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Membership Meetings

Tuesday, July 5
“Josh, a Tree National Park Association”
Speaker: Karina White
Director, Desert Institute
(see write up Page 1)

Tuesday, August 2
“San Bernardino Mountains Land Trust”
Speakers: Peter Jorris and Kevin Kellemes
(see write up Page 1)

Programs begin at 7:30 p.m.
at the San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands
(California St. exit off 10 Fwy)

Mojave Desert: Solar Project Would Disturb Thousands of Tortoises
by David Danelski, The Press-Enterprise

More than 3,000 desert tortoises would be disturbed by a solar project in northeast San Bernardino County and as many as 700 young ones would be killed during three years of building, says a

Check Out These Two Great Chapter Programs!

Karina White, will be the speaker at the July 5th San Gorgonio Chapter meeting. Her topic will be the Joshua Tree National Park Association. Karina is the Director of the Desert Institute, the adult education division of the Association. In her illustrated talk, Karina will pay particular attention to the Desert Institute’s open enrollment field courses, community lectures and custom designed programming. The Institute’s courses cover Joshua Tree’s cultural history and natural science. Courses in survival skills and the arts are also offered. The Desert Institute offers over 100 programs a year. Several are classes available for university credit through University of California at Riverside Extension.

Joshua Tree National Park Association was founded in 1962 as a non-profit cooperating partner with Joshua Tree National Park. The association’s mission is to assist with preservation, education, historical and scientific programs for the benefit of the park and its visitors. Programs and projects that cannot be achieved through federal funds and personnel are made possible through Joshua Tree National Park Association. Check Out These Two Great Chapter Programs! Continued on Page 2 > > >

March Fund Appeal
A BIG Success!

To All Fund Appeal Donors,
Our sincere thanks to you, our donors to the March 2011 San Gorgonio Chapter fund appeal. Your support makes our conservation work possible. We acknowledge your contributions by listing your names here. If your donation was mailed after March 31, your gift is acknowledged in this issue of the Palm and Pine. Thanks again! JOSHUA TREE DONORS Kim Floyd PONDEROSA DONORS Vincent Casella Check Out These Two Great Chapter Programs! Continued on Page 8 > > >

Joshua Tree National Park Association’s fundraising program is the Legacy Project. The Association raises funds and other forms of assistance for the benefit of the park through this program. The park superintendent will choose projects for funding on a yearly basis. These could include education, science, research and outreach programs; the preservation and enhancement of public resources, and; the acquisition of lands and other property essential to park purposes as provided by law.

To contact the Association visit www.joshuatree.org, call the office at 760-367-5535, or email to desertinstitute@zippnet.net.

Check Out These Two Great Chapter Programs! Continued on Page II > > >
Tortoises...Continued from Page 1

federal assessment issued Tuesday.

The document, made public by the U.S.
Bureau of Land of Management, was
released about a week after federal officials
ordered developer BrightSource
Energy Co. to halt construction activity on
two-thirds of the project area near Primm,
Nev. Biologists hired by the company had
a permit from federal wildlife officials to
nuke three-quarters of the project area near Primm,
Nev. Biologists hired by the company had
a permit from federal wildlife officials to
affirm that the Jornada had been reached.

The original estimates of tortoises that
would be displaced by the project were
based on surveys that found 16 adults. The
new estimates were based on the tortoises
actually found by biologists who have been
removing the protected reptiles from the
construction site. The animals are
threatened with extinction.

Biologists hired by the developer of a
solar energy complex had a permit to
disturb no more than 38 adult tortoises. A
new assessment says 700 young tortoises
would be killed and a few thousand overall
affected if the project were to continue.

Continued on Page 10 > > >
HONORING A NATIVE PLANT LEGEND

This year, a new award has been added to the Big Bear Group’s 9th annual Xeriscape Garden Tour. The Jim Otterstrom Earth Home Garden Award will be presented to the garden that uses native plants as its primary landscaping. Jim Otterstrom was a native plant proponent and his garden was living proof of his belief that native plants were the best way to landscape your yard. The Otterstrom yard was a perennial favor on the tour, with Jim and Peggy Otterstrom handing out seeds, sage advice and lemonade. With the passing of Jim in January of this year, the Xeriscape Garden Tour committee created a new award in his honor.

The 2011 tour is set for Saturday, July 16th up in Big Bear Lake. This free tour provides homeowners the opportunity to visit local gardens that exemplify the best in water conservation and highlighting nature’s best. In 2010, attendance hit an all-time high with over 600 people in attendance. Back again in 2011 will be a FireWise home, showcasing how to be both drought-tolerant and fire safe at the same time. Attendees will also have the chance to vote for their favorite home on the tour with the People’s Choice award.

You can start the tour any time between 9 am and noon at Eminger’s 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. Tour booklet, map to the location and directional signs help attendees drive from one location to the next. Sierra Club volunteers are on hand at each home to welcome visitors and point out some of the highlights of the garden.

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.

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS NOW THE 3rd THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

Regular monthly meetings for July will be a members-only cruise on the Big Bear Queen on July 21st at 6:15. Meet at Big Bear Marina on Pioneertown Road at 6:15. This is a potluck, zero waste event, so bring something to share and your own plate and utensils.

Our August 18th meeting is picnic hike. We will meet at the Discovery Center at 6:30 for a one hour hike, followed by a picnic dinner under the stars. Bring a sack lunch and something to drink. We will be eating outside at the picnic tables at the Discover Center.

For more information about either of our meetings call Christie Walker at 909-866-5006.

THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE DESERT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Most of the large territory of the Mojave Group (from Wrightwood to Needles) is public land managed by the BLM (Bureau of Land Management). The Desert Advisory Council’s 15 members provide advice and recommendations to the BLM on the management of 11 million acres (17 thousand square miles) of public lands in eight counties of Southern California. The secretary selects council nominees consistent with the requirements of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), which require nominees appointed to the council be balanced in terms of points of view and representative of the various interests concerned with the management of the public lands within the area for which the council is established.

