



SIERRA CLUB

SAN GORGONIO

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Membership Meetings

Tuesday, January 8th • 7:30 PM
**“Botswana, South Africa
 and Victoria Falls”**
 Presented by Gail and
 Ladd Seekins
 (see write up on Page 10)

Tuesday, February 5th • 7:30 PM
“Creating Fire-Safe Communities”
 Presented by Chad Hanson
 (see write up on Page 12)

**Programs are held at the
 San Bernardino County Museum,
 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands
 (California St. exit off 10 Fwy)**

Note date change due
 to New Year's Holiday.



Palm and Pine

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

Volume 49 Number 1

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

Jan-Feb 2019

SIERRA CLUB WINS BIG!

By Jono Hildner, San Gorgonio Chapter's Political Chair

Across the country, all across California and here in our San Gorgonio Chapter, we saw impressive wins for the environment and our endorsed candidates. Were there some disappointments, sure, but overall, voters spoke for protecting the environment and supporting environmental justice!

Nationally, the Club focused on four areas/states: Michigan, Colorado, Nevada and Southern California. The focus was not only on US Senate and House races, but on state legislatures, governors and even some hyperlocal races. The wins were impressive and now we can count on a US House of Representatives that is led by members who actually believe in science and in Climate Change.

While all this is good, we will need to work even harder next year in many states where political gerrymandering has made it very

difficult for environmentalists to take control of state legislatures, even when environmental supporters are elected state-wide. Those are the legislators that will draw the new districts after the 2010 census.

In California, every single candidate for state-wide office that was endorsed by the Sierra Club won this year! We flipped 7 Congressional seats including Dana Rohrabacher in the 48th who serves on the Environment subcommittee of the House Science, Space and Technology Committee and who brought a snowball to the House floor last year and said, “What Global warming!” Orange County no longer has ANY Republican representing them in the House and there is a rumor that they will soon be renaming John Wayne Airport the ‘Willie Nelson Airport.’ We endorsed 45 candidates for the Assembly and 41 of them won! We endorsed 10 candidates for the State Senate and 8 of them won. These are impressive numbers and speak to

Continued on Page 11 >>>

He's One of Our Best

By: Dave Barrie, Mountains Group President

In early October we were privileged to honor our former Outings Chair and Treasurer Bill Engs on the occasion of his 60th anniversary with the Sierra Club. Bill is a no-frills,



Photo by Mary Barrie

Continued on Page 2 >>>



— Keller Peak Ski Hut — Celebrating an 80 Year Legacy

Keller Peak Ski Hut was built by the Ski Mountaineers in 1938 and is managed for the use of all Sierra Club members by the Keller Hut Committee, staffed by volunteers from several club chapters, sections, and groups. The hut is located at an elevation of 6800 ft. between Running Springs and Big Bear Lake in the San Bernardino Mountains, conveniently located across the street from Snow Valley Ski Area. Chains required when snow falls.

Overnight Capacity: 30 (Overnight: Inside 20 sleeping pads – Outside space for tent, hammock, or sleep in vehicle). Facilities: Two rustic living/dining rooms, two dormitory lofts (separate men and women on open weekends) with 10 sleeping pads each. Fully equipped kitchen with cookware, dishes, and utensils. Furnish your own food, sleeping bag or bedding,

flashlight, personal items, and hand towels. In cold winter months please contribute firewood for the pot-belly stove and fireplace. Reservations:

Come up and celebrate New Year's. For more information contact Brian Decker at scubaairpig@yahoo.com.



Lookin' good!

January 19-20 - Open Weekend. For more information contact Brian Decker at scubaairpig@yahoo.com.

Feb 2 - Winter “Hut Host Training” We will be holding a one day “winter” Hut Host training program. You must be a current Sierra Club member and been a previous Keller Hut overseer or attended

one of our work parties to participate. You are welcome to spend Saturday night at the Hut if you want. Contact Yunida Cheng at kellerskihutouting@gmail.com.

February 9-10 - Open Weekend. For more information contact Brian Decker at scubaairpig@yahoo.com.

March 9-10 - Open Weekend. For more information contact Brian Decker at scubaairpig@yahoo.com.

Open to Sierra Club members and their guests. Weekend Rates: \$15.00 each for Sierra Club members and their family, \$20.00 each for non-members and their family, \$10.00 each for children under 12 years of age. Day use Rates: \$5.00 each for Sierra Club members and their family, \$10.00 each for non-members and their family, \$5.00 for children under 12 years of age.

Upcoming: December 29 - January 1 Open Weekend.

Contact Us . . .

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

San Gorgonio Chapter Excom

Chair.....**Mary Ann Ruiz**
.....909-815-9379
.....ruizmaryann@gmail.com

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.....jcricket47@yahoo.com

Los Serranos Group:
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Mojave Group:
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..... Kimffloyd@fastmail.com

.....**Brian Baker** 760-242-6526
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.....jensoasis@aol.com

Desert Issues – Low Desert
..... **Joan Taylor**
..... psjoan01@gmail.com

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.....**Kim Floyd** 760-680-9479
..... kimffloyd@fastmail.com

Forestry Issues – Mountaintop RD
.....East—**Ed Wallace** 909-584-9407
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..StevenFarrell@sangorgonio.sierraclub.org

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Forestry Issues – Cleveland NF
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Forestry Issues – Front Country RD
..... **Joyce Burk** 760-220-0204
..... **Mary Ann Ruiz** 909-815-9379
.....ruizmaryann@gmail.com

Water Issues..Steve Farrell 951-777-9150

Group Directory

Big Bear Group:
Chair – Ellen Kesler 909-585-1062
jcricket47@yahoo.com
Meets 3rd Thursday, except Jan., Feb., Dec.,
Discovery Center North Shore, 6:30 p.m.
www.sierraclub.org/san-gorgonio/big-bear

Los Serranos Group:
Chair – Brian Elliot brianeelli@aol.com
Meets 3rd Tuesday except July & August,
Goldy B. Lewis Center, Central Park,
11200 Baseline Rd. Rancho Cucamonga,
7 p.m.

Mojave Group:
Chair – Susan Stueber 760-900-5330
sstueber16@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 – Kathleen Dale 951-941-3883

Mountains Group:
Chair – Dave Barrie 909-337-0313
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:
Chair – Pam Nelson 951-767-2324
sierraclubsmg@gmail.com
Meets 2nd Thur., 6:30 p.m. except July &
August at Temecula Valley Library,
30600 Pauba Road, Temecula

Tahquitz Group:
Chair – Joan Taylor, psjoan01@gmail.com

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Sierra Club

San Gorgonio Chapter

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Member Change of Address

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Submission Information

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



Our Best . . . Continued from Page 1

small footprint guy and we knew that something like a plaque to hang on a wall at home would not be consistent with his values. We decided that our recognition efforts needed to go in a (slightly) different direction.

Bill was lured up to Crestline for a recognition luncheon at a restaurant that was always the last stop of his Lake Gregory Birdwalks and then kidnapped for visit to the Arrowhead Ridge property that the San Bernardino Mountains Land Trust owns in Lake Arrowhead. That property is the home of the Land Trust's "Donor Wall" where engraved flagstones are placed to recognize donors of sizeable donations used for maintenance and

environmental improvement of the parcel.

In addition to his Sierra Club service Bill was also an officer of the Land Trust so we partnered with them to make a donation in Bill's name and get a flagstone on the wall to commemorate his service to both the Sierra Club and the Land Trust.

So, Bill got the congratulations he deserves and did not need to take anything home but our love and best wishes!



Calendar of Outings, Meetings, and Other Events

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2019

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

CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: Items for the March/April 2019 Calendar are due by February 1, 2019.

FORMAT items like 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. 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. Carpooling is encouraged, but solely the responsibility of individual participants. The Sierra Club & its leaders may facilitate carpooling; however, they will not assign. Drivers should have adequate insurance coverage & their vehicle should have no safety defects. For Sierra Club facilitated carpooling, drivers agree to not consume any alcoholic beverages.

It is customary for riders to share expenses with the driver. The above information applies to Sierra Club Outings & Activities only. Non-Sierra Club activities may be listed in a separate location as a courtesy. Please be sure to read the disclaimer that accompanies these activities.

****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 designates where the passes are required. Generally, areas that have developed parking & may include toilet facilities, interpretive signs & trash cans require passes & unimproved areas do not require passes. Outings that require passes usually will be preceded by ** in the listings that follow, and/or the leader may indicate the need for Adventure Passes. While leaders try to provide accurate information, ultimately it is the vehicle's driver that assumes responsibility to adhere to all rules, regulations, & laws - not the Sierra Club. The permits cost \$30 per year or \$5 per day; however, they may not be obtainable the day of your outing. As a passenger, you are expected to share some of the cost of the daily passes along with a mileage contribution along with the others in the vehicle. Golden Eagle Passports & Golden Age Passports may be used in lieu of the Adventure Pass.

