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

Volume 39 Number 4
Protect America’s Environment For our Families For our Future

JULY—AUGUST 2009

In This Issue

Contacts for Chapter office ..................... 2
Plus��版&A membership
Free Vacation .................................... 2
Find out at the end of the PETA drive this year
Group News ..................................... 3
Morena Valley, Big Bear, Mountain, Mojave, Santa Margarita
Calendar ........................................ 5
Something for everyone: Outings, Activi ty and meetings
Chapter Positions ................................. 8
Contact Information
Our National Parks .............................. 9
“Not offsetting them”
Huts, lodges available ......................... 10
Local Club mountaineering facilities
Carbon Markets................................. 11
Buying & Selling the right to Pollute
Sierra Student Coalition ....................... 11
Get involved and trained
Membership Application ..................... 11
Not a member yet?
Say NO to Bottled Water ...................... 12
Chino Hills Wilderness
Chapter Awards Presented .................... 12
Dave Feldman honored

Take the Big Xeriscape Garden Tour July 18
By Christie Walker
Time for the Xeriscape Garden tour in Big Bear. 2008 was a banner year for the Big Bear Group’s annual Xeriscape Garden Tour. The tour won the Ida and Denny Wilcher Award honoring Sierra Club groups for excellence in fundraising; attendance topped 400 people – 427 to be exact; the local Flower Show was held the same weekend providing cross promotion for both events; and the addition of landscaper showcases brought added educational value.

The 2009 Xeriscape Garden Tour brings more exciting collaborations to the event including: FireWise showcase home; City of Big Bear Lake business component (Still in the works); and the return of the Flower Show and Landscaper Showcases.

This year’s tour will be held on Saturday, July 18th. You can start the tour any time between 9 am and noon at Emingers Mountain Nursery on Big Bear Blvd. in Big Bear Lake, across from Denny’s.

Participants will have until 4:00 pm to complete the self-guided tour of eight homes.

The purpose of the tour is to educate homeowners and increase awareness of the use of native and drought tolerant plant materials in mountain gardens in a fun and informal setting. For more information on the tour contact Christie Walker at 909-866-5006.

Egypt & Jordan

In 1978, the California Department of Parks and Recreation began a feasibility study to determine the need for Chino Hills State Park (CHSP). Volunteers from around the hills began an inventory of the Park’s natural resources and even helped designed the Park’s boundaries to protect the watersheds and viewsheds by protecting the ridgelines. Several years later, Park Bond Acts supplied the first funds to acquire land for inclusion into the State Park. As a result, it began, a 25 year effort of land preservation with numerous battles to protect the Park from surrounding developments and threats.

For the San Gorgonio Chapter General Membership Meeting July 7, Gail and Ladd Seekins will present a stunning slide show of their tour through Egypt and Jordan last February and March.

They will share their pictures and experiences of Cairo, Alexandria and Siwa Oasis. The Seekins traveled independently, not joining a tour. Walking extensively in all three places, they felt welcome and safe, day or night.

They will share their pictures and experiences of Cairo, Alexandria and Siwa Oasis. The Seekins traveled independently, not joining a tour. Walking extensively in all three places, they felt welcome and safe, day or night.

Join us for a tour of two of the world’s great cities and a visit to a unique oasis in the Sahara.

Chino Hills California State Park

The 2009 Xeriscape Garden Tour is an opportunity for you

2009 San Gorgonio Chapter Executive Committee Elections... An Opportunity for you

The Nominating Committee for this year’s Executive Committee election is looking for candidates to fill six available positions. If you would like to be considered for nomination, or know someone that you would want to present for nomination, please contact Rick Rees at 951 314-3328 or richest92595@yahoo.com or Dave Barrie at 909 337-0313 or barriemail@mac.com.

1. Nominating Committee shall be appointed on, or before, July 28, 2009.
2. Nominations for election must be received by August 14th and a final list of nominees will be available from the Chapter office on August 25th.
4. If the Nominating Committee chooses not to place a willing candidate on the ballot as a nominated candidate, the candidate will be notified and may seek placement on the ballot as a petition candidate. To obtain Petition Candidate information, contact the Chapter office at 951 684-6203 or sgorgonio@charterinternet.com.

(Continued on page 2)
Chapter Elections

(Continued from page 1)

5. The name of any Chapter member may be proposed by written petition (with candidate's approval) containing the signatures of at least 15 Chapter members. Petitions with valid signatures are to be sent to Sierra Club, 4079 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside, CA 92501-3204 and must be received by 6 p.m. on Tuesday, September 1st, 2009.

6. An Election Committee shall be appointed, or before, September 22nd, 2009.

7. All San Gorgonio Chapter members as of September 1st, 2009 shall be sent ballots.

8. Ballots will be mailed (as part of The Palm and Pine) by October 23rd.

9. Filing request date for ballots shall be November 23rd, at 12 noon.

10. Ballots will be verified, opened, and counted at 6:30 pm on November 24th at the Chapter Office.

11. The two year term of office for the newly elected Execom members will commence on January 1st, 2010 and will run through December 31st, 2011.

Palm and Pine Advertising

Display Advertising Rates (Black and White)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/4 inch</td>
<td>$12.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Black and White)*

For more information, contact Ralph Salisbury at 951-686-4141 or at RalphSalisbury@att.net.

Meetings Calendar Submissions

Ralph Salisbury
ralphsalisbury@att.net
http://www.sangorgonioclub.org

Member Change of Address

Sierra Club, Change of Address
PO Box 29632
Boulder, CO 80302-2968
(303) 825-4427
(951) 686-4141

Membership Information

There is a membership coupon in this issue. You can also contact the Membership Chair (see Chapter Executive Committee for membership.)

Non-Member Subscriptions ($9.00)

Sierra Club, San Gorgonio Chapter
4079 Mission Inn Avenue
Riverside, CA 92501-3204
(Sierra Club members not members of the San Gorgonio Chapter: Supply Club membership number.)

Palm and Pine

USPS 341-430
ISSN 1099-9974
A bi-monthly newspaper serving Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

Published by the
Sierra Club
San Gorgonio Chapter
4079 Mission Inn Avenue
Riverside, CA 92501-3204
(951) 684-6203
http://www.sangorgonioclub.org

The Palm and Pine is produced six times per calendar year: January/February, March/April, May/June, July/August, September/October and November/December. Submit all adds 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 ads for reasons of space, clarity or content. If you wish to have your photos or disks returned, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Al & Ann Muddy Awarded

By Joan Taylor

The Ralph Salisbury Outings Award was presented in June to Al and Ann Muddy in recognition of their long time contributions to the Sierra Club outings program. They have been the stalwarts of the chapter hiking program for over a decade, leading hikes for the Tahquitz Group as well as the Californian and Desert committees.

More than that, their hikes are "works of art", guiding their lucky partners to special places in Joshua Tree National Park. Ann, especially, is a great student of archeology, but Al isn't any slouch either. As their hiking "regulars" will attest, the Murdys have an uncanny sense of how to navigate in the wild and discover hidden natural and cultural treasures others might miss, much to the delight of those fortunate enough to join them. More than that, the Muddys are the conservation eyes and ears of the Sierra Club in the High Desert areas of the Morongo Basin. And, more than that, Ann and Al are wonderful, giving people of whom the club can be proud.

