

# The VENTANA

MAGAZINE OF THE VENTANA CHAPTER OF THE SIERRA CLUB

**DEC, JAN,  
FEB  
OUTINGS**

**Santa Cruz to  
ban Styrofoam**

**Track the green-ness of  
your electricity**

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



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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

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

#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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#### POSTAL NOTICE

*The Ventana* (015057) is published 6 times a year, (Feb., Apr., Jun., Aug., Oct., Dec.) paid by subscription included in membership fee, by The Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club, 1001 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060. Periodical postage paid Santa Cruz, CA and at additional mailing offices.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Sierra Club, *The Ventana*, P.O. Box 604, Santa Cruz, CA 95061-0604.

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#### Carpentry & Software:

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#### Chapter website:

<http://ventana.sierraclub.org>

2008

#### Ventana Publication Schedule

Issue	Deadline	Mailing Date
#1	Jan. 14	Jan. 30
#2	Mar. 10	Mar. 26
#3	Apr. 28	May 14
#4	Jul. 14	Jul. 30
#5	Sep. 15	Oct. 1
#6	Dec. 1	Dec. 17

Articles received after deadline may not be published

## CHAPTER CHAIR

### Army report trivializes environmental harm of Fort Hunter Liggett expansion

**T**he US Army's plans to expand and construct new facilities at the 165,000-acre Fort Hunter Liggett in South Monterey County include adding up to 17,000 additional soldiers and their dependents. This expansion is particularly disappointing because Congress authorized a study of the base for resource protection in 1999. In 1995 the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended that parts of Hunter Liggett were not needed by the Army, opening the door for possible purchase or management of some areas by the National Park Service.

Many hikers are familiar with Fort Hunter Liggett because it is convenient to pass through the base on the way to parts of Los Padres Forest such as Indians, Escondido Camp, and Junipero Serra Peak.

The Resource Protection study released in 2004 found the following:

- The Milpitas Hacienda designed by

Julia Morgan has national historic significance.

- The oak savanna landscape provides one of the few remaining vestiges of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail.

- Over 600 archaeological sites related to Native Americans have been recorded at Fort Hunter Liggett.

- There is an unusually large number of rare and sensitive plant species on the base including over 72,000 acres of oak woodland and savanna, a wide diversity of native oaks, and critical habitat for the rare and threatened purple amole, a native herb.

- The base provides critical habitat for tule elk, the San Joaquin kit fox, and other species.

- Riparian areas and vernal pools on

the base support special species such as Santa Lucia mint, arroyo toad, and bald eagle.

In August, with the ramping up of the Bush Administration's military agenda, the Army released the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the base's expansion. This document trivialized or ignored the potential environmental damage that could occur on this unique property if the expansion goes forward. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2008.

If you have an interest in protecting this unique national treasure, please contact your Congressional Representative and Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer.

—Rita Dalessio



## FROM THE EDITOR

### Eat fresh; eat local

**T**his morning I enjoyed half a fresh fuyu persimmon sliced over my breakfast cereal. I'm not kidding when I say fresh. I picked it from the young tree in my front yard just before eating it.

Richard and I planted this young tree about three years ago. This is the first year that it has borne fruit, and only a single persimmon this year.

The satisfaction afforded by growing some of our own food is enormous. It is also an adventure and a lesson in what foods are in season when. Growing your own food saves energy. No gasoline was needed to transport this orangey orb from the tree to my kitchen. It was picked at the peak of ripeness. Sweet and satisfying.

My test for the ripeness of apples, persimmons, and other tree fruits is to gently pull on the stem. If the fruit comes free, it is ready to enjoy. If it would take some force to pick, I let it ripen for a few more days.

Of course, most of us are not farmers. But many of us do have a patch of space in our yard which would support a fruit tree, a few tomato plants in among the

flower beds, a small garden.

Gardening is an environmental act. Buying locally-produced foods is good for the earth.

The local market has started labeling foods by their place of origin. Many are from local farms. Others travel further from around the state. The least desirable and the biggest gas hogs are those that come from far away. While most of us are not ready to give up our grown-far-away coffee, tea, and bananas, it is not a big stretch for us to buy as much as we can from producers who live close rather than far.

Being aware of the local cycles of nature will not only make us smarter consumers, but will also fill our plates with the freshest, most tasty foods. It may be tempting to purchase pears from Argentina in the spring and kiwis from New Zealand in August, but waiting until they come into season locally treats our palates to the specialties of the season.

