

SAN GORGONIO

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Tuesday, January 3rd • 7:30 PM
"Breaking Point"

A stunning 2014 film by Bill Wisneski
of Palomar College Television.

(see write up on Page 7)

Tuesday, February 7th • 7:30 PM
Photography by Gary Mumaw,
Master of Images
(see write up on Page 12)

Programs are held at the San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands

Palm and Pine

A publication of the San Gorgonio Chapter of the Sierra Club Serving Riverside and San Bernardino Counties

Volume 47 Number 1

Protect America's Environment For our Families . . . For our Future

Jan-Feb 2017

TO: Our Members FROM: Michael Brune, Executive Director, Sierra Club DATE: November 9, 2016

Hello-I'm Michael Brune, Executive Director of the Sierra Club.

This is a deeply disappointing day for the United States, and the world. For people all over the country, the pain, anger, and fear at the prospect of a Trump Presidency are very real.

As we reflect on what this means for our country and our planet, it's most important that we stand in solidarity with all those who have been targeted by Trump during his campaign. People of color, Muslims, immigrants, women, the disabled – millions of Americans have been singled out and attacked by Donald Trump before he has even taken office.

We are clear-eyed about the fact that those attacks could continue once he is inaugurated. That is why, as the saying goes, we will not mourn (for too long, anyway) – we will organize.

Today, we aren't defeated – we are determined. What is important to remember is that there are millions upon millions of Americans who

stood up to Donald Trump's ignorance, his misogyny, and his racism – and these same millions will be standing up every day moving forward to ensure he can't roll back all the progress we've made in recent years.

Make no mistake - the election of Donald Trump could be devastating for our climate and our future. Donald Trump now has the unflattering distinction of being the only head of state in the entire world to reject the scientific consensus that mankind is driving climate change. Campaigning is one thing, governing is another. Trump must choose whether he will be a President remembered for putting America and the world BACK on a path to climate disaster, or for listening to the American public, investing in the fastest-growing sector in the US economy -clean energy - and keeping us on a path to climate progress.

Trump better choose wisely, otherwise – we can guarantee him the hardest fight of his life every step of the way.

Regardless of last night's results, there are some things Trump can't change.

He can't change the fact that the world

is heating up and we are reaching a tipping point. He can't change the fact that clean energy is cheaper than dirty fuels like coal and gas and nuclear power all over the country. He can't change the fact that grassroots activists like the Sierra Club will keep fighting to close down coal plants and replace them with clean energy – and with nearly 250 on the path to retirement and many more to come, we've made it clear we can deliver on that promise. The markets and the American people are moving this nation beyond dirty fuels to clean energy, and Donald Trump can't reverse that tide.

We see no reason to stop being on offense on climate and clean energy. We defeated most of the new coal plants proposed during the George W. Bush administration – 184 to be exact – with grassroots power, and we can and will do similar work under the Trump administration. We're going to bring that same focus to growing the clean energy economy on a state and local level, helping grow the blossoming number of cities committed to 100% clean energy. This is progress Trump can not stop.

Continued on Page 10 >>>





Save the Date! Chapter Leadership Planning Meeting

hapter Executive Committee's annual Planning Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 14, 2017, at Whitewater Preserve. ExComm Members, Group representatives and leaders, and any interested activists are welcome and encouraged to attend. We will meet from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and have lunch together at the Preserve to socialize after the meeting.

Environmental protection work has never been as critical as we see the trump administration's plans to dismantle years of progress on air quality, combating climate change, and protecting our wild lands. It is time for All Hands on



Deck! If you are looking for a way to make a difference, plan to attend this meeting and see where your talents can best be put to work.

An invitation and agenda will be provided soon. Chapter priorities for 2017 will be set, Committee Chairs selected, and strategies and tactics discussed. Sierra Club National Board has set five strategic initiatives for 2017 that intersect with much of what our chapter is working on. Plan to attend and help San Gorgonio Chapter to succeed, focusing on Sierra Club's plans to . . .

Recruit, Resist, Train and Sustain!

I Just Donated \$8 Per Month to Our Chapter — JOIN ME!





Hi! George Hague here – and I just started a monthly donation to our local San Gorgonio Chapter! It's easy – Just Google San Gorgonio Chapter to find our website:

http://sangorgonio2.sierraclub.org/ and click on "Donate" found on the left.

If everyone in our Chapter would donate just five dollars each month with automatic deductions, it would make it possible for your Sierra Club to do much more for the environment right here in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties! Please consider a monthly donation of whatever amount you can afford it adds up!!

Contact Us...

San Gorgonio Chapter Website: http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org

San Gorgonio Chapter Excom Chair.....Mary Ann Ruiz909-815-9379ruizmaryann@gmail.com CCL Delegate.....Steve Farrell ..StevenFarrell@sangorgonio.sierraclub.org SecretaryKim Floyd760-680-9479 Treasurer.....Ladd Seekins909-825-4427ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com Conservation Chair.....Kim Floyd760-680-9479kimffloyd@fastmail.com Litigation Chair......Joan Taylor Membership Chair...... Mike Millspaugh951-653-2068mmillspaugh@verizon.net Outings ChairRalph Salisbury 951-686-4141ralphsalisbury@att.net Political Chair.....Jono Hildner760-861-5365jono@hildner.com

CNRCC Delegates

CNRCC Delegates
George Hague951-924-0816
Kim Floyd760-680-9479
Wilderness Skills/Leadership Training:
ralphsalisbury@att.net
Group Representatives To Excom
Big Bear Group:
Ed Caliendo 442-242-4103
dogs111@msn.com
Los Serranos Group:
Brian Elliott
brianelli@aol.com
Mojave Group:
Susan Stueber 760-900-5330
susanquintin.stueber@gmail.com
Moreno Valley:
George Hague 951-924-0816
San Bernardino Mtns. Group:
Dave Barrie 909-337-0313
barriemail@mac.com
Tahquitz Group:
Jeff Morgan 760-324-8696
Santa Margarita Group:

..... sierraclubsmg@gmail.com

Chapter Conservation Issue Chairs Desert Issues – High Desert

.....Kim Floyd 760-680-9479Kimffloyd@fastmail.comBrian Baker 760-242-6526bb1769@hotmail.com**Jenny Wilder** 760-345-4001jensoasis@aol.com **Desert Issues – Low Desert**

......Joan Taylorpalmcanyon@mac.comJeff Morgan 760-324-8696jckmorgan@aol.com

Desert - Eagle Mountain**Jeff Morgan** 760-324-8696jckmorgan@aol.comGeorge Hague 951-924-0816

Forestry Issues – Mountaintop RDEast—**Ed Wallace** 909-584-9407 West—Steve Farrell 951-777-9150 .StevenFarrell@sangorgonio.sierraclub.org Forestry Issues - San Jacinto RD

..... **Joyce Burk** 760-220-0204 Forestry Issues - Cleveland NF**Pam Nelson** 951-767-2324

..... sierraclubsmg@gmail.com **Forestry Issues – Front Country RD** **Joyce Burk** 760-252-3820 Mary Ann Ruiz 909-815-9379

.....ruizmaryann@gmail.com Water Issues. Steve Farrell 951-777-9150 **Group Directory**

Big Bear Group:

Chair – Ed Caliendo 442-242-4103 dogs111@msn.com

Meets 3rd Thursday, Discovery Center North Shore, 6:30 p.m.

www.sierraclub.org/san-gorgonio/big-bear Los Serranos Group: Chair - Brian Elliot brianelli@aol.com

Meets 3rd Tuesday Upland Presbyterian Church, Ed Building 7 p.m.

Mojave Group:

760-900-5330 Chair - Susan Stueber susanquintin.stueber@gmail.com Meets 2nd Wednesday except Jul. & Aug. Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17738 Francesca, Victorville 7 p.m. (just north of Bear Valley and Ridgecrest)

(also contact earthlingwiley2000@yahoo.com) **Moreno Valley Group:**

Chair – Michael Millspaugh 951-653-2068 **Mountains Group:** 909-337-0313 Chair - Dave Barrie

barriemail@mac.com Meets 2nd Monday 7:00 p.m. Except Aug. & Dec. St Richard's Episcopal Church, 28708 Hwy 18, Sky Forest

Santa Margarita Group:

951-767-2324 Chair -Pam Nelson sierraclubsmg@gmail.com Meets 2nd Thur., 6:00 p.m. except July & August at Temecula Valley Library,

30600 Pauba Road, Temecula

Tahquitz Group:

760-324-8696 Chair - Jeff Morgan

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Sierra Club

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Sierra Club, Change of Address PO Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

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Editor

Jo Ann Fischer PO Box 3164, Running Springs, CA 92382 (909) 939-0332 e-mail: mywwuni@charter.net

Outings Calendar Submissions

Ralph Salisbury 2995 Floral Ave, Riverside, CA 92507 (951) 686-4141 e-mail: ralphsalisbury@att.net

Webmaster

Steve Farrell

e-mail: Steven Farrell@sangorgonio.sierraclub.orghttp://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org

Meetings Calendar Submissions Ladd Seekins 22418 De Soto St, Grand Terrace, CA 92313-5474 (909) 888-0161 (909) 825-4427 Weekends & evenings

Submission Information

e-mail: ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com

The Palm and Pine is published six times per year January/February, March/April/ May/ June, July/August/ September/October and November/ December. Submit all articles to the Editor by the 5th of the Month prior to issue. Preferred format is electronic mail. The Editor reserves the right to edit all work for reasons of space, clarity or libel. If you wish to have your photos or disks returned, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Outings must be submitted to the appropriate Outings Chair.

Member Change of Address

Sierra Club, Change of Address PO Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041 (Be sure to supply Membership number)

Membership Information

There is a membership coupon in this issue and address change information above. For other questions, contact the Sierra Club at (415) 977-5500 or ralphsalisbury@att.net



Making Joshua Tree Whole Again

By Joan Taylor, Chapter Litigation Chair

ow many times in our life will we have the unique opportunity to influence making a national park whole again? Right now, the Department of Interior is considering returning 35 square miles of public land in the Eagle Mountains that were withdrawn in 1952 from Joshua Tree National Monument to allow the giant Kaiser Eagle Mountain iron mine. Though still bearing scars from decades of mining, much of this land is intact and remains important to the integrity of Park wilderness which surrounds it on three sides.

In the remote eastern portion of Joshua Tree National Park, accessible only by a long drive and/or hike, the stunning Eagle Mountain area is not only important for

protecting wilderness and ecological values, but also will add unique historic content to the Park.

The chapter that is chronicled at Eagle Mountain is one of excavating one of the



world's largest open pit mines - six miles long, consuming a million dollars of electricity a month (in the 1950s!), with a square-mile town site plus a forty-mile-long railroad to transport

Action Alert

Please make your voice heard (in writing) to "urge that 22,000 acres of formerly withdrawn lands be transferred as soon as possible back to Joshua Tree National Park to permanently protect the Eagle Mountain area and enhance the region's recreational tourism economy, biodiversity, educational and recreational opportunities.

Or just to say "I support returning the Eagle Mountain public lands to the Park!" Send your comment to be received by February 16, 2017 to:

Superintendent, Joshua Tree National Park • 74485 National Park Drive

Twentynine Palms, California 92277 Thank you!

millions of tons of ore. All this done to serve a war effort and then support one of the most productive (and possibly most rapacious) periods in our nation's history.

