



SIERRA
CLUB

March 2004
Volume 41, No. 3

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GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, March 23 @
7:00 p.m.



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SANTA LUCIAN

Protecting and Preserving the Central Coast



The official newsletter of the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club • San Luis Obispo County, California

Voters' Guide

The Santa Lucia Chapter, Sierra Club California or Sierra Club National have endorsed the following candidates for office because of their strong conservation ethic and commitment to improving our environmental future. Please be sure to vote March 2.

U.S Senate

- Barbara Boxer



San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors

- 1st District, Susan Harvey



- 3rd District Patricia Andreen



- 5th District, Jim Patterson



District 33 Assemblyman

- Tom Hutchings, Green Party
- Tom Hutchings, Democratic Write in



Propositions

- Prop 56 = YES



Recognition for Everyone

by Letty French, Awards Committee Chair

Over 30 people were present at the January meeting when we recognized and thanked our hard-working volunteers. Almost everyone in the room deserved recognition!

After Chair Tarren Collins opened the meeting, Letty French, Awards Committee Chair, introduced Eliane Guillot, Outings Chair, who talked about the outings program and upcoming outings. Two of our outstanding outings leaders were there: Gary Felsman, who leads all sorts of hikes, and Jack Beigle, who leads the paddling trips. Both of these gentlemen have lead for years and provide outstanding activities for our Chapter. Gary brought his photo albums and poster boards showing members enjoying our beautiful Central Coast. Eliane presented each of them with an Adventure pass as thanks.

Then Jack Beigle talked in delightful detail about Kathryn Goddard Jones. Our first chapter award was instigated a year ago and named in honor of this amazing woman—the founder of our chapter. Jack had been on many an adventure with her. One of her dearest places was the Nipomo Dunes, and she spent many of her years here on keeping them as open space for everyone. She was instrumental in stopping the

continued on page 4

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—John Muir



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Outings, events, and

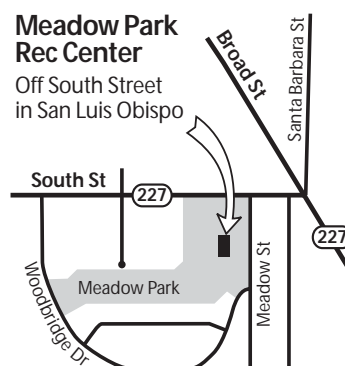
Santa Lucia Chapter General Meeting

The agenda for the March meeting has yet to be determined, but rest assured it will be an interesting and worthwhile meeting.

In the meantime, don't forget to vote on March 2!

Tuesday, March 23, 7:00 p.m.
Meadow Park Rec Center
San Luis Obispo

Save the date!!



Member Spotlight

Introducing My New Neighbors, Jack and Bea Morrow

by Bob McDonnell, Cambria

I live with my wife on one of the shortest streets in Cambria, one block long. We have 16 dwellings, and only 7 are occupied by full time residents. So what chance do we have to get full time residents on our block who are active Sierra Club members? You figure it out, but it is my pleasure to welcome Jack and Bea Morrow to this short block and, more importantly, to the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Club.

They have been members of Sierra Club for more than 25 years, most of it in the Long Beach Group, where the membership is over 4000. Over the years, the two of them have held offices on the Executive Committees of the Angeles Chapter and the Long Beach Group. In Long Beach this includes Group Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Newsletter co-editors, Membership Chair, and members of the Forest Task Force.

They have trained outings leaders and have led outings of all types. Under the Chapter's guidance they founded the Long Beach Inner City Outings program. Just a few months ago they left for Catalina to shepherd city kids in a real out door/nature experience.

I'm sure there is more, but you get the point I think. We must have many newcomers or near newcomers who need an introduction, so why not, readers, do your own intros for the Santa Lucian. We need to get acquainted. These intros would help us to know the "newbies", young or old, just starting with our club, as well as our experienced "oldsters", new to our local chapter. How about it? Tell the editor what you know about your neighbors or friends!!!

Member Spotlight is a new feature of the Santa Lucian. If you know of a Sierra Club member who could use an introduction, contact us!

SANTA LUCIAN

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Santa Lucia Chapter

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MEMBER
Colby Crotzer colby@fix.net
MEMBER
Sarah Christie
MEMBER

The Executive Committee meets the fourth Friday of every month at 5:00 p.m. at the chapter office. All members are welcome to attend.

