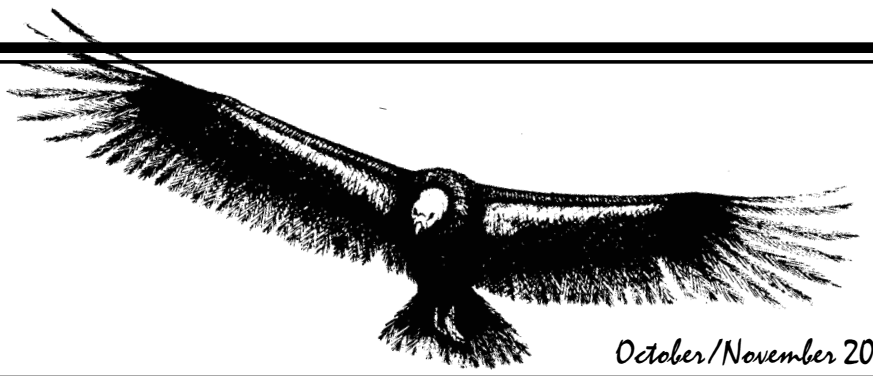


# Condor Call

Journal of the Los Padres Chapter Sierra Club  
Serving Ventura & Santa Barbara Counties



October/November 2004



Not room for both on this front country trail, but a consensus to resolve long-running trail conflicts is emerging. (Photo by John Hankins)

## LOCAL RACES . . .

# Ventura's open space tax may be a trendsetter

Yes, there are other important elections other than the presidential on Nov. 2 and the Sierra Club has again chosen the best environmental candidates possible.

As member Ada Babine wrote, "Don't underestimate the importance of your vote. The future of our planet is at stake," and that begins locally.

We are losing a prime environmental legislator, Hannah-Beth Jackson, to term limits in the coastal 35th Assembly District, but Coastal Commissioner Pedro Nava is an excellent replacement.

And in Ventura County there's a key proposal (Measure A) that is so well-crafted it's the first time in anyone's memory that the Sierra Club and Ventura County Farm Bureau are openly working together.

Unfortunately for Santa Barbara County, the power on the Board of Supervisors will shift away from an environmental majority due to elections last March.

In races that affect both counties, the club enthusiastically supports:

—Congress Member **Lois Capps** who consistently gets high marks on her environmental advocacy and has been endorsed by the club during the last election.

—**Pedro Nava**, running for the 35th Assembly District. Nava is an attorney and Coastal Commissioner who has proven he will be part of a first line of defense against sprawl and excessive development along the coastal zone.

Local endorsements include:

—**Yes on Measure A**, the Ventura County Open Space Tax Dis-

trict that will add 0.25 percent to the sales tax for ten years to acquire open space and park land and preserve agriculture.

Environmentalists throughout the nation are watching this issue to see if people care enough about saving the places they love to tax themselves. It looks good so far, judging from the near-universal support of organizations, such as the County Farm Bureau and including groups that don't normally get involved in political measures, such as the Nature Conservancy and Trust for Public Lands.

—**No on Measure B**, the Ventura County Transportation Tax Initiative that would add 0.5 percent to the sales tax for street infrastructure and traffic problems.

"This measure is harmful to the environment in many ways," according to Chapter Conservation Chair Al Sanders, who appears on the ballot representing the Club's formal opposition. "It is growth inducing, funds projects that are not needed or wanted and obligates the taxpayer to pay this tax for 30 years, far beyond the immediate needs that are cited by proponents, and it passes the costs of infrastructure associated with new developments onto the public."

Perhaps, most troubling was a last minute change that reduced the amount for mass transit and bicycle lanes from 30 to 20 percent, at a time when many said 30 percent was far too low.

In other Ventura area elections, the club is endorsing:

—**Russ Baggerly** for Board of Directors, Casitas Municipal Water District, District 5.

—**Mike Ferris** for Thousand Oaks City Council.

In Santa Barbara County, the club favors:

—**Jonny Wallis** for a second term on the Goleta City Council.



Pedro Nava has a most excellent record backing up his run for the 35th Assembly District.

## An 'odd' consensus over trail conflicts may get trial run

By John Hankins

A coalition of trail users who are often in conflict have come out with a sort of consensus that may lead to solutions.

The ideas range from using trail stewards, odd-even days of usage for mountain bikers and hikers, creation of an alliance to work out a "master plan" and aggressive public education.

Although the two-year effort focused primarily on the "front country" trails of Santa Barbara's South Coast, the group said those trails "are part of a larger system that face the same issues and could act as a model for addressing . . . other trails in the Los Padres National Forest."

Its vision mentions trails designed for mixed uses and some reserved for specific user groups, such as hikers only on a single-track trail.

Known as the Front Country Trails Working Group, members include representatives from the Sierra Club (Tony Biegen), Forest

The fight over trail usage once focused on motorcycles, which were banned, but now it's mountain bikes versus equestrians and/or hikers. Those in the Sierra Club are often well-versed in the controversy, as members can be both mountain bikers and hikers. The Club's basic policy favors hikers on single-track trails, relegating mountain bikes to fire roads and wider trails.

Ford said the proposals are preliminary and will now be sent to involved agencies and stakeholders for feedback. Once that occurs, public meetings will be held, probably in the next few months.

"It's a major change of philosophy," Ford admitted, but nothing is set until more details are scrutinized.

He said the proposal to allow mountain bikes and hikers to trade off usage on odd or even days "is a long-term possibility" and should have a trial period of about two years to decide if it is effective.

Hike leader Biegen said the odd-

### CONDOR CALL IS 'ON LINE'

The Condor Call has finally gone online in Adobe PDF format. You can find a link to it at: <http://lospadres.sierraclub.org>

You may also find a link to it courtesy of local hike leader and author Tony Biegen, who has updated the Los Padres Chapter's hiking guide and put it on the web: [www.santabarbaratrailguide.com](http://www.santabarbaratrailguide.com)

The Condor Call should be posted online by our webmaster, Eric Marcos, the first of every publication month (see schedule, page 2 directory) and days before members receive it in the mail.

Thanks also goes to Jim Cook of Western Web printers, who is compiling back issues of Condor Call in PDF format for our archives.

Service, county and city of Santa Barbara, UCSB's Bren School of Environmental Studies and hiking, biking and equestrian aficionados.

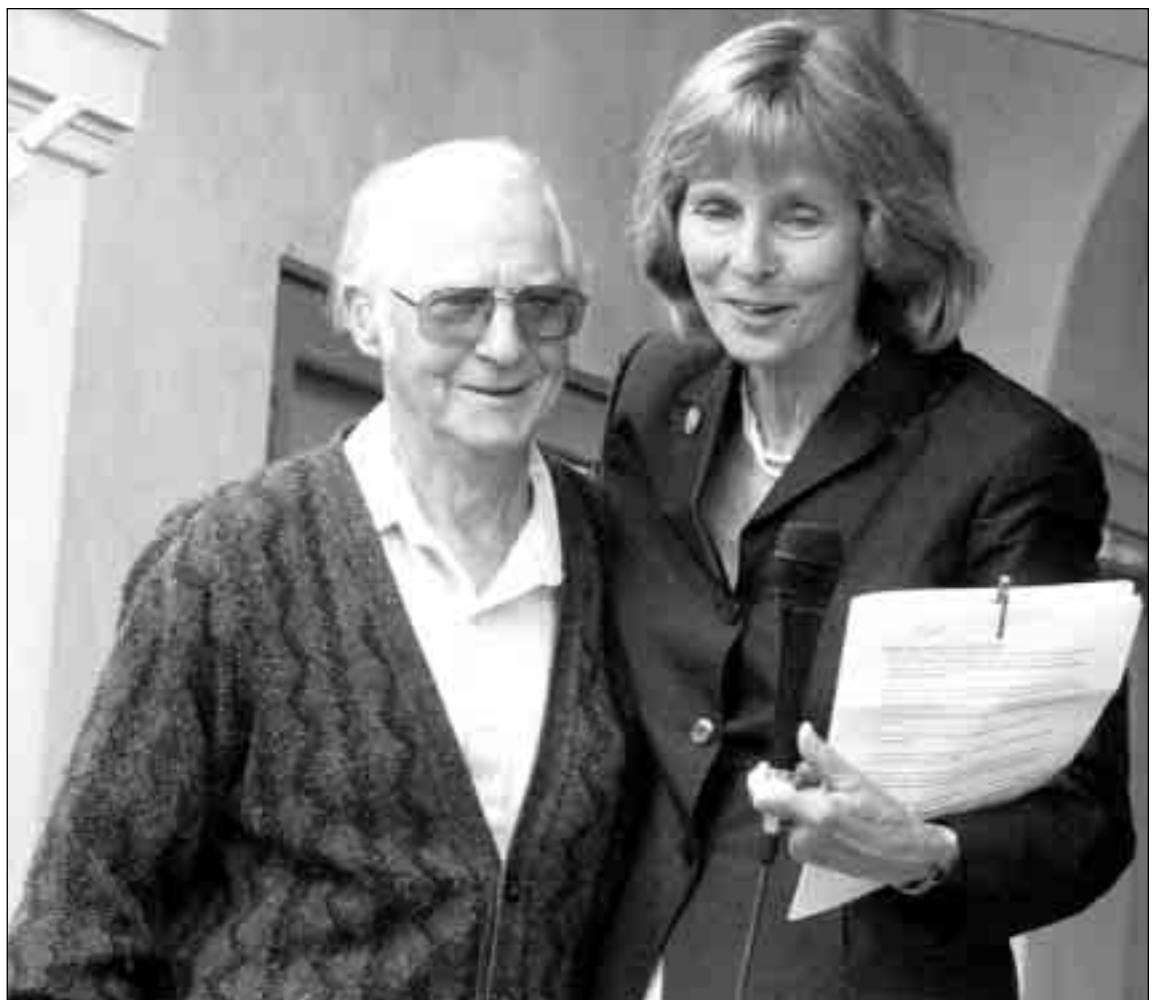
The effort is sponsored by the non-profit Los Padres Forest Association, which took on the task after the Forest Service was not able to resolve the volatile issues. LPFA President Ray Ford said the conflicts sometimes degenerated into "a lot of groups yelling and screaming at each other."

