



SIERRA CLUB San Fernando Valley

Newsletter November 2012 **through February 2013**

**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, November 20, 2012



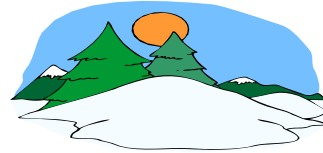
David Czamanske,
Chair of the Pasadena Sierra Club
will present a program entitled:

Drought in the Southwest: A One-Time Thing, or a Permanent Condition?

David is the former chair of the Angeles Chapter Water Committee and a long-time member of the Sierra Club's Southwest Water Committee. Come and learn about the impact that this drought is having on our food supply and the environment, its causes and what could be the long term outlook.

There will be socializing & refreshments"

Tues, December 18, 2012



Holiday Nature Slide Show

Join us to celebrate the holidays and attend a potpourri of travel, nature and environmental slides from our members and friends. To get your special slides on the program contact:

Michael Stevenson at (818) 419-5318.

If you are showing slides if possible please bring them to the meeting in a Carousel Slide Tray.

If you have a digital presentation contact Barry Katzen at (818) 341-8304. Also if you have a digital presentation please bring them on a USB flash drive or E-mail them directly to barkat@rocketmail.com and Barry will load them in his computer.

There will be socializing & refreshments"

January 15, 2013 Papua New Guinea: Birds & People on NEXT PAGE

February 19, 2013 "Beyond Oil" on NEXT PAGE

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**Tuesday
January 15, 2013**

Chuck and Lillian Almdale,
long-time members of the Audubon Society
and international birders

present:



**Papua New Guinea:
Birds and People.**

Papua New Guinea is a land of huge diversity, in terrain, birds and people. There are 830 indigenous languages, half of which have fewer than 1,000 speakers. Their multi-media presentation features many endemic birds especially the birds-of-paradise as well as the fascinating people of New Guinea, including the Huli Wigmen of the central highlands and the Yukoim cannibal-headhunters on the Karawiri River. Come and remind yourself why you really want to go there.

There will be socializing and refreshments.



Solar panels on Mike Stevenson's roof
Photo by Mike Stevenson



Mike Stevenson's
electric car
Photo by Mike
Stevenson



Solar awnings for parking at Taft High School
in San Fernando Valley
Photo by Gayle Dufour.

**Tuesday
February 19, 2013**

Presenter Darrell Clarke
is the Sierra Club National Beyond Oil Campaign
volunteer co-lead; the Angeles Chapter
Transportation co-chair; past Angeles Chapter
chair; Conservation chair; and
former ExComm member.

Darrell will present

Beyond Oil

The reality of global warming and rising world oil prices are two of the critical reasons for us to move away from oil. Join us to discuss how we can do this technically and how the Sierra Club can organize nationally and locally to achieve this vital goal.
There will be socializing and refreshments.

1000 At \$100 Donors Campaign



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 1000 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. Please donate today.

Make your check payable to the Angeles Chapter Sierra Club and send it to:

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

A heartfelt thank you,
Hersh Kelley, Chair, Executive Committee
Ron Silverman, Senior Chapter Director

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**Experimental
Genetically Engineered
Organisms**

The California Right to Know Genetically Engineered Food Act, Prop 37

The Sierra Club has endorsed Prop. 37.

All Proposition 37 does is require clear labels letting consumers know if foods are genetically modified. We already have food labels showing nutrition, allergy information and other facts consumers want to know. This measure simply adds information telling us if food is produced using genetic engineering, which is when food is modified in a laboratory by adding DNA from other plants, animals, bacteria or viruses.

We Currently Eat Genetically Engineered Food, But Don't Know It

This type of genetic alteration is not found in nature and is experimental. The scientific term is "transgenics," and is also often referred to as GMO, or Genetically Modified Organisms.

Example: Genetically Modified corn has been engineered in a laboratory to produce pesticides in its own tissue. GMO corn is regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency as an Insecticide, but is sold unlabeled. [\[EPA Pesticides\]](#)

What Are We Eating?

GMOs have not been proven safe, and the long-term health risks on humans of genetically modified foods have not been adequately investigated. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration does not require safety studies for genetically modified food. Unlike the strict safety evaluations required for the approval of new drugs, the safety of genetically engineered foods for human consumption is not adequately tested.

There have been NO long-term studies conducted on the safety of genetically engineered foods on humans.

No Cost to Consumers or Food Producers

The California Right to Know Genetically Engineered Food Act will have no cost impact on consumers or food producers. It simply adds a label to genetically engineered food. Companies change their labeling all the time. In a recent poll, 93% of Californians said they would vote for Mandatory Labeling of Genetically Engineered Foods! If this initiative passes, it will be a huge step towards the transparency we deserve. Once people KNOW what is in their food, they might make the informed choice to avoid the potential health risks of GMOs until more research on their long-term effects can be done.

The choice is up to them.

More than 40 countries with over 40% of the world's population already label genetically engineered foods, including the entire European Union. China labels genetically engineered foods. California should take the lead on this important issue in the United States. What do these countries know that we don't?

<http://www.carighttoknow.org/facts>



**VOTE FOR
THE ENVIRONMENTAL CANDIDATE**

Conservation Corner

**The Effects of a Romney/Ryan
Administration on our Environment**

By Michael Stevenson

The upcoming presidential election has put in play many issues in which the two major candidates, President Obama and Mitt Romney, differ sharply. On the nightly news we hear all about their differences on what to do about the national debt, Social Security, Medicare, the Affordable Care Act, taxes, abortion, birth control, unemployment, immigration, military spending and energy policy. But in the face of record heat waves, drought, forest fires and crop failures we hear little or nothing from Mr. Romney about the most important environmental issue of our time, global warming/climate change. One excuse could be that it's because he's a Republican. According to a recent Gallup Poll that covers Global Warming Views by Party Identification; only 43% of Republicans accept as true that most scientists believe global warming is occurring, whereas 75% of Democrats accept this. On another scientific consensus statement that global warming is mainly caused by human activity, only 36% of Republicans believe this compared to 65% of Democrats.

