

Sierra Club **YODELER**

More articles and more details at www.TheYodeler.org

90th Anniversary Celebration November 19th

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY CHAPTER • theYodeler.org • OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2014

Vote environment this fall

For articles about many of these endorsements, see pages 1-3 and 8. More endorsements may be made before Election Day. For an up-to-date list, see www.sfbay.sierraclub.org/endorsements.

Statewide endorsements

Attorney General Kamala Harris	Secretary of State Alex Padilla
Controller Betty Yee	Supt. of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson
Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones	Treasurer John Chiang

San Francisco endorsements

House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi (District 12)	Yes on Proposition A Transportation Bond
State Assembly David Campos (District 17)	Yes on Proposition B Transportation Funding
Board of Supervisors Jane Kim (District 6)	Yes on Proposition F Pier 70
Tony Kelly (District 10, 1st choice)	Yes on Proposition G Anti-Speculation Tax
Ed Donaldson (District 10, 2nd choice)	Yes on Proposition H Fields Renovation Act
Superior Court Judge Daniel Flores	No on Proposition I Parks Poison Pill
BART Board Nicholas Josefowitz (District 8)	Yes on Proposition K Affordable Housing Goals
City College of S.F. Board John Rizzo	No on Proposition L Don't Reverse Transit First



Faces of some of the many candidates the Sierra Club has endorsed for the November election.

East Bay endorsements

House of Representatives Mike Thompson (District 5)	Berkeley City Council Linda Maio (District 1)	Oakland City Council Shereda Nosakhare (District 6, 2nd choice)	San Leandro City Council Corina Lopez (District 5)
Mark DeSaulnier (District 11)	Jesse Arreguin (District 4)	Yes on Oakland Measure FF Minimum Wage Increase	Union City City Council Emily Duncan
Barbara Lee (District 13)	Kriss Worthington (District 7)	Richmond Mayor Tom Butt	No on Union City Measure KK Flatlands Development
Mike Honda (District 17)	George Beier (District 8)	Richmond City Council Jovanka Beckles	Marin County endorsements
State Assembly Elizabeth Echols (District 15)	Yes on Berkeley Measure F Special Parks Parcel Tax	Eduardo Martinez	House of Representatives Jared Huffman (District 2)
Tim Sbranti (District 16)	Yes on Berkeley Measure Q Flexible Work Time	Gayle McLaughlin	State Senate Mike McGuire (District 2)
Kansen Chu (District 25)	No on Dublin Measure T Save Doolan Canyon	Jael Myrick	Marin Muni. Water District Larry Bragman
BART Board Robert Raburn (District 4)	El Cerrito City Council Janet Abelson	Yes on Richmond Measure U Parks Tax	
EBMUD Board Marguerite Young (Ward 3)	Gabriel Quinto	San Leandro Mayor Pauline Cutter	
Andy Katz (Ward 4)	Yes on El Cerrito Measure R Preserve City Services		
East Bay Regional Park District Board Ayn Wieskamp	Emeryville City Council Dianne Martinez		
West County Wastewater District Board Leonard McNeil	Scott Donahue		
Shirley Wysinger	Fremont City Council David Bonaccorsi		
Yes on Alameda County Measure BB Transportation Funding	Raj Salwan		
Alameda City Council Frank Matarrese	Moraga Town Council Dave Trotter		
Berkeley Rent Board Katherine Harr	Oakland City Council Annie Campbell		
Jesse Townley	Washington (District 4)		
	Michael Johnson (District 6, 1st choice)		

October Solar Homes Special!

Bring the **Sierra Club's Solar Homes Campaign** to your home. A Club partnership with Sungevity makes it easy to put solar on your rooftop with little upfront cost. You pay through your monthly energy bill, and an average Sungevity customer saves 15% on electricity costs. For October only, your participation will be rewarded even more: Sungevity will give you a \$1,000 discount and give \$1,000 to the Sierra Club for every home that goes solar. Visit: www.SierraClub.org/solarhomes online for a free solar iQuote, or contact the Sierra Club solar-homes coordinator at (415)977-5668.

Chapter elections just around the corner

Ballot for your Executive Committee representatives in next Yodeler

The December-January Yodeler will include the paper ballot for this year's elections of the Executive Committees (ExComms) of the Bay Chapter and its eight local groups. ExComms are the Chapter's decision-making boards, overseeing budgets, administering activities, deciding local conservation policy, and endorsing political candidates. Voting is an important way to participate in setting policy priorities and direction for the Sierra Club.

You can also vote electronically. In mid-November all Chapter members (whose email addresses we have on file) will receive an email with a link to the ballot. If you wish to vote electronically but do not receive that email, you will find a link to the voting site in the December-January Yodeler. You can also sign up to receive email communications from the Chapter at:

<http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/updates>.

Now is a good time to check that your membership is up-to-date and that you are registered in the correct local group. Look at the mailing label on this Yodeler; if you are a Bay Chapter member, your eight-digit membership should appear in the line above your name. Following this is a four-digit number beginning with "010". This number designates your local group:

Number	Group
0100	No group affiliation
0102	Marin
0103	Mount Diablo
0104	San Francisco
0105	Delta



Director Michelle Myers at a rally against the proposed Beach Chalet project in Golden Gate Park. This issue is on the November ballot.

Support green candidates at Chapter PAC fundraiser

Sun., Oct. 5, 3-5 pm, 149 Purdue Ave., Kensington. This year, there are many critical races where we can make a difference—but we can't do it without your support. Make the environment the victor this November by supporting the Bay Chapter's political program at a special event at the home of Randy Weiss.

Please join us and bring your friends and family. It should be a fun evening and a great opportunity for you to learn more about the candidates and issues we've endorsed. You'll enjoy good food and music and hobnob with politicians, Chapter leaders, and activists.

Thank you to our host committee members: Nancy Skinner, Sunny Saperstein, Olga Bolotina, Norman LaForce, John Rizzo, Nick



Number	Group
0106	West Contra Costa
0107	Southern Alameda County
0108	Northern Alameda County
0109	TriValley

For a map of approximate group boundaries, see the map on page E. If your label indicates you are not in the group you wish to be in, call (415)977-5653 or email:

member.services@sierraclub.org.

After your membership and group numbers, the Yodeler mailing label will list SNGL for a single membership (one vote) or JNT for a joint membership (two votes—one for each member). If there are any errors in your membership number or address, notify Sierra Club Member Services at (415)977-5653 or: address.changes@sierraclub.org.

Now is the time to act so that your record in the Club database can be correct in time for the election's eligibility cutoff.

Save the date for the Chapter's 90th anniversary celebration

Celebrate the Chapter's achievements and the activists who have help shape the Bay Area over the last 90 years.

WHEN: Wed., Nov. 19th, 6 pm

WHERE: The New Parish, Oakland

For details, tickets, and sponsorship info go to <http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/BayChapter90th> or contact Lauren Wertz at lauren@sfbaysc.org or (510)848-0800 ext. 321.

Pilch, Judy Pope, Igor Tregub, Lisa Hoyos, Liz Pallatto, and Rev. Earl Koteen.

You can make the biggest impact by becoming an event Sponsor at the following levels:

- \$1,000 – "Commander-in-Chief"
- \$750 – "Vice-President"
- \$500 – "Senator"
- \$300 – "Congressperson"
- \$250 – "Assemblyperson"
- \$100 – "City Council Member"

Checks should be made out to "Sierra Club, SF Bay Chapter PAC" and mailed to our office:

2530 San Pablo Ave., Suite 1
Berkeley, CA 94702,

or you can donate online at:

<http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/pacfundraiser>.

SIERRA CLUB YODELER

Volume 77 • Number 5
October-November 2014
Sierra Club Yodeler (ISSN 8750-5681) is published bi-monthly (issues are dated Feb.-March, April-May, June-July, Aug.-Sep., Oct.-Nov., and Dec.-Jan.) by the San Francisco Bay Chapter of the

Sierra Club
2530 San Pablo Ave., Suite 1
Berkeley, CA 94702
(510)848-0800

Monday - Thursday, 10:00 - 5:00
Friday, 10:00 - 2:00
yodedit@sfbaysc.org

EDITOR

Virginia Reinhart

ADVERTISING MANAGER

Ellen Felker

DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS

Photoshop Gurus

Gene Anderson, Monica DuClaud

Subscription Manager

Lev Pope

Editorial and Production Help

Alex Ghenis, Yvonne Steffen, Pat Yarbrough

Distribution

Yvette Simpson, Christina Oldenburg, Charlotte Rieger, Lucy Henderson, Rita Stein, Janess Hanson, Jim Bonsey, Ray Gordon, Virginia Goeckner

Chapter Chair

Becky Evans (415)775-3309

POSTMASTER

Send change of address to Sierra Club Yodeler, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Suite 1, Berkeley, CA 94702. Periodicals postage paid at Berkeley, CA, and additional mailing offices. Printed at Fricke-Parks Press, Inc., 33250 Transit Ave., Union City, CA 94587. Copyright San Francisco Bay Chapter Sierra Club, Sierra Club Yodeler 2014

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual Sierra Club dues are \$39 and include a subscription to the Yodeler for Bay Chapter members. Subscriptions for non-members and for members of other chapters are \$8. Send check payable to "Sierra Club" to: Sierra Club Yodeler Subscriptions, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Suite 1, Berkeley, CA 94702. Specify your preferred starting issue.

ADDRESS CHANGES

Sierra Club Membership Services
P.O. Box 421042
Palm Coast, FL 32142-1042
address.changes@sierraclub.org
(415)977-5649

ADVERTISING

For information about display advertising contact Ellen Felker at (510)548-0725 or: ellen@sfbaysc.org
For information about Classifieds see Classifieds page.

SUBMISSIONS AND VOLUNTEERING

To find out more, call editor at (510)848-0800.

Departments

Chapter News 2, 7, 10-11
Endorsements 1, 3-4, 8-9
Conservation News..... C, 5-7
Volunteering 2, 7
Classifieds 10
Events and Activities..... A-D
Groups..... D-E

Sierra Club online

Visit the online portal to the Sierra Club at: <http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/onlineportal>.

From this page you can access:

- all the resources on the Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter website;
- Chapter Activities and Events Calendar;
- a directory of Chapter leaders;
- the Chapter's social media pages, including Facebook.com/SierraClubSFBayChapter and Twitter (@SFBaySierraClub).

Take the pledge!

Help elect green candidates

This election year you have an opportunity to build Sierra Club's influence and power in the Bay Area. Join your fellow Club members and take the pledge to volunteer at least 10 hours between now and November 4 for a candidate or ballot measure the Club has endorsed. You can read all about our endorsements in this issue, or online at:

<http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/endorsements>.

Volunteering in campaigns is engaging and fun! You'll meet great people and learn more about your community and the issues that move it. Take the pledge now at

<http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/takethepledge>,

or contact Ben Alvers at (510)848-0800 or ben.alvers@sierraclub.org.

Ten hours over the next two months: a small investment with a big payoff.

Buying or Selling a Home? Support the Chapter at Zero Cost!

My Broker Donates connects you with the best-in-market agents who donate to the Sierra Club Bay Chapter.



MyBrokerDonates.com
415.300.0432
888.488.7188



*Pull out this Endorsements Supplement and take it with you to your polling place on November 4th!

Endorsements

East Bay.....2-3, H
San Francisco.....H-I
Marin County.....I

East Bay Endorsements

Mark DeSaulnier for House of Representatives (District 11)

If there were ever a candidate best qualified to follow in the large footsteps of George Miller, it's Mark DeSaulnier, whom the Sierra Club heartily endorses. Currently a member of the State Senate, DeSaulnier has been a champion for transportation improvements, affordable housing, and fighting climate change, and has previously been endorsed by the Club as a Contra Costa County Supervisor and in both houses at the state legislature. DeSaulnier's sense of humor and openness would make him a congressman who could even improve the broken working environment in Washington.

<http://desaulnierforcongress.com>

Mike Honda for House of Representatives (District 17)

Congressman Honda is a long-time fighter for social and environmental justice, recognizing the importance of the "triple bottom line" (environment, economy, equity) in his campaign materials. He is also a Prius owner. Honda counts among his achievements environmental victories such as preserving open space and authorship of the Global Warming Education Act. Honda is a long-time Sierra club supporter and endorsee.

<http://mikehonda.com>

Elizabeth Echols for State Assembly (District 15)

When it comes to clean energy and green technology, Elizabeth Echols has the experience we need to make California a leader in environmental protection and expand our green economy.

As the Director of the U.S. Green Building Council's Northern California Chapter, Echols worked with state legislators, labor, industry and environmental groups all over California. She has also fought for more opportunities for undeserved communities in the clean-tech industry. A champion for combating climate change, enforcing air-quality standards, cleaning up our coastlines, and reducing carbon emissions, Echols has also been endorsed by the California League of Conservation Voters.

In the State Assembly, Elizabeth will stand up for a moratorium on fracking, combat climate change by promoting energy efficiency and clean technology, preserve the Bay and expand parks and open space, improve air quality by holding

polluters accountable and investing in affordable public transportation, and strengthen California's leadership in innovation and clean technology.

www.echolsforassembly.com

Tim Sbranti for State Assembly (District 16)

As Mayor of Dublin, Tim Sbranti's leadership helped the city become a regional leader in protecting the environment. Dublin was the fourth city in the Bay Area to adopt a Climate Action Plan that promotes smart growth, and virtually every city-owned building is powered by solar energy. To conserve precious water resources, Dublin has acted aggressively to ensure that recycled water is used on parks and medians in all new developments. Sbranti has fought to preserve urban limit lines in the Tri-Valley and ensure that our communities have dedicated open space.

In the Assembly, Sbranti will use his experience to build on California's success in using renewable energy and combating climate change. Sbranti will also pursue smart environmental policies that combat the drought by promoting effective water-conservation measures. Sbranti will also fight against any efforts to harm the Delta by diverting precious water resources.

