



Heading by the late Willis Simms Sierra Club member

SEE THE TEST OF THE NEWSLETTER ON NEXT PAGE

SIERRA CLUB San Fernando Valley Newsletter April 2014

**Monthly Meetings-the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm
Reseda Park Rec. Hall, 18411 Victory Blvd. (Cross Street-Reseda Bl.)
(Near child's play area), Reseda, CA.** There is a parking lot & street parking. If the Rec Hall parking lot is full, there is ample parking at the One Generation lot, directly east at 18255 Victory Boulevard

**Call or Email for Information:
Joe Phillips 818 348-8884 recreationbyjoe@yahoo.com**

**Learn About Conservation Tips AT OUR SF Valley Sierra Club WEBSITE:
<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sfvgl/>**

(See names, phone numbers and emails of our San Fernando Valley Management Committee in the sidebar)

[*View or Print Newsletter Online*](#)



New Rain Garden in rain



Developed Rain Garden in Spring

This is the same rain garden in different stages of development.



**APRIL 15,
2014 TUES 7:00pm**

**Water LA:
Urban
Acupuncture
for a Resilient
Los Angeles**

Melanie Winter is the founder and director of The River Project, a non-profit dedicated to watershed-based planning in Los Angeles. She has been involved in water and land-use policy efforts for nearly two decades, securing hundreds of millions in funding for and bringing attention to the LA River.

Come and hear her talk: "Water LA: Urban Acupuncture for a Resilient Los Angeles". Los Angeles is in the midst of a drought while at the same time the San Fernando Groundwater Basin is only ten years away from being drained dry. What rain we do get is treated as a liability and sent speeding to the ocean. Our current approach to water and land are unsustainable.

We can no longer hope to solve our water supply and water quality issues with major infrastructure fixes. Instead we need "Urban Acupuncture" - a property-by-property solution that works in partnership with nature's services to move LA towards 21st century climate resiliency. Come and learn how we can do this.

There will be socializing and refreshments



**MAY 20, 2014 TUES.
7:00pm**

**Let's Not Frack
Our Valley**

Dr. Tom Williams is a Sierra Club Life Member and the Co-Chair of the Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter Fracking-Oil and Gas Committee. He has a

**JOIN US!
Water LA:
Urban Acupuncture
for a Resilient Los Angeles**

APRIL 15, 2014 TUES, 7:00pm
(See address & directions at the top of this email.)

The Water L.A. Program Will Be About:

Melanie Winter is the founder and director of The River Project, a non-profit dedicated to watershed-based planning in Los Angeles. She has been involved in water and land-use policy efforts for nearly two decades, securing hundreds of millions in funding for and bringing attention to the LA River.

Come and hear her talk: "Water LA: Urban Acupuncture for a Resilient Los Angeles". Los Angeles is in the midst of a drought while at the same time the San Fernando Groundwater Basin is only ten years away from being drained dry. What rain we do get is treated as a liability and sent speeding to the ocean. Our current approach to water and land are unsustainable. We can no longer hope to solve our water supply and water quality issues with major infrastructure fixes. Instead we need "Urban Acupuncture" - a property-by-property solution that works in partnership with nature's services to move LA towards 21st century climate resiliency. Come and learn how we can do this.

There will be socializing and refreshments

**QUESTIONS CALL: Joe Phillips , 818 348-8884,
recreationbyjoe@yahoo.com**

Cartoon by Willis Simms



EARTH DAY 2014

doctorate in Geology and Zoology and worked for 30+ years as an Environmental Specialist, Geologist and Engineer with Parsons (Pasadena) and URS Corporation. He also worked for 10+ years for the Dubai-UAE Government. In the 1970's he was Conservation Chair for the Golden Gate Audubon Society.

Come and hear his talk "Let's Not Frack Our Valley". Around the world hydraulic fracturing or fracking is changing the entire oil and gas industry as a method to produce gas and oil for us to burn. Come and learn about the history and the FUTURE of fracking, what it is and how it works. Most importantly learn what the environmental, health and seismic effects of fracking are and will be and what actions Sierra Club members must take to mitigate its effects and to help those in the Valley and the State Legislature. There will be Q & As, socializing and refreshments.



Italian Dinner & Program

**June 17, 2014
Tues., 6:30 pm**

**At Prince of Peace
Episcopal Church
5700 Rudnick Ave.,
Woodland Hills,
CA91367**

**THE PROGRAM IS:
Down Under:
Seeing Australia From
An Environmentalist's
Perspective**

Michael Stevenson, a long time Sierra Club member and the Program Chair for the San Fernando Valley Sierra Club Group will present: "Down Under: Seeing Australia From An Environmentalist's Perspective". Come and learn about the original Australian's, the Aboriginal people who



No Mitigation Possible for Hidden Creeks Project Ecological Disaster Planned for Santa Susana Mountains

This article is a follow up to the February 2014 article by Paul Edelman, "Environmentally Disastrous Gated Community Given First City Green Light in Browns and Mormon Canyon Core Habitat, Santa Susana Mountains"

(See helpful map links at the end of article)

Examined up close, the Hidden Creeks Estates gated community, proposed to be constructed at the headwaters of the L.A. River in Browns Canyon, next to Michael D. Antonovich Park, offers far less to the community than what it will take away. The planned site for this 188-unit tract housing project is a highly visible plateau in between Browns Canyon and Mormon Canyon Creeks in the Santa Susana Mountains. Currently, this land is zoned for 33 homes. By necessity, this would require the extension of Mason Avenue westward from Porter Ranch, and through a mountainside and across Mormon Creek, in order to provide road access to this otherwise remote site.

The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Hidden Creeks either deflects from or outright ignores the real impacts of the project to the quality of the surrounding habitat, and the impacts to the water quality of a significant tributary creek system of the Los Angeles River. This is because it is simply not possible to provide adequate mitigation for the numerous adverse impacts that would result from the project. The developer is legally required to provide mitigation for all such "significant impacts" under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Mitigation, in the environmental sense, means compensating for the impacts of a project, such as replacing lost natural resources, or providing benefits to the public that outweigh what is being lost. Some of the severe environmental impacts that Hidden Creeks would fail to mitigate for include:

- The grading and re-compaction of more than 150-acres of habitat on the project site. This is necessary for the developer to stabilize the slope of the ancient landslide that comprises most of the property. The developer was well-aware of this condition before the property was purchased.
- The offsite grading of 9 acres of natural habitat and stream habitat in open space that will soon be dedicated as public open space to the City of Los Angeles. This particular breach of the public trust is discussed more below.
- Increased fire danger from extending urban development further into the already fire-prone wilderness of the Santa Susana Mountains. Incredibly, the developer is claiming that Hidden Creeks will increase the fire safety for the community of Porter Ranch.
- Increased urban run-off, a source of pollution, into Mormon Creek, a tributary of Browns Canyon Creek and the Los Angeles River.
- The removal of 400 native trees. Though many of these trees will be replaced per LA City's Protected Tree Ordinance, the replacement trees will take decades to reach maturity.

