



# SIERRA CLUB

SAN GORGONIO

# Palm and Pine

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

Volume 47 Number 4

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

July-August 2017

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## Membership Meetings

**Tuesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> • 7:30 PM**  
**"The Buffalo Flows"**  
*A film by Larry Foley*  
*(see write up on Page 1)*

**Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> • 7:30 PM**  
**"Adventures in Costa Rica"**  
*Presented by Ladd and Gail Seekins*  
*(see write up on Page 6)*

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

## Join Us On July 11<sup>th</sup> for Chapter Program Featuring "The Buffalo Flows" Film on This Infamous River!

The Buffalo River is born in the Ozark Mountains, springing from the hills and into rock-framed valleys carved by weather and ageless time. It is our first national river—a place folks fought to preserve. "Save the Buffalo," was the cry. "Don't let her be drowned by her own waters!" They won that battle, and federal protection. And today there is a future that mirrors the past, because the Buffalo flows."



*The Buffalo Flows* is a one-hour documentary film written and produced by three-time Emmy award winning filmmaker Larry Foley, Professor of Journalism at the University of Arkansas. The film is narrated by Academy Award winner Ray McKinnon, an actor and film director who calls Little Rock home. Trey Marley of Fayetteville does a masterful job of capturing the river's magnificent beauty over four seasons, while Emmy Award winning documentary filmmaker Dale Carpenter, also a professor at the U of A, lends his talent as the film's editor.



Larry Foley will Skype into the chapter meeting to answer questions from the audience. This is a first for our San Gorgonio Chapter meetings.

"People know of the river as a canoe stream, and it's one of the best. But the Buffalo is so much more, and the film captures exactly what it is we protected. This story is about the bluffs and the trees, the flowers and the birds and the giant elk. It's about hiking and floating and camping and fishing. And it's also about the people who make their home in Buffalo River country year-round, and have for generations," Foley said.

Foley specializes in writing and producing films on cultural history. His PBS credits include *The Buffalo Flows* (Mid America Emmy-Writer), *Saving the Eagles*, *The Lost Squadron* and *When Lightning Struck: Saga of an American Warplane* (Mid-America

Continued on Page 6 >>>

## Thank You to More San Gorgonio Chapter Donors!

You, the San Gorgonio Chapter's generous donors, are vital to our conservation achievements in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. We honor your gifts to our March 2017 fund appeal.

Your names are here if we received your gift before the last newsletter went to press. Gifts received after this printing will be acknowledged in a future newsletter.

If you have not yet made your annual donation, you may do so now. Write your check to "Sierra Club San Gorgonio Chapter" and mail it to the chapter address at PO Box 5425, Riverside, CA 92517. Gifts to the Sierra Club are not tax-deductible: they support the Sierra Club's effective citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts.

If you wish to make your gift tax-deductible by only supporting our charitable work, please write your check to "Sierra Club Foundation" with "San Gorgonio Chapter" in the subject line.

### OAKS

Paul & Karen Andersen  
Bill Eaton  
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Doris Foreman  
Marvin Johnson  
Virginia Knowlton  
Mary Lou Rosczyk  
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Susan Stueber  
Joan Taylor  
Tim Taylor  
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### PONDEROSAS

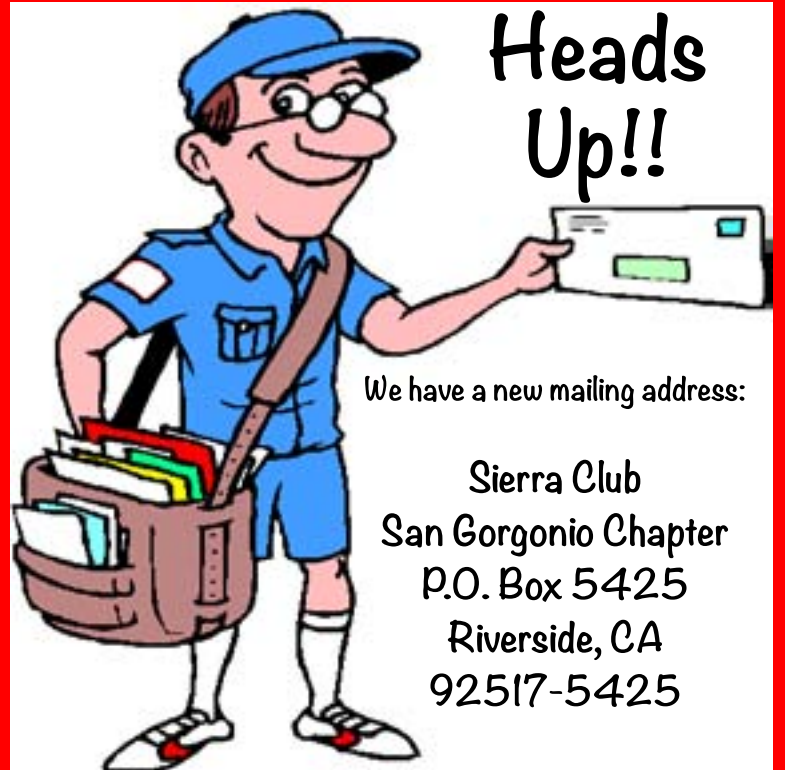
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Roland Hansson  
Kevin McBride  
Charles Mundy  
Gregory Nelson  
Delbert Powell  
Scott & Luz Quinnell  
Margaret Saunders  
Sidney Silliman  
Donna Woodhams

### LODGEPOLES

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Ruth Burke  
Gary & Lois Cook  
Jane Culp  
Steve Deatherage

Deanna Doull  
Jack Eaton  
Alec Erkebaev  
Barbara & Frederick Gable  
Richard Garrison  
George Hague  
George Hague  
Mary Hampton  
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Laurel Hunter  
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Scott & Luz Quinnell  
Wendy Rogers  
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Gary Sandin  
James Selby  
Jordan Smith  
Mark Snowwhite  
Vicki Spencer  
Gregory Stefo  
Jean Tinnes  
Robert Traut  
Jesse Valenzuela

## Heads Up!!



We have a new mailing address:

Sierra Club  
San Gorgonio Chapter  
P.O. Box 5425  
Riverside, CA  
92517-5425

## Contact Us . . .

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

### San Gorgonio Chapter Excom

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.....ruizmaryann@gmail.com

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**Wilderness Skills/Leadership Training:**  
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### Group Representatives To Excom

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.....jcricket47@yahoo.com

**Los Serranos Group:**  
.....Brian Elliott  
.....brianeelli@aol.com

**Mojave Group:**  
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.....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:**  
.....Pam Nelson 951-767-2324  
.....sierraclubsmg@gmail.com

### Chapter Conservation Issue Chairs

**Desert Issues – High Desert**  
.....Kim Floyd 760-680-9479  
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.....StevenFarrell@sangorgonio.sierraclub.org

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.....sierraclubsmg@gmail.com

**Forestry Issues – Front Country RD**  
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.....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, Discovery Center  
North Shore, 6:30 p.m.  
[www.sierraclub.org/san-gorgonio/big-bear](http://www.sierraclub.org/san-gorgonio/big-bear)

**Los Serranos Group:**  
**Chair – Brian Elliot** brianeelli@aol.com  
Meets 3rd Tuesday Upland Presbyterian  
Church, Ed Building 7 p.m.

**Mojave Group:**  
**Chair – Susan Stueber** 760-900-5330  
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 earthingwiley2000@yahoo.com)

**Moreno Valley Group:**  
**Chair – Michael Millspaugh** 951-653-2068

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> Thur., 6:00 p.m. except July &  
August at Temecula Valley Library,  
30600 Pauba Road, Temecula

**Tahquitz Group:**  
**Chair – Jeff Morgan** 760-324-8696

### Palm and Pine

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### Member Change of Address

Sierra Club, Change of Address

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Sierra Club San Gorgonio Chapter, PO Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

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(909) 825-4427 Weekends & evenings

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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 5<sup>th</sup> 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



## Chat With The Chair . . . by Mary Ann Ruiz

About 17 years ago, I started hiking with the Sierra Club to find like-minded people I could hike with. I knew about Sierra Club from my father, who became a member in the early 1960s. I grew up hiking and camping with my family. When I was suddenly widowed with 3 kids to raise and a demanding job, I needed the outlet of hiking and new friends.

So, how did that turn into Chapter Chair? And just what does the Chair and the Executive Committee do? Back up 10 years from now, and I was happily involved leading hikes, helping out with my local group, and had no idea what our Chapter Executive Committee was up to or even who was involved. Gradually

though I became more involved and am happy I can serve for a while in this spot.

Are you curious about what the Executive Committee does? Our meetings are held once a month, the fourth Tuesday at 7 pm. Since we cover such a large geography (a drive west to east is about 235 miles) our meetings are held by conference call. The ExComm consists of 9 elected voting members;



in January of each year we decide who will be in what spot. We have a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Representative to Council of Club Leaders. Each of our seven Groups also have a spot at the table, so a full ExComm would include 16 members.

Here are a few topics from recent meetings: Protecting our Desert Monuments from the Trump review is a new priority for our chapter.

Endorsing local city council candidates, approving settlement of a warehouse lawsuit with mitigation of environmental impacts; discussing Earth Day events, planning our work with My Generation staff... the list is long.

Setting priorities for the Chapter, making decisions on funding projects and litigation, and keeping the chapter moving forward are all part of our work. Staffing our committees, particularly Conservation, Political, Litigation and Outings committees with volunteers is key to our progress.

Are you interested? We are always looking for dedicated activists willing to take on the volunteer work to maintain and improve our Chapter's progress. We would love to hear from you!

# Calendar of Outings, Meetings, and Other Events

## JULY-AUGUST 2017

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

### CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

**DEADLINE:** Items for the September/October 2017 Calendar are due by August 1, 2017.

**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, and 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 and 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 and its leaders may facilitate carpooling, however they will not assign. Drivers should have adequate insurance coverage and 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 and 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 and may include toilet facilities, interpretive signs and trash cans require passes and 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, and 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 and 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](http://sangorgonio2.sierraclub.org) and click on Disclaimers under the Outings tab.