<http://timsbranti.com>

Robert Raburn for BART Board of Directors (District 4)

Robert Raburn represents Alameda and parts of Oakland, Piedmont, and San Leandro, and as a hard-working environmentalist, deserves to be re-elected. Raburn has been a leader at moving the emphasis off of building high-cost, low-ridership extensions and focusing instead on the core system. Rehabilitating the core is vital if the goal of SB 375—less driving to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions—is to be met. He is also a noted bicycle advocate, and there have been real improvements in bicycle access to BART stations since he took office.

www.robertraburn.com

Marguerite Young for EBMUD Board of Directors (Ward 3)

Marguerite Young has been endorsed by the Sierra Club in her bid to unseat incumbent Katy Foulkes in representing Ward 3 on the EBMUD Board. Young brings with her a long history of activism in environmental and labor organizations in the East Bay and a thorough understanding of the challenges facing EBMUD. Her background ranges from water policy to financing to water quality and river protection. Adaptation to climate change, watershed stewardship, and getting the Mokelumne River placed under Wild and Scenic protection will be major emphases. Young plans to promote aggressive infrastructure upgrades and sustainable solutions for water supply and wastewater treatment. She is an advocate for workers and for reasonable rates for those who use water efficiently. If elected, Young would replace 20-year veteran Director Katy Foulkes, who has taken positions of concern to Sierra Club and fellow environmental organizations throughout her tenure.

www.young4ebmud.org

Ayn Wieskamp for East Bay Regional Park District Board (Ward 5)

Ayn Wieskamp has served on the Board since 1998, and this year, she faces a challenger. While Wieskamp has not always agreed with the views of the Sierra Club, she is a strong advocate for saving Tesla Valley from being destroyed as an Off Road Vehicle Joy Ride Park, and for preserving its endangered species and natural beauty. She also supports the initiative to protect Dublin's open space. Wieskamp is a hardworking member of the board who knows the Park District issues and who respects our work.



Vote YES on Alameda County Measure BB: Transportation Expenditure Plan

The Sierra Club joins organizations including the League of Conservation Voters, League of Women's Voters, TransForm, and Bike East Bay in support of the \$7.8 billion Transportation Expenditure Plan. With this measure, traffic congestion and air pollution will decrease below what they would be without it, because vehicle miles traveled will drop below the rate of population growth. Measure BB will provide a much-needed reinvestment in transit services and keep transit affordable for seniors, youth, and disabled people. It will upgrade BART in Alameda County, getting it closer to the State of Good Repair. Measure BB includes a detailed plan backed by the best possible (AAA) bond rating with independent citizens' oversight, annual financial audits, and strict performance measures for all funding recipients. It will also generate good construction jobs and project labor agreements in Alameda County.

www.YesonBB.org

Frank Matarrese for Alameda City Council

We wholeheartedly endorse former Alameda City Councilmember Frank Matarrese in his bid to return to the City Council. Matarrese actively supported both recent citizen initiatives to protect parkland in Alameda. He recognizes the depth of the environmental and fiscal issues still facing Alameda: cleanup at Alameda Point, sea-level rise, reconciling development with negative traffic consequences on the island city, funding for parkland, and balancing Alameda's budget with looming payment obligations for employee benefits, among others. Matarrese has practical and realistic ideas for tackling these problems, and has a record of being able to work with others who have different perspectives to achieve results.

<http://frankmatarreseforcitycouncil2014.com>

Linda Maio for Berkeley City Council (District 1)

Vice Mayor Linda Maio has promoted sound environmental stewardship and the creation of new affordable housing over the course of decades. Her office recently brokered an agreement with Berkeley Asphalt to cut volatile organic emissions by 50%. She also spearheaded Berkeley's Watershed Management Plan, which includes storm water retention wells, filtration, and permeable street paving, and a shovel-ready redesign of the Gilman/I-80 interchange, which promises to enhance bicycle and pedestrian safety. Vice Mayor Maio partnered with the Sierra Club to author one of the first city council resolutions in support of regulating the transport of crude oil by rail in Berkeley and the Bay Area, and has followed up by leading the California delegation in Washington, DC to press the Department of Transportation to more effectively regulate the railroads.

www.lindamaio.org

Jesse Arreguin for Berkeley City Council (District 4)

A Sierra Club Bay Chapter leader before his election to the Council, Jesse has led efforts to amend city laws to: allow urban agriculture in residential areas; create affordable housing along transit corridors; protect Aquatic Park; expand parks and open space; advocate for a pedestrian plaza on Center Street; support Community Choice Aggregation; ban plastic bags; increase opportunities for recycling and composting; and promote water conservation, energy efficiency, and green building. Arreguin has also advocated for sustainable, transit-oriented development downtown and for making downtown a green city center. Councilmember Arreguin has been an environmental champion during his six years on the city council, and has authored over 300 bills, most of which became city law.

www.jesseforberkeley.org

Kriss Worthington for Berkeley City Council (District 7)

Councilmember Kriss Worthington has supported and championed all of the Sierra Club Northern Alameda County Group's positions over the course of his past term in office. He has proposed and won a fossil-free Berkeley city investment policy and is now working to expand this achievement to the University of California. In response to students being threatened with fines for recycling, he advocated for a mandatory recycling and compost ordinance that requires property owners to provide third bins. He created the EcoPass, which incentivized the use of public transportation by city employees. He sponsored the Zero Waste Initiative that mandates Reduce, Recycle, and Reuse principles and serves as a model for cities nationwide. He has successfully fought for more community benefits, affordable housing, and transportation improvements.

www.worthingtonworks2014.com



continued from previous page

George Beier for Berkeley City Council (District 8)

Beier has been a community activist and environmental leader for the last 20 years. He has worked hard to improve public transit, provide funding for Berkeley's parks, and is committed to providing all Berkeleyans safe and free access to outdoor recreation, including pools. He is an effective leader and organizer and will rally Berkeleyans around achieving our zero-waste and climate-action goals.

<http://georgebeier.com>

Katherine Harr and Jesse Townley for Berkeley Rent Stabilization Board

The Sierra Club endorses Rent Board Vice Chair Katherine Harr and Commissioner Jesse Townley for another term on the Rent Board. Both commissioners have worked hard to expand recycling and composting opportunities in multi-family buildings as well as important seismic safety measures that not only save lives, but would lead to less energy-intensive rehabilitation efforts in the event of a major earthquake. They have both advocated for community benefits such as robust affordable housing, open space, and a transportation services fee paid by developers of new residential housing downtown. They have a command for how preserving and creating new affordable housing ties into the environmental principles of the Sierra Club and helps reduce greenhouse-gas emissions.

YES on Berkeley Measure F: Parks Tax

The City of Berkeley maintains a total of 52 parks, 30 park buildings, 100 pathways (including sections of the Bay Trail), and 35,000 trees. Population growth has increased both the use and costs of keeping the parks safe and clean, while time and weather have taken a toll on recreational facilities, which urgently need repair.

Despite staff reductions and other cutbacks, the parks budget faces a deficit. Without a modest increase in the parks tax, which Measure F would provide, it will be necessary to cut programs and services, reduce landscaping and tree care, and possibly close some parks and other facilities.

www.healthyberkeleyparks.com

YES on Berkeley Measure Q: Flexible Work Time

This advisory initiative calls on the city, state, and federal government to pass laws that make it easier to choose flexible working arrangements, such as part-time work and telecommuting. In 2013, similar laws were passed in San Francisco and Vermont. In 2014, President Obama applied this policy to federal

4 Sierra Club Yodeler Endorsements Supplement October-November 2014

employees. Similar laws have long been successful in Europe. Our standard work week was adopted when families were expected to have stay-at-home mothers. Today, most American families have no stay-at-home parent and need flexibility to balance work and family obligations. There are also environmental benefits to flexible work time, as these laws let people choose to live more simply. Academic research shows that shorter work time reduces ecological footprint and carbon emissions.



NO on Dublin Measure T: Protect Doolan Canyon

Measure T is developer Pacific Union Land Company's counter-initiative to the Sierra Club-supported Dublin Open Space Initiative. Billed as giving Dublin local control over Doolan Canyon, Measure T is designed to confuse voters into expanding Dublin's eastern urban limit line and allowing Pacific Union to build a 2,000-unit residential subdivision in Doolan Canyon.

Measure T would gut the Open Space Initiative, which established an urban limit line along the eastern city limits and protected rural Doolan Canyon. Measure T would expand Dublin's urban limit line by 1,650 acres into Doolan Canyon, direct Dublin to pursue annexation of the area (removing county protection), and authorize urban sprawl without further voter approval. Pacific Union's massive residential subdivision would destroy wildlife habitat in the canyon, and the traffic generated by the huge development would create gridlock on Dublin streets and on I-580.

Janet Abelson for El Cerrito City Council

Sierra Club endorses Janet Abelson for a fifth term. As a long-serving councilmember, she has been a strong advocate for transit-oriented development, environmental protection, park acquisition, and creek restoration in El Cerrito. Abelson has also been a champion for sound environmental policies on the various Bay Area regional boards and commissions. Her long service has meant that she has been able to carry through on long-term transportation policies that the Sierra Club supports.

Gabriel Quinto for El Cerrito City Council

Gabe Quinto has served on the Sierra Club's West Contra Costa Group Executive Committee for the past two years. He has brought new energy to the group and has worked to realize the Sierra Club's goals in West County. Quinto has advocated for stopping the transport of pet-coke and heavy tarsands through West County; the acquisition of the Madera open space; and transit-oriented development.

YES on El Cerrito Measure R: Preservation of Citywide Services

Measure R in will re-authorize the half-cent sales tax that voters passed four years ago. The money will maintain city services at their current levels, including El Cerrito's parks, paths, open space, and recreational facilities and infrastructure—such as our famous El Cerrito Swim Center, rated Best in the East Bay. We need Measure R for the maintenance and operation of our parks and recreational programs, including programs for children and teens.

Dianne Martinez for Emeryville City Council

Dianne Martinez is committed to being a voice for the Sierra Club mission on Emeryville's city council. She respects Emeryville's open spaces, and she has seen first-hand how well-meaning development can have unexpected effects on the environment. Martinez will fight to improve bike, pedestrian, and public transportation access throughout the city, getting cars off of roads and reducing greenhouse gasses in a city that is a regional transportation corridor and business center.

<http://democracy.com/EmeryvilleDianne>

Scott Donahue for Emeryville City Council

Scott Donahue has worked for more than 10 years on Emeryville's bicycle and pedestrian committee. He is committed to reducing Emeryville's greenhouse gases and will work to ensure that Emeryville's future development accomplishes this mission. He will work to improve public transit, increase access to electric vehicle charging, car sharing, and non-motorized transportation infrastructure.

<http://democracy.com/EmeryvilleScott>

David Bonaccorsi for Fremont City Council

As a Planning Commissioner in Fremont, David Bonaccorsi has been a strong advocate for Fremont's Climate Action Plan and for its Sustainability Commission. Sustainability is a bedrock principle that he applies on the Planning Commission, and, if elected, will apply to making decisions on the city council. Bonaccorsi is a partner in the law firm of Bernard, Balgley & Bonaccorsi, LLP.

www.bonaccorsi4fremont.com

Raj Salwan for Fremont City Council

Raj Salwan sees climate change, preserving open space, and urban sprawl as the three top environmental issues facing Fremont. Appointed to the City Council in 2012, Salwan supports reducing greenhouse-gas emissions by encouraging incentives for taking public transit, employer shuttle programs, and ride sharing. Salwan is a veterinarian and the owner of the AllCare Veterinary Hospital in Fremont.

www.rajsalwan.com

Annie Campbell Washington for Oakland City Council (District 4)

As a public servant in Oakland for over 12 years, Annie Campbell Washington has a proven track record of getting things done. Most

recently she has been serving District 4 on the Oakland School Board. Her environmental priorities for the city include building and maintaining beautiful public spaces; building housing for all income levels; building the necessary infrastructure to ensure that most people can walk, bike, or take public transit; and strengthening local food systems and reducing waste. Washington has a rare ability to effectively bring diverse stakeholders to the table and a conviction that sustainability values and principles need to be integrated throughout the city on all levels.

<http://www.annieforoakland.com>

Michael Johnson for Oakland City Council (District 6, First choice)

Michael Johnson is running against an incumbent and has received the Club's first-choice endorsement in the ranked choice voting. Johnson believes that it is important for Oakland to develop local clean-energy resources and he considers community engagement to be the lynchpin of the successful implementation of the Energy and Climate Action Plan. He also supports infill development, Transit Villages integrated with most BART stations, and urban-housing models that are bike friendly and include components of better transit and localized retail, food, and entertainment venues.

www.hope4oakland.org

Shereda Nosakhare for Oakland City Council (District 6, 2nd Choice)

Shereda Nosakhare has experience working in the local government—in particular in District 6—and won support of many local activists. Nosakhare will identify opportunities to promote mixed-use development along and near transit corridors, as she believes that one of the best ways to limit sprawl and reduce automobile travel is to have an attractive, livable city environment that people will want to live, work, shop, and go to school in. Nosakhare has great energy and strong environmental and good-government values.

www.sheredaforoakland.com



YES on Oakland Measure FF: Minimum Wage Increase

The Bay Chapter supports all increases to local minimum wages because it believes that these will, over time, get the Bay Area's working families out of a cycle of poverty and allow them to afford to live closer to where they work. When workers can afford to live in or near the cities where they work there is an aggregate reduction of sprawl and greenhouse-gas emissions.

www.liftupoakland.org

continued on page H



Events & Activities

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER

2014

of the SAN FRANCISCO BAY CHAPTER
OF THE SIERRA CLUB

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Our outings are open to all. They are designed to educate participants about the great outdoors through direct experience and contact with nature, and to cultivate an appreciation of nature and the local environment.

About this calendar

This calendar includes many Sierra Club Bay Chapter events and outings, but the most extensive calendar is found on the Chapter website at:

<http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/activities>.

The Calendar website may include changes, cancellations, or outings that were submitted after the print deadline. Many of our activity sections place additional information and more outings in section newsletters, or on section websites, which are found at the above URL.

Hike and backpack ratings

Hike ratings are based on distance and elevation gain (the sum of all gains in elevation per day):

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. up to 6 miles | A. under 1,000 feet |
| 2. 6 - 10 miles | B. 1,000 - 2,000 feet |
| 3. 10 - 15 miles | C. 2,000 - 3,000 feet |
| 4. 15 - 20 miles | D. over 3,000 feet |
| 5. over 20 miles | E. over 3,500 feet |

Backpack ratings include a third digit for travel:

- T. trail
1. limited/easy crosscountry
 2. moderate crosscountry
 3. strenuous/difficult crosscountry.

What to bring

For day hikes always bring lunch and enough water. Consider layered clothing, sunscreen, and hiking poles. Non-service dogs are allowed only if specified in the listing; canine hikers should bring leashes, litter bags, and water for their dogs.

Liabilities

To participate on a Sierra Club outing, you will need to sign a liability waiver. To read a copy of the waiver form, call (415)977-5630.

Problem resolution

If you have an outing-related concern that you are not able to address via the outing's leader, please contact the chair of the sponsoring section or group. If that is not sufficient, you can call the Activities Committee ombudsman, Rob Postar, at (510)551-4979 or:

rpostar@jffprenticelaw.com
or the Chapter Office at (510)848-0800.

