Across the country, mayors are signing on to a vision of 100% Clean Energy

Meet the Mayors For 100% Clean Energy

At press time, these are the mayors supporting a vision of 100% clean and renewable energy in their cities, towns, and communities, and across the country.

The following mayors have pledged their support for a community-wide transition to 100% renewable energy:

- Mayor Jared Harmon, San Luis Obispo, CA
- Mayor Eric Garcetti, Los Angeles, CA
- Mayor Hassaun Ions, Rochester, NY
- Mayor Greg Lemons, New Orleans, LA
- Mayor Mark Meadows, East Lansing, MI
- Mayor Greg Saladino, Port Chester, NY
- Mayor Helene Schneider, Santa Barbara, CA
- Mayor Greg Scharff, Palo Alto, CA
- Mayor Mark O'Farrell, San Francisco, CA
- Mayor Sam Liccardo, San Jose, CA
- Mayor Suzanne Jones, Boulder, CO
- Mayor Eric Garcetti, Los Angeles, CA
- Mayor Heidi Harmon, San Luis Obispo, CA

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Many of the mayors listed here are members of the Climate Mayors (the Mayors National Climate Action Agenda)— founded by Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, former Houston Mayor Annise Parker, and former Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter—which is a group of 16 U.S. mayors from red states and blue states working together to strengthen local efforts for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and supporting efforts for reducing federal and global-level policymaking. For more information visit climate-mayors.org or follow @climate_mayors on Twitter.

If you’re ready for your mayor to support 100% clean energy, please take action at sierraclub.org/ready-for-100 and ask your mayor to sign on to the Mayors for 100% Clean Energy letter now!

*Mayors of communities that have adopted goals to transition to 100% renewable energy community-wide no later than 2035.

Where’s Your Mayor?

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Inside

SANTA LUCIA

The official newsletter of the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club - San Luis Obispo County, California

Volume 54 No.6

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Santa Lucia Now Bimonthly

No need to call us next month and tell us you’re moving! With our July/August issue, the Santa Lucia will be going to bimonthly status, coming to you in January, March, May, July, September and November.

The Executive Committee determined that this is the best way in which to keep a print edition going for those of you who prefer to print and read, while reducing our printing and (especially) postage costs and, above all, freeing up staff and volunteer time and focus for all the other multi-faceted, Diaspora-oriented goals of a Santa Lucia chapter in these perilous times.

All-Members Chapter Meeting
Saturday, June 17, 10:00am-1:00pm
RSVP required - karen@karenmerriam.com

The meeting will be held at a home in the Edna Valley. Directions provided when you RSVP. Lunch will be potluck. Space is limited; early RSVPs are encouraged.

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Attention On Line Readers
What’s the fastest, easiest, and best way to support the Santa Lucia Chapter?

Go to our website, santalucia.sierraclub.org, and click on the orange Donate button, then select a dollar amount in the Monthly contribution section.

The Executive Committee will meet to discuss and draft a strategic plan that will guide the work of the Chapter for the next two years. To make this planning process successful and relevant, we need your help. That is why we are inviting all Chapter members to meet and have a pot-luck picnic lunch with the Executive Committee to share your views of what issues should be our greatest priorities, and strategies to assure the resources necessary to address those priorities.

The Executive Committee meets the 2nd Monday of every month at 2:00 p.m. The next meeting will be on July 9. All members are welcome to attend.

Send your letter now

The Carrizo Plain National Monument is one of the crown jewels of America’s public lands. But it now faces an unprecedented threat as the Trump administration seeks to revoke its protected status, placing this unique and fragile landscape at risk.

Residents of the Central Coast and beyond are speaking out and taking action so that the Carrizo Plain stays just like it is today — open, wild, and protected for everyone to explore and enjoy.

Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke is now accepting public comments as he reviews the protected status of the Carrizo Plain and more than two dozen other national monuments throughout the West.

Now is the time to let your voice be heard. You can submit a comment at tinyurl.com/savecarrizomin. If you prefer the U.S. mail, send to:

Monument Review
MS-B340
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington DC 20240

Together we will ensure that the Carrizo Plain National Monument stays protected now and for future generations.

For more information:
#MonumentsForAll
savethecarrizo.org

Send your letter today at santalucia.sierraclub.org.