The most egregious threat from Hidden Creeks is the breach of the public trust that the project applicant, Texas-based Forestar USA, is quietly asking the City of LA for. Located next to the Hidden Creeks site on the east, and encompassing part of Mormon Canyon Creek, is 80 acres of wildland and trails, slated to be dedicated to the City as open space by the Porter Ranch Development Company as part of the Chatsworth-Porter Ranch Specific Plan approved in the 1980's. Stabilizing the slope for Hidden Creeks would require grading over 9 acres of this green future public land, right to the edge of Mormon Creek.

were thought to have arrived on the continent during the last Ice Age, at least 50,000 years ago. See Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park (Ayers Rock), a site sacred to the Aboriginal owners.

See and learn about the diverse range of habitats from semi-arid to tropical rainforests and the unique animals that occupy these places (more than 80% of these plants and animals are unique to Australia). See the spectacular southern sea coast off Melbourne. Visit the Great Barrier Reef, the largest structure on Earth built by living organisms. And finally learn about how "Climate Change" is effecting Australia and what they are going to have to do about it. Come and support the Sierra Club, get something to eat or as they say in Australia "Grab A Feed" and learn about one of the most interesting places on earth.

Make your reservations by sending \$25.00 payable to San Fernando Valley Sierra Club, mailed To Belen Katzen, 9543 Rudnick Ave Chatsworth, CA. 91311. 818-341-8304, barkat@rocketmail.com Include a phone number & address or email. Upon receipt of your check, a confirmation notice will immediately be mailed or emailed

We need your help!
The Sierra Club relies heavily on its volunteers to carry out its Mission. Since you probably have a skill that we need and if you can spare a few hours a month, let us know.
Call Elaine Trogman 818 780-8345
Call Barry Katzen

The developer, Texas-based Forestar USA, is asking the public to accept that a mere 19-acre park with softball fields, and weakly supported claims of wildfire protection offer sufficient public benefits to offset the impacts of their project. A general plan amendment, zoning changes, and annexation by the City (the property currently exists in unincorporated LA County) are among the numerous entitlements and exemptions that are being requested to build Hidden Creeks Estates. A project of this scope that offers so little to the greater community is clearly against the public interest.

There are several City hearings left to go before Hidden Creeks can finalize its development agreement with the City, however, final approval rests with the Los Angeles City Council. You can contact your Council office to voice your opposition to this environmentally disastrous project. It would be especially appropriate to contact Councilmember Mitch Englander (CD12), as the project is in his council district.

(When requesting more information from the City Planning Dept. or sending in comments, the following Case Numbers will help: CPC-2005-6656-AD-GPA-ZC-DA, VTT-68724, and ENV-2005-6657-EIR.)

Garrett Weinstein, Project Analyst for the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority

Editor's addition:

To quote Paul 's Edelman of the SMMC's February article: " The environmental documentation for the Hidden Creeks Estates Project (ENV-2005-6657-EIR) is unforgivably flawed. How can grading more than 150 acres of the Santa Susana Mountains and Upper Los Angeles River watershed not be considered a significant impact?" "The Final EIR reenters the pre-California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) dark ages by concluding that 7 million cubic yards grading (of 150 acres), extending a four-lane road three-quarters of a mile into core habitat, and eliminating over 400 native trees is a mitigatable biological impact."

links to area maps #1 & #2

http://www.smmc.ca.gov/pdf/attachment3683_Map%201.pdf

map #2 link http://www.smmc.ca.gov/pdf/attachment3683_Map%202.pdf



Milk vetch, native to Simi Hills
Drawing by Carla Bollinger

The Angeles Chapter recommends a vote for Dean Wallraff, Michael Dorsey and Jessica Helm in the upcoming election for the Sierra Club's Board of Directors. Only Chapters may endorse/recommend candidates.



Ballots must be received back by April 16

All Sierra Club members eligible to vote -- life members and members who have renewed at least once -- should have received their election materials to vote for members of the Board of Directors (or for those who have signed up for electronic notification, they should have received their notification from the election vendor).

To give everyone a head start in the process, the Ballot Pamphlet contains voting instructions and candidate statements. It is not, however, intended for actually casting your vote. To cast your vote, ballots have been mailed either electronically or by postal mail the week of March 3 to all eligible voters. If you believe you are eligible to vote and do not receive a ballot please contact membership.services@sierraclub.org.

Click here to access the voter pamphlet with candidate names, statements and voting information.

Ballots must be received back by April 16

818 341-8304

**S.A.F.E Centers:
Permanent
Collection
Centers**

The following S.A.F.E.
(Solvents, Automotive,
Flammables Electronics)
Recycling and Disposal
Information is available

**Northridge: Nicole Bernson
SAFE Collection Center**

10241 N. Balboa Blvd.
Northridge, CA 91325

Hours of Operation:

Saturdays, and Sundays

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m

([MAP/MAPA](#))

**Sun Valley: RANDALL
STREET**

SAFE Collection Center

11025 Randall St
Sun Valley, CA 91352

Hours of Operation:

Saturdays and Sunday

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m

([MAP/MAPA](#))

They accept:

paint and solvents; used
motor oil and filters, anti-
freeze, and other
automotive fluids;
cleaning products; pool
and garden chemicals;
aerosol cans; all medicine
except controlled
substances; auto
batteries; household
batteries.

