Join Us On July 11th 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.”

Larry Foley will Skype into the chapter meeting to answer questions from the audience. This is a first for our San Gorgonio Chapter meetings. Foley, a professor of journalism at University of Arkansas, narrates the film. He will be joined by John Taylor, who directs the film’s editing.

Larry Foley will be Skype into the chapter meeting to answer questions from the audience. This is the first for our San Gorgonio Chapter meetings. Foley said, “People know of the river as a canoe stream, and it’s one of the best. But the Buffalo is so much more, and this 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-Winner); Saving the Eagles, The Last Squadron and When Lightning Struck: Saga of an American Wartime Plane (Mid-America Emmy-Writer).
A bout 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 p.m. Since we have such a large geography (a drive west to east is about 235 miles) our meetings are held via conference call. The ExCom 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 the Council of Club Leaders. Each of our seven Groups also have a spot on the table, so a full ExCom would include 16 members. Here are a few topics from recent meetings:
- Selecting 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 SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: Items for the September/October 2017 Calendar are due by August 1, 2017. FORMAT: Use the text below. Send items electronically if possible. Outings & meetings: write-ups to your group or section Organizer Chair. MEETINGS & other events: Send electronically to Ladd Sekirski at ladd.g.sekirski@gmail.com

GENERAL INFORMATION/RULES/DISCLAIMERS - All Outings are Chapter Certified Leaders having appropriate Outings Training Courses. First Aid Courses, and 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 with respect to the LEADER AND TRIPS REQUIREMENT (P-Many Outings specify trip leaders to be carried by EACH participant. Do not attend Outings without the specified items unless you first have 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) First aid 7) First aid kit 8) Extra food and water for emergency use only 9) Clothing (including warm 10) Sun protection including sunscreen and sunglasses. Carpooling is encouraged, but only the responsibility of individual participants. The Sierra Club and its leaders may facilitate carpooling, however they will not assigned. Drivers should have adequate insurance coverage and their vehicle should have no safety defects. For Sierra Club facilitated carpooling, drivers agree not to consume any alcoholic beverages it is customary for riders to share expenses with the driver. The above information is 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 “Adventures 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 trails can require passes and unpaved areas do not require passes. Outings that require passes usually will be preceded by ** in the listings that follow and the leader may indicate he 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 day or $30 per day, however, they may not be the be available 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 other passengers in the vehicle. The Golden Eagle Passes and Golden Age Passes may be purchased in lieu of the line at the Forest Service Pass stations. However, the Golden Eagle Pass is valid for 10,000 ft. altitude, but early Saturday morning will work. BRING: Packing list will be handed out on the hike. MODERATE 4-5 miles round trip with 1980 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@stclairus. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JULY-AUGUST 2017

THE OUTINGS CALENDAR IS ONLINE AT http://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org

CALENDAR OF OUTINGS, MEETINGS, AND OTHER EVENTS

MONDAY, JUNE 26 – JULY 2

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

CHAPTER MEETINGS

JUNE 27 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING Meeting governing membership. 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 MEETINGS

JUNE 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@stclairus. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JULY 1-3 (SAT-MON) BLACK ROCK DESERT - FOURTH OF JULY PLAYA 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 Lasen-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 K97TYM, 775-843-6443 CNRCE DESERT COMMITTEE

JULY 4-14 (SAT-TUE) GOLDEN TROUT WILDERNESS BACKPACK Enjoy a 4-day 23 mile loop backpack out of Horsehoe Meadows, southwest of Lone Pine. We will go out on Monday, Tuesday and possibly over Cottonwood Pass, in between hiking through meadows and along creeks over fairly gentle terrain. Big Whitley Meadows is one of the largest in the Sierra and is a favorite of mine. We’ll see some of the rockier highcountry and perhaps some of the alpine zone. We won’t work according to 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 Horsehoe 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. CONTACT LEADER DAVID MELTON, (760) 408-2456, dmelton61@yahoo.com. BIG BEAR GROUP

**JUL 2 (SAT-MON) 8:00 AM DELAMAR MOUNTAIN BACKPACK This is a Peaks of Big Bear hike. Those achieving all five peaks overlooking Big Bear 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. Drive to the trailhead over your own access road. CONTACT LEADER PETER MICHALEN, petermichelen@gmail.com, 760-333-3103. BIG BEAR GROUP