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Court Rules against Duke Plant Fish Kills

by Jack McCurdy

A federal appellate court has struck down programs that restore habitat to compensate for killing of fish by diversion of sea water for cooling power plants, apparently invalidating such mitigation methods for the proposed Duke plant in Morro Bay and the existing Diablo Canyon nuclear plant.

On Feb. 3, a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in New York said "we find that the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) exceeded its authority by allowing compliance with section 316(b) (of the U.S. Clean Water Act) through restoration methods."

The far-reaching decision is expected to affect many new and replacement power plant projects along the California coast as well as throughout the nation. As a result, the Coastal Alliance on Plant Expansion (CAPE) was expected to ask the California Energy Commission (CEC) to reopen the Duke case and the Regional Water Quality Control Board staff to reconsider a draft permit for the proposed plant in light of the appellate court decision. Both the CEC in a preliminary decision and the water board staff in the draft permit have sanctioned habitat enhancement, a form of restoration, as mitigation for the proposed plant's impacts on the Morro Bay National Estuary.

CAPE, a nonprofit citizens group, is an intervenor in the CEC review of the Duke project and a party at the water board's hearing on the permit now scheduled for April 3 in San Luis Obispo.

The habitat enhancement program (HEP) proposed by Duke Energy—and accepted by a Presiding Committee of the CEC and the water board staff—would be allowed to serve as compensation for the killing of from 16% to 33% of the crab and fish larvae in the Estuary through diversion of up to 475 million gallons of water a day to cool the proposed new Duke plant. Under the program, Duke would provide funds to buy and restore habitat in and around the Estuary to reduce sedimentation buildup in the Estuary.

The court decision supported contentions of CAPE, the Santa Lucia Chapter, the CEC staff, the California Coastal Commission, the California Department of Fish and Game and the National Marine Fisheries Service that habitat enhancement is an unproven and ineffective method of offsetting the loss of fish through water diversion.

If CAPE'S request for reconsideration is granted, the case, which has been under CEC and water board review since Oct. 23, 2000, would be further delayed. The water board has under consideration the renewal of an operating permit for the Diablo Canyon plant sought by PG&E, the owner. Last summer, the permit was sent back to the water board staff for more study after a hearing in which the Chapter and other environmental groups objected to allowing PG&E to compensate for the killing of fish by the plant's use of seawater to cool its generators through habitat purchases.

In the case of the proposed new Duke plant, dry cooling has been supported by the CEC staff, the Coastal Commission, the California Department of Fish and Game and the National Marine Fisheries Services. Those agencies as well as the CEC Presiding Committee and the water board staff all agree that the 16% to 33% loss of larvae represents a significant adverse impact under federal law and must be compensated for.

CAPE also has advocated dry cooling for the proposed Morro Bay plant, as has the Santa Lucia Chapter. Although the court decision does not require dry cooling, it says it should be considered along with closed-cycle wet cooling, which it said was preferable.

The Chapter's Executive Committee was expected to send a letter to the CEC and water board staff urging reconsideration of findings and conclusions on mitigation for the proposed Duke

plant in view of the new court decision. The court decision applies directly to the CEC and water board staff conclusions that HEP is acceptable as compensation for once-through cooling because the preliminary CEC decision was based in part on findings of impacts to the marine life of the estuary under the U.S. Clean Water Act, and the water board administers the same law in determining whether power plants may be granted permits. How the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administers the Act with respect to power plant impacts on water bodies was the subject of the decision.

The court's ruling dealt with EPA rules for new power plants. The Morro Bay plant has been designated an existing plant for purposes of the regulatory review, even though it will be completely replaced by a new plant and the old one will be removed. However, the court said in reaching its conclusions "no distinction is unambiguously made between new and existing structures..."

At issue before the court was whether habitat enhancement or restoration could be substituted for "best available technology" that eliminates the killing of fish by power plants. Best available technology consists of dry cooling, closed-cycle wet cooling or a hybrid of both. Dry cooling recirculates a limited amount of fresh water that is cooled by banks of fans. Closed-cycle wet cooling also circulates a limited supply of fresh water through cooling towers. Hybrids are a combination of both.



