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Membership Meetings

Tuesday, May 1st • 7:30 PM
“Caring for Our Wilderness: The San Gorgonio Wilderness Association”
Presented by Robert Hazelton
(see write up on Page 1)

Tuesday, June 5th • 7:30 PM
Presented by Frazier Haney
(see write up on Page 2)

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

OUTINGS LEADER TRAINING
JUNE 2-3

If you enjoy healthy exercise and the abundance of special places to visit in the San Gorgonio Chapter, then you have probably participated in our extensive Outings Program. Coming up is the opportunity for you to become a Chapter Outings Leader beginning this June 2 & 3 at the Sierra Club owned ski cabin near Running Springs.

But outings need not be limited to hiking, biking and cross-country skiing. The chapter encourages a wide range of outings; perhaps you are more interested in family outings or special focus outings such as those emphasizing flora and fauna or photography. These outings oftentimes are shorter and slower and chapter members particularly request more outings of this nature.

The June training involves an overnight stay and includes instruction in outdoor leadership, Outings Administration, Map and Compass Psychology of Leadership and environmental considerations. Sunday will include a field exercise where you put into practice your newly acquired skills.

For this year fees are being waived and only a $15 refundable deposit is required. Additionally, participants will be asked to contribute one food item for the Saturday night dinner.

Early enrollment is highly encourage as upon receiving your application with payment you will immediately be provided some pre-course material to study at your own pace. For late enrollees, it is not necessary to complete this study material prior to the class; however it will greatly aid you in doing so.

For an application form or general questions, please email Ralph Salisbury,
LTC Chair at ralphsalisbury@att.net
Alternatively you may use mail to Ralph Salisbury, 2995 Floral Ave, Riverside, CA 92507.

R Ober Hazelton, board member of the San Gorgonio Wilderness Association (SGWA), will speak at the May 1st meeting of the San Gorgonio Chapter (see meeting details in left-hand column). In addition to the SGWA, Robert will discuss several other topics related to wilderness, including the Leave No Trace ethic, public lands, and volunteerism.

The San Gorgonio Wilderness, nearly 60,000 acres, was created by the Wilderness Act of 1964. The Sierra Club and the Defenders of the San Gorgonio Wilderness (Defenders), which included Joe Momyer, Alice Krueger, and many other Sierra Club leaders, had worked for several years fighting a proposed ski resort in the heart of the wilderness. In 2016 the eastern portion of the wilderness became part of the Sand to Snow National Monument, which joins the San Bernardino Mountains to Joshua Tree National Park. The San Gorgonio Volunteer Association grew out of the Defenders. In 2000 it changed its name to the San Gorgonio Wilderness Association. It currently has about 200 volunteers working in and/or for the wilderness. Uniformed members patrol trails, aid hikers in need, do trail maintenance, run the Barton Flats Visitor Center, and help the Mill Creek Ranger Station, where wilderness permits are issued.

Robert describes himself in the words of Edward Abbey as, “a reluctant crusader, a half-hearted fanatic” when it comes to wilderness, Leave No Trace, and volunteerism. Raised in a family that camped very often, Robert didn’t learn about capital “W”-wilderness until 11 years ago and has since embraced all that the idea of wilderness entails. When he isn’t involved in volunteer efforts Robert spends most of his time manipulating data as a Business Systems Analyst for a software company in Southern California. He is an advocate and master educator for Outdoor Ethics. Robert lives in Redlands.

MAY 1ST CHAPTER PROGRAM TO COVER TOPICS RELEVANT TO: “CARING FOR OUR WILDERNESS”

Helping Your Chapter as a Monthly Donor is as Easy as 1-2-3

1. Go to http://sangorgonio2.sierraclub.org and hit the “Donate” button:
2. Pick your monthly amount
   $3? $10? $20? you choose, any amount is appreciated;
3. Hit “submit” for a big THANK YOU!
   from San Gorgonio Chapter!

Presented by Frazier Haney

The June chapter meeting speaker will be Frazier Haney, who will discuss the impacts of the Trump Administration’s recent decision to review the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP), which is charged with conserving and allocating uses of the public lands in the Coachella Valley. Haney will review the status of the DRECP, the current council, and the shifting nature of the DRECP debate in regards to species protections and energy development.

Chapter Conservation Issue Chairs

Desert Issues – High Desert
Kim Floyd 760-680-9497
Kimfloyd@fastmail.com
Bryan Baker 760-242-6526
bb@76879@hotmail.com
Jenny Wilder 760-345-4001
jenny.wilder@sierracabin.org
Desert Issues – Low Desert
Joan Taylor jsjoan01@gmail.com
Desert – Eagle Mountain
Kim Floyd 760-680-9497
kimfloyd@fastmail.com
Forestry Issues – Mountaintop RD
East – Ed Wallace 909-584-9497
West – Steve Floyd 760-777-9150
sierracabin@san-gorgonio.sierracab.org
Forestry Issues – San Jacinto RD
Joyce Burc 760-220-0204
Forestry Issues – Cleveland NF
Pam Nelson 760-767-2324
sierracabin@gmail.com
Forestry Issues – Front Country RD
Joyce Burc 760-220-0204
Water Issues. Steve Floyd 760-777-9150

Chair – Enion Kesler jcricket47@yahoo.com
Meets 3rd Tuesday except July & August, every 2nd Tuesday.
Sterling Inn, Regency Room,
21200 Baseline Rd. Rancho Cucamonga, 7 p.m.

Group Directory
Big Bear Group:
Chair – ellen kesler jcricket47@yahoo.com
Meet 3rd Tuesday except July & August, every 2nd Tuesday.
Sterling Inn, Regency Room,
21200 Baseline Rd. Rancho Cucamonga, 7 p.m.

Los Serranos Group:
Chair – Brian Elliott brianelli@aol.com
Meet 3rd Tuesday except July & August, every 2nd Tuesday.
Sterling Inn, Regency Room,
21200 Baseline Rd. Rancho Cucamonga, 7 p.m.