E-waste: computers,
monitors, printers,
network equipment,
cables, telephones,
televisions, microwaves,
video games, cell
phones, radios, stereos,
VCRs, and electronic toys

**Transportation limit
for chemical related
items:**

It is against the
law to transport more
than 15 gallons or 125



Kurt Wedberg and guide at Mt. Everest

**Angeles Chapter Awards Banquet
SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2014**

Brookside Country Club in Pasadena near the Rose Bowl

Honoring Angeles Chapter 2013 Awardees

Featuring Famous Everest Mountaineer & Guide Kurt Wedberg

<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sfvq/> See article on sidebar of Home page

Make Reservations Now

- See more at: <http://angeles2.sierraclub.org/#sthash.5BMg7X6L.dpuf>

Mountaineer, guide and outdoor enthusiast Kurt Wedberg will speak at the Chapter's Annual Banquet on May 4. Wedberg of Bishop, Calif., founded Sierra Mountaineering International in the fall of 1995 after returning from his first successful expedition to Mt. Everest which he has since successfully summited two more times. With more than 25 years of mountaineering experience in the Sierra, Kurt has also guided 80-plus expeditions to high peaks in Africa, Alaska, the Alps, Antarctica, Argentina, Bolivia, Ecuador, Indonesia, Mexico, Nepal, Peru, Russia, Tibet, and Turkey.

Kurt also completed the Seven Summits - high points on all seven continents -- in the 2012 after summiting Carstensz Pyramid in Indonesia. Come meet his extraordinary climber and hear his stories.

Join us at the banquet on May 4 at Brookside Country Club, 1133 N. Rosemont Avenue, Pasadena 91103, (near the Rose Bowl)

Reservations cost \$40 per person or \$400 for a table of 10. You must reserve by April 20 to get a seat or a table. Contact: Reservationist Donna Specht at 714-963-6345 or e-mail donnaspecht@juno.com.

For the Silent Auction, remember to bring cash and/or checkbook! Contact Mary Ann Webster (310-559-3126 or mawebster1984@sbcglobal.net) with donations to the Silent Auction. All profits benefit the Angeles Chapter.

Meet the volunteers who will be honored for their extraordinary efforts last year.

<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sfvq/> click link on bottom RH sidebar

pounds of hazardous waste to collection sites. Please pack your waste properly to prevent tipping or spilling of the waste during transportation

It is dangerous to throw compact fluorescent lights in the garbage. You can recycle the lights at HOME DEPOT

**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY
SIERRA CLUB
MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE**

Chair/Rep to Executive Committee

Barry Katzen
818 341-8304
barkat@rocketmail.com

Vice-Chair...

.Anita Devore
818 705-2301

Treasurer

Gabe Szende
818-999-5384
gabesende@yahoo.com

Outing Chair

Joe Phillips
818 348-8884
recreationbyjoe@yahoo.com

Secretary...

Belem Katzen
818 341-8304

Programs...

Michael Stevenson
drmsteve@aol.com
818-419-5318

Membership Chair:

Julie Szende 818-999-5384
julieszende@gmail.com

Political Committee...

Barry Katzen 818 341-8304
barkat@rocketmail.com

Outreach:

OPEN

Conservation Chair:

Terrie Brady
NEW 818-264-6731
terriebrady@gmail.com

Publicity

Joe Phillips
818 348-8884
recreationbyjoe@yahoo.com

Hospitality...



Placenteria Canyon Hike TUES 4-29-14 See details in Tues section
Photo by Sierra Club hike leader Pixie Klemic

**DARE TO LEAD !!
Leadership Training Seminar
Set for April 12, 2014**

Becoming a Sierra Club outings leader starts with curiosity and a love of the outdoors. What better way to step up and lead than by taking advantage of the training opportunities that the Angeles Chapter's Leadership Training Committee provides each year.

As home to one of the largest outings programs on the planet, the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter's many groups, sections and committees sponsor thousands of trips ranging from beach barbecues to mountaineering expeditions. You can take the first step toward becoming a leader by attending a class offered on Saturday, April 12 at Eaton Canyon Nature Center in Pasadena.

The seminar covers all the basics of leadership. Experienced leaders will tell you how to plan a trip, prevent problems on the trail and make sure that everyone - including you - has a great time. They'll also explain good conservation and safety practices. And they'll give you tips for getting your "O" rating quickly and then, if you choose, pursuing more advanced ratings.

The all-day class costs \$25. The application is online at angeles.sierraclub.org/ltc. At this same site, you can pore over more of LTC's upcoming offerings which are also on the Schedule of Activities page.

Mail the application and check, payable to Sierra Club, to Steve Botan, LTC Registrar, 18816 Thornwood Circle, Huntington Beach 92646. You also can reach Steve by email (lrcregistrar@hundredpeaks.org) or by phone (714-321-1296).

Applications and checks are due March 29, 2014.

Scholarships are available for those with financial need. Apply to LTC Chair Anne Marie Richardson <AMLeadership@gmail.com>

Many thanks to all
Jane Simpson
Angeles Chapter OMC Chair and WTC Instructor & LTC Publicity Volunteer
outdoorJSimpson@gmail.com

Joe Phillips
818 348-8884
recreationbyjoe@yahoo.com
Info Phone... Joe Phillips
818 348-8884
recreationbyjoe@yahoo.com
Vall-E-Vents Editor
Elaine Trogman
818-780-8345
ektrogman@yahoo.com
Member at Large
Edith Roth 818-346-9692
Cartoonist
The Late Willis Simms

**Sierra Club San Fernando Valley
ITALIAN DINNER & FUND-RAISER
PROGRAM,
JUNE 17, 2013, TUES, 6:30PM**



Come see and learn about the world famous Great Barrier Reef in Australia

**At Prince of Peace Episcopal Church
5700 Rudnick Avenue Woodland Hills, CA 91367**

THE PROGRAM IS:

**Down Under: Seeing Australia From
An Environmentalist's Perspective**

Michael Stevenson, a long time Sierra Club member and the Program Chair for the San Fernando Valley Sierra Club Group will present: "Down Under: Seeing Australia From An Environmentalist's Perspective". Come and learn about the original Australian's, the Aboriginal people who were thought to have arrived on the continent during the last Ice Age, at least 50,000 years ago. See Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park (Ayers Rock), a site sacred to the Aboriginal owners.

See and learn about the diverse range of habitats from semi-arid to tropical rainforests and the unique animals that occupy these places (more than 80% of these plants and animals are unique to Australia). See the spectacular southern sea coast off Melbourne. Visit the Great Barrier Reef, the largest structure on Earth built by living organisms. And finally learn about how "Climate Change" is effecting Australia and what they are going to have to do about it. Come and support the Sierra Club, get something to eat or as they say in Australia "Grab A Feed" and learn about one of the most interesting places on earth.

