



Sierra Club San Diego Chapter

# HiSIERRAN

Serving San Diego And Imperial Counties

Vol 74 No. 6

Visit our website at: [www.sandiegosierraclub.org](http://www.sandiegosierraclub.org)

November/December 2015

## Ballot For North County Elections on Page 4

### The City of San Diego: CLEAN ELECTIONS:

THE CAMPAIGN BEGINS JANUARY 2015

#### We need your help!

A bipartisan citizen's group called Neighborhoods for Clean Elections will launch a petition initiative drive for the City of San Diego starting January 2016. Our goal is to put a clean elections measure on the 2016 City of San Diego general election ballot. Sierra Club San Diego supports this measure and is helping with the campaign. A question that is often asked about the clean elections initiative is: "What will it cost and where will the money come from?"

The answer from Neighborhoods for Clean Elections is that the cost of clean elections will be \$4 per person per year. The funding will be taken from the City of San Diego general Fund. It will not take money from other funds or causes. But with clean elections, our campaign believes that funding will be recovered by the city because the current practice of developers and big money contributors getting political payback for their political contributions with sweetheart deals and giveaways, will be cut back or eliminated. Clean elections will make it possible for anyone to run for office, not just wealthy people. It should take the money and back door promises out of the election and allow candidates to walk neighborhoods and talk to residents instead of spending most of their time trying to sweet talk donors and making promises.

Neighborhoods for Clean Elections believes that reformed elections will reinstate the democratic process and reinstate representative government by making running for election available to more people, not just wealthy well connected people. Clean elections will help to facilitate good communication between neighborhoods and elected officials and help us to rebuild a fair and just government. For more information, to help collect signatures or donate, please, go to the web page: [www.sdcleanelections.org](http://www.sdcleanelections.org) or contact John Hartley, campaign coordinator for Neighborhoods for Clean Elections: [hartley2k@yahoo.com](mailto:hartley2k@yahoo.com) or 619- 299-8870.

*Won't you help us to rebuild a democratic, representative San Diego government?*

### Sierra Club San Diego Asks SANDAG to Link the 2015 Regional Transportation Plan with the Climate Action Plans

Dear SANDAG representatives:

The proposed 2015 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) does not adequately address San Diego County's urgent transportation needs congruently with the City's Climate Action Plan (CAP) goals. We respectfully request that you defer the vote until the RTP can be measured by the City's CAP. This will mean moving transit projects and expenditures to years 0-5 in order to achieve climate-stabilizing targets.

We challenge our regional representatives to have the courage and leadership to stand up for what's right for the greater good of the community and the health of citizens.

The Sierra Club encourages SANDAG to revise its draft RTP update to more closely conform to the goals of the City's

*SANDAG continued on page 14*

### Solar Saturday in Solana Beach

Saturday, November 7th, 9:00am to 11:00am

Solana Beach Presbyterian Church, Debin Hall, 120 Stevens Ave, Solana Beach (Lomas Santa Fe west of I-5).

Are you considering Rooftop Solar for your home or business? Get all your questions answered by Solar Companies, leasing agents, lenders and City staff. Each business will have pamphlets and participate in a panel discussion. Our goals are to have more rooftop solar installations county-wide, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, help the city reach Climate Action Plan targets and save you money!

ALREADY HAVE SOLAR? Please join us to answer questions about your experience. **PLEASE RSVP!**

Sponsors: Sierra Club San Diego, Solana Beach Presbyterian Church and the City of Solana Beach.

For more information:

Jack and Judy Hegenauer [jackhegenauer@att.net](mailto:jackhegenauer@att.net) • 858-481-1644

Marilee McLean [marileemclean@roadrunner.com](mailto:marileemclean@roadrunner.com) • 858-259-9126

**Want a Solar Saturday in your town? Please contact:**

Debbie Hecht, chair, Steering Committee Sierra Club San Diego  
[hecht.deb@gmail.com](mailto:hecht.deb@gmail.com)

Explore, Enjoy and Protect the Planet

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## November/December 2015

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**Debbie Hecht**

## Head In The Sand About Climate Change?

Have you been exposed to the sub species of human being who sticks their head in the sand: Ostrich humanoid? The trait of this sub species is an unwillingness to explore issues deeply and to moderate their self-serving interests. Another hallmark trait is a basic narcissism and lack of understanding of concepts of the “greater good” to benefit the species. The name was coined because of the ability to stick your head in the sand and fly away from the issues. Since ostriches don’t fly... well you see the irony.

Let’s circle back to the issues Sierra Club San Diego had been dealing with since our last issue.

We have been continuing to follow Lilac Hills and the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). We asked SANDAG representatives to judge the RTP by the Climate Action Plan and wait until the City of San Diego’s Climate Action Plan (CAP) was approved to measure if the RTP would help to achieve the goal of the CAP. (See Sierra Club Comments about the RTP in this issue). We met with neighborhood representatives and hiked at the El Monte Valley where they want to mine sand and gravel and then restore the critical habitat and then hope the species return. All of these issues have to do with how we care for the earth and use finite natural resources.

The over arching issue that affects all of these issues is climate change. Climate change is the game changer that affects everything: Regional transportation plans, land use

patterns, sea use for open ocean aquaculture, food production etc. I asked a SANDAG representative how many of the SANDAG representatives believe that climate change was real. The answer “All the Democrats, none of the Republicans except Jim Wood, Jack Dale and possibly Ron Roberts.” That is truly mind-boggling! How do we get the ostriches to pull their heads out of the sand? Maybe it has to get so hot from too much pavement? How do we get the “Climate Deniers” to connect the dots?

How can you disregard that the ocean is warmer, the storms are stronger, the drought is devastating food crops? How can we “The Believers” help to support and elect politicians who will measure their policies against the effect those decisions will have on climate change and how they will affect the greater good of humanity? I believe that we should elect representative who actually represent the people and know that their primary responsibility is to care for the health and welfare of all citizens and to protect the greater good of humanity. This does not mean just the 1%, it means ALL people. We are only as healthy as the weakest among us and everyone is of value and has something to contribute.

Please make Climate Change a campaign issue. Ask all politicians if they believe in climate change and listen to what they have to say.

Climate Change is the new bar, let’s make it a high bar. Stay alert, engaged and involved. Ask questions.

*Thanks for being part of the Sierra Club.*

*Warmly (ha!)*

*Debbie Hecht, Chair Steering Committee  
Sierra Club San Diego*

# Candidates for North County Group ExCom

## Dan Conger



My outdoor appreciation came from the sense of wonder that my parents developed in me as a suburban kid. Finding lizards, keeping tree frogs in the front room (sorry mom!) and family camping trips were the norm. The Boy Scouts and college backpacking were also a part of my early adventures.

I joined the Sierra Club in the 80's during the "I Know Watts Wrong" campaign directed towards James Watt, secretary of the Interior. While I've been interested in the political side of the club, the local and outdoor activities have given me real purpose. In 2005, I found my refresher for outdoor activities; the Wilderness Basics Course. I've volunteered & lectured with the course since 2010, became a Chapter Outing Leader in 2013 and was elected to the North County Group Executive Committee in 2013.

I'm an environmentalist at heart though petitions and rallies aren't my flavor. I've found that hiking and backpacking with an environmentalist is a great way to reach people that otherwise wouldn't know or appreciate the outdoors and our environment. It's pretty hard to protect what you don't appreciate so it's important to develop that appreciation in others.

I look forward to helping others live the Sierra Club motto, "Explore, enjoy and protect the planet".

## Kelly Conrad



Originally from Wisconsin, I grew up hiking, backpacking, and camping. I came to California with the United States Marine Corp in the early 80's and found the Sierra Club through the North County Wilderness Basics Course in 2007. I became a Chapter Outings Leader in 2011 and have lead outings for both the San Diego and North County Wilderness Basic Courses.

I am passionate about the wilderness, desert and open spaces and love to share this with others. I was elected to the Executive Committee in 2013 and have served as the Membership Chair for the last year. My goal is to continue to increase Sierra Club membership, activities, and conservation in the North County area. I would be honored to serve the North County Sierra Club Group for an additional two years.