But amazingly, within a few years of the mine's closure, iconic bighorn started to utilize the nearby intermittent springs and traverse the altered, but still open landscape. Then in a surprise move, several years ago the BLM started allowing war games to take place on these lands - hardly a compatible use when surrounded by pristine park wilderness! We should all encourage the swift return of Eagle Mountain public lands to their rightful steward, Joshua Tree National Park.

Calendar of Outings, Meetings, and Other Events

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2017

The outings calendar is on the Internet at http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org

CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: Items for the March/April 2017 Calendar are due by February 1, 2017. **FORMAT** items similar to those below. Send items electronically if possible.

OUTINGS: Send outings write-ups to your group or section Outings Chair.

MEETINGS & other events: Send electronically to Ladd Seekins at ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com

GENERAL INFORMATION, RULES & DISCLAIMERS

All Outings Leaders are Chapter Certified Leaders having appropriate Outings Training Courses, First Aid Courses, & experience for the Outings they lead. **LEADERS** may exclude individuals from participation if they believe they may not be qualified. Non-Sierra

Club members may join outings unless otherwise stated in the write-up. All participants agree to abide by the Leader's rules. Participants should **CALL THE LEADER AHEAD TO SIGN-UP.**

WHAT TO BRING

Many Outings specify items to be carried by EACH participant. Do not attend Outings without the specified items unless you have first discussed it with the leader. Often the **TEN ESSENTIALS** are required. They are: 1) map, 2) compass, 3), flashlight, 4) knife, 5) windproof/waterproof matches in waterproof case, 6) fire starter, 7) first aid kit, 8) extra food & water for emergency use only, 9) extra clothing including rainwear, & 10) sun protection including sunscreen/sunglasses/hat.

ADVENTURE PASS SPECIAL NOTICE

Outings occurring in the San Bernardino, Angeles, Cleveland, or Los Padres National Forests MAY require a Forest Service "Adventure Pass" for each vehicle. THE FOREST SERVICE IS IN THE PROCESS OF UPDATING MAPS WHERE THIS PASS IS REQUIRED. These Outings will be preceded by ** in the listings that follow. Be sure to contact the leader regarding permits. The permits cost \$30 per year or \$5 per day, however they may not be obtainable the day of your outing. If you arrive at the meeting place WHERE A PASS IS REQUIRED without arranging in advance with the leader and you don't have a pass or find a ride in a vehicle with a pass, you MAY not be able to attend the outing. You are expected to share the cost of the daily passes WHERE REQUIRED equally with the others in the vehicle. A \$.50 contribution from everyone in the vehicle is reasonable for annual passes (above normal mileage contribution). Golden Eagle Passports and Golden Age Passports may be used in lieu or the Adventure Pass.

CARPOOLING POLICY

In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements & assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing, or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel. Drivers should have adequate insurance coverage & their vehicles should have no safety defects. Drivers of carpools agree to not consume any alcoholic beverages. It is customary for riders to share expenses with the driver. Five cents per mile per person for short trips is suggested while three cents per mile per person over 100 miles is usually reasonable.

LIABILITY WAIVER

In order to participate on one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign the following liability waiver

Sign-In Sheet & Acknowledgment of Outing Member Responsibility, Express Assumption of Risk, & Release of Liability

I understand that during my participation in this Sierra Club Outing, I may be exposed to a variety of hazards & risks, foreseen or unforeseen, which are inherent in each Outing & cannot be eliminated without destroying the unique character of the Outing. These inherent risks include, but are not limited to, the dangers of serious personal injury, property damage, & death ("Injuries & Damages") from exposure to the hazards of travel & the Sierra Club has not tried to contradict or minimize my understanding of these risks. I know that Injuries & Damages can occur by natural causes or activities of other persons, animals, trip members, trip leaders & assistants or third parties, either as a result of negligence or because of other reasons. I understand that risks of such Injuries & Damages are involved in adventure travel such as Sierra Club Outings & I appreciate that I may have to exercise extra care for my own person & for others around me in the face of such hazards. I further understand that on this Outing there may not be rescue or medical facilities or expertise necessary to deal with the Injuries & Damages to which I may be exposed.

In consideration for my acceptance as a participant on this Outing, & the services & amenities to be provided by the Sierra Club in connection with the Outing, I confirm my understanding that:

I have read any rules & conditions applicable to the Outing made available to me; I will pay any costs & fees for the Outing; & I acknowledge my participation is at the discretion of the leader.

The Outing begins & ends at the location where the Outing officially commences with leader & participants in attendance, as designated by the Sierra Club ("Trailhead"). The Outing does not include carpooling, transportation, or transit to & from the Trailhead, & I am personally responsible for all risks associated with this travel. This does not apply to transportation provided by the Sierra Club after the commencement & before the end of the Outing.

If I decide to leave early & not to complete the Outing as planned, I assume all risks inherent in my decision to leave & waive all liability against the Sierra Club arising from that decision. Likewise, if the leader has concluded the Outing, & I decide to go forward without the leader, I assume all risks inherent in my decision to go forward & waive all liability against the Sierra Club arising from that decision.

This Agreement is intended to be as broad & inclusive as is permitted by law. If any

Check this out . . .



Receive a \$20 CA State Park Pass if you or a relative are at least 62!

The 2017 limited Golden Bear Pass (\$20.00) to most state parks is good from January 1 through December 31, 2017, for those 62 years or older and their spouse. Please tell your older relatives/friends. It can be purchased at Lake Perris as well as most other state parks that you must pay a car entrance fee. Whenever you buy it in 2017 it will be valid until December 31st and then you will need another for 2018. Since many day use passes cost \$10, it will pay for itself very quickly. It is good for everyone in your car and at most state parks. They can refuse you if the park is busy or expected to be busy. State park passes also include the Disabled Discount Pass (\$3.50 Lifetime) and Distinguished Veteran Pass (\$0 Lifetime). The following link provides more information https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1049.

provision or any part of any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid or legally unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby & shall remain valid & fully enforceable.

To the fullest extent allowed by law, I agree to WAIVE, DISCHARGE CLAIMS, & RELEASE FROM LIABILITY, & to INDEMNIFY & HOLD HARMLESS the Sierra Club, its officers, directors, employees, agents, & leaders from any & all liability on account of, or in any way resulting from Injuries & Damages, even if caused by negligence of the Sierra Club its officers, directors, employees, agents, & leaders, in any way connected with this Outing. I understand & intend that this assumption of risk & release is binding upon

my heirs, executors, administrators & assigns, & includes any minors accompanying me on the Outing.

I have read this document in its entirety & I freely & voluntarily assume all risks of such Injuries & Damages & notwithstanding such risks, I agree to participate in the Outing.

Note: If the participant is a minor, the minor's guardian must sign on the minor's behalf.

RECURRING MONTHLY MEETINGS (LOOK IN CALENDAR FOR DATES)

(1ST MON) 6:00 PM MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING

Alpine Conference Room 27236 Blue Jay Mall on the first Monday of selected months: Feb. 6, Apr. 3, May 1, Oct. 2, Nov. 6. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313.

MOUNTAINS GROUP

(1ST TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING PROGRAM: See front-page notice. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024

Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com. (909) 800-3911 CHAPTER

(1ST THU) LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM MEETING

Odd-numbered months only (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov). PLACE: For meeting time & place, contact BRIAN ELLIOTT, brianelli@aol.com

LOS SERRANOS GROUP

(2ND MON) 7:00 PM MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING Monthly program meeting. No meeting in August or December. PLACE: St. Richard's Episcopal Church, 28708 Highway 18, Sky Forest. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. MOUNTAINS GROUP

(2ND TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Monthly meeting or conference call. Take part in working on important conservation issues. Please participate: we need your help! INFO: KIM FLOYD, Conservation Chair, kimffloyd@fastmail.fm (760) 249-5385. CHAPTER

(2ND WED) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING

The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: ED CALIENDO, (442) 242-4103, dogs111@msn.com BIG BEAR GROUP

(2ND WED) 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP MEETING

Monthly meeting except for July & August. PLACE: Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17738 Francesca, Victorville. (One block north of Bear Valley Rd. on Ridgecrest.) Enter on Ridgecrest side of the building. INFO: SUSAN STUEBER, susanquintin.stueber@gmail.com

MOJAVE GROUP

(2ND THU) 6:30 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING Monthly meeting except July & August. The public is welcome. Doors open at 6:00 PM,

Monthly meeting except July & August. The public is welcome. Doors open at 6:00 PM, meeting starts at 6:30. PLACE: Temecula Valley Library, 30600 Pauba Road, Temecula. INFO: PAM NELSON (951) 767-2324 sierraclubsmg@gmail.com

SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

(3RD TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING

Monthly except July & August. Programs on nature, conservation & travel topics. The public is welcome & refreshments are served. See Los Serranos webpage for detailed program information: sangorgonio.sierraclub.org/groups/los_serranos PLACE: First Presbyterian Church, 869 N. Euclid Ave, Upland CA (educational building, entrance in rear). INFO: BRIAN ELLIOTT, brianelli@aol.com

LOS SERRANOS GROUP

(3RD THU) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING

Monthly meeting except January, February and December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site <sierraclub.org/san-gorgonio/big-bear>. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. INFO: ED CALIENDO, (442) 242-4103, dogs111@msn.com BIG BEAR GROUP

Continued on Page 4 >>>

(4TH TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING

Chapter governance meeting. Monthly except for December. PLACE: The meeting is by teleconference. If you wish to participate, contact Mary Ann for instructions. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, ruizmaryann@gmail.com, (909) 815-9379. CHAPTER

WEEKLY RECURRING OUTINGS & FITNESS ACTIVITIES Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings

MON 6:00 PM RIVERSIDE MT. RUBIDOUX ONE HOUR FITNESS WALK

MEET: Ninth Street entrance to Mt. Rubidoux. INFO: JUDY SMITH, (951) 369-5117. CHAPTER

WED 7:00 PM MOVAVE GROUP CONDITIONING WALK

Please join us for a 3-mile conditioning walk beside the Mojave River in Apple Valley. We leave promptly at 7:00 p.m. Walks are paced for participants. Come enjoy the evening air, river breeze, sunsets, stars & moon on this 3 mile Mojave River walk. BRING: Flashlight & water. WEAR: layered clothing and good hiking shoes. MEET: In the Jess Ranch Marketplace parking lot closest to the Mojave River Bed, between the Jess Ranch Cinemark and Bed, Bath & Beyond Store, 18815 Bear Valley Rd, Apple Valley, CA 92308. Light post location is 158. LEADERS: BILL SPRENG bspreng@gte.net (760) 951-4520 or JENNY WILDER (760) 220-0730 jensoasis@aol.com

MOJAVE GROUP

DECEMBER 26 – JANUARY 1

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings (Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