HOW TO RESERVE:

Make your reservations by sending **\$25.00 payable to:
San Fernando Valley Sierra Club,
Mail To: Belen Katzen,
9543 Rudnick Ave
Chatsworth, CA. 91311
818-341-8304, barkat@rocketmail.com**

**Please include a phone number & address or email.
Upon receipt of your check, a confirmation notice
will immediately be mailed or emailed.**

From your home, tune-in to the Angeles Chapter's WATER COMMITTEE

If you are interested in water issues in California, & especially So. Calif., we urge you to come or tune into the WATER COMMITTEE by phone. We have discussions within the committee and we, also, invite experts to speak to us.

The Water Comm. meets every month on the second Wed. at 7:00pm. If you can't make it in person then you can choose to tune-in from your home telephone or by video conferencing.

The no charge phone conference line is available at [1-866-501-6174](tel:1-866-501-6174) Code: 1000 400 1892.

GoToMeeting video conferencing link (no charge): <https://www4.gotomeeting.com/join/124173903>
GoToMeeting app. (iPhone®, iPad® or Android®)
Meeting ID: 124-173-903

Any questions for the Water Committee contact Charming Evelyn. If you want to personally attend the Water Committee, contact Charming for location. bcharmz@aol.com

HIKE & ACTIVITIES SECTION



Sierra Club Santa Monica Mountains Taskforce (SMMTF) is largely responsible for many of the major trails in the Santa Monica Mountains.



Mary Ann & Ron Webster are founding members of the SMMTF. When hiking on the Musch Trail in Topanga Canyon (and many other trails) you can thank them and their trail crews.

The SMMTF website is below:

The website is: <http://smmtf.org/>

To see the trail crew dates & Tues. hikes choose "Calendar"

The Trail Crew of the SMMTF still maintains a strong program of building and maintaining trails that support recreational use throughout the Santa Monicas and in adjacent parkland. They have a need for volunteers. Use the graphic below to sign up.



<http://smmtf.org/volunteer.php>

**SEE MORE PICTURES IN HIKE SECTION
BELOW**

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

COME TO OUR PROGRAMS AND PICK UP OUR SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES through JUNE 2014. The schedules have programs and hikes in the San Fernando Valley area.)



**See programs and hikes thru JUNE 2014 from our San Fernando Valley Sierra Club website. Use this link below to start:
<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sfv/>**

**CALLING ALL HIKE LEADERS
OR TRAINEES FOR
SATURDAY OR SUNDAY HIKES**

**Help people who work to get exercise
and learn about nature.**

Call or Email Outings Chair

Joe Phillips 818 348-8884 recreationbyjoe@yahoo.com



TUES 4-8-14 Malibu Creek State Park - Cornell to Century Lake and Rock Pool hike

See writeup below in Tues section

Photo by Sierra Club Member Gayle Dufour

SATURDAY & SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

SATURDAY ACTIVITIES

Saturday, April 26, 11 am Sierra Singles, SFV

O: Pasadena Doh Dah Parade:

Join us for this fun activity. We'll meet downtown Union Station where we'll catch the subway to Pasadena then journey to the parade route to watch this wacky parade known as the twisted sister of the traditional Rose Parade. The Doo Dah began as a grassroots event in 1978 to gain national attention for its eccentric and, often, irreverent satire. The parade, which has spawned numerous off-beat replicants across the country, was named by Readers Digest as America's Best Parade, and was recently featured in the book 50 Places You Must Visit Before You Die! Bring an easy chair or not, money for subway, and lunch back downtown. Meet 10:15am Union Station information booth Leader: Sandra Tapia 818.365.4571, co-leader Gerrie Montooth.

TAKE A HIKE AT SEPULVEDA BASIN: Because of the plant destruction that was brought on by the Army Corp of Engineers, we are tentatively planning to conduct a public information hike around the damaged area each Sunday. If you are interested in the hike or if you are an interested hike leader

please contact Joe Phillips at 818-348-8884 recreationbyjoe@yahoo.com

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

Griffith Park Walk: Sunday April 6, 2014

O: Sierra Single/SFV Join us for a morning walk. We meet at 9:50 am at the corner of Vermont and Sunset to catch the 10 am GP Dash (\$), which drops us off right in front of the Observatory. We'll climb a mountain (600ft), 3 - 4 miles rt, where we'll have several beautiful city views weather permitting, at the top of the mountain we'll enjoy our snacks. After we'll descend the mountain we'll go to the Observatory for a light lunch (optional) at their small café or pack your own. After we finish we'll head back to our starting point via Dash. Wear appropriate attire, bring water, snacks, lunch \$ (optional), and Dash fare. Rain within two days cancels or extreme heat +90 degrees. Please call leader for confirmation. Leader: Sandra Tapia 818.365.4571, Co-leader: Elaine Ayala

Orcutt Ranch Sunday, May 25th

O: Sierra Singles/SFV Orcutt Ranch Picnic: Join us for a picnic to start the summer. We'll meet at The historic Orcutt Ranch. We'll enjoy our lunch, bring something to share, than take a docent lead tour (permitting). The historic Orcutt Residence is surrounded by 24-acres of gardens and a citrus orchard. The gardens include heritage oaks trees, wandering garden paths, formal flower beds, and a variety of interesting specimen trees, exotic shrubs, and flowering plants. There are several significant oak trees on the property; one of the largest is more that 33' in circumference and is estimated to be more than 700 years old. This stand of oaks was commemorated with a plaque on October 2, 1948, by the San Fernando Valley Historical Society. Meet at 11:30 am at the ranch located 23600 Roscoe Blvd., West Hills, 91304. Lunch, drink and item to share. Rain cancels. Leader: Sandra Tapia 818.365.4571, co-leader Gerrie Montooth.

Below are plants of the Santa Monica Mountains
Photo by Sierra Club hike leader Pixie Klemic



TUES. HIKES & ACTIVITIES

Tuesday

Moderate Easy Paced 4-6 Mile.

For all hikes, bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, & sunscreen.

RAIN CANCELS. Possible \$3-\$9 park fee

Hike Leaders phone #

Nancy Krupa (818)981-4799, Pixie Klemic (818)787-5420, M. Vernallis(818)360-4414, , Marcia Harris.310-828-6670, Charlotte Feitshans (818)818-501-1225, Peter Ireland 310-457-9783 (w)

Sandra Tapia 818.365-4571, Rosemary Campbell (818)344-6869,

Doug Demers(805)419-4094, Richard Pardi (818)346-6257.

Dotty Sanford 805-532-2485, Rita Okowitz 818-889-9924,

Virve Leps 310-477-9664. Reaven Gately (661)255-8873,

Mimi Knights (661)253-3414, Ted Mattock (818)222-5581,

Joe Phillips 818 348-8884, Stephen Beck 818-346-5759

Hikes sponsored by Wilderness Adventures

These hikes are included as a courtesy.