Tuesdays

Lake Chabot Reservoir 1A hike. Optional dinner afterward. **Meet:** 4 pm at boathouse during October and 3:30 pm November through the end of January. **Leader:** Dolores Gruenewald, (510)351-6247 or doloresgru@aol.com. (Solo Sierrans)

Wednesdays

Lafayette Reservoir 1A hike. Optional dinner afterward. **Meet:** 4pm in parking lot (takes five quarters or annual pass). **Leader:** Lee Cowden, (925)934-6357. (Solo Sierrans)

First and Third Saturdays

San Bruno Mountain 1B hike. Sat., Oct. 4, Sat., Oct. 18, Sat., Nov. 1, Sat., Nov. 15. Co-sponsored by San Bruno Mountain Watch. Explore two of San Bruno Mountain's less-traveled canyons and learn about the history and ecology of this "Island of Biodiversity." The hike is on narrow footpaths surrounded by coastal scrub, riparian woodland, and coastal grassland. Includes an Ohlone shellmound visit. Moderate pace with many stops. **Meet:** 10 am at 44 Visitation Avenue #206, Brisbane. **Ends:** 1:30 pm. Heavy rain cancels. **Directions:** SamTrans bus #292. **Leader:** Paul Bouscal, (415)467-6631 or SanBruno@MountainWatch.org. (Hiking)

Oct 1 • Thu

Tilden Park 2B hike. Enjoy a shady walk in scenic Tilden Regional Park. Bring food to share at our traditional potluck lunch. **Meet:** 10 am at the Island parking lot on Wildcat Canyon Road, near the intersection of Shasta Road. **Ends:** 4 pm. **Leader:** Ronald Ucovich, ronucovich@sbcglobal.net. (Hiking)

Oct 4 • Sat

Monterey Bay whale and wildlife kayak. GLS is teaming up with naturalist Kim Powell and Blue Water Ventures for another amazing kayaking adventure. Leaving from Santa Cruz harbor we'll search for whales and other marine mammals in part of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. After our morning paddle we'll have brunch near the harbor. **Cost:** \$50 by check, \$52 by Paypal (see link online). **Meet:** 8:45 am at Santa Cruz Harbor small boat ramp, 699 Atlantic Avenue, Santa Cruz. **Ends:** off water by 12:30 pm, brunch over by 2:30 pm. **Leader:** Claudine Offer, (415)517-1112 claudine_o@hotmail.com. (Gay & Lesbian)

Oct 4 - 5 • Sat - Sun

China Camp State Park overnight backpack. Overnight at a walk-in camp site in scenic China Camp State Park on beautiful San Francisco Bay near San Rafael. Day hikes both Sat. and Sun. Register in advance—camp site has limited space. Details upon registration. **Meet:** 1 pm. **Leader:** Allison Murdach, (510)581-6794 or allisonandjo@hotmail.com. (Backpacking)

Oct 9 • Thu

Harbor Bay Isle 2A hike. Take a peaceful walk around Harbor Bay Isle in Alameda and see panoramic vistas of the San Francisco Bay. Bring food to share at our traditional potluck lunch. **Meet:** 10 am at Harbor Bay Ferry Terminal, Alameda. **Ends:** 3 pm. **Leader:** Ronald Ucovich, ronucovich@sbcglobal.net. (Hiking)

Oct 11 • Sat

Marin Group potluck picnic. See article on page E.

Historic Nortonville and Somersville 2B hike. Hike trails in historic coal mining area. Some steep trails. Leisurely pace. Post-hike potluck/barbecue in park. Rain cancels. Cost: \$5 car entry fee into park. **Bring:** Food to eat and share at post-hike barbecue/potluck. **Meet:** 10 am in last parking lot in Black Diamond Mines Regional Park at end of Somersville Road in Antioch. **Ends:** 4:30 pm. **Directions:** Take Somersville Road south from Highway 4 in Antioch to Black Diamond Mines Regional Park. **Leader:** Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

Tomalas Bluff 2B hike. Moderately-paced 10-mile hike to the northern tip of Pt. Reyes. We'll have a panoramic view of both the ocean and Tomales Bay and hopefully Tule Elks. Any rain cancels. Note: no water at trail head or along trail. **Meet:** 11 am at McClure Beach Parking Lot (lower). **Leader:** Albert Chiu, (510)339-3320 or albertscottchiu@gmail.com. (Sierra Singles)

Iron Horse trail 1a hike. Walk along the Iron Horse trail for up to 5 miles. We will stop along the way to picnic. Hike ends at Broadway Plaza in downtown Walnut Creek where you can catch a free shuttle bus back to the Walnut Creek BART station. **Meet:** 11 am at Pleasant Hill BART, Contra Costa Centre. **Leader:** Nicholas Yip, (510)717-4276 or clarinets21@hotmail.com. (Young Sierrans)

Oct 12 • Sun

SF waterfront walk 1A hike. Explore the SF Waterfront on this 5- to 6-mile walk along the Embarcadero from the Ferry Building to AT&T Park & Mission Bay. See how this area has changed from old rail-yards and hear about future plans for the area. Any rain cancels. **Meet:** 1:30 pm at Ferry Building by main entrance. **Ends:** 5 pm. **Directions:** Take BART or Muni to Embarcadero Station. Parking meters DO operate on Sundays. **Leader:** Caprice Solotar, (510)525-2110; Bob Solotar, (510)525-2110 or bob_solotar@hotmail.com. (Mount Diablo Group)

Donner and back canyons hike. Leisurely loop hike to enjoy autumn colors in scenic canyons of Mount Diablo State Park. After hike, optional stop nearby for refreshments and sociability. Rain cancels. **Meet:** 2 pm at Regency Drive trailhead. **Ends:** 4:30 pm. **Leader:** Lucy Henderson, (925)254-2898 or hndsrnlucy@yahoo.com. (Delta Regional Group)

Oct 15 • Wed

Lioness of the beach 3C hike. Up and over to the edge of the continent. Hoping for some sunshine and chasing waves on the beach followed by post-lunch cat nap before heading back to the Valley of the Bear. **Meet:** 9:15 am at parking lot at Bear Valley, Point Reyes, under the trees. **Leader:** Janie Bryant, (415)621-4163 or bryantjanie@hotmail.com. (Hiking)

Oct 16 • Thu

Mount Diablo State Park-Mitchell rock loop 1B Hike. Experience nature connection through sensory awareness as we hike the mountains of Mount Diablo State Park, Twin Peaks-Mitchell Rock loop. Approximately 4.5 miles, moderate difficulty, 1,100-foot elevation change. **Meet:** 9 am at Mitchell Canyon Visitors Center, Mount Diablo State Park, Clayton, CA. **Ends:** noon. **Leader:** George Denney, (925)787-9437 or georgedenney01@comcast.net. (Hiking)

continued on following page

Fuller versions of many of these listings can be found at <http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/activities>.

Oct 16 • Thu

Cull Peak 2B hike. Scenic hike in the Castro Valley hills. **Meet:** 10 am in parking lot of Cull Canyon Park on Cull Canyon Road, Castro Valley. **Ends:** 4:30 pm. **Leader:** Ronald Ucovich, ronucovich@sbcglobal.net. (Hiking)

Oct 18 • Sat

Mt. Tam 3C Hike. Moderate hike on the south side of Mt. Tam. Any rain cancels. **Meet:** 9 am at Miller & Locust, Mill Valley. **Leader:** Pao Chen, (510)237-7570 or paoc945@yahoo.com. (Hiking)

EBMUD Rocky Ridge 3C hike. Twelve-mile lasso through the hills of EBMUD watershed land. See what Contra Costa County would look like without its suburban sprawl. **Meet:** 10 am at Rancho Laguna Park, Moraga. **Carpool:** Leader will be at Lafayette BART at 9:15 am. Arrange carpools through Chapter Meetup group after Oct. 1. **Leader:** Steve Bakaley, (925)945-8205 or slbakaley@lbl.gov (email preferred). (Mount Diablo Group and Sierra Singles)

Walk through the city of the dead 2A hike. All-day educational walk through many cemeteries of Colma, the "City of the Dead." This walk is Colma Part 2. Part 1 will be held next May (not a requirement). Rain cancels. **Bring:** Money for post-walk dinner at local restaurant. **Meet:** 10 am at Colma BART Station near Station Agent's office. **Ends:** Return to Colma BART by 5:30 pm. **Leader:** Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

Afternoon by the Bay, Pt. Pinole Regional Park 1A hike. Explore the shoreline and cool eucalyptus groves at Pt. Pinole with Ranger James Wilson. Optional early dinner follows at Tina's Café in Old Pinole. Rain cancels. **Meet:** 2 pm at Pt. Pinole Park parking lot. **Leader:** Vera Lis, (510)234-8949. (Solo Sierrans)

Oct 21 • Tue

Don't Frack CA monthly meeting. At the Bay Chapter Stop Fracking Team's monthly meeting we will continue discussing our goals, brainstorm strategies, and decide on the activities we will take up to stop fracking in California. New members are welcome. Call-in option available, email to request number. **Meet:** 6:30 pm at Chapter office, 2530 San Pablo Ave. near Dwight, Berkeley. **Leader:** Aria Cahir, (510)848-0800 or dontfrackcal@gmail.com. (Don't Frack CA)

Oct 23 • Thu

Sausal Creek 2B hike. Interesting hike in the historic Sausal Canyon of the Oakland hills. **Bring:** Food to share at our traditional potluck lunch. **Meet:** 10 am at the entrance to Dimond Canyon Park. **Ends:** 3:30 pm. **Leader:** Ronald Ucovich, ronucovich@sbcglobal.net. (Hiking)

Oct 25 • Sat

Tennessee Valley 3C hike. Moderate- to brisk-paced hike. **Bring:** enough water for the day as none available on hike. **Meet:** 9 am at the end of Tennessee Valley Rd. in Mill Valley (by the stables), parked and ready to hike. **Leader:** Terry Balestriere, (415)454-8527 or terrybalestriere@yahoo.com; Francois Saint Gassies. (Hiking)

Oct 25 • Sat

South of Market 1A Hike. Walk along the Embarcadero and then into the SoMa neighborhood with its many new and upscale buildings, alley ways, and garden lunch spots. Rain cancels. **Meet:** 10:15 am in front of Ferry Building. **Ends:** 3:30 pm. **Leader:** Gloria Navarra, (415)731-6144. (Hiking)

Briones Regional Park 2B hike. Enjoy fall in the East Bay hills on this moderately paced (8-9 miles, 1,700 feet of elevation gain) hike to see the wide-open vistas of Briones Regional Park. Rain cancels. **Meet:** Noon at Bera Creek Staging Area of Briones Regional Park. **Leader:** Albert Chiu, (510)339-3320 or albertscottchiu@gmail.com. (Sierra Singles)

Oct 26 • Sun

Sycamore Grove 2A hike. 7-mile walk through Sycamore Grove Park in Livermore, containing one of the largest remaining groves of native sycamores in California. Optional climb to view point and possible post-hike wine-tasting. Rain cancels. **Cost:** \$5 parking fee. **Meet:** 10:40 am at 1224 Wetmore Road, Livermore. **Ends:** 4 pm. **Carpool:** Can be arranged through Chapter's Meetup site two weeks prior to event. **Leader:** Bob Solotar, (510)525-2110 or bob_solotar@hotmail.com. (Mount Diablo Group)

Galls of the Bay Area, Tilden Park, Berkeley 1A hike. Join Ranger Pearce at the Tilden Nature Area to learn about those strange growths on trees. During this one hour hands-on presentation we will learn about the galls of the Bay Area and the creatures that create them. Optional lunch follows at Cactus Taqueria on Solano Ave. in Berkeley. Rain cancels. **Meet:** 11 am at Tilden Nature Area, Berkeley. **Leader:** Vera Lis, (510)234-8949. (Solo Sierrans)

Oct 30 • Thu

Moraga Hills 2B hike. Bring food to share at our traditional potluck lunch. **Meet:** 10 am at the Valle Vista parking lot on Canyon Road in Moraga. **Ends:** 4 pm. **Leader:** Ronald Ucovich, ronucovich@sbcglobal.net. (Hiking)

Nov 1 • Sat

Sunol Maguire Peaks long 2B hike. Ten-mile, nearly 2,000-foot-elevation day hike in Sunol Regional Wilderness. Moderate to leisurely pace. Enjoy spectacular views of San Antonio reservoir, Mount Diablo, and Mission Peak. Be prepared for cold winds and mud. Any rain cancels. **Cost:** \$5 parking fee. **Meet:** 9:30 am at Visitors Center (Green Barn), Sunol Regional Wilderness. **Carpool:** Leader will be at Walnut Creek BART at 8:30 am. Carpools can also be arranged on Chapter Meetup group. **Leader:** Steve Bakaley, (925)945-8205 or slbakaley@lbl.gov. (Mount Diablo Group and Sierra Singles)

Presidio history walk 2A hike. All-day tour of historic Presidio, viewing buildings and nearby attractions. Any rain cancels. **Bring:** Lunch, liquids, and money for post-walk dinner at local restaurant. **Meet:** 9:30 am at cannon on north side of Lyon and Lombard gate to Presidio in San Francisco. **Ends:** 6 pm. **Directions:** Closest Muni buses are #30 or #45 from Downtown or #28 from Avenues. **Leader:** Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

Nov 1 • Sat

Mount Tamalpais steep ravine trail hike. Leisurely hike on Steep Ravine Trail, downhill all the way to Stinson Beach, where you can shop, eat, or stroll the beach. Return to Pantoll by bus (fee) or hike Matt Davis Trail. Rain cancels. **Meet:** 10:30 am in Pantoll trailhead parking lot on Panoramic Hwy. **Cost:** Parking fee. **Leader:** Lidia Campos, (925)240-5795 or lidiacampos@sbcglobal.net. (Delta Regional Group)

Nov 5 • Wed

Headlands ramble 3C hike. Loop from Tennessee Valley. Shortcut returns available. **Meet:** 9 am at Tennessee Valley trailhead. **Leader:** William H. Mayers, (415)785-3516 (home) or (415)302-4802 (cell), or whmayers@aol.com. (Hiking)

Nov 6 • Thu

Dry Creek Park 2B hike. Interesting hike in Regional Park. **Bring:** food to share at our traditional potluck lunch. **Meet:** 10 am at parking lot, 101-181 May Road, Union City. **Ends:** 3:30 pm. **Leader:** Ronald Ucovich, ronucovich@sbcglobal.net. (Hiking)

Nov 8 • Sat

Hike Mission Peak from Ohlone College 2C hike. Explore Mission Peak Regional Preserve from end to end. Enjoy expansive views of the South Bay and little-explored parts of this park. Any rain cancels. **Cost:** Free. No charge for parking on Sundays. **Meet:** 9:30 am at Parking Lot M, Ohlone College, behind the swimming pool. **Carpool:** Leader will be at Walnut Creek BART at 8:30am. **Leader:** Steve Bakaley, (925)945-8205 or slbakaley@lbl.gov (email preferred). (Mount Diablo Group and Sierra Singles)