For many summers the Murdys have volunteered for the Joshua Tree National Park to caretake at the Keys Ranch historic fruit orchard as well as other volunteer activities. We want to thank Ann and Al for their years of service to the San Gorgonio Chapter and wish them well on their future adventures.

The Pacific Crest Trail Association Offers Free vacations...Do you work the days they do the rest

Trail Projects - What to bring?

For all trail projects, unless otherwise indicated, bring car/tent camping gear, heavy gloves, eye protection, sun protection (hat and sunscreen), brush protection (long sleeves & long pants), sturdy boots, daypack, flashlight, and water bottles. Warm clothes and rain gear are in order especially for spring and fall projects unless we let you know if we are coming so we can arrange food, equipment, and supervision, and to receive any last minute instructions. By all means come out even if you can’t stay the entire time, and if you are available at times other than those listed then let John know. We have lots of ongoing projects or new ones coming up all the time.

Adventures – don’t forget to bring one or project is in a So. Cal. Nat. For.

If you don’t have one, let me know beforehand and leader will arrange for an admin pass.

What is involved?

Moderate to strenuous physical activity, cutting brush with saws and loppers, pulling out digging out of sight, grubbing out root balls with a Pulaski, shifting up roots with a McLeod, re-building rock walls, or repairing water bars to re-establish drainage control. Certified volunteers will be using chain saws and brush saws and other equipment. A hike in and out of several miles carrying tools or personal camping gear may be required. Some projects involve working with packhorses and mules. We assume you are experienced in moun- tain travel, cutting, camping out, safety, working with packhorses and mules. Certified volunteers will be using chain saws and brush saws and other equipment. A hike in and out of several miles carrying tools or personal camping gear may be required. Some projects involve working with packhorses and mules. We assume you are experienced in moun- tain travel, cutting, camping out, safety, working with packhorses and mules. Certified volunteers will be using chain saws and brush saws and other equipment. A hike in and out of several miles carrying tools or personal camping gear may be required. Some projects involve working with packhorses and mules. We assume you are experienced in moun- tain travel, cutting, camping out, safety, working with packhorses and mules. Certified volunteers will be using chain saws and brush saws and other equipment. A hike in and out of several miles carrying tools or personal camping gear may be required. Some projects involve working with packhorses and mules. We assume you are experienced in moun- tain travel, cutting, camping out, safety, working with packhorses and mules. Certified volunteers will be using chain saws and brush saws and other equipment. A hike in and out of several miles carrying tools or personal camping gear may be required. Some projects involve working with packhorses and mules. We assume you are experienced in moun- tain travel, cutting, camping out, safety, working with packhorses and mules. Certified volunteers will be using chain saws and brush saws and other equipment. A hike in and out of several miles carrying tools or personal camping gear may be required. Some projects involve working with packhorses and mules. We assume you are experienced in moun- tain travel, cutting, camping out, safety, working with packhorses and mules. Certified volunteers will be using chain saws and brush saws and other equipment. A hike in and out of several miles carrying tools or personal camping gear may be required. Some projects involve working with packhorses and mules. We assume you are experienced in moun- tain travel, cutting, camping out, safety, working with packhorses and mules. Certified volunteers will be using chain saws and brush saws and other equipment. A hike in and out of several miles carrying tools or personal camping gear may be required. Some projects involve working with packhorses and mules. We assume you are experienced in moun- tain travel, cutting, camping out, safety, working with packhorses and mules. Certified volunteers will be using chain saws and brush saws and other equipment. A hike in and out of several miles carrying tools or personal camping gear may be required. Some projects involve working with packhorses and mules. We assume you are experienced in moun- tain travel, cutting, camping out, safety, working with packhorses and mules. Certified volunteers will be using chain saws and brush saws and other equipment. A hike in and out of several miles carrying tools or personal camping gear may be required. Some projects involve working with packhorses and mules. We assume you are experienced in moun- tain travel, cutting, camping out, safety, working with packhorses and mules. Certified volunteers will be using chain saws and brush saws and other equipment. A hike in and out of several miles carrying tools or personal camping gear may be required. Some projects involve working with packhorses and mules. We assume you are experienced in moun- tain travel, cutting, camping out, safety, working with packhorses and mules. Certified volunteers will be using chain saws and brush saws and other equipment. A hike in and out of several miles carrying tools or personal camping gear may be required. Some projects involve working with packhorses and mules. We assume you are experienced in moun- tain travel, cutting, camping out, safety, working with packhorses and mules. Certified volunteers will be using chain saws and brush saws and other equipment. A hike in and out of several miles carrying tools or personal camping gear may be required. Some projects involve working with packhorses and mules. We assume you are experienced in moun-
**By Ann Mekibben**

Thank you to Theresa Carson, Group Outings Leader, and Janette Deen for leading our first season of hikes for the Moreno Valley Group. Here is a report from Theresa: The group has been leading some hikes in the local hills to Box Springs Mountain Park, Olive Mountain, and also Sycamore Canyon Park. Most of the hikes had a good turn out and all were a lot of fun and good exercise. We saw deer on Olive Mountain, a King Snake on the hike to the “M”, and a baby burro on the Hidden Springs hike. Dan Clark led some hikes, too; one of them was to the springs on the Hidden Springs trail. We also saw a lot of beautiful flowers on that hike. Our last hike for the season was in April, but we will resume our scheduled hikes around the end of September and will hopefully avoid snake season and the hot weather. For fall hikes, please check the group web page at: http://sargonzoc.org/morenovalley/index.html

The deadline for comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Villages of Lakeview (VOL) Specific Plan 342 was April 22, 2009. The proposed project hopes to put 10,000 units in the communities of Lakeview and Nuevo some of which are planned on the southern boundary of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. The Sierra Club, Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley, Center for Biological Diversity, San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society, and United Concerned Citizens of Riverside County were some of the organizations submitting comment letters on the draft environmental impact report. The Riverside County Planning Department is reviewing the comment letters and working on responses. There is no indication as to when the department will hold a planning commission hearing on the project but no doubt indications that it may or may not be held this summer or it may be a “Discuss and Continue” item on the commission meeting agenda. The board of supervisors may or may not consider the project before the end of the year. For more information on the project, contact project planner Matt Strate, Riverside County Planning Department at (951) 955-8631. Planning Commission agendas can be found at: http://www.reclma.org/planning/ content/hearings/pcurrent_pc.html The Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley have information posted at their web site: www.northfriends.org You can e-mail the Moreno Valley Group at: movalleygroup@yahoo.com or the Friends at: northfriends@northfriends.org if you would like more information.

The Highland Fairview Corporate Park, a project which hopes to locate a 1.8 million square foot warehouse in eastern Moreno Valley, continues to be the main conservation issue facing the Moreno Valley Group this summer. As indicated as to when the county will schedule a hearing and the Environmental impact report. The River-Valley Group Conservation Chair, George, has attended the county meetings so far, but has not yet heard a hearing date for the project. For an updated hearing date, one can check the county's planning website at: www.rctlma.org/planning/content/hearings/pcurrent_pc.html The Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley have information posted at their web site: www.northfriends.org You can e-mail the Moreno Valley Group at: movalleygroup@yahoo.com or the Friends at: northfriends@northfriends.org if you would like more information.