Mojave Group:
Chair – Susan Steuber susan@sierracabin.org
Meet 2nd Wednesday except Jul & Aug.
Sterling Inn, Regency Room,
21200 Baseline Rd. Rancho Cucamonga, 7 p.m.

Mountains Group:
Chair – Dave Barrie bartemail@mac.com
Meet 2nd Monday 7:00 p.m.
Except Aug. & Dec.
Sterling Inn, Regency Room,
21200 Baseline Rd. Rancho Cucamonga, 7 p.m.

Tahquitz Group:
Chair – Joan Taylor, psjoan01@gmail.com
Meet 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
Sterling Inn, Regency Room,
21200 Baseline Rd. Rancho Cucamonga, 7 p.m.

San Bernardino Mtns Group:
Chair – Marc Young mcy88@yahoo.com
Meet 3rd Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
Angle Inn, Magic Room
21611 Baseline Rd. Menifee, 6:30 p.m.

San Jacinto Group:
Chair – Paul Nelson 951-767-2324
sierracabin@gmail.com
Meet 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
Except July & August at Temecula Valley Library,
30060 Pauba Road, Temecula

Tahquitz Group:
Chair – Joan Taylor, psjoan01@gmail.com
Meet 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
Sterling Inn, Regency Room,
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The Palm and Pine is published six times per year in January/February, March/April/May/June, July/August/September/October and November/December. Submit all articles to the Editor by the 5th of the Month prior to issue. Preferred format is electronic mail. The Editor reserves the right to edit all work for reasons of space, clarity or libel. If you wish to have your photos or disks returned, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Outings must be submitted to the appropriate Outings Chair.

Member Change of Address
Sierra Club, Change of Address
PO Box 421043, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041
(909) 825-4427 Weekends & evenings
e-mail: ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com

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

For content distribution, please contact the Sierra Club at (415) 977-5500 or
ralphsalisbury@att.net
The Sierra Club Liability Waiver has been updated effective March 1. Please review the new Waiver at sangorgonio2.sierraclub.org

Citizenship Office of Parks and Recreation

The 2018 limited Golden Bear Pass ($20.00) to most state parks is good from January 1 through December 31, 2018, for those 62 years or older and their spouse. Please tell your older relatives and friends. It can be purchased at Lake Perris as well as other state parks that you visit. If you purchase the pass in 2018, it will be valid until December 31 and then you will need another one. Since many day use passes cost $10, it will pay for itself very quickly. It is good for everyone in your car and at most state parks. They can refuse you if the park is busy or expected to be busy. State Park passes also include the Disabled Discount Pass ($3.50 lifetime) and Distinguished Veteran Pass ($5 lifetime). The following link provides more information https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_i id=1049.

Check this out . . .
Receive a $20 CA State Park Pass if you or a relative are at least 62!

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

Enter on Ridgecrest side of the building.
INFO: SUSAN STUEBER, susanquintin. stueber8@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 PM. PLACE: Terracella Valley Library, 3000 Paula Road, Terracella, INFO: PAM NELSON (760) 976-2324 sierraclubsmg@gmail.com SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

(3RD TUE) 7:00 PM PALOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING Monthly except July & August. Please join us for an informative program. PLACE: Goddy B. Lewis Center, Central Park, 11200 Baseline Rd., Rancho Cucamonga. INFO: BRIAN ELLIOTT, brianelli@aol.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

(3RD THU) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING Monthly meeting except January, February and December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site at sangorgonio2.sierraclub.org/bigbear. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 60971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. INFO: ELLEN KESLER, 909-585-1062, jcricket47@yahoo.com BIG BEAR GROUP

(4TH TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCMPT MEETING Chapter governance meeting. Monthly except for December. PLACE: The meeting is by teleconference. If you wish to participate, contact Mary Ann for instructions. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ, ruizmaryann@gmail.com, (909) 815-9379. CHAPTER

WEEKLY RECURRING WEEKLY 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

FRI 7:00 AM WHITEWATER PRESERVE TO STONE HOUSE HIKE Join us as we hike 6 miles from Whitewater Preserve to Mission Creek Stone House and back, making this 12 mile RT with 800 feet gain. We will follow the PCT along the river, past Red Dome, then head east on Mission Creek Trail to enjoy lunch in comfort at the Stone House. Rain cancels. BRING: water, lunch/snacks, sturdy boots, hat, sun screen, layer clothing appropriate for the weather. MEET: Contact leader for carpool arrangements from Upland. LEADER: KATHY VIOLA 909-346-9653, kviola826@gmail.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAY 1 – MAY 6 Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings (Also, refer to Weekly Recurring Activities and Outings)

MAY 1 (TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING Monthly chapter meeting. PROGRAM: See front-page notice. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 204 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com, (909) 800-3911. CHAPTER

MAY 2 (WED) 8:00 AM WHITETWATER PRESERVE TO STONE HOUSE HIKE Join us as we hike 6 miles from Whitewater Preserve to Mission Creek Stone House and back, making this 12 mile RT with 800 feet gain. We will follow the PCT along the river, past Red Dome, then head east on Mission Creek Trail to enjoy lunch in comfort at the Stone House. Rain cancels. BRING: water, lunch/snacks, sturdy boots, hat, sun screen, layer clothing appropriate for the weather. MEET: Contact leader for carpool arrangements from Upland. LEADER: KATHY VIOLA 909-346-9653, kviola826@gmail.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAY 5 (THU) 7:00 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING For more information, see front-page notice. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 204 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com, (909) 800-3911. CHAPTER

