



**SIERRA CLUB San Fernando Valley**

## **Newsletter June 2013**

**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.** We are limited in our parking space because of construction. For this reason, it's best to arrive early. **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 17400 Victory Boulevard

**Learn About Conservation Tips AT OUR SF Valley Sierra Club WEBSITE:**

<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sfvq/>

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

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## PLEASE JOIN US!



Muriel measuring a leather back turtle in Trinidad

***\$25.00 Fundraising  
Italian Dinner & Program***

**June 18, 2013**

**Tues., 6:30 pm**

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



**Info: Make your reservations by sending  
\$25.00 payable to  
San Fernando Valley Sierra Club,  
mailed to Julie Szende,  
6501 Penfield Ave**

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Dear friends,

Its official – The Angeles Chapter has a new home and you're all welcome to stop by and say hello anytime!

We are now located in Suite #660 at 3435 Wilshire Blvd, LA, CA 90010, only 3 floors above our old office. The space is smaller and more compact but we think it will serve our members as well, if not better than, the old office space. We moved to reduce overhead expenses so we can invest as many resources as possible in our environmental programs. This is only one of the ways the Chapter is re-building its reserves after a challenging 2012. [Contribute now!](#)

Now that we are leaner, we are also greener, and we are in it for the long haul. Less space means a smaller carbon footprint, fewer lights, fewer phones, less everything -- except for providing our members with the best support and resources possible. Together, we are continuing to make a

**Woodland Hills, CA. 91367**

**818-999-5384, [julieszende@gmail.com](mailto:julieszende@gmail.com)**

**Please include a phone number  
Upon receipt of your check,  
a confirmation notice  
will immediately be mailed to you**

**Presentation for our Dinner**  
**Muriel Horacek**  
**presents**  
**Adventurous Travel**  
**With Earthwatch**

**Muriel is a Volunteer Field Representative of the Earthwatch Institute and has been an activist participant for a number of years. Finding solutions for a sustainable future is the purpose of this organization. Muriel will show her experience is vast and interesting. Her experiences include camping out in a cave in China while monitoring the white-headed langur, saving the cheetahs in Namibia, observing migrating birds in Israel, Brazil and Alaska and the wild horses off the coast of Maryland. The Panda Project meant an expedition to the reserve there in China this last July with family members. Her participation as a zoo docent keeps her here and busy in California.**



**June Dinner presenter Muriel Horacek  
with cheetah in Namibia**

difference on the environmental issues facing Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Together, we are getting people outdoors on hundreds of hikes each month. And together, we can ensure that the Chapter remains healthy – [Please donate today!](#)

The Executive Committee, activist leaders and our committed staff are creating new revenue streams and revamping old ones to keep the Chapter's financial conditions healthy and strong. We are establishing a new Fundraising Committee to work with our Senior Chapter Director to put the fun back in fundraising. All members are welcome to become a part of this important committee. Your participation will help grow our Cheers or Tears Tribute Program, our Cars4Causes Program and our Hike Donation and Major Gifts Programs, too. And who knows what great new ideas will be pursued! All creative people are warmly welcomed. Join this effort by contacting Ron Silverman at [ron.silverman@sierraclub.org](mailto:ron.silverman@sierraclub.org), and have fun while helping the Chapter.

Not able to contribute your time right now? – That's okay – you can still invest in our future by sending a donation to the Chapter today! Your gift, large or small, will be put to good use right away. And if you send \$100 or more, you will become one of our elite members and [join the 1000 at \\$100 Campaign](#). Your name will be displayed on our home page with all our other generous donors.

Please don't delay – contribute today! Be a part of the lean, green Angeles Chapter – donate today and ensure that we are here to stay! It's simple and easy and only a click away – [www.angeles.sierraclub.org](http://www.angeles.sierraclub.org)

Thank you for your generosity.

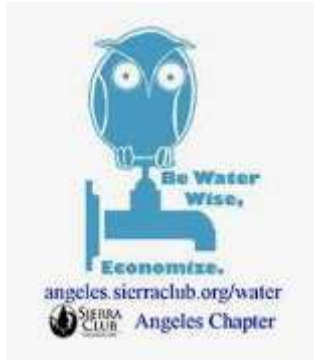
Carole Mintzer  
Chair, Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter

If you would like to make a donation to the Angeles Chapter by check, please make your check payable to the Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club and send it to:  
Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club  
3435 Wilshire Blvd., #660  
Los Angeles CA 90010

## FUTURE PROGRAMS

# What's water got to do with energy? Everything

*By Charming Evelyn, Chair of Sierra Club Water Committee*



If you live in Southern California, you've probably seen the television ad with the hand turning off a light switch and exhorting you to "Flex Your Power."

Have you ever stopped and thought about that statement and what is implied beyond conserving electricity? Did it ever occur to you that it takes water to create energy, and energy to get that water to us?

Power plants, including nuclear power plants, rely heavily on water for cooling purposes. According to the Union of Concerned Scientists: "Cooling power plants requires the single largest share of U.S. freshwater withdrawals: 41%."

Water also is used to pump crude oil out of the ground, help remove pollutants from power plant exhaust, generate steam that turns turbines and flush away residue after fossil fuels are burned. To produce energy from oil and natural gas, water is used for drilling, completion, fracturing and refining. Water is a key element in biofuels too, vital to grow, refine and distribute such fuels.

### How much water it takes to ....

Given all of this, it takes approximately 25 gallons of water to produce 1 kilowatt hour of electricity; 13 gallons of water to produce 1 gallon of gasoline; and 5 or more barrels of water to produce a single barrel of oil from mining oil shale. It takes more water to power homes and appliances than a family uses inside the home. Windmills and solar photovoltaic panels require much less water per kilowatt generated than coal, nuclear and other thermoelectric plants.

Almost 10% of total national energy use is devoted to extracting, moving and treating water. The amount of energy used to deliver water to residential customers in Southern California is equivalent to approx one-third of total average household electricity use.

Everything consumers buy requires water and energy to make. Electronics, cotton and paper are some of the most water-intensive products. The average American spends about \$1,500 a year on electronics, from computers to home entertainment systems. The water required to create your laptop could wash nearly 70 loads of laundry in a standard machine.

Every time you shave minutes off your use of hot water, you save energy and water, keeping more dollars in your pocket. One of the easiest, most effective ways to cut your energy and water footprint is by repairing leaky faucets and toilets, which also saves you money on your water bill.

Making smart energy decisions can greatly reduce the pressure our demand for electricity places on our water supplies. Since every kilowatt takes gallons of water to produce, consider shifting to energy-efficient lighting and appliances. You will save water, energy and Mother Earth.

