

Sierra Club Angeles Chapter



**SIERRA
CLUB**
FOUNDED 1892

*Annual
Awards Banquet
2015 Year of Muir*

*Awards Presented for 2014
Sunday May 3, 2015*

*5:00 pm. ~ Patio Reception ~ Silent Auction
6:00 pm ~ Dinner*

*Brookside Country Club
1133 North Rosemont Blvd.
Pasadena, CA*

Welcome from the Senior Chapter Director

Welcome to the 2015 Year of Muir Awards Banquet. Our Award Winners and their family have been invited by their friends across the Angeles Chapter to recognize the some of the Chapter's best, brightest, most dedicated and hardest working members who have inspired each of us to follow their lead. We take special note of our honorees in this Year of Muir as we commemorate the legacy of the Sierra Club's founder one hundred years since he last explored the San Gabriel Mountains, celebrated with the earliest Chapter members in Griffith Park and took his last steps into the heart of Los Angeles. May the legacy left by John Muir live on in the lives of our members, and especially in those honored here tonight.

George Watland

Greetings from the 2014/2015 Chapter ExComm Chair

Thank you for joining us tonight to celebrate the Year of Muir and honor the volunteers who made an outstanding contribution to the Angeles Chapter in 2014. This also is an opportunity to recognize the contributions that all our volunteers make throughout the year. The Sierra Club provides so many avenues for active engagement at all levels of the environmental movement. Our volunteers lead hikes and outings, learn about and take action on conservation issues, endorse politicians and then advise them while they are in office. Our volunteers keep the Chapter running smoothly by supporting our website and databases, taking on administrative tasks, and helping us raise the funds necessary for success. Our staff members, who bring expertise in conservation, accounting, communications, and fundraising, provide the support and continuity we need to be effective. As the largest grass-roots environmental organization in Los Angeles and Orange Counties, it takes all of us working together to build our record of success as we explore, enjoy, and protect our special place on the planet. Congratulations to those who are receiving an award tonight, and thank you to everyone for your everyday contributions that are helping us keep the legacy of John Muir alive. Together, we Make Change Happen.

Carole Mintzer

**Special Thanks goes to
all of the entities and individuals
who generously sponsored
their awardees this year and to
Patio Reception Musician, Eric Teplitz**

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

The Annual Awards Banquet is the perfect opportunity to thank those leaders and entities that contribute so much to the strength of the Angeles Chapter. These entities have a long history of supporting the Chapter with their Fundraising Outings and donations. We would like to recognize the following for providing outstanding financial support to the Chapter:

<i>20 30's Section</i>	<i>Rio Hondo Group</i>
<i>K-9 Committee</i>	<i>Sierra Sage Group</i>
<i>Camera Committee</i>	<i>San Antonio Ski Hut</i>
<i>Desert Peaks Section</i>	<i>Sierra Singles Section</i>
<i>Orange County Group</i>	<i>Verdugo Hills Group</i>
<i>Orange County Sierra Singles</i>	<i>Wilderness Training Committee</i>
<i>Pasadena Group</i>	<i>West Los Angeles Group</i>
<i>Wilderness Adventures Section</i>	

Intra Chapter Donations for 2014 ~ \$33,476



A stunning turnout of awardees was honored at the Angeles Chapter's Political Leadership Awards, which took place at the home of David Nahai. We need support funds in order to ensure our honorees keep their political positions and the power to continue to protect our environment. The following entities are recognized for contributions to support the Political Leadership Awards Event:

Orange County Sierra Singles, Pasadena Group, Orange County Group, West Los Angeles Group, Sierra Sage, Palos Verdes Group, Verdugo Hills Group

Donations to the Angeles Chapter Political Committee 2014 ~ \$2,350



Travel Adventures/Chapter Fundraising Outings

Their trips to Costa Rica, The Black Hills, Alaska, Spain, New England, Nepal and Israel in 2014 provided an excellent value and a whole lot of Travel Adventure Fun. We would like to honor these trip leaders for their significant Chapter financial support:

Fred Dong, Kath Giel, Bruce Hale, Ed and Helen Maurer, Mike Sappingfield, Donna Specht, and Shlomo Waser

