San Gorgonio Chapter Starting 2011 Off Right With Two Great Programs

On Tuesday, January 4th:
Three Sisters Farm is a dream being realized by Abby and Jason Harned in Redlands. The land, located in a scenic portion of San Timoteo Canyon covers 20 acres and was purchased in 2002 with the goal of building an organic farm. The couple met at Cal-Poly Pomona, where Abby studied agronomy and Jason majored in landscape irrigation science.

Currently, the farm spans 1 acre of mixed row crops including root crops, lettuces, greens, herbs, and various seasonal crops; melons, squash, eggplant, garlic, shallots, onions, etc. The farm has a page on the LocalHarvest web site at Continued on Page 2 > > >

On Tuesday, February 1st:
Sierra Club volunteers are welcome to participate in local clean up and other environmental programs of the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District (IERCD). Dedicated to the conservation and enhancement of our natural resources, IERCD provides leadership, information, technical assistance, and educational programs for all land owners in its area. The district encompasses the entire valley portion of San Bernardino County from Chino to Yucaipa as well as Lytle Creek, Big Bear, Forrest Falls, Oak Glen, and portions of Riverside County including Rubidoux, Pedley, Mira Loma and the San Gorgonio Pass area.

Continued on Page 2 > > >

The Rare Plant Treasure Hunt
by Amber Swanson, Rare Plant Treasure Hung Botanist/Project Coordinator, California Native Plant Society

California is home to more than 2200 plants that are considered rare by the California Native Plant Society. Rare plants make up about 30% of the native flora of the state and many of these plants can be found nowhere in the world but in California! To keep track of information about the state’s rare plants and animals the Department of Fish and Game started the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) in the early 1980s. This database, which is part of the nation’s “Natural Heritage Program,” contains location and habitat information on all the state’s rare organisms.

Although the CNDDB is continuously being updated, the current status of many populations of California’s rarest plants are not well-known and thousands of California rare plant occurrences have not been documented for decades. Up-to-date information on rare plant occurrences and their associated habitats are vitally needed to inform conservation actions and to aid planning efforts across the state.

To address these issues the California Native Plant Society launched the Rare Plant Treasure Hunt early last year (2010). This program has enlisted volunteers and other organizations to gather new information on the dwindling rare plant populations of California. Over 250 volunteers were teamed with experts in the field and successfully searched for rare plant populations! Volunteers helped discover and record data on more than 500 new and historic rare plant populations. These rare plants included over 170 different species, ranging from endangered species to species on watch lists. Participants were also able to see thousands of native wildflowers in bloom and gain a greater appreciation of rare plants and their habitats. One participant remarked, “I will never look at the desert in the same way again!”

The Rare Plant Treasure Hunt will continue this spring and we need your help! Anyone can join Treasure Hunts and go on guided or individual field trips in search of rare plants anywhere in California from the Mojave Desert to the Siskiyou Mountains. Volunteers range in age from 4 years old to over 80 years old and from plant experts to plant novices. There has never been a better time to search for, study, appreciate and update the vital information needed to conserve California’s rare plants. Coordinators will provide participating field trip information or forms to record rare plant data, locations and maps of targeted rare plants and other materials to aid in hunting.

Please write us at treasurehuntnp@cnps.org or visit our websites, www.cnps.org/cnps/rareplants/treasurehunt or www.rareplanttreasurehunt.blogspot.com.
Three Sisters Farm produce is available Saturday mornings at The Farmers Market at The Grove School in Redlands (8-12, corner of Iowa Street and Citrus Avenue). The small CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) supplies 30 Redlands families with a share of fresh organic produce weekly or biweekly.

At this time both the subscription and waiting lists are full for Three Sisters Farm. However, there are other local organic farms serving the San Gorgonio Chapter area with Community Sup-ported Agriculture programs and organic produce. You can search for one in your area on the LocalHarvest web site.

The overall goal for the farm is to provide as much diversity as possible while remaining a small, family operation and selling directly to the local population. The organic practices include the use of compost, green manure and natural soil amendments, hand cultivation for weeds, crop rotation, attracting beneficial insects with trap crops of flowering perennials and providing native habitat for song birds and raptors.

The name “Three Sisters Farm” comes from the three sisters garden, the traditional Native American planting of corn, squash and beans. The beneficial coexistence of these species has provided valuable sustenance as well as lore and legend in the culture.

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Chapter's January Program ... from Page 1

Palm and Pine Advertising

Display Advertising Rates (Black and White)
Palm and Pine pages are 9-1/2 inches wide by 14-1/2 inches deep. There are four columns per page. Each column is 2-1/4 inches wide. Display Advertising is charged at a rate of $12.50 per column inch. Classified Advertising Rates Personal: $0.25 per word. $5.00 minimum. Commercial: $0.50 per word. $10.00 minimum. Classified advertising is accepted to a maximum of 8 lines (about 45 characters to the line).

Circulation and Distribution Rates are based on an average circulation of 5,500 per issue. The Chapter member subscription is included in membership dues. Subscription rates for non-members is $9.00 for six issues. Single copies are $1.50. The newsletter is published on or before the 1st of the month, six times each year beginning January 1.

Deadlines Deadlines are the 1st of the month preceding the issue date. (Feb 1, Apr 1, Jun 1, Aug 1, Oct 1, and Dec 1)  Submission E-mail copy directly to palmandpine@sierraclub.org Send payment to: Sierra Club, San Gorgonio Chapter, 4079 Mission Inn Ave, Riverside, CA 92501-3204. Please note that payment is for Palm and Pine advertising and make Attn: Ladd Seekins. Payment must be received by treasurer prior to deadline. Allow at least two (2) weeks.

Chapter's February Program ... from Page 1

In a major effort, the district is currently developing a native plant demonstration garden at Cal State University San Bernardino. Some of the work is being done by students from San Bernardino’s Provisional Learning Center. Partners in this project include the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians and the university’s own Water Resources Institute. The garden is expected to open in April.