So the next time you walk out of or into a room not being used, and the lights or appliances are on, be a dear and turn them off!!

*Charming Evelyn is Chair of the Sierra Club [Angeles Chapter's Water Committee](#)*

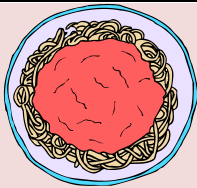
**From your home, tune-in to the WATER COMMITTEE**  
**If you are interested in water issues in California, & especially So. Calif., we urge you to come or tune into the WATER COMMITTEE by phone. We have discussions within the committee and we, also, invite experts to speak to us. It meets every month 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:**

**<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](mailto:bcharmz@aol.com)**



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**JULY 16, 2013**

**Belated Mother's Day Tribute to  
Mothers of the Santa Monica Mountains  
National Recreational Area**



**Susan Nelson, Jill Swift, and Margot Feuer**

***Three women, Sue Nelson, Jill Swift, and Margo Feuer galvanized the movement that helped make Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area a reality in 1978, per National Park Service.***

*By Elaine Trogman*

When I was in school in the 1950s and 1960s we used to go for drives and one of our most popular trips was to go from the SF Valley to Malibu via Malibu Canyon. It was very rural and my childish mind thought that would never change. Fast-forward until now and I now know that I was wrong but some of it changed for the better and other parts succumbed to the developer's shovel. The beginning of the Malibu Canyon ride from the SF Valley side has changed in that there are now continuous housing projects and fast food places where there was once open space. After you pass that part things start to look the same as when I was a kid. Some of that rural feeling can be credited to the 3 women whose picture you see above this article and they are Susan Nelson, Jill Swift and Margo Feuer. When I was a child most of that land I looked at was privately owned and at any time they could send in the bulldozers. Now large sections are National, State and local parks and, therefore, it has been saved from development but there are private lands sandwiched in-between.

Some people refer to Anthony Beilensen as the father of the Santa Monica Mountains Recreation Area (SMMNRA) and it is true he had political power to work with but there were 3 mothers who worked just as hard and they were Margot Feuer, Sue Nelson & Jill Swift. Both Margot and Sue spent a lot of their time trying to persuade political people to get involved with legislation to provide more land to SMMNRA; Margo became the Sierra Club's principal lobbyist for the park and made repeated trips to Washington to testify before Congress. What originally got Margo active were the terrifying proposals introduced, which included building a nuclear power plant in an isolated canyon and a freeway through Malibu Canyon.

Jill spent her time getting the public interested in the project by taking people hiking in the mountains for the purpose of showing them what could be lost with development. In 1971 she led 5000 people on a march on Mulholland Drive. She was a member of the Sierra Club Santa Monica Mountains Task Force.

Margo was a founder of the group Save Open Space and helped to save Ahmanson Ranch and neighboring Jordan Ranch. Sue was president of the Friends of the Santa Monica Mountains, Parks and Seashore and on the Central Committee of the Sierra Club. Not only did Sue do lobbying for the parks but she, also, was involved in inventorying both plants and wildlife species for the National Park Service.

If you want to read more about the history of the creation and ongoing issues concerning the SMMNRA here are 2 links to articles below that can help you.

[July 12, 2012 article](#) by Las Virgenes Homeowners Federation: "The Battle for Santa Monica Mountains Goes On."

California Native Plant Society's: [A Mountain Park in a Great City](#).

**NEWS FROM THE**

## Energy Upgrade California

Lore Pekrul will present "Energy Upgrade California- what does this program mean for me?". Lore has been educated as an urban planner and is currently working towards a Masters degree in green building.

She has chaired the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter's Green Building Committee for the past 5 years during which time they have supported initial green building ordinances for the City and County of Los Angeles. At present the committee is working to support Energy Upgrade California. Information about this program will be conveyed with practical details for homeowners on energy efficiency home retrofit practices.

*There will be socializing and refreshments.*



## History, Controversy and Opportunities at the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas

**AUGUST 20,  
2013**

Kris Ohlenkamp will present "History, Controversy and Opportunities in the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas". Kris has been President and/or Conservation Chair of the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society for the last 35 years and has lead bird/nature walks

## SANTA MONICAL MOUNTAINS RECREATION AREA

**Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (SMMNRA)** is the largest urban national park in the country, encompassing more than 150,000 acres of mountains and coastline in Ventura and Los Angeles counties. A unit of the National Park System, it comprises a seamless network of local, state, and federal parks interwoven with private lands and communities. As one of only five Mediterranean ecosystems in the world, SMMNRA preserves the rich biological diversity of more than 450 animal species and 26 distinct plant communities. For more information, visit [www.nps.gov/samo](http://www.nps.gov/samo).

### Backbone Trail is Coming Along

Piece by piece, a trail is forging its way along the "backbone" of the recreation area. California State Parks took the first step toward a 65-mile Backbone Trail in 1978. With 5 miles left to go, single track trails and fire roads will unite this patchwork of public parklands from east to west.

### May 2013 Fire in west Santa Monica Mountains National Rec. Area

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. - Now that the 24,000-acre Springs Fire is officially controlled, the National Park Service is re-opening trails on the western side of the Santa Monica Mountains Tuesday morning, with restrictions. Visitors are encouraged to help nature recover from the fire by respecting trail closures and staying on the trail in areas that are open. Foot and bike traffic tramples sensitive soil, vegetation, burrows and nests. Park officials estimate 70% of Rancho Sierra Vista's 1170 acres burned during the fire, though the Satwiwa Native American Indian Culture Center and all other structures were protected. More information is available at 805-370-2301.

### Did You Know?



On June 13, 1980, Charlie Cooke, hereditary Chief of the Chumash and concerned citizens fulfilled a dream-- a place for families to explore our natural world and learn about the Chumash. Satwiwa in Newbury Park, CA celebrates the beauty of the mountains and all Native American cultures.

## Keeping Cool in Woodland Hills



by Gayle Dufour

I live on a mountaintop facing due west in Woodland Hills. There are no trees nearby, on this steep hillside, to shelter me from the sun. The summers here, from July to October, are extremely hot. All of the windows in my house are double-glazed and have thin cellular shades. I also have several high-sloped ceilings. My air conditioning, set at 78 degrees, wasn't keeping up with temperatures in the 100's.

