

Santa Susana Mountain Park Association

N E W S L E T T E R - FALL II 1991

PROGRAM OCT 21, 7:30 PM 21821 Devonshire St. (Glendale Fed.)

As announced in the last newsletter, we are privileged to have Marge Feinberg, the inventor of the "Rim of the Valley Park" concept, who will present her slides of the special places in the hills around the San Fernando Valley. Come and share and perhaps participate on the committee...there is much to be done!

PAST HAPPENINGS

We wish to thank Walt Parker for his great program in September...it was very informative and humorous!

Nancy and Jan went to an Audubon outing on Oct. 5th in the Chatsworth Reservoir and saw a Golden Eagle and a Green Heron, and the first small group of Canada Geese flying in V formation overhead..."maybe a scouting party to see if the habitat was still here", we joked. The wintering birds are beginning to show up - get out your binocs!

The "Trek to China Flats" was a super multi-user event. Somewhere between 300-400 people either biked, hiked or equestered to this South-Westernmost extension of the Simi Hills. However, the three of us who had started off from Vanowen into El Escorpion Canyon - West to Las Virgenes Canyon - North awhile - then west some more (all with special permission from Ahmanson). This hot, uphill climb into upper Cheeseboro, and then up to China Flats took longer than anticipated. It was only a 1500' gain in about nine miles, but two of us got heat exhaustion, and were rescued by two equestrians and one biker (Peter Heumann). While Linda Palmer and Charlotte Brody (E.T.I.- Corral 54) provided wet scarfs, and a Laurel Sumac, shade, we cooled off and rested enough to feel better while Peter rode to get a truck to take us the rest of the way - a tour of our destination - and then back to our van - Vanowen - and home - tired, but happy! Maybe we'll do it again in the spring when its cooler! Next time we'll start from Victory -it's simpler!

The BLM hearing was informative - we have until Nov. 15th to send our written comments - bring some stationery to the meeting so that we can do it together. Dorian and Jan are still doing some investigating for more of the facts.

A CORRECTION - Oh brother did I goof! Diane Huffman is a student at Pierce College - not CSUN. And she did take a course in biology (she really knows her plants), but its not her major -that is Natural Resource Management. By the way, her first hike as a new leader will be on Nov 10, up the old stagecoach trail...have you been, yet? Join us! Bring water, snack, lug soles (shoes with tread), and perhaps a hat. Cameras are often desirable.

Many thanks to DIANE for squeezin' in the time from her busy schedule for LTC and Red Cross training. Thanks also to KATHERINE ROY for filling in at the visitor center on the second Sundays. We still need someone on the third Sundays.

ENCLOSED is a petition for another try at saving the Ancient Forests up in Northern California. There is no money required - only regulations that will hopefully prevent anymore tragic giveaways of the very last of this precious resource. Our own survival is at stake. If you are a registered voter - just make sure that all signers are also registered voters in only one county. Fill out the card if you can help further. We only have about a month to get 650,000 signatures. The legislation that was passed has been amended (watered down) by the lumber interests - and the governor vetoed that. This is our only hope!

NEWS FLASH!

A new offer has been initiated by Joe Edmiston on behalf of the MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY to Bob Hope. Hope has been asked to sell all of his land, including the Jordan Ranch, Runkle Ranch, Corral Cyn. for \$29.5 million. The deal includes a donation of PIA's 350 acres leading south from Cheeseboro Cyn. to the 101 freeway as part of a new joint partnership (proposal?) with Ahmanson which includes a PGA Golf Course, 2600 units and a donation of 3,025 acres to the Conservancy. The total acres is 10,390. Mr. Hope, PLEASE SAY YES!

GOOD NEWS! AB 1152 was signed by Pete Wilson. Now the State Parks Dept. will have some say in regard to the extension of Reseda Blvd. Thanks to all you letter writers - you've made a difference! Our November program will have Jill Swift show us the "Big Wild"...now made a bigger possibility.

Also, the US Senate has removed the restriction about using condemnation for the National Park Service in regard to the Soka Property...now all we need is more money to match.

SSMPA and the FOUNDATION had a joint meeting in order to set priorities for acquisition for the new L.A. County Bond Act. More info at the next meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The CHATSWORTH PARADE is on December 15th this year. Is there anyone who would like to head up the committee and/or help carry a sign or just walk about 2 miles to Mason Park? PLEASE call Jan at (818) 884-9610. The theme is "Celebrate the Magic of Freedom". Those of you who have seen our entry - we've been gradually filling in the successive generations of people using the Santa Susana Pass between L.A. and the Coast. If you have any ideas about how we can tie in the theme with the Indians, Columbus' quincentennial, et al We might get some people who have costumes from the De Anza period (maybe a Portola and the Californios)...we need all kinds - if you have a costume that would help, please call - thank you.

October 25 (Friday) - UN DAY at CSUN 9am - 3pm We have a table with SSMPA info...any volunteers?

October 26 (Saturday) - 9:30am to 3:30pm - Platform and Issues Conference for the State Democratic Conference - Jan has been asked to give a short slide presentation for a resolution in support of the RIM of the VALLEY NATIONAL RECREATION AREA.

October 30 (Wednesday) 6:30 pm RSOSCA (Rancho Simi Open Space Conservation Agency) 1692 Sycamore Dr., Simi Valley
Agenda: To discuss access rights over RSOSCA property -Lilac Lane

Nov. 2 - Save the Canyons Day - Placerita Canyon Nature Center, (805) 254-8543. Hike (10:15am) and picnic til 2pm.



CALL COUNCILMAN BERNSON

ask for a replica of Chatsworth's Depo for the Commuter Rail Station in Chats

On March 10, 1888 a subdivision map for the town of Chatsworth Park was filed with the Los Angeles County recorder, giving the area its first real name. Shortly thereafter the railroad was completed to Chatsworth Park and this station built. The railroad gradually dropped "Park" from the community's name.

TO ALL SSMPTF/SIERRA CLUBBERS

The time has come to perhaps take separate action from the SSMPTF. We haven't had separate meetings because we don't want to be meetinged to death. But now we at least need to take stock of who we are, and perhaps take separate action on some issues, or at least communicate by mail on something specific. SO, if you belong to both groups, would you please indicate on the form below, and mail it to: SSMPTF, P.O. Box 4831, Chatsworth, CA 91313-4831.

Yes, I belong to both SSMPTF and the SIERRA CLUB, and therefore I would like to be considered a member of the SSMPTF Task Force_____.

I'm a member of the Sierra Club, but not SSMPTF. I would like to remedy that. Enclosed are my membership dues. (See below.)_____.

I'm a member of SSMPTF, but not the Sierra Club. Please send me an application form._____.

NAME (Please print) _____ (____) _____
PHONE

ADDRESS _____ CITY/ZIP _____

___Senior/Student(\$5.00)___Individual (\$10.00) ___Family (\$15.00)

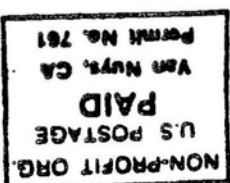
___Business/Organization (\$25.00) ___Life Member (\$100.00)

Special interests/expertise_____.

Checks payable to: SSMPTF ___ RENEWAL (Please check mailing label.)

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL



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of the Santa Susana Mountains
Post Office Box 4831
Chatsworth, CA 91313-4831