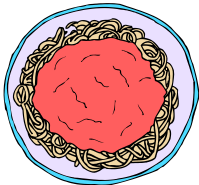




## SIERRA CLUB San Fernando Valley

Newsletter March 2013 through June 2013



### *Italian Dinner & Program*

**June 18, 2013**

**Tues., 6:30 pm**

At Prince of Peace Episcopal Church

5700 Rudnick Avenue  
Woodland Hills, CA 91367

## Adventurous Travel With Earthwatch

Muriel Horacek 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 that 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 monitoring 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.

Make your reservations by sending:

**\$25.00 payable to**

San Fernando Valley Sierra Club, mailed

To Julie Szende, 6501 Penfield Ave  
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.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY  
SIERRA CLUB GROUP

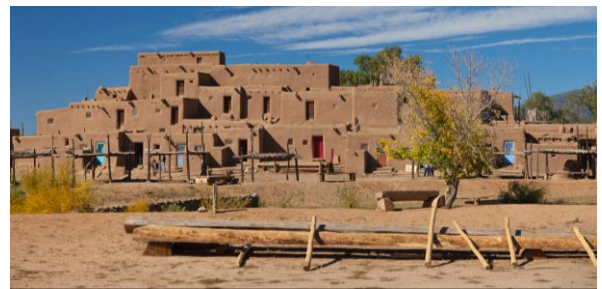
**Monthly Meetings-**

*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.



**Tues., 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 & refreshments*

**APRIL 16, 2013, "ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES  
OF THE SF VALLEY" on NEXT PAGE**

**MAY 21, 2013 "OIL SPILLS" on NEXT PAGE**

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 Of San Onofre Nuclear Plant p.12

## Tues, April 16, 2013



The Pacoima Reservoir  
 that catches rain water in the mountains.  
 (Photo NPS & The River Project)

Dan Feinberg, President and  
 One of the Founders of  
 “Citizens Against Strip Mining  
 in the San Fernando Valley” CASM SFV  
 presents

## Environmental Issues of the San Fernando Valley

Dan Feinberg, 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. [CASM-SFV.org](http://CASM-SFV.org)

(See article on pg 4-5)

*There will be socializing and refreshments*

## SAN FERNANDO VALLEY SIERRA CLUB GROUP

**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.

## TUES, May 21, 2013

Dave Weeshoff, Past Board Chairman of  
 International Bird Rescue



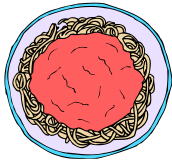
Cleaning an oiled pelican

## Oil Spills – Causes, Effects and Responses

[WWW.bird-rescue.org](http://WWW.bird-rescue.org)

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 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. (See article pg 3)

*There will be socializing and refreshments.*



**REMINDER!**  
**SAN FERNANDO**  
**VALLEY**  
**SIERRA CLUB**

**JUNE FUNDRAISING**  
**DINNER AND PROGRAM**  
**June 18, 2013 (SEE PG 1)**

**We need your help!**

The Sierra Club relies heavily on its volunteers to carry out its Mission. Since you probably have a skill that we need and if you can spare a few hours a month, let us know.

Call Elaine Trogman (818) 780-8345

Call Barry Katzen (818) 341-8304

**Learn About Conservation Tips**  
**& Enviro. Issues At our**  
**SF Valley Sierra Club WEBSITE:**  
<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sfvg/>

**San Fern Valley Management Committee**

**Chair/Rep to Executive Committee** Barry Katzen

818 341-8304 [barkat@rocketmail.com](mailto:barkat@rocketmail.com)

**Vice-Chair**...Anita Devore 818 705-2301

**Treasurer**...Gabe Szende 818-999-5384

**Outing Chair** Gabe Szende 818-999-5384

[russianstore@earthlink.net](mailto:russianstore@earthlink.net)

**Secretary**...Belem Katzen 818 341-8304

**Programs**...Michael Stevenson

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Emaline Rich 818 340-5955

Julie Szende 818-999-5384 [julieszende@gmail.com](mailto:julieszende@gmail.com)

**Political Committee**... Barry Katzen

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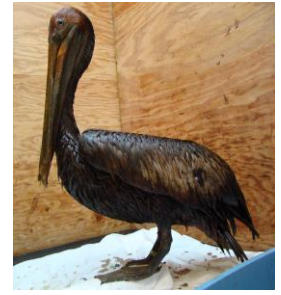
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**Cartoonist**-The Late Willis Simms