IERCD sponsors environmental service projects, youth education and adult outreach. Come to the program and learn how you can get involved and also learn more about the district and what it does. Preview the district’s web site at http://www.iercd.org.
**Big Bear Group**

by Christie Walker

The Big Bear Group is proud to announce our volunteer of the year, Beth Fisher. Beth was on the Xeriscape Garden Committee for the 2010 season and held the position of homeowner coordinator. Beth was responsible for contacting the homeowners before, during and after the event. Beth was so dedicated that she took her list of contacts with her on vacation and called from the road. Beth and her husband, Gary, were treated to a holiday dinner with the Executive Committee to thank Beth for her involvement with the Sierra Club.

The 2011 programs have yet to be determined, but we do have dates for two exciting events: an Earth Day Fair on Saturday, April 23rd in the Big Bear Village, and our annual Xeriscape Garden Tour on Saturday, July 16th. We need committee members and volunteers for both events. Please contact Christie Walker at 909-866-5006 if you can lend a hand. Let’s make 2011 a banner year for the environment.

** Mojave Group**

Winter is a wonderful time to get outside to explore and enjoy the Mojave Desert. Our Mojave Group members are so lucky to have such a variety of places to enjoy themselves and explore. Within a day’s drive we can choose to visit a National Park (Mojave National Preserve), several Wilderness Areas, Rainbow Basin National Natural Landmark, as well as nearby mountains and some special public lands (Areas of Critical Environmental Concern) managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Let’s get out and visit these places often and become acquainted by the magic of nature. Join us on some of our lovely hikes, car camps or service trips described in the Outings section or on walks along the Mojave River on Wednesday evenings and on other days of the week (contact Melody, our Outings Chair person for more information about these regular walks). Join us for exploration hikes or service trips on Tuesdays (contact Jenny for more information—Jensosai@aol.com).

There are also many activities that threaten to destroy the Mojave Desert as we know it: Sprawling development, large scale solar and wind energy production with its expanding need for transmission lines, increased off highway vehicle play (which damages the delicate soil structure, creates excessive dust and noise) and irresponsible use of limited water resources. If you are interested in any of these issues and would like to follow along with us, please contact our Conservation Chair Kim and/or attend our meetings.

We encourage our members to attend the regular Desert Advisory Council (DAC) meetings held by the BLM when they are close by. This council serves in an advisory capacity concerning the planning and management of public lands resources and the implementation of the comprehensive long range plan of the management, use, development and protection of public lands within the California Desert Conservation Area. Council duties and responsibilities are to gather and analyze information, conduct studies and field examinations, hear public testimony, ascertain facts, and in an advisory capacity only, develop recommendations for the District Manager concerning use, classification, retention, disposal, or other aspects of public land planning and management in the public interest, including recommendations regarding implementation of the long range plan for the California Desert Conservation Area. So to find out more about what is happening to our lovely Mojave Desert, we must remain engaged with this important council. To find out more visit: http://www.blm.gov/ca/en/info/dac/dac.html

General meetings are on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Sterling Inn on the corner of Ridgecrest Road and Francesca in Victorville. At the January meeting we will show “The Heat is On – Desert Tortoises & Survival” which is produced by the U. S. Geological Survey and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and in February we will show “Shape to start enjoying some beautiful hikes in the surrounding areas. Meeting at the museum at 6:00 pm Monday, January (TBD). Children age 5 and up are welcome to attend. Contact Melody for more information (labelady@msn.com).

** Eye on the County Board of Supervisors – our Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt:**

You probably have some questions of your own. Go on, write to him now! Remind Mr. Mitzelfelt that his position depends on the people’s voting system.

** Clean Air, Energy, jobs:**

On June 2, 2010, SANBAG releases results of San Bernardino County Annual Survey (http://ci.victorville.ca.us/uploadedFiles/NewsEvents/NewsStories/10_Stories/SANBAG%2006-03-10_survey.pdf)

Environmental Issues — Lifestyle/Lifecycle preferences and behavior:

Air pollution was the most-often-mentioned environmental issue facing the Inland Empire today, and most are willing to see tougher pollution standards on vehicles even if it costs them more to purchase or lease their next vehicle. Three-quarters of respondents are concerned about global warming, and most think it has already begun to happen. About a third of respondents report using public transportation, ridesharing, walking, or bicycling at least once a month.

Does Supervisor Mitzelfelt support clean, green jobs in our county to replace dirty jobs?

Does Supervisor Mitzelfelt support retrofitting current houses and business with clean solar and wind energy to create local jobs and produce clean energy? What goals does his office have to advance roof-top solar?

Contact Brad at the County Government Center: 909-387-4830 Monday–Friday, 385 N. Arrowhead Ave., 5th Fl., San Bernardino, CA 92415-0110

E-mail for Dawn Sikes, Constituent Services Manager is: dsikes@sbcounty.gov

America’s Great Outdoors

Please revisit this website as often as you can. New “ideas” continue to stream in. At the very least check the “What’s Hot” list on the right side and support your favorite idea or use of America’s Great Outdoors.

Cast your vote, Submit Your Ideas & Join the Conversation about America’s Great Outdoors on line at: http://www.doi.gov/americasgreatoutdoors/. Thank you to all who have already done so. You may like to revisit the site because new ideas are being posted daily.

**GET IN SHAPE!**

by Melody Nichols

To encourage more to join in and get in shape, and get outside, I am starting a series of walks & hikes just for that purpose. Starting at one mile and increasing each week. The first week we will walk one mile on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays (weather permitting) and increase one mile per week. You just can’t say no to that! By spring, we will all be in shape to start enjoying some beautiful hikes in the surrounding areas. Meeting at the museum at 6:00 pm Monday, January (TBD). Children age 5 and up are welcome to attend. Contact Melody for more information (labelady@msn.com).

