

The Baldy Eagle

The Newsletter of the Mt Baldy Group, Angeles Chapter
Sierra Club, PO Box 906, Claremont CA 91711

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March 2003

April 2003

Volume XXXIII, Number 2

\$9.00 for 6 issues



SIERRA
CLUB
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TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2003

7:30 pm, Bauer Center, Room 34
Claremont McKenna College

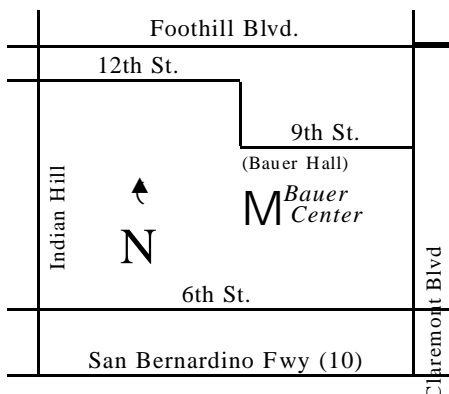
Biological Riches of the Carrizo Plain

The Carrizo Plain National Monument stretches northwest and southeast for 50 miles in the southeast corner of San Luis Obispo County. It is bounded on the east by the San Andreas Fault and the Temblor Range; on the west by the Caliente Range. It is an internal drainage basin with all surface water draining to Soda Lake. Soda Lake only has surface water following heavy rains.

The Carrizo Plain contains many geological features associated with the San Andreas Fault System, the most abundant and diverse polychrome pictograph Rock Art of Native American Indians in the United States, and many raptors, shorebirds and other water fowl. It features the best example in the United States of a clay dune landscape—more than 130 clay dunes, each with its own clay vernal pool.

Our speaker, **ROY VAN DE HOEK**, spent several years in the Carrizo Plain working as a biologist for the BLM. He is a passionate advocate for the natural values of the Carrizo Plain. He was one of the activists who worked to create the present Carrizo Plain National Monument.

Join us in Room 34, Bauer Center (circle around to the right to back of building and go upstairs). Good food, good friends, good program

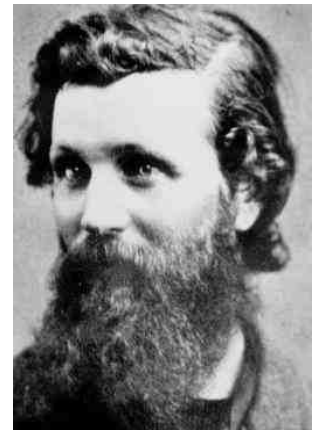


TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2003

7:30 pm, Bauer Center, Room 34
Claremont McKenna College

John Muir's Boyhood in Wisconsin

The Pasadena Group Outings Leader **DAVID CZAMANSKE** will present a slide program about the life of John Muir from age 10 to his departure for study at the University of Wisconsin. John Muir was born in Dunbar, Scotland, in 1838. In 1848 he emigrated with his family to the United States and settled in Wisconsin, first at Fountain Lake Farm where the farm buildings no longer exist. Marquette County's John Muir Memorial Park on the shores of the lake commemorates his legacy there. He later moved to Hickory Hill Farm, where the house, barn, and well that John Muir dug still exist. Nearby sites of interest include Observatory Hill where John loved to hike for its view overlooking the Wisconsin River Valley and a local cemetery where several members of the Muir family are buried.



Our speaker visited these and other sites significant in John's boyhood life in the early 1990s. With the assistance of a local authority on John Muir's early life — Millie Stanley, author of *The Heart of John Muir's World: Wisconsin, Family, & Wilderness* [320 pages, Prairie Oak Press, 1995] he secured access to the buildings at Hickory Hill Farm. This summer of 2003, David plans to lead an 8-day Angeles Chapter Outing which will include exploration of sites significant in the life of John Muir's boyhood. Additional information will be provided at the meeting when details have been further developed.

Join us (circle around to the right to back of building and go upstairs) for good food, good friends, good program.

A Stroll in the Desert

by Julie Garner

November turned out to be a beautiful time to visit the Coachella Valley Preserve in Thousand Palms (near Desert Hot Springs). Sophie Radowick led members of the Mt Baldy Group on a short but interesting hike along the McCallum Trail. The weather was perfect. Although rain was predicted for the area around the Pomona rideshare point where we met, the weather was dry, clear and warm in the desert.