MAY 8 (FRI) 7:00 AM SUNSET PEAK HIKE This will be a moderate 7-mile round trip hike on a fire road up to the top of Sunset Peak (elevation 5796 ft), with 1300 ft. elevation gain. Great panoramic views in all directions from the peak. Rain cancels. BRING: sturdy boots, water, snack/snacks, layer clothing appropriate for the weather. Adventure Pass will be required for parking at the trailhead. MEET: Contact Nikita Prapatjai to confirm and for directions to the trailhead and carpooling meeting place. LEADER: NIKITA PRAJAPAT, 818-448-6040, nikita.prajapati@gmail.com, CO-LEADER: John St. Clair, johnclairx18@gmail.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAY 10 (SUN) 8:00 AM SUNSET PEAK HIKE This will be a moderate 7 mile round trip hike on a fire road up to the top of Sunset Peak (elevation 5796 ft), with 1300 ft. elevation gain. Great panoramic views in all directions from the peak. Rain cancels. BRING: sturdy boots, water, snack/snacks, layer clothing appropriate for the weather. Adventure Pass will be required for parking at the trailhead. MEET: Contact Nikita Prapatjai to confirm and for directions to the trailhead and carpooling meeting place. LEADER: NIKITA PRAJAPAT, 818-448-6040, nikita.prajapati@gmail.com, CO-LEADER: John St. Clair, johnclairx18@gmail.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAY 14 (FR) 7:00 AM BIGHORN PEAK HIKE This will be a strenuous hike up Ice House Canyon into the Cucamonga Wilderness to the top of Bighorn Peak (elevation 8,441 ft), 11 miles round trip with 3400 ft. elevation gain. The trail follows the creek for the first mile under a canopy of oak, maple, alder, Continued on Page 6 > > >
2018 ExCom Election Update

The table below details the ExCom election schedules and criteria for the Chapter and all of the Groups for the 2018 elections. Please take a look at the information for your Group and look for updates in future issues of the Palm and Pine. There will be general updates from the Chapter Nominating Committee and there may be specific updates from your Group. The first information from the Nominating Committee is located elsewhere in this issue.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>San Gorgonio Chapter</th>
<th>Los Serranos Group</th>
<th>圪 Treaty Group</th>
<th>Mountains Group</th>
<th>Mojave Group</th>
<th>Mountains Valley Group</th>
<th>Big Bear Group</th>
<th>San Migra Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Deadline to appoint Nominating &amp; Election Committee and all Election Schedules</td>
<td>Jan. 23</td>
<td>Feb. 5</td>
<td>Feb. 12</td>
<td>Feb. 5</td>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>Jun. 28</td>
<td>Oct. 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Deadline for Nominating Committee to submit Election Schedules and Criteria for publication</td>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>April 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Nominations for the elections must be from Chapter Group members who give their consent to be nominated</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>4. Last date to accept nominations</td>
<td>Sept. 3</td>
<td>Sept. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Deadline for Nominating Committee to present list of candidates to ExCom</td>
<td>Sept. 1</td>
<td>Sept. 1</td>
<td>Sept. 1</td>
<td>Sept. 1</td>
<td>Sept. 1</td>
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<td>Sept. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. The name of any Chapter/Group member may be proposed by a written petition (with candidate approval) containing a minimum of valid signatures</td>
<td>Dave Barrie (<a href="mailto:davebarrie@mac.com">davebarrie@mac.com</a>)</td>
<td>Mark Rasmussen (<a href="mailto:markrus@mac.com">markrus@mac.com</a>)</td>
<td>Rob Taylor (<a href="mailto:jedwymongo@mac.com">jedwymongo@mac.com</a>)</td>
<td>Dave Barrie (<a href="mailto:davebarrie@mac.com">davebarrie@mac.com</a>)</td>
<td>David Rasmussen (<a href="mailto:davidr@rasmussen.net">davidr@rasmussen.net</a>)</td>
<td>Ann Turner Mckibben (951-934-8149 or <a href="mailto:ann.mckibben@gmail.com">ann.mckibben@gmail.com</a>)</td>
<td>Sherry Noone (<a href="mailto:etsara@verizon.net">etsara@verizon.net</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Petitions with valid signatures are to be sent to: P.O. Box 651 markrushart@Sierra Club P.O. Box 651</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. The minimum number of valid petition signatures shall be:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. The minimum number of valid petition signatures shall be:</td>
<td>Any Chapter member must be Group member</td>
<td>Must be Group member</td>
<td>Must be Group member</td>
<td>Must be Group member</td>
<td>Must be Group member</td>
<td>Must be Group member</td>
<td>Must be Group member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Deadline for Petition Candidates to present petitions</td>
<td>Sept. 10</td>
<td>Sept. 10</td>
<td>Sept. 10</td>
<td>Sept. 10</td>
<td>Sept. 10</td>
<td>Sept. 10</td>
<td>Sept. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Petitions with valid signatures are to be sent to:</td>
<td>Sierra Club P.O. Box 4948 Palm Springs, Ca. 92262</td>
<td>Skidmore Club P.O. Box 4948 Palm Springs, Ca. 92262</td>
<td>Sierra Club P.O. Box 4353 Blue Jay, Ca. 92317</td>
<td>Mountains Group 7100 Bear Valley Rd. 92313</td>
<td>Mojave Group 7100 Bear Valley Rd. 92313</td>
<td>Sierra Club P.O. Box 1325 Moreno Valley, Ca. 92315</td>
<td>Big Bear Group P.O. Box 5048 Big Bear Lake 92315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Deadline for Election Committee to provide final ballot with petition candidates for publication</td>
<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>Oct. 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. All Chapter/Group members of a data specified shall be sent ballots.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Deadline for results to be returned</td>
<td>Nov. 23</td>
<td>Nov. 23</td>
<td>Nov. 23</td>
<td>Nov. 23</td>
<td>Nov. 23</td>
<td>Nov. 23</td>
<td>Nov. 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Election Committee shall verify, sign, and count the ballots</td>
<td>Nov. 26</td>
<td>Nov. 26</td>
<td>Dec. 9</td>
<td>Nov. 24</td>
<td>Nov. 24</td>
<td>Dec. 9</td>
<td>Nov. 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Election Committee shall inform the ExCom &amp; candidates of the results</td>
<td>Chapter ExCom</td>
<td>Group ExCom</td>
<td>Group ExCom</td>
<td>Group ExCom</td>
<td>Group ExCom</td>
<td>Group ExCom</td>
<td>Group ExCom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. The Chapter/Group may decide to send an email asking for help from Chapter/Group volunteers to volunteer</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Big Bear Group Executive Committee Election

This year’s Nominating Committee Sherry Noone, Elizabeth Ryan, and Marv Cira wants you to know that if you want to be considered for nomination, or know someone that you want to present for nomination you can contact any one of them. (Try Sherry at etarre@gmail.com)

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

**Election Rules**

- Nominees must be Big Bear Group members who give their consent to be nominated.
- Requests for nomination must be received by September 1.
- 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 Big Bear Group member may be proposed by written petition (with candidate approval) containing the signatures of at least 10 Big Bear Group members. Petitions with valid signatures must be received by 6:00 pm on September 15th.
- All Big Bear Group members as of October 7, 2018, shall be sent ballots.
- Ballots will be mailed (as part of the Palm and Pine) by October 14.
- Final receipt date for ballots shall be November 23rd at 12 noon.
- Ballots will be verified, opened, and counted in Ellen Kesler’s home, Big Bear City, CA, November 27th, 6:00 pm
- The 2-year term of office for the newly elected Excom members will commence on January 1, 2019, and will run through December 31, 2020.