## Kit Davis



I was fortunate to have been raised exploring and appreciating the outdoors, and have been an avid backpacker, climber, and hiker since childhood. When a friend mentioned we join WBC in 2002 I was interested; but I had no idea how incredible the course information, trips, and the people would turn out to be. I

was hooked! I joined WBC Staff in 2002, became a COL, and have volunteered for WBC over the years to assist on trips, with maps, currently manage Blue Box trip signups and am Treasurer for WBC. It's rare and wonderful to be involved with people who

love the outdoors and are committed just as I am to helping others safely enjoy and respect the wilderness, and I've been blessed with great friendships.

I work with the CFO in a medical device R&D company, and have served on the board of several local not-for-profit companies. I have been able to backpack and climb extensively in the Sierras and other wilderness areas, and love to take people with me to enjoy these incredible treasures. Volunteering with the Sierra Club joins my love for bringing others outside with my commitment to ethically enjoy and protect our resources, and to give others an opportunity to do the same.

## Michelle Monroe



I graduated from the Wilderness Basics Course this year, and subsequently joined the Sierra Club. I am currently completing the Chapter Outings Leader Level 1 training. I completed my first "real" hike a year ago, and would have never imagined I would now be hiking or backpacking every

weekend, meeting so many passionate people and falling in love with the outdoors all over again. I discovered this love years ago when I had the opportunity to travel to all 50 states exploring numerous State and National Parks along the way. My enthusiasm was reignited through my participation in WBC.

I look forward to having the opportunity to share my skill-sets to connect both existing and new members to the activities the North County Group conducts. By doing so, I hope to help more residents of North County further appreciate our amazing surroundings, and subsequently encourage them to become active enthusiasts and protectors of our environment.

When I am not hiking or backpacking I spend my time working at a community health clinic in North County.

## Lori Nickerson



I grew up in a family that fostered a love and respect of nature. Spending time outdoors learning about the natural world has always brought me incredible joy. My first exposure to the Sierra Club was through a memorable WBC Class in 2008 and last year I happily returned to the WBC for an encore experience.

Reconnecting with the wonderful staff and students made me realize that I want to continue to be a part of this group that encourages people to explore the wilderness in a safe and respectful manner.

I attended the recent Chapter Outing Leader Training as a means of becoming involved in the leadership activities of the Chapter. I look forward to continuing my participation in the North County Group Sierra Club.



# North County Group Executive Committee Ballot and Instructions

The following ballots are to elect members of the North County Group Executive Committee. The Group Executive Committee governs the business of the Group. They are the key committees responsible for making important policy decisions and setting priorities for the future. The candidates receiving the highest number of votes in descending order will be elected. Please follow the instructions on the ballot regarding the number of votes allowed. Write-in candidates are allowed.

**How to Vote:** You must write your membership number on the outside of your mailing envelope (below your return address is a good place). Your membership number is required for your vote to count (this is how the election committees can verify that you are a member). Your membership number is the eight (8) digit number that appears above your name and mailing address on the back cover.

If you are unable to locate your membership number, please call the Chapter office at 858-569-6005.

## North County Group Executive Committee Ballot

North County Coastal Executive Committee Members are elected to serve a term of two (2) years.

**Vote for no more than four (4) candidates, including write-ins, by marking the box next to a candidates name, including write-ins. For JOINT memberships please use the second set of boxes to vote.**

☐ ☐ Dan Conger

☐ ☐ Michelle Monroe

☐ ☐ Kelly Conrad

☐ ☐ Lori Nickerson

☐ ☐ Kit Davis

☐ ☐ Write In: \_\_\_\_\_

**All ballots must be received by 5 p.m. DECEMBER 1, 2015**

Ballots should be mailed or hand delivered to:

**Elections-San Diego Chapter Sierra Club**

8304 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. #101,  
San Diego, CA 92111

### If you live in these North County Group Zip Codes, Please Vote!

92003 Bonsall

92060 Palomar Mtn

92079 San Marcos

92025 - 92027 Escondido

92061 Pauma Valley

92081 Vista

92028 Fallbrook

92064 Poway

92082 Valley Center

92029 Escondido

92065 Ramona

92083 - 92085 Vista

92046 Escondido

92068 & 92069 San Marcos

92088 Fallbrook

92058 Oceanside

92070 Santa Ysabel

92127 & 92128 San Diego

92059 Pala

92074 Poway

92198 San Diego

### How to Mail Your Ballot:

Please put your membership number on outside of envelope.

Your membership number is the eight (8) digit number that appears above your name and mailing address on the back cover.

## California Legislation Scorecard

### 2015 Bill Summaries

#### From Sierra Club California

Sierra Club California policy advocates select the bills that appear on the scorecard. The selection is based on factors that include a bill's overall importance to the state's environmental quality, the precedent it sets for good or bad impacts, and the bill's importance to fulfilling the Club's mission. This year, we scored 12 bills.

One, SB 454, did not get off the Senate floor and so is not included in the Assembly scoring. Another, AB 356, failed to get off the Assembly floor and so is not included in the Senate scoring. SB 20's contents were inserted into a budget trailer bill after it left the Senate floor, so SB 20 is not included in the Assembly scoring. AB 1242's contents changed entirely through a gut-and-amend action in the Senate and was not brought to a floor vote, and so is not included in the Senate scoring.

AB 243 (Wood): Establishes new, and expands existing, regulations and programs to reduce environmental impacts of medical marijuana cultivation. SUPPORT: Signed into law

AB 356 (Williams): Would have ensured that California protects aquifers by monitoring underground injection of toxic oil waste into aquifers, and by expanding public meetings before injection of waste into potential drinking water sources can occur. SUPPORT: Failed on Assembly Floor

AB 693 (Eggman): Creates the Multifamily Affordable Housing Renewables Program, to provide opportunities for everyone to benefit from renewable energy installations. SUPPORT: Signed into law

AB 888 (Bloom): Prohibits all plastic microbeads in personal care products and favors environmentally sound alternatives. SUPPORT: Signed into law

*Legislative Scorecard continued on page 5*



# The Upcoming Paris Climate Conference:

## Playing Craps With Our Planet's Future

John Atcheson

The climate change talks to be held in Paris this December are all about how much risk to the livability of our planet we're willing to accept. And the dirty little secret is, we're accepting a hell of a lot right now, and we're imposing even more on our children and future generations.

Here's why:

*Two degrees C is too high, and COP 21 isn't on target to meet it in any case:* The press accounts are referring to the 2 C limit as the "maximum safe level." Scientists are more careful, referring to it as a "speed limit" or "guardrail," and even this phrasing implies a level of protection that the 2C limit simply doesn't afford.

*Doubt that?* So far, human actions have increased the temperature by .85 degrees C over pre-industrial levels, and look what that's done. We're experiencing record-setting droughts; widespread desertifica-

tion, an explosion in the number and frequency of forest fires; increases in extreme weather events; mass extinctions; irreversible melting of the polar ice caps, Greenland and large parts of Antarctica, and the centuries of rising seas and coastal inundation this will inevitably cause; and we're seeing the bow wave of a massive migration of environmental refugees. Finally, we're acidifying the oceans, turning them into giant jellyfish incubators in which edible seafood can't survive.



*If that's what .85 C has done, imagine what 2C would do. Or, better yet, don't imagine, look to the geologic record. As James Hansen and 16 co-authors note in their paper, "Ice melt, sea level rise and superstorms: evidence*

*from paleoclimate data, climate modeling and modern observations that 2C global warming is highly dangerous,"*

Worse, the agreements countries have announced in preparation for the Conference (called "intended nationally

determined contributions" or INDCs) clearly show that the Paris COP will fall far short of what's needed to prevent us from exceeding even a 2 C temperature increase.

*The IPCC's Carbon Budgets Are Dangerous:* Settling on 2C as an acceptable limit is bad enough, but the way we are using carbon budgets borders on criminal negligence.

Carbon budgets are established to determine the amount of GHG we can emit, and for how long. The greater the probability of staying below 2C, the lower the carbon budget and the sooner we have to get off it. Similarly, if we wanted to limit warming to 1.5 C – something most scientists agree poses less danger to people, the planet and the oceans – then we'd have a lower carbon budget and we'd have to get off carbon sooner.

So, higher odds of success require lower carbon budgets, lower odds of success allow more carbon to be released.

The IPCC uses three scenarios based on the probability of staying below 2C. That's appropriate, given the uncertainties inherent in forecasting a system as complex as the climate. But the probabilities it is using are a 66% chance of succeeding, a 50% chance and a 30% chance.

