



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 6

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

NOV/DEC 2011

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Membership Meetings

Tuesday, November 1

"The Ansel Adams Wilderness From the West: The Best Kept Secret of the Sierra"

Speaker: Mary Ann Ruiz
(see write up Page 1)

Tuesday, December 6

"The English Coast to Coast Path: A Unique Challenge"

Speakers: Gail and Ladd Seekins,
(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)

Settlement Protects Habitat, Requires Green Building!

by George Hague, Sierra Club, San Gorgonio Chapter,
and Jonathan Evans, Center for Biological Diversity

RIVERSIDE, Calif.— Conservation groups reached a settlement on an industrial warehouse project in the city of Riverside that requires the development to set aside habitat for wildlife, ensure environmentally friendly building practices, and reduce air pollution. In return the Center for Biological Diversity, Sierra Club, San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society and Friends of Riverside's Hills agreed

the federally endangered Stephens' kangaroo rat, including protection of an important wildlife connection between the Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Park and March Stephens' Kangaroo Rat Preserve. Land will be set aside as wildlife habitat and dedicated to the city of Riverside for expansion of the Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Park.

The settlement also requires environmentally responsible green-building practices. The project will install on-site solar energy and require the purchase of green power credits. The buildings will be gold-certified in Leadership

Design (LEED) warehouses/distribution centers can and must now become the standard implemented by decision-makers as well as developers throughout the Inland Empire for the health of residents and the environment," said George Hague, conservation chair of the Moreno Valley Group of the Sierra Club.

The settlement follows a series of legal challenges to industrial warehouse proposals on western Riverside's few remaining natural places for endangered wildlife. Conservation groups charged the projects violated the California Environmental Quality Act and the



CENTER for BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Because life is good.

to dismiss their lawsuits against the city of Riverside challenging the Alessandro Business Center project.

"This agreement shows we can build greener and smarter to protect wildlife, fight climate change and improve air quality," said Jonathan Evans of the Center for Biological Diversity. "The settlement raises the bar for future projects to require renewable energy and protect wildlife while supporting sustainable development."

The agreement protects habitat for

in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), demonstrating standards for energy efficiency and reduced greenhouse gas pollution. It also requires improvements in the project design and practices to reduce the impacts of smog and soot on local air pollution.

"This developer has demonstrated that gold-certified Leadership in Energy and Environmental



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federal habitat conservation plan for the Stephens' kangaroo rat, which was originally proposed to strike a balance between protection and development.

The Center for Biological Diversity is a national, nonprofit conservation organization with more than 320,000 members and online activists dedicated to the protection of endangered species and wild places.

The Sierra Club is a nonprofit conservation organization of over 725,000 members dedicated to exploring, enjoying, and protecting the wild places of the earth.

See related articles on Page 10 >>>

Mark Your Calendars for These Two Great Programs!

Mary Ann Ruiz will be the speaker at the November 1st chapter meeting. She will present a slide show on her backpack to the Ansel Adams Wilderness from the west. Join us for highlights of her seven-day Sierra Club trip up the rugged passes and beside sparkling High Sierra lakes.

Said to be "the best kept secret" of the Sierra, most people don't realize that this spectacular wilderness area can be accessed from the west side, starting out above 7,000 ft into beautiful forests, peaks, passes and vistas.

Mary Ann was one of thirteen strangers who hiked into the High Sierra on Sunday Sept 11th. They had met the day before in a soggy campground amid a driving hailstorm. Was this an omen for the trip ahead? The Sierra Club national outing in the Ansel Adams Wilderness began at Isburg Trailhead,

about 7,000 feet, on the western slope south of Yosemite.



The trip took them through fir and lodge pole pine forests, past several beautiful lakes amid sheer granite backdrops. After the first two days ascending up into about ,000 ft, they spent the third day reaching Isburg Pass and then dropping down into the edge of the Yosemite wilderness. From there they climbed up to Post Peak Pass at 10,800, affording views of Banner Peak, Mt. Ritter, the Minarets and the Ritter Range. They continued down the other side and along the Lillian Lakes trail to several more beautiful

Sierra lakes. In spite of several days of rain and hail, they enjoyed the trip and became friends in the process.

Sierra Club national trips afford a great way to take a relatively long trip with experienced leaders and excellent planning. "I'm grateful for the chance to spend so much time in this area of protected wilderness, to experience the wonders of the Sierra and come back to work refreshed and recharged," Mary Ann commented.

Mary Ann first backpacked with her parents in Yosemite at the age of nine and was hooked. She has shared her love of the outdoors with her three grown children. Currently Mary Ann is an outings leader with Los Serranos group, and also is active in the Sierra Club's San Gabriel Mountains Forever Campaign. She works as a product manager for a national metals distribution company.

Then . . .

Gail and Ladd Seekins will present a slideshow at the December 6th chapter meeting of their 180-mile, 14-day hike along the Coast to Coast Path through Cumbria and North Yorkshire, England. Starting on the Irish Sea at the town of St. Bees and finishing on the North Sea at the historic port of Robin Hood's Bay, the Coast to Coast Path crosses three of

Continued on Page 2 >>>

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 Meets 3rd Thursday, Discovery Center
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www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org

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

- Mojave Group:**
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 Meets 2nd Wednesday except Jul. & Aug.
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 17738 Francesca, Victorville 7 p.m.
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- Santa Margarita Group:**
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sierraclubsmg@gmail.com
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 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



Programs . . . Continued from Page 1

England’s largest national parks: the Lake District, the Yorkshire Dales, and the North York Moors. Gail and Ladd planned their trip, booked their own lodgings and hiked independently. They hiked the path from July 31 through August 13 this year.

The Coast to Coast Path was devised in 1972 by the noted British hiker and guide author Alfred Wainright. He charted a route that incorporates public footpaths and rural roads. The path is not an official English long distance trail, yet it has become one of the world’s most popular trails of its type.

The path crosses some of the most spectacular high country in England, following along lakes and high tarns and passing through forest reserves, historic villages, colorful moors, and countless miles of pasture filled with millions (it seems) of grazing sheep. The higher portions can be quite rugged. Along the way there is ample opportunity to visit historic village churches, the ruins of an abbey shut down by

Henry VIII, a Norman castle and prehistoric stone circles.

In the British Isles one of the greatest challenges to hiking is the weather. The locals don’t let rain stop a good walk and Gail and Ladd followed in that spirit and enjoyed the hike in spite of the weather. Only four days were completely without rain. On three days the rain was so steady that they were soaked to the skin despite wearing complete raingear. The youth hostels and bed-and-breakfasts where the Seekins spent the nights all featured drying rooms.

Another challenge on the Coast to Coast Path is route finding. In the Lake District, trails are not marked and trail



San Gorgonio Chapter Ballot

Please indicate your vote on this ballot, cut out and mail so it is received by November 22, 2011.

Mail To: **Sierra Club**
P.O. Box 708, Blue Jay, CA 92317

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

SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER BALLOT

Please vote for 7 or fewer

- Kim Floyd
- Ladd Seekins
- Joan Taylor
- Bill Cunningham
- Mike Millsbaugh
- Roland Hansson
- Allen Bartleman

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USPS 341-430
 ISSN 1090-9974
 A bi-monthly newspaper serving
 Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

Published by the
Sierra Club
 San Gorgonio Chapter
 4079 Mission Inn Avenue
 Riverside, CA 92501-3204
 (951) 684-6203
<http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org>

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

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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
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junctions are not sign posted. Along the entire path there is such a maze of footpaths that on occasion even maps are not helpful.

Guide books give directions by minor landmarks: trees, fences, stone walls and farm buildings. (“Turn left at the bench.”)

While on the path, the Seekins encountered many other hikers who became good friends. Often they would meet the same hikers day after day, even when their overnight lodgings were in different towns. One group of eleven, including several teenagers, was camping. The adults took turns driving the gear ahead. On the last day the Seekins met an American family

that was hiking the path in 20 days with twin five-year-old boys.

Gail and Ladd have travelled extensively in the USA, Canada, Europe, South America, Africa and Asia. They have presented numerous programs on their travels at previous chapter meetings, including the Milford Track in New Zealand and the Inca Trail in Peru. The English Coast to Coast Path is their most ambitious hiking adventure.

Gail is a retired public health nurse for San Bernardino County and volunteers for the Girl Scouts, her church, and the Sierra Club and runs a folkdance club. Ladd has a wholesale distribution business of flowers and florist supplies in San Bernardino. He is chapter treasurer, program chair and population chair and serves on the Sierra Club state conservation committee where he is also population chair. He also volunteers with Rotary and his Democratic club.

