You are invited to join us at our annual South Orange County Open House. Thinking about joining the Sierra Club? Already a member but are not sure how to help? Just an interested resident? — The Open House is for everyone!

How do I start hiking? Where? How can I save the environment? How can I get involved in protecting the planet? When and where do you meet? What is happening in South Orange County? How can I find out what events are coming up in the near future? — These questions and many more will be answered by our many experienced members at the Open House. So come and find out how to have fun and help the planet! You can even join!

CHILI COOKOFF! In addition, we will have a Chili Cookoff Contest. If you make great Chili, you can bring it and enter (to enter the contest, contact Patty Sappingfield at 949-768-3610 for information and to sign up). For everyone else, you can sample all the various chili’s and vote on the one you like best. Prizes to the highest vote getters.

WHERE: Norman Murray Community and Senior Center 24932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo, CA

WHEN: 7:00 PM, Tuesday, January 24, 2017

ROOM: Palo Verde

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 the Murray Center Parking Lot.

Southbound on I-5, exit at La Paz, turn left onto La Paz, cross Marguerite Parkway and Oso Creek. Turn left onto Veterans Way and drive to the Murray Center Parking Lot.
LOCAL SIERRA CLUB ELECTION RESULTS!!!!

In late October and November, all members had an opportunity to vote on the members of the Angeles Chapter Executive Committee and the Sierra Sage Group Executive Committee. The results were:

Angeles Chapter Executive Committee (consists of 9 members “At Large”, i.e., elected from the entire Chapter Membership for 2 year terms, 4 this year and 5 the next and one representative from each regional group like the Sierra Sage of South Orange County)

This year four (4) positions were on the ballot for the At Large positons. The winners were:

Sharon Koch
Donna Specht
Glenn Pascall
Jared Wright

All will serve during 2017 and 2018.

SIERRA SAGE GROUP ELECTIONS RESULTS!!!!

The Sierra Sage of South Orange County Group Executive Committee consists of 9 members elected from the Sierra Sage entire Membership for 2 year term, (4 for one year and 5 for the next)

This year 5 positions were on the ballot. The winners were:

Patty Sappingfield
Mike Sappingfield
Sharon Koch
John Kaiser
Vanessa Andronaco

All will serve during 2017 and 2018

The Sierra Sage Executive Committee will meet on January 12th to elect officers, including our Chapter Representative, for 2017.
The Executive Committee Members will also approve appointments of all chairs of group committees.

This meeting is open to all our members should you decide to come to observe. Just contact the outgoing Chair, Mike Sappingfield, at mikesapp@cox.net or 949-633-6993 for address and directions.
WORDS FROM MICHAEL BRUNE

In the Jan/Feb 2017 issue of the Sierra Magazine, Michael Brune, the Executive Director of the Sierra Club, wrote a full page article to us called “Turning Walls Into Bridges”. We recommend that we all read the article in its entirety. However, we want to share one of the paragraphs today to help guide us during the year.

“But though it might seem like everything changed on Election Day, it didn’t. The Sierra Club’s values have not changed. We still believe in justice, fairness, and equality. We believe in democracy. We believe that it’s a good idea to replace fossil fuels with clean renewable energy. We believe that people have a right to drink clean water and breathe clean air. We believe it’s vital to care for our public lands, protect wildlife and our last wild places, and encourage people to get into the outdoors. No election result can change that.”

SUGGESTED POST CHRISTMAS READING.

Many of us received gift cards during Christmas for stores such as Amazon and Barnes and Nobles. Here are few suggestions for your winter reading:

Douglas Brinkley, “The Wilderness Warrior”. Brinkley focuses on Theodore Roosevelt’s love of the outdoors and the wilderness from his youth, growing years and his later years in the presidency. If you want to know all about Teddy, this is not the book, but if you want to learn more about his growth as a person in loving and supporting the wilderness and what he did about it, this is it!

Douglas Brinkley, “Rightful Heritage”, Brinkley focuses on Franklin Roosevelt this time. The parallels between the two Roosevelts are amazing. We often think about FDR in the Great Depression and in WWII. We don’t often know about or to pay much attention to his desire to protect the land, the water, and the people, and how they mesh together.. Both are tremendous sources to better understand how much both of the Presidents did to preserve the wild places of this country. I was surprised to learn how much FDR used the power of the Presidency to set aside wildlife refuges, create more National Monuments and Parks to provide places for people to enjoy the outdoors, and so much more.