So, for example, if we wanted to have a 66% probability of staying below 1.5C,

*Climate Conference continued on page 6*

### Legislative Scorecard continued from page 4

AB 1071 (Atkins): Closes gaps in existing programs, policies, or activities within the California Environmental Protection Agency that may prevent achievement of environmental justice goals. SUPPORT: Signed into law

AB 1242 (Gray): Would have curbed the State Water Resources Control Board's ability to set instream flow requirements necessary to provide water needed for the Delta and environment. OPPOSE: Passed Assembly; gutted and amended in the Senate and not brought to the floor

SB 20 (Pavley): Required well completion reports to be made publicly available upon request, to allow for better data collection and science-based management of groundwater. SUPPORT: Passed Senate; included in budget language

SB 32 (Pavley): Would have codified the framework for meeting California's climate goals for 2050 and authorized the Air Resources Board to establish interim targets. SUPPORT: Failed on Assembly Floor

SB 350 (de León): Sets greenhouse gas reduction goals for

2030 through a 50% increase in renewable energy generation, and a doubling of energy efficiency in existing buildings. Petroleum reduction goals were stripped out in the Assembly. SUPPORT: Signed into law

SB 454 (Allen): Would have prevented the Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources from allowing illegal injection of oil waste into groundwater. SUPPORT: Failed on Senate Floor

SB 660 (Leno): Would have reformed the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) governance structure and closed loopholes that have allowed regulated utilities undue influence at the CPUC. SUPPORT: Vetoed by Governor

SB 788 (McGuire): Would have closed a loophole that allows new offshore oil drilling in state waters off the coast of Santa Barbara. SUPPORT: Failed in Assembly Appropriations Committee

Now that you know the score, take action!

- Tell your legislators you know the score. Call their district offices and thank them if they scored well, or express disappointment if they didn't. Let them know you care about

*Legislative Scorecard continued on page 15*

# Dispatches from the Political Committee

Davin Widgerow, Chair



Talking with Congressman Scott Peters

The Political Committee continued to meet with elected officials and candidates for office ahead of the 2016 election season, and we worked to prepare the chapter for the endorsement process beginning in the Spring.

Congressman Scott Peters met with the Committee at our September meeting to update us on issues facing Congress and his environmental priorities. Congressman Peters highlighted his efforts in facilitating a recent initiative by the US military to transition to majority renewable energy sources. This transition is significant, as the US military is one of the world's largest energy consumers, and a transition to renewables will not only lead to a reduction in climate-disrupting emissions, but it can be a catalyst for other federal government departments and similarly large institutions to begin the transition away from carbon-intensive fossil fuels. The Congressman also spoke about his opposition to oil drilling in the Arctic Ocean, and the Friend of National Parks Award he received after earning a 100% rating with the National Parks Conservation Association for his work to protect natural resources and address the threat of wildfires. Peters discussed the STRONG (Strengthening Resiliency of our Nation on the Ground) Act, which seeks to ensure that the United States is more resilient to the natural, economic, and social impacts of extreme weather events, as well as his co-sponsorship of the bill to re-authorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

The Committee also heard from a num-

ber of electoral candidates for upcoming 2016 races. At our October meeting, the Committee was honored to meet with Speaker of the California Assembly Toni Atkins, who discussed her leadership in Sacramento and the environmental legislation passed in the 2015 session, including SB 350 and AB 32. Speaker Atkins also answered questions about her recent announcement that she will be challenging fellow Democrat Senator Marty Block for his seat representing the 39th Senate District in the California State Senate.

The Committee is coordinating with Senator Block's office, and we anticipate meeting with him in the very near future. We also heard from Jose Caballeros, who is running to replace Councilmember Scott Sherman in San Diego City Council District 7 who discussed his service in the US Navy and his vision to expand solar infrastructure in District 7 and Sarah Saez, discussed her role as a labor organizer and community activist and is hoping to succeed Councilmember Marti Emerald in City Council District 9. We continue to meet with all candidates seeking elected office in 2016, as well as officeholders seeking reelection to their positions.

Finally, the Committee is moving ahead with preparations for the 2016 endorsement cycle. We finalized our endorsement questionnaire for City of San Diego races, and are modifying this questionnaire for use in endorsements in other races. We are engaged in a complete revision of our bylaws, and are considering a judicial candidate endorsement policy. The Committee is also in very preliminary discussions about trying to organize candidate forums and debates in 2016 for our members and the public. We welcome all members to attend our meetings and participate in our efforts and our discussions. The Committee meets on the first Tuesday of the month at the chapter office, from 7-9pm. There is also a pre-meeting happy hour from 6:00-6:45pm at Societe Brewing Company across from the chapter office, and all are welcome to come and meet our Committee.

*Climate Conference continued from page 5*

our total carbon budget would be 2250 tonnes of carbon dioxide. By the end of 2015, and the conclusion of the Paris talks, we will have burned through all but 200 billion tonnes of that budget. Since we are emitting about 40 billion tonnes per year (about 44 billion US tons), we will blow through the budget by 2020, the year in which the Paris agreements are to start being implemented. In other words, that ship will have sailed before any action is taken.

Contrast this with the carbon budget based on a 66% probability of staying below 2C, or 2900 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide (GtCO<sub>2e</sub>). By the end of 2015, we would have nearly 850 GtCO<sub>2</sub> left, or twenty years worth.

Obviously, a better margin of safety would make sense; playing craps with the planet we live on is – to say the least -- irresponsible.

*The option to be prudent no longer exists.* Here's the sad truth: we've already blown past the carbon budgets required to have a 90% probability of staying below 2 C – let alone 1.5C.

*Negative Emissions – or après moi, le deluge:* There's one other way of expanding carbon budgets: Pass the problem on to our children and their children, so we can burn more fossil fuels now and still appear to stay within our carbon budget. And that's precisely what the IPCC carbon budgets do. They only work if we require our offspring to create extraordinarily expensive new technologies that will take massive quantities of carbon dioxide out of the air and safely sequester it.

No one knows how to do this, and the scale of this activity is so large it will leave little room for more productive economic activity.

To get an idea of just how crazy our current approach is, imagine you are about to board an airplane, when the engineer responsible for designing it tells you it has a 34% probability of malfunctioning. Would you proceed? Of course not.

A core precept of risk analysis and risk management is that dangers which are irreversible and consequential demand very high safety margins. People intuit-

*Climate Conference continued on next page*



# Sierra Club Rallies to Protect Rooftop Solar

Pete Hasapopoulos, Organizer

Sierra Club My Generation Campaign



Sierra Club student leader Jessica Walls (on right)

San Diego is in the midst of an epic rooftop solar wave. Families, schools, and businesses are saving money, good local jobs are being created, and it is one of the shining stars in our fight against climate change. But no good deed goes unpunished. San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) wants to take away this choice by blocking our sun.

The California Public Utilities Commission is preparing to redesign Net Energy Metering, the state program that guarantees that those who go solar receive fair credit on their utility bills for the valuable clean power they deliver to the grid. In December the commission will decide what the net metering rules

will be for customers who go solar after the current program expires. By proposing harsh fees and penalties that would make it unaffordable for all but a few, SDG&E intends to cripple rooftop solar. While the Sierra Club is doing its usual stand up job fighting for us at the commission, we decided to reveal the breadth of support for rooftop solar by making some noise down here.

On October 7th, the Hip Hop Caucus, local solar businesses, and the Sierra Club put on quite a show at the doorstep of Sempra's shiny new skyscraper. (Sempra is SDG&E's parent company.) A very diverse crowd of two hundred showed up to witness and cheer on a lineup

that included impassioned speeches by students and solar workers and a performance by Grammy Award winning artist Malik Yusef.

Sierra Club student leaders in particular left an impression with rally goers. Jessica Walls from Carlsbad High School told how her school district has seen electricity bills go up \$1 million over the last three years while there is a shortage of textbooks at her school. Because she would like her school to go solar someday, Jessica concluded by exclaiming "SDG&E, get off my school's rooftop!" The crowd loved it. College student Alejandro Montes showed off a vintage rotary dial phone in one hand and a cell phone in the other. He likened the antiquated phone to SDG&E and the modern phone to rooftop solar. No surprise, that funny yet illuminating moment made it into one of the TV news stories that night.

You can invest in Jessica and Alejandro's future by telling the utilities commission to protect solar. Sign our petition here: <https://www.addup.org/campaigns/tell-the-california-public-utilities-commission-to-protect-rooftop-solar>.