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E-mail for Dawn Sikes, Constituent Services Manager is: dsikes@sbcounty.gov
The city of Moreno Valley held a public information meeting on December 2, 2010, to provide information to the public on the Westridge Commerce Center and to take public comments on the draft environmental report (DEIR) on the project. The project site is south of Highway 60 in Moreno Valley between Quincy Street and Redlands Boulevard. The proposed 937,260 square foot warehouse distribution building would be built on a 55-acre site. This project is one of three (two proposed, one under construction) sites south of Highway 60 between Pettit Street (east edge of the Moreno Valley Auto Mall) to Theodore Street. The proposed ProLogis project would be 2.2 million square feet, the Highland Fairview Commerce Center (937,260 square feet), and the Highland Fairview Commerce Center/Skechers distribution center under construction (1.8 million square feet) which equals the possibility of about 5 million square feet of distribution, warehousing along Highway 60 in eastern Moreno Valley. Air quality, traffic, quality of life, noise, and availability of water are some of the major concerns. Planner for the Westridge project is Jeff Bradshaw, (951) 413-3224. The Sierra Club has been closely following the Riverside County General Plan Update which started in 2008. The environmental representative on the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) is George Hague and Ann McKibben in the alternate on the committee. The last GPAC meeting was in October 2009. The county has been moving ahead in the planning process, and they are preparing a screen check version of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) 521 for the general plan update and hope to have it completed in early 2011. Technical studies are in process. The next GPAC meeting (and possibly last meeting) may take place in the spring of 2011 and then the county plans to issue the draft environmental impact report and start the public hearing process. County planner for the general plan update is Mitra Mehta-Cooper, Riverside County Planning Department. If you have questions on the general plan update, you can contact Ms. Mehta-Cooper at (951) 955-8514. The Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley and the Sierra Club filed a lawsuit in April 2010 to challenge the approval of the Villages of Lakeview (Specific Plan 342) mega-development on the southern boundary of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area.

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Mountain News
by Dave Barrie and Bill Engs

First on the list – thanks to all of the Mountains Group members that gave some of your time and talents to our efforts this year! We really appreciate your contributions!

And special thanks to Heather Sargeant and the gang at the Thrift Shoppe! Some of the work that we do requires funding, sometimes lots of funding, and you have consistently kept us in the black and in the game!

Marta Hethmon and Sue Walker have finished their time as elected Excom members but continue to help in lots of ways. Thanks for your service on the Excom and thanks for staying active in the Group!

And thanks to the Excom! Veterans Bill Engs, Steve Farrell, Sherry Noone, and Bob Sherman and newcomers Jo Ann and Don Fischer are ready for a great 2011 and I’m going to try not to get in the way!

Our Outings team stayed busy in October and November – here’s what happened:

At the beginning of October, Bill Engs, with Billie Wolff representing the Forest Service, cut downed tree branches, removed rocks from trail tread, and cleared drains along the popular North Fork Trail, near Lake Arrowhead.

Billie Wolff led a group along the Pacific Crest Trail to Devil’s Hole. The weather was pleasant and they enjoyed splendid views of yellow foliage on trees bordering Deep Creek below. Two days later, Heather Sargeant and Bill Engs joined student Conservation Association workers on a Pacific Crest Trail Association project to improve the same section of trail north of Splinters.

Heather Sargeant led a hike to Grays Peak, near Big Bear Lake. She reports, “The day started off foggy and gloomy, but by the time we reached Big Bear Lake the skies had cleared and it was a gorgeous fall day, blue skies and sunshine. A total of 11 people enjoyed the crisp air and beautiful views, which included the unexpected view of San Gorgonio Mountain covered in snow. After two hours we reached the summit, where a cold wind deterred us from staying too long. We were back at the parking lot by 1:00 pm after a most enjoyable outing.”

In November Bill Engs led a mid-week car camp at Indian Cove, Joshua Tree N.P. “On the day we arrived, we started up the Rattlesnake Canyon “Trail,” but the route was more tedious than we wanted, so we turned back, and, instead, walked the Nature Trail. On Day 2, we walked from the group camp cross-country to make an adventurous connection with the Boy Scout Trail. We followed the trail to the upper wash where the scrub oaks grow. On the way back, in the lower wash, we found red blossoms of Chuparosa, unexpected for November. Not wanting to scramble back up the slope we had descended in the morning, we stayed on the trail and cut off south, cross country, over gently sloping terrain, and with the aid of a GPS unit, we arrived back at camp. On the third day, we broke camp and drove to the trailhead for Forty Nine Palm Oasis from where we
CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS
DEADLINE: Items for the March/April 2011 Calendar are due by February 1, 2010.
FORMAT: Items similar to those below. Send items electronically if possible.
OUTINGS: Send outings write-ups to your group or section Outings Chair.
MEETINGS & other events: Send electronically to Ladd Seekins at <ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com>.

GENERAL INFORMATION, RULES & DISCLAIMERS
All Outings Leaders must be Chapter Certified Leaders having appropriate Outings Training Courses.
First Aid Course, & experience for the Outings they lead. LEADERS may exclude individuals from participation if they believe they may not be qualified. Non-Sierra Club members may join outings unless otherwise stated in the write-up. All participants agree to abide by the Leader's rules. Participants should CALL THE LEADER BEFORE SIGN-UP.

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

ADVENTURE PASS SPECIAL NOTICE
Most outings occurring in the San Bernardino, Angeles, Catalina, or Los Padres National Forests require a Forest Service permit for each vehicle (Adventure Pass). These Outings will be preceded by ** in the listings that follow. Be sure to contact the leader regarding permits. The permits cost $30 per year or $5 per day; however they may not be obtainable the day of your outing. If you arrive at the meeting place without making arrangements with the leader & you don't have a permit or find a ride in a vehicle with a permit, you will not be able to attend the outing. You are expected to share the cost of the daily permits equally among everyone in the vehicle or a suggested 50¢ contribution from everyone for annual permits (above normal mileage contribution). America The Beautiful Interagency Passes may be used in lieu of Adventure Pass.

