

# *The* VENTANA

MAGAZINE OF THE VENTANA CHAPTER OF THE SIERRA CLUB



**DEC, JAN, FEB  
OUTINGS**

Explore, enjoy, and protect the planet

Ventana staff



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#### DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSIONS

All materials for publication must be received by the deadlines listed below. No exceptions.

#### SUBMISSIONS FORMAT

Please limit articles to 800 words; letters to 300. All submissions may be edited for clarity and length. Email to [dfbulger@cruzio.com](mailto:dfbulger@cruzio.com). Mail hard copy to editor, address below.

#### PHOTOS

Photos submitted to *The Ventana* must meet the following requirements: No laser copies or inkjet outputs. Electronic photos should be no smaller than 1200 x 1100 pixels or 300 dpi. Cover photos must be 3000 x 2000 pixels. Film photos, slides, or negatives are fine. Please call the editor if you have any questions.

#### WHERE TO SEND SUBMISSIONS

Send submissions to Debbie Bulger, Editor, 1603 King Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060, [dfbulger@cruzio.com](mailto:dfbulger@cruzio.com).

#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Do not call editor! Send address changes to: [address.changes@sierraclub.org](mailto:address.changes@sierraclub.org) or use the mail-in coupon in each issue.

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#6	Nov 28	Dec 14

*Articles received after deadline may not be published.*

## CHAPTER CHAIR

### Planning decisions will affect County's future

**T**he Ventana Chapter has been involved in the General Plan process in Monterey County for over 11 years. On October 26, the Board of Supervisors approved the plan, now known as GPU 2010, despite objections from the environmental community over several issues related to biological resources, traffic, and water supplies. Based on projections by the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) the GPU 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, agricul-

ture, and biological resources through the year 2030.

This month the Board of Supervisors will also be considering an interim ordinance designed to allow new development to proceed under the new growth policies before a long list of ordinances have been created to enact the policies into law. This "urgency" ordinance would take effect immediately and last for 45 days. It could be extended twice for up to two years after public hearings.

At least two organizations have filed lawsuits to protect the County's environment. The Carmel Valley Association's suit is a complaint that the County has adopted a

new method of monitoring traffic that will allow a huge increase before measures to lessen the impacts could be enforced. The Open Monterey Project's (TOMP) lawsuit is described in an article on page 8. TOMP has filed a legal challenge covering three of the most important interrelated policy failures of the GPU: steep slope conversion which would spread vineyard cultivation and development into nearly half a million acres of wildlife and sensitive species habitat, inadequate protection for wildlife corridors, and lack of proof of adequate water supplies for growth.

—Rita Dalessio

## FROM THE EDITOR

### Reusing can be fun

**E**very morning I watch the goldfinches and sparrows splash around in my birdbath. Besides the delight of seeing these colorful creatures drink and tidy up, I have the added joy of knowing that our family has put some discarded metal pieces to a very good use.

You see, the birdbath was constructed by my very talented husband from, well, junk. One day a few years ago, as Richard and I were walking along King Street in Santa Cruz, we spotted an old metal table lamp base, about three feet high, which someone had put out with the trash. It was ornate, decorated with garlands and leaf motifs. I had been wanting a bird bath for some time, and this base was perfect.

We lugged the heavy piece home. It sat in the garage for over a year until we found the bowl—another lamp base. This time the base was from a floor lamp. We purchased it along with several other lamp bases and some brass pieces at a close-out sale for a store that was going out of business.

Turned upside-down, the brass floor lamp base was just the right depth and diameter for a birdbath. When attached to the table lamp base, *voilà*. The finest bird accessory money can't buy.

Have you found a creative re-use for something? Let us know. Email your description and photos to [dfbulger@cruzio.com](mailto:dfbulger@cruzio.com). Perhaps we can feature your creation in a future *Ventana*.

—Debbie Bulger



Ventana staff

*Birdbath constructed by Richard Stover.*

## ATTENTION: Potential Advertisers!

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Debbie Bulger - 457-1036

## SANTA CRUZ CHAMBER PLAYERS WINTER CONCERTS

**JANUARY 15: 8 PM & JANUARY 16: 3 PM**

**MUSIC FOR THE SOL:** the Couperins, Lully, Clérambault, and d'Anglebert

**FEBRUARY 5: 8 PM & FEBRUARY 6: 3 PM**

**WINDS ON THE WILD SIDE:** Milhaud, Hindemith, Tailleferre & others

Christ Lutheran Church, 10707 Soquel Drive, Aptos  
[www.scchamberplayers.org](http://www.scchamberplayers.org)

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## LETTERS

TheVentana welcomes letters

Send to:

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Ventana, 1603 King Street,  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

email: [dfbulger@cruzio.com](mailto:dfbulger@cruzio.com)

Please include a phone number with your letter. Anonymous letters are not accepted. Letters may be edited for length.



### Moving Beyond Oil!

As Governor-Elect Jerry Brown prepares to take office, we need to urge him to put increased transportation and mobility options, air quality, and Californian's quality of life at the top of his priorities.

We need your help; write a letter to Governor Elect Jerry Brown and ask him to be a leader on these important issues.

A recent statistic stated that transportation is responsible for 30% of greenhouse gas pollution in the United States. As we move forward, we need to make sure that we reduce this source of pollution through creating livable communities, making public transportation options more accessible, and building a 21st century transportation system in California.

Having livable communities where people do not need to rely on driving will reduce pollution and household expenditures and move us away from our dependence on oil. All Californians will benefit with alternative transportation choices and the option to not spend 20% of their income each year on transportation.

Transportation consumes more than 70% of the 19 million barrels of oil used daily in the U.S.—that's roughly 557 million gallons of oil used for transportation each day.

Urge Governor-Elect Jerry Brown to put transportation reform and livable, walkable and bikable communities on top of his list of things to accomplish.

—Annie Pham, Sierra Club California  
Sacramento

### Sempervirens Fund saves more redwoods

The Sempervirens Fund is celebrating two new land acquisitions in the Santa Cruz Mountains. The first, a 33-acre parcel surrounded on three sides by Castle Rock State Park, eventually will become the new entrance to the park. Planned are better access to the park, bathrooms, campgrounds, and a visitor center.

In September Sempervirens closed escrow on the 35-acre Lagomarsino property in San Mateo County. There are over 60 old growth redwoods and over 2000 redwoods and Douglas firs on the property. The Midpeninsula Open Space District has expressed interest in ultimately acquiring the land.



Jane Walton took this photo of a local jogger running past a 5th century BCE Greek temple in Selinunte on Diane Cornell's trip last January. Selinunte, located on the southwest coast of Sicily, contains one of the most impressive archaeological sites in the Mediterranean.

## Pogonip hearing delayed

A City Council hearing regarding a proposed new multi-use (equestrians, bicyclists, hikers) trail in the Pogonip will be delayed until February or later, according to Dannettee Shoemaker, Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Santa Cruz. The City had previously announced that the hearing would be held in late November.

As reported in the August issue of *The Ventana*, the proposed trail would extend from Golf Club Drive north to the U-Con trail. The new trail would require amendment of the Pogonip Master Plan which was adopted in 1998 after extensive debate regarding mixing bicyclists, equestrians and hikers on Pogonip trails. Currently the U-Con and Rincon Connector (leading to Henry Cowell State Park) Trails are the only trails where bikes are allowed in the park.

The postponement of action regarding the proposed multi-use trail provides an opportunity for the community to encourage the City Parks Department and the City Council to give a more in-depth consideration of the proposal, which was fast-tracked by the City in two weeks at the end of July.

The Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) prepared by the City on the trail project is considered by many critics to be an inadequate environmental review. Although the official window for comment on the document closed on November 5, the City has announced that recommendations may still be made to the City Parks Department and City Council (see below).

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Critics of the proposal have urged the City to consider an alternative route by the rail line which parallels the Pogonip as a more effective route for discouraging illegal activities such as drug dealing within the southeastern edge of the Pogonip. The rail alternative, which would also provide a more direct bicycle connection to the U-Con trail from Highway 9 and the river levee, was not thoroughly investigated in the MND. Some have also called for a hikers-only trail as an alternative.

The MND also has revealed many serious environmental impacts from the pro-

## Diane Cornell to lead trip to Sicily in March

Tired of hiking the same trails? Are you looking for adventure? Do you enjoy traveling in other countries? Why not accompany one of our local leaders on a trip to Sicily?

On March 26 local hike leader Diane Cornell will lead a Sierra Club International trip to Sicily, Italy. If you would like to walk along beautiful seacoasts, view Greek temples, tour archeological parks, cruise out to the island of Leparì, and walk around a volcano on the island of Vulcano, this may be the trip for you. The trip is for 12 days in small hotels and countryside villas with delicious food. For more information contact Diane Cornell, 423-5925, [info@osefun.com](mailto:info@osefun.com).

posed new trail through the Pogonip, all of which will require the further expertise of scientific consultants to (possibly) mitigate.

The Sierra Club opposes the new trail as currently proposed. To learn more, see the MND at [www.cityofsantacruz.com/index.aspx?page=1543](http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/index.aspx?page=1543).

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### Trail blocked

The long-awaited trail and wildlife corridor from Nisene Marks State Park to Cabrillo has hit a snag. Proponents thought an easement had been worked out by the County with the present owners, but now the trail is blocked off. Negotiations are continuing. The organization Nisene2Sea is working with Santa Cruz County Supervisor Ellen Pirie to get the developers to live up to what they agreed to when their building permit was issued.