CARPOOLING POLICY - In the interests of facilitating some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club assumes no liability for carpooling arrangements. Carpooling, ride sharing, or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.

LIABILITY WAIVER - To participate on one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please visit the San Gorgonio Chapter website at sangorgonio2.sierraclub.org & click on Disclaimers under the Outings tab.

RECURRING MONTHLY MEETINGS (LOOK IN CALENDAR FOR DATES)

(1ST MON) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING
The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: ELLEN KESLER, 909-585-1062, jcricket47@yahoo.com BIG BEAR GROUP

(1ST MON) 6:00 PM MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
Alpine Conference Room 27236 Blue Jay Mall on the first Monday of selected months: Feb. 4, Mar. 4, Apr. 1, May 6, Oct. 7 & Nov. 4. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. MOUNTAINS GROUP

(1ST TUE) * 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING
**The January meeting will be January 8 because January 1 is a holiday.* Monthly chapter program. For more information, 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) 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, [sstueber16@gmail.com](mailto:ssstueber16@gmail.com) MOJAVE GROUP

(2ND THU) 6:30 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except July, August & December. In place of the December meeting there will be a winter celebration ON THE WEEKEND. 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. Please join us for an informative program. PLACE: Goldy B. Lewis Center, Central Park, 11200 Baseline Rd., Rancho Cucamonga. INFO: BRIAN ELLIOTT, brianelli@aol.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

(3RD THU) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except January, February & 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: ELLEN KESLER, 909-585-1062, jcricket47@yahoo.com BIG BEAR GROUP

(4TH TUE) 7:00 PMSAN 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 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

DECEMBER 24 – DECEMBER 30

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

DEC 28 (FRI) 9:00 AM CRAFTON HILLS GRAPE AVENUE TRAIL HIKE
Moderate 4.5-mile hike with good views. About 1000 ft. elevation gain past a reservoir. BRING: water, sturdy shoes. MEET: From I-10, take the Live Oak Canyon Road/Oak Glen Road exit. Head northwest for 4.2 miles to Bryant St. Turn left & go 1.1 miles to Grape Avenue. Turn left & go 0.5 miles to an unsigned trailhead on the left side of the road. RESERVATIONS: by 8 p.m. Dec 27th. LEADER: CHRISTINA TORRES, (951) 318-7503, cmt.teck@gmail.com MORENO VALLEY GROUP

DEC 29 (SAT) 8:30 SB MTNS: MOUNTAIN HOME TRAIL HIKE
Explore this hike from the Loch Leven Conference center, off Hwy 38, not far from the Mill Creek Ranger Station. It's approximately 9 miles round trip with an elevation gain of 1500 ft. The flora changes from chaparral to oak forest to pine forest along the way. It is a trail shared with bike riders. Rain or Snow cancels. RATED: Moderate/Difficult. BRING: 2 liters of water, wear layered clothing, sun protection, snack/lunch, hiking boots, trekking poles & camera. MEET: Mill Creek Ranger Station, 34701 Mill Creek Rd, Mentone, CA 92359, & we will carpool to trailhead. RESERVATIONS & LEADER JUDY ATKINSON (909) 289-1932, judy5723@gmail.com. BIG BEAR GROUP

DECEMBER 31 – JANUARY 6

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

DEC 31 (MON) 8:30 AM JTNP: NEW YEAR'S WARREN PEAK HIKE
Take a break from the holidays to. The 7-mile loop combines easy wash walking in pretty Black Rock Canyon; an occasionally steep trail through the aptly named Panorama Loop; a short, steep, occasionally loose walk-up ascent of Warren Peak; followed by a longer descent on a use trail off the north side of the peak. Vegetation includes some nice larger pinyon/juniper & oak. Starting elevation of 4000 feet with 1100-foot gain. RATED: Moderate. MEET: Visitor's Center, 9800 Black Rock Canyon Road, Yucca Valley, CA 92284. No entrance fee. We should be back to the trailhead by 3:00 pm. BRING: Ten essentials, hiking pole, layers & sun protection, lunch, & 2.5-liters of water. RESERVATIONS & LEADER: DAVE MELTON, (760) 408-2456, dmelton61@yahoo.com BIG BEAR GROUP

Continued on Page 4 >>>

Calendar . . . Continued from Page 3

JAN 3 (THU) 9:00 AM SANTA ROSA PLATEAU LOOP HIKE HIKE
Moderate 6-8-mile hike depending on trails we take. Minimal elevation gain. We'll hike to the historic adobes & enjoy the clearer winter air. BRING: water, snack/lunch, & wear sturdy shoes. FEE: \$4.00 entrance fee per person. MEET: RSVP by 8:00 pm Jan. 2 for meeting place & possible carpooling. Rain cancels. INFO & LEADER: CHRISTINA TORRES (951) 318-7503 or cmt.teck@gmail.com
MORENO VALLEY GROUP

JAN 3 (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 5 (SAT) 8:30 AM CACTUS SPRING TRAIL HIKE
Starting at about 4000 ft. in the Santa Rosa Wilderness off Hwy 74 south of Palm Desert, the trail drops into Martinez Canyon, descends to Horsethief Creek, which should be flowing, then climbs up to the plateau to Cactus Spring (more of a seep). We return from there. 9 miles round trip. RATING: Moderate. The grade is generally moderate, but a few steep loose sections suggest bringing your best footwear & hiking poles. Elevation gain of 1,200'. MEET: At the signed trailhead down the short, paved road on the south side of 74 just west of the yet unopened Sugarloaf Café at 70111 CA-74, Mountain Center, CA 92561 BRING: Ten-essentials, layered clothing, adequate water, lunch, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat & gloves. RESERVATIONS: Call LEADER DAVE MELTON, dmelton61@yahoo.com, (760) 408-2456.
BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 5 (SAT) SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM RETREAT
The annual chapter retreat & planning meeting, including the selection of chapter officers & committee chairs for 2019. Open to all Sierra Club members but only ExCom members will vote. Time & location to be determined. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, ruizmaryann@gmail.com, (909) 815-9379.
CHAPTER

JAN 6 (SUN) 6:30 AM MT. RUBIDOUX FITNESS WALK WALK
Join us & enjoy dawn & early morning on a 2.7-mile fitness walk looping Mt. Rubidoux in Riverside. MEET: Parking area of Ryan Bonaminio Park, 5000 Tequesquite Avenue, Riverside, 92506. WEAR: Layered clothing & walking shoes. BRING: Snacks & water. DOGS: Well-behaved dogs welcome; must be on 6-foot leash. LEADER: JULIANN ANDERSON (951) 833-1328 (text OK), Juliann.Anderson@gmail.com
CHAPTER

JANUARY 7 – JANUARY 13

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

JAN 7 (MON) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING
The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: ELLEN KESLER, 909-585-1062, jcricket47@yahoo.com
BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 7 (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 8 (TUE) 8:00 AM STODDARD PEAK HIKE**
This will be a moderate hike up Barrett Canyon to the top of Stoddard Peak (elevation 4624 ft), 6 miles round trip with 1100 ft. elevation gain. The hike in Barrett Canyon is easy & goes past 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 will be required for parking at the trailhead. MEET: Contact leader for carpooling from Upland. LEADER: KATHY VIOLA, 909-346-9653, kviola826@gmail.com
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JAN 8 (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

JAN 8 (TUE) * 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING
** The January meeting will be January 8 because January 1 is a holiday.* Monthly Monthly chapter program. For more information, 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

JAN 9 (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, sstueber16@gmail.com
MOJAVE GROUP

JAN 10 (THU) 8:00 AM PCT FROM SILVERWOOD LAKE TO I-15 HIKE

This is a 1-way 13-mile hike on the Pacific Crest Trail starting at Cleghorn Rd at Silverwood Lake State Recreation Area & ending at the 15 freeway near McDonalds at Hwy 138. This requires a car shuttle. We will gain 2410' elevation & lose 2750' over 13 miles. Plan on a full day. Inclement weather cancels. BRING 10 essentials including lunch. MEET: Contact leader for carpooling from Upland RESERVATIONS: Advanced registration is required no later than 1-8-19. LEADER: KATHY VIOLA 909-346-9653, kviola826@gmail.com
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JAN 10 (THU) 6:30 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except July, August & December. 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

