Prime candidate for wilderness

Silver lupine (lupinus albifrons) overlooks Pico Blanco and the South Fork of the Little Sur in the proposed Andrew Molera State Wilderness.

Explore, enjoy, and protect the planet
Proposed General Plan does not adequately address impact of growth

Get involved; attend a hearing

The Ventana Chapter has been involved in the General Plan process for Monterey County for over a decade. County officials have now approved a schedule that calls for starting public hearings on the latest draft of the general plan update, now known as gpu2010, in mid April. The first hearing was April 14, and later hearings will be conducted during regularly scheduled commission sessions, April 28, May 12, and May 26.

Club members are encouraged to attend these hearings and comment on the proposed plan which includes a lot of growth and a serious lack of protection for the environment. We are also concerned that the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) does not adequately address the cumulative impacts of proposed policies on key range-land areas.

Based on projections by the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) the draft general plan provides guidelines for adding up to about 10,000 new housing units, as well as new commercial and other development. It predicts the impacts of that growth on the County’s traffic, water, open space, public services, agriculture and biological resources through the year 2030.

The Chapter has been especially focused on biological resources in the plan. Monterey County has over 2000 species of plants, 37 of which are found nowhere else on earth, and 178 species of birds. We are very concerned about the impacts on these species as well as water, traffic, steep-slope development, and loss of agricultural land. Carmel Valley and the surrounding Peninsula communities could be particularly impacted as developers already have proposed projects that will greatly increase density at the mouth of the valley and harm the Carmel River.

Please consider attending these hearings and let your views be known. Refer to the County website for more details at: www.co.monterey.ca.us/planning
Thank you for your help.

—Rita Dalesio

What the Club is about

The Sierra Club takes its motto seriously: “To explore, enjoy, and protect the planet.” Part of protecting the planet is protecting endangered species.

Decisions and positions that the club takes are not made lightly and are not made by a membership vote. Rather the National Club has developed policies and positions that each Chapter and Group must use as guides when making local decisions.

The Sierra Club Conservation Policy is based on science and notes that fragmentation of habitat is one of the greatest threats to biodiversity. The policy states that “... every effort should be made to prevent the extinction of species due to human activities.” Additionally preserving genetic diversity and species survival the first and most important priority.

The Sierra Club Transportation Policy gives highest priority to modes that are "most energy and land conserving, and least polluting systems and vehicles. Walking and bicycling are best...".

These two National policies, together, understandably was a lot of debate over the Arana Gulch bikeway over 15 years ago when the project was proposed. Key in developing the local Group position was the fact that in the case of Arana Gulch, there are other alternatives to bisecting the coastal prairie habitat containing an endangered species with a paved bikeway. Another important factor in the Club’s decision is that the Coastal Act clearly prohibits non-resource dependent uses in sensitive habitat areas.

The Coastal Commission staff report for the Arana Gulch Master Plan clearly states that there are "other alternatives that can meet this objective [Broadway-Brommer connection] without placing paved paths in Arana Gulch."

That is not to imply that implementing any of these alternatives could be accomplished easily. Some, such as a route through the Frederick Street Park and the Harbor or a bridge over the Harbor from the Frederick Street Park to Stagg or Mello Lanes, would need cooperation from another administrative jurisdiction such as the Harbor or the County. It might take a lot of work to get that cooperation, but we can’t just accept the first no as a reason to pursue a route which would pave Environmentally Sensitive Habitat (ESHA). As we go to press, the Regional Transportation Commission is in the process of applying to the California Transportation Commission for funds to purchase the rail right of way for rail transport with the future option of putting a bicycle/pedestrian path in the right of way. Such a bikeway would be an environmentally superior east-west alternative to the Broadway-Brommer path less than 1/4 mile away on land that is already developed and degraded.

The Santa Cruz Group supports a bicycle path on the rail right of way.
Environmentalists advocate wilderness designation for part of Andrew Molera State Park

by Mike Splatin, Chair, Local Wilderness Committee

T he Sierra Club, Ventana Wilderness Alliance, California Wilderness, and a host of local residents and firefighters are promoting wilderness protection for 912 acres of Andrew Molera State Park. The property, north and east of Highway 1 on the northern border of the park has no trails or roads. Full of natural beauty, it is a prime candidate for wilderness designation. We have asked Assembly member Bill Monning to sponsor a bill making the designation.

Andrew Molera State Park, truly a gem of the Central Coast, is a fascinating mosaic of vegetation types, wildlife habitats and cultural sites. Prior to the 1965 genesis of the park, cattle grazed the coastal flats of what was then Molera Ranch. Nowadays it’s hikers who frequent the prairies, woodlands and beaches west of Highway 1. Ecologists conduct avian research and species reintroduction programs. Archaeologists study the remnants of a once-extensive Esselen encampment, and history buffs make pilgrimages to the famed Cooper Cabin, immortalized by author Mary Bell: “windowless and doorless, behind the long windbreak of eucalypts.”

But to the handful of intrepid travelers who venture into the uplands east of the highway, an entirely different landscape unfolds. Oak woodlands and sage-scrub yield to open grasslands and primieval redwood forests. High atop Molera Ridge, one of the grandest vistas on the Big Sur Coast reveals itself. Pfeiffer Ridge, the valley of the Big Sur River and the volcanic mass of Point Sur dominate the western horizon. To the north and east, hills descend precipitously into the trackless headwaters of the South Fork Little Sur. Gazing across at the crystalline summit that inspired poet Robinson Jeffers, verses come to mind; “noble Pico Blanco, steep sea-wave of marble.” Home to an extraordinary biodiversity, including the endangered Smith’s blue butterfly.

The Ventana welcomes letters
Send to: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
The Ventana, 1603 King Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
e-mail: dbbulger@cruzio.com
Please include a phone number with your letter. Anonymous letters are not accepted. Letters may be edited for length.

Beware of Mad Hikers
Bearpaw Meadow camp lies at about 8,000 ft. below the Great Western Divide in Sequoia National Park and is actually a hotel, accommodating 12 guests in six floored tents. It is a delightful haven after the 11.3-mile hike from Sequoia Village along the High Sierra Trail. The camp is only open three months in the summer, and food supplies are delivered twice a week by mule train.

We had been to Bearpaw 25 years before and had no trouble then with the hike, although I do remember worrying about bears. This time, except for running out of steam about the 9th mile, all went well even though it did take us 8 hours to walk the distance. And actually, the hike back three days later was also easy for us, at least for the first 9 miles. We covered the distance nearly as fast as we had done 25 years before, still in awe of the iconic Sequoia scenery.

I actually said to my husband: “I think we’ve done it, and we didn’t see any you-know-whats.” Obviously, our tinkling bear bells had done the trick. Then a guy comes around the corner yelling, “There’s a bear on the trail! I hit him with bear spray, but the safety valve broke and I sprayed myself too!” He pulls out the defective can of pepper spray which explodes in our faces at close range. Here we were on the trail, both of us blinded, two miles away from help, with an irate bear and a mad hiker. It took 15 minutes for our sight to return.

Our next vacation should be at a resort! We are 75 and 69 respectively.

Lesson for people and bears: Beware of hikers with pepper spray.

—Suzanne Wood
Montery

Toward a more effective Santa Cruz Group

Here in Santa Cruz County we face big environmental issues: how to get people to change their carbon-intensive lifestyles so we can reduce our contribution to global warming, and growth and the various infrastructure projects that may induce that growth (Highway 1 widening, desalination, etc.). We need the strongest possible Santa Cruz Group of the Ventana Chapter to deal with those big issues.