### Solar returns

At last, solar panels are going back on the White House. The solar panels installed by Jimmy Carter and then abandoned by Ronald Reagan will be reinstalled on the White House. Well, not the original ones—updated ones. They won't save the planet all by themselves, but they are a powerful symbol. Now it's time to put them on all federal buildings.

### Parsons Slough update

Work is in progress on the Parsons Slough Project reported on in the October 2009 *Ventana*. The project consists of the construction of an underwater sill, a structure that acts like a submerged speed bump to slow the outgoing tide. The sill is designed to reduce erosion in the Elkhorn Slough and conserve wetlands and protect wildlife. Marine mammals, fish, and other wildlife will be able to pass through the sill safely.

Construction is expected to last through mid-February.

### Better building standards

The International Code Council, a group of American state, county, and city building and fire code officials, voted in November on a series of proposals to increase energy efficiency standards for newly constructed homes and businesses. The approved proposals achieve a model code that is at least 30% more energy efficient than the 2006 version of the code. Changes will take effect in the 2012 model building code and should result in lower utility bills for new homeowners. Forty-seven states base their building codes on these national model standards.

### Creek watch



A new free phone app can help you report trash in California waterways. An iPhone application called Creek Watch, developed by the State Water Resources Control

Board and IBM, will allow you to take a photo and report the amount of water, flow rate, and amount of trash in a stream.

### Gulf spill scorecard

Seven months after the disastrous oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico the government has yet to deal with the significant risks offshore drilling poses to wildlife and the environment. The animal death toll is high. More than 6,100 birds, 605 sea turtles, and nearly 100 mammals have died. It is estimated the spill killed 20% of juvenile Atlantic bluefin tuna in the area.

*continued above*

A December 3, 2010, article in the *Wall Street Journal* discusses the “deeply flawed inspection program” for offshore drilling. The Center for Biological diversity has initiated seven lawsuits to hold the government and BP accountable.

### Watershed toolkit online

The Coastal Watershed Council has updated its website and its Watershed Stewardship Toolkit. Take a look to learn ways you can protect local watersheds. There are pictures and instructions on ways to manage stormwater runoff from your

property. Visit [www.coastal-watershed.org](http://www.coastal-watershed.org) and click under Community Stewardship for the toolkit.

### Legislative report card

Of the 10 high-priority bills for Sierra Club California, 6 passed the Legislature. Governor Schwarzenegger signed three of those bills: AB 1947 (Solar Energy), AB 2289 (Reducing Smog), and SB 51 (Salton Sea Restoration) and vetoed three: AB 1405 (Global Warming/Environmental Justice), SB 1157 (Less Toxic Schools/Pesticides), and SB 1207 (Fire-Safe Planning).

## Staying a Healthy Hiker

by Don Hoernschemeyer, Ph.D.

Sierra Club people keep physically fit and take care of their health because it's part of their ethos, and because they want to continue to enjoy hiking and camping in nature.

Each of us knows the recipe for maintaining good health—it's in the news all the time. Eat a balanced diet, and limit your calories. Get enough exercise, of any form. Keep your stress level down—one of the hardest things to do. Have an affectionate and supportive marriage or partnership. Have friends whom you see regularly and have fun with. Take time out for relaxation and simple pleasures. But it is often frustratingly difficult to consistently do what we know we should do.

Would attention to all these common-sense and well known actions keep us healthy? No! They are necessary but not sufficient for our long-term health. There

is one more important ingredient needed in order to have a vital, healthy life, free of disease well into later years. Our bodies must be kept free of toxic chemicals. Most Sierra Club people are aware of high profile environmental toxics, for example, Polychlorinated biphenyls, Bisphenol-A, and Phthalates. But there are more, for example, Polybrominated diphenylethers (PBDPE), Polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), Perchlorates, and new pesticides that are always being produced. Where are these toxics found? PBDPE flame retardants are in household dust and foam cushioning, pillows, and mattresses; PAH is coated on microscopic particles of soot; PFOA is on the packaging of microwave popcorn and on carpeting (therefore also on household dust); Perchlorates are in some leafy produce and some drinking water in the West.

Each of us can raise the odds of



being free of diseases that result from ubiquitous, invisible toxic chemicals in the environment. All that is required is knowing how we are normally exposed to these toxics, and keeping them out of our bodies. It is possible; it merely requires knowledge and intention and good habits.

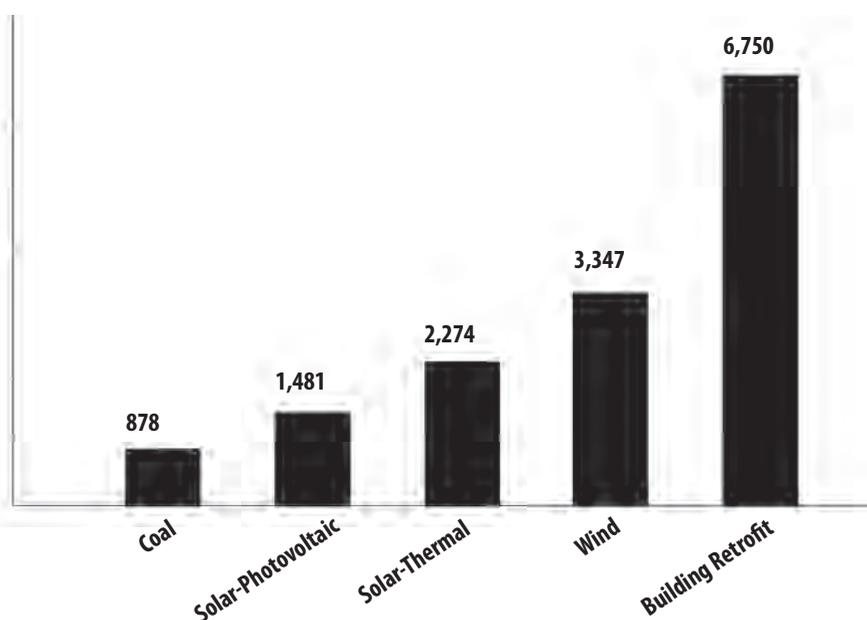
A few examples of what you can do right now to keep toxics out of your body:

- Buy produce that, according to published lists, has the least residue of pesticides.
- See the report by The Environmental Working Group, [www.foodnews.org/reportcard](http://www.foodnews.org/reportcard).
- Use organic cooking oils (avoid non-organic cottonseed and soybean oils).
- Vacuum carpeting frequently.

For further information visit the author's blog site, <http://toxicfreehealth.net>.

*Santa Cruz Sierra Club member Don Hoernschemeyer is a retired research chemist.*

## Jobs Created for Each Billion Dollars Invested



Source: Earth Policy Institute

*If we invest in green energy or energy conservation instead of continuing to rely on fossil fuels such as coal, would we decrease jobs in the United States? Not at all. Retrofitting buildings creates more than seven and a half times more jobs than the coal industry. Wind power employs almost four times as many people as the coal industry.*

# Planning Department proposes zoning changes with no environmental review

by Kevin Collins

A series of changes has been proposed by the Santa Cruz County Planning Department that could change the zoning code in unpredictable ways. The Sierra Club opposed parts of these changes in 2007-08. The new set of important changes to the zoning code is being presented as minor; **we disagree. They are not minor changes.**

Zoning rules interconnect in complex ways to impact not only water resources and wildlife but virtually all environmental considerations.

County Planning is also claiming that these zoning changes are exempt from CEQA environmental review. Sierra Club disagrees with this position as well. The entire reasoning behind the California Environmental Quality Act is based upon the need for policy makers and the public to understand the potential environmental impacts of projects, including "projects" that change land use code. If Planning wants to change the code, it needs to study the consequences of the changes and not simply claim that they are "minor" and exempt from review. Also, it would be possible for an applicant to ask for several minor exceptions, which when taken together, could amount to a very big exception.

The changes themselves involve what are called "site standards" and include building height, lot coverage, setbacks from property lines, and floor area ratio, which is a standard that limits the volume of a building relative to its lot. These proposed changes also would affect solar access, accessory structures, structural encroachments, and buildings constructed without permits.

## Public hearings would be eliminated

Variations from current codes require a public hearing. In order to grant a variance, a hearing is currently required wherein the reviewing body must make a set of findings. Typically, variances are only granted based upon special circumstances of the site's geometry.

Planning is now proposing a new category of "minor exceptions" to these codes to be processed by Planning Department staff with *no public hearing* and notification only to adjacent houses or those directly across a street. This lack of wider public notification cuts deeply into our democratic traditions and is insufficient to protect the environment and wider neighborhood. Moreover, the "findings" necessary for staff to approve these "minor exceptions" to existing code appear subjective and open-ended creating the possibility that under the proposal virtually every "exception" requested could

be granted. *This is a very significant change from current regulations.* The proposed new exceptions have no avenue of appeal except back to the Planning Department which granted them initially, and no possibility of higher level appeal.

Zoning code, like subdivision law, is fundamental to all other land use regulations. In many ways zoning is the most important class of regulations that determine the future physical nature of the County. Such decisions need to be made only after considerable deliberation and certainly should not be left to staff with no public review or clear right of appeal.