The LPFA will have regular updates on its website: [www.lpfa.org](http://www.lpfa.org).

even proposal might work because it would give "equestrians and hikers a day when they won't have to worry about a bike coming down at them, and hopefully it will get people back on the trails."

### COVER PHOTO

Amazing photos of Arctic National Wildlife Refuge by Subhankar Banerjee ("Unnamed Lake" shown) are at the Wildling Art Museum in Los Olivos until Jan. 9. There's more . . . an incredible tale of its creation on Oct. 10. See page 7 for details.



Rep. Lois Capps is enthusiastically endorsed for another term by the Sierra Club. She is shown here with Bob Sollen, a long-time chapter member and environmental writer. (Photos by John Hankins)

# 'Extraordinary' efforts by business recognized

The Santa Barbara County Green Award Consortium has recognized about 60 businesses in its 11-year history, and this year opened it up to public schools.

"When a school demonstrates sound environmental business practices, it not only serves as an environmental role model for other schools, but it also inspires the students and their parents," commented Frances Gilliland, of the APCD.

Honored this year are: Housing & Residential Services of UCSB,

the consortium. Its list of programs includes recycling in residence halls, reducing storm water runoff through the use of bioswales, renewable energy, composting and a "move-out" program. The comprehensive recycling efforts divert hundreds of tons of material from the landfill annually.

Great White Dental Lab is a leader in making the business case for solar power and sends excess power to the grid.

Monte Vista School goes well beyond normal efforts, boasting a native plant trail for environmental education, a co-mingled recycling program, an organic garden and less-toxic cleaning and grounds maintenance.

Kanaloa Seafood recently became the first seafood processor and distributor in North America and Europe to become ISO 14001 certified, which requires a certified program of pollution prevention and continuous improvement. Part of its work is to work toward sustainable fisheries.

To find out more and/or get help with your own business, contact: [www.greendifference.org](http://www.greendifference.org).

## EAVESDROPS

**"If low-car diets are followed by walking and being active, instead of driving and sitting around, it'll keep your weight and gasoline bill down."**

—Mitch Rust of Arroyo Grande, noting that low-carb diets "need to lose a letter."

Great White Dental Lab in Santa Maria, Monte Vista School and Kanaloa Seafood, both of Santa Barbara.

UCSB Housing Service's efforts were deemed "extraordinary" by

## Firms favor John Kerry

Leaders from dozens of outdoor companies, including Patagonia, Inc., gathered in Oregon September 15 to announce support for Sen. John Kerry.

The companies report an \$18 billion annual business, dedicated to enriching outdoor recreational experiences. In a letter addressed to

their 150 million customers, they outlined a litany of areas where the Bush Administration has degraded environmental protections and slashed support for environmental protection programs.

Read the story and the letter at: <http://home.businesswire.com>

—California Coast Watcher



Give Gabrielle and Kenneth Adelman at least 12,700 cheers, which is the number of aerial coastal photos they've taken since 2002. They visited Santa Barbara Aug. 5, just a few days after insiders found out the Sierra Club gave them the coveted Ansel Adams award. Gabrielle flies the helicopter while Ken "hangs out the window." (Photo by John Hankins)

## NATIONAL AWARDS:

# Club honors activists

The Sierra Club's highest honor, the John Muir Award was given this year to the venerable **Vicky Hoover** for "a distinguished record of achievement."

Hoover, a club member from San Francisco, has spent more than 30 years working on wilderness protection and leading outings for the Sierra Club.

"It doesn't feel like work going to wild, beautiful places, advocating for them, and taking other people there," she said with characteristic modesty.

Several individuals who have worked to protect the California coastline are also among those honored with national awards.

**Ken and Gabrielle Adelman** of Corralitos are the recipients of this year's Ansel Adams Award for conservation photography. The Sierra Club is honoring the Adelmans for their work on the California Coastal Records Project, a massive effort to photograph the entire 1,100-mile California coastline from the air.

Their photographs, which now number more than 12,000, have

been used by numerous organizations in their efforts to protect the California coastline. They are available free of charge at: [www.california.coastline.org](http://www.california.coastline.org).

**Peter Douglas**, executive director of the California Coastal Commission since 1984, is also being recognized for his efforts to protect the coast. He got the Distinguished Service Award, honoring those in public service for strong and consistent commitment to conservation.

Douglas has survived various efforts to remove him by critics who have a stake in developing the coast. U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer said, "he has improved protection of our coast from pollution, strengthened enforcement and enhanced public education and outreach about the importance of our marine resources."

Also receiving the Distinguished Service Award is California State Senator **Byron Sher**, who has been one of the nation's preeminent state legislators on environmental issues.

Now a victim of term limits, he has left an important legacy during his 24-year career in the Legisla-

ture, some of which have served as models for similar legislation in other states.

Other notable honorees this year include former Secretary of the

## EAVESDROPS

**"The free-spirited feeling of going to these coastal sites has been replaced with friction."**

—John Palminteri, writing about developers such as at the Bacara Resort promising public access to the beach, yet in fact limiting it. He warns the same could happen for the newly-proposed Rincon Bluffs Resort just east of Carpinteria.

Interior **Stewart Lee Udall** of New Mexico, recognized with the Edgar Wayburn Award for service to the environment by a person in government.

Syndicated columnist **Molly Ivins** of Texas is the recipient of the David Brower Award for environmental journalism.

For a complete list, go to: [www.sierraclub.org/awards](http://www.sierraclub.org/awards).

## Free forum

A free public forum on sustainability featuring the renowned global thinker, Dr. Fritjof Capra, is set for 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 15 in Santa Barbara's Victoria Hall.

Beginning at 5 p.m. there will be an exhibition of local green building industry and educational programs and at 6 p.m. the first annual Green Building Awards will be presented.

Capra's talk is entitled "Designing for Life: Sustainability, Stewardship and Society." The next day he will meet with leaders from government, business and nonprofits for ways to promote sustainability locally.

For details, call 966-3355 or go to: [www.sustainabilityproject.org](http://www.sustainabilityproject.org).

## Condor Call

ONLINE: <http://lospadres.sierraclub.org>

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Art Benkaim, 645 Costa del Mar, #C, Santa Barbara 93103

Photos, news, tips always welcome!

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The Chapter Executive Committee meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at IHOP Restaurant at the Casitas Pass Rd. exit off Hwy. 101 in Carpinteria, 7:30 p.m.

