

SSMPA News and Views

MARCH
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ANNUAL MEETING FEATURES MOUNTAIN SLIDES

SSMPA's eighteenth annual meeting will feature a special slide presentation of the Santa Santa Mountains and Simi Hills from Granada Hills west through Simi Valley. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 21 at Glendale Federal Community Room, 21821 Devonshire Street in Chatsworth.

A number of individuals and groups active in the area will be contributing to this joint effort, which promises to a beautiful and informative overview of our project.

Election of SSMPA board members will be conducted and Proposition 70, the Parkland Bond Act, will also be discussed. Refreshments will be served and the public is invited so bring a friend!

The next SSMPA program meeting will be held on Monday, May 16.

CHATSWORTH CENTENNIAL HIKES SLATED

A series of SSMPA hikes have been scheduled to celebrate the centennial of Chatsworth each month through June. The hikes will explore different aspects and areas of the local mountains beginning at 9:00 a.m. in Chatsworth Park South (westerly end of Devonshire Street) on the following Sundays: March 27, April 24, May 22 and June 26. Bring water, lunch, lug soles (or shoes with a tread) and a hat. Rain cancels. Contact Jan Hinkston (818/884-9610) for additional information.

LAND USE PLAN FOR AREA READIED; MEETINGS SET

A plan that will guide development through the year 2007 in the Chatsworth, Porter Ranch and Canoga Park-West Hills (north of Roscoe Blvd.) areas has been prepared by the Los Angeles City Planning Department and is now available for public review. The community plan designates zoning for residential, commercial and industrial uses both existing and proposed. Areas of concern to SSMPA include parkland designations, the wildlife corridor, and the future of Chatsworth Reservoir.

Two public workshops to discuss the plan will be held this month on Thursday, March 24 and Tuesday, March 29 from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. in an open house format at the Chatsworth High School multipurpose room, 10025 Lurline Avenue, Chatsworth. Although formal public hearings will be held at a later date, SSMPA encourages all members to attend one of these workshops. Copies of the plan maps and text will be available at the SSMPA March 21 meeting for your review.

ARE YOUR DUES DUE? CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL!

Your membership dues are the primary source of income available to SSMPA to continue its work on your behalf. Please check your mailing label to determine your membership expiration date. You may wish to consider becoming a lifetime member for only \$100. Enclosed is a membership form and pre-addressed envelope for your convenience. We appreciate your continuing support.

PARKLAND MEASURE ON JUNE BALLOT AS PROP. 70

The Parks and Wildlife Initiative was placed on the ballot by the Secretary of State as Proposition 70 a few weeks ago, culminated a successful volunteer effort that gathered over 725,000 signatures statewide with a 78% validity rate.

SSMPA members and supporters collected over 31,000 of these signatures. Although we fell short of our 50,000 pledge, the number collected is nevertheless impressive considering the relatively small size of our organization.

Three SSMPA volunteers gathered more than 1,000 signatures. They were Jan Hinkston (3,501), Nancy Razanski (2,879) and Glenn Bailey (2,346). Many members obtained hundreds of signatures and many non-members sent in petitions. We are deeply appreciative for all of your help. We are planning to officially recognize your contribution to this effort during the next few months.

In the meantime, the campaign to pass Prop. 70 has begun in earnest. SSMPA must raise at least \$6,000 as its contribution to the effort. We are planning several fundraising efforts during the next several months and hope that you will be able to participate. We will be distributing literature, making telephone calls and walking precincts during the last month prior to the election. We are relying on you to help us during this crucial time. Already the State Farm Bureau has begun an effort to defeat this measure, so we must conduct an active campaign!

SSMPA will be contacting you within the next month about the campaign. Glenn Bailey will be coordinating SSMPA's efforts in the San Fernando, Simi and Santa Clarita Valleys. If you have any questions, suggestions or ideas, please telephone him at 818/345-1222.

A campaign meeting for the Los Angeles region will be held 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 23 in Studio City. Please call Glenn if you are interested in attending.

Just a reminder that Prop. 70 includes \$10,000,000 for the Santa Susana Mountains and Simi Hills for acquisition of open spaces, historic sites, hiking and equestrian trails and wildlife habitat. This is our most significant endeavor yet in our efforts to save our hills! Please help!

SSMPA ELECTION SET FOR MARCH MEETING

Speaking of elections, every March SSMPA has one to fill the eleven positions on our board of directors. The nominating committee, chaired by Nancy Razanski, will be presenting a slate for your approval at the March 21 annual meeting. As of this writing, there are still a few vacancies to be filled so if you are interested in serving please attend the meeting or call Nancy at 818/341-3512.

EDITOR'S NOTE: It is the goal of SSMPA to publish a newsletter approximately every quarter. Because all our board members and active volunteers were gathering signatures during the last half of 1987 for the Park and Wildlife Initiative, we were unable to keep to this schedule. If you are able to help with the writing and/or production of the newsletter, please call Glenn Bailey, 818/345-1222. Thank you for your understanding.