To improve this situation, the first thing I thought about was the possibility of installing ceiling fans to help move the conditioned air around. They don't use much electricity. I noticed that I had ceiling fixtures in the kitchen, dining room, living room and study. Since the wiring was already in place, all I had to do was replace these lighting fixtures with ceiling fans that come with lights. Having done this, I noticed an immediate improvement in my air conditioning. It is able to keep up with higher temperatures outside.

Still, on those very hot over 100 degree days, I needed more help. I decided to place Insulfoam, Energy Star rated insulation, in the windows facing the western sun in the afternoon. The Insulfoam is made without CFC'S, HCFC'S or formaldehyde. I found the rigid insulation boards at a builder's hardware big box store in two thicknesses: 3/4 inch and 2 inch. Using a box cutter, I cut the Insulfoam to fit over the glass in the window frame. I slid these boards between the glass and my cellular shades. I used two different thicknesses, depending on how much space there was between the glass and the shade. This idea greatly cuts down the heat entering my house through these windows, lessening the air conditioning load.

Even so, there was one more thing left for me to do. I discovered retractable awnings! Since I wanted the sun to come in the winter but not in the summer, they were perfect for my situation. I contacted three awning companies for bids in the San Fernando Valley. I needed three awnings: one for the kitchen wall facing west and two for the two sliding glass doors also facing west. The modern architecture of my house did not provide roof overhangs in these areas. I hired one of these companies to install them with hand cranks,

**in the Wildlife Area the first Sunday of every month since 1980.**

**In December 2012 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers destroyed the 48 acre "South Reserve". Come and find out about the flora and fauna, history and management, and controversies and plans for the area. Learn how you can help restore and protect this local treasure.**



## **How to Become a Wildlife Habitat Steward**

**Sept. 17, 2013**

: Alan Pollack, M.D. long time member of the Sierra Club and the Nature Conservancy is a life-long gardener and has merged his passion for wildlife with his passion for gardening.

His training by the National Wildlife Federation has enabled him to become a "Wildlife Habitat Steward". His yard is certified as an official, wildlife habitat site and for the past 8 years he has been giving no charge advice and landscape designs to homeowners, churches, schools and to anyone who wishes to create a garden that is attractive to wildlife as well as to humans.

He leads the Audubon-at-Home Project for the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society. Come and learn the 4 basic elements necessary for wildlife to survive as well as a discussion of sustainable gardening practices. This will be followed by a virtual tour of his certified habitat garden. *There will be socializing and refreshments*

not motorized. I found the hand cranks easy to operate, not subject to breakdown and costing a lot less. By preventing the sun from reaching these walls, the awnings keep the temperature inside my house cooler by 10-15 degrees!

Using ceiling fans, Insulfoam rigid insulation boards and retractable awnings have definitely lowered my air conditioning bills during the long hot summer. I don't need to run the A/C system as often. When necessary, it comes on much later in the day. And most importantly, for comfort, the air conditioning keeps up with those 100 + degree days with the thermostat set at 78 degrees!

**That which is not good for the beehive cannot be good for the bees.**

***Marcus Aurelius, Roman Emperor, 169-180 A.D.***

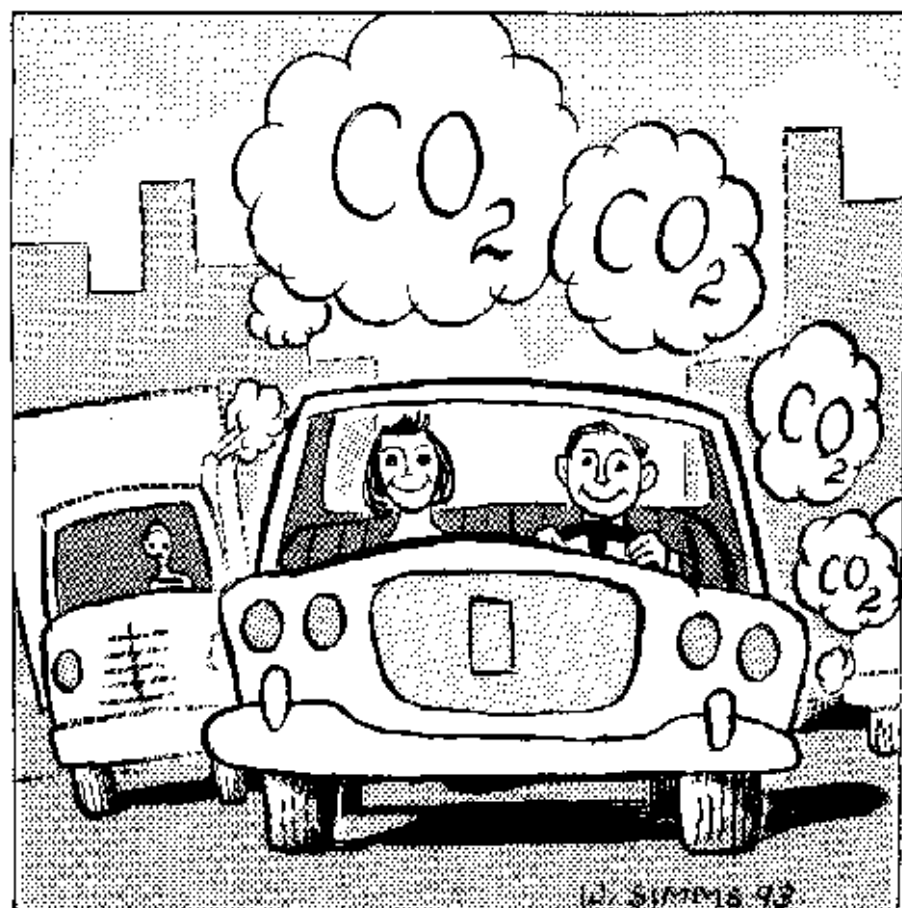
From Boogy Green website

<http://sarahmosko.wordpress.com/>

*Words of Teddy Roosevelt*

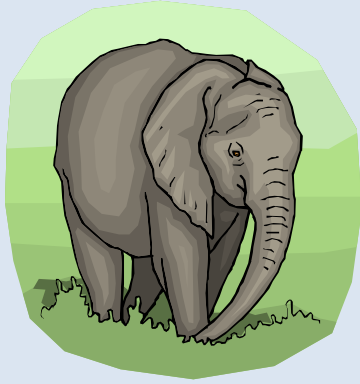
**"A grove of giant redwood or sequoias should be kept just as we keep a great and beautiful cathedral."**

*Cartoon by Willis Simms*



**GLOBAL WARMING JOY RIDE.**

***Conservation Corner***



## **Safari in Kenya”**

**OCT. 15, 2013**

**Alex Oloo will present “Safari in Kenya”. Come and follow close up and personal the steps of the wildebeest migration in the Masai Mara eco-system.**

