



NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE SANTA SUSANA MOUNTAIN PARK ASSOCIATION

**WAYS OF TEACHING NATURAL HISTORY TO BE TOPIC OF MARCH MEETING**

Anna Martyn, museum display designer and natural history teacher, will be the featured speaker at the SSMPA general meeting to be held:

Monday, March 17 at 7:30 p.m.  
Glendale Federal Community Room  
21821 Devonshire Street, Chatsworth

Anna has produced museum displays and classroom teaching aids for community colleges, universities, museums and public school districts. As a credentialed teacher, she has developed curriculums and taught natural science to both children and adults through public schools and private institutions. Her combined experience in museum preparation and teaching gives her a unique ability to integrate the technology of display with the art of teaching, enhancing both.

We hope you will be able to join us for this informative program. Examples of Anna's taxidermy may be on display at the meeting and the election of officers will also be conducted (see adjoining article).

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**WILDFLOWER BOOK AVAILABLE**

The SSMPA Docent Committee has obtained copies of a useful wildflower handbook that are now available to our members. The book, Wildflowers of the Santa Monica Mountains, is authored by Milt McAuley and feature numerous drawings and color photographs. The price of the book is \$16.99 (tax included) and it may purchased from a docent at our Visitor's Center in Chatsworth Park South.

**ELECTION FOR 1986 OFFICERS TO BE HELD AT MARCH 17 MEETING**

Every year is an election year for SSMPA! At our general membership meeting to be held on Monday, March 17, the ten positions comprising our Board of Directors will be selected. Your nominating committee has proposed the following slate of officers:

President: Doug Wobser  
Vice-President: Sylvia Bryant  
Secretary: Linda Stone  
Treasurer: Pauline Aue  
Founder: Jan Hinkston  
At-Large (5): Barbara Coffman  
Dan Cooper  
Pat Levin  
Nancy Razanski  
Ed Tabor

Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor. All members whose dues are paid up are eligible to vote and run for office. Please show your support for your hard-working officers by participating in our election.

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**AUDUBON BIRD WALKS TO BEGIN**

Bird walks will begin on a monthly basis in our local mountains starting Saturday, March 8. The San Fernando Valley Chapter of the National Audubon Society will be conducting these hikes on the second Saturday of every month, meeting at 8:30 a.m. at the Visitor's Center in Chatsworth Park South.

Nancy Razanski, SSMPA board member, approached Audubon with the idea and we are grateful that they have initiated this program. For further information on the walks, please call Audubon representative Laura Baca at (818)888-6340.

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SSMPA Founder Jan Hinkston was honored at the fifteenth anniversary celebration held in November at the Visitor's Center. The Daily News featured an excellent article by Virginia Watson which reviewed our history, accomplishments and future goals.

## BEAUTIFUL BROCHURES BEING DISTRIBUTED

Perhaps you have already seen our new brochure (copy enclosed) which professionally describes SSMPA's goals, programs and activities. We hope that you will distribute copies to friends, neighbors and associates who may be supportive of our efforts. We need to let the entire community know we exist and that we offer something for just about everyone. We can only reach out to the community with your dedicated, word-of-mouth efforts as mass mailing is prohibitively expensive for us at this time and it is probably not as effective.

Additional brochures are available at our Visitor's Center and the public libraries. If your business would be willing to make them available to customers, please call Pauline Aue at (818)341-5872. Our combined efforts will make a difference and SSMPA thanks you in advance for helping.

We owe Dave O'Connell of Canyon Design in Chatsworth a special thank you for his efforts in designing and completing the production of our brochure. Thanks again, Dave.

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## A PARADE OF THANKS!

The annual Chatsworth Holiday Parade, which was held Sunday, December 15, once again featured an entry for SSMPA. Our banners and placards have been effective in publicizing our goals to a large portion of the community every year.

Special thanks are given to marchers Adam Fine, Jan Hinkston, June Hopkins and Warren Stone and equestrians Cynthia Fichtner, Diana Fichtner, Michael Grasso and two other friends.

Approximately 300 of our new brochures were distributed along the parade route to interested observers. Afterwards, a community fair was held in Mason Park and SSMPA had an information booth which was manned by Dan Cooper.

It's not too early to start planning for this year's parade. If you are interested in participating in any way, please call Jan Hinkston at (818)884-9610.

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## SCOUTS ORGANIZE PARK CLEAN-UP

Thirty people, including Boy Scouts, members of the Air National Guard and Fire Station 96, and SSMPA officers spent seven hours on Saturday, February 22 cleaning up trash and debris from Chatsworth Park South and adjacent properties. The effort was organized by Kevin Okelberry, an Eagle Scout candidate, and Bill Tanner of Sen. Ed Davis' office. Atlas Refuse Removal Company of Chatsworth donated the use of the dumpsters.

Tanner said Davis would like to see the park receive more development funds from the state. He presented SSMPA with an impressive "Certificate of Recognition" which will be displayed in the Visitor's Center. SSMPA rewarded Kevin and his family with a year's complimentary family membership.

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**DUES DUE FOR AN INCREASE**

Do you remember when it cost 6c to mail a letter? Or 35c for a gallon of gasoline? That's about what each cost when SSMPA was formed in 1970. For sixteen years, our dues structure has remained the same. Recently, the board of directors determined that, as much as they did not want to, they would have to raise the annual dues in order to cover the costs of operating the organization. These costs include this newsletter, the Visitor's Center, docent programs, quarterly meetings, communicating with governmental agencies and other organizations, land acquisition, etc.