Mr. Romney is a seemingly well-educated and smart man so does he really not understand the consequences of what climate change will bring to our planet? Maybe not, because in October 2011 during a forum in Pennsylvania he expressed the view that "we don't know what's causing climate change and the idea of spending trillions and trillions of dollars to try and reduce CO2 emissions is not the right course for us" (www.lunberg.com). If he is just scientifically ignorant that's not nearly as bad as a worse alternative. This is that he knows better, but he is

just pandering to his right-wing Republican base that doesn't believe in climate change and at the same time doesn't want to alienate his multi-billionaire fossil fuel pals that are helping to bankroll his election. Most candidates run towards the center after the Presidential Primaries have ended but Mr. Romney continued to go hard right. I believe this is because he quickly realized that he would lose the election if he moved to the center where he was when he served as the Governor of Massachusetts from 2003-2007. For the most part that kind of Republican no longer exists. If he did move to the center, most of the right wing base, which never really liked or trusted him, might just stay home on Election Day. But to do what he is doing is not being a leader in the best sense of the word. The great leaders of our country were not people who did the expedient thing just to get elected; but instead they made the case for the truth of what needed to be done and then persuaded the electorate to follow them.

When Mitt Romney selected Paul Ryan as his running mate any pretense that he might be at least a moderate environmentalist was gone. According to the League of Conservation Voters Legislative Scorecard for 2011, Paul Ryan voted for the environment only 3% of the time. Compare his terrible environmental record with some local Congressional Members. Using this same voter scorecard, Brad Sherman, Howard Berman, Adam Schiff and Henry Waxman all voted pro-environment 97% of the time.

What might happen if a Romney/Ryan ticket is successful in winning the Presidency this November? It's not really a mystery as they have pretty clearly laid out their plans. Romney's energy policy team is composed of oil and coal industry insiders including fossil fuel billionaires Harold Hamm and the Koch brothers. His Energy Policy can be found at www.mittromney.com.

He says that "the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act and other environmental laws need to be overhauled". They support the use of fossil fuels to the max and would retain oil company tax breaks amounting to several billion dollars while at the same time stating that "green energy is not competitive and should not be subsidized". For example they oppose the extension of the Production Tax Credit to encourage wind energy. According to thinkprogress.org "this tax credit has helped double our production of wind energy over the past 4 years and ending it would cost at least 37,000 jobs". They want to push deregulation to help accelerate the exploration and development of oil and gas and stop the EPA from regulating CO2 emissions. They are for quick approval of the Keystone XL Pipeline which would bring tar sands oil from Canada through the Midwest to the gulf coast. Romney says "he will permit drilling wherever it can be done safely including the Gulf of Mexico, both the Atlantic and Pacific Outer Continental Shelves, Western lands, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and off the Alaska coast including both conventional reserves and shale oil deposits". He will also give individual states jurisdiction over whether to drill for oil and gas on public federal lands.

(continued--Effects of Romney/Ryan Admin. on the Environment)

President Obama has recently finalized new federal fuel economy standards that would be phased in from 2017 to 2025. It would eventually require each automaker's passenger vehicle fleet to average 54.5 miles per gallon. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration the new standards will cut greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2025. This policy is a continuation of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 that was signed by President Bush. Thirteen major automakers which between them make 90% of all vehicles made in the U.S. support this plan. But according to Mr. Romney's campaign spokeswoman Andrea Saul he opposes the new rules as they "limit the choices for American families". According to thinkprogress.org "Romney not only opposes these new rules, but he would undo existing standards requiring new cars reach an average of 35.5 MPG by 2016, the first improvement for fuel economy standards stalled for two decades".

At the Republican National Convention Mr. Romney said to his audience: "President Obama promised to begin to slow the rise of the oceans and to heal the planet. My plan is to help you and your family". He mocks efforts to combat climate change while at the same time advocating policies that put increased pressure on our dwindling planetary resources. His environmental and energy positions convey a level of ignorance and arrogance far beneath the qualities of someone who should serve as our President.



REQUIEM FOR A KIT FOX

By Julie Sende, Membership Chair

The kit fox (or *vulpes macrotis*) is a fox species of North America. Its range is primarily in the southwestern U.S. and northern and central Mexico. It can also be found in Oregon, Colorado, Nevada, Utah, southeastern California, Arizona, New Mexico, and parts of west Texas.

The kit is an attractive animal--very small, having an average weight of only 3-6 lbs. Its large ears (3 3/4" in height) help regulate its body temperature and give it very keen hearing. The average kit has a gray coat, with rusty brown tones. The tip of its tail is black. The color of its fur ranges from yellowish-orange to gray; its back is usually darker than the rest of its coat, while the belly and inner ears are lighter. The kit has distinct triangular-shaped dark patches around the nose area.

On two occasions I was lucky enough to see kits on carcamp trips. Both times were at Fremont Campground in Las Padres National Park, near the Santa Ynez River. My first sighting of one of these elusive animals was several years ago. I was sleeping in my car. I woke early-- about 5:30AM-- and gazed around the campground, which was shrouded with heavy white fog. Suddenly a small animal, resembling a domestic cat, came scurrying by the car. I had a close look at its dark brown furry back and its black-tipped bushy tail and giant ears. I recognized it as a kit fox.

On a recent San Fernando Valley/International Community carcamp at Fremont Campground (May 2012) I resolved to try another kit sighting. I rose early on Sunday morning, and began walking slowly around the campground, peering into the brush and high grasses which, along with oak trees, surround the campground and make an ideal place for kit foxes to establish dens. I saw nothing. I decided to walk down the gentle slope of the campground toward Paradise Road. When I got to the road I turned onto it and walked for a bit. It was then that I saw my second kit fox. He lay right beside the road, dead. He had obviously been hit by a car while trying to cross Paradise Road.

I took a close look at the inert fox. There was no blood anywhere. I observed how fluffy and clean its brownish-gray fur was, and how luxuriously bushy the tail was. I speculated that he might have been returning from a night of hunting at nearby Santa Ynez River.