The Desert Advisory Council (DAC) is currently dominated by members who are more interested in aggressive pursuits on public lands such as mining, development & transportation, grazing, energy production etc. Meet the current council members at the website: http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/info/rac/dac/members.html

The California Desert District website includes several different types of recreation, but what does a hiking path sign look like, and where are the hiking paths on BLM managed lands by the Barstow District office? What about birding and wildlife viewing locations? Are there any designated equestrian paths? How would you find out about the trailheads to explore Wilderness Areas? Do you care about the protection of archaeological sites? Would you prefer that BIG Solar is not placed on pristine desert habitat? We really do need to let the Desert Advisory Council know that these things are important to us.

Although the DAC meets 3-4 times a year in various locations, you don’t need to attend to make a difference (but it would be great if you could!). Your written comments can be sent prior to the meeting, and if sent with someone who will be attending, the comment can be read at the meeting and recorded in the minutes. So why not tap out your passion on the keyboard right now and in just a few words let the land managers know of your interests and concerns about your public lands? The Desert Advisory Council meeting, June 3rd is in San Diego. On September 9 and 10 it will be in Ridgecrest. You can check on the DAC meetings agendas and minutes at the website: http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/info/rac/dac.html

Written comments may be filed in advance of the meeting and should be addressed to the Desert Advisory Council, c/o Bureau of Land Management, External Affairs, 22835 Calle San Juan de Los Lagos, Moreno Valley, CA 92553. Written comments also are accepted at the time of the meeting and, if copies are provided to the recorder, will be incorporated into the minutes. Thank you for your help.

THE MOJAVE RIVER

One of the most challenging conservation issues in the Victor Valley area and beyond is the Mojave River. According to the USGS it is the largest drainage system in the Mojave Desert. Its broad ribbon is easily seen from the air and is very impressive. Yet its importance to our communities not well understood. Part of the problem is that this river is almost

Continued on Page 4 > > >
always a dry looking because much of its flow is underground. It stretches across the desert from Silverwood Lake to Soda Lake near Baker, passing through Hesperia, Apple Valley, Victorville, Oro Grande, Helendale, and Barstow. Private property along the river stretches far into the middle of the river, making it difficult to come to agreement about the future of this river. Some land owners demand full use of all their land, and would prefer the authorities (Flood Control?) to build walls to protect their home and other improvements. Others prefer a rural landscape which allows for the natural flooding of the land from time to time. Many prefer the middle road—use of a reasonable amount of their land and protection from floods. Meanwhile I have received some complaints from people about the way San Bernardino County Flood Control digs a channel in the middle of the river and piles up the sand at right angles to this channel. In addition, several small wetlands have been bulldozed. So what can be done to improve this situation? On October 6, 2010 the county filed a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for an Environmental Impact Report for the Long-term maintenance of Flood control and Transportation Facilities located throughout San Bernardino County. With this project it appears that the county would prefer to continue to dig up the channel in the middle of the river. There are several problems with this which include increasing the speed of the water flowing in the middle of the river, it creates dust storms, wetlands are destroyed and in the absence of healthy wetlands the mosquito population could flourish in stagnant pools. Doesn’t this also negatively affect lands downstream?

The Mojave River is not alone in its plight. Only 10% of California’s wetlands remain. People are now beginning to realize that protection of wetlands is important. Wetlands are among the most productive ecosystems on earth. There is a variety of microbes, plants, insects, amphibians, reptiles, birds, fish, and mammals need wetlands for part or all of their life cycles. *Wetlands can also play a part in carbon sequestration. Wetlands clean contaminated water and guard against flooding. Restoring wetlands is one of the best ways of preserving the planet’s future. Our communities could benefit in numerous ways from productive, healthy wetlands along the Mojave River. The Napa River is undergoing a renovation to return its natural flow. Other rivers are also being revived. The EPA has designated May as National Wetlands Month and numerous organizations realize the benefits of wetlands. There are many areas along the Mojave River from where it meets Deep Creek to Barstow where wetlands exist and where protected wetlands could exist. If you are interested in this discussion, please visit the Mojave Group SierrA Club facebook page (and then look under the Discussions tab) https://www.facebook.com/pages/Mojave-Group-Sierra-Club/128853927174168. Or contact Jenny Wilder

High Desert Corridor

This project is in the planning stages and we are looking for people who live in the area of Apple Valley between I-15, the Apple Valley Airport and Hwy 18 near Dead Man’s Point to help with a response to the plan. The main section of this new “freeway” will connect Palmdale with Victorville, but the plan includes an extension through Apple Valley. This will attract truck traffic from the Southern California Logistics Airport through Apple Valley and Lucerne Valley to I-10 via Yucca Valley. For more information on the High Desert Corridor and to be put on the list of interested persons contact the San Bernardino County Dept of Public Works Transportation Division: Deputy Director Mazin Casey (909)387-7916 mkasey@dpw.sbcounty.gov

Mojave Group even walk along the Mojave River. Photo by Jenny Wilder.

Moreno Valley Group

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once the Moreno Valley Group’s inception we have been submitting comments on local land use issues, air quality and transportation issues; commenting on proposed logistics centers, warehouses and distribution centers; working to preserve open space, city trails, hilltops and skylines; working to protect the San Jacinto Wildlife Area as well as enjoying local walks and hikes. If you are interested in helping the Moreno Valley Group accomplish its goals and would like to run for our group’s executive committee (excom), please contact us at movallgroup@yahoo.com. We are also looking for someone who would be willing to be our treasurer. This person would need to spend an average of less than one hour per month helping our Moreno Valley Group and would not need to be on the excom.

