In March Sherry Schmidt took a break from teaching biology at Mount San Antonio College to do something she’d wanted to do for a long time: travel to Africa to photograph the wildlife. Sherry will present her best photographs at our September 6th Chapter meeting.

Sherry based her Botswana adventure at three camps in the Okavango Delta, which is known for its outstanding wildlife. At the first camp she saw lions numerous times, had a couple of leopard sightings, and saw two cheetahs, which was one of the highlights of the trip for her. She also saw baboons, elephants, zebras, and interesting birds including several hornbill species, bustards, bee-eaters, and several species of vultures.

One of the magical moments of her trip was at the second camp where she photographed red lechwe and kudu in the early morning light jumping over a deep pool of water (see photos on page 6). Other sightings included wild dogs and saddle-billed storks. At the third camp, she saw great birds, such as a goliath heron, a hammerkop, helmeted Guinea fowl, a water thick-knee, a tawny eagle and a white-fronted bee-eater. She also saw wild dogs, spotted and brown hyenas and hippos fighting outside her room.

The Namibia adventure was a self-drive in an SUV with a GPS pre-programmed by the tour company. One highlight was two early morning visits to Deadvlei, a surreal landscape of tree skeletons in a white clay pan backed by impressive sand dunes (above). Sightings on other days

**Palm and Pine Fund Appeal**

Enjoying this copy of your *Palm and Pine*? Help us continue to publish and mail the Inland Empire’s most comprehensive environmental newspaper. This publication is the main source of information for our Outings program – on average about 30% of the newspaper is devoted to our Outings.

Did you know that the Chapter receives only $1 each year from your Sierra Club membership dues for publication of this information newsletter? Our Fall Fund appeal is specifically designated to make up the difference between that $1 per member and our actual costs.

Please take a moment to use the form below and mail in a check to support this valuable source of information. Send the coupon (below) with your check, payable to “Sierra Club,” to our Chair Mary Ann Ruiz, 4079 Mission Inn Ave, Riverside, CA 92501. Or visit our website and at http://sangorgonio2.sierracub.org/node/3 – just click on the button.

As always, thank you for all you do for the environment and your San Gorgonio Chapter,

Mary Ann Ruiz, San Gorgonio Chapter Chair

YES, count me in! Here is my donation to help San Gorgonio Chapter publish and mail the *Palm and Pine*.

Enclosed find my check for:

$20 $35 $50 $100 $250

Other amount (even $5 or $10 really helps!)

Print Your Name:
I

In late April, Ann and Farley Olander traveled to Cusco, Peru. After arriving from their usual trips. They returned home, however, filled with the mystery of the two magical places they visited: the Galapagos Islands – 600 miles off the coast of Ecuador - and the Sacred Valley of the Inca, between Cusco and Machu Picchu in Peru. The Olanders will present a program on their adventure at the October 4th meeting of the San Gorgonio Chapter at the San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands, near the California Street exit from Interstate 10. The meeting starts at 7:30 PM.

During their Galapagos week aboard a small catamaran, the Olanders and eight other passengers learned from a naturalist who'd lived and worked there more than 30 years. In this natural laboratory, they led two to three daily excursions from wet or dry landings on 10 different islands/ islets. Wonder came alive for the Olanders by getting close-up to the wildlife – wildlife that evolved while isolated on the islands for millions of years. Fresh awareness came each time the naturalist pointed out plants or animals adapted to an island's particular environment, like the Galapagos tortoises and Darwin's finches, one of his specialties. While wallowing or walking on land, the Olanders found wild animals unhardened by their close presence, and they basked in the magic – whether near land or marine iguanas, playful sea lions, waving albatrosses tending their newborns, or courting blue-footed boobies and great frigate birds, the males of the latter strutting their inflated sacs to attract females – truly Enchanted Isles, another name for the Galapagos Islands.

Flying into Cusco plumed the Olanders into equally enchanted world, that of the Inca. Here the couple planned to spend four weeks exploring Inca history, they took the one guide led them all day, often cross-over area's spiritual culture that plunged the Olanders 20,000-foot mountains and to sacred Inca name for the islands.

During their four of those days, they hired personal guides who made all the difference. Familiar with their Quecha roots as well as Inca history, they took the Olanders back to routes to learn about the Inca ruins, their people and beliefs, interspersed with occasional stories from a guide’s own heritage. Their presence gave a taste for the area’s spiritual culture that the Olanders are still trying to assimilate.

One guide led them all day, often cross-country – hiking above the village of Chinchero for better views of 18,000 to 20,000-foot mountains and to sacred Inca sites nearby, but also to scenic of local wildlife or walking on land, the Olanders found wild animals unhardened by their close presence, and they basked in the magic – whether near land or marine iguanas, playful sea lions, waving albatrosses tending their newborns, or courting blue-footed boobies and great frigate birds, the males of the latter strutting their inflated sacs to attract females – truly Enchanted...
**ADVENTURE PASS SPECIAL NOTICE:** Outings occurring in the San Bernardino, Angeles, Cleveland, or Los Padres National Forests MAY require a Forest Service “Adventure Pass” for each vehicle. When the fee is required, the fees may be collected at the Outing. PLEASE note: THIS PASS IS REQUIRED. These Outings will be preceded by ** in the listings that follow. Be sure to contact the leader regarding permits. The permits cost $10 per year or $5 per day, however they may not be obtainable the day of your outing. If you arrive at the meeting place NO PASS IS REQUIRED without making arrangements with the leader and you don’t have a pass or find a ride in a vehicle with a pass, you MAY NOT be able to attend the outing. You are expected to share the cost of permits equally with the others in the vehicle. A $5.50 contribution from everyone in the vehicle is reasonable for annual passes (above normal mileage contribution). Golden Eagle Passports and Golden Age Passports may be used in lieu of the Adventure Pass.

**CARPOOLING POLICY** – In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing, or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks involved in traveling with others.

**LIABILITY WAIVER** – In order to participate on one of the Sierra Club’s outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/county/forms or call 415-977-5630. You will also find the entire waiver printed below:

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, liability waiver:

In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, participants agree to abide by the leader’s rules. Failure to comply with these rules will result in exclusion from the outing. The leader 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. Failure to comply with these rules may result in exclusion from the outing. The leader may exclude individuals from participation if they believe they may not be qualified. The leader may exclude anyone who does not have the necessary transportation to and from the meeting place. The Sierra Club and its leaders may facilitate carpooling, however they will not assign. Drivers should have adequate insurance coverage and their vehicle should have no safety defects. For Sierra Club facilitated carpooling, drivers agree to not consume any alcoholic beverages. It is customary for drivers to share expenses with the driver. Five cents per mile per person might be a reasonable suggested amount. The above information applies to Sierra Club Outings only. Non-Sierra Club activities may be listed in a separate location as a courtesy. Please be sure to read the disclaimer that accompanies these activities.

**EXPRESSION OF ASSUMPTION OF RISK** – Before participating in an outing or event sponsored by the Sierra Club, each participant will acknowledge the inherent risks associated with the activity. These risks include, but are not limited to, the dangers of serious personal injury, property damage, and death (“Injuries & Damages”) from exposure to 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, any such risk I take by my own choice. Only by my own choice, my personal responsibility. I agree to this decision is my own the decision & shall remain valid & fully enforceable. This Agreement is intended to be as broad & inclusive as is permitted by law. If 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 possible, this Agreement is intended to be legally unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby & shall remain valid & fully enforceable. This Agreement is intended to be as broad & inclusive as is permitted by law. If 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. This Agreement is intended to be legally unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby & shall remain valid & fully enforceable.