Continued on Page 4 > > >
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 8,960 ft), 11.5 miles through hike down to ski lift parking lot with a 4,200 ft. elevation gain. 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@stclairs.us

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

This area has been described as one of "deep, rugged canyons, high bald peaks, wild wet feet." Begin on the North Twin River, near Carver, about an hour’s drive northeast of Tonopah, at an elevation above 6,000 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. Anc Lake, 4,100 ft. elevation gain. Day 4 we descend down South Twin with a camp after several miles. The last day is the hike out, 16 miles, 3,000 ft. elevation gain with backpacks. An option to do the trip in the opposite direction. Elevation gain to the top of Arc Dome is 3,000 ft. less. P.O. Box 130, from Las Vegas, details on trip sheet. Limit 12. RESERVATIONS: CONTACT LEADER DAVID HARDY 702-875-4826 hardyhikers@embarqmail.com email preferred.

**JUL 8 (SAT) 8:00 AM BLUFF LAKE TO GUNSIGHT 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. MEET: Vons parking lot at 8:30 AM. Bring: ten essentials, 2 liters of water, lunch/snack, 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, jdy752@gmail.com, or LEADER CHARLOTTE WATTS, mornampsie@gmail.com, (909) 866-7423.

**JUL 9 (SUN) 8:00 AM IDYLLWILD TO GUNSLIGHT (OR REVERSE)

This will be a moderate 5 - 7 mile hike starting near The Wildlands Conservancy at Bluff Lake, on the champion lodgepole pine. We will stop there to admire it and take pictures. Then we will get on the Siberca River Trail which we should have lots of wildflowers, that will take us to Gunslight 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, jdy752@gmail.com, or LEADER CHARLOTTE WATTS, mornampsie@gmail.com, (909) 866-7423.

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

This is a strenuous hike up to the summit of the prominent 11,773 ft. Grays Peak, 4100 ft. elevation gain. Day 4 semi- round trip distance is 8 miles round trip with 2814 ft. elevation gain. Spectacular vistas as far as the eye can see every direction!!! Rain cancels. BRING: water, snacks, lunch, 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

**JUL 9 (SUN) 8:00 AM JOHNS MEADOW HIKE

This is a favorite this time of year due to the abundance of wildflowers usually found at Forsece 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: Aspen Glen Picnic Area on Mill Creek Rd. on the west side of Big Bear Lake. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER JUDY ATKINSON (909) 289-1932, jdy752@gmail.com, or LEADER CHARLOTTE WATTS, mornampsie@gmail.com, (909) 866-7423.

**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.

**JUL 10 – JULY 16 Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings (Also, refer to Weekly Recurring Outings and Activities)

**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, kimfloyd@fastmail.fm (760) 249-5385.

**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. ATTENDANCE: Excl. 1st at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com (909) 800-3911.

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

This will be a strenuous hike to the summit of Mt. Baden-Powell at 9,920 feet. This is a Peaks of Big Bear hike. Those achieving all 5 peaks overlooking 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

**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 footgear. MEET: 8:00 AM at the Victor Valley Museum, Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley. LEADER: NORMAN BOSOM (760) 337-2372 or Email: coachnorns@yahoo.com

**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 Forsece 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: Aspen Glen Picnic Area on Mill Creek Rd. on the west side of Big Bear Lake. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER JUDY ATKINSON (909) 289-1932, jdy752@gmail.com, or LEADER CHARLOTTE WATTS, mornampsie@gmail.com, (909) 866-7423.**

**JUL 20 (THU) 7:00 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 Sivevent Falls, Spruce Grove & Hooegees 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

**JULY 23 – JULY 27 Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings (Also, refer to Weekly Recurring Outings and Activities)

**JULY 27 – JULY 29 PAGE 4 Continued on Page 5 >>
**AUG 5 (SAT) 8:30 AM** DAWSON SADDLE HIKE

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 Sipil 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: QUENTIN LAKE, (951) 315-7691, qlake15@gmail.com

**BIG BEAR GROUP**

**AUG 6 (SUN) 8:00 AM** DELAMAR MOUNTAIN HIKE

This is a peak 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. Don’t forget your Adventure pass for parking. RESERVATIONS: CONTACT LEADER PETER MICHELSSEN, petermichelsen@gmail.com, 760-333-3103. **BIG BEAR GROUP**