DEC 31 (SAT) 8:30 AM BLACK ROCK CANYON & WARREN PEAK HIKE

Take a break from the holidays and enjoy a New Year's Eve hike in Joshua Tree! This loop hike combines easy wash walking in pretty Black Rock Canyon; a nice occasionally steep trail through the aptly named Panorama Loop; a short but steep walk-up ascent of Warren Peak on an occasionally loose trail; followed by a longer descent on a use trail off the north side of the peak that brings us back to the trail system for a short return to the trailhead. The excellent view from the peak takes in the surrounding valleys, plus San Jacinto and San Gorgonio. Vegetation in the canyon includes Joshua trees, pinyon/juniper, and oak. Total distance is about 7 miles. Starting elevation is 4000 ft., with an 1100 ft. gain to the top of the peak. RATED: Moderate due to occasional steep climbs and descents. MEET: Black Rock Visitor's Center, 9800 Black Rock Canyon Road, Yucca Valley 92284. The meeting point offers easy access on the west side of the park; you do not go through an entrance station and no fee is required. We should be back to the trailhead by 3:00 p.m. BRING: ten essentials, hiking pole, layered clothing, sun protection, lunch, and 2.5-liters of water RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER DAVE MELTON, (760) 408-2456 or dmelton61@yahoo.com

BIG BEAR GROUP

HIKE

JANUARY 2 – JANUARY 8

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings (Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

JAN 3 (TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING

PROGRAM: See front-page notice. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS, (909) 800-3911, ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com

CHAPTER

**JAN 4 (WED) 8:00 AM SUNSET PEAK

This will be a moderate 7-mile round trip hike on a fire road up to the top of Sunset Peak (elevation 5796 ft.), with 1300 ft. elevation gain. Great panoramic views in all directions from the peak. Rain cancels. BRING: sturdy boots, water, snack, sunscreen, layer clothing appropriate for the weather. Adventure Pass will be required for parking at the trailhead. Contact John St. Clair to confirm and for directions to trailhead and carpooling meeting place. LEADER: JOHN ST. CLAIR, 909-983-8501 or john@stclairs.us

LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JAN 4 (WED) 9:00 AM HIDDEN SPRINGS HIKE

Moderate 4-mile loop hike on the Hidden Springs trail and arroyo. Trail has some ups and downs but basically follows the base of the hills. We start promptly at 9:00 a.m. BRING water, wear sturdy shoes. Rain cancels. MEET: next to Hidden Springs School, 9801 Hidden Springs Dr., Moreno Valley. Park along Greenridge Dr. next to the park. LEADER EILEEN O'BRIEN (951) 616-9739.

MORENO VALLEY GROUP

JAN 5 (THU) LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM MEETING

Odd-numbered months only (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov). PLACE: For meeting time & place, contact BRIAN ELLIOTT, brianelli@aol.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JAN 7 (SAT) 8:30 AM CEDAR SPRING TRIAL HIKE

This is an out and back trip up the Cedar Springs Trail 6,640 ft. followed by a 2.0 mile climb to the Pacific Crest Trail (6,800 ft.) before dropping 500 ft. to the Cedar Springs Campgrounds our final designation before returning the same route. This hike is on the southeast side of San Jacinto Mountain. RATING: Moderate, a 6.5 mile round-trip distance. MEET: At the junction of Hwy 74 and Morris Ranch Rd, alongside of the Riverside County Fire Station (located north of Hwy 371 and Hwy 74) in Garner Valley BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, 2-liters of water, lunch/snack, sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat. Trekking poles are helpful. Heavy snowfall cancels. RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER, ED CALIENDO (442) 242-4103 or email dogs111@msn.com

BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 8 (SUN) 8:30 AM GOLD MOUNTAIN HIKE

Brave the winter temperatures of Big Bear with us and be rewarded with gorgeous scenery and earn your first Peak of Big Bear for 2017. This is a 7.5 mile in and out hike on the

Pacific Crest Trail and an access road. Elevation gain is 1,200 ft. RATING: Moderate to strenuous due to possible snow and ice. BRING: ten essentials including layered clothing including winter coat, cap/hat, gloves, sunglasses, water proof boots, snack/lunch. Trekking poles are strongly recommended. MEET: January 8th at 8:30 a.m. at the Vons parking lot on the blvd. Those coming up from the high desert on Hwy. 18 may meet us at the trail head at 9:00 a.m. on Holcomb Valley Rd. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER PETER MICHELSEN at petermichelsenor@gmail.com or call 760-333-3103. I will be keeping a close eye on the weather. Heavy snow/rain cancels.

JANUARY 9 – JANUARY 15

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings (Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

JAN 9 (MON) 7:00 PM MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING

Monthly program meeting. No meeting in August or December. PLACE: St. Richard's Episcopal Church, 28708 Highway 18, Sky Forest. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313.

MOUNTAINS GROUP

JAN 10 (TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Monthly conference call. Take part in working on important conservation issues. Please participate: we need your help! INFO: KIM FLOYD, Conservation Chair, kimffloyd@ fastmail.fm (760) 249-5385. CHAPTER

JAN 11 (WED) 9:00 AM HIKE INTO LAKE PERRIS HIKE

Moderate 7.2-mile hike along hills into Lake Perris. We start promptly at 9:00 a.m. BRING water, snack and sturdy shoes. Rain cancels. MEET: Ridgecrest Park at 28506 John F. Kennedy Dr, Moreno Valley. LEADER EILEEN O'BRIEN (951) 616-9739

MORENO VALLEY GROUP

JAN 11 (WED) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING

The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: ED CALIENDO, (442) 242-4103, dogs111@msn.com BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 11 (WED) 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP MEETING

Monthly meeting except for July & August. PLACE: Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17738 Francesca, Victorville. (One block north of Bear Valley Rd. on Ridgecrest.) Enter on Ridgecrest side of the building. INFO: SUSAN STUEBER, susanquintin.stueber@gmail.com

MOJAVE GROUP

JAN 12 (THU) 7:30 AM MT. WILSON HIKE

This is a very strenuous all day hike to the top of Mt. Wilson at 5650 ft elevation. We will start in Sierra Madre to hike up 8 miles of a tough 4,700 ft. gain to the peak and then return the same way making it a 16-mile round trip. BRING: sturdy boots, plenty of water, snacks & lunch, sunscreen/hat, layer clothing appropriate for the weather. MEET: Contact Kathy Viola to confirm & for directions to trailhead or carpool place in Upland. LEADER: KATHY VIOLA, 909-346-9653 or kviola826@gmail.com

LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JAN 12 (THU) 6:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING

Monthly meeting except July & August. The public is welcome. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., meeting starts at 6:30. PLACE: Temecula Valley Library, 30600 Pauba Road, Temecula. INFO: PAM NELSON (951) 767-2324 sierraclubsmg@gmail.com

SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

JAN 13 (FRI) 9:00 AM WALNUT CREEK HIKE

This hike, also known as the MDA or Michael D. Antonovich Trail, is a 3-mile round trip with a mere 400 ft. elevation gain. These numbers make for an easy jaunt through canyon woods with multiple stream crossings, so hiking poles are strongly advised. BRING: poles, water, sturdy boots and layered clothing. Rain cancels. RESERVATIONS: call to confirm by 5:00 p.m. JAN. 12. LEADER: JEFF WARHOL 909-985-7686 or e-mail jmwandjjw@hotmail.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JAN 13 (FRI) 9:00AM SBMTS GREEN VALLEY LAKE SNOWSHOE OR HIKE

We will snowshoe or hike depending on the weather. Green Valley Lake has some of the best snow in our local mountains, so come and join me for a day of fun. No prior snowshoe experience is necessary—it is not difficult to learn—just another form of hiking. You need to provide your own equipment. MEET: in Green Valley Lake across from the post office at 9:00 a.m. WEAR layered clothing, BRING: No need to bring lunch just a snack and water. Please CALL to check on weather conditions. If no snow, we will hike LEADER: SANDY ELLIS 909-867-7115, <fsellis67@gmail.com>. CO-LEADER: KARLA KELLEMS, <kbarkus2000@yahoo.com>, 909-939 5790.

MOUNTAINS GROUP

JAN 14 (SAT) 7:30 AM MECCA HILLS CANYON HIKE

This is the second hike where we'll explore one of the many canyons in Mecca Hills. There's no trail and no specific mileage. Hikers who want to move at a slower pace, take a closer look at surroundings, take photographs without being left behind, or who just want a nice walk in the desert should like this change from regular 2-4 mph trail hikes. The point isn't so much mileage (although there will be 3-6 miles and gradually increasing elevation) as enjoyment of the desert landscape. (A stop at the Oasis Date Shop is a post-hike option for date shakes & an amazing variety of dates to add to your trail snacks.) RATING: Moderate due to uneven footing, no trail, and exposure. MEET: Under the big sign at the TA Travel Stop parking lot along Interstate 10 east of Indio, take Dillon Rd off-ramp. We will carpool to the trailhead, taking as few cars as possible. BRING: Ten essentials including layered clothing (a windbreaker might be wise), 2-4 liters of water, lunch, snacks, sun protection (hat, sunglasses, long sleeve shirt, umbrella if desired – there's NO shade), personal first aid kit, and

Continued on Page 5 >>>

trekking poles. We will practice No Trace hiking by packing out all our fruit peels, trash, & used toilet paper. WEATHER FORECAST: This time of year has variable conditions – clear & sunny to overcast, windy, & wet, so check forecast prior to departure. Rain in the high desert could flood the canyon so rain absolutely cancels this hike. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER, L.J. FOSTER, by email at eljayeff@verizon.net or leave your name & contact number at (951) 845-9440.

BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 14 (SAT) 8:00 AM HORSETHIEF CANYON HIKE

This is a 6-mile hike through the beautiful and historic Horse Thief Canyon. It is classed as easy because there are only short elevation gains. Some of this area was affected by a recent fire. BRING: water, a snack and layered clothing. Strong footwear is recommended. MEET: 8:00 a.m. at the Victor Valley Museum, 11873, Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley 92308. LEADER: NORMAN BOSSOM. coachnorm@yahoo.com. 760-912-3725.

MOJAVE GROUP

JAN 14 (SAT) 9:00 AM WEST SIDE LOOPTRAIL, JOSHUA TREE NP HIKE

Join us on a 6.5-mile moderately difficult hike with 1,000 ft. of elevation gain in the Black Rock Canyon area of Joshua National Park. We will use two trails for this hike. The West Side Loop trail (5.1 miles) and the Hi-View Nature Trail (1.3 miles). The hike showcases both the geology and plant life of this beautiful high desert portion of the park. BRING 3 liters of water, snacks, a lunch and a good pair of hiking shoes. DRESS in layers. Sunscreen is a must and a hat is recommended. DIRECTIONS: From the 10 Fwy. take Hwy. 62. In Yucca Valley turn south on Joshua Lane and drive 5 miles through a residential area to the Black Rock Ranger Station at 9800 Black Rock Canyon Road, Yucca Valley. INFO & RESERVATIONS email LEADER: GARY MARSALONE hikesie@gmail.com, or call at (858-663-1201. Rain Cancels.

SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

JAN 14 (SAT) 9:00 AM CHAPTER LEADERSHIP PLANNING MEETING

The San Gorgonio Chapter Executive Committee's annual planning meeting is Saturday, January 14, at Whitewater Preserve. See front-page notice. ExComm Members, group representatives and leaders, and any interested activists are welcome and encouraged to attend. We will meet from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and have lunch together at the Preserve to socialize after the meeting. Environmental protection work has never been as critical because of the Trump administration's plans to dismantle years of progress on air quality, combating climate change, and protecting our wild lands. It is time for All Hands on Deck! If you are looking for a way to make a difference, plan to attend this meeting and see where your talents can best be put to work. An invitation and agenda will be provided soon. Chapter priorities for 2017 will be set, committee chairs selected and strategies and tactics discussed. Sierra Club National Board has set five strategic initiatives for 2017 that intersect with much of what our chapter is working on. Plan to attend and help San Gorgonio Chapter to succeed, focusing on Sierra Club's plans to Recruit, Resist, Train and Sustain!