JAN 11 (FRI) 8:30 AM MT. RUSSELL AT LAKE PERRIS HIKE
Difficult 5-mile hike up & down two hills. Elevation gain 1200 ft. BRING water, snack & sturdy shoes, weather appropriate clothes, hiking poles for help in steep areas if you use them. If trail conditions are bad, we will hike into Lake Perris instead from same trailhead. Rain cancels. RESERVATIONS by 8 pm on Jan. 10. MEET: Ridgecrest Park at 28506 John F. Kennedy Dr, Moreno Valley. LEADER: CHRISTINA TORRES, (951) 318-7503, cmt.teck@gmail.com
MORENO VALLEY GROUP

JAN 11 (FRI) 9:00 AM CITY CREEK TO STRAWBERRY CREEK HIKE

An 8-mile R/T moderate/strenuous hike with a 1000' elevation gain. Learn more about the controversy that surrounds Nestles extraction of Strawberry Creek water. MEET: City Creek Ranger Station, 17101 CA-330, San Bernardino, CA 92404. WEAR hat, long pants, & hiking boots. BRING trekking poles, jacket, snacks, & water. Well behaved dogs welcome. LEADER: KARLA KELLEMS, 760-405-4311, (text OK), karlakellems@gmail.com. Inclement weather will cancel.
SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

JAN 12 (SAT) 8:00 AM PCT LAKE MORENA TO KITCHEN CREEK RD HIKE

Section A of the PCT runs from the Mexican border to Warner Springs. We are starting a new patch program to hike all 110 miles in the coming winter, spring & fall. This first hike starts with Segment 2. Segment 1 will be a backpack in March. Distance is 10.1 miles with a total climb of 1700 ft. & 700 ft. descent. Starting elevation is 3000 ft. RATED: Moderate due to distance. MEET: Lake Morena County Park, near 2500 Lake Shore Drive, Campo, CA 91906. You may wish to camp here Friday night. Car shuttle is on paved roads. BRING: Ten-essentials, warm layered clothing, 2 liters water, lunch, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat & gloves. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADERS DARLENE TAYLOR, dtaylorcrew@verizon.net, 951-385-5706 or DAVE MELTON, dmelton61@yahoo.com, 760-408-2456.
BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 12 (SAT) 9:00 AM DEEP CREEK (NORTH) HIKE

This is a five-mile hike along the northern section of Deep Creek taking in the historic Hesperia Water Ditch. We will follow the ditch to its conclusion & then follow the pipes that transported the water to Lime Street Park. An historical commentary will be given. RATED easy although there is some soft sand in the river bed which forms part of this adventure. BRING: Water, warm clothing, strong footwear & a snack. MEET: Victor Valley Museum, 11873, Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley, CA 92308 by 9 a.m. LEADER: NORMAN BOSSOM, 760-912-3725. coachnorm@yahoo.com
MOJAVE GROUP

JANUARY 14 – JANUARY 20

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

JAN 15 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
Monthly except July & August. Please join us for an informative program. PLACE: Goldy B. Lewis Center, Central Park, 11200 Baseline Rd., Rancho Cucamonga. INFO: BRIAN ELLIOTT, brianelli@aol.com
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JAN 16 (WED) 7:30 AM EATON CANYON TO IDLEHOUR TRAIL CAMP HIKE

We will hike up 3.5 miles from Eaton Canyon Nature Center to Heninger Flats, then continue on another 3.5 miles to Idlehour Trail Camp, gaining 2700' elevation over 7 miles. After a lunch break at the creek, we'll return the same route, making this a 14-mile round trip hike. Inclement weather cancels. Bring 10 essentials including lunch. MEET: Contact leader for carpooling from Upland LEADER: KATHY VIOLA, 909-346-9653, kviola826@gmail.com
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

Continued on Page 5 >>>

My Generation Update

By Evan Gillespie, Director, My Generation Campaign
 Evan.Gillespie@sierraclub.org
 (203) 376-1679

MyGen Team Reunion: The team had its annual campaign retreat, where volunteer leaders and staff came together for three days to reflect and assess the campaign's clean energy and air quality work over the past years. This time together gave the team a chance to not only get realigned with the campaign's overall vision, but to also discuss processes and improve communication across capacities. With more clarity on our mission and values, the team looks forward to further supporting California's transition to its clean energy future centered around equity and justice. A big thanks to all the staff and especially the volunteers who took the time to participate in the retreat!



The MyGen team enjoys the last few minutes with each other at the end of the retreat.
 (Photo by: Corey Burns)

Get To Know The Team!

Here's a Q&A with one of our organizers, Yassi Kavezade, who organizes in the Inland Valley around air quality and transportation electrification issues for the campaign.



Yassi speaking at California Partnership rally supporting seniors, people with disabilities, and environmental justice. Riverside, CA.

What do you do as an organizer?

As an organizer the biggest chunk of my time is building relationships with communities, students, and elected official leaders that have a passion for cleaner air, energy, and a sustainable economy. Many of the leaders I work with are youth volunteers, who paint the picture of what reality looks like living in smog or working tireless hours at a warehouse. It takes a lot of time to build trust within each community. Our work collectively values a shift away from fossil fuels, especially in sectors of medium and heavy duty transportation and power generation. I work to shape the shared visions towards equitable energy storage, clean energy generation, and job training for zero emission curriculum and infrastructure.

What excites you about the work?

There are TOO many things that excite me about the work! The best part is seeing the growth of leadership with the volunteer students. They look to work on the campaign as safe yet challenging space to learn, organize, and build a narrative for a better future in their communities. It's especially exciting when youth leaders bring new folks to the campaign and they start growing, too. This growth transforms our campaign narratives to become more relatable, creative and personal. The most inspiring thing is when the youth provide strong testimony at the utilities commission; protest against hazardous project developments; or team up with allied organizations on events.

Why did you get into this work or field?

As an Iranian American I have seen the problematic circumstances the system of fossil fuel energy provides worldwide and first hand in the Inland Valley of Southern California. The health of our lives and our planet are jeopardized.

I believe intersectional organizing needs to happen in the energy advocacy world. We must hear all voices across all issues (i.e. criminal justice reform, immigrant justice, women and indigenous rights, labor, and LGBTQ+). We need to recognize that smog pollution and other causes are not mutually exclusive. I got into this work because I would like to see this approach applied more often, where community voices are not only heard at the table, but also help shape feedback, policy, resource implementation, and solutions. We are experts as well because we live it every day.

What do you like doing for fun?

I love hanging out with my grandparents and my baby cousins. Spending time with my friends making medicine, art, and going to concerts and being outside by water! I love rivers, beaches, and creeks. Watching movies, I really like documentaries and bio pics.

Calendar . . . Continued from Page 4

JAN 17 (THU) 7:45 AM JTNP: DESERT QUEEN MINE & EAGLE CLIFFS TR HIKE

Four miles out-and-back (plus off-trail exploring) past old mines & interesting terrain. Not a long or fast hike but limited to 10 participants due to the rugged second half, which involves climbing to the ridge with the Eagle Cliff miner's cabin. Good photos along the way! RATED: Moderate; at times on faint trail with very sketchy footing; about 500 feet elevation gain/loss overall. MEET: Visitor Center, 6554 Park Boulevard, Joshua Tree CA 92252. CARPOOL to trailhead on dirt road due to limited parking. BRING: Water, snacks, poles, hat, sunscreen, wind protective clothing, personal first aid & No Trace toilet supplies. WEATHER: Check forecast since desert winter days can be warm or cold. Extreme wind, rain, or snow cancels. RESERVATIONS: Email or call in name to LEADER LJ FOSTER, eljayeffhiker@yahoo.com, (951) 845-9440 (voice only). BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 19 (SAT) 7:00 AM PCT SECTION D: FROM 3N31 TO 3N28 OR HWY 15 HIKE

This will be an 8 to 13-mile hike, depending how energetic we hikers feel. In 2016, most of this area burned in the Blue Cut Fire. Forest Service Rd 3N31 & the PCT start at 6300 ft. & the trail finishes at about 3500 ft. This will probably be a key exchange hike because the road 3N31 is about 3 miles long & high clearance vehicles are needed. MEET: Call hike leader. BRING: 10 essentials, layered clothing, 2 liters of water, lunch / snacks, sunscreen, & poles. RATED: Moderate to Strenuous, depending on whether hiking up or down hill. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER DAVID HOLTEGAARD, 909-881-1329 BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 19 (SAT) 8:00 AM RODMAN MOUNTAIN PETROGLYPHS HIKE