In addition to protecting rooftop solar, we have a fast growing number of volunteers working on local clean energy measures like San Diego's Climate Action Plan and the SDG&E alternative called Community Choice Energy. Please get in touch with me at [pete.hasapopoulos@sierraclub.org](mailto:pete.hasapopoulos@sierraclub.org) if you would like to learn more.

*Climate Conference continued from previous page*

tively understand this, and that's why the airplane example is so obvious. We're genetically hard-wired to recognize risks that are proximate in time and place. We understand that when the alarms start sounding at 35,000 feet, we can't simply exit the plane and grab another that's flying by.

Yet, the same is true of our planet. If we screw it up, we can't hop off and wait for another. But the scale of this danger is so large, and the time-frame sufficiently long (exceeding a single life-span) that we don't experience this threat in the same way. Responding to this danger will require us to exercise wisdom, not simply rely on the genes we've been given by natural selection.

But when it comes to climate change, wisdom is obviously in short supply.

*It's the physics, stupid:* If we want a reasonable margin of safety for the world, we have to get off fossil fuels as soon as possible, preferably within the next five or six years.

Impractical? No more impractical than pretending it makes sense to adopt a carbon budget that risks global catastrophe simply because we failed to take the action we needed to take in the past.

The amount of GHG we can emit without ushering in Armageddon is determined by physics, not politics. And as I said back in July, the approach we're adopting in COP 21, poses an existential threat to humanity and the global ecosystem because "... in a

clash between physics and politics, physics always wins."

The thing is, we have everything we need to get off fossil fuels within the next five to six years, except the wisdom and the political will.

*John Acheson has over 35 years in the environmental field, working in the private sector, in Academia, government, and for the nation's leading think tanks. His government experience included senior positions at EPA, DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, and with the President's Council on Sustainable Development. His writing has appeared in major newspapers, CommonDreams, and he is author of A being Darkly Wise, a novel centered on Climate Change.*



# SAN DIEGO Chapter Activities

All Activities are held at the Chapter Office unless otherwise stated: 8304 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., Suite 101, San Diego, CA 92111.

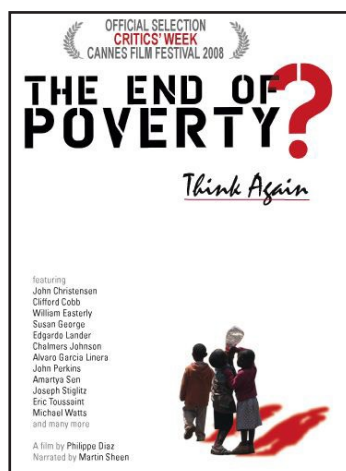
Our entrance is on the west end of the front building of Kearny Office Park, just west of I-163 and on the north side of Clairemont Mesa Blvd. Other environmental and activist events are posted at [www.sdeln.org](http://www.sdeln.org)

## 2nd Friday Movie Night

November 13th 6:30pm

**Movie: THE END OF POVERTY?  
THINK AGAIN**

104 Minutes



Why are so many people on this planet living in poverty? Narrated by Martin Sheen, this film disproves the typical explanations: overpopulation, or the suffocation of individual initiative by an overbearing state. According to this award-winning documentary, featuring analyses by several respected experts, such as former World Bank chief economist Joseph Stiglitz, the cause of global poverty is the political, economic, social and cultural

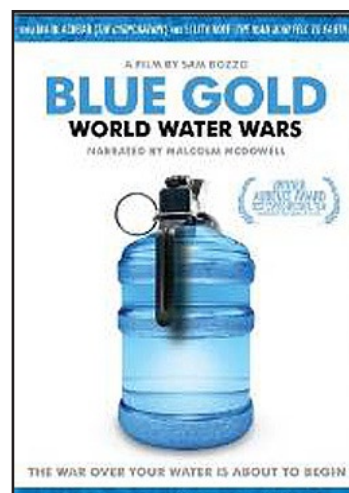
aftermath of colonialism. Delving into colonial history and its contemporary manifestations, the film presents a “radical” solution: “degrowth”, a decrease in consumption levels in the countries of the North and a rise in wages in those of the South, thus putting ecological sustainability at the heart of any attempt to eradicate poverty.

December 11th 6:30pm

**Movie: BLUE GOLD:  
WORLD WATER WARS**  
90 Minutes

Wars of the future will be fought over water, as they are today over oil, as the source of all life enters the global marketplace and political arena. Corporate giants, private investors and corrupt governments vie for control of our dwindling fresh water supply, prompting protests, lawsuits, and revolutions from citizens fighting for the right to survive. Past civilizations have collapsed from poor water management. Will ours too?

Based on the groundbreaking book *Blue Gold: The Fight to Stop the Theft of the World's Water* by Maude Barlow and Tony Clarke, this film was Audience Choice winner as the best environmental film of the 2008 Vancouver International Film Festival, and its message is even more relevant to the problems we face in our world today.



## Chapter Outings

Chapter Outings are now an online listing only.

With the time gap between publishing and delivery of the HiSierran through the mail we believe this is the best way to get you up to date listings.

**Go to: <http://sandigosierraclub.org>**

**Then click on “Get Outdoors”**

## Order Now!

**Cotton Canvas  
Collection of Sierra  
Club Bags  
& Backpack**



A collection of bags made from olive-colored, cotton canvas and featuring the original Sierra Club seal.

Items pictured right to right: Roll Duffle Bag, Messenger Bag, Toiletry Bag (front), Rucksack (back) and Carry-All Duffle w/strap.

Visit our online store at <http://sierraclubsandiego.mycafecommerce.com>

to purchase these great items and more!

# Sierra Talks

## Formerly Monthly Meetings

New Sierra Talks are on the first Friday, starting with refreshments and representatives from Chapter groups at 6:30 pm and programs at 7 pm with discussions afterward. The location is the Joyce Beers Center at 3900 Vermont St., San Diego, 92103, across the street from Trader Joe's. Parking is available under Trader Joe's and Ralphs Market. Sierra Talks are free and open to the public. Program Coordinator: Ernest "E.L." Lotecka [sdwalks@interactor.cc](mailto:sdwalks@interactor.cc)

### November 6th

## Wild and Woolly Wildlife: Bringing Together Conservation, Recreation, and Advocacy



Join Renée Owens in a fun and topical discussion about all creatures great and small, from the beneficial to truly dangerous. Renée is a conservation

biologist and ethologist who will share her many photos and creature-related experiences amassed while living in Southern California and South America. This isn't just a travelogue or conservation lecture however; this presentation gets to the heart of some of the most challenging questions of conservation: How and when does advocacy work, why are so many reluctant to be advocates despite their love for wildlife, and how do we use the answers to these questions to build a healthier environmental future?

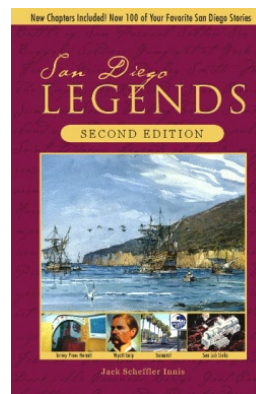
A long time conservation volunteer for the Sierra Club, Renee has owned and operated an environmental consultancy for 20 years, she is one of two international experts on the world's largest snake, the green anaconda, and she's studied numerous species that have been deeply loved and hated by humans, including snakes, crocodiles, birds, dolphins, and young college students. Her research has been filmed by National Geographic, Discovery, Dateline, Animal Planet, and highlighted in Sierra magazine. Ultimately Renée draws upon her experience over the years as an ambassador between wildlife and people to help communities make the world a better place for both. Her talks over the years have been a Sierra Club favorite, and this one has been widely received by wildlife enthusiasts and non-profit professionals alike.

### NOTE:

Sierra Talks will not be held in December due to the first Friday being December 4. That is the same date as the December Night festival in Balboa Park with long traffic delays as well as other conflicting holiday events.

### January 1st,

## Jack Innis, Storyteller And Author Of San Diego Legends



SAN DIEGO LEGENDS brings together extraordinary accounts of famous and infamous people, places, and events in San Diego's past. These fascinating accounts range from the 1852 murder of the city's first mayor to the glamorous lives of modern stars of stage and screen who called San Diego home. The author has included a dozen Kumeyaay Indian tales. This new second edition has 100 new stories and legends, making this the ultimate reference for San Diego's legends.

