



HISIERRAN

Working To Preserve The Special Nature of San Diego for Over Half A Century

Vol 74 No. 4

Visit our website at: www.sandiegosierraclub.org

July/August 2015

San Diego Chapter Annual Gala Celebration & Awards Dinner



Gala Attendees



Political Activist winner - Davin
Widgerow & Debbie Hecht



Malinda Dickenson --
Distinguished Achievement



Pat Klaasen
Lifetime Achievement
Award



Karenlee Robinson & FEAT winner
Masada Disenhouse



Silver Cup winner - George Greer with
Suzi Sandore

Gala-continued on page 2

Sierra Club San Diego's Big Victory For Climate Action Plans Sets Precedent For The State

by Mike Bullock and Jan Chattan Brown

Sierra Club San Diego is celebrating a big victory for meaningful climate action plans. On March 11, the California Supreme Court declined to review the Fourth District Court of Appeal's decision in *Sierra Club v. County of San Diego* (2014) 231 Cal.App.4th 1152, leaving a unanimous decision in favor of the Sierra Club fully intact. The message is clear: effective, enforceable, and comprehensive greenhouse gas reduction mitigation measures are needed when jurisdictions authorize growth that will produce more greenhouse gases. In most jurisdictions, this is done through a Climate Action Plan (CAP), which is a long-range planning document that addresses everything from transportation projects to housing construction and other types of development. Such local government plans are extremely important because the effects of climate change are potentially the most devastating of any environmental impact. While the Air Resources Board is

regulating many sources of emissions, what is done locally matters greatly. As a society, we must not contribute to climate destabilization.

The Sierra Club sued the County after it failed to include comprehensive and enforceable measures for curbing greenhouse-gas emissions in its Climate Action Plan, despite the promise to do so during its 2011 General Plan Update that permitted extensive additional growth. That update mapped out land use projections for unincorporated areas of the region. The Sierra Club and other environmental groups commented on the CAP, raising concerns about what they saw as missing or vague provisions about climate change and suggesting feasible measures to reduce emissions, but were ignored.

The Court of Appeal's opinion will require the County to consider and include feasible mitigation measures. On April 8th, the County officially rescinded their Climate Action Plan. San Diegans have great ideas about how our region can meaningfully reduce its greenhouse gas emissions and will be able to participate in a new process. What the Club hopes will happen now, is that these ideas will be incorporated and implemented, resulting in enforce-

Climate Action continued on page 15

HI SIERRAN

Explore, Enjoy and Protect the Planet

Sierra Club San Diego Chapter

8304 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. #101
San Diego, CA 92111
(858) 569-6005

Editor

Judy Thomas (619) 462-5168
HSEditor@SierraSD.org

Creative Director

Scott Thomas (619) 462-5168
Scott@thomascreative.com
www.thomascreative.com

Advertising

HSAds@SierraSD.org

Hi Sierran Committee Chair

Debbie Hecht
hecht.deb@gmail.com

Conservation

Nick Ervin: desertguy1@sbcglobal.net

Meetings and Activities

www.sandiegosierraclub.org

July/August 2015

USPS - 896140

The Hi Sierran is published bi-monthly by the San Diego Chapter of the Sierra Club, 8304 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. #101, San Diego, CA 92111, for members in San Diego and Imperial counties. Periodicals Postage Paid at San Diego, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Hi Sierran, Sierra Club Member Services P.O. Box 421041 Palm Coast, FL 32142-6417

Address Correction?

Send your current mailing label and your correct address to:

Sierra Club
P.O. Box 421041

Palm Coast, FL 32142-6417

or call Membership Services at

415-977-5653, Monday - Friday

between 9 am and 5 pm, Pacific Time.

Please allow 4-6 weeks for processing.

© Copyright 2014 Sierra Club San Diego, CA (Hi Sierran Newsletter). All rights reserved. Federal copyright law prohibits unauthorized reproduction by any means without proper consent and imposes fines up to \$30,000 for violation. For permission to reproduce or use any material from the Hi Sierran Newsletter, please email HSEditor@SierraSD.org and explain usage. Thank you.

Gala Celebration & Awards Dinner

The theme for the GALA was BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE. It was a resounding success! We had 127 people attend at the Hilton Harbor Island and so many people worked to assure the success of the event! The Gala Committee had a lot of fun. Heartfelt thanks to Steering Committee Member, Karenlee Robinson who co-presented the awards with me. Richard Miller (staff) did a stellar job of organizing all of us, Suzi Sandore (North County chair), was so helpful with her knowledge of events, Nina Mineri stepped up to organize, got silent auction items and donated one of her original paintings, and kudos to the always reliable, cheerful and one of my favorite people, Ellen Shively. Cece Canton, our volunteer, professional photographer, took the pictures you see here. We have two young interns who helped prepare for the event and helped check people in- Ale Montes and Siyuan Liu. A big THANK YOU to all of you!

BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE was the perfect theme for the event! The Steering committee has been hard at work re-building Sierra Club San Diego and reaching

out to re-establish the club in the community. We have worked with the Social Sierrans to restart the Sierra Talks our monthly social and informational meeting, Nick Ervin has agreed to be Conservation Chair and is building a Climate Action Team, Davin Widgerow is the Political Committee Chair and Paul Webb has taken on the difficult task of rebuilding Foster Lodge. Karenlee Robinson has led the effort to revamp communications and is the liaison to the Outings. I've been working on the 1% Land Fund effort and a new project to educate citizens about Rooftop Solar with Saturday morning forums around the county. WE had two sponsors: IBEW Local 569 and Republic Services. Several groups purchased a table: Social Sierrans, Wilderness Basics Course and Rafael Castellanos, Port Commissioner. Thank you for your support!! Besides our awardees, we had some important people attend: Rafael Castellano, San Diego Port Commissioner, Barbara Bry, Candidate for San Diego City council, Rob Hutzler, ED of San Diego River Park Foundation, Tim Nader, Southwestern College Governing Board, Georgette Gomez, City Council candidate District 9, Jerry Cano, Vice Mayor for National City and Terry Weiner, Desert Protective Council.



Inspiring Connections Outdoors (ICO) -
Al Fein, Karenlee Robinson,
Bill Tayler, Mike Gilligan



Volunteer Award -
Diane Purkey Wilson



Debbie Hecht & FEAT winner Nicole Capretz



Distinguished Achievement -
Jan Chatten-Brown with Jack Brown

Gala-continued on page 7

Getting Back to Grassroots Power

by Rene Owens

So here, is what I want to know: Do you have a passion for an environmental issue, like wildlife, water, oceans, sprawl, climate change, wilderness, factory farms, or [fill in the blank]? Want to get more involved but aren't sure how, or think you don't have the expertise? Or maybe you want test the volunteer waters before you dive in? How about traveling to other parts of the county to meet other activists while lobbying for issues that are dear to your heart? If yes to any of these, keep reading. We may have just the thing for you.