Parks and paths of Albany, Berkeley, and Kensington 2A hike. Walk many pathways connecting small parks (containing big boulders) in Albany, Berkeley, and Kensington. Many stairs but leisurely pace. Any rain cancels. **Bring:** Money for post-walk dinner at local restaurant. **Meet:** 10:30 am near restroom at rear of Albany Memorial Park (located at Portland Avenue and Carmel Avenue in Albany). **Ends:** Return to Solano Avenue (not far from start) by 5 pm. **Leader:** Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

Emeryville to Berkeley along the Bay Trail 2A hike. 6-mile bayside walk along the Emeryville shoreline and Berkeley frontage road pathway. Any rain cancels. **Bring:** Lunch or purchase at Seabreeze Market cafe. **Meet:** 11 am at Emeryville Marina. **Directions:** Transit Accessible from MacArthur BART via 10:20 Emery-Go-Round Shellmound/Powell Shuttle. **Ends:** 4 pm. **Leader:** Caprice Solotar, (510)525-2110 or caprice94804@yahoo.com. (Mount Diablo Group)

Nov 9 • Sun

Emeryville Marina sunset walk 1A hike. Hourlong walk on paved trail, wheelchair accessible, through the marina, with quiet views of San Francisco and the Golden Gate Bridge. Optional dinner follows at the Emery Market. Any rain cancels. **Meet:** 3:30 pm at Emeryville Marina at the back of Chevy's Restaurant by the picnic tables. **Leader:** Vera Lis, (510)234-8949. (Solo Sierrans)

Nov 15 • Sat

Mount Diablo summit 3C hike. Moderately-paced hike up to Mount Diablo. Most of it on Summit Trail and Juniper Trail. Elevation gain about 2,990 feet and a distance of 12 miles. Rain or muddy trails cancel. **Meet:** 8:45 am at Lacrosse Field Parking, Blackhawk Road, Blackhawk. **Leader:** Lutz Heinrich, (925)216-8672 or ltz_hnrch@yahoo.com. (Hiking)

Mt. Tam 3C hike. A moderate hike on the northside of Mt. Tam. Any rain cancels. **Meet:** 9 am at Fairfax Parkade, Fairfax. **Leader:** Pao Chen, (510)237-7570 or paoc945@yahoo.com. (Hiking)

Nov 15 • Sat

Anthony Chabot Regional Park 2B hike. Leisurely 8- to 9-mile hike from the Marciel Gate parking lot with scenic views of the back side of Lake Chabot. Trails include Brandon to the Stone Bridge, then Cascade to Columbine and lunch at the campground auditorium. Afterwards, Towhee to Redtail and back to the parking lot. **Meet:** 10 am at parking lot in Anthony Chabot Regional Park, Marciel Road & Redwood Road, Castro Valley. **Leader:** Seth Feinberg, (510)969-7151 or sethfeinberg@yahoo.com; John F. Murrell, (510)339-1263 or kiwijm1@gmail.com. (Sierra Singles)

Nov 16 • Sun

Mount Diablo 2A history hike. On this leisurely-paced saunter, we'll visit the site of the Mountain House Hotel, a 19th-century inn where John Muir once stopped for breakfast. Then we'll head to the site of Green Ranch on the mountain's western slope. Route through an area burned in the 2013 fire, so we will have a chance to view the regeneration of flora and fauna. Rain cancels. **Cost:** \$10/vehicle park entrance fee. **Meet:** 10 am at Sunset Picnic Area, Mount Diablo State Park. **Ends:** 2:30 pm. **Leader:** Ken Lavin, (925)852-8778 or ken_lavin@hotmail.com; Elizabeth Watson, (925)768-3717 or lizzy0087@hotmail.com. (Mount Diablo Group)

Mount Diablo summit and north peak 2C hike. Ascend both peaks on this 8-mile hike, with 2,300 feet of elevation gain. Moderately paced but hearty. Not for gazelles or speed demons, but not a hike for those just getting into shape, either. Great views, from the Sierra to the Sea! Any rain cancels. **Cost:** \$10 parking fee. **Meet:** 10:30 am at Juniper Camp, Mount Diablo State Park. **Ends:** 5 pm. **Carpool:** Can be arranged through the Chapter's Meetup group. **Leader:** Bob Solotar, (510)525-2110 or bob_solotar@hotmail.com. (Mount Diablo Group)

Nov 18 • Tue

Don't Frack CA monthly meeting. At the Bay Chapter Stop Fracking Team's monthly meeting we will continue discussing our goals, brainstorm strategies, and decide on the activities we will take up to stop fracking in California. New members are welcome. Call-in option available, email to request number. **Meet:** 6:30 pm at Chapter office, 2530 San Pablo Ave. near Dwight, Berkeley. **Leader:** Aria Cahir, (510)848-0800 or dontfrackcal@gmail.com. (Don't Frack CA)

Nov 20 • Thu

John Muir Historical Site & Carquinez Regional Shoreline 1A hike. Enjoy nature and historic connection as we hike through the beautiful John Muir Historic Site, up to the Hulet Hornbeck Trails of the Carquinez Regional Shoreline, enjoying panoramic views of shorelines, bridges, and mountains. Approximately 4 miles round trip, 500 feet in elevation change. We will start with a short movie on John Muir. **Meet:** 9 am at John Muir Historic Site Visitor Center, 4202 Alhambra Ave, Martinez. **Ends:** Noon. **Leader:** George Denney, (925)787-9437 or georgedenney01@comcast.net. (Hiking)

Nov 22 • Sun

West Portal/Stern Grove 1A hike. Walk through one of San Francisco's charming neighborhoods and then on to one of the city's hidden tree-covered treasures. Any rain cancels. **Meet:** 10:30 am in front of West Portal Muni station. **Ends:** 3 pm. **Leader:** Gloria Navarra, (415)731-6144. (Hiking)

Bayshore walk in El Cerrito 1A hike. Hourlong walk on paved trail, wheelchair accessible, at Point Isabel. Optional dinner follows at Pacific East Mall. Rain cancels. **Bring:** Binoculars for possible shorebird sightings. **Meet:** 3:30 pm at Point Isabel Regional Shoreline, small parking lot at end of Rydin Rd. **Leader:** Vera Lis, (510)234-8949. (Solo Sierras)

Nov 29 • Sat

Stinson Beach to West Point Inn 3C day hike. Vigorous hike up Steep Ravine Trail to the historic West Point Inn and return in time for sunset at the beach. Pass redwood groves, waterfalls, and grand views of the Pacific Ocean, SF and East Bay. Distance of 12.5 miles. Not a very good hike for

beginners or those who have not hiked in years. The pace is steady, but moderate, going uphill to West Point Inn. More leisurely pace with several vista stops on the return. Heavy rain cancels. **Bring:** Brimmed hat and/or sunglasses recommended. **Meet:** 10:15 am at Stinson Beach parking lot. **Ends:** 5:30 pm. **Carpool:** Can be arranged on the Chapter's Meetup group. **Leader:** Thomas Hinshaw, (510)769-9778 or t.hinshaw@comcast.net. (Sierra Singles)

Dec 6 • Sat

Mt. Tam 3C hike. Any rain cancels. **Meet:** 9 am at Miller & Locust, Mill Valley. **Leader:** Pao Chen, (510)237-7570 or paoc945@yahoo.com. (Hiking)

Dec 6 • Sat

Bay Chapter 90th anniversary Lake Chabot loop 2B Hike. Moderate- to leisurely-paced day hike through the eucalyptus and oak groves of Anthony Chabot Regional Park. Highlights include Lake Chabot, Chabot View, and the Cascade Trail. Be prepared for mud and lots of poison oak. Heavy rain cancels. **Meet:** 10:30 am at Marciel Gate, Anthony Chabot Regional Park. **Carpool:** Leader will be at Walnut Creek BART at 9:15 am. Carpools can also be arranged on Meetup. **Leader:** Steve Bakaley, (925)945-8205 or slbakaley@lbl.gov (email preferred). (Mount Diablo Group and Sierra Singles)

Fuller versions of many of these listings can be found at <http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/activities>. Many are also listed on the Chapter Meetup site at www.meetup.com/sanfranciscobay, where you can also arrange carpools.

Club files suit to protect California coast

In 1976, the California Legislature enacted the Coastal Act, which created a mandate for coastal counties to manage the conservation and development of coastal resources through a comprehensive planning and regulatory program called the Local Coastal Program. New action in Marin County threatens to weaken these coastal protections, but the Sierra Club is fighting back.

Last month the Club filed legal action to challenge a dangerous amendment to Marin's Local Coastal Plan. The amendment was submitted by Marin County and approved by the Coastal Commission in May. If allowed to stand, Marin's amended Coastal Plan would substantially weaken environmental protections and set a precedent for poor process and lack of environmental review along the entire California coast. The result would be to open up our coastline to increased development and allowed uses without public process.

The Coastal Commission's approval of the Local Coastal Plan Amendment ignored five years of repeated warnings from the Sierra Club, other environmental groups, and even its own staff, that the document was in violation of the California Coastal Act.

The Coastal Commission's action could result in less environmental review and protection for coastal areas than in similar areas outside of coastal zones. This would create a confusing and unequal application of land use planning laws.

Marin's Local Coastal Plan update needs to be more protective of the environment than the original 1981 Plan—not less. The Sierra Club believes that if allowed to stand, the



Marin coastline; Photo by Louis Nuyens.

Marin County amendment will set a statewide precedent and result in more inappropriate development and less environmental protection for California's sensitive coastal areas.

The Bay Chapter's Marin Group has set up a Marin Coastal Defense Fund to help protect and preserve our spectacular California coastline. For more information or to make a donation, visit the Group website at

www.sfbay.sierraclub.org/marin.

Elena Belsky, Sierra Club Marin Group

Drapes, Privacy Sheers, & More

🌲 700 Redwood Trees planted through Arbor Day Foundation by Our Company!!!

🌲 American Made Products

🌲 Lifetime Warranty on Sewing & Seams

🌲 Eco-Drapes—organic cotton, hemp, recycled, etc.

🌲 "Factory Direct Savings"



Organic
REGISTRATION

CALL TODAY: 1 (866) 713-7273
www.factorydirectdrapes.com



Green Fridays tackles climate and transition movement

"A resilient response: the Transition movement"

Fri., Oct. 10. Marissa Mommaerts will discuss the international grassroots response to the ecological and economic instability caused by climate change. Learn how communities in California, across the U.S., and around the world are taking action to transition away from fossil fuels while building resilience and responding to the great challenges of our time.

Marissa Mommaerts is Communications and Operations Manager for Transition U.S., the U.S. hub of the international Transition movement. Transition U.S. is a nonprofit organization that provides inspiration, encouragement, support, networking, and training for Transition Initiatives across the nation. Mommaerts is also a community organizer with Transition Sebastopol and the Sebastopol Village Building Convergence. Marissa is an inspired movement-builder and an aspiring homesteader.

"Climate Reality Project"

Fri., Nov. 14. In November, Raines Cohen will present an overview of The Climate Reality Project, a non-profit organization focused on climate change education and countering climate change denial campaigns worldwide.

The Climate Reality Project believes that the solutions to climate change are right in front of us: we can create a healthy, sustainable, and prosperous future by making a global shift from dirty fossil fuels to clean, renewable energies. The Project works to raise awareness and bring people together to demand change.

Green Fridays is a monthly series featuring informative speakers and discussions about the important environmental issues of our time. Join us on the second Friday of the month at the Chapter office, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Doors open at 7pm; the program runs from 7:30 to 9:30. Refreshments are served. \$3 suggested donation.



Photo from the Climate Project's voyage to the West Antarctic Peninsula; photo by Jim Richardson.

Wilderness First Responder and EMT training with Sierra Club

Sat. and Sun., 8 am - 5 pm: Oct. 18, 19, 25, 26; and Nov. 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, Bay Chapter office, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley.

In this 11-day professional-level course (open to everyone), you will learn how the human body functions and how it is affected by injuries, environmental stress, and medical conditions. You will also learn about wilderness hazards and how to cope with emergencies anywhere.

WFR & Wilderness EMT Upgrade meets or exceeds all first aid requirements for outings leaders. You learn how to assess injuries and medical or environmental problems, and do emergency care with whatever you have on hand or can improvise. There are no prerequisites, but you must show current certification in professional level CPR before graduating.

This course also prepares you for disaster situations when emergency medical services and hospitals are overwhelmed or inaccessible. We use vivid slides and interactive teaching

methods to bring the topics to life. The skills practice sections are intensive. Realistic simulated accidents help you put your skills together and develop your leadership abilities.

Steve Donelan, NREMT (the lead instructor) is national chairman of the Wilderness Emergency Care program he developed for the American Safety & Health Institute (ASHI), and author of the textbook. Steve is a Master Instructor Trainer for ASHI and an Instructor Trainer for the National Ski Patrol. He has published many articles on emergency care and how to teach it. For more information, see Steve's web site: www.wildernessemergencycare.com.

ASHI certifications in WFR and WEMT, valid two years, are accepted throughout the United States and in many other countries. Participants who are currently certified as EMTs or Paramedics get WEMT certification on graduation; other graduates get WFR certification.

To register, email donelan@speakeasy.net.



The 2013 Lac-Mégantic oil-by-rail disaster. Photo by Elias Schewel, Flickr Creative Commons.

Climate One—"Oil on Rails" panel explores threat to Bay Area

Fri., Oct. 3, 11:30 am check-in, 12 pm program, 1 pm reception, Commonwealth Club, 595 Market St., San Francisco.

In the next two years the number of rail cars carrying oil into the Bay Area is forecast to increase 20-fold to 200,000. Five refineries in the East Bay process heavy crude oil and some are planning to bring in Canadian tar sands oil. Refiners and oil companies are also trying to be excluded from California's primary climate law known as AB 32.

How will more oil transported on railcars impact the Bay Area economy and environment? Can California be a climate leader

while getting more involved with tar sands and exempting transportation fuels from carbon-emission targets? Is it hypocritical of Bay Area residents to use fossil fuels but not want them transported or processed in their backyards? These questions and more will be explored by John Avalos, Board Member of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, and Jess Dervin-Ackerman, Conservation Manager at the Sierra Club Bay Chapter.

Tickets are free for Commonwealth Club members, \$20 for non-members, and \$7 for students (with valid ID). Purchase tickets at: <http://tinyurl.com/oilonrails>.