The public comment period ends on July 10. Send your letter today at santalucia.sierraclub.org.

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Sierra Club California Endorses Community Choice Resolution

Over the weekend of April 28 at the Sierra Club California convention at Rancho El Chorro, where the 13 Sierra Club chapters in California and our state chapter convenes annually to consider resolutions and elect a state-wide executive committee, delegates voted to pass a resolution supporting Community Choice energy/aggregation programs that meet twelve essential goals:

• Prioritize the development of local renewable and distributed energy resources;
• Maintain transparency and inclusive participation of all community stakeholders in its decision-making process;
• Provide competitively-priced electricity to customers;
• Achieve local governments’ climate action plans and greenhouse gas reduction goals;
• Exceed the Renewable Portfolio Standard and minimize the use of unabundant renewable energy credits;
• Use effective risk-management practices and long-term power procurement strategies to hedge risk using a diversity of energy suppliers, technologies, and products;
• Enable clean energy development with protecting wild places and habitats by prioritizing investments in sustainably-sited renewable energy projects;
• Use for long-term financial viability through long-term energy planning, in-house fiscal management, transparent rate setting, and policies that build CCA financial reserves, prohibit the transfer of CCA funds to municipal general funds, and protect the municipal general funds, unable energy projects;
• Collaborate with community organizations to prioritize renewable and distributed energy resources, development and personnel, and community ownership, especially in disadvantaged communities;
• Improve public health in areas impacted by pollution from fossil fuel power generation;
• Leverage local government land use authorities (in zoning, building codes, transportation, etc.) to support these goals;
• A feasibility study for a regional Community Choice Energy program-serving San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties and incorporating rural cities will be presented next month to the SLO County Board of Supervisors in the next few months.

On May 14, San Jose became the largest city in California to launch a Community Choice Energy program.
People’s Climate March

200,000 people sent a message to the Trump administration

“We ask that he remove the coyote in the White House and replace him with the eagle.”

- Spirit invocation, Julie Lynn Tumamait, Chumash

Barabanc Band

The People’s Climate March on April 29 was a huge success, with over 200,000 people participating in Washington, D.C., and tens of thousands more taking part at over 370 sister marches across the country, pushing back on the Trump administration’s policies and standing up for climate, jobs and justice.

On the Central Coast, the Sierra Club helped organize a Santa Barbara rally and march from Santa Barbara City College Stadium. Theclé braves for the day were performed by the Santa Barbara County to deny the request of multiple oil companies to drill 700 new wells, and persuade local municipalities to get out of 100% renewable energy by 2030 (see from page).

100% Clean Energy Bill

Launched by Senators Merkley, Sanders and Markey

Two days before the People’s Climate March on April 29, U.S. Senators Jeff Merkley (D-Oregon), Bernie Sanders (I-Vermont), and Ed Markey (D-Massachusetts) stood beside environmental advocacy leaders in Washington, D.C., to introduce legislation that would completely phase out fossil fuel use by 2050.

The 100 by ’50 Act outlines an audacious plan to support workers and to prioritize low-income communities, while replacing fossil fuels with clean energy sources.

“If an asteroid were headed its way towards our planet, we’d do everything in our power to save the planet. We must do no less to act on climate,” said Merkley.


100 “is an important number,” said 350.org Co-founder Bill McKibben. “Instead of making small changes, and the changes, this bill would finally commit America to the whole-sale energy transformation that technology has made possible and affordable, and that an action actually commensurate with the challenge.

“Instead of believing in it means you’re an idiot. Instead, we’re going to demand that we repair the social fabric even as we’re patching up the planet. Justice for those communities hit first and hit hardest by global warming.

- Bill McKibben

Why Retire Billboards

Along Highway 101 in SLO County?

Billboards detract from otherwise highly scenic attributes of Highway 101, the County’s major travel corridor, and are a visual blight.

Tourism is vital to local economies. Scenic drives represent an important part of the major travel corridor, and are a visual blight.

