



The Greening of L.A. County?

New General Plan would quadruple the number of significant ecological areas.

By Dave Brown

L.A. County seeks to increase the number of significant ecological areas in unincorporated areas of the county to four times the current acreage. SEAs, as they are known, identify ecologically important land and water systems that support valuable habitat for plants and animals. They aren't set aside as preserves or reserves, but they protect land by requiring special use permits and a special review of any proposed development.

The county's current plan pinpoints 61 different SEAs that total 125,787 acres. But the newly proposed General Plan 2035 increases that number to 645,517 acres, which would include most of the privately owned, undeveloped land in the Santa Monica Mountains.

Sierra Club is forming a task force to evaluate the 2035 plan that includes designation of SEAs as well as the outlook for transportation, greenways and parklands.

The new plan consist of two parts: the North Area Plan, which will govern land use and zoning north of the Coastal Zone boundary (generally north of Mulholland), while the Santa Monica Mountains Local Coastal Plan will govern land use and zoning issues within five miles of the ocean (generally the area south of Mulholland).

The North Area Plan was originally approved by the Board of Supervisors 12 years ago, but the board has not yet enacted most of the ordinances and community standards that districts need to enforce it.

The Santa Monica Mountains Local Coastal Plan, based on the requirements of the Coastal Act, has been approved in concept by supervisors. But it still needs additional work and cannot take effect until it has been certified by the Coastal Commission.



TOM POLITEO/CAMERA COMMITTEE

Most of the Santa Monica Mountains are protected as state and federal parklands, but more unincorporated areas outside park protections might be labeled as SEAs under the General Plan 2035.

The history of SEAS

In 1976, the late Jill Swift, then chair of the Santa Monica Mountains Task Force of the Sierra Club, received a form letter from the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning that said the county was compiling a database of "significant ecological areas" for use in a new "countywide general plan." "However", the letter went on, "in order to provide maximum professional input, and due to severe budgetary restrictions, we

are asking for your help."

We had no idea what this all meant, but Jill passed the letter on to me, and I decided we

should grab it and run with it. It turned out the "help" the county was seeking would consist of identifying "selected groups and individuals that are recognized as experts" (including the Sierra Club) to nominate areas they thought were worthy

GENERAL PLAN/PAGE 5



MARY FORGIONE

The stone hut at the top of Mt. Whitney, the highest peak in the Lower 48 states.

Mt. Whitney is anywhere from 14,497 feet to 14,505 feet, depending on who you ask.

By Wynne Benti

The accepted elevation of Mt. Whitney, the highest peak in the contiguous U.S., has "changed" several times since it was first climbed in 1873. A quick Google search of "Mt. Whitney + Elevation" produces a height of 14,505 feet for the summit whose trailhead begins north of Lone Pine, Calif.

But then there's the gift store that's down to its last 14,497-foot Whitney T-shirts and shot glasses. All of the new shirts put the summit at 14,508 feet.

Though I'm a complete layman when it comes to cartography and surveying, I do understand that Mt. Whitney is not necessarily growing a couple of feet every year. So why are there so many different elevations on record for one mountain, especially such an iconic Sierra peak?

Many of Whitney's elevation readjustments have occurred because more up-to-date methods of numerical interpretation have been developed since the peak was first officially measured by the Wheeler Survey more than 125 years ago.

In August, I called the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to confirm the correct elevation and was put in touch with

MT WHITNEY/PAGE 4

A new era for L.A.'s commercial waste?

A proposal to issue exclusive franchise agreements would help L.A. meet green goals and keep waste management costs down.

By George Watland

While the city currently picks up and sorts trash at residences and small apartment buildings, larger buildings contract with private trash haulers that fail to provide recycling and fail to keep rates down.

Enter a new plan set to come before the L.A. City Council this month in which the city would be divided into 11 zones -- each with an exclusive hauling company -- that will help meet the city's environmental goals.

Critics say the plan would raise prices, but the Zero Waste Committee of the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter joined the Don't Waste LA (DWLA) coalition to announce a new report that shows exclusive franchise agreements systems in L.A. County cities have protected commercial rate-payers and kept rates low, despite dramatic increases in industry costs.

Hillary Gordon, chair of the Zero Waste Committee, leads local Club activists collaborating with DWLA to call for the city of Los Angeles to implement exclusive franchise agreements for waste haulers operating in its commercial and multifamily waste and recy-

cling sector. Over the past two years, activists have met with L.A. City Council members and Department of Sanitation officials and testified at City Hall hearings to advocate for franchise plan to help Los Angeles better meet its goals of waste diversion and recycling, clean air, job creation and fair rates for residents.

Opponents of the plan, including the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, the Valley Industry and Commerce Association and other business lobbyists, have raised concerns about customer rate increases. But the report, "Stabilizing Customer Rates in Exclusive Franchise Waste and Recycling Systems: An Analysis of Commercial Rates & Cost Drivers in LA County," counters the claim with data from other local cities already using exclusive franchise agreements.

"We analyzed all available rate data from 34 exclusive franchise cities in L.A. County from 2002 to 2010, and the numbers are clear: Exclusive franchise systems keep customer rates stable, despite rising industry costs. In fact, eight cities, including Beverly Hills, saw their rates actually decrease," said Lauren Ahkiam, policy

WASTE/ PAGE 5



Who we're thanking this holiday season. Page 2



Election Day isn't over! Chapter voting to start. Page 3



Join us on an amazing trip to the Canadian Rockies. Page 6

Members, thanks for giving. It's just what we need!

By **Mary Forgione**
SOUTHERN SIERRAN EDITOR

For 100 years, Angeles Chapter members have been fighting for a better environment. Over the last century, you have helped bring cleaner skies to our communities, preserve open space, create new parks, improve environmental justice and expand public transit in Los Angeles and Orange counties.

You help fight climate change and reduce our dependency on foreign oil. You have advanced our appreciation of environmental issues. You have had a hand in the tens of thousands of hikes and outings from easy city walks to backpacking trips in the mountains. You have taken thousands of inner city youth on their first wilderness experience.

What have you done for us lately? The Chapter received gifts from members in unprecedented numbers who heeded the call for our 1000 at \$100 campaign, who donated an old car for our benefit, who have made a contribution on a recent hike, who regularly make an annual donation because they know it takes more than grass-roots activism to protect the planet.

For all of this, we say thanks. Thanks too to our volunteers without whom we would have no backbone to carry out the environmental vision laid down by John Muir a century ago.



TOM POLITEO/CAMERA COMMITTEE

Giving thanks at Thanksgiving means more than just turkey on the table.

We know too you are givers who make a difference in the community and in the world. With the holidays in mind, here are some ideas on how to keep giving – without consuming — and making a difference.

- Give a Sierra Club gift membership for the holidays. Having a robust and relevant membership is what we're all about! (Go to angeles2.sierraclub.org/join_donate)

- Join the 1000 at \$100 campaign to help us reach our donor goal by giving a one-time or monthly gift of \$100 or more. Go to tinyurl.com/ChapterDonation to donate now. Also, check out our appreciation page for the names of those who have already contributed at angeles2.sierraclub.org/1000donors.
- Donate a car or send a tribute card this holiday season. (See Page 4)

The answer really is blowin' in the wind

By **Michael Brune**
SIERRA CLUB EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Did you notice recently that the largest onshore wind farm in America started operation in north-central Oregon?

The 845 MW Shepherds Flat facility will generate an estimated 2 billion kWh each year -- enough to power 235,000 homes. On top of that, this clean power will eliminate about 1.5 million metric tons of carbon pollution annually -- the equivalent of taking approximately 260,000 cars off the road.

Who built Shepherds Flat? We, the people, did!

Caithness Energy relied on more than a billion dollars in loans guaranteed by the Energy Department. With the project up and running, and with a long-term commitment from Southern California Edison to buy power, it looks like a good investment. Maybe that's why Google also kicked in \$100 million.

Shepherds Flat is the kind of project we should be building across the U.S. -- or at least in those parts, like the Eastern Columbia River Gorge, with abundant wind resources. Yet the Republican Party opposes even extending the Production Tax Credit that wind power has had for decades. Right now, they would probably sooner move Burning Man to the National Mall than help finance more success stories like Shepherds Flat.

Here's why that's crazy:

Remember red states and blue states? It turns out that it's the red ones that have the most to gain by investing in renewable energy. For one thing, many of them are rich

in renewable resources -- solar in the Southwest and wind in the Midwest. This isn't just hypothetical. According to a new report from DBL Investors, of the 10 states with the fastest growth in clean-tech jobs, only two (Hawaii and New York) are considered traditionally Democratic.



In fact, when you look at the total number of clean-tech jobs per state, rockered Texas comes in third! That's because both Gov. Rick Perry and his predecessor, George W. Bush (not exactly card-carrying enviros) pushed for wind energy incentives in their state. And it worked. In 2010, Texas got 8% of its energy from wind.