Of all the big environmental groups in the nation, the Sierra

Club is unique because it provides real opportunities for anyone who wants to make a difference in their community, no matter your age, background, or previous experience. That community can be your back yard, school, town, state, or the whole country. There are many ways you can get involved, check out the back page of this newsletter. But there's one way you may not have heard of: You can start your venture into volunteering in the privacy of your own home by visiting the National Club's online Grassroots Network: <https://content.sierraclub.org/grassrootsnetwork/>.

The site will tell you what the Network is and how to join, to get started you register as with any interactive website. My advice is to peruse the Teams, you can explore the activist groups nationwide and see what they are working on. There's a big variety of topics: endangered species, climate change, oceans, fracking, wilderness, veganism, agriculture, population, and lots more. You can also start your own group!

It's easy, it's interesting, and your time commitment is entirely up to you. And if you have experience or expertise in a particular Team issue, you could be invited to be a core voting member. Some Teams focus on community activism, some coordinate a local campaign, others function more as scientific advisors,

while some are a catch-all for a given issue nationwide. I'm a core voting member of two busy Teams, the Wildlife and Endangered Species Team, and the Marine Team - and it's been a real trip. I have met like-minded people nationwide, traveled as a citizen lobbyist, helped organize campaigns for protection of endangered species and habitats, created workshops, organized community events, provided expert testimony. My background is that of a biologist



Blue Vision Summit, from left to right: Fabien Cousteau (aquanaut and grandson of Jacques Cousteau), Rene Owens, Vickie Goldstein (Colorado Ocean Coalition), Holly Parker (Tallahassee Surfrider), and Katie Davis (Sierra Club Santa Barbara)

and environmental consultant, yet doing this work has hugely enriched my knowledge of not just environmental issues, but how to collaborate successfully with people from very disparate backgrounds. Perhaps you want to start or join a campaign to raise awareness, or change a law, start a community garden, clean up a school or neighborhood, or coordinate different local groups working on the same issue? The Grassroots Network Teams may help you find a way to get started.

For example, I recently returned from a trip to D.C. sponsored by a Network grant our Marine Team won. I attended the Blue Vision Summit, a biennial conference held at the Carnegie Institute that brings together ocean conservation activists, scientists, leaders, and even Congressional political advocates (yes, they do exist). I shared dinner conversation with Ralph Nader, spoke with Kathy Sullivan, former astronaut now head of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and swapped wildlife stories with aquanaut and media presenter Fabien Cousteau (grandson of the famous Jacques). I got to participate in the biggest lobby day event for oceans in the history of the environmental movement: Blue

Vision Summit attendees met, in groups, with 162 Congressional representatives, including Senators Boxer and Feinstein, for 25 states and 1 territory! I also had the rare opportunity to meet one-on-one with NOAA's Director of the Office of Protected Resources, we spent two hours discussing San Diego's local issues regarding threats to the ocean wildlife. I met inspired

activists from Hawaii, Florida, New York, and Massachusetts, and have new volunteer partners in crime from northern California. And, this wasn't my first trip to D.C. on a Network grant, twice I've traveled with Endangered Species Team members to attend a lobby week and meet with senior officials at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Office.

Be aware these weren't just window-dressing meetings, they are substantive and serve to enhance relationships between agency personnel, politicians, and us citizens who they were elected to represent. We aren't paid like some slick Monsanto lobbyist, we've done our homework, and because we have the support of the ethical community at our backs, the leaders we speak to take us seriously. They see our commitment as constituents, and whether they agree with our ideology or not, when we speak truth to power they respect that. It is a rewarding endeavor no matter how you slice it.

So if you want to get involved, the best advice I can give you is don't be shy, give it a try. If one group doesn't fit, try another. Invite your friend or spouse to join you and check it out. There's no obligation, no added fees, and when you can actually achieve it, nothing feels quite as good as being a part of something that makes the world a better place, even if it is just your back yard.

Sierra Talks

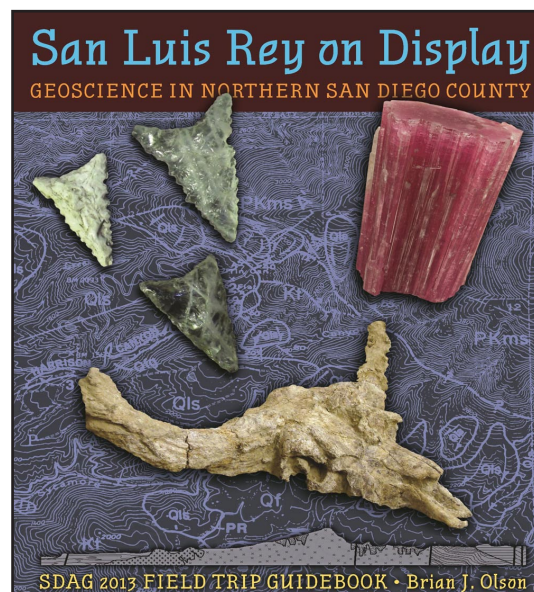
Formerly Monthly Meetings

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

July 3rd

San Luis Rey on Display: Geoscience in Northern San Diego County

This presentation is a guided trip through the San Luis Rey alluvial basin. It includes insights on geology, paleontology, and archaeology of this 55 mile long watershed. This is San Diego's County



largest and least developed area - extending from headwaters at the western edge of the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park to the Pacific Ocean at Oceanside.

Brian J. Olson will be sharing research done for his guidebook on the rich watershed. Brian is a Certified Engineering Geologist with

a 19 year career in the field of geotechnical consulting. He initiated his geological education at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he obtained a multidisciplinary degree in hydrological science and geology through UCSB's pioneering Environmental Studies department, graduating with honors in 1995.

His consulting career has included geologic investigations on often large, high profile, and always geologically complex construction projects. Brian has served as an officer in the San Diego Association of Geologists (SDAG), a local organization with over 45 years of history advocating, investigating and publishing geologic, geotechnical and environmental information specific to Southern California and Baja.

August 7th

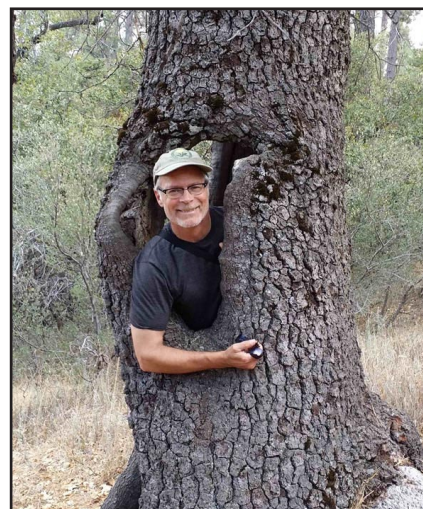
Hiking: Survival Essentials

So you want to go hiking. GREAT! But are you prepared for the unexpected. Sure, nature is beautiful and unbiased; "tho' nature, red in tooth and claw...". What could possibly go wrong? Well, just about anything. How prepared you are when you enter the 'wild' lands can be

the difference between having an awesome day, being inconvenienced, or perhaps, losing your life. It's really all about being properly prepared. Whether it's a local day hike, or a 17 mile cross country desert adventure, you should have the same basic plan each time. After all, most problems develop without much warning. In the back-country, 911, your cell phone, shelter, water and food can all be missing.

