



SIERRA CLUB San Fernando Valley Newsletter March 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/sfv/>

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

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If you can't see newsletter, click here



PLEASE JOIN US

March 19, 2013

New Mexico Adventure

Come to hear Mike Sappingfield, former Angeles Chapter Chair, hike leader since 1995, activist in the Santa Ana Mountains Task Force and in the "Stop the Toll Road" effort.

He will speak about his recent and upcoming Angeles Chapter New Mexico Adventure Trip on October 12-19, 2013. The Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta is the largest and best known hot air balloon event in the U.S. and allows you to walk among the Balloons as they are getting ready to take off. This trip also features two active Native American Pueblos, Historic Chaco Canyon and several National Monuments.

There will be socializing and refreshments.

FUTURE PROGRAMS



*Pacoima Reservoir to catch water in the mountains.
Photo NPS & River Project*

April 16, 2013

Environmental Issues of the San Fernando Valley

Dan Feinberg, President and one of the founders of Citizens Against Strip Mining ("CASM") will present a program about the work this non-profit organization is doing to address various critical environmental issues facing the San Fernando Valley. These projects include a planned Strip Mine Project and the Sediment Removal Project planned for the Pacoima Reservoir. Come and learn about the important work this group is doing and how you may be able to help. There will be socializing and refreshments, start 7pm



May 21, 2013

Oil Spills – Causes, Effects and Responses

Dave Weeshoff, Past Board Chairman of International Bird Rescue will present a program entitled: "Oil Spills – Causes, Effects and Responses". Dave is the President of the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society, a Life Member of the Sierra Club and a



Dear Angeles Chapter Members & Supporters,

For over 100 years the Angeles Chapter has been a constant force in the environmental landscape. We have weathered good times and bad, flush times and lean. Despite increasing costs and declining donations, our Executive Committee, in partnership with our tiny, yet crackerjack staff, has been doing all it can to be financially responsible while maintaining the basics needed to run our Chapter. But now we need your help.

We understand that even the smallest gift is a struggle for some and we appreciate any and all donations, but we also recognize that for many a more substantial donation is possible. To that end we are establishing a new group of donors known as the "1000 at \$100", aimed at enlisting the aid of 1,000 of our members to donate at least \$100 to ease our funding crunch and allow us to continue our ability to provide local opportunities to enjoy, explore, and protect the environment. If you can't give \$100 all at once, please consider making a monthly donation of \$10.

[Please donate today.](#)

A heartfelt thank you,

Hersh Kelley, Chair, Executive Committee & Ron Silverman, Senior Chapter Director

[If you would like to pay by check, please send it to:](#)

Angeles Chapter Sierra Club, 3435 Wilshire Blvd #320, Los Angeles, CA 90010

Make your check payable to the Angeles Chapter Sierra Club

[Read the longer original appeal letter:](#)

http://action.sierraclub.org/site/MessageViewer?em_id=242185.0



Listing of donors for the
1000 at \$100 Donors fundraising campaign
<http://angeles2.sierraclub.org/1000donors>

Canada Geese at the Chatsworth Nature Preserve

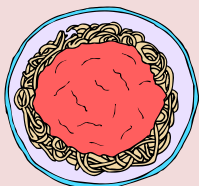


Canada Geese at Chatsworth Nature Preserve by Henry Bollinger

(This picture is from the Santa Susana Mountain Park Assn. <http://ssmpa.com/>)

frequent guest speaker on birds and environmental issues. He is an expert on the care of sick, injured, orphaned and oiled aquatic birds.

Come and learn all about oil spills including their causes, typical bird species affected, rescue operations, care, cleaning and rehabilitation of the birds involved and typical spill cleanup. He will also cover the Cosco Buson spill in San Francisco Bay in 2007 as well as the Deepwater Horizon oil blowout in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010. There will be socializing and refreshments. Start 7:00pm.



**\$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.

818-999-5384,

jxszende@yahoo.com

**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

The Canada Geese have arrived for their winter visit in the Chatsworth Nature Preserve (CNP). The SFV Audubon Society traditional Christmas Bird Count in the CNP however revealed not a single blackbird, not even a starling, in the Ecology Pond area. There is concern that the Ecology Pond, which dried up twice during the summer months of 2012, is still not at a water level needed to support the fringing marshland that small mammals, and resident and migratory birds require for nesting.



