



SIERRA CLUB San Fernando Valley
Newsletter October 2013

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

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

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

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

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[For people receiving this newsletter by Yahoo or Gmail, Yahoo sometimes does not show all of the newsletter, especially the hikes that are near the end & other articles too. To fix this. scroll down to the bottom of the email newsletter. You will see the following:](#)

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Join Us! Alex Oloo

Presents



Safari in Kenya”

OCT. 15, 2013, 7:00pm

(see directions at the top of this email)

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

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

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

There will be socializing and refreshments.

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Thursday hikes

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

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

[Contribute now!](#)

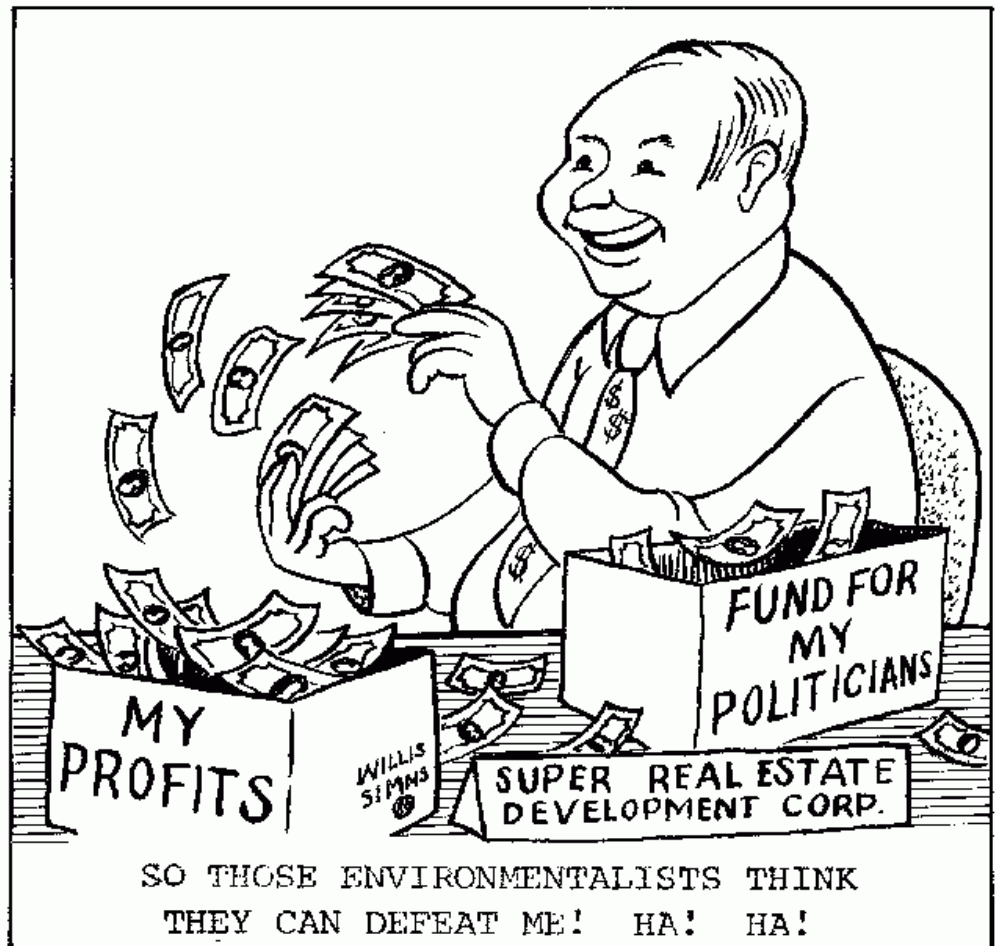
Now that we are leaner, we are also greener, and we are in it for the long haul. Less space means a smaller carbon footprint, fewer lights, fewer phones, less everything -- except for providing our members with the best



Drawing & article by Carla Bollinger
Santa Susana Bush Monkey Flower
Diplacus rutilus

A perennial with tubular at the base velvet red flowers found growing in rock outcroppings, under oak woodlands, serpentine cliffs, and near seasonal springs in decomposed granite in the Simi Hills-Santa Susana Mountains. The monkey flowers bloom in spring from March to June. There is also a rare integrating form of monkey flower with variegated yellow to red flowers. Monkey flowers attract bees and hummingbirds. Native Americans used the plants foliage as a soothing poultice for minor burns and skin irritations.

Cartoon by Willis Simms



Santa Susana Mountains-Simi Hills Under Siege!!

By Carla Bollinger

Urban Sprawl is spreading into the Santa Susana Mountains and Simi Hill, a Significant Ecological Area (SEA) and a crucial link in the Rim of the Valley Wildlife Corridor.

Once a panoramic view of sandstone outcroppings, backdrop to thousands of film westerns, the Simi Hills are now a litter-rama of mansions, fences, trailers, water tanks and cell phone towers. With each structure and road built in the Simi Hills and Santa Susana Mountains, habitat destruction threatens a crucial wildlife link connecting the Santa Monica

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

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

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

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

Thank you for your generosity.

Carole Mintzer
Chair, Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter

If you would like to make a donation to the Angeles Chapter by check, please make your check payable to the Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club and send it to:

Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club
3435 Wilshire Blvd., #660
Los Angeles CA 90010

FUTURE PROGRAMS

Mountains, Los Padres Forest, Angeles National Forest and San Gabriel Mountains.

The Chatsworth Formation of ridges, rocks, peaks, sandstone boulders filled in with chaparral are unique and visually stunning in dawn's golden light. Once homes are occupied, anti-coagulant pesticides, herbicides and other chemicals used by homeowners not only kill wildlife, the poisons become part of groundwater used for human's drinking water.

Slopes are unstable with high risks for new building and residents below the new developments. Simi Hills and Santa Susana Mountains foothills are subject to extreme Santa Ana winds that during seasonal drought fuel wildfires. Both slope stability and fires are enough reason for Ventura County and Los Angeles County planners to halt further building as well as the need to save this vital habitat-wildlife corridor.