### 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**  
NOTE: In July, the meeting will be the second Tuesday, July 11. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:kimffloyd@fastmail.fm) (760) 249-5385.  
CHAPTER

**(2ND WED) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING**  
The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: ELLEN KESLER, 909-585-1062, [jcricket47@yahoo.com](mailto:jcricket47@yahoo.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](mailto: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, meeting starts at 6:30. PLACE: Temecula Valley Library, 30600 Pauba Road, Temecula. INFO: PAM NELSON (951) 767-2324 [sierraclubsmg@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:jcricket47@yahoo.com) BIG BEAR GROUP

**(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](mailto: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

### JUNE 26 – JULY 2

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings

(Also, refer to Weekly Recurring Outings and Activities)

**JUN 27 (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](mailto:ruizmaryann@gmail.com), (909) 815-9379. CHAPTER

**JUN 28 (WED) 9:00 AM MT. BADEN-POWELL HIKE**  
This will be a strenuous hike to the summit of Mt. Baden-Powell at 9399 feet elevation, 8 miles round trip with 2814 ft. elevation gain. Spectacular vistas as far as the eye can see every direction!!! Rain cancels, BRING: water, lunch/snacks, sturdy boots, hat, sun screen. MEET: Contact John St. Clair prior to scheduled date for carpooling and meeting place. LEADER: JOHN ST. CLAIR, 909-983-8501, [john@stclairs.us](mailto:john@stclairs.us)  
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

**JUL 1-3 (SAT-MON) BLACK ROCK DESERT - FOURTH OF JULY CARCAMP**  
Expect several dozen people at this event on the edge of the Black Rock Desert about 100 miles north of Reno. This will be a busy weekend on the playa as many Burning Man attendees use this as a "shakedown" trip. We normally camp on the edge of the playa and visit hot springs, see the Lassen-Applegate branch of the Emigrant Trail, talk with new visitors, and similar activities. And there are usually large fireworks! The Playa is flooded as of the end of April, future conditions will dictate July activities but it will probably be dry by then. There's normally a potluck one night. There will also be a lot of Ham Radio activity so if you have a license, bring a radio! Call for repeater frequencies. LEADER: DAVID BOOK KD7YIM, 775/843-6443 CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

**JUL 1-4 (SAT-TUE) GOLDEN TROUT WILDERNESS BACKPACK**  
Enjoy a 4-day 23 mile loop backpack out of Horseshoe Meadows, southwest of Lone Pine. We will go in over Trail Pass and come out over Cottonwood Pass, in between hiking through meadows and along creeks over fairly gentle terrain. Big Whitney Meadows is one of the largest in the Sierra and is a favorite of mine. We'll see some of the rockier high Sierra and perhaps a lake toward the end of the trip. We will strictly follow LNT practices. Fishing is mediocre. RATED: Easy-Moderate as backpacks go, but beware of 10,000 ft. starting altitude. The first day, 7 miles with a 500 ft. climb and a 1400 ft. descent, has a more fixed itinerary to get us to a cow-free place to camp next to reliable water. After that we have no more cows and frequent water, and will cover the remaining 16 miles in three days with some flexibility in where we camp. Getting back over the Sierra Crest via Cottonwood Pass requires a climb of 1400 ft., all in one day, and a descent of 1000 ft. which could be on a different day if we spend the last night at Chicken Spring Lake. MEET: Ideally at Horseshoe Meadows Campground on Friday night to acclimate to the 10,000 ft. altitude, but early Saturday morning will work. BRING: Packing list will be provided. Bear Canister required, but leader has some to lend. Stove optional as leader will make hot water available. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER DAVE MELTON, (760) 408-2456, [dmelton61@yahoo.com](mailto:dmelton61@yahoo.com) BIG BEAR GROUP

**\*\*JUL 2 (SUN) 8:00 AM DELAMAR MOUNTAIN HIKE**  
This is a Peaks of Big Bear hike. Those achieving all five peaks overlooking Big Bear Valley will receive a commemorative patch. A moderate 6-mile loop hike with views of the lake to the south and Holcomb Valley to the north. Elevation gain 900 feet. RATED: Moderate with a quarter mile strenuous stretch. BRING: The ten essentials including layered light clothing, 2 liters of water, sturdy hiking boots, snack/lunch, sun-glasses, and sun block; trekking poles are recommended. MEET: 8:00 AM, Cougar Crest trail head parking lot located a quarter mile west of the Discovery Center. We will car-pool to the trail head. Don't forget your adventure pass for parking. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER PETER MICHELSEN, [petermichelsen@gmail.com](mailto:petermichelsen@gmail.com), 760-333-3103.  
BIG BEAR GROUP

Calendar . . . Continued from Page 3

**JUL 2-6 (SUN-THU) NEVADA: CENTRAL-TWIN RIVERS/ARC DOME  
BACKPACK**

This area has been described as one of "deep, rugged canyons, high bald peaks, elk and wet feet." Begin on the North Twin River, near Carver, about an hour's drive northeast of Tonopah, at an elevation around 6300 ft. Hike in 2 or 3 miles to our first camp. The next day we will hike about 5 miles and camp. On day 3 we do a 12-mile day hike (bring a day-pack) to the top of 11,773 ft. Arc Dome, 4100 ft. elevation gain. Day 4 sees the start down South Twin, with a camp after several miles. The last day is the hike out. 16 miles, 3000 ft. elevation gain with backpacks. An option to do the trip in the opposite direction. Elevation gain to the top of Arc Dome is 300 ft. less. Possible car pool or caravan from Las Vegas, details on trip sheet. Limit 12. RESERVATIONS: contact LEADER DAVID HARDY 702-875-4826 hardyhikers@embarqmail.com email preferred.

SOUTHERN NEVADA GROUP

**JULY 3 – JULY 9**

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

**JUL 6 (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

**\*\*JUL 7 (FRI) 6:30 AM TELEGRAPH PEAK HIKE**

This will be a strenuous hike up Ice House Canyon into the Cucamonga Wilderness to the top of Telegraph Peak (elevation 8,985 ft), 11.5 miles through hike down to ski lift parking lot with 3900 ft. elevation gain. Scenic view from the top of Telegraph Peak. Rain cancels. BRING: sturdy boots, 3+ liters water, lunch, sunscreen. Adventure Pass will be required for parking at the trailhead. MEET: Contact John St. Clair prior to scheduled date for carpooling and meeting place. LEADER: JOHN ST. CLAIR, 909-983-8501, john@stclair.us

LOS SERRANOS GROUP

**JUL 7 (FRI) 8:30 AM SNOW VALLEY TO GREEN VALLEY LAKE HIKE**

This hike will lead us through rare stands of magnificent pines, cedars, and oaks. The elevation gain is less than 1000 ft. with a distance of 8 miles, which could be lengthened depending on the desires of the hikers. Plan on lunch at the Malt Shop in Green Valley Lake. RATED: Moderate. MEET: Vons parking lot at 42170 Big Bear Blvd. Big Bear Lake, CA at 8:30 AM. BRING: Please bring Ten-essentials, layered clothing, 2 liters of water and suitable hiking boots. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER ED WALLACE, (909) 584 9407, rushewallace@yahoo.com

BIG BEAR GROUP

**JUL 8 (SAT) 8:00 AM BLUFF LAKE TO GUNSIGHT HIKE**

This will be a moderate 5 - 7 mile hike starting near The Wildlands Conservancy at Bluff Lake, on to the champion lodgepole pine. We will stop there to admire it and take pictures. Then we will get on the Siberia Creek Trail where we should have lots of wildflowers, that will take us to Gunsight where we will have our snack/lunch break before returning to our vehicles. There will be a lot to see and enjoy on this hike. RATED: Moderate. BRING: 10 essentials, 2 liters of water, snack/lunch, sun protection, hiking boots, trekking poles and camera. MEET: Aspen Glen Picnic Area on Mill Creek Rd. on the west side of Big Bear Lake. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER JUDY ATKINSON (909) 289-1932, judy5723@gmail.com, or LEADER CHARLOTTE WATTS, momscampsite@gmail.com, (909) 866-7423.

BIG BEAR GROUP

**JUL 8 (SAT) 7:45 AM TRAM TO IDYLLWILD (OR REVERSE) HIKE**

Trek from the Palm Springs Tram to Idyllwild or the reverse direction on this one-way key exchange hike. Those starting at the tram will climb 1300 ft. to Wellman in 3.3 miles, then descend 3200 ft. to Humber Park/Devil's Slide trail in 5.4 miles. Total distance is 8.8 miles. Those coming from Idyllwild will reverse the climb and descent. We will meet in the middle for a key exchange. RATED: Strenuous due to altitude and elevation changes. MEET: We will have two meeting locations. Those hiking primarily downhill from the tram will meet Sharon at 7:45 AM at the McDonalds at the west end of the Cabazon outlet stores on the north side of I-10 off Malki Rd., 48350 Seminole Dr., Cabazon, CA 92230. Those hiking uphill from Idyllwild will meet Dave at 7:45 AM at the Ranger Station, 54270 Pine Crest Road, Idyllwild, CA 92549. We will meet back at the McDonalds after the hike. BRING: ten essentials, layered clothing, sun protection, lunch, 3-liters of water, and hiking poles. Tram cost is \$25.95, two dollars less for seniors. If possible, please reserve several days in advance so we can make sure the number of cars and hikers is in balance. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER SHARON NARDOZZA, snardoza@cox.net or (760) 208-3654. LEADER DAVE MELTON will lead the uphill group.

BIG BEAR GROUP

**\*\*JUL 9 (SUN) 8:00 AM GRAY'S PEAK HIKE**

This is a Peaks of Big Bear hike. Those achieving all 5 peaks overlooking Big Bear Valley will receive a commemorative patch. This is a moderate 7-mile hike through a forest of Jeffrey and Ponderosa Pines, White Firs, and Oaks. The trail goes through an '07 burn area. The elevation gain is about 1,000 feet. RATED: Moderate. BRING: The ten essentials including light layered clothing, snack/lunch, two liters of water, sturdy hiking boots, sun-glasses, sun block. Trekking poles are recommended. MEET: 8:00 AM at Gray's Peak trail head. Don't forget your adventure pass for parking. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER PETER MICHELSEN, petermichelsenor@gmail.com, 760-333-3103.