Val-E-Vents is a publication provided to inform of local events and to increase awareness of environmental issues. Materials to be considered for submission are welcome and must be received at least two months prior to issue date. Submit material to: [ektrogman@yahoo.com](mailto:ektrogman@yahoo.com)

**International Bird**  
**Rescue Helps**  
**Birds Recover from**  
**Oil Spills**



By Elaine Trogman  
 From International Bird  
 Rescue website:

[WWW.bird-rescue.org](http://WWW.bird-rescue.org)

In January 1971, two oil tankers collided under the Golden Gate Bridge, spilling more than 800,000 gallons of crude oil into the San Francisco Bay. Little was known about oiled bird care at that time and despite the courageous attempts of hundreds of volunteers, only 300 birds survived from the 7,000 collected. Since then much has been learned. Alice Berkner came up with the concept of International Bird Rescue (IBRRC) while trying to help the more than 7,000 birds that filled warehouses around the San Francisco Bay Area during its 1971 oil spill. Alice directed the organization for fifteen years, until 1987, and led the early research and spill responses that built the foundation for the oiled aquatic bird care that we are able to offer today.

Today, Bird Rescue operates a year-round rescue program for oiled, orphaned, ill and injured aquatic birds from two key facilities, in San Francisco and L.A., in California's Oiled Wildlife Care Network (OWCN). Making a difference to the lives of over 5,000 birds a year, the large number and variety of species admitted for care allows Bird Rescue to develop new and better methods of animal husbandry and medical treatment. The team of more than 40 highly trained specialists has led rescue efforts in over 200 oil spills in 11 States, two U.S. territories, and 12 different countries

Besides saving such well-known birds as pelicans, geese, and ducks, they also saved 20,000 African penguins. On June 23, 2000 a ship spilled over 1,300 tons of bunker oil off the coast of So. Africa between two islands. This spill immediately oiled thousands of penguins on and around the islands. Besides saving these oiled penguins, they achieved a massive pre-emptive capture program initiated on the islands. It was successful in relocating over 19,500 non-oiled penguins. In another incident, IBRRC and IFAW teams rushed to the Galapagos Islands when a tanker spilled oil, threatening some of the World's most unique and endangered species.

Because of the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill in Prince William Sound, Alaska, IBRRC staff spent six months managing three bird centers and two search and collection programs. Eagles, Puffins, Murres and other seabirds were treated. In the 1990 American Trader oil spill off Huntington Beach, California, IBRRC lead efforts to save over 150 Brown Pelicans, and assisted with research into oiled pelican survivability. Starting in late April 2010 a team of bird rescue specialists from IBRRC and Tri-State Bird Rescue worked along the Gulf Coast for six months to help with an all-hands-on-deck effort to rescue seabirds caught in oil from the BP Deepwater Horizon well blowout. In 2011 they celebrated 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of caring for birds.



### In Praise of Prey Animals

**By Julie Szende** Throughout history mankind has been fascinated by the strength and skill of meat-eating predators like the lion, tiger, jaguar, lynx, and fox. We admire these predators for their physical beauty as well as for their hunting skills. Herbivorous animals have been traditionally ignored or even disdained for being "weaker," and essentially helpless. This scornful attitude probably originated from a time when predator energy was respected because mankind itself was a hunting and gathering entity. However, a careful study of "prey animals" shows us how well they protect themselves from predators by using a number of instinctual survival mechanisms which also reveal that, though herbivores, these animals are shrewd, alert, quite capable of defending themselves, and eminently worthy of our respect.

**Camouflage.** Prey animals have developed coloring and patterning that is dappled and bland and matches the landscape. Camouflage is a defense mechanism which allows them to avoid confrontation with dangerous enemies. It also enables them to more move freely through their environment without being observed; camouflaged animals can remain motionless for long periods of time unobserved.

**Alertness.** Prey animals cannot afford to sleep as much as the predators who hunt them. They remain wary, napping when they can, but always with "one eye open" in case of danger. The need to be constantly on guard develops in these animals an uncanny sense of alertness which is necessary to their survival.

**Defense Mechanisms.** Herbivorous prey animal are wired with a number of excellent defense mechanisms for survival. First, they are *lightning-fast movers*. They are adept at running or dodging, and can often outrun their attackers if not overpowered by superior numbers. Secondly, many types of prey animals are *able to walk and run within the first few hours of life*. This is essential for survival, as sick, old, or helpless animals are extremely attractive to predators. Prey animals also react on *immediate instinct*. They can't afford to question their fear responses, but must take instant action. Responding with immediacy can be the difference between escaping from a lion, or being devoured by it. Finally, one of the most popular and successful defense mechanisms for herbivorous prey animals is the *strength-in-numbers* idea. By living communally in large packs, potential large herbivores like the elephant, bison and cape buffalo can actually be quite dangerous. Smaller hooved herbivores such as deer, horses, and cows also use the strength-in-numbers pack mentality to survive by staying close to the group and developing communication between members of the herd; in times of danger the herd can form into a tight, impenetrable bunch that discourages most predators.