**WEEKLY RECURRING OUTINGS & FITNESS ACTIVITIES**

Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings.

MON 6:00 PM RIVERSIDE MT. RUIDBOUX ONE HOUR FITNESS WALK MEET: Ninth Street entrance to Mt. Rubidoux. INFO: JUDY SMITH, (951) 369-5117. Chapter governance meeting. Monthly except for December. PLACE: Meeting is held on Ridgecrest side of the building. INFO: SUSAN STUBER, susan@bigbear.org. MEET: Ninth Street entrance to Mt. Rubidoux. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD MILLER, (909) 832-0126. MEET: First Episcopal Church, 28708 Highway 18, Sky Forest. INFO: BRIAN ELLIOTT, broaniel@aol.com.

MON 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING WALK The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: ED CALIENDE, (442) 242-4103, dogs111@msn.com. BIG BEAR GROUP

TUE 7:00 PM SAGORONGIO GROUP EXCOM MEETING 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 1, Apr 4, May 2, Oct 3, Nov 7. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

(1ST TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING PROGRAM: See front-page notice. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com (909) 800-3911.

(1ST WED) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: ED CALIENDE, (442) 242-4103, dogs111@msn.com. BIG BEAR GROUP

(1ST THU) LOS SERRANOS GROUP EXCOM MEETING Odd-numbered months only (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep & Nov). PLACE: For meeting time & place, contact BRIAN ELLIOTT, broaniel@aol.com.

(2ND MON) 7:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING Monthly program meeting. No meeting in August or December. PLACE: St. Richard’s Episcopal Church, 28708 Highway 18, Sky Forest. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313.

(2ND TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Monthly meeting or conference call. Take part in working on important conservation issues. Please participate: We need your help! INFO: KIM FLOYD, Conservation Chair, kimfloyd@fastmail.fm (760) 249-5385.

(2ND WED) 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP MEETING Monthly except for July & August. PLACE: Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 17736 Francasca, Victorville. (One block north of Bear Valley Rd. on Caledon.) Enter on Ridgecrest side of the building. INFO: SUSAN STUBER, susan@bigbear.org.

(2ND THU) 6:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING Monthly except July & August. The public is welcome. PLACE: Temecula Valley Library, 30600 Pauba Road, Temecula. INFO: PAM NELSON (951) 767-2324.

(3RD TUE) 7:00 PM LOS SERRANOS GROUP MEETING Monthly except July & August. Programs on nature, conservation & travel topics. The public is welcome & refreshments are served. See Los Serranos webpage for detailed program information: sangorgonio.sieraclub.org/groups/los_serranos. PLACE: First Presbyterian Church, 869 N. Euclid Ave, Upland CA (educational building, entrance in rear). INFO: BRIAN ELLIOTT, broaniel@aol.com.

(3RD TUE) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING Monthly meeting except December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sieraclubiogroupbear.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 69711 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. INFO: ED CALIENDE, (442) 242-4103, dogs111@msn.com.

(4TH TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPITON EXCOM MEETING Chapter governance meeting. Monthly except for December. PLACE: Meeting is held via conference call. INFO: For copy of the agenda and call-in info email Chair@SanGorgonio.Sieraclub.org or call 951-863-0204.

**WEEKLY RECURRING OUTINGS & FITNESS ACTIVITIES**Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings.

MON 7:00 PM MOJAVE GROUP CONDITIONING HIKE Please join me for a 3 to 6 mile conditioning walk (usually 3 miles) beside the Mojave River in Apple Valley. We leave promptly at 7 PM. MEET: In the Jess Ranch Marketplace parking lot closest to the Mojave River Bed, between the Jess Ranch Cinemar & Bath, Beyond & Beyond Stores, on the Mojave River in Apple Valley. You never leave promptly at 7 PM. MEET: In the Jess Ranch Marketplace parking lot closest to the Mojave River Bed, between the Jess Ranch Cinemar & Bath, Beyond & Beyond Stores, on the Mojave River in Apple Valley. We leave promptly at 7 PM. MEET: In the Jess Ranch Marketplace parking lot closest to the Mojave River Bed, between the Jess Ranch Cinemar & Bath, Beyond & Beyond Stores, on the Mojave River in Apple Valley.
SEP 1 – SEP 4
Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings (Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings and Activities)

SEP 1 (THU) 7:45 AM BONITA VISTA FIRST DAY HIKE HIKE This is a monthly hike at the Bonita Vista Trailhead in the Juniper Flats Area. The Bonita Vista trailhead has easy access just off the paved road and offers a great opportunity for individuals and families to get outdoors, exercise and appreciate nature in the desert. There are great views and hills to climb! Participants can listen to birds, breathe in the fresh air, discover wildlife tracks, and feel the wind and the warmth of the sun and shade of a few junipers. RATING: moderate. Hike will begin sharp at 7 am. Please arrive at 7:30 at the trailhead parking lot. In case of weather the hike will be cancelled. From the Bonita Vista Road take Central south and then east on Roundup Way to where the pavement ends. If you have a low passenger vehicle park here and walk the tenth of a mile south on Bonita Vista. If you have a high clearance vehicle you can drive the tenth mile to the trailhead. The hike will be 2-6 miles depending on the weather (it can be HOT). BRING: 2-3 liters of water, sun protection, layered clothing, sturdy hiking boots, hat, snacks, hiking stick. Contact LEADER: Jenny Wilder at JenjOasis@aol.com or call 760 220 0730.

SEP 2 (SAT) 8:00 AM COUGAR CREST/PCT EAST HIKE This is a moderate, 7-8 mile hike with approximately 800’ of elevation gain. We will start at Cougar Crest trailhead, take it to where it branches off on the PCT. We will hike along the PCT east for another mile or so. The PCT behind Big Bear is a quiet and pretty place to hike. MEET: at the Cougar Crest Trailhead, 1/4 mile west of the Discovery Center on the north shore of Big Bear Lake. An Adventure Pass will be required to park at the trailhead. The hike will be 2-6 miles depending on the weather (it can be HOT). BRING: 2-3 liters of water, sun protection, layered clothing, sturdy hiking boots and trekking poles. RESERVATIONS: Contact Hike Leader Judy Atkinson (909) 289-1932 or email judyj523@gmail.com.

SEP 3 (SUN) 8:00 AM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP HIKE This hike is a moderate 7-8 mile hike with approximately 800’ of elevation gain. We will start out at Captain John’s beach then take a short side trail that leads to the summit of Lopez Peak (elevation: 4850 ft) with approximately 800’ of elevation gain. We will hike approximately 0.8 miles up Lopez Peak and then return to Captain John’s Beach. We will take a shuttle from Fawnskin to meet us at this trailhead. Please contact the hike leader with any questions. RESERVATIONS: Contact hike leader Francesca, Victorville. (One block north of Bear Valley Rd. on Ridgecrest.) Enter on Ridgecrest side of the building. INFO: SUSAN STUEBER, susanquintin.stueber@gmail.com

SEP 4 (MON) 7:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING Monthly program meeting. No meeting in August or December. PLACE: St. Richard’s Episcopal Church, 28708 Highway 18, Sky Forest. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313

SEP 5 – SEP 11
Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings (Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings and Activities)

SEP 6 (TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING PROGRAM: See front-page notice. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEUSS, ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com, (909) 800-3911

SEP 7 (WED) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP EXCOM MEETING The meeting place rotates. CONTACT: ED CALIENDO, (442) 242-4103, dogs111@msn.com

SEP 8 (THU) 6:00 PM SANTA MARGARITA GROUP MEETING Meeting monthly except July & August. The public is welcome. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. INFO: PAT NELSON, (951) 767-2324

SEP 9 (SAT) 7:30 AM SUGARLOAF MTN Hike This is the northern most section of Segment B, and the most strenuous. From the signed Gray's Peak trailhead parking lot on the left side of Hwy 38 before you reach Fawnskin, leader: HEATHER SARGEANT, 909-336-2836. Adventure Pass required. We will look for new growth on the many pine tree seedlings that were planted after the forest was incinerated. BRING lunch, 2 quarts of water, jacket, sunblock. MEET at the signed Gray’s Peak trailhead parking lot on the left side of Hwy 38 before you reach Fawnskin. Leader: WARREN SARGEANT, 909-336-2836. Adventure Pass required.