As I walked back to the campground I thought of the history of this species in California. Desert kit foxes (*macrotis arsipus*) in Blythe are presently being decimated by canine distemper. Another desert species (*macrotis macrotis*) became extinct in 1903. How can we protect the rest of these charismatic mammals, whose life expectancy is 5 years, and who struggle every day to survive habitat loss and competition with other animals for food? Wildlife crossings would be one way. There are wildlife crossings now found in a number of Southern California locations. There are culverts and fences on State Route 58 in San Bernardino to protect the Desert Tortoise. Underpasses have saved the lives of bobcats, gray foxes, mule deer and coyotes in Orange County, Riverside County and Los Angeles County. If these wildlife crossings were common features of all heavily traveled roads and highways (like Paradise Road), California wildlife--kit foxes included--would have a much better chance for survival.

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

Article: "Trust in Chemicals Unhealthy" Aug. 2007.



Think global warming is controlled if we solve CO2 output? *Think again.*

By Theresa Brady, Conservation Chair

The other greenhouse gases are becoming an increasing problem. Efforts to shift to natural gas, as other fossil fuels become scarce, are driving up the amount of methane released into the atmosphere. Other fluorine based gases are being manufactured by corporations to make a profit off rules intended to encourage the reduction of fluorocarbons. These gasses are significantly more powerful warming agents than CO2 and must be addressed if we are to stabilize the climate.

We all know that CO2 needs to be reduced if we want to leave a world not radically changed from the one we grew up in. Conspicuous use of fossil fuel through SUV use is on the decline not just for economic reasons but also due to a sense of responsibility. Bicycle riding is up. But what of the other green house gasses?

Natural gas is 75% methane which is 25 times more powerful a warming gas than CO2 though it lasts only 12 years, it would not be a good alternative to other fossil fuels. But corporate lobbyists are asking for just that.

According to an article in the Guardian newspaperⁱ, a recent study indicates natural gas is at least as bad a fossil fuel regarding global warming as other fossil fuels, including coal. The main constituent of natural gas (CH₄) is methane (CH₄). In fact 75% of what we know as natural gas is methane. Methane is 25 times as potent a warming agent as CO₂. It lasts 12 years in the atmosphere as opposed to the variable hundreds of years in the atmosphere for CO₂. Methane also is released during the extraction of natural gas in the process known as fracking. Methane released in the process of extracting and using natural gas should be regulated.

In a recent article in the Guardian newspaper, a study by Cornell Universityⁱⁱ scientists showed the amount of global warming gases produced by the extraction and use of natural gas is at least as bad as coal. Charts in their report break down the fossil fuels produced in the extraction and use of each of the major fossil fuels. When they added together the CO₂ and Methane for all the fossil fuels from ground to end of use, they found that natural gas is actually worse for the climate than coal.ⁱⁱⁱ

Koch funded scientist, Richard Murrell, who as of recently, is convinced that global warming is human induced, has since campaigned that the solution to global warming is to convince China to shift to natural gas instead of coal. According to the Cornell study, there would be no benefit regarding global warming if China agreed to natural gas instead of coal. China has made efforts to install some

renewables^{iv} and this should be encouraged. Their plans to install coal fired power plants is a harmful policy, as are US coal fired power plants. However, simply shifting all coal use to natural gas use is equally if not more harmful.^v

Both fracking for natural gas and extracting and burning coal, have other environmental problems as well. Coal pollutes air. It destroys mountain landscapes. It pollutes waterways in the region of the mining. Fracking pollutes water. To date the corporations that frack have not been required to reveal what chemicals they use when they frack. There are seriously hazardous chemicals in the lists that have been made public, and evidenced in the fact that the water from wells near where fracking occurs, is flammable. There are also large numbers of illnesses such as cancer.

According to a recent Mother Jones^{vi} article, there are scientists being bought by the natural gas industry. This would explain why while natural gas is worse than coal, it is being promoted by government agencies and many scientists, to replace other fossil fuels.

CO₂ is the most common of greenhouse gasses, therefore emphasis has been on tracking and reducing CO₂. Methane is the second most common, and deserves attention. However other Global warming gasses also increasingly warrant concern: Nitrous Oxide, Hydrofluorocarbon 23, sulphur hexafluoride, and pfc-14, all pose serious threats to climate stability.^{vii} ^{viii} These other chemicals and fossil fuels must be regulated stringently to avoid timebombs of global warming.^{ix}

The UN has allowed a company in Gujarat to build plants to create chemicals that are harmful to climate stability and then get credit for destroying them.^x Better regulation is especially urgent as corporations are taking advantage of rules intended to curb global warming in order to make a profit. The New York Times reported last month that there are communities all over Asia that are being saddled with these chemical plants^{xi} that are polluting their local air and creating these gasses, not for use, but for the credits they can sell on the carbon trading market.

“So since 2005 the 19 plants receiving the waste gas payments have profited handsomely from an unlikely business: churning out more harmful coolant gas so they can be paid to destroy its waste byproduct. The high output keeps the prices of the coolant gas irresistibly low, discouraging air-conditioning companies from switching to less – damaging alternative gases. That means, critics say, that United Nations subsidies intended to improve the environment are instead creating their own damage.”^{xii}

This is becoming a serious threat to local health in the areas of India^{xiii} and China where it occurs. It is also a serious threat to health of life on the entire planet since some of these gasses are 14,000 times^{xiv} more potent than CO₂ and do that damage for a much longer period of time than the hundreds of years that CO₂ stays harmful.

New nuclear power plants are not a solution to global warming either^{xv}, since they also have a huge global warming footprint. We must count the construction impact of such plants to truly assess their value in replacing other energy sources. 10s of

thousands of years that nuclear waste is a risk makes that an unviable energy option as well.

The fossil fuel and chemical industries have been allowed to “externalize of costs” of their pollution, and their misrepresentation of both short and long term risk to the public for too long. There is a need to regulate these industries, and to require responsibility and accountability from the heads of these corporations. The social and health risks of allowing the “externalization of costs” has been imposed on the environment and the human community as well. This is not to let the nuclear industry off the hook. They also lobby our government mercilessly in order to keep us stuck in their toxic technology. We need the human community to recognize these deceptive efforts to implement hazardous and deceptive schemes and to require accountability. The dangers of continuing to establish infrastructure toward any future fossil fuel: (tar sands, natural gas, or coal) use should be revealed, so that real solutions can be put in place.