The crunch of a fresh apple holds more pleasure than the mealy feel of one retrieved from cold storage. We can experience the intensity of looking forward to fresh grapes in the fall when we haven't been eating imported ones off season. We can recapture the joy of eating fresh oranges at Christmas.

Eating fresh food in season affords exquisite pleasure.

—Debbie Bulger





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## LETTERS

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

### Stop Japanese whaling

I am concerned with the Japanese destruction of the whales.

Articles inform me that Japan intends to destroy 1400 whales in this whaling season (for scientific purposes). All efforts to date have failed to constrain Japanese whaling.

My suggestion is that if the Sierra Club and Greenpeace would propose to the American people that they cease buying Japanese automobiles for a period of six months, that something might be accomplished.

Such a boycott would not involved the U.S. Government. It would be done by advertising in newspapers and magazines. Such a program would be well received by most Americans who are certainly sympathetic to the whales and not at all sympathetic to the Japanese whaling industry.

—W.A. Medlen  
Santa Cruz

### E-waste recycling opportunity

Recently we noticed a newspaper announcement of a free drop-off for electronic waste on a Saturday in Santa Cruz. Not knowing if they would accept everything we had which we hoped to recycle rather than throw in the trash, we took it all: A non-functioning calculator, some old computer parts, a laser printer, and, particularly annoying to us, a box full of throwaway CDs, cassette tapes, and video-cassettes we had accumulated over many years.

We are pleased to say that everything was accepted! We asked if this "e-waste recycling fair" would be repeated in the future. Yes, we were told, and here is the website for more information: [www.noE-waste.com](http://www.noE-waste.com).

This event was held by a company based in Fremont by the name of Electronic Waste Management. (We have no other knowledge of, or any financial interest in, this company.) At that website, anyone can request e-mail notification of future free electronic waste recycling events in your local area. We already knew that the City of Santa Cruz conducts occasional pickups for recycling of certain kinds of electronic waste, but it's good to know that all the old CDs and cassettes can be recycled too, and we would encourage everyone to do so rather than throw them in the trash.

—Jeff Alford and Brenda Barcelo  
Santa Cruz

# Vote YES on Prop 93 (term-limit reform)

Primary Election is February 5

Sierra Club California has endorsed Proposition 93, the Term Limits and Legislative Reform Act, on the Tuesday, February 5, ballot.

Prop 93 would allow a legislator to serve up to 12 years in the Senate, the Assembly, or a combination of both. California's current term limit allows 14 years, but these must be divided into a maximum of six years in the Assembly and eight in the Senate.

**Experience:** Legislators need time in Sacramento to learn about environmental issues and the legislature's sometimes arcane rules. Today, in the Assembly especially, even committee chairs and top leadership have limited experience. Often they are appointed after only two years in Sacramento; sometimes even brand-new legislators are appointed. Prop 93 will give lawmakers more time to gain the essential experience and expertise to deal with complicated environmental issues with long-term consequences.

**Lobbyists:** With less turnover of members, there will be fewer novice legislators most vulnerable to industry lobbyists' false arguments and lies. Consider the history of global-warming legislation. In 2002, first-term Assemblymember Fran Pavley authored California's first important global-warming law, the clean-cars bill. In 2006, in her final term, Pavley authored her landmark AB 32, but only a small minority of the assemblymembers serving then had been in the legislature in 2002. This year, when Assemblymember Ruskin's clean-car-discount bill, AB 493, lost on the floor, not a single member had been in the Assembly in 2002, and many members bought some of the same bogus

arguments the auto industry had made in 2002.

**Oversight:** Committees chaired by experienced lawmakers will be better able to oversee state agencies and bureaucrats. With more time to serve in one house, legislators can gain knowledge of the inner workings of agencies. We need lawmakers with the institutional memory to follow the implementation of environmental laws by state agencies. Consider again AB 32. Like many bills, this law requires state agencies to undertake a complex process of decisions on how to carry it out. Largely due to today's term limits, Fran Pavley is no longer in the legislature to help watch over the implementation of her landmark bill.

**Money:** Under the current limits, once members are elected to the Assembly and go to Sacramento, they immediately start to eye their next elective office. With the possibility of 12-year terms in the Assembly, lawmakers will feel less pressure to raise money, and have less reliance on special interests. They will be able to devote more time to governing and policy-making. Prop 93 could also slow the revolving door that sends many former members into lobbying jobs—usually for industry—since public-interest jobs mean a big pay cut.