King of the Mountain isn't a child's game but destruction of an ecosystem and nature's unique vista by the powerfully privileged. City/county planners write about conservation, habitat resources, protecting watersheds in their long-term plans. Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs) are determined, but the erosion of protecting open space and wildlife areas is lost in one development after another that is approved. Oak permits to destroy Southern California "protected" oak trees are negotiated, instead of five oaks, only two will be chopped up in the euphemism of being "good stewards". It's time to stop allowing new construction before the Simi Hills and Santa Susana foothills are destroyed forever.

Panoramic view of sandstone outcroppings, sage chaparral, native plants, blue streams and creeks, wetlands, and vernal pools, riparian and oak woodlands are being destroyed by small and large developments. Of great concern are these developments.

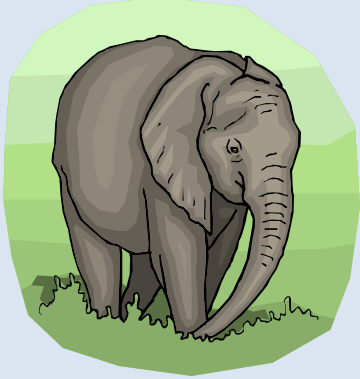
Hidden Creek Estates--Porter Ranch in the foothills of the Santa Susana Mountains. The Los Angeles County Supervisors have approved this development of 188 homes with the City of Los Angeles reviewing for approval of sewer, electrical lines, street access, school, etc. This development will require massive hill grading in a natural landslide area riddled with seismic activity, destruction of riparian habitat located in the Browns Canyon and Mormon Canyon Creeks that feed the Los Angeles River. Protest of this development needs to be posted with the Los Angeles City Council members.

President Asset Woolsey Canyon Estates—in the Simi Hills straddling both sides of Woolsey Canyon. This development covers 32 acres with a proposal of 14 large homes. Four oak trees are targeted for destruction. This is a crucial wildlife corridor between the Santa Susana Field Lab and the Chatsworth Nature Preserve.

Mc Mansions are ruining the Simi Hills, the beautiful vistas of these unique sandstone formations, destruction of the chaparral and scrub oaks. These massive structures are choking the wildlife corridor between Santa Monica Mountains and Santa Susana Mountains. The east side of the Simi Hills above Lake Manor is under jurisdiction of Simi Valley-Ventura County

NATIONAL PLUG IN DAY





Safari in Kenya”

OCT. 15, 2013

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There will be socializing and refreshments.



Santa Clara River, L. A. County's Best Free Flowing River Tues.

NOVEMBER 19, 2013

Anne Plambeck is a Sierra Club activist, a former Group and Chapter Conservation Chair and a member of the State Executive



Charging Mike Stevenson's electric car battery
Photo by Mike Stevenson, SFV Sierra Club Program Chair

See how many Plug In Events will be celebrated around the country!!

<http://www.pluginday.org/events.php>

National Plug In Day – Northridge is closest to San Fernando Valleyites

**Day: Sunday,
September
29th, 2013**
Time: 10am - 3pm
**Location: Bob's Big Boy
8876 Corbin Ave.
Northridge, CA,**

If you want to register to attend this event.
Volunteer to help the organizers for this event.
Or Contact the organizers for this event.
Log on to this link below:
<http://www.pluginday.org/event.php?eventid=110>

Northridge National Plug In Day at Bob's Big Boy

Dozens of electric vehicle drivers and enthusiasts will meet together to highlight the fun, clean-air benefits, and cost-savings of electric cars on September 29. Plug-in vehicles by Tesla, Zero, Ford, and other automakers will be present; other products may be on display. Local dealerships will be giving test drives and demos, names soon to be announced. At the event, owners have the choice of letting people sit in their cars, or even possibly test drive. Please RSVP so that we can get a general head count. All plug in electric vehicles are welcome! More to be announced later.

[Share on Facebook](#)

Registered Attendees
There are currently 14 attendees registered.
Expected Plug-In Vehicles

Vehicle	Count
Chevrolet Volt	3
Tesla Model S	2
Zero Motorcycle	1
Toyota RAV4 EV (2012 and later)	1
BMW ActiveE	1
Ford Focus Electric	1
6 total	9

mmittee. She is a National Sierra Club Award winner and Chapter Conservation Award winner for her work to protect the Santa Clara River. She will present: "The Santa Clara River, Los Angeles County's Last Free Flowing River".

Join us for a visual excursion of this incredible river, which is a treasure trove of native and endangered species. The Sierra Club has been involved in an effort to preserve this river for many years. Come and see what we are trying to save and hear how we are doing it.

There will be socializing & refreshments



Holiday Nature Slide Show

Tues.

DECEMBER 17, 2013

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 and refreshments



Changes

By Virginia Hutchinson

*Such grace thru' cherry blossoms
swirls before the sunset fades*

*Monarchs flutter and twirl the air
dance pirouettes and leaps*

*Images reflect and ripple
upon the Tidal Basin*

*Petals join the ballet fall and spin
ignite the twilight*

*Then slowly descend
to rest on a pink floor*

*The dancers glide on wisp
of fading light*

*I stand and watch awhile
as the troupe surrenders*

*to the wrath
of angry wind.*

To contact Virginia Hutchins:
vbutherus@gmail.com

**The Past, Present,
and Future of
WILDFIRE IN THE
SANTA MONICA
MOUNTAINS
for both People and
Other Living Things**

**Tues.
JAN. 21, 2014**

Dr. Robert Taylor, Ph.D. has supported both Resource Management and Fire Programs for the National Park Service in the Santa Monica Mountains Recreation Area since 2002. Come and hear his talk: "The Past, Present, and Future of Wildfire in the Santa Monica Mountains for both People and Other Living Things".