JANUARY 16 – JANUARY 22

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings (Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

JAN 17 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING

Monthly except July & August. Programs on nature, conservation & travel topics. The public is welcome & refreshments are served. See Los Serranos webpage for detailed program information: sangorgonio.sierraclub.org/groups/los_serranos PLACE: First Presbyterian Church, 869 N. Euclid Ave, Upland (educational building, entrance in rear). INFO: BRIAN ELLIOTT, brianelli@aol.com

LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JAN 18 (WED) 7:30 AM LOST HORSE MINE, JOSHUA TREE NP HIKE

All are welcome on this moderate 7-mile loop trail to Lost Horse Mine. We gain only 600 ft elevation to enjoy stunning desert vistas and reflect on the historic gold mine. Rain cancels. BRING: sturdy boots, plenty of water, snacks & lunch, sunscreen/hat, layer clothing appropriate for the weather. DIRECTIONS & RESERVATIONS: LEADER: KATHY VIOLA, kviola826@gmail.com, 909-346-9653. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JAN 18 (WED) 9:00 AM HIDDEN SPRINGS

Moderate 4-mile loop hike on the Hidden Springs trail and arroyo. Trail has some ups and downs but basically follows the base of the hills. We start promptly at 9:00 a.m. BRING water, wear sturdy shoes. Rain cancels. MEET: next to Hidden Springs School, 9801 Hidden Springs Dr., Moreno Valley. Park along Greenridge Dr. next to the park. LEADER EILEEN O'BRIEN (951) 616-9739.

MORENO VALLEY GROUP

JANUARY 23 – JANUARY 29

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings (Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

JAN 24 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING

Chapter governance meeting. Monthly except for December. PLACE: The meeting is by teleconference. If you wish to participate, contact Mary Ann for instructions. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, ruizmaryann@gmail.com, (909) 815-9379. CHAPTER

JAN 25 (WED) 9:00 AM OLIVE MOUNTAIN HIKE

Enjoy the view from Olive Mountain with a difficult 3-mile round trip hike. Elevation gain about 1,000 ft. We start promptly at 9:00 a.m. BRING water, snack and sturdy shoes. Rain cancels. MEET: from 60 Fwy exit at Perris Blvd, go north 1 mile, turn right on Kalmia, go ½ mile and turn left on Kitching. Park at the end of the road on Kitching. INFO & LEADER: EILEEN O'BRIEN (951) 616-9739.

MORENO VALLEY GROUP

${\bf JAN\,27\,(FRI)\,9:00\,AM\quad S\,B\,MTS,GREEN\,VALLEY\,LAKE \qquad SNOWSHOE\,OR\,HIKE}$

We will snowshoe or hike depending on the weather. Green Valley Lake has some of the best snow in our local mountains, so come and join me for a day of fun. No prior snowshoe

experience is necessary—it is not difficult to learn—just another form of hiking. You need to provide your own equipment. MEET: in Green Valley Lake across from the post office at 9:00 a.m. WEAR layered clothing, BRING: No need to bring lunch, just a snack and water. Please CALL to check on weather conditions. If no snow, we will hike LEADER: SANDY ELLIS 909-867-7115, fsellis67@gmail.com CO-LEADER: KARLA KELLEMS, kbarkus 2000@yahoo.com, 909-939 5790.

MOUNTAINS GROUP

JAN 28 (SAT) 8:00 AM WEST FORK OF THE MOJAVE RIVER HIKE

This is a 5-mile hike by the riverbed in a historic and picturesque area. It is classed as easy because the trail is flat. There are some areas of soft sand so strong footwear is recommended. BRING water, a snack and layered clothing. MEET: Victor Valley Museum, 11873, Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley. LEADER: NORMAN BOSSOM, coachnorm@yahoo.com, 760-912-3725.

MOJAVE GROUP

JANUARY 30 – FEBRUARY 5

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings (Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

FEB 1 (WED) 9:00 AM HIDDEN SPRINGS HIKE

Moderate 4-mile loop hike on the Hidden Springs trail and arroyo. Trail has some ups and downs but basically follows the base of the hills. We start promptly at 9:00 a.m. BRING water, wear sturdy shoes. Rain cancels. MEET: next to Hidden Springs School, 9801 Hidden Springs Dr., Moreno Valley. Park along Greenridge Dr. next to the park. LEADER: EILEEN O'BRIEN (951) 616-9739.

MORENO VALLEY GROUP

FEB 4 (SAT) 8:00 AM PCT, SILVERWOOD LAKE HIKE

A walk along the Pacific Crest Trail by Silverwood Lake offers wonderful views and is an easy 6-mile hike. BRING water, a snack and layered clothing. Strong footwear is recommended. MEET: Victor Valley Museum, 11873, Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley by 8:00 a.m. LEADER: NORMAN BOSSOM. coachnorm@yahoo.com 760-912-3725.

MOJAVE GROUP

FEB 4 (SAT) 8:00 AM JOSHUA TREE, CR&HT SEGMENT 2 HIKE

This is the second section of the California Riding & Hiking Trail within Joshua Tree National Park; a part of the patch program. The hike will start at the Upper Covington Flats trailhead located southeast of Yucca Valley along a rugged dirt road. This 11.3-mile section is the longest and most remote section of the CR&HT. After a shuttle or key exchange, we head east tracing a desert plateau for .9 mile before descending into a sunburnt valley. The trail crosses several dry washes in Covington Flats and climbs again to a panoramic ridge just below 5,000 ft. with views over Juniper Flats. We drop, cross washes, and climb again looking north to Quail Mountain, the highest in the park. We then descend into Juniper Flats where we see groves of Joshua Trees. Many unique rock formations dot the topography as the trail turns downhill into Lost Horse Valley and our trailhead along Keys View Road. RATED: Moderate. MEET: The park visitor center parking lot, 6554 Park Blvd., Joshua Tree one block south of Hwy. 62. BRING: ten essentials, layered clothing, sun protection, lunch, 2-3 liters of water. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER DAVE NEUMANN, idmtman@gmail.com (preferred), (208) 892-3001 or CO-LEADER ED CALIENDO, (442) 242-4103, dogs111@msn.com **BIG BEAR GROUP**

FEB 4 (SAT) 8:30 AM EAGLE ROCK HIKE

An adventure on Section A of the Pacific Crest Trail. See the giant Eagle Rock natural rock phenomenon! Open to all hikers as well as family members with children, providing all can hike 6.8 miles over flat to rolling hills of grass. This is cattle country hiking. RATED: Moderate. MEET: Near the Warner Springs southern fire station and return there following the hike. Cancelled if heavy rain. BRING: ten essentials, lunch/trail snacks, 2-liters of water, and layered clothing. Trekking poles not required. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER, DARLENE TAYLOR, dtaylorncrew@verizon.net, 951/385-5706, or CO-LEADER, SHARON NARDOZZA, 760/ 208-3654, snardozza@cox.net

BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 5 (SUN) 8:30 AM EYE OF GOD HIKE

Join us on this hike through a forest of pinyon pines and some mountain desert on the Pacific Crest Trail to the Eye of God, a rose quartz boulder held sacred by the Serrano Indian tribe. This is a 5-mile in and out hike with a 400 ft. elevation gain. RATING; Moderate, possibly strenuous due to snow and ice. BRING: The ten essentials, winter coat and other layered clothing, gloves, hat/cap, water-proof boots, snack/lunch, sun-glasses. Trekking poles are strongly recommended. MEET: Vons parking lot at 8:30 a.m. Those coming up Hwy 18 from the high desert may meet us at the trailhead at 9:00 a.m. at Cushenberry Pass. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER, PETER MICHELSEN, petermichelsenor@gmail.com, 760-333-3103. Heavy snow/rain cancels.

FEBRUARY 6 – FEBRUARY 12

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings (Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

FEB 6 (MON) 6:00 PM MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING

Alpine Conference Room 27236 Blue Jay Mall on the first Monday of selected months: Feb. 6, Apr. 3, May 1, Oct. 2, Nov. 6. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313.

MOUNTAINS GROUP

FEB 7 (TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING

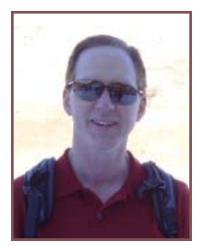
PROGRAM: See front-page notice. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com. (909) 800-3911 CHAPTER

Big Bear Group

By Ed Caliendo, Group Chair

David A. Melton, New Outings Chair

It is a great pleasure to announce that David Melton, present Hike Leader, will supersede Ed Caliendo as the Big Bear Group's Outings Chairman effective January 1, 2017. It is time for youthful leadership. For me, Ed Caliendo, it has been my pleasure to coordinate the Outings activities for the past five years. I will continue to lead hikes, participate in water outings, and lead backpacking trips in support of the Big Bear Group. Also, I will continue to be a member of the Executive Committee of the Big Bear Group.



David has been a member of the Sierra Club for 31 years. At the young age of 54, he has broad Outings experience. For the last 12 years David has been involved with the Sierra Club's National Outings Program. He has frequently led backpacking trips in the Golden Trout Wilderness in the Southern California Sierras.

He started hiking with the Big Bear Group in 2012, and has led both day hikes as well as backpacking trips for our Group. David is a pilot and part owner in his own plane.

Congratulations David and best wishes in your expanded responsibilities!

David A. Melton, New Outings Chairman

New Patch Program and New Hike Leader By David Melton, New Outings Chairman



You have all heard of the Pacific Crest Trail, and the Big Bear Group has been running a successful patch program on Sections B, C, & D for about five years. A trail older than the PCT, that you may occasionally see referenced on maps, is the California Riding and Hiking Trail. In 1945 legislation to establish the trail was

passed in California. The original plan was for a 3,000 mile multi-use loop trail starting in San Diego and running to the Oregon Border, with one side of the loop in the Sierras

and the other over toward the coast. The trail was not necessarily intended to be as remote or wilderness focused as the PCT is, and some segments were to run along existing dirt roads etc. with some developed campgrounds being built for equestrians and hikers. One thousand (1,000) miles of new trail or existing routes were built or identified before the plan lost momentum in 1966. In 1974 the plan to build the trail was repealed; however, some sections of the trail remain in use. One of the more successful areas is San Diego County, where 76 miles of 108 built can still be used.

One of the most well-known segments of the trail is in the NW corner of Joshua Tree National Park (JTNP), where 37.3 miles of the trail runs from the Black Rock trailhead to the North Entrance station. We are going to create a new patch program similar to the PTC Section Hikes or Peaks of Big Bear where we will hike all 37.3 miles in 4 segments. We will start this program on January 21st, and hike a segment every other Saturday till March 4th. We will repeat this program, as we do with the others, to give you multiple opportunities to earn the patch.

California Riding and Hiking Trail Schedule 2017

January 21, 2017: First Segment February 4, 2017: Second Segment February 18, 2017: Third Segment March 4, 2017: Fourth and Final Segment



A hike leader new to us but not to Sierra Club outings, David Neumann, will be leading the first two segments. David is an experienced National Outings Backpack Leader from the Northwest, who is now

spending winters in the Joshua Tree Area. He volunteers in JTNP, and led a very successful National Outings backpack there this year, which he will be leading again this spring. We are pleased to have David join our local outings program, and look forward to benefiting from his extensive knowledge of the park.