Dear Friends,

It's no secret that the strength of Sierra Club California is its members, including its active volunteers. The importance of that strength becomes evident here in Sacramento from January through early September, when lawmaking begins and the lobbying gets intense. Over those months, the oil industry, real estate developers, solid waste companies, and big electric utilities-- among others--spend millions of dollars in direct giving to influence legislators.

Just this morning, I saw an invitation to a breakfast hosted by a Democratic legislator from Fresno. Entry price: \$1,000. Must be serving eggs from a golden goose.

Here, at Sierra Club California, we're famous for spending sweat equity. That means we'll be relying on our volunteers to drive the environmental message home to senators and assembly members through emails, phone calls to district offices, old-fashioned letters, and visits to legislators in their home offices and, during our annual August lobby day, to their Sacramento office.

More specifically, we'll be relying on you. My staff and I can do a lot of work trying to stop bad bills and promote good bills here in Sacramento. But you are the closer. Your communication with a legislator at the right moment, from the home district, can make the difference. That's why, within the next two months, after all the bills have been introduced for this session, you'll start receiving alerts asking for action. Most of the time, we'll ask you to send an email and provide an easy way to do that. Sometimes, if an issue is especially urgent and we're very concerned about a bill's fate, we'll ask you to make phone calls or write your own letter in your own words. That kind of personal touch can make the difference between an aye or a no vote. We also ask our active volunteers to watch for newspaper articles and blogs about issues we care about, and then to write letters to the editor and thoughtful comments expressing support for the environmental view. We know that legislators pay special attention to the opinions that show up in their local newspapers.

If you follow state news, you know that California's environmental review laws have been under scrutiny. Other news topics that keep popping up include the state's implementation of the rules designed to reduce global warming pollution, the proposal to construct giant pipes to suck more water out of the Delta, and efforts to transition the state to clean energy and more rooftop and local solar energy. We're working on these and other issues—such as wetlands protection, cleaning up groundwater, state parks access, and stopping clear cutting of forests—at the legislature and regulatory agencies.

When we succeed and chalk up a win for the environment, it's because you helped. So thanks in advance for the letters, calls and emails you'll be sending to legislators in 2013.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Phillips, Director, Sierra Club California

Sierra Club California is the Sacramento-based legislative and regulatory advocacy arm of the 13 California chapters of the Sierra Club.

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.

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

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

CONSERVATION UPDATES

Sepulveda Wildlife Area Management Activities & Nesting

The *Daily News* quoted Tomas G. Beauchamp, the Corps chief of operations, who said "we found a nest this morning near the bridge, and in a pothole pond. "We're not going to be chipping any wooded material," he said.

Per George Watland, Conservation Coordinator of Angeles Chapter of Sierra Club, "US Army Corps of Engineers SPL Tomas Beauchamp and Commander Toy both agreed to not use any heavy equipment during nesting season on our Feb. 12 walk-thru. It was anticipated that since nests had been appearing earlier in the SFV in recent years, work might end before the March 15 target date cited in their plan as the start of nesting season. The Corps stated that such work will resume in late September at the earliest.

We are inviting volunteers to join the [new Sepulveda Basin Task Force](#) to help work out the details of the Corps' plans for that area. Please send me an email if you'd like to participate, or would like to be added to the news list for the Task Force.
George Watland george.watland@sierraclub.org

Discussions Continue Over Restart Of San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant

By Elaine Trogman

San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station is the only nuclear power plant in So. California. In the last few months there have been meetings between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), S.C Edison and the public to discuss the request by Edison to restart the San Onofre Nuclear Plant in San Clemente, which is half way between L.A. and San Diego.

Both Reactor Units #2 and #3 have been idle since January 2012 because of unusual wear to the generators' metal tubes. Edison wants to restart the Unit 2 reactor for a limited time at only 70% power. They want to see if there will be reduced vibrations, which is cited as one reason that the steam generator tubes were wearing out at an accelerated rate – along with possible design flaws in the generators. After this trial period the steam generators would be shut down and the tubes would be examined for excessive wear. The generators are only a couple years old and their cost totaled \$671million; there are 2 steam generators for each reactor, which totals 4 steam generators. The decision by the NRC will probably not come before the earliest date of April 2013.