In this presentation, Michael will go over the Ten Essentials, how to prepare for a hike (and potential emergencies), and what to do if you find yourself stranded in the wilderness overnight (building an emergency shelter, starting an emergency fire, signaling, etc.).

Michael Golden has been teaching Biology and Environmental Science at Grossmont College for the past 22 years and has been backpacking since the 1960's. He has been on staff with the WBC for three years where he also presents the Emergency Shelter and Fire talk. He prefers hikes off of the beaten track and has had to spend the night twice in the desert unexpectedly.



Health of the Environmental Movement: Our Future

by Luis Alejandro Montes, Student Activist and Intern - Sierra Club San Diego

The 3rd week of April is always a good gauge for the strength and vitality of the local environmental movement here in San Diego. Although we in the Sierra Club understand particularly well that we should always maintain an attitude of utmost respect and wonder towards our Mother Nature, the mainstream has always embraced Earth Day as a day where there are fairs and all inclusive events featuring some aspect of progressive thoughts and ideas on our environment.

We took to the streets, raising awareness about the Sierra Club and its many initiatives in San Diego. It was truly a beautiful experience to be a part of. Our first stop was Balboa Park as is tradition here at the Sierra Club. I woke up at the crack of dawn, enjoyed a quick cup of tea as the sun rose, and took the new Rapid MTS bus route down to City College Transit Station from where I walked to Balboa Park. I had little idea that the day before me would be one of the most fulfilling and uplifting endeavors I have undertaken to date. This feeling would only be surpassed representing the Sierra Club singlehandedly on the 22nd of April at Miramar College's Earth Day and again on the 23rd at Southwestern's Earth Day event with Karenlee Robinson, an energetic activist I've had the pleasure of working with through the Sierra Club.

At these events however, particularly at the school events, overwhelmingly I was brought face to face with a grave social problem. Young people of my age/demographic are frustrated by the lack of accessibility to social movements like the conservation cause. My way of reaching out to these curious folks who approached our booth was to ask them on a scale of 1-10, how concerned were they about the environment. Without exaggerating even one bit, I can say with confidence that about 90% of the people I asked gave themselves an 8 or 9, but no one gave themselves the full ten. The deeper the conversations would go, all the more a recurring, overarching theme began to become clear. These people were interested in stopping climate change in its tracks, interested in raising awareness,

in participating in the movement and lifestyle. Many of them are living very conservation-minded lifestyles, encouraging their family members to buy local, to turn off the tap, to consider going solar and in the meantime turning off the lights and appliances when they are not in use. What really stops them from being able to reach out to environmental organizations is the cost of life. They are of the working class; they work when they're not at school and get what rest they can in between. The powerful cogs of consumerism are grinding them down slowly, and they are stuck in the rut carved out by this linear system as corporations like Monsanto and Dow Chemical get away with global biocide. So, I would like to suggest that we redouble our efforts to reach out to this group, who will be at the helm of society in the future. Instead of waiting for them to wake up one day and realize our beautiful Mother Earth is too far gone to be saved, we need to make sure these folks are educated in what outlets they have for their frustrations.

We need to make sure these folks know exactly who the Sierra Club is and what we've been fighting for, laying in front of bulldozers for, waking up at the crack of dawn to go to a rally for, marching through downtown screaming our lungs out for, living and dying for since 1892.

I would like to thank Debbie Hecht, Richard Miller, Karenlee Robinson, Davin Widgerow, and everyone else who participated in running our booths and made outreach a priority as they do year after year. It is leadership like theirs that makes the Sierra Club a frontrunner in the conservation movement, and I am sure that together we will succeed in mobilizing the youth.

The author of this article is Luis Alejandro Montes. Alejandro, age 21, he is a motivated activist and student at 4 different community college campuses and interns at the Sierra Club when he is not riding the bus around town to get to his next class. His mother and father raised him to have the utmost respect for Mother Nature, they were always taking him and his younger sister on hikes, bike rides, and camping trips. It was these immersive experiences

Get Excited! Party!

The Sierra Social Club, formerly the Sierra Singles, is hosting a re-branding social celebration on Sunday, August 16 at Tidelands Park. Whether you're single or in a relationship, we don't care, we all like to be social. Come join us as we say goodbye to the Sierra Singles and welcome everyone to the new Sierra Social Club!

At the celebration, we will lead local dayhikes (looking for volunteers!) from the park in the morning and have lunch ready by the time you return. Tacos and fixings will be provided by the Sierra Social Club and Taco Surf; first come first serve. Feel free to bring lawn games to enjoy or just set up your chair, relax and be social.

Later that evening, we will have an opportunity to enjoy a concert by the Company Men at Spreckels Park in Coronado; only a short walk away.

<http://www.thecompanymen.com/>

SAVE THE DATE:

Sierra Social Club would like you to save the date for 2 fabulous star party car camps.

Join us for the Perseid Meteor Shower on **Wednesday Aug 12th** at Culp Valley and the Lunar Eclipse on **Sunday Sep 27** Agua Caliente Campground.

Get your campsites early! More to follow in the coming months. For more information/RSVP please contact Melody Eues email - Mellah222@cox.net

that gave him a profound love for his environment. Not only a vocal and verbose critic of corporate establishment but also someone who strives to walk the walk, he takes the bus the most places he can, helps his parents manage the composting area in the backyard and works the garden, takes 2 minute showers, and is getting better at turning off the lights after he went up to San Francisco as part of a Sierra Club delegation to denounce SDG&E's Carlsbad Energy Center. You will be seeing and hearing more of this dedicated young activist and his work with the Sierra Club in the months to come.

Sierra Club Bus Trips

Part of the largest grassroots environmental organization in the country, Sierra Club provides environmentally friendly outdoor adventures.

For over 33 years the San Diego Chapter has been offering bus trips to a variety of National and State Parks.

What makes these trips special is that they are organized by a fantastic team of volunteer leaders and nobody pays them for their efforts. They do it out of an appreciation for these special places, and a passion for sharing them with you. We look forward to having you join us on a bus trip to explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

Save the date for the following trips:

July 8-12

July Bus Trip - Yosemite

Waiting List Only

August 12 - 16

Multi-Day Bus Trip - Eastern Sierra

Registration opens June 15

October 1-4

Multi-Day Trip - Channel Islands

Registration opens July 24

For more information or to register for the above Bus Trips, please visit www.sdsierraclub.org.