Sources: [wildspeak.com](http://wildspeak.com) by Ravenari "Prey animal aspecting."

## CASM-CITIZENS AGAINST STRIPMINING ARE FIGHTING AGAINST A GRAVEL MINE NEAR SYLMAR



**This is a representation of the mountain with the terraced mining section above the large white patch**

CASM-SFV, **Citizens Against Strip Mining** in the San Fernando Valley say that there are thousands of residents who live in Sylmar and the San Fernando Valley that are opposed to the proposed strip mine project that will permanently change the face of Kagel Mountain. This proposed mining of the mountain is a project that the land owner, a resident of Woodland Hills, wants to get approved so his small business can profit from the mining and sale of the aggregate material stripped away from the face of the mountain.

### The CASM site says: (CASM-SFV.org)

- \* 73 acre site, \* 3,000,000 cubic yards of earth will be stripped from the mountain
- \* 7 - 14 years of operation, \* Operating daily from 7AM to 5PM, up to 3,000 hours per year

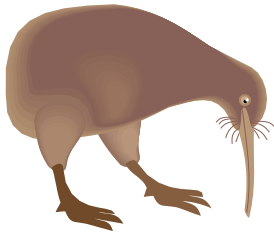
### Strip Mines Are Hazardous to Your Health

- Air pollution from dirt and dust will be blown all over the San Fernando Valley
- Health hazards from diesel exhaust and particulate
- Noise from heavy equipment, trucks, rock crushers, generators
- Health risks for children and families
- Traffic caused by 230 dump truck trips per day from the mine site to the 210 on Hubbard & Maclay
- Once strip mines start they often are expanded - one strip mine can leads to others
- The natural beauty of the San Fernando Valley's mountains will forever be changed

### Sediment Removal from Pacoima Reservoir

Recent wildfires burned a large portion of the area and have led to an increased inflow of sediment and debris into the Pacoima Reservoir above Sylmar. The LA County Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Flood Control District have developed a 20-year Sediment Management Strategic Plan for the removal of millions of cubic yards of sediment from the Pacoima Reservoir. The questions include how will they do it and where will the sediment go?

by Willis Simms



### Conservation Corner

## Species Extinction

By Michael Stevenson

Extinction is a normal process in the course of evolution. Species have slowly evolved and disappeared throughout geologic time as the result of ecological changes due to climate change, loss of critical habitat, habitat fragmentation, pollution, over harvesting/hunting and competition from non-native species. Any species that is unable to reproduce in its environment, and unable to move to a new one dies out and becomes extinct.

Prior to the dispersion of humans across the earth, extinction generally occurred at a continuous low rate with mass extinctions being relatively rare events. But what is now clear is the impact that human activity has had on accelerating species loss worldwide. For example a close relationship has been shown to exist between early human migrations and the disappearance of large game species. Since the 1600s, the rate of extinction has accelerated rapidly, mostly caused by human population growth, with resulting resource consumption and the commercial exploitation of animals for food and other products.

Much of the world's habitats are changing faster than most species can adapt. As a result the current global extinction rate is much higher than the normal background rate. Since life began on earth, several major mass extinctions have significantly exceeded the background extinction rate. The most recent, occurred 65 million years ago, and has attracted more

attention than all others because it killed the dinosaurs. During this mass extinction about 50% of all species became extinct opening the way for mammals to become the dominant land vertebrates.

The United Nations Environment Program report on the global environment concluded that more than 5,000 plants, 1,000 mammals, and 5,000 other animals (including one in eight birds) are endangered and may face extinction within 30 years. The famous Biologist E.O. Wilson estimated that if the current rate of human destruction of the biosphere continues, one-half of all species on earth will be extinct in 100 years.

The whaling industry, in which whales were slaughtered for oil and meat, led many to the brink of extinction. The great auk and the passenger pigeon became extinct in the 19th and early 20th centuries because of over hunting. The Carolina parakeet perished as a species because of a combination of over hunting and habitat destruction. At present the Polar Bear is as much at danger of extinction from global warming as it is from trophy hunting.

The current global extinction crisis is one of the great challenges of our time. The protection of endangered species and habitats should be a top priority for international organizations, governmental agencies and industry as well as the individual citizen. During this time of tumultuous political changes our future leaders need the courage and the foresight to focus their attention on preserving the earth's valuable biodiversity for future generations.