Our greatest strength is the large number of members we have in the County, nearly 4000. But too often the Group’s decisions are made without involving those neighbors in the discussion or the decision. The result is members who are too often less inclined to support the now-hear-this directives subsequently issued by the Group leadership. And even worse, there are too many ex-members of the Sierra Club here people who often say they left in frustration at never being involved, except to be told after-the-fact what the Group’s position is.

A case in point is the “From the Editor” column in the last issue of The Ventana. In it, only one side of the environmental argument on Arana Gulch is presented. In it, the case is made that the City’s proposed Master Plan and trail would harm the tarplant. Not mentioned is that the US Fish and Wildlife Service’s biologists found that the Plan would actually benefit the tarplant and its habitat. Included is an argument that the trail could instead be routed around the tarplant. Excuse me! We haven’t even been allowed to hear the other side of the argument. And they would appreciate being treated accordingly. It only one side of the environmental arguments on both sides of an issue such as this. They can be trusted with the environmental arguments on both sides of an issue such as this. They can be trusted with their own thoughtful and pro-environmental decisions. And they would appreciate being treated accordingly.

Next time, for example, when stating that the Plan and trail will harm the tarplant and bisect the habitat, you might want to also include the conclusion of the Coastal Commission’s biologist, Dr. John Dixon, that without approval of the Master Plan the tarplant is likely to decline toward extinction at Arana Gulch, and that the proposed trail would not constitute a biological barrier bisecting the habitat. We’re adults. We can handle information from both sides in an argument among environmentalists. —Paul Schoedlhamer
Watsonville

Editor’s Note: Articles in The Ventana reflect the positions of the Sierra Club. A more extensive discussion of this issue is found in the editor’s column on page 2.

Contact your Representatives

U.S. Representative Anna Eshoo
698 Emerson Street
Palo Alto, CA 94301
408-245-2399; FAX: 650-323-3498
go to website to email

State Senator Abel Maldonado
100 Paseo De San Antonio, Suite 206
San Jose, CA 95113
408-277-9461
senator.maldonado@sen.ca.gov

State Senator Joe Simitian
State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814
916-651-4011; FAX: 916-323-4529
Senator.Simitian@sen.ca.gov

Assembly Rep. Anna Caballero
State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 94249-0028
916-319-2028; FAX: 916-319-2128
100 West Alisal St., Suite 134
Salinas, CA 93901
Phone: 831-759-8676; FAX: 831-759-2961
assemblymember.Caballero@assembly.ca.gov

Assembly Representative Bill Monning
701 Ocean Street, Room 318-B
Santa Cruz, CA 95060; 831-425-1503
99 Pacific Street, Suite 55D
Monterey, CA 93940
831-649-2832; FAX: 831-649-2935
assemblymember.Monning@assembly.ca.gov

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20500
Comment Line: 202-456-1111

President George Washington
391 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-228-3741; 415-393-0707
1 Post Street, Suite 2450
San Francisco, CA 94104
go to website to email

Senator Barbara Boxer
112 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-3533; 415-403-0100 (voice)
1700 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, CA 94111
go to website to email

U.S. Representative Sam Farr
100 W. Alisal Street, Salinas, CA 93901
831-429-1976 (Santa Cruz)
831-424-2229 (Salinas)
831-225-6791 (FAX, Washington, DC)
samfarr@mail.house.gov
Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

To contact Congressman Farr’s congressional office or learn more about his public service record go to www.farr.house.gov. To help with his campaign contact: http://friendsoffarr.org.

Sam Farr
U.S. House of Representatives

Representative Farr has earned endorsement by the Sierra Club for his tenth bid for the House of Representatives. He has been one of the environment’s most stalwart friends during his 15 years in public office.

Farr is co-chair of the House Oceans Caucus and continues to provide leadership on ocean policy in Congress. During his tenure in Congress, he has consistently fought for funding and development of ocean activities and programs.

In January 2009 Farr introduced legislation known as Oceans-21, the cornerstone of a strategy to implement the highest priority recommendations for ocean policy. As part of this policy he has recently authored bills that will give added protection and funding for the Southern Sea Otter, create and fund ocean research programs, and establish the Ocean and Great Lakes Conservation Trust Fund to responsibly manage regional and national oceans, coastlines and Great Lakes region through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Ocean policy legislation Farr has cosponsored includes a bill that requires rapid testing methods for bodies of water and forces states to issue beach advisories within 24 hours. Other laws have dealt with establishment of a public-private partnership to identify and conserve salmon strongholds, permanent prohibition of oil and gas leasing off the California coast, increased enforcement and penalties for violations related to illegal, unreported, or unregulated fishing, and more stringent protection for coral reefs, marine turtles, and sharks.

A lifelong advocate for the natural wilderness areas in Monterey County, Farr sponsored two wilderness bills last year. One would upgrade the status of Pinnacles National Monument to a National Park and add 2,905 acres to Pinnacles wilderness. The second bill would create a separate funding source for the Big Sur portion of the Los Padres National Forest and add portions of five local rivers to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

To contact Congressman Farr’s congressional office or learn more about his public service record go to www.farr.house.gov. To help with his campaign contact: http://friendsoffarr.org.

Sierra Club endorses Pedro Nava for Attorney General

Sierra Club endorses Assembly member Pedro Nava for state Attorney General, which is probably the second-most important position in the state government. As the top lawyer for the state, the Attorney General enforces our environmental laws, including the California Environmental Quality Act, the Global Warming Solutions Act, and the Coastal Act.

As an Assembly member, Nava has introduced important environmental legislation, including bills banning the use of lead ammunition in Condor country, establishing a comprehensive oil spill prevention program, and strengthening watershed protection. Additionally, Nava has been a staunch opponent of offshore oil drilling in California Coastal Sanctuary waters. Prior to his service in the Assembly, Nava served on the California Coastal Commission for eight years where he had the highest coastal resource protection voting record.

Sierra Club California sent questionnaires to all nine viable candidates in this race. None of the three Republicans returned the questionnaires. All six Democratic candidates participated and were interviewed by our team.

The last two Attorneys General, Bill Lockyer and Jerry Brown, have set a high standard of standing up for California’s environment, the Attorney General enforces our environmental laws, including the California Environmental Quality Act, the Global Warming Solutions Act, and the Coastal Act.

Sierra Club California sent questionnaires to all nine viable candidates in this race. None of the three Republicans returned the questionnaires. All six Democratic candidates participated and were interviewed by our team.

Sierra Club endorses Bill Monning for the second term as Assembly member for AD 27 which includes coastal communities in Monterey County, and portions of Santa Cruz County and Santa Clara County. Sierra Club California has given Monning a 100% score on its 2009 California Legislative Report Card. Assembley member Monning was one of only two Assembly members to support the Sierra Club’s position on all 15 of its priority issues for 2009. Some of these priorities were opposition to offshore oil drilling, timber harvesting, and support for state parks.

Monning said: “I am honored to be one of the few members of the Legislature to be selected for early endorsement by the Sierra Club California. Ultimately, our stewardship of our region, state, and the planet will determine the rate and impacts of climate change. Waste management, recycling, reduction of plastics, water conservation, and sound forest management are all areas where we can make a difference through education and advocacy. I look forward to our continued collaboration to protect our coasts, habitats, and species while promoting green jobs, green tech, and green lifestyles. The quality of life of all Californians is intimately tied to how we define and practice our relationship with nature.”

