



Palm and Pine

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



Volume 38 Number 2

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

MARCH—APRIL 2008

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Formation Meeting Huge Success...Santa Margarita Group

By Jim Mitchell

Having never formed a Sierra Club Group before, I had no idea what to expect. I had been told that many groups try to get off the ground and fail. Also, apparently several San Geronio Chapter Groups have been successful at one time but eventually folded.

Was I in for a big surprise when 116 community members showed up for the Santa Margarita Group Formation meeting this past January 23rd!

By a show of hands it appeared that about 90% were already Sierra Club members so obviously the Chapter members in the general Temecula/Murrieta area are looking forward to

forming their own group.

There is lots of work yet to be done. The bylaws have to be finalized and proceed for approval through the Chapter Executive Committee and all the way to San Francisco for National approval.

Of course we need to select our initial officers for our Executive Committee. At this point, although not finalized, it looks like the Chair will be me (Jim Mitchell); Vice Chair—Jerri Arganda; Political Chair—Rudy Martinez; Secretary—Meryle Hammatt; Treasurer—Michele



Bain, Conservation Chair—Lynn Davis and Outings Chair—Laurie Webster.

Our next meeting is schedule for Monday, March 10, 7:00 p.m. at the Rancho California Water District Headquarters, 42135 Winchester Road in Temecula.

The program will feature a highly visual presentation about our all-important wilderness areas in Riverside County and will include remarks by the new Wildomar City Council member, Bridgette Moore.



Membership Meetings

Tuesday, March 4

Water-wise Gardening

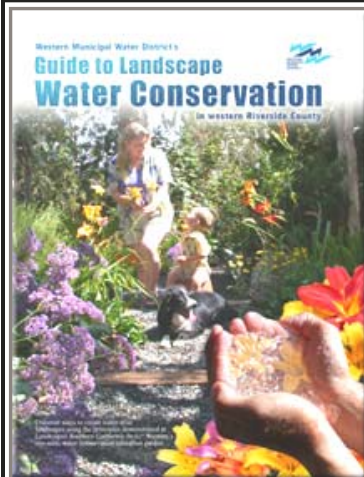
Pam Pavela from Western Municipal Water District will discuss what makes a water-wise garden different than a conventional garden.

Tuesday, April 1

Highlights of Argentina

Ladd and Gail Seekins will feature highlights from their 2006 tour starting with Buenos Aires and the Misiones Provence with its Iguasu Falls, amethyst mines and Jesuit mission ruins. Then it continues on to the great Argentinean northwest with its awesome scenery and rich Inca and Spanish colonial History. From there, to the wine country and lots more.

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



This free booklet is available when you visit the District's garden at 450 Alessandro Blvd, Riverside (951-789-5036)

Western Municipal Water District's Demonstration Garden was designed to encourage public acceptance, desire for, and use of water-efficient landscapes. Visitors can take a self-guided tour and see more than 200 species of plants in a natural setting and the irrigation systems that contribute to water efficiency and of course pick up the free booklet.

Pam Pavela is a Water Conservation Specialist for the District. On March 4th, her topics will include climate considerations, plant types, soils, irrigation (including smart controller information and rebate information), plant care and pending landscape legislation that can affect homeowners.



Come April 1 and view the world-famous Iguasu Falls in the Misiones Provence or Argentina.

Annual March Fund Appeal Underway

By Rick Estes, Chapter Chair

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

And once again, your entire donation is Tax Deductible!

There is so much work to be done; it takes time and effort; it's expensive and we can't do it without your help. Please send your generous tax deductible gift as soon as you receive your Fund Appeal letter. Only a small portion of your National Sierra Club dues returns to our Chapter so we must turns to our members to do



meaningful conservation work locally.

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

Art in the Park 2008

Joshua Tree National Park Art Festival

When: April 4, 5 & 6, 2008 (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day)

Where: Joshua Tree National Park Visitor Center, 74485 National Park Drive, Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
(760) 367-5500

Come visit the Sixteenth Annual Art Festival at the Joshua Tree National Park's visitor center in Twentynine Palms on April 4, 5, and 6, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You'll have the pleasure of seeing the work of more than twenty artists. A love and respect for the Joshua Tree National Park is the common bond between these artists and you can't escape the feelings of camaraderie that exist at this festival!! Each artist will have work for sale and enjoy sharing their very personal interpretation of the Joshua Tree National Park with you.

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

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

Preserve The Future

Not everyone can make a large gift to protect the environment during their lifetime, but you can preserve the environment for generations to come by remembering the Sierra Club in your will.

There are many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

For more information and confidential assistance, contact:

John Calaway
Director, Gift Planning
85 Second Street, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
(800) 932-4270
planned.giving@sierraclub.org

Political Permutations

By Elizabeth Anthony, Political Chair

With the encouragement of Sierra Club CA Political Committee, we are moving forward to early endorsement of our environmental friends. The CA League of Conservation Voters (CLVC) 2007 legislative year 2007 environmental scorecard informs us that incumbent **Wilmer Amina Carter, Assembly District 62**, has a stellar 95% record on our issues. After interviewing her, and thanking her for her pro-environmental votes, we have endorsed her re-election. She sits on the Transportation Committee.

We anticipate other early endorsements of incumbents with proven positive legislative records. Additionally, there are other prospective challenging candidates coming to our attention; they will be sent a questionnaire appropriate for the office they aspire to win, interviewed, and endorsed if/when there is an executive committee agreement on endorsement.

Again, we have incumbents "termining out" (they've gone about as far as they can

go!) in 2008, so keep these districts in mind when looking at activists in your communities: **AD 64 John Benoit CLCV rating 5% and AD 80 Bonnie Garcia CLCV rating 10%.**

Another way of looking at the percentile figures is this: 95% of the time Benoit is anti-environmental, and 90% of the time Garcia is anti-environmental.

"Termining out" means they cannot run again for that office, so we will have different faces in those seats; hopefully those elected will be good environmentalists.

The Chapter now has internet access to Capitol Enquiry, allowing us to obtain information on committee assignments of Representatives and Assembly members. The fee also includes delineation of districts. So, hypothetically, if an assembly member sits on the Air Quality Committee and there is a concern in your neighborhood, we can express that concern directly by fax, e-mail, and/or phone. The age of accessibility is here!

National Club Election Coming This Spring

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

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

Members frequently state that they don't know the candidates and find it difficult to vote without learning more. You can learn more by asking questions of your group and chapter leadership and other experienced members you know. Visit the Club's election website: <http://www.sierraclub.org/bod/2008election>. This site provides links to additional information about candidates, and their views on a variety of issues facing the Club and the environment.

You should use your own judgment by taking several minutes to read the ballot statement of each candidate. Then make your choice and cast your vote. You will find the ballot is quite straightforward and easy to mark and mail. A growing number of members find the user friendly Internet voting option to be very convenient as well as saving postage.

The candidates are listed below in the order they will appear on the ballot:

- Jeremy Doochin N
- Larry Fahn P
- Lane Boldman N
- Jerry Sutherland P
- Barbara Frank N
- Matt Urban N
- Nathan Wyeth N
- Jim Daugherty P
- Clark Buchner P
- Joni Bosh N
- David Scott N

N = Nominating Committee candidate
P = petition candidate

(Note from Editor: Only Regular and Life members are eligible to vote; Introductory members are not eligible)

Save Our Skyline: Box Springs through the Badlands

Based in Moreno Valley, the citizens group Save Our Skyline: Box Springs thru the Badlands enters into its second year. The group is committed to preserving pristine skylines and natural



Photo by Dan Clark
View of Olive Mountain from the west taken from Perris St., Moreno Valley.

open space corridors to the north and east of Moreno Valley. The group is especially focused on preserving the corridor that would connect

Box Springs Mountain Park on the northwest side of town with the new San Timoteo Canyon State Park to the northeast. The currently unprotected corridor includes Reche Mountain, upper Reche Canyon, and Olive Mountain. This is a key link in our regional corridor system. Olive Mountain, especially, might form the core of an open space preserve on a par with Box Springs Mountain Park.

In 1997 the group raised over \$2000, signed an MOU with the Riverside Land Conservancy, talked to city and county officials, and formed alliances with other area conservation groups, including the Redlands Conservancy and the Inland Watershed Information Network. We have received financial support from the Moreno Valley Group the Sierra Club. We look forward to making more progress in 2008, and we encourage interested individuals to come to meetings or contact us about joining. For more information email saveourskyline@roadrunner.com or contact Dan Clark at 951-924-2454.

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San Gorgonio Chapter
4079 Mission Inn Avenue
Riverside, CA 92501-3204
(951) 684-6203
Fax (951) 684-6172

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Editor

Ralph Salisbury
2995 Floral Ave, Riverside, CA 92507
(951) 686-4141
Fax (951) 686-3559
e-mail: ralphsalisbury@charter.net

Outings Calendar Submissions

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

Webmasters

Linda Jones
lindareej@q.com
Ralph Salisbury
ralphsalisbury@charter.net
<http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org>

Meetings Calendar Submissions

Ladd Seekins
2218 De Soto St, Grand Terrace, CA 92313-5474
(909) 888-0161 Weekdays
(909) 825-4427 Weekends & evenings
e-mail: lgseekins@sbcglobal.net

Non-Member Subscriptions (\$9.00)

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

Member Change of Address

Sierra Club, Change of Address
PO Box 52968
Boulder, CO 80322-2968
(Be sure to supply Membership number)

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Membership Information

There is a membership coupon in this issue. You can also contact the Membership Chair (see Chapter Executive Committee Directory this issue) or the Sierra Club office in San Francisco (415) 977-5663.

POSTMASTER:

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Group and Section News

Mojave Group

By Jenny Wilder, Chair
Spring is in the Air

Well, not quite yet, but January 2008 is history, February is here and March/April issue of the Palm and Pine is staring us in the face. April includes Earth Day. Spring is just around the corner! The Juniper Flats Area is one of the best places to experience desert wildflowers-not only close up but also for a distant view of wildflower carpets in the valley. Last year was uneventful due to a lack of rain. With the rain we have just had, we look forward to some good

cars, and there is a plethora of other nasty things that go down the drain (to the treatment plant) or end up untreated *under the sand* (along with the water from the mountains and aqueduct). More of the water we use in the future will be newer water. Will it be clean water? Will there be enough? Can this desert support the kind of rapid growth that is happening here? Who is looking out for our future as far as water is concerned? How will global warming affect our supply of water in the Victor Valley?

One of our long time members and Carol



Photo by Jenny Wilder

Arrastre Canyon.

displays this year.

Our monthly general meetings remain on the 2nd Weds each month at the Sterling Inn except July and August. Last year the Mojave Group decided to go back to programs at all our monthly general meetings. We had experimented with every other month and found that it didn't work so well. This year our Executive Committee (Excom) meetings will be on the Thursday evening a week before the general meeting. Place for the Excom meetings varies, so be sure to call ahead of time.

This year our focus is on water. Where does our water come from? Just a few years ago, we all thought that there was plenty of water under the ground, but today private wells are running dry and the Mojave Water Agency is recharging the underground water source with water from the aqueduct. The Victor Valley also receives water from the surrounding mountains-via seeps and springs that mostly run invisibly underground. This underground activity is all so evident when one day the Mojave River can have water from bank to bank and within 24-48 hours it has been sucked up *into the sand!* Those seeps and springs are not isolated water sources, the water flows somewhere down hill. This brings up another question. The water that we have enjoyed in the past has been in the ground for thousands of years, but rapid growth brings new problems. More green lawns and golf courses mean more fertilizer as well as more water use and most people don't use organic fertilizer. More people are driving and washing

Wiley's dear companion for many years, Ed Virgil, passed away on December 17th, 2007 after a brief struggle with cancer. Ed was a quiet and staunch supporter for the Mojave Group. He will be remembered and missed by many. Among other things, he helped provide coffee and refreshments at our meetings, and he organized the Mojave Group's Highway Cleanups and our Yard Sales.

Our outings leaders are busy planning some outstanding hikes including some hikes where our youngsters are specifically invited to participate. The Youth in the Desert Hikes will include a beginning birding hike in Mojave Narrows Regional Park (which has habitat along the Mojave River), and a beautiful hike in Little Horsethief Canyon which is a historical transportation route to and from the desert with some interesting stories. Check the calendar section for details.

Our plans also include continued Wilderness monitoring, Juniper Flats Area monitoring, Cattle grazing and Off-road Vehicle issues etc. To learn more about these issues and our conservation efforts attend our monthly meetings or contact Kim Floyd (Conservation Chair - kimffloyd@verizon.net or 760 680 9479), Estelle Delgado (Wilderness monitoring etc estelledelgado@verizon.net 760 241-7327), Jenny Wilder (Juniper Flats Area etc. Jen_sOasis@aol.com 760 220 0730), Melody Nichols (Youth in the Desert - labelady@msn.com or 760 963 4430).



Photo by Mary Ann Ruiz

Hikers at the top of Sunset Peak on a recent Los Serranos Group hike.

Los Serranos Group

By Mary Ann Ruiz

Los Serranos group has been active on many fronts. Several of our members attended the Angeles Chapter Forest's Committee meeting in January. This committee is rolling out their San Gabriel Forest Campaign. Here are their goals:

- To improve the quality and management of appropriate non-motorized recreation on our local national forests.
- To permanently protect wilderness-quality lands and wild and scenic rivers in our local national forests.
- To protect and restore our local national forests.
- To create and sustain a diverse constituency for our local forests.
- To contribute to the protection of forest lands elsewhere in California and to sup-

port national Sierra Club forest initiatives.

Our group enjoys and appreciates the beautiful San Gabriel Forest in our back yard, and looks forward to working with this project. The January meeting in Claremont was attended by over 40 people, with about 10 signing up to start a group on the East side.

Los Serranos members have many opportunities to contribute to projects of interest. A primary focus is attracting new members, through outings, social events and interesting, relevant meetings. In addition to the Forest Campaign, power transmission corridors, the Acorn Project in the Claremont Wilderness Park, local impacts on global warming, working with Rails to Trails are all projects our members are involved with. Everyone is invited to attend our monthly meetings the third Tuesday of each month to hear more about these and other issues, and find out how you can help with your primary interests.