This is an easy 4-mile hike through part of the wonderful Rodman Mountain Wilderness & petroglyphs. Please note the early start. This area is an hour's drive from the meeting point. Part of the journey is on a graded road suitable for all vehicles. There will be a carpool. BRING: Water, warm clothing, strong footwear, a camera & a snack. MEET: Victor Valley Museum, 11873, Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley, CA 92308 by 8am. LEADER: NORMAN BOSSOM, 760-912-3725. coachnorm@yahoo.com MOJAVE GROUP

**JAN 19 (SAT) 8:30 AM TENAJA CYN TRAIL TO FISHERMAN'S CAMP HIKE

An 8-mile hike (4 out & 4 back). The hike is moderate with about 900 ft of elevation gain over several hills & several seasonal creek crossings. Be prepared for areas with poison oak & chaparral. Rain Cancels. BRING plenty of water, wear comfortable hiking shoes (sandals may be useful for creek crossings), dress in layers & don't forget the sunscreen. A Wilderness Pass is required for all parked cars, available at sporting goods stores. MEET at the first trailhead, Tanaja Trail. DIRECTIONS: From I-15 take the Clinton Kieth exit. Go west on Clinton Keith. Past the Santa Rosa Plateau Eco. Reserve turn right onto Tenaja Road at the 3 way stop sign. Stay on Tenaja Rd. past the stop sign & follow down the long downhill & curve to the left. Shortly after the curve turn right on Cleveland Forest Road. You will see the trail head parking lot on the left about a mile in. RESERVATIONS & INFO: LEADER GARY MARSALONE, hikesie@gmail.com SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

JAN 20 (SUN) 6:30 AMT. RUBIDOUX FITNESS WALK WALK CHAPTER

See the January 6 write up.

JANUARY 21 – JANUARY 27

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

JAN 21 (MON) 9:00 AM ARABY TRAIL, PALM SPRINGS HIKE

Moderate 6-mile out & back exploratory hike with nice desert views, behind Bob Hope's former house on the hill. Elevation gain 800 ft. BRING: water, snack, wear sturdy shoes. Possible meeting for lunch after. Rain cancels. RESERVATIONS by 8 pm on Jan 20 & for possible carpooling. LEADER: CHRISTINA TORRES, 951-318-7503, cmt.teck@gmail.com MORENO VALLEY GROUP

**JAN 23 (WED) 8:00 AM SUNSET PEAK HIKE

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. MEET: Contact John St. Clair to confirm & for directions to trailhead & carpooling meeting place. LEADER: JOHN ST. CLAIR, 909-983-8501, john@stclairs.us LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JAN 22 (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

Continued on Page 8 >>>

Big Bear Group

By Ellen Kesler, Group Chairwoman

As I write this, the snow is falling up here - first for the season and VERY welcome. Our ExCom elections results on Nov. 27th solidified our appointees and we will be announcing our officer positions by the next issue of the *Palm and Pine*.

December 11th will find us celebrating the holidays together in a local restaurant. We will also be honoring four Group members and one local who have given years of volunteer service to our Group with Certificates of Appreciation; Sierra Orr and Peggy Otterstrom who worked tirelessly to make the Xeriscape Tour successful for years and L.J. Foster, Judy Atkinson, and David Melton who have dedicated hours and days as Hike Leaders. It will be a joy to honor them. What a great way to end 2018!



Now on with 2019! Happy New Year everyone!

BIG BEAR GROUP TO HIKE ALL OF PCT SECTION A IN 2019

The Big Bear group plans to hike all 110 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail Section A in 2019. Section A runs from the beginning of the PCT, at the Mexican border, to Warner Springs. We have previously offered all of Sections B, C, and D, but this will be the first time we will hike Section A. We will divide Section A into about 9 segments of about ten to twelve miles each. We will hike four segments this winter/spring, and finish up in the fall. Darlene Taylor and Sharon Nardoza will be leading the hikes. We will award a patch to hikers who finish all the segments. We expect to offer Section A again in 2020 to allow hikers a chance to make up any segments they have missed.

The Tom Harrison San Diego Backcountry Recreation Map shows all of Section A. A number of on-line sources such as Halfmile offer downloadable maps.

The winter/spring Section A hikes will be offered at 3-week intervals. Dates are Jan 12, Feb 2 and 23, and March 16. We will try to complete each segment as a day-hike, but some may need to be one-night backpacks. See the outings web pages for details.

Santa Margarita Group

By Pam Nelson, Group Chair

• Pamela05n@yahoo.com • 951 767-2324 •

Our November general meeting speaker, Charity Hagen, gave a wonderful presentation about the multi-agency wildlife conservation efforts at Lake Skinner and the surrounding area. Quino Checkerspot butterfly, burrowing owls and Kangaroo rats are some of the species benefitting from this special habitat.



She offered a follow-up hike that was a great way to see to view the topography. Wildlife and vegetation. We had a youthful presence at both events since several families attended from Thompson Middle school.

December brings us to our annual Winter Party where games, a hayride and

lots of good food will make our time very festive. On January 11th we will have another fascinating general meeting topic that will bring us the history of the Temecula Basin and its water supply history.

Be sure to attend our January 13th Sierra Sunday at the Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve (SMER) where we will have a short hike on the View Loop, a presentation about the Reserve and another optional hike to the Santa Margarita River.

Our vice-chair, Teri Biancardi, pulled off another successful Science Day at SMER on November 18th. Students from local high schools learned about our watershed and the importance of good water quality. Then they learned to sample the river using various standard techniques.

We are interviewing interns for the Spring Semester. So far, we are very pleased with the potential candidates. They are enthusiastic environmentalists from Mt. San Jacinto and San Diego State University. Thanks to Gary Oddi, who will be a new Supervisor for our program, we will add another project category focusing on biking opportunities in our region. If you know of college or high school students interested in working on environmental topics in our area, have them contact me. Teri and I attended the three-county inter-agency working group that focuses wildlife connectivity on November 16th. This group supports the on-going need for protection of wildlife corridors and crossings. Our Nature Conservancy partners reported on the local work on mountain lion crossings for I-15. Cal Poly students are creating designs for the Temecula Creek underpass that would enhance the functionality of this important crossing. Dr. Winston Vickers reported on these efforts as well as the new wildlife fencing at the Temecula Parkway interchange project.

Congratulations to our three incumbent Ex-com members, George McMackin, Bob Audibert and Michael Momeni. They have been voted in for the next two years.

Please visit us at: Blog: <http://sierraconservation.blogspot.com/>

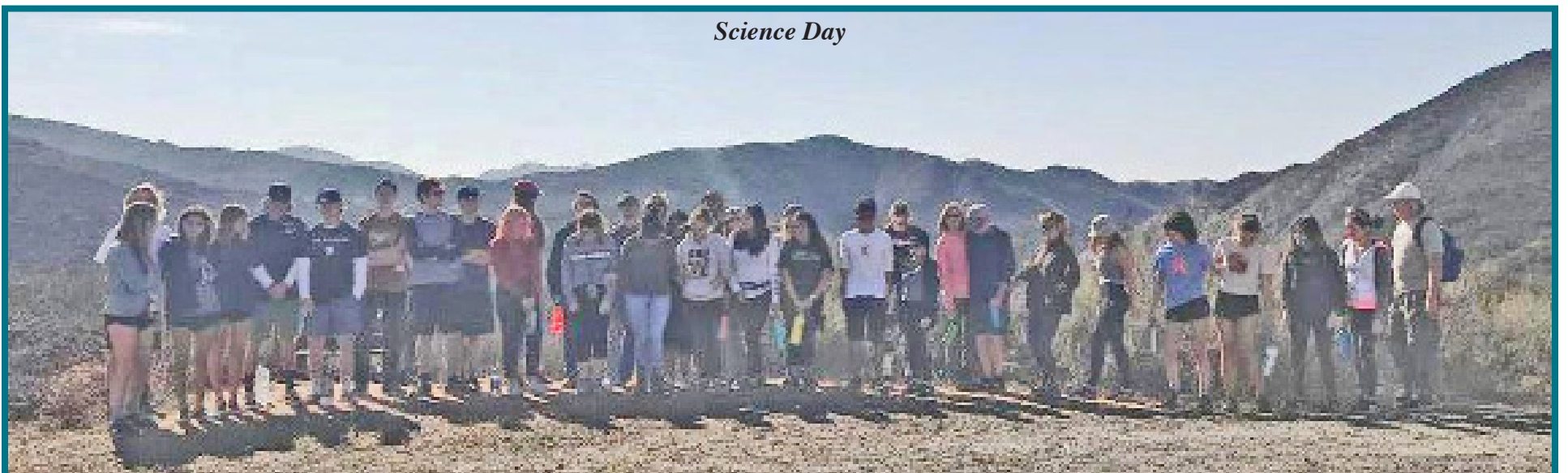
Email: sierraclubsmg@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/>

Meetup: <https://www.meetup.com/Outdoor-Families/>

Website : SierraClubSMG.org

Science Day



Palm and Pine Moreno Valley Group

By Ann Turner McKibben, Secretary

Thanks to Manya Jiannino and Tom Thornsley for staffing the Moreno Valley Group, Sierra Club information table at the first Moreno Valley RivCo Recycles event on November 10, 2018. As well as information on Sierra Club and our membership forms, they presented displays on the many gains of recycling materials, aluminum cans, as well as a display of alternatives to the use of plastic wrap. The event was well attended and the table stayed busy with visitors learning information like the following: recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a computer for three hours or a television for two hours (EPA). The energy saved from recycling one glass bottle will operate a 100-watt light bulb for four hours (EPA).