This year Monning introduced AB 1956 which provides guidelines to ensure a long-term safe and reliable food supply for the California condor, while also fostering additional collaboration with the Department of Fish and Game to recover this species to the wild.

Monning also just introduced a resolution in the Assembly urging the federal government to protect public health and the environment by requiring the disclosure of ingredients in pesticides.

“Americans have no idea what chemicals they are being exposed to, since elements that are deemed inert or inactive never show up on pesticide ingredient lists. Not only do consumers have the right to know the complete list of pesticide ingredients that are put on their food and end up in their drinking water, but in the case of an emergency, it is critical for our health care professionals to have access to the full ingredient list of pesticides so they can properly treat anyone who was exposed to them,” he said.

To help with Monning’s campaign contact: www.friendsofbillmonning.org.

Sierra Club endorses Barbara Boxer for 4th term in Senate

Vote to return environmentalist Senator Barbara Boxer to the U.S. Capitol to represent California in November.

Senator Boxer will hold strong on our issues as she has for her 28 years in Congress. Now as Chair of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, she has addressed climate change by advocating for clean energy jobs. She supports California’s AB 32 which will reduce carbon emissions. Boxer’s work has led to the preservation of more than one million acres of wildlands in California. She is still working to stop offshore drilling and to halt the proliferation of toxic chemicals in our environment.

Boxer was a cub reporter for the Pacific Sun, the alternative weekly in Marin/Sonoma, in the early 70s. She wrote about local environmental issues—an environmentalist in word and deed from the very beginning. The Marin Group was instrumental in encouraging Boxer’s first run for office, Marin County Supervisor in 1976, and she won. The Sierra Club has endorsed Boxer in all of her races since then: in 1982 she ran for the House and won, and in 1992 she ran for Senate and won. In this difficult political year, we stand once again in support of Barbara Boxer. She is a steadfast fighter for the environment.
The California Fair Elections Act

Cleaning up our political system is crucial to cleaning up our air and water, curbing global warming pollution, and preserving our coast, parks, forests and deserts. Presently, wealthy developers, oil companies, utilities and other special interests hold too much influence over our elected officials, so Californians do not get the environmental policies that we want.

The Fair Elections Act on the June 2010 ballot would create a pilot project to make voluntary public financing available to Secretary of State candidates in 2014 and 2018.

Public financing is a way to get politicians out of the fundraising game and back to solving California’s problems. Replacing special-interest money with clean money would ensure elected officials are accountable to voters, not donors, and open up the political process so the best candidates, not just the wealthiest candidates, can pursue elected office.

Go to www.yesfairelections.org for more information and to volunteer or contribute to the campaign.

Vote YES on Prop. 15.

Vote NO on Prop 16

Sierra Club Defends Green Power and Consumer Choice, Opposes Proposition 16

Sierra Club California has joined a growing coalition of consumer, environmental and economic justice groups in opposing the ballot initiative on the June ballot that would lock in high utility rates by locking out local community choice. Current law allows communities seeking clean, green and affordable energy to vote on alternatives to their utility. PG&E is spending tens of millions of dollars to pass Proposition 16 and stop local communities from exercising that right.

Don’t be fooled by the solar panels and flowers on their glitzy brochures.

PG&E is investing mostly in dirty fossil fuel plants and damming wild rivers in Great Britain for hydropower to export to California.

Vote NO on Prop 16.

Don’t sign oil company ballot petition

Big oil companies are collecting signatures for a November ballot initiative that would halt California’s clean energy future. Don’t be fooled. Don’t sign the petition.

You may be asked to sign a petition which would suspend California’s landmark anti-global warming law, AB 32, unless unemployment dropped below 5.5% for four consecutive quarters, something that has happened only three times in the past 30 years.

The campaign is financed by Big Oil. The main funders, Valero and Tesoro are the seventh and eighth largest polluters in California. Valero and Tesoro combined are responsible for 16.7% of reported emissions in California.

These Texas oil companies have pledged $2 million to pay signature gatherers, in an outrageous perversion of our initiative process. We urge Californians to NOT sign any petitions supporting this deceptive ballot initiative. Doing so would increase our dependence on oil, cost us more money at the gas pump, guarantee that our children continue to suffer from asthma and other harmful side effects caused by dirty air, and hold California back from creating jobs through advancements in clean technology.

Tell your friends. For more information visit noonvalero.com.

See related article in Newsclips, p. 10.
Sierra Club Events

Spring and Summer

Channel Islands Trips
California’s Channel Islands are Galapagos USA! Three and 4-day fundraiser cruises on May 7-9, July 16-19, August 6-9, and September 10-12 sponsored by Sierra Club. All depart from Santa Barbara. Fee: $590 for May and September and $785 July and August include bunk, meals, snacks, beverages, plus the services of a ranger/naturalist who will lead hikes. For more info contact jholtzhln@aol.com. To make a reservation mail a $100 check payable to Sierra Club to leaders: Joan Jones Holtz & Don Holtz, 11826 The Wye St, El Monte, CA 91732.

Friday, May 14

Slides: Sierra Wanderings
Don Nielsen will present this slide show from his wanderings in the Sierras over several years. Note: this is not a potluck. We will gather beginning at 7:00 p.m. and the slide show will begin at 7:30 p.m. For directions call George, 531-2909.

Friday, June 11

Slides: Hawaii, the Big Island
Another great slide show by Vilma Siebers from her frequent travels. Note: this is not a potluck. We will gather beginning at 7:00 p.m. and the slide show will begin at 7:30 p.m. For directions call George, 531-2909.

Volunteer to test water quality

Volunteers are needed for Snapshot Day, a one-day event that provides a “snapshot” of the health of the rivers and streams that flow into the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. On May 1 people for 300 miles along the coast of California from Pacifica to Morro Bay will gather water samples and test water quality.

No experience is necessary to participate. You will learn all you need to know at one of the training sessions. Volunteers are trained to monitor temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, and conductivity in the field and to collect water samples for laboratory analysis of nutrients and bacteria levels.

Training sessions:
Saturday, April 24, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., Natural Bridges State Beach. Meet near the Interpretive Center. Sunday, April 25, 12 – 3 p.m. rei in Marina.

To register:
Email volunteer@coastalwatershed.org or online at www.coastal-watershed.org.

For more information:
Contact Deb at 464-9200 for Santa Cruz County or Lisa at 647-4227 for Monterey County.

Non–Sierra Club Events of Interest

The following activities are not sponsored or administered by the Sierra Club. The Club makes no representations or warranties about the safety, supervision, or management of such activities. They are published only as a reader service.

Land Trust Forums

Share your ideas about how we can protect Santa Cruz County’s precious land, water, and wildlife. Come to one of the community forums sponsored by the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County.

Tuesday, April 27, Simpkins Swim Ctr, 6-9 p.m.
Thursday, April 29, Long Marine Lab, Seymour Center, 6-9 p.m.
Tuesday, May 4, Highlands Park Senior Center, San Lorenzo Valley, 6-9 p.m.
To learn more visit www.conservesantacruz.org or call 429-6116.