Travel Adventures Income 2014 ~ \$59,751

Welcome and Introductions

*Carole Mintzer, 2015 Chapter ExComm Chair and
Mistress of Ceremonies*

Glenn Pascall Introducing Keynote Speaker

Bruce Hamilton

Sierra Club Deputy Executive Director



*Carole Mintzer, 2015 Chapter ExComm Chair
David Haake, 2015 Chapter ExComm V-Chair*

Introducing Banquet Chair & Reception Hosts

*Backpacking Committee
Crescenta Valley Group
Orange County Sierra Singles
Sierra Sage
Orange County Group
Sierra Singles
Verdugo Hills Group
West Los Angeles Group
Wilderness Training Committee
and Private Donors*



In Memoriam

Remembering these dedicated members

Anita Devore	Jane Lewis
Southern Courtney	Henry Schultz
Bob Manning	Andy Beall
Jack Trager	Norma Spoon
Hugh Pendleton	Dave Evans
Keats Hayden	

SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Established October 10, 2014



There's new hope for hikers, picnickers and others wishing for better conditions in our local mountains.

Designation of a San Gabriel Mountains National Monument by President Obama last October 10 is expected to bring improvements to much of Angeles National Forest. What and when are being shaped by Sierra Club and other environmental activists and stakeholders in coordination with the U.S. Forest Service, which was directed by the president's action to develop a management plan within three years. Important public meetings to help shape the plan are expected in the next few months.

Several million dollars have been pledged for improvements. Early suggestions include better trail signage (a Forest Service official cautioned that replacing all signs in the Monument area would cost \$1.1 million); hiring more rangers to interact with visitors; and getting more trash containers for the crowds of weekend picnickers in heavily used parts of the forest. Hiring has already started for some coordinator and visitor center positions, and there will be more trail maintenance and repair to augment the work of volunteers, including Sierra Club crews.

As for the big southwestern section of Angeles National Forest that was left out of the National Monument, it may get some added attention and funds along with the Monument area. And eventually, it could be added to the Monument, although that probably would require action by Congress.

Award Presentations for 2014

*David Haake, 2015 ExComm V-Chair
Paul Cooley, 2014 Awards Committee Chair*

Extraordinary Achievement Award

Stag Brown, Bob “Cat” Thompson & Joe Young

Special Conservation Award

*Environmental Priorities Network
Lillian Light, Representative*

Membership and Fundraising Service Certificate

*20s & 30s Section, OC Sierra Singles Section
Palos Verdes South Bay Group
Wilderness Training Committee, West LA Group*

Certificates for Conservation Service

*Elaine Trogman, David Campbell
Kathleen Smith, Eva Cicoria*

Certificates for Outings Service

*Ann Pedreschi Shields, Christian Latunos
Jason Hashimoto, Patricia Barnes
Scott Closson, Stephen Gross
Sylvia Stevenson, Ed Lubin
Sid & Joyce Alpert, Priscilla “Pixie” Klemic*

Certificates for Special Service

*Jim Ulmer, Al Sattler
Carole Scurlock, Evelyn Alexander
Grant Rigby, Joel Ortman & Marty Kluck
Karen Buehler, Nancy Le, Penny Elia
Tom Politeo, Wayne Norman, Margee Hills
David Hyman*

Angeles Chapter's Highest Honors

Phil Bernays Service Award

MARY MORALES

Chester Versteeg Outings Award

RON CAMPBELL

Lifelong Service Award

DAN RICHTER

Political Service Award

HOWARD STRAUSS

Linda Hoyer Chapter Staff Award

JENNIFER ROBINSON

GEORGE WATLAND

JANE MACFARLANE

MARY FORGIONE

Donna Specht Fundraising Award

JOHN LAJEUNESS

Special Public Policy Award

CONGRESSWOMAN JUDY CHU

EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

*For 32 years starting in 1981, Sierra Club leaders **Stag Brown, Bob “Cat” Thompson and Joe Young** led an overnight hike through Skid Row of downtown Los Angeles every Christmas. Called the Annual Midnight Hike to Help the Homeless, it was truly an urban hike as participants put on their backpacks and hiking boots to help those less fortunate. The route was about 6 miles round trip, as hikers sought out citizens in need and spent all night on an urban hike of good will...*

SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE AWARD

*The **Environmental Priorities Network (EPN)** is an interfaith conservation organization active in the South Bay and Palos Verdes areas. Since 2002, they have organized a series of forums on various environmental issues, inviting speakers and hosting tabling by environmental groups and related vendors. At the very first global warming forum they held, they saw the Cool Cities booklet at the Sierra Club table. Inspired by that booklet, they lobbied the various cities of the South Bay and Palos Verdes areas and got them to sign up as Cool Cities. These cities pledged to inventory their municipal greenhouse gas emissions and to reduce their emissions to be equivalent to what would have been reduced under the Kyoto Treaty. Environmental Priorities Network has also sponsored a Solar and Green Homes Tour every spring since 2006.*

MEMBERSHIP & FUNDRAISING SERVICE CERTIFICATES

2030's Section. For the past 3 years, the 2030's Section has led the Chapter in Field Recruiting new Sierra Club members with a total of 337 new members utilizing the online Linkshare registration system for outstanding success. Total 3 year income from FRIP \$2,400.

Orange County Sierra Singles Section. For the past 3 years, the Orange County Sierra Singles Section is in 2nd place in Field Recruiting new Sierra Club members with a total of 214 new members. The OCSS Section recruits new members using both online Linkshare recruiting and National's field recruiting incentive program. Total 3 year income from FRIP \$1,866.

Palos Verdes South Bay Group. For the past 3 years, the Palos Verdes South Bay Group is in 3rd place in Field Recruiting new Sierra Club members with a total of 180 new members. The PVSBB Group recruits new members using both online Linkshare recruiting and National's field recruiting incentive program. PVSBB has had remarkable success at conservation tabling events. Total 3 year income from FRIP \$1,144.

Wilderness Training Committee. For the past 3 years, the Wilderness Training Committee is in 4th place in Field Recruiting new Sierra Club members with a total of 138 new members. The Wilderness Training Committee recruits new members using both online Linkshare recruiting and National's field recruiting incentive program. Total Income from FRIP for the 3 year period \$914.

West Los Angeles Group. For the past 3 years, the West LA Group is in 5th Place in Field Recruiting new Sierra Club members with a total of 80 new members. The WLA Group recruits new members using the online Linkshare registration system and organizes a very successful Newcomer Event in March every year. Total of 3 years income from FRIP \$612.

CERTIFICATES FOR CONSERVATION SERVICE

***Elaine Trogman** became very active with the Water Committee during the Water Conservation Scorecard Project a few years ago that ranked cities by their water-saving programs. She has been a steadfast member who never fails to be an active participant in meetings. Elaine never fails to advertise the Water Committee meetings and agendas in the newsletter and encourages others to get involved.*

***David Campbell** is a member of the Water Committee and has been since its revitalization in 2008. David's was instrumental in 2014 in providing comments on the LA River Revitalization Plan and continues to advocate for a tiered water rate system for Los Angeles.*

***Kathleen Smith** stepped into the void created by her brother's loss to cancer while working with the Water Committee on the Water Conservation Measures Scorecard in 2010. Her brother was Gordon Smith, an avid Sierra Club member who gave his last months to the Water Committee. Kathleen joined the Water Committee to continue his legacy and has in fact now created her own, with her steadfast loyalty, astute observations and commitment to the Water Committee and the Angeles Chapter.*

***Eva Cicoria** has been an elected member of the Palos Verdes-South Bay Regional Group since 2008, a member of the group's Conservation Committee since 2009 and its chair since 2009. Eva has been concerned about issues of natural open space, especially local overuse/abuse of nature preserve lands of the Palos Verdes Peninsula. Under her leadership, the group Conservation Committee areas of interest have broadened to include issues of local, regional, and national importance, including oil drilling in residential neighborhoods. Eva has been the editor of the Palos Verdes-South Bay group newsletter, *The Foggy View*, since 2011.*

CERTIFICATES FOR OUTINGS SERVICE

Ann Pedreschi Shields became an O-rated leader in 2002, joined the staff of the Wilderness Training Committee in 2004, and became an I-rated leader in 2005. Ann has held a variety of positions in the West Los Angeles Area of WTC. She is now the Area Chair and the Group Leader in WLA Group 1. Ann is an accomplished leader who spends much of her time training new Sierra Club leaders. She is a navigation examiner for the Leadership Training Committee and attends numerous navigation outings every year. She has a love of the outdoors and of sharing her knowledge and experience with others.