JACK INNIS, San Diego Legend Hunter, is an award-winning local journalist graduated from Point Loma High School and earned his Bachelor's degree in Literature and Writing from California State University San Marcos. He is former editor of \*Del Mar Times, San Diego Log Newspaper, \*and\* CoatingsPro \*trade magazine\*. \*He lives in Bay Park with his wife Michelle and works as a freelance writer and editor. A long-time surfer and boating enthusiast, Jack enjoys doing volunteer work for the American Tinnitus Association.

Published by Sunbelt Publications of San Diego. Sunbelt is moving and book prices are slashed 30-80%. The warehouse is located at 1256 Fayette Street, El Cajon, CA 92020. Call (619) 258-4911



## News from the

# NORTH COUNTY GROUP



SIERRA CLUB • SAN DIEGO

Recently, the North County Group held it's Fall Meeting, where member Jaye Gleyzal gave an exciting and entertaining presentation on her 2006 climb to the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro.

We also welcomed Kevin Barnard of the Escondido Creek Conservancy,

and learned about the great work this organization is doing to protect the environmentally important land in the Escondido Creek Watershed and some of the obstacles they face.

Debbie Hecht, chair of the Steering Committee for Sierra Club San Diego finished up the evening with an information talk about the 1% Land and Water Fund initiative, which was very well received by the crowd.

In this issue of the HiSierran you will find information on the upcoming North County Group Executive Committee election and biographical information on each of the candidates

that have stepped up to run and take a leadership role in the Sierra Club North County. I ask that you take some time to read through the information and take part in this election if you are a member that resides in the North County Group geographical area (the included zip codes are listed on the ballot.)

Registration is now open for the 2016 North County Wilderness Basics Course, which is a 10 week hiking and backpacking course that starts Jan. 5, 2016. For more information, including all key dates go to [wbnc.sierrasd.org](http://wbnc.sierrasd.org). To register online for the North County course go to [escondidoadultschool-rop.org](http://escondidoadultschool-rop.org).

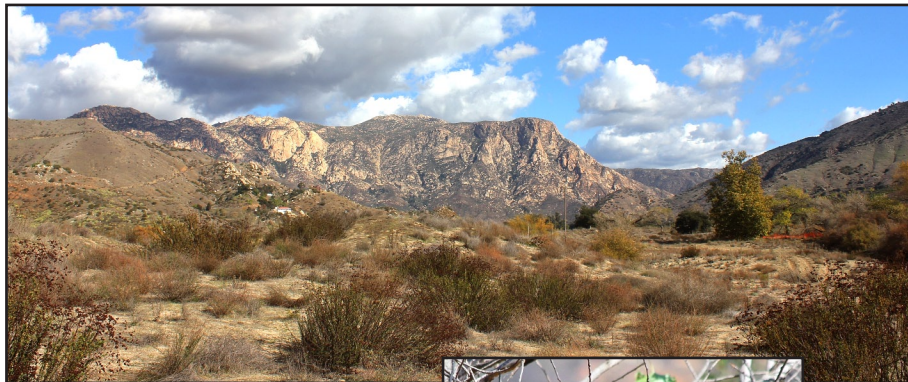
## El Monte Valley Habitat Mined For Sand

by Lisa Wood

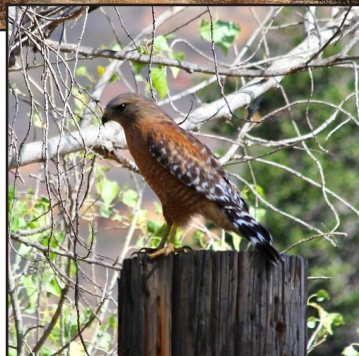
El Monte Valley provides a habitat and recreation connection essential to the San Diego River corridor extending from the mountains to the ocean. The proposed sand mine would permanently alter the County's biologically rich, visually stunning, San Diego River wildlife corridor. Does the region need more sand for aggregate production? Local sand miners say no. They say they must look as far as Riverside and beyond to market what they are producing now. Recyclers say no. They say that virgin materials are too inexpensive to recycle demolition debris or dredge spoil. People concerned about climate change say no. They promote reduced consumption of concrete, a major contributor to greenhouse gases. But the project proponents suggest that the proposed Charger's stadium will stimulate a large demand for concrete that will make the project financially viable.

The project would result in permanent removal of sandflat/riparian and oak woodland habitat. There is an exhaustive list of rare and sensitive plants and animals that would be impacted by this project, including the glossy snake, horned lizards, checkerspot butterflies, legless lizards, road runners, quail, black tailed jack rabbits, bats, arroyo toads, bobcats, red shouldered hawks, etc. The proponents need to find a way to "reclaim" open water pits that would be the result of the min-

ing, and also need to find a place to dispose of yellow-fill, a waste product from the mining operation. Therefore they have described these yellow fill-lined pits as potential cattail habitat, that, they hope, could attract tri-colored blackbirds. It is possible that, if the mining stops as scheduled, and if the mitigation is implemented as envisioned, tri-colored black birds could be enticed to the area, but at the expense of the existing species richness and diversity.



All photos, Billy Ortiz



Which would you rather have: a glass of water, or a glass of sand? The project would result in damage to the region's primary aquifer; exposure of the aquifer to evaporation and contamination. Los Angeles officials just released millions of plastic balls onto the

top of their reservoir to protect it from evaporation. In El Monte Valley, the sand provides this protection. With the entire County being asked to let lawns go brown and save shower water in buckets, aquifer protection should be the priority. In addition to the 132 acre feet that the project is projected to consume

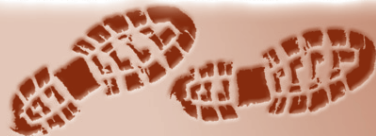
directly for operational purposes, additional loss would occur through evaporation, and contamination. The aquifer is currently used by residents and by Helix Water District customers throughout East County. It is likely that mitigation would be required for impacts to wells, placing more than 200 small

*El Monte Valley continued on page 14*



# Inspiring Connections Outdoors

Bill Tayler  
San Diego, ICO Co-Chair



## ICO's Lasting Impact on Young Lives A Success Story!

Each year, San Diego ICO leads about 60 trips with about 600 youth participants. Sometimes, the children only go on one trip, and we do not see them again. But usually we see the same children on different trips, and every so often we get to see the same child over many years, watching them grow into young adults – and seeing how ICO has a positive impact on their lives. One such person is David Gudiel, who has participated in ICO outings since he was in elementary school. Over the years, David has gone on many ICO outings, including camping trips to Joshua Tree and Sedona. In 2010, when he was in 7th grade, David shared these thoughts in a Hi Sierran article: “ICO gets kids from the city to see true nature. On the trips we go to hikes and overnights in deserts, mountains and rivers. ICO consists of friendship, team work, nature, fun, and being safe. The main thing I have learned on the trips is taking safe risks, working together and having fun.”

David, who recently became the first person in his family to graduate high school and go to college, believes that his participation in ICO has been a part of his successful journey:

I have been very lucky with things I have seen and done at my age. Traveling is a big part of my life. In the 5th grade that fire was lit inside me when ICO would take kids from my school on hiking and camping trips so we could see nature and the beauty it held. The hikes and camping trips ignited my passion for traveling to explore the world around me. ICO also showed me that if I worked hard, I would harvest the fruits of my labor. I am now a freshman at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, and my goal is to attend medical school. Thanks to ICO, I can say that I have the right determination and mindset to accomplish my goals throughout the years to come.

ICO trips are always fun and rewarding, but seeing that our work can also have a lasting impact on someone like David is extremely gratifying. In order to help students like David continue to succeed, some of us have formed a Friends of San Diego ICO scholarship fund to assist students who have had a significant level of participation in ICO outings over the years. Please contact me if you would like to join in our efforts.