Outings Leader Training June 7-8



If you have enjoyed the Chapter's Outings program as a participant, consider now becoming a Chapter Outings Leader. The many rewards include the satisfaction of introducing fellow members to your favorite places as well as the convenience of tailoring outings to your schedule. June 7-8 (Saturday and Sunday) is the next opportunity for you to receive the training at the Sierra Club owned Keller Hut near Running Springs.

The course involves an overnight stay at the spacious mountain cabin and includes classes in Outings Administration, Map and Compass, the Physiology and Psychology of

Leadership, and Environmental Considerations. Sunday will include a field exercise where you put into practice your newly acquired skills.

Applicants need to be at least eighteen years of age and current members of the Chapter. There will be a \$34 fee for the Sierra Club Outing Leader's Handbook, the Chapter Leader's Folder, all materials, dinner Saturday night, continental breakfast Sunday morning, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and use of the facility. For an application form, please send a self addressed stamped envelope to: Ralph Salisbury, LTC Chair, 2995 Floral Ave, Riverside, CA 92507.

TAHQUITZ GROUP BALLOT

Please indicate your vote on the ballot, cut out and mail so it is postmarked by March 15. Mail to: **Sierra Club—Tahquitz Group**

**PO Box 4944
Palm Springs, CA 92263**

Remember to print your name and address and sign your name on the outside of the envelope so the 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.

TAHQUITZ GROUP BALLOT

Please vote for 3 or fewer

Kathryn Kelley
Al Murdy
Jono Hildner

TAHQUITZ GROUP BALLOT

Please vote for 3 or fewer

Kathryn Kelley
Al Murdy
Jono Hildner

Group and Section News

Moreno Valley Group

By Ann Turner McKibben

The city of Moreno Valley is moving ahead with a number of projects located at the east end of the city, three of which are truck distribution centers. The first project is the Highland Fairview Logistics Center located on the south side of Highway 60 between Redlands Boulevard and Theodore Street. The proposed project would be a 2.4 million square foot distribution, a building about a half mile long. It would accept 276 incoming cargo containers seven days a week and have approximately 560 outbound truck trips per week. The city held a public scoping meeting on November 26, 2007. Public comments given at the meeting included concerns that Moreno Valley would become another Mira Loma with unhealthy levels of diesel particulates polluting the city's air. Other concerns included: loss of prime agricultural lands, light & noise pollution, availability of water and water quality issues, global warming, the abandonment of a planned city trail, and cumulative impacts when this project is considered along with other projects in the region. (Moreno Valley Unified School District is planning to locate High School # 5 a short distance from the project property.) The developer is paying for the consultant the city will hire to conduct a third party review of the project; they are also paying overtime for city planners who will work on the project. According to developer representatives, the project is being 'fast-tracked' and they hope it will be approved by the city within 10 to 12 months.

In a related matter the Moreno Valley City Council approved an agreement with the March Joint Powers Authority (MJPA) to expand a foreign trade zone to include the Logistics Center project at their November 27 meeting. This means that businesses in this zone do not have to pay excess tariffs and duties on raw materials. Although the proposed project has not completed its environmental review or had public hearings, the exclusion of these payments is already in place for the developer. (The MJPA is the same entity which approved controversial night and early morning DHL flights out of the March Air Cargo Port that fly over residential areas in Riverside and awaken residents.) Anyone wanting more information on this project can contact: Mark Gross, Moreno Valley Planning Department at (951) 413-3222. The city is planning on posting future planning documents for the project on their web page at <http://www.ci.moreno-valley.ca.us/>

Anyone wanting to get involved commenting on the project can call George Hague at (951) 924-0816.

In late January the city of Moreno Valley sent out a notice of preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the ProLogis Park, the second proposed truck distribution center. The ProLogis Park is proposing to have 2,244,419 square feet of industrial uses. The project area is south of Highway 60 between Pettit Street and Quincy Street, east of the Moreno Valley Auto Mall and west of the proposed Highland Fairview Logistics Center. The project will use Moreno Beach Drive and Redland Boulevard as access routes. The city plans has posted the NOP on the city's web page at: <http://www.ci.moreno-valley.ca.us/> Planner for the project is: Jeff Bradshaw, telephone: (951) 413-3224.

A third distribution center is planned south of Highway 60 between the ProLogis and Highland Fairview projects by Ridge Property Trust. It is a 1 million square foot project. At this writing the city has not issued the NOP for the project. For more information or questions on this project, please contact John Terrell, Moreno Valley Planning Official at (951) 413-3206.

In the span of several miles the city of Moreno Valley is poised to approve approximately 5.6 million square feet of distributions centers along the southern edge of Highway 60. Nestled between these truck distribution centers is the site of the city's fifth high school. (The Environmental Impact Report for the school was unanimously approved at the December 2007 meeting of the Moreno Valley Unified School District School Board.) One only has to look at the community of Mira Loma with its high number of truck distribution centers and unhealthy levels of diesel particulates polluting the air to see what the future holds for Moreno Valley. Studies by USC and UCLA have shown that areas with high levels of diesel particulates have high rates of asthma, respiratory disease and heart disease. That's the choice our city is making.

On January 31, 2008 the city of Moreno Valley held a public scoping session to hear public comments on the proposed Quail Ranch residential development notice of preparation. The project site is located along Gilman Springs Road, north of Jack Rabbit Trail and three miles south of Highway 60. It is outside the city limits but within its sphere of influence. The project plans to locate 1,500 dwelling units on 1,263 acres, and the developer is



Photo by Ann McKibben

Nature Walk, San Jacinto Wildlife Area, January 2008.

considering limiting residents to adults 55 and older. The developer plans to move the existing golf course into the Alquist Priolo Zone adjacent to Gilman Springs Road. (Gilman Springs Road follows the Claremont Strand of the San Jacinto Fault Zone. Historically, the SJFZ is the most active fault zone in California.) Dwelling units would be clustered into neighborhoods. Much of the land would be left as open space. The project area is directly across the road from Mystic Lake which is part of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. Issues of concern are: polluted water entering Mystic Lake, leapfrog development, lack of an adequate transportation routes and road safety issues, lack of services such as grocery stores and other retail services, wildfire hazards, adequacy of emergency and police services, night light and air pollution, adequate water supplies, cumulative impacts when considered with other nearby projects. The developer plans to have the draft environmental impact report available to the public April of May which means the document is essentially completed. Holding a scoping session for public comments when the document is almost completed apparently means they are fulfilling the letter of the law but missing the heart of CEQA, getting the public involved early on in the planning process. Planner for the project is: Chris Ormsby, (951) 413-3229.

As of early February 2008, Eastern Municipal Water District has postponed issuing letters of water assurance for the Highland Fairview Logistic Center, ProLogis Center, Ridge Property Trust distribution center, and Quail Ranch housing development.

On January 15, 2008 the Beaumont City Council approved the proposed Legacy Highlands development with a 3-2 vote. The project has 2,878 units on 1,600 acres and approximately 100 acres of commercial development would front Highway 60. Issues of concern regarding the project are: availability of water, air quality, traffic, wildfire hazards. The project site is located north of the Riverside County's Lamb Canyon Landfill along SR79 and is also adjacent to a commercial chicken ranch.

Three major projects continue to course their way through the Riverside County Planning Department planning process. The draft environmental impact report (DEIR) for the proposed Villages of Lakeview (Specific Plan 342) project may be released April 2008. The proposed project would put 10,000+ units on the southern boundary of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. The draft specific plan and DEIR for the Motte Lakeview Ranch

(Specific Plan 366) Ranch is in process and may be released in April 2008. The project is proposing to build 2,200 units on the southern boundary of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. The third project is the McAnally Ranch (Conditional Use Permit No.03512). The project hopes to put 2.25 million laying hens in a new poultry facility located immediately adjacent to the San Jacinto River floodplain. The project site immediately adjoins the eastern boundary of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area and is also adjacent to the Mystic Lake. For more information on these three projects, please contact: Matt Straite, Riverside County Planning Department, at (951) 955-0545, e-mail: mstraite@rct1ma.org

Many Riverside County residents are awakened by DHL flights out of March Air Cargo Port (MACP) and people from as far away as Murrieta are affected by the night-time flights. The Community Alliance for Riverside's Economy & Environment (CAREE) is working to reduce noise from these flights. If you would like more information about CAREE and their work or would like to find out how to complain about aircraft noise from MACP in your neighborhood, please contact Chair Catherine Barrett-Fischer at (951) 461-9443 or access their web page at: www.careenews.org

The Moreno Valley Group Executive Committee held a meeting on January 30. The results from last fall's election were presented at the meeting: Ellen Absher, Ann McKibben, and Mike Millsbaugh were elected. The group executive committee for the current year is: Mike Millsbaugh, Chair; Ann McKibben, Secretary; Ellen Absher, Treasurer; George Hague, Group Conservation Chair; Theresa Carson, Membership & Newsletter; Dan Clark, Outings Leader. Group member Marty Langley has agreed to be the group's webmaster. Also discussed at the meeting were many of the proposed projects planned for Moreno Valley, the Mid County Parkway (a freeway from the city of San Jacinto to the city of Corona along the Ramona Expressway and Cajalco Road with possibly three tunnels to Orange County), county developments planned adjacent to the San Jacinto Wildlife Area, habitat destruction at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area, and the loss of five miles of riparian habitat (loss of the endangered Least Bell's Vireo habitat) along the San Jacinto River by a contractor for the Riverside County Flood Control, and an update on the Save Our Skyline organization.

The city of Moreno Valley Parks and Community Services Department Recreational Trails Board is sponsoring a "Hike

(Continued on page 9)

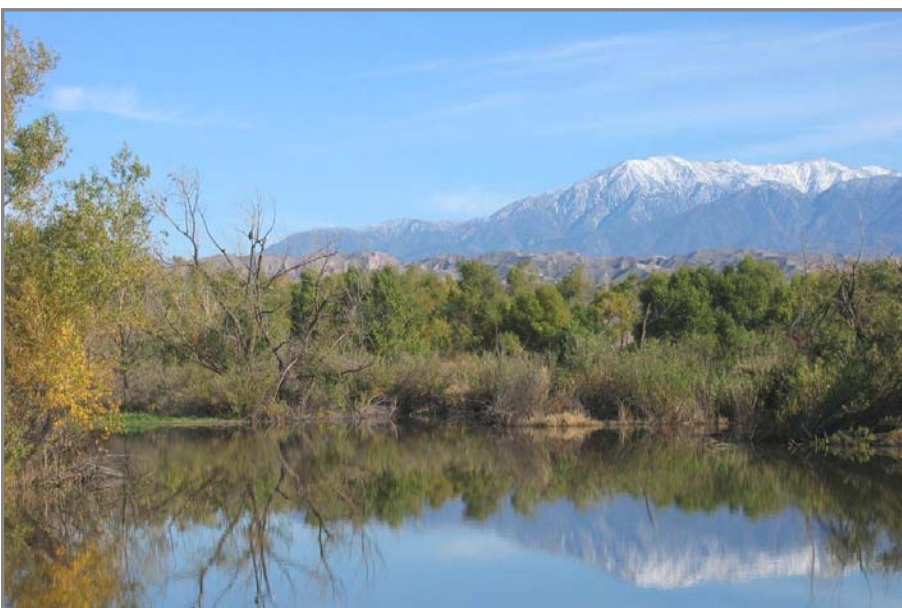


Photo by Ann McKibben

Scenic View San Jacinto Wildlife Area, December 2007.

Calendar of Outings, Meetings, and Other Events

MARCH—APRIL 2008

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

CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: Items for the March/April Calendar are due by April 5.
 FORMAT: Items similar to those below. Send items electronically if possible.
 OUTINGS: Send outings write-ups to your group or section Outings Chair.
 MEETINGS and other events: Send electronically to Ladd Seekins <iwfladd@eee.org>

GENERAL INFORMATION, RULES AND DISCLAIMERS

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

WHAT TO BRING

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

ADVENTURE PASS SPECIAL NOTICE

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

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 and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing, or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel. Drivers should have adequate insurance coverage and their vehicles should have no safety defects. Drivers of carpools agree to not consume any alcoholic beverages. It is customary for riders to share expenses with the driver. 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, and Release of Liability

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

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

- I have read any rules and conditions applicable to the Outing made available to me; I will pay any costs and fees for the Outing; and I acknowledge my participation is at the discretion of the leader.
- The Outing begins and ends at the location where the Outing officially commences with leader and participants in attendance, as designated by the Sierra Club ("Trailhead"). The Outing does not include carpooling, transportation, or transit to and from the Trailhead, and I am personally responsible for all risks associated with this travel. This does not apply to transportation provided by the Sierra Club after the commencement and before the end of the Outing.
- If I decide to leave early and not to complete the Outing as planned, I assume all risks inherent in my decision to leave and waive all liability against the Sierra Club arising from that decision. Likewise, if the leader has concluded the Outing, and I decide to go forward without the leader, I assume all risks inherent in my decision to go forward and waive all liability against the Sierra Club arising from that decision.
- This Agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by law. If any provision or any part of any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid or legally unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby and shall remain valid and fully enforceable.
- To the fullest extent allowed by law, I agree to **WAIVE, DISCHARGE CLAIMS, AND RELEASE FROM LIABILITY**, and to **INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS** the Sierra Club, its officers, directors, employees, agents, and leaders from **any and all liability** on account of, or in any way resulting from Injuries and Damages, even if caused by **negligence** of the Sierra Club its officers, directors, employees, agents, and leaders, in any way connected with this Outing. I understand and intend that this assumption of risk and release is binding upon my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, and includes any minors accompanying me on the Outing.

