docent-led hikes through the beautiful Torrey Pines State Reserve. We had 4 wonderful docents offering a nice selection of walking hikes and our group of approximately 30 Sierra Club SMG members was divided in to 4 small groups. Two of the groups were led on a wildflower hike and the other 2 groups embarked on a more strenuous cross-Reserve hike which included a walk down to Torrey Pines beach. All 4 of the docents shared their knowledge and insights about Torrey Pines, with a special emphasis placed on wildflowers, Native Plants and geology. We were even lucky enough to have a gorgeous afternoon of sunshine!

Immediately after our adventure at Torrey Pines, we met for dinner at Tony's Jacal, a long-time Mexican Restaurant located in Solana Beach.

I will keep you posted as we plan more fun trips. If you want additional information or have some ideas on local trips you would like us to take, contact me at (Laurie at laurie_r_w@yahoo.com).

Bob Audibert, Group Outings Committee Chair

I have two hikes planned for May and June and may add a third.

On Sunday May 1st, starting at 9AM we going

to hike the Morgan Trail. This is an easy to moderate out and back hike of 9 miles. Because the trail ends at the junction with the Bear Canyon trail, there is an option for a shorter hike if 9 miles is more than you are looking for. From the Bear Canyon Trail junction it is an easy 1 mile hike down to the Candy Store on The Ortega Highway. You would need a car parked at the trail head parking lot on the north side of the road. A wilderness pass is required for the car. Those hikers could share a ride back to The Morgan Trail head and pick up their cars (also displaying wilderness passes). From the Morgan trail head we travel

east through an oak woodlands with the sound of a stream below the trail. After about two miles the trail opens up into a forest of chaparral with some great vistas of the mountains and valleys. The hike should take about 3.5 hours. Directions: From the Ortega Highway in Lake Elsinore head west up the mountain. When the road begins to level out there is a left turn with a turn lane. This is South Main Divide Road. Turn left and the trail head is about 2.8 miles on the right. As always bring plenty of water, a lunch, comfortable hiking shoes, dress in layers and don't forget the sunscreen and a wilderness pass is required for all cars parked at trail heads

Then on Sunday June 5th starting at 8:30 AM we will hike an area in view of Beauty Mountain. Because of the tremendous interest in Beauty Mountain and it's designation as a Wilderness Area, I would like to revisit an area that will give you a close up view of the mountain. Shauli led us on this hike last April and was a great success. It is both a great hike and a chance to actually see the area we so often talk about at Sierra Club meetings. It is a moderately strenuous hike of between 5.5-7.0 miles depending on how we decide to hike it and about 800' of elevation gain. Bring plenty of water, a lunch, comfortable hiking shoes, and dress in layers and bring sun screen. Directions: Take 79s to the 371 and drive about 11 miles to Cahuilla Casino. We will meet at 8:30 AM and ride share from the parking to the trail head.

For more information or to make reservations



Among the 30 Sierra Club members that toured Torrey Pines State Reserve on March 12th. Photo by Laurie Webster

please contact me, Bob Audibert, at (bob.takeahike1@gmail.com) or call me at (951)302-1059. Also check our Santa Margarita Group web site at (<http://sierraclubsmg.org>).

Lynn Davis, Group Program Chair

Joel Robinson created Naturalist-For-You to connect the public to diverse, natural places. He did just that at the March 17th General Meeting with an inspiring, entertaining (mandolin solos included!) photographic journey to rarely seen

pockets of natural beauty: waterfalls, pools, giant ferns, canyons & forests all within the Santa Ana Mountains. The presentation included a description of the proposed Grizzly Bear National Monument and appeal for support of the bill's passage. You can contact Joel at (www.naturalist-for-you.org).

Stephanie Standerfer, Dudek Associates and Laurie Correa of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA) will present a history, overview and update of the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) at our April 21st meeting. With mounting pressure to diminish, dilute and roll back this important piece of environmental protection, an understanding of the MSHCP is critical to Sierra Club's effective participation in local and county development issues.

And at our May 19th meeting, David Steele, President of the San Diego Green Chamber of Commerce (now merged with the US Green Chamber) will talk about the outstanding growth of the organization since its 2010 inception. Providing insight on the startup process, David will highlight the Chamber's goals and strategies for the "greening" of business in Southern California with a focus on the Temecula/Murrieta communities. info@usgreenchamber.com.