## Historic reasons for planning complexity

There are many reasons why the Santa Cruz County planning and building codes are complex. Santa Cruz Mountain properties are earthquake and landslide prone. There is a crucial need to protect surface water supplies from septic leaks and silt accumulation in creek beds caused by landslides and building.

No building permits were required until the 1950s. Many, if not most, of the real problems people face with building permits have to do with the fact that Santa Cruz County was largely subdivided before there were any standards for the creation of residential lots. Originally the County accepted virtually all subdivision proposals without review. This foolish lack of foresight created thousands of lots that do not meet logical standards for setbacks from adjoining buildings or roads, for septic systems, and for emergency access or parking.

By the early 1970s it became clear that unbridled development in the county could result in urbanization similar to what happened in Fresno and the Santa Clara Valley.

Several reforms have occurred at the Planning Department since the 1980s. There are numerous stories about the difficulties of the permit process, but many of these stories are distortions of fact. The real problems with the planning codes should be addressed by careful analysis and revision of specific provisions, not by a general weakening of zoning standards that protect residents and neighborhoods.

Although there may be room to allow for some "minor exceptions" when remodeling on lots legally built to prior code, such as allowing a pre-existing four-foot setback to a lot line when the code has since changed to five feet, the situations covered by the proposed code changes have no such limitations. Expanding the opportunities to build upon formerly unbuildable lots is not in the public interest. The existing County

code was developed to prevent new problems from arising. It is not in the public interest to develop new problematic house sites on lots that should never have been subdivided to begin with.

## How to help

- Contact Kevin Collins for more information, 234-7306.
- Come to the January 25 meeting of the County Board of Supervisors where this issue will be discussed.

## Docent training begins in January for Watsonville Wetlands Watch

The Watsonville Wetlands Watch 2011 Docent Training Program will begin on January 26. Local experts will provide an inside look at the wetlands of Watsonville, including the ecology, history, and restoration of the wetlands. This 7-week program includes Wednesday evening presentations and Saturday morning field trips.

New docents will be prepared to lead walks and assist with field trips. Docents also have the opportunity to help with community events, participate in wetlands restoration, work in the library or greenhouse at the Fitz Wetlands Education Resource Center, and work on special projects.

The Watsonville Wetlands Watch is a nonprofit community-based organization dedicated to the protection, restoration, and appreciation of the wetlands of Pajaro Valley. For more information, visit [www.watsonvillewetlandswatch.org](http://www.watsonvillewetlandswatch.org).

Contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Kathy Fieberling, 345-1226 or [kathyfie@yahoo.com](mailto:kathyfie@yahoo.com) for details and to enroll.



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## Ventana Chapter Candidates

Ballot on page 15

Vote for up to three candidates.



### Barbara Bass Evans

I am honored to be asked to run for Executive Committee of the Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club. Since retirement from education, I have been dedicated to preserving and expanding public access to our unique and exceptional Monterey coastline. I have served as co-chair of Save Our Waterfront Monterey Committee (SOWMC) since 1994. (<http://www.evansmonterey.org/>)

I bring to the Sierra Club connections and communication with Organization of Coastal Advocates (ORCA), an environmental lobbying group for the Coastal Commission; the Natural Resources Committee of the League of Women Voters; Surf Rider; CA Desal Response Group; and my work with Save Our Waterfront Committee Monterey. I hope to enhance the Sierra Club's opportunities to align with like minded groups as we work towards achieving common goals.

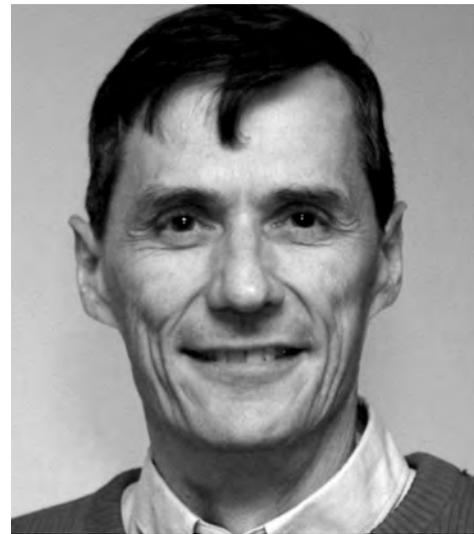


### Joel Weinstein

My concern about the environment first arose in my childhood with the permanent closure of a nearby beach. Love of the Monterey area's natural environment drew me here. I'm strongly motivated to protect our beautiful area.

My engineering studies and career gave me the opportunity to pioneer in pollution control in the electroplating and foundry industry. We demonstrated that clean practices were both profitable and effective, leading other plants to emulate our example.

As Ventana Chapter board member and treasurer, I have enjoyed working to achieve the Sierra Club goals. As treasurer I have used the knowledge gained from an MBA in Finance and Accounting and in numerous Sierra Club workshops to keep our chapter finances in good order. I have put our accounting system on Quick Books to make it compatible with Sierra Club National's accounting and have increased the return on our assets 5-fold.



### Tom Moore

As a Sierra Club member since 1978, my primary concerns have been related to the preservation of wilderness and parklands, the maintenance of biodiversity on the planet, and the consequences of population growth, particularly rapid population growth. I'm an advocate of thinking globally and acting locally. In the latter regard, I've served three years on the Marina City Planning Commission, three years on the MCWD Water Conservation Commission, 17 years on the MCWD Board of Directors and two years on the Monterey County LAFCO. I've also participated in a number of Sierra Club trail maintenance outings and hikes over the years. If elected to the Executive Committee, I'd bring to the table knowledge of local planning, water and wastewater issues.

stitute of California State University Monterey Bay. In the past five years, we have built the first ever community garden in Salinas, the Chinatown Community Garden to assist with the renewal efforts of Salinas Chinatown <http://service.csUMB.edu/site/x19104.xml>. Currently, we are gearing up under a USDA grant to start two more gardens in Marina in 2011 and a composting enterprise.

I have a personal interest in the Sierra Club because I was born and spent the first 10 years of my life in Tahoe City, located in the Sierras. I value the forest with my heart and soul. Going hiking in the forests of the Monterey Peninsula, I find harmony and inspiration I can't find anywhere else. I hope to learn more about the Ventana Chapter and do my part to assist in the Chapter's efforts.



### Iris Peppard

I am the Executive Director and co-founder of Everyone's Harvest, a non-profit organization. We manage four Certified Farmers' Markets in Monterey County, [www.everyonesharvest.org](http://www.everyonesharvest.org). The organization was started by five Marina women. We all believed that everyone deserves the right to access local, fresh, organic produce. In addition, I am the Garden Coordinator for the Service Learning In-

### Natalie Zayes

I am honored to be asked to run for Executive Committee of the Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club. As an educator, I have been devoted to teaching about the environment and facilitating workshops for early childhood through secondary educators using environmental education curriculum. I volunteer with the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary involving students in the water quality programs such as First Flush and Snapshot Day.

I bring to the Sierra Club connections with California State University, Monterey Bay and Citizens for Sustainable Marina. My passion not only lies in environmental and science education but specifically in water issues, and water quality monitoring & solutions to water problems locally and globally. I have conducted water quality studies in Mexico and locally and have my students involved in monitoring and learning about the issues of the Peninsula.

I look forward to working with the Sierra Club toward goals of educating the public and working toward a better environment for the future.

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## Santa Cruz Group Candidates

Ballot on page 15

Vote for up to three candidates.



### Patricia Matejcek

Ask for your vote so I may continue to serve on the Santa Cruz Group Executive Committee. I believe the experience I've gained while serving on the Executive Committee, as the Group Conservation Chair, as a current member of the Pajaro River Watershed Committee, as past Political Committee member, as delegate to the CNRCC and annual Convention, as a member of the CA Coastal Committee and the CA ExCom Nominating Committee, and the national Marine Action Team will continue to be useful to Club members in addressing the numerous and increasingly complex resource issues facing our county. There are also several administrative tasks I'd like to complete, so I would appreciate your vote.



### John Howerton

As a lifelong outdoorsman, I have always felt the need to connect to nature. From my first backpack as a Boy Scout to being a mentor as a Big Brother and now as a Sierra Club hike leader, I have helped others connect and acknowl-

edge their role in our environmental responsibilities. As an Executive Committee member I hope to connect our members with their representatives so that we may fully represent the desires of our group.

My interests are varied but transportation and membership would be my focus. New membership and outreach is key to accomplishing the future goals of the Sierra Club. I hope to help us embrace the digital age of environmental activism.



### Deirdre Des Jardins

I moved to Santa Cruz in 1987 and have lived in the Santa Cruz mountains for the last 12 years. I have learned to love the mountains in all their seasons and the many unique and beautiful plants and animals on the Central Coast. Although much has been done to preserve this heritage, I have also seen the slow degradation of habitat from land clearing, logging, road building, and development.

In California, we're facing continuing challenges from population increase and development and the resulting impacts on both land and water. In the next decade, we'll also begin to see impacts from global warming. It's a critical time for many species and their habitats, including Central Coast Coho salmon and steelhead trout, red-legged frogs, and tiger and long-toed salamanders.