SEP 10 (SAT) 8:00 AM ARARTE FALLS HIKE It’s that time of the year to check the Falls and surrounding area on a 4-mile hike through the lovely Idyllwild Ranger Station, 54270 Pine Crest Road, Idyllwild, CA 92549 or 7:30 AM. BRING: Ten essentials, layered clothing, and 4 liters of water, lunch, snacks, sun protection, and trekking poles. RESERVATIONS: Call Hike Leader, Dave Melton, at (760) 408-2456 or dmelton61@yahoo.com

SEP 11 (SUN) 9:00 AM **S/B MTS, HANNA FLATTS HIKE Round trip approx. 8 miles, fairly level. This area was burned in the Butler 2 fire of 2007. We will look for new growth on many of the pine tree seedlings that were planted after the forest was incinerated. BRING lunch, 2 quarts of water, jacket, sun block. MEET at the signed Gray’s Peak trailhead parking lot on the left side of Hwy 38 before you reach Fawnskin. Leader: WARREN SARGEANT, 909-336-2836. Adventure Pass required.

SEP 12 (MON) 7:00 PM SB MOUNTAINS GROUP MEETING Monthly program meeting. No meeting in August or December. PLACE: St. Richard’s Episcopal Church, 28708 Highway 18, Sky Forest. INFO: DAVE BARRIE, (909) 337-0313

SEP 13 (TUE) 7:00 PM CHAPTER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING Monthly meeting or conference call. Take part in working on important conservation issues. Please participate. We need your help! INFO: KIM FLOYD, Conservation Chair, kmkimflyo5@gmail.com, (760) 249-5385

SEP 14 (WED) 7:00 PM MOJA VE GROUP MEETING Monthly meeting except for July & August. PLACE: Sterling Inn, Regency Room, 18815 Bear Valley Rd. Apple Valley, CA 92308. INFO: WALTER SANGER, 71738 Francesca, Victorville. (One block north of Bear Valley Rd. on Ridgecrest.) Enter on Ridgecrest side of the building. INFO: SUSAN STUEBER, susanquintin.stueber@gmail.com

SEP 15 (THU) 6:30 PM BIG BEAR GROUP MEETING Monthly meeting except December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Big Bear Discovery Center’s website, www.bigbear.org. MEET: at the Captain John’s Cabin, 40971 North Shore Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. INFO: ED CALIENDO, (442) 242-4103, dogs111@msn.com

SEP 16 (FRI) 6:30 AM CUCAMONGA PEAK HIKE This will be a strenuous hike up Ice House Canyon into the Cucamonga Wilderness to the top of Cucamonga Peak (elevation 8559 ft), 12.2 miles round trip with 3900 ft. elevation gain. The trail follows the creek for the first 1 1/2 miles under a canopy of oak, alder, cedar, and pine. Scenic view in all directions from the top of Cucamonga Peak. Rain cancels. Adventure Pass required at trailhead. BRING: sturdy boots, 3 liters water, lunch, sunscreen. Contact John St. Clair prior to scheduled date for carpooling and meeting place. LEADER: John St. Clair, john@stclair.us, 909-983-8501

SEP 17 (SAT) 7:00 AM SECB: PCT/FULLER RIDGE TO SNOW CRK HIKE We will look for new growth on the many pine tree seedlings that were planted after the forest was incinerated. BRING lunch, 2 quarts of water, jacket, sunblock. MEET at the signed Gray’s Peak trailhead parking lot on the left side of Hwy 38 before you reach Fawnskin, leader: HEATHER SARGEANT, 909-336-2836. Adventure Pass required. We will look for new growth on many of the pine tree seedlings that were planted after the forest was incinerated. BRING lunch, 2 quarts of water, jacket, sun block. MEET at the signed Gray’s Peak trailhead parking lot on the left side of Hwy 38 before you reach Fawnskin. Leader: WARREN SARGEANT, 909-336-2836. Adventure Pass required.

SEP 18 (SUN) 8:00 AM WES TOK OF THE MOJAVE RIVER HIKE You just do not know how this area will be. Will there be water in the west fork? In any event it will be scenic. This 4-mile hike is made a little more strenuous by much of the high desert.

Continued on Page 5 + >
Note: Please read "LIABILITY WAIVER" preceding these listings.

Continued on Page 9 > > >
Patch Party Awardees
Seventy-five hikers and family members showed up for the 12th Annual Patch Party. Twenty-nine overachievers received special recognition patches including 22 that climbed the five peaks of Big Bear in 2015, and the others for contributing to the efforts of the Pacific Crest Trail. Each section consists of 120 miles plus in distance.

Five Peaks Awardees
Rachel Barbero
Bonnie Bacon
Ed Caliendo
Eric Chu
Gary Clay
Lynne Clay
Steve Cosley
Allen Dardenelle
Michelle DeVoe
Kim Eng
Beatrice Echinson
Margaret Huenefeld
Peter Michelson
Sue McIlwain
Robyn McQuade
Lorraine Ann Monson
Howard Olson
Lynda Schmitt
Jay Smith
Sandra Simper

PCT Section B Awardees
Eric Chi
Janet Jackson
David Melton
Darlene Taylor

PCT Section D Awardees
Bill Geisler
Chris Kemp
Bob Young

Sherry earned her B.A. at University of Montana and her M.A. at CSU Fullerton. She conducted the research for her master’s thesis in the Cottonwood Basin of the southern Sierra Nevada, comparing the ability of two species of shooting star (Dodecaten) to control water loss.

Yvonne is an experienced First Responder EMT and is a helpful resource to have along in the trails and plan hikes. On hike day each sister takes time to visit with each hiker to ensure that all hikers in the group are provided a positive experience when they come out to spend the day hiking with the Big Bear Group. Together, they try to make a positive impact on the many people who participate in hikes led by these three sisters.

Ed Caliendo's guidance, learning new skills and trails over the past few years. Our sister, Sharon Nardozza, works as a Sr. Paralegal in Real Estate Legal in San Diego that provides a full range of real estate services to the life science and university communities. Last but not least, is Yvonne Gonzales, caretaker of three grandchildren and an EMT/Emergency Management provider who serves as a medical volunteer with Riverside County Public Health which supports Riverside County Emergency Response System and the state of CA Disaster Response team. She also serves as a federal Medical Reserve Corps volunteer.

With the support of their families, all three sisters take extra time each week to review trails and plan hikes. On hike day each sister takes time to visit with each hiker to ensure that all hikers in the group are provided a positive experience when they come out to spend the day hiking with the Big Bear Group. Together, they try to make a positive impact on the many people who participate in hikes led by these three sisters.

with the Sierra Club and must be assigned to the Big Bear Group. Both of these requirements can quickly be accomplished if you do not already qualify. You must apply. All interested applicants are to submit their intentions to Ed Caliendo, Group Chair, or call (909) 585-1062. In order to qualify, you must be a member of the Sierra Club and must be assigned to the Big Bear Group. Both of these requirements can quickly be accomplished if you do not already qualify. You must apply before September 30, 2016.
Los Serranos Group
Submitted by Mary Ann Ruiz, Chapter Chair & Group Member

Our 1.75 acre Water Wise Demonstration Garden is a Certified Wildlife Habitat® and is designed to provide educational encounters at every turn. There are numerous model gardens to help homeowners identify water wise plants that would also look good in their home landscape. The model gardens include a Southwest Garden, a Woodland Garden, a Mediterranean Garden, a turf demonstration area to compare water use of different types of turf, and much more. Each area has interpretive signage to further explain the plants and strategies used. The garden also features full-size architectural facades to emulate what a landscape might look like next to your own home.