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

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

RECURRING MONTHLY MEETINGS (LOOK IN CALENDAR FOR DATES)

(1ST MON) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
 Alpine Escrow Conference Room 27236 Blue Jay Mall on Feb 4, Apr 7, Jun 2, Oct 16 and Nov 3. At Shady Cove Campground Aug 2, 3:00 p.m. and Keller Hut Dec 6 at 3:00 p.m. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

(1ST TUE) LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
 Odd-numbered months only (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov). PLACE: For meeting time and place, call DAVID THORNE, (909) 949-8046. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

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

(1ST TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING
 PROGRAM: See front-page notice. Afterwards, SAN GORGONIO SIERRA SINGLES will adjourn for food and 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 909-888-0161 <iwfladd@eee.org>. CHAPTER

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

(2ND TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING
 (In July only the meeting will be the 3rd Tuesday, July 18.) Monthly meeting. Take part in working on important conservation issues. Please come: we need your help! PLACE: San Gorgonio CHAPTER Office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: KIM FLOYD, Conservation Chair, kimffloyd@verizon.net, (760) 249-5385, or Conservation Coordinator TERRY WOLD, terry.wold@sierraclub.org, (951) 684-6203. CHAPTER

(2ND WED) 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP MEETING
 Monthly meeting except for July and August. PLACE: Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17738 Francesca, Victorville. (One block north of Bear Valley Rd. on Ridgecrest.) Enter on Ridgecrest side of the building. INFO: CAROL WILEY, (760) 245-8734, earthingwiley@webtv.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 and directions. CONTACT: SHAULI ROSEN-RAGER, (951) 767-2203, gardens@netzon.net. SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

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

(3RD TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
 Monthly meeting except August. The public is welcome. Refreshments will be served. PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, (951) 628-1285. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

(4TH TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
 Chapter governance meeting. PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RICK ESTES 951-314-3328 <rickestes_92595@yahoo.com>. CHAPTER

WEEKLY REOCCURRING OUTINGS AND FITNESS ACTIVITIES

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings

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

WED 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP, VICTOR VALLEY WALK
 Conditioning walk every Wednesday except Group meeting might on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Walks are paced for participants. Enjoy the evening air, river breeze, sunsets, stars and moon on a three mile walk around Jess Ranch and along the Mojave River. MEET at the Victor Valley Museum in Apple Valley. INFO: BILL SPRENG (760) (951) 4520, bspreng@gte.net or JENNY WILDER (760) 220-0730, JensOasis@aol.com. MOJAVE GROUP

FEBRUARY 25 – MARCH 2

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

FEB 26 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
 Chapter governance meeting. PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RALPH SALISBURY <ralphsalisbury@charter.net>. CHAPTER

MAR 1 (SAT) 8:00 AM YOUTH IN THE DESERT BIRDING YOUTH HIKE
 We'll visit the Mojave Narrow Regional Park & walk around Horseshoe Lake looking primarily for ducks, egrets, & other large birds which should be easy & fun for beginning birders to identify. Then we will drive to Pelican Lake with the option of strolling thru the riparian area if there is enough interest. Pre-registration is highly recommended for this popular hike. Bring snacks, water, lunch, binoculars, & a field guide if you have one. We will have some extra binoculars & field guides for those who don't have any. MEET on Yates Rd. just above the entry to Mojave Narrows. There is a \$5.00 parking fee per vehicle so we will carpool into the Park. We should end by 1:00 pm. LEADER: MELODY NICHOLS: labelady@msn.com. BIRDING LEADER & INFO: ESTELLE DELGADO, estelledelgado@verizon.net, 760 241-7327. Rain cancels. MOJAVE GROUP

MAR 1-2 (SAT-SUN) GRASS VALLEY WILDERNESS BACKPACK
 This will be an easy to moderate journey to explore a little known area with Marty Dickes, wilderness resource specialist with the Ridgecrest office of the BLM. We will monitor ORV impacts, but our reward will be the washes, low hills, & open grassland views in early spring. At these low elevations in the Mojave, wildflowers are possible & rain is unlikely. Carry all water. Limit 12. LEADER: CRAIG DEUTSCHE, 310-477-6670 <deutsche@earthlink.net>. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

MAR 2 (SUN) 8 AM BAILEY CANYON TO JONES/HASTINGS PEAKS HIKE
 Join us on a strenuous 9 mile (RT), 3000' gain ft elevation gain hike in the San Gabriel Mountains.. Towering directly over the small foothill community of the Sierra Madre, 3375' Jones Peak divides the watersheds of the Little Santa Anita Canyon to the east, & rugged, steep, narrow Bailey Canyon, where this trip originates. Most of the trail is shadeless & if the day is sunny, hot. This is a pretty tough hike. We will go all the way to Hastings Peak (higher than Jones Peak). It is strongly suggested that you are in good cardiovascular shape to do this hike (running, biking, 2 times a week, etc..) WEAR sturdy boots for the final, steep scramble to the peak. MEET: Call or email for meeting place to carpool. LEADER: JOHN KUNTZ 951-347-2454 <jkuntz@earthlink.net>. SAN GORGONIO SIERRA SINGLES

MAR 2 (SUN) 8:30 AM CHINO HILLS STATE PARK HIKE
 Let's hope for some rain so our next hike through this intra-urban jewel is green & spring-like. We will hike 6-8 miles, about 800 ft. elevation gain, depending on the group, & try for the top of San Juan Hill to have a great view out towards the Pacific. This wonderful park surrounded by urban sprawl takes you back to the way California looked 200 years ago. BRING: Water, snacks, lunch & sturdy shoes. MEET at 8:30 am at the Albertson's, Soquel Canyon Parkway off-ramp, west of Hwy 71 in Chino Hills. Rain cancels. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ 909-815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com>. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MARCH 3 – MARCH 9

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

MAR 4 (TUE) LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
 Odd-numbered months only (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov). PLACE: For meeting time & place, call DAVID THORNE, 909-949-8046. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAR 4 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING
 The meeting place rotates. INFO: CHRISTIE WALKER, 909-866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

MAR 4 (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 909-888-0161 <iwfladd@eee.org>. CHAPTER

MAR 5 (WED) 9:30 AM CACTUS FLATS TO SILVER PEAK HIKE
 A moderate 4 to 6 mile hike some of which will be cross-country. Good views of the Mojave Desert. BRING water, layered clothing & hiking boots. MEET at the Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 9:30 AM. Please call to confirm. LEADER: ED WALLACE 909 584 9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

****MAR 8 (SAT) 9 AM S B MTS GREEN VALLEY SNOWSHOE/HIKE**
This area will provide a trail with vistas towards the high desert & Big Bear areas. Plan on bringing your own snow shoes or check on line at <www.rimnordic.com> to see if they are open for rentals. (Or call 909-867-2600). MEET at the parking lot behind Lloyd's of Running Springs, Highway 18 in Running Springs at 8:45 a.m. to carpool. The Union 76 gas station is next to Lloyd's. BRING: grazing food, lunch, 2 bottles of water, 10 essentials, any camera. If no snow, we can hike. An Adventure Pass may be required for parking car at the site. PHONE the night before for a cold chill report; if wind chill is to low, we'll cancel. LEADER: MAR-GARET SPIESS 909-867-9152.

MAR 9 (SUN) 7 AM PACIFIC CREST TRAIL HIKE
Silverwood Lake to I-15. We will be doing a series of day hikes on the PCT. This is a moderate 13 mile RT hike with about a 500' gain. Every year about March & April hundreds of backpackers start at the Mexico/CA border to begin hiking the 2665 miles to the Washington/Canada border. Some will make it all the way, but many will not. The PCT travels through some of the most scenic areas in the USA. MEET: Call. LEADER: JOE WHYTE 909-949-0899 <whytejoe@msn.com>. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MARCH 10 – MARCH 16

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

MAR 10 (MON) 7:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING
Monthly program meeting. No meeting in August or December. PLACE: St. Richard's Episcopal Church, 28708 Highway 18, Sky Forest. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, 909-337-0313.

MAR 11 (TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Monthly meeting. Take part in working on important conservation issues. Please come: we need your help! PLACE: San Gorgonio CHAPTER Office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: KIM FLOYD, Conservation Chair, kimfloyd@verizon.net, 760-249-5385, or Conservation Coordinator TERRY WOLD, terry.wold@sierraclub.org, 951-684-6203. CHAPTER

MAR 12 (WED) 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except for July & August. PLACE: Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17738 Francesca, Victorville. (One block north of Bear Valley Rd. on Ridgecrest.) Enter on Ridgecrest side of the building. INFO: CAROL WILEY, 760-245-8734, <earthlingwiley@webtv.net> MOJAVE GROUP

MAR 13 (THU) 9:00 AM BB TOWN TRAIL PLUS URBAN EXTENSION HIKE
Easy, relatively level, terrain with many views of Big Bear Lake. We will hike the town trail, an adjacent trail plus some urban areas near Big Bear Village for a total of about 5 miles. If snowshoe conditions prevail, then the hike will be shortened to about 3 miles. MEET at the east side of the Performing Arts Center parking lot in BBL at 9am. RESERVATIONS: Call Dick to register & learn the nature of the hike. LEADER: DICK BANKS 909-866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

MAR 15 (SAT) JOSHUA TREE NP – LELA PEAK HIKE
It should be a pretty time of year for this hike with a great view & an interesting drive to the parking place which is about nine miles south on the Geology Tour Road. I'm hoping for a wet winter & lots of beautiful plant life covering the mountain. About a five mile hike. BRING your good boots, lunch & two quarts of water. MEETING PLACE: Call LEADERS ANN & AL MURDY 760-366-2932 (we don't return calls) <aemurdy@eee.org> TAHQUITZ GROUP

****MAR 15 (SAT) 9:00 AM S B MTS, THE PINNACLES HIKE**
Join us on a moderate 6 mile (RT), 1,000 ft elevation gain hike located north west of Lake Arrowhead. This hike includes some rock scrambling to reach the summit, which comprises an imposing stack of large granite boulders. Your efforts will be rewarded with mountain & desert views. BRING: Lunch, water, good boots & layered clothing. Adventure Pass required. MEET: Call for meeting place to carpool. LEADER: HEATHER SARJEANT 909-336-2836. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

MAR 15 (SAT) 9:00 AM PCT 173/CEDAR SPRINGS DAM EAST HIKE
Please join the Mohave Group Sierra Club with a hike on Saturday March 15, on the PCT/173 at Cedar Springs Dam going east. Plan to enjoy great desert/mountain views of Summit Valley, amazing native plants & whatever wild life the day has to offer. This will be a shuttle, approx 9 miles, mostly flat terrain, minimal elevation gain/loss. MEET at Apple Valley Museum at 9:00 to car pool to hike location. WEAR sturdy hiking shoes/boots, bring lunch/snack, 2 liters of water, hat, layered clothing, sun screen. Rain/ Windy foul weather cancels hike. CALL if weather is questionable or if you have questions. LEADERS: MELODY NICHOLS 760-963-4430 <Labelady@msn.com> & TERRANCE MC CORKLE 760-252-2194 <oldhikerdude@verizon.net> MOJAVE GROUP

MAR 15 - 16 (SAT-SUN) GHOST TOWN EXTRAVAGANZA CARCAMP
Come with us to this spectacular desert landscape near Death Valley to explore the ruins of California's colorful past. Camp at the historic ghost town of Ballarat (flush toilets & hot showers). On Sat, do a very challenging hike to ghost town Lookout City with expert Hal Fowler who will regale us with tales of this wild west town. Later we'll return to camp for Happy Hour, a potluck feast & campfire. On Sun, a quick visit to the infamous Riley townsite before heading home. Group size strictly limited. RESERVATIONS: Send \$8 per person (Sierra Club), 2 sase, H&W phones, email, rideshare info to LEADER: LYGEIA GERARD, P.O. Box 294726, Phelan, CA 92329, 760-868-2179. CO-LEADER: DON PETERSON 760-375-8599 CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

MAR 16 (SUN) 8 AM RAMONA TRAIL TO THOMAS MOUNTAIN HIKE
This is moderate 13.5 mile (RT), 2500' gain ft elevation gain hike (Out-n-Back) in the San Jacinto Mountains. This is a great trail, one that is evenly graded. The 4 mile trip to Tool Box Spring is one that anyone should be able to make, even though you do gain some good elevation. There is a wonderful transition from desert flora to pine forest on this hike, & since the hike is all north side, it is relatively shady the whole way. The area around Thomas Mountain is wonderful, there are fantastic views of San Jacinto, San Gorgonio, Toro Peak & more. MEET: Call or email for meeting place to carpool. LEADER: JOHN KUNTZ 951-347-2454 <jkuntz@earthlink.net>. SAN GORGONIO SIERRA SINGLES

MARCH 17 – MARCH 23

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

****MAR 18 (TUE) 9:00 AM SB MTS, SPLINTERS TO DEVIL'S HOLE HIKE**
You will hike a scenic section of the Pacific Crest Trail along the Deep Creek Canyon. Difficulty: moderate. Distance: 6 miles RT with 600 foot elevation loss & gain. We will have our snack at Devil's Hole. BRING: 10 essentials, 2-3 qts. water, & snack. WEAR: hiking boots. Adventure Pass required. MEET: Call for meeting place. LEADER, BILLIE WOLFF, 909-338-2534SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

MAR 18 (TUE) 6:00 PM SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONS COMMITTEE MEETING
Monthly conservation meeting. The public is welcome. LOCATION: Call or email for location & directions. CONTACT: SHAULI ROSEN-RAGER, 951-767-2203, <gardens@netzon.net> SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

MAR 18 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. CONTACT: CHRISTIE WALKER, 909-866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

MAR 18 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
PROGRAM: TO BE ANNOUNCED. PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid at 11th. Refreshments will be served. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, 909-815-9379 LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAR 20 (THU) 9:30 AM BIGHORN WILDERNESS WALKABOUT HIKE
There are few if any trails in this remote wilderness area so come prepared for a cross-country hike with some steep ups & downs. Our goal will be the granite peaks that are visible from Route 18 to the Lucerne Valley. BRING water, layered clothing & hiking boots. MEET: Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 9:30 AM. Please call to confirm. LEADER: ED WALLACE 909 584 9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