We started on the trail at Thousand Palms Oasis, which is one of the largest groves of Desert Fan Palms (*Washingtonia filifera*) in California. These palms have provided food and shelter to animals and then to humans, since before the last ice age. The type of palm found here is the only palm tree which is native to California.

The San Andreas Fault is clearly visible on the McCallum Trail. While on Thousand Palms Highway, we crossed both branches in the area — the Banning Fault Branch and the Mission Creek Branch. Our trail followed the Mission Creek Branch. The San Andreas Fault is a parallel series of linear zones of crushed rock and clay that act as impenetrable barriers to groundwater. Water rises to or near the surface and supports a long series of oases along the northeast border of the Coachella Valley, the largest of which is Thousand Palms Oasis.

We watched for, but didn't spot, the endangered Fringe-Toed Lizard. The entire range of these lizards is restricted to the sand dunes of the Coachella Valley. The trail we followed skirted the dunes, but did not traverse them for good reason—the Coachella Valley Preserve was created to protect the fringe-toed lizard and its habitat.

We did get to see the endangered Desert Pupfish. This minnow-like fish occurs naturally in just two creeks that feed into the Salton Sea. Introduced non-native fish have nearly eliminated the pupfish from its natural habitat. This endangered species was placed in the Coachella Valley Preserve pools to protect it from extinction.

We also got a chance to watch a friendly roadrunner. We ate lunch at a shady picnic area with palms surrounding it and while we were there, the bird cautiously approached. The docent told us that the roadrunner was often seen there, looking for handouts. Although it was tempting to offer the little beggar some food, the knowledge that doing so would do him a disservice caused us to refrain from giving him food that is suitable for humans, but not birds.

On our walk we saw many plant species — smoke trees, mesquites, and creosote bush — lizards, fish and birds. The desert is a wasteland? Hardly!

Yes!

I want to join!

I want to help safeguard our nation's precious heritage. My check is enclosed.

New member name _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (optional) _____

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Annual dues include subscription to *Sierra* (\$7.50) and the Angeles Chapter publication (\$1) *Southern Sierran*. Dues are not tax-deductible.

Enclose check and mail to:

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PO Box 52968
Boulder CO 80322-2968

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Quest for Desert Flowers

There is hope, after the November rains, and after the February rains, that the California Desert will be blooming this spring. On Sunday, April 6, we will go out to see for ourselves.

We should be able to get up-to-date information before we start out from the Theodore Payne Foundation and the Santa Ana Botanic Garden about good sites to visit. We will meet at 8 am at the Mt Baldy Group rideshare point (PFF Bank & Trust parking lot, NE corner Indian Hill/Foothill Blvds, Claremont.) Bring full tank of gas, camera, binoculars, lunch, water, sturdy shoes. We will set up a carpool at the meeting place.

For last minute info, call Leader: Robin Ives (909-624-5522); Asst leader: Sophie Radowick.

HAWAII

Third in a series by Julie Garner

I've never been a morning person and on weekends I'm rarely completely functional until noon (also on the weekdays, but don't tell my boss that.) On vacation, though, I always find that waking up isn't the chore that it is at home, and, although I still don't rise at dawn (did you know there is a 5 am? Not just 5 in the evening. It's something I don't know much about, and don't care to know.) I'm up by a respectable hour. After a Kona coffee fix, Brad and I were once more in the Dodge Neon with our snorkel gear, headed south toward Kealakekua Bay.

Kealakekua Bay on the Kona Coast of Hawaii was not a particularly propitious place for Captain James Cook. Captain Cook "discovered" the Hawaiian Islands in 1778 and named them the Sandwich Islands, after his patron, the Earl of Sandwich. In fact, Captain Cook landed in the islands several thousand years after Polynesians, with their excellent navigation system, based on astronomy and ocean currents, had explored and settled throughout the South Pacific. In addition, some historians maintain, based on artifacts found in the Hawaiian Islands, that Captain Cook's expedition to Hawaii came after earlier Europeans had already been there. There are indications that the Spanish beat them by 200 years. (This is typical American History composed of simple fictionalized stories with apparently lofty ideals, and a sprinkling of truth for good measure.)