Even the new rates are a bargain when compared to those of national conservation organizations and even to many homeowner associations. And the board provided an opportunity for ardent supporters to become individual life members for \$100. Nancy Razanski and Glenn Bailey have become the first to take advantage of this life membership category, and we hope other members will consider doing likewise.

Whatever you decide, your continuing support is vitally important to our success this year and in the future. Please be as generous as you can. We thank you for your past support and hope we can count on you during the years ahead.

**BUSINESS ADVERTISEMENTS RAISE FUNDS**

In effort to reduce the net expense of our quarterly newsletters, business card size ads will be printed on a space available basis. Local businesses or professionals are encouraged to advertise; a \$10.00 tax-deductible donation to the Foundation for the Preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains is requested. If you know of a local business that might be interested, please make the suggestion to them or call Pauline Aue at (818)341-5872.

**RECYCLING ACCOUNT CLOSED**

SSMPA previously announced the establishment of an account at Complete Recycling Center in Chatsworth. Unfortunately, this company is no longer in business and we have not been able to open another account elsewhere. In the relatively short period during which this account was open, we did receive a number of donations and we thank those members for their contributions.

Materials (newspaper, aluminum cans, computer and ledger paper) are collected at the Valley Recycling Center, 20220 Plummer Street, Chatsworth (Phone (818)885-7318). While they do not operate on an account basis, members who wish to help the reduce the amount of solid waste filling up local mountain canyons as well as help our efforts may donate the proceeds to SSMPA.

If you live outside the Chatsworth area, there may be a recycling center closer to you. Call Glenn Bailey at (818)345-1222 and he will try to locate one for you.

**THIS AND THAT...**

...The 55 acres comprising the lower portion of the Stagecoach Trail were recently purchased by a private party for about \$350,000...The 170 acres north of the Simi Freeway west of Devil's Canyon is for sale for \$1,000,000...The gates have been installed on state park land in an attempt to discourage dumpers and ORVs...



**Canyon Design**  
20945 Devonshire Street  
Suite 103  
Chatsworth, CA 91311  
213 700-1173

----- T E A R - O F F -----

(The date on your mailing label indicates when your membership expires. Members whose dates are prior to 86-03 (March 1986) are requested to renew at this time. Thank you.)

ENCLOSED ARE MY ANNUAL DUES: \_\_\_\_\_RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_NEW MEMBERSHIP

Name\_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Street\_\_\_\_\_ City\_\_\_\_\_ Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Category: \_\_\_Individual (\$10) \_\_\_Family (\$15) \_\_\_Student/Senior (\$5)  
\_\_\_Life (\$100)

Mail tear-off with check payable to SSMPA, P.O. Box 4831, Chatsworth, CA 91313

# Group marks its efforts to establish mountain park

## 30 Pitch In

# Scout Leads Cleanup of Park Trails

By VIRGINIA WATSON  
Daily News Community Correspondent

The 15th anniversary of the founding of the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association and the first anniversary of the opening of the Visitor's Center in Chatsworth Park South were celebrated recently.

Jan Hinkston, founder of the SSMPA, was honored, and a decorated ice cream cake and punch were served by members and friends celebrating the event at the center, 22360 Devonshire St. The center is open from noon 3 p.m. every Sunday.

The time has been changed so people who participate in the 9 a.m. hikes each Sunday can finish the hike and then stay for the free slide presentation of the history and scenic splendor of the local hills above Chatsworth, a spokesman for the group said.

The SSMPA works closely with another group, the Foundation for the Preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains and Hills, in efforts to create a regional park in the area.

Glenn Bailey is president of the foundation, whose emphasis is on land acquisition. The foundation works through an executive board that meets bimonthly. It keeps track of the legislation affecting the regional park and provides information for displays and brochures. Many people belong to both groups.

The SSMPA is an environmental organization dedicated to the creation of a state park on the property surrounding the Stage Coach Trail. It meets monthly and informs the public of events. The public is invited to the meetings, at 7:30 p.m. the third Monday of every month, at the Glendale Federal Savings and Loan Association, 21821 Devonshire St. Docents for the Visitor's Center and leaders for the hikes come from this volunteer group.

Both groups are non-profit and dedicated to obtaining state park designation for the 428 acres currently owned by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, a spokeswoman for the groups said.

Recently both groups met with city, county and state officials to discuss the acquisition of additional historic acreage with funds from the recently passed State Park Bond Act of 1984.

The SSMPA received a grant earlier this year for the printing of a fund-raising pictorial brochure, to upgrade the Visitor's Center and to finance a documentary film of the historical and scenic Simi Hills and Santa Susana Mountains.

Sonia Thompson of the Santa Monica Convergence is working with the group, as are members of the Chatsworth Historical Society.

The trails of Chatsworth Park South were spruced up Saturday as part of a project organized by 13-year-old Kevin Okeberry in his quest to become an Eagle Scout.

Kevin, with the assistance of staff for state Sen. Ed Davis (R-Valencia), pulled together a clean-up crew composed of members of the state Air National Guard, Fire Station 96 in Chatsworth, a towing service, a trash removal company and the Santa Susana Mountains Park Assn., as well as his fellow Boy Scouts and their parents.



Herb Carleton/Daily News

Nancy Razanski, Dan Cooper and Glenn Bailey are active in groups that are trying to get scenic,

state-owned mountain property above Chatsworth designated a state park.

Foundation for the Preservation of  
the Santa Susana Mountains

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PROGRAM AND ELECTION  
MEETING MONDAY, 3/17

DATED MATERIAL--Please Do Not Delay