MAR 21 (FRI) 6 PM MOONLIGHT HIKE HIKE
Come hike in the foothills for several hours by moonlight. Hike is conversationally paced. Between 4 & 5 miles RT, 800' elevation gain. MEET: North parking lot of PFF Bank, Claremont, at NE corner of Indian Hill & Foothill Blvds. or at the trailhead. BRING: jacket, flashlight, water, snack to share mid-hike [optional], & wear sturdy shoes/boots. Rain cancels. LEADERS: PATTY & DAVID THORNE LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAR 21-23 (FRI-SUN) EASTER & EQUINOX CARCAMP/SERVICE OUTING
The CNRCC wilderness committee & the Mojave Group have an ongoing tradition of conducting an annual wilderness service trip with the Needles office of the BLM. The wilderness committee started this mid-90s, not long after the Desert bill passed in 1994, & often with Mojave Group participation has put up fences, gates, other wilderness boundary markers & vehicle barriers, done cleanups, etc. in the Old Woman, Turtle, Whipple & Dead Mountains wildernesses. The 2008 spring trip will take place March 21 to 23, Friday to Easter Sunday. We'll work with Needles wilderness staffer Mona Daniels on the south side of the Whipple Mountains, not that far from Parker, & will do extensive signing on the wilderness boundary, as well as related work to minimize trespass into the edge of the wilderness. We'll work Friday afternoon & Saturday, then do a hike Sunday morning: most people will probably plan to depart after lunch on Easter Sunday. COST: \$12. More details on central commissary & on meeting, etc. will come later to those who sign up. MEET: Friday morning, at the BLM Needles office (new building), then caravan south to our site in the Whipples, for carcamping at the edge of wilderness. RESERVATIONS: LEADERS: VICKY HOOVER <Vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org> 415-977-5527 & CAROL WILEY <earthlingwiley2000@yahoo.com> 760-245-8734. MOJAVE GROUP

MARCH 24 – MARCH 30

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

MAR 25 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
Chapter governance meeting. PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RICK ESTES 951-314-3328 <rickestes_92595@yahoo.com>. CHAPTER

MAR 27 (THU) 9:00 AM NANA TRAIL, PCT & VAN DUSEN LOOP HIKE
This hike is moderate to difficult with about a 1200 ft vertical climb. We will travel a loop route on the Nana Trail, PCT, & Van Dusen Canyon Road of about 6-miles. BRING sturdy boots, water, snacks & clothing suitable to the weather. MEET at Vons parking lot in BBL at 9 a.m. LEADER: DICK BANKS 909-866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

MAR 30 (SUN) 7:00 AM PACIFIC CREST TRAIL HIKE
This is a moderate day hike on the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT), Mojave River Forks Reservoir to Silverwood Lake, 15.5 miles RT with a 600' elevation gain. Spring is a good time to hike this portion of the PCT, which is lower in elevation & has lots of wildflowers. MEET: Call for meeting place. LEADER: JOE WHYTE 909-949-0899 <whytejoe@msn.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MARCH 31 – APRIL 6

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

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

APR 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. LADD SEEKINS 909-888-0161 <iwfladd@eee.org>. CHAPTER

APR 4-6 (FRI-SUN) CULP VALLEY, ANZA BORREGO SP CAR CAMP
Culp Valley, in the Upper Sonoran plant zone, is our base for a hike down the old California Riding & Hiking Trail to Borrego Valley 3000 feet below. We'll be see a variety of plants on the way. On shorter hikes we'll visit local springs: we'll see effects of water sources on plant life & check recovery from a 2002 fire. Primitive campground. OK for passenger cars. You may arrive on Friday or Saturday. RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER, BILL ENGS 909-338-1910. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

APR 5 (SAT) 8:30 AM SANTA ROSA PLATEAU HIKE
Spring is the best time to see the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Preserve. Wildflowers are in bloom, grass is green & vernal pools may even have some water if we get decent rains. Join me on this easy to moderate hike, 7-10 miles RT, depending on the group, with a 800' max elevation gain. We will start at the trailhead near the vernal pools, hike to the historic adobe, then on through oak woodlands, riparian areas & rolling hills. MEET at 8:30 AM on Ontario Mills parking lot near Dave & Busters. For those of you in the Elsinore to Temecula areas, we will meet up at the Visitor Center in the Preserve at 9:15 AM BRING: water, snacks & lunch, sturdy shoes & layers. Rain cancels. LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ 909-815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

APR 5 (SAT) 9:00 AM YOUTH IN THE DESERT YOUTH HIKE
This hike is one of a series that is geared to be of interest to youth & a responsible adult (parent, aunt, uncle, grandparent etc.) We will be hiking on a section of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. The entire PCT zig-zags its way 2650 miles from Mexico to Canada through California, Oregon & Washington. We will hike the historical Horse Thief Canyon. This is open to children of all ages, as long as they can hike a distance of approx 6 miles. The terrain is mostly flat, with some slight hill climbs. We will spend the day exploring, looking for wildlife & native plants. This is a great hike for beginner hikers/children. MEET at Apple Valley Museum at 9:00 am, & car pool to hike location. BRING sturdy hiking boots, lunch & snacks, 2 liters of water, hat, layered clothing. Rain/windy foul weather cancels hike. Please call if weather is questionable. RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER: MELODY NICHOLS 760-963-4430 or <Labelady@msn.com> MOJAVE GROUP

APR 5-7 (SAT-MON) BIRDS, FLOWERS, FENCES IN THE CARRIZO SERVICE
This is an opportunity to visit & to assist an outstanding & relatively unknown national monument. On Saturday, we will assist monument staff in the removal of fence wires to allow pronghorn antelope freer access to the range. Sunday is reserved for sightseeing. The views from the Caliente Mountains are spectacular; if rain has been sufficient, there will be spring flowers; & the monument is known for the number & variety of raptors present. Those who can stay on Monday will continue our work with the monument staff. INFO: LEADER CRAIG DEUTSCHE, 310-477-6670 <deutsche@earthlink.net> CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

APR 6 (SUN) 8 AM CEDAR SPRINGS TO SPITLER PEAK TRAIL HIKE
This moderate-to-strenuous 13-mile hike in the San Jacinto Mountains will require a car shuttle. We will start from the Cedar Springs Trailhead (off Hwy 74/Morris Ranch Road) & hike northeast for about 1.5 miles until we reach the PCT & then we'll take the PCT north for about 7 miles (along the way we'll summit Spitzer Peak). When we reach the Spitzer Peak Trail, we will take it down to its trailhead (approximately 5 miles) where our car shuttle will be parked off Apple Canyon Road. MEET: Call for meeting place to carpool. LEADER: JOHN KUNTZ 951-347-2454 <jkuntz@earthlink.net> SAN GORGONIO SIERRA SINGLES

APRIL 7 – APRIL 13

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

APR 7 (MON) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
Even numbered months plus November (Feb., Apr., Jun., Aug., Oct., Nov. & Dec.). LOCATION (Unless otherwise noted): Lake Ridge Escrow Conference Room 27236 Blue Jay Mall. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, 909-337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

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

APR 8 (TUE) 9:00 AM SB MTS, EXPLORATION TRAIL HIKE
The young people of the Children's Forest constructed the Exploration Trail in 2002. The vegetation & the views change constantly as we hike to the top & back. Distance: 9 miles RT. Elevation gain & loss: 1,500 feet. BRING: 2 qts. water, lunch & ten essentials. WEAR: Hiking boots. MEET: Call LEADER, BILLIE WOLFF 909-338-2534. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

APR 8 (TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Monthly meeting. Take part in working on important conservation issues. Please come: we need your help! PLACE: San Gorgonio CHAPTER Office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: KIM FLOYD, Conservation Chair, kimfloyd@verizon.net, 760-249-5385, or Conservation Coordinator TERRY WOLD, terry.wold@sierraclub.org, 951-684-6203. CHAPTER

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

APR 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, <earthlingwiley@webtv.net> MOJAVE GROUP

APR 12-13 (SAT-SUN) BIRDS & BEAT THE TAMARISK SERVICE TRIP
 Help remove invasive salt cedar from the wetlands along the shore of Owens Lake at the base of the spectacular eastern Sierra Nevada scarp. While we will work both days, there will be time to enjoy the birds & scenic attractions. We'll car camp at Diaz Lake just south of Lone Pine where birds congregate & also watch the migratory birds on the re-watered part of the Owens Lake. We can also visit the new Lone Pine Film History Museum & Manzanar N.M. BRING camping essentials (though motels are close), food, water, work clothes & gloves. Plan on a happy hour & potluck dinner on Saturday evening. Resource specialist: Mike Prather. INFO & SIGN UP: Contact LEADERS CAL & LETTY FRENCH, 14140 Chimney Rock Road, Paso Robles, CA 93446. Prefer e-mail <ccfrench@tcsn.net> CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

APR 12-13 (SAT-SUN) WIND WOLVES, TEJON RANCH CARCAMP
 Enjoy pine forests & the picturesque high country of our San Emigdio Range & the grasslands of Wind Wolves. We will immerse ourselves into an environment that is very similar to Tejon Ranch by visiting the Wind Wolves Preserve. We will tour the proposed development areas, as well as the highly unique areas within Wind Wolves & climb an unnamed peak (5152'). We may see deer, elk, raptors, flowers, rock art, more. Take time to learn from our naturalists about the fauna & flora, help us plan the next stages in our goal to create a new state or national park. Lots of driving. Some easy hiking. We'll carcamp at Wind Wolves for one night, so BRING your best potluck items, ideas (become an integral part of the campaign). Group size limited to 30. RESERVATIONS: Send Esase/sase, phones, rideshare to LEADER KENT SCHWITKIS. <schwitkii@earthlink.net> 4514 Lenore St., Torrance, CA 90503, 310-540-5558. NATURALIST/CO-LDR: SHERRY ROSS. ANGELES CHAPTER TEJON-TEHACHAPI PARK TF

APRIL 14 – APRIL 20

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

APR 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

APR 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

APR 15 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING
 Monthly meeting. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. CONTACT: CHRISTIE WALKER, 909-866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

APR 15 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
 Monthly meeting except August. The public is welcome. Refreshments will be served. PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, 909-628-1285. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

****APR 16 (WED) 9:00 AM JACOBY CANYON HIKE**
 Moderate 6-mile descent into Jacoby Canyon from the Lucky Baldwin Mine, with about a 700 ft elevation change. There will be a scenic mixture of pine & chaparral vegetation. BRING sturdy boots, water, snacks & layered clothing. National Forest Adventure Passes will be required for drivers. MEET at Vons parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 9am. LEADER: DICK BANKS 909-866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

APR 19 (SAT) 8:00 AM PCT FROM COON CREEK HIKE
 Come hike along the PCT from Coon Creek Jumpoff at rd. (1N02) to Broom Flat Rd. (2N01). 9 miles, moderate/easy. Some elevation gain/loss. BRING 2 to 3qts. of water, sturdy boots & lunch. MEET at Von's parking lot in Big Bear at 8:00am. INFO: Call LEADER TERRENCE MCCORKLE 760-252-2194 or 760-412-1683 (cell) <oldhikerdude@verizon.net> MOJAVE GROUP

APR 20 (SUN) 7:00 AM WARNER SPRINGS TO INDIAN FLATS CG ROAD HIKE
 This is an easy day hike of 9.2 miles RT with a 600' elevation gain. The PCT travels through a stretch of high desert back country terrain. We might encounter backpackers on their way to Canada. MEET: Call for meeting place. LEADER: JOE WHYTE 909-949-0899 <whytejoe@msn.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

APR 20 (SUN) 6 PM MOONLIGHT HIKE HIKE
 Come hike in the foothills for several hours by moonlight. Hike is conversationally paced. Between 4 & 5 miles RT with a 800' elevation gain. MEET: North parking lot of PFF Bank, Claremont, at NE corner of Indian Hill & Foothill Bldvs or at the trailhead. BRING: jacket, flashlight, water, snack to share mid-hike [optional], & wear sturdy shoes/boots. Rain cancels. LEADERS: PATTY & DAVID THORNE THORNE. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

APRIL 21 – APRIL 27

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

APR 22 (TUE) 9:30 AM PCT FROM RT 18 TO HOLCOMB VLY RD HIKE
 An easy 4-mile round trip hike with little elevation gain. Great views of the desert as we wind our way along this portion of the Pacific Crest Trail & loop back to our starting point with a easy cross country jaunt BRING water layered clothing & hiking boots. MEET at the Von's parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 9:30 AM. Please call to confirm. LEADER: ED WALLACE 909 584 9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

APR 22 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
 Chapter governance meeting. PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RICK ESTES 951-314-3328 <rickestes_92595@yahoo.com>. CHAPTER

APR 22 (TUES) LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
 Have you heard about the San Bernardino County Museum new " Hall of Geological Wonders"? Join us tonight to hear Kathleen Springer, Curator of Geological Sciences for the San Bernardino County Museum, fill us in on this exciting new exhibit. It is a 12,000 sq. foot, three story wing dedicated to interpretation of the geology and paleontology of this region. This area has a one-of-a kind geological history that will be explored and interpreted to the public like no place in southern California. The immersive and enticing exhibits will take the visitor on a journey from the Early Earth to the San Andreas Fault and everything in between. Kathleen earned degrees in Geological Sciences from the University of California, Riverside. She has been recognized by the Association of Environmental Professionals for environmental education and by the California Mineralogical Society. PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid at 11th. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, 909-815-9379

APR 24 (THU) 6:30 PM DINNER ON THE TOWN DINNER
 For another enjoyable social evening with dinner, MEET at the newly opened Cafe Montclair, 10220 Central Avenue, Montclair, which has been re-opened by a chef from the famous Mission Inn. Join us to try out a new locally owned eatery that has so far received good reviews. LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ 909-815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

APR 26 (SAT) POPULATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT WORKSHOP
 Join us to learn about human population growth and its effect on society and the natural environment. Learn how you can help to protect the environment and help families all over the world by becoming involved with the Sierra Club's Global Population and the Environment Program. A panel of experts will discuss the issues and answer your questions. Your own ideas are welcome. LOCATION: The beautiful Eaton Canyon Nature Reserve in the Pasadena foothills. Arrive at 9:00 AM for a bird walk lead by JUDY ANDERSON. At 11:30, lunch will be provided (donations are requested). The workshop runs from 12:30 to 4:30 PM. ORGANIZER: JOAN HOLTZ. INFO & RESERVATIONS: LADD SEEKINS <iwfladd@eee.org> 909-888-0161 (work) 909-825-4427 (home). INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

APR 26 (SAT) 8:00 AM SANTA ANA RIVER BOTTOM BIRD WALK
 MEET: Sierra Club office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. Bill will guide you to the birds. Breakfast at local restaurant after walk (optional). LEADER: BILL ENGS 909-338-1910. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