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

LIABILITY WAIVER
In order to participate on one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign the following liability waiver:
Sign-In Sheet & Acknowledgment of Outing Member Responsibility, Express Assumption of Risk, & Release of Liability
I understand that during my participation in this Sierra Club Outing, I may be exposed to a variety of hazards & risks, known or unknown, which are inherent in each Outing & cannot be eliminated without destroying the unique character of the Outing. These inherent risks include, but are not limited to, the dangers of serious personal injury, property damage & death ("Injuries & Damages") from exposure to the hazards of travel & the Sierra Club has not tried to contract or minimize my understanding of these risks. I know that Injuries & Damages can occur by natural causes or activities of others, animals, trip members, trip leaders & assistants or third parties, either as a result of negligence or because of other reasons. I understand that risks of such Injuries & Damages are involved in adventure travel such as Sierra Club Outings. I agree that the Sierra Club has no responsibility to warn me about any of the hazards of the activity & that I am assuming all risks inherent in this decision to go forward & waive all liability against the Sierra Club arising from that decision.
I further understand that on this Outing there may be no rescue or medical facilities or expertise necessary to deal with the Injuries & Damages to which I may be exposed.
In consideration for my acceptance as a participant on this Outing, & the services & amenities to be provided by the Sierra Club in connection with the Outing, I confirm my understanding that:
I have read any rules & conditions applicable to the Outing made available to me; I will pay any costs & fees for the Outing; & I acknowledge my participation is at the discretion of the Leader & the Sierra Club.
The Outing begins & ends at the location where the Outing officially commences with leader & participants in attendance, as designated by the Sierra Club ("Trailhead"). The Outing does not include carpooling, transportation, or transit to & from the Trailhead, & I am personally responsible for all risks associated with this travel. This does not apply to transportation provided by the Sierra Club after the commencement & before the end of the Outing.
If I decide to leave early & not to complete the Outing as planned, I assume all risks inherent in my decision to leave & waive all liability against the Sierra Club arising from that decision. Likewise, if the leader has concluded the Outing, & I decide to go forward without the leader, I assume all risks inherent in my decision to go forward & waive all liability against the Sierra Club arising from that decision.
This Agreement is intended to be as broad & inclusive as is permitted by law. If any provision or any part of any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid or legally unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby & shall remain valid & fully enforceable.
To the fullest extent allowed by law, I agree to WAIVE, DISCHARGE CLAIMS & RELEASE FROM LIABILITY, & INDEMNIFY & HOLD HARMLESS the Sierra Club, its officers, directors, employees, agents, & leaders from any & all liability on account of, or in any way resulting from Injuries & Damages, even if caused by negligence of the Sierra Club its officers, directors, employees, agents, & leaders, in any way connected with this Outing. I understand & intend that this assumption of risk & release is binding upon my heirs, executors, administrators & assigns, & includes any minors accompanying me on the Outing.
I have read this document in its entirety & I freely & voluntarily assume all risks of such Injuries & Damages & notwithstanding such risks, I agree to participate in the Outing. Note: If the participant is a minor, the minor’s guardian must sign on the minor’s behalf.

RECURRING MONTHLY MEETINGS
(LOOK IN CALENDAR FOR DATES)
(1ST MON) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING Alpine Conference Room, 27236 Blue Jay Mall on Feb, Apr, 5, Jun, 7, Oct, 4, Nov, 1. Also at Shady Cove Campground on Aug 7, 3 PM & at Kelty Hut Dec 4, 3 PM. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP
(1ST TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING The meeting place rotates. INFO: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP
(1ST TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING PROGRAM. See front-page notice. Afterwards, SAN GORGONIO SIERRA SINGLES will adjourn for food & drink. COST: $1 donation requested. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS (909) 800-3911 –chad.g.seekins@gmail.com. CHAPTER
(1ST THU) LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM MEETING Odd-numbered months only (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov). PLACE: For meeting time & place, call MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379. <ruizmaryann@gmail.com>–LOS SERRANOS GROUP
(2ND MON) 7:00 PM SB 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. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP
(2ND TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Monthly meeting or conference call. Take part in working on important conservation issues. Please participate: we need your help! INFO: KIM FLOYD, Conservation Chair, <kimfloyd@fastmail.fm> (760) 249-5385. CHAPTER
(2ND WED) 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP MEETING Monthly meeting except for June & August. PLACE: Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17738 Francesca, Victorville. (One block north of Bear Valley Rd. on Ridgecrest) Enter on Ridgecrest side of the building. INFO: CAROL WILEY, (760) 245-8734, <clearly1l@verizon.net>–MOJAVE GROUP
(3RD TUE) 6:00 PM SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONS COMMITTEE MEETING Monthly conservation discussion. The public is welcome. LOCATION: Call or email for location & directions. CONTACT: SHAUNI ROSEN-RAGER, (951) 767-2205, <gardencore@action.net> –SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
(3RD TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING Monthly meeting except December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sieracalkbigbeargroup.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. CONTACT: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP
(3RD TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING Monthly meeting except for the month of December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sieracalklosrerranos.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. CONTACT: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP
(4TH TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING Chapter governance meeting. No December meeting. PLACE: San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RICK ESTES (951) 314-3328 <rickestes_92595@yahoo.com>. CHAPTER
(4TH THU) 7:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING Monthly meeting. The November & December meetings will be on the third Thursday of the month. The public is welcome. PLACE: Rancho California Water District Headquarters, 4213 Winchester Rd., Temecula 92590. INFO: JIM MITCHELL, (951) 506-9607 <sieracalksantamargarita@gmail.com>–SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

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**WEELKLY RECURRING OUTINGS & FITNESS ACTIVITIES**

**Gard, food for the weekend, and work gloves. LEADER: KATE ALLEN <kj.allen@wildblue.net>**

**nights at Texas Springs campground. Appetizer/dessert potluck Saturday evening. BRING: camping wilderness restoration signs, and removing trash. Sunday work is TBD. Camp Friday and Saturday**