Thursday, May 13

Planning meeting/landfill reduction

Last year this recycling/composting program diverted tons of waste from the Strawberry Fields Forever Bike Ride. The ride takes place on Sunday, May 16 and volunteers are needed in 2-3 hour shifts to monitor recycling bins and guide people to the bins. The bike ride sponsored by a non-profit raises money for a cultural exchange program. Bike routes include 25 mile, 100 kilometer, and 100 mile courses. Ride starts at Pajaro Valley High School. To attend the waste reduction planning meeting on May 13 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. contact Keresha, Keresha@cruzio.com, 458-2505.

FREE Wormshops

Learn how worms can eat your food scraps and make beautiful compost for your garden. Master composters will teach you everything you need to know. Pre-registration required. Free and below wholesale worm bins for residents of unincorporated Santa Cruz Co. and Scotts Valley. $50 charge for residents of Capitola, City of Santa Cruz, and Watsonville. Call 427-3452 or register online at www.compostsantacruzcounty.org. Sponsored by S.C. Co. Board of Supervisors; produced by County Public Works Recycling and Solid Waste Services.

Sunday, May 2, 1-3 p.m., Quail Hollow Ranch County Park, 800 Quail Hollow Road, Felton
Saturday, June 19, 1-3 p.m., Grey Bears Recycling Center, 2710 Chanticleer Ave., S.C.
For more info: Karin Grobe, 427-3452, kgrobe@wormdoctor.org.

Santa Cruz CNPS

Habitat restoration

Volunteer to restore native habitat in State Parks in Santa Cruz Co. Wear layered work clothes. Bring water & gloves. Tools provided. 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We work rain or shine, but if things get particularly unpleasant, we call it a day. Contact Linda Brodman, redwdrn@pacbell.net, 462-4041. Website: www.cruzcnps.org.
May 8, Twin Lakes State Park
May 15, Sunset Beach State Park

Monterey CNPS

Habitat restoration


Watsonville Fourth Saturday

Habitat restoration - Watsonville

Sponsored by Watsonville Wetlands Watch. 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Meet at the Fitz Wetlands Educ. Resource Center at Pajaro Valley HS. Gloves, tools, and snack provided. Call Jonathan Pitch, 728-4106, for more info. No experience necessary.

WITTWER & PARKIN, LLP
Practicing in the areas of Environmental and Land Use Law

147 S. River St., Ste. 221
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Phone (831) 429-4055
Fax (831) 429-4057

Walls, Windows, & More

Enhance energy and sound efficiencies
The more includes plumbing, electrical and other remodel/addition work
Years of experience
Contractors license
Bruce Kishler
831-476-8044  408-472-4478
www.doorswindowsandmore.com  bru ce@doorswindowsandmore.com
Bike Week 2010

May 9-15

For more information for Santa Cruz, San Benito, or Monterey Counties visit: www.bike2work.com

Monterey County

Wednesday, May 5

Bike to City Council Meeting- Pacific Grove
Assembly at 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 11

Bike vs. Car Challenge- Salinas
7:45 a.m. This is a race between bicyclists and motorists to see who arrives at Star Center in Salinas the fastest. The starting point is at Northwest Corner of Natividad/Alvin Intersection. Meet the riders at Star Market finish line for a welcoming reception. Riders will need to receive pre-approval by James Serrano at 758-7195.

Bike to City Council Meeting- Salinas
Assembly of riders will begin at 3:00 p.m. Bike ride begins at 4:30 p.m.

Ride with elected officials and city staff from Steinbeck Library to City Council Chambers. For detailed event information, please Contact James Serrano at 758-7195.

Wednesday, May 12

Twilight Ride Laguna Seca
Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m. The Twilight Rides are informal and will begin in the paddock area located in the interior of the circuit. The 2nd mile track will be open to all levels of cyclists, including children. The cost is $10 per rider. A portion of the proceeds is donated to charity. Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca.

Thursday, May 13

Bike to School/Work Day
Breakfast from: 7:00-9:00 a.m.

“Referring to bicycling and walking as ‘alternative’ transportation is like calling women alternative men.”

—Harriet Tregoning

Santa Cruz County

Tuesday, May 11

Commuter Race: Watsonville
A commute hour competition between a motorist, a cyclist and other forms of transportation to see which mode prevails in local traffic. Check your local media for results.

Thursday, May 13

Bike to Work/School Day
Everybody is doing it! Join thousands of other novice and experienced bicyclists seeking a healthier, cheaper, and more sustainable form of transportation. FREE BREAKFAST for cyclists at sites throughout Santa Cruz County.

Saturday, May 15

Rail and Trail Day
9:00 a.m., Santa Cruz Train Depot Park (119 Center St., two blocks from the wharf). Bring your bike on the train to Felton for a fun, community ride down scenic Highway 9 to Santa Cruz. CHP escort provided for safety! Helmet and tickets required ($8 adults/$4 children). Co-presented with Santa Cruz County Cycling Club, Friends of the Rail Trail, Amgen Tour of CA, Santa Cruz Finish.

All Week!

Bike to Worship
Integrate health and spirituality. Bike or walk on the day that you worship. Check with your congregation for details.

“ A bike is a blessing for your wallet, health, and legs, but bicycles are wonders because of what they don’t do to the world. Fit zero pounds of carbon dioxide emissions, versus a car's one pound per mile, a bike does not alter the global climate.”

—Eric Sorensen, Seven Wonders for a Cool Planet

Bikes fill the racks at the Live Oak Library in Santa Cruz County.

Club supports acquisition of railroad right of way

The Santa Cruz Group of the Sierra Club supports the Regional Transportation Commission Director's recommendation to purchase the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line. This 32-mile, 300-acre continuous transportation corridor would enable the Commission's prime goal in pursuing this purchase, which is to preserve the Branch Line as a transportation corridor for future uses. The Regional Transportation Commission recommendation emphasizes train service and also mentions the potential for a multi-use trail in addition to the rail in the corridor.

Sierra Club Transportation Policy favors the most energy and land conserving and least polluting methods of travel. Walking and cycling are best. Next are transit including various forms of rail. Accommodation of pedestrians, bicycles, and public transit should be given priority over private automobiles.

The community goal of creating a continuous bicycle and pedestrian trail paralleling the entire length of the Santa Cruz County coastline has long been recognized as an asset to transportation in Santa Cruz County. Moreover, a trail along the rail corridor would provide a safe, continuous route, far superior to existing discontinuous routes on city streets or routes that are currently planned through environmentally-sensitive habitat.

As we go to press the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission is considering the purchase.

Please recycle this paper again
The Ventana Chapter was a sponsor for the Monterey Bay Charter School Plant-a-thon on March 21. The school turned out 277 volunteers who worked for three hours each.

School families planted California native plants at the Parker Flats Restoration Site in Fort Ord Public Lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management. Plants were provided by the Return of the Natives, an arm of the Watershed Institute at CSUMB. This is the final step in returning the land to its pre-Fort Ord condition. It is designated to remain greenspace in perpetuity.

Red-legged frog habitat quadrupled

After multiple lawsuits by the Center for Biological Diversity, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has expanded 1.6 million acres of critical habitat for the threatened California red-legged frog, quadrupling the area currently specified. North Coastal Santa Cruz County includes 72,249 acres from approximately Green Oaks Creek in San Mateo County to Wilder Creek. It includes Green Oaks Creek, Waddell Creek, East Waddell Creek, Scott Creek, Big Creek, Little Creek, San Vicente Creek, Laguna Creek, and Majors Creek.