Christian Latunos is a leader for the 20s & 30s Section who has led numerous outings, including 39 activities in 2013. These outings range from monthly full moon hikes in the local mountains to ascents of Mt. Wilson and San Jacinto. Last year, Christian co-led a successful Summer Peaks Series, a weekly series of hikes up local peaks increasing in elevation culminating with an ascent of Mt. Baldy. In other years, he also helped lead an End of Summer Peaks Challenge up some of Southern California's more challenging peaks. Christian has co-led camping and lodge trips to Joshua Tree, Yosemite and Idyllwild and has assisted with the Chapter's annual Catalina Island trip. Christian's positive attitude and great sense of humor encourages new and inexperienced hikers to love the outdoors and challenge themselves to achieve their goals.

Jason Hashimoto is the Party People Leader for the 20s & 30s Section. For more than eight years, Jason has led a wide range of outings, from assisting with the annual Catalina Island Trip to bus trips to Arizona, Utah, Nevada, and Mammoth. He has organized trips to the Grand Canyon, Zion, Pinnacles National Park, and Havasu Canyon. Jason has also organized various social events such as beach cleanups, beach volleyball, whale watching and comedy nights. Not only are Jason's outings a lot of fun, but he has raised money for Inner City Outings, the Forest Committee, and the Sierra Club in the process. This year, Jason was the main organizer for the first ICO trip to Catalina Island on Memorial Day weekend. He also has served as an assistant outings leader with ICO since 2009.

Patricia Barnes. As a leader and member of Banning Ranch Task Force since 2004, Patricia has led special Banning Ranch Conservation Hikes along the Santa Ana River for the Orange County Group's Urban Conservation Hike Series. She also has regularly led a highly popular "museum tour" hike featuring the history of the City of Seal Beach. Patti's earliest adventures as an outings leader for the Orange County Group included hikes in the Santa Ana Mountains, car camps and hikes in the Black Rock Canyon area of the Joshua Tree National Park and several hikes for the Group's Wednesday Hikes program. Since becoming a leader, Patti has led hikes for the Orange County Group's series featuring endangered ecosystems within Orange County. She began serving as chair of the Orange County Group since 2008, and continues to serve in that capacity.

Scott Closson. Since 2008, Scott has been one of the two primary leaders for the twice-monthly Sunday Orange County Sierra Singles 20s, 30s & 40s hikes at five major Orange County Parks. These hikes are the backbone of the OCSS 20s, 30s & 40s Committee, regularly bringing in 40 or more attendees and creating a strong core of loyal regulars. His hikes provide a great combination scenic moderate hiking, fun, and social interaction. Scott has consistently hosted the OCSS 20s, 30s & 40s monthly newcomer movie and dinner nights as well as several adventures to June Lake, Hawaii, Tennessee and Colorado. Scott has also served on the OCSS management committee for two terms and plans to keep serving. He regularly assists with Chapter Newcomer Events several times a year.

Stephanie Gross earned her O leadership rating in the mid 1990s and since then she has tirelessly co-lead numerous domestic and international fundraising outings for Crescenta Valley Group, Backpacking Committee and Angeles Chapter alongside her husband Fred Dong. Their outings have raised thousands of dollars for the Angeles Chapter and the Crescenta Valley Group over the last two decades.

Sylvia Stevenson has been an outings leader for at least 15 years. She is well known for her bicycle outings, kayaking and rafting, as well as many day hikes and special events. She has also been a leader on Angeles Chapter Travel Adventure trips.

Ed Lubin has represented the Sierra Club by leading hikes in the Santa Monica Mountains and beyond for over 35 years. He tirelessly leads a very popular evening hike every Friday night, sometimes drawing as many as 70 participants.