Large, intense weather-driven wildfires have been semi-regular occurrences of the Southern California landscape throughout history. To this day these fires have overwhelmed the best fire suppression forces money can buy. Dr. Taylor, an expert Biogeographer and GIS specialist will tell us what this has meant in the past, what modern fire regimes do to natural resources and human communities today and what packrats, pocket gophers, rabbits and geospatial modeling can teach us about surviving big fires in the future.

There will be socializing and refreshments



**What Does a
Beyond Coal Future
Look Like?**

FEBRUARY 18, 2014

Jasmin Vargas has organized in Los Angeles to move beyond coal since 2009, first as a volunteer with Green Peace and since the beginning of 2012, as the organizer for Sierra Club's LA Beyond Coal Campaign. Organizing for social and environmental justice



**Towsley Canyon bee on chaparral (see top flower)
Photo by Sierra Club hike leader Pixie Klemic**

The Strange Disappearance of Bees

By Michael Stevenson

Most of us take for granted the bees that we see daily pollinating our gardens. But what some of us may not be aware of is the extent to which these hard workers also pollinate our crops. A Cornell University study has estimated that honeybees annually pollinate more than \$14 billion worth of fruits, vegetables and nuts in the U.S. About one third of our food supply depends on honeybee pollination.

As some of you may have noticed bees are disappearing from our gardens. Scientists are calling this phenomenon "**Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD)**". This disorder occurs when the bees that inhabit a hive suddenly disappear, leaving behind only the queen, the eggs and a few workers. These missing bees are never found either dead or alive. This is highly unusual, since bees are highly social insects and never leave their eggs and the queen to fend for themselves. Beekeepers consider a loss of up to 20% of bees a year to be normal. But what is actually occurring is a loss of bees in the 60-80% range. This is unsustainable and without bee pollination, crops will fail and food supplies will be in short supply.

The exact mechanisms of **CCD** are still unknown. Several possibilities are being investigated including viral infection, mites, fungus, malnutrition, pesticides, immunodeficiency's, climate changes that include early springs and erratic weather patterns, loss of habitat, electromagnetic radiation from cell phone towers, genetically modified crops and beekeeping practices such as the long-distance transportation of beehives and the use of antibiotics. This is a complicated problem and most likely there is more than one cause. Several of the suspects relate to our mismanagement and pollution of the environment.

One particular pesticide, Clothianidin, could be playing a major role in the mass death of bees. This pesticide is in a class of insecticides that affects the central nervous system of insects, causing paralysis and death. One use is to protect corn against various soil pests. Since it is known that it is toxic to honey bees, extreme care must always be taken to avoid using it anywhere close to where pollinators may be present now or in the future. This is clearly not always possible so the best strategy would appear to be to ban it outright. The EPA is currently considering this option.

A report by the Research Council on the Status of North American Pollinators states that: "Pollinator decline is one form of global change that actually does have credible potential to alter the shape and structure of the terrestrial world".

According to a quote attributed to Albert Einstein; "If the bee disappeared off the surface of the globe, then man would have only have four years of life left. No more bees, no more pollination, no more plants, no more animals, no more man". Even if a scenario this drastic doesn't play out, at least the bee may serve as the "canary in the coal mine" warning us that unless we change how we treat the earth we are in for a rough ride in the future.

FROM AN ECOWATCH ARTICLE & Others

movements since 2001, her focus has been to build an environmental movement in California that would strengthen movements around the world and build enough power to challenge the power of the fossil fuel industry.

As part of the national Sierra Club Beyond Coal campaign she has worked at all levels of the organization to successfully bring the voices of volunteers and community members to places of decision making and power. This year the city of Los Angeles overwhelmingly voted to support Sierra Club's campaign to get LA Beyond Coal, so now it's our job to envision and gain support for a clean energy future. Come and learn how Los Angeles and the Sierra Club can decide what an LA Beyond Coal future will look like.

here will be socializing and refreshm

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

Scrabble Group



Do you enjoy spelling? Are you into words and combinations of words? Does the idea of spending hours

Regarding Bees & Pesticides Below:

"The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new pesticide label for honey bee protection, announced Thursday, has been widely criticized by beekeepers and environmentalists as offering inadequate protection in the face of devastating bee decline.

Specifically, the new label applies to pesticide products containing the neonicotinoids imidacloprid, dinotefuran, clothianidin and thiamethoxam. Neonicotinoids are a relatively new class of insecticides that share a common mode of action that affect the central nervous system of insects, resulting in paralysis and death. They include imidacloprid, acetamiprid, clothianidin, dinotefuran, nithiazine, thiacloprid and thiamethoxam. Peer-reviewed science has repeatedly identified these insecticides as highly toxic to honey bees and other pollinators. The neonicotinoid class of insecticides has been identified as a leading factor in bee decline."

Read full article in the below link:

<http://ecowatch.com/2013/pesticide-label-fails-to-fully-protect-honey-bees/>

[From Credo & Grist] Friends of the Earth and the Pesticide Research Institute released a report last week detailing how some "bee friendly" home garden plants, such as sunflowers, sold at[some large] garden centers have been pre-treated with the very neonic pesticides shown to harm and kill bees.

Many groups are urging these stores to drop neonic pesticides and pre-treated plants. If you are planting a bee-friendly garden, make sure what your plant hasn't already been treated with chemicals toxic to the very bees you're trying to help!