### Birds Help Trees Soar

Dave Mosher *LiveScience.com*

Majestic trees owe a sizeable chunk of their sky-high stature to tiny birds. Birds remove harmful species of beetles, caterpillars, ants and aphids from branches, increasing the vigor of trees. The avian activity also changes the chemical "flavor" of the trees by boosting terpenes—chemicals found to repel tree-eating pests such as bark beetles as well as porcupines and squirrels.

**"More than anything, this study underscores the importance of preserving the ecological communities in the forest and not just the trees,"**

said Kailen Mooney, an evolutionary biologist  
University of Colorado- Boulder

### TOXIC CHEMICALS FOUND IN NEWBORNS

Report in 2005 from the non-profit Environmental Working Group that an average of 204 industrial chemicals showed up in the umbilical cord blood of newborns in the US, most known to be toxic.

Read article by Sarah Mosko, Ph.D. at her website:

Visit [www.BoogieGreen.com](http://www.BoogieGreen.com)

Article: "Trust in Chemicals Unhealthy" Aug. 2007



**South Wild Life Area Pond 2 years ago**



**Wild Life Area Pond Dec. 2012**

### **Sepulveda Basin 48 Acres Habitat Destroyed By Army Corps of Engineers**

*By Kris Ohlenkamp (Conservation Chair of Audubon-SFV)* In the middle of December the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) laid waste to the South Wildlife Reserve in the Sepulveda Basin. What has taken nature 30 years to develop has been destroyed in one week by a mechanized blitzkrieg assault by the Corps. The public, including the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee, had no advance notice of these intended actions, even though we have requested many times to be informed of all proposed projects in the Basin.

Under the guise of a "Vegetation Management Project" the Corps has indiscriminately removed nearly all of the vegetation (native and non-native) that has provided food, shelter, and breeding habitat for thousands of migratory and resident birds since this area was planted from 1979-1984. The Corps 1) intentionally avoided public input in the planning process, 2) published a "No Significant Impact" document which included serious errors, omissions, and misrepresentations of fact and intent, 3) failed to notify well-known organizations, which have supported the Wildlife Area for many years, of their intentions or findings, 4) allowed insufficient opportunity to respond to the plan, 5) ignored constructive comments from responsible organizations which were provided once the plan was discovered and, 6) acted precipitously to decimate the vegetation by going well beyond what was described in the Project plan.

The Corps plan of completely eliminating all vegetation (except for a few of the native trees), spraying herbicides for the next 2 to 5 years, changing a naturally evolving, low maintenance habitat dominated by diverse native vegetation into an unnaturally open mono-culture of salt grass, will require many years for the habitat to recover, and will create a large, unsightly scar on the Wildlife Area. The devastation is already so complete that it will take a decade or more before the area can rightfully be considered a "Wildlife Area".

The "Vegetation Management Project" called for selective removal of non-native trees and shrubs, trimming of native trees, and removal of dead limbs and debris along Haskell Creek, the berm along Burbank Blvd., and within 50 feet of the Dam structure. Instead, they removed nearly all of the vegetation (including many mature native Cottonwoods and Willows) in approximately 50 acres of the Wildlife Area, completely destroyed and filled in the Pothole Pond, and created several new "access roads". Many of the trees and native plants that were taken out were in an area previously planted as mitigation for a Tillman Plant project. The decomposed granite trails, signs, trail markers and stone structures have been destroyed or removed. Tens of thousands of dollars of public money spent on these improvements has been plowed under in one week of needless destruction.

The Corp's stated mission of environmental stewardship with a long term objective of restoring the Basin's diverse native habitat is apparently hollow hyperbole. The extent of the devastation inflicted by the Corp's recent activities must be seen to truly comprehend the damage that has been done. Urgent steps must be taken to stop the immediate clear-cut activities and prevent even greater long term impacts.

### **RESULTS OF MEETING WITH ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS**

On Jan 11<sup>th</sup>, we (SFVAS, SBWASC) concluded our initial meeting with the Corps, and feel that we have made significant progress in reaching verbal agreements on how to move forward in a productive fashion. We were given the assurance that no further work will be done on the existing Vegetative Management Program (VMP) without direct input and supervision of our volunteer experts. We acknowledge the immediate need to remove some of the debris that was generated in the first week of Phase 1, and will be present to observe and provide guidance during that process. They have acknowledged that their in-house and public communications processes need to be improved, and have already begun to take steps in that direction. And, we have both agreed to meet again soon (next week) to tour the area together and schedule a series of meetings to establish mutually agreeable goals.