Hike to Olive Mountain, Moreno valley recreational trails Committee, May 23

---

**Moreno Valley Group**

---

**Big Bear Group**

---

**Big Bear Group**

---

By Christie Walker

Homeowners saved over $50 on their bi-monthly electric bills after the Big Bear Group of the Sierra Club replaced all of their incandescent light bulbs with energy efficient compact fluorescent bulbs. Last September during Family Fun Night, a free drawing was held to select two homeowners to participate in a total light bulb replacement project. The winners were Teresa Hoffman of Big Bear Lake, and Sean Young of Big Bear City. In November, a team of Sierra Club volunteers visited each of the homes and took a complete inventory of every light bulb in and outside the home. From porch lights, to flood lights, from bathroom vanity lights to garage door openers, every light bulb was inventoried and tracked. Each homeowner required approximately 50 light bulbs for a total cost of $233 per home, which the Sierra Club paid for as part of the program.

Bulbs were purchased at Home Depot, which carries the best rated compact fluorescent brands, estimated to last from seven to nine years with normal use. The Sierra Club recommends purchasing only top rated compact fluorescent bulbs. Information on bulb ratings by brand name can be found on the Department of Energy’s website and on Home Depot’s website. The volunteer team then returned to the two homes and replaced all the light bulbs, taking the old bulbs to the recycling center. After four months, a comparison was made between the amount of energy used during a two-month period compared to the same two-month period from the previous year.

"There’s a shift taking place in which more people are becoming aware of what they can do to reduce their energy usage. Reducing waste, recycling, saving energy, conserving water...these are just a few areas where the individual can make a huge impact," said Christie Walker, president Big Bear Group Sierra Club. "The purpose of our light bulb project was to show homeowners how they can reduce their electric bills and save money simply by swapping their light bulbs over from incandescent to compact fluorescent bulbs. Creating an energy efficient home doesn’t have to cost a lot of money and will begin saving the homeowner money within a year. Joining us on our tour here in Big Bear, we hope this project shows people that saving energy is good for the individual and good for the planet."

In 2007, for the month of Jan/Feb, the group used 1936 kilowatt hours at a cost of $383.65. In 2008, the new bulbs cost 1825 kilowatt hours at a cost of $342.54. But after the total light bulb exchange, the usage dropped to 1535 kilowatt hours during the two-month period costing $328.09, for a savings of $54.75. If you assume a similar energy savings for the rest of the year, that would add up to an annual savings of $344.70. Subtract the cost of the bulbs and you can e-mail the Moreno Valley Group at: movalleygroup@yahoo.com or the Friends at: northfriends@northfriends.org if you would like more information.

The Hoffman family had even more dramatic results for the two-month period of Feb/March. In 2008, their kilowatt hours were 2287 at a cost of $701. But after the total light bulb exchange, their 2009 Feb/March usage dropped to 825 kilowatt hours at a cost of $342.06. While their usage for this two-month period is traditionally higher than their other two-month periods during the year, their average usage for 2008 was 1036 kilowatt hours per two-month period at an average cost of $169.03 per month. Since the replacement of all their light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs, their average kilowatt usage for the four months Jan.- April has been 910 kilowatt hours at an average cost of $138.74, for a projected savings of $30.29 per two-month period.

The purpose of the project was to show how much energy/money could be saved by changing to compact fluorescent light bulbs. Today’s compact fluorescent light bulbs come in a variety of shapes and configurations to fit all lighting needs. They have come down in price and last from seven to nine years, even more money will be saved. The Hoffman family had even more dramatic results for the two-month period of Feb/March. In 2008, their kilowatt hours were 2287 at a cost of $701. But after the total light bulb exchange, their 2009 Feb/March usage dropped to 825 kilowatt hours at a cost of $342.06. While their usage for this two-month period is traditionally higher than their other two-month periods during the year, their average usage for 2008 was 1036 kilowatt hours per two-month period at an average cost of $169.03 per month. Since the replacement of all their light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs, their average kilowatt usage for the four months Jan.- April has been 910 kilowatt hours at an average cost of $138.74, for a projected savings of $30.29 per two-month period.

The purpose of the project was to show how much energy/money could be saved by changing to compact fluorescent light bulbs. Today’s compact fluorescent light bulbs come in a variety of shapes and configurations to fit all lighting needs. They have come down in price and last from seven to nine years, making them an affordable way to save energy. For more information, contact Christie Walker, president Big Bear Group Sierra Club. "The purpose of our light bulb project was to show homeowners how they can reduce their electric bills and save money simply by swapping their light bulbs over from incandescent to compact fluorescent bulbs. Creating an energy efficient home doesn’t have to cost a lot of money and will begin saving the homeowner money within a year. Joining us on our tour here in Big Bear, we hope this project shows people that saving energy is good for the individual and good for the planet."

In 2007, during the two-month period of Feb/March, the group used 1936 kilowatt hours at a cost of $383.65. In 2008, the new bulbs cost 1825 kilowatt hours at a cost of $342.54. But after the total light bulb exchange, the usage dropped to 1535 kilowatt hours during the same two-month period costing $328.09, for a savings of $54.75. If you assume a similar energy savings for the rest of the year, that would add up to an annual savings of $344.70. Subtract the cost of the bulbs and you can e-mail the Moreno Valley Group at: movalleygroup@yahoo.com or the Friends at: northfriends@northfriends.org if you would like more information.
By Jenny Wilder

As the weather heats up the Mojave Group was down for the summer months of July and August. There are no General Meetings in July and August and that means, however, that you can enjoy the Wednesday evening walks every week and have an abundance of social events. Although we try to keep as fast a pace as possible on these regular walks, there is still a lot of conversation for those who want a longer conditioning hike. Melody does a 6 mile hike on most Monday evenings (call first). See the calendar section for details.

Drought, Water Conservation and Global issues. If we continue to water alien vegetation and turf in California instead of our water from other places. We have an annual Mountains Group weekend at the Medicine Seller Campground in San Bernardino County is being thwarted by a locked gate.

By Bob Sherman

For April 3 Car Camp at the The Wildlands Conservancy’s Whitewater Preserve was thwarted by a locked gate and high winds. Camping was out of the question. The gusts were so strong campers could hardly stand up, and hiking wasn’t an option, either. Not a good start for April and May outings.

On April 18 we participated in “Earth Day on the Mountain,” the first of what is hoped to be an annual event. A recently formed (and still forming) group, Green Team Arrowhead, promoted the idea, planned the event, and made it happen, all within a three month time frame, starting on January 16. They partnered with Rims of the World High School (where the event was held) and were assisted by a number of community members including Sher Fairbanks, Sue Walker, Bob Sherman, Marta Hethmon, Steve Farrell, Laurie Neil and Dave Barrie all from the Sierra Club. The Mountains Group passed out compact fluorescent lightbulbs (donated by Edison), shared Sierra Club and Mountains Group information, and sold a few Sierra Club bumper stickers, hats, and books. Attendance was estimated at around 900.

In the first week of May, Outings Chair Bill Eng led a bird walk in the Santa Ana River bottom (Riverside) over to Lake Evans in Fairmont Park. By sight and sound, the group identified 36 species, the best list ever.