*Inspiring Connections Outdoors is a Sierra Club outreach program that provides free wilderness experiences to urban youth, to help them realize the wonders of exploring the outdoors, develop the skills to do it safely, and nurture a desire to protect natural spaces. Please visit our website at [www.sandigosierraclub.org](http://www.sandigosierraclub.org)*

### **Volunteering With ICO –**

6:30 to 7:30 pm every 3rd Thursday of the month on odd numbered months (Feb, May, etc) at the San Diego Chapter office: 8304 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., Suite 101. For information about volunteering with ICO, please contact Bill Tayler by email ([btayler@taylorlaw.com](mailto:btayler@taylorlaw.com)) or by telephone (858-531-5442)

**Join us on an ICO Trip –** Want to see us in action? Join us as a guest on a day trip. Please contact Bill Tayler at [btayler@taylorlaw.com](mailto:btayler@taylorlaw.com)

**How to Donate –** We appreciate your support helping us to provide exciting, safe adventures free of charge. To receive a tax credit for your donation, please make your check payable to “Sierra Club Foundation/ San Diego ICO” and send to:

San Diego ICO  
c/o Mike Gilligan,  
3446 N. Mountain View Drive,  
San Diego, CA 92116

Contact info for this article:  
Bill Tayler, e-mail:  
[btayler@taylorlaw.com](mailto:btayler@taylorlaw.com)



Making Friends with a Garter Snake, 2010



Hiking in Sedona, 2010,



High School Graduation, 2015

# Wilderness Basics Course 2016

"Experience the beauty of the wilderness with knowledge and confidence!"

**10 Week Course Starts:**

**Escondido - January 5th**

**San Diego - January 19th**

This comprehensive 10-week course consists of 10 Tuesday night meetings and 4 weekend trips to the local deserts and mountains. The weekend trips include car camping, navigation, backpacking and even snow camping (you'll love it). Choose from outings that range from easy to extremely challenging. The Wilderness Basics Course is only offered once a year. It is open to both members and non-members of the Sierra Club.

**For More Info and To Register:**

**San Diego**

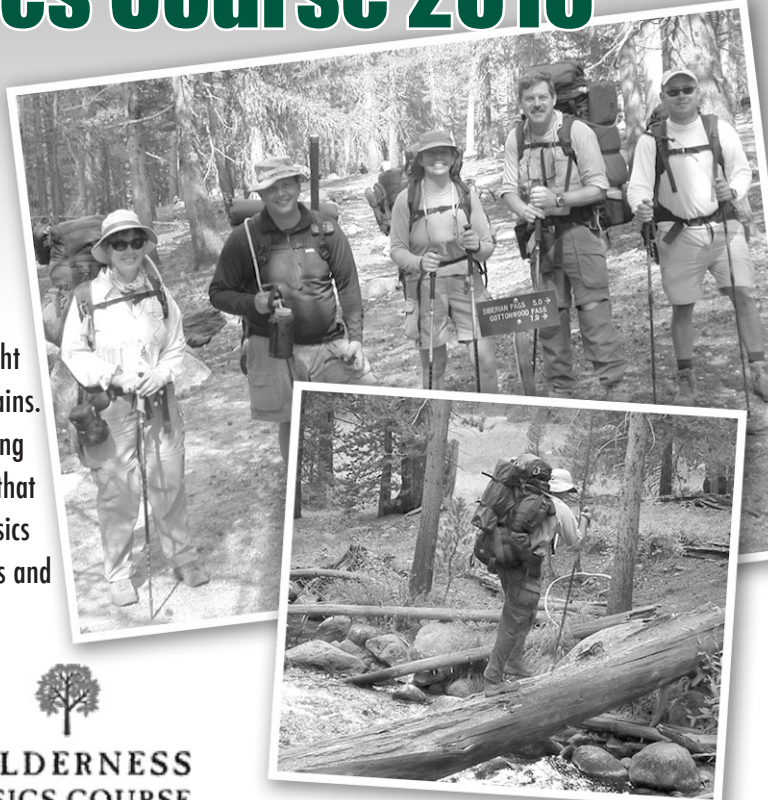
[www.wildernessbasics.com](http://www.wildernessbasics.com)

**Escondido**

<http://wbcnc.sierrasd.org>



**WILDERNESS  
BASICS COURSE**



## Fulfilling A Dream With WBC

*by Peggy Goddard*

I grew up hiking and camping but had never tried backpacking. The most adventurous thing I had done was climb halfway up Mt. Whitney with my sister to scatter our mom's ashes. At that time we vowed we would come back and climb to the summit one day. It was 22 miles round trip though and I didn't know the first thing about backpacking so the prospect felt daunting. I remember seeing the backpackers coming in off the John Muir Trail at Devil's Postpile in Mammoth and being in awe and wishing I could do that. But my husband wasn't the least bit interested so I contented myself with the short day hikes that we could squeeze in.

Fast forward 15 years. My daughter had gone off to college and my husband was now my ex. I still dreamed of backpacking someday. There were so many places on my bucket list that required backpacking; hiking the Grand Canyon, Havasu Falls, Mt. Whitney, the Pacific Crest Trail and the John Muir Trail to name a few.

One day a friend told me about the Sierra Club's Wilderness Basics Course. It sounded so adventurous and difficult to me and yet this woman was no big outdoors person. It sounded like just the thing I needed.

So the next year I signed up. I was warned that the class fills up fast, so I got on the website ([www.wildernessbasics.com](http://www.wildernessbasics.com)) on November 1st, the first day of signup. There are classes available in San Diego and North County so I signed up for the San Diego course. Being over 60, I expected to be the oldest student in the class, but I wasn't. The class consisted of people of all ages from 18 to 65 and even older.

We had 10 classroom lectures in which experienced backpackers and other members of the wilderness community spoke about different topics such as how to deal with animal encounters, leaving no trace, the 10 essentials for hiking and how to "use the facilities" in the outdoors, lovingly called the "Poop Talk" (My personal favorite, as it's filled with much innuendo!).

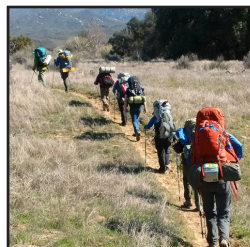
Then there were the 4 weekend outings. They had many different trips for all levels of abilities to choose from. At first I stuck with the easier trips but as my skills improved I was able to do more difficult trips. The great thing was that you didn't have to be a super hero in order to succeed, even when camping in the snow! On each trip I met lots of like minded

people and made some good friends. One thing I learned is that hikers are the nicest people you will ever meet!

On each of our outings, we learned from our outing leaders and we learned from each other. In the beginning I purchased a lightweight sleeping bag and sleeping pad and rented the tent and backpack. Each trip we would share what our favorite equipment was with the other students. Eventually I bought a lightweight backpack and tent. The WBC also had several used equipment sales, which was a good way to pick up some cheap equipment.

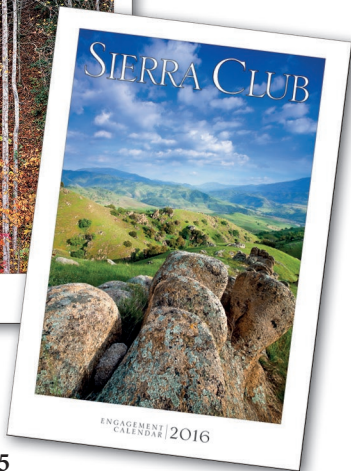
Since then I have done a 3 day backpacking trip in the Grand Canyon, a 4 day trip to Havasupai and many overnight trips on the Pacific Crest Trail, including a 6 day backpacking

trip from Horseshoe Meadow to Kearsarge Pass in the Sierras and of course I have been to the top of Mt. Whitney! I would never have been able to experience these beautiful places if not for the WBC. Last year I became a COL1 (Chapter Outing Leader) so that I would share what I had learned and give back to this wonderful organization. I've learned so much, but the best thing I learned is that it's never too late to live your dreams and with the help of the WBC anyone can do it!





## 2016 Sierra Club Calendars



Sierra Club Members  
10 %Discount  
Wall Calendar - \$12.55  
Engagement Calendar - \$13.45

### Order Form

Item	Cost	Qty	Total
Engagement Calendar <input type="checkbox"/>	\$14.95	_____	_____
Wilderness Calendar <input type="checkbox"/>	\$13.95	_____	_____
Sales Tax 8%		Subtotal:	_____
Shipping: \$4 for first calendar and \$1 for each additional calendar. Please make checks payable to "Sierra Club San Diego" and mail to:		Sales Tax:	_____
		Shipping:	_____
		GRAND TOTAL:	_____
Sierra Club San Diego, 8304 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, Ste # 101, San Diego, CA 92111"			

### Ship To:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_



## 9th Annual Whale Watching Trip

A Benefit Event for the San Diego Chapter

**Sunday, January 17, 2016, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

Join fellow Sierra Club members and friends as we venture out to locate gray whales. It will be the height of the grey whale migration along our coast and your opportunity to see whales from afar and up close.