Watsonville Slough includes 4,057 acres in Southern Santa Cruz County, north of the mouth of the Pajaro River and seaward of Highway 1. It includes all or portions of Gallighan, Hanson, Harkins, Watsonville, Struve, and the West Branch of Struve sloughs, portions of the Corralitos Lagoon, and mouth of the Pajaro River watersheds.

Elkhorn Slough comprises 519 acres of land located along the coastal plain in northern Monterey County.

The red-legged frog was made famous by Mark Twain’s story, “The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County.” Loss of habitat and pollution have decreased the frog’s habitat by 70%.

Inholdings purchased by Save the Redwoods League

Save the Redwoods League has announced the purchase of two inholdings adjacent to local State Parks, one in the Forest of Nisene Marks and the other adjacent to Julia Pfeiffer Burns.

The future addition to the Forest of Nisene Marks consists of a half acre, one of two remaining inholdings in the park. The January acquisition contributes to the protection of Hinkley Creek and the Soquel Creek watershed. The League will restore the property to return it to a more natural state.

In March, the League acquired 20 acres for future addition to Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park. This property is bordered on three sides by the park and on one side by Los Padres National Forest.

The former inholding sits upslope from old-growth redwoods along the fork of Pinto Creek. The 2008 Basin Complex fire burned the historic house, barn, and root cellar on the site. The League will clean up post-fire debris using a helicopter because of the inaccessibility of the property.
Glory along the wayside

California poppies and lupine grace this slope near Tejon Ranch. Photographed by Marc Dalesein.

Lasthenia cover the hillside along Highway 58 east of San Luis Obispo.


Calypso bulbosa. This tiny native orchid is only an inch or two high. Photographed in Butano State Park by Peter Scott.

Please recycle this paper again
Molera Wilderness

Molera Wilderness, located near the mouth of the Big Sur River, is a pristine wilderness area. In an effort to contain the massive 1977 Big Box fire, a fire break was constructed within the adjacent Ventana Wilderness. Despite the designation, maintenance of State Park lands has not been as thorough as it should be. The de facto wilderness state of this inaccessible corner of the Santa Lucia offers little in the way of long-term protection.

It's no secret that budgetary crises have spurred closures of many State Parks and talk of selling off portions of others. Consequently, nothing short of legislative designation can genuinely secure the wilderness qualities of State Park lands.

However, a small but vocal contingency of property owners has expressed opposition, citing concerns that state wilderness designation would impact maintenance of the so-called “Big Box” fire line, located within the adjacent Ventana Wilderness. The Big Box fire break was constructed in 1977 in an effort to contain the massive Marble Cone wildfire. Re-opened for the Kirk Complex of 1999 and again during the Basin Complex of 2008, this line has historically been maintained only with the imminent threat of an active wildfire. In other words, Forest Service funding has not been sufficient to continuously maintain the Big Box.

It is also widely circulated myth holds that wilderness designation interferes with fire line construction. Although heavy machinery is generally not permitted in designated wilderness, state and federal wilderness acts both allow the use of mechanized equipment during an emergency. The very existence of the Big Box (almost entirely within federal wilderness) provides undeniable proof that the “interference myth” is patently untrue.

Your help is needed

Bisected by the spectacular South Fork Little Sur River, the East Molera is wilderness in every sense of the term; all that's needed is legislative designation. Opponents of such designation have embarked on a campaign of disinformation that can only be defeated by the outspoken support of the conservation community. If you love these lands and want them to remain wild, it’s critical that Assembly member Monning hears from you. Please don’t hesitate—write a letter or email expressing your support for the Andrew Molera State Wilderness today. Tell Bill Monning why you believe the East Molera is a part of California's national legacy, and worthy of permanent protection.

Please contact Assembly member Bill Monning at assemblymember.Monning@assembly.ca.gov or call 649-2832 (Monterey) or 425-1503 (Santa Cruz).

Have you noticed it too?

Researchers from UC Berkeley have noted less summer fog along the California Coast than there used to be. The result may be bad for the redwoods and the understory that depends on the fog drip in summer for water. For example, in 1951 there were only 13 fog-free days during the summer, while in 1997 there were 62 days without fog.

Where do you buy gas?

Sacramento Sierra Club members demonstrated in front of a Valero gas station to protest the Texas oil company’s bankrolling of a ballot initiative that would kill AB32, California’s landmark law that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The ballot initiative, if passed, would stop the implementation of AB32 until unemployment in California drops below 5.5%, a situation which has occurred only three times in the last 30 years. Club members pointed out that AB32 would create 112,000 clean jobs according to the University of California. Don’t sign this initiative if someone asks you to.

Comments help

The over 4,200 public comments from Sierra Club members helped the California Air Resources Board decide to establish the nation’s first greenhouse gas emission standards for passenger vehicles. Now that these standards have been adopted nationally, fuel economy will rise to 35.5 mpg and emissions will be reduced for autos for the years 2012-2016. This is the first time the Clean Air Act has been used to directly tackle global warming emissions. It is also the first significant increase in fuel economy standards since the original 1975 standards.

Bad air costs $*

A Rand Corp. study released in March documents that California’s dirty air cost almost $200 million in hospital charges for asthma, pneumonia, and other ailments. Most of the costs were incurred in LA and other southern California counties. Hospital costs represent only a portion of pollution-related medical expenses. Pollution sources included auto emissions and particulates from fireplaces and wood burning stoves.

Parsons Slough changes

Instead of installing a structure with a large adjustable section above the water to help restore Parsons Slough as reported in The Ventana in the fall of 2009, engineers have determined that a “Low Sill” will do the job. The new design will affect only extreme tides that do the most scour damage, leaving typical tides unchanged. The Low Sill will be largely under water and will be more reliable having fewer parts and pieces.

Sequoia groves inventoried

Forest Supervisor Tina Terrell reports that Sequoia National Forest has completed its inventory of giant sequoia groves in the Giant Sequoia National Monument. They are now in the process of analyzing the data.

There are 33 giant sequoia groves in the Monument totaling 20,000 acres. Data was collected on species, size and density of vegetation in the groves as well as information on dead and down fuel, snags, and types of wildlife habitat in the groves. Seedlings were measured to assess tree regeneration.

The information gathered will be included in the Draft EIS for the Giant Sequoia National Monument Management Plan.

Don’t toss fluorescents in the trash

Now that you’ve switched to energy-saving fluorescent light bulbs, be sure that you dispose of them properly when they burn out. Drop them off at local hardware stores or your local resource recovery facility. A partial list is below. For more information contact your local waste management company.

Monterey County
Home Depot
Orchard Supply
Santa Cruz County
ProBuild
Ace Hardware
Greenspace
Scarborough Lumber
Orchard Supply

Please take unused drugs to your pharmacy for recycling. Do not flush them down the toilet.
**Outings Ratings**

**General Information:**
All outings begin and end at the trailhead. Carpooling to and from the trailhead is strictly a private arrangement between the driver and the riders. Carpool drivers are not agents or employees of the Sierra Club.

**Explanation of Ratings:**
The outings described vary in difficulty from leisurely walks to strenuous hikes. The following explanation is a general guideline.

- **Walks:** Between 2-5 miles, leisurely pace.
- **Easy:** No more than 5 miles; slight elevation gain; easy pace.
- **Moderate:** 5-10 miles; up to 2000’ gain; boots; better than average fitness required.
- **Strenuous:** May involve off-trail hiking; demanding pace; for experienced hikers in good condition only.