Many concerned residents feel that starting up the generators is endangering their lives. "The crisis at San Onofre is the result of a perfect storm of error," said Damon Moglen, climate and energy director for Friends of the Earth. "On the one hand, Edison made significant design changes without seeking an amendment to its license as required by NRC regulations; on the other hand, the NRC appears to have been asleep at the regulatory wheel. The result was the failure of critical equipment that could endanger the lives and livelihoods of millions of Southern Californians, and leaves California ratepayers stuck with the bill for hundreds of millions of dollars worth of defective technology."

Per the Orange County Register, "The NRC has sole authority over ensuring the nation's nuclear power plants are operated safely. But state regulators (CA Public Utilities Commission-CPUC) can decide whether or not the costs associated with operating a plant are reasonable and whether or not utility customers should pay." Another option is to have Edison's stockholders pay for the expenses. In October 2012 the CA commissioners voted 5-0 to open an investigation of costs associated with the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station.

Nuclear power activists are fighting to shut the plant permanently. The Sierra Club Angeles Chapter has a committee working on the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station problem. The CPUC held a public meeting on Feb. 21st regarding rates.

We encourage you to contact the CPUC via email to public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov. Please refer to **proceeding number I.12-10-013** on any written or email correspondence. Feel free to refer to the [Twelve Reasons to Retire San Onofre](#) and other information posted on the [San Onofre Task Force website](#) for any comments that you might submit to the CPUC.

julieszende@gmail.com

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Cartoonist

The Late Willis Simms



Photo: This is what hydraulic fracturing towers look like. The photo shows a platform set for drilling into the Marcellus Shale Formation for natural gas in Pennsylvania. Credit: Ruhrfisch

NEW "FRACK-RUSH" IN CALIF.

By & Elaine Trogman

Many of us watched a documentary named "Gasland," where a man in Pennsylvania turned on his faucet and then lit a match to the water and it started to burn. We Californians looked on with amazement but then said to ourselves, "That took place in Pennsylvania but it couldn't happen here." It is not just their east coast battle to fight against a practice called hydraulic fracturing or nicknamed "fracking." Fracking is a controversial practice of freeing oil and gas from rock formations by injecting chemicals under high pressure into the ground. The fear is that it will contaminate the underground water. The companies that do this say they don't have to list what chemicals they are using because they don't have to disclose "trade secrets." It turns out that "fracking" has been practiced since the 1960s in California but only for oil and that is in Kern County and So. California. Now there is a much bigger prize to be gained and that is the Monterey Shale, which runs from the Central Valley through San Benito into Monterey County. The formation is believed to hold as much as 15.5 billion barrels of recoverable oil, which would make it the nation's largest shale oil formation. Lately, the Federal Bureau of Land Management leased 18,000 acres in southern Monterey County for fracking. It appears that there might be an equivalent to the "gold rush" in California.

If all this leasing of land for fracking wasn't bad enough, Division of Oil Gas and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) proposes to weaken laws we have about polluting underground water.

CALIF. AGENCY TRYING TO DOWNGRADE WATER SAFETY TO ACCOMMODATE FRACKERS

Weakening Hydraulic Fracking Regulations

By Tom Williams & Jim Stewart

The Federal Clean Water Act says that discharging pollution into "**protected waters**" (e.g., dumping sewage, contaminants, or industrial pollution) or filling "protected waters" and wetlands (e.g., building a housing development or a parking lot) require permits.

However, the Department of Conservation (DoC) through the Division of Oil Gas and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) has just proposed new regulations for oil and gas "stimulation" ("fracking") that would relax current restrictions. If enacted, these draft regulations would define "protected waters" for the State of California and Department of Conservation as only those waters which currently have direct, beneficial uses for potable and agricultural uses without treatment and would remove all other waters and their reservoirs, streams, groundwater tables, and aquifers from any protection against contamination by oil and gas related activities, and eventually any other State water resources.

Earlier local efforts by oil and gas companies to downgrade existing "beneficial uses" designations were blocked, and water agencies have maintained a greater level of protection for current and future important beneficial surface and groundwater resources within the State.

A federal hydrogeologist reported deep groundwater contaminations in the south Los Angeles region associated with existing oil fields. The oil field appeared to be leaking petroleum and formation water into the deepest groundwater.

A local hydrogeologist has reported no apparent hydrocarbon contamination at higher groundwater levels near Montebello, but then he found probable oil field formation water chemicals (e.g., boron, barium, etc.) in the groundwater over 100 feet below and just above the bedrock formation.