Governors Bush and Perry are not the only Republicans who've refused to pretend that renewable energy isn't good

for their states' economies. Particularly in the Midwest, Republican leaders like Kansas Governor Sam Brownback are up in arms about their party's opposition to wind energy -- not to mention the thousands of jobs at stake if the Production Tax Credit expires.

So why has the national GOP adopted its topsy-turvy worldview? For the answer, you have to look toward a different kind of green -- the unprecedented hundreds of millions of dollars that Big Oil and Big Coal are spending to make sure that everyone in America knows the name of Solyndra (even if they aren't sure exactly what happened there) but as few as possible hear about successes like Shepherds Flat.

In the long run, of course, the dirty energy advocates will fail because they're swimming (as hard as they can) against the tide of history. But we can't afford to wait for reason to triumph over ad dollars.

- Volunteer to help this year. We have lots of places where you can help. (See below)
 - Do something! The Chapter leads an amazing all-night holiday hike in December to visit Skid Row and dispense socks, clothing and blankets. (See Page 7 for details).
 - Do something social! Harwood Lodge at the foot of Mt. Baldy will be open for two weeks over the holiday season (see Page 7 for details). Come and join in the merriment and recruit others to join the Club. At \$12 a night, it's a bargain -- and a wonderful place to relax.
 - Do something more! Make a planned or matching donation to the Chapter that matches the size of your commitment to the environment.
- For more information on any of these gift ideas, call us at (213) 387-4287.
- With all of this, we'll be off to a great start in 2013.

Volunteer opportunities

The Angeles Chapter relies on volunteers to carry out the mission and goals of the Sierra Club. Here's one way to get involved.

If you are interested, contact Senior Chapter Director Ron Silverman at (213) 387-4289 or sign up online at our website, angeles.sierraclub.org, and look for the "Take Action" tab.

Volunteer editor/designer wanted: If you are web savvy, enjoy creating graphics and layouts and are good at editing copy, then we have an exciting new volunteer opportunity for you!

Put your graphic and editing abilities to good use and reformat our current on-line Schedule of Activities information into a printable version for mailing and tabling. Our new on-line capability allows us to list events, hikes, and meetings in real time. Now we need to morph that information into listings that are easy to print out and mail.

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (Required by 39 USC 3685)

1. Publication Title: Southern Sierran
2. Publication Number: 1073-6875
3. Filing Date: September 30, 2012
4. Issue Frequency: Bimonthly.
5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 6
6. Annual Subscription Price: \$12.00
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication: Angeles Chapter Sierra Club, 3435 Wilshire Blvd. #320, Los Angeles, CA 90010-1904 (Los Angeles County)
8. Complete Mailing Address of General Business Office of Publisher: Same as #7.
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor: Publisher: same as #7. Editor: Mary Forgione at same address as #7. Managing Editor: N/A.
10. Owner: Angeles Chapter Sierra Club at same address as #7. Hersh Kelley, Chair at same address as #7. Ron Silverman, Chapter Director, at same address as #7. Susan Heitman, Chair, Communications Committee, at same address as #7.
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities: None.
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at special rates): Has Not Changed in the Preceding 12 Months.
13. Publication Title: Southern Sierran.
14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: September 2012.
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation:

	Average(*)	Actual (†)
a. Total Number of Copies	25,579	2,500
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation		
(1) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors and Courier Sales	0	0
(2) Paid or Requested Mail Subscriptions	23,877	594
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation	23,877	594
d. Free Distribution by Mail	90	90
d4. Free Distribution Outside the Mail	300	0
e. Total Free Distribution	390	90
f. Total Distribution	24,267	684
g. Copies not Distributed	1,312	1,816
h. Total	25,579	2,500
i. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation	99%	87%
- (*) Average: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months
- (†) Actual: Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date.
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership: Publication required. It is printed in the November-December 2012 issue of this publication.
17. Signature and Title: Mary Forgione, Editor. I certify that all the information furnished on this form is true and complete.

Southern Sierran

angeles.sierraclub.org/news/SouthernSierran.asp
southern.sierran@sierraclub.org

Mary Forgione Editor
Tom Politeo Advertising

Staff

Ron Silverman Senior Chapter Director
Jane MacFarlane Chapter Coordinator
Jennifer Robinson Conservation Coordinator
George Watland Conservation Coordinator

Office Volunteers

Gloria Cedrone, Lori Ives, Ute Lee,
Patty Sappingfield, Jim Ulmer,
Jacqelen Ruben, Loren Lee, Cecilia Wilmott,
Charming Evelyn, Carmen Paz Stanuikynas,
Bonnie Kinnear, Bonnie Strand,
Edward McKittrick, Grace Kadoya

Chapter Officers

Hersh Kelley Chapter Chair
Carole Minzer Vice Chair

The Southern Sierran (ISSN 1073-6875) is published bimonthly by the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter, 3435 Wilshire Blvd. #320 Los Angeles, CA 90010-

1904. Phone: 213-387-4287, ext. 212 (fax: 387-5383). Hours: Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.. Website: www.angeles.sierraclub.org.

Subscription rate for Chapter members is \$1 and is included in membership dues. For nonmembers, the annual rate is \$12. Single copies are \$2 by mail. Periodicals postage paid at Los Angeles, CA 90052.

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to Southern Sierran, Sierra Club Data Changes, 3435 Wilshire Blvd. #320, Los Angeles, CA 90010-1904.

Contributors: Deadline for the January-December issue is November 30. Fax, mail, or e-mail submissions to the editor at the Chapter office. The editor reserves the right to reject or edit all submissions.

Accepted submissions and images may also appear on Sierra Club websites.

Advertisers: To advertise, call 213-387-4287, ext. 212. Deadline for the January/February 2013 issue is December 5 or e-mail sierran-ads@politeo.net

©2012 Sierra Club Angeles Chapter. Image copyrights held by the artists. Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Angeles Chapter.

The Sierra Club is open to all people who believe in preserving the environment for future generations. Club policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, or native language.

Printed on recycled paper with soy-based inks.

Chapter elections start Nov. 15

By Joe Young
CHAPTER ELECTIONS CHAIR

The election for seats on the Angeles Chapter's governing body, the Executive Committee, will begin Nov. 15 and run until Dec. 14. There are six candidates for four open at-large positions. Top four vote-getters will be elected to serve for the 2013-14 term of office.



Statements provided by the candidates appear on the Angeles Chapter's website. Chapter members may vote for the at-large ExComm candidates online or via paper ballots upon request. Go to angeles2.sierraclub.org/ChapterElections to read statements and review voting instructions. Elections are simultaneously under-

way for each of the regional groups' management committees. Members may vote to all at-large Chapter ExComm candidates and for their respective regional group candidates.

Executive Committee Candidates

Linda Strong, Jerard Wright, Sharon Koch, Susan Heitman, Joe Phillips, and Tom Politeo.

Regional Group Candidates

Candidates for the regional groups are as follows:

Airport Marina: Kathy Knight, Joe Young

Antelope Valley: Tom Shaffer, John Percy, Ruth Gravance

Central: Juanita Dellomes, Louiza Padilla-Mavaropoulos, Julio J. Bermejo

Crescenta Valley: Fred Dong, John Lajeunesse, Jeff Wilson, Jen Meyers, Jerry Burnham, Silvia Darie, Wayne Fisher

East San Gabriel Valley: Joan Jones Holtz, Don Holtz

Long Beach: Coby Skye, Mark Flo, Lisa Rosen, Gebirelle Weeks

Orange County: Patricia Barnes, Donna Specht, Bob Siebert

Orange Coujty Sierra Sage: John Kaiser, Sharon Koch, Garry McCoppin, Patty Sappingfield, Mike Sappingfield

Palos Verdes – South Bay: Al Sattler, Bill Lavoie, Joyce White, Eva Cicoria, Shuja Oberoi

Pasadena: Maureen Conn, David Czamanske, Pat Zeider

Rio Hondo: Gary Sjogren, Shirley Gregg, Mike Bressler

San Fernando Valley: Belen Katzen, Joe Phillips, Michael Stevenson, Emaline Rich, Edith Roth

Santa Clarita: Lynne Plambeck, Ken Kerner, Henry Shultz, Ed Benison

Verdugo Hills: David Eisenberg, Elizabeth Roberts, Bruce Hale, Evelyn Alexander, Eugene Paulin

West Los Angeles: Susan Heitman, Howard Strauss, Grant Rigby, Gloria Cedrone

Eco Mad Men wanted

If you think the presidential candidates should have been discussing climate change instead of Big Bird, here's an idea: Create your own online ad and send it to your friends.

The Sierra Club recently launched "Big Polluters, Bad Politics" (<http://bigpolluters.sierraclub.org/>), an interactive online platform that gives Americans the chance to fight back against the corrosive influence of the dirty energy industry this election cycle.

The website allows voters to easily create humorous political ads and share them with friends and social networks, giving them a voice despite the deluge of ads paid for by Big Oil and Big Coal companies.

"By spending hundreds of millions of dollars, big oil, gas, and coal companies are trying to drown out the voices of millions of Americans who support clean energy innovation," said Cathy Duvall, Sierra Club director of Public Advocacy and Partnerships. "This project will give Americans a chance to cut through the polluted airwaves and push back against big polluters and their dirty politics."