BIG BEAR GROUP

**JULY 10 – JULY 16**

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

**JUL 10 (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

**JUL 11 (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

**JUL 11 (TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING**

NOTE: In July, the meeting will be the second Tuesday, July 11. 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

**JUL 12 (WED) 8:00 AM MT BADEN-POWELL HIKE**

This will be a strenuous hike to the summit of Mt. Baden-Powell at 9399 feet elevation, 8 miles round trip with 2814 ft. elevation gain. Spectacular vistas as far as the eye can see every direction!!! Rain cancels, BRING: water, lunch/snacks, sturdy boots, hat, sun screen. MEET: Contact Kathy Viola to confirm and for directions to trailhead or carpooling from Upland. LEADER: KATHY VIOLA, 909-346-9653, kviola826@gmail.com

LOS SERRANOS GROUP

**JUL 12 (WED) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING**

The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: ELLEN KESLER, 909-585-1062, jcricket47@yahoo.com

BIG BEAR GROUP

**JUL 15 (SAT) 8:00 AM EYE OF GOD HIKE**

This easy four-mile hike in the Big Bear area goes through beautiful countryside which leads to the historic site known as the Eye of God. BRING: water, snacks, sun protection and wear sturdy footwear. MEET: 8:00 AM at the Victor Valley Museum, Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley. LEADER: NORMAN BOSSOM (760) 912-3725 or Email: coachnorm@yahoo.com

MOJAVE GROUP

**JUL 15 (SAT) 8:00 AM JOHNS MEADOW HIKE**

This hike is a favorite this time of year due to the abundance of wildflowers usually found at Forsee Creek. If you were unable to make last month's hike, the flowers should still be in bloom. I can only take 11 on my Wilderness Permit so sign up soon. This is a moderate, 7-mile, 800' elevation gain, hike in the San Gorgonio Wilderness. We will hike through pines, firs and oaks. We will cross streams and creeks before we get to Johns Meadow, where we will have our snack/lunch break before returning on the same trail to our vehicles. RATED: Moderate. BRING: 10 essentials, 2 liters of water, snack/lunch, sun protection, hiking boots, trekking poles and camera. MEET: Forsee Creek trailhead off Jenks Lake Rd. West near Hwy 38. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER JUDY ATKINSON (909) 289-1932, judy5723@gmail.com

BIG BEAR GROUP

**JULY 17 – JULY 23**

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

**\*\*JUL 20 (THU) 7:30 AM CHANTRY FLATS LOOP HIKE**

This will be a moderately strenuous 10-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1800 feet from Chantry Flat, through Sturtevant Falls, Spruce Grove & Hoegees Campgrounds, returning via Upper Winter Creek Trail. Rain cancels. BRING: sturdy boots, water, lunch & snacks, sunscreen, hat, and layer clothing appropriate for the weather. Adventure Pass is required for parking at trailhead. MEET: Contact Kathy Viola to confirm and for directions to trailhead or carpooling from Upland. LEADER: KATHY VIOLA, 909-346-9653, kviola826@gmail.com

LOS SERRANOS GROUP

**JUL 20 (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

**JUL 21 (FRI) 8:00 AM GRAY'S PEAK HIKE**

This is a "Peaks" of Big Bear hike. Those achieving all five peaks overlooking the Big Bear Valley will be given a commemorative patch. RATED: Moderate. This hike is 7.0 miles, 1,400 ft. elevation gain. Lunch at a nearby restaurant is possible if the group desires. MEET: Vons parking lot at 42170 Big Bear Blvd. Big Bear Lake, CA at 8:00 AM or the Grays Peak Trail at 8:15 AM. BRING: ten essentials, 2 liters of water and a snack. For trailhead information and RESERVATIONS contact LEADER ED WALLACE 909 584 9407, rushewallace@yahoo.com

BIG BEAR GROUP

**\*\*JUL 22 (SAT) 8:30 AM MT WILLIAMSON HIKE**

This hike is 4 to 5 miles roundtrip and has an elevation gain of approximately 1,300 feet. The first two thirds of the hike is on the PCT. MEET: 8:30 AM in the Inspiration Point parking lot on Highway 2, about 3 miles west of Big Pines. From there we will carpool roughly 10 miles to the parking lot for Islip Saddle. An Adventure Pass or Senior Pass is required for parking. BRING: water, snacks/lunch, layered clothing, sun protection and wear sturdy shoes/boots. LEADER: QUINTIN LAKE (951) 315-7691, qlake15@gmail.com

MOJAVE GROUP

**\*\*JUL 23 (SUN) 8:00 AM BERTHA PEAK HIKE**

This is a Peaks of Big Bear hike. Those achieving all 5 peaks will be given a commemorative patch. RATED: This is a moderate hike on the Cougar Crest trail, which ends where it intersects with the Pacific Crest Trail. The final half mile is on an access road that is fairly steep and rated strenuous. Elevation gain is 1,400 feet. BRING: The ten

Continued on Page 5 >>>

*Calendar . . . Continued from Page 4*

essentials including light layered clothing, snack/lunch, two liters of water, sunglasses, sun block, good hiking boots and trekking poles. MEET: 8:00 AM at Cougar Crest trail head a quarter of a mile west of the Discovery Center. Don't forget your adventure pass for parking. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER PETER MICHELSEN, 760-333-3103, petermichelsenor@gmail.com  
BIG BEAR GROUP

### JULY 24 – JULY 30

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

**JUL 25 (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

**\*\*JUL 26 (WED) 8:00 AM CEDAR GLEN HIKE**  
This moderate rated hike has a 1,200' elevation gain with a 4.5-mile out and back distance. There is a trail camp perched on a bench overlooking Ice House Canyon at our hike's upward termination. BRING: water, sturdy boots, layered clothing and hiking sticks. Adventure Pass is required for parking at trailhead. MEET: Please call or email to confirm by 5 PM July 25. LEADER: JEFF WARHOL 909-985-7686, jmwandjjw@hotmail.com  
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

**JUL 29 (SAT) 8:00 AM LUNCH LOG HIKE**  
Easy 5-mile hike. BRING: water, snacks, sun protection and wear sturdy footwear. MEET: 8:00 AM at the Victor Valley Museum, Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley. LEADER: NORMAN BOSSOM (760) 912-3725, coachnorm@yahoo.com  
MOJAVE GROUP

**\*\*JUL 29 (SAT) 8:30 AM DEER SPRINGS TR TO DEVILS SLIDE TR HIKE**  
Join us on a 11-mile hike from the Deer Springs Trail to Humber Park in Idyllwild. This is a very strenuous hike. There is 4500' of elevation gain from Deer Springs trail head as we will travel the 4.5 miles up to the PCT then go south to the Devil's Slide Trail via Saddle junction. On the way to Saddle Junction we will be climbing through the open forest crossing the ridge at about 9000 feet around the rim. From Saddle Junction we follow Devil's Slide Trail down 2.5 miles descending about 2000 feet to the trailhead. Because there is a limit on the number of hikers allowed on Devils Slide I will get the permit in advance. So if you are interested please register as soon as possible. BRING: at least 3 liters of water, lunch and snacks. Be sure to bring sunscreen, a hat, sturdy and comfortable hiking shoes and dress in layers. Directions: We will meet at Humber Park then take a few vehicles to the Deer Springs TH to begin the hike.. This hike will be limited to the first twelve (12) that preregister via email. RAIN CANCELS. . An Adventure Pass is required when parking at Humber Park. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER: GARY MARSALONE, hikesie@gmail.com  
SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

**\*\*JUL 30 (SUN) 8:00 AM COUGAR CREST/PCT EAST HIKE**  
This is a moderate 7-mile round trip hike with approximately 800' elevation gain. We will start at the Cougar Crest trailhead, take it to where it branches off on the PCT, and then take the PCT east another mile or so. The PCT behind Big Bear is a quiet and pretty place to hike, canopied with forests of Juniper, Cedar, and Jeffrey Pine. MEET: At the Cougar Crest Trailhead, 1/4 mile west of the Big Bear Discovery Ctr. on the north shore of Big Bear Lake. Adventure Pass is needed to park at the trailhead. One can park on the shoulder, no pass needed. BRING: 2 liters of water, snack/lunch, sun protection, hat, trekking poles and good hiking boots. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER CHARLOTTE WATTS, momswebsite@gmail.com, 909-866-7423.  
BIG BEAR GROUP

### JULY 31 – AUGUST 6

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

**AUG 1 (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

**\*\*AUG 4 (FRI) 6:30 AM MT BALDY HIKE**  
This is a strenuous hike to Mt. Baldy summit (elevation 10,064), 11 miles round trip with 3900 ft. elevation gain. We go up the ski hut/Baldy Bowl trail and come down the Devil's Backbone trail. Rain cancels. BRING: sturdy boots, 3+ liters water, lunch, sunscreen. Adventure Pass is required for parking at the trailhead. MEET: Contact John St. Clair prior to scheduled date for carpooling and meeting place. LEADER: JOHN ST. CLAIR, 909-983-8501, john@stclairs.us  
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

**AUG 4-6 (FRI-SUN) 2:00 PM SB MTS, ANNUAL CHILDRENS' FOREST CAR CAMP**  
Let's go camping at Shady Cove group campground. Saturday join us for a pot luck at 6:00 pm. There will be guided day hikes, star gazing, and good ol' fashion camp activities throughout the weekend. Fun for the whole family. Come anytime. BRING camping gear; hiking gear; pot luck dish to share; firewood; chair. INFO % RSVP: Contact LEADER: HEATHER SARGEANT 909-336-2836 (no text)  
SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