I am a long-time progressive activist and have become deeply involved in advocating for sustainable water use in California, working with Sierra Club California and other environmental groups around the state. I was honored to be asked to run for the local Executive Committee and would work for protection and restoration of biologically important areas in Santa Cruz, including creeks, wetlands, estuaries, and riparian corridors.



### David Casterson

I graduated from UCSC *cum laude* in Environmental Studies, my thesis: "The Effect of Clear Cut Logging on the Redwood Ecosystem." A high school biology and nature photography teacher of 34 years, I have served as a member of the Santa Cruz County RTC's Transportation Task Force and its Bicycle Committee.

My family has lived on a small apple farm in the Aptos Hills for the past 25 years. We have installed solar hot water and photovoltaic systems on our home. I connect deeply with Santa Cruz County through a variety of activities including hiking, cycling, kayaking, writing, photography and teaching. People who have a strong bond with the earth are much more likely to take actions to defend it.

Our local Sierra Club needs to give people a reason to join us, through our activities, our fundraising, and media exposure. Now, more than ever, we need a more powerful, more diverse and positive voice for the environment. Sierra Club members should vote for me because of the enthusiasm, openness and experience I demonstrate in welcoming others to share our commitment to protect and improve the natural environment of Santa Cruz County.



### Keresha Durham

I've been a bilingual educator for 23 years; environmental education is my passion and central to my curriculum.

As a fifth generation Californian, I inherited a fierce sense of preserving our wild, natural beauty. I joined the Sierra Club in high school in the 1970s, and I continue to make profound life choices to protect the natural environment—choosing not to have children and to sell my car.

I have demonstrated leadership skills, being appointed to serve on The Environmental Council, Chair of Santa Cruz City Transportation Commission, Vice Chair of the Monterey Bay chapter of Population Connection and others.

Locally, the impact of unchecked growth is negatively affecting our quality of life. How do we live within our habitat's carrying capacity?

One answer is to create an efficient multi-modal transportation network of bike, pedestrian, bus and rail facilities. Fossil-fuel vehicles cause climate change, health problems, permanently pave over habitat and divide our communities with noise and pollution. I support water conservation, not an energy-intensive desalination plant.

My vision for our chapter is to encourage participation: have regular general membership meetings and public events so we are recognized by youth and our community as its voice for environmental stewardship.

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Hills such as these in Carmel Valley are vulnerable to steep slope development and negative impacts to wildlife corridors in Monterey County under the recently approved General Plan.

## General Plan assaults habitat and species

For nearly 12 years your Chapter representatives have fought to defend Monterey County's incredible plant and animal ecology through the General Plan Update (GPU) process. Unfortunately, the Plan recently approved by the County Supervisors severely weakens existing regulations that have for decades protected much of this county's natural landscape, described by The Nature Conservancy as "a globally-important hot-spot of biological diversity."

### What is at stake?

Over 2000 species of plants, 37 of which are found nowhere else on earth, at least 178 species of birds, and myriad other species call Monterey County home. The County provides core habitat for many declining and threatened species. It is one of just five Mediterranean-type regions on the planet, which cover just 2% of the earth's surface, yet harbor over 20% of the species

diversity. However, extensive habitat loss and fragmentation and loss of critical wildlife corridors will result if key Plan policies are not successfully challenged. We are focused on three of the most important, interrelated policy failures of the GPU which must be addressed:

### Steep slope conversion

Under the new plan, development regulations have been eviscerated that have long protected steep hillsides and their fabric of life. The new regulations would allow the conversion of hundreds of thousands of acres of unspoiled steep hillsides for vineyards and other intensive uses, which would displace wildlife as well as its habitat. Other harmful impacts of this change include those to water supplies (from new water demand), erosion, and sedimentation of our already

severely compromised streams and rivers; air and water quality (from heavy equipment and chemical use); and the destruction of the natural viewshed.

### Wildlife corridors

Animals require movement linkages for dispersing, foraging, and breeding, and yet these linkages have not been protected in the GPU. In addition, the County occupies a critical location relative to regional wildlife

important wildlife movement corridors will cause serious environmental harm to habitats, species, and wildlife corridors.

### Water supply

Critically, the EIR also fails to include a thorough and legally-adequate factual analysis and mitigation of the general plan's impacts on the County's limited water supplies. Incredibly, in light of Monterey's long-standing water crises, the County also failed to bite the bullet and provide criteria for a definition of a long-term sustainable water supply, by which to analyze proposed new development—leaving that very essential task undone. It is highly irresponsible for the County to force the residents themselves to repeatedly defend their dwindling water supply each time another subdivision is promoted.

### What's next?

The Open Monterey Project (TOMP) has just filed a legal challenge against the County, based on these and other key issues. TOMP is an unincorporated association of residents established in 2002 to promote open and accountable government and sound environmental decision-making throughout Monterey County. The Chapter Executive Committee has voted to endorse this litigation. Stay tuned for future updates!

**Extensive habitat loss and fragmentation and loss of critical wildlife corridors will result if key Plan policies are not successfully challenged.**

movements between major coastal and interior mountain ranges. Locally- and regionally-significant wildlife corridors are already threatened by development, roadways, and agricultural intensification. The Plan's Environmental Impact Report (EIR) failed to adequately identify and address the harm that its policies would cause to these essential linkage corridors. In addition, the Plan's "Winery Corridors" would allow significant development of vineyards, fencing, restaurants, lodgings, wine tasting facilities, and large scale wineries. The direct overlap of these proposed Winery Corridors and identified regionally-



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*Best wishes for a happy holiday season*



Ventana staff

Yosemite Valley from Dewey Point.

## State of the air

California cities lead the list for most polluted air in the American Lung Association's report, *State of the Air 2010*. The report, examines ozone and particle pollution across the U.S. for the years 2006, 2007, and 2008. A previous report covered the years 2005, 2006, and 2007.

Although results showed improvement over previous air quality levels, much remains to be done. Not unexpected, a finding was that people living in poverty face higher risks of harm from air pollution.

### Most polluted cities in U.S. by ozone

LA/Long Beach/Riverside  
Bakersfield  
Visalia/Porterville  
Fresno/Madera  
Sacramento area  
Hanford, CA/Corcoran  
Houston area  
San Diego/Carlsbad/San Marcos  
San Luis Obispo/Paso Robles  
Charlotte area North Carolina

### Particle pollution, year round

Phoenix  
Bakersfield  
LA area  
Visalia/Porterville  
Pittsburgh, PA area  
Fresno area  
Birmingham area  
Hanford area  
Cincinnati area  
St Louis area

### Short term (24 hr.) particle pollution

Bakersfield  
Fresno  
Pittsburgh, PA  
LA  
Birmingham  
Sacramento  
Salt Lake City  
Visalia  
Modesto  
Hanford  
Merced

To view the entire report visit, [www.stateoftheair.org/2010](http://www.stateoftheair.org/2010).

## Big decisions coming for the Pajaro River watershed

The Club's Pajaro River Watershed Committee is working double time on issues affecting this critical coastal watershed. Committee members and environmental attorney Gary Patton attended a November 12th meeting of the Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority (a four-county local government consortium charged with the responsibility for dealing with the substantial flood dangers along the Pajaro).

At this November 12th meeting, held in Watsonville, local officials joined Congressman Sam Farr in complaining to the Army Corps of Engineers that the Corps has not moved fast enough to address flood dangers. The problem, however, hasn't really been mainly at the federal level. Several years ago, the Corps proposed (and the Si-

### Antibacterial soap affects fish reproductive behavior

Are you using antibacterial soap? You might change your mind after learning what scientists reported in November at the meeting of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry in Portland, Oregon.

Chemist Melissa Schultz studied the effects of low concentrations of triclosan and triclocarban on minnows in laboratory aquariums. The concentrations studied are levels found in the environment. Schultz found that even low levels of these chemicals affected the behavior of male minnows who normally defend their nests from rivals. Exposed males were less interested than non exposed controls.

"Even at the low concentrations found in the wild, these chemicals can alter reproductive behavior," noted Heiko Schoenfuss, and aquatic toxicologist.

Next time you go to the store, you might want to read the label on the soap container.

erra Club supported) a project that would address the critical public safety concerns in Watsonville and in the unincorporated community of Pajaro, located in Monterey County. Unfortunately for those residents facing very real flooding dangers, local governments have all rejected this "basic" flood control plan, and have demanded a much more extensive (and much more costly) plan that would protect agricultural lands as well as the urban areas. There is nothing automatically wrong about protecting our commercially productive agricultural lands from flooding, but since the national program puts a priority on public safety, not supporting agricultural land owners, the process for approval has been significantly delayed.

On November 16th, with attorney Patton again in tow, the Committee appeared at a meeting of the "Zone 7" Board of Directors, held in conjunction with a regular meeting of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors. Though all members of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors are also members of the Zone 7 Board, Zone 7 is a separate government agency, which has both flood control and conservation responsibilities within Santa Cruz County.

The Zone 7 Board got very much the same presentation that the multi-county group received the week before, but this time without the Army Corps of Engineers present. At the Zone 7 meeting, speaking for the Committee, Patton noted that there was a fundamental unfairness in asking lower-income urban residents in Watsonville and Pajaro to help subsidize flood protection for farmland owners. He also emphasized the continuing theme of the Committee: the solution to the flooding problems along the lower Pajaro River demands a "watershed scale" effort.