A mid-September analysis by the New York Times showed the fossil fuel industry has already spent more than \$150 million this election cycle on television ads smearing clean energy, pushing dirty energy, and attacking President Obama.

—From Sierra Club reports

Briefs

Early Thanksgiving for members, newcomers

Thanksgiving plans a little thin? Come and spend an early holiday at a Newcomer-Member Event on Nov. 19 to learn about the Sierra Club and meet like-minded folks. Learn about events with Little Hikers and 20s&30s&40s entities as well as the Chapter's award-winning weekly conditioning hikes, social activities, conservation outings, backpacks and adventure travel destinations.

Love skiing and snowboarding? There will be a special Winter Sports introduction that outlines trips scheduled for the coming season. Also there's a free drawing and an opportunity to buy Sierra Club backpacks and other cool gifts. Newcomers can take advantage of a special \$15 membership offer.

Meet 6:30 p.m. Nov. 19 at the Costa Mesa Neighborhood Community Center (1845 Park Ave., Costa Mesa). \$3 donation for the evening. If you like, bring a Thanksgiving side dish for potluck and we'll provide turkey and drinks. For more information, contact Donna Specht at donnaspecht@juno.com.

Who's being honored? Find out at the Chapter Banquet

Mark your calendars for the Angeles Chapter Banquet on May 5 in Pasadena to celebrate Sierra Club heroes.

Last year, members gathered at the Brookside County Club at the Rose Bowl on May 6 to cheer on Chapter leaders and volunteers who received awards, to see old friends and to make new ones. Sierra Club President Robin Mann gave the keynote address, emphasizing the role the Angeles Chapter plays in the Club.

It was an electric night that started with a fabulous reception, sponsored by many Chapter entities and a private donor. Thanks go to silent auction organizer Mary Ann Webster and Masters of Ceremonies Hersh Kelley and Senior Chapter Director Ron Silverman. Congratulations to all awardees for their important achievements.) Check here for a list. http://angeles2.sierraclub.org/about_us/chapter_awards/last_years_

awards)

Thanks also to Phil Bernays Award winner Donna Specht for coordinating the venue and reception; registrar Cathy Kissinger, Awards Committee Chair Mary Morales and Awards Committee Clerk Lori Ives. And we hope to see you next year.

--Silvia Darie, Awards Banquet Chair

New safety chair for Chapter outings appointed

Ron Campbell has been appointed the new Safety Committee Chair for the Angeles Chapter. He is a Sierra Club life member who has been an Angeles Chapter outings leader since 1987. He also is an M-rated leader.

Campbell has been involved with the Wilderness Travel Course since 1992, serving as a group leader in Orange County for 15 years, and as chair for two of those years. He is currently one of the WTC lecturers. Ron also serves on the Hundred Peak Section Management Committee and has been the Leadership Training Course Vice Chair since 2003. He has also been the accident/incident investigator for the Safety Committee since 2007 and currently serves as the Safety Committee Vice Chair.

After nearly five years as Safety Committee Chair, Phil Wheeler is stepping down upon. The Chapter owes Phil a huge thank-you for all he has done in that position, including all his work to transition the Chapter to OARS outings listings and the LEADERS database. The Chapter would not be where we are without Phil's tireless efforts.

Clean Water Act under attack by Congress

The Sierra Club marked the 40th anniversary of the Clean Water Act on Oct. 18 by releasing a Clean Water Voting Record for the U.S. House of Representatives. The online report card features an interactive map and issues letter grades for U.S. representatives' voting records on clean water issues.

The House has voted to endanger

the drinking water sources of 117 million Americans, allow toxic pesticide discharges into our waterways without oversight and halt strong protections for toxic coal ash and destructive mountain-top removal, just to name a few.

"For 40 years, the Clean Water Act has helped protect our water," said Michael Brune, Executive Director of the Sierra Club. "But in the 112th Congress, we've seen an unprecedented attack from House Leadership on clean water policy."

The Club's Clean Water Report Card highlights which members of Congress side with Americans who care about clean water and who sides with big polluters. Check it out online to see a district-by-district accounting of voting on water issues at <http://www.sierraclub.org/coal/reportcard/>.

--Sierra Club reports

Bees in the M&Ms?

In the Alsace region of France, bees "have been producing honey in mysterious shades of blue and green, alarming their keepers who now believe residue from containers of M&M's candy processed at a nearby biogas plant is the cause," according to Reuters.

When beekeepers around the town of Ribeauville investigated, they discovered that a biogas plant 2.5 miles away has been processing waste from a Mars candy plant, and that "instead of mining local wildflowers for nectar, bees have been sucking up colorful sugar at the plant."

The tainted honey is a problem "for about a dozen affected beekeepers already dealing with high bee mortality rates and dwindling honey supplies following a harsh winter," according to Andre Friehe, president of the apiculturists' union. "For me, it's not honey," Friehe told Reuters. "It's not sellable."

Agrivalor, the company operating the biogas plant, said it has "cleaned its containers and incoming waste would now be stored in a covered hall." Alsace is home to some 2,400 beekeepers who tend 35,000 colonies that produce about 1,000 tons of honey annually.

--Sierra Club reports



**1000
for
\$100**

Your one time or monthly donation to the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club helps us green the environment and is particularly timely in a presidential election year.

To donate on line please visit:
angeles.sierraclub.org/join_donate/

Donate it running or not



You receive a tax deduction and help the Angeles Chapter.

Contact Ron Silverman

213.387.4289

ron.silverman@sierraclub.org

Victor A. Herzfeld, CFP®

HERZFELD
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

(626) 975-5235 · vicswire@pacbell.net
713 W. Duarte Road, #G · Arcadia, CA 91007
www.herzfeldinvestmentmanagement.com

THE GREENEST HOME
is one that's already built.

ERIKLERNER REAL ESTATE BROKER
310 729 4597
LEED® AP ECOBROKER® REALTOR®
ADVICE PLANNING GUIDANCE SERVICE
ACQUIRING HOLDING OFFERING PROPERTIES
DRE #01225073 KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY
INFO@REALESTATEARCHITECT.COM®

f t in

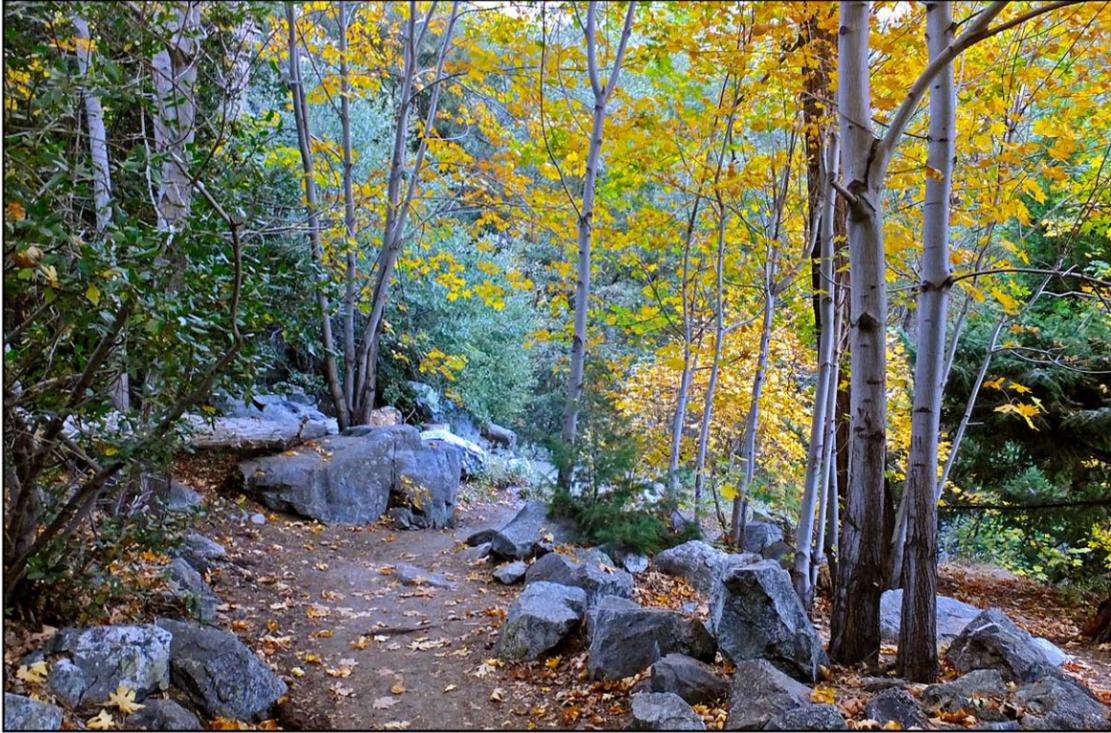
Jan C. Scow Consulting Arborists, LLC

Oak preservation
Hazard tree evaluation
Disease and pest diagnosis
Restorative pruning recommendations
Tree preservation during construction
Oak compatible landscaping
Tree value assessment

www.JanScow.com 818.789.9127

Joshua Davidson, M.D., M.P.H.
Allergy, Asthma & Immunology
A Medical Corporation

3400 Lomita Blvd., Suite 301
Torrance, CA 90505
Phone: (310) 534-4494
Fax: (310) 534-4534
joshua.davidson@me.com
www.davidsonallergy.com