Rick Skillin (chair), 688-9703, [rick.skillin@sierraclub.org](mailto:rick.skillin@sierraclub.org)

David Gold (vice-chair), 642-7748

Roger Zimmerman, 928-4908, [razimmer@earthlink.net](mailto:razimmer@earthlink.net)

Mike Stubblefield, 988-0339

Joe Connett • Jeri Andrews 379-2768 • Al Sanders 488-7988

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Conejo: Jeri Andrews, 379-2768

Santa Barbara: Ada Babine, 962-2042

Sespe: Alan Sanders, 488-7988

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Joy Kobayashi, [tandemstoker@earthlink.net](mailto:tandemstoker@earthlink.net)

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## YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

You can help protect the environment by joining Sierra Club's fast-growing **Home Lobbying Network**. When you return this card, your name will be added to our lists and indexed according to your Congressional and State Legislative districts. When pro-environment votes from YOUR representatives are needed, we will call on you to contact them. Participation in this grassroots effort is simple and VERY, VERY effective.

Name	_____
Address	_____
City	Zip
Home Phone	Work Phone
Fax	E-mail

(Please return this coupon to Home Lobbying Network, 3345 Wilshire Blvd., #508, Los Angeles, California 90010-1816.)

(Source: Los Padres Chapter)



# Outings Schedule

Los Padres Chapter — Sierra Club  
[www.sierraclub.org/chapters/lospadres](http://www.sierraclub.org/chapters/lospadres)



### Conditions

A number of campgrounds and roads in Los Padres National Forest are closed or have restricted (no autos) access due to protection of habitats and species or are under repair. Before you go into the local backcountry, it's a good idea to check conditions with rangers. Numbers to call (unless noted, all 805 area code):

#### Los Padres National Forest Districts:

Headquarters	968-6640
Ojai Dist.	646-4348
Mt. Pinos	(661) 245-3731
Santa Barbara	967-3481
Santa Lucia	925-9538

#### Other Areas:

Santa Monica Mts. Area	370-2301
Conejo Parks	381-2737
Simi Valley	584-4400
Montecito	969-3514

### Forest Notes

For updated information, news releases, maps, and many other goodies, go to Los Padres National Forest website:

[www.r5.fs.fed.us/lospadres](http://www.r5.fs.fed.us/lospadres)

### Public's Forest

Best website run by citizens of the Los Padres Forest Association, with info as varied as wildflower alerts, trailwork opportunities and factious issues, welcomes your input too:

[www.lpforest.org](http://www.lpforest.org)

### Outing Notes

The two letter abbreviation at the end of each outing is a key to the group who has organized the outing.

**AR**—Arguello Group

**CJ**—Conejo Group

**SB**—Santa Barbara Group

**SP**—Sespe Group

**WLA**—West LA (Angeles Chapter)

All phone numbers are in area code (805) unless otherwise noted.

The public is welcome at all outings listed, unless otherwise specified. Please bring drinking water to all outings and optionally a lunch. Study footwear is recommended. If you have questions contact the leader listed. Pets are generally not allowed. A parent or responsible adult must accompany children under the age of 14.

A frequently updated listing of all outings can be viewed at: <http://lospadres.sierraclub.org>. This website also contains links to the Group web pages.

### October 6

**WILDWOOD PARK & BOX CANYON:** Moderate 4 mrt. Hike the Box Canyon Trail to Lizard Rock. A short section is steep and strenuous. Bring water, food and wear lug-soled shoes. Meet at 5:30pm at the west end of Avenida de Los Arboles. LINDA BARRY 492-0071 (CJ)

### October 9

**ALEXANDER PEAK MEADOWS:** Hike past 19 Oaks, then by deer trails to a beautiful remote ridge for lunch. Moderate 7 mrt. Bring lunch and

water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ALEX 898-1240 (SB)

**13th Annual CONEJO OPEN SPACE TRAIL WORK DAY:** Meet at 7:30am at Conejo Community Center Park in Thousand Oaks. Exit 101 Freeway on Lynn Rd. north, right on Gainsborough Rd. right at the Conejo Valley Botanic Garden sign (just past the 7th Day Adventist Church). Breakfast snack. Thank you Bar-B-Que after the work. This is a great event with many volunteers. BURT ELLIOTT 498-2475 (CJ)

**October 10 TRAIL WORK:** Join the Sierra Club in maintaining one of our local trails. Help to support the trails that have given you so much hiking pleasure. Call leader for details. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. TONY 687-1929 (SB)

**SURF BEACH HIKE:** Celebrate the end of plover season on Surf Beach by taking a hike going south (5 mrt). Dogs welcome. Meet at Surf parking lot at 1pm. Bring water and snack. Connie 735-2292 (AR)

**October 11 MONDAY MORNING WALK - FOOD COURT:** Start the week off with an invigorating 5 mrt walk in our local areas (beach or hillside). Optional coffee/snack after hike. Meet 8:30am at the food court (at Channel Islands Blvd. & Harbor Blvd). ELIZABETH 642-6971 & PAT 643-0270 (SP)

**October 13 LOS ROBLES TRAILS:** Moderate paced, moderate 4 mrt hike of leader's choice. Bring water, food and appropriate shoes. Meet at 5:30pm at the parking lot at South end of Moorpark Road at corner of Green Meadow Ave. and Moorpark Road. JOANNE SULKOSKE 492-3061 (CJ)

**October 16 COLD SPRINGS WATER TUNNEL:** Hike up Cold Springs Trail to a forgotten historic water tunnel. Steep at times, about 3 or 4 mrt. Bring water and a snack. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. KEITH 681-0916/965-9953 (SB)

**October 17 LIZARD'S MOUTH:** Explore the interesting rock formations and caves on West Camino Cielo near a popular climbing spot. Short easy hike with some boulder hopping. Bring lunch and water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ROBERT 685-1283 (SB)

**October 18 MONDAY MORNING WALK - SULPHUR MOUNTAIN:** Start the week off with an invigorating 5 mrt walk in our local areas (beach or hillside). Optional coffee/snack after hike. Meet 8:30am at Sulphur Mtn parking area. ELIZABETH 642-6971 & PAT 643-0270 (SP)

**October 20 MIDWEEK BIKE RIDE TO ISLA VISTA:** Meet at the Ventura carpool points at 10am or at Modoc Rd. adjacent to the bike trail at 11am. Bring helmet

and water. Lunch afterwards in Santa Barbara. Sheila 649-9044 (SP)

**BONEY TRAIL MAINTENANCE - POINT MUGU STATE PARK:** Meet at Wendy Dr. and Potrero Rd. in Newbury Park at 8:30am for shuttle. From the 101 Freeway take Wendy Rd. south to the end of the road. We will car pool to the trailhead. TOM SIEBERT (818) 865-1594, BURT ELLIOTT 498-2475 (CJ)

**October 22 EVENING SUNSET HIKE - LA JOLLA TO OVERLOOK:** Moderate 8 mile loop hike to La Jolla Canyon to Overlook trail with great sunset view of the coastline and Channel Islands, then down Ray Miller trail. Wear hiking shoes, bring water, food, flashlight. Meet at La Jolla parking lot at 5pm. Suzanne 551-3929 (SP)

**October 23 ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY:** Help keep Highway 1 beautiful. Trash pick up from the Lompoc "Wye" to the Base boundary. Meet in the Vandenberg Village Shopping Center parking lot at 9am. Rain cancels. VERN 733-2903 (AR)

**October 24 ALDER CREEK TRAIL:** Long car pool to Juncal Campground. Hike past Jameson Lake then up a long canyon to the ridge overlooking Carpinteria. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Moderate - strenuous 12 mrt. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. TONY 687-1929 (SB)

**October 25 ROCKY PINE RIDGE:** The short route through this wonderful pine tree and boulder filled area above Santa Barbara. Short, easy/moderate morning hike with some boulder hopping, 3 mrt. Bring water and a snack. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. PAUL 964-9002 (SB)

**October 27 WHITE LEDGE:** Enjoy pleasant 7 mrt hike by stream and beautiful canyon. Bring lunch, water, good boots and bug repellent. Meet at Ojai Park and Ride (500 E. Ojai Ave, Ojai) at 9am. Ted Guenther 985-8963 (SP)

**October 28 MONDAY MORNING WALK - ARROYO VERDE:** Start the week off with an invigorating 5 mrt walk in our local areas (beach or hillside). Optional coffee/snack after hike. Meet 8:30am at Arroyo Verde Park, Day Road and Foothill Road. ELIZABETH 642-6971 & PAT 643-0270 (SP)