**\*\*AUG 5 (SAT) 8:30 AM DAWSON SADDLE HIKE**  
Dawson Saddle to Troop Peak is 4 miles roundtrip with a 1,200-foot elevation gain. MEET: 8:30 AM in the Inspiration Point parking lot on Highway 2, about 3 miles west of Big Pines. We will carpool roughly 10 miles to the parking lot at Islip Saddle. An Adventure Pass or Senior Pass is required for parking. BRING: water, snacks/lunch, layered clothing, sun protection and wear sturdy shoes/boots. LEADER: QUINTIN LAKE, (951) 315 7691, qlake15@gmail.com  
MOJAVE GROUP

**\*\*AUG 6 (SUN) 8:00 AM DELAMAR MOUNTAIN HIKE**  
This is a peaks of Big Bear hike. Those achieving all five in one year will receive a commemorative patch. This is a six-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 900 feet. RATED: Moderate with a quarter mile strenuous stretch. BRING: The ten essentials including 2 liters of water, snack/ lunch, light layered clothing, sun block, sun glasses, sturdy hiking boots. Trekking poles are recommended. MEET: 8:00 AM at the Cougar Crest trailhead a quarter of a mile west of the Discovery Center. We will car pool to the trailhead. Don't forget your Adventure pass for parking. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER PETER MICHELSEN, petermichelsenor@gmail.com, 760-333-3103.  
BIG BEAR GROUP

**AUG 6 (SUN) 8:00 AM SKYLINE TRAIL HIKE**  
This will be a moderate 7 to 8-mile hike along the Skyline Trail in Big Bear. This is an interesting newer trail in the area. There are mountain bikers, horseback riders, and trail hikers at any given time. This trail took years of dedication, fundraising, and lots of work from its beginnings to completion a few years ago. It runs along the southwest side of Big Bear from one end to the other, a total of about 17 miles. There will be forests of trees, but also exposed areas, which offer great views of the valley below, San Gorgonio Peak, and the mountains and wilderness across from the trail. If interested, we can go to a local restaurant for lunch. RATED: Moderate. BRING: 10 essentials, 2 liters of water, snack/lunch, sun protection, hiking boots, trekking poles, and camera. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER JUDY ATKINSON (909) 289-1932, judy5723@gmail.com  
BIG BEAR GROUP

### AUGUST 7 – AUGUST 13

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

**AUG 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

**AUG 9 (WED) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING**  
The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: ELLEN KESLER, 909-585-1062, jcricket47@yahoo.com  
BIG BEAR GROUP

**AUG 11-13 (FRI- SUN) PERSEID METEOR SHOWER CAMPOUT**  
Expect about 100 people at this event in the Black Rock Desert about 100 miles north of Reno. Playa conditions permitting, we'll be camping mid-Playa about 10 miles from a couple of hot springs. We'll have porta-potties but little else so bring water, food etc. There's usually a potluck/Dutch oven meal one night. LNT, dogs must be on leash and expect to pick up after them. LEADER: DAVID BOOK, 775/843-6443  
CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

**AUG 12 (SAT) 8:00 CHARLIE'S TRAIL HIKE**  
This is an easy 6-mile hike. BRING: water, snacks, sun protection and wear sturdy footwear. MEET: 8:00 AM at the Victor Valley Museum, Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley. LEADER: NORMAN BOSSOM, (760) 912-3725, coachnorm@yahoo.com  
MOJAVE GROUP

**AUG 12 (SAT) 8:30 AM PALOMAR MOUNTAIN STATE PARK HIKE**  
Join me on a hike through the deeply forested trails of Palomar Mountain State Park. I will use several trails to form a loop. The hike will be moderately aggressive, about 8 miles long with about 1000' of gain/loss. I will make some changes from last year's hike to highlight different park features. MEET at the parking lot near Doane Pond. This is where the hike will begin and finish. The park's physical address is 19952 State Park Rd. Palomar Mountain, CA 92060. COST: There is an \$8 per vehicle day use fee. Steady rain cancels. DRESS in layers, BRING 2 liters of water, a snack or lunch, sturdy hiking shoes and don't forget the sunscreen. REGISTRATION: contact LEADER: BOB AUDIBERT, (951)302-1059, bob.takeahike1@gmail.com  
SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

**AUG 12-16 (SAT-WED) ROCK CREEK/LITTLE LAKES WOMEN'S BACKPACK**  
This Inyo National Forest women's backpack trip will not be strenuous except that we will be at a 10,000' elevation during the entire adventure. We will hike at a slow pace and take frequent intermittent rest breaks. This is breathtakingly beautiful country, a trip you will treasure a lifetime. We will drive up Rock Creek Road, past Bishop, and drive to the entry to the John Muir Wilderness and camp overnight. After we break camp in the morning, we will hike to Chicken Foot Lake, 3.5 miles, where we will make permanent camp. From there, we will do day hikes to several other lakes and special sites. We return on the 16th. LEADER: CHARLOTTE WATTS, momswebsite@gmail.com, CO-LEADER L. J. FOSTER  
BIG BEAR GROUP

**\*\*AUG 13 (SUN) 8:00 AM GRAY'S PEAK HIKE**  
This is a peaks of Big Bear hike. Those achieving all five peaks overlooking the Big Bear Valley will be given a commemorative patch. A favorite trail here among both hikers and mountain bikers, this is a 7 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of about 1,200 feet. RATED: Moderate. BRING: The ten essentials including light layered clothing, snack/ lunch, good hiking boots, 2 liters of water, sun glasses, and sun block. MEET: 8:00 AM at the Gray's Peak trail head parking lot. Don't forget your adventure pass for parking. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER PETER MICHELSEN, petermichelsenor@gmail.com, 760-333-3103.  
BIG BEAR GROUP

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## Come Along With Ladd and Gail Seekins at August 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter Program as They Lead us on Their “Adventures in Costa Rica”

Ladd and Gail spent nearly three weeks in Costa Rica. They started just after last Christmas and visited nearly every part of the country independently via rental car. Their trip featured volcanos, cloud forests, zip lines, mangroves, museums, historic churches, pre-Columbian ruins, surfing beaches, and wildlife.

The Seekins will share their photos and experiences with you. Their trip started and ended in San Jose, the country’s capital and largest city, with its gold, jade and historical museums, colorful markets, beautiful churches, and the outstanding National Theater. A tour took them to Tortugero National Park on the Caribbean coast, where they saw hatching turtles cross the beach to get to the sea. They took wildlife boat tours through the park’s mangroves.

No visit to Costa Rica is complete without visiting a volcano.



Ladd and Gail visited three. They drove to the tops of Volcán Poas and Volcán Irazú. The view of the crater is just a short walk from the highway. They hiked in the dry forest below Volcán Arenal, which was venting ash clouds from the top. Near Arenal is the town of La Fortuna, known for its thermal waters. The Seekins visited two hot springs.



They made their way to Santa Elena, a top tourist destination. It’s just down the road from the fabulous cloud forest in Monteverde National Park. They took day and night guided wildlife tours, hiked in the park, and rode with one of the many zip line canopy tours. They chose one of the original outfits, which has 18 cables totaling three kilometers. One cable was a full kilometer long and flew hundreds of feet above the valley.

The Nicoya Peninsula on the Pacific is famous for surfing and nightlife. The Seekins chose instead the quiet beach town of Sámara. It was a great place to walk on the beach and relax. La Mansion, their bed and breakfast, is owned by an American lady whose grandchildren will perform this summer in the Redlands Bowl as the group Celtic Spring. The Seekins stayed at six different hotels or hostels in the country. Three were owned by Americans.



Out of Quepos, the Seekins visited Manuel Antonio National Park where they had a guided wildlife tour, did an extensive hike, and swam at the popular park beach. They also took a guided kayak tour through the mangroves.

Ladd and Gail spent several days in Cartago, the country’s original capital. It was partially destroyed by an eruption of Volcán Irazú in 1732. Its “ruins” are actually a cathedral that was never finished. The expansive Basilica de Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles, which draws 2-1/2 million pilgrims every August 2, was just across the street from their hotel. A day trip took them to the top of Volcán Irazú, where they could see an ash cloud erupting from Volcán Turrialba 10 km away. Other trips took them to the pre-Columbian site at Guayabo National Monument, and to the Orosi Valley.

Ladd and Gail found travel in Costa Rica easy and enjoyable. Tourists are catered to, English is widely spoken, and nearly every store accepts dollars as well as Colones. Just be prepared to spend a little more money than in other Central and South American countries.



## Big Bear Group

By Ellen Kesler, Group Chair

Summer is definitely here with activities buzzing like bees! The EcoTour was a two-day event in the Village in June and will be repeated in July at the Discovery Center. This encourages people to “get out and get involved” with non-profit valley groups boothing exhibits of things you can do in Big Bear other than snow activities or boating. Folks can try kayaking or stand-up paddleboarding for free that day or take a short hike with a hike leader.

July 15 brings our Sierra Club Xeriscape Tour where participants can get the map at Eminger’s Nursery, then drive to view beautiful xeriscape gardens in the valley.

Our July General Meeting will be very special. Sue Klump, a local professional photographer, will share her magnificent pictures she photographed last summer in Africa.

Our meetings are the third Thursday of each month in the Discovery Center at 6:30 pm. You won’t want to miss this one!

### Joshua Tree Patch Program Successful

Twenty-six hikers came out this winter to hike at least one of the four segments of the California Riding and Hiking Trail in Joshua Tree National Park. The trail extends across the northwest section of the park, from the Black Rock Campground to the North Entrance Station. Five hikers hiked all four segments; a total of 37 miles. These hikers will receive a commemorative patch at the June 10<sup>th</sup> Patch Party in Big Bear. Another 10 hikers completed three segments. We will repeat these hikes next winter. Come out and take this journey with us and receive a patch!

### Summer Backpacking Program by David Melton, Outings Chairman

This spring we offered a 3-session backpacking class with both classroom and field instruction. We will be following that up by offering three Sierra backpack trips this summer:

- A 4-day trip over the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday in the Golden Trout Wilderness southwest of Lone Pine, through the meadow and creek country of the Kern Plateau;
- A women’s 5-day backpack trip in the spectacular Rock Creek country south of Mammoth in mid-August; and
- A 5-day trip to Lake Ediza west of Mammoth starting on Labor Day.