Sid and Joyce Alpert. Beginning with a Sierra Club family wilderness trip, Sid and Joyce have been members since 1965. In 1967 they attended the national Nature Knowledge Workshop and in 1969 organized the Angeles Chapter Nature Knowledge Workshop. They became leaders and continued to conduct this annual workshop for 12 years before turning it over to the Natural Science Section. For 30 years, Sid and Joyce conducted a Wilderness Threshold teen-age family trip to Canyon de Chelly for the National Sierra Club Outings program as well as the Angeles and San Diego Chapters. Through the 1970's, Sid and Joyce led many local hikes, backpacks, mule packs. Sid also served as chair of the San Fernando Valley Group. Since 2001, Sid and Joyce have led Orange County Group Wednesday hikes from the mountains to the coast.

Priscilla "Pixie" Klemic has coordinated the weekly Tuesday Moderate Easy Pace outings since 2007. She has coordinated, assisted or led all 50 Tuesday outings every year, around 350 outings to date. She essentially acts as an Assistant Outings Chair for Wilderness Adventures by coordinating all of the Tuesday morning outings, including matching leaders to outings, recruiting and evaluating new leaders, scouting new and existing trails to keep the write-ups current.

CERTIFICATES FOR SPECIAL SERVICE

Jim Ulmer has served as an office volunteer since October 2000. He is responsible for the Chapter calendar sales program, recycling program, reception area coverage and many other tasks. He does an outstanding job and we are very grateful for his service to the Angeles Chapter.

Al Sattler has held several positions within the Angeles Chapter over the years from Outings Leader to Conservation and Political Committee Chair and Chapter ExComm member. Today we honor his role as a member of the Water Committee from its inception in 2008. Al has been the voice of reason when controversial matters have come before WatComm and has generously provided his expertise for comment on several projects and environmental impact reports. His continued dedication and willingness to step in to help, no matter how busy his schedule, is much appreciated as is his encouragement of members from the Palos Verdes South Bay Group to be involved.

Carole Scurlock. The Pasadena Group Executive Committee is proud of Carole for her outstanding service in creating and maintaining the Pasadena Group website, creating and editing our monthly eNewsletter Arroyo View, for actively participating in and supporting our efforts to get outings published on our MeetUp site, for participating in many outings, and for contributing many outstanding photographs for our website, newsletter, and outing reports. Carole has also served as layout and graphics editor, and photograph contributor, for other Angeles Chapter entities, including the Camera Committee, of which she is a long time member; the Wilderness Adventures Section; and the Natural Science Section.

Evelyn Alexander became active with the Verdugo Hills Group shortly after joining the Sierra Club. She has been on the Verdugo Hills ExComm serving in the positions of Programs Chair and Publicity Chair. Evelyn's ability to bring us interesting programs has helped to keep our meeting attendance high. Evelyn is also a member of our Conservation Round Table and is an active outings leader, specializing in unique garden walks and museum visits.

Grant Rigby is an active member of the Sierra Club since 1973, and an outings leader since 1975. Grant has been the outings chair for the West LA Group and Camera Committee for the past 14 years. Grant is motivated by the fact that most people are attracted to the Club by our outings.

Joel Ortmann & Marty Kluck. Many of us are familiar with the Keller Hut, built in 1938 as an overnight base for hiking and skiing in the San Bernardino Mountains. For many years, Joel and Marty have maintained the hut and through their assiduous attention it remains a great place for the enjoyment of all. They schedule regular work days at the hut every month or so, sometimes spending a week or more hard at work. There is always something that needs to be fixed. The water system is one example of the heroic maintenance work they perform. One of the challenges in maintaining the property is the Forest Service mandate that such properties stay within their old footprint and not be upgraded. Joel and Marty are both long time Sierra Club members and leaders who assist with the regular Tuesday night Fullerton Beginners Hike as well as other outings.

Karen Buehler leads backpack trips with the Backpacking Committee, Crescenta Valley Group, Little Hikers and also leads many day hikes. She is a mentor for new leader candidates. A lot of her contributions have been with trail work in the San Gabriels and in her beloved Deukmejian Park. She has become a volunteer for the park and has spent many weekends coordinating a team of volunteers to build a new trail in the park.