According to an April 28, 2011, *Press-Enterprise* article, the city of Moreno Valley is embarking on a plan to “develop a strong economic foundation in logistics distribution centers . . .” The article states that the eastern Moreno Valley area, “could support 8 million square feet of new industrial and business park development.” This would be in addition to Highland Fairview Corporate Park where the 1.8 million square foot Skechers building is located. The city hopes to improve its tax base by focusing on these centers both in eastern and southern Moreno Valley, office complexes and making improvements at the TownGate Shopping Center.

At their May 12th meeting the Moreno Valley Planning Commission denied the zoning change (3-2) for the West Ridge Commerce Center (a one million square foot warehouse) which would border Highway 60 west of Redlands Boulevard. Issues of concern that were mentioned at the meeting included: increased traffic, lack of a tenant for the project, and complaints from adjacent home owners. The project proponent is appealing the decision to the Moreno Valley City Council.

The planning commission also denied the approval of proposed revisions to the city’s outdoor lighting standards at their April 14 meeting. The revisions would improve the existing standards to help meet ‘Dark Sky’ standards, that is outdoor lighting fixtures would focus light to the ground (instead of dispersing light into the sky); it would preserve the night sky, save energy and save taxpayers money. Adopting the dark sky revision was part of the settlement agreement in the Sierra Club lawsuit against the Highland Fairview Corporate Park/Skechers project. The revisions may be presented to the city council in July for possible approval or returned to staff for modifications.

The draft environmental impact report (DEIR) for the Riverside County General Plan Update (GPU) may be released by the end of summer or early fall. At this point in time there is no scheduled date for General Plan Advisory Committee to meet. George Hague and alternate Ann McKibben have represented the environmental community on the committee which is dominated by those connected to development interests. The GPU will impact all of us within Riverside County as it will lay out land use designations for years to come and it will also address sprawl, global climate change, noise and open space issues. Land use designations will significantly impact the San Jacinto Wildlife Area and open up valuable agricultural lands for development. County planner for the general plan update is Mitra Mehta-Cooper, Riverside County Planning Department, (951) 955-8514; MMKIBTA@redland.org.

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) development on the southern boundary of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. The 11,250 unit project will have devastating impacts on the wildlife area and the rural 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 project will add 294 million vehicle miles each year to western Riverside County. This will further clog our roadways and degrade our air.

The California Department of Water Resources hopes to release the final environmental impact report on the Lake Perris Dam Project in the summer of 2011. If you are interested in
CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS
DEADLINE: Items for the September/October 2011 Calendar are due by August 1, 2011.
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 Ralph Salisbury at <calphalsbury@att.net>.

GENERAL INFORMATION, RULES & DISCLAIMERS

All Outings Leaders are Chapter Certified Leaders having appropriate Outings Training Courses, First Aid Courses, & experience for the Outings they lead. LEADERS may exclude individuals from participation if they believe they may not be qualified. Non-Sierra Club members may join outings unless otherwise stated in the write-up. All participants agree to abide by the Leader’s rules. Participants should call the LEADER AHEAD TO SIGN-UP.

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 starters, 7) first aid kit, 8) extra food & water for emergency use only, 9) extra clothing including rainwear, & 10) sun protection including sunscreen/sunglasses that.

ADVENTURE PASS SPECIAL NOTICE

If you record a pass in your carpool or use your own pass, remember to bring the pass with you. Passes are required to enter many National Forests and Parks. Interagency passes may be used in lieu of Adventure Pass. From everyone for annual permits (above normal mileage contribution). America The Beautiful cost of the daily permits equally among everyone in the vehicle or a suggested $.50 contribution ride in a vehicle with a permit, you will not be able to attend the outing. You are expected to share the arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel. Drivers In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpools agree to not consume any alcoholic beverages. It is customary for riders to share expenses.

CARPOOLING POLICY

In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpools agreements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpools agreements & assumes no liability for them. Carpools, 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, foreseen or unforeseen, 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 contradict or minimize my understanding of these risks. I know that Injuries & Damages can occur by natural causes or activities of other persons, 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 appreciate that I may have to exercise extra care for my own person & for others around me in the face of such hazards. I further understand that on this Outing there may not be 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 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, & to 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 or 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. 7, Apr. 4, May 2, Oct. 3, Nov. 7. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0013. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

(1ST TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING The meeting place rotates. INFO: CHRISTIE WALKER, (999) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

(1ST TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER PROGRAM: See front-page notice. Afterwards, SAN GORGONIO SIERRA SINGLES will adjourn for food & drink. COST: $1 donation requested. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 204 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS (999) 800-9911 <laddg.sseekins@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 RUZ, (909) 835-9179. LOS SERRANOS GROUP

RECURRING MONTHLY MEETINGS

(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) 337-0013. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

(2ND TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTER COMMISSION 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, <kimfloyd82@gmail.com> (760) 249-5385.

(2ND WED) 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP MEETING Monthly meeting except for July & August. PLACE: Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17718 Francesa, Victorville. (One block North of Bear Valley Rd. on Ridgecrest/East on Ridgecrest Road at the building. INFO: CAROL WILEY, (760) 245-8734, <dirtysixer@mojave.net> MOJAVE GROUP

(3RD 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: SHUELL ROSEN-RAGER, (951) 767-2203, <shuekl@mojave.net> SAN JACINTO VALLEY (HEMET) CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

(3RD THU) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING Monthly meeting except December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sierrabcbigbear.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. CONTACT: CHRISTIE WALKER, (909) 866-5006. BIG BEAR GROUP

(3RD TUE) LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING Monthly meeting except August. The public is welcome. Refreshments will be served. PLACE: Educational Building, Upland Presbyterian Church, Euclid Ave. at 11th. INFO: MARY ANN RUZ, (909) 835-9179, <ruizmaryann@gmail.com> LOS SERRANOS GROUP