Everything accomplished by the Big Bear 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 Ellen Kesler at jcrickie47@yahoo.com.

Big Bear Group Patch Party - Dave Melton, Outings Chair

The Big Bear Group will hold this year’s Patch Party and Barbeque on Saturday, June 9th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at the same location as last year, the Aspen Glen Picnic grounds, 40101 Mill Creek Road, Big Bear Lake, 92315. The Aspen Glen Picnic Grounds are nestled in the tall pine trees, with picnic tables and bathrooms. What is a patch party you ask? It’s a chance to recognize our hikers who have completed a section of the PCT, the 38 miles of the California Riding and Hiking Trail within Joshua Tree or the peaks of Big Bear. All Sierra Club members, hikers, family members, and friends are invited, whether receiving a patch or not. Our day will start in the morning with a choice of several different local hikes, including a hike to Bluff Lake with Judy Atkinson.

At noon, the club will provide a barbecue lunch for the returning hikers and guests. You are invited to bring your favorite side dish or dessert. Following lunch, the Awards Ceremony will begin with patches being issued to all who have earned one since last year’s event.

Come one, come all ... We hope to have a big turnout this year!
Here are more Moreno Valley outings planned for this spring. Please take time to look at our calendar of outings listed on our group web page: http://sangorgonio2.sierraclub.org/groups/moreno_valley
Thank you to Christina Torres and Beatriz Vindiola for organizing and leading our group outings.

Michael Millspaugh needed to resign as chair of the Moreno Valley Group in January in order to have more time with his family. The Moreno Valley Group would like to thank him for his many years of service and all that he did to support our group efforts. As time allows he is still working with the Chapter’s Political Committee. Thank you, Mike for all that you have done!

Here is some updated information on projects that we are following:

Moreno Valley Logistics Center (MVLCl): This 1.3 million square foot warehouse across the street from an established neighborhood includes a developer request to reduce the minimum setback from 300 feet to just 100 feet. World Logistics Center (WLC): A coalition of environmental groups including San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society, Center for Biological Diversity, and Sierra Club are represented by Earthjustice in two separate challenges. They have prevailed in our California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) challenge before Judge Waters. Her ruling found the City of Moreno Valley’s Environmental Impact Report (EIR) deficient as to energy impacts, biological impacts, agricultural impacts, noise impacts and cumulative impacts. The judgment is pending and it is not known yet if the City will appeal. Our appeal related to the initiatives remains pending in the State Court of Appeals.

Villages of Lakeview (VOL): A coalition of environmental groups including San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society, Center for Biological Diversity (CBD), and Sierra Club are represented by CBD in a lawsuit challenging the Riverside County Board of Supervisor’s approval of this 8,725-unit development on the south edge of the San Jacinto Wildlife area. A separate lawsuit was filed by Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley and a local residents group, Keep Nuovo Rural. Donations Needed: Your donations are essential to our litigation against the Villages of Lakeview and the World Logistics Center as well as other projects in our area. Make checks payable to “Sierra Club” with a notation for WLC and/or VOL or please. Send to: Sierra Club—Moreno Valley Group, P.O. Box 1325, Moreno Valley, CA 92556-1325. Thank you to all of you who have taken time to donate! Riverside County General Plan Update (GPA 960): Our concerns include greenhouse gases, agricultural lands, the San Jacinto Wildlife Area at-risk species and the sprawl-promoting nature of the plan. A separate lawsuit was filed on the Housing Element because it has similar problems. Portions of the General Plan related to greenhouse gases and the Housing Element suit have been settled. We believe the settlement will protect the environment and strengthen the County’s Climate Action Plan. The court hearing on the main points of our litigation is scheduled for Monday, May 14th in Department 10, 9:30 a.m. at the Riverside County Superior Court (in Riverside’s historic courthouse), 4050 Main Street and you are welcome to attend.

Mid Count Parkways (MCP): The six-lane MCP between the cities of San Jacinto and Perris will facilitate projects like the Villages of Lakeview. Settlement talks continue as we wait for our day in federal court for our appeal to be heard. State Route 60 Truck Lanes (Badlands): Our California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) challenge to Caltrans’ “proposed mitigated negative declaration (MND) is pending in Riverside County Superior Court and settlement talks continue. Banning to Cabazon Bypass Road: Riverside County proposes a parallel route south of I-10 between Banning and Cabazon. The proposed improvements may significantly impact important biological resources and may induce growth along the alignment. The comment period for the Draft EIR is open until April 30. For more information about the project, see http://rcproejcts.org/ i10bypassas.

San Gorgonio Crossings: This warehouse project at the gateway to the rural Cherry Valley community was approved by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors in October 2017. Lawsuits have been filed by Sierra Club and local Cherry Valley citizens groups.

Lake Perris State Recreation Area: The 2018 Limited Use Golden Bear Pass ($20.00) is good for the entire year for most state parks for those 62 years or older. It can be purchased at Lake Perris and is good for everyone in your car. A Disabled Discount Pass and Distinguished Veteran Pass are also available. For information on hours, visitors fees, and passes, please check: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=651

Thank you to Christina Torres and Beatriz Vindiola for organizing and leading our group outings.