We have provided them with a list of significant problems with the VMP description and implementation, as well as a list of recommendations for moving forward. When they have had time to review this material we will meet again and begin the real work of assuring permanent change for the better. We feel good about the progress made and are hopeful. <http://www.sfvaudubon.org/>



## EARTHDAY 2013

### Sunday Sepulveda Basin Hike

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**

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



## Greener Laundry: Avoid Polyester

*By Sarah (Steve) Mosko*

If you have already switched to an eco-friendly laundry detergent, as many people do to contribute less to water pollution, you might be surprised to learn that the pollution you generate on wash day has as much to do with the kind of fabrics your clothes, bedding and towels are made of as the detergent you wash them in. Recent studies have revealed that a single garment made of polyester can shed innumerable tiny fibers into the wash water, and those fibers are finding their way to the ocean. The pollution they cause is worsened by the fact that, like plastic materials in general, polyester attracts oily pollutants in seawater so is a vehicle for the transfer of potentially dangerous chemicals into the food web when the fibers are ingested by sea creatures.

When we reflect on ocean pollution from plastics, we tend to think of larger eyesores of plastic debris, like plastic bags, foam cups, abandoned fishing nets and drink bottles & caps. It's already well-documented

that many fish, seabirds, turtles and marine mammals die each year because of ingestion or entanglement in such obvious plastic refuse. But when exposed to sunlight and other environmental stresses, plastics break apart into smaller scraps which, nevertheless, remain as a plastic polymer and non-biodegradable. Once fragmented into bits less than one millimeter (the size of a pin head), they are called "microplastics." The breakdown of larger plastics is not the only known source of microplastics pollution. Two others have been identified in the sewage stream: tiny plastic granules, used in beauty products and cleaning agents as scrubbers, and spillage of plastic powders and pellets which are the industrial raw materials for fabricating consumer plastics. Microplastic fibers of an unknown source are also showing up in the sewage stream. Because waste treatment plants are not designed to filter out microplastics, any that enter the sewage stream end up in the ocean and anywhere else the outflow from waste treatment plants is dumped.

Though invisible to the casual observer, microplastics are accumulating throughout marine habitats, and research is showing that they already outnumber large plastic fragments. For example, a study sampling a British estuary – where the ocean tide meets a river's end – found that microplastics accounted for 65 percent of all plastic debris. And, the miniscule size of microplastics means that even minute creatures could ingest them, either by accident or by mistaking them for food, thereby introducing any chemicals on board into the very bottom of the food chain. Another obvious downside to microplastics is that their size makes them utterly impossible to clean up once they get into the ocean, or any other environment for that matter.

What all this has to do with polyester fabrics on wash day is pretty straightforward. Polyester cloths are used in innumerable items routinely laundered at home, such as blankets, towels and every sort of garment. They are, by design, composed of tiny plastic fibers. A single polyester item can slough off more than 1900 fibers in one washing, according to an in-depth study published in 2011. Every article tested produced more than 100 microfbers per liter of wastewater, and the worst offenders were the fleeces. Strong evidence also linked polyester from laundering to ocean pollution. Every one of 18 shorelines sampled across the globe was fouled with microplastic fibers, predominantly of polyester.

We probably can't do anything about the microplastics that already contaminate our oceans and other environments, but we can stem the flow of further microplastics by making smarter, more responsible choices of what we purchase and throw into the washing machine on laundry day. Natural fiber cloths of cotton, silk, wool, bamboo, hemp and even soy are available. All derive from renewable sources and are intrinsically biodegradable, and their fibers would not attract oily chemicals out of seawater. When choosing cotton, organic is best because of the large quantities of pesticides applied in growing conventional cotton.



Little Tujunga Creek passes beneath the 210 Fwy; it shows the large amount of water that can come down from the mountains when it rains & snows. The intention is to capture this water to put in the underground aquifers. (Photo from The River Project)

### **Property Owners in L.A. asked to Vote on Storm Water Assessments**

By Elaine Trogman

Land owners should have received by now information on this initiative. **The reason for the fee is that our oceans and drinking water are being polluted from land run-off; in addition, both people and animals are becoming sick from swimming in our oceans. We are getting the majority of our drinking water from many hundreds of miles away and it will be harder to obtain this water in the future. We need to use more of our local water and it needs to be clean.** Each parcel of land will be charged per storm water run-off, based on lot size, and water-resistant area etc. Fees collected will be allocated accordingly; the ones who will be paying the most are properties like businesses with a large surface of parking lots and building square footage. When the money is collected it will be distributed as follows:

- 10% - Storm water projects/capture
- 40% - local municipalities
- 50% - Watershed Authority Groups for regional projects

A 50% plus 1 vote is needed for the ballot to fail or be advanced.