**The Sierra Club urges you to vote YES on Prop 93.**

### Sierra Club opposes electoral initiative currently circulating

Have you been asked to sign a ballot initiative that would apportion the California electoral votes between the candidates rather than continue the winner-take-all method currently used? Although it might sound fair on first glance, this method will provide a Republican advantage unless it is adopted by all states.

Sierra Club opposes this initiative proposal. The Golden State, like 47 other states, awards all of its electoral votes to the winner of the state's popular vote. The initiative would award one electoral vote to the leading vote-getter in each congressional district, as is currently done in Maine and Nebraska.

While reforming the electoral college is a very legitimate topic for debate at the national level, this particular initiative is a transparently partisan ploy undertaken by Republican political operatives who are trying to offset the Democratic advantage in California without doing anything to address the Republican advantage in other big winner-take-all states such as Texas.

We urge our members not to sign petitions for the measure which is entitled "Presidential Electors. Political Party Nomination and Election by Congressional District."

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# 2007 legislative session achieves progress; many key issues deferred

by Bill Magavern

2007 saw far fewer major new laws enacted to protect California's environment than 2006. Bright spots include flood protection, clean air, and endangered species protection.

A package of bills finally starts to bring some sense to development in flood-prone areas. SB 5 (Machado) requires the state to prepare a Central Valley Flood Protection Plan by 2012. AB 5 (Wolk) reforms, restructures, and renames the state Reclamation Board, the agency in charge of flood protection in the Central Valley. AB 70 (Jones) will provide for limited, shared contribution between the state and

local governments when local governments approve new developments in undeveloped areas prone to flooding.

The Healthy Heart and Lung Act, AB 233 (Jones), sponsored by Sierra Club California and American Lung Association of California, will improve enforcement of toxic diesel emissions, and SB 719 (Machado) will, at long last, reform the San Joaquin Valley's lackluster Air Pollution Control District. AB 118 (Núñez) will raise \$150 million annually for clean fuel and clean air programs.

Governor Schwarzenegger surprised many observers by signing AB 821 (Nava) requiring the use of non-lead bullets when hunting big game in condor areas.

Legislation to reduce toxic threats fared poorly this year on the whole, but Schwarzenegger's signing of the Toxic Toys bill, AB 1108 (Ma), bans phthalates, a plastic softener, from products meant for infants and toddlers.

Unfortunately, the Governor vetoed important bills to make our buildings and fuels greener. AB 888 (Lieu) would have set green building standards for commercial buildings, starting in 2013. AB 1058 (Laird) would have set green building standards for new residential construction, and AB 35 (Ruskin) would have required CAL-EPA to set sustainable building standards for the construction and renovation of state buildings. SB 210 (Kehoe) would have required the adoption of a low-carbon fuel standard by 2010 that achieved at least a 10% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and maintained or improved air quality benefits.

The Legislature deferred until next year the vital tasks of spurring smart growth, requiring utilities to generate more power from renewables, and cleaning up the filthy air at the mega-ports of Los Angeles, Long Beach, and Oakland. Sierra Club California and our allies had pushed the

Legislature to act in these vital areas, but many key bills stalled toward the end of the session due to opposition from powerful special interests. SB 974 (Lowenthal), the Clean Ports bill, was deferred until January at the request of the Governor. Both SB 375 (Steinberg), which seeks to reduce vehicular emissions through smarter land use patterns, and SB 411 (Simitian), which would require utilities to generate 33% of their power from renewable sources, failed to clear the Assembly Appropriations Committee. AB 558 (Feuer), which would have generated information on the use of toxic chemicals, died by a close vote of the Senate Appropriations panel.

There is substantial environmental business to be taken up during the 2008 election year. As our elected officials know that protecting health and ecology is very popular with voters, we have reason to expect more progress next year.

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## UC named 4th in Sierra's list of coolest schools

UCSC is one of ten campuses of the University of California, which collectively ranked 4th in Sierra's list of America's Top 10 "Coolest" Schools.

Some of the local programs which contribute to the greening of the UC system include

### Local, organic food

Under a unique farm-to-college program developed by seven local farmers and UCSC, about 30% of the produce purchased by UCSC's dining services this year was grown within 250 miles of Santa Cruz and is certified organic.

### Green dining halls

Three UCSC dining halls, Banana Joe's Cafe, and University Catering earned the City of Santa Cruz Green Business designation.