**Alex was born in Western Kenya by the shores of Lake Victoria. He is a Sierra Club Member and for over a decade has been a tour guide in Kenya. He worked as a tour guide for RoadsScholars (formerly known as Elderhostel) for 6 years.**

**He is a professional Ornithologist by training and has worked with the Nairobi National Museum, Ornithology Department. He was the Guide Coordinator at the National Museum of Kenya. In Kenya he was involved in many conservation organizations including Youth for Conservation, the East Africa Wildlife Society, Kenya Museum Society and Nature Kenya which is involved in protecting important bird areas.**

***There will be socializing and refreshments.***

**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.**

## **The National Climate Assessment Report**

*By Michael Stevenson*

For some time the scientific community has accepted that human activities are responsible for significantly altering our atmosphere, oceans, land, polar ice caps and ecosystems. At present 97% of all publishing climate scientists, view the climate evidence as showing that humans are primarily responsible for global warming. A national poll on global warming was released recently by the firm Public Policy Polling. Among respondents who said they had voted for President Barack Obama in the 2012 presidential election, 77% said they believe global warming is real. By contrast, only 24% of respondents who voted for former Gov. Mitt Romney in 2012 said they believe global warming is real.

In light of this it may be a surprise to some that the U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) was established by Republican President George H.W. Bush in 1989 and mandated by Congress in the Global Change Research Act of 1990. This legislation was drafted to assist in the understanding, assessing, predicting and responding to human induced as well as natural processes of global change in climate, land productivity, oceans and water resources, atmospheric chemistry and ecological systems. Reports were to be produced every 10 years.

This year The National Climate Assessment and Development Advisory Committee have overseen the development of the draft of the Third National Climate Assessment Report. This 60-person Federal Advisory Committee was established under the Dept. of Commerce in 2010. Public comments on this new report written by some 240 authors were conducted from January to April, 2013. After an extensive review to be completed by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Climate Assessment Report will be submitted to the Federal Government. As many environmentalists already understand it will most certainly present a sobering account of the new world that awaits us if we don't act to change our situation.

The response to these findings will appear in The National Global Change Research Plan 2012-2021. This plan will (1) encompass the advancement of the fundamental research needed to improve our understanding of the natural and human components of our climate, (2) provide a scientific basis to inform and enable timely decisions on adaptation and mitigation to climate change, (3) help build a sustainable assessment capacity to improve our ability to understand, anticipate and respond to global change impacts and vulnerabilities and (4) advance and broaden the public's understanding of climate change as well as helping develop a scientific workforce of the future.

The report covers a number of subjects including the effects of climate change on water resources, energy supply and uses, transportation, agriculture, ecosystems, human health, land use as well as how the coming changes will effect different regions of our country. A more recent idea has been to move from a primary focus on climate science and include other scientific disciplines that look at other stressors on our environment. These include the impact of land clearing, urbanization, and unsustainable agricultural practices such as poor use of water resources, and over grazing that lead to ecosystem degradation, biodiversity loss and the decline of water availability and quality.

Having access to scientific data about causes and effects of global changes can provide valuable information to help people make informed decisions in their lives, businesses and communities. The USGCRP will establish an inter-agency Global Change Information System. This web based system will deploy and manage global change information for use by scientists, decision makers and the general public. Progress on mitigating and reversing global climate change will be more rapid by promoting an international coordinated response to this crisis all which will be included in this information system. Sadly getting international co-operation on this issue may be easier than convincing the conservatives in our own country that climate change is for real and needs immediate attention.

More information may be found on this topic at [www.globalchange.gov](http://www.globalchange.gov)

**. MUST SEE, SPECTACULAR!  
ICE CALVING VIDEO**

**Use this link below:**

<http://www.youtube.com/embed/hC3VTgIPoGU?rel=0>

**watch a gigantic icy part of Greenland come apart.  
Did you see a whale there?**

**Come to Canoga Park ARTrageous Art Walk**



**Call Elaine Trogman  
818 780-8345**

**Call Barry Katzen  
818 341-8304**

## Scrabble Group



Do you enjoy spelling? Are you into words and combinations of words? Does the idea of spending hours hovering over a Scrabble board appeal to you? If so, you might like to join our Scrabble group. We meet once a month for an evening of fellowship, refreshments, and hard-fought Scrabble games. Beginners, intermediates, and experts are welcome. For more information call Julie at (818) 999-5384 or email [julieszende@gmail.com](mailto:julieszende@gmail.com)



**GET A FREE SOLAR  
EVALUATION  
WITH SIERRA CLUB**

Summer is around the corner and everything is starting to feel a little lighter, especially your electric bill when you go solar with the Sierra Club.

[Find out how to switch to clean, renewable energy and save money on your electric bills.](#)

Going solar with the Sierra Club

Join us for an evening of art, photograph, poetry & music.  
There will be some nature art and photography  
by Carla & Henry Bollinger.

**Thursday, June 20, 2013, no charge**  
**6-7pm paradigm poetry reading hosted by Carla Bollinger**  
**7pm to 10pm art reception with music & light snacks**  
**21622 Sherman Way, Canoga Park, CA 91304 818-347-9419**



**Lavender Morning**

**Painted by Carla Lauren Bollinger of Santa Susana Mountain Park Assn.**

[carlamamay@aol.com](mailto:carlamamay@aol.com) 818-340-7357, Mobile: 818-307-6418



**Birds' nests in Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area**  
**Photo by Sierra Club member Gayle Dufour**

**What time of the year is best to trim trees and bushes?**

Angeles Chapter in California and our solar partner, Sungevity, is a win, win, win! A win for you: Guarantee your family lower electric bills, free yourself from dirty energy, and do it all with no upfront investment. Most homeowners start saving on their power bills immediately.

**[And if you go solar this spring, you'll get a \\$750 gift card.](#)**

A win for the planet: Powering your home with solar energy is the single best way to shrink your carbon footprint - the equivalent of taking 1.5 cars off the road.

A win for the Sierra Club in California: Sungevity will donate \$750 to the Sierra Club for everyone who goes solar through this program. This means more money for Club's important environmental campaigns in California.

**Here's how it works:**

**[Enter your address and energy use to get a free solar evaluation for your home.](#)**

**Your free Sungevity quote will detail your solar options, show you what your home would look like, and how much you would save on energy costs.**

**Join your neighbors in California and start generating positive energy – [go solar today!](#)**

If you want to know exactly how solar energy works (but don't want to read a book), here's a [handy graphic](#) that keeps it simple -- and meaningful.