At our Keller Hut (May 2 and 3) annual spring gathering Group members brought a vegetable to share and were later engaged in a clothing and equipment exchange orchestrated by Margaret Spiess (overseer for the weekend). Some members came home with items they had not known they wanted. Cash donations go to the Group treasury for projects on the mountain.

The following day, Margaret served French toast and fresh bananas and pineapple for those who stayed overnight.

Later, hikers proceeded to where the Shooting Stars (these were small com- mon to the High Sierra region) were in bloom. Participants then hiked on up to the old youth camp site (Little Green Valleys). Along the trail, there were a few blooms and Western Wall Flowers (yellow, four petals) were in bloom. Along the way Bill Engs retrieved the carcass of a metallic balloon from a creek. It had a blue ribbon tied on, Bill exclaimed, “Another stupid balloon release!” We heard the melodious song of the Fox Sparrow. The bird has arrived in the mountains for the spring.

We are told that reserves and reservoirs are at their lowest since 1994 and that We are still watering the roadways and the campuses at an unknown rate to be determined. Although we try to keep as fast a pace as possible on these regular walks, there is still a lot of conversation for those who want a longer conditioning hike.
WHAT TO BRING
Many Outings require 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 include: (1) map, (2) compass, (3) first aid kit, (4) knife, (5) windproof/stormproof matches in waterproof case, (6) fire starter, (7) first aid kit, (8) food and water for emergency use only, 9) extra clothing including rainwear, 10) sun protection including sunscreen/sunglasses.

CARPOOLS
In the interest of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants carpool among themselves, and the Sierra Club reserves the right for carpool arrangements and Vehicle Circus liability for them. Carpools, ride sharing, or anything similar is strictly a personal arrangement among the participants. Participants assume all risks associated with the Vehicle Circus and should have appropriate insurance coverage and their vehicles should have no safety defects. Drivers of carpools agree not to carry any personal property which has not been expressly requested by the participants. Ten cents per mile is the maximum reasonable cost for short trips is suggested while six cents per mile per person for 100 miles is usually reasonable.

Liability Waiver
In consideration of the acceptance 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, and Release of Liability
I have read the waiver which follows and agree to the assumption of risk and release of liability of the Sierra Club, its officers, directors, employees, agents, and leaders from any and all liability or account on the part of the Sierra Club which the participant or participants in attendance, as designated by the Sierra Club (“Trailhead”). The waiver does not include personal injury caused by the negligence of the Sierra Club, its officers, directors, employees, agents, and leaders in their official capacities. This is a release of all liability for personal injury caused by the negligence of the Sierra Club, its officers, directors, employees, agents, and leaders in their official capacities. This is a release of all liability for personal injury caused by the negligence of the Sierra Club, its officers, directors, employees, agents, and leaders in their official capacities. This is a release of all liability for personal injury caused by the negligence of the Sierra Club, its officers, directors, employees, agents, and leaders in their official capacities. This is a release of all liability for personal injury caused by the negligence of the Sierra Club, its officers, directors, employees, agents, and leaders in their official capacities. This is a release of all liability for personal injury caused by the negligence of the Sierra Club, its officers, directors, employees, agents, and leaders in their official capacities.

This Agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by law. If any provision or part of any provision is found to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby and shall remain valid and enforceable to the maximum extent permitted by law. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of California.

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 SANTA MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM Meeting Appaloosa Inn, 1550 Mission Inn Ave., Suite 300, on Feb. 4, 6, 8, 1, March 5, 6, 8, 11 at Shady Cove (Campground on Aug 8, 3 PM and at Keller Hot Dec. 5, 3 PM. INFO: DAVID BARRIE, (909) 327-0133.
(1ST TUE) 7:00 PM SANTA MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING Meeting place rotates. INFO: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 965-5005.
(1ST WED) 7:00 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING Meeting place rotates. INFO: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 965-5005.
(2ND MON) 7:00 PM SANTA MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING Meeting place rotates. INFO: DAVID BARRIE, (909) 327-0133.
(2ND TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Chapter for the next meeting, 5/15/2009. At 9:30 am 212 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: KIM FLOYD, Conservation Chair, klfloyd@twcnet.com.
(3RD MON) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING Meeting place rotates. INFO: RICK ESTES 951-314-3328 <rickestes_92595@yahoo.com>.
(4TH THU) 7:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING Meeting monthly in public is welcome. PLACE: Rancho California Water District Headquarters, 41235 Wincher Rd., Temecula 92599.

RECOMMENDATIONS
We would like to consider this opportunity as a venue for a monthly meeting. Please reach out for any questions.

JUNE 22 – JUNE 28
Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings

(2ND TUE) 7:00 PM SANTA MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING
Meeting place rotates. INFO: DAVID BARRIE, (909) 327-0133.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY:
DEADLINE: 05/12/2009 Calendar is due by August 1. Format:
Itemized as follows: Annuals, Biennials, Bulbs, Perennials, Waterwise, Trees, Bonsai, Fruits, Shrubs, etc. Each Entry should be typed and double spaced. Minimum of 100 words about the plant. Entry fee: $5.00. Deadline: May 12, 2009.

JUNE 22 – JUNE 28
Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings

NATIONAL PARKS WEEK
May 15-21

Moab Jazz Festival May 15-June 6

July 4th Weekend of events:
Lowry’s Chenoweth Farm
July 8-11

July 4th Benefits for Moab Jazz Festival
July 9-11

July 4th Meeting
JUNE 22 – JUNE 28
Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings

(3RD TUE) 7:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING Meeting monthly in public is welcome. PLACE: Rancho California Water District Headquarters, 41235 Wincher Rd., Temecula 92599.

NATIONAL PARKS WEEK
May 15-21

JUNE 22 – JUNE 28
Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings

(5TH TUE) 7:00 PM SANTA MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING Meeting place rotates. INFO: DAVID BARRIE, (909) 327-0133.

JUNE 22 – JUNE 28
Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings
(Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

(2ND TUE) 7:00 PM SANTA MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING Meeting place rotates. INFO: DAVID BARRIE, (909) 327-0133.

(3RD TUE) 7:00 PM SANTA MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING Meeting place rotates. INFO: DAVID BARRIE, (909) 327-0133.

July 4th Meeting
JUNE 22 – JUNE 28

(3RD TUE) 7:00 PM SANTA MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING Meeting place rotates. INFO: DAVID BARRIE, (909) 327-0133.

JUNE 22 – JUNE 28
Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings

(4TH TUE) 7:00 PM SANTA MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING Meeting place rotates. INFO: DAVID BARRIE, (909) 327-0133.

JUNE 22 – JUNE 28
Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings

(5TH TUE) 7:00 PM SANTA MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING Meeting place rotates. INFO: DAVID BARRIE, (909) 327-0133.

JUNE 22 – JUNE 28
Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings

(6TH TUE) 7:00 PM SANTA MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING Meeting place rotates. INFO: DAVID BARRIE, (909) 327-0133.
JUL 13-17 (MON-FRI) NORTH FORK BIG PINE CREEK BACKPACK

Backpack along the first night of the trailhead; this hike will take us back into the John Muir Wilderness will give us views of the towering spires of 13,000 to 14,000 peaks (the legendary Palisades) in the lower 48. The trail runs along the east side of North Fork of Big Pine Creek and passes near spectacular alpine lakes giving parking approximately 275 feet in elevation. We will establish a base camp after the first day of hiking and make our campsite at approximately 9:00-12:00 p.m. The next day our trail from the trailhead and establish our base camp in the tent. The last night of the hike will be spent back at our base camp or the trailhead. 