PHOTOS BY BOB CATES/CAMERA COMMITTEE

Walks on the wild side

October hiking in Southern California is a heady mix of less-crowded trails and subtle changes that signal fall – despite the recent triple-digit heat – has arrived. Chapter historian and Camera Committee leader Bob Cates spent the month on these trails that are all within an hour's drive of Los

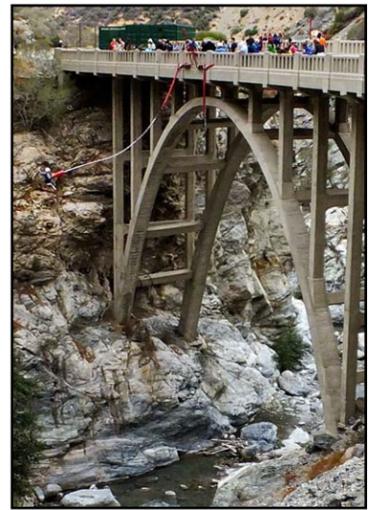
Angeles. So get outside!

Top left: Fall colors along the Chapman Trail Loop at Icehouse Canyon.

Top right: Waterfall and poison oak on the gorge of the East Fork upstream from the Bridge to Nowhere.

Bottom center: Gooseberry leaves along the Pacific Crest Trail east of Windy Gap.

Bottom right: A bungee jumper makes her first leap as hikers pass the Bridge to Nowhere on the East Fork San Gabriel River.



WHITNEY/PAGE 1

Dale Benson, a cartographer in the USGS National Geospatial Technical Operations Center in Denver who provided a wealth of information about the history of Mt. Whitney's surveys and elevation.

The first recorded climb of Mt. Whitney occurred in 1873 when three fishermen — Charles Begole, Albert Johnson and John Lucas — reached the summit from the town of Lone Pine. Shortly thereafter, Whitney Survey party member Clarence King, who initially climbed nearby Mt. Langley thinking it was higher, also reached the top of Whitney.

Over the years, various survey parties have gone to great lengths to measure the elevation of Mt. Whitney, each placing a marker noting their calculations on the summit. The earliest was most likely a station mark, consisting of rock cairn placed by the Wheeler Survey.

In March 2005, John Sellars, cartographic technician at the USGS



MARY FORGIONE

Angeles Chapter member Andy Mishkin signs in after reaching the summit of Mt. Whitney.

Rocky Mountain Mapping Center in Denver, compiled an excellent history of surveys and establishment of elevations on Mt. Whitney of which there are many.

Sellars wrote that in 1905, the USGS ran a level line to the summit of Mt. Whitney, to the highest point, setting a tablet labeled "14502" feet for the elevation 14501.976. The elevation was readjusted in the notes of the level man, R.A. Farmer, to 14500.695 feet. A "special tablet" was described in USGS Bulletins 342 and 766. The USGS Survey Bulletin 310, Results of Primary Triangulation and Primary Traverse, Fiscal Year 1905-06, noted the station mark as a "triangulation tablet cemented in rock under an 8-foot high cairn at an elevation of 14499 ft. above mean sea level."

Additional level lines were run by the U.S. Coast & Geodetic Survey (abbreviated C&GS; later renamed the National Geodetic Survey) in 1925 and 1928, establishing a new elevation on top of the 1905 USGS tablet, as well setting two additional marks on the top of the mountain—BM U43 1925 and BM K72 1928.

The National Park Service placed the following plaque: "Mount Whitney Elevation 14,496.811 feet. John Muir Trail-High Sierra September 5, 1930."

Six other marks were in place prior to the 1950 C&GS tablet being set. Sellars noted that the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) triangulation station "Whitney 1950" was the mark recognized by the USGS with the highest degree of horizontal accuracy.

Because of this, the elevation

shown on the 7.5' quadrangle map published in 1994 was 14,491 feet – and this is where it gets rather technical. That number is the NGVD29 (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929) elevation for the NGS 1950 station. The USGS benchmark has an NGVD29 elevation of 14,494 feet, but the depiction of this was superseded by the NGS mark having a better horizontal position.

Sellars concluded that the elevation for Mt. Whitney using the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88) should be 14500.24 feet based on using the NGS program VERTCON to convert the elevation of 14494.12 feet (NGVD29) derived from the elevation differences of the "14502" and "Whitney 1950" marks as described in the 1950 and 1962 C&GS descriptions.

In 2005, an article by Guy Rocha, an archivist for the State of Nevada, titled "Height of a Mountain Tale" was published in the Nevada Observer. Rocha introduces surveyor Robert Nielsen, who in 1996, as student at California State University Fresno, led a survey party to determine whether or not White Mountain Peak was taller than Mount Whitney.

Rocha writes: "As a student in the Surveying Engineering Program, Nielsen and his colleagues organized four summit crews to climb the four highest peaks in California: Mt. Whitney, Mt. Williamson, White Mountain, and North Palisade. 'Our goal,' wrote Nielsen, 'was to take simultaneous GPS observations from the tops of four, 14,000'-plus mountains, my high elevation test base'."

They determined that Mt. Whitney at 14,500 ft. was the highest mountain in the contiguous United States followed by Mt. Williamson, 14,382.3 ft.; North Palisade, 14,255.9 ft.; and White Mountain, 14,243.2 ft., now the 22nd highest peak in the contiguous U.S.

Rocha concludes: "With further GPS surveys of mountain summits in the Rocky Mountains, White Mountain's rank may change again."

The following description by Dale Benson shared with several colleagues, including William Stone, Geodetic Advisor with NOAA's National Geodetic Survey Southwest Region, best explains the findings that justify 14,500 ft. elevation in a

very technical manner:

"14505 is the published NAVD88 elevation for the National Geodetic Survey trig station at the top. That elevation is a VERTCON conversion of the old Vertical Angle elevation (14498 feet) from the C&GS occupation in 1950 (PID GT1811). When USGS was up there in 1956, they transferred an elevation from the NGS BM U43. Also, the 1950 and 1962 descriptions of Whitney give differences of elevations to several other stations on the top that indicate they are higher than the National Geodetic Survey trig station.

Translation? The 14,505 foot measurement relied on old data.

"Using the transferred elevation to the National Geodetic Survey station Whitney, and applying the differences listed in the description would indicate the highest point is the USGS mark 14502 or the USGS 'special tablet' which appeared to have been set over it and later destroyed. In either case, the rounded NAVD88 elevation for the highest point would be 14500.3 ft., or 14,500 ft. for ease of communication."

NOAA/NGS geodetic advisor William Stone agreed with Benson's calculations. Based on the data available to date, the elevation of Mt. Whitney is actually 14,500 feet., not 14,505 feet.

What does this mean for Mt. Whitney? As technology improves, there may be additional elevation readjustments not only on Mt. Whitney but other mountains as well.

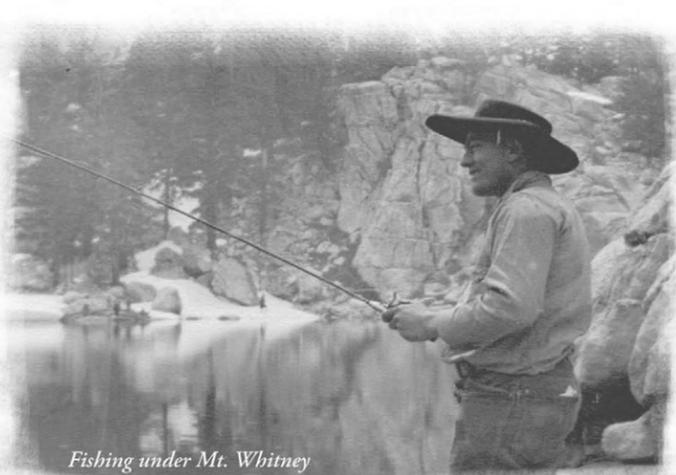
For most people, hiking to the summit of Mt. Whitney, approximately 6,000 feet of elevation gain and 22 miles by the easiest non-technical route, is a lifetime accomplishment.

As one Santa Monica hiker who summited Mt. Whitney a few years ago said when learning of the most recent elevation change, "I have a coffee mug that states 14,497.61' and a T-Shirt that states 'I Climbed (big letters) out of my car to take a picture of (tiny letters) Mt. Whitney, CA (Big), plus 14,497'. I stand by my coffee mug and T-Shirt as the defining elevation!"

Wynne Benti is coauthor of the book, Climbing Mt. Whitney and publisher at Spotted Dog Press in Bishop, California.

INYO COUNTY, CA

Legendary Experiences. Larger than Life.