### Green power

In the spring of 2006 UCSC students voted to assess themselves \$3/quarter to

support "green power." With the student-generated fund, the campus purchased 50 million kilowatt hours of clean energy in the form of renewable energy certificates (RECs) from Sterling Planet. These RECs represent 100% of the campus's annual electricity use. The EPA defines green power as electricity produced from solar, wind, geothermal, biogas, biomass, and low-impact small hydroelectric sources.

### Transportation

UCSC's Transportation and Parking Services (TAPS) operates vanpools, a new car-sharing program, and other programs aimed at reducing single-occupant cars.

### Zero waste event

At a campus event in October, members of the Student Environmental Center collected and recycled 200 lbs of pre-consumer food scraps, 82 lbs of aluminum cans, 38 lbs of plastic water bottles, and over 40 bags of compostable food scraps and biodegradable plates, utensils,

and napkins. A pulper machine turned the 40 bags into more than 1000 lbs of usable compost.

### Other local schools

Other local college campuses are also focusing on becoming more green. At the sixth annual UC-CSU-CCC Sustainability Conference, CSUMB students got top honors in the category of student sustainability programs for their Energy Innovations Fund (EIF). Under this program students raise funds to provide loans for university projects that reduce energy. A loan from this fund helped to replace the basketball court's 36 sodium light fixtures with linear fluorescent ones, resulting in an estimated savings of \$86/year per fixture.

Cabrillo College Board of Trustees recently announced plans to put the largest single solar installation in Santa Cruz County on the Aptos campus. The array would save over 3,000 tons of carbon dioxide per year.

## Community ALIVE

What is the **Community ALIVE** Program? It is a much-needed volunteer program that you, our Community, can participate in to help restore native habitat and maintain trails in our local parks and open spaces. Through this program we can **Act Locally In Volunteer Endeavors**.

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Free Market Analysis

# Transportation Task Force votes down greenhouse gas reduction amendment

Over the opposition of Sierra Club representatives Jim Danaher and Kristen Raugaust, the Transportation Funding Task Force voted down a motion that future transportation projects in Santa Cruz County reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The wording of the failed motion made by Gine Johnson, Executive Director of Ecology Action was

“The Plan funded by this ballot measure shall be consistent with Assembly Bill 32 by having the effect of a net reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and each project be at least greenhouse gas emission neutral over the life of the measure.”

Members who voted against the motion expressed concern with its exact wording, yet did not offer alternate language. Some said they felt the motion would make road maintenance difficult. AB 32 requires the State to roll back emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, an estimated 25% reduction.

The Task Force was created by the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission in 2005 to recommend

In favor of the motion:		How they voted			Voted against the motion:		
Jeff Major	Dave Wright	Brenda Brenner	Charles Eadie	Michael Krakowiak			
Lynn Robinson	Debbie Bulger	Thomas Mullen	Daniel Dodge	Maggie Ivy			
Don Hoernschemeyer	Micah Posner	Bob Begun	Cesar Lara	Tom Rider			
Paul Elerick	Piet Canin	Dene Bustichi	Ned Van Valkenburgh	Michael Watkins			
Emily Reilly	Dave Casterson	Chris Mann	Jerry Beyersdorff	Gustavo Gonzalez			
Lee Otter	Jim Danaher	Majel Jordan	Sandra Coley	Kirby Nicol			
Theresia Rogerson	Kristen Raugaust	Bruce Korb	Shirley Allen	Paul Marcelin-Sampson			
Al Smith	Bill Leland	Thomas Pistole	Bill Comfort	Sharolynn Ullestad			
John Daugherty	Donna Blitzer	Ellen Pirie	Christina Manriquez	Terry-Lynn Winston			
Virginia Johnson	Donna Ziel	Steve Robbins	Steven Allen	Robert Vallerga			
		Jan Beautz	Jim Conklin	Bonnie Morr			
		Terry Hancock	Bill Tysseling	Dan Chauvet			
		Zack Dahl	Robert Jones	Jim Van Houten			

a ballot measure to raise money for transportation projects in Santa Cruz County.

Sierra Club believes we must work to lower greenhouse gas emissions starting now. The scientists are clear—we need to cut emissions 80% by 2050. The need to

take action to move to clean energy sources and cut global warming is urgent and immediate.

The Sierra Club Transportation Policy opposes widening highways and states that HOV lanes should come from con-

verting existing highway lanes rather than from constructing new lanes. For more details on sensible transportation options in Santa Cruz County see <http://sensibletransportation.org>.