**It is dangerous to throw compact fluorescent lights in the garbage.**

**You can recycle the lights at HOME DEPOT**

**Don't water on windy days when much of the**

In Southern California birds can start nesting as early as January. Most birds are protected under the "Migratory Bird Treaty Act" which states that any known "active" nest cannot be disturbed until the babies have left that nest. Always inspect bushes and trees before trimming. Play it safe and trim in the LATE FALL & EARLY WINTER. Nesting season is usually complete by November.



## **Marine Mammal Care Center in San Pedro helps beached Juvenile Sea Lions**

*By Elaine Trogman*

California has 840 miles of coastline. I feel that we in California have a special responsibility to the rest of the country to make sure the Pacific Ocean and its inhabitants who live in it are healthy. This applies especially to us who live less than 50 miles from the coast.

It is very unusual to see so many beached juvenile sea lions, over a thousand, along our California coast but it is happening from Monterey to San Diego and many of them are either sick or dead.

Dave Bard, director of the Marine Mammal Care Center (MMCC) in San Pedro, said that the situation has become serious enough that the federal government officials have declared an "unusual mortality event" for the animals." In L.A. County alone Bard said that his facility has cared for over 400 sea lions this year (compared to last year when there were about 36 patients.) Bard said, "Our busiest year ever we had 500 sea lions, so basically we have extended an entire year's budget in 3 months." It is draining on the volunteers who help out.

While there is some hesitancy to mention what is the cause until they have proof, some reports say there isn't enough food for them to eat. "We have not ruled out medical causes, but nutritional deficiency seems to be the primary issue," said Dr. Lauren Palmer, a veterinarian at the MMCC in San Pedro. "We don't know why but there aren't enough prey fish out there for sea lions this size." Some of the sea lions are being sent to facilities in northern California where they are not having a stranding problem.

The California Wildlife Center(CWC) in Topanga Canyon is building a facility to temporarily take over care of elephant seals. This story is in our CWC article below.

The Marine Mammal Care Center was established in 1987. It relies on grants and donations to pay for about 50% of its costs per year. To make a donation or volunteer call (310) 548-5677 or go to <http://marinemammalcare.org/category/news/>.

**water blows  
away or  
evaporates.**

**Never let water  
run down the  
drain when there  
is another use  
for it.**

**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY  
SIERRA CLUB  
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

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The Late Willis Simms



**The California Wildlife Center (CWC) treats owls like this one.  
Picture from the CWC open house by  
Sierra Club member Gayle Dufour**

## **California Wildlife Center in Topanga Will be Helping Take Care of Elephant Seals**

<http://www.cawildlife.org/>

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?**

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.

To make a donation <http://www.cawildlife.org/donate-landing-pg>  
or volunteer <http://www.cawildlife.org/contacts-us>



## **“Fresh foods” diet avoids endocrine disrupting chemicals** **Curb Exposure to Endocrine Disruptors** **Through Diet**

### **Curb Exposure to BPA and Phthalate Through Diet**

*By Sarah (Steve) Mosko*

Endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs) are synthetic substances known to play havoc with hormone and organ systems in lab animals, and humans are exposed to an alarming number of them. EDCs are found in a wide array of everyday consumer products, including plastics, and also find their way into air, dust and even foods.

A new study confirms for the first time that dietary practices – like whether you select fresh versus canned fruits & vegetables, microwave foods in plastics, or drink from plastic bottles – significantly impact one’s body burden of at least two EDCs known to interfere with normal organ development in animals and maybe humans: bisphenol A (BPA) and di-ethylhexyl phthalate (DEHP).

BPA is an estrogen-mimicker found in polycarbonate plastics and in the resin lining of most food/beverage cans. A large body of evidence suggests BPA promotes obesity, diabetes, infertility, breast & prostate cancers and even dementia, and in 2012 the U.S. government prohibited its use in baby bottles and drinking cups for toddlers. DEHP is a softening agent used in polyvinyl chloride plastics and some plastic food packaging. In 2009, DEHP (and other phthalates) were banned nationwide in children’s toys and childcare products, based on research showing it can inhibit testosterone synthesis and might derail normal male sexual development.

Research led by the Silent Spring Institute had 5 families switch for just 3 days to a diet designed to minimize BPA and DEHP by eliminating canned foods & beverages and including fresh organic fruits & vegetables and grains and meats prepared without using plastic utensils, non-stick cookware or plastic storage containers. Both adults and children showed urinary evidence of a large, rapid drop in exposure to both chemicals. This study highlights that we can significantly reduce our families’ exposure to these EDCs by sensible dietary interventions alone.

**Read the full story and other environmental articles by Sarah Mosko on [BoogieGreen.com](http://BoogieGreen.com).**

## **Great Whale Conservancy**

<http://www.greatwhaleconservancy.org/home>



**Use link Below--WATCH THE SHIPPING LANE PROBLEM!!**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E1SwJfny2qs>

This video tells the story of why our shipping lanes in So. Calif. need to be moved further away from where the biggest whales, the blue whale, are feeding on krill. Whales are killed every year from collisions with ships.

# Stop the ship strikes on blue whales in So. Calif.

By signing this petition and read the story of what is happening.

<http://www.greatwhaleconservancy.org/stop-ship-strikes-blue-whales>

Petition is at bottom of link screen

**MUST SEE!**

**INSPIRATIONAL WHALE RELEASE VIDEO**

Use this link below:

<http://www.youtube.com/embed/EBYPicSD490?rel=0>

to watch a young whale being saved from drowning in fishing net and the beautiful acrobatics it does to say thanks!!!

**PLEASE SIGN OUR PETITION NOW!**



**URGENT UPDATE ABOUT DEVELOPMENT OF WEDDINGTON GOLF & TENNIS**

The developer is progressing with plans to build 200 condos and 635 parking spaces on this site. Help us send a strong message to elected officials that WE WANT TO KEEP THIS PRECIOUS PATCH OF LAND 100% OPEN SPACE!

**[SIGN OUR PETITION OF SUPPORT NOW!](#)**

For over 50 years this neighborhood gem along the LA River has been a beloved regional destination. Help us preserve it for future generations by [SIGNING OUR PETITION](#).

Then show your support by forwarding this email to your friends to join the effort to support 100% Open Space.

For more information visit us at [www.SaveLARiverOpenSpace.org](http://www.SaveLARiverOpenSpace.org)

**SEE MORE PICTURES IN HIKE SECTION  
BELOW**



## WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

COME TO OUR PROGRAMS AND PICK UP OUR SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES through OCT. 2013. The schedules have programs and hikes in the San Fernando Valley area.)