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Awards Ceremony

continued from page 1



Pat Veasart and Richard Kranzdorf celebrate Pat's award

building of a nuclear power plant by Oso Flaco (which was ultimately built at Diablo Canyon). Jack told about how she had not returned from a hike and everyone was worried. He figured out that she had tried a shortcut and got mired down in the poison oak and bushes of a swampy area of the dunes. She was dutifully "helped out"—never lost, just temporarily dislocated. So true for so many of us on outings. He brought several pictures and awards that she had received in her lifetime. She was truly an inspiration to everyone around her, and Jack's descriptions were truly picturesque.

Then going around the room, we tried to thank everyone who does so much for our chapter and our environment. Richard and Alona Kranzdorf, Bob and Laverne McDonnell, Eric Greening, Steve and Jan Marx, Henriette Groot, Gary, Jack, Tarren, Eliane, Cal and Letty French.

Now came the big moment; the presentation of the Kathryn Goddard Jones Award to Patrick Veasart. This quiet guy has done wonderful things in our chapter, both in protecting our coastline and starting ECOSLO. Modestly, he said he felt overwhelmed to be the second recipient of the award after Richard Kranzdorf. After his chairmanship of the chapter, he moved to Alaska to work for the Sierra Club and now has a position with the Sacramento Office of the SC. Chair Tarren Collins tried to summarize his many accomplishments in her presentation. The actual award, presented in a silk carrying bag, is a beautiful slender column of Lucite cut so that blue highlights shine through it.

Over snacks and food, we discussed some upcoming conservation issues and spent some time on the current upcoming elections. This was a nice evening for our Sierra Club family.

Environmental 911

Here's an easy way to report on environmental concerns or to get information on issues affecting our ecology: Call 911! That's just a catchy title, though. The real number is. . . (drum roll):

(415) 977-5520 or environmental911@sierraclub.org

ExCom Connects Immigration with Corporate Globalization

by Sarah Christie

On January 23, the Ex-Com passed a resolution stating the Chapter's position on the connection between liberalized global trade policies and international migration. We took this action in the hopes that the National Board will consider adopting a similar resolution as formal Sierra Club policy when they meet next month.

We think that this offers an elegant solution to the current conundrum facing the National Sierra Club, i.e., the "no policy" policy on immigration, which has led to recently publicized efforts by various groups to force the issue.

The Santa Lucia Chapter feels that by addressing and condemning one of the most pernicious root causes of human migration itself, i.e. the poverty, landlessness, hunger, environmental degradation and social inequities that are undisputed consequence of corporate globalization, the club can take a principled, humanitarian, environmental stance on an issue that has become a polarizing wedge for the membership. Simply building a wall around our borders, literally or politically, does nothing to stem the human and environmental assault of corporate-controlled global trade policies. Yet, as we have seen, the club cannot turn its back on this issue without consequence.

It is our sincere hope that this resolution, and the reasoning behind it, will assist the National Board as they step forward to meet the challenge of how best to protect the integrity of the organization, educate members and public, and advance the goals of a better environmental future.

The Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club supports the following Resolution to be adopted as Sierra Club policy.

We:

- affirm the human and civil rights of all immigrants as codified in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- affirm that US policies on trade, security and globalization have likely come to have a greater bearing on how many people cross our borders than US immigration policy or any "reform" thereof
- affirm that the exploitation of less developed countries has resulted in their economic and environmental impoverishment and is a major cause of global overpopulation and increased migration
- affirm that rising human migration is therefore primarily an effect, not a cause, of environmental destruction
- recognize and oppose corporate globalization and overconsumption as primary causes of impoverishment, environmental degradation and migration.

Adopted by unanimous consent January 23, 2004

Members voting:
Tarren Collins, Chair
Colby Crotzer
Sarah Christie
Eliane Guillot

Radio Ads Aim to End Mike Ryan's Bid for a Spot on the Coastal Commission

On February 3, Sierra Club members read in the *Tribune* that 5th District Supervisor Mike "Bulldozer" Ryan was seeking appointment to the Coastal Commission. Once we stopped laughing at the absurdity of the Supervisor with the worst environmental record in SLO County history trying to get a seat on a statewide panel whose charge is to protect our coast and beaches, your Excom members swung into action. We called an emergency meeting to decide how best to derail Mike's power play.