David Neumann, New Seasonal Hike Leader

For a complete listing of all available "Outings" activities, go to: http://www.sierraclub.org/san-gorgonio/big-bear and click on the Outings heading. Also, remember to check out the latest in "NEWS" in the Big Bear area. Click on "NEWS" to read the latest in activities.



Santa Margarita Group

By Michael H. Momeni, PhD - Environmental Nuclear Scientist

What Is Our Mission?

Our mission is embedded in the objectives of the Sierra Club: "To practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystem and resources; protect, restore the quality of the natural environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out those objectives."

We are often challenged by those whose principle objective is to exploit the natural resources at any expense to our environment. Our tasks are apolitical and solely based on our objectives. We intend to protect the environment irrespective of the success or failure of any political party.

However, our tasks are more difficult when the moto of a political party would be fully adverse to our mission. We have had these challenges in the past. We have been deterred, but we have not changed our mission.

Honoring Dr. Gordon Pratt and Cecilia Lono Pierce

We acknowledge the generosity of Dr. Pratt and Cecilia Lono Pierce in support of our organization.

Transportation Task Group

To reduce the impact of exhaust from automobiles in this region, we have to advocate for a cost-effective mass transit system within our communities and between nearby cities. Our long-term objective is to push for a rapid electric train connecting our region to San Diego and Los Angeles and their existing mass transit systems.

Our short term objective is to have a local mass-transit system in Southwest Riverside County. The Temecula-Murrieta area and the unincorporated regions together have a population of about 250,000, but we do not have a local mass-transit system. The Riverside Transit Agency provides inter-city mass-transit linking the cities in Riverside County.

The existing Red Trolley operates with a very limited schedule and provides limited service to Temecula. We have requested an expansion of the Trolley schedule and routes to cover major portions of the city.

Unless we provide our people with other options, we can't foresee them not using their personal cars for local transportation.

Ex-Com Election

We have elected three members to our Executive Committee; the deadline for the receipt of ballots was November 30, 2016. The results will be announced during our next monthly meeting in January.

Local Political Activity

Our Group enthusiastically recommended Tim Sheridan, a supporter of Sierra Club principles, for Congress in the recent elections; however, CA's 42nd District remained in the hands of a long-term, firmly-entrenched incumbent.

A summary of our Activities:

1. Primal Pastures on Oct. 15, 2016

We toured Primal Pastures; Farmer John, our tour guide, detailed the objectives for the operation. The operation is a small family farm located in Murrieta, CA. Their goal is to produce wholesome meat that is grown humanely, responsibly and sustainably.



Tour of Primal Pastures

2. Temecula Olive Oil Ranch

We had a great educational afternoon, November 6, 2016. In addition we had good music, good food, olive oil tasting and raffle. It was a good opportunity to meet and socialize, and listen to a talented vocalist, Kelly Wilson.

Thom Curry of Temecula Olive Oil Company was our tour guide. We learned briefly how the ranch was created, the microclimate of the site, the type of olive trees, and the process of extracting olive oil from the fruits.

Santa Margarita Group . . . Continued from Page 6





Tour of Temecula Olive Oil Ranch

3. California Energy System in Transition, Regional Perspectives and Local Opportunities

Scott Flint was our speaker at November 10, 2016 monthly meeting. Scott is Program Manager at the California Energy Commission (CEC), in Sacramento, the primary energy policy and planning entity of the state. Its mission is to reduce energy costs and environmental impacts of energy use and ensuring a safe, resilient, and reliable supply of energy to the state.

His presentation included:

- California climate goals and how they are driving changes to the Energy System;
- Environmental performance of the energy system for the last ten years;
- The CEC's multi-faceted approach to achieving climate goals (efficiency, rooftop and distributed solar, utility scale facilities, wind repowering, and transmission).



From the left: Teri Biancardi, Carmen Fields, Zach Chastain, Anisha Borthakur, Cody Autaubo

4. Meadows View: AmeriCorps

Meadow Day, October 29, 2016, was organized by Teri Biancardi. She discussed methods for erosion control, soil remediation, and native plant regeneration.

The panel of speakers discussed alternative approaches to land management in areas at risk of desertification. These include erosion control, soil remediation and native plant regeneration strategies, which are currently being implemented in the community open space by an AmeriCorps team, who is deployed to the area for six weeks.

A summary of the other activities:

October 5, 2016: Thompson Middle School's successful Eco-Fair was attended by over 500 7th grade students. Several agencies provided interactive information. The focus was on tracking of the wildlife and the Murrieta Creek Regional Trail next to the school.

Also, Pam Nelson, Teri Biancardi and Laurie Webster, members of the Altair Team, investigated the proposed development in detail through the eyes of the city planning staff, developers and the councilmen/woman. The development impinges on the already restricted wildlife corridors and freeway crossing.

November 5, 2016: Pam, Scott and Caren tabled at the annual Family Wildlife Day at the Santa Rosa Plateau.

November 21, 2016: Twenty people participated in the fifth workshop of our Teachers' Environmental Education program. Topics were environmental science through lessons, field trips, community outings and field monitoring.

December 11, 2016: Our Holiday party was at Vail Lake Resort, once a "wild west" cattle range. The site has recently been opened to the public. We had a hay ride tour of the site, music and food.

January 12,2017: The speaker for our monthly meeting will be Dr. Norrie Robbins. She is interested on assisting school children to better understand the physical and biological elements of our environment. Her presentation will include the physical makeup of our Santa Margarita river watershed, earthquake faults, and other earth-changing themes.



Chapter Program on January 3rd Features the Stunning Film *Breaking Point*

ne of the worst ecological disasters in U.S. history is rapidly approaching, a casualty of drought and the "water wars" in the Southwest. The Salton Sea, California's largest lake, is disappearing.

The award-winning film *Breaking Point*, which documents the looming disaster, will be presented at the January 3, 2017, meeting of the San Gorgonio Chapter. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. at the San Bernardino County Museum in Redlands. Breaking Point is a 2014 film by Bill Wisneski of Palomar College Television.



Breaking Point mixes dramatic aerial images of the lake and close-ups of its shores with commentary from scientists, government officials and local residents to present the history of the Salton Sea, the missed opportunities

that have plagued the Sea for decades, and the current options for saving it, which will likely cost billions of dollars.

As *Breaking Point* reveals, large swaths of lake bed are already exposed and salt levels drastically

increased due to mandated water transfers to metropolitan areas along the California coast and other factors that limit water inflow.

If no action is taken in the next few years, rising salinity will cause the deaths of 100 million fish, eliminating the main food

source for hundreds of species of migratory birds — the second-greatest diversity of bird species in the United States. The National Audubon Society considers the Salton Sea a bird site of global significance.

There would also be substantial human impact. After years of agricultural runoff into the Sea, the lake bed is toxic, with high levels of arsenic, selenium, and traces of the pesticide DDT. As the lake recedes, massive toxic dust storms will threaten the health of millions of people living in surrounding communities, including as

far away as Los Angeles.

"Absolutely
f a n t a s t i c!
[Breaking
Point] nailed the
complexity of the
Sea with great
visual artwork!
Very compelling.
Best video I
have seen yet



on the Salton Sea," said Dr. Timothy Krantz, Professor of Environmental Studies, University of Redlands.

Breaking Point is the winner of four Pacific Southwest Emmy Awards, including Documentary Program. The film received the Audience

Choice Award for best full length documentary at the Oceanside International Film



Festival and the Best of Festival Award at the Julian Film Festival. It has been an official selection at many film festivals, including the Wildlife Conservation Film Festival, New York.

Mojave Group

By Susan Stueber, Group Chair

As we start a new year I would like to update everyone on some of our continuing concerns and efforts:

First off, congratulations to the following people who were re-elected to the Mojave Group Excom or were voted in as new members: Norman Bossom, Deborah Buchanan, Bryan Baker and Susan Stueber. Our Excom meetings are held the Monday before our Wednesday meeting and anyone is invited to attend. For more information please contact, Susan Stueber at (760) 900-5330 or sstueber16@gmail.com

Local Elections: The Mojave Group was involved in several endorsements for the High Desert area. One of our candidates, Blanca Gomez was elected to the Victorville City Council. We learned some things in the process and have a better idea on questions and information to obtain from prospective candidates in the future. We will also be looking for future candidates that are in line with our concerns for political office.

Tapestry: The Mojave Group, along with the Audubon Society and the Center for Biological Diversity, are still working on a settlement that both sides can agree on.

High Desert Corridor: Bryan Baker published an article for the *Palm and Pine* several months ago. For those of you that are not familiar with this project, CalTrans wants to build a massive new \$8 billion toll road and rail corridor in the High Desert between Palmdale and Victorville/Apple Valley. The "High Desert Corridor" (HDC) would not only destroy thousands of acres of habitat and disrupt the rural character of the area, but would build a road for which there is little demand. Other toll roads in Orange County attracted many fewer vehicles than projected. Besides a toll road the HDC also proposes a bullet train that would link the California high-speed rail line to a proposed train to Las Vegas. The Las Vegas train has little prospect of being built due to the inability to receive a loan from the federal government. An update to the project is that LA County's Measure M passed in the November election. We will need to urge LA Metro and CalTrans to reconsider any funding for this ill-conceived project.

Hiking and Juniper Flats: Fall, winter, and spring are the seasons for hiking in the Juniper Flats area. The Friends of Juniper Flats continues to work with the BLM to successfully administer the Restoration Grant that was awarded to the Barstow BLM from the OHMVR division of the State Parks. Please take a look at our wonderful new website. We would love to know what you think and what you would like to see there: https://friendojuniperflat.wordpress.com

The Friends of Juniper Flats would also like to invite you to participate on January 28th in Restoration Training with the BLM. It is a great opportunity to get outdoors in a beautiful area and learn some techniques to restore the desert from illegal activities. For more information please contact Alyssa Canoff at BLM Barstow office, acanoff@blm. gov (760) 252-6051. You may also contact Jenny Wilder at JensOasis@aol.com (760-220-0730) or Susan Stueber at sstueber16@gmail.com (760-900-5330).

Climate Change: If you are concerned about Climate Change I believe that one of the most effective groups that is solely working on the issue is Citizens Climate Lobby. They have lots of contacts with both Democrats and Republicans and US military members in Washington DC. Check out their website: citizensclimatelobby.org



Celebrating Monumental Successes

By Jono Hildner, Chapter Political Chair

When Club activists convened at the Sierra Club California Annual Conference at Rancho El Chorro in San Luis Obispo the weekend after the election, the theme was "Monumental Change Monumental Celebration." Many came with heavy hearts, thinking about the potential harm to the environment likely to result from the election of a rogue President. However, when the California Political Committee convened first thing on Saturday morning, we chose to keep with the theme of the Convention and focus on our monumental political successes in California.

Kamala Harris was our only endorsed state-wide candidate and she won Barbara Boxer's US Senate seat with room to spare. We replaced one environmental champion with another. On our endorsed ballot measures, we won on every single one. We got the plastic bag ban, we got the tobacco tax, we won the fight against Citizens United and we won on multi-lingual education in our schools.

In the Chapter, we won every one of our endorsed Congressional races. Representatives Aguilar, Torres, Ruiz and Takano will all be returning to DC.