By Ann Turner McKibben, Secretary

May-June 2018

Cedar, and pine. Scenic view from the top of Bighorn Peak. Rain cancels. BRING: Sturdy boots, 3+ liters water, lunch, sunscreen. Adventura 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
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

MAY 5 (FRI) 8:00 AM SILVER PEAK VIA 3N36 HIKE A 9-mile hike on Forest Service Road 3N36 to 6677 ft. Silver Peak with its spectacular views of the high desert and Bighorn Ranges. RATED: Strenuous. MEET: We will meet at the parking area for 42170 Big Bear Blvd. Big Bear Lake, CA at 8:00 AM. BRING: Ten essentials, 2 liters of water and snacks; also dress for the potential cold weather. INFO & RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER ED WALLACE, (909) 584-9407, rushwallace@yahoo.com
BIG BEAR GROUP

MAY 4 (FRI) 9:00 AM SB MTS SEQUOIA GROVE-KELLERSLIDE PEAKS HIKE Two hikes in one. Pick your difficulty level, a 3-mile easy hike through a sequoia grove, or continue on and make it a 6 mile difficult hike up to Slide Peak, one of Sierra Club’s 100 Peaks. The 3-mile easy hike explores the 1970’s Penny Pines sequoia grove project, then drive up to the Keller Peak Fire lookout tower for spectacular views. Both groups will meet up at the Children’s Forest for a carpool back to yellow post site 5. Inclement weather will cancel. MEET: Yellow post site 5 Keller Peak Road (N96). WEAR: Hat, long pants, rain gear, and hiking shoes. BRING: Snacks and water. LEADER: SANDY ELLIS 909-867-7115.
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

May 7 – May 13

May 5 (SAT) 7:00 AM “MT. BALDY,” ONE OF THE 6 PEAKS CHALLENGE HIKE You are invited to bug Mt. San Antonio, “Old Baldy.” At 10,069 ft., it’s the highest peak in the San Gabriel Mts. It’s about a 10-mile hike with 3,900 ft. elev. gain. RATED: Strenuous because of its distance. We will hike up through Baldy Notch, on to Devil’s Backbone and return by Baldy Bowl with a break at the ski hut. MEET: Manker Flats, just past campgrounds, on west side of road, at locked gate next to portia’s address: For GPS: Manker Campground, Mt. Baldy, CA 91759. BRING: ten essentials, 3 liters of water, layered clothing, sun protection, hat, lunch, and trekking poles. NEED: Adventure Pass or Golden Age Pass. LEADER: DAVID HOLETGARDA, d10olie@aol.com, 909-881-1329, CO-LEADER PETER MIICHELSEN, petemichelser@gmail.com, 760-333-3103.
BIG BEAR GROUP

May 6 (SUN) 8:30 AM WHITETRUST Preserve HIKE Easy to moderate approximately 5-mile out and back hike along a portion of the PCT to Red Dome rock. BRING: Water, sunscreen, snack, lunch, layered clothing. Rain cancellations. MEET: Call for ride arrangements from Moreno Valley at 7:30 a.m. or meet at 8:30 a.m. at parking lot at Whitewater Preserve by ranger station. Take 10 Fwy east, exist at Whitewater, head north along canyon. NOTE: should Whitewater be closed, Big Morongo Valley Preserve will be the alternate hike location. RESERVATIONS: by 8 p.m. May 5 to LEADER: CHRISTINA TORRES, (951) 318-7503, christina.torres1@gmail.com
MORENO VALLEY GROUP

May 6 (SUN) 7:30 AM SIERRA MADERA LOOP HIKE HIKE 3 miles up Bailey Canyon gaining 2300 feet to Jones Peak (elevation 3400′). After a lunch break, we’ll take Lost Canyon trail down 1 mile to connect with the Mt. Wilson Trail and hike down to the Mt. Wilson Trailhead. This will complete a 6 mile loop, requiring a short car shuttle. Rain cancels. BRING: Water, lunch/snacks, sturdy boots, hat, sun screen, layer clothing appropriate for the weather. MEET: Contact leader for carpool arrangements from Upland. LEADER: KATHY VIOLA, 909-346-9653, kviola82@gmail.com
LOS SERRANOS GROUP

Continued on Page 8 >> > > >
We are still working on endorsements, so look for the latest news at https://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org when you get your ballot, or before you head to the polls on that Tuesday.

Meanwhile, here are the Sierra Club’s endorsements for various offices here in the two counties that comprise the Chapter’s boundaries.

FOR CONGRESS IN 2018

- **CD-31 San Bernardino**
  - Pete Aguilar
  - Pete had a 100% LEV Score in 2017

- **CD-35 Ontario**
  - Norma Torres
  - Norma had a 97% LEV Score in 2017

- **CD-36 Coachella**
  - Raul Ruiz, M.D.
  - Raul had a 100% LEV Score in 2017

- **CD-41 Riverside**
  - Mark Takano
  - Mark had a 100% LEV Score in 2017

**CALIFORNIA SENATE**

- Connie Leyva

**CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY**

- Flores Reyes

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DISTRICT 2**

- Penny Newman

Chapter’s June Program … Continued from Page 2
Continued on Page 9 > > >
**JUN 1 (MON) 7:00 PM**  MOUNTAINS GROUP  MEETING
Monthly program meeting. No meeting in August or November. PLACE: St. Richard's Episcopal Church, 28708 Highway 18, Sky Forest. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. MOUNTAINS GROUP

**JUN 13 (WED) 4:45 PM**  TWO TREES TRAIL HIKE
Moderate to difficult 3.5-mile hike up Two Trees Trail from Riverside with 1,800 ft elevation gain. BRING: Water, sturdy shoes, flashlight, hiking poles if preferred. MEET: 215 Fwy in Riverside exit Blaine St., drive east about 2 miles to left on Belvedere, then continue for 0.5 mile. MEET: Jay Watrous at 9:00 AM SHARP near the river. RATED: Easy. BRING: Water, sunglasses, sunscreen, hats. MEET: 2330 S Landmark Ave. in Riverside. RATED: Easy/Moderate. BRING: Water, snacks, layered clothing, sun protection, hiking boots, poles, and camera. MEET: Big Bear. RATED: Moderate. BRING: Water, hiking poles, layered clothing. MEET: Cougar Crest trailhead. RATED: Moderate. BRING: Water, sturdy shoes, sun protection, hiking boots, trekking poles. MEET: Big Bear. RATED: Moderate. BRING: Water, sturdy shoes, layered clothing, sun protection, hiking boots, trekking poles. MEET: Big Bear.