**October 29 SERRANO CANYON TRAIL MAINTENANCE - POINT MUGU STATE PARK:** Meet at Sycamore Canyon day parking at 8:30am. Entrance is north off Pacific Coast Highway at Sycamore Canyon. Tell the attendant that you are part of the volunteer trail crew. VIRGINIA GRUE 493-4010, TOM SIEBERT (818) 865-1594 (CJ)

**October 30 LITTLE PINE MOUNTAIN:** Great views on this strenuous hike to a 4500 ft. peak (12 mrt, 3300 elev. gain). Bring plenty of water. Meet at Lompoc Civic Center at 7:45am or call to meet at the Park -n-Ride in Santa Ynez (Highways 246 & 154) at 8:30am. Hikes change; always contact the leader. PEGGY 733-2340 (AR)

**October 31 GUADALUPE DUNES:** Car pool to Guadalupe Dunes Beach Park north of Vandenberg. Walk over impressive dune area, then loop back along beach. Long drive and moderate 8 mrt walk. Bring old shoes, lunch, and plenty of water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. VICKI 563-4850 (SB)

**October 30 MATILIJIA CANYON HIKE:** Meet at 10am at the Ojai Park and Ride next to the Ford dealer, at the "Y", or at the Matilija Canyon trailhead at 10:30am. Bring lunch and lots of water; wear boots. Moderate, with creek crossings. Sheila 649-9044 (SP)

**October 31 PAUPER'S GRAVEYARD:** Join us for a Halloween stroll along El Sueno Rd. up to a little known graveyard on a hill above Cathedral Oaks Rd. Children welcome, bring water and a snack. Slow paced, 2-3 mile hike. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. KEITH 681-0916/965-9953 (SB)

**HALLOWEEN HIKE:** For a treat, the Sespe and Conejo Groups will be leading a joint outing up Ortega Trail, near Ojai, off of Highway 33. This

## EAVESDROPS

"Hopping around on those gigantic rocks was exciting. It was the most unusual hike I have taken. I have been on over 20 Sierra Club hikes in San Francisco and Santa Barbara, and that was the first time everyone applauded at the end. Great job!"

—David Peacock in an email to hike leader Robert Bernstein about an outing to the "Playground" above Goleta.

## Hyatt Trail patched



The John Hyatt Trail was named in memory of the man who died from cancer at only 55, leaving a major legacy of volunteer trail work and leadership. Ojai District rangers, Volunteer Wilderness Rangers, scouts, Los Padres Forest Association and Sierra Club members helped repair miles of the trail Sept. 11, the fourth annual event. Another is scheduled Nov. 20. (Photos contributed). Log onto [www.lpforest.org](http://www.lpforest.org) to keep up with other trail work opportunities.



## Ongoing Outings

### Every Monday morning

Join Elizabeth Budworth and Patricia Jump every Monday morning at 8:30 a.m. for moderate walks in the Ventura and Ojai areas. Now in its seventh year, the walks last about two hours and the group sometimes goes for coffee afterward. CALL 643-0270 or 642-6971.

### Every Wednesday

**URBAN EVENING HIKE:** Weekly urban hike in Ventura meeting at 6:45 pm for a 4 mile hike up the hill to Father Serra's cross with view of sunset over the ocean and the Channel Islands, then down the hill to the ocean and walk to end of pier, then along beach promenade to mouth of Ventura River. Meet at the fountain across the street from the San Buenaventura Mission. DAVE RIVAS 701-2466

### Tuesday Evenings

**HIKES:** Short, easy 90-min. hikes at Surf Beach, the Mission, Miguelito Canyon, or other spots near Lompoc (approx. 3 miles) Novice hikers will find these hikes to be a good introduction to group hiking. Meet in the parking lot behind the Lompoc Civic Center Pool by 6:25 pm for carpool to hike location. Wear walking shoes and bring a flashlight. Rain cancels. VERN 733-2903 or DEAN 736-6685. (AR)

### Every Friday

**SOCIAL HIKE:** An easy-to-moderate 2-4-mrt night hike in Santa Barbara front country, beach, or back roads. Meet at 6:15 p.m. at the Old Mission. Bring a flashlight. Optional potluck or pizza afterward. AL SLAYDEK (SB)

### Sunday Afternoons

**CONEJO GROUP** is leading a special series of Sunday Afternoon Hikes approximately twice a month. These hikes are geared to the interests of individuals or families who wish to take a 2-3-hr. walk in the outdoors with frequent stops to examine or study wildlife and the ecology. Exercise is of secondary concern. The hikes are not intended to be strenuous, but may entail some ascending of hills or walking on rocks. No pets or radios. TOM MAXWELL, 492-2184 (CJ)

### Monthly Programs

**ARGUELLO GROUP:** Slide shows, speakers, and movies—third Friday of each month. Inquire for details: 928-3598. (AR)

**COMMUNITY SERVICE:** Help keep Highway 1 beautiful. Adopt-a-Highway trash pickup from the Lompoc "Wye" to the Base boundary. Meet at Vandenberg Village Shopping Center parking lot at 9 a.m. on the fourth Saturday of odd-numbered months. Rain cancels. For information contact Connie (805) 735-2292.

### San Luis Obispo Outings

**THERE ARE MANY** south San Luis Obispo County outings planned monthly that should interest Los Padres Chapter members and the public. They include hikes, bike trips, campouts, trail riding with horses, kayaking Avila and Morro bays, and treks through the Nipomo Dunes area. For a detailed schedule, call or write to Bill Deneen at (805) 929-3647, or write to 1040 Cielo Lane, Nipomo 93444.

## Chuchupate open 7 days

The Chuchupate Ranger Station in Frazier Park is now open seven days a week to serve visitors to the Mt. Pinos Ranger District of Los Padres National Forest.

The station's extended hours follows a similar schedule adopted by

the popular visitors' center at Wheeler Gorge off Highway 33 behind Ojai. Chuchupate Ranger Station is located at 34580 Lockwood Valley Road; phone (661) 245-3731.

Los Padres National Forest website is: [www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres).

### November 8

**MONDAY MORNING WALK - WILLS CANYON CONSERVANCY TRAIL:** Start the week off with an invigorating 5 mile walk in our local area. Optional coffee/snack after hike. Meet 8:30am in parking lot at trailhead on Rice near El Roblar in Meiner's Oaks. Bring water; wear boots and hat. ELIZABETH 642-6971 & PAT 643-0270 (SP)

### November 11

**HOWARD CREEK TO ROSE VALLEY:** Midweek hike, Howard Creek to Rose Valley campground in Los Padres. Meet at 10am at the Ojai Park and Ride at the Y, next to the Ford dealer. Bring lunch and water. We'll do a 7½ miles one way, after a short car shuttle. 1600' gain, moderate to difficult. Pat 643-0270 or Sheila 649-9044 (SP)

### November 13

**SUNBIRD MINE:** Hike to an old mercury mine from the end of Paradise Rd. past Gibraltar Dam on a dirt road (12 mrt, 1000 ft elev. gain). Bring water, lunch and meet at the park and ride behind the Lompoc Bowling Alley (7th & Cypress) at 8am or 8:45am at the Park-n-Ride in Santa Ynez (Highways 246 & 154). CONNIE 735-2292 (AR)

**URBAN HIKE TO FRANCHESCI PARK:** Start near the Mission, walk through the Riviera, then up the "1000 steps" to a great view of the city and harbor. Return via Las Tunas Rd. Some steep sections. Moderate 4 mrt. Bring water and a snack. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. DAVE 563-4850 (SB)

### November 14

**DOUBLE PARK HIKE:** First a 2 mile wooded trail along San Ysidro Creek in Montecito, then after lunch another 3 miles stroll along San Antonio Creek Trail. Easy. Children welcome with supervision. Bring lunch and water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. VICKI 563-4850 (SB)

### November 15

**MONDAY MORNING WALK - LOON POINT**

# Fire danger still high

There have been 52 fires in Los Padres National Forest this year, the largest being the 1,127-acre Cachuma Fire in early May.

Despite the lesser amount this year, the Forest Service has imposed increased restrictions because of the drought, which contributes to erratic fire behavior and more danger.

Visitors should be especially careful before the rains begin and should contact the local ranger stations (listings on page 4) for up-to-date information, or go to: [www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/lospadres).