The Moreno Valley Group has new outings planned for early 2019. On January 3rd there is a Santa Rosa Plateau Loop Hike. On January 11th there is a Mt. Russell Hike at Lake Perris. Please check our web page for information and details: https://sangorgonio2.sierraclub.org/groups/moreno_valley

Here is some updated information on projects we are following:

Your Moreno Valley Group recently settled with a warehouse developer to provide 31 homes that are across the street from the project with a very good SEER 19 heating/air-conditioning and MERV 16 filtration systems along with a 10 year maintenance agreement. As you read this, the homeowners are receiving the units

and expressing their gratitude knowing that the health of their families will be better protected at no cost to them. The Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice is in charge of administering the program. Truck routes were also changed to protect the residents and the warehouse will now be much greener and better for the workers.

Truck routes were also changed to protect the residents and the warehouse will now be much greener and better for the workers.

San Jacinto Wildlife Area Land Management Plan: A number of years ago (June 2016) the Moreno Valley Group commented on the proposed Land Management Plan (LMP) for the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (SJWA). The LMP will be the guiding document for managing the 19,000 acre SJWA in the future. Work is complete on



RivCo Recycles.
Photo by Manya Jiannino



Whitewater Preserve on Nov. 3.
Photo by Christina Torres



Tahquitz Canyon on Nov. 25.
Photo by Christina Torres

the programmatic Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR). Although no more comments are being accepted on the document, there are hopes that the LMP will reflect previous public comments and make the LMP a better document. Once the LMP and FEIR are approved/accepted the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) will implement the CDFW Lands Pass at the SJWA. Please call the SJWA office for updated information on the fee at (951) 928-0580.

World Logistics Center (WLC): In late November the California Supreme Court denied hearing the WLC's appeal of our August Court of Appeal victory on using initiatives for development agreements. Despite three court decisions in our favor in 2018, the WLC is still very much alive. Although the judge ruled that the city's Environment Impact Report was deficient as to the energy impacts, biological impacts, agricultural impacts, noise impacts and cumulative impacts of the project, the city issued a Revised Sections of the Final Environmental Impact Report for the WLC the last week of July 2018 to address those issues. Please contact the Planning Department and request that you be put on their mailing list to receive information on the project: Patty Nevins, Planning Manager, (951) 413-3206, pattyn@moval.org

Villages of Lakeview (VOL): A coalition of environmental groups represented by Center for Biological Diversity has challenged the Riverside County Board of Supervisor's approval of this 8,725-unit development on the south edge of the San Jacinto Wildlife area. A separate lawsuit was filed by Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley and a local residents group, Keep Nuevo Rural. The next scheduled action before the court is tentatively scheduled for January 2019.

Donations Needed: Your donations are essential to our litigation against the Villages of Lakeview and the World Logistics Center as well as other projects in

our area. Make checks payable to "Sierra Club" with a notation for WLC and/or VOL or other. Please send to: Sierra Club—Moreno Valley Group, P.O. Box 1325, Moreno Valley, CA 92556-1325. Thank you to all who have taken time to donate!

Lake Perris State Recreation Area: January 2019 is the best time to buy your Limited Use Golden Bear Pass (\$20.00) which is good for the entire year for most state parks for those 62 years or older. It can be purchased at Lake Perris and is good for everyone in your car. Other special passes are also available. The lake is being refilled and the bike trail around the lake is now open. For information on hours, visitors fees, and passes, please check: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=651

Mojave Group By Susan Stueber, Group Chair

First off, congratulations go to the following people who were elected or re-elected to the Mojave Group executive committee: Bryan Baker, Norman Bossom, Deborah Buchanan, Quintin Lake and myself, Susan Stueber. We hold our executive committee meetings the first Monday of the month except for July and sometimes August. We welcome anyone who is interested in attending. You do not need to be an elected member to attend. For more information, you can call or email me at ssstueber16@gmail.com or (760) 900-5330.

Palisades Ranch

On December 1st, several Mojave Group executive committee members were treated to a private tour of the MDLT's (Mojave Desert Land Trust) newly acquired Palisades Ranch in Helendale by Peter Satin, MDLT's Director of Land Management.

The 1,647-acre Palisades Ranch on the Mojave River has been permanently conserved thanks to the efforts of the Western Rivers Conservancy, the Mojave Desert Land Trust, the California Wildlife Conservation Board, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In time, the land with over 39 protected wildlife species will also benefit nearby communities.

Palisades Ranch, spans 3.5 miles of a rare stretch of the Mojave River known as the Transition Zone, where the river flows above ground. Most of the Mojave flows underground, but in the 15-mile-long Transition Zone the underlying bedrock forces the river to the surface. The ranch contains the most significant stands of riparian forest within the Transition Zone, making it one of the Mojave Desert's most important habitat areas for fish and wildlife. The rich plant community and

presence of surface water attracts 39 federal and state listed special-status wildlife species. It was once slated for 1,300 homes and a golf course. The former ranch was identified in 2010 by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife as a high-priority acquisition in southern California because of the property's outstanding habitat values.

The Mojave Group looks forward to future tours and updates from MDLT on the restoration and plans for the future of Palisades Ranch. Peter Satin has agreed to be our guest speaker for our annual Conservation Group meeting entitled "Coming Together for the Desert."



Calendar . . . Continued from Page 5

JAN 26 (SAT) 8:00 AM JOSHUA TREE PANORAMA LOOP HIKE
In the solitude of the Black Rock area on the western edge of Joshua Tree NP, Panorama Loop offers a variety of terrain & 360° views, hiking through large Joshua trees, pinyon pines, & junipers. On the high points, catch vistas of Mt. San Jacinto, Mt. San Gorgonio, Yucca Valley, & the park interior. Hike on-trail 5.8 miles with 2,200' of ascent/descent. There is no park entry fee collected at this location. RATED: Moderate. MEET: At the backcountry board just outside the Black Rock Campground, 9800 Black Rock Canyon Rd., Yucca Valley, CA 92284. BRING: Ten essentials, layered clothing, sun protection, lunch, 2-liters of water. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER DAVE NEUMANN, 208-892-3001, idmtman@gmail.com
BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 26 (SAT) 9:00 AM ROUND MOUNTAIN SUMMIT HIKE
Join us on a 6-mile moderate to strenuous hike from Bowen Ranch Road to Round Mountain Summit (part of the 100 peaks). Fantastic 360' views, plus a few surprises on the summit. Elevation gain 1000'. BRING: 10 essentials, 3 litres of water, layered clothing, snacks. MEET: 9 a.m. AMC Movie Theater 22311 Bear Valley Rd. Apple Valley. RESERVATIONS & LEADER: CAROL STUBBLEFIELD, 760 964 0039, carolwhitbylass@gmail.com
MOJAVE GROUP

JAN 27 (SUN) 9:00 AM TWO TREES TRAIL HIKE
Moderate/difficult 3-mile hike up steep Two Trees Trail in Riverside. 1,000-foot elevation gain. BRING: water & sturdy shoes. MEET: from 215/60fwy in Riverside, exit Blaine St/3rd St. & drive east 2 miles. Turn left on Belvedere & right on Two Trees to trailhead parking. Rain cancels. LEADER: BEATRIZ VINDIOLA, (562) 713-4470, bgonz002@ucr.edu MORENO VALLEY GROUP

JANUARY 28 – FEBRUARY 3

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

JAN 31-FEB 3 (THU-SUN) SALTON SEA CAR CAMP
Let's go camping at the Salton Sea. Come anytime & learn about the environmental issues plaguing this inland sea. We'll visit the Sony Bono Wildlife Refuge, mud pots, Salvation Mountain, & more. This will be fun for the whole family including well behaved dogs. MEET: Contact leader. COST Sierra Club members are free. Non-Sierra Club members are \$10 individual or \$15 couple/family. Cost includes Sierra Club Membership. RESERVATIONS: LEADER SANDY ELLIS, 909-867-7115 (no text), fsellis67@gmail.com
SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