Nancy Le joined the Sierra Club as a teacher, working with Inner City Outings to provide hikes for her school. In 2010, she became an Angeles Chapter rated leader for LA ICO. Nancy volunteered for ICO as the Facebook Coordinator and has increased the social media presence and is also the Webmaster for ICO. In 2014, she became the ICO Vice Chair and will move into the Chair position in 2016. Nancy Le represents an exciting new generation of Sierra Club activists, bringing diversity to the Club and taking LA ICO in new directions on the web, in mentoring new teachers and new leaders and with her ambitious trips to Catalina Island, and rafting down the Kern River. In the summer of 2014, she took advantage of an opportunity from National; she and three students participated in a week long service project in Aspen, Colorado.

Penny Elia is a long time leader of the Chapter's Hobo Aliso Task Force and is a staunch advocate of the Club's policies before the Coastal Commission traveling through the state to attend hearings and to further the goals of the Club through that agency. Despite her dedication to these efforts, she finds time to offer her services regularly as a volunteer with the Orange County Political Committee and lends her expertise (particularly on water issues) to meetings of local water boards, the Regional Water Quality Board and other public agencies. Her advocacy efforts have contributed to the Angeles Chapter having a voice with local agencies in Orange County Environmental issues.

Tom Politeo. In 2013, Tom proposed a solution to prepare a printed copy of the Schedule of Activities directly from the OARS listings online. His solution included many popular features found in the old Schedule distributed prior to the switch to OARS such as Repeating Activities, List of Leaders, and Sponsoring Entities. That solution was fully implemented in 2014 to produce the Schedule of Activities included in the quarterly print edition of the Southern Sierran. In August, a monthly Schedule was included as a PDF file for download in the monthly e-edition of the Southern Sierran and has quickly become the most popular feature in each issue. Tom continues as a volunteer to design the layout of the quarterly print editions of the Southern Sierran. He has led hundreds of hikes in Griffith Park and for the Camera Committee.

Wayne Norman joined the Sierra Club in 1984, and over the past thirty years, he has led and assisted hundreds Sierra Club outings, completed the Basic Mountaineering Training Course (BMTC) and served on the Sierra Peaks Section management committee at various times as secretary, vice chair and newsletter editor. For the Desert Peaks Section, Wayne has served as chair and programs chair. Wayne has assisted on the Angeles Chapter Nominating Committee, written many articles and letters for the Southern Sierran, and has put together hiking and climbing slide show presentations for groups and sections spotlighting the Club's great outings program. Wayne became an Advisor for the Lower Peaks Committee and was appointed chair, serving in that capacity for many years and still remains active as an Advisor, helping to revise the bylaws, setting up an email subscription service and starting a Facebook page. Wayne agreed to serve the Lower Peaks as Mountain Records Chair and continues in this position. Wayne keeps the Lower Peak guides current, sending them out upon request. For all this and more, Wayne recently received a Certificate of Appreciation, signed by Michael Brune, from the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club.

Margee Hills. In just a few short years, Margee has made a significant and positive impact on the Rio Hondo Group serving as treasurer, outings chair, newsletter editor and many other duties. She is the Rio Hondo Group's Regional Representative to the Angeles Chapter Executive Committee. For the Rio Hondo Group, she organized their first ever multi-day fundraising outing to Pinnacles National Park. She just completed chairing the Chapter nominating committee for the 2015 Executive Committee election and worked tirelessly recruiting and interviewing candidates and writing thorough reports. As a member of the OC Political Committee, she interviewed candidates running for political local offices and submitted reports. Margee is also a member of Orange County Sierra Singles and is one of the leaders for their Fullerton Weekly Beginners Hike.

David Hyman has been involved in the 20s & 30s Section for over 30 years. During this time, he has taken a lead role raising awareness of the 20s & 30s Section in the political campaigns of the Sierra Club. On many of his trips and hikes, he will discuss the latest causes of the Angeles Chapter Political Action Committee as well as the nominees for local, statewide, and federal office endorsed by the Sierra Club. David's activities over the past few years included involvement in the PAC where he has held many functions including that of Treasurer. He brings to the attention of the 20s & 30s leadership and members many of the activities of the PAC and often persuades the Section to sponsor those events. In the past he has co-led fundraising events for the Sierra Club's political causes. Outside of his PAC involvement, David has been an active leader and volunteer for the 20s & 30s Section, He has been leading his popular Death Valley camping trips annually since 1986. For over twenty years David has served on the 20s & 30s Section's election committee.