## Outings . . .

Cont'd. from page 4

**BEACH WALK:** Meet 8:30 AM at the Carpool Lot or the Loon Point parking lot at 9am. Drive North on 101 past Carpinteria, exit on Santa Claus Lane, go North on Padaro Lane for about one mile to the Loon Point parking lot. ELIZABETH 642-6971 & PAT 643-0270 (SP)

### November 17

**MIDWEEK BIKE RIDE - 5TH ST. TO SILVER-STRAND:** Meet at 11am at the end of 5th St. at the beach. Bring helmet and water; easy ride. We'll eat lunch enroute. Sheila 649-9044 (SP)

### November 20

**ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY:** Help keep Highway 1 beautiful. Trash pick up from the Lompoc "Wye" to the Base boundary. Meet in the Vandenberg Village Shopping Center parking lot at 9am. Rain cancels. CONNIE 735-2292 (AR)

**MISSION RIDGE:** Hike from Rattlesnake Canyon, up the connector trail to Tunnel Trail and then up a primitive trail to the top of a ridge. Primitive trail, steep at times and some boulder hopping. Moderately strenuous 7 mrt. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. ALEX 898-1240 (SB)

**ANNUAL FALL COLOR WALK:** Annual fall color walk to Soule Park in Ojai. Meet at 3pm at the downtown Park and Ride, at Fox St., in Ojai, and we'll walk from there. Bring water. Dinner afterwards at Exotic Thai. Easy. Sheila 649-9044 (SP)

### November 21

**GAVIOTA CAVES:** Hike up about 500 feet from Gaviota beach and explore the caves and wind tunnels in the ridges above. We'll see how the area is recovering from the June fire. Some rock scrambling and agility required. About 3 or 4 mrt. Bring lunch and water. Meet behind B of A on upper State St. at Hope Ave. at 9am. TONY 687-1929 (SB)

**BEACH WALK TO CARPINTERIA:** Nice fall walk along the beach/coastline with great view of the Channel Islands. Easy pace, 7 mrt, to Carpinteria



"Morning at Devereux Slough," painting by SCAPE artist Jennifer Boswell.

## SCAPE art for Reserve

A special ecology-themed art exhibit and sale to benefit Friends of Coal Oil Point Reserve will be 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 6 -7 at La Arcada Court in Santa Barbara.

Sponsored by SCAPE (Southern California Artists Painting for the Environment), juror Hank Pitcher, a well-known Oak Group artist, will select over 200 paintings. The event features guest artists Michael Drury, Ky Easton and John Klippenstein, with special focus on coastal landscapes, notably Devereux Lagoon and its surroundings.

SCAPE was founded in 2002 by a group of distinguished plein air painters who want to raise money to preserve open space. To date, it has helped raise over \$25,000 for local conservation organizations, while increasing awareness of conservation issues.

To find out more, call Susan Belloni at 962-1492 or log onto: [www.s-c-a-p-e.org](http://www.s-c-a-p-e.org)



When developer John King proposed a large "resort" on the Rincon Bluffs (ocean side of Highways 101 and 150 along Carpinteria Avenue) in September, the reaction was quick and pretty much all negative. His plan called for wedding chapels, hotel, condos, restaurants, RV park etc. But at the Carpinteria City Council workshop, Councilmember Michael Ledbetter (shown) quipped, "Where's the carwash? This project doesn't preserve resources, it paves over them." The parcel not only includes the flat area in foreground, but also the bluffs land in the background. (Photo by John Hankins)

for lunch. Bring water, wear hat, sunscreen, shoes for hiking on beach and trail, \$\$ for lunch. Meet 10am at Ventura carpool lot or 10:30am at Bates Beach. Rain cancels. Ted Guenther 985-8963 (SP)

### November 22

**MONDAY MORNING WALK - VENTURA WILD:** Start the week off with an invigorating 5 mrt walk in our local areas (beach or hillside). Optional coffee/snack after hike. Meet 8:30am at SE parking lot of the Century 16 Theatre off Johnson Drive. ELIZABETH 642-6971 & PAT 643-0270 (SP)

### November 27

**LOST VALLEY TRAIL:** See fall colors as we hike from the Nira Campground (8 mi. RT, 1200 elev. gain). Meet at the Lompoc Civic Center at 9am or the Park 'N Ride near Santa Ynez (highway 154 & 246) at 9:45am. Hikes are subject to change, always contact the leader. DEAN 736-6685 (AR)

**ULTIMATE HIKE:** Very strenuous 17.5 mile hike. This up-and-down hike covers parts of 9 different trails on the front range. Plan for an all day trip. Wear good hiking shoes, bring lunch and plenty of water. Contact the hike leader for details. PAUL 964-9002 (SB)

### November 28

**EI CAPITAN RANCH:** Start at El Capitan Canyon Camp, walk into the canyon, cross the creek and climb up various ridges for great view of the coast. Moderate 7 or 8 mrt. on ranch roads and some trails. Elevation gain is about 600ft. Bring lunch and water. Meet behind B of A on upper State Street at Hope Ave. at 9am. CHRISTINE 963-2347 (SB)

### November 29

**MONDAY MORNING WALK - NORTH BANK:** Start the week off with an invigorating 5 mrt walk in our local areas (beach or hillside). Optional coffee/snack after hike. Meet 8:30am at the SE corner of Montgomery and Bristol in Ventura. ELIZABETH 642-6971 & PAT 643-0270 (SP)

### December 11

**SURF BEACH HIKE:** Walk south on Surf Beach to see waterfalls and caves (7 mi. RT). There's a minus tide (-1.5) at 3:40pm. Bring water and snack. Meet at Surf parking lot at 1:30pm. Dogs welcome. CONNIE 735-2292 (AR)

### December 12

**OUTINGS WRITE-UPS DUE SOON:** All group outings chairpersons should be preparing their outing write-ups for the Feb-May period to be published starting in the Feb/Mar issue of the Condor Call. Be sure to include two weeks into June. Please submit by email, if possible. Use ASCII or Windows text format. Most popular word processors can do these. If not, submit in

## EAVESDROPS

"Endangered species are the 'canaries' sending us a message that our habitat is being seriously degraded."

—Bill Denneen, biologist and activist from San Luis Obispo County.

the word processor's native format, including a note identifying which word processor you used. Questions? GERRY CHING 964-5411

### December 18

**ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY:** Help keep Highway 1 beautiful. Trash pick up from the Lompoc "Wye" to the Base boundary. Meet in the Vandenberg Village Shopping Center parking lot at 9am. Rain cancels. VERN 733-2903 (AR)

### December 26

**OUTINGS DUE SOON:** You should be finishing your outings write-ups for the Feb-May period for publication in the Condor Call. Be sure to include two weeks into June. Questions? GERRY

## Hiking the web

Do you know of a web site that would interest Los Padres Chapter members? Send it in to the Condor Call editor ([gnusman@aol.com](mailto:gnusman@aol.com)) or call him at 745-5432. All begin with [www](http://www). unless otherwise specified.

- Candidates' eco-votes . . . . . [lcv.org](http://lcv.org)
- Endangered species list . . . . . <http://ventura.fws.gov>
- Bush coastal record . . . . . [sierraclub.org/coastalreport](http://sierraclub.org/coastalreport)
- Pacific Crest Trail . . . . . [pcta.org](http://pcta.org)
- Election info . . . . . [electionwatchdog.org](http://electionwatchdog.org)

CHING, 964-5411

### January 8

**JALAMA BEACH:** Hike with a minus tide (-1.4 at 2:45) on Jalama Beach (8 mrt). Bring lunch, water, and jacket and meet at 10am at the Park-n-Ride behind the Lompoc Bowling Alley, or 10:45am in front of the Jalama store. CONNIE 735-2292 (AR)

### January 9

**OUTINGS WRITEUPS DUE:** Finish your outings writeups for the Feb-May Outings Schedule and mail them this week. They should reach Gerry by January 15. Send to Gerry Ching, 462 S. San Marcos Rd., Santa Barbara CA 93111 or email ([gerry\\_ching@msn.com](mailto:gerry_ching@msn.com)). Questions? GERRY CHING 964-5411