**Meeting Places**

**Directions:**
- **Rio Park Road & Ride:** This parking lot is on Rio Road in Carmel.
- **Save-Mart / Bagel Bakery:** (formerly Albertson's) South of Monterey on Hwy. 1. One mile past Ocean Ave, turn L on Carmel Valley Rd. Almost immediately, turn R at the light. Save-Mart/Bagel Bakery on the R.
- **Santa Cruz County Government Center:** The large grey building at the corner of Ocean & Water in Santa Cruz. We meet at the corner of the parking lot nearest to the intersection.
- **Felton Faire:** The shopping center at the junction of Graham Hill and Mt. Hermon Rds. in Felton. We meet at the edge of the Safeway parking lot nearest Graham Hill Rd.
- **41st Avenue / Sears:** From Hwy. 1 in Capitola take the 41st Ave. exit. Go toward the ocean on 41st Ave. Pass the main mall entrance and turn right into the next entrance near Sears. We meet behind the bank located at 41st and Capitola Road.
- **MPC parking lot:** Monterey Peninsula College Parking Lot. From Hwy. 1 take the Fisherman’s Wharf exit, go straight one block, turn L and L again into the first parking lot: A. Site of the Thurs. Farmers Mkt. Plenty of parking with no fee on weekends.

**Outings**

In the interest of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ridesharing, or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.

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

**Participants will be required to sign a liability waiver. To read it before choosing to participate on an outing go to www.sierraclub.org/outing/chapter/forms.**

**April**

**Saturday, April 24**

**HIKE: PINNACLES HARRIS PEAK**
For adventurous and experienced hikers only, we’ll explore the northern “wilderness” region of Pinnacles NM and climb its third highest peak, Harris Peak. Panty off-trail with some light bushwhacking. All day, leaving Salinas at 6:00 a.m. 13 miles and 3500’ elevation gain. Must call leader for further info and a reservation. Leader: Jack Glendening, 484-6929.

**Sunday, April 25**

**HIKE: BIG BASIN TO THE SEA**
For a slightly delayed celebration of John Muir’s 172nd birthday and Earth Day, please join us for this popular all-day car-free hike along the Sunset Trail route. We’ll take the Big Basin bus to the park. Meet at the Santa Cruz Metro Ctr. to catch the 8:30 a.m. bus for Big Basin. (The bus will NOT wait for stragglers). Please bring your favorite John Muir story or quote to share at lunch. We’ll end up at the mouth of Waddell Creek to catch the No. 40 bus, arriving back in Santa Cruz at 5:55 p.m. 13 miles, but it is a moderate hike, what Muir would have called a “sauter.” Bring a good lunch, water, $3 for the bus, and boots that don’t give you blisters. Please call leader Peter Scott at 423-0796 or djp@ucsc.edu to reserve a space. Limited to 20 people. NOTE: Do not plan to bring your car. It will only be an encumbrance.

**Tuesday, April 27**

**SENIOR HIKE: WILDER**
We’ll climb the Baldwin Loop 3½ miles with moderately steep uphill and great ocean views. No restroom facilities, but we can stop at park entrance to use restrooms. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave, or at Mission & King Sts, by Shen’s Gallery at 9:50 a.m. To go direct, drive to first parking area past Quilted Fish sign on mountain side of Hwy. 1. Bring lunch, water, $3 carpool. Tick area. Bring repellent. Leader: Brooke Ewoldsen, 475-6188.

**Wednesday, April 28**

**HIKE: RANCHO SAN ANTONIO CO-PARK**
We’ll hike over 9 miles of this preserve’s 23 miles of trails through a number of plant communities and wildlife habitats. There is even a working farm with cows, pigs, goats, sheep, chickens, and an organic garden. Last year we saw a beautiful bobcat walking under the largest heritage bay tree. At one point the trail follows a fern-walled narrow canyon. On a clear day we can see views of Mt. Tamalpais to the north and Mt. Hamilton to the east. Bring water and lunch. To carpool meet at Sears 41st Ave, 9:00 a.m. ($4) or at the trailhead in Cupertino for a 10:00 a.m. trail departure. Take Foothill Blvd. 0.2 miles to the right on Cristo Rey Drive and find the northwest parking lot at the end of the street in the park near the restrooms. Leader: Diane Cornell 423-5925.

**May**

**Saturday, May 1**

**HIKE: BYRNE FOREST PRESERVE**
This is a Santa Cruz Land Trust preserve on the west-southern shoulder of Mt. Madonna behind Watsonville. Ed has done a walk here before. Well do it with the Land Trust’s permission. About 6-7 miles with up to 1500’ elevation gain, exploring the various trails. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Mar Monte exit in Aptos to carpool. Call for updated information. Leader: Nick Wyckoff, 462-3101.

**Carpool News**

Meet 1 hour before formal meeting time in order to save gas and protect the environment when participating in out-of-county outings. Informal (no leader) carpool meeting spots:

- **Santa Cruz:** County Gov’t Center.
- **Monterey:** K-Mart Seaside

**Moving?**

- **Please fill out** and mail the change of address form on p.15 or email address.changes@sierraclub.org
- The post office charges us 70¢ each if they handle the address change.
- Please help the Club by handling address changes in a timely fashion.

**Thanks!**

For more information about our special programs or to receive a full schedule and description of Clair Tappaan programs please visit our website at www.clairtappaan.org or call (800) 679-6775.
All Creatures Great and Small

“Every good thing, great and small, needs defense”
- John Muir

Join Sierra Club and help protect all creatures, great and small.

Sorensen’s Resort
Hope Valley, CA 96120
1-800-423-9949
www.sorensensresort.com

Deborah A. Malkin
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Specializing in
Wills, Living Trusts, Tax-saving Trusts, and other forms of Estate Planning.
Also offering assistance with Conservatorships and Probate.
Free initial consultation

Discount offered to Sierra Club members.
The Creekside Offices at 2425 Porter St., Suite 15 • Soquel, CA 95073 • 831-482-9100
Printed on recycled paper
HIKE: JOSEPH D. GRANT COUNTY PARK
This is significant drive to the East San Jose foothills. We’ll go to the Pala Seca Cabin at the northern corner of the park from the Dual Gates entrance. You’ll see wonderful oak specimens and some wildflowers. About 10 miles and 1800’ elevation gain. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Santa Cruz County Government Center to carpool. Call Nick for additional information. Leader: Nick Wyckoff 462-3101.

HIKE: SILVER PEAK LOOP
For adventurous hikers only, we’ll make a loop in the Silver Peak Wilderness, signing the summit register atop Silver Peak. The Silver Peak Wilderness is more open than much of the Ventana, with views of caminona-colored rocks, stands of Santa Lucia pines, and possibly a still-running waterfall. On a clear day one can see to the Pinnacles and even the Sierras from Silver Peak. A very strenuous, long-day hike. 15 miles with 4400’ gain and light bushwhacking over the 0.5 mile “secret trail” section. Must call for meeting time and place. Leader: Jack Glendening, 484-6929.

HIKE: FORT ORD PUBLIC LANDS
We’ll focus on the southern portion of the park and hike from the trailhead at the west end of Toro Creek Estates on Hwy. 68. We’ll go up via Guidotti and Skyline Roads for a 9-10 mile hike. Bring lots of water and lunch. Meet at the trailhead at 8:30 a.m. Call for a space. Leader: Monique Fargues, 384-3234.