Because Governor Schwarzenegger will be making the appointment, we decided to run a series of radio ads, urging people to call the Governor and tell them Mike Ryan is BAD for the coast. As former Chapter Chair Pat Veesart said in a news interview, "That's like putting Dracula in charge of the blood bank."

The ads ran February 9-15, and they caused quite a reaction. By the third day, we heard the Governor's office was swamped with calls. I guess radio advertising is effective! In case you missed that number, it's (916) 445-1915. In case you missed the text of the radio spots, read on ...

AD #1: 60 seconds

SOUNDS—waves, seagulls, engines, chainsaws.

FIRST VOICE: Have you heard? Real Estate Broker and Supervisor Mike Ryan wants the Governor to appoint him to the Coastal Commission.

SECOND VOICE: (Laughter) But the Coastal Commission is supposed to protect our Coast and beaches. That's like asking the fox to guard the hen house.

FIRST VOICE: Don't laugh. If Mike Ryan had his way, we'd have a golf course and 4 hotels in San Simeon. Diablo Canyon wouldn't have to do any safety inspections, and East West Ranch would be covered by houses, instead of open space and public trails.

Just last month he spent \$60,000 of our tax money on a lobbyist to weaken our coastal plan, when our county is already struggling with a \$2-\$10 million deficit. We don't even know how big the deficit will be, but Mike has no problem approving new spending for a high-priced lobbyist. Mike Ryan is a realtor who wants to sell the coast, not save it. We'd better call the Governor today and tell him to protect our coast by NOT appointing Mike Ryan.

SECOND VOICE: If you care about San Luis Obispo County tell the Governor, Mike Ryan is the BAD for the coast and San Luis Obispo County. Call 916-445-1915. That's 916-445-1915.

Paid for by the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club.

AD #2: 60 seconds

FIRST VOICE: 5th District Supervisor AND REAL ESTATE BROKER, Mike Ryan wants a seat on the Coastal Commission. It's not enough that he's spent 7 years trying to weaken San Luis Obispo's coastal protection policies. Now he wants to push his pro-development agenda on the rest of the state.

He thinks we need more million-dollar homes and hotels on the coast. He has rarely seen a development proposal he didn't like, and has supported requests for new subdivisions all over the county. His vision for San Luis Obispo's future looks a lot like Orange County.

Thanks to Mike Ryan, the Board of Supervisors has wasted hundreds of thousands of tax payers' dollars stalling the update of our coastal plan. He even opposed the designation of Highway One as a State Scenic Highway!

If you care about the coast and you want to protect open space, public beaches and coastal trails, than Mike Ryan is the wrong person for the job!

SECOND VOICE: Call Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today at 916-445-1915 and tell him Ryan is bad for the coast and bad San Luis Obispo County. That's 916-445-1915. Call today!

Paid for by the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club.

AD #3: 60 seconds

Sounds of crashing surf, seagulls, fading to roar of diesel engines and chainsaws.

FIRST VOICE: Have you heard? Supervisor Mike Ryan wants the Governor to appoint him to the Coastal Commission.

SECOND VOICE: But wasn't Mike Ryan already on the Coastal Commission?

FIRST VOICE: That's right. He served for 2 months—the shortest term in Commission history.

SECOND VOICE: Is that the same Mike Ryan that led the charge for the Hearst Corporation to build a golf course and mega-hotel at San Simeon Point? He tried to ram it through, but the public and the Coastal Commission said "No."

FIRST VOICE: He also voted against a resolution calling on PG&E to take safety measures to guard against terrorist attacks at Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant.

Back in 1998, the Los Angeles Times urged the governor to "remove Ryan, and appoint commissioners whose goal is to enhance and preserve California's coastline, not degrade it." He made San Luis Obispo County the laughing stock of the coast.

SECOND VOICE: That does it. I'm going to call Governor Schwarzenegger today and tell him Ryan is the WRONG man for the job.

FIRST VOICE: If you care about San Luis Obispo County, call the Governor at 916-445-1915 and ask him to tell Ryan NO. That's 916-445-1915.

Paid for by the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club.



San Antonio Lake Eagle Watch

by Jack Beigle

A rainstorm the day before an outing usually reduces the attendance considerably, but not this time. We had 20 people in 18 boats. After the rain it was a picture perfect morning. There were very few other boats in the water.