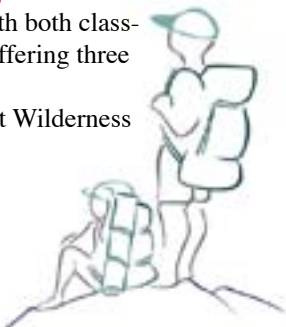
See the hiking schedule for details. Find the trip you like and come join us!

### Seeking Nominees

Our Executive Committee (“ExCom”), is seeking nominees to join our Big Bear Group. If elected, the term of office is for two years. We meet once a month in an ExCom member’s home here in the Bear Valley.

We truly welcome new ideas and new board members to energize our Sierra Club group. If you’re at all interested, please email me at [jcricket47@yahoo.com](mailto:jcricket47@yahoo.com) or call 909.585.1062.

I look forward to hearing from you! – Ellen Kesler



### July 11th Chapter Program . . . Continued from Page 1

Emmy). His work has also been nationally broadcast on ABC, CBS, and ESPN.

Foley returned to his alma mater in 1993 to teach, produce documentaries, and build and direct a center for the teaching

of television reporting and production. In 1996, he founded and is faculty advisor for the campus television station, UATV. In October 2003, he was inducted into the Lemke Department of Journalism’s Hall of Honor, the highest award bestowed upon journalism graduates of the University of Arkansas. In 2009, Professor Foley taught a team of young documentary filmmakers who received a Mid-America Emmy Award for best student produced program (KURM Radio-Soapbox of the Air).



Before coming to the U of A, Foley spent nine years at the Arkansas Educational Television where he worked his way up the ladder to the network’s number two position. He is a former reporter, morning news anchor, assignment editor and producer for KATV Channel 7, Little Rock.

## Santa Margarita Group

By Michael H. Momeni, PhD - Environmental Nuclear Scientist

### Mandate for a Regional Commuter Train

Our emphasis at this time is to promote establishment of commuter train service to our region connecting the cities along Highway 15, from East Ontario's Metrolink to downtown San Diego. The regional commuter train would serve the cities of Corona, Lake Elsinore, Temecula/Murrieta, Fallbrook, Escondido, Rancho Bernardo, Poway, Miramar and several others. Temecula-Murrieta would be roughly the half way point between the two terminuses.

Temecula-Murrieta could serve as a central commuter hub. In the northern direction it would connect to East Ontario Metrolink. In the southern direction, it will connect to San Diego Metropolitan Transit System.

Our Transportation Workshop, October 25, 2017, in Temecula, will bring together mayors of cities located along the corridor, including staff representative from Riverside Transit Agency, San Diego Trolley, Inc. and the Metropolitan Transit System. Extending our reach further, we will invite representatives from state and county agencies for Riverside and San Diego, Native American representatives in the region and representatives from the regional Sierra Club.

### Call for action to support Southern California Mountain Lions

Highway 15 between Temecula and Fallbrook has blocked the natural passage route for wildlife between the eastern and western areas of the Cleveland National Forest. The existing bridge for the river flow near the confluence of Temecula Creek, Murrieta Creek and Santa Margarita River is a large space to allow for a wildlife passage. But currently several factors have restricted its usefulness. The area under the bridge has become a habitat for the homeless population and graffiti artists. Visibility on both sides of the bridge has been reduced by trees and bushes.

Managing this wildlife passage demands several practical corrections to become a potential wildlife corridor, such as:

1. Installing of fencing on both sides of the highway to guide wildlife passage to the bridge area;
2. Restricting public access to the bridge underpass area using barrier fencing;
3. Cleaning up the trash around the area; and,
4. Removing some of bushes and trees under and near the bridge to improve visibility.

The accompanying photos of the area vividly illustrate these problems.



Present debris-strewn condition near the highway underpass by Temecula Creek.

Unfortunately, the area to the east of Highway 15 is very close to residential areas. The proposal to subdivide the present golf course will completely remove any hope for the wildlife passage, which we strongly oppose.



Earth Day Faire April 22, 2017: Our celebration of the planet

The Santa Margarita Group celebrated the day by organizing their first community-wide Earth Day Faire. Family-oriented activities were organized and enlisted the support of several organizations and vendors. It included live animal exhibition, face-painting for children, and a display of the latest eco-friendly cars. Caren Hanson, the event organizer, said: "We learned from this event and are planning to organize even a better city-wide celebration next year."

Earth-Day Faire brings environmental awareness to visitors in Temecula Display in Temecula, California



The Santa Margarita Group Information Booth at Temecula Earth-Day Faire

### A Sierra Sunday Outing, the Spring Thing

Santa Margarita Group members spent a special Sierra Sunday together on May 21, 2017. This outing – dubbed our "Spring Thing" – consisted of a simple lunch in a lovely outdoor setting and a tour of the Myrtle Creek Botanical Gardens and Nursery in Fallbrook. The event was organized by Elena Garcia. Those who attended the event had a great time. We are going to organize this event next year.



Sierra Sunday Outing

### Monthly Meeting Presentations

**April 13:** Dr. Sandra Jacobson discussed the issue of our regional steelhead trout population. The steelhead is a native lineage of the trout population in Southern California. She described efforts to recover steelhead in the San Luis Rey, Santa Margarita and other Southern California rivers.

**May 11:** Eve Simmons addressed the issue of "The Holy Grail of Climate Change Solutions...Pricing Carbon." Eve is a member of Citizen's Climate Lobby, Union of Concerned Scientists, Greenpeace, and the Sierra Club.

**June 8:** Richard W. Halsey will address: "Falling in Love with Local Nature Like it Matters, all about Survival in Southern California, Mother Nature and her Birds and the Bees."

### Out Reach Activity

**Santa Rosa Plateau Nature Education Foundation:** The Foundation's annual fundraiser, a garden tour and lunch at Liberty Oaks on April 29, was a successful event. We spread the word about the Sierra Club by staffing an information tent there.

**The Soboba Earth and People's Climate March in Riverside:** We staffed information table at these two events.

### Hikes 2017

Our Hike leaders are Robert Audibert and Gary Marsalone. They organized the following hikes:

March 18: Maidenhair Falls Hike; this 5.5-6 miles hike was moderately difficult.

April 29: Tenaja Falls, Tenaja Canyon Trail; we hiked to Tenaja Falls and then down to Fisherman's Camp via Tenaja canyon and over the San Mateo trail. Hikers saw a magnificent vista of the beautiful San Mateo Canyon.

June 10: Morgan Trail to Tenaja Falls Trail Head; this is 8.2 mile hike through the beautiful San Mateo Canyon Wilderness, passing by Tenaja Falls. This hike is a moderately strenuous activity; we will start at the Morgan Trail Head.

## Mojave Group

By Bryan Baker, Conservation Chair

### Conservation Action in the Mojave

Lots going on in the High Desert currently regarding conservation. Here's an update on some of the high points! **Tapestry Project in Hesperia:** This project proposed to build over 16,000 housing units on about 9,000 acres near the San Bernardino National Forest. It would expand the City of Hesperia's population by almost 50 percent, and would have covered much of undeveloped Summit Valley with houses. The Sierra Club, along with Center for Biological Diversity and the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society, sued to attempt to lessen the impacts of this huge development.

The **GOOD NEWS** is that we have reached a settlement with the Tapestry developer that will indeed reduce its impacts. The settlement preserves most of Summit Valley, including protecting habitat for the endangered arroyo toad. It also guarantees substantial solar renewable energy generation on houses. And it ensures we can fully participate in the evaluation of water supplies for the City of Hesperia. The project could still see thousands of houses built, which of course would impact air quality, greenhouse gases, water supplies, traffic and noise, but it's an open question how many houses the developers will actually be able to sell in the next couple of decades, particularly as California increases its battle against climate change and air pollution. **Apple Valley Warehouse:** A huge (1,300,000 square feet) warehouse for Big Lots is proposed for northern Apple Valley. It is one of the first of what developers hope will be many such warehouses in the Town, following a trend of mushrooming warehouses in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. The Sierra Club has

sued to attempt to lessen the impacts of this warehouse. We are especially wanting to redirect some of the solar panels that are carpeting our desert to the roofs and parking lots of these industrial developments. Why should we be destroying desert and impacting rural neighborhoods with solar farms, but leave these huge buildings and developments contributing nothing to renewable energy generation? **Apple Valley MSHCP:** The Town has been working on the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) for several years. MSHCPs can be relatively good for habitat: while they authorize development and possible 'taking' of rare species, they can, if done right, ensure some protection for habitat and endangered species. Apple Valley is planning for public review and comment this coming year. We'll be keeping an eye on the process to try to maximize protection for the environment. **Cadiz Water Scheme:** An investment corporation is scheming to drain an already-parched segment of the Mojave Desert of its water and ship it to Orange County. The corporation has the audacity to call it a "conservation" plan! Unfortunately, the Trump Administration has removed one significant obstacle to the plan, which should have prevented the use of the railroad corridor to transport the water. The water to be withdrawn has levels of chromium-6 above the state public health standards. Chromium-6 (or hexavalent chromium) is the same contaminant the nearby town of Hinkley fought in the well-known case with Erin Brockovich. The corporation says everything will be fine because they'll dump the water into the canal shared by millions of southern Californians, and it'll be diluted to undetectable levels. We and other conservation groups are fighting this terrible plan.

### By Susan Stueber, Group Chair

The Mojave Group had a very busy April and May. Starting on April 18<sup>th</sup> Susan Stueber, along with a volunteer from Citizens Climate Lobby, joined other organizations and businesses to talk to us about 150 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders about climate change.

Unfortunately, it was an outside event and was extremely windy! We were unable to keep any information on our table, but we had fun talking to eight different groups of 20 students about climate change. We gave every student an opportunity to win a solar lantern and a Sierra Club T-shirt. It was interesting to see the different levels of enthusiasm and engagement between the different groups. We asked them, "How many of you like to go hiking?" and almost every student raised their hand. Then we asked them, "How many of you know about the Sierra Club?" and only a few had heard of us. We then told them about our club and gave out a few *Palm and Pines* to the adults that were present. As we were leaving I said good-bye to the Program Director for the school district and she thanked us for coming and was apologetic about the wind and said that next year she would have the event indoors.