Group News

Big Bear Group

by Christie Walker

October's Meeting Will Be Electrifying

This year's green energy symposium, to be held on Thursday, October 20th at 6:30 at the Discovery Center, will bring together a variety of experts in green energy including, wind, solar and creating an energy efficient home. Panelists include: Peter Pearson, Bear Valley Electric; Bob Ludecke, local electrician; Joe Moore, WindSun Energy Systems; the Fire Captain of the Baldwin Lake Fire Department, Larry Winslow, and Fawn Harbor owner, Captain John, who create a home so energy efficient he doesn't use electricity at all!

Get Popping: It's Film Festival Time

Mark Thursday, November 17th at 6:30 for the Big Bear Environmental Film Festival. We will be featuring three films including a documentary on managing the forest called, "From Controversy to Common Ground: The Colville National Forest Story." This film shows how diverse groups such as environmentalists, loggers, government and biologists can come together to create real solutions to difficult problems. Then, for those who missed it the first time we presented it, we give you The Story of Stuff. In this short film, you discover where stuff comes from, where it goes, and why do we need so much of it. The final film—a wildlife film—will be a special surprise! (Translation: We didn't have the name at press time.) With Terry Gold picking the film, you know it's got to be good! So bring a comfortable chair, some popcorn, even a blanket, and spend an evening at the Discovery Center for our annual Environmental Film Festival.

October Elections

The Big Bear Group will be sending out an electronic ballot on November 1st. For those who do not have e-mail, we present this ballot your consideration. Please vote for four people. Cut this out and mail to: Christie Walker, P.O. Box 1945, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315.

- Marv Cira
 Joy Cira
 Chris Cook
 Linda Quiroz

LAKESHORE SUCCESS

By Alan Sharp



On September 17th the 12th annual Big Bear Lake Shoreline Cleanup was conducted in conjunction with the 27th annual California Coastal Cleanup. The cleanup is sponsored by the California Coastal Commission. Statewide last year, over 82,000 volunteers participated, making it the largest volunteer event in the state. With 800 sites along the beaches, lakes, rivers and streams of California the cleanup removed 1.2 million pounds of debris.

This year's cleanup saw 146 participants, pick-up 676 lbs. of trash and 135 lbs. of recyclable material for a total of 902 lbs. The Big Bear Group of the Sierra Club site coordinators Lisa Patterson and Jonny Bresnhan once again lent their time to the cleanup effort as site captains. Big Bear Municipal Water supported the cleanup by picking up the debris immediately after the event. The annual cleanup has had an impact on marine debris. In the past 12 years, 2123 volunteers have removed 18,063 lbs. of debris from the lakeshore. That's an impressive number when you consider this event only happens once a year, lasting only three hours.



Mojave Group

by Jenny Wilder

It's that time of year again when we vote for our ExCom members. Please take the time to find the ballot in this issue of Palm and Pine and send in your vote. The ExCom works hard to provide many services to our members. We plan and organized a selection of walks and hikes, we keep track of some of the important issues that affect our area, and we provide updates for the members at our monthly meetings and on our Facebook Page (Mojave Group Sierra Club). You can look at the page **without** having to "sign in" to Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Mojave-Group-Sierra-Club/128853927174168>. If you *do* have a Facebook page yourself, you can click "like" and receive updates from us on a regular basis, post comments and join our discussions. Facebook is just one more way that we are trying to touch base with as many of our members as possible. If you would like to join our efforts on the ExCom please email or call Jenny Wilder JensOasis@aol.com 760 220 0730. Please bring your own cup to the General Meeting to avoid having to carry in extra.

Melody, our Outings Chair, has increased the weekly Wednesday walk to include 2 more days as well. That's regular conditioning walks 3 times a week! Check the Outings section for details. These walks are popular, but we realize that you may want to have a similar walk in your own neighborhood. There are many lovely walking areas available all around the Victor Valley. If so, please let us know and we will see about how we can assist you in setting one up.

The Mojave River: We continue to explore the Mojave River and you are welcome to join us. Some of the information we find is being posted on our Facebook page, including photos and letters sent and received from various agencies who have jurisdiction or who may have an interest in what happens to the river and its wetlands. One concern is the way in which the County Flood Control digs the river bed creating a straight middle channel and then



This quiet pool in the Mojave River is the result of a beaver dam below the "spillway." Saddledye embankment (Mojave River dam) is in the background. Photo by Jenny Wilder

piling large berms at right angles to this channel. This is a great cost both financially and to the environment in an attempt to slow the flow of water and protect lives and property. Unfortunately, this seems rather ineffective, especially when people are permitted to build in the flood plain. Despite the efforts of the County Flood Control, the Mojave River prefers to meander from side to side and the sand recently dug up and piled up is more easily moved to another location downstream. When it reaches one side that has a reinforced bank it tends to rush to the other side and so on. Eventually the earthen embankments will probably give way causing a significant amount of damage to the numerous houses being permitted along the banks. Another observation is that when the river is contained in a narrow channel upstream, the full force and might of the water in a flood situation is felt more heavily downstream. We are researching how people are becoming more aware of the choices for flood

control and how they are looking at more long term solutions. These often include returning the river to its more natural flow pattern at considerable expense to the counties and state because it involves purchasing land and demolishing buildings in addition to planting etc.

Wetlands are required by law to be protected, but many wetlands along the Mojave River are not getting the protection they deserve. Of particular note is the wetlands below the spillway where Deep Creek joins the Mojave River. Despite continued stress from illegal off road vehicle play, camping and a lack of a management plan, this area supports some large older trees, many younger willow stands, beavers and other wildlife. You can see some photos of the Mojave River, its wetlands, wildlife and damage on Yahoo flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/25273386@N08/collections/72157627737039620/>. The Army Corps of Engineers, the California Department of Fish and Game,

Department of Fish and Wildlife, the San Bernardino National Forest and the County of San Bernardino may all have some jurisdiction and interest in this wetland area! Despite efforts to protect the area, fences are cut and the large metal gate at the end of Deep Creek Road is routinely pulled off its hinges or smashed. People converge on the area to play in the shallow waters with their off road vehicles, swim, camp and leave their trash, paying no heed to the signs that say these activities are not allowed. On the Labor Day weekend in 2010, a 16 month old boy was killed while strapped into a car seat when his father drove into the Mojave River at this location and overturned his vehicle. The Army, even with the help of the local Sheriff's Office, seems incapable of securing and protecting this area of the Mojave River. See accompanying photos.



This gate, at the end of Deep Creek Road, was re-installed in the spring and has now been ripped off the hinges again, after the fences at the left were cut. Photo by Jenny Wilder

Water Monitoring: In conjunction with the focus of the Mojave River, we invite members to join us in our Water Monitoring efforts. "World Water Monitoring Day™" is an international education and outreach program that builds public awareness and involvement in protecting water resources around the world by engaging citizens to conduct basic monitoring of their local water bodies. In 2010, over 200,000 people in 85 countries monitored their local waterways. See the website for more information (<http://www.worldwatermonitoringday.org/>). We will be setting up some dates for October, November and December. We now have some kits available, so please let me know if you are interested. JensOasis@aol.com or call 760 220 0730.

Juniper Flats update: The Friends of Juniper Flats are preparing comments for the new motorized route designation effort in the court mandated "redo" of the West Mojave Plan. The most important issue for the Juniper

Continued on Page 4 > >

Group News

Mojave Group . . . from Page 3

Flats Area is for routes to avoid riparian areas, unique plant assemblages, and archaeological sites. Next important issue is that routes are not so numerous as to create an atmosphere of OHV play area where OHV touring is appropriate. Trails should not be placed in areas where they cause excessive erosion that will eventually clog streams. We would like to see the BLM define OHV touring and single track or "motorcycle only trails" and how they intend to manage such trails. If such trails cannot be managed how can they adhere to the "minimization" criteria? BLM must also look at the cumulative impacts of OHV activity on the area's resources and other activities in the area such as hiking,



This new sign was installed earlier this year. Only inappropriate access by vehicles is denied. The noticed placed by the Army is disrespectfully ignored.

Photo by Jenny Wilder

horseback riding, mountain biking, rock climbing, hunting, cattle grazing, mining, etc. In their first effort the BLM did not follow their own rules. BLM is required to locate trails to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources, minimize harassment to wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitat, AND trails must be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring lands. For more details see the BLM website: http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/cdd/west_mojave_wemo.html. Please join us on our monthly hikes in the Juniper Flats area to find out just how special this area is.



One of the numerous "vehicle crossings" in the area below the "spillway" which is closed to vehicles.

Photo by Jenny Wilder

MOJAVE GROUP EXCOM ELECTION FOR 2011 - 2012

PLEASE VOTE!!