In addition to the model gardens, the landscape showcases best practices for Low Impact Development strategies, such as permeable surfaces, mulching, bioswales to collect runoff and recycled water irrigation throughout.

Everyone is welcome – we hope you will join us! The next meeting, October 18, will continue with the garden theme. Gordon Pratt, California Native Plant Society will speak on how we can attract butterflies to our gardens. Join us at our usual meeting place, Upland Presbyterian Church, at 7:00 pm. The public is welcome and refreshments will be served.

Los Serranos Group Outings leaders are also gearing up back up for the fall hiking season. Check the calendar for hikes in the West end of SB County – including a couple of new evening hikes along Chino Hills Urban trails. For information on outings and meetings, check the Chapter website or Sierra Club Los Serranos Group Facebook page.

Palm and Pine

Los Serranos Group
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Bryan Baker

The Mojave Group has received the following candidates for the November ballot:

- Netherlands, currently serving as the Outings Chair, Bryan Baker, currently serving as the Conservation Chair, Debbie Buchanan, currently serving as the Recorder and Susan Stueber, currently serving as the Chair.

Candidates for the 2017-2018 Mojave Group Excom

The Mojave Group has received the following candidates for the November ballot:

- Netherlands, currently serving as the Outings Chair, Bryan Baker, currently serving as the Conservation Chair, Debbie Buchanan, currently serving as the Recorder and Susan Stueber, currently serving as the Chair.

Every candidate has been vetted and approved. More information about each candidate can be found on the Mojave Group website.

Juniper Flats Restoration Grant Update

Work continues within the polygon in Juniper Flats in spite of the heat! Monitoring continues around the perimeter. The first Outreach Event was held on July 23rd. Yes, it was hot but it was bearable in the shade. There is another Outreach Event that is being planned for early November. Please consider getting involved. Every little bit helps.

For more information and to sign-up please contact, Alyssa Canoff, acanoff@blm.gov or Zack Pratt, pratt@blm.gov. Phone: (760) 252-6040 or Susan Stueber, stuebeet69@gmail.com

The last 12 months found the Mountains Group looking for replacements for Executive Committee (ExCom) members that were leaving the ExCom. And we’re still looking.

Sherry Noone, our Secretary, left at the end of 2015 (she’s now the Big Bear Group’s Secretary) and are still looking for someone to be our Secretary. (On the ExCom or not)

Bill Enos, our Treasurer, decided to step away from that position and has been replaced (officially, finally, earlier this year) by Debby McAllister.

Bill will also be leaving his position as Outings Chair at the end of 2016 and will no longer be a member of the ExCom after this year. We are actively pursuing a replacement for Bill in both capacities.

We are also looking for help on our Conservation Committee (ComCom) and at the Thrift Shoppe.

Our ComCom is currently five active members, with a little help here and there from one or two others. We have seven major projects/developments that we are tracking/working on, including the following:

- The HDC—35 miles farther! From the City of Industry to Barstow, it would be 55 miles farther. In fact, the only part of the L.A. basin from which the HDC would be a shorter trip is from the northwestern corner of the San Fernando Valley. Add toll charges on top of longer routes, and it makes the HDC unlikely to attract any significant portion of current traffic in the Cajon Pass.

- The HDC is likely to end up in worse shape than the Orange County toll roads. Those roads have attracted many fewer vehicles than projected. But at least they clearly provide an attractive alternative route compared to nearby freeways. The HDC, on the other hand, is out of the way for nearly all imagined customers.

- The HDC also proposes a bullet train that would link the California high-speed rail line to a proposed train to Las Vegas. Of course rail is often a good thing, but not this time. Along with the highway, it would destroy habitat for the desert tortoise and other desert species, and provide few upperslopes and other means of habitat connectivity. The Las Vegas train has little prospect of being built. The company proposing the train, Desert Xpress, tried to get a $6 billion loan from the federal government. But Republicans in Congress, seeing its dim financial prospects, quashed that attempt. A Chinese company later announced they would help build the train, but then withdrew.

- With a government handout (with a good chance the loan would never be repaid), the Las Vegas train plan assumes we would give them the median of 1.5 for the rail line. Not only does this transfer public land to private hands, but also it would also essentially preclude widening the I-15 in the future.

- CalTrans and other agencies have now pushed this ill-advised project through its environmental review process. Fortunately, at this point it has few prospects for funding. We can hope that situation continues. Some money for land acquisition looks to be included in the sales tax extension ballot proposal for L.A. County in November. Please take any opportunity you find to point out the problems of this project.

- Work continues within the polygon in Juniper Flats in spite of the heat! Monitoring continues around the perimeter. The first Outreach Event was held on July 23rd. Yes, it was hot but it was bearable in the shade. There is another Outreach Event that is being planned for early November. Please consider getting involved. Every little bit helps.

For more information and to sign-up please contact, Alyssa Canoff, acanoff@blm.gov or Zack Pratt, pratt@blm.gov. Phone: (760) 252-6040 or Susan Stueber, stuebeet69@gmail.com

The last 12 months found the Mountains Group looking for replacements for Executive Committee (ExCom) members that were leaving the ExCom. And we’re still looking.

Sherry Noone, our Secretary, left at the end of 2015 (she’s now the Big Bear Group’s Secretary) and we are still looking for someone to be our Secretary. (On the ExCom or not)

Bill Enos, our Treasurer, decided to step away from that position and has been replaced (officially, finally, earlier this year) by Debby McAllister.

Bill will also be leaving his position as Outings Chair at the end of 2016 and will no longer be a member of the ExCom after this year. We are actively pursuing a replacement for Bill in both capacities.

We are also looking for help on our Conservation Committee (ComCom) and at the Thrift Shoppe.

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Continued on Page 9 > > >
Charles Dickens (1859) wrote in A Christmas Carol, “The worst of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the winter of despair, though I read the novel in high school, the author’s words still resonate today. We must not despair if the rational mind would be displaced with the season of darkness. I am an optimist, we can hope for a happier future times. Our progress in bringing rational steps toward progressive environmental protection should not be darkened by the despair of allowing those wishing to bring the “bad old days” back into our future.

We are at the cross-roads of wisdom and foolishness. We need to protect our environment from those who have exploited our natural resources and left behind mounds of radioactively contaminates, and once again wish to destroy one of our great natural heritage the Grand Canyon for uranium mining. We need to support our Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Interior. Otherwise, we bring back the age of darkness where environmental scientists and moderate citizens were overpowered by political hacks with a sole desire to undermine our hard won progress in the protection of our environment. We have seen this during these attempts to disable our protection of the environment during the nineteen eighties.

Let us hope that the age of wisdom will prevail. We must not stay silent. San Gorgonio Mountain Group activities during the last three months included:
1. Participation in the Temecula Fourth of July parade.
2. Development issues in Temecula;
3. Outdoor family meetings; and
4. Hikes.

Supportive comments from the crowd. About 35 people marched in matching green tee shirts carrying stuffed animals and American flags.