If you have any questions about these programs or suggestion for future programs, please contact me at lynnedavis@hughes.net.

Pam Nelson, Conservation Committee Chair

Local residents and members have reported their concerns about projects such as the Temecula Valley Wine Country Community Plan, the Galway Downs sports field expansion, the Lake Elsinore Hydro Electric Plant (LEAPS) transmission lines proposed route into Cleveland National Forest and Pacific Aggregate's land swap in Temescal Canyon. We are investigating and identifying any environmental impacts our Club may be able to address.

Fred Bartz, Environmental Action Committee

The final Environmental Impact Report (EIR-475) for Liberty Quarry is now available for the public to read. You can find it online at (www.rctlma.org/planning/content/temp/liberty-quarry.html) or at the Temecula Public Library, the Grace Mellman Community Library (Temecula County Library), the Murrieta Public Library or the Fallbrook Branch of the San Diego County Libraries.

The long-awaited County Planning Commission hearing to approve or deny the proposed Liberty Quarry project is scheduled for Tuesday, April 26th, and if needed, Tuesday, May 3rd. The hearing will start at 4:00 PM at the Rancho

Community Church on Temecula Parkway, approximately one mile east of the I-15.

It is important to get the maximum number of individuals to attend this hearing to show the County that we are opposed to this potential environmental disaster, which would be located next to SDSU's Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve. The Reserve is located in the

MSHCP (Multi Species Habitat Conservation Plan) which will be significantly impacted by Liberty Quarry. The quarry would also sever the wildlife corridor between the Santa Ana and Palomar Mountains. The quarry is also located in the Santa Margarita River Watershed, which is a major source of drinking water for Camp Pendleton's Marines and their family members.

For more information please go to www.nograpelquarry.com or contact me at (fjbartz@verizon.net) or (915) 294-0057.

Tahquitz Group

by Joan Taylor, Conservation Chair

Spring has sprung in the low desert and the hillsides are rife with myriad wild flowers. However, invasive Saharan mustard is a mounting problem both in Joshua Tree National Park and in the sand dune preserves in the Coachella Valley. The great news lately is that the bulk of the Palmwood project site has been acquired (see writeup below). Other than that, Tahquitz activists continue to work on Chino Canyon and other issues, including solar projects small and large, good and bad.

Desert Treasure to be Protected in Perpetuity! Bye Bye Palmwood, Hello Big Morongo Saved



Mt. San Geronio from Big Morongo Photo by Bill Havert

Remember the giant "Palmwood" project in eastern Riverside County that threatened the Big Morongo Area of Critical Environmental Concern back in 2006 and 2007? With Chapter and Group assistance, the Club successfully sued against Palmwood's proposed 2600 houses, 400 room hotel, golf courses, and a million square feet of big box stores, — all proposed around the mouths of Big Morongo and Mission Creek Canyons in the sensitive ecotone between the Mojave and Colorado deserts.

Not only is this area an ecotone between these major ecosystems, but also it is a major recognized regional wildlife corridor and host to rare and sensitive species found few other places in the world.

Winning the lawsuit against the actual project was just half the battle, since the three square miles in question were still privately owned. But thanks to joint land acquisition efforts, Palmwood is rapidly becoming history.

About a year and a half ago, the Commission implementing the Coachella Valley Multiple Species HCP bought the easternmost portion of the Palmwood site. Then just recently Friends of the Desert Mountains bought the western third of the site.

Thus, the original Palmwood project is essentially book-ended, leaving only the center square mile, which is more mountainous terrain but nevertheless important to preserve. While this final parcel remains a high conservation priority for acquisition, the threat of another Palmwood is largely gone.

From the early days of the battle up till today, there were many important players: Chapter and Tahquitz Group; Center for Biological Diversity attorney Jonathan Evans and Club attorney Wayne Brechtel; Robin Kobaly and other biologists who commented on the EIR; County Supervisor Marion Ashley who hung tough to prevent the area from being annexed into an errant City of Desert Hot Springs; Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy that granted bond funds to accomplish this critical conservation initiative; and Friends of the Desert Mountains who facilitated the most recent acquisition.