Richard Preston, “The Wild Trees”, Preston tells the story a tiny group of daring botanists and amateur naturalists that found a lost world above California in the largest and tallest organisms the world has ever sustained, the coast redwood trees, Sequoia Sempervirens. Instead of giving in to the prevailing belief that the giant redwoods were not climbable, these young people, went ahead, climbed them and discovered an unknown fantasy world in the heights. As a result, they changed the way the world thought about the Coastal Redwoods.
Outings

Saturday, January 07, 2017 8:00 AM (Time Tentative)
0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing
O: Trail Maint. in the San Mateo Canyon Wilderness
The Santa Ana Mountain Task Force (Orange County Group, Sierra Sage Group, San Gorgonio Chapter) maintains trails in the San Mateo Canyon Wilderness. Volunteers, male and female, keep the trails open and safe. The specific work location is chosen each month based on current needs. Work involves lopping or sawing to clear the corridor and repairing tread as needed; those wishing to concentrate only on lopping are welcome. Tools are provided. Bring work gloves, sturdy boots, water, lunch. Typically we meet at the south Orange County ride share at either 7:30 or 8:00 am depending on the trail head destination for that month. Rain or critical fire danger will cancel. To receive email announcements with details of each month's activity, send an email to:
John Kaiser 714-968-4677 jkai39@gmail.com
Rich Maxey 949-310-5134 richmaxey@yahoo.com

Sharon Kirk 714-545-1149 sl.kirk@sbcglobal.net
Bob Hansen 949-586-4928 atroutguy@cox.net

Wednesday, January 04, 2017 9:00 AM
0407-Orange County/Sierra Sage Group Outing
O: Aliso Woods Grand Tour
11.5 mi, 900' gain. Start the New Year right with great views and 3 parks. We’ll start at Canyon View, but this time we’ll try something different by reversing the hike. First we’ll go down Wood Canyon, then take Meadows Trail up to Moulton Meadows. From there we’ll head for Alta Laguna (Top of the World), and finally return via the West Ridge and Cholla Trail. Although there’s a big climb in the middle, it’s downhill at the end! Meet 9:00 am at Canyon View Park in Aliso Viejo (from El Toro Rd go S on Moulton Pkwy, R on Glenwood, uphill & over the toll rd where it becomes Pacific Park Dr, R on Canyon Vistas Dr to bottom of hill) with water, lunch, hiking shoes/boots. Rain cancels.
Helen Maurer 949-768-0417 7gables@cox.net
Ed Maurer 949-768-0417 balois@cox.net

John Tevelein 949-854-0657 jctevelein@cox.net
Todd Clark 714-803-0195 mslyvle@hotmail.com

Sunday, January 08, 2017 3:00 PM
0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing
O: Crystal Cove Sunset Hike
A "Mike's Hike" of 4 mi round trip, 100' gain. Enjoy a late afternoon beach walk down to the cottages, then back along the beach, pausing at Pelican Point to watch the sunset behind Catalina Island. Meet 3:00 pm on Camino Shores Road at the PCH just North of Crystal Cove State Park and we will walk into the Park. We will return to the cars after sunset. Rain cancels.
Michael Sappingfield 949-633-6993 mikesapp@cox.net
John Kaiser 714-968-4677 jkai39@gmail.com

Rich Maxey 949-310-5134 richmaxey@yahoo.com
Sherri Sisson 949-786-7681 ssisson@gmail.com

Saturday, January 21, 2017 8:30 AM
0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing
O: Bedford Peak
Join us on this 7 mile round trip, 2000' gain, hike to Bedford Peak for excellent views from the peak. This area reopened in the fall after a two year closure due to the Silverado fire; we will have a close up view of the post-fire recovery. Meet 8:30 am at the trail head, 200 yards past the gate at the end of Silverado Canyon Road. If the gate is closed, there is very limited parking in the lot near the gate (FS Pass is required in the lot). Bring 2 liters water, lunch / snack, good hiking shoes. Rain cancels.
John Kaiser 714-968-4677 jkai39@gmail.com
Richard Maxey 949-310-5134 richmaxey@yahoo.com

John Kaiser 714-968-4677 jkai39@gmail.com
Rich Maxey 949-310-5134 richmaxey@yahoo.com
Sunday, January 22, 2017 9:00 AM
0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing
O: Laguna Coast Wilderness Hike
Meet at 9 am at the Willow parking lot, off of Laguna Canyon Road and El Toro Road for an 8 – 10 mile hike with elevation to be determined, depending on route leader choices. We will be hiking over to the Nix Nature Center with time to visit the center and have a leisurely break. Bring water, hat, sunscreen, lug soles, money for parking and snacks. Inclement weather cancels. Leaders: Audrey Tomovich 949-830-8936 ourmeandog@yahoo.com Linda Ledger 949-496-8029 linda.ledger@me.com