Please vote for no more than 3 persons to serve on the ExCom, sign your ballot, and return no later than

30 November to:

Laverne Booth,
6710 Maple Ave.,
Hesperia, CA 92344-0141

This year Laverne Booth, Dick Garrison and Estelle Delgado served on the Nominating Committee and submitted the following:

_____ Jenny Wilder _____ Minki Petersen _____ Bill Spreng

_____ (write in Vote)



Moreno Valley Group

by Ann Turner McKibben, Secretary

The Moreno Valley Group Executive Committee (ExCom) held their meeting on September 12 where they discussed many of the conservation issues here in Moreno Valley. One of the biggest concerns is the large number of warehouses being approved by the city council, projects that put more diesel trucks on our aging roads and freeways, that pollute our already polluted air, and do little to encourage a diverse economy. Part of our meeting was spent celebrating Ellen Absher's retirement as group treasurer after 10 years on the job. Many thanks to Ellen for all of her hard work providing treasurer reports to the Group, Chapter as well as National and for taking such good care of our 'books' all of these years. To celebrate her retirement, the ExCom members provided pizza and root beer floats. Also attending was our new treasurer, Manya Jiannino. Manya responded to a request in our previous group news for a volunteer and we truly appreciate her taking on the job. She and her husband Steve have also volunteered to represent our Chapter at the California Nevada Regional Conservation Committee (CNRCC) meeting in the San Luis Obispo area.

Please look for the Moreno Valley Group newsletter this fall and also make time to mail in the Group Executive Committee ballot by the deadline.

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

The Moreno Valley Group is selling Sierra Club Wilderness wall and Engagement desk calendars for 2012. They make wonderful holiday gifts. Please take time to buy some calendars and support the Sierra Club. Contact Theresa Carson at (951) 242-4752 or tcarson22@msn.com to buy calendars.

The release of the draft environmental impact report (DEIR) for the Riverside County General

Plan Update (GPU) has been delayed again, but now they will include the very important Climate Action Plan. The public review period will tentatively start in the summer of 2012 with public hearings tentatively occurring in late fall or early winter of 2012. At this point in time there is no scheduled date for General Plan Advisory Committee to meet. George Hague and alternate Ann McKibben have represented the environmental community on the committee which is dominated by those connected to development interests. The GPU will impact all of us within Riverside County as it will lay out land use designations for years to come and it will also address sprawl, global climate change, noise and open space issues. Land use designations will significantly impact the San Jacinto Wildlife Area and open up valuable agricultural lands for development. County planner for the general plan update is Frank Coyle, Riverside County Planning Department, fcfoyle@rctlma.org or (951) 955-2706. Please contact him and let him know that you want a copy of the DEIR and to be notified of all future documents as well as meetings related to the GPU.

The Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley and the Sierra Club filed a lawsuit in April 2010 to challenge the approval of the Villages of Lakeview (Specific Plan 342) development on the southern boundary of the San Jacinto Wildlife

Area. According to George Hague, group conservation chair, the court hearing on the lawsuit (which is open to the public) is scheduled for December 2, 9:30 a.m., Department 10, Riverside County Superior Court (historic courthouse) in Riverside. Please contact George Hague at movalleygroup@yahoo.com to verify all information and ask any questions regarding the Sierra Club's role in this lawsuit.

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

Fall is a wonderful time to visit the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (SJWA) and it provides many opportunities to see migrating and overwintering waterfowl and birds of prey. To visit the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (located north of the Ramona Expressway in Lakeview) take I-215 to the Ramona Expressway; drive east to Davis Road (there is a traffic signal at the corner) then 2.2 miles north on Davis to the area headquarters. The wildlife area is open from dawn to dusk seven

Continued on Page 8 > >

Calendar of Outings, Meetings, and Other Events

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2011

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

CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: Items for the January/February 2012 Calendar are due by December 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 ESSENTIALS are required. They are: 1) map, 2) compass, 3) flashlight, 4) knife, 5) windproof/waterproof matches in the 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 GROUPEXCOM MEETING
Alpine Conference Room 27236 Blue Jay Mall on Feb. 7, Apr. 4, May 2, Oct. 3, Nov. 7. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

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

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

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

(2ND MON) 7:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING
Monthly program meeting. No meeting in August or December. PLACE: St. Richard's Episcopal Church, 28708 Highway 18, Sky Forest. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

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

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

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

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

(3RD TUE) LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except August. The public is welcome. Refreshments will be served. PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, (909) 815-9379, <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

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

(4TH TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
Chapter governance meeting. (No December meeting.) PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RALPH SALISBURY (951) 686-4141 <ralphsalisbury@att.net>. CHAPTER

WEEKLY RECURRING OUTINGS & FITNESS ACTIVITIES

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings

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

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

FRI 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP CONDITIONING HIKE
Please join me for a 3-6 mile conditioning walk around Jess Ranch. MEET at the Victor Valley Museum on Apple Valley Road in Apple Valley. BRING flashlight, jacket & comfortable walking shoes. Wear layered clothing. Rainy/Foul weather cancels, so please call before hike. LEADER: MELODY NICHOLS (760) 963-4430 <Labelady@msn.com> MOJAVE GROUP

OCTOBER 24 – OCTOBER 30

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

OCT 25 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
Chapter governance meeting. (No December meeting.) PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RALPH SALISBURY (951) 686-4141 <ralphsalisbury@att.net>. CHAPTER

OCT 26 (WED) 8:00 AM PCT-SPLINTERS CABIN - HOLCOMB CROSSING HIKE
This is a moderate to difficult 10-Mile hike with about 800-feet of elevation gain. We will be hiking through both chaparral and forested areas of the Pacific Crest Trail along Holcomb Creek. BRING plenty of water, lunch, sturdy boots and clothing appropriate to the weather. For those from the Big Bear area we will MEET in the east parking lot of the Big Bear Performing Arts Center at 8:00 AM. We will MEET others attending from the Arrowhead area at the Post Office in Cedar Glen at 9:00 AM and carpool to the trailhead from there. For more information call LEADER: DICK BANKS (909) 866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

OCT 26 (WED) 5:00 PM HIDDEN SPRINGS HIKE
Approximately 3 mile moderately fast paced hike on the Hidden Springs trail. Trail has some ups and downs but basically follows the base of the hills and then returns along the street. BRING: flashlight, jacket, 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 and LEADER: THERESA CARSON (951) 660-7246 or <tcarsen22@msn.com> MORENO VALLEY GROUP

OCT 28-30 (FRI-SUN) DEATH VALLEY HIKE & SERVICE
Wilderness restoration in a beautiful and remote National Park. On Friday help install wilderness boundary signs in Salsberry Pass. On Saturday hike 2 miles up Cottonwood Canyon for some work on the trail. Primitive camping in Cottonwood Canyon. Need moderate to high clearance vehicle. Work Friday afternoon and Saturday. Sunday we will be treated to a ranger guided hike thru the narrows of Marble Canyon. LEADER: KATE ALLEN, <kj.allen96@gmail.com>, (661) 944-4056. 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

Calendar . . . Continued from Page 5

OCT 29-30 (SAT-SUN) ROCK ART IN EASTERN CALIFORNIA EXPLORATION

This outing represents opportunity to visit four different petroglyph sites. On Saturday, we visit sites in the southern Owens Valley area bordering the Coso Mountains, and on Sunday we will be escorted to the famous sites in the China Lake Naval Weapons Center. As government restrictions apply on the weapons center, all arrangements and confirmations must be completed by October 10. High clearance 2WD sufficient. Group limit, 12 participants, Contact LEADER CRAIG DEUTSCHE for further information, <craig.deutsche@gmail.com> (310) 477-6670. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 31 – NOVEMBER 6

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

NOV 1 (TUE) 7:00 AM JOSHUA TREE NP: BOY SCOUT TRAIL HIKE

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

NOV 1 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING

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

NOV 1 (TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING

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

NOV 3 (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

NOV 4 (FRI) 8:00 AM WRIGHT MT. (8505) HIKE

This hike begins in the town of Wrightwood and goes by a little known trail to the PCT on the Blue Ridge and Wright Mt. The gain is 2300 Ft. in 8 miles. This is a perfect fall hike. MEET at McDonalds Rest. Hwy 15 and 138. Call if interested. LEADER JOE WHYTE (909) 949-0899. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