Full Grist article below:

<http://grist.org/news/bee-friendly-plants-could-be-bee-killers/>



Native Humbolt Lily at Wilson
Photo by Sierra Club hike leader Pixie Klemic

Los Angeles / Santa Monica Mountains Chapter of the
California Native Plant Society

2013 Native Plant Sale

October 26 & 27, 10am to 3:30pm

**Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd.,
Encino (near Hayvenhurst).**

More than 1000 plants for sale! More than 50 different native plant species! Something for every garden need—seeds, irises, mints, sages, berries, hummingbird & butterfly plants, annuals, perennials, shrubs and trees—with experienced CNPSers to assist you in your

hovering over a Scrabble board appeal to you? If so, you might like to join our Scrabble group. We meet once a month for an evening of fellowship, refreshments, and hard-fought Scrabble games. Beginners, intermediates, and experts are welcome. For more information call Julie at (818) 999-5384 or email julieszende@gmail.com



GET A FREE SOLAR
EVALUATION
WITH SIERRA CLUB

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

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

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

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

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

Here's how it works:

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

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

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

If you want to know exactly how solar energy works (but don't want

selections. Theodore Payne Foundation seed mixes will be available as well. Buy a book, field guide, place mats, poster or a CNPS T-shirt.

Lunch and snacks for sale.

Great displays and exhibits by local environmental agencies and non-profits.

Come, have fun and find that perfect plant, book or gift!

Featuring FREE Native Plant Talks and Book Signings

Saturday - 1:00pm

SECRETS FOR CREATING A CALIFORNIA NATIVE LANDSCAPE

Greg Rubin and Lucy Warren will speak based on their new book *The California Native Landscape: Homeowners Design Guide to Restoring its Balance and Beauty*.

Sunday - 1:00pm

URBAN WILDERNESS TO FOOD FOREST: GROWING THE NHM'S NATURE GARDENS

Carol Bornstein, Director for the Nature Gardens at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County recently opened to the public after several years of planning, design, demolition, and planting.

On both Saturday and Sundays, the speakers will be available to sign copies of their books (that can be purchased at the event).

Cash, checks, and credit cards accepted.

For more information or to volunteer call 818-881-3706 or visit www.lacnps.org or find us on Facebook.

Los Angeles / Santa Monica Mountains Chapter of the California Native Plant Society

An Argument for Native Plants, Both in our Homes & in the Mountains

By Elaine Trogman

(Info from California Native Plant Society <http://lasmmcnps.org/index.html>)

Why save & plant native plants in our mountains?

When I first heard the recommendation to plant "native plants" I was very skeptical. I translated native plants to mean just plant cactus. Since then I have done some hiking into the mountains and I have noticed some very beautiful and colorful plants that are native to our area. When we discuss the mountains planting, it is less important to plant what we like to see and more essential to have the foods that our native wildlife needs in order to exist. Native plants are the ones which grew here before Europeans arrived. The Native Plant Society says, "These plants have co-evolved with animals, fungi and microbes, to form a complex network of relationships. They are the foundation of our native ecosystems, or natural communities. They do the best job of providing food and shelter for native wild animals."

Some non-native plants are harmless, like English Daisies or asters but others invade the area and take over because they don't have the natural enemies that they had in their native countries. For instance, the local animals or pests won't eat them, they aren't subject to local diseases so they aren't kept in check and they smother the native plants. Many of these non-natives deprive our local animals of food and shelter.

What is the reason to fill our gardens with native plants?

The Native Plant Society says the following:

Native vegetation evolved to live with the local climate, soil types, and animals.

This long process brings us several gardening advantages.

- **Save Water:**
Once established, many native plants need minimal irrigation beyond normal rainfall.
- **Low Maintenance:**
Low maintenance landscaping methods are a natural fit with native plants that are already adapted to the local environment. Look forward to using less water, little to no fertilizer, little to no pesticides, less pruning, and less of your time.
- **Pesticide Freedom:**
Native plants have developed their own defenses against many pests and diseases. Since most pesticides kill indiscriminately, beneficial insects become secondary targets in the fight against pests. Reducing or eliminating pesticide use lets natural pest control take over and keeps garden toxins out of our creeks and watersheds.
- **Wildlife Viewing:**
Native plants, birds, butterflies, beneficial insects, and interesting critters are "made for each other." Research shows that native wildlife prefers native plants.
- **Support Local Ecology:**

to read a book), here's a [handy graphic](#) that keeps it simple -- and meaningful.

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

You can recycle the lights at HOME DEPOT

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

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

**Northridge: Nicole Bernson
SAFE Collection Center
10241 N. Balboa Blvd.
Northridge, CA 91325
Hours of Operation:
Saturdays, and Sundays
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m
([MAP/MAPA](#))**

Sun Valley: RANDALL STREET

**SAFE Collection Center
11025 Randall St
Sun Valley, CA 91352
Hours of Operation:
Saturdays and Sunday
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m
([MAP/MAPA](#))**

They accept:

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

E-waste: computers, monitors, printers, network equipment, cables, telephones, televisions, microwaves, video

As development replaces natural habitats, planting gardens, parks, and roadsides with California natives can provide a "bridge" to nearby remaining wildlands.

Why not help our mountains by volunteering a few hours to plant natives?

TreePeople,, Mountains Restoration Trust (MRT), and even Heal the Bay cooperate with each other and sponsor mountain plantings of native plants. They depend on volunteers to get the work done. The following are the schedules of plantings.

TreePeople <http://www.treepeople.org/calendar/2013-10?mini=calendar%2F2013-10>

MRT <http://www.mountainstrust.org/events/events.html>



The Dirt on Laundry Detergents (Part 1)

By Sarah Mosko, PHD

As your fluffy, sweet-smelling, spotless laundry comes tumbling out of the dryer, images of oil rigs and synthetic chemical fabric residues probably never cross your mind. But today's mainstream laundry detergents are heavily laden with man-made petro-chemicals, some representing risks to aquatic life and human health.

How does soap work to clean clothes?

Historically, soaps were made by simply heating plant or animal oils with wood ashes, a strong alkali. The result is a two-ended compound called a *surfactant* that can rout out greasy soils because the oil-loving (lipophilic) end is attracted to oily dirt, budging it out of the fabric, while the water-loving (hydrophilic) end is attracted to the water, keeping the lifted dirt in the wash water.

A scarcity of such oils in WWII fostered the birth of synthetic laundry detergents (LDs) based instead on cheaper, petroleum-based surfactants that now dominate the market. The most common ones today are LAS (linear alkylbenzene sulphonate) and AS (alkyl sulphates).