Recent statewide discussions regarding global warming expected changes to California's water resources focused on increasing alternative "beneficial water" resources storage capacities, in lieu of declining snow pack and climate changes across the western US watersheds. Groundwater storage has been and will become an ever increasingly important and cheapest alternative in the face of dwindling winter (snowpack) surface storage and summer production throughout the state and especially near urban and agricultural centers of use: San Diego, Los Angeles, southern San Joaquin basin, Coast Range valleys, and southern Sacramento Valley areas. Protecting groundwater basins from potential and known contamination sources and restoration programs for those already compromised are becoming increasingly important.

- The Sierra Club Fracking Team has reviewed available information and recommends Sierra Club:
1. Oppose any relaxation by DoC's regulations with regard to "beneficial" groundwaters within the state;
 2. Support further monitoring and protections through DOGGRs regulations for "beneficial" waters within 1 mile of any oil fields or exploratory wells;
 3. Identify and ensure control of existing known or probable sources of groundwater contamination from any exploration and production activities;
 4. Support expanded assessing and monitoring of surface and deep subsurface sources of contamination;
 5. Support identification/mitigation of low-level contamination in all portions of producing groundwater sources.

We ask your Water Committee to help mobilize the water communities throughout the state to support and maintain the most comprehensive definition of "beneficial water" sources and oppose the attempted redefinition and minimizing of "protected waters"?

We recommend sending to the Regional Water Quality Control Boards, legislators and other groups simple statements of opposition to the DOC, Hydraulic Fracturing Regulations (NRC, 1780) and support of protections for all existing groundwater resources that could provide beneficial supplies with proper treatment.

If you are interested in water issues in California & especially So. Calif., we urge you to 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. The FREE phone conference line is available at 1-866-501-6174 Code: 1000 400 1892.

FREE Video conferencing is now available - link to video conferencing below.

<https://www4.gotomeeting.com/join/124173903>. connect with us on Face Book - Water Committee Angeles Chapter Sierra Club or on the web

<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/water>; If you want to come in person the address is 3435 Wilshire Blvd; Suite 660; Los Angeles, CA 90020.

Any questions for the Water Committee contact Charming Evelyn: bcharmz@aol.com. If you want to come in person, contact Charming first.

Allied Artists of the Santa Monica Mountains & Seashore Art Exhibit

All artwork in the Allied Artists' exhibits must be inspired and painted from locations in the Santa Monica Mountains & Seashore

Date: Sunday, March 24

Time: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Location: King Gillette Ranch, 26876 Mulholland Highway, 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.

Allied Artists will have on display for purchase art inspired by paint outs in the Santa Monica Mountains and Seashore. The participating artists paint in various mediums: oil, acrylic, pastel, and watercolor. www.allied-artists.com



**Allied Artists of the Santa Monica Mountains & Seashore
Art Exhibit**

**Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center
at King Gillette Ranch**

Sunday, March 24, 2013, 10:00am to 5:00pm



Painted by Carla Lauren Bollinger of Santa Susana Mountain Park Assn.
carlamamay@aol.com 818-340-7357, Mobile: 818-307-6418

Plastic Debris in Ocean Delivers Triple Toxic Whammy

This picture is a sample of the "Pacific Garbage Patch," which is a gigantic section of ocean plastic garbage between Japan & the USA



By Sarah Mosko

Visit www.BoogieGreen.com to read other articles by Sarah Mosko

While plastic refuse on land is a familiar eyesore as litter and a burden on our landfills, in the marine environment it can be lethal to sea creatures by way of ingestion or entanglement. An important new study shows how ocean plastic debris is also a threat to humans because plastics are vehicles for introducing toxic chemicals of three sources into the ocean food

web.

Two of the sources stem from chemicals introduced into plastics during manufacturing, either as the building block of the polymer itself (like the carcinogen *vinyl chloride* in PVC plastics) or as an additive imparting the final product with desired properties, like the endocrine disrupting *phthalate* softeners.