We need to get corporate influence out of the way so that false solutions waste time on debate, and real solutions can be put forward and implemented. Real solutions include: conservation and weatherization. Supporting local economy. Buy local produce. (The average American meal travels 1000 miles. In the 70's it traveled less than 100.) Transporting food farther makes us less food secure, while wasting energy, and destabilizing the food economy of many localities. Local food security efforts include: local CSA's, farmer's markets, community gardens, backyard gardens and the Transition Towns movement that are sprouting up all over the world^{xvi}. Bicycles and public transit are needed (but not natural gas powered). One of the important tools of the transition movement is an energy descent plan: one in which the uses of energy are prioritized so that energy is available for emergencies. Doing less than real solutions right now indicates a disregard for life as we know it.

While human induced release of Carbon dioxide is a serious threat to life and a stable climate, there are other little known gases that are potentially even more threatening. These other gases should also be receiving more scrutiny and regulation. There are several gasses that cause global warming: methane (natural gas, CO2 and Hydrofluorocarbon 23 are three that require prompt regulation if we are to stop runaway global warming.

¹ Lisa Moore, http://blogs.edf.org/climate411/2008/02/26/ghg_lifetimes/

¹ *New York Times*, Elizabeth Rosenthal, 8-8-12, "In a factory shadow, fears about health" www.nytimes.com/2012/08/09/world/asia/indian-village-at-odds-with-gujarat-fluoro

¹ Amy Goodman, Democracy Now, headlines August 9, 2012

¹ *Guardian Newspaper* "How Green is Shale Gas?" Leo Hickman, May 29, 2012

¹ Cornell University Study. www.springerlink.com *Climate Change*, Vol 113, p 537-539. "Venting and leaking of Methane from Shale Gas Development..."

¹ **Methane** is a naturally occurring by product of natural life processes such as composting. However, there are methods of composting which minimize the release of methane. All living beings give off some methane and CO2. When setting regulations we must be careful to word it in such a way that it doesn't make it illegal to exist or breathe.

¹ *Los Angeles Times*,

¹ Cornell University Study. www.springerlink.com *Climate Change*, Vol 113, p 537-539. "Venting and leaking of Methane from Shale Gas Development..."

¹ *Mother Jones*, "Is the Natural Gas Industry Buying Academics?"

www.motherjones.com/blue-marble/2012/07/fracked-professors

¹ Lisa Moore, http://blogs.edf.org/climate411/2008/02/26/ghg_lifetimes/

¹ *New York Times*, Elizabeth Rosenthal, 8-8-12, "In a factory shadow, fears about health" www.nytimes.com/2012/08/09/world/asia/indian-village-at-odds-with-gujarat-fluoro

¹ Amy Goodman, Democracy Now, headlines August 9, 2012

¹ *New York Times*, "Profits on Carbon Credit Drive Output of Harmful Gas" August 6, 2012, Elisabeth Rosenthal and Andrew Lemren.

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¹ Lisa Moore, http://blogs.edf.org/climate411/2008/02/26/ghg_lifetimes/

¹ Bill McKibben at the Los Angeles Times festival of books, when presenting his book *EAARTH*, In response to a question regarding whether nuclear was a preferred option over fossil fuels in regards to global warming, stated that when the construction CO2 emissions are taken into account for nuclear power plants, they are not an improvement over fossil fuels.

¹ *The Transition Handbook*, Rob Hopkins, Chelsea Green Publishing

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/sfvgl/>

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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

Cartoon by Willis Simms



LATEST NEWS TO 400 YEAR OLD OAK.

WOODLANDS LOST

by Carla Lauren Bollinger
artist & poet

**In the magic woodlands
one of our voices echoed
"Here I come, ready or not."**

**My brothers, other kids, scattered, hid.
Our bodies straight shoulder to tree trunk or
flat down behind a lightning-struck tree—**

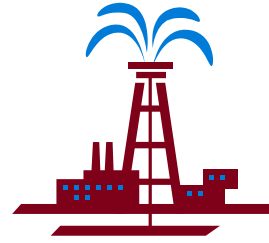
**cheeks pressed against buttery grass and
leaves. Under oaks, birch,
and maples' canopy
found hiding, chased,
our laughter swooshed through dappled light.**

**Then they came. The men.
I could hear their buzz saws early morning
and throughout each day. Days and days of
saws starting up, blasting, men's voices
shouting,
trees down and afterwards
tree bodies hauled away.**

Carla Lauren Bollinger
of Santa Susana Mountain Park Assn.
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818-340-7357, Mobile: 818-307-6418

In Canada oil spills are common.

**How can they guarantee that the
Keystone Pipeline will be spill free?**



By Elaine Trogman

There is a proposal by Canadian Company TransCanada to build a 1700 mile long Keystone XL pipeline. This proposed Keystone XL pipeline would move 435,000 barrels of heavy crude oil per day; the pipeline would start in Alberta, Canada and end in Houston Texas. This is a separate pipeline from the already built in 2010 Keystone 1 pipeline (2,147 miles), which runs from Alberta Canada to Illinois, USA. This Keystone 1 pipeline suffered 12 spills in its first year. Canada's record on leaks & spills is not very comforting both in Canada and in the USA. Canada's "The Global & Mail", in a June 20, 2012 article, says there have been 3 major oil accidents in Alberta in the last 6 weeks; over the past few months, a million liters (quarter million gallons) of oil from several pipelines have escaped in Alberta. Greenpeace spokesman Mike Hudema said three major oil spills in Alberta in six weeks is not a rare occurrence. "We have over 300 spills a year." There was a Canadian tarsands accident in Marshall, Michigan, which dumped, an EPA website estimated, 1,148,413 gallons. This incident involved the Kalamazoo River and Morrow Lake.