A debt of gratitude is owed to all the above for helping protect the treasure we know and enjoy as Big Morongo ACEC, for now and into the future.

Donors . . . Continued from Page 1

Edward & Mavis Adamson
 Nancy Austin
 Stephanie Austin
 Ann Balderama
 Joyce Barkeloo
 Roger & Phoebe Baty
 Richard Blain
 John Brandt
 Bill & Jackie Brown
 Steve & Janet Brown
 Elizabeth Burns
 Arthur Byrne
 Jorge J. Castellanos
 Tom & Jan Cawthon
 Robin Clark
 Bonnie Covach
 David W. Czech
 Mary Jane Davison
 Eugene De Mine
 Harry E. DePass III
 John Dillingham
 Jack C. Eaton
 John & Donna Elliott
 Frank & Sue-Anne Ellis
 Cheryl Emoto
 Lucille Forestal
 Dr. & Mrs Herbert Friedman
 William D. Gardner
 Susan T. Golden
 & Don Sturges
 Tony & Marietta Gray
 Mary A. Guillen
 Larry Hall
 Arline Hamilton
 Doreen Hamilton
 Anne Henke
 Esther L. Herbert
 Sigmar Hoffman
 Johanna E. Howard
 Stuart Hukkanen
 Steven & Patricia Hurley
 James Hynd, Jr.
 Moke Kodaka
 James Kutch
 Larry LaPré
 Shannon Lehrter
 Lisa Lichtenstein
 Ken Linville
 Lynn Lipscomb
 Steven J. Marquez
 Carlton S. Martz
 Bill Mayer
 Corinne Haering Mayhew
 Michael & Meryl McDowell
 Ann Turner McKibbin
 Sheila McMahan
 Jeff Morgan
 Pat & Sally Morris
 Gary Mumaw
 Larry & Kathi Murdock
 Pamela Nelson
 Mildred Newlove
 James & Sheila O'Brien
 Melody J. O'Neill
 William G. Palmer
 Carie A. Poppiti
 Craig Riemer
 Theodore Sato
 Jim Selby & Linda Damaso
 Robin Shreve
 Mark Snowwhite
 Harold C. Snyder
 Susan St. Louis
 Sandy Steers
 Daniel Stork
 Gustel & Daniel Suiffet
 Austin Sullivan
 Elizabeth Szabo
 Patrick Temple
 Joel Thacker
 Dave & Patty Thorne
 Laraine Turk
 Jerry & Melissa Usrey
 Richard Vetter
 Dave & Lugena Wahlquist
 Dr. Horace Warner

Richard & Susan Weaver
 Les Whitaker
 David Whyte
 Joanne Williams
 Robert W. Wills
 Philip Zywiiciel & Lori Hubbard-Zywiiciel

ADDITIONAL DONORS

Helen Atik
 Dorothy Bailey
 Rose Anne Balogh
 Zepha M. Berlin
 LEEAN BITTEROLF
 Suzanne Bowman
 Mrs. Geo. T. Boyd
 Richard Burns
 Patricia Contreras
 Martin C. Dusold
 Evalyn Ellis
 Harvey A. Feit
 Marian Hargrave
 David C. Higgins
 Eugene Holder
 Trubee Jones
 Mary Ann Knox
 Bärbel LaMar
 Carol Lee
 Richard Lewis
 Jess Lopatynski
 Dennis Mann
 Kevin McBride
 Clarence Muirhead
 Terence E. O'Malley
 Darel Propst
 Susan Schroeder
 Chris Searight
 Nicholas Shestople
 Maria Skrypzak
 Patrick Standhardt
 Kathleen Stevens
 Mark & Carol Trabing
 Elinore Tushner
 Elizabeth Van Zandt
 Sabrina Verney
 Carol Wiley
 Milton Winer



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

Calendar . . . Continued from Page 8

JUN 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 or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

JUN 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.

JUN 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> or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

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



Membership

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

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ ZIP _____
 E-mail _____
 Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club
 MasterCard Visa Exp Date ____/____/____
 Cardholder Name _____
 Card # _____

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

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

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

F94 W-1200

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