Below is the explanation of oversight for the money collected.

#### **Watershed Authority Groups**

- Watershed Authority Groups consist of representatives from each municipality in the watershed, plus a public water supply agency representative and a land conservancy representative

- A Stakeholder Advisory Panel (made up of community members) helps the Watershed Authority Groups select projects and develop 5-year plans that meet the needs of the community
- All plans and projects must be approved by the Oversight Board

#### **Oversight Board**

- Appointed by the Board of Supervisors and made up of property owners who are representatives from Watershed Authority Groups and the Flood Control District, plus one member from the environmental community, and two at-large members from the general public
- Reviews all Watershed Authority Group plans and projects
- Reviews all \$2 million+ local projects

#### **Annual Audits**

- The Auditor-Controller of Los Angeles County will conduct annual audits of municipalities and Watershed Authority Groups actual and budgeted use of funds.

### **A Collaborative Local Approach Since This Is More Than A One City Problem.**

The way in which stormwater flows doesn't necessarily follow city lines. Many cities send water to the same place, such as the Los Angeles River, San Gabriel River or Ballona Creek. Ultimately, all that stormwater ends up going to our Bay and coastal waters.

This Measure allows cities and the County to work collaboratively on water quality projects where they make the most sense, from inland all the way to the ocean, rather than having a string of very expensive and perhaps redundant projects paid for by each city. Projects funded by the measure may be single-purpose, or may be multi-purpose and multi-benefit, cleaning water, recharging groundwater supplies, and beautifying public spaces.

The county has been putting pressure on cities to clean up so they don't contribute to water pollution. Many cities answer they don't have the extra money. The Measure sends 40% of funds directly back to cities and County unincorporated communities, in proportion to the fees paid by property owners in that area. Cities make decisions about funding local water quality projects, which can include new and existing services such as sweeping streets to capture trash, and maintaining storm drains and filters.

The Measure also sends 50% of funds to Watershed Authority Groups, regional collaborative groups of cities and County unincorporated communities in that watershed. Watershed Authority Groups make decisions about funding regional water quality projects in the 9 watershed areas.

The remaining 10% of funds go to the County Flood Control District for countywide water quality monitoring, projects for improving water quality, performance oversight and technical assistance to cities and regional collaborations.

**For More Info:** <http://www.lacountycleanwater.org/>



**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>**

## SFVSC Upcoming Hikes

### Hike Leaders phone #

N. 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, and 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 18-346-5759

*Come and learn about the local habitat of  
the Southern California Coastal and inland  
areas with the San Fernando Valley Group*

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**



## **TUESDAY HIKES**

**Moderate Easy Paced 4-6  
Mile. RAIN CANCELS**

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

O:(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:

O:(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

### April 2, 2013 De Anza Park to Liberty Cyn :

O:(WA) Moderately paced 6 mile, 800' gain. The trail follows Las Virgenes Creek to the Talapop Trail overlooking Liberty Canyon to see an old adobe in Malibu Creek State Park. Lots of trees, views of the mountains and interesting plants. Meet 8:30 AM at De Anza Park, Calabasas. Exit 101 Fwy at Lost Hills Rd., turn south. (Left if coming from the Valley) Proceed 1 mile to parking lot on the right in De Anza Park. Bring water, snack, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels.

Leader: MARCIA HARRIS Asst: RITA OKOWITZ

### April 9 Towsley Canyon, Santa Clarita Woodlands:

O:(WA) Moderately paced 5½ mile 1000' gain with great vistas, a chilly narrows, diverse plant life, tar seeps and a fumarole. Meet 8:30 AM Ed Davis Park, Newhall. Take the Calgrove exit from Interstate 5, turn west under the freeway and take the Old Road south ½ mile to Ed Davis Park entrance on right, park in second dirt parking area on the right near kiosk, about 50 yds past entrance gate, before fee area. Rain cancels. Leaders: REAVEN GATELY Asst: PIXIE KLEMIC

### April 16 Cheeseboro Canyon:

O: (WA) Moderately paced 6+ mile, 500' elevation gain in the lovely Simi Hills, first through ridge grasslands, then along an old ranch road following a streambed/multiple stream crossings with lovely oak woodlands to Sulfur Springs. Meet 8:30 AM at trailhead. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Cheeseboro Rd exit, turn north on Palo Comado Canyon Rd then right on Cheeseboro Rd, and continue 1 mile to park entrance, turn right and follow road to second parking lot at end. Rain cancels. Leader: MARCIA HARRIS Asst: DOTTY SANDFORD

### April 23 King Gillette Ranch:

O: (WA) Moderately paced 5 mile, 400' elevation gain hike around our newest acquisition to the Santa Monica Parklands, most recently owned by SOKA University. Beautiful valley and coast live oak savannah, grasslands, coastal sage scrub, etc., as well as manicured grounds around the original Gillette Mansion. Meet 8:30 AM in fee parking lot of Ranch. 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. Rain cancels.