Fishing under Mt. Whitney



The Other Side of California
DEATH VALLEY AND THE EASTERN SIERRA

Fishing • Backpacking • Camping •
Biking • Mountaineering • Endless
Backcountry • Historic Sites •
Museums • Events • Timeless Towns

BIG PINE, BISHOP, DEATH VALLEY, INDEPENDENCE AND LONE PINE.
www.TheOtherSideofCalifornia.com

Sierra Club seeks rate reprieve from San Onofre nuclear station

From Angeles Chapter reports

The San Onofre Task Force of the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter commends the California Public Utilities Commission for its unanimous decision to launch an investigation into the rates, operations, practices, services and facilities of Southern California Edison and San Diego Gas & Electric, related to the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station Units 2 and 3.

The Commission met Oct. 25 to hear public input on the shutdown of the San Onofre facility and to vote on the related Order Instituting Investigation. San Onofre has been shut down since January after extensive and unexpected wear on piping in the plant's steam generator system caused a leak of radioactive steam.

In an opening statement, PUC

Commissioner Michael Florio said that within 45 days the utilities will testify on proposed rate adjustments and will be required to show costs related to San Onofre. He added that it may never be safe or economic to restart the plant. In that event, PUC long-range plans will address permanent removal of San Onofre from the supply base. "We have a responsibility to protect utility ratepayers and system users," Florio concluded.

In its statement to the commission, the Sierra Club noted that the San Onofre facility has been shutdown since January yet ratepayers have been paying \$54 million a month in charges for the plant – an average \$10 for each household in its service area. The defective system that forced shutdown cost \$771 million but only \$137 million is recoverable through the manufacturer's

warranty.

Glenn Pascall, chair of the Sierra Club task force, said, "While these facts are well known, the impact on the public review process is this: If the subsidy continues to cover all operating costs related to the faulty generators, it greatly reduces the incentive for Edison to resolve issues related to the future of the plant."

He continued, "Ours is a free enterprise economy based on risk and reward. Investor-owned utilities are a special case where rates are set by a public agency to assure a fair return to investors and fair charges to consumers. But this principle is distorted in a situation where no power is being delivered and the utility's management purchased defective technology without adequate warranty coverage - yet rates continue to be imposed.

"In such a case, if shareholders are able to shift the cost burden for repairs to the utility's customers, the principle of risk and reward has been violated and ratepayers pay the consequences of management errors.

"The Sierra Club urges the Commission to terminate the ratepayer subsidy so the utility is no longer making decisions while it is artificially insulated from real-world economic conditions."

On Oct. 9, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission held a three-hour public meeting Oct. 9 in Dana Point that drew 500 to 600 concerned citizens and activists. Environmentalists, nuclear energy industry representatives, union leaders and members of the public offered opening statements and responded to questions from the audience.

Take action

Want to add your voice to the San Onofre Nuclear Task Force? Contact Conservation Coordinator George Watland at george.watland@sierraclub.org to get involved.

The meeting's central focus was whether to attempt a restart of Unit 2 at the San Onofre nuclear power plant in North San Diego County. A few days earlier, Southern California Edison filed a 1,000-page report based on an eight-month analysis of the problem and wanted the regulatory body to agree to a restart of Unit 2 for a five-month test at 70% power.

GENERAL PLAN/PAGE 1

of being designated as "significant ecological areas" in the new County General Plan. We went ahead and nominated seven areas for designation – Malibu Canyon, Malibu Lagoon, Cold Creek, the wooded hillsides along the 101 Freeway, watersheds draining into Malibu Creek State Park, Zuma Canyon, and Upper La Sierra Canyon above Seminole Hot Springs.

A total of 115 potential SEAs countywide were nominated, and 62 were subsequently designated as such in the County's 1980 General Plan.

Why were notoriously pro-development L.A. County supervisors trying to persuade scientists and environmentalists to nominate areas they felt should be designated as significant ecological areas? Here's why.

Open Space Lands Act of 1970

A product of the original Earth Day, the Open Space Lands Act of 1970 requires every city and county in California to adopt an Open Space Element in its General Plan and to, "take positive action to carry out such plans ...". The Open Space Lands Act goes on to say, "no building permit may be issued, no subdivision map approved, and no open

space ordinance adopted unless the proposed construction, subdivision, or ordinance is consistent with the local open space plan."

However, the L.A. County Board of Supervisors maintained its customary practice of zoning large areas for "open space" and then later approving high-density urban developments in those same areas. Before long, the media were trumpeting plans for large-scale urban developments in Lower Malibu Canyon, Upper Topanga, Brentwood, and in the heart of the Las Virgenes Valley in the area then known as "Century Ranch".

In 1975, the Center for Law in the Public Interest joined by the Sierra Club and then task force co-chair, Margot Feuer filed suit against the county for violating the Open Space Lands Act, and in 1975 won an injunction that effectively overturned the County's 1973 General Plan and blocked approval of any further urban developments in rural-zoned areas of the Santa Monica Mountains.

In response, the county hired the consulting firm of England and Nelson and began to draw up a new General Plan that would satisfy the court and at least pay lip service to the Open Space Lands Act and the protection of SEAs.

In addition to the 62 proposed

SEAs, England and Nelson, recommended that, "riparian woodland habitat ... should be regarded as important wildlife habitat and preserved," describing it as the best wildlife habitat remaining in the state.

Development proposals within any of these SEAs would now be required to obtain a Conditional Use Permit and the development would have to be reviewed by the Technical Advisory Committee, a committee of independent experts appointed by the County Planning Director.

But, the "bad old days" were not yet over. In the 1980 election, pro-development candidates for supervisor swept four of the five seats on the board and set out to undo the environmental gains of the 1970s.

SEAs under attack

During the 1980s, developers urged the Board of Supervisors to allow them to build more than 6,000 homes in the Palo Comado Significant Ecological Area alone. One developer sought county approval to build 1,700 condominiums, a shopping center, and an industrial park, along with a highway that would be carved through well over a mile of oak savannas on National Park Service land. The Baldwin development, known today as "The Oaks", proposed to remove

over 1,800 native oaks to make room for 1,500 to 2,000 mansions and a four-lane boulevard, also entirely within the Palo Comado SEA.

One Planning Commissioner seriously proposed building a four-lane boulevard along the crest of the Santa Monica Mountains, which would intersect a second boulevard through the Malibu Canyon SEA.

Since most SEAs are on private property zoned for some sort of development, the courts cannot constitutionally allow them to be treated as if they were undeveloped wilderness preserves. Unless park agencies are able to come up with enough money to buy the land – an increasingly difficult challenge today – the only hope of saving these special places may be to find a way to constitutionally regulate the development of the property that will ensure the

survival of at least some of its unique natural resources.

This could mean trying to persuade the owner to sell or donate the most sensitive parts of the property or allowing him to develop part of the property and donate the rest to a park agency or to a non-profit.

A combination of purchase in fee, partial development and dedication of the remainder, has been used to date to permanently preserve 2,000 acres – more than 60% of the Palo Comado SEA.

Volunteers Needed

Want to help assess the General Plan 2035? Contact Conservation Coordinator Jennifer Robinson at jennifer.robinson@sierraclub.org.

WASTE/PAGE 1

analyst for Don't Waste LA. "Rates remain stable for exclusive franchise customers simply because contracts lock rates in over time. Increases must be negotiated in the contract between the hauler and the City, and are typically tied to the rate of inflation."

In contrast, an alternative proposal released two weeks ago by the Los Angeles City Administrative Officer, waste hauling companies and their lobbyists, called for immediate and dramatic increase in franchise fees without similar protections for ratepayers to whom costs will likely be passed on.

"The CAO's plan would leave customers without size or leverage – our small businesses, small landlords and their tenants – vulnerable to substantial rate increases to pay for the haulers' increasing costs," said Greg Good, director of Don't Waste LA. "We call it the Rates-Through-The-Roof Plan because customers could expect to see their rates increase immediately."

Two small business owners spoke out against the alternative city proposal and expressed support for an exclusive franchise. Rocio Ramirez, owner of Mama's Hot Tamales near MacArthur Park, made her voice heard. "After everything I've overcome to keep my doors open, the last thing I need is the kind of waste and recycling system that's being proposed by the CAO and big waste companies," she stated. "They're promising the city a lot of money



GINA PALENCAR/LAANE

Small business owner Rocio Ramirez speaks out in support of a plan to improve L.A.'s commercial waste hauling by embarking on exclusive franchise agreements.

from increased fees in order to get our elected leaders to support their plan. But those increased fees are going to be paid for by small businesses owners like me – and I for one simply cannot afford them."

The city, meanwhile, issued an HF&H Consulting report titled "City of Los Angeles Commercial Solid Waste Cost and Fee Analysis" that shows solid waste costs and rates in L.A. County cities are about the same in exclusive and non-exclusive systems. The DWLA report builds on the findings of HF&H by examining the rate impacts in those cities

over time.