RESERVATIONS & INFO: LEADER: JIM HOWELL (909) 584-9470; BIG BEAR GROUP

JUL 14-17 (TUE-THUR) CAMPUS CONSERVATION MEETING

Monthly meeting or conference call. Take part in important conservation issues please participate and need your help. MEETING: R.F.M. ROLAND,oomay@fresno.edu

JUL 16 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING

JUL 17 (WED) 7:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING

JUL 20 – JULY 26

Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” presenting these outings

(Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

JUL 20 (TUE) 8:30 AM PACIFIC CREST TRAIL, HOLCOMB RD TO HWY 18 HIKE

A moderate 7-mile hike starting from Holcomb Valley Road (by the road) to Hwy 18. There are long level stretches, making this a better beginner hike. Views of Balden Lake and Loccum Valley. BRING water, weather-appropriate clothing, snacks and sturdy shoes/boots. MEET: 9:00 am in parking lot off of Hwy 18 near Delamar Peak. 

JUL 21 (TUE) 8:30 AM GRANDVIEW POINT LOOP HIKE

This is an easy to moderate 7-mile hike of 500 feet of elevation gain. We will access Grandview Point via a trail that includes a river crossing. We will hike back to the trailhead on a hike we will make at least twice during the 2009 hiking season. Those reaching all five peaks will be given a patch commemorating the effort. BRING plenty of water, weather-appropriate clothing, lunch, sturdy shoes and sun protection. MEET: Cougar Creek trailhead parking on North Shore Drive (about 1/2 mile west of the Discovery Center); at 8:30 am and carpool to our starting point on “dump” road. Adventure passes are required at both locations.

RESERVATIONS & INFO: LEADER: CHRISTOPHER COOK (909) 878-4524

JUL 21 (TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING

Program to be announced. The public is welcome. Refreshments will be served. USUAL PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. INFO: CHRISTINE WALKER, W: 909-584-9526; E: bigbeargroup@earthlink.net

JUL 22 (WED) 11:00 AM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING

JUL 23 (THU) 6:30 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING

JUL 24 (FRI) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING

JUL 27 – AUGUST 2

Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” presenting these outings

(Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

JUL 27 (TUE) 7:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING

JUL 28 (WED) 8:30 AM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING

JUL 29 (THU) 6:30 PM SERRANO SIERRA COMMITTEE MEETING

EVENT

MEET for dinner with Sierra Club friends at Giuseppe's Pizza on Euclid in Upland. This popular local restau-

runt has a full bar and outdoor seating. MEET: Call Mary Ann by 7-27; LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379; <ruizmaryann@gmail.com>

BIG BEAR GROUP

JUL 30 (TUE) 7:00 PM SERRANO SIERRA COMMITTEE MEETING

JUL 30 (WED) 6:30 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING

AUG 3 (MON) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING

AUG 4 (TUE) 7:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING

AUG 5 (WED) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING

JUL 23 (THU) 6:30 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING

JUL 25 (SAT) 8:00 AM ANGELO PARK HIKE

This is a beautiful hike, but a bit strenuous. It's 15.7 miles round trip with 4,904' of elevation gain. Bring traditional trail gear and backpack, sunscreen, snacks and 2-3 quarts of water. MEET: 8:00 am in the Bartlett parking lot on Bartlett Road, by the Chamber of Commerce building in the Village, Big Bear. 

RESERVATIONS & INFO: LEADER: ROBBIE BOS (909) 985-5505

BIG BEAR GROUP

JUL 26 (SUN) 6:00 PM AUGUST SUMMIT SESSION

JUL 28 (TUE) 7:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP EXCOM MEETING

JUL 29 (WED) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING

JUL 30 (THU) 7:00 PM SERRANO SIERRA COMMITTEE MEETING

EVENT

MEET for dinner with Sierra Club friends at Giuseppe's Pizza on Euclid in Upland. This popular local restau-

runt has a full bar and outdoor seating. MEET: Call Mary Ann by 7-27; LEADER: MARY ANN RUIZ (909) 815-9379; <ruizmaryann@gmail.com>

BIG BEAR GROUP

JUL 29 (WED) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING

AUG 3 (MON) 6:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING

JUL 30 (THU) 6:30 PM SERRANO SIERRA COMMITTEE MEETING

 молодой человек посещает тропинку в горах и радуется, когда видит красивые виды. Это также отличная возможность провести время в природе. Отлично проводить время с семьей или друзьями. 

(Continued on page 7)
**AUG 9 (SAT) 4:30 PM HOLCOMB VALLEY WALKABOUT HIKE**

This walk through the Holcomb Valley will be an easy adventure. A 1-3 mile round trip, climbing not over 100 feet, moderate to easy in the Holcomb Valley, so bring a back pack. Afterwards we will have dinner and drinks at Sierra Backyard BBQ. Bring cameras, good hiking boots, plenty of water, snacks, and layered clothing for warm to cool weather. MEET at the Big Bear Parking Lot in Big Bear Lake for carpooling. Dinners will need a Forest Adventure Pass. INFO: LEADER ROBBIE ROSES (909) 866-5030. BIG BEAR GROUP

**AUG 9 (SAT) 7:30 PM JENKS LAKE RD TO DRY LAKE HIKE**

Join us for international folk dancing. This is the same group that used to meet at UCR. Meetings are twice a month: on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. COST: $2 donation to help pay for the room. PLACE: Highgrove United Methodist Church, 1135 Stauffer Rd., Moreno Valley. CONTACT: DAN CLARK, (951) 451-1597. NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES

**SEP 1 (TUE) 7:00 PM BIG SERRANO GROUP EXCOM MEETING**

Visit, enjoy and assist an outstanding and relatively unknown national monument. There will be an optional short optional hike to a nearby old mining cabin. Back at camp we’ll enjoy Happy Hour, a potluck feast and an opportunity to tour the interior of the Picacho peak. MEET: For time and location, please call to verify the location. At this writing, the dance is still being held at All Saints Episcopal Church, 3847 Terracina Dr., Riverside. DIRECTIONS: From I-15, take the 14th St. exit north to Magnolia & turn left. The church will be on your left.

**SEP 1 (TUE) LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM MEETING**

Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings

**SEP 4-7 (FR-SUN) 8909 LAKE RD. TO LONE PEAK HIKE**

Visit, enjoy and assist an outstanding and relatively unknown national monument. There will be an optional short optional hike to a nearby old mining cabin. Back at camp we’ll enjoy Happy Hour, a potluck feast and an opportunity to tour the interior of the Picacho peak. MEET: For time and location, please call to verify the location. At this writing, the dance is still being held at All Saints Episcopal Church, 3847 Terracina Dr., Riverside. DIRECTIONS: From I-15, take the 14th St. exit north to Magnolia & turn left. The church will be on your left. ALTERNATIVE DANCE VENUE: While the church is being remodeled, we will meet at the Ballet Arts Studio in downtown Riverside.