(3RD THU) 6:30 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING Monthly meeting. The public is welcome. PLACE: Rancho California Water District Headquarters, 42135 Winchester Rd., Temecula 92589. INFO: JIM MITCHELL (951) 506-9607<br>LA SERRANOS GROUP

(3RD THU) 7:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA CHAPTER EXCOM MEETING Chapter governance meeting. (No December meeting.) PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter office, 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RALPH SALISBURY (951) 686-4141 <calphalsbury@att.net>. SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

Continued on Page 6 > > >
**JUL 11 (MON) 7:00 PM**  
**BIG BEAR GROUP**  
Meeting program monthly meeting. No meeting in August or December. Place: St. Richard’s Episcopal Church, 28078 Highway 18, Sky Forest. Info: Dave Barker, (909) 337-0113.  
**Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings**  
(Also refer to Weekly recurring Outings & Activities)

**JUL 12 (TUE) 7:00 PM**  
**CHAPTER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**  
Meeting monthly or conference call. Take part in working on important conservation issues. Please participate: you need our help! Info: Kim Floyd, Conservation Chair, <kimffloyd@fastmail.fm>  
(425) 439-0835.  
**Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings**  
(Also refer to Weekly recurring Outings & Activities)

**JUL 15 (FR) 6:00 PM**  
**MOONLIGHT HIKE**  
**BIG BEAR GROUP**  
Come for a 2 to 3 hour evening hike in the foothills to enjoy the full moon. (Actual full moon is July 24) Hikes are moderate. Rain cancels. Rating: moderate. BRING: flashlight, water, snacks/lunch, sunscreen, good hiking shoes. Info: Contact leader for meeting place. Leader: Vicky Hoover, <vikhoover@sierraclub.org>  
(415) 977-5527.  
**Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings**  
(Also refer to Weekly recurring Outings & Activities)

**JUL 16 (SAT) 8:00 AM**  
**VAN DUSEN CYN RD TO CUSHENBERRY PASS HIKE**  
**BIG BEAR GROUP**  
This is a hike up one of the most beautiful trails in the San Gorgonio Wilderness to San Bernardino Peak (elevation 10,650). Strenuous 16 mile roundtrip, 4,700 foot elevation gain, moderately paced hike. BRING: 5 liters water, lunch, plenty of snacks, sunscreen, hiking poles (if you use them) and 10 essentials. Adventure Pass required for trailhead parking. WEAR: layering clothing, hat and hiking boots. Rating: moderate/strenuous. BRING: layered clothing, adequate water, snack/lunch, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, and good hiking shoes. Info: Contact field leader for meeting place. Leader: Ed Caliendo, (909) 987-3813 <edcal@msn.com>  
**BIG BEAR GROUP**  
**Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings**  
(Also refer to Weekly recurring Outings & Activities)

**JUL 19 (TUE) 6:00 PM**  
**MOONLIGHT HIKE, HIKE**  
**BIG BEAR GROUP**  
Come for a 2 to 3 hour evening hike in the foothills to enjoy the full moon. (Actual full moon is July 24) Hikes are moderate. Rain cancels. Rating: moderate. BRING: flashlight, water, snacks/lunch, sunscreen, good hiking shoes. Info: Contact leader for meeting place. Leader: Vicky Hoover, <vikhoover@sierraclub.org>  
(415) 977-5527.  
**Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings**  
(Also refer to Weekly recurring Outings & Activities)

**JUL 22 (TUE) 7:00 PM**  
**BIG BEAR GROUP**  
Meeting on Monday or conference call. Take part in working on important conservation issues. Please participate: you need our help! Info: Kim Floyd, Conservation Chair, <kimffloyd@fastmail.fm>  
(425) 439-0835.  
**Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings**  
(Also refer to Weekly recurring Outings & Activities)

**JUL 26 (SAT) 9:00 AM**  
**KID’S HIKE**  
**BIG BEAR GROUP**  
This is a hike for kids of all ages and adults who have children. Hike follows a child friendly trail in the San Bernardino National Forest. Distance: 3-4 miles, 700 foot elevation gain. BRING: water, hiking poles, layered clothing, hat, and good hiking shoes. Info: Contact leader for meeting place. Leader: Vicky Hoover, <vikhoover@sierraclub.org>  
(415) 977-5527.  
**Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings**  
(Also refer to Weekly recurring Outings & Activities)

**JUL 29 (SAT) 10:00 AM**  
**30TH ANNIVERSARY HIKES**  
**BIG BEAR GROUP**  
To honor George Wysup, who died April 21, 2010, the Hundred Peaks Section (HPS) dedicated this hike to the Pinnacles (near Lake Arrowhead) 4 miles r/t with a 1000 foot gain. Next we will hike San Bernardino Peak 8 miles r/t with a 2,000 foot gain. We will hike both of these hikes one of the most beautiful trails in the San Gorgonio Wilderness to San Bernardino Peak (elevation 10,650). Strenuous 16 mile roundtrip, 4,700 foot elevation gain, moderately paced hike. BRING: 5 liters water, lunch, plenty of snacks, sunscreen, hiking poles (if you use them) and 10 essentials. Adventure Pass required for trailhead parking. WEAR: layering clothing, hat and hiking boots. Rating: moderate/strenuous. BRING: layered clothing, adequate water, snack/lunch, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, and good hiking shoes. Info: Contact field leader for meeting place. Leader: Ed Caliendo, (909) 987-3813 <edcal@msn.com>  
**BIG BEAR GROUP**  
**Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings**  
(Also refer to Weekly recurring Outings & Activities)
Camping at Grandview Campground with a potluck Saturday night. Saturday we Hike at 8:15 A.M. at the Big Bear Discovery Center or 8:30 A.M. at the Grey’s Peak trailhead located on the west side of Hwy 38, ½ miles of a west of Fawn'skin. Adventure Pass will be required for parking at the trailhead. BRING: 2 quarts of water, snack/lunch, sunscreen, hats, and good hiking shoes. RESERVATIONS: CONTACT LEADER: ED CALIENDO, (909) 878-9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