When we launched, the sky was clear with a few, small puffy white clouds. We paddled west along the north shore looking for eagles. Our first sighting was a bald eagle perched high in a tree back from the shore. The tail made the identification farther along the shore we spotted a golden eagle that was also high in a tree back from the shore. The second and third golden eagles were in flight. They gave a good demonstration of their maneuverability in flight. We saw three large flocks of Canada geese and a small flock of brant geese. As we paddled across the lake to the south shore we passed a small island that was covered with white pelicans. After our picnic lunch we sighted the fourth and fifth golden eagle perched side-by-side, high in tree on the skyline.

As we leisurely paddled along the oak studded shore, in the warm afternoon sun, with a slight wind at our back, we were talking about the ice storms that were hitting the eastern states when we sighted two additional golden eagles soaring high overhead. This brought out total up to seven golden eagles, one bald eagle and a large assortment of other birds. I was a little disappointed that we didn't get closer bald eagle sightings but it was really a grand day. As we took our boats out we all shared the feeling that we were very fortunate to be living here on the Central Coast.

Check the outing schedule and join us on the water.



We paddled north shore eagles. Our was a bald high in a tree shore. The tail made the easy. A little the shore we

Arnold Should Embrace, Not Reject Marine Reserves

by Warner Chabot, Vice President--
The Ocean Conservancy

Our ocean is a public trust, belonging to all Californians. Future generations deserve to inherit this trust in the form of wild healthy oceans rather than the depleted ecosystems they are now becoming. That requires our generation to provide visionary stewardship and responsible management to the best of our ability. But a recent Schwarzenegger administration decision threatens to abdicate this responsibility.

This past week, the Governor's Dept of Fish & Game suggested their intent to "indefinitely halt" a landmark 1999 California law to create a network of marine reserves along our coast. Big mistake. The Governor should seriously reconsider and show the creativity and environmental leadership his campaign promised. He's made this bad call, citing fiscal challenges, when on the table is a long-standing offer from environmental and philanthropic leaders to provide major funding to implement this visionary law.

Our living ocean systems are in trouble, including those off California. Federal managers have declared a once abundant west coast groundfish fishery a national disaster due to depleted fish populations. As an emergency measure, they closed 10,000 square miles of West coast waters to fishing, possibly for many decades.

The old ways of managing our coastal waters are not working. We need new, 21st century management to meet today's

challenges. One action, recommended by hundreds of scientific leaders and resource managers is to create networks of marine reserves.

The marine reserves concept is similar to what Teddy Roosevelt and John Muir did 100 years ago on land, by creating national parks like Yosemite. Similarly, in the ocean, marine reserves set aside areas of rich biodiversity, where extractive or disruptive activities are prohibited. These areas protect key ocean habitats that serve as nursery grounds for fish and wildlife.

Marine reserves restore ocean habitats, creating a safe harbor for marine life to regenerate. They provide rich environments for the growing economy of divers and eco-tourists. They allow scientists to study healthy, protected habitats to learn how to better protect the oceans. They guarantee a rich environmental legacy for future generations.

Marine reserves also dramatically increase the size, number and age of fish within them. These fat, older females produce thousands more eggs and larvae than younger fish. By locating reserves near strong currents the transported eggs increase fish populations in and outside the reserves. *In fact, one way to locate existing reserve boundaries is the line of fishing boats that often anchor right at the edge.*

As an environmental policy leader, California recently created the nation's largest network of marine reserves at the Channel Islands, off of Santa Barbara County. Even before that, in 1999, California passed a landmark law to create a network of marine reserves along California's coast. This 'Marine Life Protection Act' created a process for fishermen, scientists and conservationists to meet in local communities and recommend how and where marine reserves should be located in their region. It allows citizen participation, supported by good science and economics. This offers a triple bottom line by considering the local environmental, economic and social impacts of a marine reserve network.

Sadly, funding to implement the law was inadequate. Making matters worse, in recent years the state agency charged with implementing the law, suffered repeated budget and staff reductions. To resolve this issue, supporters of the law worked to raise funds from private foundations to fund the needed technical support for these stakeholder groups. *One foundation offered almost one million dollars. With funding available, there's no reason to further delay a process already 4 years overdue.*

Marine reserves work. They restore ocean ecosystems. They make common sense. California polls show overwhelming support for creating more of them. Postponing their creation only allows further decline of the web of ocean life and only makes it harder to restore it.