Leader: PIXIE KLEMIC Asst: RITA OKOWITZ

April 30 Newton Canyon (W) / Backbone Trail:

O: (WA) Moderately paced 5 mile, 800' gain, hike into Zuma Canyon on a scenic trail through oak woodlands and chaparral. Meet 8:30 AM Newton Canyon Trailhead. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Kanan Rd exit, go south on Kanan Rd appx. 8 mi. to paved trailhead parking area on west side just north of Tunnel 1 (3<sup>rd</sup> tunnel from 101 about 1¾ miles past Mulholland Hwy; 4 ½ mi. north of PCH). Rain cancels.

Leader: PIXIE KLEMIC Asst: RITA OKOWITZ

**(Tuesday hikes continued on Page 10)**

**(Tuesday hikes continued from Page 9)****May 7, 2013 O'Melveny Park to Mission****Point:**

O: (WA) Moderately paced 5 mile 1400' gain/loss hike with great views of SF Valley and way beyond, depending on visibility, in our second largest city park. Meet 8:00 AM at trailhead. From 118 Fwy take Balboa Blvd exit north about 2 miles to Orozco St, turn left continuing ½ mile to end, then left on Sesnon, pass parking lot, and go about 4 blocks to Neon. Turn right and park at end of street. Rain cancels.

Leader: REAVEN GATELY Asst: PIXIE KLEMIC

**May 14 Hondo Canyon Backbone Trail:**

O: (WA)

Moderately paced 5 mile 1400' loss hike in a dramatic, scenic canyon. Short shuttle to top of mountain and a downhill hike. Should be lots of wildflowers. Meet 8:00 AM at trailhead, located on Old Topanga Canyon Rd 0.4 mile west of intersection with Topanga Canyon Blvd. Limited roadside parking, so please rideshare. Rain cancels. Leader: PIXIE KLEMIC

**May 21 Valley to the Sea (almost):**

O:(WA) Moderately paced 7 1/2 mile 800' gain 2300' loss hike across Topanga State Park from Tarzana to Temescal Canyon at Sunset Blvd in Pacific Palisades. Ride 3 buses and car shuttle back to start. This is an all day adventure, lots of fun. Meet 8:00 AM at top of Reseda Blvd in Tarzana. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Reseda Blvd exit, turn south and go 3 miles to Mulholland Gateway Park. Choice to park along street below the white line at beginning of fee area or pay fee and park above. Meet at trailhead at the top. Bring money for bus. Rain cancels.

Leader: REAVEN GATELY Asst: PIXIE KLEMIC

**May 28 Malibu Creek State Park /****Grasslands Trail:**

O: (WA) Moderately paced 4 mile, 300' gain hike over Grasslands Trail to the Rock Pool and Century Lake. See the sites where many movies were shot. Meet 8:00 AM at Malibu Canyon and Mulholland Hwy, SW corner parking area or park along road. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Las Virgenes Rd/Malibu Canyon exit, go south 5 3/4 miles to Mulholland Hwy. Rain cancels.

Leader: MARCIA HARRIS Asst: STEPHEN BECK

**June 4, 2013 Devil Canyon:**

O: (WA) 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) 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) 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) 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

**THURSDAY HIKES**

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/SFV) 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

**April 4, 2013 Hummingbird Trail to Rocky****Peak:**

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

Leader: ROSEMARY CAMPBELL Asst: NORM STABECK

**April 11 Walker Ranch, Los Pinetos:**

O: (WA) Moderately paced 6 mile 1700' gain hike to Wilson Canyon Saddle from shaded oak groves of Walker Ranch (optional additional 4 miles along willow and sycamore-lined seasonal stream to Nature Center and back). Meet 8 AM at Walker Ranch trailhead (from Antelope Valley Fwy (Hwy 14) take Placerita Cyn Rd, exit 3, east 3¼ miles, past Placerita Canyon Park entrance to Walker Ranch trailhead and limited parking alongside road). Rain cancels.