**Come help with wilderness restoration in this beautiful and remote National Park. MEET early JANUARY, 2011**

**DECEMBER 27 – JANUARY 2**

**JANUARY 3 – JANUARY 9**

**JANUARY 15 (SAT) 8:30 AM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING**

**JANUARY 16 (SUN) 9:00 AM SANTA MARGARITA RIVER TRAIL HIKE**

**JANUARY 16 (SUN) 6:00 PM MOONLIGHT HIKE**

**car shuttle; please call for meeting place and transportation arrangements. LEADER: HEATHER SARGEANT, (909) 336-2836. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP**

**JANUARY 10 – JANUARY 16**

**JANUARY 10 (MON) 7:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING**

**JANUARY 17 (TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTE ORS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**JANUARY 17 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING**

**JANUARY 18 (WED) 7:00 PM DECCRESD COMMITTEE ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

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**Palm and Pine**

*Continued on Page 7*
JANUARY 17 – JANUARY 23

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

JAN 17 (MON) MT. MUIR, SIERRA MADRE HIKE
On Martin Luther King Day this hike out of Sierra Madre is a great winter hike of 12 miles with a 3000 foot gain. We can also make this a loop hike. BRING: water and snacks; wear sturdy shoes/boots. MEET: call for meeting time and place. LEADER: JOE WHYTE (909) 949-0899.

LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JAN 17 (MON) 9:00 AM BIG BEAR SNOWSHOE/HIKE
A moderate to strenuous 6 to 8 mile cross country hike/snow shoe below the southern ridge line of the Big Bear Valley between Bear Mountain and Snow Summit ski resorts. This will be a snowshoe if conditions permit and a hike if they don’t. Contact the leader prior to the hike for conditions. MEET: Vons parking lot in Big Bear Lake to car pool to the trailhead which has limited parking. LEADER: ED WALLACE (909) 584-9407.

BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 18 (TUE) 6:00 PM SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONS COMMITTEE MEETING
Monthly conservation meeting. The public is welcome. LOCATION: Call or email for location & directions. CONTACT: SHAULI ROSEN-RAGER, (951) 767-2203, <cgreednu@netzon.net>

SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

JAN 18 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except for December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.siercclubbigbeargroup.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 4071 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. CONTACT: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006.

BIG BEAR GROUP

JAN 18 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
Friends of the Desert Mountains acts to protect one of our most precious and threatened natural resources: the spectacular desert lands and mountains of the Coachella Valley. Since inception, they have helped protect over 30,000 acres of land in the Coachella Valley and mountains, an area nearly twice the size of the city of Palm Desert. Learn more about the work this group does, and see some of beautiful areas they have helped to protect. The public is welcome and refreshments will be served. PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th.

INFO: MARY ANN RUZ <ruzmaryann@gmail.com> (909) 815-9179

LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JAN 21-23 (FRI-SUN) RED ROCK CANYON STATE PARK CAR CAMP
Join us Friday at 11 AM or Saturday to camp and explore more of this high desert natural and historical area north of Mojave. Hikes to White House Cliffs and the Nightmare Gulch area of the RedCliffs Preserve are planned. SEND check for $5.00 payable to Sierra Club, and phone number or email to Bill Engs, Box 3248 Crestline CA 92325 by January 17. Car pooling is encouraged
CONTACT: LEADER, BILL ENGS, <thilleeng@yahoo.com> (909) 338-1910 for information.

MOUNTAINS GROUP

**JAN 23 (SUN) 1:00 PM HIKE** SAN GABRIEL MTNS, BONITA FALLS HIKE
This hike will be part of the San Gabriel Mountains Forever East Campaign to add wilderness acreage to Cucamonga Wilderness. We will write postcards to Congressman David Dreier on a participation.

MOUNTAINS GROUP

JAN 25 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
Chapter governance meeting. (No December meeting) PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RICK ESTES (951) 314-3328 <rickestes_92595@yahoo.com>.

CHAPTER

JAN 27 (THU) 6:30 PM DINNER ON THE TOWN DINNER
Join us for an evening of fun and food. Your Sierra Club friends are planning another Dinner on the Town at a surprise location. Details of this event to be announced on the LSG website. INFO: MARY ANN RUZ <ruzmaryann@gmail.com> (909) 815-9179

LOS SERRANOS GROUP

JANUARY 24 – JANUARY 30

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

JAN 25 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
Chapter governance meeting. (No December meeting) PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RICK ESTES (951) 314-3328 <rickestes_92595@yahoo.com>.

CHAPTER

JAN 27 (THU) 7:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting. The November & December meetings will be on the third Thursday of the month. The public is welcome. PLACE: Rancho California Water District Headquarters, 42135 Winchester Rd., Temecula 92593. INFO: JIM MITCHELL (951) 506-9607 <sierrahab001@gmail.com>
Santa Margarita Group
by Jim Mitchell

Bob Audibert, Group Outings Committee Chair

We had a great hike in the Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve, located in Escondido. We saw some great views of the newly constructed Olivenhain Dam and Reservoir along with dominating views of Escondido and the surrounding hills. At our turnaround point at the Lake Hodges Overlook a beautiful view of Lake Hodges seemed to appear out of nowhere. It was a moderately difficult hike of about 6.5 miles and everyone seemed to enjoy it.

Coming up on Saturday January 2 we will head off to the Santa Rosa Ecological Reserve just east of Murrieta our for what we call our “New Member” hike where all are welcome. It is a great way to start the New Year on of the right foot. It’s an easy to moderate 5 to 6 1/2 mile hike over various trails in the reserve. We will vary the route to take advantage of blooming flowers and the wonders of the vernal pools at their best.

Then on Sunday Jan. 16 we will explore the Santa Margarita River Trail in Fallbrook. It will be a 5.2 mile hike along the south bank of the Santa Margarita River in Fallbrook where we will experience one of the last wild rivers in Southern California. There are a few slippery areas in an otherwise pleasant hike of moderate difficulty. There is only about a 400 ft gain and loss in elevation, so this may be a good hike for those that do not care for a lot of hiking up steep slopes. When I scouted the hike, I found the lazily flowing river through the oak and willows to be very relaxing.