**JUL 21 (THU) 1:00 AM** SAN GORGIonio PEAK HIKE HIKE We will hike to the peak on this 25 mile 5000’ elevation gain via Dry Lake and return via Dollar Lake. Bring four quarts of water, lunch, snacks, sturdy boots, appropriate clothing and sun screen and a flashlight for this long climb. Space is limited. MEET: VON’s parking lot at 6:00 AM. RESERVATIONS: CALL LEADER: ED WALLACE, (909) 866-5007. BIG BEAR GROUP

**JUL 21 (THU) 7:30 PM** MANTA RAGARITA GROUP MEETING Monthly meeting. The public is welcome. CONTACT: RAMON RUBIO, (909) 708-4755, <santa_margarita_group@yahoo.com> SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

**JUL 22 (SAT)** GREY’S PEAK HIKE HIKE This is a Peak of Big Bear hike. Those achieving all five peaks over looking the Big Bear Valley will be given a commemorative patch. The hike is 8.0, 1400’ elevation gain. RATING: Moderate/ strenuous. MEET: At 8:15 A.M at the Big Bear Discovery Center or 8:30 A.M at the Grey’s Peak trailhead located on the west side of Hwy 38, ½ miles of a west of Fawn’skin. Adventure Pass will be required for parking at the trailhead. BRING: 2 quarts of water, snack/lunch, sunscreen, sunglasses, hats and good hiking shoes. RESERVATIONS: CONTACT LEADER: ED CALIENDO, (909) 878-9407. SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

**JULY 25 – JULY 31** Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings (Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

AUG 2 (THU) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO GROUP EXCOMM MEETING Chapter governing meeting. (No December meeting.) CONTACT: ED CALIENDO, (909) 878-9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

**AUG 2 (THU) 7:00 PM** SAN GORGONIO GROUP MEETING Chapter governing meeting. (No December meeting.) PLACE: The San Gorgonio Chapter. 4079 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside. INFO: RALPH SALISBURY (951) 866-4141 <calshaulbury@att.net> CHAPTER

**AUG 3 (FRI) 7:00 PM** SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING Monthly meeting. The public is welcome. PLACE: Rancho California Water District Headquarters, 42155 Winchester Rd., Tecate 92589. INFO: JM MITCHELL (951) 506-9607 <sierraclubsmg@gmail.com> SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

**AUG 6 (SAT) 6:00 PM** AUGUST 6 – AUGUST 7

AUG 22 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO GROUP EXCOMM MEETING Chapter governing meeting. (No December meeting.) CONTACT: ED CALIENDO, (909) 878-9407. BIG BEAR GROUP

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

AUG 23-24 (TUE-WED) PERSEID METEOR SHOWER ON THE PLAVA CAMP ROCK Full moon in the Black Rock Desert about 100 miles north of Reno, Nevada. We’ll be camping with a group of people mid-Playa and watching the meteor shower. Porta-Potty provided. Potluck dinner and barbeque Saturday night. Side trips to local hot springs. Expect your vehicle to get dirty! Dogs limited on leash. Expect to pick-up after your dog! LEADER: DAVID DOUGLAS, (775) 843-4443 CNRCC DESERT COMMITTEE

**AUG 27-28 (SAT-SUN) 8:15 AM** **AUG 27-28 (SAT-SUN) 8:15 AM**

**AUG 29 – SEPTEMBER 4** Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings (Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings & Activities)

AUG 30 (TUE) 9:00 AM** PCT: ONXYS SUMMIT TO ZN04 HIKE Moderate 6 mile hike on the Pacific Crest Trail with 1000 foot elevation gain through mostly shaded woodland. Bring sturdy boots, plenty of water, snacks or lunch and clothing appropriate for the weather. MEET: VON’s parking lot in Big Bear Lake, carpool to the trailhead; Adventure Pass will be required for parking at the trailhead. BRING: Ten essentials, layered clothing, and overnight camping equipment, bear vault, water purification pump or drops, trekking poles, sun protection, 2 quarts of water, food, sunglasses, hat and good hiking shoes. RESERVATIONS & LEADER: ED CALIENDO, (909) 878-3813, <calshaulbury@att.net> BIG BEAR GROUP

SEP 3-(SAT-MON) TAMARISK BASH, HAPPY CANYON HIKE & SERVICE PROJECT Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings

SEPTEMBER 2011
**NO-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES CALENDAR**
The following activities, meetings & events are neither sponsored nor administered by the Sierra Club. The Sierra Club has no information about the quality, safety, supervision or management of such activities. They are published only as a reader service because they may be of interest to the readers of this publication.

**NON-SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES**

### OCT 28-30 (FRI-SUN) DEATH VALLEY

**HIKE & SERVICE**

Wilderness restoration in a beautiful and remote National Park. On Friday help install wilderness boundary signs in Salineh Pass. On Saturday hike 2 miles into Cottonwood Canyon for some work on the trail. Primitive camping in Cottonwood Canyon. Need moderate to high clearance vehicle. Work Friday afternoon and Saturday. Sunday we will hike thru the narrow Marble Canyon.

**LOCATION:** 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) 771-9899.

### OCT 29-30 (SAT-SUN) TOWN GHOST EXTRAVAGANZA

**CAR CAMP**

Speed Halloween weekend ending with the ghosts of California’s colorful past. Visit this eerie desert landscape near Death Valley, camp at the historic ghost town of Ballarat (flush toilets & hot showers). On Sat, a challenging hike to ghost town Lookout City with historian Hal Fowler who will regale us with tales of this wild west town. Return to camp for Happy Hour and potluck feast, followed by a midnight visit to Ballarat’s graveyard. On Sun, a quick visit to the infamous Riley Town. Group size strictly limited.