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On April 23, newly minted Chapter Outings leader Nan Cole led 27 people on a hike of the Harmony Headlands. Midway through the leisurely 4-mile round trip just south of Harmony, hikers got to hear from Cal Poly researcher Maggie Jenkins on otter foraging behavior, and get a summary of the history of the land area from Ms. Cole. It can never be stressed enough: pristine natural stretches of the California coastline may have been formed by the hand of God or Mother Nature, but it wasn’t those estimable entities who kept them that way. In the case of Harmony Headlands, the land exists in its natural state, and the public is able to enjoy it, thanks to the arrogance of a billionaire coastal scofflaw, a determined state resource agency, and the Sierra Club.

In July 2002, the land was Sea West Ranch, privately owned prime coastal real estate under imminent threat of development. The state and the American Land Conservancy had been working for four years on the effort to put together the funding to buy the land when Wendy McCaw, wife of the founder of McCaw Cellular and owner of the Santa Barbara News-Press, ran afoul of the California Coastal Act.

In order to get a Coastal Development Permit to expand her bluff-top estate just north of Santa Barbara, McCaw was required to honor a condition that was attached to the title of the house before she bought it: the dedication of a public walkway to ensure continued public access to the beach. She reneged on that promise. After a protracted legal battle, with fines mounting by the day, McCaw threw in the towel and paid a $460,000 settlement.

The California Coastal Commission promptly placed that significant sum in the kitty toward the state’s intended purchase of Sea West Ranch. The final piece needed to make the purchase happen — demonstrable widespread public support — came the following year, when the Sierra Club’s Great Coastal Places Campaign swung into action and organized the sending of post cards to Sacramento urging purchase.

The American Land Conservancy reported that it was the huge volume of Great Coastal Places postcards that resulted in the state finally providing the final pieces of funding needed for the purchase of the 750-acre property, which provided a crucial stretch of the Coastal Trail.

Today, all who hike out to enjoy the view from Harmony Headlands can say thank-you to the American Land Conservancy, the Coastal Commission, an intransigent billionaire’s bank account, and the Sierra Club.

**About Oaks**

A County information session on new Oak Woodland Ordinance will be held June 21 in Atascadero. The Board of Supervisors adopted the Oak Woodland Ordinance on April 11. The ordinance went into effect today on May 11. The ordinance creates regulations on the clear-cutting of oak woodland in the unincorporated inland portions of San Luis Obispo County.

As a part of the next phase of outreach, County Planning will be hosting a Community Meeting at the Atascadero Library, on June 21 at 6pm. The meeting will include a brief presentation on the adopted Oak Woodland Ordinance followed by an extended Q&A session.

**Against Dolphins**

On April 25, the World Trade Organization (WTO) authorized Mexico to impose an annual $163 million in trade sanctions against the U.S. for the dolphin-saving U.S. labeling program for tuna. The WTO ruled against the program in November 2015, calling it a “technical barrier to trade.”

The WTO is expected to further review the U.S. program this summer. If the WTO once again decides against the U.S., the U.S. could face trade sanctions indefinitely until the dolphin-saving label is altered or eliminated.

“The WTO’s decision threatens to punish U.S. families for the crime of having a label on tuna cans that saves dolphins’ lives,” said Ben Beachy, senior policy advisor for the Sierra Club’s Responsible Trade Program. “With renegotiation of NAFTA on the horizon, today’s decision serves as yet another warning that we need a complete replacement of these decades-old trade deals that prioritize corporate profits over good jobs, healthy communities, clean air and water, and protection for wildlife.”
By James Lopes

As the traffic congestion on the streets of San Luis Obispo continues to grow, there is a growing demand for more public transportation options. This demand is being fueled by the fact that many of the city's residents are fed up with the constant traffic jams and slow-moving buses. Many are calling for the implementation of a new public transportation system that would be more efficient and cost-effective. The city council has responded to this demand by considering various options, including the construction of a new light rail system.

In the meantime, the city has considered other solutions to alleviate the traffic congestion. One such solution is the development of a new bicycle lane on the side of the road. The city council has allocated funds for the construction of this new bicycle lane, which will provide an alternative mode of transportation for residents and visitors.

The city council has also considered the implementation of a new parking system, which would involve the creation of more parking spaces in the downtown area. This would help reduce the number of cars on the road and alleviate the traffic congestion.

