

Sierra Sage

Sierra Sage of South Orange County, a Group of the Sierra Club ■ Bimonthly Events & Outings

Come One...
Come All!

Sierra Sage General Meeting WITH Guest Speaker, Dr. Kathleen Treseder

As an evolutionary biologist and a professor at UC Irvine, Dr. Kathleen Treseder is a force to be reckoned with. In 2017 she was so concerned with the climate crisis that she decided re-search and teaching were not enough.

Dr. Treseder co-founded Orange County CleanPower, a grassroots organization of over 30 non-profits, businesses, school organizations, and faith groups. With her leadership they successfully lobbied five cities in Orange County to form Orange County Power Authority—<https://www.ocpower.org/>.



■ Dr. Kathleen Treseder

OC Power allows cities that have currently been buying energy only from Southern California Edison to choose their source of power. The cities in turn give businesses and residential customers the ability to buy power from clean energy sources.

Dr. Treseder will be there in person and address the formation of OC Clean Power, including the ins and outs of Energy Choice for cities. How are the energy choice plans paid for? Is it the same or less expensive than power from only fossil fuel-based power companies? What choices does it allow residential customers? Is having a choice of energy less harmful to the environment?

Note: this will be a hybrid presentation as is open both in-person and on Zoom. Dr. Treseder will be there in-person, and the Q&A following her presentation may be limited to the live audience.

Please join Sierra Sage for this timely presentation—this talk is free and open to the public. Whether you are planning to attend in-person or virtually, you need to RSVP: go to <https://sierrasage.org>, > Calendar of Events > Sierra Sage General Meeting, July 26, 2022.

WHERE: **Norman Murray Community & Senior Center**

24932 Veterans Way | Mission Viejo, CA 92692

ROOM: Juniper

WHEN: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 at 7:00 PM

DIRECTIONS:

Northbound on I-5, exit at La Paz, turn right onto La Paz, cross Marguerite Parkway and proceed over Oso Creek. Turn left onto Veterans Way and drive to Murray Center Parking Lot.

Southbound on I-5, exit at La Paz, turn left onto La Paz, cross Marguerite Parkway & Oso Creek. Turn left onto Veterans Way and drive to Murray Center Parking Lot.

We look forward to seeing you in person!



Sierra Sage Member to Receive National Award!

PATTY SAPPINGFIELD will be the recipient of the **Sierra Club's 2022 Atlas Award** to be presented at the annual Awards Ceremony the week of September 6th. The ceremony will likely be held as a virtual event this year, and viewing information will be forthcoming in our September newsletter.

The Atlas Award honors volunteers who have made extraordinary contributions to the chapters and regional entities. It was created to honor Susan E. Miller, who provided administrative support to the Council of Club Leaders and the Board of Directors. The Angeles Chapter Executive Committee voted to support the nomination of Patty Sappingfield for this special award at its meeting in May.

Patty Sappingfield, who along with her husband Mike, has been a lifetime member of the Sierra Club since 2006, was a valued member of the Sierra Sage of South Orange County Group management committee from 2007 through 2021. Patty had also taken on the difficult task of group treasurer in 2005 and served until 2021. Her exemplary efforts in keeping very accurate and complex records as well as in maintaining the group's separate seller of travel account were greatly appreciated. She trained and mentored her replacement as treasurer. She also served as membership chair from 2006 to 2009.



■ Patty Sappingfield

Join us in offering our congratulations to Patty for earning this prestigious award.

Patty was a co-leader on many of the hikes and fundraising outings led by her husband, Mike. She worked to secure meeting space for the regional group's general meetings, provided

greeters and snacks at those meetings, and coordinated numerous group events including an annual chili cook-off and new member meeting (on hiatus during the pandemic), and the fundraising barbeque that was held at the Starr Ranch Audubon facility, which offered members and guests an opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and to take relatively short hikes throughout the day in a location not normally open to the general public. Patty was also responsible for the mailing of the group's print newsletter to subscribers.

It's hard to adequately describe all of Patty's contributions to the Sierra Club and Sierra Sage of South Orange County. She has been a solid rock of support, and has consistently stepped in to take on whatever tasks were needed. ■

Join Sierra Club Wilderness Guardians

(MONTHLY DONORS)

YOU CAN HELP PROVIDE CRITICAL SUPPORT TO THE SIERRA CLUB by becoming a Wilderness Guardian, or monthly donor. This reliable funding gives the Sierra Club the resources needed to engage in the ongoing battle to protect our environment. It also gives you the advantage of knowing that your membership is always current, and that the Sierra Club does not need to bother you with wasted renewal mailings and telephone solicitations.

By becoming a Wilderness Guardian, you get all the regular benefits of membership and much more! As a Wilderness Guardian, you will receive a subscription to Sierra magazine, the Sierra Club Wilderness Wall Calendar, access to webinars, calls, and events with conservation leaders, the Wilderness Guardian newsletter, as well as automatic membership in your local chapter and exclusive discounts on products and services to help you explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

Become a Wilderness Guardian today and enjoy all these benefits for as little as \$5.00 monthly. Sign up here: [Wilderness Guardians](#). ■

>>> BE SURE TO VISIT...

Sierra Sage Group's Website

OUR WEBSITE is ready to be enjoyed at www.sierrasage.org. It contains new pages, interesting items, and many features to keep you busy and learning about everything that the Sierra Sage group has to offer.

After you explore the web site, you are very welcome to send an email to Ed at balois@cox.net and let him know what you like and what changes you'd like to see.