**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, kimfloyd04@fastmail.fm (760) 249-5385. **CHAPTER**

**AUG 9 (WED) 6:30 PM** BIG BEAR GROUP EXCMO

The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: ELLEN KESLER, 999-885-1062, jkicke47@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. BRING: The ten essentials including 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 (SAT) 8:00 AM** 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 BOSWOM, (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 16-26 (SATEWD) 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, momscampsite@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: 6:00 AM at the Gray’s Peak trailhead parking lot. Don’t forget your adventure pass for parking. RESERVATIONS: CONTACT LEADER PETER MICHELSSEN, petermichelsen@gmail.com, 760-333-3103. **BIG BEAR GROUP**

**JULY 21 (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 Gray Valley Museum, Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley. LEADER: NORMAN BOSWOM (760) 912-3725, coachnorm@yahoo.com **MOJAVE GROUP**

**JULY 22 (SAT) 8:30 AM** DEER SPRINGS TRT TO DEVILS SLIDE TR HIKE

Join us on a 11-mile hike from the Deer Springs Trail to Humber Park in Idylwild. 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 the 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 Deer Slides Sl I will have 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 MARALSONE, hikese@gmail.com **SANTA MARGARITA GROUP**

**JULY 23 (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, momscampsite@gmail.com, 909-886-7423. **BIG BEAR GROUP**

**JULY 24 – JULY 30**

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

**AUG 1 (TUE) 7:00 PM** SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCMO MEETING

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

**AUG 29 (SUN) 7:00 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 near on a bench overlooking Ice House Canyon at an elevation of about 5720’. We will hike to the junction of the Rattlesnake Trail. 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 WARGHOL, 909-985-7686, jmwandaw@hotmail.com **LOS SERRANOS GROUP**

**AUG 30 (SAT) 8:00 AM** L. J. FOSTER  BIG BEAR GROUP

**AUG 31 (SUN) 8:00 AM** L. J. FOSTER  BIG BEAR GROUP

**SEPTEMBER 2017  Page 5**
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. They visited 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, a beautiful church, 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.

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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.

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 Basílica 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 providing 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 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 4th 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;
- A 3-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 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 jtrickett47@yahoo.com or call 909.585.1062.

I look forward to hearing from you! – Ellen Kesler

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.
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.

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

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.
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 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 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 check the cage for any remaining goodies. Their participation in our programs is important and we are grateful.

The Mojave Group had a very busy April and May. Starting on April 18th Susan Stueber, along with a volunteer from Citizens Climate Lobby, joined other organizations and businesses to talk to us about 154th and 5th 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 asked them, “How many of you like going hiking?” and almost every student raised their hand. We asked them, “How many of you know about the Sierra Club?” and only a few had heard of us. We asked them, “How many of you know about the Sierra Club?” and only a few had heard of us.

“Stalwart Soul” badges go to Sue Walker and Bob Sherman, Bob, Carol and Andrew Kintzel, Karla Kelmens, and Dave Barrie. Honorable mention goes to Ed Patryzkowski of the Mojave Group who visited for a while on Saturday afternoon.

On Monday May 8th 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.

We are especially wanting to see increased activity going on in the High Desert. We are having trouble reaching out to high school students about climate change. We gave every student a Sierra Club T-shirt. It was interesting to see the different levels of enthusiasm and engagement between the different groups.

On April 22nd 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 books.

On April 29th our group, in conjunction with Citizens Climate Lobby of the Victor Valley, held a Climate Rally in Victorville. At one point we had 10 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 17th 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 Kavezd from the Chapter’s My Generation activist group discussing opportunities in the High Desert. We are looking forward to continuing to work with Yassi to find and support candidates in high desert area.

On Saturday May 6th 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 posthike as well.

Not to be! On Wednesday the 3rd the temperature in the Keller area peaked in the low-50s but by Saturday nighttime it was only 40 and falling. We watched 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 dripping on the window glass.

We are quickly and just as quickly 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 between 7:00 and 7:30 with the weekend Keller Hut Oversee (me) the last out at 7:30. I don’t know how much snow Keller got, but at my home in Lake Keller area peaked in 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!”