**JUN 13 (WED) 10:00 AM**  GRAND VIEW POINT HIKE
It's a 6.5-mile out and back trek with a moderate 1,000' of elevation gain. If you would like to have lunch and a music jam at my Big Bear home after---you are surely invited to that also. BRING: Water, hiking sticks, sturdy boots and layered clothing. Rain cancels. MEET: Contact Jeff to confirm by 5:00 PM June 12 LEADER: JEFF WARDHOL. (909) 374-7100, jwmarw@hotmail.com LOS SERRANOS GROUP

**JUN 13 (WED) 6:30 PM**  BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM
Meeting the place rotates. CONTACT: ELLEN KESLER, 909-585-1062, jcrickets47@yahoo.com BIG BEAR GROUP

**JUN 13 (WED) 7:00 PM**  MOJAVE GROUP  MEETING
Monthly meeting except July & August. PLACE: Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17738 Temecula Valley Freeway in Winchester, CA 92596. INFO: SUSAN STEUER, susanquinstin.steber@gmail.com MOJAVE GROUP

**JUN 14 (THU) 6:30 PM**  SANTA MARGARITA GROUP  MEETING
Monthly meeting except July & August. The public is welcome. Doors open at 6:00 PM at the meeting starts at 6:30. PLACE: Temecula Valley Library, 30600 Pauba Road, Temecula. INFO: PAM NELSON (951) 767-2324 sieracalubsng@gmail.com SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

**JUN 15 (FRI) 9:00 AM**  SB MTS, LITTLE BEAR CREEK
HIKE A moderate hike on the North Shore Trail to Little Bear Creek. The distance is 5 miles R/T, with a 600' elevation loss and gain. Inclement weather will cancel. MEET: Hat, long pants, and hiking shoes. BRING: Snacks. MEET: Lower parking lot of the BLM Nacimiento Community Hospital, 29101 Hospital Rd, Lake Arrowhead, CA 92352. LEADER: HEATHER SARMAID, 909-336-2836 (no text) SB SERRANO GROUP

**JUN 16 (SAT) 8:00 AM**  COUGAR CREST TO PCT & WEST HIKE
This will be a moderate 8-mile, 1400' elevation gain hike, hike in Big Bear. Start at the Cougar Crest trailhead, take that to the Pacific Crest Trail and hike west a few miles along the PCT before having our snack/lunch and then returning on the same trail. We will hike through pine, oak, and fir with 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. Camera a must! MEET: Cougar Crest trailhead 

**JUN 19 (TUE) 5:30 PM**  SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER  MEETING
For more information, see front-page notice. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 204 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS ladd.lseeekins@gmail.com. (909) 800-3911. CHAPTER

**JUN 19 (FRI) 1:00 PM**  SB MTSSTRAWBERRY PEAK WILDFLOWER WALK
Join us for a 1 mile slow and easy family-friendly walk on the Strawberry Peak trail stopping frequently to smell and identify the flowers. After the hike, check out the views at the Strawberry Peak fire lookout tower. MEET: Strawberry Peak trail head on Highway 189 across the street from the Pinecrest Christian Conference Center, 1140 Pinecrest Rd. Twin Peaks, CA 92391. WEAR: Hat, long pants, and walking shoes. BRING: Snacks and water. LEADER: KARLA KELLEMS, 760-405-4311 (text OK) karlakellms@gmail.com MORENO VALLEY GROUP

**JUN 20 (SAT) 8:30 AM**  OAK GLEN PRESERVE HIKE
Easy to moderate 4-mile loop along trees, creek, and open areas with views of the mountains. BRING: Water, sturdy shoes, sunscreen, snack. MEET: Take the Oak Glen exit off the 10 Freeway in Yucaipa north until you reach Los Rios Rancho Apple Ranch. Park near the main highway, although we will ask the owner for permission. Rain cancels. INFO & LEADER: JUDY ATKINSON, (909) 289-1932, jody5723@gmail.com MORENO VALLEY GROUP

**JUN 24 TO JULY 22**  DECEMBER TO JUNE Calendar
Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings (Also, refer to Weekly Recurring Outings and Activities)
on the north side of Big Bear Lake, 1/4 mile west of the Discovery Center. Adventure Pass required to park at the trailhead. RESERVATIONS: Contact LEADER CHARLOTTE WAITTS, momscampsite@gmail.com, 909-886-7423. BIG BEAR GROUP

JUN 16 (SAT) 8:00 AM EYE OF GOD HIKE This is an easy 6-mile in and out hike along the Pacific Crest Trail in Big Bear. Beautiful views, forest and history make up the outing. The Eye of God is a very large white Quartz rock outcropping by years-end. WEAR: Hiking shoes, hiking poles, a hat and sunscreen. BRING: Water, a snack and a camera. MEET: Victor Valley Museum, 11873 Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley, 92308 by 8 a.m. to car pool. LEADER: NORMAN BOSSMAN, 760-912-3725, coachnorm@yahoo.com  MOJAVE GROUP

JUN 17 (SUN) 1:00 PM SB MTS, ARROWHEAD RIDGE HIKE On Father’s Day, come join us on this moderate 2.5-mile family friendly hike. Explore massive ponderosa pines in this hiked forest area. After the hike, checkout the Palomar Mountain, an Eagle Scout project. Inclement weather will cancel. WEAR: Hat, long pants, and hiking shoes. BRING: Snacks and water. MEET: Trailhead on Grass Valley Rd. across from the Lake Arrowhead Country Club. Look for the brown with a carved arrowhead on the right. LEADER: KARLA KELLEMS, 760-405-4311 (text OK), karlakellems@gmail.com  SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