Although not always reported in the media, oil spills from pipelines, wells, and infrastructure happen so frequently that at this point they are just part of doing business for oil companies. For example, a report from USA Today found an average of 22 large spills offshore every year between 2005 and 2009.

The Keystone XL pipeline & the Ogallala Aquifer

Environmentalists and residents near the proposed Keystone XL pipeline fear that it could leak in critical areas such as Nebraska's Ogallala Aquifer. About 27 percent of the irrigated land in the United States overlies this aquifer system, which yields about 30 percent of the nation's ground water used for irrigation. In addition, the aquifer system provides drinking water to 82 percent of the people who live within the aquifer boundary. Ogallala Aquifer is one of the world's largest aquifers and it runs through the Great Plains. It covers an area of approximately 174,000 mi in portions of the eight states of South Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Texas. The aquifer covers the whole state of Nebraska and the Keystone XL pipeline plans run the full length of the state. Nebraska, also, has the deepest part of the aquifer, which contains the most water.

**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 (SanFern.Valley Group (SFV)WildernessAdvent(WA)

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

November 6, 2012 De Anza Park to Liberty Canyon:

O:(WA/SFV) 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. Rain cancels.

Leader: MARCIA HARRIS Asst: PIXIE KLEMIC

November 13 O'Melveny Park to Mission Point:

O: (WA/SFV) 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 8:30 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

November 20 Tapia SP to Malibu Creek SP / Backbone Trail:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 500' gain, 6.5 mile route from Tapia SP to Malibu Creek SP; visit the Rock Pool and Century Lake

and return. Meet 8:30 AM at Tapia Park. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Las Virgenes Rd exit and go approximately 4 1/4 miles south, passing Malibu Creek State Park. Enter Tapia Park just before Pioma Rd, and park in first parking area in fee lot. Rain cancels. Leader: RITA OKOWITZ Asst: STEPHEN BECK

November 27 Chumash Trail:

O:(WA/SFV) Moderately paced 5 mile, 1100' gain hike up the chaparral cloaked Santa Susana Mtns. through wonderful sculpted sandstone rock formations with a series of scenic overlooks. Meet 8:30 AM at trailhead. From 118 Fwy take Yosemite Ave exit north 0.4 mile, turn right on Flanagan Dr, continue 0.8 mile to end and park. Rain cancels.

Leader: REAVEN GATELY Asst: PIXIE KLEMIC

December 4, 2012 Trippet Ranch to Eagle Rock via Musch Trail:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 5 mile, 700' gain hike through Topanga State Park through grasslands, oak woodlands, chaparral and coastal sage to great 360° view at Eagle Rock via the Musch Trail. 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: RITA OKOWITZ Asst: HERB MOORE

December 11 Rocky Peak:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 6 mile 1100' gain hike in Santa Susana Mtns to Rocky Peak, primarily on fire road through dramatic sandstone rock formations, coastal sage scrub and chaparral with great views of Simi and San Fernando Valleys. Meet 8:30 AM at Rocky Peak Rd trailhead. From westbound 118 Fwy take Rocky Peak Rd exit, street parking (with fee) just beyond end of off ramp or park over bridge without fee. Rain cancels.

Leader: REAVEN GATELY Asst: PIXIE KLEMIC

December 18 Franklin Canyon:

O:(WA/SFV) Moderately paced 5 mile, 800' gain hike up and down a chaparral canyon, with a wonderful viewpoint of the WLA and the Pacific Ocean, then by a lake in the midst of Beverly Hills. Meet 8:30 AM at Franklin Park/Ranch parking lot. From 101 Fwy take Coldwater Canyon south 2 1/2 miles where it crosses Mulholland Drive West. Make a 90° turn onto Franklin Canyon Drive (sign reads Road Closed 800 yds) and enter park. Pass upper parking lot at nature center, continue veering right around lake. Turn right at stop sign at bottom of lake, drive 1 mile and veer left on Lake Drive. Warning: Stop at camera monitored stop signs in park or you will be ticketed. Follow to end and park. Rain cancels.

Leader: PIXIE KLEMIC Asst: HERB MOORE

December 25 no hike – Merry Christmas

January 1, 2012 no hike – Happy New Year

January 8 Paramount and Reagan Ranches:

O:(WA/SFV) Moderately paced 5 mile, 400' gain around the old (and still active) movie set and environs of oak savannahs, Medea Creek, chaparral canyons, including a side trip to the old Reagan Ranch. Meet 8:30 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: RITA OKOWITZ Asst: HERB MOORE

January 15 Calabasas Peak:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 4 mile hike with 950' elevation gain to the top for great multi-Valley views at one of the highest peaks in the Santa Monica Mtns. Wonderful rock formations and flowers; waterfalls after rains, too! Meet 8:30 AM at Stunt Road trailhead. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Valley Circle/Mulholland Dr exit south, turn right on Valmar Rd (becomes Old Topanga Cyn Rd), right on Mulholland Hwy for 3½ miles, left on Stunt Rd for 1 mile, park on dirt shoulder on right. Rain cancels.

Leader: PIXIE KLEMIC Asst: STEPHEN BECK

(Hikes Continued on Page 10)

(Continued from Page 9)

January 22 Newton Canyon (W) /Backbone

Trail: O: (WA/SFV) 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 approx. 8 mi. to paved trailhead parking area on west side just north of Tunnel 1 (3rd tunnel from 101 about 1¾ miles past Mulholland Hwy; 4 ½ mi. north of PCH). Rain cancels.