NOV 5 (SAT) 7:30 AM ONTARIO PEAK HIKE

This will be a strenuous hike up Ice House Canyon into the Cucamonga Wilderness to the top of Ontario Peak (elevation 8693 ft), 12.2 miles round trip with 3800 ft. elevation gain. The trail follows the creek for the first 1 1/2 miles under a canopy of oak, alder, aspen, spruce, fir, and pine. Scenic view from the top of Ontario Peak. Rain cancels. BRING: sturdy boots, 2+ liters water, snack, sunscreen, layer clothing appropriate for the weather. Contact John St. Clair prior to scheduled date for carpooling and meeting place. INFO/LEADERS/RESERVATIONS: JOHN ST. CLAIR, <john@stclairs.us>, (909) 983-8501 or CO-LEADER DEAN SHIMEK <dtsierra@msn.com>. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

NOV 5 (SAT) 8:30 AM SUICIDE ROCK HIKE

Enjoy a day in the mountains! Join us on a 7 mile out and back hike To Suicide Rock. The hike is moderately difficult with about 1900 ft of Elevation gain. I like this trail in the summer because much of it is shaded by pines and oak and the view from the rock is breathtaking. The autumn colors from the peak are stunning. DIRECTIONS: From the Ranger Station in Idyllwild drive 1mile north on highway 243. Park On the north side of the road across from The County Park Nature Center. BRING plenty of water, a lunch, comfortable hiking shoes, dress in layers and don't forget the sunscreen. "Rain Cancels" LEADER: GARY MARSALONE (858) 663-1201 <hikesie@gmail.com> SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

NOV 6 (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 November 10.) Hikes are moderately paced. Between 4 and 5 miles RT, 400 to 1200 ft elev. hike locations will vary. MEET: North parking lot of U.S. Bank, Claremont, at NE corner of Indian Hill & Foothill Blvds. BRING: Jacket, flashlight, water, and wear sturdy shoes/boots. RAIN CANCELS. INFO: LEADERS PATTY and DAVID THORNE (909) 981-5813. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

NOVEMBER 7 – NOVEMBER 13

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

NOV 7 (MON) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUPEXCOM MEETING

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

NOV 8 (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

NOV 9 (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

NOV 12 (SAT) 8:00 AM SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN HIKE

This is a "Peaks of Big Bear" hike. A patch is awarded for climbing all 5 peaks in one year. This is a difficult to strenuous 11-mile hike with 2400' of elevation gain to the top of Sugarloaf Mountain from a trailhead near Greenspot Camp. We will carpool to the trailhead, where Adventure Passes are required, from our MEETING place at Vons Shopping Center in Big Bear Lake. BRING sturdy boots, appropriate clothing, 2-quarts of water, lunch and sun protection. Call LEADER DICK BANKS (909) 866-9232 for details. BIG BEAR GROUP

NOV 12 (SAT) 8:00 AM PALM SPRINGS TRAM TO SAN JACINTO PEAK HIKE

Famous naturalist John Muir, exclaimed "that the view from San Jacinto, (10,804') was one of the most sublime spectacles seen anywhere on this earth." One-hundred mile visibility is not uncommon. You will hike 11.0 R/T miles and experience a 2,600' elevation gain. RATING: Strenuous. MEET: at the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway, purchase a round-trip ticket. We will travel from the desert floor to the tramway mountain station at (8,516') at 8:30 a.m. The cost of the R/T ticket is \$23.95 or \$21.95 for seniors 62 and older. BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, adequate water, lunch, sunscreen,

sunglasses, hat and gloves. RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER ED CALIENDO (760) 328-1090 <dogs111@msn.com> Snow cancels the hike. BIG BEAR GROUP

NOV 12 (SAT) 8:30 AM COTTONWOOD SPRING TO STONE SPRING HIKE

This moderate/easy hike is in the Juniper Flats Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ALEC), which is protected for its cultural and biological values. Please join us and find out more about the Juniper Flats ACEC and the many treats to this special place, which now include wind turbines. Today, the two springs provide important water, food and shelter for wildlife and are joined by a short wash in a sheltered canyon. The hike is a loop of about 4 miles. There are also views of the mountains along the way and a possibility of raptor sightings (don't forget your binoculars!). WEAR layered clothing, hat and BRING plenty of water/snacks. MEET at the Victor Valley Museum on Apple Valley Road at 8:30a.m. LEADER JENNY WILDER <JensOasis@aol.com> (760) 220 0730. MOJAVE GROUP

NOV 13 (SUN) 9:00 AM PACIFIC CREST TRAIL—CAJON PASS HIKE

Join us on a moderate 6-mile hike on the Pacific Crest Trail through a chaparral community that borders a historical site where early trails once merged. An approximate 600 foot elevation gain will provide a spectacular view of the Cajon Pass "Earthquake Park" that features a linear sag pond and uplifted sandstone strata of the San Andreas Fault. BRING a lunch or snack and plenty of water WEAR sturdy shoes and dress in layers. LEADERS: HEATHER SARGEANT and BONNIE TRUSLER. CONTACT: BONNIE TRUSLER (909) 880-1334 (btrusler@verizon.net) for information and meeting place. RAIN OR STRONG WIND CANCELS. MOUNTAINS GROUP

NOVEMBER 14 – NOVEMBER 20

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

NOV 14 (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

****NOV 15 (TUE) 9:00 AM CACTUS FLATS TO HORSE THIEF FLATS HIKE**

Moderate to strenuous 8 mile hike on old mining roads. Good views of the Bighorn Mountain Wilderness. We will MEET at the Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 9:00 AM and at Cactus Flats at 9:45 AM. Adventure pass required. Snow could cancel. Please call hike LEADER ED WALLACE (909) 584 9407 to confirm. BIG BEAR GROUP

NOV 15 (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

NOV 15 (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

NOV 15 (TUE) LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING

Ansel Adams Wilderness from the West -"Best Kept Secret of the Sierra." Most people don't realize that this spectacular wilderness area can be accessed from the west side, starting out above 7000 ft into beautiful forests, peaks, passes and vistas. Join us for highlights of a 7-day SC backpack trip up the rugged passes and beside sparkling high sierra lakes. Refreshments will be served. PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, (909) 815-9379, <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

NOV 17 (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

NOV 18 (FRI) 10:00 AM SANTA MARGARITA RESERVE FAMILY ACTIVITY

This is the first of two visits to the Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve. We will visit the River confluence in Temecula. We will observe riparian habitat and test for water quality at the water sources that intersect to form the Santa Margarita River. Meet at the south end of the Park and Ride (Jefferson and Temecula Valley Parkway) at 10 a.m. Plan on a 2-hour visit. Bring water, picnic/snacks, hat, sunscreen, the usual, for an easy walk. RSVP/questions to LEADER PAM NEL;SON: <pamela05n@yahoo.com> (951) 767-2324. OUTDOOR FAMILIES SECTION, SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

NOV 19 (SAT) 8:00 AM SB MTS: LAKE GREGORY IN THE FALL BIRD WALK

MEET: South Shore parking lot, just east of the water slide. See which birds remain for the winter and possible winter arrivals as we walk around the lake. Optional breakfast after. LEADER: BILL ENGS (909) 338-1910. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

NOV 19 (SAT) 8:00 AM SANTA ANA RIVER TRAIL LOOP HIKE

This is a moderate, 10-mile, loop hike with about 800' of elevation gain. We will hike south on the Santa Ana River Trail from South Fork trailhead (on Hwy 38) and return via Glass Road along the Santa Ana River. Those from mountain areas should MEET at Vons in Big Bear Lake at 8:00 AM. Those from the desert or inland areas may prefer to MEET us at the trailhead at 8:45 AM. BRING sturdy boots, plenty of water, lunch, sun protection and clothes appropriate to the weather. Call LEADER DICK BANKS for more information (909) 866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

NOV 19 (SAT) 8:30 AM BLACK MOUNTAIN TRAIL HIKE

This trail climbs up Black mountain (7772') to give you superb views of the desert valleys below, Banning Pass and the San Gorgonio Mountains to the north. Black Mountain is the northernmost peak in the San Jacinto Range. You will hike 7 miles and experience a 2,600' elevation gain. RATING: Strenuous. MEET: at the trail head just 1.25 miles past the Vista Grande Ranger Station on Hwy 243. 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 <dogs111@msn.com> Snow cancels the hike. BIG BEAR GROUP

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Calendar . . . Continued from Page 6

NOVEMBER 21 – NOVEMBER 27

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

NOV 22 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
Chapter governance meeting. (No December meeting.) PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RALPH SALISBURY (951) 686-4141 <ralphsalisbury@att.net>. CHAPTER