JUNE 18 – JUNE 24 Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings (Also, refer to Weekly Recurring Outings and Activities)

JUN 19 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING Monthly except July & August. Please join us for an informative program. PLACE: Goldy B. Lewis Center, Palomar, 11200 Baseline Rd., Rancho Cucamonga. INFO: BRIAN ELLIOTT, brianelli61@aol.com  LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JUN 20 (WED) 9:00 AM MT. BADEN-POWELL HIKE 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! Rain cancels. WEAR: Water, lunch/snacks, sturdy boots, hat, and sunscreen. BRING: Water, a snack and a camera. BRING: Water, a snack and a camera. MEET: 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

JUN 21 (THU) 4:45 PM HIDDEN SPRINGS HIKE Moderate 4-mile loop on the Hidden Springs Trail and arroyo. Trail has some ups and downs but basically follows the base of the hills. Wild donkeys usually seen on this hike. BRING: Water, layered clothing, sun protection, lunch, 3-liters of water, and hiking poles. COST: Tram is $9 round trip. RATED: Strenuous. MEETING PLACE: Downhill group meets Sharon at 7:45 AM at McDonalds off I-10 at Hwy 38 and Jenkins Lake Rd. West. 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

JUN 23 (SAT) 9:00 AM INSPIRATION HILL HIKE This is an easy 6-mile hike along the Pacific Crest Trail in Wrightwood. Views across the Mojave Desert while walking through shady forest are the highlight of this outing. WEAR: Strong hiking shoes, a hat and sunscreen. BRING: Water, a snack and a camera. MEET: Victor Valley Museum, 11873 Apple Valley Road, Apple Valley, 92308 or Community Center in Wrightwood at 9 a.m. LEADER: NORMAN BOSSMAN, 760-912-3725, coachnorm@yahoo.com  MOJAVE GROUP

JUNE 25 – JULY 1 Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings (Also, refer to Weekly Recurring Outings and Activities)

JUN 26 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING Chapter governing 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 MEETING

JUN 30 (SAT) 8:00 AM FOURSEE CREEK TRAIL TO JOHNS MEADOW HIKE Catching the wildflowers can be a challenge, but usually the end of June finds them in abundance at Forsee Creek. This is an approximately 7-mile, round trip hike in the San Gorgonios Wilderness. Walk through a forest of pine, fir and oaks, cross a couple of small springs where water is coming out on the trail, have some great views and hopefully lots of those wildflowers! We will cross Forsee Creek and have our snack/lunch at Johns Meadow before returning on the trail back to our vehicles. RATED: Moderate with about 800 ft. of elevation gain. MEET: At the Forsee Creek trail head off Hwy 38 and Jenkins Lake Rd. West. 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

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

JUL 4 (WED) 10:00 AM SB MTS., GVL 4TH OF JULY PARADE Grab the family and walk in the Green Valley Lake 4th of July parade, known as one of the shortest and quickest parades on the mountain. Come decked out in your hiking best, to represent the hiking community. WEAR: Hiking apparel. BRING: Backpack, hiking poles, water and snacks. MEET: Lakeside Park (33288 Green Valley Road, Green Valley Lake, CA 92341). Inclement weather will cancel. LEADER: KARLA KELLEMS, 760-405-4311 (text OK), karlakellems@gmail.com  SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

AUG 11-18 (SAT-SAT) MONO RECESS AND PIONEER BASIN BACKPACKING Come visit some of the most beautiful sites in the Sierra, Pioneer Basin and the Mono Recesses, on this 30-mile on-trail 6-night round-trip backpack. Pioneer Basin and the Mono Recesses are north-south tending basins or canyons above and below westward-draining Mono Creek. We will start and finish at the Mogollon Flat trailhead at the end of Rock Creek Road, roughly midway between Bishop and Mammoth. We will have 5 camping locations, with 2 nights at Pioneer Basin. We will strictly follow LNT practices and keep an early schedule. RATED: Moderate. But all Sierra backspacks are strenuous, it’s one question of degree. Significant pre-trip conditioning required. BRING: Equipment list will be distributed. Individual commissary. LIMITED to 10. RESERVATIONS: For trip info sheet, contact CO-LEADER DAVE MELTON, dmelton61@yahoo.com, 760-408-2456, or CO-LEADER DAVID HOLTGEAARD, 909-881-1329, d10d10@aol.com  BIG BEAR GROUP

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 ACTIVITIES

(MONDAY) 7:00 PM SANTA ROSA PLATEAU OR NEARBY TRAILHIKE NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT VOLKSWALKING IN SO. CALIFORNIA Come walk with Kathy every Monday for a 3-4 mile hike on the beautiful Santa Rosa Plateau or on another interesting trail nearby. No hikes on Christmas and New Year’s...
Community Choice Aggregation (CCA); Also Known as Community Choice Energy (CCE)
Kim Floyd Conservation Chair, San Gorgonio Chapter

Q: What is Community Choice Aggregation? (CCA)
A: Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), is a program that enables local governments to pool (or aggregate) the electricity demand of their communities in order to increase local control over electric rates. Often called Community Choice Energy, a CCA buys and develops power resources on behalf of the electricity customers in its jurisdiction to control costs, offer more renewable options and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Southern California Edison, as required by law, will begin to provide all transmission and distribution of electricity in our area, as well as provide system maintenance and customer service. Areas served by this public agency created to ensure that the costs are paid back once revenues from the sale of electricity accumulate. Surplus funds generated by the CCA may be reinvested back into the community in the form of lower rates, new energy projects and programs that serve the entire customer base.

Q: What are the environmental benefits of a CCA? (CCA)
A: In addition to the potential for lower (retail) net metering rates and customer savings, CCAs are already using their buying power to help build cleaner, more efficient power plants. In the Coachella Valley, a CCA offers a way to advance local renewable energy resources and help meet statewide requirements for greenhouse gas reductions. Existing CCAs offer a “default” option that is both cleaner and cheaper than the incumbent utility, as well as a voluntary, 100% renewable energy option offered at a rate premium.