See programs and hikes thru OCT. 2013 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 Gabe Szende 818-999-5384  
[russianstore@earthlink.net](mailto:russianstore@earthlink.net),  
[gabesende@yahoo.com](mailto:gabesende@yahoo.com)

## SATURDAY & SUNDAY

We have been receiving a number of inquiries from people who would like to enjoy the outdoors, either by climbing the mountains or walking around the city on weekends. We will be scheduling activities around the San Fernando Valley and the surrounding neighborhoods on the 3rd weekend of every month starting in March.

If you would like to join us please contact Gabe at 818-999-5384 or via e-mail at [gabesende@yahoo.com](mailto:gabesende@yahoo.com) for the location and time.



## 2013 CAR-CAMP TRIPS

### June 7- 9 Friday - Sunday Winery Tour & Carcamp in Santa Inez Valley:

**O: Carcamp:** Join us for a carefree, informal weekend in Santa Barbara County. On Saturday morning a moderately paced hike; in the afternoon we will visit the local wineries. Return to camp for Happy Hour with a delicious International Potluck dinner to follow. After dinner enjoy camaraderie around a campfire. Sunday options include another hike, sightseeing, a boat ride, or a tour of nearby California missions. Families with children welcome. Send phone numbers, rideshare info, \$30 (Sierra Club) to **Ldr: Gabriel Sende ( 818) 999-5384; Co-Ldrs: Barbara Madel, Iris Edinger.**

### August 9-11, 2013 Friday - Sunday Grower Beach Carcamp:

**O: Carcamp:** Camp at a State Park in a beautiful coastal setting. You have a choice to hike, swim, bicycle or rent a kayak at the nearby beaches. Potluck a campfire on Sat evening. If you are interested please contact the leader for further information. Leader: Gabe Sende, [gabesende@yahoo.com](mailto:gabesende@yahoo.com) or 818-999-5384



**Tues, June 1, 2013 Franklin Canyon hike**  
*See write-up in activities below*

**Photo by Sierra Club hike leader Pixie Klemic**

## **SATURDAY & HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES**

**Top of Reseda, Tarzana, SF Valley,**  
**Third Saturdays of each month, 8:00am**  
**June 15, July 20, 2013**

Moderate 2hr, 5 mile RT 800' elevation gain hike in the hills above Tarzana and Reseda overlooking the complete San Fernando Valley on fire road/trail composed of compacted dirt/sand and loose gravel. In the beginning and end, there will be very little shade and tree coverage with some shade in between. It is recommended that you bring sun block, wear light colored clothing/hat for daytime hiking, and a jacket for nighttime hiking, along with two quarts of water. Lug soles or athletic footwear for proper footing. Meet at 8:00am on third Saturdays of each month at trail-head at the Southern top of Reseda at the chainlink fence where the park entrance is and the paid parking begins. 3 miles South of Ventura Blvd after the sixth stop sign. Rain cancels

**Hike leader: Joe Phillips 818 348-8884** Asst leader: TBD

**June 1 Franklin Canyon Walk-Sat**

O: Join us for an easy-paced docent-led walk through Franklin Canyon Park. Walk will be 3-4 miles with little elevation. Some great views of Los Angeles are found here. Franklin Canyon has been the site of many movies, and the docent will show us the better-known sites. You will probably recognize some of them. After the hike there will be a potluck lunch. Bring your own favorite dish and drinks to share. Rain cancels. Meet at Clubhouse parking lot at 9:45AM. Take Coldwater Canyon south to Franklin Canyon Rd. Turn right and follow road to parking lot.

**Ldr: Gabe Sende 818-999-5384,** Co-Ldr Jeff Slottow.

**June 8, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Trails Day at Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park**

**Where: Larwin Avenue entrance to Santa Susana Pass State Park**

**Educational Centers** will be open from **9:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

Even if you don't have time to hike, come and visit our Chumash and Herpetology Ed Centers right at the Larwin entrance! Come meet our volunteers and learn about opportunities to volunteer at YOUR local State Historic Park! Ask for Bob, Elizabeth or Tom at the entrance when you arrive if you want to know more about volunteering.

**Difficulty Level: Easy to Moderate.** Guided hikes will run from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM on a first come, first serve basis so please email in advance to [santasusanafriends@gmail.com](mailto:santasusanafriends@gmail.com) and reserve your spot now! Ask for Elizabeth when you arrive at Larwin if you are signing up for a hike at the last minute. The guided tours from 9:00 am to 11:00 AM will leave from the 10200 Larwin Ave. entrance. Tour guides will escort groups of 20 every half hour for a 1.6 mile hike, visiting five educational centers and other points of interest. Tours take approx. 1 1/2 hours. You may also choose to take self-guided tours through the park.

Take Devonshire West past Valley Circle. After Valley Circle is Larwin. Turn left and look to the right for the power lines. The entrance to the park is right under the power lines. **MAP.** Wear sunscreen and long pants because the brush is thick and sticky. A light jacket or long-sleeved shirt is also recommended. Although we try to avoid poison oak, sometimes it is encountered. Wear sturdy hiking boots. A walking stick is preferred by some hikers. Bring plenty of water. A hat is also recommended.

We will have a portable toilet available at the Larwin entrance on Trails Day. Well-behaved dogs are welcome as long as they are on leash. Please remember to bring enough water for your four-legged friend. All minors must be accompanied by an adult. Any questions? Please contact State Parks Interpretive Specialist Jennifer Dandurand, [SantaSusana@parks.ca.gov](mailto:SantaSusana@parks.ca.gov) .

**SANTA SUSANA MOUNTAIN PARK ASSOCIATION** *Dedicated to the Preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains and Simi Hills*  
A Non-Profit 501(c)(4) Incorporated Nov. 30,1971 Founded Nov.20,1970 Email:[mail@ssmpa.com](mailto:mail@ssmpa.com) Website: [www.ssmpa.com](http://www.ssmpa.com)

**Please note** that Santa Susana Mountain Park Association posts this notice as a service to its members and friends. The hikes themselves are conducted under auspices of California State Parks. SSMPA is a private organization, neither affiliated with nor endorsed by California State Parks.

### **July 4, Thurs. - Potluck Dinner and Fireworks in Serrania Park, Woodland Hills**

Celebrate the Fourth of July with the San Fernando Valley Sierra Club Group at Serrania Park in Woodland Hills. We will have a late-afternoon potluck dinner at the cool, hilly Serrania Park picnic tables. Bring your favorite dish plus drink to share. The leaders will provide the utensils and plates, as well as the dessert.