For the Assembly, we won two of the four races where our candidate was running against an incumbent and Eduardo Garcia, a budding environmental star, our only endorsed incumbent Assembly candidate won unopposed.



Assemblymember-Elect Eloise Reyes accepting the Sierra Club 2016 Hero Award (In the background, from left to right are San Gorgonio Chapter member volunteers in the Reyes' campaign, Sam Sukaton, Ruben Garza and Gaby Cruz.)

Eloise Reyes, endorsed candidate for AD 47, was asked to speak and be honored at the Sierra Club Convention well before the election and it was clear that she needed to be honored for her courage in this most difficult race whether she won or lost.

She was greeted with great cheers and given a standing ovation when she spoke to the assembled

delegates. She won what was the most watched race in the state of California this year. A race against incumbent (Chevron) Cheryl Brown. We have a number of legislators representing the Inland Empire who are part of a group that call themselves "moderate Democrats," but who might be more appropriately called "oily" Democrats. Their votes and their campaign contributions show them to be more representatives of large oil companies than they are of their actual constituents. We have now put them on notice! Eloise overcame the odds against defeating not only an incumbent, but one who was endorsed by the California Democratic Party, party leadership and an independent expenditure committee which spent over \$2 million (funded primarily by Chevron and other big oil interests) to defeat her. Eloise's volunteers were a virtual army of activists fighting for clean air and the environment.

Not to be forgotten was the race against an incumbent Assemblymember in AD 60 who had a Sierra Club Scorecard record of 18%. We endorsed Sabrina Cervantes, who is a young, terrific champion for the environment who was running for elected office for her first time, but with this win, she has shown that she has a long and potentially important future in California.

So, in addition to celebrating the new National Monuments that President Obama has designated here in California, three of which are in the San Gorgonio Chapter, the whole of Sierra Club California was celebrating the political successes here in San Gorgonio.

We ARE turning this Chapter green!!

Moreno Valley Group

By Ann McKibben, Secretary

Our first group hike of the year will be on January 4, 9:00 a.m., Hidden Springs Hike. All are welcome. More details about the hike can be found at our web page along with a list of our future outings: http://sangorgonio2.sierraclub.org/groups/moreno_valley

Bald eagle counts will take place at 8:00 a.m. at the Lake Perris State Recreation Area (LPSRA) on December 10, January 14, February 11, and March 11. Anyone can take part in the count. Meet at Lake Perris Regional Indian Museum (which is located within the LPSRA) for orientation. You do not have to pay the entrance fee if you are taking part in the count. After the count you are free to spend the rest of the day at LPSRA at no cost. Please call (951) 940-5600 to verify all information.

Ironwood Village Project—New Project: The proposed project site is located on 75 acres at the northeast corner of Ironwood Avenue and Nason Street where the Moreno Valley Unified School District once proposed building a high school. The project proposes to put mainly 7,200 square foot lots in an area surrounded by half acre and larger lots (at least 20,000 square foot). Currently, the city's general plan requires these lands to be at least half acre lots to blend in with existing homes and lots of that size. If the project is approved, most of the northeast portion of our city will have homes with small lots. In turn, this will significantly increase traffic on Ironwood Avenue and SR-60. Please contact the planner as soon as possible and request that the city do a full Environmental Impact Report (EIR) instead of the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND). Send your comments to city planner Claudia Manrique (claudiam@moval.org) and also ask to be notified of future meetings and documents.

World Logistics Center (WLC): A coalition of environmental groups (San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society, Center for Biological Diversity, Sierra Club and other groups) are being represented by Earthjustice who filed an appeal in the 4th District Court of Appeal on November 12. The appeal hopes to reverse the decision of a Riverside County Superior Court judge who denied the request by the coalition to block two Moreno Valley city initiatives which may allow the city to circumvent state environmental laws in analyzing the environmental impacts of the WLC project. Here is a link to a recent newspaper article: http://www.pe.com/articles/environmental-818536-project-valley.html

Villages of Lakeview (VOL): The Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) submitted excellent comments on the VOL Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) in November. Our Sierra Club Chapter paid the law firm of Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger to supplement the comments made by CBD. Also, our group conservation chair, George Hague, submitted comments as did other groups and individuals. The sheet metal workers union paid for a traffic engineer's analysis of the proposed project. The DEIR is available online at: http://planning.rctlma.org/Home/TheVillagesofLakeviewSP00342.aspx

The proposed VOL housing project (11,350 units) is planned on the southern boundary of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. You can contact planner Russell Brady at rbrady@rctlma. org or (951) 955-3025 for more information and to be put on their mailing list.

Please take time to make a donation to help us continue our efforts to challenge the latest version of the 11,350 unit Villages of Lakeview project on the southern border of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area and continue our World Logistics Center litigation. You can make checks out to the "Sierra Club" with the notation WLC/VOL and send your donations to: Sierra Club—Moreno Valley Group, P.O. Box 1325, Moreno Valley, CA 92556-1325. Thank you to all those who have donated.

The Riverside County GPU: Officially known as General Plan Amendment 960 (GPA 960) lawsuit should have a hearing date agreed upon by March 9. Some of our concerns include GPA 960's impact on greenhouse gases, agricultural lands and the San Jacinto Wildlife Area's at-risk species as well as promoting sprawl.

Lake Perris State Recreation Area: Check out their Facebook page for more information: https://www.facebook.com/Lakeperris/ about their events. The 2017 limited Golden Bear Pass (\$20.00) to most state parks is good from January 1 through December 31 for those 62 years or older and can be purchased at Lake Perris. It is good for everyone in your car. State park passes also include the Disabled Discount Pass and Distinguished Veteran Pass. For information on hours, visitors fees, and passes, please check: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=651

Moreno Valley Recreational Trails Board hike, Saturday, January 28, 2017: Hike to Terri Peak (Difficult—approx. 7.8 miles round trip); meet at Landmark Middle School, 15261 Legendary Drive, MV, parking lot at front of campus. Call (951) 413-3703 to confirm all information.

FEB 8 (WED) 9:00 AM TERRI PEAK

HIKE Difficult 5-mile round trip hike up Terri Peak, overlooking Lake Perris with 1,000 ft. elevation gain. We start promptly at 9:00 a.m. BRING water, snack and sturdy shoes. MEET: from 60 Fwy exit at Moreno Beach Drive, go south for 3.4 mi., then turn left on Via del Lago. Park in the dirt area on right side just past the housing tract, do not enter Lake Perris SRA. LEADER EILEEN O'BRIEN (951) 616-9739. Rain cancels.

MORENO VALLEY GROUP

MEETING FEB 8 (WED) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM

The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: ED CALIENDO, (442) 242-4103, dogs111@msn.com BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 8 (WED) 7:00 PM **MEETING MOJAVE GROUP**

Monthly meeting except for July & August. PLACE: Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17738 Francesca, Victorville. (One block north of Bear Valley Rd. on Ridgecrest.) Enter on Ridgecrest side of the building. INFO: SUSAN STUEBER, susanquintin.stueber@gmail.com

MOJAVE GROUP

FEB 9 (THU) 6:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

MEETING Monthly meeting except July & August. The public is welcome. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., meeting starts at 6:30. PLACE: Temecula Valley Library, 30600 Pauba Road, Temecula. INFO: PAM NELSON (951) 767-2324 sierraclubsmg@gmail.com

SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

SNOWSHOE OR HIKE FEB 10 (FRI) 9:00 AM SBMTS,GREEN VALLEY LAKE

We will snowshoe or hike depending on the weather. Green Valley Lake has some of the best snow in our local mountains, so come and join me for a day of fun. No prior snowshoe experience is necessary-it is not difficult to learn-just another form of hiking. You need to provide your own equipment. MEET: in Green Valley Lake across from the post office at 9:00 a.m. WEAR layered clothing, BRING: No need to bring lunch, just a snack and water. Please CALL to check on weather conditions. If no snow, we will hike LEADER: SANDY ELLIS 909-867-7115, fsellis67@gmail.com CO-LEADER: KARLA KELLEMS, kbarkus2000@yahoo.com, 909-939 5790. MOUNTAINS GROUP

FEB 11 (SAT) 8:15 AM RAMONA TRAIL TO TOOL BOX SPRING

Climb to the top of Tomas Mountain via Tool Box Spring. You will hike 10 miles with a 2,000 ft. elevation gain through manzanita, ribbonwood and sage. The views at the top are of Anza Valley, San Jacinto Mountains and Garner Valley. RATING: Strenuous. MEET: Ramona trailhead: 8 miles east of the junction of Hwy 243 and Hwy 74. You will see a trail head sign on the south side of the highway BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, adequate water, lunch, sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat. RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER, ED CALIENDO (442) 242-4103, dogs111@msn.com **BIG BEAR GROUP**

ROCK TANKS LOOP FEB 11 (SAT) 9:00 AM

Join me on a 6.4-mile hike in the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. RATED Moderately strenuous with 1,300 ft. gain/loss. We will use both a desert jeep trail and an American Indian path past a prehistoric mine then hike back through Smoke Tree Canyon. Because we get back to the road 1.6 miles east of where we start we will use a car to shuttle back to trail head. BRING at least 3 qts water, a lunch, sturdy hiking shoes with good traction. Dress in layers (suggest wearing long pants and long sleeve shirt as trail is narrow in places with cactus and ocotillo near enough to brush against) and bring hat and sunscreen. Rain cancels. For a more detailed hike description please visit our Facebook Page at https://www. facebook.com/ SierraClubSantaMargaritaGroup/. Go to the events page, click on the Rock Tanks Loop Hike. DIRECTIONS: From Borrego springs, follow Highway S-22 (Palm Canyon Dr, Pegleg Rd and Borrego Salton Seaway) generally east for about 14 miles to mile 32.9, where Palo Verde Wash crosses Borrego Salton Seaway. Park off the pavement. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER: BOB AUDIBERT, bob.takeahike1@gmail.com, (951) 302-1059. SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

FEB 11(SAT) **BOWEN RANCH**

This 6-mile moderate hike around the historic Bowen Ranch property has great views of the surrounding mountains and wilderness. BRING: Water, a snack and layered clothing. Strong footwear is recommended. MEET: Victor Valley Museum, 11873, Apple Valley Rd, Apple Valley. Call for time. LEADER: NORMAN BOSSOM. coach norm@yahoo.com, 760-912-3725. MOJAVE GROUP

FEBRUARY 13 – FEBRUARY 19

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings (Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

FEB 13 (MON) 7:00 PM **MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING**

Monthly program meeting. No meeting in August or December. PLACE: St. Richard's Episcopal Church, 28708 Highway 18, Sky Forest. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. MOUNTAINS GROUP

FEB 14 (TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Monthly meeting or conference call. Take part in working on important conservation issues. Please participate: we need your help! INFO: KIM FLOYD, Conservation Chair, kimffloyd@fastmail.fm (760) 249-5385. CHAPTER

FEB 15 (WED) 9:00 AM HIDDEN SPRINGS HIKE

Moderate 4-mile loop hike on the Hidden Springs trail and arroyo. Trail has some ups and downs but basically follows the base of the hills. We start promptly at 9:00 a.m. BRING water, wear sturdy shoes. Rain cancels. MEET: next to Hidden Springs School, 9801 Hidden Springs Dr., Moreno Valley. Park along Greenridge Dr. next to the park. LEADER EILEEN O'BRIEN (951) 616-9739. MORENO VALLEY GROUP

FEB 15-17 (WED-FRI) 8:30 AM JOSHUA TREE SAMPLER

Enjoy Wed. and Thurs. nights camping at Sheep Pass Group Campsite. We will hike, explore, relax and share our favorite campground cooking both nights. Campsite is reserved, COST: \$10 per night per participant for site, any extra will go to Los Serranos group. \$20 park entrance fee per carload or National Parks pass required. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ, 909-815-9379, ruizmaryann@gmail.com

LOS SERRANOS GROUP

HIKE

HIKE

FEB 17 (FRI) 9:00 AM **CLAREMONT TRIANGLE**

Help me celebrate my 5th year as a Sierra Club hike leader by joining me on this moderate 5 miler with a 800 ft. elevation gain. Hike east on the Thompson Creek Trail, north on the Pomello Trail and south on the Sycamore Canyon Trail and return via the Thompson Creek Trail. BRING: hiking poles, water, sturdy boots and layered clothing. Rain cancels. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER: JEFF WARHOL 909-985-7686, jmwandjjw@hotmail.com to confirm by 5:00 p.m. Feb. 16. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FEB 18 (SAT) 8:00 AM S B MTS, LAKE GREGORY IN WINTER **BIRD WALK**

See wintering birds as we walk around the lake (2.7 miles). Optional breakfast after. MEET: North Shore parking lot, across from Goodwin's in Crestline. COST: \$10.00 parking fee or park on street free. LEADER: BILL ENGS, 909-338-1910. Snow or rain cancels.