Like us on Facebook



CST2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California

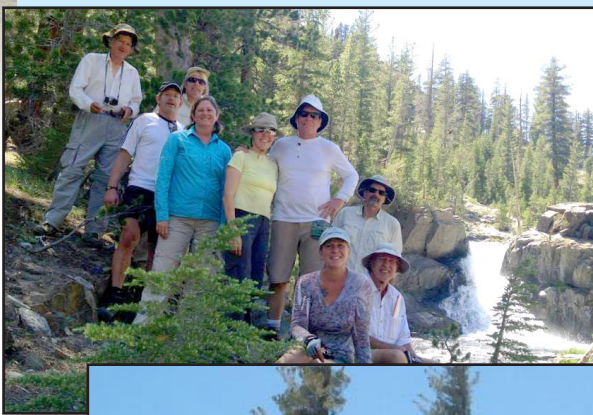


Photo: National Park Service



Kathy Ervin & Joe Zeckman



Karenlee Robinson &
Conservation Activist winner
Walter Konopka



Solana Beach Council member Peter Zahn, Deputy Mayor David Zito,
Mayor Leesa Heebner & Supervisor Dave Roberts



Karenlee Robinson & Outings Chair
Starla Rivers



North County Group- Kelly Conrad,
Suzi Sandore North County Chair, Linda Greer



Photos by CeCe Canton:
<http://www.cecephoto.com>

The San Diego Chapter Appreciates and Thanks our Gala Celebration & Awards Dinner Sponsors



Silent Auction Donors

Adventure 16
Aqua Adventures
Kayaks
"B" Schmidt
Buddy Farnsworth at
Jewel
Caffe Calabria
Diane Nygaard
Hilton San Diego
Harbor Island
Laughing Pony
Rescue, Inc.

Lois Day
Mingei International
Museum
Neil Brooks
Nomad Ventures
Omni Hotel
Paul Webb
Pierre's Jewelers
Rebecca Neary
Reuben H Fleet
Science Center

Salon Jose
Seasons Salon+Spa
Sunbelt Publications
Buddy Farnsworth at
Jewel Hair Dressers
Cygnet Theatre
Ellen Shively
Jon Luft
Melody Eues
Natural Healing
Institute of
Naturopathy
Nick and Kathleen
Ervin
North County Group

Outings Committee
Bus Trips
Perfect Polish
San Diego Bike &
Kayak Tours
San Diego Museum
of Art
San Diego Natural
History Museum
Seal Conservancy
Starla Rivers
The Purple Mint
Vegetarian Bistro
T.M. Schultze Artwork
Wilderness Basics
Course, San Diego

Table Sponsors

Rafael Castellanos, Port Commissioner
Social Section
Wilderness Basics Course

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

2nd Friday Movie Night

July 10, 6:30pm

Movie: YEARS OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY: Episodes 3 and 4
2 Hours

This ground breaking, Emmy-winning Showtime documentary television series, consisting of 9 episodes, explores the human impact of climate change.

Episode 3: THE SURGE

In episode three, MSNBC's Chris Hayes shadows climate change skeptic, Republican Congressman Michael Grimm, for a year in Staten Island in the wake of Superstorm Sandy and questions what he might have learned about climate change in the process, and conservationist M. Sanjayan travels to the ends of the earth including Christmas Island to question some of the world's top climate scientists as they collect key data unlocking the past and future of our planet's changing climate.

Episode 4: ICE & BRIMSTONE

Lesley Stahl of '60 Minutes' travels to Greenland to investigate the effects of global warming in the Arctic. Down south, Ian Somerhalder travels to North Carolina to listen in on both sides of the evangelical community's debate over climate change and finds himself caught in the middle of not only a religious debate, but a familial one: the father is a megachurch preacher who doesn't believe in climate change; the daughter is an activist trying to shut down the local coal-fired power plant.

August 14, 6:30pm

Movie: YEARS OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY: Episodes 5 and 6
2 Hours

Episode 5: TRUE COLORS

Olivia Munn profiles climate-conscious Governor Jay Inslee of Washington State, discussing the issues he's faced since being elected. Meanwhile, 'New York Times' columnist Mark Bittman probes New Jersey Governor Chris Christie on the topic of man-made climate change during the rebuilding of his state's coastline in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy. Christie once acknowledged the scientific consensus on climate change, but steadfastly refused to discuss it during the rush to rebuild.

Episode 6: WINDS OF CHANGE

America Ferrera profiles prominent skeptic James Taylor of the Heartland Institute as he crusades against clean energy, and investigates the battle over the future of renewable energy in the US. 'New York Times' columnist Mark Bittman returns to conduct a yearlong investigation into natural gas, which has been touted as "America's energy source" and a way towards a cleaner, greener future. But is it true?

The Case for Environmental Investing

Wednesday, July 15th 6:30-7:30 PM

Shane Yonston, Principal Advisor at ImpactInvestors, will discuss how Socially Responsible Investing (SRI) seeks to create balance between doing well while doing good. This educational workshop covers some of the market risks and opportunities created by current environmental trends. Case studies on how environmental criteria have been used to determine risks and opportunities follow a brief history and introduction to SRI. There will be some discussion on assumptions and facts regarding SRI financial rates of return.

Socially Responsible Investing: How has performance compared to other strategies?

Wednesday, August 19th 6:30-7:30 PM

Shane Yonston, Principal Advisor at Impact Investors and 12-year veteran in the field of Socially Responsible Investing (SRI), will discuss how SRI portfolios seek to create balance between doing well while doing good. This educational workshop covers some of the historical performance of various indexes and mutual funds that have screened out companies or entire industries based on their impact on society or the environment. Has this strategy been effective? Have investors made competitive returns? What market cycles tend to favor socially responsible investors, and what things should you consider looking ahead? Come explore these questions and more at our next SRI workshop!

Please sign up with by contacting hecht.deb@gmail.com or call 808-989-3222.

Road to Clean Elections narrated by Bill Moyers

"14 minute Video, brief presentation and discussion"

Thursday, July 23 and Monday August 31, 7:00pm

Sierra Club Office

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

For more information, contact John Hartley, Coordinator:
Neighborhoods for Clean Elections
at 619-299-8870 or hartley2k@aol.com

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://sandiegosierraclub.org>
Then click on "Get Outdoors"

Inspiring Connections Outdoors

Bill Tayler
San Diego, ICO Co-Chair



Discovering Silverwood Wildlife Sanctuary

One of the side benefits of going on ICO outings is that sometimes you go to a new place that you had not previously thought to visit, and sometimes that new place turns out to be wonderful. The Silverwood Wildlife Sanctuary – which is a large preserve in Lakeside owned by the San Diego Audubon Society – is one such place. Since first visiting Silverwood last year on an ICO outing led by Ed Barber, it has become one of my favorite destinations for an ICO outing and our go-to destination for after-school trips when we do not have time to drive to more distant destinations.



Silverwood has a wide variety of trails suitable for kids of different ages and hiking abilities. While some trails are relatively short and easy, others climb the surrounding hills and, from the top, offer stunning views west to the ocean and east to El Capitan. And nearly all of the trails have rocks that the kids love to climb.

One rock, which looks to me like a giant shark fin rising out of the chaparral, presents the more adventuresome kids with a challenging climb and is always a favorite stop.