After dinner we can join the crowd at Warner Center for the fireworks display. If you would like to join us, please contact the **Ldr: Gabe Sende** at [gabesende@yahoo.com](mailto:gabesende@yahoo.com), or call him at **(818) 999-5384**.

## **SUNDAY ACTIVITIES**

**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](mailto:recreationbyjoe@yahoo.com)

### **June 2, Sun. Toluca Lake Neighborhood Walk**

Enjoy a leisurely-paced approximately 2-mile level walk in lovely Toluca Lake. View the gorgeous homes and beautiful tree-lined streets that have attracted celebrity and non-celebrity alike to this hidden LA gem since 1923. Learn of its history while seeing See Gary Marshall's Falcon Theatre, viewing the site of Gene Autry's TV production company, walking by the former home of famed aviatrix Amelia Earhart, and the estate of Toluca Lake's most famous residents Bob and Dolores Hope along the way.

Meet at 10:00am at Bob's Big Boy Restaurant (in front of the Big Boy statue), 4211 Riverside Drive, Burbank CA 91505. Bring money for optional lunch afterwards at Bob's or one of the many restaurants on Riverside Drive.

Leader: **Gerrie Montooth** [gerriem@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gerriem@sbcglobal.net), Co-Leader: Sandra Tapia [sltderamus64@yahoo.com](mailto:sltderamus64@yahoo.com)

### **July 14, 2013 Sun. Trippet Ranch- Musch Trail**

Moderately paced 5 mile, 600' gain hike in the Topanga State Park, including the Nature Trail. We will hike under the trees most of the time with plenty of shade. Deer sighting are very common at this time of the year in the Santa Monica Mountains. Bring plenty of water, lunch and hiking boots. Meet at 9:30 AM at the parking lot inside the park. You can park outside the park and walk in or pay a fee. Directions: Take the 101 Freeway to Topanga Canyon Bl. and turn South and drive 7.5 miles to Entrada Rd and turn left.

Follow road to the park. **Ldr: Gabe Sende** at **(818) 999-5384** or [gabesende@yahoo.com](mailto:gabesende@yahoo.com)

### **July 28, 2013 Sun. "Tijuana" Urban Dinner in Boyle Heights, Los Angeles**

Join us for an evening of stereophonic mariachi music in one of Boyle Height's most amazing, festive, and chaotic Mexican restaurants. Two , very loud mariachi bands stationed on opposite sides of the huge dining room play while customers eat. The atmosphere is like a Tijuana eatery; as you devour the shrimp enchiladas, the tacos el carbon or the enchiladas poblanas, you won't believe you are just a short train ride from downtown Los Angeles. For reservations and information, call the **Ldr: Gabe Sende**.

Call **(818) 999-5384** or email at [gabesende@yahoo.com](mailto:gabesende@yahoo.com).

### **August 4, 2013, Sun. L.A. River Bike Path Sun**

O: Sierra Singles, SFV Come and join us on this very EASY bike ride along a "NEW" bike path in Reseda along the LA River. This 2.5 mile RT ride with a short break in the middle in a parklike picnic area. Meet on Vanalden just North of Victory Blvd. You can park on a North side street of Victory just East of Vanalden. The total ride will take about an hour and a half to complete with a break to snack on a energy bar or just hear the birds chirp. For safety, ALL bikes must be in proper working condition' riders MUST have and wear a helmet. At least one liter of water per rider is recommended. No additional bike equipment is required. We will be on a VERY safe path and will have easy access to the major cross-streets. Additionally, each rider might want to bring along some money for bus or store purchases. Rain or 95+ temperature cancels. For further info, please contact

Leader - **Joe Phillips** **818 348-8884** , coleader - Sandra Tapia

### **August 25, 2013, Sun. Hollywood Hike thru Malibu Creek:**

Come join us for great hike to the old M\*A\*S\*H site. We will visit the original location where the TV show was filmed.

The distance is between 5-6 miles with very little elevation gain. Suitable for children of all ages. Meet at 9:30 AM at the trailhead.

Take the 101 Freeway to Las Virgenes Road and continue to Mullholland Drive. Meet at intersection .

**Leader: Gabe Sende** Call (818) 999-5384 or email at [gabesende@yahoo.com](mailto:gabesende@yahoo.com).

### **September 8 Sun. Stair Hike in Bronson Canyon:**

Shaded hillside is a 4 mile 272 steps, along hidden stair cases featuring interesting old LA. Visit a remnant of a quarry that was used as a Bat Cave entrance for the 1960's Batman TV series. Also, see the private street where Brad Pitt lives. Optional lunch after the



hike. Meet at 9:30 AM at the corner of Franklin & Bronson.

Leader: **Gabe Sende** Call (818) 999-5384 or email at [gabesende@yahoo.com](mailto:gabesende@yahoo.com).

### **Sept. 8' 2013 Sun. Bike On the Orange Line Bike Path**

O:Sierra Singles, SFV Leisure Bike Ride. Join us on this 8 – 9 mile leisure bike ride. Let's take our bikes out on this easy ride along the new Orange Line Extension Bike Path so our bikes can have a chance to spin its wheels. We'll meet 9am at the Chatsworth Amtrak/ Metrolink station, Old Depot Plaza Rd, between Devonshire St and Lassen St. This leisure ride is to Victory Blvd and back. Those that wish may catch the bus for a return ride (\$1.50) or continue on the path. Bring water, optional return bus ride money and helmet. Rain or 95 degrees+ cancels.