MOUNTAINS GROUP

FEB 18 (SAT) 8:00 AM **JOSHUA TREE SEGMENT 3**

This is the third section of the California Riding & Hiking Trail patch program. From Lost Horse Valley, an easy climb and descent brings us to Queen Valley, where we cross the dirt Geology Tour Rd, and then climb & descend into Pinto Basin. Total distance is 11.1 miles, with about 500 ft. of climb and 1,000 ft. of descent. This is a shuttle-hike; all driving will be on paved roads. RATING: Moderate due to length. MEET: Joshua Tree Visitor Center, 6554 Park Blvd, Joshua Tree, one block south of Hwy 62 at 8:00 a.m. BRING: Ten essentials, layered clothing, 2-3 liters of water, lunch, and sun protection. RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER, DAVE MELTON, (760) 408-2456, dmelton61@yahoo.com

BIG BEAR GROUP

RODMAN MOUNTAIN PETROGLYPHS

We will drive into the wilderness on a graded road for about 30 miles. A high clearance vehicle is recommended. The hike is through a creek/canyon where there are numerous very old petroglyphs. We will then walk to the top of Rodman Mountain to obtain views of this unique area. The total distance of the hike is 4 miles. All are welcome to attend but please call ahead of time so that transport arrangements can be made. All are welcome. BRING: Water, a snack and layered clothing. Strong footwear is recommended. MEET: Victor Valley Museum, 11873 Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley 92308. LEADER: Norman Bossom. Coachnorm@yahoo.com. 760-912-3725. MOJAVE GROUP

FEBRUARY 20 – FEBRUARY 26

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings (Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

STODDARD PEAK HIKE **FEB 21 (TUE) 8:00 AM

This is a moderate hike up Barrett Canyon to the top of 4,624 ft. Stoddard Pk., 6 miles round trip and 1100 ft. elevation gain. The hike in Barrett Canyon is easy and passes some charming cabins. The last half mile up Stoddard Peak is a steep scramble. Rain cancels. BRING: sturdy boots, water, snack, sunscreen, layer clothing appropriate for the weather. Adventure Pass required for trailhead parking. MEET: Contact Kathy Viola to confirm & for directions to trailhead or to carpool from Upland. LEADER: KATHY VIOLA, 909-LOS SERRANOS GROUP 346-9653, kviola826@gmail.com

LOS SERRANOS GROUP FEB 21 (TUE) 7:00 PM

Monthly except July & August. Programs on nature, conservation & travel topics. The public is welcome & refreshments are served. See Los Serranos webpage for detailed program information: sangorgonio.sierraclub.org/groups/los_serranos PLACE: First Presbyterian Church, 869 N. Euclid Ave, Upland (educational building, entrance in rear). LOS SERRANOS GROUP INFO: BRIAN ELLIOTT, brianelli@aol.com

FEB 23 (THU) 9:00 AM ORCHARD CAMP HIKE

Join us on this strenuous hike starting from Sierra Madre via the Mt Wilson Trail. We will climb 2,000 ft. elevation in 4.5 miles to the site of this historic camp and home to one of the oldest & largest canyon oak trees, estimated to be 1,500 years old. We will return the same route, making this a 9-mile round trip hike. Rain cancels. MEET: Contact Kathy Viola to confirm & for directions to trailhead or carpool place in Upland. LEADER: KATHY VIOLA at 909-346-9653 or kviola826@gmail.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FEB 24 (FRI) 9:00 AM SBMTS, GREEN VALLEY LAKE SNOWSHOE OR HIKE

We will snowshoe or hike depending on the weather. Green Valley Lake has some of the best snow in our local mountains, so come and join me for a day of fun. No prior snowshoe experience is necessary-it is not difficult to learn-just another form of hiking. You need to provide your own equipment. MEET: in Green Valley Lake across from the post office at 9:00 a.m. WEAR layered clothing, BRING: No need to bring lunch, just a snack and water. Please CALL to check on weather conditions. If no snow, we will hike LEADER: SANDY ELLIS 909-867-7115, fsellis67@gmail.com. CO-LEADER: KARLA KELLEMS, kbarkus2000@yahoo.com, 909-939 5790. MOUNTAINS GROUP

FEB 24-27 (FRI-MON) CAR CAMP DEATH VALLEY

Friday, Feb. 24 we will meet at a primitive campsite on Furnace Creek Road near Shoshone and then go to China Ranch for a hike in Amargosa Canyon. Saturday we will tour our way to Texas Springs Campground, with stops at Badwater, and hikes at Natural Bridge and Golden Canyon. Sunday will include stops at Zabriski Point and Salt Creek on our

Michael Brune...Continued from Page 1

And it may not have gotten the attention it deserved during the election, but public opinion and the market strongly favor clean energy over fossil fuels. In fact, there is a consensus among Clinton supporters and Trump supporters that supporting clean energy jobs should be a priority – just look at the defeat of anti-solar Amendment 1 in Florida yesterday for one example of the bipartisan support for solar and wind.

Those are the real life factors that are going to keep our progress moving ahead

no matter who is in the White House. We've won vitally important victories in state houses, on Public Utility Commissions, on ballot initiatives, and in corporate boardrooms – and we will keep winning.

And let's address one of the elephants in the room: Trump's threat to quote "cancel" the Paris agreement.

Whether he can or not is the real question. What we know is that it would be extraordinarily difficult for Trump to remove the U.S. from the Paris Agreement.

His position is already causing international blowback abroad, and in very pointed ways that are in some respects unprecedented.

If Trump does try to undermine climate action, he will run headlong into an organized mass of people who will fight him in the courts, in the states, in the marketplace and in the streets.

Meanwhile, you can be absolutely sure that environmental advocates will continue to speak out and defend essential clean air, clean water, and other environmental protections when they come under attack by a Trump administration, as they most certainly will – except we will be louder than ever before.

Make no mistake, this loss hurts for reasons that extend far beyond this room. And we stand in total solidarity with communities of color, Muslims, women and all those who may be threatened under a Trump Administration. They have an ally in the environmental movement. In the meantime, we will not be licking our wounds. Instead, we are preparing for the fights to come.



The Unbearable Whiteness of Hiking and How to Solve It

By Lornett Vestal and Matthew Nichols

It's fitting that America's most famous wilderness guide, Sacajawea of the Lemhi Shoshone tribe, was a woman of color. But it's also tragic that throughout American history, ethnic minorities have so often been underrepresented or intentionally excluded from the outdoors.

Today, research from industry groups like the Outdoor Foundation bears out the conclusion that minority groups simply don't go outside. Consider this data point: in any given year, less than half of African American adolescents age 13 to 17 will participate in even one outdoor recreation activity.

The issue isn't that people of color in America don't care about nature or environmental issues. In fact, surveys of racial minorities consistently show they are more concerned than whites about climate change and more supportive of policies to fix it.

So what is keeping people of color from participating in outdoor recreation and enjoying its benefits? As activist and author Glenn Nelson writes, "Because the outdoors remains a largely white domain, it is up to white America to invite communities of color in, to enlist us as allies."

Here are a few proven strategies for outings leaders (and well-meaning white folks) who want to be part of the solution:

Let's Talk About Race

Dialogue is the first step toward promoting true inclusion and diversity at a much deeper level. We must address the issue of race head on and understand that we live in a society that offers one group of people advantages based on the color of their skin, while systematically oppressing other groups.

For example, while the National Park system has been justly lauded as "America's best idea," we must acknowledge that the parks originally excluded people of color. Given that history, it becomes easier to understand why minorities may continue to feel unwelcome in the outdoors.

Educating ourselves about environmental racism, or the disproportionate burden of pollution born by people of color from poor urban blacks to Latino farmer workers, is also crucial. An appreciation of environmental justice allows us to offer programming that speaks to these communities' concerns.

Lower Barriers, Not Standards

Outdoor sports can present daunting barriers to entry, in terms of equipment and skills. Options like carpooling or sharing gear can go a long way toward reducing the costs of participation. But there's a fine line between lowering barriers and offering less worthwhile programming.

To learn how to better do that, we turned to an unlikely source for advice: the United States Army. In recent years, the military has made a concerted push to promote diversity and inclusion, despite significant pushback from some conservative pundits.

In 2015, the first female soldiers graduated Ranger School, a notoriously difficult course that nearly 60% of soldiers fail to complete. David Fivecoat, an Army colonel who oversaw the Ranger training program during the gender integration, says the key to getting buy-in was "uniformity and transparency."

"All students were held to and met the same standards regardless of gender," Fivecoat says. The goal on recreational outings isn't to create a bootcamp-like atmosphere, but we should expect mutual respect and accountability among everyone we take outdoors.

In fact, across all demographic groups, "developing my self-confidence" was a major reason to engage in outdoor recreation, according to the Outdoor Foundation study.

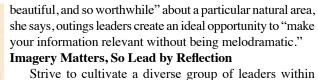
Use Plain but Precise Language

When promoting outings, avoid jargon in your marketing materials, opting instead for clear, objective terms, such as distances and elevations, as well as qualifiers like "moderate" or "strenuous" that classify terrain, not people. Phrases like "for beginners" may be well-intended but risk infantilizing participants.

Promoting diversity does not mean neglecting to discuss the area's ecology or "Leave No Trace" practices. According to Dr. L. Michelle Baker., a writing expert who trains environmental scientists to communicate better with the public, the key is to "state your message simply without simplifying it."

She cautions that "scientists have become so accustomed to speaking with one another that they can have difficulty distinguishing between scientific lingo and commonly understood terms." As outdoors leaders, we can be guilty of this same tendency.

The solution? By showing people from diverse backgrounds what is "so cool, so



Strive to cultivate a diverse group of leaders within your organization. For would-be participants from underrepresented groups, seeing people like them in leadership roles will inspire confidence that this organization understands and welcomes them.