East Bay Dinner—"California's first organic farmers"

Thu., Oct. 23, social hour at 6 pm, dinner at 7 pm, program at 8 pm, Berkeley Yacht Club, Berkeley Marina.

Join Kent Lightfoot for a program on indigenous landscape-management practices in California. This lecture and slideshow will discuss the results of some recent archaeological work examining how native Californians employed prescribed burning to enhance the diversity, productivity, and sustainability of plants and animals they used for food, raw materials, and medicines. The program will highlight work that Kent is doing in Año Nuevo State Park with the California State Parks and the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band.

Kent Lightfoot is a Professor of Anthropology at the University of California, Berkeley, and is the author of several books on native Californians.

The cost of dinner and the program is \$27 per person, including tax and tip. Please send your check, payable to "Sierra Club," with guest names and a telephone number, to:

Jane Barrett
170 Vicente Road
Berkeley, CA 94705
510 845-8055.

Attendance is limited to 115 attendees—reserve early! Reservation deadline is Oct. 13. There is no admittance for program only.

History Speaks—"John Muir and his legacy of wilderness"

Thu., Nov. 13, 6 pm, California Historical Society, 678 Mission St., San Francisco.

Even a century after his death, John Muir's life continues to be an inspiration for wilderness and environmental protection. To learn about Muir is to understand how one person who cares about the environment can make a difference for public values and policy.

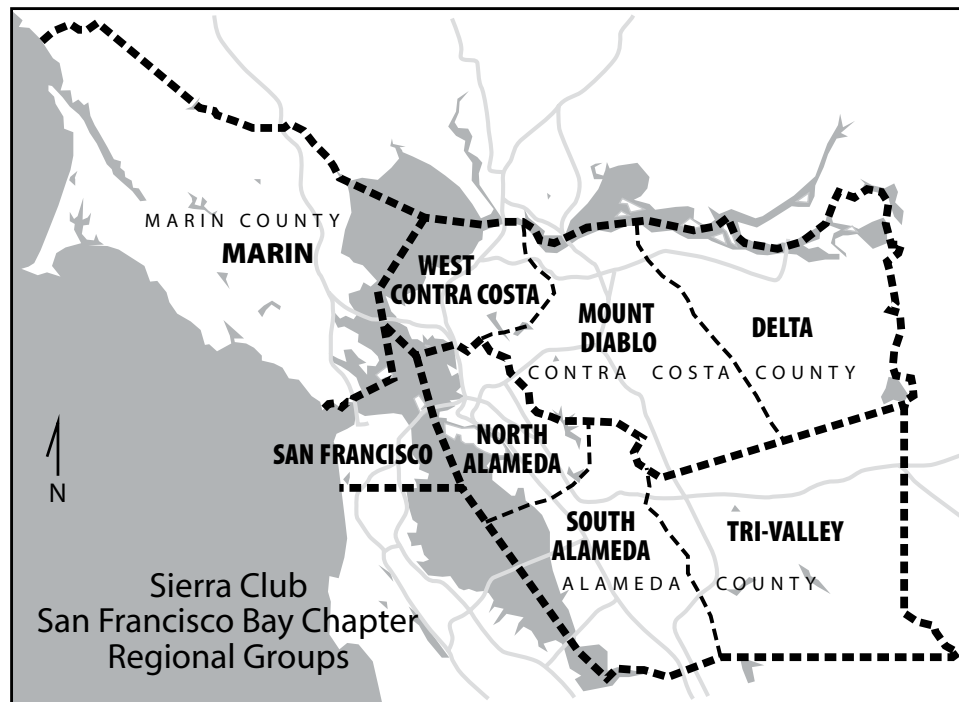
Join the California Historical Society and the Sierra Club at a special event exploring John Muir's life and legacy. Doug McConnell of Bay Area Backroads will open the event and set the stage for a lecture by renowned John Muir scholar Harold Wood. The event is part of the Sierra Club's yearlong celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act and also marks the centennial year of John Muir's passing.

Harold Wood is a long-time John Muir scholar and wilderness activist, chair of the Sierra Club John Muir Education Team, and Webmaster of the Sierra Club John Muir Exhibit website.

This event is presented in partnership between the Sierra Club and the California Historical Society. Admission is \$5 for the general public and free for members of the Sierra Club and the California Historical Society. Learn more and purchase your tickets at <http://bit.ly/IoMXIUW>.

What is a group?

Because Sierra Club chapters cover so much territory, they form local sub-units called "groups" (or sometimes "regional groups"). The San Francisco Bay Chapter is divided into eight groups. Groups address environmental issues that fall within their boundaries. They may also sponsor outings and other activities. These events are open to everyone; you don't need to be a group member to participate.



Marin Group—Celebrate owls at the fall picnic



Barn owl; photo by Steve Garvie.

Sat., Oct. 11, 9:30 am-3:30 pm, Muir Woods Park Community Association Clubhouse, 40 Ridge Ave., Mill Valley.

Enjoy a walk through owl habitat and build your own owl box at the SF Bay Chapter Marin Group's fall picnic. Join the group from 9:30 to 11:30 am for a morning hike (three levels of difficulty). Then, from 11:45 am to 12:45 pm, enjoy a potluck lunch with your fellow Sierra Club members. Last names A-E, please bring an appetizer; F-J, salad or side dish; K-O, entree, P-T, dessert; U-Z, non-alcoholic beverage. Please, no alcohol.

After lunch, learn about local owls and build your own owl box. You will assemble your

box on site and take home a completed owl box, ready to mount. This is a fun project for families! Bring your Phillips head screwdriver. Everything else necessary for the project will be provided. You can choose between a Western screech owl box for shady, forested areas (\$60, tax-deductible) or a bigger barn owl box for areas on the edge of large fields and open to the sky (\$80, tax-deductible).

Owl box kits are made to order, so you must make your reservations in advance! Please submit your order by Sept. 22. Reserve your box(es) by sending a check (made out to "Sierra Club Marin Group") to:

Michele Barni
P.O. Box 4
San Quentin Village
CA 94964.

Include the following information with your order:

- Name
- Phone number
- Email address
- Number and kind of boxes (Western screech owl, \$60, or barn owl, \$80)
- Total tax-deductible check enclosed
- Do you need a screw gun?

Space limited to 75; RSVP required. Email laurachariton@comcast.net.

For more information on owl boxes, please visit the Hungry Owl Project website at www.hungryowl.org.

San Francisco Dinners travels to Panama and Tanzania

Thu., Oct. 16 and Thu., Nov. 20, social hour: 6 pm, dinner: 7 pm, program: 8 pm. City Forest Lodge, 254 Laguna Honda Blvd. Please send a separate check for each program, and indicate the program date, number of guests, phone number, and dietary restrictions. Non-members are welcome. Bring your own beverages. Glasses and ice will be available.

Thu., Oct. 16—"Panama Adventures"

Allan and Helen Ridley were lured to Panama by an article that told of exceptional bird-watching opportunities, mild temperatures, and good roads. Their route provided excellent birding, natural history, and contemporary culture. Join us for a view into modern Panama as the Ridelys share their stories and photos.

Questions? Contact Gerry Souzis between 4 and 9 pm at (415)474-4440 or: gsouzis@hotmail.com.

Allan and Helen are former biology teach-

ers who have traveled widely and lead international birding and natural history tours.

Thu., Nov. 20—"Trek Through Tanzania"

See program description under Diablo Group. Questions? Contact Jean-Marie Campbell between 4 and 9 pm at (415)290-7771 or jeanmarierentals@gmail.com.

For each program, send a check for \$18 (note new price) made out to "Sierra Club, S.F. Bay Chapter." For the October program, checks must be received at the following address by Fri., Oct. 10:

Gerry Souzis
1801 California St., Apt. 405
San Francisco, CA 94109.

For the November program, checks must be received at the following address by Fri., Nov. 14:

Jean-Marie Campbell
2000 California St., #12
San Francisco, CA 94109.

Mount Diablo Group—"Trek Through Tanzania"

Wed., Nov. 12, 7 pm, Ygnacio Valley Library, 2661 Oak Grove Road, Walnut Creek.

Join us at our next general meeting for an African adventure. Al and Marie Greening will be our guides on a photographic safari through Tanzania. Our armchair sojourn takes us to Arusha National Park, Ndarakwei camp near Kilimanjaro, Lake Manyara, Ngorongoro Crater, the Serengeti, Lake Victoria, Zanzibar, and Dar Es Salaam. The people, scenery, and wide variety of animals and birds in Tanzania are spectacularly colorful and eminently photogenic. Don't miss this fascinating presentation!

Al and Marie Greening have travelled to over 50 countries and all seven continents. Al has made many photo presentations to Sierra Club groups and has an exhibit of panoramic photographs at Clair Tappaan Lodge.

Open to all with no reservations. Questions? Contact Ken Lavin at (925)852-8778 or ken_lavin@hotmail.com.



Photo by Al Greening.

Delta Group—"Up and down Mount Diablo"

Tue., Nov. 18, 7:15 pm, Antioch Library, 501 West 18th St., Antioch.

East Contra Costa residents enjoy easy access to the Delta for recreation. But look up at the southern horizon and you'll see a mountain that offers opportunities for recreation of a different kind. Join us for an armchair tour of Mount Diablo with Ken Lavin. This presentation will take us on a journey through the geologic history of Mount Diablo, including anecdotes about the adventures (and misadventures) of Diablo's famous geologists.

Ken Lavin is a Sierra Club hike leader, an outings coordinator for Greenbelt Alliance, a teacher with Diablo Nature Adventures, and a Mount Diablo Interpretive Association volunteer. According to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, "Ken is such a familiar figure on Mount Diablo,

even the snakes seem to know him."

Before the program, we'll socialize, munch goodies, and briefly discuss current environmental issues and upcoming activities and events.

Delta Group program meetings are usually held in February, May, September, and November unless otherwise noted. A newsletter listing Delta Group programs, outings, and activities is available by \$5 subscription. To receive the newsletter, send a \$5 check made out to "Sierra Club, Delta Group" to:

Janess Hanson
431 Levee Rd.
Bay Point, CA, 94565.

For information about Delta Group activities, call Janess Hanson at (925)458-0860. For information about Delta area environmental concerns, call Tim Donahue at (925)754-8801.

BAC-OFF: Bay Area Communities Overcoming Fossil Fuels

Assessing the fallout: partial victories, opportunities lost with Chevron refinery project

The Chevron refinery expansion project approved by the City Council this summer is a partial victory for Richmond residents concerned with clean air, climate disruption, safety, and jobs. At the same time, however, the deal represented critical missed opportunities including a reduction in greenhouse-gas emissions and additional safety upgrades.

It was a long and difficult fight. Chevron spent millions on mailers, billboards, and “citizen” rallies to promote what it claimed was simply a “modernization” project. They continually repeated the mantra “Modern equals cleaner.” How many times did we hear the comparison of a new car to an old car? Chevron spread money freely to sway public opinion and win endorsements.

Contrary to the rhetoric, Chevron’s real goal was to retool the refinery to enable it to process higher-sulfur crude oil—a process that results in more greenhouse gases and more toxic contaminants. The approval guaranteed Chevron that ability.

What We Won

Environmental and community-based groups fought hard to use the approval process as an opportunity to reduce locally-produced greenhouse gasses, reduce toxic contaminants in the air, and make progress toward sustain-

able energy production. The Sierra Club worked with our allies—the Asian Pacific Environmental Network, Communities for a Better Environment, Richmond Progressive Alliance, California Nurses Association, 350 Bay Area, and the Sunflower Alliance—to mobilize Richmond residents to countless trainings, community meetings, and hearings to weigh in on the project throughout the environmental review process.

With environmental groups forcing attention to the project and the August 2012 Chevron refinery fire still fresh in the community’s collective memory, the city council’s approval included important concessions. Ultimately, Chevron was required to accept greater limitations on the sulfur content of its crude, and agreed that the expanded facility would produce no increase in greenhouse gases. Since toxic emissions are generally co-pollutants with greenhouse gasses, toxic emissions will likely also be reduced. Chevron will also have to replace more piping than originally proposed and reduce diesel particulate matter. Even at the last minute, Chevron was forced to make further concessions, including \$90 million in community investments over the next decade (with \$8 million for green-energy programs), up from a previous pledge of \$60

million.

These significant victories were the result of a mobilized community that was aware of the issues from years of organizing and education; a coalition of organizations that came together to counter the massive Chevron misinformation campaign with its own materials and outreach; and a Planning Commission (appointed by the progressive mayor and councilmembers) that was willing and able to stand up to Chevron’s intense pressure.

Opportunities Lost

Unfortunately, the city council was unwilling to stand up to Chevron and endorse all of the Planning Commission’s forward-thinking recommendations, which, if adopted, would have resulted in an even safer, more environmentally friendly project. Recommendations that were left on the table would have required: the retrofitting of tug boats; ships docked at the refinery to turn off their engines; and the facility to develop a plan to continue to reduce toxic emissions. Furthermore, the \$90 million Community Benefit Agreement did not include funds to save Doctors Medical Center in San Pablo, which treated most of the patients who sought medical help after the 2012 refinery fire.

The Battle Continues

Local environmental groups are considering a legal challenge to the city council’s decision, based on the fact that some final details of the agreement were introduced without an appropriate and legal review period. The Sierra Club will report on any developments with regard to the potential lawsuit.

For its part, Chevron is continuing to campaign. It has already given \$1.6 million to a Political Action Committee to elect Nat Bates as mayor and Charles Ramsey, Donna Powers, and Al Martinez to the city council. If elected, these individuals would carry out Chevron’s political agenda and squelch the progressives on the council who demanded a cleaner and safer refinery. The Sierra Club has endorsed the Team Richmond candidates: Gayle McLaughlin, Jovanka Beckles, Eduardo Martinez, and Jael Myrick for Richmond city council and Tom Butt for Mayor.

The eight-year fight surrounding the Chevron expansion project demonstrates two important points. First, when a community organizes, it can force concessions—even from powerful multinational corporations. And second, in these situations there are rarely complete victories.

Mike Parker, Eduardo Martinez, and Jess Dervin-Ackerman

East Bay, along with California, moves forward with Community Choice energy

Momentum for Community Choice energy has only been building during the months-long fight against Assembly Bill 2145—nicknamed the “Utility Monopoly Protection Act”—that which would have put up major roadblocks to the implementation of Community Choice programs in California (see “AB 2145, renewable energy wrecking ball: down but not out” online at <http://theyodeler.org/?p=9664>). AB 2145 failed to make it to the Senate floor for a vote before the state legislature adjourned on August 31st, and is now dead. With that hurdle cleared, clean-energy advocates throughout the state are energized and re-focusing on local initiatives to create or improve Community Choice energy programs from Sonoma to San Diego and everywhere in between.