### January 15

**ADOBE TRAIL:** Moderate to strenuous hike on a trail through chaparral and oak-studded grassland (7 mrt, 1300 ft elev. gain). Bring lunch, water, jacket and sturdy shoes. Meet 8:45am in Santa Maria at the North SB County Government Center's easternmost parking lot. Rain cancels. JERRY 928-3598 (AR)

### January 22

**ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY:** Help keep Highway 1 beautiful. Trash pick up from the Lompoc "Wye" to


the Base boundary. Meet in the Vandenberg Village Shopping Center parking lot at 9am. Rain cancels. CONNIE 735-2292 (AR)

### January 29

**SNYDER TRAIL TO KNAPP'S CASTLE:** Hike Snyder trail from Paradise Road up to the site of an old hunting lodge and see beautiful wildflowers and a gorgeous view (7 mi. RT, 2,000 ft elev. gain). Bring water, lunch camera, binoculars, and dress for changeable weather. Rain cancels. Meet at the Lompoc Civic Center at 9am or the Park 'N Ride near Santa Ynez (highway 154 & 246) at 9:45am. Hikes are subject to change, always contact the leader. DEAN 736-6685 (AR)

### February 5

**OATS PEAK-COON CREEK LOOP:** Hike from Spooner's Cove Ranger Station along gradually ascending open ridge to lunch at Oats Peak. After lunch, we'll descend along a spur ridge through a canopy of oak woods through Coon Creek valley to the ocean. Loop may be finished by Bluff trail or roadway back to the Ranger Station (9 mrt, 1500 ft. elev. gain). Meet 8:45am in Santa Maria at the North SB County Government Center's easternmost parking lot. Rain cancels. Hikes are subject to change so always contact the leader. JERRY 928-3598 (AR)



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Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to Sierra magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.


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**Sierra Club Celebrates  
 The Wilderness Act  
 40th Anniversary  
 1964-2004**

Won't you join the Sierra Club  
 and help preserve the Wilderness?



**Explore, enjoy and protect the planet**

# Celebrate Wilderness Act anniversary outside



Bob Stone rides the San Rafael Wilderness. An illustrated talk by outdoor author Ray Ford is happening Nov. 4 in celebration of the Wilderness Act's 40th birthday. (Photo by Ray Ford)

## Free show of local wilds by writer set Nov. 4

Backcountry expert Ray Ford will help all of us in commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Wilderness Act with an illustrated talk about the wild areas of Santa Barbara County that he has been exploring for more than 30 years.

This free presentation is sponsored by the Santa Ynez Valley Natural History Society at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 4 in the Solvang Library.

Ford will describe some of the natural treasures of the nearby San Rafael Wilderness, established as a Primitive Area in 1932.

In 1968 it became the nation's first to be reclassified as a Wilderness Area.

Ford is a Santa Barbara author, retired teacher, and explorer of wild places.

He is current president of the Los Padres Forest Association and is the author of four books: *Trails of the San Rafael Wilderness*, *Santa Barbara Wildfires*, *Santa Barbara Day Hikes*, and *Santa Barbara Mountain Bikes*.

Ford will be signing his books following the talk.

Other events coming up include: "Chumash Uses of Plants" workshop with Jan Timbrook (Oct. 17) at UC Sedgwick Reserve. Advance registration required; call 686-1941 or email [synature@west.net](mailto:synature@west.net)

Manzana Creek hike in the San Rafael Wilderness with Ben Munger, Sunday, Nov. 7, meet at Mattei's Tavern in Los Olivos 8:30 a.m. sharp.

A former forest ranger, Munger is currently the ranch manager for Midland School, oversees its 8-acre organic garden, and teaches anthropology and Midland 101.

To contact the society, call 693-5683 or email [synature@west.net](mailto:synature@west.net).

## Club honors wilderness champ

While hundreds of wilderness activists converged on the nation's capital in late September to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the landmark Wilderness Act, the Sierra Club also paused to celebrate the 98th birthday of one of America's legendary wilderness champions. Dr. Edgar Wayburn.

A tenacious and tireless leader of the Sierra Club since the 1940s, Wayburn is perhaps the least-known yet most successful defender of America's natural heritage.

The club honored Dr. Wayburn with the first-ever Howard C. Zahniser Lifetime Achievement Award, given to someone whose life of

achievement in protecting wilderness most closely parallels that of Zahniser, the person principally responsible for the Wilderness Act.

The Act was signed in 1964 and now protects more than 106 million acres in 650 areas in 44 states, representing just 5 percent of the nation's land mass.

The Bush Administration declared in 2003 that the nation has enough wilderness and issued a policy that prevents federal land managers from taking inventory and is also pursuing an aggressive policy to open these lands to increased resource extraction and road building.

Dr. Wayburn's book, *Your Land and Mine: Evolution of a Conservationist*, was published by Sierra Club Books last spring and offers an engaging portrait of an important and inspiring life.

More details about the Act are available at [www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org).

### EAVESDROPS

**"The time we spend in nature increasingly resembles our lickety-split lives. We run, fly, speed hike, free fall and scramble."**

—Lead-in to *L.A. Times* Outdoors features about the quiet and simple pleasures of "adrenaline-free zones."

## More camps at canyon approved

El Capitan Canyon Resort will expand to accommodate a hundred new lower cost campsites and some more upscale cottages without the need for a full environmental review.

The Board of Supervisors rendered the decision Aug. 19 after the Los Padres Chapter appealed a Planning Commission approval. The club was joined by the Surfrider Foundation in asking for more environmental review, but all five supervisors decided that wasn't necessary.

El Capitan's agents argued the expansion would be less than its "grandfather" rights and historic

attendance. Also, major improvements were being made to the ecology, notably sewage improvements, restoration projects, better water management and opening up the Bill Wallace Trail to the public, among others. Owner Roger Himovitz also gained the ability to continue with popular concerts that are open to both guests and the public.

The expansion allows 100 lower-cost campsites along the Calle Real 101 frontage road on 11 acres (50 RV sites, 30 tent and 20 'bicycle-in' sites) and up to 149 more cabin sites in the canyon itself. The 126-acre resort is on the mountain side

of Highway 101 opposite El Capitan State Beach.

Part of the deal limits overnight guests to 1,300 and additional day users to 300, which the developers' attorney says is a reduction from "a historic high of 3,000 users." The existing permit has no limit and records of the previous campsites are unavailable.

The expansion could also allow retreats, children's day camps, lectures and a rental horse facility, among others, as long as the daily guest limit is not exceeded.

The issue had split Sierra Club activists.

## What is Wilderness?

This year we commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Wilderness Act by quoting Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman, testifying before Congress in 1967.

In his introduction to the legislation that would make the San Rafael Primitive Area—northeast of the Santa Ynez Valley—become the first in the nation to be reclassified as Wilderness, he said:

"A wilderness is not just a recreation area, although recreation is usually an important use. Wilderness is a resource that has many values. To the land administrator, it serves as a control that provides a yardstick for policy decisions on use, protection, and management of comparable areas of land or water not so designated. It will also serve as a benchmark against which resource management and land capability evaluations can be made.

"To the scientist, wilderness is a laboratory for measuring the behavior of plants and animals free from human intervention. It is a reservoir of genetic plant and animal material of potential value to future generations. . . .

"The San Rafael Wilderness will be an outstanding addition to our National Wilderness Preservation System."

(Information provided by the Santa Ynez Valley Natural History Society.)



The "cheap seats" at El Capitan Canyon for RVs, tent and bike campers will be just east of this sign along the Highway 101 frontage road. The adjacent canyon features upscale cabins. (Photo by John Hankins)



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# Incredible story of Arctic Refuge told with photos

A fascinating story about how a couple was instrumental in the creation of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge will be told, with photos, in Los Olivos Oct. 10.

The event is in conjunction with the Wildling Art Museum's special exhibition, "Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Seasons of Life and Land," featuring photos by Subhankar Banerjee.

The Banerjee exhibition runs through Jan. 9 and has its own story. Through good luck, he found an Inupiat Eskimo guide, Robert Thompson, to accompany him on a 4000 mile, 14-month trip in the Arctic. This enabled him to document the area during all four seasons, something that had never been done previously, even by Olaus and Mardy Murie, who were among the first scientists to champion the Refuge's creation.

The story about the Muries and their role in the creation of the

Refuge will be told by Nancy Shea, director of the Murie Center in Moose, Wyoming.

The event is at 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 10 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Los Olivos. Admission is \$10 (\$7 for Museum members).