The Committee will be taking a leadership role in the New Year, ensuring that a watershed approach is taken seriously. Unless it is, all the problems in the watershed, including flood dangers, will just get worse. Looking to the bright side, the watershed scale solutions that the Committee supports have the promise of addressing not only flood dangers, but also water supply and groundwater overdraft problems, too. Committee Chair Lois Robin says, "stay tuned!" Next year will be important for the future of the Pajaro River watershed.

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# FDA ponders genetically engineered salmon

by Jodi Frediani

As California's native salmon teeter on the brink of extinction, ocean-based salmon farms attempt to keep salmon on the menu. While doing nothing to further the survival of native fish, the farms are guilty of the exact opposite. Lice

from farmed fish are infecting the natives, concentrated waste litters the ocean floor beneath pens where fish are stuffed like sardines in a can, and escapees are cross-breeding with native strains weakening their genetic suitability for survival. Farmed salmon are fed dye to give them the rosy pink color we expect, pesticides to rid them of lice, and antibiotics to keep them alive.\* Their adverse impacts on the environment and human health are believed to be considerable.

But a potentially larger threat to native salmon and human health looms on the horizon: genetically engineered (or modified) salmon. Frankenfish, if you will. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is poised to approve a plan by AquaBounty Technologies to produce genetically engineered salmon that grow twice as fast as native salmon, so they can "feed the world." These fish start as Atlantic Chinook with genes of Pacific Chinook and "ocean pout" spliced into their DNA.

As we are reminded, Monsanto and other bio-tech corporations did not start creating genetically-modified seeds to "save the world," but to privatize genetic information. In other words, their goal was to corner the market and make fistfuls of money.

If the FDA approves the sale of GE salmon for human consumption, this will be a first for genetically-modified food animals and will open the floodwaters for other experimental creatures on our dinner plates. Little research on health effects to humans has been conducted, and the FDA may not even require labeling of these genetically altered (GMO) fish so consumers can decide for themselves.

The FDA is in receipt of studies conducted by AquaBounty, the company that wants to feed you GE salmon, which show the following: GMO salmon have higher allergenic potencies, they are more carcinogenic—producing 40% more of a hormone linked to prostate, breast, and colon

cancers in humans—, have the lowest omega-3 to omega-6 ratio of any salmon, and may change the bacteria in our intestines.

The GE fish themselves show an increased frequency of skeletal malformations such as "humpback" spinal compression and jaw "erosion." In comparative photos, they look like salmon on steroids, and, like all farmed fish, they eat lots of fish-meal from the oceans which further depletes ocean fish stocks.

Claims that these fish will save wild salmon by reducing pressure on wild fish simply don't hold up, as loss of habitat is the greatest threat to native salmon. Farmed fish, whether GMO or not, simply allow us to continue ignoring the huge problem of habitat destruction and loss. Dams, water use, sediment, logging, urbanization of stream channels and riparian corridors all contribute to degraded freshwater habitat. Climate change is altering the oceans in ways we have yet to understand. Salmon need both streams and the ocean. These iconic fish are born in coastal fresh water streams and rivers, and migrate into the oceans for a significant portion of their lives. They then return to the stream of their birth to spawn and begin the cycle anew.

While GMO salmon would initially be raised in inland ponds, escape is still a possibility, as eggs would get distributed worldwide. The effects of cross breeding between these engineered fish and their wild brethren are completely unknown. Will we take the risk? According to Gregory Moyer, Regional Geneticist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, "The environmental impact of escaped GE salmon is of great concern." "I do think the chance of escapement is huge," says Deborah Burger, Manager, Chattahoochee Forest National Fish Hatchery, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The FDA veterinary advisory committee, rather than the food advisory committee, will be making the final decision. In November, Sen. Mark Begich (D-Alaska) introduced legislation that would ban genetically engineered salmon if approved by the FDA. But the biotech industry has a lot riding on FDA approval and has lobbied long and hard, pouring lots of money into the midterm elections.

\*[www.foodandwaterwatch.org/fish/seafood](http://www.foodandwaterwatch.org/fish/seafood)

## 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.

### Saturday & Sunday, January 29-30

#### Wilderness First Aid

This 16-hour certified course is hosted by UCSC Recreation and the Wilderness Medicine Institute of NOLS. It is from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day at Stevenson College, UCSC. Register online at [www.ucsc recreation.com](http://www.ucsc recreation.com).

### Friday, January 7

#### Tree planting meeting

Join Santa Cruz Climate Action Grove to discuss future tree planting sites in Santa Cruz. 7-8:30 p.m. Contact Greg Cotten, [contact@santacruztreetrust.org](mailto:contact@santacruztreetrust.org) for more info.

### Friday & Saturday, February 25 & 26

#### Banff Mountain Film Festival

Explore the world's last great wild places. Tickets \$12 to \$15. Purchase online at [www.ucsc recreation.com](http://www.ucsc recreation.com) or in person at UCSC Recreation or at Pacific Edge. Benefits the UCSC Wilderness Orientation Scholarship Fund. 7:00 p.m. at the Rio Theatre, Santa Cruz.

### Monterey CNPS

#### Habitat restoration

Volunteer to restore native habitat in State Parks in Monterey Co. Wear layered work clothes. Bring water & snacks. Tools & gloves provided. Carpools meet at Rio Rd. Park and Ride. Rain or shine. Contact Jan Shriner, 236-0905, [jshriner@mbay.net](mailto:jshriner@mbay.net). Website: [www.montereybaycnps.org](http://www.montereybaycnps.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, 462-4041, [redwdm@pac bell.net](mailto:redwdm@pac bell.net). Website: [www.cruzcnps.org](http://www.cruzcnps.org)

Dec. 18, Quail Hollow Ranch Conty Park  
Jan. 15, Quail Hollow Ranch Conty Park  
Jan. 29, Quail Hollow Ranch Conty Park

### Watsonville Fourth Saturday

#### Habitat restoration - Watsonville

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

### Saturdays

#### Garland Ranch Hikes

The Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District docents lead hikes at Garland Ranch every Saturday. An updated list of all hikes may be found on their website: [www.mprpd.org](http://www.mprpd.org).



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- John Muir

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Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Student/Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

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## 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. (For more information about the difficulty of a particular outing, call the leader).

**Walk:** 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 Road Park & 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.

## 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: REI Marina**

*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/outings/chapter/forms](http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms).*

## DECEMBER

Thursday, December 16

### HIKE: PEBBLE BEACH

We'll zig & zag through serene pine forests of Pebble Beach hoping to find beautiful Fly Agaric mushrooms. If we're really lucky, we might see an elf or two under them. Bring water. Lunch gives us the option of purchasing a Poppy Hills sandwich. 5-miles, 750' elevation gain with flora & fauna stops. Arrive early; we depart at 9:30 a.m. sharp from the "Haul Road" Gates on Hwy. 68 in Pebble Beach. Call for a reservation. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

Friday, December 17

### HIKE: BLUFF CAMP

Let's see if there's any water in Los Padres reservoir! Meet at Rio Rd Park & Ride at 8.30 a.m. to carpool to Princes Camp in Cachagua. Our 8-mile walk takes us across the dam and along the edge of the reservoir to our lunch spot at Bluff Camp on the upper Carmel River. Scenic and moderately strenuous terrain at a leisurely pace. Bring lunch and water. Rain cancels. Leaders: Cath Farrant and Mary Dainton, 372 7427.

Saturday, December 18

### HIKE: WILDER RANCH

Our hike takes us through open meadows and several beautiful forested areas. Lunch at the top of the Eucalyptus Loop where we will enjoy a sweeping ocean view. 10-mile loop, 900' elevation gain. Meet at the Santa Cruz County Government Center parking lot at 9:30 a.m. Bring water, lunch and carpool \$. Heavy rain cancels. Leader: Pamela Burnham, 428-2796.

Saturday, December 18

### HIKE: PINNACLES, "BEHIND THE MONUMENTS"

For a different perspective of the Pinnacles National Monument, we'll utilize climber access trails to go among the pinnacle rocks and "behind" monuments normally viewed only from their sheer "front" side on the Juniper Canyon trail. With enough rainfall, we will see a 30' waterfall. For experienced hikers only as trails are not developed. 6 miles and 2000' elevation gain. Must call leader for further information and a reservation. Leader: Jack Glendening, 484-6929.

Sunday, December 19

### HIKE: JACKS PEAK

We'll walk around Jacks Peak clockwise, starting at the elementary school on Olmstead Road (near Monterey airport). Moderate 6-mile hike with less than 1000' elevation gain. Beautiful views of Monterey and Point Lobos. Bring water and lunch. Heavy rain cancels, dribble doesn't count. Dress for the winter weather. Confirm by calling leader: Anneliese Suter, 624-1467.