In the Bay Area in particular, there has been a groundswell of movement on Community Choice. The cities of Benicia, El Cerrito, and San Pablo, as well as Napa County, have all expressed interest in joining Marin Clean Energy. Officials from Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties, along with the cities within those counties, are exploring options for creating their own Community Choice programs. Alameda County has taken a leadership role in creating an East Bay clean power program—and officials in Contra Costa County are warming up to the idea. The Bay Chapter has

been actively engaged in the East Bay efforts to develop a Community Choice program, convening monthly organizing meetings with likeminded organizations and activists who want to democratize and transition our energy system to 100% renewable electricity.

On June 3rd, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to allocate \$1.3 million for the study and formation of a Community Choice energy program. The county’s Community Development Agency put forward a timeline of 18 months for a feasibility study for the program, followed by another 18-month period for prepping for program launch and implementation.

One of the largest components of the feasibility study is an analysis of the energy-load data from 1.55 million county residents and establishing a plan for serving the county’s energy needs. The Alameda County Board of Supervisors has jurisdiction over the unincorporated portions of the county, which represents only 10 percent of the county’s energy load. In order for the feasibility study to be as robust and accurate as possible, individual cities within the county will also have to proactively opt-in for their load data to be included in the study; the Sierra Club and its partners are advocating for these cities to do so.



Sierra Club supporters advocate for Community Choice at a June meeting of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

Other important components of the first 18-month period include setting up a community advisory board for the program and engaging in community outreach so that residents throughout Alameda County are informed and involved in the transformation and localization of our energy system. The extent of Contra Costa County’s participation in this program or in a separate Community Choice effort remains to be seen.

What You Can Do

If you live in Alameda County, contact your city manager to ensure your city is included in the Community Choice feasibility study.

If you live in Contra Costa County, call your supervisors and let them know you are supportive of Community Choice! Find your supervisor’s contact information at

<http://tinyurl.com/contracostasupe>.

Rooftop solar threatened in Alameda

The future of rooftop solar in Alameda is uncertain. Local utility Alameda Municipal Power is considering the successor to its Net Metering Energy program. Under the net metering, solar customers sell only their surplus energy to the utility at the wholesale price for renewable energy. The alternative Feed in Tariff (FiT) proposal would require customers to sell *all* their power to the utility at wholesale prices before buying it back at higher retail prices. Alameda Municipal Power would also keep the value of the Renewable Energy Credit, which presently goes to the solar customer.

As proposed, the FiT program would be a major disincentive for solar, as compared to net metering. We can anticipate that as a result of this program, significantly less new solar would be installed in Alameda. Moreover, such action in Alameda could set a precedent that would impact solar statewide and nationally.

The Alameda Public Utility Board meets on the third Monday of each month and the



Photo courtesy of 64MM on Flickr Creative Commons.

FiT proposal is expected to be heard within the next few months.

To get involved in the campaign, contact Ruth Abbe at Ruth.Abbe@gmail.com.

Ruth Abbe

Oakland's Zero Waste win threatened by deceptive corporate campaign

Don't sign Waste Management's misleading petition

On August 13, the Oakland City Council made a courageous decision to adopt a recycling and composting contract that incorporates numerous green and forward-looking elements including:

- source separation of trash, recycling, and compostable materials for all Oaklanders;
- use of a local EBMUD facility for anaerobic digestion of Oakland's food waste and conversion to clean energy;
- collaboration with Civicorps, a local organization that provides training and job placement to underprivileged youth;
- augmented bulky waste pick up to prevent illegal dumping;
- decent wages for recycling workers, many of whom work and live in Oakland; and
- building a multimillion dollar state-of-the-art recycling facility on Oakland's former Army Base.

California Waste Solutions (CWS), which was awarded the contract, was the only company that agreed to implement these and other

benefits for Oakland residents at consumer rates lower than their main competitor, Waste Management. Currently, councilmembers and city staff are working closely with CWS to ensure that the transition to the new contract happens smoothly and in a timely manner.

Unfortunately, Waste Management—which lost the bid due to their proposed higher rates and unwillingness to incorporate many of the contract's green elements—is now gathering petitions to force a costly special election for Oakland taxpayers in an attempt to overrule the city council's decision. Don't be fooled by these petitions, which are using inaccurate and false information.

If you have questions, call or email your councilmembers, mayor, or city administrator to receive accurate information. Don't fall for an expensive scam.

Together, we can build an Oakland that keeps local money local, treats all Oaklanders fairly, and builds its economy on green, collaborative, and sustainable values.

A Sierra Club intern joins the fight for refinery regulation in the Bay Area

It was only the second time I had been to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District office in San Francisco... and I was already boycotting a meeting. Fifteen or so organizers from local environmental and community groups had come from all over the Bay Area to comment on the Refinery Emissions Tracking Rule, a new regulation that would institute improved monitoring standards for oil refinery emissions and potentially require refineries to reduce their emissions over time.

In anticipation of our presence, however, Air District staff had moved the Refinery Emissions Tracking Rule to the end of the agenda at the last minute, presumably in the hope that most of us would have to get back to jobs, doctors appointments, or kids long before the item would be heard before the Air District Board. So, we gathered as a group, and after some deliberation decided to walk out on the meeting, with two representatives volunteering to stay behind and voice our complaint to the Board.

The group's frustration was not just about one wasted morning. Rather, the consensus was that the agenda switch was just the latest example in the Air District staff's long-standing pattern of undermining and ignoring community input on this rule and other community protections we and our allies have sought. The rule—originally proposed to address the issue of refineries switching over to lower-quality crude such as the infamous Bakken and Canadian Tar Sands—has been repeatedly delayed and weakened by Air District staff since its initiation in June of 2012. A proposal put forward last year by the local steelworkers' union and a coalition of local environmental groups for

20% emissions reductions by 2020 was seemingly ignored by Air District staff, and no other method for reducing refinery emissions and quelling community health and safety concerns has been offered since. Instead, in April of this year, Air District staff removed the proposed cap on emissions from the Rule entirely, stating that the intention was never to reduce emissions, just to monitor them.

Community members from the Sierra Club, the Asian Pacific Environmental Network, the National Resource Defense Council, Communities for a Better Environment, Global Community Monitor, the California Nurses Association, and Crockett-Rodeo United to Defend the Environment, and more have been present at full Board and subcommittee meetings for two years now, seeking an answer to the question: are we going to clean up our air or just study ourselves to death?

For too long, the Bay Area's five oil refineries have been polluting our air and water and pouring money into local politics to ensure they can continue their dirty, harmful practices. In the Bay Area alone, air pollution kills nearly 2,000 people each year. The Sierra Club believes that it's well past time for the Air District to take strong and bold action to protect our communities from the toxic air pollution spewing from these facilities.

For the most recent Board meeting on September 3, each group mobilized to turn out community members and draw attention to the Refinery Rule. The Sierra Club's email alert resulted in over 760 emails to the Air District. This finally had an effect: many Board members spoke up, calling publicly for a rule with teeth that includes the emission reductions that are



Cartoon courtesy of Steve Greenberg.

needed to safeguard community health. Air District staff acknowledged the comments from the community and board, and stated its plans to present on the Rule at the next Stationary Source Committee meeting on October 1. Among the supportive Board members was Director John Gioia, the chair of the Stationary Source Committee. The Sierra Club and partners hope that with Director Gioia's support, the committee will officially recommend that the full board ask for emission reductions as a part of the Refinery Emissions Tracking Rule slated to move forward by the end of 2014.

The Bay Chapter will continue to closely follow the Air District's actions over the coming

weeks and months. With continued community input and Board support, there is still hope for stronger regulations that prevent toxic pollutants from poisoning Bay Area families.

What You Can Do

Add your voice to the growing movement in the Bay Area calling for strong and bold action to reduce dangerous emissions and carbon pollution from the refineries along the Bay. Write a letter to the Air District at:

<http://tinyurl.com/regulaterefineries>.

John Ribeiro-Broomhead is a sophomore at Stanford University. He just completed a summer internship with the Bay Chapter's conservation program.



Your all season resort in the Sierra Nevada

Cozy cabins, a country cafe, an all-season resort—
in beautiful Hope Valley.

A base camp for outdoor adventures—
just minutes south of Lake Tahoe.

Scenery: it can't get any grander. Air: it can't get any purer.

Hospitality: our middle name. Plan: your escape to the High Sierra.

www.sorensensresort.com 800.423.9949



Baja's Frontier Tours
Handcrafted Learning Vacations

Baja: Since 1966



Here's Looking at You, Kid!

Great Hotels, Small Group!

The Best of Baja 2015

FILLING NOW: FEB 20-28, 2015


Curious Baby Gray Whale

Hopi, Chaco, Mesa Verde

Piet & Mary: **1-520-887-2340**
www.bajasfrontiertours.com
piet@bajasfrontiertours.com

Gold Lake Lodge

At the crest of the Sierra Nevadas



Hiking - Fishing
Horseback Riding
Swimming - Boating
Photography

Meals and Lodging Since 1912

530-836-2350
goldlakelodge.com

GEOGRAPHIC EXPEDITIONS



**SMALL GROUP
&
PRIVATE JOURNEYS**

To The World's
Most Beguiling
Destinations

.....

Call for our
award-winning
catalog ~

1.800.777.8183
GeoEx.com

Rain, snow, and fire My summer on the John Muir Trail

I was halfway up Pinchot Pass when it got bad. The morning sky had started dark with clouds. Soon serious rain began to pour down. Next, cold wind and hail. Thunder and lightning spooked me as I climbed up, up, up toward the hulking red peaks and steel skies. Then snow.

It was my 14th day on the John Muir Trail when the early morning snowstorm hit me as I ascended the 12,130-foot mountain pass. I crouched down next to a boulder and tree for safety, while I decided what to do next: turn back, sit it out, or keep going?

After leading backpacking trips for the Bay Chapter for nearly 20 years, wilderness advocate Teri Shore decided to finally through-hike the John Muir Trail this year in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. The John Muir Trail is an epic, 211-mile path through the Sierra Nevada Mountains from Yosemite to Mount Whitney—the tallest peak in the lower 48 states. Along the way, the Trail winds through three magnificent wilderness areas: Yosemite, Ansel Adams, and John Muir.

Read about Teri's trip in her own words—including accounts of her trail diet, her thoughts on the lessons for solo women hikers, and the unexpected weather and she encountered along the way—online at

<http://theyodeler.org/?p=9768>.

Bay Chapter volunteer opportunities

Tree Planting

Plant trees in Oakland! We are seeking East Bay volunteers interested in hands-on outdoor labor on Sat. mornings. There are also leadership positions within the program for those who wish to dedicate a bit more time. The first day of the season is Nov. 8. For more information email ben.alvers@sierraclub.org.

Tabling with Sierra Club

Tabling is a great way to reach out to the community, meet other active Sierra Club members, and learn about our regional issue work. To volunteer, visit

www.sfbay.sierraclub.org/volunteer

and fill out the form, or contact Ben Alvers at ben.alvers@sierraclub.org.

We need volunteers for these events:

- Bioneers Change Makers Fair, Fri.-Sun., Oct. 17-19, 10 am – 6 pm
- Sunday Streets Mission, Sun., Oct. 19, 8 am – 5 pm

- San Francisco Green Festival, Fri.-Sun., Nov. 14-16, 10 am – 6 pm

Green Fridays

The Northern Alameda County Group hosts Green Fridays, a monthly series featuring informative speakers and discussions about the important environmental issues of our time. Events are held on the second Friday of the month (Sept. – May) at the Chapter office, 2530 San Pablo Ave. in Berkeley. The Green Fridays organizing team needs greeters and a publicity coordinator. Greeters begin at 6:50 pm to set up the sign-in table, open the doors, welcome attendees, and work at the sign-in table. The publicity coordinator posts each event listing on various websites; maintains an email list; and sends monthly announcements. To volunteer to be a greeter, contact Joanne Drabek at (510)530-5216 or

joanne1892@gmail.com.

To volunteer as publicity coordinator, contact Ken Peterson at kenpeterson45@att.net.

Event Coordinator

The Chapter's annual Holiday Open House will be held again this December. A volunteer is needed to coordinate the event. Responsibilities include recruiting volunteers; soliciting food and beverage donations; and coordinating activities with other participating nonprofits. If you want to help plan a great party, contact Joanne Drabek at (510)530-5216 or

joanne1892@gmail.com.

Promising news for Alameda's waterfront

Open-space activists in Alameda are making important advances in turning more of the city's waterfront property into public parkland. This summer, the Alameda City Council unanimously adopted a Sierra Club-backed citizens' initiative that rezoned a 3.89-acre federal surplus parcel next to Crab Cove from "residential" to "open space." This means Tim Lewis Communities, the housing developer that had contracted to buy the site from the federal General Services Administration (GSA) and hoped to build 48 luxury homes on the waterfront, can no longer do so. The move also means that the East Bay Regional Park District is in a better position to acquire the property and expand Robert Crown Memorial State Beach. With the city council's action, the Crab Cove Open Space Expansion Initiative will not have to go before voters on the November ballot.

The Bay Chapter will continue to work to stop the GSA's eminent domain action on the state-owned street leading to the parcel, which has been undertaken for the purpose of helping the private developer secure easement rights.

In other Alameda news, thanks in part to the strong lobbying efforts of the Sierra Club, the city council agreed to remove pavement and a few

buildings from the western side of the Seaplane Lagoon at Alameda Point sooner rather than later. The city's Town Center and Waterfront Precise Plan now states that this completely paved area will be converted to a natural wetland park once funding is secured, rather than when buildings there are no longer commercially usable due to sea level rise. If you know of funding that is available now, please contact Irene Dieter at idsierraclub@gmail.com.

For updates on Alameda open space, visit: <https://alamedapointenvironmentalreport.wordpress.com>.

wordpess.com.

Irene Dieter



Crab Cove, Crown Memorial State Beach. Federal surplus parcel recently rezoned as open space is adjacent to this area. Photo by Richard Bangert.

A note on Richmond races

Richmond faces one of the most massive corporate electoral power grabs in its history. Chevron will spend between \$1.7 and \$2 million dollars in Richmond this election cycle to defeat the Sierra Club-endorsed candidates for mayor and city council. That translates to \$200 for every man, woman, and child (even newborn babies!) in Richmond. Your vote is critical to keeping city government responsive to its citizens—not to corporate dollars.