**Thurs. 4-3-14 Towsley Cyn, Santa Clarita Woodlands:
Tues. 4-15-14 Towsley Canyon, Santa Clarita Woodlands:
See write-ups in Tues & Thurs activities below
Photo by Sierra Club Hike Leader Pixie Klemic**

TUES. HIKES

4-8-14 Malibu Creek State Park - Cornell to Century Lake & Rock Pool:

O:(WA) Moderate easy pace Hikers Malibu Creek State Park - Cornell to Century Lake and Rock Pool: Moderately paced 4, mile 600' gain hike including Lookout Trail with great views to Century Lake and Rock Pool. See the sites where many movies were shot. Meet 8:30 AM at Cornell & Mulholland dirt parking area. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Kanan Rd exit, go south on Kanan Rd ½ mile, turn left on Cornell Way and veer to right continuing south 3 miles (past Paramount Ranch) to paved entrance to dirt parking area on east side of street just south of Mulholland Hwy. Bring water, snack, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels. Leader: PIXIE KLEMIC Asst: RITA OKOWITZ

4-15 Towsley Canyon, Santa Clarita Woodlands:

O:(WA) Moderate easy pace Hikers / Towsley Canyon, Santa Clarita Woodlands: Moderately paced 5½ mile 1000' gain with great vistas, a chilly narrows, diverse plant life, tar seeps and a fumarole. Meet 8:30 AM Ed Davis Park, Newhall. Take the Calgrove exit from Interstate 5, turn west under the freeway and take the Old Road south ½ mile to Ed Davis Park entrance on right, park in second dirt parking area on the right near kiosk, about 50 yds past entrance gate, before fee area. Bring water, snack, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels. Leader: REAVEN GATELY Asst: STEPHEN BECK

4-22 Las Virgenes Canyon:

O:(WA) Moderate easy pace Hikers / Las Virgenes Canyon: Moderately paced 6 mile 800' gain hike on picturesque trail and along a seasonal stream among the beautiful grasslands of Simi Hills. Meet 8:30 AM at trailhead kiosk. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Las Virgenes Rd exit north 1+ mile to end, street parking. Bring water, snack, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels. Leader: MARCIA HARRIS Asst: PIXIE KLEMIC

4-29 Placerita Canyon State Park:

O:(WA) Moderate easy pace Hikers / Placerita Canyon State Park: Moderately paced 4 mile 400' gain hike through Placerita Canyon Park with shaded oak groves and a willow and sycamore-lined seasonal stream to Walker Ranch. Meet 8:30 AM at Placerita Nature Center parking lot. From Hwy 14 in Newhall take Placerita Cyn Rd exit and turn right (east) 1½ miles to park entrance. Bring water, snack, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels. Leader: PIXIE KLEMIC Asst: HERB MOORE



Huge Oak Tree on the Las Virgenes Trail, hike on 4-22-14 see info. above

THURSDAY HIKES & ACTIVITIES

Hike Leaders phone #

Nancy Krupa (818)981-4799, Pixie Klemic (818)787-5420, M. Vernallis(818)360-4414,, Marcia Harris.310-828-6670, Charlotte Feitshans (818)818-501-1225, Peter Ireland 310-457-9783 (w) Sandra Tapia 818.365-4571, Rosemary Campbell (818)344-6869, Doug Demers(805)419-4094, Richard Pardi (818)346-6257. Dotty Sanford 805-532-2485, Rita Okowitz 818-889-9924, Virve Leps 310-477-9664. Reaven Gately (661)255-8873, Mimi Knights (661)253-3414, Ted Mattock (818)222-5581, Joe Phillips 818 348-8884, Stephen Beck 818-346-5759

Thurs Moderate Paced

For all hikes, bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, & sunscreen.

RAIN CANCELS. Possible \$3-\$9 park fee

Hikes sponsored by Wilderness Adventures

These hikes are included as a courtesy.

April 3, 2014 Towsley Cyn, Santa Clarita Woodlands: Thursday

O:(WA) Thu Moderate Hikers / Moderately paced 7 mile 1350' gain (optional 5 mile 1050' gain) hike with great vistas, a chilly narrows, diverse plant life and tar seeps. Meet 8 AM Ed Davis Park in Santa Susana Mtns. Take Calgrove Blvd, exit 166, from Interstate 5, turn west under the freeway and take the Old Road south ½ mile to Ed Davis Park on right, drive past Santa Clarita rideshare parking area outside entrance, go through gate and park in large dirt parking area 100 yds beyond the gate. Bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels.

Leaders: ROSEMARY CAMPBELL, MARGARET VERNALLIS

April 10, 2014 Hummingbird Trail to Rocky Peak: Thursday

O:(WA) Thu Moderate Hikers / Moderately paced 9 mile 2000' gain hike in Santa Susana Mtns to Rocky Peak, on beautiful trail through coastal sage scrub and chaparral, then on fire road to peak with great views. Meet 8 AM at Kuehner Dr trailhead (from 118 freeway in east end of Simi Valley, take Kuehner Dr, exit 30, go north of freeway 100 yards and park off pavement on east side of street beside fence). Bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels.

Leader: REAVEN GATELY Asst: NANCY KRUPA

April 17 La Jolla Valley, Mugu Peak (1266'): Thursday

O:(WA) Thu Moderate Hikers / Moderately paced 8-9 mile hike with ocean views, open grasslands and wildflowers. We'll observe how this gorgeous location in the Santa Monica Mts. is recovering from the fire damage after it burned in May 2013. Any hikers who don't wish to climb the peak will have option to meet the others after they come down from the peak. Meet 8 AM near the Ray Miller Trailhead kiosk (in parking lot), which is used to access La Jolla Valley. From Pacific Coast Hwy and Malibu Canyon Road go north on PCH about 20.8 mi. to La Jolla Valley / Pt. Mugu State Park Campground entrance (about 1½ miles northwest of Big Sycamore Canyon entrance). Bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen, windbreaker, \$ for parking lot or park on PCH & walk in. Rain cancels.

Leaders: STEPHEN BECK, DOUG DEMERS

April 24 Grotto Trail in the Verdugos: Thursday

O:(WA) Thu Moderate Hikers / Lovely route in the Verdugos, 8½ miles, 2000 ft. gain with great views from the lunch spot. Meet 8 AM at trailhead. From the 210 freeway in Tujunga take La Tuna Canyon, exit 14, curve south and west down La Tuna Canyon Rd 1.2 miles and park at the second picnic area on the left. Bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, and suitable clothing layers. Rain cancels.