Saturday, December 25

### HOLIDAY HIKE: GARZAS CREEK

Peaceful beautiful Garzas Creek is a relaxing way to spend a holiday. 4½-mile loop with 800' elevation gain. Bring water & lunch or snack. Arrive early; we depart at 10:00 a.m. sharp from Rio Road Park & Ride. We should return around 2:00 p.m. Call for a reservation. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

Tuesday, December 28 - January 2

### HOLIDAY SERVICE IN CARRIZO PLAIN

Celebrate New Year's in one of our newer national monuments. The Carrizo Plain, northeast of San Luis Obispo, is a vast grassland, home to pronghorn antelope, tule elk, kit fox, and a wide variety of birds. A welcome hike Dec. 28, three and a half days of service modifying barbed wire fencing, and a full day for hiking and exploring are planned. Use of accommodations at Goodwin Ranch included. Limited to 14 participants, \$30 covers 5 dinners. For more information, contact leader, Craig Deutsche, [craig.deutsche@gmail.com](mailto:craig.deutsche@gmail.com), 310-477-6670, or co-leader, Melinda Goodwater, [mgoodwater@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mgoodwater@sbcglobal.net), 408-774-1257.

Wednesday, December 29

### HIKE: HENRY COWELL REDWOODS

Cowell has some very old redwoods and some rare, for this area, Ponderosa pines. 7½ miles, along the San Lorenzo River with 800' elevation gain. Nice view of Santa Cruz. Bring water and lunch. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. Call for a reservation. Leader: Tom Davey, 331-8430.



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## JANUARY

Saturday, January 1

### HIKE: GARLAND TO MY PLACE

Our traditional New Year's Hike takes us from Garland Ranch, up to Snively's Ridge at a moderate pace, and still a little higher to a sunny spot for lunch. Then we'll turn west and go way up through Carmel Valley, down to Holt Road and back. But wait a minute, you are all invited to *Kaffee und Kuchen* at my place, Mid Valley Garden Homes #53, to celebrate the New Year. About 8 miles and 1500' elevation gain. Bring water and lunch, optional hiking sticks; wear sturdy shoes. Meet at Mid Valley parking lot opposite Chase Bank at 10:00 a.m. Call for a space. Leader: Anneliese Suter, 624-1467.

Tuesday, January 4

### SENIOR WALK: WATSONVILLE WETLANDS

A mostly flat 3½ mile walk around Watsonville and Struve Sloughs. We'll see egrets, herons, mallards, etc. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. or at the Nature Center, 30 Hawkins Slough Rd. at 9:50 a.m. No restrooms. We'll lunch at Ramsay Park. Bring lunch, water, \$3 carpool. Rain cancels. Leader: Beverly Meschi, 475-4185.

Tuesday, January 4

### HIKE: WEST RIDGE TRAIL LOOP

Join us for this Nisene Marks 8½-mile hike with 1000' elevation gain through a lovely shaded redwood forest. We hope to see the very early fetid adler's tongue. Bring water & lunch. Arrive early; we depart at 8:40 a.m. sharp from the far end of the parking lot in front of REI (next to the wall) in Marina or from the parking lot behind Aptos Station at 9:30 a.m. sharp. Bring water & lunch. Call for a reservation. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

Friday - Sunday, January 7 - 9

### WORK PARTY: DEATH VALLEY NAT'L PARK

Come help with wilderness restoration in this beautiful and remote National Park. Meet early Friday afternoon and work on erasing vehicle tracks in Gower Gulch in Death Valley. Saturday we'll work in the Amargosa Valley on the park's east side, installing park boundary signs and wilderness restoration signs, and removing trash. Sunday work is TBD. Camp Friday and Saturday nights at Texas Springs campground. Appetizer/dessert potluck Saturday evening. Bring, camping gear, food for the weekend, and work gloves. Leader: Kate Allen, kj.allen@wildblue.net, 661-944-4056.

Saturday, January 8

### HIKE: GARLAND RANCH

We'll hike up to the Mesa via foothill trails, Buckeye and Waterfall; return via Fern, Mesa, and Lupine Loop Trails. About 5 miles, mild elevation. Nice valley views, trails; may be muddy. Meet at Save Mart to carpool. Please call leader to reserve space and for meeting time. Bring snack or lunch and water. Rain cancels. Leader: Martha Saylor, 372-9215.

Sunday, January 9

### HIKE: PINNACLES

My favorite local place to hike, the Pinnacles has wonderful views, amazing geologic formations, and

is a dryer and warmer alternative to the coast. A fairly strenuous hike with 12 miles and 1200' elevation gain. Call leader for carpool information. No rain cancellation! Leader: John Howerton, 476-4253.

Sunday, January 9

### HIKE: WHALE PEAK AT SOBERANES POINT

How about a trek around and up Whale Peak at Soberanes? We'll hope for a clear day to watch for whales, so bring binoculars. If the trail on the ocean side of the peak is closed, we'll do a two-pronged walk first on the north side and then the south, and then go up the hill for lunch. Dress in layers (windy up top!!), bring lunch and water, expect to be back at meeting place by early afternoon. Rain cancels. Meet at the Rio Road Park and Ride at 10:00 a.m. For more directions call by Jan 8! Leader: Mary Gale, 626-3565.

Tuesday, January 11

### SENIOR HIKE: UPPER UCSC

3-mile hike on new trails. Call leader for more detailed description. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. Bring lunch, water, \$2 carpool. Leader: Xavier Ballard, 430-8292. *If trails are too muddy, hike is switched to Capitola stairs/Depot Hill.* Same meeting place. Call leader to confirm. To go direct, park in lot at Jade Street Park by 9:45 a.m. Bring lunch or eat in one of the restaurants on the Esplanade. Leader: Pat Herzog, 458-9841.

Tuesday, January 11

### HIKE: TORO PARK

This 5-mile hike with 800' elevation gain takes us through a forested valley along the Ollason Trail then up to oak-dotted grasslands. Stops to enjoy flora & fauna. Bring water & lunch. Meet at the dirt parking area outside Toro Park before 9:45 a.m. We leave on time. Leader: Gisela Nobinger. Please let me know if you are coming: onegisela@aol.com or 333-1759.

Wednesday, January 12

### HIKE: FALL CREEK

Fir, oak, and madrone dominate the area. The park is known for its wide variety of ferns—15 altogether. We'll hike up the Ridge Trail to the Barrel Mill Cut-off. Lunch at Barrel Mill site. 6 miles, 1000' elevation gain. Bring water and lunch. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. Call for a reservation. Leader: Tom Davey, 331-8430.

Friday, January 14

### HIKE: PINNACLES/JUNIPERO CYN LOOP

This spectacular but steep trail climbs along switchbacks to the heart of the High Peaks. At the top, we'll circle through rock formations along the steep and narrow section of the High Peaks Trail and return via the Tunnel Trail. We'll look for condors and early wildflowers. 4.3 miles with 1215' elevation gain. Bring lunch and water. Meet at MPC parking lot A at 9:00 a.m. or at Pinnacles Chaparral day use area, west side, at 10:30 a.m. Rain cancels. Leaders: Cath Farrant and Mary Dainton, 372 7427.

### Getting to outings

Sierra Club encourages outings participants to walk, bicycle, and take the bus to outings meeting places.



Saturday, January 15

### WALK: WILDER RANCH COASTAL

We'll do a 6-mile walk along the coast at Wilder Ranch. The only issues might be mud, wind, and/or rain depending on the weather. Nick's recently had a troublesome knee, so please call to confirm meeting place and time. Leader: Nick Wyckoff, 462-3101.

Saturday, January 15

### HIKE: OLD STAGE COACH TO SAN JUAN BAUTISTA

We'll start from Old Stage Coach Road and hike all the way over the hills and down to San Juan Bautista. After lunch and exploring the Mission and old town decorated for Christmas, we'll hike back the same way. 12 miles and 1000' elevation gain. Bring a hat, water, and lunch, or money for lunch in a cafe. Wear good shoes and bring your hiking poles. Meet at Home Depot in Seaside near the gas station at 9:00 a.m. Heavy rain cancels. Leader: Anneliese Suter, 624-1467.

Sunday, January 16

### HIKE: TURNER CR/SKINNER RIDGE LOOP

We'll start with a steep 2-mile road walk on the Long Ridge to Turner Creek Trail, hike to the Skinner Ridge Trail, and finish at Botcher's Gap. 8 miles

### Moving?

Please fill out and mail the change of address form on p.15 or email [address.changes@sierraclub.org](mailto: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.

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with 2100' elevation gain in 4½ of those miles. Great views of the Little Sur drainage, the Window (Ventana), Double Cone Peak. We'll see the fire control lines from the Basin Complex Fire of 2008. The trail is in good shape, but there is a lot of poison oak, so wear long pants and long sleeves. Bring lunch and water. Meet at Rio Road Park and Ride at 8:30 a.m. to carpool. Leader: Steve Benoit, 394-4234.

Tuesday, January 18

## SENIOR WALK: NATURAL BRIDGES

4-mile walk from Lighthouse Field to Natural Bridges. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. To go direct, park in lot across from Lighthouse/Museum on West Cliff Dr. Bring water, lunch, \$2 carpool. We'll lunch at Natural Bridges. Leader: Jean Harrison, 425-5447.

Tuesday, January 18

## HIKE: MOLERA BEACH

To view the many colorful and fanciful ocean-created rock sculptures along Molera Beach, this West Molera loop hike is timed to an unusually low tide, allowing a return walk along the sandy beach after traversing the Ridge and Panorama Trails. 8 miles and 1200' elevation gain. Be prepared to wade Big Sur River. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at Save Mart. Returning around 5:30 p.m. Rain cancels. For more info call leader: Jack Glendening, 484-6929.