Tom Butt for Mayor of Richmond

Tom Butt has been a strong advocate for Sierra Club policy in Richmond and regionally. His main opponent makes no bones about being the Chevron candidate. We need a mayor who will advocate for the environment and people of Richmond. Vote Tom Butt for mayor!
www.tombutt.com

Jovanka Beckels for Richmond City Council

Jovanka Beckels has been one of the strongest and most vocal advocates for the environment on the city council. Beckels is a member of Team Richmond along with Gayle McLaughlin and Eduardo Martinez. Team Richmond call for: repairs and renovations at the Chevron Refinery to ensure community safety; jobs for Richmond residents; and a significant and measurable annual reduction of the pollution emitted from the refinery.
www.jovankabeckles.net

Eduardo Martinez for Richmond City Council

Eduardo serves on the Sierra Club's West Contra Costa County Executive Committee and is a member of Team Richmond. He serves on the Richmond Planning Commission, where he has advocated for strong environmental protection for Richmond—especially when it comes to the Chevron refinery.
www.eduardomartinez4richmond.net

Gayle McLaughlin for Richmond City Council

Richmond Mayor Gayle McLaughlin has worked tirelessly to protect the environment and counter the outsized influence of corporations, developers, and other entrenched special interests on the democratic process. Term limits prevents her from running for mayor

again, so we want to keep her on the city council. McLaughlin is running as a member of Team Richmond, dedicated to progressive policies and initiatives focused on sustainable growth, community health, income equity, and clean energy.
<http://mayorgayle.net>

Jael Myrick for Richmond City Council

Jael Myrick is currently serving out a two-year term, since being appointed to the city council in 2013, where he has been a strong environmental voice. He was a co-sponsor of the ordinance to raise the minimum wage, and as with all of the other candidates the Sierra Club has endorsed in Richmond, Chevron has targeted him for removal.
www.jaelmyrick.com

YES on Richmond Measure U: Parks Tax

Measure U will authorize a half-cent sales tax increase for Richmond. The money will maintain and enhance essential city services, including parks, recreational facilities, and programs for youth, as well as public health and wellness and safety programs.

Pauline Cutter for Mayor of San Leandro

San Leandro councilmember Pauline Cutter has demonstrated environmental leadership that will serve San Leandro well if she is elected as the next Mayor of San Leandro. Her diligent work has led to the completion of the San Leandro Boulevard project connecting San Leandro's downtown to the BART, and promoting public transit use. She has overseen the completion of several capital improvements and investments that emphasize sidewalk expansion and complete streets.

If elected, Cutter would support the completion of Bus Rapid Transit along 14th/International and promote additional greenhouse-gas reduction projects through work on important regional bodies like the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. She supports restoring and preserving parks and open space in San Leandro and plentiful access to trails.
www.paulinecutter.com

Corina Lopez for San Leandro City Council (District 5)

The daughter of farm workers, Corina Lopez—who currently serves on the San Leandro School Board—is running for city council to provide opportunities for all in San Leandro. To that end, Corina advocates for the creation of new affordable housing along transit corridors and complete streets policies for San Leandro that incentivize public transportation and pedestrian- and bicycle-safety. Lopez has led solarization and energy-efficiency upgrade measures in San Leandro's schools that she would like to translate to other public infrastructure projects. As a community volunteer, she has worked to revitalize several San Leandro parks and will continue to champion measures to protect and promote open space.

Emily Duncan for Union City City Council

Emily Duncan, an incumbent, recognizes climate change and understands that city governments have an essential role to play in reducing greenhouse emissions and conserving water. Duncan questions the appropriateness of the Union City Flatlands Development Initiative (Measure KK), which is opposed by the Sierra Club. She is the founder and CEO of Emily Duncan Consulting.



NO Union City Measure KK: Flatlands Development

Under the guise of protecting our hills, there is a movement by out-of-town developers (who have spent over \$233,000 in support of Measure KK) that would destroy our view of Union City's beautiful, unspoiled hills. The developers' 63-acre housing and retail development would place a five-story-high private hospital in front of the Masonic Home, along with a strip mall and hundreds of homes, all partially concealed behind tall, view-blocking walls along Mission Boulevard.

In 1996, 65% of Union City voters said NO to visible development in our hills and flatlands when we passed Measure II. By voting NO on Measure KK, Union City will retain the protected open-space boundary and force development to areas with existing roadways and infrastructure near downtown and BART. A NO vote will also prevent the addition of thousands of daily car trips on already overburdened roads.
www.saveunioncityhills.com

San Francisco Endorsements

David Campos for State Assembly (District 17)

With recent California legislative defeats in fracking, clearcut logging, and coastal protection, the state legislature needs someone with a record of standing up to corporate interests to protect the environment.

David Campos is the clear environmental leader on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. As supervisor, he opposed weakening the San Francisco implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act. Campos has been the leader on fighting climate change and an outspoken fighter for implementing CleanPowerSF to offer San Franciscans an option for renewable electricity. He has stood up to developers in fighting to prevent development in Candlestick State Park, which his opponent supported. In his position on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Campos worked for environmental-justice issues in regionwide transportation decisions.
www.davidcamposff.com

Jane Kim for Board of Supervisors (District 9)

Supervisor Jane Kim has been with the Sierra Club on a number of issues. She supported the now-stalled CleanPowerSF and has supported the Club on Sharp Park. When a proposal came to the Board of Supervisors that would have made it more difficult to enforce the California Environmental Quality Act, Kim led the effort to provide a better alternative. Kim has also been active in policy to encourage the creation of more affordable housing, resulting in Prop. K on the November ballot.
<http://janekim.org>

Tony Kelly for Board of Supervisors (District 10)

The Bay Chapter has more lawsuits pending against the City of San Francisco—the “most liberal city in the nation”—than for any other Bay Area municipality. Why? Because the Board of Supervisors too often votes in favor of environmentally damaging projects. Tony Kelly will change that sad scenario. He will be a strong environmental vote and a strong environmental leader.
www.tonykelly2014.com

Nicholas Josefowitz for BART Board of Directors (District 8)

BART has regressed tremendously under James Fang, a 24-year incumbent. Nick Josefowitz will push to make BART the first completely clean-powered transit agency in the country. He will focus on cleaning up BART's stations, increasing the frequency and reliability of service, and banning Directors from accepting campaign contributions from BART contractors. Josefowitz is a lifelong environmental advocate who has served on the board of the California League of Conservation Voters, founded Leadership for a Clean Economy to elect leaders on climate and clean energy to California's state legislature, and served on S.F.'s Environment Commission. Josefowitz also founded the solar company RenGen Energy.
www.getsfmoving.com

John Rizzo for City College of San Francisco Board of Trustees

John Rizzo has worked to make City College more sustainable, creating the District's first Sustainability Plan, pushing for LEED-certified green buildings, increasing bicycle facilities, developing a robust District-wide recycling and composting program, and creating green job training programs. Rizzo will continue to seek reductions in the carbon footprint of the District and will work to retrofit older campus buildings for energy and water efficiency.

An avid energy activist, Rizzo has promoted Community Choice Aggregation and worked for the shutdown of polluting power plants in San Francisco. He has served as Chair of the Bay Chapter's San Francisco Group and is currently serving as the Chapter's Political Chair.

YES on S.F. Measure A: Transportation and Road Improvement Bond

Last year a city Transportation Task Force identified \$10 billion in crucial infrastructure

continued from page 8

projects needed over the next fifteen years. Measure A would authorize \$500 million to improve Muni reliability and accessibility; improve the conditions of streets; and make the roads safer for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists. With more people using roads and public transportation, these problems will only get worse if not addressed now.

Vote YES on S.F. Proposition B: Adjust Transportation Funding for Population Growth

Muni needs the funding provided by Proposition B for already-budgeted transit services and for future budgets. Currently, the City Charter gives Muni a small amount from the General Fund, mostly from real estate taxes. Prop. B changes the Charter to increase the amount allocated from the general fund—without adding any new taxes—based on past and future population increases. This is reasonable because a higher population means Muni has to provide more service, especially as fewer people moving to the City have cars. Three-quarters of the funds will be used to fund service and reliability improvements, with the remainder used for street and pedestrian safety improvements. This increase may only be short term, depending on whether the City passes an increase in our vehicle license fee to fund transit services.

YES on S.F. Proposition F: Pier 70

After defeating the 8 Washington project last November and passing Proposition B in June, San Franciscans have the third chance in a year to raise their voices to protect our waterfront.

Proposition F would approve raising the height limit on 28 acres at Pier 70 from 40 to 90 feet for Forest City's project to restore historic buildings and develop affordable housing, workspace for artists, and new waterfront parks. This project would also create thousands of jobs. All applicable reviews would take place.

The planning for this project has been transparent. Forest City has worked with Dogpatch and Potrero Hill neighbors for years to make this project a reality. Approval by voters is the next logical step following the passage of Prop. B, demonstrating that Prop. B's mandate can work.

The State Lands Commission wants to overturn the results of June's election and have filed litigation to do so. They believe that only the five appointed members of San Francisco's Port Commission have the power to decide on waterfront development. City Attorney Dennis Herrera has vowed to vigorously defend Prop. B and the will of the people. Join the Sierra Club, neighborhood organizations, political clubs, labor unions, and housing advocates in voting yes on Prop. F.

YES on S.F. Proposition G: Anti-Speculation Tax

Evictions of residential tenants are greatly contributing to a housing crisis in San Francisco. Proposition G is aimed at slowing the loss of affordable housing by deterring "flipping," the practice of an investor buying a multi-unit rental, typically evicting tenants,

and then quickly reselling the building at a profit. Prop. G would slow this practice by placing a high special tax on flipping.

This "speculator tax" would not apply to any single-family home, condominium, or owner-occupied housing, nor to any new housing built. The loss of affordable rental units has a detrimental effect on the economic diversity of the city. Two years ago, 75% of San Francisco school teachers lived in the city. Today that is down to 67%, with most displaced tenants forced into more affordable but auto-centric suburbs. The displacement of low- and moderate-income families to less dense, transit-poor suburbs increases greenhouse-gas emissions. And it has been shown that higher-income individuals and families have much higher carbon-emissions footprints than the low- and middle-income families they replace.

Proposition G will preserve needed affordable housing in urban, transit-rich, walkable communities by discouraging the real estate speculation that leads to a loss of affordable housing and the accompanying displacement of individuals and families.



YES on S.F. Proposition H: Golden Gate Park Recreational Fields Renovation Act

Proposition H would require all fields in the western portion of the Golden Gate Park to remain natural grass fields and would prohibit the construction of any nighttime lighting for these fields. The Fields Renovation Act was born from efforts to protect Golden Gate Park from the destructive Beach Chalet soccer fields project, which would call for the demolition of the natural grass fields right next to Ocean Beach to make way for a seven-acre artificial-turf soccer field containing toxic tire waste and 150,000 watts of stadium lighting on 60 foot poles. The artificial tire-crumbs exceeds the Bay Area Air Quality Acute Hazard Index threshold by over 200%.

The Beach Chalet project's stadium lighting, grandstands, increased roads, and traffic will have a permanent negative impact on the beautiful natural setting of Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach. For over 100 years, Golden Gate Park has provided San Franciscans a much-needed natural oasis in the middle of one of our nation's densest cities. And not by accident: from its inception, the park's west end was intended to give people a place to reconnect with nature. That design was reaffirmed in 1998 when the Golden Gate Park Master Plan was adopted after over 200 public meetings.

We can maintain Golden Gate Park's natural grass soccer fields with new, green technol-

ogy solving any maintenance problems. We can provide new fields elsewhere with safe material. We don't have to destroy one of the city's crown jewels to do so.

NO on S.F. Proposition I: Parks Poison Pill

Proposition I risks removing citizen influence over San Francisco's Department of Recreation and Park. The language essentially gives free rein to any changes that would "double the usage"—as determined by the Parks Department. Prop. I is actually a thinly veiled power grab, disguised as a measure that will somehow benefit children.

The initiative opens the door for the department to use its own data to decide unilaterally which activities should take precedence in all of San Francisco's parks. Meanwhile, the impact of the proposed legislation on the public's right to appeal under the California Environmental Quality Act is unclear.

Prop. I is a poison pill designed to invalidate the grassroots Fields Act. If Prop. I receives more votes than Prop. H, Prop. H cannot be implemented even if it receives more than 50% of the vote. Prop. I has additional troubling implications. The initiative states that it shall be "liberally construed," potentially opening the parks to privatization and commercial "usage."

While it claims to satisfy the need for more recreation areas, Prop. I doesn't do this. The Parks Department already possesses the authority to renovate city parks, and the initiative does not provide any new funding to accomplish its stated goal of future renovations. Whatever your views on Prop. H, vote no on Prop. I.

YES on S.F. Proposition K: Affordable Housing Goals

Loss of affordable housing in San Francisco forces people to move out of the city, commute longer to their jobs and increase greenhouse-gas emissions, and puts pressure on sprawl development in farmland and open space. For these reasons, the Sierra Club supports Proposition K, which is aimed at increasing the amount of affordable housing built in San Francisco. It would establish as city policy the goal of building or rehabilitating 30,000 homes with more than 50% affordable to middle-income households and 33% affordable to low- and moderate-income households. The measure also asks the mayor and Board of Supervisors to create a funding strategy to purchase land and build new affordable housing and to preserve existing rental units.

Vote NO on S.F. Proposition L: Don't Reverse Transit First

If enacted, Proposition L would have numerous dangerous effects. The proposal would: reverse the Transit First policy in the City Charter; limit funding for Muni from meter fees; and increase residential parking and garages, which would increase the number of cars on the road, thereby increasing congestion and greenhouse-gas emissions.

Prop. L would make it harder for drivers

to find parking by eliminating parking pricing policies that have been proven to work, without increasing the average cost of parking. Moreover, Prop. L would re-engineer streets to improve the flow of auto traffic rather than improve pedestrian safety and transit movement.

As the number of cars in S.F. has doubled over the last 40 years with no increase in street capacity, Transit First is the only workable option.

Marin County Endorsements

Larry Bragman for Marin Municipal Water District Board

Larry Bragman is an elected official with an excellent environmental record who has repeatedly earned Sierra Club's endorsement. Bragman can best address the challenges the Marin Municipal Water District faces, placing our fragile environment as his top priority in all aspects of water delivery, district administration, and watershed stewardship. He will prioritize healthy, effective, non-toxic solutions to those challenges. For more information visit

www.larrybragman.org.

Winter is coming!

BACK COUNTRY SKI GEAR SOLD AND RENTED HERE

FALL HOURS
THURSDAY & FRIDAY
 11AM TO 7PM
SATURDAY & SUNDAY
 10AM TO 6PM

843 Gilman Street • Berkeley, CA 94710
510-527-6411
www.californiaskicompany.com



Classifieds

For rates, procedures, and deadlines for *Yodeler* classifieds, see:

<http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/classifieds>

or email the editor at virginia.reinhart@sierraclub.org.