Wednesday, January 25, 2017 9:00 AM
0407-Orange County/Sierra Sage Group Outing
O: Crystal Cove Beach Walk
7 mi, 200' gain. An easy walk along the beach & bluff top in this beautiful State Park, Newport Beach. Optional stop at Ruby’s Date Shack for lunch. Meet 9:00 am at the SW corner of PCH & Cameo Shores, in Corona del Mar. Park along frontage road just inside entrance to Cameo Shores, Bring water, snack, walking shoes
Peter R Height 949-713-4569 pheight1@cox.net Linda Ledger 949-444-1285 linda.ledger@me.com

Wednesday, February 01, 2017 8:00 AM
0407-Orange County/Sierra Sage Group Outing
O: Trabuco Cyn/West Horsethief trail
Feb 1 Wed Orange County/Sierra Sage O: Trabuco Cyn/West Horsethief Loop: Strenuous 10 mi, 2700' gain/loss. Semi-loop hike from the end of Trabuco Canyon up to the Coulter pines on the Main Divide Truck Trail and down again via West Horsethief. Meet 8:00 am in the dirt parking area at the beginning of Trabuco Cyn Rd, just off Live Oak Cyn Rd. Actual trailhead is another 5-6 mi up a rough dirt road. Bring at least 2 qts water, lunch, lugsole hiking boots; plan to encounter cooler temps on top. Rain cancels.
Ed Maurer 949-768-0417 balois@cox.net Linda Ledger 949-444-1285 linda.ledger@me.com

Saturday, February 04, 2017 7:30 AM (Time Tentative)
0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing
O: Trail Maintenance in the San Mateo Canyon Wilderness
The Sierra Club (Orange County Group, Sierra Sage Group, San Gorgonio Chapter) maintains trails in the San Mateo Canyon Wilderness. Volunteers, male and female, keep the trails open and safe. The specific work location is chosen each month based on current needs. Work involves lopping or sawing to clear the corridor and repairing tread as needed; those wishing to concentrate only on lopping are welcome. Tools are provided. Bring work gloves, sturdy boots, water, lunch. Typically we meet at the south Orange County ride share at either 7:30 or 8:00 am depending on the trail head destination for that month. Rain or critical fire danger will cancel. To receive email announcements with details of each month’s activity, send an email to Leader: John Kaiser (jki39@gmail.com).
John Kaiser 714-968-4677 jki39@gmail.com Rich Maxey 949-310-5134 richmaxey@yahoo.com

Wednesday, February 08, 2017 9:00 AM
0407-Orange County/Sierra Sage Group Outing
O: Colinas Ridge
Mostly moderate 6.5 mi, 1530'gain/loss. We’ll head N on Colinas ridge to the gazebo, then take the “Bluff Trail” (actually below the ridge) S until we’re even with our starting point at 3.4 mi. Those who wish to make it an easier hike can return to their cars. Continuing on, we’ll stay below the ridge until we reach the junction with the Shea Trail, which will take us steeply to the ridgetop again for our return. This area was replanted with natives last year, so it should be interesting. Meet 9:00 am at the corner of Golden Lantern and Marina Hills Dr in Laguna Niguel. Bring water, snack, hiking shoes/boots. Rain cancels.
Helen Maurer 949-768-0417 tgables@cox.net Sherri Sisson 949-786-7681 sksissson@gmail.com

Wednesday, February 11, 2017 8:00 AM
0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing
I: Day snowshoe hike in the San Jacinto Wilderness
Join us on this winter mountain day hike through the San Jacinto Wilderness. We will start at the Palm Springs Tramway Mountain Station (8400’). Our route will follow the Round Valley loop trail with some deviations for approximately 6 miles, 700’ gain. Return to Palm Springs Mountain Station in the afternoon. Final route subject to weather and snow conditions. Must bring snowshoes, waterproof clothing (dress in layers), warm gloves, warm waterproof hiking boots, hiking poles with snowflakes, warm hat, 10 essentials, lunch, two quarts water, money for tramway (approximately $25). Group size limited by permit. Contact leaders for more information. Must pre-register and must have previous experience hiking on snowshoes.
Todd Clark 714-803-0195 clarkta@hotmail.com Sylvie Cote 949-547-2998 mlsylvie@hotmail.com