Although Silverwood was completely burned in the 2003 Cedar Fire, the native chaparral vegetation has returned and supports a thriving wildlife community of birds, mammals, lizards and snakes.

More often than not, we are able to visit with one of the speckled rattlesnakes that live near the bird observation and picnic area.



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

New Volunteer Orientations –

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. Anyone interested in ICO is welcome to attend. Please contact Allan Fein for more information: email hikeral@me.com or call 858-449-3333.

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

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

If you have not visited Silverwood, I encourage you to do so. It is open to the public on Sundays, and it offers many fun adventures for the young and for the young at heart.



The Rope Works!

by Ellen Shively

Chair, Wildlife Committee



Supporters of protection for the harbor seals at Casa Beach were rewarded on June 10th when the California Coastal Commission unanimously voted to renew the permit for a seasonal guideline viewing rope to alert the public to keep a “safe distance” from resting seals. A hundred or more harbor seals may occupy the 160 feet length of sand, and could easily be disturbed by uninformed visitors approaching within a few feet.

A large mailing went out to our Sierra Club members and a bus was provided for San Diegans wishing to attend the meeting and voice their opinion on the issue. Dan Daneri from the City’s Parks and Beaches Department spoke in favor of the recommendation which was crafted by the local staff of the CCC. A Sierra Club member, and the Treasurer of the Seal Conservancy of San Diego, Dr. Jane Reldan illustrated her presentation with a graph showing a dramatic 54% decrease in incidents of seal harassment when the rope is in place. A beach monitoring plan is one of the special conditions required by the California Coastal Commission to support the need for this kind of reminder to keep a safe distance from the wildlife.

After the vote, Commissioner Bochco proposed stronger protective legislation at the state level for enforcement of the existing wildlife protection laws.

Last year, the California Coastal Commission voted unanimously for closure of the beach for the five month pupping season and now they have voted unanimously for continuation of the rope during the other seven months of the year, both for the next four years. Statistics collected by the City Ranger and the docents of the Seal Conservancy of San Diego provided persuasive argument in favor of the effectiveness of the beach closure and the “guideline” rope. People are allowed to go beyond the rope to the water, preferably along the east side through the designated three foot opening, without disturbing the seals. It is a serious violation of the Marine Mammal Protection Act to disturb the seals.

For more information or if you know of a group who would like a presentation on the harbor seal rookery at Casa Beach in La Jolla, please contact our Wildlife Chair, Ellen Shively, at ellenshively@sbcglobal.net

Foster Lodge News

The saga of the reopening of Foster Lodge and the rebuilding of the cabin continues

by Paul Webb, Chair

First the good news. Obviously, as members of the Sierra Club we want our projects to comply with all applicable environmental regulations, as time consuming as they may be. We have finally received environmental approval from the Forest Service to begin the Phase I water supply project without the archaeological study having to go to the State Historic Preservation Officer for approval, which has saved considerable time. The project should be completed in the near future. Upon completion of the tank installation and plumbing, we will still need to find a short term temporary water source and, ultimately, a permanent water supply.



The Forest Service has not ruled out connection to their supply across the road, but no final decision has been made. In the meantime, a source for trucked-in water will have to be found.

We have also received four responses to our Request for Qualification (RFQ) from architectural and engineering firms for the cabin reconstruction. The Foster Lodge Committee found three of the submittals to be responsive to our RFQ and recommended to the Steering Committee that Requests for Proposals (RFPs) be sent to those three firms. This decision was ratified by the Steering Committee at its May meeting.

Unfortunately the news from our most recent meeting with the Forest Service did not go as well as we had hoped. Although the original idea for using a generator to provide minimum electrical service was suggested by Service staff, they have not approved our request to obtain and use a generator at the Lodge. We will continue to explore this.

With regard to the rebuilding of the cabin, the goal post has apparently been moved farther down the road. In our initial discussions with Service staff, we felt confident that if we were to provide a low impact design that was subordinate to the surrounding forest and its varied uses, we would be successful in gaining the Service’s approval. Now, however, the Service is insisting that any additional structure at the Lodge, including the cabin, must be evaluated not only on its own but within the context of all other uses on Mt. Laguna, including the Mt. Laguna Lodge, the private cabin tracts, campgrounds, etc. We will continue to explore this with the Service, but we are not overly optimistic about a quick resolution.

The Forest Service has, however, suggested an option they would

The Forest Service has, however, suggested an option they would

Foster Lodge-continued on page 12



The North County Group is pleased to award its 2015 Conservation Grant to The Friends Of Daley Ranch. Each year, this organization brings every seventh grader from Escondido's five public middle schools to Daley Ranch for a full day field trip, where they engage in six fun, hands-on learning stations. Many of the children are from families who may rarely, if ever, consider a visit to nature. The students' eyes are wide, as they soak up the natural wonders, and then they return to their neighborhoods and families to share the marvels.

Our grant will help fund the costs of the program which include the live raptor learning station; the Native American program with artifacts and cultural handiwork; hands-on materials for presentations on mammals, reptiles, insects and

native plant life; a pioneer/local history session; and for the buses to transport the students from their schools to Daley Ranch.

As many of us are frequent hikers at Daley Ranch, we know what a treasure this place is, and how important it is to introduce the next generation to nature and the outdoors and spark the desire to explore and protect these precious places.

The grant was awarded at the NCG's Annual Picnic, which was held June 6th at Dixon Lake. A large group of Sierra Club members and supporters gathered for a fun afternoon and enjoyed a delicious barbeque, socializing and games.



NCG Chair Suzi Sandore presenting grant check to Friends of Daley Ranch President, Fred Woods.



NCG members listening to presentation by Fred Woods.



The North County Coastal Group (AKA the Coasters) is the geographic division of the San Diego Chapter for the north coastal area, Del Mar to Oceanside. We organize a variety of Sierra Club activities in coastal North

County, including outings, social events and conservation efforts.

In 2015, we are returning to a full meeting schedule. The meetings will be on the third Tuesday of every month. Our meetings are from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Encinitas Community Center, 1140 Oakcrest Park Dr, Encinitas, CA.

On July 21, we will look at water in a different light as we learn

about Planning For Sea Level Rise. Our experts will discuss the impacts of sea level rise on our local beaches and bluffs, and what can be done to prepare for them. We will hear reports on the initial meeting of the Encinitas Sea Level Rise subcommittee, the first San Diego Sea Level Rise Symposium, and the draft release of the California Coastal Commission Sea Level Rise Guidance document.

On August 18, the topic will be the proposed shopping center development at the Strawberry Fields in Carlsbad. A developer is collecting signatures for a ballot measure that would bypass all environmental reviews for the project. The Sierra Club and other groups are studying the proposal to decide on a position.

For more news and activities, you can sign up for a monthly Coaster News email at <http://lists.sierraclub.org/SCRIPTS/WA.EXE?A0=SANDIEGO-NORTHCOUNTY-NEWS>, or you can find our meetings and events on the San Diego Activities calendar at <http://sandiegosierraclub.org>

California Drought

Kathryn Phillips, ED Sierra Club California

At least once during an average week, someone asks me where the Club stands on a particular water-related issue.