Leader: MARCIA HARRIS Asst: PIXIE KLEMIC

January 29 Top of Reseda to Cathedral

Rock:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 5 mile, 300' gain hike along dirt Mulholland and fire roads through the chaparral of Topanga State Park. Valley views and a glimpse of the Pacific, too! Meet 8:30 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. Rain cancels. Leader: PIXIE KLEMIC Asst: VIRVE LEPS

February 5, 2012 Ahmanson Ranch

Parklands:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 5 mile hike with 700' gain. Enjoy our recently acquired Santa Monica Mtns Conservancy land at the edge of the Simi Hills. Hike the rolling grassland hills of oaks and coastal sage and visit the old ranch house at Lasky Mesa. Meet 8:30 AM at Victory trailhead. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Valley Circle Bl. exit and go north to Victory Bl., about 2 miles. Turn left on Victory, go 1/2 mi. to fee parking area. Muddy when wet. Rain cancels. Leader: MARCIA HARRIS Asst: PIXIE KLEMIC

February 12 Stunt High Trail:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 6 mile 1000' gain hike through a beautiful riparian canyon and chaparral, with great sandstone outcroppings in the Santa Monica Mtns. Meet 8:30 AM Stunt High trailhead. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Valley Circle/Mulholland Dr exit south, turn right on Valmar Rd (becomes Old Topanga Cyn Rd), right on Mulholland Hwy for 3½ miles, left on Stunt Rd for 1 mile, park on dirt shoulder on right. Bring water, snack, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels.

Leader: PIXIE KLEMIC Asst: CHARLOTTE FEITSHANS

February 19 Las Virgenes Canyon into

Ahmanson:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 6 mile 600' gain hike from Las Virgenes Canyon and into the eastern Ahmanson Ranchlands. Visit the riparian, grasslands, and oak woodlands communities in the beautiful Agoura Hills. Meet 8:30 AM at trailhead kiosk. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Las Virgenes Rd exit north 1+ mile to end, street parking. Rain cancels.

Leader: RITA OKOWITZ Asst: PIXIE KLEMIC

February 26 Top of Reseda to Nike Site:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 5 mile, 600' gain hike along old dirt Mulholland to cold war Nike site. Great views of SF Valley and Encino Reservoir. Meet 8:30 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. Rain cancels.

Leader: PIXIE KLEMIC Asst: VIRVE LEPS

THURSDAY HIKES

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

Possible \$3-\$5 park fee

Nov 1, 2012 Stunt High Trail to Saddle Peak:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 8 mile 2000' gain hike to Saddle Peak from Stunt Road in Calabassas. Meet 8:30 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: TED MATTOCK Asst: NANCY KRUPA

Nov 8 Wilson Canyon:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 10 mile 1600' gain hike in Santa Monica Mtns Conservancy park, from magnificent oak area to Wilson Saddle viewpoint with great SF valley views. Meet 8:30 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 onto 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 the northwest terminus of the entry road). Bring \$5 for parking.

Leaders: ROSEMARY CAMPBELL, MARGARET VERNALLIS, REAVEN GATELY

Nov 15 Ahmanson Ranch:

O: (WA/SFV) Enjoy Santa Monica Mtns Conservancy land of rolling grassy hills with oaks on 8 mile (shorter option available) 800' gain hike. Meet 8:30 AM at Victory trailhead (from 101 Ventura Fwy take Valley Circle Blvd, exit 29, north 2 miles, turn left (west) on Victory Blvd continuing ½ mile to parking lot at end). Bring \$3 for parking, Muddy when wet. Rain cancels.

Leader: MARGARET VERNALLIS Asst: NANCY KRUPA

Nov 29 Las Virgenes Canyon:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 8-9 mile 800' to 1200' gain hike in delightful canyon, with various options depending on weather. Meet 8:30 AM at trailhead kiosk. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Las Virgenes Rd, exit 32, north 1+ mile to end, street parking. Rain cancels. Leader: DOUG DEMERS Asst: NANCY KRUPA

Dec 6, 2012 Caballero Canyon to Eagle

Rock:

O: (WA/SFV) 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. Leader: NANCY KRUPA Asst: STEPHEN BECK

Dec 13 Cheeseboro Cyn:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 9-10 mile hike in Agoura Hills to Shepherds' Flat, over grasslands and along an old ranch road following a streambed. Meet 8:30 AM at trailhead (from 101 Ventura Fwy take Cheeseboro Rd, exit 35, turn north on Palo Comado Canyon Rd then right on Cheeseboro Rd, go north 1 mile to park entrance, turn right and proceed to dirt parking area at end). Rain cancels. Leader: TED MATTOCK Asst: NANCY KRUPA

Dec 20 Mission Point, Bee Canyon,

O'Melveny Park:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 6 mile 1500' gain hike with great valley views. Meet 8:30 AM at O'Melveny Park paved parking lot. From 118 Fwy take Balboa Blvd, exit 40, north about 2 miles to Orozco St, turn left continuing ½ mile to end, then left on Sesnon to parking lot on right. Rain cancels.

Leaders: ROSEMARY CAMPBELL, MARGARET VERNALLIS

Dec 27 Towsley Cyn, Santa Clarita

Woodlands:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 8 mile 1350' gain (optional 6 mile 1050' gain) hike with great vistas, a chilly narrows, diverse plant life and tar seeps. Meet 8:30AM at 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.

Leaders: ROSEMARY CAMPBELL, REAVEN GATELY

That which is not good for the bee hive cannot be good for the bees.

Marcus Aurelius 169-180AD

Jan 3, 2013 Pt Mugu State Park:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 9.5 mile 1000' gain hike past old windmill and on Upper Sycamore Canyon, Hidden, and Sin Nombre trails. Possible small stream crossing. Break at Danielson Ranch. Half of elevation gain within 1 mi on return route. Meet 8:30 AM at Wendy Drive & Potrero Rd parking area. From 101 Ventura Fwy in Newbury Park take Wendy Dr exit, go south 2.8 mi on Wendy Dr to its end at Potrero Rd. Rain cancels.

Leader: DOUG DEMERS Asst: NANCY KRUPA

Jan 10 Hummingbird Trail to Rocky Peak:

O: (WA/SFV) 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 8:30 AM at Kuehner Dr trailhead (from 118 freeway in east end of Simi Valley, take Kuehner Dr, exit 30, go north of freeway 100 yards and park off pavement on east side of street beside fence). Bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels. Leader: NANCY KRUPA Asst: STEPHEN BECK

Jan 17 Nike Missile Radar Site:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 8 mile 1100' gain hike with great mountain and valley views. Meet 8:30AM Caballero trailhead in Tarzana (from 101 Ventura Fwy take Reseda Blvd, exit 23, south 2 miles to east side across from entrance to Braemar Country Club). Rain cancels. Leaders: ROSEMARY CAMPBELL, REAVEN GATELY

Jan 24 Malibu Creek State Park:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 8 mile 1000' gain hike including Lookout Trail with great views, Century Lake, and Reagan picnic area. Meet 8:30 AM at Cornell & Mulholland dirt parking area (from 101 Ventura Fwy take Kanan Rd, exit 36, south ½ mile, turn left on Cornell and veer to right continuing south 3 miles, past Paramount Ranch, to paved entrance of dirt parking area on east side of street just south of Mulholland Hwy). Rain cancels.