NOVEMBER 28 – DECEMBER 4

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

NOV 29 (TUE) 8:00 AM SILVER PEAK VIA 3N36 HIKE
This 9 mile strenuous hike will utilize Forest Service road 3N36 to get us to our final destination 6767' Silver Peak with it spectacular views of the high desert and Bighorn Mountains. BRING at least two quarts of water, lunch, sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat. We will MEET at the Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 8:00 AM. Please call to confirm. LEADER ED WALLACE (909) 584 9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

DEC 3 (SAT) 9:00 AM CITY CREEK PEAK HIKE
This is a moderate 10-mile hike from the ranger station parking lot on Hwy 330 in Highland to City Creek Peak with about 1200' of elevation gain. BRING sturdy boots, appropriate clothing, 2-quarts of water, sun protection and lunch. We will meet at the trailhead at 9:00 AM. People from the Big Bear area will MEET at the east parking lot of the Performing Arts Center (Civic Center) at 8:00 AM and carpool to the trailhead from there. For more information call LEADER DICK BANKS (909) 866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

DEC 3-4 (SAT-SUN) 1:00 PM S B MTS: KELLER HUT GATHERING
You are invited to join us for our annual holiday celebration at Keller Hut. You may arrive any time after 1 PM on Saturday. We provide turkey and dressing for dinner, plus tea and coffee. Please BRING a suitable potluck dish to serve six, and cold beverages, plus a "white elephant" gift to exchange. You are welcome to stay overnight, and join us for a communal breakfast, followed by a hike on Sunday AM. OVERSEER: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. CALL for information, and to notify him if you plan to attend. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

DECEMBER 5 – DECEMBER 11

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

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

DEC 6 (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

DEC 9 (FRI) 9:30 AM SANTA MARGARITA RESERVE FAMILY ACTIVITY
This is the second visit to the Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve. We will visit the North field station. We will see and visit the gorge area of the River. There will be a brief presentation of the research and overview of the Reserve by staff. An optional walk to the river for a close-up view of the habitat and water testing will be the final part of the visit. MEET at the Temecula Old Town parking lot (north end of town where the Farmer's Market is held) at 9:30 a.m. to organize carpooling. Some will stay for the short sloped walk to the River and some may want to leave. BRING water, picnic/snacks, hat, sunscreen, the usual, for a moderate walk. RSVP/questions to LEADER PAM NELSON: <pamela05n@yahoo.com> (951) 767-2324. Space limited. OUTDOOR FAMILIES SECTION, SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

DEC 9 (FRI) 6:00 PM MOONLIGHT HIKE HIKE
Come for a 2 to 3 hour evening hike in the foothills to enjoy the "full" moon. (Actual full moon is December 10.) Hikes are moderately paced. Between 4 and 5 miles rt, 400 to 1200 ft elev. hike locations will vary. MEET: North parking lot of U.S. Bank, Claremont, at NE corner of Indian Hill & Foothill Blvds. BRING: Jacket, flashlight, water, and wear sturdy shoes/boots. RAIN CANCELS. INFO: LEADERS PATTY and DAVID THORNE (909) 981-5813. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

DEC 10 (SAT) 9:00 AM THE MORGAN TRAIL HIKE
This is a easy/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 ride share 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 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. Rain Cancels. LEADER: GARY MARSALONE (858) 663-1201 <hikesie@gmail.com> SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

DEC 10 (SAT) 10:00 AM PUDDINGSTONE LAKE HIKE
Hike around big Puddingstone Lake in Bonelli Regional Park, adjacent to Fairplex in Pomona. Explore urbanized sage scrub, parkland, beaches, mountain views, blooming pear trees, muddy toes, and the 'Nam. Easy 6 mile rt, 300 - 600' gain. BRING water, snacks, appropriate footwear, and layered clothing. MEET 10:00 am at Brackett Field Airport Admin Building parking lot. City of La Verne (Mapquest: 1615 McKinley Ave). Exit 210 Fwy at Fruit, S. to Foothill, R .2 mi to 'D' St, L 1 mi to Arrow Hwy, L to Fairplex Dr, R 1 mi to McKinley Ave., R .4 mi to parking lot. RAIN CANCELS. LEADER: BILL JOYCE (909) 596-6280 <bill@rollingtherock.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

DEC 10 (SAT) 10:00 AM S B MTS CHILDREN'S FOREST/MILL PEAK HIKE
Moderate five-mile RT hike with a 400 ft. elevation loss/gain. Starting at Rimwood Ranch in Running Springs, the trail will follow a ridge overlooking San Gorgonio and San Jacinto Peaks, then drop down to a beautiful meadow in the Children's Forest, ending with hot chocolate and cookies at the leader's home! BRING: a quart of water, lunch and snacks; WEAR: hiking boots, warm clothes and sunscreen.

CALL leader for DIRECTIONS and INFO. LEADER: DON FISCHER, (909) 939-0332. Rain or snow cancels. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

DEC 11 (SUN) 8:00 AM SANTA ANA RIVER BOTTOM BIRD WALK
MEET: at Sierra Club Office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. LEADER: BILL ENGS (909) 338-1910. Bill will guide you to the birds. Breakfast at local restaurant after walk (optional). SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

DEC 11 (SUN) 8:30 AM PAINTED CANYON/LADDER CANYON LOOP HIKE
This is a MUST hike! The Painted Canyon and Ladder Canyon Loop are located in the northeast corner of the Coachella Valley within the Mecca Hills. This hike cuts through twisted and exotic Painted Canyon and the hiker uses a series of ladders to climb the Painted Canyon area. This is a 5.0 mile hike taking 3 to 4 hours to complete the loop. RATING: Easy/moderate. MEET: Take I-10 to Spot Light 29 Casino, Dillon Road off-ramp and look for TA Travel Center gas station signage. Meet in parking lot under the TA Travel sign. BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, adequate water, lunch/snack, sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat. Hikers should wear long pants or 2-in-1 pants. RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER ED CALIENDO (760) 328-1090 <dogs111@msn.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

DECEMBER 12 – DECEMBER 18

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

DEC 13 (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

DEC 14 (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

DEC 15 (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

DEC 17 (SAT) 8:00 AM QUAIL MOUNTAIN HIKE
Quail Mountain (5,813') is the highest peak in Joshua National Park with an excellent 360 degree view from the top. The journey includes road, trail, and x-country hiking. This is a 12.0 mile round-trip hike taking 7 to 9 hours to complete. RATING: strenuous. MEET: Park Blvd Joshua Tree National Park Visitor Center, located just south of Hwy 62 and Park Blvd intersection. BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, adequate water, lunch/snack, sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER ED CALIENDO (760) 328-1090 <dogs111@msn.com> BIG BEAR GROUP

DEC 17 (SAT) 9 AM ELDERBERRY SPRING TO HIDDEN SPRING HIKE
Join us for a moderate 5-6 mile hike to one of the important wildlife watering places in the Juniper Flats Area, just south of Apple Valley. There are some outstanding views from this hike as well as some large boulders to explore. We will check for cattle and other impacts to the riparian areas along the way. Cattle may be present, but are docile when not harassed (they are cows not bulls!). WEAR layered clothing, hat and bring plenty of water/snacks. MEET at the Victor Valley Museum on Apple Valley Road at 9am. Contact LEADER JENNY WILDER <JensOasis@aol.com> (760) 220 0730. MOJAVE GROUP

DECEMBER 19 – DECEMBER 25

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

DEC 20 (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

DEC 20 (TUE) LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
Join us for our annual holiday dessert pot-luck. Bring your favorite holiday treat and enjoy an evening of music and friends. Coffee and hot spiced cider are provided – bring your holiday specialty or favorite, and enjoy this evening! PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, (909) 815-9379, <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

DECEMBER 26 – January 1

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

DEC 29 - JAN 2 (THU-MON) HOLIDAY IN CARRIZO PLAIN SERVICE
Once again we return to the Carrizo Plain to celebrate the end of the year and to offer service to the pronghorn antelope in this National Monument. Lying between Bakersfield and San Luis Obispo, this vast grassland is home to pronghorn antelope, tule elk, kit fox, and a wide variety of birds. A welcome hike Dec. 29, two and a half days of service modifying barbed wire fencing, and a full day for hiking and exploring are planned. Use of accommodations at Goodwin Ranch is included. LIMITED to 14 participants, \$30 covers four dinners and breakfast on New Year's morning. For more INFORMATION, contact LEADER: CRAIG DEUTSCHE <craig.deutsche@gmail.com> (310) 477-6670. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

JANUARY 2 – JANUARY 8

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

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

JAN 3 (TUE) 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

Continued on Page 8 > >

Calendar . . . Continued from Page 7

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

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

OCT 29 (SAT) 3:30 PM FRIENDS OF JUNIPER FLATS ANNUAL MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT FRIENDS OF JUNIPER FLATS
Please join us for the Annual Meeting which will be held on Saturday, October 29, 2011 at beautiful Rock Springs Ranch off Bowen Ranch Road in the Juniper Sub Region. The meeting begins at 3:30 p.m., followed by a potluck, a short hike and/or a drumming circle facilitated by Linda Van Voorhis. Potluck will be around 5:00 p.m. and hike/drumming circle at 6:00 p.m. Bring a favorite dish to share, and your own soft drink, plate, knife, fork, spoon, etc. If you have one, also bring a drum! Please note: In order to vote, you must be a member in good standing—\$5 dues current. For directions and more information contact Jenny at JensOasis@aol.com or call (760) 220-0730; or call Ann at (760) 713-1298.