SUNDAY, MAY 16
HIKE: MOLERA STATE PARK
We’ll stroll along the river to explore the bluffs, then wade across to check out the beach before returning across the meadow after lunch. Bring water, lunch or snack (you might want to eat in one of Big Sur’s restaurants), and sandals for the river crossing. Because the leader will be staying in Big Sur for the afternoon, those interested in this morning walk turn left on Alpine Rd. and immediately park in lot from Saratoga Gap (junction with Hwy. 9) 6.4 miles. To go direct, take Hwy. 35 (Skyline Ridge) north able at beginning and at lunch. Bring binoculars. Fabulous views on 3-mile hike with some ups and downs. Restroom, picnic tables, and cool water available at beginning and at lunch. Bring binoculars. Meet to carpool before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. To go direct, take Graham Hill Rd. to Roaring Camp, drive past Roaring Camp entrance to Roaring Camp Dr. on your right to park. Bring water, lunch, $3 carpool. Leader: Helena Cantin, 438-4523.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19
HIKE: SENIOR HIKE: RUSSIAN RIDGE
Fabulous views on 3-mile hike with some ups and downs. Restroom, picnic tables, and cool water available at beginning and at lunch. Bring binoculars. Meet to carpool before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. To go direct, take Hwy. 35 (Skyline Ridge) north from Saratoga Gap (junction with Hwy. 9) 6.4 miles. Turn left on Alpine Rd. and immediately park in lot to the right. Highly recommended: before hike, drive 1 mile further north on 35 and pull into Vista Point. Views likely of Mt. Tam, Mt. Diablo, and possibly of Mt. St. Helena. Hike starts at 10:45 a.m. Leader: Michael Fineman, 426-5185, mfineman@cruzio.com.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19
HIKE: WILDER RANCH
5 ½-mile loop, with 900’ elevation gain. We’ll hike up the ancient marine terraces, through rolling grasslands, and a redwood forest. Ocean vistas, weather permitting, and perhaps we’ll see a few raptors. Bring water and lunch. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. Leader: Tom Davey, 331-8430.

SATURDAY, MAY 22
HIKE: TERRACE CREEK
We’ll hike up the Pine Ridge Trail 5 miles, then go up beautiful Terrace Creek Trail to the Old Coast Rd. and back down via the Ventana Resort. A strenuous 11-mile hike with 1600’ elevation gain. Great views up and down the coast. Bring a big lunch and lots of water. Meet at the Rio Road Park and Ride at 7:30 a.m. for a long car ride and car shuttle. Call before to confirm. Leader: Anneliese Suter, 624-1467.

SUNDAY, MAY 23
HIKE: VICENTE FLAT
One of my favorite hikes in the Big Sur, this trail is well graded, has wonderful coastal views and wide diversity of wildflowers including the rarely seen Chocolate Lily! We’ll climb 1800’ before dropping into Vicente Flat for lunch under the towering redwoods 5 miles from our start. We’ll return on the same route. Some poison oak although the trail has been well maintained by the VWA. We leave Deer Park Shopping center at 7:30 a.m. sharp and Rio Rd. Park and Ride at 8:30 a.m. Bring chocolate to share. Call for more info. Leader: John Howerton, 476-4253.

TUESDAY, MAY 25
HIKE: BRIDGE CREEK TRAIL
This 6 ½-mile loop in Nisene Marks with 900’ elevation gain takes us through a lovely redwood forest and along beautiful creeks with several crossings. Among other flowers, we hope to see Red Clintonia today. Bring water & lunch. Arrive early; we depart at 8:45 a.m. from Shell station by Home Depot in Seaside or from parking lot behind Aptos Station at 9:30 a.m. sharp. Call for a reservation. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26
HIKE: MAPLE FALLS
6 miles, 800’ elevation gain, in Nisene Marks Park. We’ll hike an old railroad line up to Bridge Creek and on to Maple Falls. The last ½ mile up to the falls is a bit tricky but well worth the effort. Return route will take us past Hoffman’s Historic Site, an old logging camp. Bring water and lunch. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. Leader: Tom Davey, 331-8430.

SATURDAY, MAY 29
HIKE: SUNOL WILDLANDS
Sunol is another long drive (1 hr.) but worth it for wildflowers. We’ll look for Mariposa Lilies and others on the Maguire Loop. Expect 8 miles and 1400’ elevation gain. It will be hot, so bring lots of water. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Santa Cruz County Government Center to carpool. Call Nick for additional information. Leader: Nick Wyckoff 462-3101.

JUNE

Thurs., June 3
HIKE: CARME TO PEBBLE BEACH
This nice lollypop loop begins in Carmel and leads into the quiet forest of Pebble Beach. Lunch gives us the option of a Poppy Hills sandwich. 6 miles, 750’ elevation gain with flora & fauna stops. Arrive early; we depart at 10:00 a.m. sharp from the Rio Road Park & Ride. Call for a reservation. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

Friday, June 4
HIKE: BUZZARD ROOST & PFEIFFER FALLS
We’re revising the “Big Sur double header” that Carmen Remenyi used to lead in the 80s starting from...
Pfeiffer Big Sur SP. First we'll hike up switchbacks through shady redwoods to Buzzards' Roost overlook, about 4 miles round trip with 700' elevation gain. After our picnic lunch by the Big Sur River, we'll stretch our legs again by hiking the Valley View Trail up to Pfeiffer Falls. 2 miles and 900' elevation gain. Bring lunch, water, and $ for entrance fee ($10/car). Meet at Rio Rd. Park & Ride at 9:00 a.m. Leaders: Cath Farrant and Mary Dainton, 372-7427.

Saturday, June 5
HIKE: MT. MADONNA COUNTY PARK
I have found this park to be one of the best Mariposa lily sites on the central coast. We'll probably see 5 different types plus the elusive jewel flower if we've timed this right. 8 miles; 1700' elevation gain. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Mar Monte exit in Atjos to carpool. Call for more info. Leader: Nick Wyckoff 462-3101.

Saturday, June 5
HIKE: ANDREW MOLERA STATE PARK
Come enjoy Big Sur in the late spring, 8-mile loop going up the Ridge Trail and coming down via the Bluff Trail. Probably also down to the beach. Bring water, lunch, and carpool $ . Meet at the Rio Road Park and Ride at 9:30 a.m. Call for a space. Leader: Monique Fergus, 384-3234.

Sunday, June 6
HIKE: MYSTERY HIKE
Privacy demands discretion on this hike. A relatively short but sweet hike of a moderate 5 miles. Expect grand coastal and mountain views with glorious (hopefully) wildflower displays. A modest 1500' elevation gain. Bring lunch, water. Limited # of hikers; call for reservation. Leader: Larry Parrish, 622-7455.

Sunday, June 6
HIKE: SENIOR HIKE: FORT ORD
It's wildflower time again. 4 to 5 mile hike with some steep uphill on Ft. Ord Public Lands. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. To take direct, turn Hwy. 1 south and exit at Reservation Road. Drive almost to Hwy 68 and park near end of road near locked gate at 10:45 a.m. Bring lunch, water, $4 carpool. Leader: Joan Brohmer, 462-3803.