APR 26-27 (SAT-SUN) 11:00 AM SB MTS, KELLER HUT GATHERING
 Join us for our Spring Gathering at Keller Hut for group meals, hikes, bird & nature walk, games, & conversation. BRING food for the weekend including a dish (salad, desert or main dish) to feed six for a potluck dinner on Saturday. We furnish hot beverages & table service. We will provide breakfast on Sunday. INFO: OVERSEER, MARGARET SPIESS, 909-867-9152. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

APR 27 (SUN) POPULATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT WORKSHOP
 This is a local follow up to the workshop the day before in Pasadena (see above). The details are to be arranged but we hope that some of the expert panelists from Saturday will be able to take part. LOCATION: TBA in Riverside, Redlands or San Bernardino. INFO: LADD SEEKINS <iwfladd@eee.org> 909-888-0161 (work) 909-825-4427 (home). POPULATION COMMITTEE

APRIL 28 – MAY 4

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

APR 30 (WED) 9:00 AM COUGAR CREST TRAIL TO BERTHA PK HIKE
 This is a 6-mile hike, moderate up Cougar Crest Trail & the PCT, followed by a short, but more difficult, ascent to Bertha Peak summit at 8500 ft above sea level. There you will have a 360-degree view of the Bear Valley, Holcomb Valley & Mojave Desert, making the extra effort well worth it. WEAR: Sturdy boots & layered clothing will help deal with the changing terrain & altitude. BRING: plenty of water & snacks. MEET at Vons parking lot in Big Bear Lake at 9am. LEADER: DICK BANKS 909-866-9232. BIG BEAR GROUP

FUTURE SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings

MAY 10-11 (SAT-SUN) NAVIGATION NOODLE IN THE MOJAVE NP COURSE
 Join us for our fifth annual journey through this jewel of the Mojave, now preserved, under the California Desert Protection Act, as a result of the efforts of Sierra Club activists & others. An intermediate cross-country navigation day-hike workshop will be conducted out of a car camp in the pinyon & juniper forests of the Mid Hills. Potluck & social on Saturday, & also for those arriving early on Friday. Sign up: Send email (preferred) or sase along with your navigation experience to LEADER: HARRY FREIMANIS, <hfreimanis@ca.rr.com> 8041 Redford Lane, La Palma CA 90623 714-236-9266 ASSISTANT: VIRGIL SHIELDS, <vshields@alumni.caltech.edu> 818-637-2542 CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

MAY 17-18 (SAT-SUN) JOHNS MEADOW TRAIL CAMP BACKPACK
 This 8-mile round trip backpack in the San Gorgonio Wilderness provides an early condition trip & is suitable for those that would like to try backpacking for the first time. Backpacks & some tents available on a first come first serve bases. For first timers we will schedule a pre trip meeting. Space is limited. RESERVATIONS: Call EADER ED WALLACE 909 584 9407 or CO-LEADER BILLIE WOLFF 909-338-2534. BIG BEAR GROUP

MAY 17-18 (SAT-SUN) TWO DAYHIKES IN THE PANAMINTS CARCAMP
 Join us as we explore higher desert trails near Death Valley in the Panamint Mountains. The first day will be a hike (2550 feet gain, 7 miles RT) up Wildrose Peak, & the second will be a longer walk (2900 feet gain, 13 miles RT) up Telescope peak. While it will be hot & hectic at lower elevations, we should enjoy quiet & long views. Car camping may include the civilized amenities, & Saturday evening will be a potluck meal. Limit 12 participants. RESERVATIONS: LEADER CRAIG DEUTSCHE <deutsche@earthlink.net> 310-477-6670. CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

MAY 24-27 (FRI-MON) MEMORIAL DAY AT ASILOMAR BUS TRIP
 Spend 4 days & 3 nights at Allomar Conference Center on the beautiful Monterey Peninsula overlooking the Pacific Ocean in non-smoking upgraded historic accommodations. Explore historic Monterey including the world famous Monterey Bay Aquarium (optional \$22.95 or \$20.95 Sr.) Possible wine tasting excursion. Visit & hike Big Sur & Point Lobos State Parks & beautiful Hwy 1 art galleries. Enjoy evening entertainment & camaraderie. Heated pool available. Cost is \$460 SC or \$495 non-Sierra Club members through 4/21/08. After 4/21/08 cost is \$485/\$520. This covers the bus, all gratuities, three nights as Asilomar (2-3 to a room), all entrance fees, & all meals except one lunch. After 4/21/08, \$100 cancellation penalty. No refund of balance unless suitable replacement found. RESERVATIONS: Send two large self-addressed stamped envelopes with phones & e-mail address, check for full amount due plus optional aquarium fee payable to "Wilderness Adventures." Mail to: Bobbie Peyser, 1130 9th St., Unit 5, Santa Monica, CA 90403. LEADERS: ART & BOBBIE PEYSER 310-395-7354 <hikersaandb@earthlink.net>. ASST LEADER: BILLIE WOLFF 909-338-2534 <bwolff1@charter.net> ANGELES CHAPTER WILDERNESS ADVENTURES SECTION

JUN 7-8 (SAT-SUN) OUTINGS LEADERSHIP TRAINING COURSE
 Required course to become an Outings Leader in the San Gorgonio Chapter. For full description of course and application, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Ralph Salisbury, 2995 Floral Ave, Riverside, CA 92507. CHAPTER

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES

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

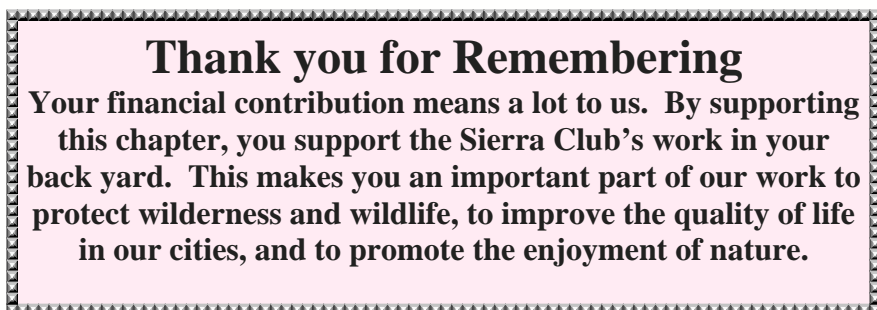
NON-SIERRA CLUB RECURRING WEEKLY & MONTHLY MEETINGS (LOOK IN CALENDAR FOR DATES)

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

(1ST SUN) 3:30 PM RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE
 Join us in for an afternoon of contra dance to live music. Dance Instruction at 3:30. Dance from 4:00 to 7:00. Refreshment will be served at the break. Potluck at 7:00, so bring a dish to share. COST: \$9. PLACE: All Saints Episcopal Church, 3847 Terracina Dr., Riverside. DIRECTIONS: The church is on the corner of Terracina & Magnolia between 14th St. & Central Ave. From the 91 freeway, exit on 14th St., go north to Magnolia & turn left. The church will be on your right. Alternatively, exit at Central Ave., go north to Magnolia & turn right. The church will be on your left. INFO: MEG HOFFMAN (951) 359-6984, rdhoyt@juno.com.

(3RD TUE) 6:30 PM SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS—BADLANDS 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

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(Continued from page 7)

(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..

(3RD SAT) 5:00 PM EARTHSAVE VEGAN POTLUCK/PROGRAM MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT EARTHSAVE INLAND EMPIRE
 Monthly vegan potluck. PROGRAM: Call for info. TIME: 5:00 PM socialize & view diet & animal rights videos; 6:00 PM potluck dinner; 7:00 PM program. BRING own non-disposable table service including cloth napkin & a dish to serve 8 that has no animal products (meat, fish, poultry, dairy, eggs or honey). Just read the labels, or, if you prepare something, bring a recipe card of ingredients. DONATION: \$1 members, \$3 non-members. First time visitors free with potluck dish. LOCATION: University Hall, University of Redlands. DIRECTIONS: From Interstate 10, take the University St. exit in Redlands. Go north on University St. to Campus Ave. & turn right. University Hall is the fifth building on the left. INFO: DICK MORRIS, (951) 682-1196.

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

FEB 27 (WED) 5:30 PM WORLD OIL PEAK: RUNNING OUT OF GAS TALK
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT GREEN INSTITUTE FOR VILLIAGE EMPOWERMENT
 Dr. David L Goodstein, Caltech Professor of Physics and Applied Physics, is the speaker at this event which is free and open to the public. LOCATION: Krikorian Theaters 15 at Dos Lagos, Corona. Many experts say the global oil production has peaked or will peak soon and that there will be severe disruptions to the economy and to society as demand for oil increases while supplies dwindle. Come oto hear what Dr. Goodstein has to say about this. Reservations are requested: <info@giveforthefuture.org> 951-667-6260. Registration starts at 5:30 and the program begins at 6 PM.

MAR 2 (SUN) BEGINNING BIRD WALK AT HIDDEN VALLEY BIRDING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
 For those of you who are just beginning the wonderful pastime of bird watching, please join us for a fun, slow-paced morning of birding in one of our local wildlife habitats. Our goal will be to teach you enough basic birding techniques & identification skills so that you will feel comfortable birding on your own or joining our longer birding trips throughout the year. We will introduce you to some of our local bird species. You may be surprised at what wonderful birds can be seen! Binoculars & bird guides will be provided for use during the walk. However, please bring your own if you have them as supplies are limited. Wear comfortable walking shoes, hats & sunscreen & bring water. The walk is free & no reservations are needed. Everyone is welcome & student lists will be signed. INFO: Contact: CATHY TOBIN 951-684-9613. LEADERS: JENNIFER & MICHELLE TOBIN

MAR 2 (SUN) 3:30 PM RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE
 Join us in for an afternoon of contra dance to live music. Dance Instruction at 3:30. Dance from 4:00 to 7:00. Refreshment will be served at the break. Potluck at 7:00, so bring a dish to share. COST: \$9. PLACE: All Saints Episcopal Church, 3847 Terracina Dr., Riverside. DIRECTIONS: The church is on the corner of Terracina & Magnolia between 14th St. & Central Ave. From the 91 freeway, exit on 14th St., go north to Magnolia & turn right. The church will be on your right. Alternatively, exit at Central Ave., go north to Magnolia & turn right. The church will be on your left. INFO: MEG HOFFMAN (951) 359-6984, rdhojt@juno.com.

MAR 7 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
 Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove

United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS, (909) 825-4427, lgseekins@sbcglobal.net.

MAR 8 (SAT) BOLSA CHICA & ORANGE COUNTY COAST BIRDING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
 Please join us for what should be a great day of birding in the wetland areas of Orange County. Expect to see a large variety of wintering birds including ducks, shorebirds, grebes, herons, egrets, terns, cormorants, etc. We ought to find gulls & raptors & some song birds. With any luck we will see 50 or more species just in the morning. After birding Bolsa Chica (until around noon) we will go to Newport Back Bay or the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary to eat our lunch & finish the day. INFO & DIRECTIONS: LEADER: DORI MYERS 714-779-2201.

MAR 9 (SUN) 8:30 AM JUNIPER FLATS ACEC BOUNDARY HIKE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT FRIENDS OF JUNIPER FLATS
 This is an easy, slow paced hike along the Powerline Rd on the Juniper Flats ACEC boundary with no cross-country travel. There are lovely views of the Juniper Flats & the San Bernardino Mountains. Meet at the Victor Valley Museum on Apple Valley Rd at 8:30am. BRING snacks, water, hat, layered clothing & sunscreen. WEAR good hiking shoes/boots & don't forget your binoculars & camera! INFO: Contact LEADER: JENNY WILDER <JensOasis@aol.com> 760-220 0730.

MAR 15 (SAT) 5:00 PM EARTHSAVE VEGAN POTLUCK/PROGRAM MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT EARTHSAVE INLAND EMPIRE
 Monthly vegan potluck. PROGRAM: Call for info. TIME: 5:00 PM socialize & view diet & animal rights videos; 6:00 PM potluck dinner; 7:00 PM program. BRING own non-disposable table service including cloth napkin & a dish to serve 8 that has no animal products (meat, fish, poultry, dairy, eggs or honey). Just read the labels, or, if you prepare something, bring a recipe card of ingredients. DONATION: \$1 members, \$3 non-members. First time visitors free with potluck dish. LOCATION: University Hall, University of Redlands. DIRECTIONS: From Interstate 10, take the University St. exit in Redlands. Go north on University St. to Campus Ave. & turn right. University Hall is the fifth building on the left. INFO: DICK MORRIS, (951) 682-1196.

MAR 19 (WED) 9:00 AM CREATING A CUSTOM HABITAT CLASS
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT VICTOR VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
 AGNR 61H Grade Option (0.5 unit). Design a landscape that incorporates natural practices to create a custom habitat. Includes Habitat Gardening: plants that attract desirable wildlife such as birds & butterflies; Edible Landscapes: incorporating vegetables, herbs, & fruit trees; Plating for Seasonal Color; Allergy-Free Landscaping; Creating Outdoor Living Spaces: integrating hardscape elements such as decks, gazebos, & rockscapes into the design. 17927S 9:00 AM- 5:30PM. For more information & registration: AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, VICTOR VALLEY COLLEGE, Web site: <http://www.vvc.edu/schedule/spring2008/AGNR.htm> 18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA 92395, 760-245-4271

MAR 19 (WED) 7:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
 PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

MAR 21 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
 Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS, (909) 825-4427, lgseekins@sbcglobal.net..

APR 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.