Along the route, parade announcers read a prepared statement about our San Gorgonio Mountain Group activities and invited the public to join our monthly meetings, and visit out our webpage, Facebook and our New Blog. We sang “This Land Is Your Land” and played kazoo’s. It was whimsical, family friendly, and lots of fun!

Development Issues in Temecula
We were privileged to hear Temecula City Council member Dr. Matt Rahn talk and discuss developmental issues in Temecula. He has extensive experience in the design of wildlife habitat and ecosystem monitoring programs, with an emphasis on the identification of invasive species, the impact on threatened or endangered species, and the development of appropriate management and mitigation programs. The Santa Margarita Group has been a willing and pleased community partner with our city administration on many projects and activities. Pam Nelson, the Chair of our Group, wrote: “We admire and appreciate the City’s ongoing efforts to improve and protect the quality of life for its residents.” Please see:

We diligently support an orderly development of the community to keep an eye toward expanding our open spaces, allowing a corridor for wildlife passage across Highways 15 & 271, monitoring water demand and supply, air quality, and creating and expanding mass-transportation systems to Los Angeles and San Diego counties.

Palm and Pine Santa Margarita Group
By Michael H. Momeni, PhD - Environmental Scientist

The Fourth of July Parade
An historic moment occurred on July 4, 2016, when the Sierra Club Santa Margarita Group participated in the City of Temecula’s 6th of July Parade. This was our first major outreach event to the local community to show our patriotic spirit and declare our presence. The Sierra Club has organized our group’s participation in this event.

Our giant Earth Ball generated supportive comments from the crowd. About 35 people marched in matching green tee shirts carrying stuffed animals and American flags.

The Earth Ball was guided by John Meyncke through the route along Temecula’s historic Old Town Front Street.

Bike Ride:
Robert Andibert and Gary Marsalone September 10: Suicide Rock – A 7-mile out and back hike to Suicide Rock that is moderately difficult with a gain in elevation of about 1000’.

October 29, the Tanja Trail to Fisher Rock – A 5.5-mile out and back hike to Fisher Rock, the Moreno Valley Bike Route 60 at the eastern edge of the World Logistics Center (WLC) in Moreno Valley. In June the Center Biological Diversity, Sierra Club, Residents for a Liveable Moreno Valley and Friends of the North San Jacinto Mountains have worked and instead the groups favor making the road safer without adding more lanes. The plans call for widening the road from two lanes to the route (adding 14,000 daily truck trips), two 12-foot shoulders, and adding 315 acres of land at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area which is south of Highway 60 and the WLC project. Here is a link to a newspaper article with more information: http://www.pe.com/articles/valley-805965-truck-moreno.html

Lake Perris State Recreation Area offers a number of events that range from guided nature walks, kayaking, weekly campfire program. Check out their Facebook page for more information: https://www.facebook.com/LakePerris.

The Riverside County GPU, officially known as General Plan Amendment 90 (GPA 960) lawsuits that have been filed by through settlement talks. The environmental groups did not accept the suggested settlement plans and position to move forward with most of the litigation. Sierra Club Climb & Descend
In May, Caltrans administration approved the SR- 60 Truck Climbing & Descend Lanes project begins in early 2016 on Route 60 at the eastern edge of the World Logistics Center (WLC) in Moreno Valley. In June the Center Biological Diversity, Sierra Club, and other environmental groups and the Sierra Club, are opposing the project because it would worsen air quality, and endanger wildlife. The Sierra Club’s Southern California chapter is opposed to the project. The Sierra Club has filed a court challenge to the project’s approval and asked for a temporary restraining order to stop construction.

By Ann McKibben, Secretary
Moreno Valley Group

The Earth Ball was guided by John Meyncke through the route along Temecula’s historic Old Town Front Street.

By Ann McKibben, Secretary

Moreno Valley Group

The Earth Ball was guided by John Meyncke through the route along Temecula’s historic Old Town Front Street.
Mountains Group... Continued from Page 7

**OCT 14 (FRI) 7:30 AM** ONTARIO PEAK **HIKE**

This will be a strenuous hike up Ice House Canyon into the Cucamonga Wilderness to the top of Ontario Peak (elevation 8693 ft), 12.8 miles round trip with 3700 ft. elevation gain. Pack a lunch, bring water, sturdy hiking boots and sun protection. Meet at St_MARK's Episcopal Church, 28708 Highway 18, Sky Forest. INFO: SUSAN STEUBER, susanqaudnuer.stuber@gmail.com 909 767-337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

**OCT 13 (THU) 6:00 PM** SANTA MARGARITA GROUP **MEETING**

Meeting: monthly meeting except July & August. PLACE: Temecula Valley Museum, 29600 Valencia Road, Temecula. INFO: PAM NELSON (951) 767-2265, sierrachatsbg@gmail.com 909 858-7666. SANDIS MOUNTAINS GROUP

**OCT 13 (THU) 9:00 AM** SANDIAS CANYON **HIKE**

Here’s an easy stroll terminating at the San Dimas Dam built in 1921 to mitigate area flooding. Elevation gain is a mere 400’ for this 2.5 mile R/T jaunt. River sounds and sites are to our left as we approach the Dam. BRING: water, sturdy boots, layered clothing. MEET: please call me prior to scheduled date for details. Rain cancel. LEADER: JANET H. KLINE (909) 965-7239 or janet@stclairs.us, 909-983-8501. LOS RIVERSO GROUPS

**OCT 15 (SAT) 8:00 AM** DEEPREEF CANYON **HIKE**

This 9 mile hike has one short area with a small elevation gain. The «Grand Canyons» of the High Desert has wonderful views above the historic Deep Creek. Just a joy to see and photograph. There will be an historic commentary relating to the Hesperia Water Ditch which runs through this area. Bring, water, snacks, a camera and wear strong footwear. MEET: Victor Valley Museum, 11873 Apple Valley Rd, Apple Valley, CA 92308 by 8 am. LEADER: Norman Blossom 760-912-3752 or cliff@zephyronline.com, 909 858-7666. MOJAVE GROUP

**OCT 16 (SUN) 8:30 AM** HANNAFLATS **HIKE**

This is a moderate out and back 8-9 mile hike with approximately 800 ft elevation gain. This hike starts at the Gray’s Peak trailhead. We will hike part of what was until recently Gray’s Peak. We will hike this on the days auspicious. The trail is most scenic as we hike through many locations of the Flats campground. We hope to see some fall color on this hike. MEET: at the Gray’s Peak trailhead on North Shore Rd, 2.7 miles from the turnout going toward Fawnskin. You will need an Adventure Pass to park at the trailhead. BRING: 1 essentials, 2 liters of water, snack/lunch, sun protection, hiking boots, and trekking poles. RESERVATIONS: Contact hike leader Ed Caliendo at john@stclairs.us, 909-983-8501. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

**OCT 17 – OCT 23** Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings (Also refer to Weekly reoccurring Outings and Activities)

**OCT 17 (MON) 6:00 PM** CHINO HILLS URBAN TRAILS **HIKE**

Come out and enjoy the evening on one of our local urban trails in Chino Hills. We will hike 2-3 miles, exiting the trails by 7:00 pm at closing time. Hike is easy although there are some steep hills that will challenge as good conditioning practice! Chino Hills urban trails offer views of all our surrounding mountain ranges on a clear fall evening. We will also take a look at the Tres Hermanos Ranch area to the west, currently being reviewed for possible development. Bring: sturdy shoes, 1 liter of water. Contact leader for meeting place: Contact Mary Ann Ruiz, Hike Leader at 909-815-9379, or maryannruiz@sangorgonio.sierrachatsbg.org 909 289-1932 or email mary7223@gmail.com 856 539-1234. BIG BEAR GROUP