NOV 4 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 <lgseekins@sbcglobal.net> or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309.

NOV 15 (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>

NOV 16 (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.

NOV 18 (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.

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

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NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
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DEC 20 (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>

DEC 21 (WED) 7:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I 10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

JAN 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



Moreno Valley . . . Continued from Page 4

days a week, but please verify fall and winter hunting days (some areas are closed to the public because of hunting) before visiting the SJWA. Call their office at (951) 928-0580 to verify all information. Seasonal hunting occurs

at the SJWA and other state wildlife areas. Hunting fees help support the acquisition of wildlife habitat throughout the state of California. For more information: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/lands/wa/region6/sanjacinto/>
Please do not drive on Davis Road if it has rained or the road is muddy. For San Bernardino Valley Audubon birding field trips at the SJWA, check out www.sbvsa.org Contact Sue Nash at (909) 228-6710 or snash22@earthlink.net for information about nature walks at the SJWA.

Because of state budget cuts, Lake Perris State Recreation Area (LPSRA) will be closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from October 2 to April 30. Please call (951) 940-5600 to confirm their hours of operation. Bird Walks at Lake Perris: Second Saturday of the Month, 8:00 a.m., Bernasconi Parking Lot; and Fourth Sunday of the Month, 9:00 a.m., Parking Lot 12, west end. The moderately easy walks are free with day use fee or camping fee and last 1-2 hours. For information call (951) 940-5657 or (951) 940-5600. For



Wetlands, San Jacinto Wildlife Area

Photo by Ann McKibben

the LPSRA Bird List call: (951) 940-5657. 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 and events. Information on Limited Use Golden Bear passes can be found at: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=23800 Those who are age 62 and older are eligible for this \$10.00 annual pass which allows access to all state parks. See the link for application and more information.

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



Scenic View, San Jacinto Wildlife Area

Photo by Ann McKibben

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



Santa Margarita Group

by Lynn Davis, Acting Chair

An evening with John Muir under the stars marked the return of the Santa Margarita Group's fall program schedule with the award-winning documentary "John Muir, In The New World." Presented at Temecula's Community Recreation Center Amphitheater by Timmy d Productions, the movie traced the remarkable life of Muir through the breath-taking wilderness that he had such a large part in preserving.

October 20th will feature an overview of the Murrieta Creek Project by Mark Wills, Chief of Planning, Riverside County Flood Control. Kristine Preston, research ecologist in conservation biology at UC Riverside will speak on climate change issues at on November 17th. A Holiday Party is planned for our December 15th meeting, with details to be announced.

Teri Biancardi, Educational Outreach Committee member

The Santa Margarita Group is excited to announce the launch of Outdoor Families, a new youth-oriented collective. The aim of the program is to introduce families to some of the little-known natural sites throughout southwest Riverside County—and sneak in a little education at the same time! Many of the outings will be co-led by wildlife experts, rangers and local scientists who are generously donating their time. Home-school parents and Sierra Club members gathered at Lake Skinner for an introductory meeting to discuss the program, while the kids entertained themselves at the Splash Pad



Outdoor Families Launches 9/30 at Lake Skinner.

Photo by Teri Biancardi

Among the events planned are excursions to the normally restricted Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve, Dripping Springs campground and Lake Matthews. For information on the October 14th outing at the Hidden Valley Nature Preserve, contact Pam Nelson: pamela05n@yahoo.com (951-767-2324).

Pam Nelson, Conservation Committee Chair

In mid-September, Senator Barbara Boxer sponsored a supportive, companion bill to Darryl Issa's HR41 (2009), which proposed creation of the Beauty Mtn Wilderness in north SD County. Both bills also propose inclusion of a portion of the Aqua Tibia Wilderness.

I have attended meetings of several groups working on water quality testing, grant applications to monitor watershed and groundwater management in the Santa Margarita River watershed.

As a representative to the Alliance for responsible Recreation, I have attended several hearings opposing the expansion of offroad use in forests and deserts.

A draft EIR of the Temecula Valley Wine Country expansion plan is expected by year end. Residents of the three, proposed new districts: residential, winery and equestrian, are highly concerned over anticipated impacts to the current quality of lifestyle by the proposed plan.

North SD County(Laguna Mtns/Julian) and southern Riverside County (east of Temecula/Anza) portions of the Pacific Crest Trail invite volunteers to join work parties during the weeks



*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.

of 10/28-11/06 & 11/11-11/19. Contact the Pacific Crest Trail Assn at www.pcta.org.

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

Our newest hiking leader is Gary Marsalone, who — along with Rick Estes—led an exhilarating hike in Idyllwild, reaching the Tahquitz Peak Ranger Station by way of The South Ridge Trail. Gary and Rick will be leading a hike to Cahuilla Mountain Peak on October 8th. Gary is planning an Autumn return to Suicide Rock November 5th and The Morgan Trail off Ortega Hwy. December 10th.

Suicide Rock is a moderately difficult, 7-mile out & back hike with 1900ft elevation gain. Look for stunning autumn colors from the oak cover. Morgan Trail is an easy/moderate out & back hike of 9 miles with an option of a shorter, one-mile hike to the Candy Store on Ortega Hwy. This hike features oak woodlands and the sound of a stream; the trail opens into a chaparral forest with great vistas. Contact leader Gary Marsalone (858-663-1201) hikesie@gmail.com for details and reservations.

Laurie Webster, Outings Committee, Chair

Join the Sierra Club Santa Margarita Group Sunday, November 13, for a relaxing, pre-holiday tour of historical Pasadena. This 2-hour, docent-led tour will visit either the unique "Arroyo Neighborhood" or the "Little Switzerland" area around the famous Gamble House. After our tour, we will be gathering together at one of Pasadena's many fine restaurants for a late lunch/early dinner. We will meet at the Murrieta Wal-Mart (Hwy 15 & Murrieta Hot Springs) to carpool. Our tour is scheduled for 11:00 am. The cost for this tour is \$10 per person; lunch is a separate cost. RSVPs are required, as the event is limited to 25. Please contact Laurie at: laurie_r_w@yahoo.com by October 31st to reserve your place on the tour. Laurie will reply to your email reservation with full details of the event.

Fred Bartz, Environmental Action Committee Chair

HALFTIME SCORE — Recently the Riverside County Planning Commission voted 4-1 to DENY the proposed Liberty Quarry project, stating that there were NOT overriding considerations to approve the project in comparison to the numerous negative impacts. The next step will be the project's potential merits and negative impacts being heard by the County Board of Supervisors. After hearing the pros and cons of the project, the County Supervisors may or may not vote in agreement with Planning Commissioners. It will be very important that the Board of Supervisors witness the strength of continuing opposition to the quarry in the form of a strong turnout at the next hearings as well as a large volume of mail opposing the quarry. The hearings are expected late in 2011 or in the first quarter of 2012.

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

Visit our web site: www.sierraclubsmg.org



Settlement Will Protect Habitat Near Business Park

by Alicia Robinson, Press Enterprise
September 20, 2011

An environmental group that sued Riverside over a city-approved warehouse project on Alessandro Boulevard announced a settlement Tuesday that requires environmentally friendly buildings and protection of animal habitat.

The project, a business park on an 80-acre site on the north side of Alessandro, can now go forward. Plans for a similar industrial development on the south side of Alessandro, just outside city limits, are still in litigation.

Both suits were part of several environmentalist groups' efforts to firm up the protection of habitat for the endangered Stephens' kangaroo rat. The groups have said the northern parcel already was protected by a 1996 conservation plan, but local officials responded that a "mapping error" included the business park property in the plan.

The settlement -- between the Center for Biological Diversity, the Friends of Riverside's Hills, the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society, the San Geronio chapter of the Sierra Club, and developer WR Holdings -- requires that about 42 acres be donated to the city of Riverside to become part of the adjacent Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Park.