Wednesday, February 15, 2017 8:30 AM
0407-Orange County/Sierra Sage Group Outing
O: Sitton Peak
Sitton Peak (3247’): 10 mi, 2150’ gain/loss. A nice workout up the Bear Cyn Trail to 4 Corners, then on up the Sitton Peak Road and trail to the peak. Tremendous views on top, ocean to mountains. Meet 8:30 am at the South Orange County ride share with 2 liters water, lunch/snack. Hiking shoes/ lug soles; hiking poles helpful. Rain cancels.
Rich Maxey 949-310-5134 richmaxey@yahoo.com Garry McCoppin 714-269-5078 mccoppin@cox.net

Wednesday, February 22, 2017 8:30 AM
0407-Orange County/Sierra Sage Group Outing
O: Donna O'Neill Land Conservancy Hike
5 mi, 300’ gain. This hike is in one of the most beautiful regions of So Orange County. Maybe some early wildflower rains. Rain cancels. Donation to DONLC: $10 adults, $5 children, to support the work of the Conservancy. Special instructions to come on this hike: Go to the Reserve at Ranch Mission Viejo’s website, go to the calendar page: http://mreserve.org/calendar/ and scroll down the Sierra Sage Hike of Feb 22, fill out the registration form, click the waiver box. The site will send you a confirmation email with links to the waiver form which they should print and bring with you. We will meet at the South Orange County ride share point and move as a group, carpooling to meet with the Reserve Staff as directed.
Michael Sappingfield 949-633-6993 mikesapp@cox.net Gail Roy 949-854-3820 gfrey@uci.edu
Saturday, February 25, 2017 8:30 AM
0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing
O: Emerald Canyon Hike
8.4 miles, 1400' gain. Our route begins with a steady climb up Willow Canyon Road, across Bommer Ridge Road and down Emerald Canyon Road. This wide path descends gradually with gnarled oaks and sycamores lining the sides. At 4.2 miles from the start, the trail curls sharply downward and to the right is a 20' usually dry waterfall where we will stop for lunch/snacks. On our return we will veer to the right on Old Emerald Canyon Road and take it to Bommer Ridge and then back on Willow Canyon Road. Meet at 8:30 AM in the Willow Parking Lot just south of El Toro Road on Laguna Canyon Road. From the 405 take the Laguna Canyon Road exit and head south about 5 miles. Cross El Toro Road and the parking will be on the right. Bring lunch/snacks, 2 quart water, hiking shoes/boots and $3 for parking or your OC Parks permit. Inclement weather cancels.
Linda Ledger 949-444-1285 linda.ledger@me.com
John Tevelein 949-854-0657 jotevelein@cox.net

Sunday, February 26, 2017 8:30 AM
0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing
O: Bear Canyon Loop Hike
7 miles, 1300' gain from the Candy Store through chaparral and oaks, via the Bear Canyon Trail to 4 corners, then down to Pigeon Springs for lunch, then back to the Candy Store. Meet 8:30 am at South OC Rideshare (1 Block east of I-5 on Ortega Highway and Rancho Viejo Road in front of Ball Park Pizza, in San Juan Capistrano). Bring 2 qts water, lunch, hiking shoes or boots. We will carpool to the FS Parking Lot and Trailhead at the Candy Store. Forest Service or Federal Senior Passes required for those driving to the Trailhead. Rain cancels.
Michael Sappingfield 949-633-6993 mikesapp@cox.net
Audrey Tomovich 949-830-8936 ourmean-dog@yahoo.com

Wednesday, March 01, 2017 9:00 AM
0407-Orange County/Sierra Sage Group Outing
O: Ladera Ranch Loop Hike
6.6 mi, ca 1950' gain/loss. A "roller coaster" hike with a lot of ups and downs on a good trail over a relatively short distance. We will follow the ridgeline above the Arroyo Trabuco, then go down a big hill that borders San Juan Capistrano, and return to our starting point along a landscaped path, with the possibility of an optional Mexican or Thai lunch as a reward when we get there! Meet 9:00 am in the parking lot of the shopping center at Crown Valley Pkwy and Cecil Pasture Rd. From I-5 take Crown Valley Pkwy east, cross the bridge over the Arroyo and turn R on Cecil Pasture Rd; take the first L into parking lot and park near that entrance. Bring water, snack, hiking shoes/lugsoles. Rain cancels.
Linda Ledger 949-444-1285 linda.ledger@me.com
Audrey Tomovich 949-830-8936 ourmean-dog@yahoo.com

RIDE SHARE MEETING POINTS
S Orange Co...Ortega Plaza parking lot SE corner, Ortega Hwy/Rancho Viejo, San Juan Capistrano