ANGELES CHAPTER'S HIGHEST HONORS

THE PHIL BERNAYS SERVICE AWARD recognizes significant service given to the Angeles Chapter. In 1911, Phil Bernays was largely responsible for launching the Southern California Section, Later the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club. He served as Chair from 1918-20.

Mary Morales has served for six years as an at-large member of the Chapter Executive Committee. Over the past 15 years, she also has served on numerous Chapter committees as chair and/or member, including chair of the Awards Committee and has assisted with many Chapter Newcomer Events. She has served as Chair of the Sierra Singles Section for more than 10 years in addition to being an active outings trip leader for Sierra Singles and Chapter Travel Adventure trips. Mary serves too as a long time overseer of the Harwood Lodge weekends.

THE CHESTER VERSTEEG OUTINGS AWARD recognizes outstanding commitment to the Club's outings program. Chester Versteeg's efforts resulted in the construction of Muir Lodge. He initiated Desert Peaking in 1941, which was formalized as the Desert Peaks Section in 1946.

Ron Campbell is currently the Angeles Chapter Safety Chair. Previously the Safety Committee Vice Chair serving as the accident and incident reviewer. Ron has led scores of outings since receiving his I rating in 1991 and M rating in 1992. Ron was the First Wilderness Travel Course management committee chair (after John Horton, WTC leadership) and was a longtime WTC group leader in Orange County. He was the Leadership Training vice chair for approximately 10 years and continues to serve the committee in other ways as wilderness navigation examiner and Advanced Mountaineering Program instructor. Ron brings all of his years of experience to serve on the Outings Management Committee and has contributed significantly to the Angeles Chapter outings program.

ANGELES CHAPTER'S HIGHEST HONORS

THE LIFELONG SERVICE AWARD recognizes senior members of the Club who have provided long time service to the Angeles Chapter.

Dan Richter has served as the chair of both the Desert Peaks Section and Sierra Peaks Section and is an E rated leader. Dan is an active member of the Leadership Training Committee and has implemented and been the guiding light of the Sierra Club's Advanced Mountaineering Program. The knowledge acquired from the program has undoubtedly helped save lives.

THE POLITICAL SERVICE AWARD is awarded for long-time exemplary political service.

Howard Strauss has been chair of the Los Angeles County Political Committee of the Angeles Chapter for at least the last four years. He also has served as Chair of the Sierra Club California Political Committee, heads the state local candidate review committee and serves as compliance officer for the Angeles Chapter. In addition, Howard is Southern California Vice-Chair of the California-Nevada Regional Conservation Committee. He has guided the L.A. political committee through the process in identifying and endorsing candidates for public office in general elections as well as numerous special elections.

THE LINDA HOYER CHAPTER STAFF AWARD is awarded for extraordinary contributions, far beyond the normal call of duty, to the Sierra Club and the Angeles Chapter from an employee of the Angeles Chapter.

Angeles Chapter Staff including George Watland, Jennifer Robinson, Jane MacFarlane, and Mary Forgione performed extraordinary service after the departure of our previous Senior Chapter Director and the loss of one staff position. They stepped up as a team to bring new fundraising ideas to the Chapter, bring clarity to our budget process, improve our communications with members, bring in and train new volunteers to fill gaps in staffing, and keep the office running smoothly. At a time of uncertainty, they maintained positive attitudes and provided exceptional service to the Angeles Chapter.

ANGELES CHAPTER'S HIGHEST HONORS

THE DONNA SPECHT FUNDRAISING AWARD goes to a person or entity that has provided outstanding, sustained support of the fundraising efforts of the Angeles Chapter.