California has and should continue to lead the nation on environmental protection. Previous reports by prestigious national leaders and scientists, say marine reserves are the forefront of visionary ocean policy. Governor Schwarzenegger should take the creative solution in front of him. He should keep California as the national leader on protecting the magnificent public trust of our oceans.

DANIEL L. HAWTHORNE, Ph.D
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 Mariko Fujinaka
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 mariko1@pacbell.net

Become a Docent for the Pecho Coast Trail!

A docent-training course is available for individuals who are interested in leading guided hikes along a beautiful coastal trail on California's Central Coast, situated southwest of Avila Beach and above Port San Luis Harbor. During a six-week training course, which consists of five evening meetings and two field trips, volunteers will learn about natural and cultural history of this spectacular stretch of coastline. Docents lead hikes to the Point San Luis Lighthouse (3.5 mile loop) and to Rattlesnake Canyon (7 mile loop).

If you are interested in volunteering to be a docent for the Pecho Coast Trail, please call Sally Krenn at 545-3159 by March 8 (Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.). If you are only interested in joining a hike, please call 541-TREK (541-8735).



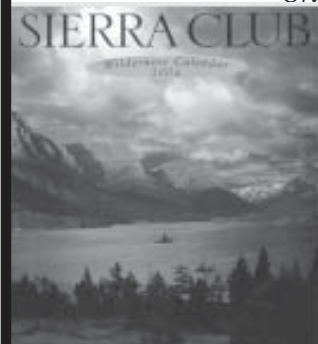
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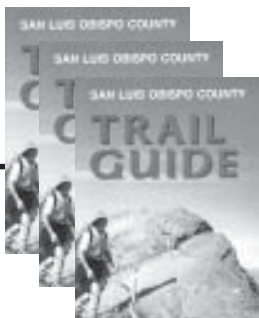
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For more information and confidential assistance, contact

John Calaway

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Outings and Activities Calendar

All of our hikes and activities are open to all club members and the general public. If you have any suggestions for hikes or outdoor activities, questions about the Chapter's outing policies or would like to be an outings leader, call Outings Leader Gary Felsman (473-3694). For information on a specific outing, please contact the outing leader. Outings Leaders please get your outings or events in by the 1st for the next month's outings.

Hiking Classifications:

Distance: 1 = 0-2 mi., 2 = 3-5 mi., 3 = 6-9 mi., 4 = 10-12 mi., 5 = 12 mi. or more.

Elevation Gain: A = 500', B = 1000', C = 1500', D = 2000', E = 2500', F = 3000' or more.

Sun., Feb. 29, 9:30 a.m., POINT SAL: Meet at the end of Brown Road. Hike 2.5 miles to 'saddle' and then decide: hike to ocean, point or turn around. Bring lunch, water, dogs that do not chase cattle, windbreaker and optional Mt. Bike. Confirm a few days before at 929-3647 or bdenneen@slonet.org

Mon., March 1, 10 a.m., PLOVER LOVERS UNITE: Meet on Pacific at end of Pier Ave in Oceano with signs to celebrate the first day of Western Snowy Plover protection. Walk to mouth of Arroyo Grande Creek which is where they nest (critical habitat) and has become a "road" for access to Oceano State Vehicle Recreation Area (OSVRA). Why do your tax dollars promote driving for 'recreation' as we run out of finite fossil fuel? Confirm a few days before at 929-3647 or bdenneen@slonet.org

Sun., March 7, 9:30 a.m., KAYAK OSO FLACO LAKE: Meet at lake with kayak, PFD and mechanism to move kayak to lake. Bring binoculars for bird watching. Confirm 929-3647 or bdenneen@slonet.org

Sat., March 13, BLACK LAKE CANYON: Dedication of plaque

and tour of BLC by Biologist/Geologists of Land Conservancy. Meet at junction of Guad.Rd/Leguna Nigra/Xenon Way. More info call LC: 544-9096 or paulh@special-places.org

Sun., March 14, 9:30 a.m., BICYCLE GUADALUPE to OCEAN: Meet at Dune Centre Parking lot with bike and helmet. An easy, educational tour of Guadalupe and then to Pacific. Confirm a few days before at 929-3647 or bdenneen@slonet.org