Sierra Sage Members...

Remember to give us your new physical address and/or email address if it changes so you'll get your Sierra Sage newsletter at your new place on time!

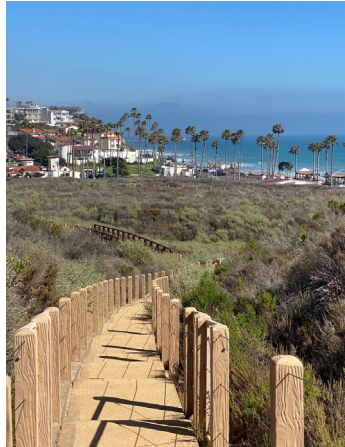
Local Happenings

San Clemente Beach Walk Wednesday, July 13, 2022

Wednesday, July 13, 2022 | Arrive 8:45 am, Walk 9:00 am

Our 7.5 mile out and back route has short hills on each end just to provide a little exercise. Both hills combined are a bit under 800 ft of gain, so this is a pretty easy outing. For those not up to the full distance, the free San Clemente Trolley can get you back to your car from the San Clemente pier and reduce the distance by about 2 miles.

Our route takes us over relatively new trails in the Sea Summit area with views of the ocean and maybe some small wildlife before we drop down to the beach. In the middle of the week the beach crowds should not be too bad.



■ San Clemente Beach Walk

We have a snack/rest break in the middle of the hike at San Clemente State Beach Park. There's another rest stop near a small museum with historic memorabilia relating to surfing, which may be of interest. There are many restrooms along the way including at the beginning and end of our walk.

We should be back at the Outlets around lunch time. There are several nearby restaurants, if people wish to eat there.

- **Hike Leader:** **Tod Fitch**, tod@fitchfamily.org
- **Level:** Easy
- **Bring:** Sun protection is highly recommended as is water, a snack, sun hat, and comfortable walking shoes. Almost all the way is wide and smooth, so hiking poles should not be needed.
- **Additional Directions:** So we can start walking at 9:00 am, meet by 8:45 at the Outlets at San Clemente just north of Blaze Pizza (225 West Avenida Vista Hermosa, San Clemente). From southbound I-5, exit at Avenida Vista Hermosa and turn right. Go past the first entry to Outlets, past Avenida Costa Azul, over a bridge then turn left into Outlets. Make the first left in the parking area, then left again. ■

Update: Orange County Power Authority

"Better a diamond with a flaw than a pebble without" or trouble at OCPA delays efforts to reduce GHG output.

The Mission Viejo city council invited **Brian Probolsky**, the problematic CEO of the Orange County Power Authority to make a presentation on June 28. This was what I had asked for months ago, and I am grateful to councilwoman **Trish Kelley** for putting him on the agenda. As the subject of Community Choice Energy had been raised in 2021, and subsequently put aside for future discussion, this would have been a fine opportunity for the city council to vote for the adoption of CCE for Mission Viejo.



■ Ed Maurer

Alas, this wasn't to be so because long-simmering doubts of Probolsky's leadership as well as OCPA's transparency and rates have come to a boil during the last few weeks, throwing a monkey wrench into our efforts to convince the first south county city to vote for greener electricity. For me, this is a classic instance of the perfect becoming the enemy of the good and of process becoming more important than results.

I'd like to know why it is necessary to examine the OCPA's dirty linen in public? Why was this not done behind closed doors? And who hired Probolsky in the first place since he is such a bad egg?

Climate change appears to be accelerating, and delaying GHG output reductions will have disastrous consequences for us and future generations. We need to act fast across the board, and if we cannot even pick the low hanging fruit if it's not quite to our taste, such as the currently constituted OCPA, we're doomed. Besides, the usual suspects that want the CCE movement to fail are having a field day over this brouhaha, and it keeps me, for the time being, from advocating effectively for OCPA before the MV and any other city council.

Instead, the MV city council will postpone any action on CCE/OCPA, and I'll ask Climate Change and Global Warming to kindly take a time-out until the OCPA board figures out how to improve its act. This unfortunately, is not an entirely unexpected outcome since discussing and postponing Climate Change actions have been the *modus operandi* of governments and businesses around the world for half a century. If future generations can look back at our behavior, they'll probably call us the "worst generation".

("Better a diamond with a flaw than a pebble without." is attributed to Confucius.) ■

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as of 3/12/2022

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Sierra Sage | Subscription Information Sierra Sage Newsletter

PUBLICATION NOTES

— Sierra Sage is scheduled for delivery on January 1, March 1, May 1, July 1, September 1, and November 1 of each year.

— Please note that submission deadline is *one month prior to publication*.

— Electronic copies are sent via email and are free. Just send an email to **Ed** at balois@cox.net and let us know that you would like the emailed Newsletter.

Sierra Sage Meetings

- Executive Committee meetings are open to all members of Sierra Club who reside in South OC. Meetings are on the 2nd Thursday of each month. — **Contact Ed Maurer at balois@cox.net** for date, time and directions.
- Preserve the Coastal areas of Orange County? — **Contact Penny Elia at greenp1@cox.net**
- Interested in electing environmentally-supportive politicians into local offices? — **Contact Sharon Koch, slkoch99@att.net**
- Want to keep the Santa Ana Mountains wild? Want to help maintain trails in the San Mateo Wilderness Area? — **Contact John Kaiser at jkai39@gmail.com**

ANGELES CHAPTER WEBSITE:

<https://angeles.sierraclub.org>

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