Chapter Executive Committee

San Gorgonio Chapter Website http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org	Group Representatives	Forestry Issues San Jacinto RD Holly Owen 951-303-7922 Joyce Burk 760-252-3820	Mountains Group Chair—Dave Barrie 909-337-0313 m.barrie@worldnet.att.net Meets 2nd Monday 7:00 p.m. Except Aug & Dec. St Richard's Episcopal Church, 28708 Hwy 18, Sky Forest
Chair *Rick Estes 951-314-3328 rickestes_92595@yahoo.com	Big Bear Group *Don Jordan 909-585-8786 donjordan@silvercloud.net	Forestry Donna & Larry Charpied 760-392-4722 laronna@earthlink.net	Tahquitz Group Chair — Jeff Morgan 760-324-8696
Vice-Chair Open	Los Serranos Group *David Thorne 909-949-8046 dcthorne1@aol.com	Water Issues Terry Wold 951-684-6203 Steve Farrell 909-338-2637	Section Directory
Secretary Joan Taylor	Mojave Group *Estelle Delgado 760-241-7327 estelledelgado@verizon.net	California Wild Heritage Campaign Joyce Burk 760-252-3820	Sierra Singles Chair — Ralph Salisbury 951-686-4141 Meets 1st Tuesday, San Bernardino County Museum
Treasurer *Ladd Seekins 909-825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net	Moreno Valley *George Hague 951-924-0816	Group Directory	Natural Science Section Co-Chairs —Janice/Brian Elliott 909-985-2395
Conservation Chair *Kim Floyd 760-249-5385 kimffloyd@verizon.net	San Bernardino Mtns. Group *Dave Barrie 909-337-0313 m.barrie@worldnet.att.net	Big Bear Group Chair — Ed Wallace 909-584-9407 Meets 3rd Tuesday, Discovery Center North Shore, 6:30 p.m. www.sierraclubbigbeargroup.org	
Conservation Education Chair Open	Tahquitz Group *Joan Taylor	Los Serranos Group Chair — David Thorne 909-949-8046 dcthorne1@aol.com Meets 3rd Tuesday Upland Presbyterian Church, Ed Building 7 p.m.	
Membership Chair *Bill Cunningham 909-793-9558	Wilderness Skills/Leadership Training Ralph Salisbury 951-686-4141	Mojave Group Chair — Jenny Wilder 760-220-0730 jensoasis@aol.com Meets 2nd Wednesday except Jul. & Aug. Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17738 Francesca, Victorville 7 p.m. (just north of Bear Valley and Ridgecrest)	
Outings Chair *Ralph Salisbury 951-686-4141 ralphsalisbury@charter.net	Chapter Conservation Issue Chairs	Moreno Valley Group Chair —Michael Millsbaugh 951-653-2068	
Political Chair Elizabeth Anthony 951-658-6703 elzantho1@aol.com	Desert Issues — High Desert Kim Floyd 760-249-5385 Kimffloyd@verizon.net		
SC Council Delegate Elizabeth Anthony 951-658-6703 elzantho1@aol.com	Desert Issues —Low Desert Joan Taylor		
CNRCC Delegates *George Hague 909-924-0816 Sid Silliman 909-946-5027 gssilliman@csupomona.edu	Desert — Eagle Mountain Donna Charpied 760-392-4722 laronna@earthlink.net		
	Forestry Issues — Mountaintop RD East—Ed Wallace 909-584-9407 West—Steve Farrell 909-338-2637 Steve_and_valerie@compuserve.com		

(Continued from page 8)

APR 5 (SAT) 8:00 AM DESERT UNDER SIEGE CONFERENCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT ALLIANCE FOR RESPONSIBLE RECREATION

The member groups of the Alliance for Responsible Recreation will be holding a Conference in Joshua Tree to help find solutions to the growing Off Highway Vehicle abuses to our public & private lands. This all-day (8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.) conference will be at the Joshua Tree Community Center, 6171 Sunburst Street, Joshua Tree, CA. For details & updates contact: MEGHAN NICHOLSON 909. 827. 2506 <mnicholson@calwild.org>

APR 6 (SUN) ROBIDOUX NATURE CENTER BEGINNING BIRD WALK

For those of you who are just beginning the wonderful pastime of bird watching, please join us for a fun, slow-paced morning of birding in one of our local wildlife habitats. Our goal will be to teach you enough basic birding techniques & identification skills so that you will feel comfortable birding on your own or joining our longer birding trips throughout the year. We will introduce you to some of our local bird species. You may be surprised at what wonderful birds can be seen! Binoculars & bird guides will be provided for use during the walk. However, please bring your own if you have them as supplies are limited. Wear comfortable walking shoes, hats & sunscreen & bring water. The walk is free & no reservations are needed. Everyone is welcome & student lists will be signed. MEETING TIME & PLACE & INFO: Contact: CATHY TOBIN (951) 684-9613. LEADERS: JENNIFER & MICHELLE TOBIN

APR 6 (SUN) 3:30 PM RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE

Join us in for an afternoon of contra dance to live music. Dance Instruction at 3:30. Dance from 4:00 to 7:00. Refreshment will be served at the break. Potluck at 7:00, so bring a dish to share. COST: \$9. PLACE: All Saints Episcopal Church, 3847 Terracina Dr., Riverside. DIRECTIONS: The church is on the corner of Terracina & Magnolia between 14th St. & Central Ave. From the 91 freeway, exit on 14th St., go north to Magnolia & turn left. The church will be on your right. Alternatively, exit at Central Ave., go north to Magnolia & turn right. The church will be on your left. INFO: MEG HOFFMAN (951) 359-6984, rdhoyt@juno.com.

APR 13 (SUN) 8:00 AM JUNIPER FLATS HIKE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT FRIENDS OF JUNIPER FLATS

Join us for a lovely hike in the Juniper Flats area. Enjoy a good 6 mile round trip hike with approximately 700 feet elevation gain. Our hikes take us up over the ridges in the Juniper Flats area, into the Area of Critical Environmental Concern, Arrastre Canyon, boulder fields, riparian areas or near old mine shafts. Most hikes include great views of the Victor Valley & the mountains. Bring snacks, water, hat, layered clothing & sunscreen. Wear good hiking shoes/boots & don't forget your binoculars & camera! Meet at the Victor Valley Museum on Apple Valley Rd at 8am. For further information contact Jenny Wilder at JensOasis@aol.com (760) 220 0730

APR 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.

APR 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..

APR 19 (SAT) TORRES-MARTINEZ PONDS/SALTON SEA BIRDING FIELD TRIP
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

For the most recent information on this field trip, see the San Bernardino Valley Audubon web site <www.sbva.org>. LEADER: DAVE GOODWARD 909-783-2417

APR 19 (SAT) GREEN VALLEY EARTH FESTIVAL 2008 ENVIRONMENTAL FAIR
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT GREEN INSTITUTE FOR VILLIAGE EMPOWERMENT

GIVE is proud to sponsor this important regional community event that is partnering with prominent organizations throughout the Inland Empire for activities that all families can enjoy. The fair will be held at Dos Lagos in Corona. For more information, please see our web site: <www.giveforthefuture.org/>. Please contact us at <info@giveforthefuture.org> to let us know how you would like to be involved.

APR 19 (SAT) ORGANIC METHODS OF GARDENING CLASS
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT VICTOR VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

AGNR 61E Grade Option (0.5 unit). Introduction to the use of organic methods in cultivating vegetables, herbs, flowers, shrubs, & trees for both gardening & landscaping. Students will learn to evaluate basic soil characteristics & assess the need for soil amendments & fertilizers. Other topics include: assessing plant health; organic & natural soil amendments & fertilizers; selecting & sourcing native & climate-adapted plant materials; plant pests & natural methods for controlling them. 17915 S 9:00AM-5:30PM For more information & registration: VICTOR VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Web site: <www.vvc.edu/schedule/spring2008/AGNR.htm> 18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA 92395, 760-245-4271.

APR 19 (SAT) 5:00 PM EARTHSAVE VEGAN POTLUCK/PROGRAM MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT EARTHSAVE INLAND EMPIRE

Monthly vegan potluck. PROGRAM: Call for info. TIME: 5:00 PM socialize & view diet & animal rights videos; 6:00 PM potluck dinner; 7:00 PM program. BRING own non-disposable table service including cloth napkin & a dish to serve 8 that has no animal products (meat, fish, poultry, dairy, eggs or honey). Just read the labels, or, if you prepare something, bring a recipe card of ingredients. DONATION: \$1 members, \$3 non-members. First time visitors free with potluck dish. LOCATION: University Hall, University of Redlands. DIRECTIONS: From Interstate 10, take the University St. exit in Redlands. Go north on University St. to Campus Ave. & turn right. University Hall is the fifth building on the left. INFO: DICK MORRIS, 951-682-1196.

APR 20 (SUN) MOJAVE NARROWS BIRDING FIELD TRIP
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

Migration should be in full swing & we expect to see a lot of warblers, flycatchers (including Vermilion), tanagers (including Summer) & a variety of desert & riparian species. Come for the morning or stay all day. To be prepared for an entire day of walking: bring sturdy shoes or boots (trails can be muddy), water, lunch, & snacks. There is a snack bar (with bare minimums) at the Park. Because we hike a rather long loop trail in the morning, we typically eat lunch fairly late (1:30- 2:00), so it's best to come prepared with snacks. The last few hours before sunset we will likely visit other birding spots in the Victor Valley, including Jess Ranch, Spring Valley Lake, & the pond at Victor Valley College. For more information call Steve MYERS 951-634-9767 (days), or 760-843-4009 (evenings).

MAY 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..

MAY 3 (SAT) BIG MORONGO BIRDING FIELD TRIP
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

Join us for a morning birdwalk on the trails & roads of the preserve & surrounding areas. The first week in May is about the best time for observing migrant land birds in Southern California & Big Morongo is one of the best places for it. In addition to migrant warblers, vireos & flycatchers, we expect to see the breeding specialties including vermilion flycatcher, yellow-breasted chat, summer tanager, blue grosbeak, Bullock's oriole & hooded oriole. Weather is typically good this time of year. Bring water, snacks & lunch if you plan to make a day of it. Some of us will probably stay out all day. Who knows where the afternoon will lead us? LEADER: CHET MCGAUGH 951-781-3699

MAY 4 (SUN) FAIRMOUNT PARK BEGINNING BIRD WALK
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

For those of you who are just beginning the wonderful pastime of bird watching, please join us for a fun, slow-paced morning of birding in one of our local wildlife habitats. Our goal will be to teach you enough basic birding techniques & identification skills so that you will feel comfortable birding on your own or joining our longer birding trips throughout the year. We will introduce you to some of our local bird species. You may be

surprised at what wonderful birds can be seen! Binoculars & bird guides will be provided for use during the walk. However, please bring your own if you have them as supplies are limited. Wear comfortable walking shoes, hats & sunscreen & bring water. The walk is free & no reservations are needed. Everyone is welcome & student lists will be signed. INFO: Please contact: DOUG KARALUN (909) 425-5355. Rain or other conditions may cause last minute changes. You may call ahead to confirm location & time.

MAY 4 (SUN) BOX SPRINGS MOUNTAIN BIRDING FIELD TRIP
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

Our main target birds here will be Black-chinned, Rufous-crowned, & "Bell's" Sage Sparrows, which should be present & singing. We'll look for them & more while going on a figure eight loop hike through the fragmented chaparral & sage scrub & past several springs. A few of the other resident and/or breeding birds to be expected on the trip include Greater Roadrunner, Black-chinned & Costa's Hummingbirds, Nuttall's Woodpeckers, Wrentit, Rock & Canyon Wrens, California Thrasher, & Bullock's & Hooded Orioles. We will, of course, also be hoping for a nice crop of migrants including flycatchers, vireos, warblers, buntings, grosbeaks, & ??? Over 170 species of birds have been recorded in the Box Springs, but 40 species is a more realistic goal for this trip. We should also see some wildflowers & shrubs in bloom, & a variety of butterflies, reptiles, mammals, etc. as well. THIS INCLUDES RATTLESNAKES, which have been encountered on the trip in recent years. Other concerns include ticks, poison oak, & stinging nettle. None of these are abundant, & can be avoided with reasonable care. The walk is all on official trails, but some are narrow. The full hike is about 3.5 miles, with a couple of climbs, & a maximum elevation gain of about 650 feet. Expect to arrive back at the parking lot by lunchtime. There is a \$2 per person parking fee box. We will do a lot of walking, so wear appropriate shoes & dress comfortably in layers. Some trails may be overgrown, long pants are advised. Carry water & snacks. There are picnic tables at the parking area, so bring a lunch if you'd like to eat after the hike. Space is limited so reservations are required. LEADER: JOHN GREEN 951-686-2956.

MAY 4 (SUN) 3:30 PM RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE DANCE
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE

Join us in for an afternoon of contra dance to live music. Dance Instruction at 3:30. Dance from 4:00 to 7:00. Refreshment will be served at the break. Potluck at 7:00, so bring a dish to share. COST: \$9. PLACE: All Saints Episcopal Church, 3847 Terracina Dr., Riverside. DIRECTIONS: The church is on the corner of Terracina & Magnolia between 14th St. & Central Ave. From the 91 freeway, exit on 14th St., go north to Magnolia & turn left. The church will be on your right. Alternatively, exit at Central Ave., go north to Magnolia & turn right. The church will be on your left. INFO: MEG HOFFMAN 951-359-6984, <rdhoyt@juno.com>

MORENO VALLEY

(Continued from page 4)

to Lake Perris" on April 26, 2008. They will meet at 8:30 a.m. at Ridgecrest Elementary School, 28500 John F. Kennedy Drive, Moreno Valley. Please call the department at (951) 413-3702 for more information.

A Household Hazardous Waste Collection event will be held in Moreno Valley on March 21 and 22 and again on June 6 and 7. The event will be held at the Moreno Valley Maintenance Facility, 15670 Perris Blvd. from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day. These events are a great way to safely dispose of household hazardous materials such as old kitchen cleaners, paints, pool chemicals, antifreeze, oil, fertilizers, fiberglass and more. They also accept electronics such as televisions, cell phones, computer monitors, common batteries. Please log on to their web page at: www.rivcown.org or call 1-800-304-2226 for more information and to verify dates.

Rains in late November, December and January have saturated our local area so maybe we will be honored with a good

'crop' of wildflowers this spring. The Box Spring Mountain Regional Park, Lake Perris State Recreation Area, and the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (SJWA) are some of the local places to view wildflowers. The San Jacinto Wildlife Area is a good place to find migrating birds and other wildlife this spring. The Friends of the Northern San Jacinto offers nature walks at the SJWA. Please check their [schedule of walks at www.northfriends.org](http://www.northfriends.org). The San Jacinto Wildlife Area is located at 17050 Davis Road in Lakeview. From Riverside take the I-215 south to the Ramona Expressway; go east to Davis Road in Lakeview; turn north on Davis and continue 2.2 miles—until you come to the SJWA entrance sign.