Modern laundry detergents also contain so-called "builders" that compensate for water hardness to prevent calcium salt deposits, the notorious "ring around the collar" or "bathtub ring" of yesteryears.

However, this essential cleaning team - synthetic surfactants plus builders - makes up at most half the bulk of conventional laundry detergents. A cornucopia of additives, touted to embellish the look, feel and smell of fabrics, make up the rest.

Are the additives necessary?

Additives commonly number in the double digits and include enzymes, stabilizers, optical brighteners, softeners, dyes, solvents, color guards, dye transfer inhibitors, bleaches, disinfectants, polymers, preservatives, foam inhibitors, fillers and fragrances. When you add in pre-wash treatments, additional bleaches and softeners, plus those static cling-killing dryer sheets, the lineup of chemicals involved in laundering is quite staggering.

The inquisitive U.S. shopper, however, will not find a complete ingredient list on mainstream laundry detergents (LDs) since it's not required. Rather, marketing drives label contents with such promises as clothes and linens with "dazzling" whites and colors and smelling of "meadows & rain."

In the European Union, though, new regulations forcing public disclosure of constituents of LDs prove telling. For example, Proctor & Gamble – maker of major U.S. brands like Tide and Cheer – reports roughly 40 components each in European brands on the company website "Science in the Box." Scented dryer sheets contain close to 20. Such an eye-popping list of chemicals triggers a few questions: How safe are they? Do we really need them all?

Are the additives safe for humans?

Human health safety issues arise because exposure to laundry products is continuous in most households. Furthermore, some additives by design adhere to fabric fibers, thereby exposing humans via skin contact or inhalation. Obvious examples: fabric softeners that reduce fiber friction with skin; optical brighteners that reflect back light in the blue spectrum

games, cell phones, radios, stereos, VCRs, and electronic toys

Transportation limit for chemical related items: It is against the law to transport more than 15 gallons or 125 pounds of hazardous waste to collection sites. Please pack your waste properly to prevent tipping or spilling of the waste during transportation

TIPS FOR BETTER CAR MILEAGE

Complements of Mike Stevenson

Clean "junk" from your trunk: Don't store unnecessary items in your vehicle. An extra 100 lb. in your car can reduce your MPG by up to 2%.

Avoid "warm up" idling: Don't idle your engine to warm it up even on a cold day. An idling engine gets zero miles per gallon. Instead start driving slowly as soon as the engine is running smoothly. It's a more efficient way to warm the engine as well as the entire drive train including your tires.

Drive more cautiously: You can always get better fuel mileage out of your current vehicle by using a device you already have, your right foot. You get a big gain in fuel mileage when you significantly lay off the gas and brake pedals as you drive. Accelerating more slowly away from green lights and stopping more gradually for red lights significantly cuts fuel consumption. Stay under the speed limit. Start out by keeping a conscious eye on how you drive now and you may realize that you've been "hot-rodding" around town for years without ever noticing it. According to Edmunds.com if you currently get 22 miles per gallon a more laid-back driving style could increase your mileage by up to 30%.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY SIERRA CLUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair/Rep to Executive Committee

Barry Katzen
818 341-8304

barkat@rocketmail.com

Vice-Chair...

.Anita Devore
818 705-2301

to make fabrics appear whiter/brighter; dye transfer inhibitors that encourage dyes to stay put; and artificial fragrances each composed of dozens of volatile chemicals.

Irritation to eyes, skin, and lungs, allergic reactions, and asthma are the most common negative reactions to synthetic laundry detergents in sensitive individuals. The biggest culprits seem to be fragrances, dyes, optical brighteners, fabric softeners and chlorine bleach. Also, research is ongoing into possible carcinogenic and endocrine disrupting properties of common synthetic surfactants and those fragrances that contain smell-enhancing chemicals called "phthalates."

Are mainstream laundry detergents safe for the environment?

Because laundry detergents go down the drain, harm to aquatic life is the chief environmental concern. Science in the Box alerts us that fragrances and dye transfer inhibitors are among several common ingredients that are incompletely removed by wastewater treatment &/or resist biodegradation. Most worrisome perhaps is that common synthetic surfactants and softeners are known to be toxic to algae, fish or other aquatic life.

Shoppers Beware and Pick Simplicity

A need for a shift in consumer awareness is aptly expressed by the claim on Charlie's Soap, a bare-bones, plant-based laundry detergent without perfumes and other frills that works just fine for my family: "Leaves nothing but the good old-fashioned sweet smell of clean. If you want flowers, go pick some."

Other environmental articles by Sarah Mosko on BoogieGreen.com.

Great Whale Conservancy

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



Mz Blue at the First Annual Big Blue Whale Bash In Redondo Beach Sept. 8, 2013

Great Whale Conservancy co-Directors Michael Fishbach and Gershon Cohen attended the first annual Big Blue Whale Bash in Redondo Beach, California. The bash, which was sponsored by the Redondo Beach Marina and the Cabrillo Aquarium, was a big success and sure to be the first of many blue whale Bashes to come. Featured at the Bash was Mz Blue, our inflatable, life-sized blue whale, a lecture by well-known blue whale scientist John Calambokidis, as well as a whale-watch outing where participants saw blue whales one mile from the mouth of the harbor.

Ships vs Whales



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

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

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Edith Roth 818-346-9692

Cartoonist

The Late Willis Simms

This video tells the story of why our shipping lanes in So. Calif. need to be moved further away from where the biggest whales, the blue whale, are feeding on krill between the Channel Islands and the Calif. coast. Whales are killed every year from collisions with ships. The Whale Conservancy wants the shipping traffic to go along the Navy's Pt. Mugu waters during the feeding season July through Oct.

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

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

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

Petition is at bottom of link screen

MUST SEE!

INSPIRATIONAL WHALE RELEASE VIDEO

Use this link below:

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

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



PLEASE SIGN OUR PETITION NOW!