Angeles Chapter and Sierra Sage Group Present
Southern New Mexico
October 14-21, 2017
Leaders: Mike & Patty Sappingfield
As of this publication, there are 5 places left
Join us for this fascinating 8 days, 7 nights, exploration of Southern New Mexico. Highlights are Carlsbad Caverns and Guadalupe Mountains National Parks, White Sands, and Prehistoric Trackways National Monuments and Chimazal National Memorial. In between, we will visit the plaza of old Mesilla, and the stomping grounds of Billy the Kid in the historic town of Lincoln, and modern day museums such as the one about UFOs in Roswell, the White Sands Missile Range Museum, and the New Mexico Museum of Space History. Towns and Cities visited include El Paso, Texas, and Las Cruces, Alamogordo, Roswell, Carlsbad, in New Mexico.
Trip includes transportation via a 56 passenger Motor Coach from El Paso, to all stops, and returning to El Paso at the end of the trip. All Breakfasts, and up to two picnic lunches and Lodging for 2 people per room for 7 nights in middle range hotels such as Comfort Inns and similar places are included. It also includes all admissions to all museums, parks, and the planned tours in Carlsbad Caverns. Other lunches, all dinners, air or other transportation from home to El Paso are not included.

Trip cost is $1295 per person for Sierra Club Members ($1395 for non-members.)
A $500 deposit per person will reserve your spot with final payment of the remainder due no later than July 1, 2017. A small number of rooms will be available for those who wish to have a private room and are willing to pay a single supplement of $500.

To apply, request the application package from Mike & Patty Sappingfield at mikesapp@cox.net or via mail at P. O. Box 524, Lake Forest, CA 92609.
Send the completed application forms along with the $500 (+$250 deposit if you wish a private room for one) to “Sierra Sage of South Orange County, P. O. Box 524, Lake Forest, CA 92609.”
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<th>Title</th>
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<td>Chapter Rep</td>
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<td>Alt Chap Rep</td>
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<td>Media Contact</td>
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<tr>
<td>Santa Ana Mtns TF</td>
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<td>714-968-4677</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Onofre TF</td>
<td>Glenn Pascall</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:gpascall@att.net">gpascall@att.net</a></td>
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* Denotes voting member of the Executive Committee

**SIERRA SAGE MEETINGS.**

- Executive Committee meetings are open to all members of the Sierra Club who reside in South Orange County. Meetings are on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Contact Mike Sappingfield at mikesapp@cox.net for date, time and directions.
- Preserve the Coastal areas of Orange County? Contact Penny Elia at greenpl1@cox.net
- Interested in electing environmentally supportive politicians into local offices? Contact Sharon Koch at skoch@ix.netcom.com
- Want to keep the Santa Ana Mountains wild? Or even want to help maintain the trails in the San Mateo Wilderness Area? Contact John Kaiser at jkai39@gmail.com

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**Subscription Information**

**Sierra Sage Newsletter**

Subscription Rates:

- 1 Year $9.00
- 2 Years $15.00

Please mail your check to:

**Sierra Sage**

P. O. Box 524

Lake Forest, CA 92609

Sierra Sage is scheduled for delivery on Jan 1, March, 1, May 1, July 1, Sept 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 mikesapp@cox.net and tell us you want the emailed Newsletter.

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**INTERNET ADDRESSES:**

Angeles Chapter: www.angeles.sierraclub.org

Sierra Sage: www.sierrasage.org
Subscribers…..Check the “Last Issue” date on your label and renew early. Don’t forget to give us your new address if you’re moving so you’ll get your Sage at your new place on time!

Website:

HIKE OF THE MONTH

Sunday, January 08, 2017 3:00 PM
0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing O: Crystal Cove Sunset Hike

A "Mike's Hike" of 4 mi round trip, 100’ gain. Enjoy a late afternoon beach walk down to the cottages, then back along the beach, pausing at Pelican Point to watch the sunset behind Catalina Island. Meet 3:00 pm on Cameo Shores Road at the PCH just North of Crystal Cove State Park and we will walk into the Park. We will return to the cars after sunset. Rain cancels.

Michael Sappingfield 949-633-6993
mikesapp@cox.net
John Kaiser 714-968-4677 jkai39@gmail.com

Join the Sierra Club

Yes, I want to join! I want to help safeguard our nation’s precious natural heritage. My check is enclosed.

Name ________________________________
Address ________________________________
City, State ______________________ Zip ____

F94Q 0417

Membership Categories (circle one)

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Send Check to Sierra Club, P. O. Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041 Membership not tax deductible