**SEP 2 (WED) 7:00 PM VENUE: WHILE THE CHURCH IS BEING REMODELED, WE WILL MEET AT THE BALLET ARTS STUDIO IN DOWNTOWN RIVERSIDE. CALLER: ELIZABETH Photographic. CONTACT: DAN CLARK, (951) 386-0751. NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES"
RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE
8/9 (FRIDAY) 7:30 PM
DANCE
SAN BERNARDO VALLEY METHODOIST CHURCH
938 W. Center St., Highgrove. DIRECTIONS: Take the Center St. exit from Interstate 15. The church is one half mile east of the freeway on the right. INFO: GAIL SEEKINS (909) 825-4427 <lgseekins@sbcglobal.net>

RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE
8/10 (SATURDAY) 6:30 PM
DANCE
ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
4524 Terracina Dr., Riverside. DIRECTIONS: The church is on the corner of Terracina & Magnolia between 14th St. & Central Ave. From the 91 freeway, exit on 14th St. and go north to Magnolia. John will be there to meet you. The church will be on your right. Alternatively, exit at Central Ave., go north to Magnolia & turn right. The church will be on your right. ALTERNATE DANCE VENUE: While the church is being remodeled, we will meet at the Ballit Arts Studio in downtown Riverside. CALLER/COORDINATOR: PAT MOLLY MCCOMMOL (714) 287-8887 <gssilliman@cosmopoma.edu> INFO: SANDY GOSSELIN <SOGOSSELIN@riversideca.gov> Riverside Contra Dance Website: http://www.usa.gov/edwild/sdced/sriderideca.gov>

RIVERSIDE CONTRA DANCE
8/12 (MONDAY) 7:30 PM
DANCE
ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
4524 Terracina Dr., Riverside. DIRECTIONS: The church is on the corner of Terracina & Magnolia between 14th St. & Central Ave. From the 91 freeway, exit on 14th St. and go north to Magnolia. John will be there to meet you. The church will be on your right. Alternatively, exit at Central Ave., go north to Magnolia & turn right. The church will be on your right. ALTERNATE DANCE VENUE: While the church is being remodeled, we will meet at the Ballit Arts Studio in downtown Riverside. CALLER/COORDINATOR: PAT MOLLY MCCOMMOL (714) 287-8887 <gssilliman@cosmopoma.edu> INFO: SANDY GOSSELIN <SOGOSSELIN@riversideca.gov> Riverside Contra Dance Website: http://www.usa.gov/edwild/sdced/sriderideca.gov>
Annual Lobby Day Sunday & Monday August 23-24

Come join us in Sacramento for our annual Lobby Day on Sunday and Monday August 23rd and 24th. You will be part of a team that will help Sierra Club California pass our priority bills during the most exciting time of the year: the August session of the State Capitol. You will have opportunities for interaction with other activists and our professional lobbying staff, as well as with legislators and their staff. This is a two-day event. On Sunday afternoon our advocacy team will train you on how to lobby and brief you on our prior- ity bills so that you can effectively advocate for them. On Monday, you will work the halls of the Capitol as teams, with meetings scheduled throughout the day.

For more information, please contact Annie Pham, Legislative Aide at lobby- day@sierrachocalifornia.org or (916) 357-1106 ext. 107.

Island Hopping in Channel Islands National Parks 2009 Fundraising Cruises: Jul 17-20; Aug 7-10; Sep 11-14

Cruise depart from Santa Bar- bara aboard the 68’ twin diesel yacht Truth. The fee, $1000, includes an assigned bunk, all meals, snacks, beverages, plus the services of a ranger/naturalist who will travel with us to lead hikes on each is- land and present evening pro- grams. The proceeds from these fundraising cruises will benefit Sierra Club’s political programs in California To make a reservation mail a $100 check, payable to Sierra Club to leader: Joan Jones Holtz, 11826 The Wye St, El Monte, CA 91732. Con- tact leader for more information (626-443-9706; jholzhirl5@aol.com)

By John Byrne and Vicky Hoover

In 2016, America’s National Park Service will celebrate its 100th birthday. The Sierra Club’s National Parks and Monuments Team wants to share with you our vision for the next century of the National Park Service. National parks are America’s uniquely valuable contribution to the world. Our vision focuses on three major concerns that people haven’t talked about for 100 years -- but that today are prevalent in our society: natural areas disappear- ing, people separated from nature, and the onset of global climate change.

First, the disappearance of our natural areas. It used to be that development oc- curred as islands in a sea of nature, but today national parks are the natural is- lands in a sea of development. We see that national parks are needed to pre- serve important representative places of our natural environment. We envision a significant expansion of our National Park system -- so that every major natu- ral area in our country will be rep- resented by at least one national park or equivalent reserve.

All major ecological regions in the United States should have a national park or similar protected area to represent it. Large areas of the country are presently left out. Let’s fill these gaps. A prelimi- nary gap analysis shows that we must cre- ate 38 new National Parks or similar areas, and expand or change designation in 28 of others. This will protect habitat for the biodiversity of our flora and fauna that make up our natural world, as ecosystems everywhere are dependent on natural habitats.

By filling the gaps, by having pro- tected natural areas represent all parts of our natural world, we can not only better enjoy nature; we can learn what we must do to protect the world in which we and our fellow species live.

An expanded network of parks is also needed to provide nearby places to visit for many people – both to lessen greenhouse gas emissions from air travel, by flying and driving to parks and to pro- vide convenient close to home places for people to appreciate their natural and cultural heritage.

After reaching its peak 20 years ago per capita visitation to our national parks is down by 20 percent. Varying gaso- line costs, economic constraints, and public awareness that traveling long distances to visit national parks genera- tes greenhouse gases will aggravate this phenomenon. Well, if people won’t come to National Parks – bring National Parks to the people: establish new areas, closer-to-home. Dorothy should not have to put on those slippery shoes and get on a trolley to Oz to experience nature.

Second, connecting people with national parks.

Our heavily urbanized society is losing its connections to nature. A genera- tion of children is growing up mostly indoors and often glued to the Internet with a great problem of obe- sity. Experience of nature becomes more virtu- al. To remedy, we envision parks able to coex people, especially young people, out into nature, and we envision parks becoming more inviting and at- tractive to them.

We need to expand education pro- grams in national parks to help all visitors learn about our natural world. The educa-

Our National Parks

.........Vision for the Second Century

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden Natural History Classes and Field Trips

The Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont has an extensive list of classes and field trips including Horticulture and Botany classes, Natural History classes and field trips, and Art classes. For a complete description and fees go to www.rsabg.org and click on “View Full Calendar” or contact Cotton Coselett at ccoselett@rsabg.org or 909-625-8767, ext. 224.
shau, (951) 413-3224) and Ridge Prop-
erity Trust (almost 1 million square feet; -
shauli Rowen-Rager leads a hike in beauty Mountain.

Huts and Lodges
Want to escape to the mountains? Try visiting one of the Sierra Club Huts or Lodges. Stay overnight at the best rates in town.

Keller Ski Hut, built in 1938 is at an elevation of 6800 feet on Highway 18 between Running Springs and Big Bear in the San Bernardino Mountains, across from Snow Valley Ski Area. An adventure pass is required. There are two rustic living/dining rooms; fully equipped kitchen with cookware, dishes, utensils, stove, refrigerator; two dormitory sleeping kits with 30 sleeping pads on floors, and bathroom. On open weekends or work parties/overseer training, call Jacqueline Meese (714-427-0457). Keller rates (SC): $3.00 Day, $8.00 overnight.