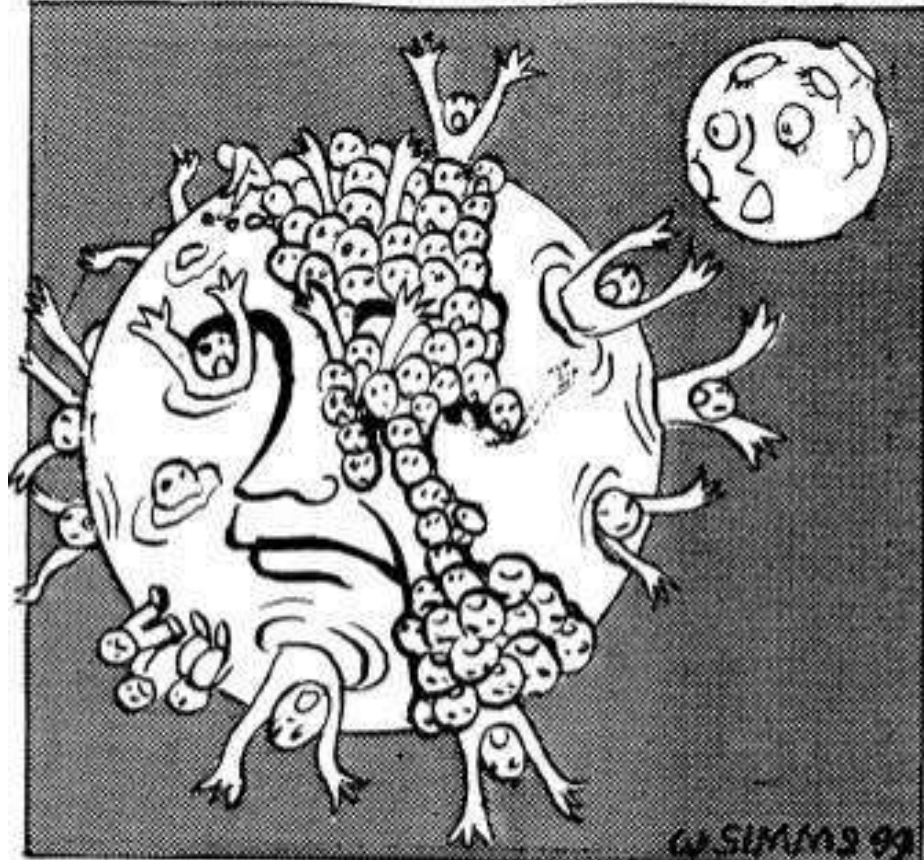
In the new study from researchers at San Diego State University, preproduction plastic pellets of the five most common mass-produced plastic polymers (recycling #'s 1 – 5) were deposited at several sites in San Diego Bay and collected later at intervals of one to 12 months for analysis of persistent seawater pollutants picked up by the plastics. Plastics are oily substances and, as such, attract and accumulate oily toxins common in seawater: PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls – a family of chemicals with widespread electrical applications) and PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons – components of fossil fuels and byproducts of burning fossil fuels or forest fires).

All of the plastic polymers soaked up both types of toxins, though three of the polymers concentrated more toxins over time than did the other two. The latest trawls of the "Great Pacific Garbage Patch," the oceanic gyre between California and Japan, have found that plastic debris already outweighs zooplankton there by a factor of 36:1. This study highlights the risk that this buildup of plastic debris represents to the ocean food web and possibly to what we humans serve for dinner.

To read the rest of this article, CLICK HERE:

<http://sarahmosko.wordpress.com/2013/01/22/plastic-debris-delivers-triple-toxic-whammy-ocean-study-shows/>

Cartoon by Willis Simms



POPULATION—7 BILLION & CLIMBING

*Certain social changes have to be met before
the world's birthrate goes down*

Conservation Corner

Can Empowering Women Help Save Our Planet?

By Michael Stevenson

While many of us are busy trying to improve our "green energy" profile, eating locally grown organic food and recycling everything we can we seldom address the elephant in our little green lives: our staggering over-population problem. It took the entirety of human history to reach a population of one billion in 1804. Since then we have had our collective feet on the population accelerator. It took us only 123 years to reach 2 billion in 1927 and another 33 years to reach 3 billion in 1960. In 1974, only 14 years later, we reached 4 billion. Since then we have been adding another billion every 12 years or so and will reach 7 billion this year. In our lifetime most of us will live through at least a doubling in the earth's human population.

If we are ever going to save our planet, stabilizing our population deserves at least as much effort as switching from "brown energy" to "green energy". Climate change won't be solved by energy experts alone. If everyone drove a plug-in hybrid or an electric car powered by sunlight our per capita energy use would certainly plummet but we would still have too many of us competing for a dwindling source of clean water and sustainable food supplies.