## Track the green-ness of your electricity with these 3 databases

by Virginia Draper

Thanks to three new on-line databases, Ventana readers can now see where their energy comes from and how their present and future energy choices contribute to global warming. The databases, released by the Sierra Club, the Center for Global Development, and Appalachian Voices, make it possible to chart global warming emissions of individual coal-fired power plants worldwide.

The three databases are listed below:

[www.sierraclub.org/coal](http://www.sierraclub.org/coal)

Sierra Club's New Coal Plant Tracker lists every new proposed coal-fired power plant in the U.S., where it is in the permitting process, and how much global warming pollution it will emit.

[www.CARMA.org](http://www.CARMA.org)

This database by the Center for Global Development, Carbon Monitoring for Action (CARMA) gives the global warming emissions of over 50,000 power plants worldwide.

[www.ilovemountains.org/myconnection](http://www.ilovemountains.org/myconnection)

This Appalachian Voices website links electricity to mountaintop removal mining. If you enter your zip code, the database lets you know if the electricity you receive is linked to the devastation caused by mountaintop removal mining.

Most Ventana readers receive their power from Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E).

This reporter discovered the following: Using CARMA, I discovered that

PG&E has 75 power plants in California. Only one, in Downieville, has earned a “red alert” icon. It is considered “dirty” on a five-point scale because the 398 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions compared to the 442 megawatt-hours of energy produced give it an “Intensity” rating of 1800. In contrast, Moss Landing (operated by Dynegey West Generation), which emits much more CO<sub>2</sub> (2,714,938 tons/year), gets a 3 ranking because its 5,581,235 megawatt hours of energy result in an intensity rating of 973.

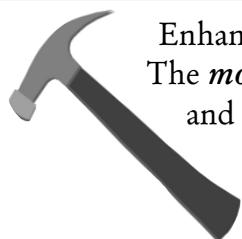
The CARMA web site invites comments and corrections, and several bloggers have expressed concern about the rating system. Others question the decision to call nuclear and hydro power “green.” This classification explains why

PG&E power plants get consistently “safer” ratings: 57.45% of PG&E's power is nuclear generated and 40.78% is hydroelectric. However, bloggers have pointed out there is still no solution for nuclear waste, and hydroelectric technology endangers the environment in various ways.

Using the Appalachian Voices data, I found out that PG&E buys coal from Stockton Cogen, a company that is involved in mountaintop removal in Kentucky, West Virginia, and Virginia. Mountaintop removal endangers communities, poisons water supplies, pollutes the air, and destroys our natural heritage.

Check out these websites and get involved in the transition to cleaner energy.

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# Sierra Club Events

Friday, January 11

## Potluck & Slides: Desolation Wilderness

Nancy will share pictures from Desolation Wilderness and other places she visited. The potluck begins at 6:30 p.m. Bring food to share and your own washable plate, cup, utensils, cloth napkin, and serving utensils. We love home-cooked food, but store-bought items (minimum value \$5) make great contributions too. For directions call 336-2325.

Friday, February 8

## Potluck and Slides: Italy

Featuring slides and talk on an International Sierra Club to Tuscany and Umbria in 2007. Discover the interesting features of Sierra Club International Trips focusing on conservation and sustainability in countries around the world.

The participants on this trip traversed the hill towns near Florence, hiked in the Apennines, made cheese, visited Assisi where St. Francis started his movement of



The Piazza del Duomo and Santa Maria, Assunto Cathedral, Spoleto, Umbria is only one of many beautiful places featured in the February 8 slide show on Italy.

love of nature, and observed Italian recycling practices. Joanne Moy will tell us about her adventure.

Why not bring some Italian foods for your potluck dish? Pasta, salads, cheeses, pizza, torta, gelato. The potluck begins at 6:30 p.m. Bring food to share and your own washable plate, cup, utensils, cloth napkin, and serving utensils. We love home-cooked food, but store-bought items (minimum value \$5) make great contributions too. Call Diane Cornell at 423-5925 for location.

## 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.

Saturdays

### Habitat restoration sponsored by California Native Plant Society

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, redwdrn@pacbell.net. Website: www.cruzcnps.org.

January 5, Twin Lakes State Beach  
January 26, Quail Hollow Co. Park

### Docents needed for Watsonville wetlands

Training for new docents for Watsonville Wetlands Watch will begin on February 20 and continue for six weeks. The course will be held Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings at a cost of \$35.