Leaders: ROSEMARY CAMPBELL, MARGARET VERNALLIS

**April 18 Cheeseboro Cyn:**

O: (WA) Moderately paced 9-10 mile hike in Agoura Hills to Shepherds' Flat, over grasslands and along an old ranch road following a streambed. Meet 8 AM at trailhead (from 101 Ventura Fwy take Cheeseboro Rd, exit 35, turn north on Palo Comado Canyon Rd then right on Cheeseboro Rd, and go north 1 mile to park entrance, turn right and follow road to dirt parking area at end). Rain cancels. Leader: TED MATTOCK Asst: NANCY KRUPA

**April 25 Grotto Trail in the Verdugos:**

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

**May 2, 2013 Valley to the Sea:**

O: (WA) Moderately paced 11 mile 1600' gain 3000' loss hike across Topanga State Park from Tarzana to Sunset Blvd/PCH in Pacific Palisades. Ride 3 buses back to start. This is an all day adventure, lots of fun. Meet 8 AM on Mecca Ave just south of Ventura Blvd for car shuttle to trailhead (from 101 Ventura Fwy take Reseda Blvd, exit 23, south to Ventura Blvd, turn right and then left at next corner, Mecca). Bring \$ for bus fare, Rain cancels. Leaders: TED MATTOCK, MIMI KNIGHTS, REAVEN GATELY

**May 9 Wilson Canyon:**

O: (WA) Moderately paced 10 mile 1600' gain hike from SM Mts Conservancy Park with magnificent oak area, to Wilson Saddle viewpoint with great SF valley views. Meet 8 AM at Wilson Cyn Park trailhead (from the Golden State/I-5 Freeway in Sylmar take Roxford St, exit 159, north past the 210 Freeway, bend right to Olive View Drive, continue past the main hospital and the four-way stop at Bledsoe Street to park entrance road located approximately 200 yards east of Bledsoe, just before Fenton Avenue, pay \$5 parking fee near entrance, then proceed to trailhead parking at northwest terminus of entry road). Bring \$5 for parking, Rain cancels. Leader: ROSEMARY CAMPBELL Asst: NANCY KRUPA

**May 16 Stunt High Trail to Saddle Peak:**

O: (WA) Moderately paced 8 mile 2000' gain hike to Saddle Peak from Stunt Road in Calabassas. Meet 8 AM Stunt High trailhead. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Valley Circle/Mulholland Dr, exit 29, go south, turn right on Valmar Rd (becomes Old Topanga Cyn Rd), then right on Mulholland Hwy for 3½ miles, left on Stunt Rd for 1 mile, and park on dirt shoulder on right. Rain cancels. Leader: NANCY KRUPA Asst: STEPHEN BECK

**May 23 Weldon Cyn Overlook:**

O: (WA) Moderately paced 8 mile 1200' gain hike through oaks, black walnut and fir trees, passing BFI planted oaks as a condition of landfill expansion, to overlooking views of Santa Clarita and San Fernando Valleys. Meet 8 AM East Canyon trailhead of Santa Susana Mtns. Take Calgrove Blvd, exit 166, from northbound Interstate 5, turn left (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. Bring \$5 for parking, Rain cancels. Leaders: MIMI KNIGHTS, REAVEN GATELY

**May 30 Upper Zuma Canyon Backbone Trail,**  
Zuma Ridge Rd:

O: (WA) Moderately paced 8 mile 1400' gain hike on scenic trail through lovely canyon, then on fire road with great mountain and ocean views, to Buzzard's Roost. Meet 8 AM Newton Canyon Trailhead. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Kanan Rd exit, go south on Kanan Rd to paved trailhead parking area on west side just north of Tunnel 1 (3<sup>rd</sup> tunnel from 101 about 1¾ miles past Mulholland Hwy). Leader: DOUG DEMERS Asst: NANCY KRUPA

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

O: (WA) 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) 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) 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) 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

**WEEKEND ACTIVITIES****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.

**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. 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.**

## SATURDAY ACTIVITIES

### Top of Reseda, Tarzana, SF Valley,

**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

O: 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

### 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](mailto: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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 hike:** 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 email**



## 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. On December 18, 2012 there was a meeting between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and S.C Edison 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 earliest March 2013. Many concerned residents feel that starting up the generators is endangering their lives.

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.) 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

There was a poll taken which comprised 700 registered voters who live inside Edison's service area. It was performed by San Francisco-based David Binder Research, independent research group, for the Friends of the Earth. The respondents were read a description of recent problems at the plant, the number of those who supported shutdown "strongly" or "somewhat" was 58 percent. 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.