**RESERVATIONS:** Send $38 per person (Sierra Club), 2 SASE, H2O phones, email, rideshares info to LEADER: LYGEEA GERARD, P.O. Box 294726, Phelan, CA 92329, (760) 888-2279.

### AUG 17 (THU) 7:30 PM SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

**MEETING**

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, 240 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit 10 at California St. INFO: DORI MEYERS, (714) 779-2201.

### AUG 19 (FRI) 8:00 PM INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE

**FOLK DANCE**

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY: 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 <gseekins@sierraglobal.net> or LARRY POWELL (909) 864-2309.
For more information about our group and volunteering with the Moreno Valley Group, please check Riverside County Household Hazardous Waste's web site for information on Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) disposal: www.rivcowm.org/opencms/hhw/index.html. There is a permanent HHW collection facility at: 1780 Agua Mansa Road, Riverside, Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (HHW) disposal: www.rivcowm.org/opencms/hhw/index.html. There is a permanent HHW collection facility at: 1780 Agua Mansa Road, Riverside, Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

To visit the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (north of the Ramona Expressway in Lakeview) take Davis Road (there is a traffic signal at the corner) 2.2 miles north to the area headquarters. The wildlife area is open from dawn to dusk seven days a week. For more information: www.dfg.ca.gov/lands/wa/region/sanjacinto/. Please do not drive on Davis Road if it has rained or the road is muddy.

For information on Lake Perris State Recreation Area, please check their web site at www.water.ca.gov/lakeperris/ for their hours of operation, events, and nature walks. Information on Limited Use Golden Bear passes can be found at: www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=23800. Those who are age 62 and older are eligible for this $10.00 annual pass which allows access to all state parks. See the link for application and more information.

The city of Moreno Valley Recreational Trails Board will sponsor a Hike to Hidden Springs Elementary School, 9801 Hidden Springs Drive. Please call (951) 413-3702 to receive e-mails about energy events.

**Sierra Student Coalition**

Students: Check out http://www.ssc.org

Get Involved – Whether you’re brand-new to activism or you’ve been organizing for years, the Sierra Student Coalition offers many ways to plug into the youth clean energy movement.

Stay Connected – Sign up for the SSC Update, our monthly newsletter, to stay up-to-date on the SSC’s campaigns and highlights. Join the SSC Energy Forum to receive e-mails about energy campaigns and new opportunities and events.

Get Trained – Learn more about the SSC’s phone trainings or summer trainings, where you can get the skills you need to win victories for clean and just energy solutions.

Questions? E-mail sierra.student@sierraclub.org

Moreno Valley ... Continued from Page 4

following the project (which will make seismic upgrades and repair the Lake Perris dam), please check www.water.ca.gov/lakeperris/

You can also e-mail them for more information from the site.

To visit the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (north of the Ramona Expressway in Lakeview) take Davis Road (there is a traffic signal at the corner) 2.2 miles north to the area headquarters. The wildlife area is open from dawn to dusk seven days a week. For more information: www.dfg.ca.gov/lands/wa/region/sanjacinto/. Please do not drive on Davis Road if it has rained or the road is muddy.

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Get Trained – Learn more about the SSC’s phone trainings or summer trainings, where you can get the skills you need to win victories for clean and just energy solutions.

Questions? E-mail sierra.student@sierraclub.org

Mountains Group by Dave Barrie and Bill Engs

On March fifth, a beautiful day, eight snowshoers enjoyed every minute of the morning exploring the hills and ridges above Green Valley Lake, ably led by Sandy Ellis, right in her own backyard. Snow conditions were perfect after the heaviest snowfall of the season the prior weekend. After an energetic morning the group had lunch at a local malt shop, feeling good about supporting the town’s economy, since Green Valley Lake is still struggling to recover from the 2007 wildfires.

In early April Heather Sargeant led a group to the top of the Pinnacles, north of Lake Arrowhead. And in mid April the Group car camped at Culp Valley in Anza Borrego State Park. We were pleased to camp in our favorite site. The weather was pleasant. On Saturday we hiked down the California Riding and Hiking Trail to Borrego Springs, observing many plants in bloom on the way. On Friday and Sunday there were shorter hikes closer to the campground.

On John Muir’s birthday, April 21st, Steve Farrell led a saunter to Heart Rock, west of Crestline. Though it was a chilly, overcast day, nineteen people walked the easy trail and took in natural features on the way. There was a clear view of the Heart in the rock at the destination. Later Sandy Ellis did her first official trip lead taking a group for a hike around Green Valley Lake.

On the first of May, Bill Engs led the annual Santa Ana river bottom spring bird walk. All were excited to see a bright orange Hooded Oriole. Then Mountains Group members gathered at Keller Ski Hut for hikes to see the Shooting Stars in bloom. The group enjoyed a tasty potluck dinner. On Sunday, those who stayed overnight had a pancake breakfast and hike.

Bill’s annual spring Lake Gregory bird walk, in May, was rained-out as was last year’s.

Continued on Page 11 >>

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**Birding at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area**

**Photo by George Hague**
A s early as the 1960s I have believed that population and economic growth cannot go on indefinitely. At some point the Earth’s ability to sustain us will be exceeded. But for many years I was not aware of any hard evidence in support of my belief. To this day I am concerned about the public’s lack of knowledge about these ominous trends.

In 1972, a book entitled Limits to Growth was published. Using computer modeling, a group at M.I.T plotted trends for exponential population growth and economic growth and their impact on such variables as food availability and pollution, for various scenarios over for the next 100 years. Their conclusion was that if growth continued at 1972 rates, the “limits,” in terms of the Earth’s “carrying capacity,” will be exceeded. Now, 39 years later, growth continues as it has before, and now we are now beyond the limits.