Then on April 22<sup>nd</sup> Bill Spreng represented our group by tabling at the annual Earth Day at the Desert Discovery Center in Barstow. The annual Earth Day celebration at the Desert Discovery center was a very rewarding event. We had a few people sign-up on our membership list and pick up the *Palm and Pine*.

On April 29<sup>th</sup> our group, in conjunction with Citizens Climate Lobby of the Victor Valley, held a Climate Rally in Victorville. At one point we had over 45 people holding up signs on the corner of Bear Valley and Armagosa by the Mall of Victorville. We had a lot of positive honks and only a few negative comments from cars passing by.

On May 17<sup>th</sup> Carol Wiley represented the Mojave Group at the Victorville Elementary school district's first Health expo for teachers. There was a lot of interest in our hiking program and in the Sierra Club.

Our group recently had a meeting with Yassi Kavezade from the Chapter's My Generation activists to discuss political opportunities in the High Desert. We are looking forward to continuing to work with Yassi to find and support candidates in our high desert area.



## Mountains Group

By Dave Barrie, Group Chair

On Saturday May 6<sup>th</sup> the Mountains Group held its annual "Spring Retreat" at Keller Hut.

The plan was for an afternoon hike and potluck dinner on Saturday and, for those staying overnight, a Sunday morning pancake breakfast and perhaps a postprandial hike as well.

Not to be! On Wednesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> the temperature in the Keller area peaked in the low-80s but by Saturday noontime it was only 40 and falling. Patchy fog on the rim getting thicker as the day progressed.

By the 6:00 pm dinner hour there were seven stalwart souls nervously eyeing the increasingly dense fog and listening to the rain as it turned from water

to ice and pinged on the window glass. We ate quickly and just as quickly

which are linked to databases used by scientists.

Two members of the Mountains Group ExCom, Chris Del Ross-Risher and Debby McAllister are local "citizen scientists" and have been participating in the deployment of motion-activated cameras



The San Bernardino flying squirrel is one of 25 subspecies of northern flying squirrels (shown here) and is the most southern subspecies in the western U.S. Credit: Joshua Mayer/Flickr Creative Commons 2.0

on their properties. Their participation included installation and maintenance of the cameras, monitoring activities, and information reporting.

We got to see night photos (bright eyes!) and a number of fun night videos. One video showed a bird feeder suspended about 4' below a branch and about 3' from the trunk of a tree. There were four or five squirrels circling about the trunk and it looked



A flying squirrel finds a bird feeder on Nole Lilley's deck overlooking San Bernardino and Riverside, Calif., in a photo from 2016. Credit: Nole Lilley/USFWS

cleaned up after ourselves, working sometimes in the dark as the electricity was only working part of the time.

We could see that Highway 18 (our escape route) was starting to accumulate some slushy snow and everyone packed and left between 7:00 and 7:30 with the weekend Keller Hut Overseer (me) the last out at 7:30. I don't know how much snow Keller got, but at my home in Lake Arrowhead (about 1,000 feet lower in elev.) we got almost 6" of icy snow. Which was gone, with temperatures rising, by Monday. Our "Spring Retreat" this year focused mostly on the "Retreat" part!

"Stalwart Soul" badges go to Sue Walker and Bob Sherman, Bob, Carol and Andrew Kinzel, Karla Kellems, and Dave Barrie. Honorable mention goes to Ed Patrovsky of the Mojave Group who visited for a while on Saturday afternoon.

On Monday May 8<sup>th</sup> our monthly members meeting featured a presentation from Brian Gibson of the San Diego Natural History Museum.

Brian is the San Bernardino Flying Squirrel Program Coordinator and shared information about the study of those cute critters (biology, population trends, use of habitat, etc.) as well as numerous night vision photos (see above) and videos.

The Museum is working with the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as well as with "citizen scientists" in an attempt to determine the distribution of the squirrels in the San Bernardino Mountains. The information gathered is tracked through iNaturalist.org, which provides a platform for citizen scientists to upload their observations

like they wanted to jump to the feeder but thought it was too far away for jumping and too close for "flying." Soon you saw one squirrel, followed by another, climbing down the rope from above. And one squirrel, launched from out of camera view, went flying past, missing his target.

Another video showed a wire cage (about the size of a paperback book) bungeed to a tree about 6' above the ground and filled with suet. The camera was located on another tree facing the "lure."

Soon a bear entered the picture, checked out the cage, and left. Quickly back, the bear licked the cage and then forced it open, eating the entire contents. And left. Again, quickly back, the bear checked the cage for any remaining goodies. And left. Again, quickly back, there was the bear, its face right up to the camera. A perfunctory lick and then the camera bit the dust.

Best guess – whoever put the suet on to one tree forgot to clean their hands before putting the camera on to the other tree. Everyone enjoyed Brian's presentation – our thanks to him and his wife Wendy!

If you would like to become a citizen scientist and participate in the ongoing study you can contact the Museum at squirrels@sdnhm.org or call 619.255.0209.

Lastly, here is a brief message from our ExCom Election Nominating Committee and the rules that apply to the election process:

This year's Nominating Committee (Sue Walker, Steve Farrell and Bob Sherman) wants you to know that if you want to be considered for nomination, or know

Continued on Page 10 >>>



Calendar . . . Continued from Page 5

**AUGUST 14 – AUGUST 20**

Please read “**LIABILITY WAIVER**” preceding these listings  
(Also, refer to **Weekly Recurring Outings and Activities**)

**AUG 17 (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: ELLEN KESLER, 909-585-1062, jcricket47@yahoo.com BIG BEAR GROUP

**AUG 19 (SAT) 7:30 AM SAN JACINTO PEAK – PALM SPRINGS TRAM HIKE**  
Hike in the cool weather at the top of the tram in San Jacinto State Park. The hike starts from the tram’s 8,400-ft. mountain station, climbs to Wellman Saddle (9,700 ft.) and from there to the 10,800-ft. peak, which has spectacular views all around. A short rock scramble is required to get to the top of the peak. We retrace our steps to return. This is a challenging hike, for experienced hikers. RATED: Strenuous due to altitude and climb. COST: tram fee: \$25.95 per person, \$2 less for seniors, plus \$5.00 for parking (unless you have a pass or are a Coachella Valley resident). MEET: At the Tram Station lobby at the end of Tram Way Road. 1 Tram Way Palm Springs, CA 92262. BRING: Ten essentials, at least one extra layer, sun protection, lunch, 3-liters of water. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER DAVE MELTON, (760) 408-2456, dmelton61@yahoo.com, or CO-LEADER SHARON NARDOZZA, snardozza@cox.net, (760) 208-3654. BIG BEAR GROUP

**\*\*AUG 20 (SUN) 8:00 AM COUGAR CREST TO PCT AND WEST HIKE**  
This will be a moderate, 8-mile, 1400’ elevation gain hike in Big Bear. We will start at the Cougar Crest Trailhead, take that to where it meets the PCT and, for a change of route, hike west a few miles along the PCT before having our snack/lunch and then returning on the same trail to our vehicles. We will hike through pine, oak, and fir and will have great views of Big Bear Lake, the mountains surrounding the valley, and out into the desert. BRING: 10 essentials, 2 liters of water, snack/lunch, sun protection, hiking boots, trekking poles and camera. MEET: at the Cougar Crest trailhead on the north side of Big Bear Lake, 1/4 mile west of the Discovery Center. An Adventure Pass will be required to park at the trailhead. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER JUDY ATKINSON, judy5723@gmail.com, (909) 289-1932. BIG BEAR GROUP

**AUGUST 21 – AUGUST 27**

Please read “**LIABILITY WAIVER**” preceding these listings  
(Also, refer to **Weekly Recurring Outings and Activities**)

**AUG 22 (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

**AUG 25 (FRI) 9:00 AM KELLER/MILL PEAK, COYOTE ROCK AREA HIKE**  
Come Join us for a 4-5-mile moderate conditioning hike to explore this region of the San Bernardino National Forest. MEET: Robert Hootman Senior/Community Center parking lot, 2929 Running Springs School Rd., Running Springs, CA 92382. WEAR hat, long pants, and hiking shoes. BRING snacks and water. CALL to check on weather conditions. LEADER: KARLA KELLEMS, 909-939-5790 (no text), karlakellems@gmail.com SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

**AUG 26 (SAT) 8:00 BLUE RIDGE HIKE**  
This is a moderate 4-mile hike with a 600 foot elevation gain. BRING: water, snacks, sun protection and WEAR sturdy footwear. MEET: 8:00 AM at the Victor Valley Museum, Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley. LEADER: NORMAN BOSSOM, (760) 912-3725, coachnorm@yahoo.com MOJAVE GROUP

**AUG 27 (SUN) 8:00 AM SUGARLOAF HIKE**  
This is a peaks of Big Bear hike. Those achieving all five peaks will get a commemorative patch. This is what we have all been preparing ourselves for. With an elevation gain of 2,500 feet, this hike is by far the most demanding. We spend the first two miles of this 10 mile in-and-out hike in a lush and dense green forest of firs and pines, which eventually gives way to higher elevation trees like the cedar and juniper. RATED: Strenuous. BRING: The ten essentials including snack/lunch, 3 liters of water, light layered clothing, good hiking boots, trekking poles, sunglasses, sun block, and your camera. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER PETER MICHELSEN, petermichelsenor@gmail.com, 760-333-3103. BIG BEAR GROUP

**AUGUST 28 – SEPTEMBER 3**

Please read “**LIABILITY WAIVER**” preceding these listings  
(Also, refer to **Weekly Recurring Outings and Activities**)

**AUG 29 (TUE) 9:30 AM COUGAR CREST HIKE**  
This is the ridge that separates Big Bear Lake from Holcomb Valley to the North. It offers great views of the lake and the San Gorgonio Wilderness. 600’ elevation gain with an out and back distance of 5 miles. BRING: water, sturdy boots, layered clothing, and hiking sticks. MEET: Please call or email to confirm by 5 PM August 27. LEADER: JEFF WARHOL, 909-985-7686, jmwandjjw@hotmail.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