Have you thought about volunteering with the Moreno Valley Group? There are many issues to follow here in Moreno Valley and we are looking for more volunteers. Any amount of time would be appreciated. For more information on group meetings and volunteering with the Moreno Valley Group, contact Ann McKibben at (951) 924-8150 or movalleygroup@yahoo.com, Theresa Carson, (951) 242-4752 or George Hague at (951) 924-0816.



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OF CALIFORNIA

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One Simple Way to Care for it*

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

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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 iw-fladd@eee.org.

Plan B 3.0: Mobilizing to Save Civilization

"In late summer 2007, reports of ice melting were coming at a frenetic pace. Experts were 'stunned' when an area of Arctic sea ice almost twice the size of Britain disappeared in a single week," writes Lester R. Brown in his new book, *Plan B 3.0: Mobilizing to Save Civilization* (W.W. Norton & Company).

Nearby, the Greenland ice sheet was melting so fast that huge chunks of ice weighing several billion tons were breaking off and sliding into the sea, triggering minor earthquakes," notes Brown, President and Founder of the Earth Policy Institute, a Washington, D.C.-based independent environmental research organization.

These recent developments are alarming scientists. If we cannot stop this melting of the Greenland ice sheet, sea level will eventually rise 23 feet, inundating many of the world's coastal cities and the rice-growing river deltas of Asia. It will force several hundred million people from their homes, generating an unimaginable flood of rising-sea refugees.

"We need not go beyond ice melting to see that civilization is in trouble. Business-as-usual is no longer a viable option. It is time for Plan B," Brown says in *Plan B 3.0*, which was produced with major funding from the Farview, Lannan, Summit, and Wallace Genetic foundations, the U.N.

Population Fund, Fred and Alice Stanback, and Andrew Stevenson.

"*Plan B 3.0* is a comprehensive plan for reversing the trends that are fast undermining our future. Its four overriding goals are to stabilize climate, stabilize population, eradicate poverty, and restore the earth's damaged ecosystems," says Brown. "Failure to reach any one of these goals will likely mean failure to reach the others as well".

Continuing rapid population growth is weakening governments in scores of countries. The annual addition of 70 million people to world population is concentrated in countries where water tables are falling and wells are going dry, forests are shrinking, soils are eroding, and grasslands are turning into desert. As this backlog of unresolved problems grows, stresses mount and weaker governments begin to break down.

The defining characteristic of a failing state is the inability of a government to provide security for its people. Somalia, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, and Pakistan are among the better known examples. Each year the number of failing states increases. "Failing states," notes Brown, "are an early sign of a failing civilization."

"Even as the accumulating backlog of unresolved problems is leading to a breakdown of governments in weaker states, new

stresses are emerging. Among these are rising oil prices as the world approaches peak oil, rising food prices as an ever larger share of the U.S. grain harvest is converted into fuel for cars, and the spreading fallout from climate change."

"At the heart of the climate-stabilizing initiative cited above is a detailed plan to cut carbon dioxide emissions 80 percent by 2020 in order to hold the future temperature rise to a minimum. This initiative has three major components—raising energy efficiency, developing renewable sources of energy, and expanding the earth's tree cover. Reaching these goals," says Brown, "will mean the world can phase out all coal-fired power plants."

In setting the carbon reduction goals for Plan B, we did not ask "What do politicians think is politically feasible?" but rather "What do we think is needed to prevent irreversible climate change?" This is not Plan A: business-as-usual. This is Plan B: an all-out response at wartime speed proportionate to the magnitude of the threats facing civilization.

"We are in a race between tipping points in natural and political systems," says Brown. "Which will come first? Can we mobilize the political will to phase out coal-fired power plants before the melting of the Greenland ice sheet becomes irreversible? Can we halt deforestation in the Amazon basin before it so weakens the forest that it becomes vulnerable to fire and is destroyed? Can we cut carbon emissions fast enough to save the Himalayan glaciers that feed the major rivers of Asia?"

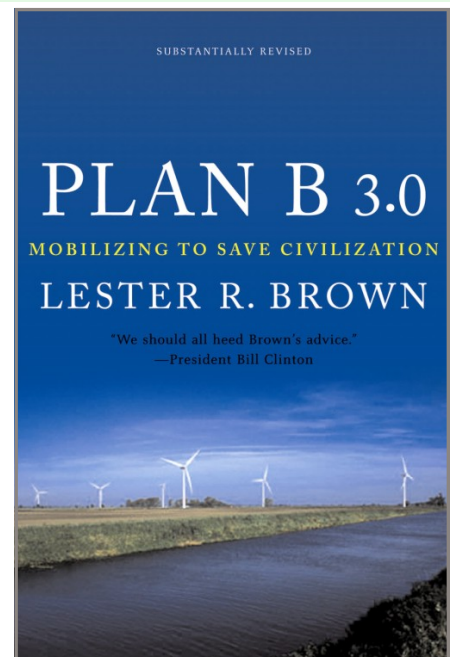
Although efforts have been made in recent decades to raise the efficiency of energy use, the potential is still largely untapped. For example, one easy and profitable way to cut carbon emissions worldwide is simply to replace incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs that use only a fourth as much electricity. Turning to more efficient lighting can reduce world electricity use by 12 percent—enough to close 705 of the world's 2,370 coal-fired power plants.

In the United States, buildings—commercial and residential—account for close to 40 percent of carbon emissions. Retrofitting an existing building typically can cut energy use by 20–50 percent. The next step, shifting to carbon-free electricity to heat, cool, and light the building completes the transformation to a zero-carbon emissions building.

We can also reduce carbon emissions by moving down the food chain. The energy used to provide the typical American diet and that used for personal transportation are roughly equal. A plant-based diet requires about one fourth as much energy as a diet rich in red meat. The reduction in carbon emissions in shifting from a red meat-rich diet to a plant-based diet is about the same as that in shifting from a Chevrolet Suburban SUV to a Toyota Prius hybrid car.

In the Plan B energy economy, wind is the centerpiece. It is abundant, low cost, and widely distributed; it scales easily and can be developed quickly. The goal is to develop at wartime speed 3 million megawatts of wind-generating capacity by 2020, enough to meet 40 percent of the world's electricity needs. This would require 1.5 million wind turbines of 2 megawatts each. These turbines could be produced on assembly lines by reopening closed automobile plants, much as bombers were assembled in auto plants during World War II.

In the development of renewable energy resources, Brown notes, we are seeing the emergence of some big-time thinking—thinking that recognizes the urgency of moving away from fossil fuels. Nowhere is this more evident than in Texas, where the



state government is coordinating an effort to build 23,000 megawatts of wind-generating capacity (the equivalent of 23 coal-fired power plants). This will supply enough electricity to satisfy the residential needs of over 11 million Texans—half the state's population. Oil wells go dry and coal seams run out, but the earth's wind resources cannot be depleted.

Solar technologies also provide exciting opportunities for getting us off the carbon treadmill. Sales of solar-electric panels are doubling every two years. Rooftop solar water heaters are spreading fast in Europe and China. In China, some 40 million homes now get their hot water from rooftop solar heaters. The plan is to nearly triple this to 110 million homes by 2020, supplying hot water to 380 million Chinese.

Large-scale solar thermal power plants are under construction or planned in California, Florida, Spain, and Algeria. Algeria, a leading world oil exporter, is planning to develop 6,000 megawatts of solar-thermal electric-generating capacity, which it will feed into the European grid via an undersea cable. The electricity generated from this single project is enough to supply the residential needs of a country the size of Switzerland.

Investment in geothermal energy for both heating and power generation is also growing fast, notes Brown. Iceland now heats nearly 90 percent of its homes with geothermal energy, virtually eliminating the use of coal for home heating. The Philippines gets 25 percent of its electricity from geothermal power plants. The United States has 61 geothermal projects under way in the geothermal rich western states.

The combination of gas-electric hybrid cars and advanced-design wind turbines has set the stage for the evolution of an entirely new automotive fuel economy. If the battery storage of the typical hybrid car is doubled and a plug-in capacity is added so that batteries can be recharged at night, then we could do our short-distance driving—commuting to work, grocery shopping, and so on—almost entirely with cheap, wind-generated electricity.

This would permit us to run our cars largely on renewable electricity—and at the gasoline-equivalent cost of less than \$1 per gallon. Several major automakers are coming to market with plug-in hybrids or electric cars.

With business as usual (Plan A), the environmental trends that are undermining our future will continue. More and more states will fail until civilization itself begins to unravel. "Time is our scarcest resource. We are crossing natural thresholds that we cannot see and violating deadlines that we

(Continued on page 11)



Huts and Lodges

Want to escape to the mountains? Try visiting one of the Sierra Club Huts or Lodges. Stay overnight at the best rates in town.

Keller Ski Hut, built in 1938 is at an elevation of 6800 feet on Highway 18 between Running Springs and Big Bear in the San Bernardino Mountains, across from Snow Valley Ski Area. An adventure pass is required. There are two rustic living/dining rooms; fully equipped kitchen with cookware, dishes, utensils, stove, refrigerator; two dormitory sleeping lofts with 30 sleeping pads on floors; and bathroom. On open weekends or work parties/overseer training, call Jacqueline Meese (714-427-0457). Keller rates: \$2.00 Day; \$8.00 overnight.

Harwood Lodge, built in 1930 to honor Aurelia Harwood, the first woman president of the Sierra Club is located in the San Gabriel Mountains on Mt. Baldy at 6000 feet elevation. It is about 2 miles after Icehouse Canyon and across from Snow Crest Park on the way up Mt. Baldy Road. The driveway on the right is shared with the Zen Center. There is a fully equipped kitchen, dormitory sleeping facilities and restrooms with showers. On Open Weekends, no reservation is required. Check in with the Overseer between 10:00 a.m. Saturday until 3:00 p.m. Sunday. Rates: \$5.00 Day; \$12.00 overnight.

San Antonio Ski Hut, built by the Ski Mountaineers in 1937. At 8200 feet, it is reached by a steep 3 mile hike with 2200 feet of gain. Rates: \$1.00 Day; \$10.00 overnight.

Open weekends for these huts and lodges can be found by visiting the Angeles Chapter Website (access through sierraclub.org) or in the Angeles Schedule of Activities.

Plan B 3.0

(Continued from page 10)

do not recognize,” says Brown. “These deadlines are set by nature. Nature is the timekeeper, but we cannot see the clock.”

The key to restructuring the world energy economy is to get the market to tell the environmental truth by incorporating into prices the indirect costs of burning fossil fuels, such as climate disruption and air pollution. To do this, we propose adopting a carbon tax that will reflect these indirect costs and offsetting it by lowering income taxes. We propose a worldwide carbon tax to be phased in at \$20 per ton each year between 2008 and 2020, stabilizing at \$240 per ton. This initiative, which would be offset at every step with a reduction in income taxes, would simultaneously discourage fossil fuel use and encourage investment in renewable sources of energy.

“Saving civilization is not a spectator sport,” says Brown. “We have reached a point in the deteriorating relationship between us and the earth’s natural systems where we all have to become political activists. Every day counts. We all have a stake in civilization’s survival.”

“We can all make lifestyle changes, but unless we

restructure the economy and do it quickly we will almost certainly fail. We need to persuade our elected representatives and national leaders to support the environmental tax restructuring and other changes outlined in Plan B. Beyond this, each of us can pick an issue that is important to us at the local level, such as phasing out coal-fired power plants, shifting to more-efficient light bulbs, or developing a comprehensive local recycling program, and get to work on it.”

We all need to educate ourselves on environmental issues. For its part, the Earth Policy Institute is making *Plan B 3.0* available for downloading free of charge from its website at www.earthpolicy.org.

“It is decision time,” says Brown. “Like earlier civilizations that got into environmental trouble, we have to make a choice. We can stay with business as usual and watch our economy decline and our civilization unravel, or we can adopt Plan B and be the generation that mobilizes to save civilization. Our generation will make the decision, but it will affect life on earth for all generations to come.”

(Permission to print granted by Janis Kauffman, Vice President, Earth Policy Institute)

To order this book or for more information, please visit www.earthpolicy.org

Spotlight on Assembly Member Wilmer Amina Carter ...Our Friend of the Environment



life of her constituents. For instance, she worked diligently with Senator Alan Lowenthal (D-Long Beach) as an Assembly Transportation Committee member and co-author on Senate Bill (SB) 974 to fund air quality and transportation projects at the mega-ports of Los Angeles, Long Beach and Oakland by assessing a fee on containers shipped through the ports. According to Carter, SB 974 allowed her to meld two pressing issues facing her district: transportation and the environment.

In addition to transportation, Carter has been extremely active on bringing the perchlorate issue to resolution. She has authored Assembly Bill (AB) 1127 to deal with perchlorate clean-up, and has co-authored SB 1002 with Senate President Pro Tempore Don Perata (D-Oakland) in order to bring money home to her district to pay for perchlorate clean-up efforts.

Before her election to the California State Assembly, Carter worked for the late Congressman George E. Brown (D-San Bernardino) as his district director for 20 years, served on the Rialto Unified School District Board of Education for four terms, 1983-1999, served in over 30 community organizations and worked on several boards of directors. Rialto’s newest comprehensive high school, **Wilmer Amina Carter High School**, is named in her honor.

She is a graduate of San Bernardino High School and of California State University at San Bernardino, where she received her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees. She is a longtime resident of the 62nd Assembly District.

California State Assembly Member Wilmer Amina Carter (D-Rialto) represents the 62nd Assembly District, which covers the cities of San Bernardino, Rialto, Fontana and Colton, along with the unincorporated areas of Bloomington and Muscoy.

Carter’s area faces a variety of environmental challenges, including air pollution and perchlorate. Because Carter has masterfully met those challenges, she has our unvarnished support for re-election.

