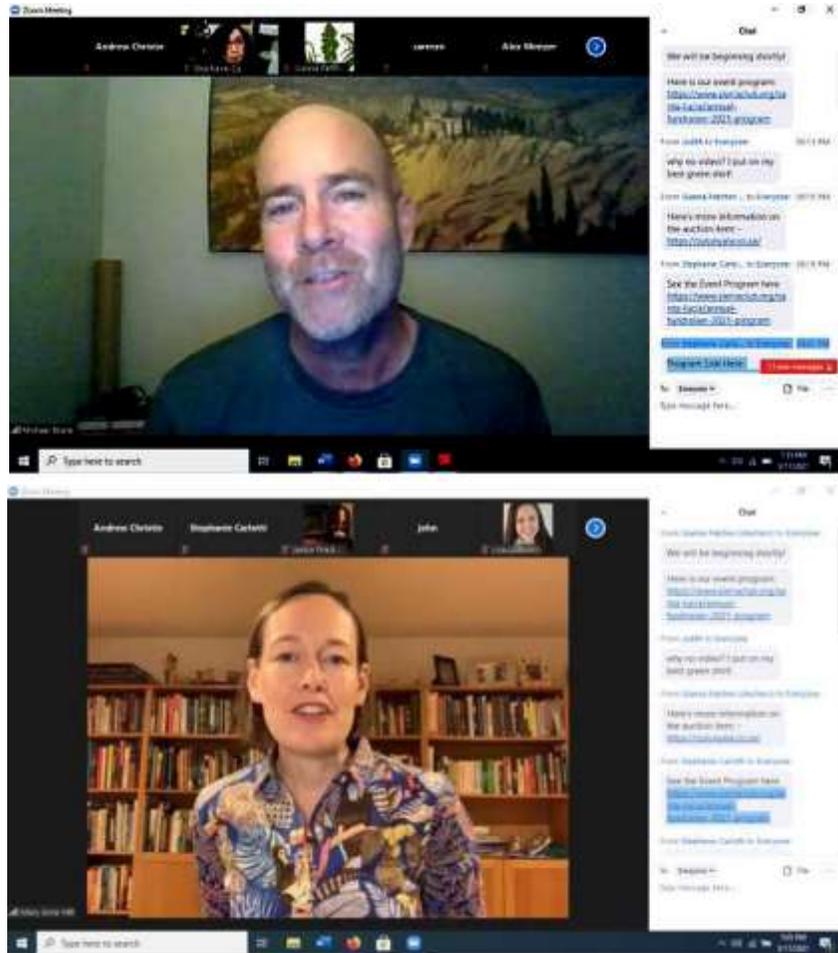


## One of Those Nights to Remember

The Santa Lucia Chapter held its annual fundraiser on March 17, unhindered by the pandemic and the requirements of virtual events.

And with special guests like Sierra Club Executive Director Michael Brune and national director of campaigns Mary Anne Hitt, (right), and State Senator John Laird, it was definitely not just another Zoom call. (Congratulations to the winners of the big-ticket auction item of the night, six days for two at an [African safari lodge.](#))

Attendees were welcomed by Chapter Chair Carole Mintzer and Chapter Director Andrew Christie, watched [a stirring music and photo montage](#) of key local and national events compiled by Fundraising and Development Chair Stephanie Carlotti, and heard a presentation on outdoor education from John Sanders, who serves on our Executive Committee and promotes environment stewardship as founder and director of the Delphinus School of Natural History, a regional summer science exploration program.



So it's hard to pick a highlight, but as a summary statement, the words of Michael Brune will do nicely:

“We have an opportunity to effect change at a scale we’ve never seen before. More is possible on the national level than at any time I’ve been alive. We’re working to secure a commitment from the Biden administration to move to 100 percent clean energy in the electricity sector by 2035. This administration is moving to protect 30

percent of land and waters in the US by 2030. For perspective, we've protected 12 percent over the last 150 years. Leading that work will be the first Native American Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland. We're looking for a commitment to move to 100 percent electric vehicles by 2035. And because millions of jobs, are dependent on the extraction and burning of fossil fuels, we're pushing for a cabinet-level effort to help the communities dependent on oil and gas. We're not making the transition to clean energy on the backs of workers.

“Any one of these things would be more than has been done to help the environment in the last fifty years. We need to do everything we can to be as powerful an organization as we can be.”

A little over a month later, President Biden told forty global leaders he is calling on the United States to make a fifty percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

**Thanks to all attendees, and special thanks to the sponsors of the 2021 Santa Lucia Chapter Fundraiser:**

*Janine and Barry Rands  
Christine Mulholland  
Rosemary and Cal Wilvert  
Carole and Alex Mintzer  
John Ashbaugh  
Kara Woodruff  
Sue Harvey  
Erik Layman  
Janice Friedman*