URGENT UPDATE ABOUT DEVELOPMENT OF STUDIO CITY'S WEDDINGTON GOLF & TENNIS

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

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

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

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

For more information visit us at www.SaveLARiverOpenSpace.org



Fossil Fuel Industry Frackers are Outcompeting Farmers for Water

By Elaine Trogman

We can get along without fossil fuels but we must have food and water to exist. Fracking is being done because the easy oil and gas are more difficult to find. All over the country, and particularly in California, formerly inaccessible gas and oil in shale rock formations deep underneath the ground are being tapped by unconventional methods.

Unfortunately, there is an environmental price to be paid both in water quality and quantity. Chemicals and very large amounts of water are being used to coax this gas and oil from large depths. There are estimates that from 3 to 5 million gallons are being used per fracked well. This extra use of water is putting terrific pressure on both consumers in cities and farmers. The oil & gas industry can afford to out-bid these farmers & cities, which forces them to pay much higher prices when water is available. Shooting chemicals underneath the ground can pollute ground water as well.

Read full article from Eco-Watch on this link:

[During Record Drought, Frackers Outcompete Farmers for Water Supplies](#)

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

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

October/November - LADWP Titles and Presenters TBD.

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

The no charge phone conference line is available at [1-866-501-6174](tel:1-866-501-6174) Code: [1000 400 1892](tel:10004001892).

GoToMeeting video conferencing link (no charge):

<https://www4.gotomeeting.com/join/124173903>

GoToMeeting app. (iPhone®, iPad® or Android®)

Meeting ID: [124-173-903](tel:124-173-903)

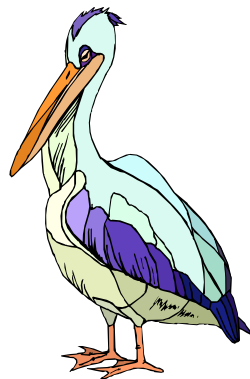
Any questions for the Water Committee contact Charming Evelyn. If you want to personally attend the Water Committee, contact Charming for location. bcharmz@aol.com



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

Above is a picture of Mary Ann & Ron Webster who are founding members of the SMMTF. When hiking on the Musch Trail in Topanga Canyon you can thank them and their trail crews. The SMMTF website is below:

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



SEE MORE PICTURES IN HIKE SECTION BELOW

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

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

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

CALLING ALL HIKE LEADERS OR TRAINEES FOR SATURDAY OR SUNDAY HIKES

**Help people who work to get exercise
and learn about nature.
Call or email Gabe Szende 818-999-5384
gabesende@yahoo.com**

SATURDAY & SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

Future of Forests

Saturday, October 19 and Sunday, October 20, 2013

Phone for Info.: (805) 217-0364

Located in Chilao Campground - Tent and RV Camping Available

There will be a gathering in which you can stay for 1 day or camp for the weekend to explore the following topics related to forestry. Why People Need Forests * What Lives In The Woods * History of Humans in the Forest * Fire Frequency * Fire Safety * Fire Management * Forest Stewardship and Climate Change * Desertification * Understanding Chaparral * Creating Habitat * Restoring Habitat * Reconnecting People to the Planet * Futures in Forestry

Spend a while or spend the weekend. Chilao School is located at an elevation of 5,200 feet in Chilao Campground. From the 210 Freeway, take Angeles Crest Highway (Highway 2) north 24.5 miles to Chilao Road, turn left, follow signs to school.

Bring sturdy shoes, sunglasses, and warm clothing; the nights can be cool. For further information please contact us (email or Facebook is best)

Redbird, a 501(c)(3) non profit association

www.RedbirdsVision.org

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 702, Simi Valley, CA 93062

Email: redbirds_vision@hotmail.com

Chilao School on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ChilaoSchool>

Event Link on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/158151067721377/>

A native American outdoor event POWWOW

William S. Hart County Park & Museum

24151 Newhall Ave., Newhall, CA 91321

& **The Friends of Hart Park** are proud to present the **Celebrating 20 Years of Hart!**

24151 Newhall Ave., Newhall, CA 91321

September 28 – 10am to 7pm

September 29 – 10am to 6pm

http://www.friendsofhartpark.org/Event_Pages/powwow.html

General Information 661/255-9295

SATURDAY ACTIVITIES

Top of Reseda, Tarzana, SF Valley,
Third Saturdays of each month, 8:00am
Sept. 21, Oct. 19, 2013,:

O: Sierra Singles--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

Nov. 09, 2013 Malibu State Park's Movie Magic, Sat., 9:15 AM

O:SFV This easy walking tour with Brian Rooney, author of "Three Magical Miles," will cover locations where Elvis Presley, Cary Grant, Barbara Stanwyck, Charlton Heston, and Rex Harrison among others have filmed scenes. With Mr. Rooney to guide us on this one-hour movie history tour, we will revisit the spots where countless movies were made. After the tour, we have the option to take a short hike to the site where the TV series "M*A*S*H" was filmed. Space is limited, so please call for reservations no later than 11/7/13. We will meet at the parking lot. Directions: take the 101N to Malibu Canyon. Go south past Mulholland and turn right into the Park. Meet at 9:15AM in the first parking lot after the ticket booth.

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

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

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

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

Nov 10, 2013 Sun, Atwater Village

O:Sierra Singles, co-SFV Atwater Village and LA River: Join us on this leisure walk of Atwater village. We'll see many Spanish style homes, a bit of main street, the big box stores, some local hang outs, and part of the LA River. This walk is level, mainly on sidewalk except for by the river and approximately 2 - 5 miles depending on you and the weather. Meet in the golf course parking lot next to 3207 Los Feliz Blvd, 9am. Wear appropriate attire, bring water, +88 or rain cancels. Join us afterwards for lunch at a local eatery. Leader Sandra Tapia, co-leader Gerrie Montooth.