Bring your cameras and binoculars to make this a memorable whale watching trip.

**Adult \$55 Child (6-13yrs) \$30**

**Purchase Tickets at:**

**<https://sierraclubsandiego.mycafecommerce.com>**

**For questions or more information, email [scoffice@sierrasd.org](mailto:scoffice@sierrasd.org)  
or call 858-569-6005**

No tickets will be issued. By making payment you are officially registered and will receive notification and confirmation.

To pay by check, make payable to "Sierra Club San Diego", and mail to: Whale Watching Trip, San Diego Chapter Sierra Club, 8304 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, Ste. 101, San Diego, CA 92111.

Please include the name, address, email, and telephone number of each person.

CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.



*El Monte Valley continued from page 10*

farms on the region's importation and distribution system. This alteration is likely to be a growth inducing measure.

El Monte Valley is an outdoor enthusiast's playground, with a historic wooden flume and historic mines to be explored, staging areas and trails, El Monte Park which is favored by many for weekend barbeques under the oaks, El Capitan Reservoir is a popular boating destination, street cyclists enjoy the gentle grade on quiet, scenic El Monte Road, artists paint the magnificent rock faces. There is rock climbing, hang gliding, horseback riding, among many other activities. If the sand mine is approved, recreationalists would have to pick their way past the sand trucks to even enter the Valley, and then would be assaulted visually, with noise, air pollution, and vibrations from the heavy activity in this formerly peaceful Valley. Furthermore, the project would expose wildlife, children, adults, elderly, and domestic animals to diseases such as Valley Fever. This fungal disease occurs in the sandy soils of El Monte Valley. Once the ground is disturbed, people and animals will be exposed to this potentially fatal disease.

What do the project opponents want? We support the efforts of the Sierra Club to get the 1% land fund on the ballot. We would like to see such funds used by a conservancy, such as the Lakeside River Conservancy, to purchase the land and provide stewardship to the water and biological resources at the site, while providing recreational opportunities consistent with County planning documents. Please join our effort to prevent this scenic, biologically important, gem from being turned into a sand mine. We will have a booth at the Lakeside Chamber Chili Cook-off at the Lakeside Rodeo on October 17th <http://lakesidechamber.org/viewPage.php?ID=chili>. Please come by, have some chili, and add your name to the list of people who wish to be kept informed about this project, or visit our Facebook Page: El Monte Nature Preserve Stop the Sand Mine.

*SANDAG continued from page 1*

Climate Action Plan. SANDAG's RTP must take the leadership role in ensuring that all jurisdictions within the County of San Diego are meeting the State-imposed mandates to achieve climate stabilizing targets as mandated in Executive Orders S-3-05 and B-30-15.

**The 2015 update to the SANDAG RTP should be based on the following information and principles:**

1. *The RTP is inextricably linked to the City of San Diego's Climate Action Plans. According to the Energy Policy Initiatives Center (EPIC) Inventory, cars and light-duty vehicles (LDVs) emit 41% of our greenhouse gas (GHG). How can you approve an RTP without measuring it against the City's Climate Action Plan?*
2. *SANDAG must strive to provide modes of transportation that make transit easy and affordable to get people out of their cars, to minimize vehicle-miles travelled (VMT) and will then reduce GHG.*
3. *Expansion of freeway infrastructure, including new Managed Lanes, and the construction of new freeways will only encourage more driving, will not create viable alternatives to automobile transportation, and in fact will result in increased VMT, more GHG, poorer air quality, and ultimately, no congestion relief, putting us farther behind achieving our climate stabilizing targets as outlined in the CAP.*
4. *Our July 15 comment letter contains detailed descriptions of measures to reduce driving and we ask that these measures need to be incorporated into the 2015 RTP.*

*The Sierra Club requests that the RTP include the following to be consistent with San Diego's proposed CAP include:*

1. *Re-prioritize transit by moving funding and construction of transit projects to years 0 to 5.*
2. *Create park-and-ride lots where people can drive from home, park their cars, and ride clean-emissions buses to major commute and travel destinations. Bus schedules are flexible and easily adjusted for peak times and special events. Prioritize using electric buses supported by solar generating stations at bus depots.*

3. *Increase public transit options (including small vans, buses and light rail) and frequency of service in the urban core and densely populated areas to make using transit easier.*
4. *Encourage bicycle commuting by creating segregated bicycle paths by re-striping, and providing safe cycling options for cyclists throughout the County.*
5. *Limit sprawl by discouraging (by disincentives) municipalities from approving subdivisions or planned communities more than 10 miles from job centers, which are not served by adequate transit.*
6. *Encourage by ease of permitting and economic incentives to increase the use of charging stations with solar installation on warehouse facilities to electrify cars, light delivery trucks and commercial vehicles.*
7. *Urge the state to adopt environmentally-sound road usage charges and to speed up the pilot project creation currently progressing under SB 1077.*
8. *Work for a demonstration project of a system to mitigate the harm of bundled-cost parking at places of employment.*
9. *Increase Coaster stops to ease traffic on I-5 in North County, especially by providing a stop at the Del Mar Fairgrounds so people can walk to the Racetrack and Fairground events.*

Sierra Club is confident that SANDAG can, within your 2015 deadline, draft a Regional Transportation Plan that encompasses the principles and priorities outlined in this letter, and which will be consistent with the two Climate Action Plans drafted by the City and County of San Diego.

We represent the Sierra Club's 12,000+ members who look to you for the leadership to create a sustainable and equitable transportation system that protects air quality and helps to reduce climate change for all the citizens of San Diego County.



## Classified Ad Rates and Information:

### Sierra Club Members

(up to 25 words)

Private party

\$10 + \$.50 per additional word.

Business-\$15 + \$.50 per additional word.

### Non-Members

(up to 25 words) Private party-\$15 + \$.50 per additional word.

Business-\$20 + \$.50 per additional word

Payment must be made at time of submission by check to:

Sierra Club San Diego

8304 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. #101

San Diego, CA 92111

Attn: HiSierran Treasurer

Send ad to:

info@thomascreative.com

### Online or Hardcopy HiSierran

#### SAVE TREES- Opt OUT OF THE PAPER HiSierran and enjoy the FULL COLOR online EDITION

It is very expensive to mail hard copies of the HiSierran! Would you rather get yours online and help save trees and save money for conservation? We can email you when a new copy is posted online with a link. We PROMISE we will NOT share your email. If you would like to get the HiSierran online, contact Richard Miller at the Chapter Office:

**858-569-6005 or**

**richard.miller@sierraclub.org.**

**The current issue and past issues are available to read online at**

**[http://sandigosierraclub.org/news/ newsletter/](http://sandigosierraclub.org/news/newsletter/)**

### Submission Deadlines for Hi Sierran Newsletter:

If you would like to submit an advertisement, story or article please remember these important deadlines:

#### Upcoming Issues:

**January/February 2016**

**Deadline is December 1st**

**To submit by email, please email to:**

**[info@thomascreative.com](mailto:info@thomascreative.com)**

**Submissions are subject to approval for content and subject matter.**

## Classified Ad

### MAMOTH CONDO

Right behind Chart House

3 bd/2 ba. Full kitchen. Free WiFi.

w/burning stove. 4 flat screens.

\$85 per night. Call Brad 619-804-5616

[bradchapma@aol.com](mailto:bradchapma@aol.com)

### Treasurer Needed for Sierra Club San Diego

The Steering Committee is looking for help to fill the Treasurer's position and also with Bookkeeping

1. You should be familiar with nonprofit accounting and QuickBooks and be able to spend 8 hours a week to:

2. Work well with others and advise the Steering Committee 3. Write checks, pay bills

4. Prepare financial statements, reports, and budgets;

5. Ensure financial stability and solvency of Sierra Club San Diego

6. Monitor and evaluate club activities including fund raising and expenditures. Provide and maintain financial records for auditors and other regulatory agencies;

For more information please get in touch with Karenlee Robinson 619-224-0404 or [klrobinson@cox.net](mailto:klrobinson@cox.net)

### The Sierra Club Foundation Vehicle Donation Program

To donate your car, truck, RV, boat, motorcycle, or other vehicle to Sierra Club Foundation, please fill out the secure donation form below.