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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 Kestrel population of the squirrels in the San Bernardino Mountains. The information gathered is tracked through Naturalist.org, which provides a platform for citizen scientists to upload their observations on their properties. Their participation included installation and maintenance of the cameras, monitoring activities, and completing the data 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 camera. A perforated feeder top 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
**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, jtricks47@yahoo.com BIG BEAR GROUP

**AUG 19 (SAT) 7:30 AM** SAN JACINTO PEAK – PALMSPRINGS 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 back. 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 21 – AUGUST 27** Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings (Also, refer to Weekly Recurring Outings and Activities)

**AUG 22 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING**
Chapter governance meeting. Monthly except for December. PLACE: The meeting is by teleconference. If you wish to participate, contact Mary Ann for instructions. INFO: MARY ANN RUZ, 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 Rd., Running Springs, CA 92392, 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 AM** BLUE RIDGE HIKE
This is a moderate 4-mile hike with a 600 ft. 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 BIG BEAR 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 10.3 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 MICHELSSEN, ptemichelsen@gmail.com, (909) 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 TO PCT AND WEST 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 & hiking sticks. MEET: Please call or email to confirm by 5 PM August 27. LEADER: JEFF WARHOL, 909-985-7686, jwarwaldj@hotmail.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

**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 MICHELSSEN, (760) 333-3103, petermichelsen@gmail.com BIG BEAR GROUP

**SEP 29-OCT 1 (FRI-SUN) NORTHERN PUBLIC LANDS DAY WORK PARTY**
Join various Northern Nevada outdoor groups for an yet undetermined volunteer project in the Black Rock Desert about 100 miles north of Reno. Current plans are for a project at Soldier Meadows Campground. More details 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. 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 FALL DANCE NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FALL 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 gjseekins@scbglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309.

(3RD WED) 7:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT SANBERNARDINOVALLEYAUDUBONSOCIETY 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, 204 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit H10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

(3RD FRI) 8:30 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FALL DANCE NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FALL 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 gjseekins@scbglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309.

**NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES CALENDAR**

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

**JUL 19 (WED) 7:30 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING UC RIVERSIDE FALL DANCE CLUB See contact information above.**

**JUL 21 (FR) 8:30 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE UC RIVERSIDE FALL DANCE CLUB See contact information above.**

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

**AUG 16 (WED) 7:00PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING UC RIVERSIDE FALL DANCE CLUB See contact information above.**

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

**SEP 1 (FRI) 8:30 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE UC RIVERSIDE FALL DANCE CLUB See contact information above.**
Thank you to Christina Torres and Eileen O’Brien for all of their time and effort. 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 color in 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 Millsapugh, 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 rbready@rcalma.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., Department 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 six months. The Cajalco Road expansion continues the planned Mid County Parkway expansion, i.e., a six-lane road from San Jacinto to Corona.

Mountain Roads, Conservation and Recreation

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

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 authorize 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 standardized 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 sponsored 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 Recreational vehicle Division.
- Funding allotment that better reflects recreational use, demand, and impact.

The OHV lobby has worked aggressively to stop the bill.

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

- Nominees must be Mountain Groups 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 list of any Mountain Groups member may be proposed by written petition (with candidate approval) containing the signatures of at least 10 Mountain Groups members. Petitions with valid signatures must be received by 6:00 pm on September 16.
- All Mountain Groups 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 to be mailed by November 24 or 12 noon.
- Ballots will be verified, opened, and counted at 11:30 am on Saturday, November 25th 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 Mountain Groups 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.

Moreno Valley Group... Continued from Page 8

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!
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 and get used to living in an area with good schools and easy access to stores and medical facilities.

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 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 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 infrastructural stops and would connect only major cities on its 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. For commuters, it would mean 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 opted 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 state government officials support the needed infrastructure. We must demand that our elected local and 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.

A Commuter Train is a Necessity in the Inland Empire

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 infrastructural stops and would connect only major cities on its 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

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

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 to our state houses. We have to find the money to fix the problem. 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!!
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 consideration, please contact Dave Barrie at 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
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 by 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 by 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)

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 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 or call 888-425-6247 (Tuesday-Friday).

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

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

E-mail Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club

F94 W-1200 1  
Sierra Club  
P. O. Box 421041  
Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

1 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.

Electric Lawn Mower Rebate Program

South Coast AQMD

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 open to residents of South Coast AQMD’s jurisdiction.

The rebate program is first come, first served and rebates will continue until all program funds have been exhausted. For more information, visit www.aqmd.gov/lawnmower or call the SCAQMD at 888-425-6247 (Tuesday-Friday).