Wednesday, June 9
HIKE: COSTANOA TRAILS
Twenty-five miles north of Santa Cruz the Costanoa Resort was built off Hwy 1. Behind a grove of Eucalyptus trees this was the site of a historic Ohlone encampment with its hillsides and valleys providing shelter from seashore winds. When De Anza explored this area, he camped near here. We'll start at the resort in front of the restaurant and follow the trail uphill to the two vista points that overlook Año Nuevo Point and Pigeon Pt. Lighthouse. A short part of the hike will be on Whitehouse Road. Bring water, lunch, and $4 for carpool for this 8½-mile hike with 1200' elevation gain. Meet at Sears 41st Ave. at 9:00 a.m. or at the corner of Mission and King Sts. at 9:15 a.m. or at the Costanoa Resort Ranch House Restaurant at 9:45 a.m. Leader: Diane Cornell 423-5925.

Friday, June 11
HIKE: LAND OF MEDICINE BUDDHA
A 6-mile moderate loop with 500' elevation gain. Hike includes a redwood forest and beautiful Bares Creek. Bring water and lunch. Call for meeting time and location. Leader: Tom Davey, 331-8430.

Saturday, June 12
HIKE: PT. LOBOS
We'll start this 4-mile hike around the edges of beautiful Point Lobos at the highway, to Whaler's Cove, to the top of Whaler's Knoll via North Shore Trail and return via southern trails. There is usually wildlife to see and the Whaler's Cabin (if open). Meet at the Rio Road Park & Ride for a short carpool. Call leader to reserve a space and for meeting time. Bring snack, water, and binoculars if you like for close-ups of animal life. Leader: Martha Saylor, 372-9215.

Sunday, June 13
HIKE: HENRY COWELL TO WILDER
A long meandering hike from the giant redwoods to the oak chaparral, we'll hike from the cool shade of Henry Cowell, lunch on the beach at the San Lorenzo River, through UCSC to great coastal views on our way towards Hwy. 1. We'll see what's left of the wildflowers. 12 miles, 1000' elevation gain. Bring water and food. Advance notice is needed for this hike. Please sign up by 8:00 p.m. Friday. Leader: John Howerton, 476-4253.

Tuesday, June 15
HIKE: SENIOR HIKE: COSTANOA
4-mile hike on trails above Costanoa Resort. We'll reverse our usual route. Lots of gradual uphill. Spectacular views. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. or at 9:50 a.m. at Sheri's at Mission & King Sts. To go direct, park in rear of parking lot at General Store. Hiking boots and tick repellent recommended. Bring lunch, water, $5 carpool. General Store no longer has a good deli. Leader: Pat Herzog 458-9841.

Tuesday, June 15
WALK: SOBERANES & COASTAL FLOWERS
On our 4½-mile walk with 600' elevation gain, we'll explore the wildflower diversity of Soberanes Point coastal shrub flowers and then the riparian and redwood forest plants of Soberanes Cyn where we'll have lunch. Arrive early; we depart at 9:30 a.m. sharp from Rio Road Park & Ride. Bring water & lunch. Call for a reservation. Leader: Lynn Bombeger, 375-7777.

Wednesday, June 16
HIKE: WADDELL CR TO BERRY CR FALLS
This is one of our favorite hikes. We start near Rancho Del Oso along the coast and follow Waddell Creek up to the Berry Creek waterfalls below Big Basin where we'll have lunch. The trail passes between private lands with organic gardens and redwood groves. Near the falls the rocky trail winds uphill and narrow. Boots or comfortable walking shoes with a gripping sole are best. 9 miles with 800' elevation gain. We'll pass the site of Herbert Hoover Jr.'s camp at the trailhead at 10:00 a.m. Bring lunch, water, and $4 carpool for this 8-mile hike. Leader: Diane Cornell 423-5925.

Thursday, June 24
HIKE: MITTELDORF PRESERVE OR GARZAS CREEK
We'll feast our eyes on spectacular Leopard Lilies if the Mitteldorf road construction project allows. Otherwise, we'll enjoy the Garzas Canyon loop, 6 or 4 miles; both hikes have beautiful redwoods and picturesque creeks. Bring water & lunch. Arrive early; we depart at 10:00 a.m. sharp from Rio Road Park & Ride. Call for a reservation. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

Tuesday, June 29
HIKE: SENIOR HIKE: FALL CREEK
Shady 3-mile hike in redwood forest partly along creek. Some moderate uphill, rocky in places. Lunch at limestone kilns. After lunch we'll do another mile or so. No restrooms. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. or at Felton Faire near Safeway before 9:50 a.m. To go direct, park in Empire Grade lot up from Hwy 9. Bring water, lunch, repellent, and $3 carpool. Leader: Beverly Meschi, 475-4185.

August 5-8
SEE PAGE 6 FOR ADVANCED NOTICE OF AUGUST BACKPACK IN YOSEMITE
**Chapter Executive Committee**

**Chapter Chair**
Rita Dalessio
16 Via Las Encinas
Carmel Valley, CA 93924
659-7046

**Treasurer**
Joel Weinstein
140 Carmel Riveria Dr.
Carmel, CA 93923
625-5586

**Other Members**

Jule Engell
331 Dry Creek Road
Monterey, CA
920-2734

Susan Van Strum
26140 Zdan Road
Carmel Valley, CA 93924
659-2091

Ed Thornton
402 Watson Street #4
Monterey, CA 93940
224-4178

Nicole Charles
2836 Yorktown Court
Marina, CA 93933
925-381-1982

Dale Agron
26152 Carmel Knolls Dr.
Carmel Valley, CA 93923
624-3038

Dale David
P.O. Box 268
Davenport, CA 95017
427-3733

Marika Martin
1205A Olter Lane,
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
233-2188

**Admin Chair/Sec**
Mary Gale
25430 Talara Way
Carmel, CA 93923
626-3565

**Coastal Chair**

**Conservation Committee**

Julie Engell
331 Dry Creek Road
Monterey, CA
920-2734

Steve Zmak
3200 Crescent Ave.
Marina, CA 93933
363-4459

Gillian Taylor
52 La Rancheria
Carmel Valley, CA 93924
659-0298

**Local Wilderness Committee**

Chair
Mike Splan
P.O. Box 66882
Scotts Valley, CA 95067
359-2489

**Computer Database**

Stephanie Kearns
740 30th Ave. #67
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
475-1308

**NC/NRRC Reps**

George Jammal
601 Manzanita Ave.
Felton, CA 95018
531-2909

Patricia Matejcek
P.O. Box 2067
Santa Cruz, CA 95063
761-3263

**Political Compliance Chair**

George Jammal
601 Manzanita Ave.
Felton, CA 95018
531-2909

**Sierra Club Council**

Delegate
George Jammal
601 Manzanita Ave.
Felton, CA 95018
531-2909

Alternate
Rita Dalessio
16 Via Las Encinas
Carmel Valley, CA 93924
659-7046

**Transportation Committee**

Chair
Neil Agron
26122 Carmel Knolls Dr.
Carmel, CA 93923
624-3038

**Outings Chair**

Anneliese Suter
9500 Center St. #53
Carmel, CA 93923
624-1467

**Membership Chair**

Judy Karas
60 Boronda Lane #7
Monterey, CA 93940
372-5762

**Ventana Editor**

Debbie Suter
1603 King Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
457-1036

**Pajaro River Committee**

Lois Robin
lobin@baymoon.com
861-464-1184

---

**Meetings Schedule**

**Ventana Chapter (Monterey County)**

Information: 624-8032

Executive Committee:
First Thursday of the month;
Call for meeting place and time

Conservation Committee:
For dates and times, call 655-8586.
APRIL, MAY, JUNE OUTINGS

Primary election endorsements inside

Explore, enjoy, and protect the planet

Indian Warrior photographed at Pinnacles National Monument.