For better or worse, perception of outdoor recreation is tied up with the advertising used to sell outdoor gear. When people see catalogues filled with images of overwhelmingly fit, young, white people, it sends a subconscious signal that the outdoors is meant for people who look like that.

To quote Jose Gonzalez, founder of the advocacy group Latino Outdoors, "'Estamos aquí' is the message. It's a

declaration Latinos are making, more and more, while stepping off yellow buses and other modes of transport onto slopes, beaches and peaks across the country."

Just the act of being present and recognized matters. As inclusive leaders, we can promote a sense of belonging and ownership through the imagery we project in marketing materials, on our websites and in the leaders we mentor and develop within our organizations. **Codify the Commitment**

Putting pen to paper can help ensure progressive policies live on after turnover in leadership or membership. Announcing a commitment to diversity on your outing club's website sends a clear message and helps create a welcoming environment for all.

"It just wasn't even remotely in anybody's consciousness that someone might object to LGBTQ lifestyles. That was a tremendous testament to the character of the conference," says Joe Kopena, former director of the Eastern Collegiate Cycling Conference.

However, recognizing there were transgender students who wanted to race bikes but were unsure of the rules governing their participation, the conference organizers "set about to codify that spirit of equality" with a formal policy, Kopena says.

The same principles apply for outings leaders looking to boost diversity and inclusion: be proactive, research other organizations' policies, and use your group's website, leader manual or code of conduct to codify your club's commitment.

Step Up, Step Back

Simply incorporating a social dimension in your outings can promote diversity. According to the study by the Outdoor Foundation, "talking to new/varied people" was a greater motivation for Hispanics, African Americans and Asian Americans to participate in outdoor activities than it was for whites.

Organizing an optional group meal immediately after a whitewater run or crag session is a great way to structure a more inclusive outing. Sitting around a table together provides an opportunity to contribute for people who may have felt out of their comfort zone when dangling on top-rope, for example.

As Glenn Nelson notes, "Race matters for reasons that really are only skin deep, that cannot be discussed any other way, and that cannot be wished away. Race matters because of the slights, the snickers, the silent judgments that reinforce that most crippling of thoughts: I do not belong here."

Sitting down together to break bread can help counter that subconscious feeling of alienation and ensure that everyone comes back for subsequent outings feeling welcomed and affirmed.

Everyone Outside

Building broad coalitions that are representative of the communities in which we live is critical to the success of any movement. The theory of change is simple and well-tested: people who hike, bike, climb, kayak or ski tend to make lifestyle choices and take political actions that promote conservation.

People of color are already leaders in the fight to stop climate change. In this era of seemingly unsurmountable ideological divisions, coming together as communities to experience nature is perhaps one of the most profound political statements we can make.

To quote Glenn Nelson, "It's not a cure for this ailing world. It may not even be a saving grace. But it's something — something that makes me believes it doesn't matter if I'm not white. I still count, and I will have my say."

Lornett Vestal is the Southeastern Military and Veteran Coordinator at the Sierra Club. Matt Nichols is an environmental consultant, currently on contract to the U.S. Army. This piece represents their shared views, not those of their respective employers

— Submitted by: Virginia Cramer, Press Secretary, Sierra Club

way to Mesquite Springs Campground with a trip to Ubehebe Crater. Monday will be an early morning hike on Mesquite Flats Sand Dunes before heading home. More details will be available later. RESERVATIONS & LEADER: CAROL WILEY, earthlingwiley2000@yahoo.com, 760-245-8734.

MOJAVE GROUP

FEB 25 (SAT) 8:15 AM WHITEWATER HIKE

Enjoy a casual hike through the Whitewater Canyon Preserve (2,310 ft.), cross the river, and climb/hike a portion of the Pacific Crest Trail south to Teutang Canyon (2,760 ft.) and see views of Mesa Windmill Farm and San Gorgonio Wilderness. This is a 7-mile out and back hike. RATING: Moderate. MEET: Whitewater Preserve parking lot. Follow the signs for Hwy 10, take the Whitewater exit. BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, adequate water, lunch, sunscreen, sunglasses, trekking poles and hat. RESERVATIONS & LEADER, ED CALIENDO, (442) 242-4103, email dogs111@msn.com

BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 25 (SAT) 8:30 AM TERRI PEAK HIKE

Terri Peak is a well-traveled trail that overlooks Lake Perris on the north side. This trail starts out gradually but has some good elevation gains near the end. This hike is open to all hikers as well as family members with children, providing all individuals can hike 5 miles with some steep areas. We will start at the trailhead at Vista Del Lago, north of Iris Avenue and just outside of the park main entrance. We will return to the same location following the hike. Heavy rain cancels. RATED: Moderate. BRING: ten-essentials, layered clothing, 2-liters of water, lunch, and sun-protection. This hike will be cancelled if heavy rain occurs. RESERVATIONS & LEADER: DARLENE TAYLOR, 951-385-5706, dtaylorncrew@verizon.net

**FEB 25 (SAT) 9:00 AM BONITA FALLS HI

This will be an easy hike to the 90-ft Bonita (Beautiful) Falls in Lytle Creek Canyon. About 3 miles round trip, slight elevation gain. Adventure Pass required at trailhead. BRING: water and a snack; wear sturdy shoes/boots. Rain cancels. MEET: Contact John St. Clair prior to scheduled date for the meeting place. LEADER: JOHN ST. CLAIR, john@stclairs.us, 909-983-8501.

LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FEBRUARY 27 – MARCH 5

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings (Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

FEB 28 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING

Chapter governance meeting. Monthly except for December. PLACE: The meeting is by teleconference. If you wish to participate, contact Mary Ann for instructions. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, ruizmaryann@gmail.com, (909) 815-9379. CHAPTER

MAR 2 (THU) LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM MEETING

Odd-numbered months only (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov). PLACE: For meeting time & place, contact BRIAN ELLIOTT, brianelli@aol.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

COMING UP...

MAR 10-13 (FRI-MON) MOJAVE PRESERVE OUTING CAR CAMP

Meet Friday, March 10 at Sunrise Rock Campground (12 miles from I-15 on Cima Road) at noon. There are no facilities here. We will then go to the trailhead across the road and hike to Teutionia Peak, which is about 4 miles round trip. Saturday, we will move to Midhills Campground and hike in the area. Sunday we will head to Kelso Dunes to camp and will enjoy a moonlight hike on the dunes. Monday, we will have another hike in the area and then head home. More details will be available closer to trip dates. RESERVATIONS & LEADER: CAROL WILEY, earthlingwiley2000@yahoo.com, 760-245-8734.

MOJAVE GROUP

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES

The following activities, meeting & events are neither sponsored nor administered by the Sierra Club. The Sierra Club has no information about the planning of these activities & makes no representations or warranties about the quality, safety, supervision or management of such activities. They are published only as a reader service because they may be of interest to the readers of this publication.

NON-SIERRA CLUB RECURRING WEEKLY & MONTHLY MEETINGS (LOOK IN CALENDAR FOR DATES)

(1ST FRI) 8:30 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB

Note: there will be no meeting July 4. Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$3 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

(3RD WED) 7:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Come early to browse the gift. tables & socialize. The June and December meetings are potluck dinners and start at 6:30 p.m. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

(3RD FRI) 8:30 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$3 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309.

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

JAN 6 (FRI) 8:30 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$3 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309.

JAN 18 (WED) 7:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Come early to browse the gift. tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

JAN 20 (FRI) 8:30 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$3 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

JAN 28 (SAT) RESTORATION TRAINING WITH THE BLM TRAINING NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT FRIENDS OF JUNIPER FLATS

The Friends of Juniper Flats would like to invite visitors and locals to join us in our stewardship activities in Arrestre Canyon just south of Apple Valley. The Barstow office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in conjunction with the Friends of Juniper Flats will conduct restoration training as a public outreach event in the Juniper Flats area. INFO: contact ALYSSA CANOFF, Barstow BLM, (760) 252-6051, acanoff@blm.gov. You can also contact JENNY WILDER, (760) 220-0730, JensOasis@aol.com, or SUSAN STUEBER, (760) 900-5330, sstueber16@gmail.com

FEB 3 (FRI) 8:30 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$3 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

FEB 15 (WED) 6:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SANBERNARDINOVALLEYAUDUBON SOCIETY

PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Come early to browse the gift. tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

FEB 17 (FRI) 8:30 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$3 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

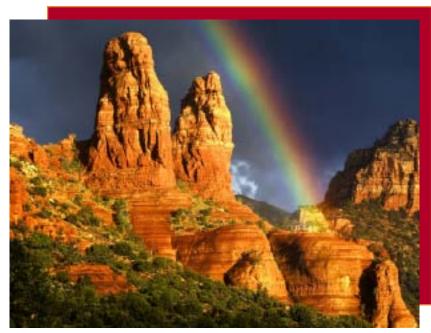
MAR 3 (FRI) 8:30 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: \$3 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309.



Chapter's February Program Features Photography by Gary Mumaw, Master of Images

oin us at the February 7th chapter meeting for Gary Mumaw's program featuring photography of Arizona, Utah, Alaska, Hawaii, and Europe. The meeting starts at 7:30 p,m, at the San Bernardino County Museum in Redlands.



Gary will show landscape and cityscape photography from his hiking trips and many of the places he has traveled to. He will also talk about high dynamic range imaging, digital enhancements, composition, and other methods to improve your photos.

Gary Mumaw was introduced to photography in a high school photo class in 1970. His first camera was a Kodak Brownie. After some success in outdoor photography, Gary studied industrial photography at the Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara, where he received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1977.

After graduating from Brooks, Gary started his photo career at the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory as a lab tech working on the Voyager Mission to Jupiter. He became a professional industrial photographer in 1979 and worked in the field for over 30 years for defense contractors like Xerox, Loral, Lockheed Martin, and BAE Systems.

In 2007, Gary regained his interest in outdoor photography on a hike to The Wave rock formation in North Coyote Buttes in the Vermillion Cliffs National Monument in Arizona. His tag is "Master of Images" on Flickr and Facebook.









Membership

YES, I want to help safeguard our nation's precious natural heritage. My check is enclosed.

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Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club MasterCard Visa Exp Date ____/

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Regular	\$39	\$47		
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Contributing	\$150	\$175		
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Senior	\$24	\$32		
Student	\$24	\$32		
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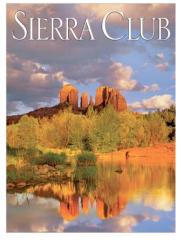
SIERRA CLUB 2017 CALENDARS



ENGAGEMENT 2017

Sierra Club 2017 Wilderness **Wall Calendar**

Spiral bound, month-by-month format, featuring 12 majestic North American landscapes.



Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

WILDERNESS 2017

Sierra Club 2017 **Engagement Calendar** Week-by-week format, featuring 57 spectacular photographs and

"wire-o" binding.

Order Form

Save up to 30% off the list price. Support local conservation efforts.

Title	1 – 4 price	5— 9 price	10+ price	Quantity	Price	Total
Wilderness Wall Calendar	\$13.50	\$12.50	\$11.50			
Engagement Calendar	\$14.50	\$13.50	\$12.50		<u> </u>	
					Subtotal	
One calendar: \$4.50 • Two to six	calendars: S	\$4.50 for the	e first calen	dar and	Shipping	
\$1.00 for each additional calend	ar; seven to	ten calendai	rs: \$10.00 f	or the orde	er	
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