The City Council is expected to take up the matter of waste hauler exclusive franchise agreements this month. Read the DWLA report and the HF&H Consulting report to learn more about the issue. To support the efforts of the Zero Waste Committee, contact Conservation Coordinators Jennifer Robinson (jennifer.robinson@sierraclub.org) and George Watland (george.watland@sierraclub.org).

Gina Palencar at LAANE contributed to this article.

Angeles Chapter Adventure Travel Calendar

These fund-raising trips are open to Sierra Club members and non-members alike. Each one presents a value for participants and raises funds for the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club. For more details and how to sign up, go online to angeles2.sierraclub.org/get_outdoors/travel_adventure.

Explore Patagonia Region of Argentina and Chile

Feb. 2-18, 2013

O-rated: Still spaces available! Explore the wilds of Patagonia on this 17-day adventure that starts in Buenos Aires and then flies to southern Argentina and across into Chile. Participants hike in glaciated landscape of Torres del Paine National Park and other areas. Optional trip to Iguazu Falls. Price includes hotels and lodges, private transportation, most meals, airport transfers and more. Domestic and international airfare is extra. Trip cost per person for Sierra Club members is \$4,095; nonmembers add \$100. Sponsored by Angeles Chapter. Leaders Fred Dong (madelinesdad@earthlink.net), Kath Giel (bear980@gmail.com).

Yellowstone in Winter

Feb. 15-22, 2013

C/O-rated: Watch for wolves, bison, elk, mountain goats, arctic birds and swans in Yellowstone at its winter best. Enjoy wildlife viewing and photography as well as geysers at Mammoth Hot Springs, Norris, Old Faithful and West Thumb. Spend five days with a Yellowstone Association guide on walks, snowshoe and cross-country skiing activities. Price includes travel by snow coach, hotel stays, ground transportation, guides, cross-country ski options, daily breakfast, most lunches and one dinner. Trip cost per person is \$2,210 for Sierra Club members, \$2,235 for non-members. Sponsored by Angeles Chapter, Verdugo Hills Group. For information, contact leaders Judy Anderson (anderson-judith@att.net) and Carol Henning (carolhen@sbcglobel.net).

Thailand Cultural & Wildlife Tour

March 14-April 2, 2013

O-rated: See the cultural gems and wildlife of Thailand on sightseeing and easy hiking adventures. Itinerary includes three days in Bangkok visiting the Grand Palace and Wat Phra Kaew, reclining Buddha in Wat Pho temple, boat trip in Bangkok canals, Thai theater performance, National Museum, Royal Barge Museum and more. Other highlights include stops at Sukhothai; the historic capital at Ayutthaya; Khao Yai National Park for wildlife viewing; temple complex of Si Satchanalai; birding at Doi Inthanon; Chiang Mai; Chiang Rai and more. Optional add-on tour to Phuket. Price includes hotel, bus transportation, most meals, airport transfers, most hikes or walks, and more. Domestic and international airfare is extra (group airfare available for additional price). Sierra Club members \$1,995; non-members add \$100. Sponsored by the Angeles Chapter. Contact leaders Fred Dong [(818) 545-3878; madelinesdad@earthlink.net], Stephanie Gross, Maew Suchin

China Highlights & Yangtze River

April 20-May 4

O-rated: Explore Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City where the Emperors of the Ming and Qing Dynasties lived. Walk the Great Wall, take a boat cruise on the Grand Canal of Hangzhou and visit Suzhou's silk factory. Set sail on the Yangtze River and take a shore excursion to the Shennong Stream to see ancient roads and artifacts and even rare animals such as golden-haired monkeys. Visit Xi'an's life-size terra-cotta warriors too. Price \$1,495 land package. Includes coach transportation, Yangtze River cruise, stays in seven hotels (double occupancy) and 37 meals, admission fees, guides, \$140 for gratuities and \$70 credit towards trip insurance. Leaders Andrea Lim and Salud Salinda. For info, send e-mail (subject line "China 2013") to andrealim94@yahoo.com, or call (818) 249-8584.

Arches and Canyonlands

April 28-May 5, 2013

O-rated: Come with us on an 8-day, 7-night fly-and-drive excursion to eastern Utah to explore and enjoy two national parks: Arches, with more than 2,000 arches ranging in size from a few feet to several hundred feet, and Canyonlands, with deep canyons of the Green

and Colorado rivers. Fly to Grand Junction, Colo., then drive in vans to Moab, Utah. Moab will be the base with day trips into national parks. Trip cost is \$1,250 for Sierra Club members; \$1,350 for non-members. It includes lodging (double occupancy) and land transportation to and from Grand Junction and around Moab. Breakfasts and three lunches provided. Airfare to and from Grand Junction are not included. For information, contact Mike Sappingfield (mikesapp@cox.net). \$500 deposit, with remainder due March 1, 2013. Sponsored by the Sierra Sage Group and Angeles Chapter. Leaders Mike Sappingfield and Sylvia Stevenson.

Ecuador's Magic Hiking Circuit

May 23-31, 2013

C/O rated. Nine-day trip based at three eco-lodge reserves. The first lodge is 20 miles from Quito at an 18th century Spanish hacienda at an elevation of 10,000 feet. Then a few nights will be spent at a Hummingbird Sanctuary high in the cloud forest and another eco lodge is in the tropical rainforest. Days are spent trekking to sacred waterfalls on pre Incan trails, learning about local culture, volcanology and anthropology and seeing incredible birds, wildlife, plants and flowers. Tour Quito's Indian Market and Cotopaxi Volcano National Park. Sponsored by Angeles Chapter and Orange County Sierra Singles. Cost for Sierra Club members is \$1,895; non-members, \$1,995 includes lodges (double occupancy, some triples), ground transport, meals, guides. Group international airfare extra. For information, contact Leader: Donna Specht (714-963-6345, donnaspecht@juno.com), Co-leader: Ana Cadez (ana.cadez@bt-store.com)

Ecuador, Andes to the Amazon

May 23-June 4, 2013

C/O rated: Come explore on a 13-day trip based at three eco-lodge reserves and one lodge in the Amazon jungle. Stay in an 18th-century Spanish Hacienda at 10,000 feet in elevation. Then spend a few nights at a lodge in the Hummingbird Sanctuary high in the cloud forest and another in the tropical rainforest. Trek to sacred waterfalls, follow in the footsteps of the pre-Incans. Tours include the Quito Indian Market and Cotopaxi Volcano National Park. Then off to the Amazon River, canoe the Rio Napo, take guided hikes, view wildlife, go piranha fishing. Price is \$2,985 for Sierra Club members, \$3,085 for non-members. It includes in-country flight to the Amazon, canoe transport, lodges (double occupancy; some triples), ground transport, all meals, guides. International airfare is extra; group rates available. Sponsored by Orange County Sierra Singles. For information, contact leader Donna Specht [(714) 963-6345, donnaspecht@juno.com] and co-leader Ana Cadez (ana.cadez@bt-store.com)

Seattle Getaway

July 18-20, 2013

O-rated: Join us for a 3-day, 2-night exploration of the wonders of the city of Seattle, Mt. Rainier and Mt. St. Helens. This can be taken in conjunction with the July 20-27 Olympic National Park and Victoria Excursion or as a separate trip. Special offer: Sierra Club members who enroll in both the Seattle Getaway and the Olympic National Park and Victoria Excursion will qualify for a \$50 discount for the Seattle Getaway (i.e., trip cost will be \$345). Cost is \$395 for Sierra Club members, \$425 for non-members. Lodging for 2 nights, transportation while on the getaway, admissions and breakfasts are included. Airfare to and from Seattle and most meals are not included. For information, contact Mike Sappingfield by phone 949-768-3610 or e-mail mikesapp@cox.net. Sponsored by Sierra Singles, Sierra Sage Group and the Angeles Chapter. Leaders: Mary Morales, Mike & Patty Sappingfield

Olympic National Park and Victoria Excursion

July 20-27, 2013

O-rated: Join us for an 8-day, 7-night excursion to explore the wonders of the Pacific Northwest's fabulous Olympic National Park and a ferry ride to Victoria, Canada. Sample the city and explore Bouchart Gardens before returning to Seattle via a ferry winding through the San Juan Islands. Lodging, admissions, and transportation while on the trip



Iceland, Hiking and Exploring an Extraordinary Island

August 17-28, 2013



NONNI TRAVEL

C/O rated: This 11-day tour explores the land of Vikings. Visit the capital Reykjavik in southwest, Akureyri in far north, travel south through the remote, barren interior to the brilliant-blue hot spring Hveravellir, drive along the roots of volcano Eyafjallajokull and wander further southeast to view majestic glaciers from the Vatnajokull icecap. Participants will board a boat in the glacier lagoon Jokulsarion and also take a relaxing swim in the cobalt colored water of the Blue Lagoon south of Reykjavik. Hike and explore towering cliffs, remote fjords, majestic waterfalls, volcanic craters, geysers, boiling mud pits and more. Optional extension to Greenland is also offered. The price is \$3,190 for Sierra Club members (\$3,290 for non-members) and includes hotel accommodations (double occupancy), private charter transport, 24 meals, guides, glacier lagoon boat ride. International airfare is extra; group rates available. Sponsored by Orange County Sierra Singles and the Angeles Chapter. For complete itinerary, application, cancellation policy, contact leader Donna Specht [(714) 963-6345, donnaspecht@juno.com] and co-leader Ana Cadez (ana.cadez@bt-store.com)