Docents who enroll will be treated to an inside look at the Pajaro Valley and its wide network of wetlands. Training will cover the ecology, wildlife, history, and restoration of the wetlands, and will prepare new docents to lead walks and assist teachers during field trips.

For more information or to enroll, contact Volunteer Coordinator, Kathy Fieberling, 427-0654. The deadline for enrollment is Feb. 10.

### UCSC Recreation offers Wilderness First Aid

Be prepared. If you spend time in the backcountry or lead wilderness trips, you should never have to ask, "What do I do now?"

This fast-paced and hands-on, two-day course covers a wide range of wilderness medicine topics for people who travel in the outdoors. The Wilderness Medicine Institute's curriculum includes many advanced topics that other programs leave out such as dislocations, focused spinal assessment, and epinephrine administration. In just two days, you'll have the knowledge, skills and ability to make sound decisions in emergency situations.

Register on line at [www.ucsc recreation.com](http://www.ucsc recreation.com). The course is held on the UCSC campus at Stevenson College and costs \$185. It will be held over the weekend of January 26-27, 8:00 - 5:00 p.m.

### INTERESTED IN DEVELOPING & TEACHING A COURSE ON THE OUTDOORS?

Then, the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District is looking for you!

The Park District wants enthusiastic, skilled, dedicated people as it expands its nature, conservation, and environmental-related courses, programs, workshops, activities and special events.

Maybe you want to lead a thematic hike or outdoor adventure. Perhaps you can offer a sustainable cooking course or a cultural history class. Are you bursting to share your knowledge of nature photography or to teach students in an art or drawing workshop? Or is there another outdoor topic in which you could be an instructor to children, adults and/or families?

These are paid contract positions. Submit your program proposal at [www.mprpd.org](http://www.mprpd.org) for review. To learn more about our Environmental Education efforts, please contact Jackie Nelson (831) 372-3196 x 109



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# Improvements still needed in new Monterey County General Plan

by Julie Engell

Monterey County's fifth attempt to update its 1982 General Plan (GPU5) is trundling forward once again during the holidays, with a draft EIR tentatively scheduled for release at year's end. County staff anticipates the Board of Supervisors will certify the final EIR and adopt GPU5 sometime in March.

The EIR currently being drafted is based upon what the board characterizes as a compromise between the board's pro-

g r o w t h , fourth General Plan attempt (GPU4) and Measure A, an initiative which limited further rural subdivisions to

five existing communities in the County's unincorporated area. Both GPU4 and Measure A were rejected by equal margins at the polls, leaving the county in a general plan stalemate.

However, voters were unequivocal in their rejection of Butterfly Village, the first phase of the massive Rancho San Juan. Sixty-five percent of voters said no to Butterfly Village, a development the county first approved under the 1982 General Plan and, facing a referendum, re-approved through policy under GPU4.

From Sierra Club's perspective, some progress has been made toward a more rational general plan. However, significant concerns remain unresolved.

The board's following policy stipulations are steps in the right direction:

- Citing severe water and traffic problems, which the board ignored during previous updates, Prunedale, Toro Park and San Benancio/Corral de Tierra were removed as Rural Centers. Rural Centers are areas targeted for growth over

the next 20 years. Moreover, citing the same concerns, the board directed that further subdivision be prohibited in North County, along Highway 68, and in the Greater Salinas Area north of Williams Road.

- The board acknowledged long-standing area plan policies in Carmel Valley and directed staff to include a policy limiting additional subdivision there to 266 new lots.

- The board reinstated several 1982 General Plan agricultural policies which had been removed from previous update versions. Among the most important is a policy which prohibits subdivision of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes.

- The board increased, from 20% to 35%, the percentage of affordable housing created by new subdivisions.

- The board limited the number of times the general plan can be amended to twice per year.

The following concerns from GPU4 remain unresolved:

- The board retained the winery corridor which includes potential for 40 artisan wineries and 10 full-scale wineries. Wineries within the winery corridor would require only a ministerial permit for approval. This would bypass environmental review and public hearings on each winery, which by definition, could include a host of industrial, commercial, and visitor-serving uses.

- Vintners also convinced the board to allow cultivation on slopes of 25% or greater with nothing more than a permit. Since 1982, Monterey County has prohibited cultivation on slopes over 25%.

This is cause for concern, because it could convert to cultivation more than 500,000 acres, much of it important habitat land.