FEB 2 (SAT) 8:00 AM PCT KITCHEN CREEK RD TO MT LAGUNA HIKE
This is the second hike in our new Section A PCT patch program. PCT Section A Segment 3 distance is 12.3 miles with a total climb of 3000 ft. & 1000 ft. descent. Ending elevation is 6000 ft. RATED: Strenuous MEET: Desert View Picnic Area on northern end of the town of Mt. Laguna. You may wish to camp nearby. CAR SHUTTLE is on paved roads. BRING: Ten-essentials, warm layered clothing, 2 liters water, lunch, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat & gloves. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADERS DARLENE TAYLOR, dtaylorncrew@verizon.net, (951) 385-5706 or DAVE MELTON, (760) 408-2456, dmelton61@yahoo.com
BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 2 (SAT) 9:00 AM HWY 173 ABOVE DEEP CREEK CANYON HIKE
This is a five-mile total in & out hike along the historic Highway 173. RATED as moderate because the first two- & one-half miles are gently uphill. The views across Deep Creek are spectacular. BRING: Water, warm clothing, strong footwear, a camera & a snack. MEET: Victor Valley Museum, 11873 Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley, CA 92308 by 9am. LEADER: NORMAN BOSSOM. 760-912-3725. coachnorm@yahoo.com
MOJAVE GROUP

FEB 3 (SUN) 6:30 AM MT. RUBIDOUX FITNESS WALK WALK
See the January 6 write up.

FEBRUARY 4 – FEBRUARY 10

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

FEB 4 (MON) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING
The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: ELLEN KESLER, 909-585-1062, jcricket47@yahoo.com
BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 4 (MON) 6:00 PM MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
Alpine Conference Room 27236 Blue Jay Mall on the first Monday of selected months: Feb. 4, Mar. 4, Apr. 1, May 6, Oct. 7 & Nov. 4. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, 909-337-0313.
SBMOUNTAINS GROUP

FEB 5 (TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING
Monthly chapter program. For more information, 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

FEB 6 (WED) 8:00 AM SUNSET RIDGE TRAVERSE HIKE HIKE
A moderate but very long hike of 16 miles. Start with Sunset Peak, then continue westward on the service road along the ridge, mostly downhill, past antennas, all the way down, ending in La Verne. Our reward is solitude & amazing panoramic views over the entire valley! RAIN CANCELS BRING: 10 essentials including lunch. RESERVATIONS: This is a 1-way hike requiring a car shuttle, so registration is required no later than 2-2-19. LEADER: KATHY VIOLA, 909-346-9653, kviola826@gmail.com
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FEB 9 (SAT) 9:00 AM PCT TRAIL AT SILVERWOOD LAKE HIKE
An easy 6-mile hike along part of the Pacific Crest Trail at Silverwood Lake. After an initial short elevation gain, the trail is fairly level with lovely views over the lake & surrounding mountains. BRING: Water, warm clothing, strong footwear, a camera & a snack. MEET: Victor Valley Museum, 11873, Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley, CA 92308 by 9am. LEADER: NORMAN BOSSOM. 760-912-3725. coachnorm@yahoo.com
MOJAVE GROUP

FEB 10 (SUN) 9:00 AM LAKE SILVERWOOD HIKE
A 6-7-mile R/T moderate 500' elevation gain hike on the Pacific Crest Trail from the Silverwood Park office toward Cedar Spring Dam. Beautiful views of the lake from the trail. Possible distant sightings of snow-capped peaks. Inclement weather will cancel. WEAR hat, pants, hiking boots. MEET: Contact leader. BRING trekking poles, jacket, lunch, & 2 liters of water. No dogs. LEADER: HEATHER SARGEANT, 909-336-2836 (no text), heathercsoo@aol.com
SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

FEB 10 (SUN) 9:00 AM MUSEUM & N LYKKEN TRAILS, PALM SPRINGS HIKE
Difficult to moderate approx. 5-mile loop up the very steep Museum Trail for 1 mile, then turn down the North Lykken trail towards Ramon Road. Return via a road along houses that have very interesting, artistic doors & doorways. MEET: at 9 am at Palm Springs Art Museum at 101 N. Museum Drive, park in free parking structure across the street (4-hour time limit) or on curb (no limit). Rain cancels. RESERVATIONS by 8 p.m. on Feb. 9 to reserve & possible carpooling. LEADER: CHRISTINA TORRES, (951) 318-7503, cmt.teck@gmail.com
MORENO VALLEY GROUP

FEBRUARY 11 – FEBRUARY 17

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

FEB 11 (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 12 (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 13 (WED) 8:00 AM FRANKISH PEAK HIKE**
A strenuous 9-mile through hike on a steep use trail up to the top of Frankish Peak (elevation 4198 ft), with 2200 ft. elevation gain in 2.2 miles. We will hike down the north slope into a hidden valley, hike up to the Stoddard Peak saddle, & down Barrett Canyon to Mt. Baldy Road. 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 end point. MEET: Contact John St. Clair to confirm & for directions to trailhead. LEADER: JOHN ST. CLAIR, 909-983-8501, john@stclairs.us
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FEB 13 (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, sstueber16@gmail.com
MOJAVE GROUP

FEB 14 (THU) 6:30 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except July, August & December. 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

FEB 16 (SAT) 7:00 AM PCT SEC D INDIAN CANYON TO AGUA DULCE HIKE
Hike the scenic approximately 10-mile end segment of the 110 miles of Section D, in the San Gabriel Mts. This hike goes through Vasquez Rocks Natural Area Park, which is known for some of the most interesting rock formations in Southern Cal. Trail elevation varies from 2200 ft. to 3200 ft. It will be a long drive getting

Continued on Page 9 >>>

Calendar . . . Continued from Page 8

there & should be a shuttle hike. **RATING:** Moderate due to distance. **MEET:** Contact David Holtegaard for meeting place & carpooling. **BRING:** 10 essentials, camera, lunch / snacks, hiking poles, layered clothing, & 2 liters of water. **RESERVATIONS:** Contact LEADER DAVID HOLTEGAARD, 909-881-1329. **BIG BEAR GROUP**

FEB 16 (SAT) 9:00 AM RIDGE ABOVE SUMMIT VALLEY HIKE
After a short, initial elevation gain, the trail along the ridge is easy. This is a six-mile total in & out hike with stunning views across the valley. **BRING:** Water, warm clothing, strong footwear, a camera & a snack. **MEET:** Victor Valley Museum, 11873, Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley, CA 92308. **LEADER:** NORMAN BOSSOM, 760-912-3725, coachnorm@yahoo.com **MOJAVE GROUP**

FEB 17 (SUN) 6:30 AM MT. RUBIDOUX FITNESS WALK WALK CHAPTER
See the January 6 write up.

FEBRUARY 18 – FEBRUARY 24

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

FEB 18 (MON) 9:00 AM THE "M," BOX SPRINGS MTNS HIKE
Difficult 4-mile round trip hike to the "M" on Box Springs, with some very steep areas. Approx. 1200 ft. elevation gain. **BRING:** water, sturdy shoes, snack & hiking poles if you want. **MEET:** from 60 fwy in Moreno Valley go north on Pigeon Pass, turn left at the light on Hidden Springs Drive. Driveway into Box Springs Park is on the left off Hidden Springs Drive. Drive up the gravel road & park near the picnic tables. If trail conditions bad, we will move our start to upper parking lot at 9:20 am. **COST:** Parking fee \$5. Rain cancels. **LEADER:** CHRISTINA TORRES, (951) 318-7503, cmt.teck@gmail.com **MORENO VALLEY GROUP**

FEB 19 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
Monthly except July & August. Please join us for an informative program. **PLACE:** Goldy B. Lewis Center, Central Park, 11200 Baseline Rd., Rancho Cucamonga. **INFO:** BRIAN ELLIOTT, brianelli@aol.com **LOS SERRANOS GROUP**