<http://scf-cardonations.org/DONATE%20NOW.html>

Donating your car is quick and easy. You'll not only benefit yourself with a tax-deductible donation, but the proceeds from the resale or recycle of your car will also support the vital goals of the Sierra Club Foundation - to end our reliance on dirty fossil fuels; reverse the social, economic, and environmental damage caused by global climate change; restore, connect, and protect healthy ecosystems so that wildlife and wilderness can thrive; and successfully transition to a clean, green, renewable energy economy that better serves people and nature.

A representative will contact you shortly to guide you through the next step in the car donation process. If you prefer to contact us by phone, please call 855-33-SIERRA (855-337-4377) and one of our representatives will help you with your donation.

### Webmaster/ Tech Guru Needed

to assist with maintenance, regular updates and improvements to the Sierra Club San Diego website. Website was recently updated, but assistance is required for continued improvements, weekly updates, content uploads, and generalized webpage management. Limited compensation may be available.

## Go Solar With Sungevity And The Sierra Club

When you go solar with the Sierra Club and Sungevity, you will save \$1,000 upfront and Sungevity will send \$1,000 (\$750 after 10/31/15) to your local Sierra Club Chapter. Request a free solar iQuote below and see what rooftop solar can do for your home today.

[http://content.sierraclub.org/solar/sungevity?ref=131&utm\\_source=sierraclub&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=BESU&utm\\_campaign=businesspartnerships](http://content.sierraclub.org/solar/sungevity?ref=131&utm_source=sierraclub&utm_medium=email&utm_content=BESU&utm_campaign=businesspartnerships)

*Legislative Scorecard continued from page 5*

California's environment. You can find phone numbers for legislators at [www.senate.ca.gov](http://www.senate.ca.gov) or [www.assembly.ca.gov](http://www.assembly.ca.gov).

You can find out who your representatives are at: [findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/](http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/).

- *Make your voice heard and take action on key legislation when the 2016 legislative session begins by watching for news at: [www.sierraclubcalifornia.org](http://www.sierraclubcalifornia.org).*
- *Become a Sierra Club California member and keep up on the latest news at [sierraclubcalifornia.org](http://sierraclubcalifornia.org).*



## San Diego Chapter

8304 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. #101

San Diego, CA 92111

*On the north side & just west of the 163.*

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm

Phone: 858-569-6005

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

## Committees & Contact Information

**Meetings are held at the Sierra Club office or conference room unless otherwise indicated.**

### **Development Coordinator:** Richard Miller

858-569-6005

email: [richard.miller@sierraclub.org](mailto:richard.miller@sierraclub.org)

### **STEERING COMMITTEE**

Meets 2nd Wednesday 6:30 pm Chapter office

#### **Chair:** Debbie Hecht

808-989-3222

[hecht.deb@gmail.com](mailto:hecht.deb@gmail.com)

#### **Vice-Chair/Secretary:** Joe Zechman

619-709-6268

[joezechman@hotmail.com](mailto:joezechman@hotmail.com)

Nick Ervin

858-761-1659

[desertguy1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:desertguy1@sbcglobal.net)

Karenlee Robinson

619-572-8451

[klrobinson@cox.net](mailto:klrobinson@cox.net)

Paul Webb

[pbwebb3@cox.net](mailto:pbwebb3@cox.net)

Davin Widgerow

[dwidgerow@gmail.com](mailto:dwidgerow@gmail.com)

#### **Treasurer** (Non-Voting): Rob Morris

858-204-1865

[rmorris@san.rr.com](mailto:rmorris@san.rr.com)

### **COMMITTEES**

#### **CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

Meets 2nd Mondays at 6:30 pm Chapter Office.

##### **Chair:** Nick Ervin

[Desertguy1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Desertguy1@sbcglobal.net)

##### **International**

Call for meeting information

Jean Costa (619) 463-0721

##### **Transportation**

Call for meeting information

Mike Bullock (760) 754-8025

[mike\\_bullock@earthlink.net](mailto:mike_bullock@earthlink.net)

##### **Wildlife**

Ellen Shively (619) 479-3412

[ellenshively@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ellenshively@sbcglobal.net)

#### **FOSTER LODGE COMMITTEE**

Meets 4th Wednesday 6:30pm

Chair: Paul Webb

[pbwebb3@cox.net](mailto:pbwebb3@cox.net)

### **LEGAL COMMITTEE**

Contact Chair for time and location.

#### **Chair:** Davin Widgerow

[dwidgerow@sierrasd.org](mailto:dwidgerow@sierrasd.org)

### **NATURE KNOWLEDGE WORKSHOP**

Annual June Weekends, call for information.

Barry Hite (619) 479-8133

[NKW@sierrasd.org](mailto:NKW@sierrasd.org)

### **NORTH COUNTY GROUP (INLAND)**

The Executive Committee meets 2nd Tuesday.

Contact Chair for time and location.

#### **Chair:** Suzi Sandore (760)-484-3440

### **OUTINGS COMMITTEE**

#### **LEADERSHIP REVIEW & SAFETY**

##### **COMMITTEE**

Michael Taylor (619) -948-2062

[sd.lrsc@gmail.com](mailto:sd.lrsc@gmail.com)

Meets quarterly, call for information.

#### **Chair:** Starla Rivers (619)-630-9132

[sd.outchair@gmail.com](mailto:sd.outchair@gmail.com)

##### **Bus Trips**

Mike Fry (858) 748-5166

#### **Chapter Outings Leadership Training (COL)**

Jim Jafolla

[sd.col.training@gmail.com](mailto:sd.col.training@gmail.com)

### **PACIFIC CREST TRAIL**

Rob Langsdorf (858) 454-4777

[SDSCPCTS@yahoo.com](mailto:SDSCPCTS@yahoo.com)

### **POLITICAL COMMITTEE**

Meets 1st Tuesday

Chair: Davin Widgerow

[dwidgerow@sierrasd.org](mailto:dwidgerow@sierrasd.org)

### **SKI**

Mike Fry (858) 748-5166

### **WILDERNESS BASICS COURSE (WBC)**

Held annually beginning in January

Stefanie Maio

[info@wildernessbasics.com](mailto:info@wildernessbasics.com)

<http://www.wildernessbasics.com>

##### **Escondido**

John Tomlinson (858) 486-4853

[jctomlinson@cox.net](mailto:jctomlinson@cox.net)

<http://sandiego.sierraclub.org/wbc/nc/index.htm>

### **SECTIONS & SOCIAL COMMITTEES**

#### **Bicycle**

Call for meeting information. Jerry Fitzsimmons  
(858) 224-3437 [Membership@sdschs.org](mailto:Membership@sdschs.org).

[www.sandigosierraclub.org/get-outdoors/bicycle](http://www.sandigosierraclub.org/get-outdoors/bicycle)

#### **Family**

Jennifer Douglas

(858) 344-5490 [jenniferdouglassvettel@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferdouglassvettel@gmail.com)

[www.meetup.com/SDSierraClubFamily](http://www.meetup.com/SDSierraClubFamily)

#### **Photography**

[www.sandiego.sierraclub.org/photoclub](http://www.sandiego.sierraclub.org/photoclub)

#### **Social Sierrans-** *formerly Singles.*

Michael Taylor (619)-421-3821

[www.sandiego.sierraclub.org/singles](http://www.sandiego.sierraclub.org/singles)

### **INSPIRING CONNECTIONS OUTDOORS**

#### **(ICO)**

Call or check website for meeting information.

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

#### **Co-Chair:** Bill Tayler, (858) 272-8574

[btayler@taylorlaw.com](mailto:btayler@taylorlaw.com)

#### **Co-Chair:** Ed Barber, (619) 464-0780

[rebsd@yahoo.com](mailto:rebsd@yahoo.com)

### **PROGRAM COMMITTEES**

#### **Fundraising/Membership**

Richard Miller (858) 569-6005

[richard.miller@sierraclub.org](mailto:richard.miller@sierraclub.org)

#### **Hi Sierran Newsletter**

##### **Chair:** Debbie Hecht

[hecht.deb@gmail.com](mailto:hecht.deb@gmail.com)

##### **Managing Editor:** Judy Thomas

[info@thomascreative.com](mailto:info@thomascreative.com)

### **SIERRA TALKS, MONTHLY PROGRAM**

#### **Chair:** Ernest "EL" Lotecka

(760) 533-2725

[sdwalks@interactor.cc](mailto:sdwalks@interactor.cc)

1st Friday of every month