She has worked to enhance the quality of

Island Hopping in Channel Islands National Park...Six Cruises Offered in 2008

February 9-11, 3 Islands \$475; April 4-7 or May 2-5 or July 18-21, 4 Islands \$775; August 23-27 or September 13-17 5 Islands for \$925

The wild, windswept islands of Channel Islands National Park abound with wildlife—plants, animals, birds, some known only here...All islands are ringed with rugged shorelines and dotted with sea caves. In spring the islands are ablaze with wildflowers; in summer the pristine waters of the Marine Sanctuary surrounding the islands will entice swimmers, snorkelers and kayakers. Each island offers special charm: **San Miguel** for white sandy beaches and a huge congregation of elephant seals; **Santa Rosa** for its rare stand of Torrey Pines.; **Santa Cruz** for high mountains, deep valleys and the famous Painted Cave, s; **Anacapa** for a huge brown pelican rookery, picturesque lighthouse, and excellent snorkeling waters; tiny **Santa Barbara Island** for a friendly colony of sea lions who swim with snorkelers and follow kayaks. Visitors will marvel at

remains of the rich culture left behind by the Chumash people who lived on these islands for thousands of years.

All cruises depart from Santa Barbara aboard the 68’ twin diesel **Truth**. Fee includes an assigned bunk, all meals, snacks, beverages and the services of a ranger/naturalist who will travel with us to lead hikes and point out items of interest. Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit Sierra Club’s political program in California. To make a reservation send a \$100 check, payable to Sierra Club, to Joan Jones Holtz, 11826 The Wye St., El Monte, CA 91732. For questions, contact leader (626-443-0706; jholtzhl@aol.com)



Photo by Joan Jones Holtz
Land Bridge on Santa Rosa Island.

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

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Deadlines

Deadline: 1st of the month preceding the issue date.
(Feb 1, Apr 1, Jun 1, Aug 1, Oct 1, Dec 1)

Submission

E-mail copy directly to ralphsalisbury@charter.net
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.

The Desert Institute Classes

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

Feb. 29 & Mar. 1, 2008 Map & Compass Basic Skills - Do you want the confidence to explore the desert and not get lost? Outdoor guide, Karl VonHalle, will teach participants how to navigate the desert landscape using a map and compass in this two-day hands-on field class.

March 1 & 2, 2008 Native Californian Basket Weaving - Join William Pink to be introduced to the world of basket weaving arts in this two-day class. Participants will learn from Pink, a master native skills teacher, to identify and prepare materials for weaving, use traditional and modern weaving tools, and begin weaving baskets.

March 2, 2008 Map & Compass Advanced Skills - Hone your route finding ability with this advanced map and compass field class. During this all-day desert adventure you will travel approximately 8 miles; prerequisite Map & Compass Basic Skills or prior map and compass abilities, call if you have any questions.

March 7 & 8, 2008 Photography: Nature to the Digital Studio - Capture the beauty of Joshua Tree National Park through your camera lens and learn how to enhance your images in a digital studio. Artist and educator Spelman Evans Downer will teach participants to develop their personal photography styles against the backdrop of the Mojave Desert and how to manipulate images using Adobe Photoshop in this two-day field class.

March 8, 2008 Advanced Wilderness Navigation - Learn how to explore the desert using advanced navigation techniques with Karl VonHalle, wilderness traveler, educator, and member of Joshua Tree Search and Rescue. Be prepared to spend a day covering up to six miles with moderate boulder scrambling. Prerequisite Map & Compass Basic Skills or prior map and compass abilities, call if you have any questions.

March 9, 2008 Queen Mountain: A View from the Top - Queen Mountain in Joshua Tree National Park lies off the beaten path, unmarked by trails, waiting for those who desire a unique adventure. Travel cross country with outdoor guide and naturalist, Mark Wheeler, to the top of Queen Mountain with this all day field class offered by the Desert Institute. Participants should expect a strenuous eight mile hike with a total elevation gain and loss of 2,400 ft.

March 9, 2008 Native Californian Plant Cordage - Enhance your primitive skills and indigenous knowledge with William Pink, a native teacher and Cupeno/Luiseno Indian, in this one-day plant cordage class.

March 14 - 16, 2008 Rocks & Minerals of JTNP (University credit optional) - Bruce Bridenbecker, professor of physical science at Copper Mountain College, will explain the critical principles that shaped the rocks and minerals of this area into the blonde granite and pre-Cambrian gneiss which are iconic of the Mojave and/or Colorado Deserts during this combined three day lecture and field class.

March 15, 2008 Watercolor Painting in the Park - Indulge your creativity with a day of painting in Joshua Tree National Park. Immersed in the desert landscape to inspire creativity, Audrey Gillick, artist and instructor, will help students shift the desert scenery to paper with watercolor paint.

March 16, 2008 Botanical Drawing: A Visual Journey - Plein-air artists, educators, and students alike will benefit from this unique opportunity to make a visual journal of the diverse desert plant life in Joshua Tree National Park. Donald Davidson, illustrator, educator, and artist, will teach drawing and compositional skills geared to assist participants enhance their rendering of botanical forms.

March 22, 2008 Wildflower Wanderings - Saturate your senses with the beauty of a wildflower bloom in Joshua Tree National Park. Park Ranger, Dar Spearing will lead this all day field class on a tour through the colorful flowers of a desert spring.

March 29, 2008 Desert Night Sky - Have you wondered how tell a planet from a star or how to navigate by the night sky? Join David Chappell, associate professor of astronomy and physics at La Verne University, to explore the stars, planets, nebulae, and galaxies that form our cosmic environment. This class will start inside and then move to the field for a guided exploration using sight, binoculars, and telescopes to discover the universe that surrounds us.

March 29 & 30, 2008 Flora of Joshua Tree National Park (University credit optional) - Learn the secret of how plants survive in some of the hottest deserts in the world in this two day field class offered by the Desert Institute. Jim Andre and Alan Romsperg will guide the class in the identification of desert flora while unfolding the story of how plants have adapted to flourish in a land with little rain.

March 30, 2008 Explore the Colorado Desert - Learn the secrets of the Colorado Desert in this all day field class with outdoor guide and naturalist Mark Wheeler. Participants will explore the landscape learning about the ecology and geology of the southern portion of Joshua Tree National Park.

April 5, 2008 Human Footprint: Impacts on JTNP - Learn how the wilderness of Joshua Tree National Park is influenced by urban and suburban life. Mark Wheeler, naturalist and outdoor guide, will lead participants on an eight mile trek to view some of the impacts humans have made on the park.

April 5 & 6, 2008 Desert Literature - Be inspired by the literature of the desert! Michel Walker, who has taught numerous classes in environmental literature from Texas to Nevada, will present excerpts from some of the most influential authors in this two-day classroom and field class at Joshua Tree National Park.

April 6, 2008 Reptiles of the Desert - For those who possess a degree of cold-blooded fascination, this field course will give a new perspective on the diversity of reptiles that inhabit Southern California's deserts. Wildlife biologist William Hayes will introduce participants to a remarkable variety of tortoises, lizards, and snakes in both the classroom and in the field.

April 11 & 12, 2008 Tracking in Joshua Tree National Park - Investigate and learn about the natural world in this two day tracking field class. Jim Lowery, primitive skills teacher and author of The Trackers Field Guide, will explain how to read the signs and tracks that create natural stories on the desert landscape.

April 11 - 13, 2008 Plant Ecology of Joshua Tree National Park (University credit optional) - Discover the remarkable adaptations that allow plants to flourish in one of the hottest deserts in the world. Stefanie Ritter, professor of biology at Copper Mountain College, will guide the class in the identification of desert flora while unfolding the biological story of resilience and perseverance in an environment of heat, wind, and sand in this three day field class in Joshua Tree National Park.

April 18 & 19, 2008 Photography Up Close & Personal - Record the beautiful intricacy of Joshua Tree National Park using macro photography in this two-day field class. Spelman Evans Downer, artist and educator, will teach participants the secret of small scale picture composition and encourage the development of unique photographic styles.

April 18 & 19, 2008 Map & Compass Basic Skills - Do you want the confidence to explore the desert and not get lost? Outdoor guide, Karl VonHalle will teach participants how to navigate the desert landscape using a map and compass in this two day hands on field class.

April 20, 2008 Map & Compass Advanced Skills - Hone your route finding ability with this advanced map and compass field class. During this all-day desert adventure you will travel approximately 8 miles; prerequisite Map & Compass Basic Skills or prior map and compass abilities, call if you have any questions.

April 20, 2008 Desert Pollinators - Learn the fascinating story of desert pollination in this all day field class. Kurt Leuschner, wildlife ecologist, will explain the important and fragile science of pollination ecology in Mojave and Colorado Deserts.

April 26, 2008 Rare Species of Joshua Tree National Park - Joshua Tree National Park is a land of diversity, with ecosystems of the high, cool Mojave Desert and the low, hot Colorado Desert all within its boundaries. Katie Barrows, botanist specializing in endangered species, will explain what animals and plants are considered rare, threatened, or endangered and why in this one-day field class.

April 26 & 27, 2008 Paleontology of Southern California - Discover the prehistoric past of Joshua Tree National Park with paleontologists Kathleen Springer, Eric Scott, and Chris Sagebiel in this two-day field class.

April 27, 2008 Desert Fire Ecology - Todd Esque, fire ecologist for the USGS Western Ecological Research Center, will discuss the hot topic of how fire is changing the face of the Mojave and Colorado Deserts in this one-day field class in Joshua Tree National Park.

May 2 - 4 Birds of Joshua Tree National Park

May 3 Plein Air Poetry @



Volunteers Wanted for Bighorn Sheep Survey

Lytle Creek, CA...Volunteers are needed on March 1 and 2, 2008 (Saturday evening and all day Sunday) to assist in the annual survey of bighorn sheep in the San Gabriel Mountains. The California Department of Fish and Game, USDA Forest Service, and the Society for Conservation of Bighorn Sheep have conducted annual surveys for bighorn sheep in the San Gabriel range since 1979. The mountain range once held an estimated 740 bighorn sheep, which made the San Gabriel population the largest population of desert bighorn sheep in California. The population declined over 80% through the 1980's but appears to be on the increase, with recent estimates yielding approximately 300 bighorn sheep.

Volunteers will hike to designated observation sites in the San Gabriel Mountains on Sunday and count and record bighorn sheep observed. Each volunteer group will be led by a representative from the Society for the Conservation of Bighorn Sheep or the Forest Service. Survey participants must be at least 16 years old and capable of

hiking one mile on rugged terrain, though most routes will be longer. Most of the hikes are not on trails, and may involve scrambling over boulders, climbing steep slopes, or bush-whacking through chaparral. No survey experience is necessary however, volunteers must attend a mandatory orientation at 6:00 PM on Saturday, March 1, at Day Creek Intermediate School, in Rancho Cucamonga. Complimentary campsites are available to volunteers on a first-come basis at the Applewhite Campground in Lytle Creek and Mt. Baldy RV Park in Mt. Baldy. Participants are encouraged to camp because they will need to hit the trail early Sunday. Volunteers should bring binoculars or spotting scopes as well as FRS/GMRS radios in addition to hiking gear. Mountain weather can be unpredictable and volunteers should be prepared to spend several hours hiking and additional time making observations in cold and windy weather. Please call the Lytle Creek Ranger Station at 909/382-2851 as soon as possible to sign-up.

2007 Minerva Hoyt California Desert Conservation Award

Twentynine Palms, CA, January 25, 2008 – John Wohlmuth and the Coachella Valley Association of Governments are the recipients of the 2007 Minerva Hoyt California Desert Conservation Award for the development and implementation of the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (CVMSHCP). This plan provides a regional vision for balanced growth to meet the requirements of federal and state endangered species laws, while promoting enhanced opportunities for recreation, tourism and job growth. After ten years of planning and review, the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan is complete, approved and moving toward full adoption.

The diverse desert landscape of the Coachella Valley provides habitat for dozens of plant and animal species, some found no where else in the world. One of the fastest growing areas in rapidly expanding Riverside County, the Valley has a projected population growth of 600,000 over the next 13 years. The CVMSHCP aims to conserve over 240,000 acres of open space and protect 27 plant and animal species. By providing comprehensive compliance with federal and state endangered laws, the Plan not only safeguards the desert's natural heritage for future generations, it allows for more timely construction of roads and other infrastructure that is essential to improving quality of life in the Coachella Valley. Plan benefits are:

- Safeguards significant habitat linkages and wildlife corridors that enable animals to move safely from one habitat area to another.
- Assures critical freeway and freeway interchange projects can be built without delays resulting from endangered species conflicts.

- Offers certainty for the business community ultimately making the Coachella Valley a more attractive place for businesses to relocate or expand.

Joshua Tree National Park Association is pleased to recognize the accomplishments of John Wohlmuth and the Coachella Valley Association of Governments with this award. Although the Plan has statewide ramifications, and protects and conserves natural desert landscapes outside of Joshua Tree National Park, it has particular value to the Park, effectively adding tens of thousands of acres to conservation zones that lie along the southern Park boundaries and ensuring important ecological linkages to vital habitat for dozens of native species.

The Minerva Hoyt California Desert Conservation Award was created in 2004 to honor Minerva Hoyt and others who have made notable achievements in the areas of leadership, protection, preservation, research, education, and/or stewardship on behalf of California deserts. Known as the "Apostle of the Cacti," Mrs. Hoyt dedicated herself to preserving the desert and lobbied Congress and President Franklin D. Roosevelt who established Joshua Tree National Monument in 1936.

Minerva Hoyt would indeed be proud of their efforts and achievements on behalf of the California desert that she loved so much. Previous recipients have been The Wildlands Conservancy and David Myers, Donna and Larry Charpiet, and Susan Luckie Reilly.

For information about the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, please visit www.cvmshcp.org. For further information about the Minerva Hoyt California Desert Conservation Award, please contact Nancy Downer at 760-367-5537.

Out of the Wild & into the Garden

....California's Horticulturally Significant Plants VI—A Symposium (April 16-19, 2008)

The Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden located in Claremont will be hosting their sixth California Native Plant symposium April 16-19.

It will feature socials, keynote speaker, Friday dinner, garden tours and a plant sale will be held at the Botanic Garden on Saturday. The conference fee is \$435.

The knowledgeable and highly motivating speakers will cover a very wide range of native plant topics.

A look at just a few titles will give you an idea: "California Native Plants for Perennial Borders", "Growing Baja California Desert Plants", "Native Plant Horticulture Myths & Legends", "Horticulture Tips for Hot Climates", "Native California Butterflies in Your Garden", "Propagation of Native Plants" and "All Season Performers."

For more information visit www.rsabg.org or call Cotton Coslett at 909-625-8767 ext. 224.