FEB 21 (THU) 7:45 AM GARRETT'S ARCH, JOSHUA TREE NP HIKE
Hike about 4 miles round trip to a large rock arch in the Wonderland of Rocks. Limited to 10 due to no trail or signage, with many confusing trace trails. **RATED:** Moderate; about 200 feet elevation gain/loss overall; a few rock scrambles. **MEET:** Be ready to carpool by 8:00 AM from the Visitor Center, 6554 Park Boulevard, Joshua Tree CA 92252. Limited parking at trailhead, 0.2 miles off pavement. **BRING:** Water, snacks, poles, hat, sunscreen, wind protective clothing, personal first aid kit & No Trace toilet supplies. As always, a detailed (topographic) map & compass would be wise. **WEATHER:** Check forecast since desert winter/spring days can be warm or cold & often windy. Extreme wind, snow, or rain will cancel. **RESERVATIONS:** Email your name to LEADER LJ FOSTER, eljayeffhiker@yahoo.com, (951) 845-9440 (VOICE only – no text). **BIG BEAR GROUP**

FEB 21 (THU) 8:00 AM BEAR RIDGE TO SITTON PEAK LOOP HIKE
A 10-mile round trip hike, gaining 2100' elevation in the Lake Elsinore area, accessed from Ortega Hwy. We will enjoy scenic vistas all along the trail! The last half mile up to Sitton Peak, elevation 3273', is a rock scramble. Inclement weather cancels. Bring 10 essentials including lunch. Contact leader for carpooling from Upland **LEADER:** KATHY VIOLA, 909-346-9653, kviola826@gmail.com **LOS SERRANOS GROUP**

FEB 22 (FRI) 8:30 AM CHINO HILLS STATE PARK HIKE
Chino Hills park is a gem in the center of suburbia. A hike among rolling green hills, wildflowers, oak woodlands & mountain views. We will hike 4-5 miles with 500-800 ft of elevation gain. We will start at Rolling M Ranch & have a couple of trail options depending on overgrowth & trail accessibility. Wear sturdy shoes, hat & sunscreen, & layered clothing. Bring your camera or your birding binoculars, 2 liters of water & snacks. Optional stop for lunch after the hike. Rain within 48 hours cancels as park closes to protect trails. **MEET** in Chino at 8:30 am: contact leader for meeting place. **LEADER:** MARY ANN RUIZ, ruizmaryann@gmail.com, 909-815-9379. **LOS SERRANOS GROUP**

FEB 23 (SAT) 8:00 AM JOSHUA TREE NP: RYAN MOUNTAIN HIKE
Rated as one of the best hikes in Joshua Tree due to its splendid views. The short & steep trail is 3 miles round trip with 1000 feet of elevation gain. **RATING:** Moderate to strenuous, due to elevation gain. **MEET:** Visitor Center, 6554 Park Blvd., Joshua Tree, CA 92252. **BRING:** Ten essentials, hiking boots, layered clothing, 2-3 liters of water, snacks, sun protection, first aid kit, & poles. **WEATHER:** Rain or snow cancels; check forecast. **RESERVATIONS:** Please call or text (cell) with your name & cellphone number. **LEADER:** JULIANN ANDERSON, (951) 833-1328. **CHAPTER**

FEB 23 (SAT) 8:00 AM PCT MT. LAGUNA TO KWAAYMII POINT HIKE
The third hike in our new Section A PCT patch program. This Section A Segment 4 is 10.5 miles with a total climb of 1400 ft. & 2000 ft. descent. Highpoint is 6000 ft. **RATED:** Moderate. **MEET:** Desert View Picnic Area on northern end of the

town of Mt. Laguna. You may wish to camp or stay nearby. Car shuttle is short & on paved roads. **BRING:** Ten-essentials, warm layered clothing, 2 liters water, lunch, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat & gloves. **RESERVATIONS:** Contact LEADERS DARLENE TAYLOR, dtaylorncrew@verizon.net, (951) 385-5706 or DAVE MELTON, (760) 408-2456, dmelton61@yahoo.com **BIG BEAR GROUP**

FEB 23 (SAT) 8:00 AM SMITH WATER CANYON, JOSHUA TREE NP HIKE

Smith Water Canyon is a beautiful, narrow defile & one of the lushest canyons in the park. The canyon walls rise steeply to high mountain peaks. Thickets of desert willow & cottonwoods choke the lower canyon making for interesting hiking. A 20' tall boulder spans the wash requiring bouldering with some exposure. We hike one mile on trail before descending 3 off-trail miles & 1,000' down the canyon. We return to our beginning point having hiked 8 miles with a total climb/descent of 2,300'. This hike is suitable for experienced off-trail hikers with good balance. **RATED:** Moderate/strenuous. **MEET:** Applebee's in Yucca Valley. **BRING:** Ten essentials, layered clothing including a long-sleeve shirt that can withstand heavy brush, sun protection, lunch, 2-liters of water. **RESERVATIONS:** CONTACT LEADER DAVE NEUMANN, 208-892-3001, idmtman@gmail.com **BIG BEAR GROUP**

FEB 23 (SAT) 9:00 AM WATER CAVE HIKE
Explore this 5 to 6-mile moderate/strenuous hike. Spend time crawling & climbing the boulders forming the water caves. If we have time & energy left, we'll head towards Oak Glen via the historic mines. **BRING:** 10 essentials, 3 liters of water, snacks, layered clothing. **MEET:** 9 a.m. AMC Theatre, 22311 Bear Valley rd. Apple Valley. We'll then drive approx. 11 miles to the trail head by 3N14/ Oak Springs Ranch near USFS boundary. Carpooling may be available. **RESERVATIONS & LEADER:** CAROL STUBBLEFIELD, 760 964 0039, carolwhitbylass@gmail.com **MOJAVE GROUP**

FEB 24 (SUN) 9:30 AM LA QUINTA COVE TRAIL HIKE
Moderate 6.5-mile round trip hike along a wash & hills along desert mountains to Lake Cahuilla & back. 548' elevation gain. **BRING:** water, sunscreen, hat, snack, sturdy shoes, camera. **MEET:** 10 Fwy east to La Quinta, exit Washington St. turn R on Eisenhower, R on Avenida Bermudas until it becomes Calle Tecate to dirt parking lot or call for carpool arrangements from Moreno Valley. Opportunity for lunch afterward. **RESERVATIONS:** by 8 p.m. Feb 23 to **LEADER:** CHRISTINA TORRES, (951) 318-7503, cmt.teck@gmail.com **MORENO VALLEY GROUP**

FEBRUARY 25 – MARCH 3

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

FEB 25-28 (MON-THU) DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK CARCAMP
On Monday we will meet at noon at the Panamint Springs Campground (\$10. per car) on Hwy. 190 just off Panamint Valley Road. In the afternoon we will hike to Darwin Falls. Tues. we will move to Mesquite Springs Campground & hike the rim of Ubehebe Crater. Weds. we will hike Titus Canyon & return to camp. Thurs. we will pack up & go to the Mesquite Dunes for a morning hike on the dunes before heading home. All hikes will be at a leisurely pace. **RESERVATIONS:** contact LEADER CAROL WILEY, earthlingwiley2000@yahoo.com, 760-245-8734. **MOJAVE GROUP**

FEB 26 (TUE) 8:00 AM INDIAN CANYONS, PALM SPRINGS HIKE
Hike up a strenuous trail in Indian Canyons to Maynard Mine, about 3 miles, gaining almost 2500' elevation! We will enjoy a break & explore the area around the mine before returning the same route, making this a 6-mile round trip. **MEET** at the entrance when the gates open at 8:00 AM. Contact leader for carpooling from Upland. **COST:** Entry fee is \$9 per person or \$7 for seniors 62 or older, military, & students. Inclement weather cancels. **BRING** 10 essentials including lunch. **LEADER:** KATHY VIOLA 909-346-9653, kviola826@gmail.com **LOS SERRANOS GROUP**

FEB 26 (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 1 (FRI) 9:00 AM SB MTS LAKE VIEW LOOP HIKE
A 6-mile moderate 600 ft. elevation gain hike. Bring a trash bag, as we are sure to encounter snow play trash along the way. **MEET:** Little Green Valley trailhead across Highway 18 from the Snow Valley parking area. **WEAR** hat, long pants, & hiking shoes. **BRING** trekking poles, jacket, snacks, & water. Inclement weather will cancel. **LEADER** SANDY ELLIS, 909-867-7115 (no text), fsellis67@gmail.com **MOUNTAINS GROUP**

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COMING UP

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

**MAR 11-14 (MON-THU) 8:30 AM SHEEP PASS, JOSHUA TREE NP
CAR CAMP**

Join us for a Monday thru Thursday nights car camp at Sheep Pass Group Campground, site #2. We will hike, explore, relax & share our favorite campground cooking. RESERVATIONS: register online ASAP as space is limited to 20 occupants & 10 vehicles. If you don't want to camp, you can still join us for day hikes, meals & campfire time! Campsite is reserved. COST: \$10 per night per participant for site, any extra will go to Los Serranos group. Entrance fee is \$30 per carload or National Parks pass is accepted. Contact leader for more info & to sign up. LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ, 909-815-9379, ruizmaryann@gmail.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAR 12-14 (TUE-THU) AFTON CANYON CARCAMP