According to John Seager, President of Population Connection, (formerly known as Zero Population Growth), the worldwide empowerment of women and population stabilization go hand in hand. Many studies show that when educational opportunities are provided for young girls and women, birth rates drop as women begin to control their own destiny. We don't need to emulate China's forced family planning policy formulated in the early 1970s. This policy limits most urban couples to one child and most rural couples to two children. Without this policy China would have 400 million more than their current 1.3 billion people.

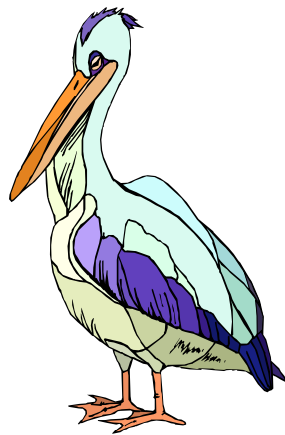
In contrast to China, Mexico decreased their birth rate from 5.7 children per woman in 1976 to 2.2 in 2006. The birth control method was education, jobs and a future. Women then choose to have fewer and healthier children.

Various high tech and risky ideas have been proposed to mitigate climate change such as launching mirrors into space to deflect the sun's rays. Laurie Mazur, the director of the Population Justice Projects says "there are more sensible low-tech ways to reduce our collective carbon footprint for relatively little cost, at far less risk, and with substantial social benefits. Voluntarily slowing population growth is one of them". Population expert Robert Engelman of The Worldwatch Institute spent decades interviewing women from around the world and found they prefer to have only about 2 children. He says that giving control to women will naturally end the world's population growth problem and that "women don't want more children they want what's best for their children".

Educating and empowering women is a win-win strategy but it doesn't get us off the hook. We must also come to terms with energy use in the developed world. Americans are by far the world's largest per-capita emitters of CO2 and changing our own systems of production and consumption must be a top priority if we are to preserve our planet. According to Mother Jones Magazine one American child creates as much CO2 as 106 Haitian kids. To avoid disaster that can't continue. Our challenge is to both empower women while at the same time reducing our consumption footprint.

Do not throw compact fluorescent lights in the garbage. You can recycle the lights at HOME DEPOT.

SEE MORE PICTURES IN HIKE SECTION BELOW



WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

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

See programs and hikes thru JUNE 2013 from our San Fernando Valley Sierra Club website. Click 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,
gabesende@yahoo.com**



Dramatic Sky at Red Rocks Park in the Santa Monica Mountains

By Sierra Club Member Gayle Dufour

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 @ 818-999-5384 or via e-mail @ gabesende@yahoo.com for the location and time.



2013 CAR-CAMP TRIP

April 26 -28 Fri- Sun, Idyllwild Car Camp:

O: Join us for a relaxing, enjoyable weekend in Idyllwild. Stay in the campground or in a motel near the camp. Sat AM there will be hiking , with excursion into town in the afternoon. Happy Hour and International potluck Sat evening followed by a campfire. Sun AM breakfast at a charming local eatery followed by an easy hike along nature trails. Families with children are welcome. Send SASE , rideshare info, \$30 (Sierra Club).

Ldr: Gabe Sende 818-999-5384 , Co-leader: Barbara Madel

June 7- 9 Fri-Sun

Winery Tour & Carcamp in Santa Inez Valley:

O: Join us for a relaxing, enjoyable weekend in Santa Barbara County. Moderately paced hike Saturday morning; afternoon tour of local wineries. Return to camp for Happy Hour with a delicious international potluck dinner to follow. After dinner enjoy camaraderie around a blazing campfire. Sunday options include an additional hike, sightseeing, a boat ride, or a tour of nearby California missions. Children welcome. Send phone numbers, rideshare info, \$30 (Sierra Club) **to**

Ldr: Gabe Sende 818-999-5384 , Co-Ldrs: Barbara Madel, Iris Edinger.

SATURDAY ACTIVITIES

**Top of Reseda, Tarzana, SF Valley, There will be no Feb. hike
Third Saturdays of each month, 8:00am.**

Mar. 16, April 21, May 19, June 15, 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

May 4, 2013: Eagle Rock Stairway Hike-Sat

Join us for a relatively gentle 3.8 mile walk through a little-known section of Eagle Rock, full of solid local architecture and featuring some of the city's few "sidewalk staircase" streets. The complete hike consists of 328 steps. It should last no more than two hours. After the walk we can have lunch at a neighborhood Italian restaurant. Meet at 10AM at the corner of Colorado Boulevard and Townsend Avenue near Trader Joe's in Eagle Rock. Wear walking shoes and bring money for lunch. Rain cancels.