Leader: TED MATTOCK Asst: NANCY KRUPA

Jan 31 Placerita Cyn, Pinetos Trail:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 9 mile 1700' gain hike starting in Placerita Canyon Park with shaded oak groves and a willow and sycamore-lined seasonal stream, to Walker Ranch and then up the Pinetos trail to Wilson Canyon Saddle. Meet 8:30 AM at Placerita Nature Center parking lot. From Hwy 14 in Newhall take Placerita Cyn Rd, exit 3, and go east 1½ miles to park entrance. Rain cancels. Leaders: REAVEN GATELY, MARGARET VERNALLIS

Feb 7, 2013 Newton Canyon Backbone Trail:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 8 mile 1400' gain hike on scenic trail through oak woodlands and chaparral. Meet 8:30 AM Newton Canyon Trailhead (from 101 Ventura Fwy take Kanan Rd, exit 36, south to paved trailhead parking area on west side just north of Tunnel 1 (3rd tunnel from 101 about 1¾ miles past Mulholland Hwy). Leader: NANCY KRUPA Asst: STEPHEN BECK

Feb 14 Thu Moderate Hikers / Johnson's**Motorway to Rocky Peak:**

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 9 mile 1700' gain hike on picturesque trail in Santa Susana Mtns. Meet 8:30 AM outside Iverson gate to Indian Springs Estates (from 118 Fwy take Topanga Canyon Blvd south in Chatsworth, turn right on Santa Susana Pass Rd and go about 1 mile to Iverson Rd (just past Rocky Peak Church), turn right, go ¼ mile and park on dirt shoulder outside gate. Leader: ROSEMARY CAMPBELL Asst: NANCY KRUPA

Feb 21 Trippet Ranch, Musch Trail, Eagle**Rock Loop:**

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 8 mile 1200' gain hike in Topanga State Park. Meet 8:30 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: TED MATTOCK Asst: NANCY KRUPA

Feb 28 Chumash Trail to Fossils:

O: (WA/SFV) Moderately paced 8 (optional 10) mile 1500' gain hike in rolling hills of Santa Susana Mtns. Meet 8:30 AM at trailhead. 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. Leaders: REAVEN GATELY, MARGARET VERNALLI

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES**2013
CAR-CAMP TRIP****January 18-21 2013****Fri-Mon, Morro Bay Family Carcamp:**

O: SFV/Intl Community-- Join us on our annual Morro Bay carcamp--we will be spending three days in this beautiful spot. The first highlight of our outing will be viewing the thousands of elephant seals at Pt. Piedras Blancas. We'll see the pups being cared for by their giant moms, while the hefty male seals fight it out for control of the beach. After the seal viewing we might hike along the beach bluffs and into the hills behind the campground. Those interested can sign up for a tour of Hearst Castle at this time. And bring along your favorite camera to snap photos of the plover, egrets, herons, willets, ducks and geese we'll see in the marshes at the Elfin Forest when we return to Morro Bay. Happy Hour Saturday night with International Potluck Dinner to follow. Send \$30 to Ldr: **Gabe Sende** 818-999-5384. Co-Ldr: **Barbara Madel**.

SATURDAY ACTIVITIES**Caballero Canyon, Tarzana, SF Valley, Third Saturdays of each month, 8:00am.****Oct. 20, Nov. 17, Dec. 15, Jan 19, Feb. 16, 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

Oct 27. Sat Henninger Flat Hike and Potluck:

Sat O: SFValley/International Community/Long Beach/ K-9 Moderately paced 7 mi RT, 1400' gain hike on the Mt. Wilson Toll Road. Meet us at 10 AM at the Eaton Nature Center in Pasadena. Take the 210 Freeway to Sierra Madre Bl. Turn left at Altadena Dr. and follow the road to park entrance. Bring hat, sturdy boots and your favorite international dish to share along with utensils. Well-behaved dogs are welcome with leash and water

Ldr: Richard Boothe Co-Ldr: **Gabe Sende** 818-999-5384

Nov 3, Walking Tour of Historic Downtown

LA- Saturday: O: International Community Section Join us for a two-hour docent-led walking tour of downtown Los Angeles. This is a rare opportunity to get an overview of the history and architecture of the City of the Angeles, from its founding in 1781 to the present, focusing on the landmarks of historic downtown. Send email or sase, rideshare info, \$5 to Ldr: **Gabe Sende** 818-999-5384, TBD
(Hikes Continued on Page 12)

(Hikes Continued from Page 11)**Nov 10, 2012 Wilshire Blvd to the Sea --****Saturday**, Sierra Singles, San Fernando Valley (co-sponsor)

O: Always wanted to do the Wilshire walk, but it's too much at one time. Join us as we break it down into three parts and see Wilshire Blvd from a different perspective. Our journey begins at 7th Street and Metro Redline station and ends at the LA Brea Tar Pits. This is our longest section, which is approximately 5.5 – 6.5 miles one way, on level sidewalk and approximately 3 - 4 hours. We return to our starting point by bus. Meet 9am, rain cancels. Join us for lunch afterwards. Bring money for lunch (optional) and return bus ride. Leader: **Sandra Tapia 818.365.4571**, Co-Leader: Elaine Ayala.