Our January General Meeting will also mark a change in our regular meeting schedule. In the past, our regular meeting day has been the 4th Thursday of every month. Starting in January, our regular monthly meeting day changes to the 3rd Thursday of every month. Hope to see you there!

If you have questions or program ideas, please contact me at (lynnadavi@yahoo.com).

Lynn Davis, Group Program & Fundraising Committee Chair

At a recent General Meeting, Penny Ruvelas, Supervisor of NOAA’s Southern California office presented their steelhead trout recovery plans for south-central and southern California. Bringing the focus to our local watersheds, including the Santa Margarita River, Penny brought a lively explanation of the salmon and steelhead issues and NOAA’s plan for recovering their populations.

Our General Meeting on January 29th, will feature with Monica Argandona as our guest speaker. As Southern California Conservation Director of the California Wilderness Coalition, Monica will update us on the status of the Wilderness Bill as well as explore volunteer opportunities for members.

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If you have questions or program ideas, please contact me at (lynnadavi@yahoo.com).

Fred Bartz, Environmental Action Committee

Liberty Quarry, the controversial rock quarry mine and asphalt plant proposed for the Temecula Foothills that the Sierra Club opposes, is the main focus of the Environmental Action Committee. As 2011 progresses, this issue is expected heat up significantly. The review of responses to comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) continues through the Riverside County’s Planning Department. After this step, the County must decide if the DEIR is now considered “complete.” If it is complete, the next step will be a review by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. When the Bureau of Reclamation has completed its review, it will then go to the County Planning Commission for a public hearing. This will probably occur sometime in the first quarter of 2011.

If you have questions or comments, please contact me at (bob@takeahike1@gmail.com) or call me at (951) 302-1059. See you on the trail.

Laurie Webster, Group Activities Committee Chair

More than 20 Sierra Club members and friends traveled recently to Los Angeles to visit the Heritage Square Museum. This unique living history museum consists of eight renovated historic structures. We were able to tour each of them with knowledgeable guide from the Perry Mansion to the Lincoln Avenue Methodist Church. We were given an up close look at the lifestyles of the people who contributed to the development of Los Angeles and Southern California. Then afterwards we enjoyed lunch and everyone’s company at a secluded table at the Maddalena Restaurant inside the historic San Antonio Winey.

We have more fun trips planned for January and February of 2011. I will keep you posted. If you want additional information or have some ideas on local trips you would like to take, contact me at (lauri@laurie_s_w@yahoo.com).

Los Serranos Group
by Mary Ann Ruiz

Los Serranos Group Executive Committee Elections will be held in January 2011. You can fill our the ballot below, or, vote at the January group meeting. Dean Shimke and Gregg Nevills election statements are included below. Also running are Farley Olander, up for re-election for another term, and Mike Gill, for a first term as a voting member of Ex-Comm. We have 4 voting positions open, so we will be voting on four members for excom on the ballots included on page 12. Los Serranos has an active outings program and monthly meetings that are always interesting and informative. Please check the website for upcoming meeting topics and outings, including our monthly Full Moon Hikes, and upcoming outings to Mt. Muir, Sunset Peak, Bonita Falls, and a Dinner on the Town. Artecum hike up Potato Mountain on a rainy Sunday afternoon was enjoyed by a group of Los Serranos hikers in the photo on the next page.

Dean Shimke Election Statement

I’ve been in the Sierra Club since August 2001, on the EXCOM since January 2005, and an outings leader since November 2005. I’m currently serving as the Los Serranos Group Education person which means organizing tabling events. My service also includes being a friend of the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden since 1990. I’ve supported the San Gabriel Mountains Forever Campaign by leading hikes into the San Gabriels and helping protect the mountains by getting people to sign letters asking our local congressman to draft legislation for adding wilderness acreage to our San Gabriel wildernesses.

This past January I attended an 8 hour workshop on Diversity and Inclusion within the Sierra Club put on by the Angeles Chapter at the Eaton Canyon Nature Center. In March I attended another 8 hour Workshop on the California Environmental Quality Act, Global Warming, and Endangered Species put on by the Angeles Chapter Legal Committee at the Loyola Law School. I love our mountains and want to “make them glad”. Please participate and vote, hopefully for me.

Gregg Nevills Election Statement

My name is Gregg Nevills and I currently am the treasurer of the Los Serranos Group. I have enjoyed the opportunity of serving as treasurer and helping the group keep up with its finances and stay within its operating budget. I would appreciate your vote in the upcoming elections as I am honored to once again serve the Los Serranos Group. Thank you!
The 11,250 unit project will have devastating impacts on the wildlife area and the communities of Lakeview and Nuevo. The project is the centerpiece of Riverside County’s plan for a new “city” in the middle of this rural valley. The county has had to make massive budget cuts because its economy is dependent on housing starts. Instead of broadening its financial base it continues to approve housing developments. As county services are cut and our local water districts implore us to conserve water, Riverside County continues to encourage sprawl.

Please take time to support this lawsuit and make a donation. You can make your check payable to the Sierra Club. Your donation will be used only for the expenses related to fighting this project. No amount is too small. Mail your check to the Sierra Club, P.O. Box 1325, Moreno Valley, CA 92556-1325. If you wish to have your donation remain anonymous, please indicate that and we will respect your wishes. We sincerely thank you for your help.

Winter is a wonderful time to visit the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. Wintering birds of prey are in the valley as are thousands of waterfowl and shorebirds, some of them migrating or overwintering. San Bernardino Valley Audubon will have a Beginning Bird Walk at the SJWA on Saturday, January 2, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. For more information call Doug Karalan, (909) 425-5355 or check their web site at www.svbas.org. The Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley will have a SJWA Nature walk on Sunday, February 6, 2011, 9:00 a.m. For more information about our group and how you could contribute would be appreciated. For more volunteers. Any amount of time you can spend is always tough to decide what goes on the Thrift Shoppe shelves! Happy New Year everybody and have a great 2011!