To understand the concept, carrying capacity, picture in your mind a fenced pasture with cows grazing. At the end of the season, the grass regenerates, but if too many animals are put in the enclosure, they destroy the land’s ability to grow new grass. Then they will have foraged to the point that the plot of land can no longer sustain any of the animals.

In a similar, but more complex manner, the sustainability of the Earth can be destroyed by human activity. Currently the overall ecological impact could be 20 per cent beyond the carrying capacity of Earth. While carrying capacity is the global limit, another concept, the “ecological footprint,” indicates the degree of human impact.

Expressed as impact per person, it helps us indicate the degree of human impact. While carrying capacity is the global limit, the per capita carrying capacity is the limit for each individual. So whereas the global carrying capacity will not be exceeded until 2037, the global Human carrying capacity will be exceeded in 2012.

A follow-up publication, Beyond the Limits appeared in 1992. This book presented a detailed analysis of the effects of growth. It introduced the concept, overshoot, to show when the limits have been exceeded as they were by 1992. The Limits to Growth was updated in 2004 to provide a more current and comprehensive analysis of the growth and its limits. It confirms that we are in overshoot.

Basic problems—There are two:

Population. Global population keeps growing exponentially. World population is forecast to be 7 billion by the end of 2011 and 9 billion by 2050. (Stabilizing population growth, seems unpopular or unachievable and is never mentioned as an option.) The problem is not so much the numbers, which require space (our first thought), but the resources needed to support the surging numbers.

The world seems bent on accommodating population growth. To elaborate on one aspect, we hear of progress in growing more food to feed an ever growing population but never a long term strategy describing how this will be achieved with the limited amount of arable land available. Yields can not be increased indefinitely. Some estimates expect population growth to level off in the future.

Consumption. Greater population means more consumption. Consumption at current rates can not be sustained. Wealthy people tend to demand more of everything; but poor people simply need essentials; fresh water, food, clothing, fuel, housing, and livelihood. When people rise above poverty levels or become more affluent, they demand more.

Greater consumption means greater production requiring more resources, which are finite and non-renewable, such as fossil fuels, and those that are renewable, such as forest products. In the long run, all resources, at present rates of consumption, are subject to depletion or degradation.

Then, greater consumption produces more waste products.

Built into the argument for economic growth (as we know it) is the assumption that the standard of living of the poor will rise—eventually. This has happened to some extent, but it will not be achieved under present circumstances.

Meanwhile, in wealthy countries, most people have a life style that is beyond adequate, and that is unsustainable in the long run.

Assuming current population, and its upward trend, economic growth is expected to raise the living standards of the poor and to maintain the standards the wealthy, like us, desire. This cannot go on without further exceeding the carrying capacity of the Earth.

It seems to me that the public sees population growth to be the will of God and that any suggestion of modifying the “sacred cow” of economic growth immediately will be met with hostility.

People seem to have no idea of what we face down the line. Awareness of the Limits to Growth could at least prepare them psychologically for what we are likely to be facing. Although climate change is an immediate concern to many of us because of its visual and physical effects, in the long run it will be even more important to be aware of the Earth’s limits. We need to begin paying attention now.

As we move into summer, we will not have General Meetings in July and August. But there will be no summer vacation for most of the other activities our Group is focused upon.

Group members will be attending meetings to provide Sierra Club input into the final version of the proposed expansion of the Temecula Valley Wine Country. The proposed plan as presently written would significantly expand the boundaries of the current Zoo Country, as well as enlarge the types of development that would be permitted. We are concerned about water availability, habitat preservation, air quality as well as increased noise and traffic.

In addition, here are some of the other projects underway:

**Santa Margarita Group**

_Santa Margarita Group_ by Jim Mitchell, Chair

On Sunday, July 10th, we head to the mountains in Idyllwild where we are going to combine hiking with a picnic. We will meet in Idyllwild for a 7 mile out and back hike to Suicide Rock. The hike is moderately difficult with an elevation gain of about 1,900 feet. I like this trail in the summer because much of it is shaded by pines and oaks.

Directions: From the Ranger Station in Idyllwild drive one mile north on highway 243. Park on the north side of the road across from The County Park Nature Center.

And Laurie Webster (our Activities Chair) will be organizing a picnic in the mountains at the nature center as a co-event. Come for the hike, come for the picnic or better yet, do both. I will obtain trail passes for those that register for the hike. There is no fee for this pass. However a wilderness pass is needed for vehicles parked at the trail head. To register for the hike or if you have questions about the hike, contact me at (951)302-1059 or bob.takeahike1@gmail.com.

For questions concerning the picnic contact Laurie Webster at laurie_r_w@yahoo.com.

Also check our Santa Margarita Group web site at http://sierachubsmg.org.

_Teri Biancardi, Group Outings Committee Chair_

We have been working with Partners for Fish and Wildlife and the residents of Meadowview on a plan to restore common land in this Temecula tract. If the Home Owner’s Board approves the concept, work will proceed in the 300 plus acres to put in native plants in order to beautify the area, and improve conditions for wildlife.

_Pam Nelson, Conservation Committee Chair_

Group members attended the CNPS sponsored Wildflower Walk on April 23rd at Lake Skinner. Arlee Montalvo was the lead botanist. The diversity of plant life was fabulous.

The Temecula Valley Wine Country expansion is progressing with many public meetings reviewing the ongoing draft plans. The County planners are responding to the public and ad hoc committee’s concerns and will be preparing the EIR soon. The major criticism is the related noise that the residents will experience. Other concerns are water supply and quality, traffic and air pollution.

The Lake Elsinore residents of Alberhill successfully arranged the State Mining and Geology Commissioners (SM&GC) to review and visit Lake Elsinore’s mining projects. At a public meeting on May 12th, the SM&GC published a list of violations given to the City for mismanagement.