Leader: ROSEMARY CAMPBELL Asst: NORM STABECK



Thurs, 4-10-14 Hummingbird Creek Trail hike to Rocky Peak:
See write-up in activities above
Photo by Sierra Club hike leader Pixie Klemic



Thurs, 4-17-14 La Jolla Valley, Mugu Peak hike
See writeup below
Photo by Sierra Club Member Gayle Dufour

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES

(from here to the end of the newsletter)

The following activities are not sponsored nor administered by the Sierra Club. The Sierra Club has no information about the planning of these activities and makes no representations or warranties about the quality, safety, supervision or management of such activities. They are published only as a reader service because they may be of interest to the readers of this publication.



NATIVE PLANT WEEK SYMPOSIUM,

WILDFLOWER SHOW and PLANT SALE

April 19, 2014 9:00am-4:00pm

Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino 91436

The Native Plant Week Symposium includes a wildflower show, speakers, and sale along with exhibits and demonstrations by various local agencies.

In 2010 the California State Assembly and Senate approved Resolution ARC 173 establishing California Native Plant Week. This measure proclaims the third week of April each year as California Native Plant Week and encourages community groups, schools, and citizens to undertake appropriate activities to promote the conservation restoration, and appreciation of California's native plants.

Dozens of different native plant flowers will be on display, collected from members' home gardens and the grounds of the Theodore Payne Foundation. Native plants and seeds from the Theodore Payne Foundation Nursery will be available for purchase.

- Admission is free
- Educational displays and activities from various agencies and docent groups will be offered.
- Native plant gardening and natural history books will be available for sale, along with t-shirts, maps, and other gift items.
- Refreshments will be available for purchase.
- Cash and checks will be accepted.

Sponsored by the California Native Plant Society (Los Angeles / Santa Monica Mountains Chapter) and the Theodore Payne Foundation for Wild Flowers and Native Plants.

The Symposium will feature the following speakers:

10:00-11:30am Hartmut Wisch, An Introduction to California Native Bees

Noon-1:30pm Mickey Long, Botany for Birders: Merging Plant and Bird Study

2:00-3:30pm Allan Pollack, Restoring Habitat, One Yard at a Time

For more information about the California Native Plant Society, visit www.cnps.org.

Find the website for the L A / Santa Monica Mountains Chapter of CNPS at www.lacnps.org

Theodore Payne Foundation for wild flowers and native plants, Inc is located at 10459 Tuxford Street, Sun Valley 91352. Phone them at 818-768-1802 or visit them at www.theodorepayne.org.

NOTE: For more information, contact Steve Hartman (naturebase@aol.com) or 818-881-3706.



Pelican on the Sepulveda Wildlife Lake
Photo by Sierra Club Member Gayle Dufour

**ELP PROTECT LOCAL WILDLIFE! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE
Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve Spring Clean-Up
Saturday April 12, 2014 - 8:00-11:30am**

Questions: 310.457-5796 (Muriel) or 818.998-3126 (Diana).

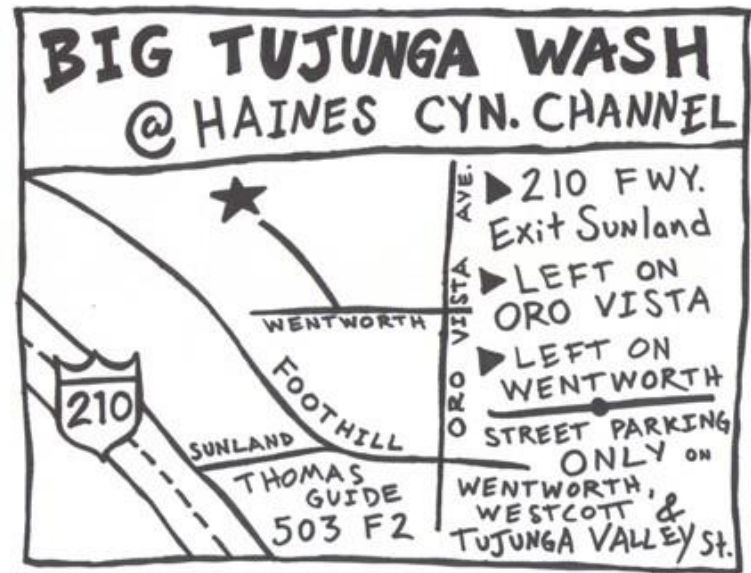
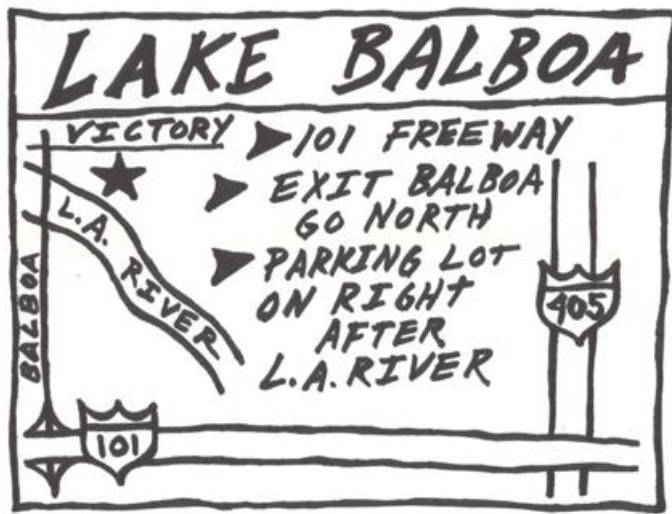
Sponsored by San Fernando Valley Audubon

In conjunction with Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee

Haskell Creek, where it runs through lovely Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area, hosts many riparian trees and shrubs, such as cottonwoods and willows. Songbirds forage and nest in the trees, while egrets and herons fish in this heart of the Wildlife Area. Sadly it is infested with trash, especially plastic bags and foam cups and food containers. At the Wildlife Lake, abandoned fishing line and hooks create lethal hazards for birds.

Directions: The Wildlife Area is on the east side of Woodley Ave. about a half mile north of Burbank Blvd. Turn east at the sign for the Japanese Garden (6100 Woodley Ave., Van Nuys, CA. 91406), stay to the right, and follow Wildlife Way toward the archery range for about a half mile to the last parking area.