Kealakekua Bay is the spot where Cook met his untimely end. Initially, he and his crew received an extravagant welcome, a two-week-long celebration and greetings from about 10,000 native people on the Big Island. The ships then set sail, but encountered a storm in which a foremast was damaged and the ships returned to Kealakekua Bay. The

Hawaiian festival was over and Captain Cook did not receive the same generous welcome as previously. Some of the Hawaiians began filching items from the ships and Captain Cook went ashore to take one of the chiefs hostage in exchange for the pilfered items. Instead, a fight ensued and Captain James Cook and several others were killed.

The road to Kealakekua ends on one side of the "U" shaped bay. On the other side, accessible only by water, is a white pillar which is on a small piece of British territory. It marks the spot of Captain Cook's error in judgment. A friendly concessionaire was doing rather brisk business renting kayaks to people wanting to make the 20-minute paddle across the bay to see the monument and to snorkel nearby. After getting comments from several kayakers that the snorkeling was somewhat murky that day, Brad and I decided to continue further south along the coast.

We stopped at Honaunau, which features royal grounds and a place of refuge. Honaunau Bay, with its sheltered canoe landing and availability of drinking water, was a natural place for the ali'i, royal chiefs, to establish one of their most important residences. Separated from the royal grounds by a massive wall was the pu'uhonua, a place of refuge for defeated warriors, noncombatants in time of war, and those who violated the kapu, the sacred laws. This place was used for several centuries. Then, in 1819, Kamehameha II abolished traditional religious practices and many of the old religious sites and structures were destroyed or abandoned. The temples of the pu'uhonua were left to the extremes of sun, wind, and sea. The area was set aside as a county park in the 1920s. In 1961 it became a

national historical park.

Armed with a self-guiding map, Brad and I wandered around this place of refuge, admiring the ki'i — elaborately carved wooden statues resembling totem poles, the human-created ponds used for "storing" fish for the royalty, and the stone wall which separated the royal grounds from the place of refuge. After lunching at a picnic area which overlooked the black lava flats and the ocean beyond, we decided to cool-off. We walked back along the beach and spotted numerous green turtles who had also found this part of the coast to be a place of refuge.

Brad and I grabbed our snorkel gear and entered Keone'ele cove, once a place of kapu, where only royalty were allowed. We obeyed the advice to watch for sea turtles, but not approach them. The snorkeling was good, as well as refreshing. We saw the ever-present parrotfish, along with butterflyfish, trumpet fish and others too numerous to name. After lazing in the sun awhile, we headed back toward our hotel in Kailua.

Because I'm a dedicated tree-hugger, I enjoy activities that others just roll their eyes at. While on our way back to Kailua, I convinced Brad that it would be worthwhile to go to the presentation, *Reeftalk: Economics of Coral Reefs*, being given by a scientist who would discuss factors in determining the economic value of coral reef ecosystems. After a day at the beach snorkeling, some of the presentation was interesting to me, but I was tired and found my mind wandering. Fortunately, Brad, a former biology major, found the talk engrossing and was glad I had suggested going. After the Reeftalk, we headed back to our motel, a quick bite, a shower, and further adventures tomorrow.

NO INCREASE IN TAX BREAKS FOR SUVs!

Tell Congress not to increase tax breaks for gas-guzzling SUVs

Today's SUVs use too much oil, produce too much pollution, and are too dangerous. As if that weren't bad enough the Bush administration has proposed increasing a tax subsidy that encourages businesses to purchase the heaviest, least efficient SUVs. Small businesses already get a much bigger tax write-off for purchasing a gas-guzzling SUV than a fuel-efficient car. The bigger tax break would apply only to "trucks" that have a gross vehicle weight of greater than 6000 pounds, including monster SUVs such as the Hummer, Ford Expedition, Chevy Suburban, and Toyota Land Cruiser.

If enacted, the administration's proposal would give businesses a huge incentive to purchase much heavier and less fuel-efficient vehicles than they actually need. For example, under current law a small business owner who purchases a fuel-efficient Toyota Prius or Honda Civic Hybrid can deduct about \$10,000, including a special \$2000 deduction available to electric vehicles and gasoline-electric hybrids. But if the same business owner purchases a Hummer H2, he or she can deduct \$36,000 under current law and, under the administration's proposal, would be able to deduct the full \$55,000 purchase price!