Canadian Rockies National Parks

July 29-Aug. 4, 2013



FRED DONG

O-rated: Join us for a grand tour of three national parks in the Canadian Rockies: Banff, Jasper, and Yoho. Jasper and Banff national parks are the largest of Canada's Rocky Mountain parks and UNESCO World Heritage Sites. This trip has great opportunities for wildlife viewing with spectacular mountains, glacial lakes, and glaciers. Participants will sightsee and take easy hikes from the bus. Highlights include places such as the Columbia Icefield with a hike to the Athabasca Glacier, visits to Lake Louise, Moraine Lake, Medicine Lake, Emerald Lake, and many more. Optional pre-trip excursions: Ride Amtrak from the Bay Area to Vancouver with possible Vancouver Island excursion and Canada Rail trip through the Rockies from Vancouver to Jasper. Cost includes six nights accommodations (two per room, individual beds), bus, bus refreshments, excursion fees, most lunches and two dinners. Sponsored by Angeles and Loma Prieta chapters. Price for Sierra Club members is \$1,835 through 12/31/2012; after 12/31, \$1,900. Non-members pay \$100 extra. Airfare to and from Canada and pre-trip excursion are extra. Contact: Leader: Fred Dong (madelinesdad@earthlink.net) Co-leader: Stephanie Gross

included. Airfare to and from Seattle and most meals not included. Cost for the trip is \$1,195 for Sierra Club members; \$1,250 for non-members. To reserve a spot and for more information, call Mike Sappingfield at 949-768-3610 or e-mail mikesapp@cox.net. Sponsored by Sierra Singles, Sierra Sage Group and the Angeles Chapter. Leaders: Mary Morales, Mike & Patty Sappingfield

China Silk Road and Gobi Desert

Oct. 5-19, 2013

O-rated: See seldom visited sights on the China Silk Road and the Gobi Desert. Visit mountains, deserts, living historic sites, rare wildlife and abandoned cities. Highlights include Urumqi's Great Bazaar, historic buildings, Tian Shan Mountains and lakes. In Turpan, see ruins of ancient Jiaohe city, ancient aqueduct system, Imin Minaret, old city, Tuyu Valley, and more. In Liuyuan, visit Bizaklik Thousand Buddha Grottoes, Flaming Mountains, Gaochang ancient city ruins, and Astana Tombs. In Dunhuang, visit Mogao Thousand Buddha Caves, White Horse Pagoda, Crescent Moon Springs, and see the Gobi Desert. Great Wall and Xian's famed terra cotta soldiers also on the itinerary. Optional Beijing tour available. Cost: \$3,095 until Feb. 28,

(March 1 and later, \$3,195) includes round-trip airfare from LAX to Beijing, all transportation, four-star hotels, nearly all meals, admissions, guides. Taxes and visa fees are extra. Sponsored by the Angeles Chapter. For information, contact leader Bruce Hale at (818) 957-1936. Co-Leader: Fred Dong

New Mexico Adventure

Oct. 12-19

O-rated: Join us for an extraordinary tour of the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta, Santa Fe, Taos and Taos Pueblo, Acoma Sky Pueblo, Chaco Canyon, Los Alamos, and Bandelier National Monument and more attractions. Trip costs \$1,195 for Sierra Club members (\$1,250 for non-members) and includes lodging (double occupancy) for seven nights; admission to Balloon Fiesta, national park and monuments visits, Taos and Acoma Pueblo visits, and museum admissions; all breakfasts, two lunches and several happy hours; and transportation in New Mexico. Other meals and transportation to and from New Mexico not included. A \$500 deposit reserves a place on the trip with remainder due July 1, 2013. For information, contact Mike Sappingfield at mikesapp@cox.net, or (949) 768-3610. Leaders: Mary Morales, Mike and Patty Sappingfield

Calendar

Get outdoors! The online Schedule of Activities (OARS) at the Angeles Chapter website (angeles.sierraclub.org) lists hundreds of hikes, backpacks, tours, bicycle rides, ski and snowshoe trips and more. Enter a date range online to find outings in your area and beyond. Here's a sampling of upcoming events. Details can be found online.

Little Jimmy Beginner Backpack

Nov. 10-11
Crescenta Valley Group:

O: Easy backpacking trip from Islip Saddle at 6,593 feet for beginners. Route is via Pacific Crest Trail on a well-graded trail climbing through chaparral and then sleep under pines at Little Jimmy Campground. Sunday hike out. Leaders: Karen Buehler (818) 363-6216 karen.buehler2@gmail.com Cathy Kissinger ckissing-er105@verizon.net

Strawberry Peak Trail Restoration

8 a.m. Nov. 10
Angeles Chapter Forest Committee

O: Join the San Gabriels Trail Crew to help restore the historic Strawberry Peak Trail damaged by the 2009 Station Fire and subsequent erosion. Tools and instructions provided. Boots, long-sleeved shirts, long pants mandatory. Bring water, lunch, daypack. Hiking less than 4 miles round trip. Reservations required; contact leaders: Jim Fleming 805-578-9408 jim333@roadrunner.com Bob Thompson 818-249-1237 bobcat237@sbcglobal.net

Sierra Club Camera Committee Auction

4:30 p.m., Nov. 10

Come to the G2 Gallery in Venice (1503 Abbot Kinney Blvd.) for a fabulous auction of original fine-art photographs for auction. All attendees must RSVP for this event by e-mailing SCCAuction2012@gmail.com and provide names of attendees and bidders. Come support the Club and buy a beautiful photo for yourself or for a gift. For more information, go online to angeles.sierraclub.org/camera.

Red Rock Canyon State Park Photography Weekend

Nov. 16-18
Camera Committee

O-Car camp weekend north of Mojave. Arrive Friday night to set up camp for early Saturday hike in upper Van Hagen Canyon to Edward Weston Cliff and Tarweed Arch, 5 mi round-trip with, 400 feet of gain. Late afternoon/sunset photo stroll to catch golden light/long shadows. Sunday morning hike Nightmare Gulch to the Magic City, 4 miles round-trip and 400 feet of gain. Fee to camp in the park (participants share cost); bring something to share for Saturday happy hour. Contact leader for reservation: Robert Cates 818-883-2165 bob.cates@att.net Carole Scurlock 626-794-5207 cscurlock@earthlink.net

Crystal Cove Easy Backpack

Nov. 17 to 18
Orange County Singles, 20s 30s 40s

O-This easy paced 8 mile round-trip hike will take us to the Lower Moro Campsite. Bring a minimum of 6 quarts of water, sleeping bag, ground cover/tent, etc.. A \$10 campground fee is to be paid via PayPal before 11/14, contact leaders for payment instructions: James Huang jhuang0@gmail.com. Charles G. Geller eduright@aol.com

Santa Monica Architectural and Historical Walk

9:30 a.m. Nov. 18
Sierra Singles, West L.A. Group

O: Easy 3-mile route along the Santa Monica Pier, Palisades Park and residential areas. Visit points of interest including the end of Route 66, the flying trapeze, Victorian houses, the landmark Moreton Bay fig tree and more. Meet on the pier near the Santa Monica Police tower. Wear comfortable walking shoes; bring money for optional lunch at Santa Monica Place. Leaders: Roslyn Wilkins 310-839-2591 roslyn.wilkins@gmail.com Elaine Ayala 310-399-5372 elaineayala@verizon.net

San Juan Hot Springs to Lucas Canyon

8 a.m. Nov. 24
Sierra Sage, South Orange County Group

O: Join us for our annual Thanksgiving weekend hike of 9 miles, 1800 feet of gain. Climb steeply on the Sitton TT from the Hot Springs area of Casper Wilderness Park before descending into Lucas Canyon in the San Mateo Canyon Wilderness for lunch among the oaks. Bring lunch, proper footwear, water, etc. Meet 8 am at south OC rideshare. Leaders: John Kaiser 714-968-4677 jkai39@gmail.com Delores Denton 949-581-8396 deadenton@hotmail.com

15th Annual Backbone Trail Festival

Bienvenida-Leacock Trails to Will Rogers State Park

8:30 a.m., Dec. 1
Angeles Chapter, Santa Monica Mountains Task Force

O: Very strenuous 15 miles with 2,800 feet of gain loop hike into Temescal Canyon, Will Rogers State Park, and onto the Temescal Park Trail. Hike the eastern end of the Backbone Trail. Meet 8:30 am at end of Bienvenida Ave. Rain cancels. Leaders: Maya Levinson 310-398-6344 mayas@aol.com Ernest M Scheuer 310-274-7987 ems728@gmail.com

Crystal Cove From the Top

1:30 p.m. Dec. 2
20s/30s/40s, Orange County Singles Outing

O: Easy-moderate paced, 6-8 mile r/t, about 1000 ft gain. Enjoy sunset views of Catalina and the Pacific coast as we descend and ascend ridges. Meet

Los Angeles Christmas by Night Hike

11:59 p.m. Dec. 22 (Saturday)
Hundred Peaks Section



TOM POLITO/CAMERA COMMITTEE

Children and adults hand out food and clothing on last year's "Christmas by Night" hike.