Equipment and Clothing: You will get muddy and maybe wet. Please wear rugged clothing and shoes or rubber boots. If you have them, bring work gloves and long-handled tools to reach trash.



CLEANUP L.A. RIVER in the San Fernando Valley

For Info. Contact Friends of the L.A. River (FOLAR) office at 323-223-0585

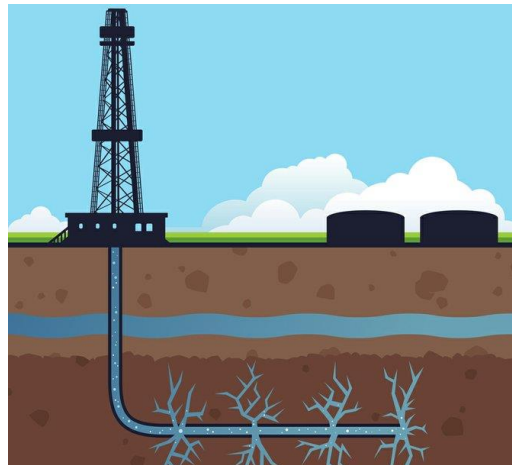
Folar website: There are 3 Saturdays of cleanup. See the FOLAR website to find out info. on other cleanups

Folar website: Folar.org choose cleanup There are 3 Saturdays of cleanup. See the FOLAR website to find out info. on other cleanups

SAT. APRIL 26, 2014 - 9:00AM-12:00Noon Please register online

(1) **LA River at Balboa Blvd. (See map above)**

(2) **Haines Canyon Channel at Tujunga Wash (See map above)**



What's Fracking in SoCal?

Mon, April 21, 2014 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Presenter: Tom Dagert of Santa Susana Mountain Park Assn. (SSMPA)

Santa Susana Mountain Park Assn. Community Meeting
Rockpointe Clubhouse, 22300 Devonshire St., Chatsworth, 91311
 (On the south side, one block before entrance to Chatsworth Park South)

Learn about the controversial technique for pulling more gas and oil out of the earth. Pennsylvania, New York, North Dakota have all been debating it. Now the Los Angeles City Council is on the verge of instituting a moratorium on fracking, and Sacramento is buzzing about it. Learn what fracking is. Learn how it works and where it's done. What are its advantages, its risks? Why is it a political issue as well as a technological issue? Hear from proponents and opponents.

Reseda Neighborhood Council Bike Ride

Reseda program rides weekly in and around San Fernando Valley.

For info. contact: **Joe Phillips at 818-348-8884 recreationbyjoe@yahoo.com**



**The California Wildlife Center treats hawks like this one
Photo by Gayle Dufour, Sierra Club member**

CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE CENTER OPEN HOUSE

April 27th 12-4pm.

26026 Piuma Rd., Calabasas 91302

Children's activities refreshments picture taken with redtail hawk

California Wildlife Center in Topanga is Helping to Take Care of Elephant Seals
<http://www.cawildlife.org/>

This is an article from last year's event so you can get an idea what it is like.

By Elaine Trogman

My friend Gayle Dufour and I drove up to California Wildlife Center to take an uninvited tour but we were told they aren't set up to give tours and so we left. Luckily, in April they had an open house and we returned there. We thought we would be one of a few people participating in the open house but to our surprise the place was swamped with families wanting to see what they are doing.

The place is situated on a side street in Topanga Canyon in a small rustic looking house, which was once a ranger station. They started in 1998 and have been taking care of wildlife that live in the local mountains ever since. Their patients are about 70% birds but they also treat coyote, deer, skunk, squirrel, opossum and others. When we walked into the room we saw a screen with 2 baby deer on it. They had not been weaned yet and the staff were concerned they would be anxious if too many people were milling around. When the deer have grown sufficiently they will be released near an established herd.

They receive many baby birds during nesting time because they fall out of their nests when people cut branches from trees. So this doesn't happen, it is best to do tree pruning during late fall and early winter. When they receive the baby birds they put them into small plastic boxes with stuffing to simulate a nest. They need to be fed approximately every 20 minutes and as they grow bigger their box/nest homes get bigger. When they learn to fly they are put in a caged room so they can stretch their wings to fly and at the right moment they are released. One of their patients was a Canada Goose that was shot with an arrow but it missed all the vital organs. The volunteers nursed it back to health and were happy to give it freedom once the goose was well.

CWC will be starting on a new project to help the Marine Mammal Center in San Pedro deal with the huge influx of starving juvenile sea lions. When we were at CWC we saw a huge wooden box type facility being built. When it is done it will hold up to 25 elephant seals and that will make room for more sea lions at the Marine Mammal Center. CWC board president, Victoria Harris, says, "Elephant seals don't need large pools during initial rehab so we could house them temporarily instead of San Pedro. But we'd have to set up a separate kitchen, get 300 lbs. of fish per day, buy industrial blenders, put up large pens, pay for waste removal, etc."

How is California Wildlife Center funded?

A. CWC is a nonprofit organization that receives funds from the generous support of local individuals, families, foundations and businesses who contribute in the form of memberships, private donations, grants, fundraising events and foundation support. CWC receives no state or federal funding for our services



*Art and article by Carla Bollinger
Mobile: 818.307.6418, Carlamamay@aol.com*

Chatsworth Nature Preserve Earth Day Celebration
April 6, 2014 10:00am until 3pm

The annual Earth Day Celebration, sponsored by DWP, will be held Sunday, April 6 from 10 am until 3 pm. Public Invited: Guided Tours, Native American Blessing, and displays by Conservation/Environmental Groups. (For more info plus map on the celebration, see the flyer in our "Hikes/Activities" e-Vall-E-Vents Newsletter" which is sent on the same day as this one.)

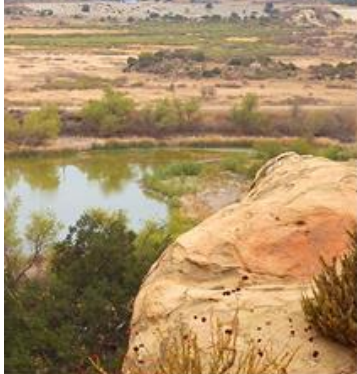
To Join the Celebration, enter the chainlink gate fence on Valley Circle Blvd. just southwest of the curve where Plummer St. turns into Valley Circle Blvd.

Parking is available near the gate along the street's shoulder.