At a time when Americans spend more than \$20 billion per year on oil from the Persian Gulf and are once again facing the prospect of war in that troubled region of the world, giving bigger tax breaks to those buying heavier vehicles that use more gas makes absolutely no sense at all. The solution would be to first level the playing field by establishing a uniform small business tax deduction for all passenger vehicles, regardless of their size, weight, or classification as a car or truck. Then establish a performance-based tax credit to encourage increased sales of clean and efficient gasoline-electric hybrid vehicles of all types. Two hybrid 4-door sedans are already on the market. Automakers have announced plans to introduce a variety of other hybrid models, including SUVs and minivans, over the next few years.

Nature Nibble

Look here for a quote
you can chew on!

Something will have gone out of us as a people if we ever let the remaining wilderness be destroyed.

Wallace Stegner

WHAT TO DO

Send a message to Senator Grassley (R-IA) and Senator Baucus (D-MT), chair and ranking Democrat, respectively, of the Senate Finance Committee to demand common-sense tax rules that create incentives to decrease, not increase, our dangerous dependence on oil.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Senator Charles Grassley, Chair
Senator Max Baucus, Ranking Minority Member
Senate Finance Committee
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510-6200
Fax: 202-224-5920

SAMPLE LETTER

Subject: Don't increase tax breaks for gas-guzzling SUVs

Dear Senator Grassley and Senator Baucus,

At a time when Americans are spending more than \$20 billion per year on oil from the Persian Gulf and we are once again facing the prospect of war in that troubled region of the world, giving bigger tax breaks to businesses buying heavier vehicles that use more gas just doesn't make any sense. Tax incentives should instead be used to help break the chain of oil dependence that compromises our security and our environment.

I urge you to level the playing field by establishing a uniform small business tax deduction for all passenger vehicles, regardless of their size, weight, or classification as a car or truck. I also urge you to support performance-based tax credits to encourage sales of clean and efficient gasoline-electric hybrid vehicles of all types, as proposed in the 107th Congress by Senator Hatch and Senator Rockefeller.

*Sincerely,
[Your name and address]*

This Land is Your Land, Los Angeles!

By Michael Prather

The controversy surrounding Los Angeles' acquisition of water rights for the construction of its Owens Valley Aqueduct in the early 1900s is relatively well known. The "Owens Valley Water War" has been the subject of numerous books, articles and even films. Less well known is the on-going battle conducted by a handful of Owens Valley residents known as the Owens Valley Committee as well as the County of Inyo to save their remaining natural heritage in the face of destructive groundwater pumping.

Over 200,000 acres of the Owens Valley are owned by the City of Los Angeles and managed by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). Historically little could be done by local citizens to protect wildlife and vegetation on these lands because of ownership by the "absentee landlord" Los Angeles. The irony today is that the local residents of Owens Valley who don't own the land are working for the defense of its habitat and wildlife as de facto agents of the people of Los Angeles. Tule elk, neo-tropical songbirds and rare wildflowers are dependent on "the kindness of strangers." Mismanagement of cattle grazing, damage from off-road vehicles and illegal dumps are additional threats to Mary Austin's Land of Little Rain. And sadly this is all unknown to the average citizen of Los Angeles.

In 1972, Los Angeles dramatically increased groundwater pumping to fill the newly constructed second barrel of its aqueduct. As a result of this, acres of marshes, beautiful high-volume springs, native ponds and rare plant and animal populations slowly disappeared. But rather than seizing the Alabama Gates and dynamiting the aqueduct as their predecessors had done, Owens Valley residents challenged Los Angeles under the newly passed California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The second aqueduct was scheduled to be filled by taking more water from the Mono Lake Basin, drying up two-thirds of the irrigated lands in the Owens Valley (approximately 20,000 acres) and by increasing groundwater pumping. Under CEQA Los Angeles was required to evaluate the possible impacts of groundwater pumping to fill the second aqueduct. The court ruled in Inyo County's favor and thus began decades of a David and Goliath struggle. Los Angeles was required to complete an adequate Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that would evaluate impacts of its groundwater pumping, or they could negotiate with Inyo County.

In 1997, after 25 years of litigation and negotiations, as well as court oversight, the historic Inyo County/Los Angeles Long-term Water Agreement was created. The negotiations to create the Agreement took place with a level of trust that now would be tested in the future. With no longer any court oversight, the ONLY thing between the environment of the Owens Valley and the City of Los Angeles' water gathering

practices would be the Long-term Water Agreement.