Sun., March 21, 9:30 a.m., PISMO DUNES PRESERVE: Meet at Melodrama in Oceano. Drive about a mile to a secret way to the most spectacular dunes to a remote lake. Total distance about 4 miles. Slide down steep dune faces. Confirm a few days before at 929-3647 or bdenneen@slonet.org

Sun., March 21, 5:30 p.m., SUNSET HIKE ON EAST WEST RANCH: 3 mile moderate hike to welcome in SPRING. Good for beginners and active seniors. Meet on Windsor and Wedgewood in Cambria at Ocean Bluff trailhead. Take Hwy 1 to Ardath in Cambria. Follow Ardath (towards ocean) to end and turn right on Marlborough. Take Marlborough to end and turn left on Wedgewood to end. Poison oak on some of trail. Bring water, hiking shoes, jacket. Gorgeous views, pine woods, hills, possible wildflowers. Rain cancels. Call Jack and Bea Morrow, 927-5785, for info.

Sat-Sun., Mar. 27-28 Flowers, Birds, and Geology in the Carrizo Plain: Natural history oriented car camp and day hikes in a little known, but beautiful region in San Luis Obispo Co. tucked between Caliente Mts. and the Temblor Range. Springtime wildflowers and wildlife, including pronghorn antelope; birds, including spring migrants, raptors. Fascinating geology, features of the San Andreas

fault, rugged mountains, soda lakes. Native American sites, pictographs. Potluck Sat eve. Limited to 12 people. Contact Ldr: Suzanne Swedo, wild@inetworld.net, (818-781-4421). *Angeles Chap/CNRCC Desert Com*

Sun., March 28, COAST HIKE: To a remote area of dunes with Chumash midden, coreopsis, flowers at their peak. Confirm a few days before at 929-3647 or bdenneen@slonet.org

Sun., April 4, 10:00 a.m. (Daylight Savings time change), WASHBURN CREEK. Meet at Washburn Creek, just south of San Simeon Campground. Moderate 4 mile through 4 eco-systems (beach, wetlands, pine forest, vernal pools etc). Good for beginners and active seniors. Bring water, hiking shoes, suntan lotion, binoculars. Poison oak in area. Free parking in Washburn Creek parking area. Rain cancels. Call Leaders: Jack and Bea Morrow 927-5785 for info.

Sun., April 11, 9:30 a.m., PISMO DUNES PRESERVE: Meet at Melodrama in Oceano. Drive about a mile to a secret way to the most spectacular dunes to a remote lake. Total distance about 4 miles. Slide down steep dune faces. Join a group of hostellers from my Hostel to celebrate Easter/Hutash. Confirm a few days before at 929-3647 or bdenneen@slonet.org

April 15-17, The Santa Lucia Trail Care Committee will be working on the Avenales Trail up to Garcia Ridge Summit and if there's time on towards Stoney Creek. This trail starts at the Avenales Station (1,650 ft.) and continues 1.5 miles up to Garcia Ridge Summit (2,800 ft.). From the Summit it descends down 1 mile to Stoney Creek junction at 1,880 ft. This trail is in the wilderness and is very overgrown. The plan is for those who can make it in on Friday to camp in American Canyon where there is stock water, outhouses and room for stock or at the



Photo by Joaquin Palting

Avenales Station for those who are self contained. Work all day on Sat. and then enjoy the trail on Sunday. This work weekend will open up the trails for the two horse groups who annually have a spring campout at American Canyon, Pacific Coast Longriders 4/23-25 and Atascadero Horsemen 4/30-5/2. So we hope to get lots of help from those groups. Tools and training will be provided by our Forest Service Wilderness Rangers Joe Duran and Dave Weaver. Lunch and Dinner provided on Sat. This is an incredibly gorgeous area and not easily accessed by the public, so put it on your calender. Rain date is 4/30-5/2 and we will have to plan it differently because of conflict with the Atascadero Horseman at the American Canyon site. Please contact Kathy Longacre by email kll@fix.net or Ranger Joe Duran at jduran@fs.fed.us or Dave Weaver at weaver@sbceo.org or phone message 773-1586



This is a partial listing of Outings offered by our chapter.

Please check the web page at www.santalucia.sierraclub.org for the most up-to-date listing of activities.