The agreement also says that solar panels must generate 15 percent of the development's power, buildings must have eco-friendly design and use energy-efficient appliances, and less-polluting vehicles should be used in construction and encouraged for employees afterward.

Jonathan Evans, an attorney for the Center for Biological Diversity, noted Riverside has its own program to encourage residents and businesses to install solar panels and other energy-saving measures. "This really supports that and demonstrates that this settlement can really raise the bar for future projects requiring renewable energy," Evans said. The developer also will benefit from using efficient technology that will save money over time, he said.

A developer's representative could not be reached for comment Tuesday.

The city was not involved in crafting the settlement, but Mayor Ron Loveridge said that while the city doesn't require solar panels and other energy-saving measures, "We applaud and support those outcomes."



Cadiz Inc. is Back!

by Elden Hughes, Co-Chair
California/Nevada Desert Energy Committee

In 2002 environmentalists won a major victory. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) voted no to the terms and conditions of the Cadiz, Inc. Groundwater Storage and Dry-Year Supply Program.

Of course, environmental defeats are permanent, victories only permit one to continue to fight. The fight is back. The Santa Margarita Water District of Orange County has replaced MWD. The pipeline right-of-way no longer uses Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land. It uses an existing railroad right-of-way. It is still a plan to suck a desert aquifer dry.

The aquifer is the Cadiz, Fenner aquifer which is all in San Bernardino County, east of Bristol Dry Lake and south of and underlying the Mojave National Preserve. It is a very important aquifer. It provides the springs in the Marble Mountains (Trilobite Wilderness) that maintain the second largest herd of bighorn sheep in the desert. It provides the springs in four other Wilderness areas. It provides the water for many of the springs and seeps in the Mojave National Preserve.

Estimates of water recharge rates vary widely. United States Geologic Survey (USGS) estimates from year 2000 have rates varying from 2550-11,200 acre feet per year (afy) for one study to 2,600-4,300 afy for another. Cadiz, Inc. hydrologists have estimated 30,000 afy, and the Cadiz, Inc. project assumes 50,000 afy will be available for sale.

Oh, yes, the project still speaks of groundwater storage. This ignores the fact that the rules of Colorado River water rights have changed. In year 2000, if one had rights to water in the river and failed to take the water, the rights were forfeited. The Bureau of Reclamation wants to keep water in the river so they changed the rules. If you have rights to water in the river and don't need the water right now, one can store it for free in Lake Mead.

The draft EIS should be issued shortly. With so much attention going to wind and solar energy, San Geronio Chapter will have a special and important role in protecting these wilderness areas, the Mojave National Preserve, and the wildlife of our desert.



Mojave National Preserve

Photographer: Drew Reese

Photo submitted by Seth Shteir, California Desert Field Rep of National Parks Conservation Assoc.

Settlement Helps Kangaroo Rat, Habitat, Climate

The Center for Biological Diversity and allies on Tuesday reached a settlement on a controversial industrial warehouse project planned for Riverside, Calif., that would have harmed one of the county's most conventionally cute endangered species. The Alessandro Business Center project would have cut through an important wildlife connection between the Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Park and the March Stephens' Kangaroo Rat Preserve, home of the big-footed, doe-eyed and seriously endangered Stephens' kangaroo rat. So we filed suit. Our settlement not only sets aside habitat for the imperiled rodent (including the wildlife connection and an expansion of the Wilderness Park) — it also requires green-building practices, making the project an important example of energy-efficient, pollution-reducing, greenhouse gas-cutting construction.



Pioneertown Threatened Again

by Michelle Myers, Co-Chair Save Our Desert Core Committee

The first indication something was very wrong was the helicopter circling low over Black Lava Butte. Cherry Good and husband Jon Nolte who live at the foot of the butte immediately took a close look and were horrified to see metal pipes being dropped on the summit.

It turned out the piping comprised a mast for measuring wind speed and that Black Lava and nearby Flat Top Mesa in the Pipes Canyon/Pioneertown area of the high desert are being seriously considered as sites for 400' wind turbines. The project proponent is Desert Mesa Power, a subsidiary of Portland, Oregon-based Element Power, an industrial-scale wind and solar energy project developer.

Black Lava and Flat Top are two iconic signature buttes administered by the Bureau of Land Management which has a mandate to manage its lands in perpetuity for the benefit of present and future generations and to protect outstanding areas of outstanding scenic, ecologic and archeologic value such as this. The BLM will therefore be obliged to do a full Environmental Impact Statement prior to approving a permit to develop any turbines.

Word about the project spread very quickly and the reaction to the prospect of a forest of wind turbines on our precious buttes is almost uniformly negative. "We decided to start fighting it before the company has too much money in the ground," says Cherry Good, who along with a host of local residents immediately organized "Save Our Desert" (SoD). SoD is grateful for the outpouring of support from individuals, environmental organizations and in particular the generosity of nearby communities like Flamingo Heights, Landers, Johnson Valley, Yucca Mesa and Lucerne Valley, all of which may well be impacted by transmission lines, should the project go ahead.

While SoD's short-term focus is the defeat of this project, we believe a significant part of our long-term battle is to ensure that intact, pristine public land is not unnecessarily destroyed to accommodate what are often wasteful and expensive projects driven by federal subsidies. If Element decides to go ahead with the project, it must file a second application to construct the turbines. This will involve a much more extensive environmental review. Says Good, "These buttes are particularly rich in endangered flora and fauna, as well as archeological gems — which a properly conducted environmental study will reveal in all their glory."

For more information, please visit www.saveourdesert.com.



Green Path North, the Sequel

by Joan Taylor, Conservation Chair, Sierra Club's Tahquitz Group

Unexplained helicopter activity over pristine high desert areas around the Morongo Basin does not go unnoticed! A few years ago, LA Department of Water & Power, in a move that smacked of its early 20th century "theft" of Owens Valley water, sent helicopters to trespass and install unpermitted surveyor's monuments on both public and private property in the Big Morongo ACEC and Pioneertown Mountains area — staking the route of a huge transmission line they planned to build, called Green Path North.

To most, it seemed the main green thing about Green Path North was the money LA DWP planned to make off it. At the time, high desert communities, working hand in hand with Tahquitz Group and other enviros, rose up to defeat the project.

Unfortunately, the threat of development of high resource value lands in the area has arisen again. This time it comes in the form of a proposed wind farm on pristine mesas with high resource values in the wilds behind Pioneertown, and (guess what?) it would require significant new transmission infrastructure to serve it.

Just as Green Path North, this project is broadly opposed.

Experience Nature With the Desert Institute at Joshua Tree National Park

by Karina White, Director, Desert Institute



The Desert Institute offers exciting, short outdoor courses in cultural history, natural science, survival skills and the arts where adults can explore the wonders of the Joshua Tree National Park with expert instructors. Each student will have an intimate learning experience with the natural world. This is a great way to visit the park and the surrounding area, where sunshine is plentiful in this fascinating backdrop of ancient rock formations and desert vegetation. Below is a course calendar for fall 2011. Please contact the Desert Institute for more information at (760) 367-5535 or desertinstitute@zipnet.net.

October 29	Bighorn Sheep in Joshua Tree National Park
October 29	Canyons and Ridges of Eureka Peak
October 30	Explore Queen Canyon
October 30	Geology of Rattlesnake Canyon
November 4 & 5	Photographing the Joshua Tree Landscape
November 5 & 6	Tracking in Joshua Tree National Park
November 6	Historic Artifacts of Joshua Tree National Park
November 12	Drawing the Desert with Pencil and Brush
November 12 & 20	Native American Style Pottery
November 13	Mystery of the Wonderland of Rocks
November 13	Biological Soil Crusts
November 18 & 19	Basic Map & Compass
November 19 & 20	Site-specific Sculpture in Joshua Tree National Park
November 19 & 20	Geology: Creation of the Joshua Tree Landscape
November 20	Advanced Map & Compass
December 3	Geology of the San Andreas Fault
December 3	Basic Desert Survival
December 4	Advanced Desert Survival

United States Postal Service Form 3526 Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