- The board also retained GPU4's huge expansion of permitted activities defined as "routine and on-going agricultural practices." Under these policies, even some major industrial uses would be included and allowed with no environmental review or public hearing.

- Supervisors retained the GPU4 policy reducing standards of service on county roads from Level of Service C to Level of Service D. According to Supervisors, to prevent further deterioration in county roads, they promised to implement a Capital Funding and Improvement Program, including regional development fees, within 18 months of adoption of the new General Plan. The Capital Funding Program is supposed to account for all facilities and services required by growth over the term of the General Plan. Although Supervisors directed staff to update facilities costs annually, they refused to link increased costs to development fees or establish any policies which would prevent further, growth-induced deterioration in public facilities and services.

- The board has also retained Butterfly Village as a "Special Study Area" in GPU5, clearly signaling their intention, despite overwhelming public opposition, to develop the area.

The Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club will continue to demand that Monterey County produce a General Plan that satisfies the legal requirements of State Planning Law and the California Environmental Quality Act. We are gratified to see supervisors finally acknowledge the severe water problems faced by many county residents. However, we are mindful of the ease with which the board amends the General Plan to suit development interests.

## BOOK REVIEW

**Farming and the Fate of Wild Nature, Essays in Conservation-Based Agriculture**  
Edited by Daniel Imhoff and Jo Ann Baumgartner, Watershed Media/Wild Farm Alliance, 2006

reviewed by Debbie Bulger

This collection of thoughtful essays may be just the gift you have been seeking for a reader on your list. The essays by well-known writers such as Wendell Berry, Barbara Kingsolver, and Aldo Leopold, as well as less familiar writers explore the relationships of farming with nature.

The introduction asks the questions, "How much wilderness can a farm or ranching operation support and still remain economically viable? And how much agriculture can take place in an area and still support optimal levels of biodiversity?"

Richard Manning decries industrialized factory farming and the subsidization of commodities as one of the worst things that has ever happened to the planet in his essay, "The Oil We Eat."

Scott McMillion celebrates the construction skills of beavers in his essay, "Wild Work Crew."

Becky Weed discusses economic forces which work against raising grass-fed animals and favor feed-lot, grain-fed stock which provide income to the pharmaceutical companies both from the sale of antibiotics for the crowded animals and cholesterol-lowering drugs for the humans who eat them.

The black and white illustrations that begin each essay are a nice touch. This book will expand your understanding of sustainable agriculture.

The book can be purchased through the Wild Farm Alliance website, [www.wildfarmalliance.org](http://www.wildfarmalliance.org) or at Amazon.com.

## Club asks for EIR for Santa Cruz County Code changes

The Santa Cruz County Planning Department has proposed a set of regulatory changes to the County Code that the Department says is intended to streamline the planning process. These proposed changes are lengthy and complex. If they are adopted, a rural single-family house on a 1+ acre lot could have a total of four dwellings without addressing septic system capacity, traffic, or water use.

At its December meeting, the Supervisors voted 3-2 delay action to the February 26 Board meeting. The Sierra Club has requested an EIR assessing the impacts of the proposed changes. Our next issue will have a more detailed article.

### The board has retained Butterfly Village as a "Special Study Area," clearly signaling their intention, despite overwhelming public opposition, to develop the area.

## Keep the Green Team in Sacramento

by Assemblymember John Laird

This February 5, you'll have a chance to decide more than the presidential primary, you'll also get to build momentum in the fight to address climate change by keeping in place the California Legislature's green team—the team of legislators that delivered AB 32, the historic Global Warming Solutions Act.

Proposition 93, the Term Limits Reform Act, will enable legislators to focus on the critical, long-term issues of our time, rather than short-term career plans. The measure would allow legislators to serve up to 12 years in either the Assembly or the Senate. While this represents a reduction of two years in the total num-

ber of years a legislator could spend in Sacramento, it enables all 12 to be served in one house.

In my case, this would mean I would have the opportunity to run for three additional two-year terms, rather than being termed out of office a year from now. Besides allowing me to gratefully continue to serve in a job I truly love, my colleagues and I would have the opportunity to leverage our experience and relationships in the race to stop global warming. Also, I would have a chance to work on the next generation of my state-wide legislative efforts on water conservation and coastal protection, as well as parks acquisition and management.

Approving Prop 93 will be a critical step forward for California's environmental community. I'm pleased the Sierra Club has endorsed the measure, along with the California League of Conservation Voters, the Planning and Conservation League and others. To get involved, visit [www.termlimitsreform.com](http://www.termlimitsreform.com).