Are we for or against the Delta tunnels? (We're opposed to the tunnels.)

Do we think farmers are doing their

part to respond to the drought? (Not entirely.) Why is the oil industry allowed to pollute water and then inject it into drinking water aquifers? (Good question, and it's one we keep asking the Governor and regulatory agencies.

So far, we haven't heard a smart, logical, transparent answer.)

The questions just keep rolling in.

The one I like the most, is about the drought: What would Sierra Club California do that the governor isn't doing to help California deal with the drought?

You—or someone like you—asked, so here's the answer:

First, let's give credit where credit is due: the governor and the State Water Resources Control Board have taken some smart steps recently to address the drought in ways we support. For instance, the administration is forcing urban water agencies to impose new mandatory conservation measures.

Given that around half of the water used in urban and suburban areas is devoted to landscaping—which typically means lawns—it is possible to make substantial cutbacks without affecting human health in cities and suburbs. We especially like that as the water board set its most recent conservation targets, the board took into account whether a water agency had already successfully reduced water demand. Whiners beware (and there were quite a few water agencies whining to the press): Arguing that you should be excused from conserving more because your neighborhood has

really big lawns isn't a winning argument.

But there are more things that policymakers, including the governor, should do in response to the drought that they haven't yet. Here are a few of them:

- Get the data now. This is more than a wonky request. Water agencies and other water users often hide behind the lack of real, hard numbers about how much water is available, water use or well capacity to stop them from having to change their ways. Water is a shared resource that serves all the public and the environment. We all have a right to know how much there is and how much is being used. There ought to be real-time reporting by all users to help manage the water system



better. The legislature has a chance to start fixing the data gap by passing legislation to make well log data public.

- Set a water allocation level for agriculture that reflects sustainability and includes surface and groundwater. Farmers are operating under substantial surface water allocation cuts this year. But that just means that many have simply transferred their water draw to groundwater, and in some rural areas, the aquifers are draining faster than you can say water buffalo. We don't want to get into fights about crop choice, but we do want farmers to use water sustainably and more efficiently, and the best way to do that is to be clear about water allocations and include all water in the calculation, not just surface water.

- Accelerate deadlines for implementing the groundwater reform package passed last year. This would require new legislation or just a good show of civic and social responsibility by groundwater basin agencies, particularly in the troubled basins in the San Joaquin Valley. And in the course of accelerating the deadlines, establish some real consequences for overdrawing aquifers.

- Stop allowing water use for unconventional oil and gas extraction. That is, stop allowing water to be used for fracking, acid stimulation and other forms of well stimulation. The average fracking job in California uses about 140,000 gallons of

water. Some recent well stimulation permits show expectations of using a million gallons. That water is highly polluted with chemicals and acids and essentially unusable ever again. If the state must have oil drilling—and we are not conceding it does—stick with conventional oil drilling methods, from which about 80 percent of the California-produced oil is derived. A drought is no time to frack. Governor Brown could—and should—do this with an executive order today.

- Protect nature instead of destroying it. If only the water engineers of the mid- and late-20th century had been smart about the environment, we probably wouldn't be in as bad a fix as we're in today. For instance, had they focused on recharge areas to allow water to percolate into aquifers, not a single river would have been channelized and slathered with concrete. Additionally, there would be no more waiving of endangered species protection requirements, and the stupidity of allowing more water than healthy to be exported from the San Francisco Bay Delta would be universally appreciated.

Every event creates an opportunity for learning and improving. This drought is one of the events that can teach us to use our natural resources more carefully. We see hints that policymakers are starting to learn.

Sierra Club California is the legislative and regulatory advocacy arm for Sierra Club chapters in California. It was established in 1986 to help ensure that the Club speak with one strong voice on statewide environmental policy issues before the legislature and state agencies.

Foster Lodge—continued from page 10

like us to explore. The church meeting room and cabins adjacent to the Desert View Picnic site may become available, and could be adapted to our use. Although having two non-contiguous sites is not optimal, we agreed at least to look into this option should the current occupants vacate the site.

We entered into this knowing it would be a marathon, not a sprint, but not how daunting the task would be. We will continue to work on it and we will continue to be grateful for the patience of our members.

To join this committee contact Paul Webb at pwebb3@cox.net

PolComm Postings

Dispatches from the Political Committee

by Davin Widgerow

The Political Committee has continued engaging with candidates and candidates-to-be at our meetings as part of our relationship-building efforts ahead of our Spring 2016 endorsement season. PolComm is also hard at work engaging officeholders in variety of environmental issues, and on advancing several continuing projects.

Joe LaCava met with PolComm at our April meeting. Joe is a candidate for City Council District 1, currently represented by Sherri Lightner, and he has been at the forefront of the City's urban planning landscape for many years. Joe is Chair of the San Diego Community Planners Committee, which is the parent organization of all city's community planning groups. Joe spoke about a wide variety of issues facing the City, and also engaged in an enjoyable discussion with PolComm regarding his well-informed thoughts on the environmental and political dynamics that are likely to confront our community in the coming years. Barbara Bry is also a candidate for City Council District 1, and spoke to PolComm at our May meeting. Barbara was a co-founder of ProFlowers.com, and the founder of Blackbird Ventures, which invests in early-stage technology companies. Her roots are in journalism, and worked for several years as a business reporter for the San Diego Union Tribune. Barbara has also invested in organizations that promote the advancement of women, including Athena San Diego, which encourages women to pursue scientific careers, and Run Women Run, which supports women who run for public office. We enjoyed our discussion with Barbara, who provided an overview of her biography and achievements, and answered questions from PolComm members.

Chris Ward also spoke to PolComm at our May meeting. Chris is a candidate for City Council District 3, currently represented by Todd Gloria, and worked

as Chief of Staff for State Senator Marty Block. Before working for Senator Block, Chris was an environmental planner at EDAW, where he worked on creating land use plans and conducted environmental reviews to help craft solutions to neighborhood challenges and problems. Chris spoke about his experiences, and also elucidated his ideas for the chief environmental concerns facing District 3 and the City as a whole.

Gil Cabrera and Georgette Gomez spoke to PolComm at our June meeting. Gil Cabrera is a candidate for San Diego City Attorney, and has been an attorney for fifteen years. Gil is the senior partner at The Cabrera Firm, and specializes in business litigation, intellectual property, and employment law. He has also engaged in extensive public service, and has served on the San Diego Convention Center Corporation Board of Directors, the Board of Directors of the San Diego LGBT Community Center, the Board of Directors for the San Diego County Taxpayers Association, and served as the Chairman of the City's Ethics Commission. Gil spoke to PolComm about his vision for the City Attorney's office, and about how he could use the position to advance the City Council's environmental priorities. Georgette Gomez also spoke to PolComm at our June meeting. Georgette is a candidate for City Council District 9, currently represented by Marti Emerald. Georgette is an associate director of the Toxic Free Neighborhoods Campaign at the Environmental Health Coalition, and she has devoted her efforts to combating pollution and achieving environmental justice for underserved communities. Georgette was very active in the fight to enact the Barrio Logan Community Plan, helped bring the first Farmers Market to City Heights, and secured millions of dollars for walking, biking and public transportation improvements the District. Georgette spoke to PolComm about her vision for District 9, and her commitment to represent all the residents who live there.