In conclusion, the demand for more public transportation options continues to grow, and the city council is considering various solutions to address this issue. The construction of a new light rail system, the development of a new bicycle lane, and the implementation of a new parking system are all options that are being considered to alleviate the traffic congestion in San Luis Obispo.
Classifieds

Next issue deadline is June 16. To get a rate sheet or submit your ad and payment, contact: Sierra Club, P.O. Box 15755, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406 or sierrachub8@gmail.com

Support our local chapter

We send out an appeal in March to each of our members, asking for contributions directly to your Chapter. These contributions really do make a difference to us, and are an important part of our Chapter’s budget.

When you make a donation to the Chapter, you support the Sierra Club work in your own backyard. You allow us to continue our work to protect wilderness and wildlife, to improve the quality of life in our cities, and to promote the enjoyment of nature.

Please be as generous as you are able—remember, these funds directly affect your way of life in your neighborhood.

Losing Sleep and Waking Up Worried?
For confidential professional help, call:

Jill Detcon, LMFT
Experienced Trained H. Anxiety Therapist
805-534-1101
www.acornclinic.com
Serving San Luis Obispo County since 1977

Tell NOAA:
Designate the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary! Go to:
tinyurl.com/CHNMSpetition

Cambria author Pamela Christie’s Arabella Beaumont historical mystery series is a romp through Regency London in the company of the city’s most renowned and scandalous courtesans, adventuresses and amateur sleuths! Available on Amazon.

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(805) 474-8797

170 Cutting Edge Salon
(805) 481-3126

172 Bend Chiropractic
(805) 474-4747

174 House 2 Home Interiors
(805) 489-5233

168 - 174 Station Way, Arroyo Grande, CA 93420
(phone: 805.481.3126; fax: 805.489.5233; vcpvillagecreek.com)

slosolstice.com

green directory

Be smart... be green!
CONTACT us... to be SEEN!
ph: 805-473-5064 or email: Solstice222@aol.com

Water & Power: A California Heist

June 21, 2017 7pm
Palm Theatre
81 Palm St., San Luis Obispo, CA
Q&A with Adam Keats, Attorney - Center for Food Safety, following the film - A free event sponsored by Biodiversity First!
Outings and Activities Calendar

**Friday-Sunday, June 2 through June 4th – Morro Bay
Wilder Restoration Project**

Bring your sense of adventure to the wilder side of Morro Bay. This restoration project will help protect and enhance some of the vulnerable areas of the bay. All are welcome to participate in the work and the fun! Meet at the Wye St. and Embarqmail.com parking area. Usually large fireworks! For more information, contact Chuck @ 805-441-7597.

**June 3-5, 2017 – Three Bridges Oak Trailhead**

Join the leader on this moderate hike in the backcountry of MODO 2. The hike is on a 8.9 mile loop hike with 1700 ft. total of elevation gain. We begin on fácil road and hike to the Barronca Trail junction. From there we turn off the Barronca Trail and follow it to the picnic table where we take a well deserved break. From there we will hike to the South Boundary Trail and eventually the Hazard Peak Trail that will take us to the summit. There is great view of the peaks from the summit. There are risks of ticks and poison oak along the trails, but with care you will be fine. There are many stumpy hiking shoes. Bring socks or shoes with dry lines in them. For more information, contact Defazio Roller, FHI 61054088.

**Saturday, June 17th, Morro Mania: The Morros of SLO County!**

Join Andrea and Bill on the Sixth Anniversary Hike, a one-day ascent of the five publicly accessible Morros, near San Luis Obispo and Morro Bay. All Five Morros can be hiked in succession (see schedule below) or selected to suit one’s preferences and condition. Each has a beautiful but different vista—from cypress woodland to grassland to savannah. Total round-trip distance for all five hikes is 59 miles with 3,300 ft. elevation gain. Bring plenty of water (store extra water in your vehicle), snacks, and sturdy shoes. The day is very windy and cool, but be quite warm at mid-day. A hat, sunscreen, and sturdy hiking shoes are recommended (no for Cerro Cabrillo and Black Hill (State Park). For more information, contact Bill Waycott, (805) 459-2105, hillwanderer@gmail.com. The plants, the animals, and the geology of the area will be topics during the hikes.

**June 11th to 14th – Morro Bay, 3 mile, 1050 ft. gain, moderate. This outing is”shakedown” trip.**

Meet at Morro Bay State Park, near the parking area on the north side of the road. Great for beginners. For more information, contact Defazio Roller, FHI 61054088.

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