O: Join our annual night hike to give food and clothing to the homeless living on the streets. Hike approximately 6 miles. Wear warm clothing and sturdy shoes. Meet at the Chinatown station on the Metro Gold Line at College Street and Spring Street at midnight Saturday. After distribution of food and clothing, the group will crisscross the streets of downtown LA winding up at the Original Pantry about 4 a.m. Sunday for breakfast, then hike or take subway back to Chinatown. Leaders: Stag Brown 323-299-0373, Bob Thompson 818-249-1237 bobcat237@sbcglobal.net, Joseph Young 310-822-9676 joengeri@ca.rr.com

in front of restrooms at Coastal Peak Park near Corner of East Coastal Peak and Ridge Park Road, Newport Coast. Leaders: Scott Closson closs100@chapman.edu Irene Prokopenko irene_prokopenko@yahoo.com

Historic Mt Wilson Trail via Little Santa Anita Canyon to Orchard Camp

9 a.m., Dec. 8
Pasadena Group Outing

O: From trail head at Lizzie's Trail Inn: moderately to slow paced, 7 mi rt, 1900' gain, with plenty of great views and woodsy end at Orchard camp. Meet At Lizzie's Trail Inn at 9 am. From 210 Foothill freeway exit Santa Anita Ave in Arcadia; go north to Sierra Madre Blvd, turn left (west); go approximately 1 mi to Mountain Trail Ave, turn right (north); follow to the end at Mira Monte Ave, where road turns left; follow road to Lizzie's Trail Inn on the right. Leaders: Maureen Conn 626-798-1016 mauconn@aol.com Pam Allen 626-296-6911 ezadorah@hotmail.com

Annual Holiday Party in Glendale

4 p.m., Dec. 8
Sierra Singles

Mix and mingle with other Sierra Singles to celebrate the season. Come solo or bring a friend to potluck buffet get-together, 4 to 7 p.m. Enjoy a sing-along, music and an optional

gift exchange (under \$10). Feel free to bring a Christmas or Hanukkah decoration for tree-trimming. Sierra Singles provides the main dish, desserts and beverages; members bring an appetizer or side salad. Non-members; \$5 and appetizer or side salad. Leaders: Mary L. Morales 949-636-2981 10ter@cox.net Jeanne Karpenko 818-244-0733 jkarpenko@earthlink.net

Verdugo Hills Traverse

8 a.m., Dec. 15
Verdugo Hills Group

O: Moderate 12-mile hike with 2500 feet of gain. Cross Verdugos from Sun Valley to Montrose. Views of the San Fernando Valley and the San Gabriels. Meet 8 a.m. bottom of Beaudry fire road in Montrose (corner of Beaudry Blvd. and Beaudry Terr.) for car shuttle. Bring water, lunch, sturdy shoes. Leaders: Dean Wallraff 818-679-3141 dean@wallraff.us Bruce Hale 818-957-1936 brucehale@sbcglobal.net

Miracle Mile to Koreatown

10 a.m., Dec. 15
Verdugo Hills Group

Easy paced, moderate 6-mile walk on Wilshire Blvd. starting at LACMA. Visit the Korean Cultural Center where leader (who lived in Korea for 4 years) will give a guided tour. Continue on Wilshire to Olympic for window shopping and lunch at the Koreatown Galleria. Wind up the walk with a free tour of the upscale Wi Spa where participants can indulge in an optional salt sauna. Meet at the WLA Federal Building, Wilshire and Veteran, visitors parking area. Bring bus fare, comfortable shoes, hat, water. Rain Cancels. Leaders: Robert Baldwin

818-510-1274 rbaldwin@uclaextension.edu Roxana Lewis 310-532-2933 roxtlewis@aol.com

Holidays at Harwood Lodge

3 p.m. Dec. 16 to noon Jan. 1

Make Harwood your home -- for every day or just one day through the holiday season. The Chapter's lodge will be open from 3 p.m. Dec. 16 to noon on Jan. 1. Join family and friends in celebrating your holiday of choice: Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanza, New Year's or any other holiday. Potluck dinners nightly (bring serving for eight, beverage of choice and appetizer to share at happy hour). Film festival, Scrabble tournament, puzzles to complete, books to read and stories to share around the fire. Open to all members (\$12/per night) and their guests (\$15/per night, limit of 2). No reservations required, except for family rooms. Bring Sierra Club Card and white elephant gift for the post-holiday grumbles. Overseer: Monalisa Ward 562-833-8541 monalisa_ward@yahoo.com

Yosemite Winter Bus Trip

Feb. 15 to 18
West L.A. Group

Join us for the 34th annual winter trip that includes a three-night stay in Yosemite's winter wonderland. Ski, snowshoe, hike, ice-skate, take photographs or just loaf on this trip that includes bus and lodgings. Cost is \$600 for Sierra Club members, \$625 for non-members. Contact leaders: Paul Cutter 310-837-5269, patecu@sbcglobal.net; Ilona Kupecz, 909-599-7115, startrekgal48@gmail.com

Sierra Club Calendars

Order your 2013 wall or desk calendar today.

Mail check payable to "Sierra Club" to Sierra Club Angeles Chapter, Attn: Calendar Orders, 3435 Wilshire Bl. #320, Los Angeles, CA 90010-1904.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ZIP: _____ Day Phone: _____

Type	Price Each ‡	Quantity	Total
Wall	\$10.75	_____	_____
Desk	\$11.50	_____	_____
Subtotal			_____
S/H*			_____
TOTAL			_____

* Shipping & Handling: \$5.50 for the first, \$0.50 per additional calendar sent to the same address.

‡ Prices include sales tax

Pictured, bald eagle Cache la Poudre River, from desk calendar page. Photo by Vic Schendel.

OUTINGS legend

O Uncomplicated hikes on trail
I involves off-trail travel
C Concessionaire-controlled event (non-Sierra Club)
T Technical skills
Changes: Trips subject to cancellation without notice.

Outings info: For more hike listings, please see the Schedule of Activities or visit: www.angeles.sierraclub.org, click Outings

All participants on Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read the Liability Waiver before you participate on an outing, please go to: www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms, or contact the Outings Department at 415-977-5528 for a printed version.

In the interest 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 associated with this travel.

Seller of Travel identification number: CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the state of California.

For a special gift

Send a personalized Sierra Club Angeles Chapter Tribute or Memorial Card

It's a perfect way to say you care and to help the Angeles Chapter.

Within 24 hours, we'll send a personalized card suitable for any happy or sad occasion.

Contact Ron Silverman
 213-387-4289
Ron.Silverman@SierraClub.org

Make someone smile — do it today!

Make a Change for the Better!

The Hartford is Committed to Being “Green” – And Helping You Save \$450* or more on Auto Insurance!



Auto Insurance Savings and Benefits that Recognize Your Green Lifestyle:

- Special rates for Sierra Club members and supporters – **savings of \$450 or more for drivers who switch.**
- Hybrid Vehicle discount (available in most states).
- New Electric Vehicle Discount (now available in more than 20 states!).

The Hartford’s Commitment to the Environment:

- Ranked “#1 Greenest Financial Services Company” by Newsweek in 2011 in its annual Green Rankings report.
- Ranked in the Top Ten Percent of the Environmental Protection Agency’s list of Fortune 500 “Top Partners” for our use of renewable energy sources.

Make a Change for the Better! To Request a FREE Quote:

Call **1-888-755-0425**

Quote Online at:
sierrathehartford.com/sierran1



Receive this Stainless Steel Water Bottle
FREE When You Request a Quote



Automobile
Insurance from



* Savings amounts represent annual savings of policyholders who became new policyholders with this program between 7/1/10 and 6/30/12 and reported data on their prior carrier's premium. Your potential for savings varies depending on current premium, driving record, and other risk characteristics. Group rates for Sierra Club members are not available in NY, TN and WA. Interested applicants may still call for a quote.

This auto insurance program is underwritten by Hartford Fire Insurance Company and its affiliates, One Hartford Plaza, Hartford, CT 06155. CA License #5152. In Washington, the auto program is underwritten by Hartford Insurance Company of the Midwest. In Michigan, the auto program is underwritten by Hartford Underwriters Insurance Company. This program is provided by The Hartford, not Sierra Club or its affiliates. Sierra Club is not an agent or broker and does not sell, transact, or negotiate insurance. Paid endorsement. The Hartford pays a royalty fee to Sierra Club for use of Sierra Club's intellectual property. This program is currently not available in all states. Applicants are individually underwritten and some may not qualify. Specific features, credits and discounts may vary and may not be available in all states in accordance with state filings and applicable law. All first time responders receive the gift. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Gift offer not available in GA, ND or NM, but residents may still request a quote.