Ldr: Gabe Sende 818-999-5384, Co-Ldr: Barbara Madel

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.

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

March 17, 2013 Stagecoach Trail:

Meet 9:00 a.m., 3rd Sunday of each month No hiking in summer-early fall due to hot weather. An interpretive hike into the history of Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park: Hike is 3 to 4-1/2 mile loop up the historic Stagecoach Trail. Meet at park entrance on Larwin Ave. Park on street.

Leader: Lee Baum (818-341-1850) Sierra Club-Santa Susana Mtns. Task Force

April 21, 2013 Ethnic Dinner- Greek: Sun

Join us for a mouth-watering feast at one of the San Fernando Valley's finest Greek restaurants. Choose from a menu that includes vegetarian platters, salads, appetizers, pastas, and seafoods while trying to decipher the meaning of such exotic food names as fassolia, saganaki, keftethes, loukanika, and tzatziki. Ethnic entertainment will be provided. Approximate cost: \$25. For information and reservations,

contact Hosts: **Julie and Gabe Szende at (818) 999-5384** or julieszende@gmail.com

May 5, 2013 The LA Flower Market Sunday,

O: Sierra Singles, San Fernando Valley

Join us as we tour the LA Flower Market, the largest flower market in the United States where virtually every variety of cut flower can be found, plus potted plants, dried and silk flowers and floral supplies. This is the time to buy your mom or yourself flowers for Mother's Day. We meet 9am at the Metro Red Line Entrance at 7th Street / Metro Center and then enjoy a walk to the Market. Walk is approx. 3-4 miles and 3-4 hours. Afterwards we will enjoy a late breakfast or early lunch and share our purchases. Wear good walking shoes; bring money for entrance (\$2.00), purchases, food and umbrella for drizzle. Heavy Rain cancels.

Leader: **Sandra Tapia 818.365.4571**, Co-Leader Gerrie Montooth

Sepulveda Basin Walk: 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 a hike leader, **please contact Joe Phillips at 818-348-8884**

TAKE A WALKI 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

MONDAY ACTIVITIES

Monday, March 18, 2013, 7:00pm:

The Enviro. Importance of Keeping Endangered Species

Santa Susana Mountain Park Association (SSMPA)

Dedicated to the Preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains and Simi Hills

Founded: Nov. 20, 1970 Non-Profit Incorporated: Nov 30, 1971 www.ssmpa.com

Location: Rockpointe Clubhouse, 22300 Devonshire St., Chatsworth, CA 91311

Presenter: Jonathan Q. Richmond, Ph.D.,

Biological Resources Div., US Geological Survey (USGS)

MR. RICHMOND IS COMING ALL THE WAY FROM SAN DIEGO TO SPEAK SO WE HOPE YOU ATTEND!

Biological Resources Division of the USGS actively conducts conservation genetic research on threatened and endangered species, as well as studies on the ecological effects of non-native species. Richmond will discuss several ongoing research projects that focus on these topics - one involves the endangered unarmored threespine stickleback freshwater fish in the Santa Clara River drainage, a second focuses on understanding the causes for population declines in the California Red-Legged Frog, and a third explores a novel approach to managing a pest snake population on the Pacific Island of Guam. The talk will cover the types of biological research conducted by the USGS and the important role it plays in mitigating current declines in biodiversity. Event is Free and open to the public. Rockpointe Clubhouse, 22300 Devonshire St., Chatsworth. 818-307-6418. www.ssmipa.com



March 26 Weldon Overlook to East Canyon - Santa Clarita Woodlands:

See write-up on activities below

Photo by Sierra Club hike leader Pixie Klemic

TUESDAY HIKES

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 & Thur hikes sponsor: WildernessAdvent(WA)

Tues & Thurs. hikes printed as a courtesy.

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**

March 5, 2013 Malibu Creek State Park – Cornell to MASH Site:

○:(WA) Moderately paced 6, mile 600' gain hike including Lookout Trail with great views, Century Lake, MASH site, and Reagan picnic area. 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. (Entrance on Lake Vista Rd.) Leaders: Stephen Beck and Pixie Klemic

March 12 Placerita Canyon State Park:

○:(WA) 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 and Marcia Harris

March 19 Trippet Ranch, Dead Horse Trail:

O: (WA) Moderately paced 5 mile, 600' gain hike in Topanga State Park including the Nature trail. Deer sightings common. Meet 8:30 AM at Trippet Ranch fee parking lot. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Topanga Canyon Blvd 7 ½ mi. south to Entrada Rd, turn left (east), and go about a mile to fee lot. Rain cancels.