PolComm spent the Spring being very active in local efforts to oppose Fast Track of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), a massive free trade deal currently being negotiated by the Obama Administration between the United States and numerous other nations along the Pacific Rim. Sierra Club opposes the TPP because it will undermine efforts to combat climate change, will expand fracking and exports of liquefied natural gas, and it will allow multinational corporations to challenge environmental and other laws in secret trade tribunals solely on the basis that such regulations might diminish their profits. PolComm participated in efforts to persuade Congressman Scott Peters to oppose congressional authorization of the TPP, including meeting with the Congressman, delivering letters, attending rallies, and conducting phone banks and email campaigns. We were proud to join with our allies at San Diego 350.org, Democrats for Environmental Action, the Environmental Health Coalition, the Climate Action Campaign, and local labor and fair trade groups in all these efforts. Our work in opposing Fast Track and the TPP continues, and we need your help!

PolComm is also working on persuading our congressional representatives to reauthorize the landmark Land and Water Conservation Fund, and on coordinating with our local elected officials to persuade the Public Utilities Commission to adopt environmentally progressive energy net metering regulations. We are also planning summer mixers in both South and North County San Diego County where our members can mingle with their elected officials, and in crafting a judicial endorsements policy for the local chapter. Additionally, our Committee is growing, and this Spring we added two young and dynamic environmental advocates, Sean Elo and Jake Zehnder, to our ranks. Of course, our Committee is constantly looking for new members, especially from areas south of I-8, so please contact us, come to a meeting, and see if what we do is of interest to you! Contact Davin at dwidgerow@sierrasd.org for more information.

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:

HSEditor@SierraSD.org

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

scoffice@SierraSD.org.

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

<http://sandiegosierrclub.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:

September/October 2015

Deadline is August 1st

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

HSEditor@SierraSD.org.

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

The Hi Sierran Committee is also looking for members to assist with writing, editing and producing an informative and interesting newsletter for our members!

Opinion

Meet the New Boss, Same as the Old Boss

Pete Hasapopoulos,
My Generation Campaign

We were thrilled when Commissioner Michael Peevey, former president of the California Public Utilities Commission, did not seek reappointment. He didn't because long overdue scrutiny by the press and state legislators of his collusion with monopoly utilities reached fever pitch. Governor Brown then designated Michael Picker, a long time associate, as the new president. What did we get? More of the same.

A commission law judge recommended that the proposed Carlsbad power plant be denied, amongst other things because SDG&E is sitting on many bids to replace San Onofre power with renewables and energy storage. As the commission is obligated to do, the judge's recommendation was based upon a record of evidence gathered over a months-long proceeding. Shortly after that, President Picker issued his own recommendation in favor of the power plant, tossing the evidence to the wind and apparently comfortable with SDG&E customers paying \$2.2 billion for the privilege of burning more fossil fuels for several decades.

Seven San Diego area residents, including myself, flew to San Francisco to speak against President Picker's scandalous recommendation at a meeting of the commissioners. President Picker saw fit to reduce the customary three minute public comment time to one minute per person, even after we told him we had flown all the way from San Diego. A few weeks later the commission voted 4-1 to approve the power plant. In a striking dissent, Commissioner Sandoval warned

fellow commissioners that by not making a decision based upon the record of evidence, they might be committing a "legal error." Indeed they are. The Sierra Club will seek a rehearing at the commission. If denied, we intend to go to court. Climate change demands that we go the distance.

Mention of the support we received from local elected officials is in order. Just over a year ago the city councils of Del Mar,

Solana Beach, and Encinitas sent letters to the commission opposing new fossil fuel power generation in our region. We are grateful for their leadership. And many individual electeds all the way from Chula Vista to Oceanside

sent letters to the

commission in the lead up to the recent decision, with Councilmembers Peter Zahn and Cody Campbell from Solana Beach and Vista, respectively, joining us at a press conference on the matter.

Then there is the renewable power of the Sierra Club: our volunteer leaders. I know it's renewable because when we went to the commission meeting in San Francisco local college student Ale Montes joined us and spoke effectively despite the one minute time limit imposed by Picker. I know it's renewable because numerous high school students are part of our Carlsbad team. At our press conference on the power plant, student Arin Zwonitzer spoke in front of the cameras like a pro. When student Jessica Walls addressed the Carlsbad City Council about the power plant it was both eloquent and raw as she described SDG&E as a bully. A council member responded by saying that he could foresee her running against him someday. So can I. This is how I know that the old fossil fuel guard's days are numbered.



Sierra Club student leader Arin Zwonitzer speaks at power plant press conference

The 1% Land Fund Update

by Debbie Hecht, Campaign Coordinator

On June 10, the Sierra Club San Diego Steering Committee approved funds to pay for a poll to determine if voters would approve our proposed 1% Land Fund. The goal of the Land Fund is to set aside 1% of San Diego property taxes each year to purchase and maintain open space and recreational land for San Diego residents. This would not raise taxes, but require a reallocation of funds in the budget. 1% of real property taxes each year would be approximately \$50 million. Two attorneys have given their legal opinion: "a 66.67% majority is only required for a new or increased tax dedicated for a specific purpose. A measure to re-allocate revenues -- without raising any additional taxes -- should not

require a 66.67% vote. A simple majority should suffice."

Our current campaign strategy is to build a grassroots support network of partner to demonstrate to the San Diego County Supervisors that we have broad-based support. We would then ask them to put the charter amendment on the ballot to let the voters decide. The 1% Land Fund may be a good way to help the county fulfill their dedicated funding requirement for the Section 10 permit under the Endangered Species Act, which allows them to do their construction projects in critical habitat. We are collaborating with groups about the list of lands to be saved, so far the list includes: Parklands and open space; protection of natural resources, significant, habitat or ecosystems, including buffer zones and lands to support multi-spe-

cies habitat conservation plans; trails and access to beaches and mountains; preservation of forests, beaches, coastal areas and areas of natural beauty; protection of watershed lands to preserve water quality and water supply; preservation of historic or culturally important land areas and sites; neighborhood parks and community gardens; conservation easements; and land for easements for off the street bicycle lanes or mountain bike trails.

We need your help? Would you like to volunteer to help with outreach? If you are part of a group that needs a speaker or has a newsletter, we would like to speak to your group and get your ideas.

Please call Debbie Hecht, campaign coordinator, hecht.deb@gmail.com or 808-989-3222.