Q: How is a CCA financed? (CCA)
A: A CCA is a self-funded, not-for-profit public agency created to ensure that any financial benefits directly serve its community members. Once launched, a CCA is completely funded by program revenues—no taxpayer dollars. Start-up costs may be financed by member agencies, banks or other lenders. These costs are paid back once revenues from the sale of electricity accumulate. Surplus funds generated by the CCA may be reinvested back into the community in the form of lower rates, new energy projects and programs that serve the entire customer base.

Q: Who governs and administers the CCA? (CCA)
A: There are options for governance. For the Coachella Valley, a new joint powers authority (JPA) has been formed, to be governed by a Board of Directors that is made up of elected representatives from each of the participating jurisdictions. The board will schedule regular meetings that will be open to the public, ensuring transparency and encouraging community involvement. Formation of a CCA through a joint Powers Authority does not require contributions from participating member agencies. With a JPA, the assets and liabilities of the CCA program remain separate from those of the participating agencies’ general funds.

Q: How will the CCA set its rates? (CCA)
A: The CCA Board of Directors will have the authority to set electric generation rates for our customers, after they are carefully developed, discussed, evaluated and approved at public meetings. To date, existing CCAs in California offer competitive electricity rates, currently ranging from 3%-6% lower than investor-owned utility (IODU) rates, depending on the customer class and CCA option each customer chooses. CCA rates generally adjust once per year, offering a greater measure of rate stability compared to IODUs. Because publicly managed CCAs are non-profit agencies, they don’t pay shareholder dividends, investor returns, high corporate salaries or income taxes like commercial services or investor owned utilities – further lowering the costs. Initial studies estimate that a CCA program could save ratepayers millions of dollars over the next 20 years.

Q: What are the options for customers to opt-out and, if they change their minds, opt-in to a CCA at a later date? (CCA)
A: Customers have a choice, to stay with the CCA or opt out. A new CCA is required to send a total of four notices to customers: two notices prior to commencement of service, and two notices during the 60-day period following commencement of CCA service. Customers who opt out before or within the first 60 days of CCA service may return at any time. Customers who opt out after the first 60 days of service with a CCA will be prohibited by Southern California Edison from returning for one year, after which they may return to the CCA.

Q: How would a CCA benefit the local economy and our local renewable energy opportunities? (CCA)
A: In addition to the potential for customer rate savings and the economic benefit of ratepayer revenues flowing into the local community rather than to the investor owned utility, CCAs can accelerate the development of local renewable energy projects and facilitate other energy innovations such as community solar, energy efficiency retrofits, battery storage and electric vehicle charging stations, to name just a few. This translates into the potential for new local services and community benefits as well as significant job creation, both locally and regionally. It should be noted that renewable energy facilities provide many more jobs per unit of investment than traditional natural gas and coal plants.

Q: Are there any hidden fees for CCA customers? Is there any risk? (CCA)
A: There are no hidden costs, and no duplicate costs for CCA customers. When you are enrolled, the electric service you have previously paid for to Southern California Edison would instead be charged by the CCA. There is a few levelized cost, called the “Power Charge Indifference Adjustment” or PCIA, which pays for the stranded costs associated with the power it purchased on your behalf that is no longer needed. That charge, which is identified on your bill, is factored into the CCA rates so that the overall generation rates are lower than what you currently pay.

Q: Why will I be automatically enrolled in the CCA program? (CCA)
A: Community Choice Aggregation programs were signed into law by California Assembly Bill 117, which requires automatic enrollment with an option for customers to opt-out. Customers can stay with the CCA or return to Southern California Edison if they prefer. The choice is up to you.

For general information about CCA in California and nationally, go to: www.leanenergyus.org. For local CCA information, go to: http://www.wrcog.cog.ca.us/DesertCommunityEnergy or https://desertcommunityenergy.org/
Join the drought-Resistance

Island Hopping in Channel Islands
National Park in 2018

April 8-10; May 6-8; June 10-12; July 15-17; August 19-21; September 23-25; October 21-23

Join us for a 3-day, 3-island, live-aboard tour of the enchanting Channel Islands. Hike wild, wind-swept trails bordered with blazing wildflowers. Kayak rugged coastlines. Marvel at pristine waters teeming with frolicking seals and sea lions. Train your binoculars on unusual sea and land birds—and an occasional whale. Watch for the highly endangered island fox. Look for reminders of the Chamorro people who lived on these islands for thousands of years. Or, just relax at sea. All cruises depart from Santa Barbara. The cost, $675, includes an assigned bunk and all meals, snacks, and beverages. A ranger/naturalist assigned by the national park will travel with us to help lead hikes, point out items of interest and give evening programs. Kayaking will be overseen by our concessionaire; all hikes will be on trails, class 1 terrain. This trip is a fundraiser to support the Sierra Club political program in California. To reserve space send a $100 deposit, written to California Sierra Club PAC to Joan Jones Holtz, 11826 The Wye St., El Monte, CA 91732. For more information contact leaders: Joan Jones Holtz: jholzhln@aol.com; 626-443-6706 and/or Wayne Vollaere: avollaere1@gmail.com; 909-327-6825.

Nature is always lovely, invincible, glad, whatever is done and suffered by her creatures. All scars she heals, whether in rocks or water or sky or hearts.


Calendar . . . Continued from Page 10

Day. Noncompetitive hiking for fun, fitness, and fellowship. Volksmarch is a worldwide movement that started in Germany in the 1900s on air force bases. “Volks” means “people” in German. MEET to carpool at 7:00 AM sharp at Barons Market, 32310 Clinton Keith Road, Wildomar 92595. WEAR sunscreen, a hat and BRING plenty of cold water and a snack. INFO: KATHY BUNDY 951-218-3755. See also the meetup.com page: Volkswalking in So. California Open to Everyone! [MEETS April 23, and 30; May 7, 14, 21, and 28; June 4, 11, 18, and 25.]

(1ST & 3RD Fri) 8:30 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB International folk dancing: Greek, Israeli, Serbian, Turkish, etc. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: $3 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 lgsseekins@sbcglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309 [MEETS May 4 and 18; June 1 and 15.]

(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 110 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201. [MEETS May 16 and June 20.]