Prior to the final approval of the Water Agreement by the court in 1997, Inyo County and Los Angeles agreed to drought recovery management that would allow water tables and soil moisture levels—so critical to vegetation and habitat in the Owens Valley—to rise through lower pumping volume during dry years. This effort showed a cooperation level that appears to no longer exist between the County of Inyo and the City of Los Angeles. It does not bode well for the effective implementation of the Water Agreement!

Currently the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power expresses frustration that it is not allowed to take its "fair share" of pumped water each year. It claims that Inyo County "created obstacles" and that the "[Water] Agreement allows for pumping an average of 105,000 acre feet every year." For the last two years LADWP has asked for pumping levels that would potentially cause damage to the environment of the Owens Valley. LADWP has begun a pattern of forcing Dispute Resolution under the Water Agreement, a strategy of "death by a thousand cuts" for a cash-strapped "cow county" like Inyo. LADWP officials openly tell Inyo County that "our (LADWP) legal budget exceeds your entire county budget." Inyo County Water Department scientists must now ask for written permission five days in advance to even set foot on LADWP lands. What does this say about any chance of on-going and scheduled "cooperative studies" between the City and Inyo?

At the April 17, 2001 meeting of the Los Angeles Board of Water and Power Commissioners, a contract with a consulting firm was approved for \$8,000,000 that would aim to allow Los Angeles to "pump its full entitlement" in the Owens Valley. Considering the Department's loss of water at Mono Lake, the Owens River Gorge and at Owens Lake for dust control, it is obvious that LADWP must either buy more water elsewhere, increase conservation or increase pumping in the Owens Valley. LADWP is putting the squeeze on the Owens Valley. While it appears that LADWP has returned to its historic roots of delay, divide and deceive, it is still hoped that once this issue receives more widespread public attention then the 100-year water struggle can move on to final resolution. After all LADWP has "Green LA" so why must there be "Brown OV?"

Unilaterally Los Angeles has

- 1.) quit the drought recovery policy negotiations,
- 2.) stopped water flowing in the McNally Ditches near Bishop,
- 3.) for years refused to irrigate the Laws Ranch as is required in the Water Agreement
- 4.) still not restored vegetation damaged by pumping at Five Bridges that occurred in 1988

Continued page 6...

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden Lectures

All lectures are from 7 pm to 9 pm — All lectures are \$5 members, \$7 non-members

Thursday, March 20

Conservation vs. Urban Sprawl in the Santa Monica Mountains. Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

Thursday, March 27

Rare and Unique Plants of the Santa Monica Mountains. Botanist Tim Thomas, US Fish and Wildlife Service, will illustrate the interesting topographic and geological factors that have led to the overall floristic composition of the Santa Monica Mountain Range.

Thursday, April 3

Fire Ecology and Management of Chaparral. John Keeley, research scientist US Geological Survey, will discuss the role of fire as an important evolutionary force in forest and shrublands, and the remarkable story of adaptation to these forces by the plant life. .

Thursday, April 10

Southern California Chaparral Spring Annuals. Steve Boyd, Administrative Curator of the RSABG Herbarium, will discuss an exciting and often colorful array of annual and herbaceous species in Southern California chaparral communities, especially on recent burns.

Thursday, April 24

Geology of the Santa Monica Mountains. Geologist D D Trent will discuss the geologic past of the small, but complex Santa Monica Mountain Range.

Thursday, May 1

Edmund C Jaeger and the Native Flora of the San Jacinto Mountains. On foot, with a burro in tow, naturalist Edmund Jaeger explored the wilderness of the San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Mountains, and the Colorado desert. James Bryant, Curator of Natural History, Riverside Municipal Museum (RMM), will describe a unique collaboration between RMM and the Smithsonian Institute in interpreting the collection efforts of Edmund Jaeger and other botanists involved in documenting the flora of the San Jacinto Mountains.

Thursday, June 5

The Creation of Joshua Tree National Park. Establishing Come learn how Minerva Hoyt, one of California's first desert conservationists, dreamed of establishing a grand park in the California desert. Joseph Zarki, Chief of Interpretation, Joshua Tree National Park, will give a biographical sketch of Minerva Hoyt's lifetime work.