Dec. 08, 2013 Pasadena Urban Walk 10:00am, Sun

O:SFV, Explore the unique residential treasures of old Pasadena. We will walk by many famous buildings and architectural sites. The walks will be between 3-4 miles and you are welcome to join us at the different locations. After the walk you are welcome to join the group lunch at one of the many great eateries. You are welcome to bring your ideas or information to share with the group. **Gabe Sende 818-999-5384 gabesende@yahoo.com**

Sun, Dec 15 Tarzana Safari Walk Sierra Singles, co-SFV

O:Sierra Singles, co-SFV Tarzana Safari Walk: Join us on this very leisure walk thru the wilds of Tarzana. This is a level walk on sidewalk, approximately 1 - 2 miles. We'll learn a few interesting facts about Tarzana and its namesake. Meet at the corner of Reseda and Ventura Blvd, 5:30 pm. Dress appropriately and bring water. Afterwards join us for desert or dinner at a local eatery. Rain cancels. Leader Sandra Tapia, co-leader Gerrie Montooth.



Tues, Oct 8, 2013 hike through Limekiln Canyon
See write-up in activities below
Photo by Sierra Club member Gayle Dufour

MON & TUES HIKES & ACTIVITIES

Monday

Monday, October 21, 2013, 7:00-8:30p.m, FREE:
San Fernando Valley Bird Observatory in Simi Hills at SSFL

Santa Susana Mountain Park Assn. Community Meeting
AT:Rockpointe Clubhouse, 22300 Devonshire Rd.,
Chatsworth, CA 91311 818.307.6418 www.ssmipa.com

Presenter: Mark Osokow, SFV Audubon Society Biologist with special interest in bird migration.

Mark Osokow led the campaign to establish a bird observatory at the SSFL for the purpose of systematically gathering information to fill data gaps about population distribution of birds throughout the San Fernando Valley and adjacent areas. Members of the SFV

Audubon Society and others help with general site survey counts and birdbanding at the Bird Observatory. Join us for Mark's fascinating photo presentation on bird banding in the Simi Hills

Tuesday

Moderate Easy Paced 4-6 Mile.

**For all hikes, bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, & sunscreen.
RAIN CANCELS. Possible \$3-\$9 park fee**

Hike Leaders phone #

Nancy Krupa (818)981-4799, Pixie Klemic (818)787-5420, M. Vernallis(818)360-4414, Gabe Szende 818-999-5384, Marcia Harris.310-828-6670, Charlotte Feitshans (818)818-501-1225, Peter Ireland 310-457-9783 (w) Sandra Tapia 818.365-4571, Rosemary Campbell (818)344-6869, Doug Demers(805)419-4094, Richard Pardi (818)346-6257. Dotty Sanford 805-532-2485, Rita Okowitz 818-889-9924, Virve Leps 310-477-9664. Reaven Gately (661)255-8873, Mimi Knights (661)253-3414, Ted Mattock (818)222-5581, Joe Phillips 818 348-8884, Stephen Beck 818-346-5759

Hikes sponsored by Wilderness Adventures
These hikes are included as a courtesy.

October 1, 2013 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. 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: CHARLOTTE FEITSHANS Asst: DOTTY SANDFORD

October 8 Limekiln Canyon:

O: (WA) Moderately paced 5 mile hike with 600' gain along the creek of a lovely oak and sycamore lined canyon in Porter Ranch's "Greenway" trail system in the Santa Susana Mtns. Great views across the north SF Valley from Palisades Park – yes, Valley version! Meet 8:30 AM at trailhead: Exit the 118 Freeway at Tampa Ave. Go north on Tampa about ½ mile and park near 11449 Tampa on left side of street. Optional Pot luck after hike at Beth's studio. Rain cancels.

Leader: MARCIA HARRIS Asst: CHARLOTTE FEITSHANS

October 15 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.

Leader: REAVEN GATELY Asst: PIXIE KLEMIC

October 22 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: SHARON SWONGER Asst: DOTTY SANDFORD

October 29 China Flat:

O: (WA) Moderately paced 6 mile, 1000' gain hike in scenic Simi Hills with panoramic views, through chaparral and sandstone outcroppings up to an oak-dotted grassland meadow and seasonal pond. Meet 8:30 AM at Lindero Cyn Rd trailhead. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Lindero Cyn Rd exit N, proceed 4 miles, past Kanan Rd to King James Ct, and park just north on Lindero Cyn. Rd. Rain cancels.

Leader: STEPHEN BECK Asst: SHARON SWONGER

Tuesday Reoccurring Hikes

LATE TUESDAY MORNING HIKES IN THE SFV

2013 Tuesday, 10:00am Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26

2013 Tuesday 10:00am Dec. 3, 10, 17

Call Gabe Sende for details 818-999-5384 gabesende@yahoo.com

We are starting a regularly scheduled hikes from easy to moderate in Malibu, Calabasas and Agoura Hill. We meet every Tuesday at 10 AM after the morning traffic is gone and do not have to fight the crowds!! There are plenty of places above the hills of Malibu where there is a lot of shade . The hikes will be between 3-5 miles the most, and will last 2 to 2 1/2 hours. We will pick a different location every week. SUGGESTIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME! Meet at the park at 10 AM and we will leave at 10:15. Bring plenty of water and sunscreen and hiking boots. Take the 101 Freeway to Las Virgenes Road and go South to Lost Hills Street and turn right to De Anza Park @ 3701 Lost Hills St. A large park with sports complex on North side of street. THIS ACTIVITY WILL REPEAT EVERY WEEK, THE SAME TIME AND SAME PLACE. Also, please note this hike is jointly sponsored by the CALABASAS HIKING GROUP.