Bill Engs provided both the past and upcoming Outings information for this report:

HIKE – Jan 8 (SAT) 9:00 AM, S B Mts, Pacific Crest Trail, Silverwood Lake
We will hike West from State Highway 173 to Cedar Springs Dam. Silverwood Lake. Distance: 9.5 mi. Elevation gain: 500 ft. Bring water, lunch, boots and warm jacket. As this hike requires a car shuttle, please call Leader, Heather Sargeant, 909-336-2836 for meeting place and transportation arrangements.

CAR CAMP – Jan 21-23 (FRI-SUN) 11:00 AM Red Rock Canyon State Park
Join us for a moderately paced, 8 miles, 500 ft. gain hike on the PCT from the Silverwood Park office to Cedar Springs Dam and return. We will have great views of the lake and the park. Bring water, lunch, layered clothing and hiking boots. Directions: Take the I-10 or the 210 Fwy for the I-15 Fwy north. Exit at Hwy 138 east to Silverwood Lake State Park. Leader: Billie Wolff (909-338-2534), Assistant: Heather Sargeant (909-336-2836). Call for registration, trail head information and to confirm weather. Rain or snow may cancel. Joint trip with Angeles Chapter and Mountains Group.

HIKE – Feb 12 (SAT) 9:00 AM SB Mts, Pacific Crest Trail, Silverwood Lake
Join us for a moderately paced, 8 miles, 500 ft. gain hike on the PCT from the Silverwood Park office to Cedar Springs Dam and return. We will have great views of the lake and the park. Bring water, lunch, layered clothing and hiking boots. Directions: Take the I-10 or the 210 Fwy for the I-15 Fwy north. Exit at Hwy 138 east to Silverwood Lake State Park. Leader: Billie Wolff (909-338-2534), Assistant: Heather Sargeant (909-336-2836). Call for registration, trail head information and to confirm weather. Rain or snow may cancel. Joint trip with Angeles Chapter and Mountains Group.

WINTER BIRD WALK – Feb 27 (SUN) 8:00 AM B Mts, Lake Gregory
Meet South Shore parking lot, just east of the water slide. See wintering birds as we walk past way around the lake. Optional breakfast after. Leader, Bill Engs, <billengs@yahoo.com> (909-338-1910).

Please take time to support this lawsuit and make a donation. You can make your check payable to the Sierra Club. Your donation will be used only for the expenses related to fighting this project. No amount is too small. Mail your check to the Sierra Club, P.O. Box 1325, Moreno Valley, CA 92556-1325. If you wish to have your donation remain anonymous, please indicate that and we will respect your wishes. We sincerely thank you for your help.

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Meet South Shore parking lot, just east of the water slide. See wintering birds as we walk past way around the lake. Optional breakfast after. Leader, Bill Engs, <billengs@yahoo.com> (909-338-1910).
FEbruary 14 – FEBRUARY 20
Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings
(Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

FEB 14 (MON) 7:00 PM SB 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. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

FEB 15 (TUE) 6:00 PM SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONS COMMITTEE MEETING
Monthly conservation meeting. The public is welcome. LOCATION: Call or email for location & directions. CONTACT: SHAULI ROSEN-RAGER, (951) 767-2203, <s阐selaer@netson.net> SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

FEB 15 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting except December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the web site www.sierrabcbigbeargroup.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 49971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. CONTACT: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 15 (TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING
Program to be announced. The public is welcome. Refreshments will be served. PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. INFO: MARY ANN RUIZ <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> (909) 815-9379. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FEB 18 (FRI) 9:00AM CACTUS FLATS WALKABOUT HIKE
Join the Big Bear Group on this 6 mile, sometimes on trails, roads and cross country hike on the dry acreage to Cucamonga Wilderness. We will write postcards to Congressman David Dreier on a break. Cards and mailing will be provided. This will be an easy hike to the 90 foot Bonita (Beautiful) Falls. Easy: About 2.5 miles Round Trip, slight elev. gain. MEET: Lytle Creek Ranger Station (From Interstate 15 between the 210 and 215 freeways, exit north on Sierra Avenue which immediately becomes Lytle Creek Road – follow Lytle Creek Road 5.5 miles to the ranger station). We will carpool just around the bend to park across from the green bridge over Lytle Creek. BRING: water and extra snacks; wear sturdy shoes/boots. Adventurer Pass required. Rain cancels. LEADER: DEAN SHIMEK <ciuteria@msn.com> (909) 899-2795. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FEB 18 (FRI) 6:00 PM MOONLIGHT HIKE
Come for a 2 to 3 hour evening hike in the foothills to enjoy the “full” moon. (Actual full moon is limited parking. CALL: Snow could cancel, call to confirm. LEADER: ED WALLACE (909) 584-2064)

FEB 18 (FRI) 6:30 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING
FEBRUARY 21 – FEBRUARY 27
Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings
(Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

FEB 22 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING
Chapter governance meeting. (No December meeting.) PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 1079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RICK ESTES (951) 314-3328 <rickestes@92599@yahoo.com> CHAPTER

FEB 24 (THU) 7:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING
Monthly meeting. The November & December meetings will be on the third Thursday of the month. The public is welcome. PLACE: Rancho California Water District Headquarters, 42135 Winchester Blvd., Temecula 92591. INFO: JIM MITCHELL, (951) 506-9087 <jimrnc@jimmitchell.com>

FEB 26 (SAT) 8:30 AM BLACK ROCK CANYON HIKE
A Hobbs Tree National Park area hike along the Black Rock Canyon Trail. A 5-mi loop with an estimated 1,000’ elevation gain. Outstanding panoramic views of the Coachella Valley. MEET: Trailhead at the Black Rock Canyon Ranger Station. BRING: ten essentials, layered clothing, adequate water, lunch, sunscreen, songlasses, hat, and good hiking shoes. CALL for reservations. LEADER: ED CALLENDOR (760) 328-1090. BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 26-27 (SAT-SUN) DEATH VALLEY EXPLOSION CAR CAMP
Sample the wonders offered in this national park. MEET 8 AM Saturday in Shoshone. The day’s tour will include stops at Badwater, Natural Bridge, and Golden Canyon with a short hike at each. Camp at Texas Springs Sunday. Activities include an early morning drive to Zabriskie Point, followed by a stop at the Furnace Creek Visitors Center and museum, a visit to Salt Creek, home to the rare Salt Creek Pupfish, and a hike in the sand dunes. Possibility of more camping and hiking for those who wish to arrive early Friday afternoon and/or stay over Sunday night. More details are on the Outings page at <www.desertreport.org>.

CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

FEB 27 (SUN) 8:00 AM LAKE GREGORY WINTER BIRD WALK
See wintering birds as we walk part way around the lake. Optional breakfast after MEET. South Shore parking lot, just east of the water slide. LEADER: BILL ENGI, <billb@yahoo.com> (909) 338-1183. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

FEB 27 (SUN) 8:30 AM CHINO HILLS STATE PARK HIKE
Chino Hills State Park takes you back to early Southern California. Rolling green hills, oak woodlands, two black walnut trees and early spring wildflowers are all here to enjoy. Hike will be about 6 miles, 1200 ft elevation gain. BRING: sturdy shoes or boots, lunch and snacks, 2 liters water. Rain cancels. LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FEB 28 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING
The meeting place rotates. INFO: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

FEB 28 (TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING
PROGRAM: See front-page notice. Afterwards, SAN GORGONIO SIERRA SINGLES will adjourn for food & drink. COST: $5 donation requested. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS (909) 808-9911 <ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com>

CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 28 – MARCH 6
Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings
(Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

MAR 1 (TUE) 6:30 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING
The meeting place rotates. INFO: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

MAR 1 (TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING
PLACE: St. Richard’s Episcopal Church, 28708 Highway 18, Sky Forest. INFO: DAVE BARRIE (909) 337-0313.

CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

MAR 3 (THU) LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
Old-numbered months only (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov). PLACE: For meeting time & place, call MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379 <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

FUTURE SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES
Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings
(Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

MAR 20-25 (SUN-FRI) WILDFLOWERS AND FENCES IN THE CARRIZO SERVICE
This outing will include three and a half days of service to the Carrizo Plains National Monument removing and modifying fences to allow pronghorn to travel more widely. This is the early spring wildflower season, and our schedule allows at least a day for exploring in the monument, either hiking or driving backcountry roads. Because we are privileged to be staying at one of the old ranch houses, our trip is limited to 14 participants. COST: $30 covers five dinners. RESERVATIONS: contact LEADER: CRAG DEUTSCH, (415) 877-6737 <crag.deutsch@gmail.com>

CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

MAR 24-28 (SAT-MON) WHIPTLE MTS. WILDERNESS SERVICE

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NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES

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

NON-SIERRA CLUB

ChERCIIE WECl!ITIT'FL&HLY & WEEKLY & INENTS (LOOK IN CALENDAR FOR DATES)

(1ST FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE

UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: $2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

(3RD TUE) 6:30 PM SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS

NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT

OPEN SPACE MEETING

Join us for international folk dancing. Save our Skyline: Box Springs thru the Badlands

Help us preserve Moreo Valley’s northern skyline & secure a natural open-space corridor between the Box Springs Mountain & the Badlands, including the upper basin of Reche Canyon. We meet at the Coffee Grinders, 23580 Sunnymead Blvd., Moreno Valley. INFO: DAN CLARK, (919) 924-2454 <saveourskyline@roadrunner.com>

(3RD WED) 7:00 PM AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING

MEETING CONVENED BY AUDUBON SOCIETY PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I 10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

(3RD FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE

UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: $2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

JAN 2 (SUN) 8:00 AM SAN JACINTO WILDLIFE AREA BEGINNER BIRDING

NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

Check <www.sbvas.org> for current information. A slow-paced walk to introduce participants to basic birding techniques & identification skills. Do Not Travel on Davis Road if there have been recent rains or it is wet. COST: Free. BRING: Binoculars, bird book, sturdy shoes, hat, plenty of water, lunch, snacks, non-toxic insect repellent. MEET: San Jacinto Wildlife Area headquarters, 17050 Davis Road, Lakeview. DIRECTIONS: From Interstate 15, take Ramona Expressway east to Davis Road in Lakeview; north on Davis Road 2 miles to headquarters. Davis road is closed from Moreno Valley. Only entrance to wildlife area is from the Ramona Expressway. INFO: DOUG KARALUN, (909) 425-5555.

JAN 7 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE

NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT

UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: $2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

JAN 18 (TUE) 6:30 PM SAVE OUR SKYLINE: BOX SPRINGS THRU THE BADLANDS

NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT

OPEN SPACE MEETING

Join us for international folk dancing. Save our Skyline: Box Springs thru the Badlands

Help us preserve Moreo Valley’s northern skyline & secure a natural open-space corridor between the Box Springs Mountains & the Badlands, including the upper basin of Reche Canyon. We meet at the Coffee Grinders, 23580 Sunnymead Blvd., Moreno Valley. INFO: DAN CLARK, (919) 924-2454 <saveourskyline@roadrunner.com>

JAN 19 (WED) 7:30 PM MEETING

AUDUBON SOCIETY MEETING

NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

PROGRAM: A guest speaker presents an illustrated program on wildlife or natural science. Come early to browse the gift tables & socialize. LOCATION: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I 10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

JAN 21 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FOLK DANCE

NON-SIERRA CLUB EVENT

UC RIVERSIDE FOLK DANCE CLUB

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice monthly: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: $2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 215. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 lgseekins@sbcglobal.net or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309

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Los Serranos Group

The Los Serranos Group is an affiliate of the Sierra Club. Members participate in group activities, such as hiking, birding, and conservation projects. The group meets monthly in various locations throughout the Inland Empire. If you are interested in joining, please visit the Los Serranos Group website or contact the group leader. Remember to vote for 4 or fewer LOS SERRANOS GROUP BALLOT on the outside of the envelope so ballot can be verified.