There has been a large community effort over the years to preserve the once Chatsworth Reservoir as open space, renamed Chatsworth Nature Preserve (CNP) in 1994 under a city ordinance championed by former Hal Bernson, Councilmember District 12, other community leaders, and environmental organizations. This crucial wildlife habitat with an Ecology Pond, seasonal wetlands, vernal pools, oak woodlands and savanna, grassland, and riparian areas is located in the northwestern San Fernando Valley. CNP, 1325 acres, is the largest remaining natural area in the City of Los Angeles. The city ordinance states that the CNP has limited use for scientific studies and education. Scientific field studies, with entry authorized by DWP, are conducted by the Southwestern Herpetologists Society, SFV Audubon Society, and CA Native Plant Society. A listing of wildlife, mammals, birds, reptiles & amphibians, and vegetation in the CNP are on this website: savechatsworthpreserve.org. The annual Earth Day Celebration, sponsored by DWP, will be held Sunday, April 6 from 10 am until 3 pm.

Concerns for the CNP include the need to keep the Ecology Pond refilled to support the waterfowl and fringe marsh vegetation for all wildlife, suspension of the use of anti-coagulants as a method to keep the rodent population down which cause illness and even kills non-target animals, and the need to incorporate the CNP with the proposed Rim of the Valley Wildlife Corridor and/or protected open space by larger conservation organizations.

(SEE FLYER BELOW)



EARTH DAY CELEBRATION at Chatsworth Nature Preserve

Sunday April 6, 2014 — 10am to 3pm

Good family fun and it is free! *This is the only day during the year the public is invited to visit the Chatsworth Nature Preserve.*

Participating Conservation Groups

The following organizations will offer exhibits of wildlife, native plants, and information: the Southwestern Herpetologists Society, San Fernando Valley Audubon Society, Santa Susana Mountain Park Association, Foundation for the Preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains, CA Native Plants, Chatsworth Nature Preserve Coalition and other conservation groups.

Native Ceremony and Hikes

In the morning there will be a Chumash blessing. After the opening ceremonies throughout the day there are interpretive hikes around the Ecology Pond led by hike leaders from participating conservation organizations.

Location and Parking

To join the celebration, enter the chain-link fence gate on Valley Circle Blvd., just southwest of the curve where Plummer St. turns into Valley Circle Blvd. Parking is available near the gate along the street's shoulder.



The Chatsworth Nature Preserve is managed by the L. A. Department of Water and Power.
Photos courtesy of Sophia Wong, Henry Bollinger, Carla Bollinger, Dina Fisher



3RD ANNUAL EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2014, 10AM - 3PM

**Tarzana Community and Cultural Center
19130 Ventura Blvd., Tarzana**

Lots of Fun for the Whole Family!

10:00 FREE Zumba Kick-off

10:30 - 11:30 FREE Pancake Breakfast

12:30 - 2:00 FREE Tastings from local restaurants (while supplies last)

**Bring fresh fruit from your
backyard for the
Food Forward Fruit Drive
serving local food pantries**

**Donate your used bike and
parts to Fleet Street's bike
rehabilitation program
serving those in need**

FEATURING • Family Fun • Live Music • Learn to Live Green •
Minor Bike Repairs • Face Painting • Jumpers • DWP Rebate
Programs • West Valley Nursery Seed Planting • Sierra Club •
TreePeople • Theodore Payne Foundation, and more

**Don't miss the 3rd Annual Art Poster Contest with 1000 colorful
entries from local schools - winners will be announced.**



*Presented by the
Tarzana Neighborhood Council
and the Woodland Hills~Tarzana
Chamber of Commerce
Community Benefit Foundation*

King Gillette Ranch



King Gillette Ranch
See write-up on activities below
Photo by Sierra Club hike leader Pixie Klemic

King Gillette Ranch Directions & Info.

From 101 Ventura Fwy take Las Virgenes Rd/Malibu Canyon exit, go south approx. 3.5 miles to Mulholland Hwy. Turn left on Mulholland and then right to enter the long eucalyptus alleé driveway for Ranch.

Parking

Visit the King Gillette Ranch Visitor Center & Store Free Parking for 2 hours
Other Ranch parking is \$7.00. (There is an iron ranger at the parking lot entrance where visitors can pick up an envelope and make their payments.) All programs and activities are free unless stated on the event write-up.

Allow time to visit the Visitor Center and Store then take a hike.

The visitor center is a very enjoyable experience with many hands on exhibits regarding the Santa Monica Mountains. There is, also, a fun short hike up a hill with great views in all directions. The photo above was taken from this hill.

King Gillette Interpretive Programs & Misc

Western National Parks Assn. events at King Gillette Ranch

Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center & Store

26876 Mulholland Highway, Calabasas, CA 91302 Open 9 – 5 Daily

Event Info/Reservations: 805-370-2302 General Info: 805-370-2301

Questions for these events below contact Sophia Wong, Store & Events Manager

Western National Parks Association

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area

King Gillette Ranch

26876 Mulholland Highway, Calabasas CA 91302

805-370-2302 direct/ 805-370-2301 general, 818-880-6550 fax

samo@wnpa.org, www.wnpa.org

Below are the Western National Parks Assn./National Park Service events at King Gillette Ranch

Sat, April 12, 2014 12:00 noon - 4:00 p.m

Ranching & Riding in the Santa Monica Mountains: A Look at our Local Ranching History

Come hear about the rich ranching histories of two of our local parks - King Gillette Ranch & Malibu Creek State Park. View restored carriages from the 1800s. And meet the horses & patrol team that help keep our parks safe today. Formal presentations at 12:30 pm & 2 pm. Meet inside the Visitor Center.

King-Gillette Interpretive Programs & Misc

Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority (MRCA) events at King-Gillette Park sponsors the events below:

These programs below are a project of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) in cooperation with Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, California State Parks, and National Park Service. Come visit their visitor center at King Gillette Ranch.

If you have questions on these programs below call: (818) 878-0866 x228 RAIN CANCELS \$7.00 parking 26800 Mulholland Hwy.Calabasas, CA 91302

SEE THIS KING-GILLETTE WEBSITE LINK BELOW FOR APRIL PROGRAMS (They won't be out until April):
<http://www.lamountains.com/pdf/KGRWinter2014.pdf>

Subscriber Services

[Manage your email preference to SUBSCRIBE or UNSUBSCRIBE.](#)

[Check out our Listserv Lists support site for more information.](#)

[Sign up and view recent editions for the Sierra Club Insider, the flagship e-newsletter.](#)

Sent out twice a month, it features the Club's latest news and activities.