Teri and I manned a table at the Anza Earth Fair on May 14th. Baking chocolate cookies in my sun oven, I drew in “customers” (for a free cookie) while Teri recruited new members.

**Fred Bartz, Environmental Action Committee Chair**

The next County Planning Commission hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, June 22nd at 9:00 AM at the Rancho Community Church in Temecula. The issue is getting more interesting with Granite Construction agreeing to only allow EPA 2007 emission standard Heavy Duty Trucks (primarily impacting only PM10). What is interesting is that Granite does not own the aggregate hauling trucks so the burden to achieve cleaner air will fall on the backs of local truck drivers, who are the least likely to be able to afford new trucks or the retrofit to upgraded engines. In addition, we do not understand why South Coast Air Quality Management District did not mandate EPA 2010 emission standard trucks, which also would have had a great impact on nitrous oxides.

With blasting being proposed on a daily basis, six days a week, this will have a significant impact on the adjacent MSHCP (Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan) and the Special Linkage Area where the quarry is actually located. Once the blasting starts, it is very difficult to expect that any of the endangered species will remain in the area.

The list of organizations opposed the Liberty Quarry project continues to grow, however this project has truly become a battle of David versus Goliath!

For more information, please contact Fred Bartz at fjbartz@verizon.net or (951)294-0057.

**Mountains Group** Continued from Page 9

At least it didn’t snow this year. The next May outing was a success. Don Fischer completed his first lead, taking a group on the Children’s Forest Exploration Trail. The weather was beautiful, we saw many small flowers blooming; the oak trees were starting to bud; and we had some nice views of the San Gabriel Mountains and of the high desert.

On the next day, Bill led a Here and Now hike on the Little Bear Creek section of the North Shore Trail. The concept is that participants agree to talk only about what we are seeing or hearing as opposed to the usual chitchat about other things. With our attention focused, we identified many species of plants in bloom. Most memorable was a patch of brilliant red Paintbrush.

On Memorial Day weekend, Barbara Levering conducted a Flower walk near Lake Arrowhead. There were familiar blooms, like Wild Iris and for some of us, some new ones like Chinese Houses.

With Steve Farrell, Sandy Ellis and Don Fischer joining Bill Engs and Heather Sargeant as outings leaders, and with Rebecca Franklin hopefully coming on board soon, we are looking forward to lots of great hiking (and sunbathing) in the future. We will try to get photos of each other as we pass on the trail!
Help
A Call for Executive Committee Volunteers
The Executive Committee (the Excom) of the San Gorgonio Chapter is designed to be comprised of nine elected members and seven Group representatives.
We currently have only five elected members and four of them are serving terms that end in December.
That means that the Nominating Committee for this year’s Executive Committee election is looking for candidates to fill eight available positions.
Even if all four incumbents are willing to run for re-election we still need to find at least four more candidates. You can really help us do that.
We are especially hoping to find Chapter members living in the Riverside or San Bernardino areas (and not part of one of our Groups) that are interested in providing input and helping us gain perspective about environmental issues and opportunities in those areas. You do not have to be an environmental expert, you just need to know your community and have an interest in improving it. We will help you learn what to look for and who to watch and how to get involved.
Or maybe you have some interests or experience that might be helpful to the Chapter. Our Treasurer could use help with our financial recordkeeping. Our Program Chair could use some help finding speakers and programs for our monthly meetings. Maybe you have IT skills that can help us with modern meeting and communication techniques. Or, perhaps, your background would be useful in fundraising or membership drives.
You know what you can do, tell us!
If you would like to be considered for nomination, or know someone that you would want to present for nomination, please contact Ralph Salisbury at ralphsalisbury@att.net or Dave Barrie at barriemail@mac.com.

San Gorgonio Chapter Executive Committee Election Rules
1. A Nominating Committee shall be appointed on, or before, July 26, 2011.
2. Nominees for the election must be San Gorgonio Chapter members who give their consent to be nominated.
3. Requests for nomination must be received by August 23rd and a final list of nominees will be available from the Chapter office on August 24th.
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 sangorgonio@charterinternet.com.
5. The name of any Chapter member may be proposed by written petition (with candidate approval) containing the signatures of at least 15 Chapter members. Petitions with valid signatures are to be sent to Sierra Club, 4079 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside, CA 92501-3204 and must be received by 6 pm on September 9th.
6. An Election Committee shall be appointed on, or before, September 27, 2011.
7. All San Gorgonio Chapter members as of September 1, 2011, shall be sent ballots.
8. Ballots will be mailed (as part of The Palm and Pine) by October 21st.
9. Final receipt date for ballots shall be November 21st at 12 noon.
10. Ballots will be verified, opened, and counted at 6:30 pm on November 22nd at the Chapter Office.
11. The two year term of office for the newly elected Excom members will commence on January 1, 2012, and will run through December 31, 2013.

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

Name __________________________________________________________________________________________________________
City ___________________________ ZIP __________________________
State __________________________
E-mail __________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club __________________________
MasterCard VISA Exp Date __________/________
Cardholder Name __________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Card # __________________________________________________________________________________________________________

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

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

INDIVIDUAL JOINT
Introductory ........ $15.........................$15
Regular ............ $39.........................$47
Supporting ........... $75.........................$100
Contributing ........ $150.........................$175
Life .................. $1,000.........................$1,250
Senior ............... $24.........................$32
Student ...............$24.........................$32

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

Preserve The Future
Not everyone can make a large gift to protect the environment during their lifetime, but you can preserve the environment for generations to come by remembering the Sierra Club in your will.
There are many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.
For more information and confidential assistance, contact:
John Calaway
Director, Gift Planning
85 Second Street, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
(800) 932-4270
planned.giving@sierraclub.org

JOIN US TODAY!

Check out our website at:
www.sangorgonio.sierraclub.org/