Wednesday, January 19

## HIKE: LAND OF MEDICINE BUDDHA

Hike includes a redwood forest and beautiful Bates Creek. 6 miles, moderate loop, 500' elevation gain. Bring water and a snack. Meet at back parking lot of Congregational Church in Soquel before 8:50 a.m. Call for a reservation. Leader: Tom Davey, 331-8430.

Thursday, January 20

## HIKE: MOUNT MADONNA

This 6-mile loop with 900' elevation gain includes a lovely redwood forest, lunch with a view, and possibly some fetid adder's tongues. Bring water & lunch. Arrive early; we depart at 8:40 a.m. sharp from the far end of the parking lot in front of REI (next to the wall) in Marina or from Sprig Recreation Area at 9:45 a.m. sharp. Call for a reservation. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

Saturday, January 22

## WALK: GEOLOGY TOUR OF THE POGONIP

Please join Friends of the Pogonip for a tour with geologist Jerry Weber on the Pogonip. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the top (north end) of Spring Street in Santa Cruz. The walk should take about three hours. Jerry Weber, who is a recognized local expert on Santa Cruz County geology, will help us get connected with the fascinating geological structure of the Pogonip, with all its springs and marine terraces. It will not be a speedy hike. For information, call leaders Celia or Peter Scott at 423-0796.

Sunday, January 23

## HIKE: WADDELL CREEK/ BIG BASIN

Starting at Hwy. 1 we'll hike the Skyline to the Sea Trail and McCrary Ridge to the Mt. McAbee overlook and return via the Howard King and Skyline to the Sea Trails with a short side trip to Berry Creek Falls. A strenuous hike of 12 miles with 1700' elevation gain. Dress in layers; bring lunch and plenty of water. Meet at the Santa Cruz County Government Center at 8:30 a.m. to carpool. Leader: John Howerton, 476-4253.

Tuesday, January 25

## SENIOR WALK: CARMEL CIRCLE

3-mile loop in Carmel beginning at Carmel Beach parking lot. We'll walk past Mission Ranch, the Carmel Mission and the Mission Trail Reserve then over to the Sunset Theater area and down to Carmel scenic tour walking areas. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. To go direct, take Hwy. 1 south to Ocean exit. Drive thru Carmel about a mile to Carmello St. Turn left on Carmello; drive about 1½ miles to beach parking lot. Free parking and restrooms. Bring lunch or plan to go out in Carmel after the walk. Bring water and \$4 carpool. Walk begins at 10:30 a.m. Leader: Brooke Ewoldsen, 475-6188.

Tuesday, January 25

## HIKE: FORT ORD

Our 6-mile loop has 600' elevation gain and has nice and varying views. Bring a hat, water, and lunch. Meet at the parking lot at the west end of Toro Creek Estates before 10:00 a.m. to leave on time. Leader: Gisela Nobinger. Please let me know if you are coming: onegisela@aol.com or 333-1759.

Wednesday, January 26

## HIKE: WILDER RANCH

We'll hike the Enchanted and Twin Oaks Trails. Hike will take us through ancient marine terraces, rolling grasslands, a redwood forest, and past Baldwin Creek. Ocean vistas, weather permitting, and a few raptor sightings. 7 miles, 900' elevation gain. Bring water and lunch. Meet before 9:00 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. Call for a reservation. Leader: Tom Davey, 331-8430.

Saturday, January 29

## HIKE: JACKS PEAK

We'll explore some of those trails in and around Jacks Peak that you always wanted to take, but never did. Well, let's see where they go. Expect 6-8 miles, 1200' of elevation gain, and probably poison oak exposure. Good hiking boots recommended. Bring lunch and water. Meet at 9:30 a.m. Call for meeting site and shuttle information. Leader: Larry Parrish, 622-7455.

Sunday, January 30

## HIKE: SOBERANES CREEK/ROCKY RIDGE

A 5-mile loop with 1700' elevation gain and great terrain variety. We'll follow the Soberanes Creek Trail into a sublime redwood grove, then climb steeply to grassy knolls for a spectacular view at lunch. The hills will likely be nice and freshly green. The descent is along Rocky Ridge with more views of the coast and ocean. Boots highly recommended; hiking poles helpful. Bring water and lunch. Meet at 9:30 a.m. Call for location. Leader: DJ Goehring, 277-9908.



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## FEBRUARY

Tuesday, February 1

## SENIOR WALK: ANTONELLI POND

We'll start our 3-mile walk along the west side of Antonelli Pond on to Terrace Point to visit the Seymour Center, returning to Natural Bridges for lunch. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears on 41st Ave. or on Delaware Ave. by entrance to Natural Bridges at 9:50 a.m. Bring lunch, water, \$2 carpool. Rain cancels. Leader: Jean Harrison, 425-5447.

Saturday, February 5

## HIKE: FORT ORD GRASSLANDS

On this hike, we'll focus on the southern portion of the parkland and hike up from the trailhead at the west end of Toro Creek Estates on Hwy 68. We'll go up via Guidotti and Skyline Roads for total of 10 miles with 500' elevation gain. Bring water and lunch. Meet at the trailhead at 9:00 a.m. Call for a space. Leader: Monique Farques, 384-3234.

Saturday - Sunday, February 5 - 6

## WORK PARTY: CARRIZO PLAINS

This outing combines a day of assistance to the Carrizo National Monument with a day of sightseeing and/or hiking. Weather can be cold, gray, and rainy, or it can be warm and bright—we take our chances. The service will be in removing or modifying fences to give pronghorn greater mobility on the Plain, and the recreation will be determined by the wishes of the group. This is an opportunity to combine carcamping, day-hiking, exploring, and service in a relatively unknown wilderness. Leader: Craig Deutsche, craig.deutsche@gmail.com, 310-477-6670.

Sunday, February 6

## HIKE: FORT ORD

From high in Fort Ord we'll see great views of Toro Park and the Salinas Valley, unless it's pouring rain, in which case, we won't be there! This moderate 5-mile hike at an easy pace takes us up and down gentle hills where lovely (though toxic!) early spring flowers like

*Zygadene* might be seen. We'll stop by a bench on the edge of a cliff for lunch. Wear sturdy shoes, bring a walking stick or two, water, and snack/lunch. Hard rain cancels. Meet at 10:00 a.m. near the bathrooms in the BLM parking lot at Fort Ord, near the intersection of Hwy. 68 and Reservation Road. For more info call leader: Mary Gale, 626-3565.

Tuesday, February 8

## SENIOR WALK: PINTO LAKE

3 miles mostly on level ground through an oak and madrone forest. We'll lunch in the picnic grounds. Bring lunch, water, and \$2 carpool. Wear boots for possible muddy ground. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. or in the Watsonville Orchard Supply parking lot at Main & Green Valley. To go direct, take Airport exit to Green Valley Road, go left on Green Valley to park entrance. Rain cancels. Leader: Denise Luch, 234-9559.

Tuesday, February 8

## SENIOR WALK: POINT LOBOS

Our 3-mile loop with minimal elevation gain takes us along world renowned seascapes and into the forest of Point Lobos. Bring water & lunch. Arrive early; we depart at 10:30 a.m. sharp from Rio Road Park & Ride. Call for a reservation. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

Wednesday, February 9

## HIKE: ST. JOSEPH'S HILL OPEN SPACE

This route across the Santa Cruz Mountains between the Santa Clara Valley and the Pacific Coast was used by Native Americans, Spanish missionaries, American explorers, lumberjacks and Chinese railway workers. In 1846 John C. Fremont's diary entry describes it as a splendid forest of coast redwoods, tanbark oaks, and madrones. We'll discuss some of this history as we begin the hike from Lexington Reservoir County Park and take the Flume, Jones, Novitiate, Serpentine, and Range Trails to a spectacular view of the Bay Area. We'll go over to Novitiate Park and the Los Gatos History Museum walking through one of the most expansive manzanita forests on midpeninsula preserve lands. Bring water and

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# OUTINGS

lunch for this 7-mile hike. Meet to carpool at 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. (\$3) or at 10:00 a.m. at the Lexington Reservoir Parking lot by turning off Hwy 17 in Los Gatos onto Alma Bridge Rd. and continuing 0.7 mile. Leader: Diane Cornell, 423-5925.

Saturday, February 12

## WALK: ASILOMAR/PEBBLE BEACH

A 4-mile loop, starting on neighborhood streets and then thru dunes between fairways, out to Point Joe and back along the beach boardwalk. Quiet neighborhood, early beach wildflowers, possible sea birds and whale spouts to be seen. Meet across from the Fishwife Restaurant on Sunset Drive and Asilomar Blvd., Pacific Grove. Call to reserve a place and for meeting time. Bring snack and water. Leader: Martha Saylor: 372-9215.

Saturday, February 12

## HIKE: JACKS PEAK

Let's approach Jacks Peak from Carmel Valley. 6 miles and 1000' of elevation gain. Through a meadow and up a fairly steep trail through pines and oaks. Possible poison oak, so come prepared. Meet at Save Mart/Bagel Bakery at 10:00 a.m. Rain cancels. Leader: Larry Parrish, 622-7455.

Sunday, February 13

## HIKE: PINNACLES, SOUTH WILDERNESS

Wide open views await us for this partly off-trail hike. We start at the South Wilderness Trail and climb the fence-line along the south border of the park to South Chalone peak. Then we continue to North Chalone peak and on to the reservoir and the wilderness center. 12 miles. The first 2½ miles of this hike are very strenuous and involve climbing 2500' with a total gain of over 3500'. Clear winter days make for fantastic views of our local mountain ranges. No rain cancellation, although muddy conditions may change trip route. Call for carpool information. Leader: John Howerton, 476-4253.