**COMING UP**

Please read “**LIABILITY WAIVER**” preceding these listings  
(Also, refer to **Weekly Recurring Outings and Activities**)

**SEP 4-8 (MON-FRI) JOHN MUIR TRAIL BACKPACK**  
This trip will take us in to the Ansel Adams Wilderness from Agnew Meadows (8320’) to Lake Ediza (9270’) and back. Lake Ediza is considered the most beautiful lake in the Ansel Adams Wilderness. This route will enable us to visit Shadow Lake and view Banner

Peak. RATED: Considered strenuous due to the rugged climb. BRING: The ten-essentials, backpacking and camping gear, bear canister mandatory. MEET: Meeting place is yet to be determined. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER ED CALIENDO, dogs111@msn.com, 442-242-4103 or PETER MICHELSEN, (760) 333-3103, petermichelsenor@gmail.com BIG BEAR GROUP

**SEP 29-OCT 1 (FRI-SUN) NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY WORK PARTY**  
Join various Northern Nevada outdoor groups for an as yet undetermined volunteer project in the Black Rock Desert about 100 miles north of Reno. Current plans are for a project at Soldier Meadows Hot Spring. Most food will be provided but you’ll have to work for it! There’s usually a work day and a play day so we won’t work all weekend! INFO: Call info as we get closer to the event! LEADER: DAVID BOOK 775/843-6443. CNRCC WILDERNESS COMMITTEE

**NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES**

The following activities, meetings and events are not sponsored nor administered by the Sierra Club. The Sierra Club has no information about the planning of these activities and 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**

**JUL 7 (FRI) 8:30 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE  
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB**  
See contact information above.

**JUL 19 (WED) 7:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING  
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY**  
See contact information aabove.

**JUL 21 (FRI) 8:30 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE  
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB**  
See contact information above.

**AUG 4 (FRI) 8:30 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE  
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB**  
See contact information above.

**AUG 16 (WED) 7:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING  
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY**  
See contact information above.

**AUG 18 (FRI) 8:30 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE  
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB**  
See contact information above.

**SEP 1 (FRI) 8:30 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE  
NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB**  
See contact information above.



## Moreno Valley Group

By Ann McKibben, Secretary

Thank you to Christina Torres and Eileen O'Brien for all of their time and effort organizing the MV group outings. It was a good season of hikes and many good miles together! They will be taking a break this summer because of the hot weather but will be organizing more hikes for next fall. You can contact Christina and/or Eileen at [movalleygroup@yahoo.com](mailto:movalleygroup@yahoo.com) if you have



Earth Night in the Garden, April 20, 2017. Photo by Ann McKibben.

ideas for hikes or questions about future hikes. Fall hikes will be posted on our web page and Facebook page.

Another big thank you to Christina and Eileen for organizing our information table for the Earth Night in the Garden event in April. We enjoyed talking with the visitors and kids were able to draw their own design on a self-sticking badge with color markers. Lots of fun to see what they made! Thank you, too, for volunteers Kathy Dale, Mike Millspaugh, Ann McKibben, and Keith Price who helped host the table.

**Ironwood Village Project (IVP):** The Moreno Valley Planning Commission and the city's Recreational Trails Board have unanimously rejected the IVP at their meetings. The developer never filed the required appeal of the planning commission denial, but the city appears ready to allow a council vote. The Moreno Valley City Council is scheduled to have a hearing to consider the project at their Tuesday, June 20 meeting, 6:00 p.m. Local residents group, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, have organized in opposition to the project. Residents are concerned about the small lot sizes and loss of rural land uses, compromising the city's general plan, increases in traffic, and elimination of city public multi-use trail; the city has done a mitigated negative declaration which does not include a complete analysis of the project.

**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. 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. A hearing to set a trial date for the CEQA challenge will be on Thursday, June 22, 8:30 a.m., Department 10 at the Riverside Superior Court in downtown Riverside.

**Villages of Lakeview (VOL):** Comments on the draft environmental impact report were submitted last fall. Current information from the county indicates responses to the comments and the final environmental documents may be available

in June. 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](mailto:rbrady@rctlma.org) or (951) 955-3025 for more information and to be put on their mailing list.

**Donations Needed:** 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 who have already donated.

**The Riverside County General Plan Update aka GPA 960:** 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. The Riverside County Housing Element (HE) is now being litigated because it has similar problems as the GPA 960. Settlement talks on a few areas of the lawsuit are still ongoing, but the litigation is also moving forward.

**Mid County Parkway (MCP):** The California Environmental Quality Act hearing is scheduled for Monday, June 19, 9:30 a.m., Dept.10 of the Riverside Superior Court, downtown Riverside. The six-lane MCP between the cities of San Jacinto and Perris is designed to allow projects like the Villages of Lakeview to be built. The Center for Biological Diversity is litigating the MCP for the Sierra Club and other groups.

**Cajalco Road Expansion:** Riverside County and their consultants met with five environmental groups last month concerning widening of Cajalco Road to six lanes through some very sensitive wildlife habitat. The draft EIR/EIS should be released in about 15 months. The Cajalco Road expansion continues the planned Mid County Parkway expansion, i.e., a six-lane road from San Jacinto to Corona.



Wildwood Canyon State Park Hike, June 4, 2017.

Photo by Christina Torres

**Moreno Valley Recreational Trails Board hike, Saturday, July 28, 2017.** Hike to Hidden Springs (Moderate—approx. 3.3 miles round trip); meet at Hidden Springs Elementary School, 9801 Hidden Springs Dr., MV, parking lot at front of campus. Call (951) 413-3703 to confirm all information.

*Mountains Group. . . Continued from Page 8*

someone that you want to present for nomination you can contact any one of them. (Try Sue at [svwalker@gmail.com](mailto:svwalker@gmail.com))

Before you do, however, look over this year's Election Rules:

- Nominees must be Mountains Group members who give their consent to be nominated.
- Requests for nomination must be received by September 2.
- If the Nominating Committee chooses **not** to place a willing candidate on the ballot as a nominated candidate, the candidate may seek placement on the ballot as a petition candidate.
- The name of any Mountains Group member may be proposed by written petition (with candidate approval) containing the signatures of at least 10 Mountains Group members. Petitions with valid signatures must be received by 6:00 pm on September 16.
- All Mountains Group members as of October 13, 2017, shall be sent ballots.
- Ballots will be mailed (as part of the *Palm and Pine*) by October 20.
- Final receipt date for ballots shall be November 24<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon.
- Ballots will be verified, opened, and counted at 11:30 am on Saturday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at Hot Shots Coffeehouse, 27212 Highway 189, Blue Jay, CA.
- The 2-year term of office for the newly elected Excom members will commence on January 1, 2018, and will run through December 31, 2019.

Everything accomplished by the Mountains Group is done by volunteers and this is one way that you can help make a difference.

If you want to know more about the duties of an Executive Committee member please feel free to contact Dave Barrie at [barriemail@mac.com](mailto:barriemail@mac.com).

### Advice From A Tree

Stand tall and proud - Sink your roots deep into the earth - Be content with your natural beauty - Go out on a limb - Drink plenty of water - Remember your roots - Enjoy the view!

### Advice From A Squirrel

Look both ways when you cross the road.. Plan ahead.. Stay active.. Eat plenty of fiber.. Spend time in the woods.. Go out on a limb.. It's OK to be a little nuts!

### Advice From A Mountain

Reach for new heights. Rise above it all. There is beauty as far as the eye can see. Be uplifting. Patience, patience, patience. Get to the point. Enjoy the view!

#### NOTE:

#### Reform Off-Highway Vehicle Use in California

- **SB249 Passes the State Senate**
- **Now on to the Assembly**

- In a positive move to mitigate damage from OHVs the State Senate voted on 6/1/2017 to pass SB 249 which will reauthorize the OHMVR program with important revisions. The bill now moves on to the State Assembly.
- SC members in Juniper Flats suffered from long-term land-use degradation due to off-road vehicles and the ineffective status of the OHMVR commission. Under the current program the OHMVR encourages ever increasing green sticker vehicle recreation on BLM and USFS lands while ignoring increasingly popular 4x4 and SUV travel for touring and to access non-motorized recreation. This bill would help to provide better resource protection and conservation requirements by establishing a standard process for avoiding and addressing resource degradation. The bill also includes an extension of the sunset date to 2023.

All forms of outdoor recreation have environmental impact but not in equal measure. Today, environmental degradation from OHV activity is outpacing California's ability to repair and control it. We have a chance to change that, but we must act now.

Introduced by California State Senator Ben Allen (D-Redondo Beach) and supported by more than 30 environmental organizations, SB 249 seeks to slow OHV damage through common sense measures, including:

- Improved environmental monitoring and mitigation at California State Vehicle Recreation Areas (on par with the standards followed by other parks in the State Park system).
- Greater transparency and accountability for the State Park's Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Division.
- Funding allotment that better reflects recreational use, demand, and impact.

The OHV lobby has worked aggressively to stop the bill. For more on SB 249 and to see a list of supporting organizations, go to [www.cnps.org/reform-ohv](http://www.cnps.org/reform-ohv)

– Submitted by Pam Nelson and Jenny Wilder

## Hop on, Riverside to San Diego Commuter Train

By Maryellen Garcia, Member, Santa Margarita Group

As you might be aware, we have been pushing for the creation of a commuter electric train connecting Riverside and San Diego through the Temecula Valley. But why are we strongly advocating it? A list of the significant reasons would include:

**A. Jobs and Commuting:** We need an adequate income to support ourselves and our families, ideally working in a position commensurate with our education, training and experience. We need more than a minimum wage to pay for living expenses such as rent or mortgage, transportation, food, and various types of insurance. Many higher paying jobs are located close to major urban areas. Unfortunately, our region provides only a fraction of the jobs needed to support our population.