Climate Action continued from page 1

able and effective mitigation measures, through 2050, to achieve the California Environmental Quality Act's (CEQA's) environmental protection purpose -- a purpose which has never before been more important, given our climate crisis.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to our lawyers, Malinda Dickenson, Cory Briggs, and Jan and Josh Chatten-Brown of Chatten-Brown & Carstens. In addition to litigating the case, as a volunteer and Vice Chair of our then-Chapter Executive Committee, Malinda helped prepare the original comment letter. Transportation Chair Mike Bullock contributed heavily to the original comment letter. Mike offered some examples of what should be incorporated into the revamped document, including equitable parking policies, community choice energy, net zero energy buildings, and encouraging efficient development near transit hubs.

After the County refused to adopt the kinds of feasible and effective mitigation measures the Club proposed, a suit was filed. Malinda and Cory agreed to serve as co-counsel in the trial court. Chatten-Brown & Carstens substituted in for Cory after the County appealed the trial court's ruling for the Sierra Club, bringing many years of CEQA litigation experience to the team. We have been extremely fortunate to have such wonderful and successful representation. We are also fortunate to live in a state that has such a sound and practical law, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

San Diego Steering Committee Chair Debbie Hecht expressed gratitude to the hardworking volunteers who contributed during the administrative process and throughout the hard fought litigation: This ruling should set an important precedent and raise the bar for Climate Action Plans in our state, and hopefully the country."

Get On Your Bicycle and Ride!

Enjoy the outdoors and make friends too. Explore the back roads of San Diego County and neighboring areas with the Sierra Club Bicycle Section.



We offer bicycle rides for all levels and distances (beginner to fast-paced) throughout the year. Weekends at Warner Springs Ranch, Anza Borrego, Agua Caliente and more. Potluck suppers, annual beach barbeque and our very own book club. Our monthly schedule of road rides is posted online and in our monthly OutSpoken newsletter.

Check us out at: www.sandiego.sierraclub.org/bicycle

For a free sample of our newsletter *OutSpoken*, phone Jerry Fitzsimmons (858) 224-3437 or email: Membership@sdscls.org.

Please Join Us Sunday, September 3rd (3-B-5) GREEK FESTIVAL BICYCLE RIDE

Expect 25 rolling miles on this social-paced ride. En route, we'll visit the 36th annual Greek Festival at Saints Constantine & Helen's Greek Orthodox Church in Cardiff. Bring a bicycle lock plus money for \$3.00 admission and for food. Entry coupons available in San Diego Union Tribune, Reader, and neighborhood papers. Meet at 9:00 am in the Carmel Valley Community Center (3777 Townsgate Drive, 1/2 mi east of I-5) parking lot across the street from Del Mar Highlands Shopping Center.

Leader: Ellen Scott, 619-405-4819.



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

email: scoffice@SierraSD.org

Development Coordinator: Richard Miller

email: richard.miller@sierraclub.org

www.sandigosierraclub.org

Committee & Contact Information

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

STEERING COMMITTEE

Meets 2nd Wednesday 6:30 pm Chapter office

Chair: Debbie Hecht
hecht.deb@gmail.com

Vice-Chair: Joe Zechman
619-709-6268
joezechman@sierrasd.org

Secretary: Karenlee Robinson
619-572-8451
klrobinson@sierrasd.org

Treasurer (Non-Voting): Rob Morris
858-204-1865

ChapterTreasurer@sierrasd.org

Nick Ervin
858-761-1659
desertguy1@sbcglobal.net

Paul Webb
pbwebb3@cox.net

Davin Widgerow
dwidgerow@sierrasd.org

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

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

Chair: Nick Ervin
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

Wildlife
Ellen Shively (619) 479-3412
ellenshively@sbcglobal.net

OUTINGS COMMITTEE

Meets quarterly, call for information.

Chair: Starla Rivers (619)-630-9132
sd.outchair@gmail.com

Bus Trips

Mike Fry (858) 748-5166

Chapter Outings Leadership Training (COL)

Jim Jafolla
sd.col.training@gmail.com

Leadership Review & Safety Committee

Michael Taylor (619 -948-2062)
sd.lrsc@gmail.com

Pacific Crest Trail

Rob Langsdorf (858) 454-4777
SDSCPCTS@yahoo.com

Ski

Mike Fry (858) 748-5166

Wednesday in the Mountains

Merrilyn Pope 858-750-3807
merrilyn@sbcglobal.net

POLITICAL COMMITTEE

Meets 1st Tuesday
Chair: Davin Widgerow
dwidgerow@sierrasd.org

FOSTER LODGE COMMITTEE

Meets 4th Wednesday 6:30pm
Chair: Paul Webb
pbwebb3@cox.net

WILDERNESS BASICS COURSE (WBC)

Held annually beginning in January
Stefanie Maio
http://sandiego.sierraclub.org/wbc/

San Diego

Stefanie Maio
info@wildernessbasics.com
http://www.wildernessbasics.com

Escondido

John Tomlinson (858) 486-4853
jctomlinson@cox.net
http://sandiego.sierraclub.org/wbc/nc/index.htm

NATURE KNOWLEDGE WORKSHOP

Annual June Weekends, call for information.
Barry Hite (619) 479-8133
NKW@sierrasd.org

SECTIONS & SOCIAL COMMITTEES

Bicycle

Call for meeting information. Jerry Fitzsimmons
(858) 224-3437 Membership@sdscbs.org.
www.sandiego.sierraclub.org/bicycle

Family

Jennifer Douglas
(858) 344-5490 jenniferdouglasvettel@gmail.com
www.meetup.com/SDSierraClubFamily

Photography

www.sandiego.sierraclub.org/photoclub
Social- formerly *Singles*,
Michael Taylor (619)-421-3821
www.sandiego.sierraclub.org/singles

INSPIRING CONNECTIONS OUTDOORS (ICO)

Call or check website for meeting information.
www.sandigosierraclub.org

Co-Chair: Bill Tayler, (858) 272-8574
bill.tayler@sandiego.sierraclub.org

Co-Chair: Ed Barber, (619) 464-0780
rebsd@yahoo.com

PROGRAM COMMITTEES

Fundraising/Membership

Richard Miller (858) 569-6005
richard.miller@sierraclub.org

Hi Sierran Newsletter

Call for meeting information (858) 569-6005

Chair: Debbie Hecht

hecht.deb@gmail.com

Managing Editor: Judy Thomas
HSEditor@sierrasd.org

NORTH COUNTY GROUP (INLAND)

The Executive Committee meets 2nd Tuesday.
Contact Chair for time and location.

Chair: Suzi Sandore (760)-484-3440

NORTH COUNTY COASTAL GROUP

See the Coastal North County web page for meeting info.

Chair: Dave Grubb (760) 753-0273
davidgrubb@sbcglobal.net

LEGAL COMMITTEE

Contact Chair for time and location.

Chair: Davin Widgerow
dwidgerow@sierrasd.org

SIERRA TALKS, MONTHLY PROGRAM

Chair: Ernest "EL" Lotecka
(760) 533-2725
sdwalks@interactor.cc