Monday, February 14

## HIKE: VALENTINE'S DAY

Come join me in hiking with the love of my life (the Mountains). What better lover can a human being have? A strenuous hike of 18 miles full of the breathtaking outdoors. Starting at Memorial Campground, we'll follow the winding Arroyo Seco River to its campground enjoying unforgettable views of the Ventana Wilderness. This hike is only for early birds. Call leader: Esperanza Hernandez and leave message to get information: 678-1968.

Tuesday, February 15

## SENIOR WALK: ASILOMAR LIGHTHOUSE

3-mile walk from Asilomar north along the coast to Pt. Pinos Lighthouse and back thru a residential area. Bring lunch or you can eat at the Fishwife Restau-

rant. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. To go direct, take Hwy.1 south. Exit at 68 West offramp. Meet at the Fishwife Restaurant at 10:30 a.m. Bring lunch, water, \$4 carpool. Leader: Brooke Ewoldsen, 475-6188.

Tuesday, February 15

## WALK: ASILOMAR

Our 4-mile loop with minimal elevation gain takes us along the old railroad trail, then out to the coast and back along the boardwalk of Asilomar Beach. If we still feel like more walking, we'll head out to Bird Rock. Bring water and a snack. Meet at the Fishwife restaurant before 9:30 a.m. to leave on time. We should be back before lunch. Leader: Gisela Nobinger. Please let me know if you are coming: onegise-la@aol.com or 333-1759.

Wednesday, February 16

## HIKE: SARATOGA GAP / LONG RIDGE

After parking in the Saratoga Gap Vista Point lot, we'll cross Skyline Blvd. and take the Achistaca Trail along Skyline Ridge past the Summit Fire Station to Long Ridge Trail. A bench here that overlooks thousands of acres of forested canyons, rolling hills, and grass-covered ridges honors Wallace Stegner, writer and environmentalist. In the 1960s he and others bought land here which was the beginning of this preserve. In the area of Peter's Creek, hippies once occupied a cave and area around a waterfall called Devil's Canyon. On our 9-mile hike, we will learn about history and enjoy expansive views over the Pescadero watershed. Bring water and lunch. Meet to carpool at 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. (\$4), or at Saratoga Gap Vista Point parking lot at 10:30 a.m. Leader: Diane Cornell, 423-5925.

Saturday, February 19

## HIKE: TORO PARK

Come with me to explore Toro Park. We'll hike up to Valley View Peak via East Ridge and East Toyon trails and get great views. 9 miles with 1500' elevation gain. Bring water and lunch. Meet at the entrance of Toro Park at 9:00 a.m. Rain cancels. Call for a space. Leader: Monique Farques, 384-3234.

Sunday, February 20

## HIKE: PINNACLES/ MT DEFIANCE

For experienced hikers only, we'll explore the fifth highest peak in Pinnacles National Monument, Mt Defiance, with a panoramic view including the seldom-seen "Little Pinnacles." Mostly off-trail with some light bushwhacking. Leaving Salinas at 9:00 a.m. 6 miles and 2000' elevation gain. Must call leader for further information and a reservation. Leader: Jack Glendening, 484-6929.

## Ventana Chapter

Mailing Address—The Ventana Chapter, P.O. Box 5667, Carmel, CA, 93921  
Email: chapter@ventana.sierraclub.org—Website: www.ventana.sierraclub.org

### Chapter Executive Committee

Chapter Chair	Rita Dalessio	16 Via Las Encinas	Carmel Valley, CA 93924	659-7046
Treasurer	Joel Weinstein	140 Carmel Riviera Dr.	Carmel, CA 93923	625-5586
Other Members	Julie Engell	331 Dry Creek Road	Monterey, CA	920-2734
	Susan Van Stirum	26140 Zdan Road	Carmel Valley, CA 93924	659-2091
	Ed Thornton	402 Watson Street #4	Monterey, CA 93940	224-4178
	Nicole Charles	2936 Yorktown Court,	Marina, CA 93933	925-381-1982
	Dale Agron	26122 Carmel Knolls Dr.	Carmel, CA 93923	624-3038
	David Kossack	P.O. Box 268	Davenport, CA 95017	427-3733
	Marika Martin	1205A Otter Lane,	Pacific Grove, CA 93950	233-2188
Admin Chair/Sec	Mary Gale	25430 Telarana 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	883-4459
	Gillian Taylor	52 La Rancheria	Carmel Valley, CA 93924	659-0298

### Local Wilderness Committee

Chair	Mike Splain	P.O. Box 66882	Scotts Valley, CA 95067	359-2489
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### Computer Database

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

	George Jammal	601 Manzanita Ave.	Felton, CA 95018	531-2909
	David Kossack	P.O. Box 268	Davenport, CA 95017	427-3733

### Political Compliance Chair

	George Jammal	601 Manzanita Ave.	Felton, CA 95018	531-2909
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### Sierra Club Council

Delegate	David Kossack	P.O. Box 268	Davenport, CA 95017	427-3733
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
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### Outings Chair

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

	Debbie Bulger	1603 King Street	Santa Cruz, CA 95060	457-1036
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### Ventana Editor

	Lois Robin	robin@baymoon.com		861-464-1184
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## Santa Cruz County Group of the Ventana Chapter

Website: www.ventana.sierraclub.org

Mailing Address: Sierra Club, Santa Cruz Group, P.O. Box 604, Santa Cruz, CA 95061-0604  
email: scscrg@cruzio.com

### Executive Committee

Chair	Aldo Giacchino	1005 Pelton Ave.	Santa Cruz, CA 95060	460-1538
Vice Chair	Kevin Collins	P.O. Box 722	Felton, CA 95018	335-4196
Secretary	Kristen Raugust	454 Swanton Road	Davenport, CA 95017	423-8566
Other members	Charles Paulden	415 Palisades Ave.	Santa Cruz, CA 95062	462-3423
	Paul Elerick	1960 Jennifer Dr.	Aptos, CA 95003	688-2304
	Dennis Davie	P.O. Box 651	Capitola, CA 95010	566-7447
	Patricia Matejcek	P.O. Box 2067	Santa Cruz, CA 95063	761-3263
	Mark Sullivan	508 Oak Drive	Capitola, CA 95010	747-4781
	Mike Guth	2-2905 East Cliff Drive	Santa Cruz, CA 95062	462-8270
Treasurer	Mark Sullivan	508 Oak Drive	Capitola, CA 95010	747-4781

### Conservation Chair

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

	Dennis Davie	P.O. Box 651	Capitola, CA 95010	566-7447
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### Outings Chair

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

	Paul Elerick	1960 Jennifer Dr.	Aptos, CA 95003	688-2304
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### Coastal Chair

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

	Ken Reiller	990 Hecker Pass Rd.	Watsonville, CA 95076	728-4046
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## MEETING SCHEDULE

### Ventana Chapter (Monterey County)

Information: 624-8032

#### Executive Committee:

First Thursday of the month;  
Call for meeting place and time.

### Santa Cruz Regional Group

#### Executive Committee:

Second Wednesday of the month;  
Call 460-1538 for meeting place and time.

#### Conservation Committee:

Call 761-3263 for meeting dates and times.

#### Forestry Task Force:

Third Wednesday of the month, 7:30 p.m.;  
Call 566-7447 for meeting location.

# Voting Instructions and Executive Committee Ballot

Review candidate statements on pages 6 and 7 and mark your ballot below.

Mail this entire page using a recycled envelope from junk mail with a new label you affix. (Be sure to mark out the computer code on the envelope bottom if there is one).

The ballot must be postmarked by January 2.

Monterey County members may vote for Chapter candidates only. Santa Cruz County members may vote for *both* Chapter and Group Candidates.

For joint memberships, mark a vote in both columns.

After you complete your ballot, TEAR OFF THIS ENTIRE PAGE and mail your completed ballot to Mary Gale, Chapter Secretary, 25430 Telarana Way, Carmel, CA 93923. Call Mary at 626-3565 if you have any questions. **Your mailing label on the back of this page ensures that the vote has come from a valid member of the Club.** Ballots and mailing labels will be separated by the Chapter Secretary to ensure a secret ballot.

## What does the Executive Committee do?

The members of the Executive Committee make Chapter and Group policy for the Club. These representatives meet to discuss issues and hear reports from subcommittees such as the Conservation Committee, Transportation Committee, and the Forestry Committee. Executive Committee members make financial decisions and supervise local Club operations such as budget and fundraising.

### Ventana Chapter

Both Santa Cruz and Monterey members may vote for these Candidate Statements on p. 6 •• Vote for up to 3

candidate	individual or 1st joint member	2nd joint member
Barbara Bass Evans		
Joel Weinstein		
Tom Moore		
Iris Peppard		
Natalie Zayes		

### Santa Cruz Group

Only Santa Cruz members may vote for these Candidate Statements on p. 7 •• Vote for up to 3

candidate	individual or 1st joint member	2nd joint member
Patricia Matejcek		
John Howerton		
Deirdre Des Jardins		
David Casterson		
Keresha Durham		



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