Thursday, June 12

Venomous and Pathogenic Animals of Southern California. Jeffery Burkhart, Professor of Biology, University of La Verne, will discuss a wide variety of animals that bite, sting, or are otherwise noxious, including mammals, reptiles, spiders, scorpions, and ticks.

TUESDAY, May 6 (NOTE TUESDAY)

Santa Cruz Island: Getting There is Only Half of the Problem! Join Doctors DD Trent, Allan Schoenherr for a joint effort slide presentation of the unique flora, fauna and geology of this fascinating California island. This lecture is a prelude to a weekend excursion to the island.

FRIDAY-MONDAY, MAY 9-12 FIELD TRIP TO SANTA CRUZ ISLAND lead by DD Trent and Allan Schoenherr. Cost: Members: \$330, Non-members: #395. Limit 12. Reserve early.

Owens River/Continued from Page 5...

5.) tripled the size of the pumpback station for the Lower Owens River Project causing years of delay in the rewatering of 62 miles of its dry riverbed

The Owens Valley Committee has actively worked on water issues in the Owens Valley since 1983. It stresses education, science and public advocacy. It urges citizens of the Owens Valley and citizens of Los Angeles to join together in this effort. The Los Angeles City Council and the decision makers of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power must be asked to bring fairness and justice to the Owens Valley.

If you would like to be added to the Owens Valley Committee mailing list, request programs or field trips for your groups and organizations and receive alerts please contact:

The Owens Valley Committee, Drawer D
Lone Pine CA 93545
760-876-1845 - www.ovcweb.org

Michael Prather
President, Owens Valley Committee , Drawer D
Lone Pine, CA 93545
769-876-5807
prather@qnet.com

SIERRA CLUB ACTIVITIES

The general public is welcome on almost all outings, Sierra Club membership not required, but is certainly encouraged. See Angeles Chapter Schedule of Activities for more activities in Los Angeles and Orange Counties—call leader for more information. mi rt = miles round trip, SASE = self-addressed, stamped (37¢) envelope
Sierra Club encourages ridesharing. Participants make their own arrangements. and should reimburse driver at least 10 cents a mile

RIDESHARE POINTS:

Mt Baldy: PFF Bank&Trust prkg lot, NE corner Indian Hill/Foothill Blvds, Claremont (**weekends only**).

Pomona: Towne Avenue exit from SB Fwy (I-10), south 0.5 block, park along curb.

La Canada: Angeles Crest Hwy (Hwy 2), just north of Foothill Fwy (I-210). Park on Angeles Crest Hwy only.

Azusa: On street next to market, 9th St and Azusa Ave, north of Foothill Blvd.

Mt Baldy Group

PO Box 906, Claremont 91711

phone 909-621-7148; fax 909-624-7983

email: ivesico@earthlink.net

1ST TUE: MANAGEMENT COMM

7:30 pm, 264 E Green St, Claremont
(all welcome) Call 621-7148 for info.

2ND TUE: EAGLE MAILING

7:30 pm, 264 E Green St, Claremont.
odd months: Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep,
Nov. Come and help!

4TH TUE: MONTHLY PROGRAM:

See pg 1, 7:30 pm (dark Aug, Dec).

'03 MT BALDY MGMT COMM *voting

(All 909 unless otherwise indicated)

Ch/Cons/Prog/XRep*Robin Ives 624-5522

VC/Sec/XAlt*Sophie Radowick 626-5658

Treasurer *Peggy Zappen 626-335-3528

Membership *Lori Ives 621-7148

Outings *Haven Fearn 946-5705

Eagle Editor *Julie Garner 714-335-1579

Publisher/Circulation Lori Ives 621-7148

Publicity *Sylvia Goldstein . . 624-6010

Greeter *Jan Overton 599-9915

Hospitality Connie Layne 624-6115

Audio/Visual Ken Horner 626-0336

Email news to < avtrix@earthlink.net> or
snail mail to The Baldy Eagle, PO Box 906,
Claremont CA 91711.

**Mt Baldy Group will
recycle aluminum cans
again. Bring them to
the meeting to help
meet our expenses!**

Mar 15 (Sat) Echo Mountain: Join us on moderately paced, 5 mi round trip, 1400' gain hike. No tigers, please. Meet 8 am, north end Lake Ave, Altadena. Bring warm jacket, lunch, water, boots or sturdy shoes. Leaders: Sally Wagner 909-860-4396, Flora Johnson.