**B. Housing and Schools:** The cost of housing in metropolitan Los Angeles and San Diego is extremely high. Many of us opted to live in the Temecula Valley region because the cost of housing was still affordable. Families could live in an area with good schools and easy access to stores and medical facilities.

**C. Societal Impacts:** When we commute by car to our employment a significant distance away, we pay a high price in terms of time away from family, friends and the community. Some of us commute in excess of three hours each day and also put in eight or more hours at work. Our time on congested highways exhausts us, depletes our energy and often robs us of our patience and good humor. When we allow ourselves to think about being away from our families for eleven or more hours a day, five days a week, we might feel resentful but also

helpless to change the routine. Moreover, commuting is expensive; the costs of a personal car, fuel and maintenance can be a large share of our income. However, commuting allows our families to live in better homes and surroundings, so often the trade-offs seem necessary.

our modern society. Aaron Reuben's article, "This is your brain on Smog (July/August 2015, *Mother Jones*), provides a highly persuasive assertion that pollution contributes to inducing many neurological problems, including dementia. The recent article in *Los Angeles Times* by Tony

route. Otherwise, it wouldn't be capable of reaching the intended speed and travel time of 220 miles per hour. It will reduce travel time between Northern California and Southern California, supplementing air travel. Because of its high speed and infrequent stops, the Bullet Train cannot be considered a regional commuter train.



### A Commuter Train is a Necessity in the Inland Empire

A commuter train system would ideally serve each city from Riverside to San Diego and would need to operate frequently between early in the morning to late in the evening.

#### Benefits

It would stimulate economic development within the corridor. It would reduce the use of Highways 15/215 by single commuters. It would link to the existing commuter train services both in San Diego and Los Angeles counties. It would improve air quality within the region by removing a large number of commuter cars from the highways. It would improve the safety and quality of life for commuters.

#### Norfolk, Virginia

Many cities have already had to provide a mass transit system to commuters. Rapid electric commuter trains are common in many major cities in the world and some of our own major cities.

What does it take to create such a system operating between Riverside and San Diego? We must demand that our elected local and the state government officials start plan, designing and constructing an electric commuter train system connecting Riverside to San Diego.

At present, many of us have no choice but to use our personal car to commute to a job a far distance away. We simply don't have feasible alternatives.

**D. Environmental Impacts:** We must also consider the physiological costs that a polluted environment incurs when cars on our congested highways spew toxic exhaust. These pollutants damage our personal health, including heart, lungs and nervous system. It is a well-documented fact that automobile exhaust is responsible for many medical and psychological diseases we have been experiencing in

Barboza and Jon Schleuss (March 2, 2017) indicates that "L.A. keeps building [dwellings] near freeways, even though living there makes people sick. Are you one of the 2.5 million Southern Californians already living in the pollution zone?"

We need to consider how the Bullet Train (<http://www.hsr.ca.gov/>) will impact this problem. It is the system now under construction that will connect San Francisco to Los Angeles with a future option to connect to San Diego through the Inland Empire. By design, the Bullet Train will have infrequent stops and would connect only major cities on its



## OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND!

By Jono Hildner, San Gorgonio Chapter's Political Chair

Your San Gorgonio Chapter Political Committee is starting to gear up for the 2018 elections, even as we begin processing endorsements for the local elections this November.

As most of you know, we have a large number of City Councils in the Chapter that have had members elected at-large. They have tended to be conservative members who live in well-to-do neighborhoods, care not at all for environmental justice and yet, they continue to get elected year after year.

### This is changing!

There are two forces that are making changes to City governments that have the promise of making our City Councils more responsive to representing the interests of ALL their voters and to the issues of environmental justice in these cities.

The first, and least traumatic of these forces, is the need for cities to comply with SB 415 that was signed by the Governor in 2015 and which goes into effect on January 1, 2018. This law requires that municipalities which have an election on a date other than the date of state-wide elections, must determine if their voter turnout is 25% less than the average turnout for the last four state-wide elections. If that turns out to be the case, they must adjust

the terms of office for current office holders and begin holding their elections on state-wide election dates. This is intended to increase participation rates and should result in more disadvantaged voters showing up at the polls.

The second and far more dramatic change is cities being



threatened with lawsuits for violating the California Voting Rights Act. Our neighboring City of Palmdale decided to fight such a lawsuit and lost, costing it about \$7 million. Not smart! Hemet, Wildomar, Hesperia, Upland, and Rancho Cucamonga have

already moved to elections by district as a result of the threat of being sued. It is no mystery why projects that harm livability and nature in a particular part of town get approved by councils that don't have a member who lives in that part of town.

### We can and MUST do better!

We want to support the efforts of groups like the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project that have been sending demand letters to our cities. Once districts get defined, our work has just begun. We need to seek out environmental supporters in those districts who never thought they had a chance of getting elected to office, give them our endorsement and then begin to marshal all the various resources that it takes to win an election.

Yes, we have an environmental disaster leading the nation from the White House and we need to constantly resist, but we can't lose sight of the joy of living in California and take advantage of the political opportunities that exist right here in the San Gorgonio Chapter.

Love the new Club tag line. Not only do we have *Explore, Enjoy, Protect*, but now we also have "*Recruit, Resist, Train and Sustain*."

Let's keep turning this Chapter Green!!

### OUR ENDORSED CANDIDATES

#### City of Moreno Valley

**Cheylynda Barnard finished second to the candidate financed by the developer of the World Logistics Center**

#### City of Riverside

**Rafael Elizalde lost badly with only 34% of the vote**

**Andy Melendrez won handily with 57% of the vote**

**WE HAVE A LOT OF WORK TO DO!**

## Chapter Executive Committee Election Update

The Nominating Committee for this year's Executive Committee election is looking for candidates to fill five available positions.

If you would like to be considered for nomination, or know someone that you would want to present for nomination, please contact Dave Barrie at [barriemail@mac.com](mailto:barriemail@mac.com)

And while you are deciding about applying for consideration, have a look at this year's election rules . . .

### San Gorgonio Chapter Executive Committee Election Rules

1. A Nominating Committee shall be appointed on, or before, January 24, 2017.
2. Nominees for the election must be San Gorgonio Chapter members who give their consent to be nominated.
3. Requests for nomination must be received by September 2 by 12:00 noon and a final list of nominees will be available from the Nominating Committee Chair on that date.
4. If the Nominating Committee chooses not to place a willing candidate on the ballot as a nominated candidate, the candidate will be notified and may seek placement on the ballot as a petition candidate. To obtain Petition Candidate information, contact Dave Barrie at [barriemail@mac.com](mailto:barriemail@mac.com)
5. The name of any Chapter member may be proposed by written petition (with candidate approval) containing the signatures of at least 15 Chapter members. Petitions with valid signatures are to be sent to Sierra Club, P.O. Box 651, Blue Jay, CA 92317 and must be received no later than 6:00 pm on September 16.
6. An Election Committee shall be appointed on, or before, January 24, 2017.
7. All San Gorgonio Chapter members as of October 13, 2017, shall be sent ballots.
8. Ballots will be mailed (as part of the *Palm and Pine*) by October 20.
9. Final receipt date for ballots shall be November 26 at 6:00 pm.
10. Ballots will be verified, opened, and counted on November 27 at 11:30 am at The Belgian Waffle Works in Lake Arrowhead Village.
11. The two-year term of office for the newly elected Excom members will commence just prior to adjournment of the last Excom meeting of the year. (Nov. 28, 2017)

**Added Note:**

This year's Chapter election will offer online voting as well as the typical paper ballot in the *Palm and Pine*. Look for directions where the paper ballot is located in the November/December issue of the *Palm and Pine*.



## NEW! ELECTRIC LAWN MOWER REBATE PROGRAM

The SCAQMD's Electric Lawn Mower Program has been redesigned to be available year-round as an after-purchase rebate to provide the public with the opportunity to purchase a cordless, battery-electric lawn mower from a variety of eligible manufacturers. The new program also allows residents to shop for an electric lawnmower when and where it's convenient for them. Consumers can purchase their new cordless, battery-electric mower from either a local retailer or online distributor. The Program will provide after-purchase rebates of \$150, \$200 or \$250, depending on the retail cost of the new electric mower.

Only residents of the SCAQMD's four-county jurisdiction are eligible to participate in the Program. For additional information and downloading English/Spanish flyer, visit our Web page here.

For further help, please email [lawnmower@aqmd.gov](mailto:lawnmower@aqmd.gov) or call 888-425-6247 (Tuesday-Friday).



## Membership

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club

MasterCard Visa Exp Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
Introductory .....	\$15	
Regular .....	\$39	\$49
Supporting .....	\$75	\$100
Contributing .....	\$150	\$175
Life .....	\$1,000	\$1,250
Senior .....	\$25	\$35
Student .....	\$25	\$35

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

SCAQMD is pleased to offer a year-round program that allows consumers to purchase new cordless electric lawn mowers at any retail center or online. There are many electric lawn mower models available. Eligibility is open to residents of South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction.

REBATE PROGRAM STEP BY STEP

- 1 Purchase your new, cordless electric lawn mower
- 2 Begin the online application, uploading your purchase receipt ([www.aqmd.gov/lawnmower](http://www.aqmd.gov/lawnmower))
- 3 Select a certified scrapper from our list and print your certification form
- 4 Take your old working gas mower to the scrapping location and have the scrapper sign and return the certification form to you
- 5 Upload the signed certification form to your application
- 6 Sign and submit your final application electronically for processing

Rebate amounts are based on the purchase price of the new electric lawn mower, not including taxes and delivery. The electric lawn mower purchased must include a battery and charger.

**What You'll Need:** Proof of purchase and signed scrap certificate.

\*Rebate amount cannot be greater than the purchase price.

The rebate program is first-come, first-served and rebates will continue until all program funds have been exhausted.

Please visit our website [www.aqmd.gov/lawnmower](http://www.aqmd.gov/lawnmower) to access the lists of Lawn Mower Manufacturers, and certified scappers as well as Frequently Asked Questions. You can also email us at [lawnmower@aqmd.gov](mailto:lawnmower@aqmd.gov) or call us (Tuesday-Friday) at 888-425-6247.