**OCT 18 (TUE) 7:00 PM** LOS RIVERSO GROUP **MEETING**

Meeting: monthly meeting except December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sierrachatsbg.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. INFO: ED CALIENDO, (442) 242-4103, dogs11@msn.com 909 965-7239 or janet@stclairs.us, 909-983-8501. LOS RIVERSO GROUPS

**OCT 20 (THU) 6:30 PM** BIG BEAR GROUP **MEETING**

Monthly meeting except December. INFO: For current program information, please visit the Group web site www.sierrachatsbg.org. PLACE: Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Dr. (Hwy. 38), Fawnskin. INFO: ED CALIENDO, (442) 242-4103, dogs11@msn.com 909 965-7239 or janet@stclairs.us, 909-983-8501. BIG BEAR GROUP

**OCT 21 (FRI) 9:30 AM** 8 MSTS, CHILDREN’S FOREST/SEQUOIA GROVE **HIKE**

An easy hike from the Keller Peak Road takes us to the Giant Sequoia grove planted in 1908. Distance: 3 miles RT. Afterward we will walk the Children’s Forest nature trail. BRING: layered clothing, sun protection, snack, 1 qt. water. RESERVATIONS: contact leader, SANDY ELLIS, 909-867-7115 or seellio70@gmail.com 909 858-7666. MOUNTAINS GROUP

Calendar... Continued from Page 5

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

Monthly program meeting. No meeting in August or December. PLACE: St. Richard’s Episcopal Church, 27087 Highway 18, Sky Forest. INFO: RICK HARRIE, (909) 337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

OCT 11 (TUE) 7:00 PM **CHAPTER CONSULTATION COMMITTEE **MEETING**

Monthly meeting or conference call. Take part in working on important conservation issues. Please participate: We need your help! INFO: KIM FLOYD, Conservation Chair, kimfloyd@fastmail.fm (760) 249-5385. CHAPTER

OCT 12 (WED) 7:00 PM **MOJAVE GROUP **MEETING**

Monthly meeting except for July & August. PLACE: Steffin Inn, Regency Room, 17738 Francesea, Victorville. (One block north of Bear Valley Rd. on Ridgeselect.) Enter on Ridgeselect side of the building. INFO: SUSAN STEUBER, susanqaudnuer.stuber@gmail.com 909 767-337-0313. SB MOUNTAINS GROUP

This year’s Nominating Committee (Dave Barrie, Sue Walker and Chris Del Ross-Risher) wants you to know that if you want to be considered for nomination, or know someone that you want to present for nomination, you can contact any one of them. (Try Dave at barriemail@mac.com) Before you do, however, look over this year’s Election Rules:

**Election Rules**

• Nominees must be a Mountains Group member. They must have their consent to be nominated.
• Requests for nomination must be received by September 3, 2016.
• If the Nominating Committee chooses not to place a willing candidate on the ballot as a nominated candidate, the candidate may seek placement on the ballot as a petition candidate.
• The name of any Mountains Group member may be proposed by written petition (with candidate approval) containing the signatures of at least 5% of Mountains Group members. (10 minimum). Petitions with valid signatures must be received by September 17, 2016.
• All Mountains Group members as of October 14, 2016, shall be sent ballots.
• Ballots will be mailed (as part of the Palm and Pine) by October 21, 2016.
• Final receipt date for ballots shall be November 25, 2016, at 12 noon.
• Ballots will be verified, opened, and counted at 3:30 pm on Saturday December 3, 2016, at Keller Hut.
• The two-year term of office for the newly elected Excom members will commence on January 1, 2017, and will run through December 31, 2018.
• Everything accomplished by the Mountains Group is done by volunteers and this is one way that you can help make a difference.

If you want to know more about the duties of an Executive Committee member please feel free to contact Dave Barrie at barriemail@mac.com.

Executive Committee Election

Palm and Pine

Place your ad in our bi-monthly Palm & Pine Newsletter and you’ll be...

“screaming your own Flag”

while reaching over 5,000 households!

It’s EASY and EFFECTIVE!

Display Advertising Rates (Black and White) Palm and Pine pages are 9 ½ inches wide by 14 ½ inches deep. There are four columns per page; each column is 2 ½ inches wide. Display Advertising is charged at a rate of $12.50 per column inch. Special business card size ad rate: $5.00/issue. Call or email for Multiple Advertising Rate Schedule.

Classified Advertising Rates:

Pension: $0.35 per word, $5.00 minimum.
Commercial: $0.50 per word, $10.00 minimum.
Classified advertising is accepted to a maximum of 8 lines (about 45 characters to line).

Circulation and Distribution:

Rates are based on an average circulation of 5,500 per issue. The Chapter member subscription is included in membership dues. Subscription rates for non-members is $9.00 for six issues. Single copies are $5.00. The newsletter is published and distributed on or before the 1st of the month, six times each year beginning January 1.

Deadline:

1st of the month preceding the issue date. (i.e. Jan 1, Jan 1, Aug 1, Oct 1, Dec 1)

Submission:

Email directly to Editor at editors@sierrachats.com.

Payments:

Payout will be made at least two weeks before deadline. Mail all payments to Treasurer, Ladd Sessions, 40971 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside, Ca 92501; be sure and make envelope “advertising”.

Any Questions? Call or email us TODAY at (951) 466-4141 or ralphgilbey@gett.net... ask for Ralph!

All advertising must comply with National Sierra Club advertising policies.
**OCT 22 (SAT) 8:00 AM DEEP CREEK NORTHERN SECTION HIKE**
This 5-mile hike is an extension, historically, of the Deep Creek outing, in relation to the historic Hesperia Water Ditch. Commentary is provided in relation to this section of the water ditch. The final part of the hike takes us across the Mojave River where the water may be flowing. Prepare to get your feet wet! BRING: Water and a camera. Wear a hat and strong shoes. MEET: Victor Valley Museum, 11873 Apple Valley Rd, Apple Valley, CA 92380 by 8 a.m. LEADER: Norm Bossom 760-912-3725 or coachmomn@yahoo.com
MOJAVE GROUP

**OCT 22 (SAT) 8:00 AM SOUTH ENTRANCE HIKE**
Enjoy a great scenic hike and introduction to the wildlands. MEET: Pelonpsi Hiking Station, 54270 Pine Crest Road, Idyllwild, CA 92549 in the parking lot at 7:30 AM. BRING: Ten essentials, layered clothing, 3 liters of water, lunch, snacks, sun protection, and Trekking poles. RATING: Strenuous. MEET: We will meet at the U.S. Forest Service Idyllwild Ranger Station, 54270 Pine Crest Road, Idyllwild, CA 92549 in the parking lot at 7:30 AM. BRING: Ten essentials, layered clothing, 3 liters of water, lunch, snacks, sun protection, and trekking poles. RESERVATIONS: Call hike leader, Dave Melton, at (760) 408-2456 or dmelton14@yahoo.com
BIG BEAR GROUP

**OCT 23 (SUN) 8:30 AM SB MTS, SPLINTERS TO HOLCOMB CREEK HIKE**
Hike a scenic portion of the Pacific Crest Trail from Splinters, on Deep Creek, up to Holcomb Camp. We’ll have lunch on the creek. Distance: 8 miles RT with 800 feet elevation gain and loss. WEAR: hiking boots, lunch and snacks. CALL LEADER: HEATHER SARGEANT, 909-336-2366 for meeting place. Adventure Pass REQUIRED.
MOUNTAINS GROUP

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**OCT 24- NOV 1** Please read “LIABILITY WAIVER” preceding these listings (Also refer to Weekly recurring Outings and Activities)