Display ads (boxed ads in other sections of the paper) are a separate department. For information contact Ellen Felker, (510)548-0725 or:

ellen@sfbaysc.org.

Vacation Rentals

Beautiful Serene Lakes home: spacious, 3BR/2BA + loft/family room. All amenities. Sleeps 10. Perfect for families. Close to Royal Gorge & Sugar Bowl. Avail Thanksgiving WE @ \$300/nt, 4th nt free.

shirashore@yahoo.com
(415)752-8457

Spectacular Tahoe View: 4BR/2BA on quiet W. Shore. Slps 9. \$175/nt. Jeff Jones.

(530)474-3110

Vacation Retreat for Yodelers: Tranquil 30 acres with access to Napa/Sonoma wineries. Charming 3 bedroom, 2 bath sleeps 6. All-year stream, woods, meadow. Fireplace with wood. Dogs OK. 3 nights: \$600. Seven nights: \$975. Photos & info:

<http://spot02.googlepages.com>
(415)647-3052

Flowing Waters Retreat at Mt Shasta—Two sunny cottages for spiritual/creative retreats and/or one gorgeous house for groups. Large eating/yoga decks/meditation huts. Fully furnished. Private swimming creek. Near Trinities/Marbles/PC Trail. Photos at

Shastaflowingwaters.com
Laurel (415)454 0391

Personals

When drafting your will, please consider a bequest to the San Francisco Bay Chapter. Contact Melanie Jolly at (510)848-0800, ext. 302, or: melanie@sfbaysc.org

Employment

The Bay Chapter is in need of an **advertising manager** to oversee display ads and classifieds for the *Yodeler*. Primary responsibilities include reaching out to new potential advertisers, contacting past advertisers to solicit ads, and managing payment and paperwork. The advertising manager receives a percentage of the ad revenue. For details, contact: virginia.reinhart@sierraclub.org

"You're our best source. We always get the most through you."

Why don't you try a *Yodeler* ad?

The Bay Chapter's Vicky Hoover: Tireless Wilderness Advocate

Q: What do Ansel Adams, Edgar Wayburn, William O. Douglas, Jacques Cousteau, David Brower, Wallace Stegner, Al Gore, Bill McKibben, and Vicky Hoover all have in common?

A: They all received the John Muir Award, the Sierra Club's highest, honoring "a distinguished record of leadership in national conservation causes."

It was in 2004 that the Bay Chapter's own Vicky Hoover received that honor, prompting Chapter Wilderness Committee colleague Alan Carlton to write in the *Yodeler*: "If anyone epitomizes the spirit of John Muir, it is Vicky Hoover. She is a legendary backpack leader [and] a tireless and extremely effective wilderness advocate."

Fast-forward to 2014: it's Vicky's 28th year as a wilderness leader, and she is more effective and widely respected than ever. No longer on staff at Sierra Club (she retired in 2010 after 24 years of service), Vicky donates her prodigious energy full-time to protecting wild places. For the past four years her focus has been on using the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act as a catalyst to publicize and promote wilderness to a broader and more diverse American public. As co-chair of Wilderness50—a coalition of federal agencies and non-profit organizations—Vicky has organized events large and small across the country. You can find a list of events at www.wilderness50th.org, including the major National Wilderness Conference to be held this October in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Vicky was born in Manhattan, in the heart of New York City, but spent most of her formative years in Washington, DC. Her family spent summer vacations in rustic cabins in state forests and parks in western Maryland or West Virginia, hiking and enjoying the great outdoors.

Vicky was a young wife and mother of two small children, Nathan and Frances, when she first got involved with the Sierra Club outing's program in 1967. The family had moved to California in 1962 and quickly discovered the magnificence of high Sierra hiking. Soon, she and her husband Bill were climbing peaks and leading Sierra Club outings, starting with family-oriented burro trips. Through years of training and practice, Vicky became an accomplished outdoorswoman and mountaineer, by 1981 climbing all 247 peaks on the Sierra Peaks Section list. Over the years Vicky has led countless Club outings, mostly in the Sierra Nevada but also in places as far-flung as Alaska, Utah, and New Zealand.

Vicky's training as a wilderness advocate truly began in 1985 when she moved to San Francisco and took a part-time job at the Sierra Club National office as staff assistant to Dr. Ed Wayburn. Under the mentorship of Dr. Wayburn, who had previously served five terms as Sierra Club President, Vicky "learned the ropes" of wilderness politics, grassroots organizing, and effective lobbying. As Vicky explains, "Wilderness is a political thing." In those early years Vicky was staff for the Alaska Task Force, mobilizing people in the lower 48 states to support wilderness protection in Alaska, particularly the Arctic.

Vicky served as chair of the Bay Chapter's Wilderness Committee from 1985 to 1997, becoming especially involved in two issues then facing the committee: forest planning and the new campaign for the California desert. With Vicky at its helm, the committee was a leader in the successful eight-year campaign for the California Desert Protection Act. Vicky remembers a marathon lobbying trip to Washington, DC in which she and Elden Hughes



Vicky at Kugururok camp, Alaska.

"tramped the halls of Congress" for a solid week. Shortly after passage of that landmark legislation, she organized phone banks to help defeat the anti-wilderness Utah Public Lands Management Act. Vicky and the Wilderness Committee went on to participate in many other successful wilderness campaigns in California, Nevada, Utah, and Alaska.

In the late 1980s, to familiarize herself with areas being considered for protection, Vicky began leading trips to the Southwest desert, which she continues to do to this day. Among desert activists, Vicky is said to have a magic touch: if she visits an area being considered for wilderness designation, lo and behold, it becomes wilderness soon thereafter! Don Forman, longtime *Yodeler* editor remembers, "I recall going on several car camping trips Vicky led in the desert—Death Valley, Joshua Tree, East Mojave—and later realized that she was 'learning the desert' and helping build awareness of desert issues within our Chapter. Over the course of her career, Vicky has kept expanding her range, capacities and effectiveness as a wilderness advocate, not only at the Chapter and state levels, but nationally."

On top of all this, Vicky has chaired the Sierra Club's California/Nevada Wilderness Committee since it was formed in 1997; written numerous articles for the *Yodeler*, the *Desert Report*, the *Alaska Report*, and other publications; and edits *Words of the Wild*, a quarterly Club newsletter focusing on wilderness.

Vicky patiently educates and encourages others to care for wild places and work for their protection. Her goal is to connect and mobilize individuals and organizations that share her sense of urgency. "Once harmed, once altered, the wild qualities of an area are lost and you can't ever get it back," says Vicky. "I believe that every bit of roadless land that we have now should stay that way to compensate for all of the development."

One secret of Vicky's success is that she blends work with what to her is play: being in the wilderness. Her drive and tenacity come from her deep love of the earth's wild places. As she puts it, "Mingling outings into conservation work has been at the essence of almost everything I do." Vicky often takes off into the wilderness (without a cell phone or computer). She has traveled widely on several continents, visiting Alaska over 30 times. At home she dotes on her three grandchildren, loves going to the opera, and enjoys hosting friends and family at her San Francisco "B&B."

Of her ability to give so much of herself over such long campaigns, Vicky says simply, "I don't think of it as dedicating myself to a cause; the cause is not separate from me—it's part of my life. It's what I am."

Anne Henry



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

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 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:
Sierra Club
Gift Planning Program
85 Second St, Second Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
gift.planning@sierraclub.org • (800) 932-4270



Extreme cyclist and activist: Zeke Gerwein

“Any of you ride your bike at least three times a week this summer?” asked a P.E. teacher at Berkeley’s King Middle School, at the start of the fall term. He was not prepared for Zeke Gerwein’s answer. Between June 15 and August 18, Zeke logged 3,400 miles, biking from Tecate, at the Mexican border, through the Sierra Nevada and the Cascades to Canada, and then down the coast to Arcata. In the hottest areas, he was usually on the road by 6:15 am; in more temperate zones he donned his helmet at 8 am. Depending on the elevation, mileage, weather, wind direction, and fitness of the adult accompanying him, he biked from two-and-a-half to 14 hours a day, six days a week. On the last day of his journey, after 110 miles on the road, Zeke and his companion rode into Arcata 45 minutes after sunset.

The 13-year-old planned this adventure—and he planned it very carefully—not to assure himself a place in a book of records, but to raise money for the Sierra Club, raise awareness about climate concerns, and demonstrate how to truly see the world and leave only narrow (non-carbon) tire prints. This summer’s tour raised the stakes from last year’s, when Zeke bicycled 1,851 miles from the Mexican border to Seattle and collected \$3,000 for the Sierra Club Bay Chapter.

Zeke’s trip was an educational enterprise on multiple levels. An extraordinarily articulate young man, he shared his story and learned from people he met along his route. Since his return home, he has shared his experiences

with others. Publicity generated by his long and unique journey also has alerted many to the imminent dangers of global warming. And Zeke learned more about climate change on the road than he could ever have learned at a desk.

Although he had prepared himself well and had already determined not to ride through intolerably hot areas, Zeke was still surprised by the implacable heat. Before his body adjusted to 115-degree weather, he suffered heatstroke in the Mojave Desert. In Ashland, Oregon, where very hot summer temperatures might be expected to reach 88 in normal years, the thermometer reached 103. Zeke saw the earth itself suffering too. He bicycled alongside vast burnt areas in central and northern Washington State, where raging wildfires had destroyed hundreds of homes.

Despite these omens, Zeke was impressed by those he met along the way who are kind to the land. In eastern Washington, he camped in an orchard, transformed from 20 acres of highway debris and planted by a couple who had immigrated from Mexico. The couple gave Zeke 20 pounds of stone fruit to eat on his journey.

Zeke was always accompanied by one of eight adults. For 11 days, from Crater Lake to Mount Rainier, that companion was his father, Joel. For three days, between Kings Canyon and Yosemite, Zeke’s 70-year-old grandfather rode beside (or behind) him. Most nights the bicyclists camped out, but occasionally one of the adults would feel the need for a real bed, and the pair would stay in a motel. They



Zeke, triumphant at the Canadian border.

carried some food with them and ate some meals in restaurants or in front of grocery stores. Twice a day, Zeke would phone home to reassure his pediatrician mother and his 10-year-old brother that he was fine.

Back in Berkeley, Zeke tends to his classes. He likes math, geography, history, and he loves to read (Chaim Potok and John Steinbeck are

among his favorite authors) and write (he’s catching up on his trip blog). But that P.E. teacher needn’t worry. Zeke still rides his bike about 60 miles each weekend.

You can show your support for Zeke’s ride by making a donation to the Bay Chapter at <http://tinyurl.com/thankzeke>.

Karen Rosenbaum

The 2015 Sierra Club Calendars

Calendars will be available August 20 through December 12, 2014.

The Early Bird prices below are good through Friday, October 17, 2014.

Number of calendars purchased	1 - 3	4 - 11	12+
2015 Sierra Club Wilderness Wall Calendar	\$13.00	\$12.50	\$12.00
2015 Sierra Club Engagement Calendar	\$14.00	\$13.50	\$13.00

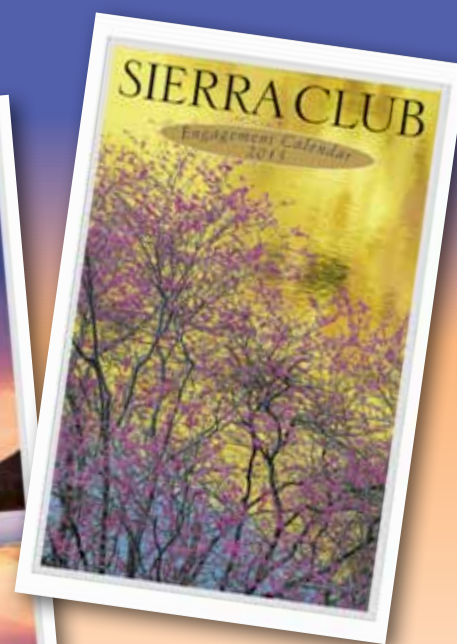
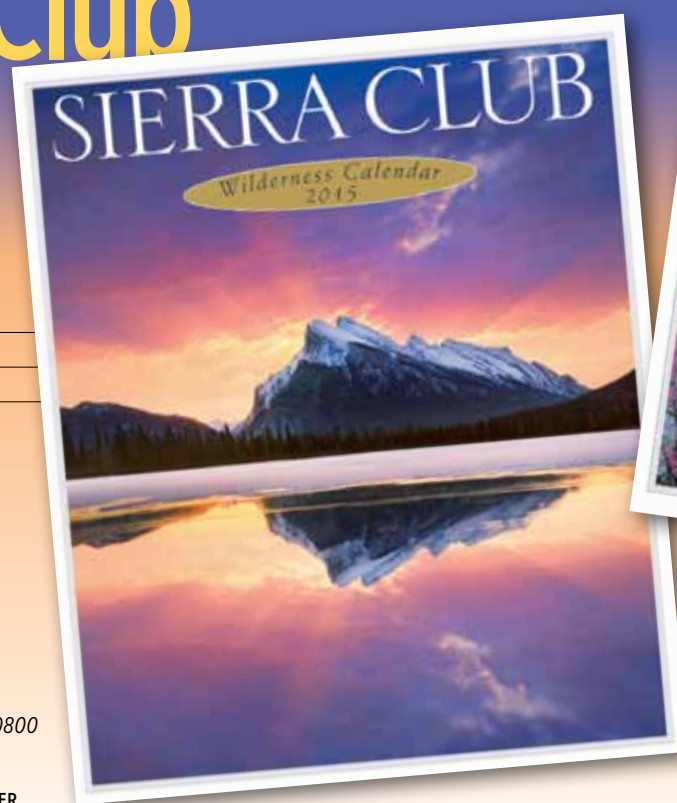
Combine the **total number of wall and engagement calendars** you are purchasing to determine the unit price of each type. Prices include sales tax.

We accept cash, checks, MasterCard, Visa, Discover Card, and American Express.

To purchase, visit the Chapter Office:
2530 San Pablo Ave. (between Dwight Way & Parker), Berkeley CA,
Monday - Thursday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Friday 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.
For further information call (510) 848-0800.

NOTE: This year the San Francisco Bay Chapter will not be shipping orders of fewer than 12 calendars. Purchases of fewer than 12 must be made at the Chapter Office. Call (510) 848-0800 for details on free shipping for orders of 12 or more. Shipping will start Tuesday, October 7.

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE LOCAL CONSERVATION WORK OF THE SIERRA CLUB SAN FRANCISCO BAY CHAPTER



Two formats:

► **ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR:** Week-by-week format, featuring 57 spectacular photographs and “wire-o” binding.

► **WILDERNESS WALL CALENDAR:** Spiral bound, month-by-month format, featuring 12 majestic North American landscapes.