Wildling Museum Director Penny Knowles said the story begins in 1924, when a young Olaus Murie, a biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, was sent to the Arctic to study the migrations of the caribou, and he took along his young bride, Mardy, whom he had met several years earlier in Fairbanks.

In 1956 their documentation of this unique ecosystem paved the way for the creation of the Arctic National Wildlife Range in 1960 and a Refuge in 1980.

The Wildling Art Museum, is located at 2329 Jonata St., open Wednesday through Sunday, 11-5; phone 688-1082.

## Run, walk for Ojai preserve

The Ojai Valley Land Conservancy is sponsoring its first annual 5K Trail Run/Walk through the Ventura River-Rancho El Nido Preserve. Categories are from kids to adults.

This is an extraordinary time of year to experience the scenic 1,600 acre open space preserve that was

recently acquired through the hard work and generous donations of many.

The \$15 early registration fee helps the Conservancy keep the preserve healthy (\$18 on the day of event). Call 646-7930 or go online for registration: [www.ovlc.org](http://www.ovlc.org)

### ARGUELLO GROUP ONLY VOTES

## Arguello Group

The Arguello Group first elects the entire Group Executive Committee (ExCom), which in turn elects the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and fills all other positions.

Members in the Arguello Group only are requested to vote by using this written ballot. Please cut out or photocopy the completed ballot.

### Vote & Mail by Nov 30, 2004, to:

Sierra Club, Arguello Group, P.O. Box 333, Lompoc CA 93438

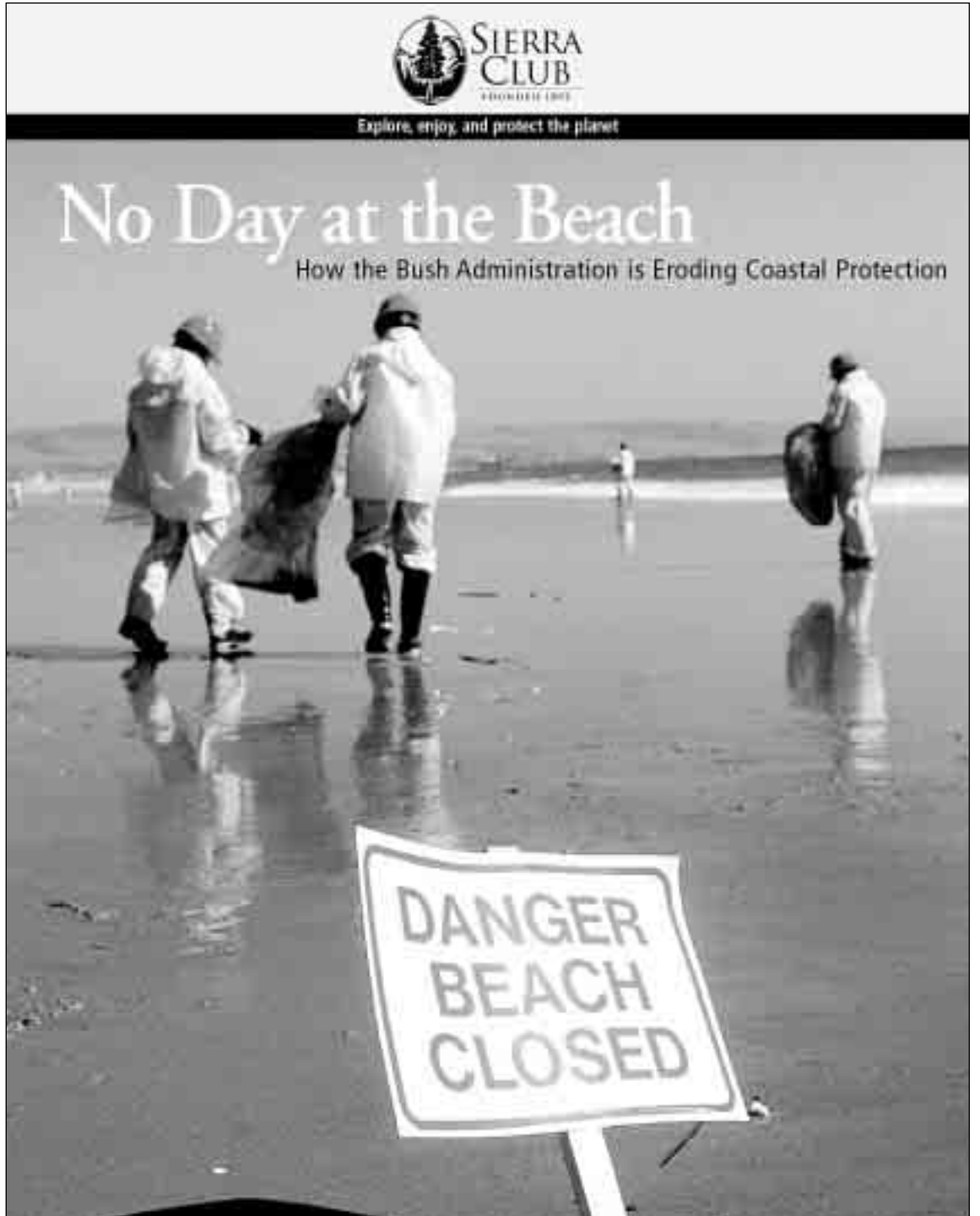
### Vote for no more than 10 including any write-in candidates

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jerry Connor     | <input type="checkbox"/> Barry Weaver  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Roger Zimmerman  | <input type="checkbox"/> Dean Thompson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rick Skillin     | <input type="checkbox"/> Ken Naylor    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kathleen Maloney | <input type="checkbox"/> Connie Geiger |

### Write in:

For voter validation purposes only, enter your Sierra Club membership ID number, as it appears in the address block on club mailings or the member ID card.

Membership Id No. \_\_\_\_\_



The Sierra Club's report details more evidence of environmental insults by the Bush Administration.

## Bush policies eroding coasts

The Sierra Club has released a report that documents how and where Bush Administration policies are threatening America's coastal treasures and what we can do to save them.

"No Day at the Beach: How the Bush Administration Is Eroding Coastal Protection" is a comprehensive look at the policies.

"We've ignored the ocean for so long it's been the receptacle of all the things we feel we don't need or want at the time," said Ada Babine of the Los Padres Chapter's Santa Barbara Group.

Despite the bleak assessment, local Sierra Club organizer Ariana Katovich believes "there is a will and a commitment" by many people who already work full time on the effort.

She also cited the city of Carpinteria's recent ban on smoking on its beaches as a way to reduce ocean pollution. Cigarette butts are the most common item found during the annual Coastal Clean-up days in California.

The report was timed to come out just before the Labor Day holiday and the Club ran print ads in Santa Barbara and key cities in Florida and Wisconsin to bolster its importance.

"As Americans are stocking the coolers and packing the beach chairs and towels for the last beach weekend

of the summer, we're asking them to consider the future of their favorite coastal spots," said Carl Pope, Sierra Club Executive Director.

The report details the administration policies that threaten the safety of the fish we eat, beach water quality and the beauty of the scenic backdrop along 95,000 miles of America's coasts. They include mercury contamination, nutrient and sewage pollution, oil and gas development in sensitive coastal areas and destruction of coastal wild lands and wetlands.

All these issues are a reality along the coastal zone covered by the Los Padres Chapter, notably closed beaches and health warnings due to sewage and other pollution from time to time.

The report also uncovers several disturbing patterns of decision-making by the Bush Administration. Among them are a steady erosion of general environmental protections, cuts in funding, subsidizing pollution by corporattins, and manipulation or suppression of science.

"In four short years, the Bush Administration has led the greatest erosion of environmental protections America has ever seen, and our beaches, oceans, and coastal communities are no exception," said Pope.

Instead of putting up with these

misguided policies that could result in increased pollution, more oil rigs and harm to coastal economies, the Sierra Club advocates cleaner energy, enforcing existing laws and renewing the commitment to stewardship of public lands and waters.

The Sierra Club is hardly alone in its assessment. Recently, two major reports also confirmed the coasts are in serious trouble.

The bipartisan Pew Oceans Commission report, "America's Living Oceans, Charting a Course for Change" and the preliminary report of the American Oceans Commission detail the threats and acknowledge the many warnings made by scientists and coastal managers for decades.