Afton Canyon is in the new Mojave Trails National Monument. We will camp both nights in the campground near the Mojave River. MEET on Tuesday at noon & hike up one of the side canyons in the afternoon. Wednesday we will hike the Afton Canyon to some interesting sites. Thursday morning hike to an area of hoodoos. Hike will be at a leisurely pace. RESERVATIONS: contact LEADER CAROL WILEY, earthlingwiley2000@yahoo.com, 760-245-8734. MOJAVE GROUP

NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES

The following activities, meetings & events are not 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 ACTIVITIES**
**(EVERY MON) 7:00 AM SANTA ROSA PLATEAU OR NEARBY
TRAIL HIKE**

NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT VOLKSWALKING IN SO. CALIFORNIA
Come walk with Kathy every Monday for a 3-4-mile hike on the beautiful Santa Rosa Plateau or on another interesting trail nearby. No hikes on Christmas & New Year's Day. Noncompetitive hiking for fun, fitness, & fellowship, Volksmarch is a worldwide movement that started in Germany in the 1960s on air force bases. "Volks" means "people" in German. MEET to carpool at 7:00 AM sharp at Barons Market, 32310 Clinton Keith Road, Wildomar 92595. WEAR sunscreen, a hat & BRING plenty of cold water & a snack. INFO: KATHY BUNDY 951-218-3755. See also the *meetup.com* page: *Volkswalking in So. California Open to Everyone!* [MEETS December 24 & 31; January 7, 14, 21 & 28; February 4, 11, 18 & 25]

**(1ST & 3RD FRI) 8:30 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE
FOLK DANCE**

NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB
International folk dancing: Greek, Israeli, Serbian, Turkish, etc. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. 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 [MEETS January 4 & 18; February 1 & 15; March 1]

**(3RD WED) 6:30 OR 7:30 PMAUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT**

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. The June & December meetings are potluck dinners starting 6:30 p.m. other months start 7:30 p.m. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201. [MEETS January 16 & February 20]

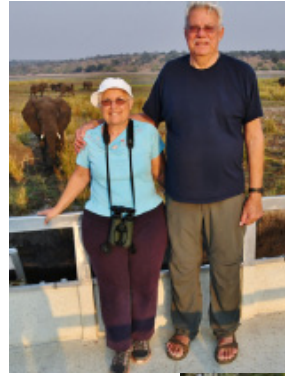

**Ladd & Gail Seekins Lead us on a Safari
to Botswana, South Africa and Victoria
Falls at Chapter's January Program.**

Join us as Gail and Ladd share their wonderful African adventure at the January 8 chapter meeting. Their July and August 2018 trip was organized around a Botswana wildlife tour which was a reunion for a Rotary friendship exchange. In 2017 the Seekins had hosted in their home several Rotarians from Botswana and South Africa.

The Seekins started their adventure spending a week with Amanda and Carol, two Rotarians from Pretoria,

ride to Kasane, Botswana, for the start of the safari. They met Michael, another Rotarian they had hosted in 2017, at upscale Cresta Mowana Safari Lodge, where President Bill Clinton stayed in 1998. Gail, Ladd and Michael were joined by Michael's brother and their girlfriends for an evening wildlife cruise on the Chobe River and briefly into the wetlands on the Namibian side.

Gail and Ladd picked up their



four-wheel-drive Navi mini camper and, with the rest of the group began the seven-day Botswana safari, driving over roads not much more than ruts in the deep sand to Savuti Campsite in Chobe National Park. The wildlife viewing was excellent at Savuti and

South Africa. Amanda and Carol showed Gail and Ladd the sights in and around Pretoria and treated them to a five-day tour through the South African provinces of Limpopo and Mpumalanga, spending two days in private game parks with some good wildlife viewing followed by visits to several small towns. They went on

the other campsites: Khwai, near the Okavango Delta, and Khumaga on the Boteti River. Dry season concentrated the animals close to the few remaining sources of water. At Khumaga, thousands of animals covered the river valley bottom, including zebra, various antelope, elephant, giraffe, stork and pelican. Such a concentration of wildlife is exceptional.

The Seekins turned in the Navi at Maun on the Okavango Delta, where they remained while the others returned home. Gail and Ladd's last wildlife experience was a full day cruise on the Okavango Delta to King Island from



to view the Three Rondavels landscape in the Northern Drakensberg Mountains. Three peaks above the Blyde River Canyon are shaped like rondavels, African-style huts. They explored a deep river chasm at Bourke's Luck Potholes and descended into a verdant forest via the Graskop Gorge Lift.

Saying goodbye to Ananda and Carol, the Seekins flew to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, for three days of touring independently. They had a helicopter ride over the falls, a Zambezi River cruise above the falls, a guided tour of the national park, and a historic tour of the 1905 bridge. The last was on catwalks under the bridge roadway nearly 400 feet above the water from the Zambia side to Zimbabwe and back.

From Victoria Falls, it was a short

their lodge on the river. Elephant were numerous, and antelope, zebra, giraffe, hippopotamus, and birds were also seen.

Gail and Ladd flew to Gaborone, the Botswana capital, where Michael hosted them for a couple of days, showing them the sights in town. The Seekins returned to Pretoria for a few last days with Amanda and Carol. The highlight was a couple of days at Sun City, a luxurious resort with a casino, three hotels, golf courses, and a water park.



SIERRA CLUB WINS BIG! . . . Continued from Page 1

the care and consideration that the Sierra Club gives to the endorsement process. In the San Geronio Chapter, I want you to meet your newly elected, Sierra Club endorsed office holders and encourage you to reach out, congratulate them and establish a relationship if they represent you.

James Ramos is the new Assembly Member elected to represent Assembly District 40.



Christina Gagnier will take a seat on the Chino Valley Unified School District Board and hopefully, push back against the waste of taxpayer dollars being used to fight for allowing proselytizing to be done at school board meetings.



We are very pleased that Megan Beaman Jacinto will be taking a seat on the Coachella City Council.



Jocelyn Yow will bring a fresh environmental voice to the Eastvale City Council.



Gracie Torres is going to be a strong environmental advocate on the Western Municipal Water District.



Our track record in this election was only 4 wins out of 15 endorsements for local offices. While I know we didn't do a very good job of turning out our members to work on these races, I know we need to do a better job in the future.

All in all, the future is looking brighter for the environment than it looked two years ago and we should be encouraged by the direction that we are headed. This will likely be my last political column for the Palm & Pine, as I am stepping down as Chair in January. Time for new blood and higher energy, but I'll hang around and help as needed. It has been a great pleasure to work with many of you on our shared goals, which, above all, is to . . .

TURN THE INLAND EMPIRE GREEN!



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Membership

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Senior	\$25	\$35
Student	\$25	\$35

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Sierra Club
P. O. Box 421041
Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

Chapter's February 5th Program is a Timely Presentation on Creating Fire-Safe Communities

Research ecologist Chad Hanson will discuss how we can create far more fire-safe communities. He will also discuss why the current fire management focus on backcountry fire suppression and commercial logging is based on myths that are not only harming habitat in wildlands but are also dangerously diverting resources and attention away from protecting communities from wildland fire.

Chad was elected last spring to a three-year term on the Sierra Club national Board of Directors, receiving the highest number of votes among the five who were elected. He has a Ph.D. in ecology from UC Davis and is a research ecologist with the John Muir Project, based in Big Bear City. He previously served two terms on the Sierra Club Board from 1997 to 2003.

Chad previously presented *The Ecological Importance of Mixed Intensity Wildfires* at the August 2018 chapter meeting.



Photo: Chico Enterprise-Record



Chad's Photo: Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation

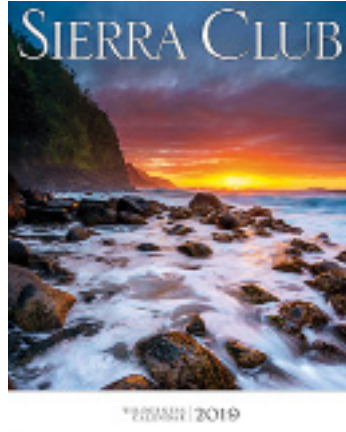


Photo: SF Gate

SIERRA CLUB 2019 CALENDARS



Sierra Club 2019 Wilderness Wall Calendar
Spiral bound, month-by-month format, featuring 12 majestic North American landscapes.



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Week-by-week format, featuring 57 spectacular photographs and "wire-o" binding.

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