Harwood Lodge, built in 1930 to honor Aurelia Harwood, the first woman president of the Sierra Club. Currently, Shauzii Rosen-Rager has led hikes to Beauty Mountain, Cahuilla Mountain and the South Fork of the San Jacinto River. He plans to take time off during the rest of the summer but will return in the Fall with a new full schedule of hikes.

Kerry King/Santa Margarita
Shauzii Brown-Rager leads a hike in beauty Mountain.

Also the Santa Margarita Group New Outings leader. Bob Audubert is set to complete the Sierra Club 2 day Leadership Training Course and then afterwards will be leading his own schedule of outings. And Rick Estes, San Gorgonio Chap-

ter Chair, continues to lead the monthly Santa Rose Plateau hikes for the Santa Margarita Group new local group. Board Chairman, Doug Nails, has turned over the responsibility to our very capable member, Paul Chu-

ker, has been keeping our monthly meetings lively with excellent and well received programs. These have included Tree of Life Nursery owner Mike Evans’ excellent program on authentic landscaping with native plants, and a very visually informative program about local birding by area headquarters. Through the Palomar Audubon Chapter president Doug Nails. Lynn has many more interesting programs planned for the months ahead, all being held in September. No general meetings are planned for July and August.

SANTA MARGARITA GROUP
(Continued from page 6)

More than 500 Temecula area residents, members of the Sierra Club of the LAFCO public hearing to testify and show their support for annexation.

but with the city’s annexation efforts defeated, the Liberty Quarry battle is not over. “This is just round one,” disappointed Temecula Mayor Marianne Edwards said after the hearing where the annexation pro-
posal had gone down to defeat. With city annexation no longer a possibilit-
it, the Liberty Quarry question goes to the Riverside County Board of Supervisors that now will have the final decision whether or not quarry mining will be permitted in the Te-

mecula Foothills.

On another topic, the Santa Mar-
garita Group Outings program is full swing and growing. During the last couple of months, Shauzi Rosen-
Rager has led hikes to Beauty Moun-
tain, Cahuilla Mountain and the South Fork of the San Jacinto River. He plans to take time off during the rest of the summer but will return in the Fall with a new full schedule of hikes.

San Antonio Ski Hut, built by the Ski Mountaineers in 1937. At 8200 feet, it is reached by a steep 3 mile hike with 2200 feet of gain. Rates: $1.00 Day, $10.00 overnight.

Open weekends/Work Parties/Overseer Training for these huts and lodges can be found by visiting the Angeles Chapter Website (access through sierrachapter.org) or in the Angeles Schedule of Activities.
Carbon Markets......Buying and selling the right pollute

By Robert Frehling

Carbon pollution markets, where governments give companies the right to pollute and sell such rights (a "cap and trade" system), are being widely adopted as one of the largest—and most controversial—tools for limiting global climate change. In the basic "cap-and-trade" system, the government announces a certain number of pollution allowances, each worth one metric ton of carbon dioxide. The allowances are handed out free of charge; the number of allowances is capped for the entire trading system, and decreases each year. If a business pollutes less than its allotment, it can sell extra credits to other companies. If a business pollutes more than its number of allowances, then it must buy extra allowances from other companies that reduced their pollution. Companies that don’t comply face steep fines.

Businesses are supposed to respond to market pressure through finding cost-effective ways to lower emissions. A business that requires expensive retrofit or replacement of factories will find it cheaper to buy allowances, paying another business that can reduce its emissions at less cost. A pollution market is supposed to be more efficient than government mandates that might provide companies with cost benefits. Theoretical analysis of supply and demand curves predicts that carbon markets will lead to a least-cost reduction in carbon pollution. Since participants don’t always make ethical or even rational choices, though, it’s an open question whether they will obey mathematical equations.

Cap-and-trade systems do have potential problems. They give little incentive to reduce carbon faster than the declining caps, since that leads to a surplus of allowances and falling carbon prices. Participants may also face unpredictable prices, which will depend on decisions by government regulators, economic cycles, and even the weather. Prices can also be influenced by speculation; under the European Climate Exchange, a second market has developed in derivatives, such as carbon futures and carbon options. Buying a carbon option would give someone the right to buy or sell a pollution allowance at a future date at a preset price. In theory that is supposed to be a way to control price risk, but in practice it can lead to higher prices.

The basic "cap and trade" approach is subject to several major criticisms:

- It allows many businesses to buy their way out of reducing emissions.
- It provides an incentive to limit total pollution to the cap, but not to do better than that.
- It has no revenue for government programs that reduce carbon emissions.
- It violates the ethical principle that the "polluter pays." Any other complication in a carbon market is the "offset," where businesses can pay for carbon reductions in one place to meet their obligations elsewhere (see article, page xxx). Many critics consider offsets to be "leaks" that remove the market pressure of the gradually tightening caps and thus weaken the system.

In response to such problems, policymakers are moving toward an auction system, where polluters have to bid for all allowances. To make sure that revenues are generated beyond the cost of holding the auction, government may set a minimum bid price. President Obama has recently stated that he favors an auction to create an effective program for reducing carbon emissions and give government the needed funding.

Others, however, believe it may be more efficient to impose a carbon fee or tax, as was recently recommended by Reh-Tieliers, CEO of ExxonMobil, a company that for years denied that climate change exists. A tax eliminates the price uncertainty of a pollution market, and lowers transaction costs. While cap-and-trade is usually limited to large industrial polluters, a tax can be distributed across the whole economy. A given amount of carbon is generated at a lower cost per ton of carbon, which reduces the burden on businesses.

There has been speculation about how high a carbon fee or tax (whether through cap-and-trade, auction, or a tax) would motivate businesses or consumers to change their behavior. It is significantly less expensive to pay a $25 per ton tax on the nation’s six billion tons of carbon dioxide than it would generate $15 billion of revenue per year. That could pay for efficiency programs, subsidies for renewable energy, conversion to cleaner transportation, and redesigning our infrastructure. It is unlikely that the equivalent tax of 28 cents per gallon of gasoline could achieve a similar transformation through a penalty effect.

Real Carbon Markets

The European Union created the first major carbon market, the European Climate Exchange, in 2005. At first, the EU issued too many allowances. Most companies could easily meet the cap, and the price of carbon plummeted. This resulted in little incentive to cut emissions. In spite of challenges, the market has grown dramatically. In 2005, 94 million tons of carbon permits traded hands; in 2008 the trading volume was 20 times larger, equivalent to about half of all the carbon emissions in the EU. Prices have ranged from 10 to 30 euros per metric ton (about $15 to $45 per English ton), with $46 billion and the value more than doubling every year.

Despite years of stonewalling by the U.S. government, and oil companies that are lobbying intensely to prevent any kind of climate protection are rapidly moving ahead in this country. The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) is a group of 10 states that created a "northeastern climate confederacy" with Kyoto-style regulations. Nearly all carbon allowances under the system are auctioned, and offices are minimized; currently only power plants are covered.