**OCT 25 (TUE) 7:00 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER EXCOMMEETING**
Chapter governance meeting. Monthly except for December. PLACE: Meeting is held via conference call. INFO: For copy of the agenda and call-in info email Chair@SanGorgonio. Siercclub.org or call 951-683-0204
CHAPTER

**OCT 29(SAT) 7:00 AM SEC#: PCT STRAWBERRY-SADDLE JUNCTION HIKE**
With this very scenic hike we conclude our Section B hikes for 2016. Starting at 6400’ ft. in Idyllwild, we climb steeply 1700 ft. on the Devil’s Slide trail to join the PCT at Saddle Junction, and then hike 4.2 miles on the PCT to Strawberry Junction, where we descend 1.4 miles back to Idyllwild. Total distance in 10.8 miles, with 2600 ft. of climb and 3400 ft. of descent. Since the shuttle is so short (and paved), we will all hike together.
RATING: Strenuous. MEET: We will meet at the U.S. Forest Service Idyllwild Ranger Station, 54270 Pine Crest Road, Idyllwild, CA 92549 in the parking lot at 7:30 AM. BRING: Ten essentials, layered clothing, 3 liters of water, lunch, snacks, sun protection, and trekking poles. RESERVATIONS: Call Hike Leader, Dave Melton, at (760) 408-2456 or dmelton14@yahoo.com
BIG BEAR GROUP

**OCT 29 (SAT) 8:00 AM RIDGE ABOVE SUMMIT VALLEY HIKE**
This 6-mile hike with fantastic views across Summit Valley and the West Fork of the Mojave River is quite special. There are many wild animal signs and wild plants to enjoy. Appropriate clothing is recommended as the area is exposed. Articles of clothing should be selected on the day, according to the weather in the area. BRING: Camera, a snack, plenty of water and appropriate clothing. MEET: Victor Valley Museum, 11873 Apple Valley Rd, Apple Valley, CA 92380 by 8 a.m. LEADER: Norm Bossom 760-912-3725 or coachmomn@yahoo.com
MOJAVE GROUP

**OCT 29 (SAT) 8:30 AM TENAJA TRAIL TO FISHERMAN'S CAMP HIKE**
Enjoy a day in the beautiful San Mateo Canyon! Join us on a 7 mile out and back hike down to Fisherman’s Camp. The hike is moderately difficult with about 1300 ft of elevation gain. You will need to bring two quarts of water, lunch or snack, wear comfortable hiking shoes, dress in layers and don’t forget the sunscreen. DIRECTIONS: From I-15, take the Clinton Keith exit and go west, then south on Tenaja Road for a total of 9.9 miles. Turn right at sign that points to Cleveland Forest Rd. We will meet at the first trail head. Rain Cancels. You will see the trailhead parking lot on the left about a mile in. Reservations & info contact LEADER: Bob Audibert at bob.takeahike1@gmail.com or at (951)302-1059.
SANTA MARGARITA GROUP

**OCT 30 (SUN) 8:30 AM BEARPAW PRESERVE FOREST FALLS HIKE**
This hike needs permission from the Wildlands Conservancy. It’s my understanding that they just want to know when and how many are coming. Since I am writing this up so far ahead of the date I don’t have a reservation for it yet. It will be an approximately 6 – 7 mile hike in the Bearpaw Conservancy. This is a lower elevation hike so I hoping this is a great time to see some fall color “down the hill.” MEET: to be determined if closer to hike time. BRING: 10 essentials, wear layered clothing, 2 liters of water, snack, lunch, sun protection, hiking boots and trekking poles. RESERVATIONS: Contact hike leader Judy Atkinson at 289-1932 or email judy5723@gmail.com. If this hike is unavailable we will do another hike nearby approximately the same difficulty. BIG BEAR GROUP

**NOV 1 (TUE) 7:30 PM SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER MEETING**
MEETING: Program: See front-page notice. PLACE: San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. DIRECTIONS: Exit I-10 at California St. INFO: LADD SEEKINS ladd.g.seekins@gmail.com, (909) 800-3911
CHAPTER

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2016 Young Environmental Champions Awards
By Jono Hildner, San Gorgonio Chapter Political Chair

This year we are recognizing a group of 13 young people, more diverse in age and geography than in the past. These individuals range in age from 13 to 34 and have each demonstrated leadership on environmental justice issues from air quality to the Salton Sea.

Without their work that has pointed out the toothlessness of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) we might not have seen the state legislature attempt to make changes in the make-up of that Board. They have demonstrated that certain members of our legislative delegation care more about the corporate interests of Big Oil than they care about the air their constituents breathe. They have brought attention to the potential environmental disaster looming for the

Salton Sea and they came out in force to testify in favor of President Obama designating the three new National Monuments here in our desert.

The actions, some humorous, that they have designed and produced (Cheryl Brown “die-in,” SCAQMD April Fools, and Smogy the Bear, etc.) have gained media attention and are getting results that this Chapter has not often seen in the past.

The Chapter helps financially with transportation and expenses and we encourage you to boost your giving to the Chapter financial appeals or contact Jono Hildner, Jono@Hildner.com or Kim Floyd, kimfloyd@fastmail.com to get more involved with the exciting things that are being done by these young environmental leaders.

Continued on Page 12 >> >
Champions  … Continued from Page 10

Alex Portillo 18 years old  Mecca, CA
Over the last year, Alex has shown leadership in environmental issues in the East Coachella Valley. She is currently serving as the Social Media Assistant at the EcoMedia Compass, an environmental education non-profit dedicated to raising awareness around the Salton Sea. When she is not working with EcoMedia, Alex is volunteering as a leader with the Sierra Club around clean air issues and the Salton Sea. Over the past year, Alex has attended and given public testimony at AQMD hearings, state water board meetings, school district meetings and Salton Sea Meetings. Alex was also involved in our very influential SB350 work and the subsequent campaigning after that. She was also a legislative intern for Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia, and worked on bringing air quality and Salton Sea issues directly to him. She was featured on Southern California Public Radio and in the Sierra Club’s Sierra Magazine.

Cristian Garza 17 years old  Mecca, CA
Cristian has shown to be one of our leaders within Desert Mirage High School over the last year. Cristian has worked tirelessly to advocate for clean air issues in the East Coachella Valley. In the past year, he has attended and given public comment at the AQMD, state water board meetings and Salton Sea meetings. He has participated in key actions such as delegations to public officials, as well as helping out on the political work this season. She was also involved in our April Fool’s AQMD action and several lobby visits to local legislators. He was also involved in our very influential SB350 work and the subsequent political campaigning after that. He was a representative to the CNRCC from the San Gorgonio Chapter and was one of the main high school organizers from Desert Mirage High School to the huge Desert Monuments Hearing earlier this year.

Kevin Head 26 years old  San Bernardino, CA
As one of the leaders of the San Gorgonio Chapter’s Metro Committee, Kevin has worked tirelessly over the course of the last year advocating for clean air and sustainability. Over the past year, Kevin has participated in AQMD hearings, visibility events at the El Indio Power Plant, our Die-In at a warehousing summit and delegations to elected officials. Kevin has also participated in lobby visits and was part of our influential SB350 team last year and its subsequent political work. Kevin is a leader and support team member with CHICCCAA and works on community gardens.