John Lajeuness is the father of Angeles Chapter Fundraising Outings known more commonly as Travel Adventures. Starting in 1995, John organized Catalina Island camping trips, summer bus trips to Mammoth, car camps and once filled three buses for a trip to Laughlin, Nevada. Since the 1990s, John served on various Chapter Fundraising committees and still serves on the Fundraising Outings Committee and Budget and Finance Committee. John branched out using his extensive fundraising skills to leading international trips to Costa Rica, Peru and Bolivia, Bali, China, Nicaragua and Vietnam. He led cruises to Alaska, the Caribbean and the Mediterranean. Under John's direction, the Chapter Fundraising Outings Committee/ Adventure Travel trips have contributed greatly to the Chapter. John is quick to provide assistance and is willing to share his leadership, knowledge, experience, skills and guidance for the benefit of all leaders.

THE SPECIAL PUBLIC POLICY AWARD is given to an elected public official who has made outstanding contributions to advancing the environmental cause.

Congresswoman Judy Chu has an unmatched record of public service. She began as a member of the Garvey School Board, followed by her election to the Monterey Park City Council and then the California State Assembly. During her tenure in the State Legislature, Judy authored legislation protecting women through her Sexual Assault Survivors' DNA Bill of Rights. She authored a landmark bill to provide standards of protection from the heat for all outdoor workers. She authored measures to protect immigrants from victimization by fraudulent immigration consultants. In July, 2009, Judy was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and, after years of work and outreach, Chu introduced legislation to create a San Gabriel Mountains National Recreation Area. In 2014 President Obama followed Chu's call for permanent protection and declared much of the area the nation's newest national monument last year.

2015 BANQUET COMMITTEE

Silvia Darie, Chair
Donna Specht, Event Coordinator
Carole Mintzer, ExComm Chair 2015
David Haake, ExComm Vice Chair 2015
George Watland, Senior Chapter Director
Mary Ann Webster, Silent Auction
Lindy Edwards, In Memoriam
Marjorie Alexander, Program



2014 AWARDS COMMITTEE

Paul Cooley, Chair
Donna Specht
Carole Mintzer
George Watland
Rima Zobayan
Delphine Trowbridge
Marlen Mertz
Patty Kline
David Czamanske
Silvia Darie



2015 RECEPTION HOSTS

Backpacking Committee
Crescenta Valley Group
Orange County Sierra Singles
Sierra Sage Group
Orange County Group
Sierra Singles
Verdugo Hills Group
West LA Group
Wilderness Training Committee
and Private Donors

Executive Committee
~2014~

*Charming Evelyn
David Haake
Marcia Hanscom
Susan Heitman
Joe Phillips
Lynne Plambeck
Tom Politeo
Jerard Wright*

Officers

*Chair Carole Mintzer
Vice Chair, David Haake
Treasurer, Monica Suua
Secretary, Paul Cooley*

*Airport Marina Group, Joe Young
Antelope Valley Group, Jim Dodson
Crescenta Valley Group, John Lajeuness
East SGV Group, Joan Jones Holtz
Long Beach Group, John Hinz
OC Group, Donna Specht
Palos Verdes-South Bay Group, Al Sattler
Pasadena Group, David Czamanske
Rio Hondo Group, Margee Hills
San Fernando Valley Group, Barry Katzen
Santa Clarita Valley Group, Sandra Cattell
Sierra Sage of SOC Group, Sharon Koch
Verdugo Hills Group, Carol Henning
West LA Group, Paul Cooley*

Ex-Officio

*Conservation, Hillary Gordon
Political LA, Howard Strauss
Political OC, Sharon Koch
Sr Chapter Dir, George Watland
Projects, Jennifer Robinson*

Staff

*George Watland, Senior Chapter Director
Angélica Gonzalez, Conservation Program Manager
Jane MacFarlane, Chapter Coordinator
Mary Forgione, Southern Sierran and Website Editor*

Office Volunteers

*Lindy Edwards, Charming Evelyn, Laima Gaidulis,
Edward McKittrick, Loren & Ute Lee, Steph Lopez, Jim Ulmer*

Executive Committee
~2015~

*Charming Evelyn
David Haake
Marcia Hanscom
Ray Hiemstra
Carole Mintzer
Lynne Plambeck
Jerard Wright
George Denny
Sharon Koch*

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