All three reports are on the web: [www.sierraclub.org/coastalreport](http://www.sierraclub.org/coastalreport) [www.pewoceans.org](http://www.pewoceans.org) [www.oceancommission.gov](http://www.oceancommission.gov)



Finally, residents of the Rincon will be replacing septic tanks with sewers to protect the ocean.



The Bill Wallace Trail, complete with coyote scat, snakes, great views of the Gaviota Coast and forest access, is now open to the public, thanks to state parks and the owners of El Capitan Canyon Resort. Weekly docent-led hikes are planned; call 733-1303 for information. (Photo by John Hankins)

### EAVESDROPS

"Removal of Matilija Dam offers the opportunity to bring millions of tons of sand to Ventura beaches . . . and save taxpayers millions of dollars. . . ."

—Paul Jenkins, Matilija Coalition, on the release of the official plan to remove the Matilija Dam and restore sand flow and a famous steelhead trout fishery to the Ventura River. Plan is at: [www.matilijadam.org](http://www.matilijadam.org)

### Mission Creek Studios Art Gallery

"Fine art celebrating the natural world"

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October 16 through November 21

opening reception for the artist October 16 from 3-5

2948 Najoqui Ave. #2, Los Olivos, CA. Open 11-5, Wed. through Sun.

805-688-6792 or [www.missioncreek.com](http://www.missioncreek.com)

gallery artists:

Patti Jacquemain • Eric Thorsen • Susan Jørgensen • Katie Upton

# Kerry earned Club's support

By Roberta Tovey

The Sierra Club has endorsed Senator John Kerry for President, citing his "outstanding leadership" in safeguarding America's air, water and public lands.

Kerry's strong record dates back over three decades to 1970, when, having just finished his service in Vietnam, he helped to organize Massachusetts' first Earth Day Celebration.

Some of the issues he has spearheaded in the Senate include greater fuel efficiency, the Endangered Species Act, and public lands protections. He has also opposed weakening the Clean Air and Water Act, oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, opening of national monuments to drilling, and nominations of anti-environmental judges and federal agents.

The League of Conservation Voters has given Kerry a 96.5 percent career rating.



Here's the ticket: Teresa Heinz and John Kerry, John and Elizabeth Edwards.

## SIERRA CLUB

Los Padres Chapter  
P.O. Box 90924  
Santa Barbara, CA 93190



John Kerry at the Grand Canyon, hoping to continue his excellent environmental record with your vote Nov. 2.

record and the endorsement, go to: [www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org).

Other endorsements for the Nov. 2 election (in California) include:

—**Yes on Proposition 59**, the "Sunshine Amendment," which will put the public's right to know about our government's workings in the state constitution, where it belongs.

Access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business is a fundamental right in a democracy, but this right has been under assault in recent years at all levels of government.

—**No on Proposition 64** is officially called "Limitations on Enforcement of Unfair Business Competition Law."

But it was put on the ballot by big business lobbies eviscerate citizens' ability to enforce environmental safeguards.

To date, UBCL cases have stopped oil companies from polluting drinking water, halted illegal clear-cutting in the Sierra Nevada mountains (in a case brought by Sierra Club), blocked cruise ships from dumping and

## EAVESDROPS

**"As with more oil drilling, the fight to keep the waters off Santa Barbara and Ventura free from an environmentally harmful activity is being fought thousands of miles away in Washington, without the administration asking Central Coast residents what they want."**

—Santa Barbara News-Press editorial on the Bush Administration's proposal to open federal waters to fish farming, specifically a plan to put a fish farm underneath Platform Grace.

forced bottled water companies to filter out arsenic and bacteria, among many others.

Next issue of

## Condor Call

comes out 1st of December

**DEADLINES:**

**Editorial:** Nov. 15

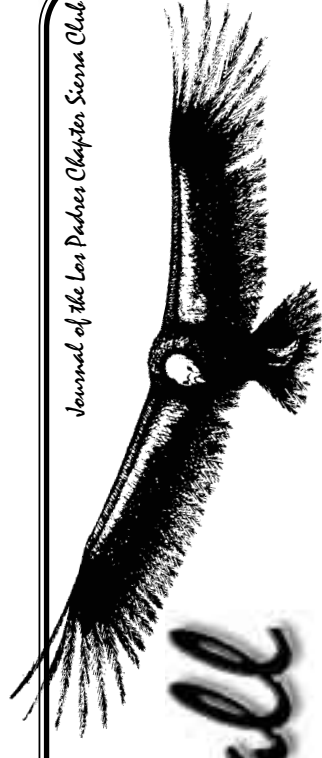
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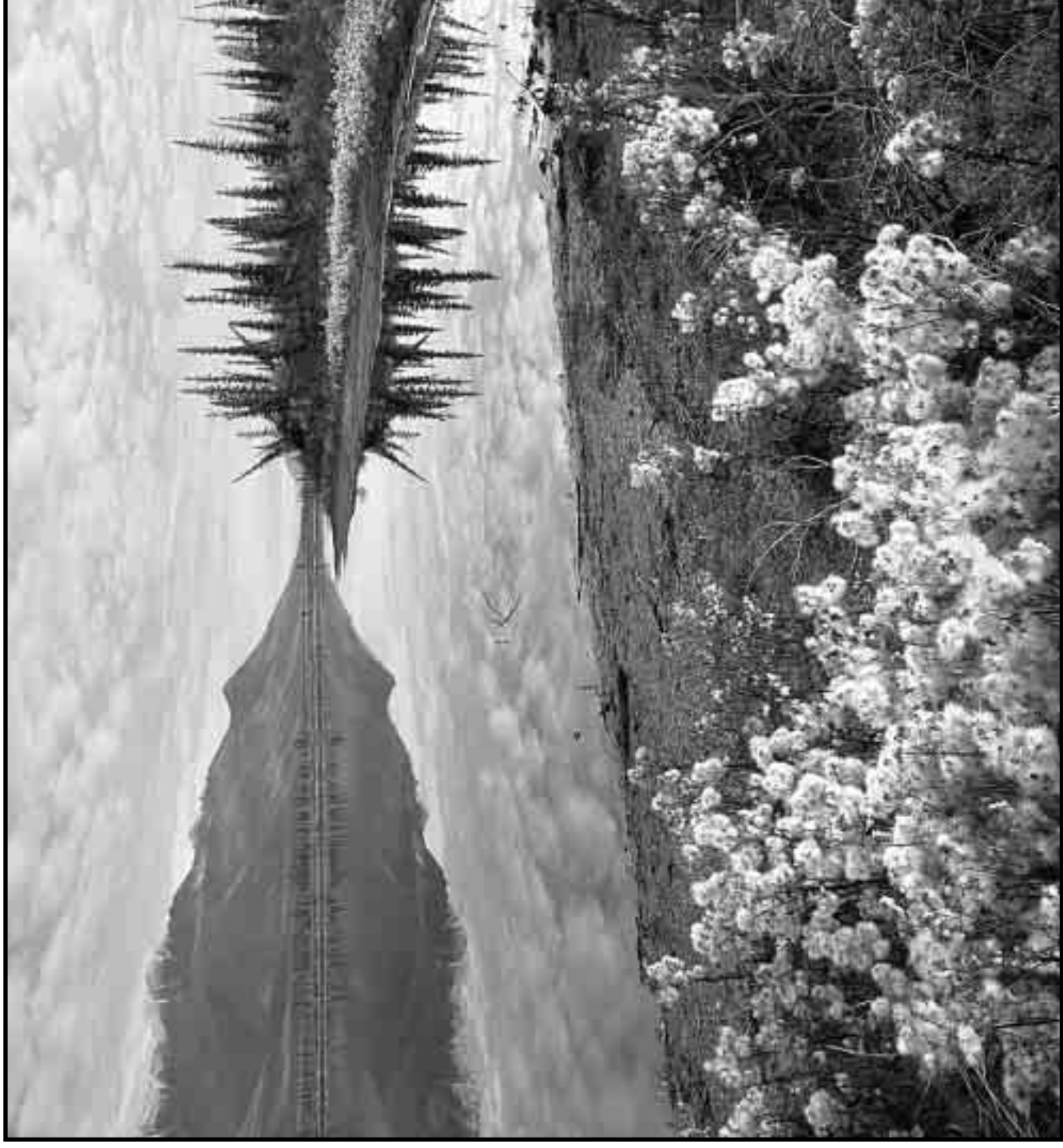
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