Leader: **Sandra Tapia** sltderamus64@yahoo.com **818.365-4571**, co-leader: **Joe Phillips 818 348-8884**



**Tues, June 18, 2013 Solstice Canyon hike**  
*See write-up in activities below*

**Photo by Sierra Club hike leader Pixie Klemic**

## **TUESDAY HIKES & ACTIVITIES**

Hike Leaders phone #

**Nancy Krupa (818)981-4799, Pixie Klemic (818)787-5420, M. Vernallis(818)360-4414, Gabe Szende 818-999-5384, 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**

***Tues Moderate Easy Paced 4-6 Mile.***

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

## RAIN CANCELS. Possible \$3-\$5 park fee

### June 4, 2013 Devil Canyon:

**O: (WA/SFV)** Moderately paced 4½ mile, 400' gain nature hike, through a steep sided canyon in the Santa Susana Mtns. among a mosaic of plant communities. Some bolder hopping over the stream. Meet 8:00 AM outside Indian Wells gate. From north end of Topanga Canyon Blvd in Chatsworth, just north of 118 Fwy exit, make left onto Peoma Place. Continue .2 mile to end and park along curb outside gate. Rain cancels. Leader: PIXIE KLEMIC

### June 11 Paramount Ranch:

**O: (WA/SFV)** Moderately paced 5 mile, 400' gain around the old (and still active) movie set and environs of oak savannahs, Medea Creek, chaparral canyons, including a side trip to the old Reagan Ranch. Meet 8:00 AM at Paramount Ranch parking lot. 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 2½ miles to Paramount Ranch entrance on right. Rain cancels. Leader: PIXIE KLEMIC Asst: RITA OKOWITZ

### June 18 Solstice Canyon:

**O: (WA/SFV)** Moderately paced 4 mile 600' gain hike on Rising Sun Trail to Tropical Terrace and Solstice Canyon Falls, then back along the canyon through oak and walnut groves by the stream. Meet 8:30 AM at parking lot kiosk. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Las Virgenes Rd/Malibu Canyon exit, go south to Pacific Coast Hwy. From Malibu Canyon Rd intersection, go west on Pacific Coast Hwy 2¼ miles, turn inland on Corral Canyon Rd (at 76 Station), drive ¼ mile to park entrance, and continue on paved park road to parking lot at end. Rain cancels. Leader: MARCIA HARRIS Asst: STEPHEN BECK

### June 25 Hummingbird Creek Trail:

**O: (WA/SFV)** Moderately paced 4.6 mile, 1000' gain hike up Hummingbird Creek through a narrow canyon and open chaparral, past sculpted caves and the magnificent sandstone rock formations of the Santa Susana Mountains. Meet 8:00 AM at Hummingbird Trailhead. From westbound 118 Fwy take Kuehner Dr. exit, north .3 miles to posted street parking. Bring water, snack, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels. Leader: REAVEN GATELY Asst: VIRVE LEPS



**Virgin's Bower flower in Towsley Canyon, Thurs. Hike June 13, 2013**

*See write-up below*

**Photo by Sierra Club hike leader Pixie Klemic**

## THURSDAY HIKES & ACTIVITIES

Hike Leaders phone #

**Nancy Krupa (818)981-4799, Pixie Klemic (818)787-5420, M. Vernallis(818)360-4414, Gabe Szende 818-999-5384, 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**

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

**RAIN CANCELS. Possible \$3-\$5 park fee**

### **June 6, 2013 Las Virgenes Canyon:**

**O: (WA/SFV)** Moderately paced 8-9 mile 800' to 1200' gain hike in delightful canyon, with various options depending on weather. Meet 8 AM at trailhead kiosk. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Las Virgenes Rd, exit 32, north 1+ mile to end, street parking. Rain cancels. Leader: TED MATTOCK Asst: NANCY KRUPA

### **June 13 Towsley Cyn, Santa Clarita Woodlands:**

**O: (WA/SFV)** Moderately paced 9 mile 1350' gain (optional 7 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. Rain cancels.

Leader: MARGARET VERNALLIS Asst: NORM STABECK

### **June 20 Trippet Ranch, Musch Trail, Eagle Rock Loop:**

**O: (WA/SFV)** Moderately paced 8 mile 1200' gain hike in Topanga State Park. Meet 8 AM at Trippet Ranch parking lot (from 101 Ventura Fwy take Topanga Canyon Blvd, exit 27, south to Entrada Rd, turn left (east), go about one mile making two left turns to stay on Entrada Rd, and park along Entrada Rd outside lot or pay to park in lot). Bring \$ for parking, Rain cancels. Leader: NANCY KRUPA Asst: STEPHEN BECK

### **June 27 Chumash Trail to Rocky Peak:**

**O: (WA/SFV)** Moderately paced 8 mile 1500' gain hike in Santa Susana Mtns. Meet 8 AM at Chumash trailhead in Simi (from 118 Fwy take Yosemite Ave, exit 29, north 0.4 mile, turn right on Flanagan Dr, continue 0.8 mile to end and park). Rain cancels. Leader: MARGARET VERNALLIS Asst: NANCY KRUPA



**King Gillette Ranch**

*See write-up on activities below*  
**Photo by Sierra Club member Gayle Dufour**

### Visit the King Gillette Ranch Visitor Center free parking for 2 hours

The visitors center is a very enjoyable experience with a lot of 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.

## Interpretive Programs & Misc

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

### [King Gillette Ranch Directions & Info.](#)

(818) 878-0866 x228 RAIN CANCELS \$7.00 parking  
26800 Mulholland Hwy. Calabasas, CA 91302

From 101 Ventura Fwy take Las Virgenes Rd/Malibu Canyon exit, go south approx. 5 ¾ miles to Mulholland Hwy. Turn left on Mulholland and then right to enter the long eucalyptus alleé driveway for Ranch.

### Sat, June 1st at 10am

#### Innovation in the Golden Era

King Gillette Ranch was home to early MGM Director Clarence Brown, who made films and threw star-studded parties. Take a story-filled walk through this still active filming location. Meet at parking lot to left of pond. 1.5 hours

### Sat, June 8th at 3pm

#### Capture a Nature Moment

Nature offers great photo opportunities, but can be a difficult model. We'll help you with this relaxing and rewarding art. Bring your camera. Meet at parking lot to left of pond. 2 hours.

### Sat, June 15th at 1pm

#### Stroll Through the Seasons

Enjoy a gentle walk through the native plant garden, where we will observe how plants and animals change with the seasons. Meet inside the Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center. 30 minutes.

### Tues, June 18th at 7pm

#### Evening Campfire

Loosen your marshmallow-roasting arm, pack up the family, and join us for an evening around the campfire. Follow the signs to the outdoor amphitheater. 1.5 hours.

### Sat, June 22nd at 10am

#### Walk into the Chumash World

Discover how local Chumash Indians have used the natural resources of their environment for thousands of years to create a sustainable way of life. Easy 1 mile walk. Meet at parking lot to left of pond. 2 hours.

### Sat, June 22nd at 3pm

#### Living in the Sticks

Meet the Dusky-Footed Woodrat on his own turf. Take a tour of the neighborhood where they build elaborate nests that are both a home and a time capsule. Easy 1 mile walk. Meet at parking lot to left of pond. 2 hours.

### Tues, June 25th at 7pm

#### Evening Campfire

Loosen your marshmallow-roasting arm, pack up the family, and join us for an evening around the campfire. Follow the signs to the outdoor amphitheater. 1.5 hours.

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