1. Publication Title	<i>Palm and Pine</i>	
2. Publication Number	0341-430	
3. Filing Date	October 1, 2011	
4. Issue Frequency	Bimonthly	
5. Number of Issues Published Annually	6	
6. Annual Subscription Price	\$9.00	
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication	4079 Mission Inn Ave. Riverside CA 92501	
Contact Person	Ladd Seekins	
Telephone	909-800-3911	
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters	4079 Mission Inn Ave. Riverside CA 92501	
9. Full Name and Address of Publisher	Ladd Seekins 4079 Mission Inn Ave. Riverside CA 92501	
Full Name and Address of Editor	Jo Ann Fischer 4079 Mission Inn Ave. Riverside CA 92501	
Full Name and Address of Managing Editor	Ladd Seekins 4079 Mission Inn Ave. Riverside CA 92501	
10. Owner	Sierra Club 85 2nd St., 2nd Floor San Francisco CA 94105-3441	
11. Known Security Holders	None	
12. Tax Status:	Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months	
13. Publication Title:	<i>Palm and Pine</i>	
14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below	September/October 2011	
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies	4950	4900
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation		
(1) Paid/Requested Outside County	2525	2459
(2) Paid In-County Subscriptions	2240	2210
(3) Sales Through Dealers	0	0
(4) Other Classes Mailed	2	1
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation	4767	4670
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution		
(1) Outside County	10	10
(2) In-County	5	5
(3) Other Classes Mailed Through USPS	0	0
e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail	79	75
f. Total Free Distribution	94	90
g. Total Distribution	4862	4760
h. Copies not Distributed	89	140
i. Total	4950	4900
j. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation	96%	95%
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership: Required.	Will be printed in the November 2010 Issue of this publication.	
17. Signature: /s/ Ladd Seekins, Publisher	Date: October 1, 2011	



Palm and Pine Advertising

Display Advertising Rates (Black and White)

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

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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

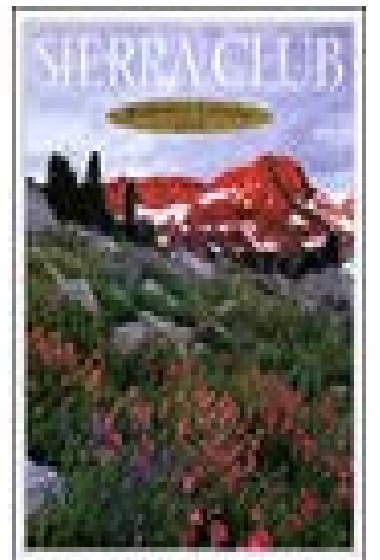
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Send payment to: Sierra Club, San Geronio Chapter, 4079 Mission Inn Ave, Riverside, CA 92501. Please note that payment is for Palm and Pine advertising and make Attn: Ladd Seekins. Payment must be received by treasurer prior to deadline. Allow at least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

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THE CALIFORNIA DESERTS: An Ecological Rediscovery (2008)

by Bruce M. Pavlik

Attention desert lovers: a recently published volume, *The California Deserts*, is a treasure trove of fascinating information on our local deserts, especially in regard to the area's unique ecological relationships. Better still, the lavishly illustrated, well-mapped 365-page book proposes how it may still be possible to keep a good portion of our desert wilderness from becoming extinct.

The author, Bruce M. Pavlik, a Professor of Biology at Mills College, has taken Edmund Jaeger's classic 1933 volume of the same name as his model, and has updated it by adding a critically important but previously overlooked factor, i.e., us, *homo sapiens*.

Pavlik introduces *The California Deserts* declaring that, while the original desert people were capable of living off the land, "the knowledge of plants, animals, water, and landscapes, and the whole of the desert existence (has become) a lost inheritance."

"It is my hope that this book reflects the many ways desert knowledge is being rediscovered, amplified by new discoveries and given to future generations."

The ensuing sections, "Rediscovery," "A Conspiracy of Extremes," "Operations and Origins," "Remarkable Biota," and "Greater Than the Sum of the Parts," consider the deserts' first inhabitants who arrived at the end of the Pleistocene, approximately 12,000 years ago; the geographic and climatic histories of the three deserts found in California—the Great Basin, the Mojave and the Sonoran; the manner in which desert ecosystems operate; the nearly 2,500 species of native plants and vertebrate animals that have been documented as living in the California deserts, and the unique interdependence of several desert species.

Summing up in "The Future of This Arid Bioregion," Pavlik reflects that although the first inhabitants found the area rich with game and wild plant foods, as desert conditions developed the people adapted, eventually building jackrabbit and fish traps, developing irrigation systems and planting crops. "By the time of first contact with Europeans (in the 1770s)...an estimated 21,000 to 24,000 Indians were living in" the three deserts of California. Even so, much of the delicate bioregion remained intact.

Now, according to the 2000 census, over 1.2 million residents live in the same area, and by "the year 2020 the total number of people in the bioregion will exceed 3.1 million."

But population growth—involving loss of wilderness, lowered water tables and increased air and noise pollution—isn't the only problem facing the bioregion. Consider soil compaction, which can reduce water penetration and increase runoff and erosion. Or fragmentation of species—Interstate highways and aqueducts form barriers to seeds, bugs, lizards, even bighorn sheep, thus limiting genetic diversity. Or invasive non-native species—tumbleweeds, salt cedar, and cheatgrass, to name a few—which curb or deny growth of many endemic species.

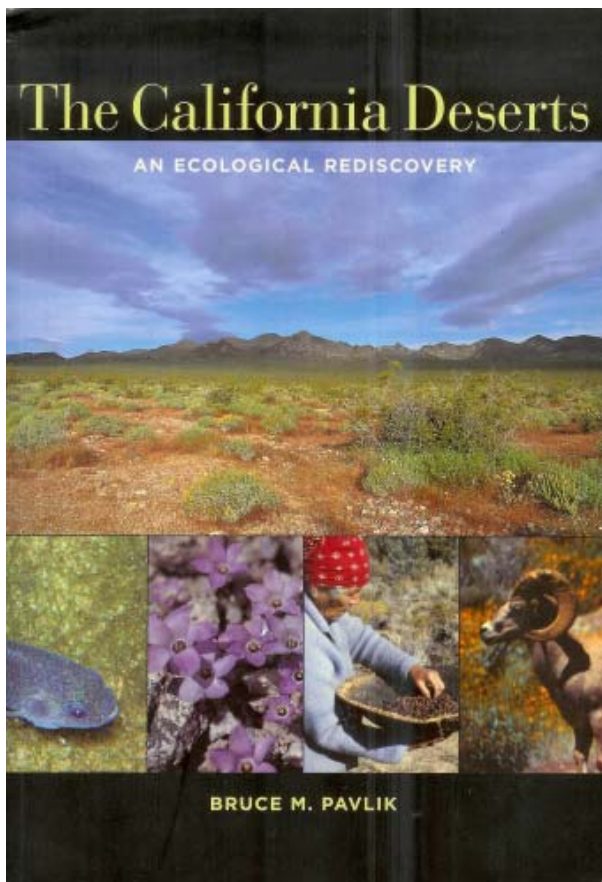
Pavlik believes that man has done so much damage to the bioregion "that the healing now requires human assistance, including new desert knowledge and new commitment."

He is encouraged by both the acreage gained and the elevation to national park status for Death Valley and Joshua Tree National Monuments. Furthermore, he considers the 1.6 million acre Mojave National Preserve as the "centerpiece" of the 1994 California Desert Protection Act.

Considerable work remains, however, such as the removal or reduction of wild horse and burro populations, the control of non-native species and the exclusion of trampling livestock from critical desert soil locations.

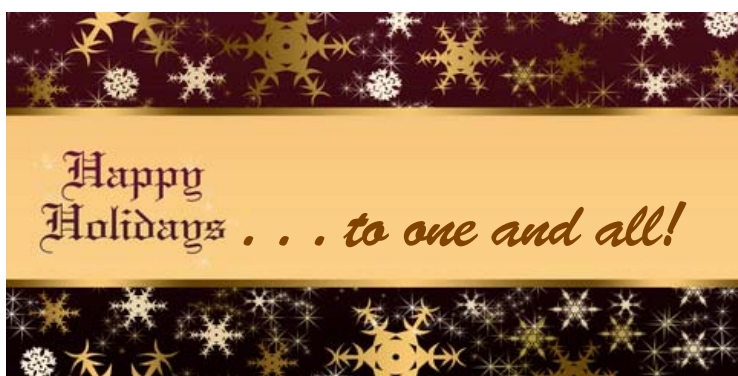
Pavlik asserts that while much has been done to "favor a sovereign future" for the arid bioregion, "of equal importance will be the training of skilled practitioners and zealous guardians (think Sierra Club) of a new, indigenous knowledge."

Amen.



Published by the University of California Press, *The California Deserts* is available online, \$17.18 for paperback, \$60.00 for hardback. Buy, borrow or otherwise "liberate" a copy. You'll be glad you did.

— Reviewed by Burton A. Falk



Tahquitz Group Excom Election

by Joan Taylor, Conservation Chair

Please vote for three and mail in by December 31, 2011, to POB 4944, Palm Springs, CA 92263. Please also sign your name on the outside of the envelope.

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