Leader: Pixie Klemic and Virve Leps

March 26 Weldon Overlook to East Canyon - Santa Clarita Woodlands:

O: (WA) Moderately paced 6 mile 800' gain/1200' loss hike. Hike up lovely trail to the Weldon Canyon Overlook with views of Santa Clarita and San Fernando Valleys, then pass BFI planted oaks as a condition of landfill expansion and drop down into East Canyon through native oaks, black walnut and relic fir trees. Meet 8:30 AM East Canyon trailhead, Newhall. Take the Calgrove exit from Interstate 5, turn west under the freeway and take the Old Road south about 1 mile to parking entrance after church on right, and continue past trailhead sign to parking area. Short car shuttle to start. Fee parking lot. Leader: Pixie Klemic and Stephen Beck



Solstice Canyon Thurs. Hike March 14, 2013

See write-up below

photo by Sierra Club member Gayle Dufour

THURSDAY HIKES

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 & Thur hikes sponsor: WildernessAdvent(WA)

Tues & Thurs. hikes printed as a courtesy.

**For all hikes, bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, & sunscreen.
RAIN CANCELS. Possible \$3-\$5 park fee**

March 7, 2013 Doubletree to China Flat:

O(WA) Moderately paced 8 mile 1200' gain hike in scenic Simi Hills, through chaparral, grasslands and oaks. Meet 8:30 AM at Doubletree trailhead in Oak Park (from 101 Ventura Fwy take Kanan Rd north 2.1 miles to Sunnycrest Dr, turn right and go 0.8 mile to signed trailhead on right and park along street). Rain cancels. Leader: NANCY KRUPA Asst: STEPHEN BECK

March 14 Solstice Canyon:

O: (WA) Moderately paced 7-8 mile 1600' gain hike on Rising Sun trail to Tropical Terrace, then Sostomo Trail, Deer Valley Loop, and down Solstice Canyon to start. Meet 8:30AM at parking lot kiosk. 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: TED MATTOCK
Asst: NANCY KRUPA

March 21 Northern Malibu Creek State Park:

O: (WA) Hike on less familiar trails on this moderately paced 8 mile 1000' gain hike including Liberty Canyon Trail, Phantom Trail and Grassland Trail. Meet 8:30 AM at Grassland trailhead on Mulholland Hwy. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Las Virgenes/Malibu Cyn Rd south to Mulholland Hwy, turn right and go 1000 feet to free roadside parking at Grassland trail entrance to the park. Rain cancels. Leader: NANCY KRUPA Asst: STEPHEN BECK

March 28 Caballero Canyon, Topanga State Park:

O: (WA) Moderately paced 8 - 10 mile hike in northern Topanga State Park. Meet 8:30 AM at Caballero trailhead in Tarzana (from 101 Ventura Fwy take Reseda Blvd, exit 23, go south 2 miles to east side across from Braemar Country Club entrance). Rain cancels. Leaders: REAVEN GATELY, NANCY KRUPA



King Gillette Ranchland

See write-up on activities below

Photo by Sierra Club hike leader Pixie Klemic

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

The visitor's 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, March 2, 2013 at 3pm

Living in the Sticks

Meet the Dusky-Footed Woodrat on his own turf. We will take you on 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 the parking lot to left of pond, 2 hours

Sat, March 9, 2013 at 10am

Innovation in the Golden Era

King Gillette Ranch was home to MGM Director Clarence Brown who made movies on this still

popular filming location. Look behind the scenes at his filmmaking innovations and Hollywood parties on this easy walk. Meet at the parking lot to left of pond, 2 hours.

Sat, March 9, 2013 at 2pm
Capture a Nature Moment,

Nature offers the best photo opportunities, but can be a difficult model. Learn the tricks of nature photography on an easy walk. Bring your camera. Meet at the parking lot to the left of the pond, 2 hours.

Sat, March 16, 2013 at 4pm
A 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.

Sat, March 23, 2013 at 2pm
A Walk into the Chumash World

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

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