Asher Jones 21 years old  Riverside, CA
Asher is a leader in the Sierra Club Metro Committee. Over the past year, he has worked tirelessly advocating for environmental justice in our region. Asher has participated in and given public comments at AQMD hearings and warehousing hearings. He has participated in lobby visits and was part of the influential SB350 team last year, and its subsequent political work this year. Asher has participated in our AQMD April Fool’s action, our Die-In action and our delegation to local public officials. Asher was also key in organizing our Riverside Earth Day event and Intersectional Movie Night at Riverside City College. Asher has also worked with us on supporting CCAEJ and their work with Ag Park. He was a representative of the San Gorgonio Chapter at the CNRCC and is a tireless advocate on bridging the gap between the LGBTQ community and environmental work. Asher is a member of CHICCCAA.

Eligiah Cervantes 19 years old  Thermal, CA
Eli is one of our leaders in the East Coachella Valley. Over the past year, Eli has worked on really bringing to light the air quality issues in the valley. He has attended and given public testimony at AQMD hearings and state water board meetings. Eli has participated in delegations to public officials, lobby visits and in our AQMD April Fool’s action. He was also featured in an Associated Press story and in Al Jazeera this past year focusing on the Salton Sea and air quality issues. He has also been able to move his people to write LTEs about air quality issues and get them published in The Desert Sun. Eli was a San Gorgonio Chapter representative to the CNRCC.

Cristian Garza 17 years old  Mecca, CA
Cristian has shown to be one of our leaders within Desert Mirage High School over the last year. Cristian has worked tirelessly to advocate for clean air issues in the East Coachella Valley. In the past year, he has attended and given public comment at the AQMD, state water board meetings and Salton Sea meetings. He has participated in key actions such as delegations to public officials, as well as helping out on the political work this season. She was also involved in our April Fool’s AQMD action. Her testimony has been quoted in both KFI News Radio and in the Riverside Press Enterprise.

Ruben Garza 19 years old  Mecca, CA
Ruben is one of our established leaders in the East Coachella Valley. Over the past year, Ruben has participated in and given testimony at the AQMD, state water board and at Salton Sea Meetings. He has participated in lobby visits and at delegations to public officials, as well as helping out on political work this season. Ruben was also a member of the influential team working on SB350. He participated in our AQMD April Fool’s action and in organizing local Salton Sea meetings. He helped organize Earth Day events at Desert Mirage High School, appearing as Smoggy the Bear, and was covered by the local TV news station. Ruben has also submitted and published a letter in the Desert Sun on the Salton Sea. He has been quoted on KFI News Radio.

Diego Alauzi 13 years old  Mecca, CA
Diego is relatively new to our organizing program, but has proven to be a force to be reckoned with. Since arriving, Diego has participated and given comment at AQMD hearings and Salton Sea meetings. He also participated in our AQMD April Fool’s action. Diego also organized students to protest a local AQMD hearing held at his middle school.
Moving on to November

By Jono Hildner, San Gorgonio Chapter Political Chair

A ll four of the candidates for the Assembly that we endorsed, all of whom are challenging incumbent members whose voting records are a disaster for the environment and environmental justice, will be fighting for us on the ballot in November. Winning these four races will be huge for the Chapter and for the environment.

All of these candidates need, not only your vote, but your personal efforts as a volunteer. If you can spend even a few hours working on making calls from the comfort of your own home, drop me a line on email. Jono@Hildner.com – I’ll get you connected. Most people have no idea how important this is to both the campaign and to our relationship to the person once they are in office.

The race that has received the most attention from us, Eloise Reyes’ challenge to “Chevron Cheryl” Brown in Assembly District 47, saw Eloise finish only 9 percentage points behind the incumbent. This is impressive in the face of the truckloads of dollars that Big Oil poured into this race.

Abigail Medina, in Assembly District 40, won that primary with 51.5% of the vote. We know that the incumbent Marc Steinorth wasn’t expecting that and will go to Republican candidates for US President special interest dollars that would normally be huge for the Chapter and for the environment. This is HUGE, so let’s get everyone involved.

All four of our endorsed candidates for Congress won their primary races with comfortable margins. Reps. Pete Aguilar, Norma Torres, Raúl Ruiz and Mark Takano will all face lesser known opponents in November, but it will not be a walk in the park for any of them. If you get a chance, give them your congratulations! An offer of a financial donation or a willingness to volunteer wouldn’t hurt either.

Attorney General Kamala Harris garnered a surprisingly high 40% of the vote in a field of 37 candidates. She will face off against Rep. Lori Ann Sanchez in the fall and with her strong campaign chest and ability to raise a lot more, she should be able to become our next US Senator representing California. It should be noted that Harris has featured her Sierra Club endorsement in her advertising and is expected to continue to do so.

Finally, on the County level, both our endorsed candidates for Supervisor, will appear on the November ballot. Debbie Walsh, candidate for Riverside County Supervisor #1 and Angela Valles (photo on left), candidate for San Bernardino Supervisor #1, each got about 25% of the vote. Debbie Walsh will have a very difficult time beating Kevin Jeffries who garnered 50% of the primary vote, but Angela Valles has a real shot in November, as the incumbent, Robert Lovingood managed to get only 37%.

All in all, it was a wonderful primary for the Sierra Club and the environment, but battles, especially for the State Assembly and County Boards will be fierce. We can expect that special interest dollars that would normally go to Republican candidates for US President and US Senate, will find their way into our area to support the incumbents that we are committed to oust.

This means that our members need to volunteer to put these fine candidates over the top. If you live in any of these districts, expect to get a call from a fellow member of the Club, asking you to spend some time, especially after Labor Day, working on these campaigns.

LET’S ALL COMMIT TO GET OUT AND WORK TO TURN THE INLAND EMPIRE GREEN!

Sierra Club’s Positions on Statewide Ballot Measures

By Kathryn Phillips, Director, Sierra Club California

November’s ballot is jam packed with 16 statewide initiatives and one referendum. Sierra Club California’s staff and volunteers are continuing to cull through those measures, but as of this writing, the volunteer-led initiative review process has identified three measures on which the Club has taken a position. Specifically, Sierra Club is urging a “Yes” vote on Proposition 56, Proposition 58 and Proposition 67. The measures are briefly described below.

At least one other measure is going through the review process now, and others may be considered as the election approaches. For the latest updates on Sierra Club California positions on statewide measures, check out http://www.sierraclubcalifornia.org and follow the “Elections” link located under the “Get Involved” menu tab at the top of the homepage. You can find the full text of these and other initiatives on the ballot at the Secretary of State’s website, sos.ca.gov.

Measures with Positions

Prop. 67 – Referendum to Overturn Ban on Single-Use Plastic Bags – YES (Support)

By voting yes on this measure, you will be voting to keep the statewide plastic bag ban signed into law in 2014. A “yes” on this measure is a yes to a clean environment and an end to single-use grocery bags that pollute waterways, harm wildlife, and create a long-lasting litter problem. A “yes” will say no to big out-of-state plastic manufacturers who put this measure on the ballot to try to stop enforcement of the statewide ban.

Prop. 56 – Cigarette Tax to Fund Healthcare, Tobacco Use Prevention, Research, and Law Enforcement – YES (Support)

A “yes” vote on this measure will increase the sales tax on cigarettes by $2 per pack, and e-cigarettes would be taxed on an equivalent level. The tobacco tax has not been raised since 1998. Sierra Club has long supported reducing public exposure to air pollution, including pollution from cigarettes, and has supported cigarette taxes as a tool for smoking reduction. Cigarette taxes help increase the cost of smoking, discourage smoking and fund anti-smoking education.

Prop. 58 – California Education for a Global Economy Initiative (EdGE) – YES (Support)

Would overturn restrictions on bilingual education that were imposed in 1998 by Proposition 227. The California EdGE Initiative allows every student in California the chance to get the most appropriate language instruction and, therefore, become engaged residents who can effectively speak out for the environment and public health.