Mar 22 (Sat) Smith Saddle to Bear Creek: See spring wildflowers on this moderately paced hike in the San Gabriel Wilderness. 3 mi, 1100' gain to Smith Saddle, 3 mi, 1700' loss to Bear Creek, reverse on return. Meet 8 am, Azusa rideshare point. Bring lunch, water, lugsoles, sun gear. Leaders: Ginny Heringer 626-793-4727, Elizabeth Pomeroy, Pam Allen.

Mar 22-23 (Sat-Sun) Caliente Mtn, Carrizo Plain: Sat—hike or mtn bike to summit of Caliente, highest point in San Luis Obispo County via the Ridge Trail, 19 mi round trip, 3000' gain on road and trail. A variety of wildflowers on route. Hotel or camp Sat night. Sun: explore Carrizo's wonders (pronghorn, burrowing owls, painted rock archaeological site.) Join us for one or both days. Send sase/email, conditioning (if climbing Caliente) to Reservationist/Leader: George Wysup 909-987-5348. Leaders: Sherry Ross, Sandy Burnside, Winnette Butler. Naturalist: Kathy Keane, Sherry Ross.

Mar 25 (Tue) Monthly Mtg: Page 1.

Mar 26 (Wed) Newport Back Bay to Nature Center: An easy hike to enjoy birds and visit the new and worthwhile

interpretative center. 5 mi, 100' gain. Meet 9 am, North Eastbluff and Jambooree with water, lunch or snack. Leader: Keats Hayden 949-760-9399, Asst: Gordon Lindberg.

Mar 29 (Sat) Bear Flats from Baldy Village: 4 mi round trip, 1300' gain. See how the oaks and fern have fared following the Williams fire. Meet 8 am Mt Baldy rideshare pt. Leaders: Julie Garner 714-335-1579, Sally Wagner.

Apr 6 (Sun) Quest for Desert Flowers: See page 2

Apr 12 (Sat) Potato Mountain: "Rescheduled memorial hike for Pepi Westhall" Join us on this easy paced, 4 mi round trip, 1200' gain hike on good fire road above Claremont. Meet 8 am, Mt Baldy rideshare pt. Bring snack, water. Leaders: Sally Wagner 909-860-4396, Sophie Radowick.

Apr 13 (Sun) Santa Rosa Plateau Reserve: Join us for an 8 mi, 600' gain hike in grasslands and oaklands, including 100 year old Engleman Oak. Meet 7:30 am, north Orange County rideshare point with 2 qts water, lunch, \$2 Conservancy fee. Rain cancels. Leader: Julie Garner 714-335-1579. Asst: Bernie Lipman.

Apr 22 (Tue) Monthly Mtg: Page 1.

Apr 27 (Sun) Annual Awards Banquet. Mt Baldy Group honors Sophie Radowick. Call Lori Ives 909-621-7148 for \$30 reservation.



MT BALDY GROUP
ANGELES CHAPTER
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CLAREMONT CA 91711

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BALDY EAGLE, VOL XXXIII, No 2 — March/April 2003
March 25, 2003 — Roy van de Hoek: *The Carrizo Plain*
April 22, 2003 — David Czamanske: *John Muir's Boyhood in Wisconsin*

Check your expiration date below! Renew your Baldy Eagle—keep it flying to your mailbox!

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THE BALDY EAGLE, newsletter of the Mt Baldy Group, is published bi-monthly. Subscriptions are \$10.00 (6 issues) starting with the month of your initial subscription. **The line (above your name on your label) is the month in which your subscription expires.**

Clip and mail the coupon TODAY!!



SC Member Number is helpful but not necessary _____
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WRITE CHECK FOR \$10.00 TO *SIERRA CLUB, MT BALDY GROUP*
Donations above the base are very welcome!

MAIL TO: SIERRA CLUB, MT BALDY GROUP
PO BOX 906
CLAREMONT CA 91711

BALDY GROUP RECEIVES LITTLE OR NO FINANCIAL HELP from either the Angeles Chapter or the national Sierra Club. Though we are fortunate in having excellent volunteer help, the printer's press and the post office do not function without money!

Please renew promptly so you won't lose a single issue. Additional donations are gratefully received to further our activities, but they are **not** tax-deductible. Call (909) 621-7148 for more information.