The three auctions held since the market began in September 2008 have raised a hefty $260 million—to be spent by states for efficiency, renewables, and other climate-protection programs. The caps are designed to reduce regional emissions 10% by 2018.

The next region to bolt from under the Bush re- gime of climate inaction was the West. In 2007 five states (California, Oregon, New Mexico, Arizona, and Washington) formed the Western Climate Initiative (WCI). Two more states and four Canadian provinces have since joined, and a few Mexican states sit in as observers. While still in the planning stage, WCI will cover nearly all sectors including transit, resi- dential, commercial, and industrial carbon pollution.

It aims for a 15% reduction in carbon emissions by 2020. California has developed its own climate agenda through AB 32 (Nuñez and Pavley), the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. California has focused strongly on transportation, subsidies for renewable energy, conversion to cleaner transporta- tion. Clearly, the economic incentives required to rebuild the infrastructure will need to be much higher than for adding equipment to existing facili- ties.

It is almost certain that pollution markets will not be able to achieve all the necessary reductions in greenhouse gases. Much of our infrastructure—such as roads, planned urban environments—transit systems, the passenger rail, airports, electric utilities, and vast por- tions of the nation’s real estate—is immune to market incentives because it is owned or heavily regulated by government. Government plays a key role in research and development of new technologies and controls about 40% of the U.S. economy through the power of taxation. Governments also set laws and regulations, can design climate programs, programs, and plans. These design elements people expect or want the "free market" to do. Government and markets both have critical roles to play in protecting the world’s climate; the challenge will be to integrate them into effec- tive and timely solutions to the major crisis of our age.
Say NO To Bottled Water!

By Vicki Lee

The bottled water industry—led by Nestlé, Coke, and Pepsi—aggressively promotes bottled water through sexy marketing campaigns that undermine people’s trust in public water systems. Their campaigns rival the Joe Camel ads that hooked kids on cigarettes and the Happy Camels ads that belied the California dairy industry’s animal factories that dominate subsidized agriculture here. This trendy “healthy” drink can cost 500 to 4,000 times more than tap water.

In the U.S. more than 30 billion plastic water bottles are discarded each year. Only 15% are recycled, the rest end up in landfills, or as litter—66 million every day. They can take 1,000 years to decompose and meanwhile they contribute to the vortex of plastic waste in the Pacific Garbage Patch, which may be twice the size of Texas.

Smaller bottles are made from polycarbonate (PC), the manufacture of which generates 100 times more toxic emissions than glass. Researchers found that eight out of 10 PET bottles leave residues of the endocrine disruptor bisphenol A in the water. Exposure to extremely low doses of bisphenol A is strongly linked to breast cancer, prostate cancer, and diabetes.

If you are concerned about the quality or taste of your tap water, it is much cheaper and safer to install a water filter on your tap to remove the pollutants than to depend on bottled water.

No problems have been associated with refillable stainless steel or aluminum/baked-enamel-lined containers.

Reducing our carbon footprint

The Pacific Institute estimates that production of bottled water for U.S. consumption in 2006 required the equivalent of more than 17 million barrels of oil, including the energy used for transportation. This released over 2.5 million tons of carbon dioxide, a major global warming gas. It took three liters of water to produce one liter of bottled water.

The total amount of energy embedded in the use of bottled water is the equivalent of filling a plastic bottle one quarter full of oil, according to the Pacific Institute.

What you can do

Avoid using bottled water unless absolutely necessary. Drink from reusable metal or glass containers filled with tap water when traveling. At public events and at home, offer pitchers of water. Patronize restaurants that refuse to serve bottled water.

With the San Gorgonio Chapter of the Sierra Club, says Terry. Drew has promoted strong ties between our local environmental groups, especially with the Mojave, Moreno Valley and Mountains Groups of the Sierra Club, the Center for Biological Diversity, Save Our Forest Association, San Bernardino Mountains Land Trust, Friends of Fawnkin, Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley, Inland Empire Waterkeepers and many more. Sierra Club and SBVAS has worked together on many issues of common concern including Church of the Woods, Hawarden, Royal Rangers, University Hills, Moreno Valley Highlands, Villages at Lakeview, Mid-County Park, the LEAPS project, Liberty Quarry, the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and much more. “He keeps us all organized”, says Terry.

Drew first joined the Audubon Society after a trip to Hawaii in 1983, and he’s been a member of the Hawaii Audubon Society off and on, even though he lived in Philadelphia. He move to San Bernardino in 1991 and joined the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society in 1997. He was membership chair for 7½ years (1998-2005), was on the Board Directors since 1999 and president since 2006.

Drew claims his first beginning bird walk wasn’t until 1999 and his life list stands at a paltry 321. He has made at least 6 lobbying trips to Washington DC, at least one of them as a Sierra Club member. Drew was a co-founder of Inland Planet, the population advocacy group in 2001 and was always talking with Ladd, educating all who would listen on population issues and their consequences. Drew is a Renaissance Man—educated and well-spoken on many, many subjects. No one can write a “Letter to the Editor” or Op Ed piece better. The San Gorgonio Chapter appreciates all that he has done. With the San Gorgonio Chapter and the San Bernardino Valley Audubon working together, we know that the future will be “greener”.

Green Home...It begins where you live

By Carol Wiley

Thinking about installing a solar electric system for your home? Want to know how to keep your lawn healthy without all of the chemicals? Are you curious about how to reduce your home’s carbon footprint? For most people, the journey towards a more sustainable lifestyle begins at home.

That’s why, as part of our mission to help people explore, enjoy, and protect the planet, we’re pleased to announce the launch of our partner website, Sierra Club Green Home (SCGH), which was created to help individuals, like you, take simple steps to green their homes. By helping people make their homes more energy-efficient, ecologically sustainably, and healthy, Sierra Club Green Home advances our efforts to better the environment.

For the past year, we’ve worked closely with the SCGH team to create a website that makes green living more practical for ordinary consumers. The website provides a wealth of information regarding environmentally friendly products and practices relating to every aspect of home life. Sierra Club Green Home is an information-rich resource and can be added to your local Chapter website with a logo and link to help you answer sustainability inquiries from concerned members and citizens. You can find the logo on the Contact Us page of Sierra Club Green Home: http://www.sierraculbgreenhome.com/contact-sierra-club-green-home/

When you visit Sierra Club Green Home, you will find educationally rich, quality content on more than 100 subjects related to sustainability for the home. Additionally, you’ll have access to exclusive articles from prominent green journalists, including Joan Hamilton, Jennifer Roberts, and the Club’s own “Mr. Green,” Bob Schildgen.

Sierra Club Green Home also offers consumers access to thousands of providers of green products and services vetted for authenticity through the SCGH GreenCheck process—a set of carefully designed criteria whereby each applicant is evaluated. Visitors can scan the database of SCGH GreenCheck-authorized providers by region, enabling them to quickly and easily get started on greening their homes on any budget.

Lastly, Sierra Club Green Home features the following exclusive features that provide insight into incorporating green practices into daily life:

• SCGH Home Carbon Calculator to help determine a home’s carbon footprints and suggest ways to lower it.

• SCGH Home Health Quiz to help people evaluate the healthiness of their homes and to tap into educational facts on bettering indoor air quality.

SCGH Net Solar Costs Calculator to determine the exact costs and benefits of adding solar technology to a home.