Nov 24, 2012 Saturday, San Fernando Mission and Memory Garden Saturday:

Sierra Singles, San Fernando Valley (co-sponsor)

C: Join us as we take a self-guided tour through California's 17th Mission. The tour takes us through 12 stops, gardens and buildings. We'll see the simple mission church, an exact replica of the 3rd church completed in 1806 and destroyed by the Sylmar earthquake. This is events permitting, since this is still an active Roman Catholic Church of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Of course we'll visit Bob and Delores. We'll also visit the Memory Garden. Meet at 11am in front of entrance, approximately 1 - 2 hours. Bring money for entrance and optional lunch at a local bbq restaurant afterwards. Leader: **Sandra Tapia 818.365.4571**, Co-Leader: Gerrie Montooth

Dec 1, 2012, Wilshire Blvd to the Sea**Saturday**,: Sierra Singles, San Fernando Valley (co-sponsor)

O: Always wanted to do the Wilshire walk, but it's too much at one time. Join us as we break it down into three parts and see Wilshire Blvd from a different perspective. The second part of our journey we meet at Wilshire and Fairfax. We pass through the Miracle Mile and Beverly Hills and end at Wilshire and Westwood. This section is approximately 5 miles on level sidewalk and approximately 3 - 4 hours. Meet 9am, rain cancels. Join us for lunch afterwards. Bring money for lunch (optional) and return bus ride/ subway. Leader: **Sandra Tapia, 818.365.4571**, Co-Leader: Elaine Ayala.

Jan 12, 2013 Wilshire Blvd to the Sea,**Saturday**, Sierra Singles, San Fernando Valley (co-sponsor)

O: Always wanted to do the Wilshire walk, but it's too much at one time. Join us as we break it down into three parts and see Wilshire Blvd from a different perspective. Our final journey begins at Wilshire and Westwood. We pass by the VA Hospital and LA Nat'l Veterans Park. This section is approximately 4.5 to 5.5 miles on level sidewalk and approximately 3 - 4 hours. Our journey ends at the sea where we'll enjoy some time at Palisades Park. Join us for lunch afterwards. Bring money for lunch (optional) and return bus ride/ subway. Meet 9am, rain cancels.

Leader: **Sandra Tapia 818 365.4571**, Co-Leader: Elaine Ayala.

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.

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES**November 18, 2012 Ahmanson Ranch****Parklands: Sunday**

San Fernando Valley, International Community Section

O: Moderate Easy Pace Hikers- Moderately-paced 5 mi, 700' gain hike. Hike the rolling grassland hills of oaks and coastal sage; visit the old ranch house at Lasky Mesa. Meet 9am at Victory trailhead

(from 101/Ventura Fwy take Valley Circle Blvd exit, go N 2 mi to Victory Blvd, L on Victory, follow the road to the park). Bring water, snack, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Muddy when wet. Rain cancels.

Contact Ldr: **Gabe Sende 818-999-5384** Co-Ldr: TBA.**Dec 2, 2012 –Nike Missile Radar Site****Sunday:****San Fernando Valley/International Community**

O: Moderate Hikers Moderately paced 6 mi, 800'gain hike with great mountain and valley views. Meet 8am Caballero trailhead in Tarzana (from 101/Ventura Fwy take Reseda Blvd, exit 23, go S 2 mi to E side of street across from Braemar Country Club entrance). Bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels. Ldr: **Gabe Sende 818-999-5384**; Asst Ldr: TBA

December 16 , 2012 Sun Music Box Stairway**Hike:**

O: SFV/International Community, Join us for an historical stairway walk in Silverlake area. The complete hike consists of 705 steps (2.5 miles). You are welcome to go at your own pace and return to the starting point at any time. Visit the famous location where Laurel and Hardy made their 1932 Academy Award-winning movie. The two comedians carried a piano up a steep flight of steps. Meet at the corner of Sunset Boulevard and Parkman Avenue (Thomas Guide 594-C7) at 10AM. If you are interested in public Transportation to the meeting place, contact the leader. Wear walking shoes and bring money for optional lunch at one of the charming restaurants in the Silverlake area. Rain cancels.

Ldr: **Gabe Sende 818-999-5384**, TBA**February 3, 2013 Redline Metro Stations****Tour: Sun**

O: SFV/International Community

O: Join us for a docent-led walking tour of a number of Redline metro stations beginning at Hollywood Station and ending at Universal Station. This is a rare opportunity to study the station interiors, which are decorated with the artwork of some 300 commissioned artists. On the tour the docent will give insights into the art and the artists who created it. The route is completely free and takes about two hours. At the tour's end we'll take a train to Union Station. From there we can walk to Olvera Street, where we'll have lunch at one of the fine restaurants in the neighborhood. Next we will visit Pico house, the first-three-story building constructed in LA (1870). You will receive a courtesy pass to ride the Metro free for the entire day. Meet at 9:30AM at the Hollywood Blvd Metro Station entrance. Wear walking shoes, sun protection, dress for weather. Rain cancels. Ldr: **Gabe Sende 818-999-5384**, TBA

February 24, 2013 Sun Hollywood Hike**through Malibu Creek:**

O:SFV/Intl Community

Come join us for a great hike to the old M.A.S.H. site. We'll visit the original location where the TV show was filmed. Hike is 5 miles rt with little or no elevation. Suitable for children of all ages. Meet us @ 9AM at the Woodland Hills Rideshare or 9:30AM at the trailhead. Take the Ventura Freeway to Los Virgenes Road. Continue to Mulholland and meet at the intersection. Rain cancels.

Ldr: **Gabe Sende 818-999-5384**. Co-Ld TBA:**Feb 24, 2013 : Snow Moon walk. Sunday**

Sierra Singles, San Fernando Valley (co-sponsor)

O through CSUN: Fortunately we won't worry about snow or hunger during this full moon walk. We'll see what the natives (The Matadors) founded in 1958 on 365 acres. We'll look for The Oviatt Library's American Flag, the CSUN Sculpture, The Historic Orange Grove, and any leftover lima-beans. This is a slow paced level walk, 3 – 4 miles rt, and approximately 2 hours. We meet 6:30pm, 9420 Reseda Blvd, Northridge. Join us afterwards for coffee and dessert, optional. Leader **Sandra Tapia 818.365.4571**, Co-Leader: Gerrie Montooth