Thurs, Oct 31, 2013 Bear Divide to Walker Ranch
See write-up in activities below

Photo by Sierra Club hike leader Pixie Klemic

THURSDAY HIKES & ACTIVITIES

Hike Leaders phone #

Nancy Krupa (818)981-4799, Pixie Klemic (818)787-5420, M. Vernallis(818)360-4414, Gabe Szende 818-999-5384, Marcia Harris.310-828-6670, Charlotte Feitshans (818)818-501-1225, Peter Ireland 310-457-9783 (w) Sandra Tapia 818.365-4571, Rosemary Campbell (818)344-6869, Doug Demers(805)419-4094, Richard Pardi (818)346-6257. Dotty Sanford 805-532-2485, Rita Okowitz 818-889-9924, Virve Leps 310-477-9664. Reaven Gately (661)255-8873, Mimi Knights (661)253-3414, Ted Mattock (818)222-5581, Joe Phillips 818 348-8884, Stephen Beck 818-346-5759

Thurs Moderate Paced

**For all hikes, bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, & sunscreen.
RAIN CANCELS. Possible \$3-\$9 park fee**

Hikes sponsored by Wilderness Adventures
These hikes are included as a courtesy.

Oct 3, 2013 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. Bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels.

Leaders: MIMI KNIGHTS, MARGARET VERNALLIS

Oct 10 China Flat & Simi Peak:

O: (WA) Moderately paced 8 mile 1300' gain hike in Simi Hills through chaparral, grasslands and oaks, with great views from 2403' peak. Meet 8 AM at Lindero Cyn Rd trailhead (from 101 Ventura fwy take Lindero Cyn Rd, exit 39, north about 4 miles, past Kanan Rd and King James Ct, make U turn at Wembly Ave and park on north side of Lindero Cyn between Wembly and King James Ct). Bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels.

Leader: DOUG DEMERS Asst: NANCY KRUPA

Oct 17 Chumash Trail to Fossils:

O: (WA) 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. Bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels.

Leaders: MARGARET VERNALLIS, REAVEN GATELY

Oct 24 Grotto Trail in the Verdugos:

O: (WA) Lovely route in the Verdugos, 8 1/2 miles, 2000 ft. gain with great views from the lunch spot. Meet 8:30 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: NANCY KRUPA

Oct 31 Bear Divide to Walker Ranch:

O: (WA) Spectacular views on this one-way 8 mi, 1500' gain, 1000' loss route along ridge between San Fernando and Santa Clarita Valleys. Short car shuttle. Meet 8:30 AM at Walker Ranch entrance to Placerita Canyon (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 roadside parking). Bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels.

Leaders: ROSEMARY CAMPBELL, REAVEN GATELY

King Gillette Ranch



King Gillette Ranch

See write-up on activities below

Photo by Sierra Club member Gayle Dufour

King Gillette Ranch Directions & Info.

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

Parking

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

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

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

King Gillette Interpretive Programs & Misc

Western National Parks Assn. events at King Gillette Ranch

Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center & Store

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

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

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

Western National Parks Association

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area

King Gillette Ranch

26876 Mulholland Highway, Calabasas CA 91302

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

samo@wnpa.org, www.wnpa.org

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

Craft Workshop "Chaparral's Toy Store: Games of Skills & Thrills"

Sat, Aug 31 – 9 am - 11 am

Games will be played & made at this fun workshop. Join local artist, naturalist, storyteller & instructor Peter Rice in crafting games from natural materials. Ideal for families, teachers, docents, and nature enthusiasts. Recommended age 8+. Material fee \$10 per participant. Reservations required/Limited participation.

Call 805-370-2302 Meet inside the Visitor Center.

Seth Riley, Wildlife Ecologist – Lecture & Book Signing "Urban Carnivores: Ecology, Conflict & Conservation"

Sat, September 7 1 – 3 pm

National Park Service wildlife ecologist and author Seth Riley discusses the state of mountain lions, bobcats, and other carnivores of the Santa Monica Mountains. Book signing follows. Reservations recommended. Call 805-370-2302 Meet at the King Gillette Ranch Auditorium

Exploring the Lives of the Slithery & Scaly Sun, Sept 15 3 – 5 pm

Slithery, scaly, and often feared, these creatures are actually quite cool! Reptiles and amphibians come in a variety of sizes and colors and are adapted to our Mediterranean ecosystem. Easy to moderate 1-mile, 300' gain hike with views. Bring water and sunscreen; wear appropriate footwear. Meet inside the Visitor Center.

Outdoor Skills Workshop – Introduction to Tracking: Sign & Awareness

Sat, Oct 5 - 9:30 am – 12 noon

Join in fun, free, inspiring outdoor workshops and gain some new outdoor skills! Learn tracking skills covering the 7 track "signs" plus track ID, gaits and patterns, and trailing. Class includes awareness techniques and activities in how to "see" substantially more wildlife. Great for adults and children age 9 and older. Reservations required. Call 805-370-2302 Meet inside the Visitor Center.

Live Reptile & Amphibian Exhibition

Sun, October 6 10 am – 3 pm

Get up close & personal with live reptiles and amphibians from the Santa Monica Mountains as well as those from distant lands, presented by members of the Southwestern Herpetologists Society. Programs throughout the day will cover herpetological themes. 10 am Opening Ceremony led by Chumash elder Mati Waiya begins in the Visitor Center Courtyard.

Vulture Verses: Love Poems for the Unloved

Mon, Nov 11 – 2:00 – 2:45 pm

Great family fun for all ages! Join award winning children's author and naturalist Diane Lang as she reads her book *Vulture Verses*,

winner of The Children's Book Review Award and PubWest Book Design Award, and shows off her collection of less-loved animals. Meet inside the Visitor Center.

Medicinal Plant Hike

Sat, Dec 7 10 am – 12 noon

Join author and professor James Adams, PhD, of the USC School of Pharmacy as he leads a medicinal plant hike. Adams, who was trained in Chumash healing, will present traditional recipes for making healing medicines. Please bring your questions regarding pharmacology and toxicity concerns with plant medicines. Co-author of *Healing with Medicinal Plants of the West*, Adams will be available to sign his book after the hike. Reservations required. Meet inside the Visitor Center.

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