*Assemblymember Laird represents the 27th Assembly District, is chair of the Budget Committee and serves as a member of the Natural Resources Committee.*

Please recycle this paper again

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**Sand sanctuary**

In November the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County announced its intention to buy 189 acres of sandhills between Scotts Valley and Felton. This rare habitat is home to plants and animals found only in Santa Cruz County. The Land Trust is tracking fundraising for this property with an hourglass on their website, [www.landtrustsantacruz.org](http://www.landtrustsantacruz.org).

**Another solar installation**

The Santa Cruz Women's Health Center has become the first downtown business to go solar in Santa Cruz. The new solar panels will offset enough CO<sub>2</sub> each year to equal the annual running of two average U.S. households. Plans are to add more panels as budget permits.

**Safer for condors**

Beginning in July 2008, hunters must use lead-free ammunition for big game and coyotes in condor country in central and southern California. This new law is a good first step. The next is to get the lead out of ammunition used for small game. Since 1992 at least 12 condor deaths in California have been caused by lead poisoning.

**Coal plan settlement**

In a landmark settlement this October with Sierra Club and other environmental and government organizations, American Electric Power agreed to markedly reduce hazardous emissions from its coal-burning plants by installing extensive pollution controls. The company agreed to spend \$4.6 billion on clean up and an additional \$60 million on mitigation as well as pay a \$15 million fine. For more information visit [www.sierraclub.org/coal](http://www.sierraclub.org/coal).

**Ethiopia, Mexico plant trees**

Inspired by Nobel Peace Prize recipient Wangari Maathai, Ethiopia and Mexico are leading the movement to plant trees to combat climate change. A recent UN report noted that Ethiopia had planted 700 million new trees and Mexico had planted 217 million. Once forested, Ethiopia was reduced to only 4% forest cover in 2000. The UN Environment Program has received pledges to plant 2.24 billion trees worldwide.

**Make a difference**  
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<http://cal-legalert.sierraclubaction.org>



Debbie Bulger

**Recycled clothing is the latest fashion**

Sydney Nash, left, and Kathy Richman, below, know the secret to finding bargains and being kind to the environment.

by Debbie Bulger

Some of the best-dressed people on the Central Coast show their environmental savvy by shopping at recycled clothing stores. The options are many. There are thrift stores such as Goodwill and the Salvation Army, vintage clothing retailers, consignment stores, and yard sales.

Sydney Nash of Santa Cruz has been finding bargains since her college days. "I feel so much better about being a consumer," she enthuses. Although price was her first motivator, she is now acutely aware of how purchasing recycled clothing helps the environment.

Often, older clothes are better made. Nash loves the silk Chinese jacket she found which was expertly constructed in the 1950s.

"You can find well-known brands," she pointed out. She was wearing a Banana Republic shirt paired with Eddie Bauer pants when *The Ventana* interviewed her. The whole outfit cost less than \$10.

Kathy Richman from Salinas has been finding recycled bargains for over 20 years. An elementary school teacher, Richman was originally attracted to second-hand stores because of the affordable children's books she purchased to use in her classroom.

"You just never know what you're going to find," Kathy said. "A couple of weeks ago I got a nice cashmere sweater for \$3.25! Shopping at recycling stores enables me to purchase quality items that would be beyond my budget if new."

Richman likes the idea of her purchases not contributing to our culture of excessive commercialism. Her two adult daughters are following in her footsteps by also shopping at resale stores.

A glance at the phone book will reveal a plethora of places to shop while actively recycling. Check the yellow pages under "Consignment Service" and "Thrift Shops."

DRESSING SMARTLY



Jeffrey Richman

# Santa Cruz set to ban Styrofoam take-out food containers

by Debbie Bulger

Despite the chasing arrow logo and the number on the bottom of polystyrene cups and takeout containers, this material is almost impossible to recycle due to food contamination and other factors. If we are lucky, Styrofoam ends up in the landfill. If it is mistaken for food by a bird, it could be a death sentence.

With the unanimous approval of the Public Works Commission on November 19, the proposed Santa Cruz ordinance to ban polystyrene take-out containers is headed for the City Council on January 22. The Sierra Club, Surfrider Foundation, Save Our Shores, The Ocean Conservancy, Ecology Action, and other environmental organizations support the ban.

The City of Capitola adopted a similar ordinance last year and is moving slowly with enforcement. Santa Cruz County is also preparing a comparable ordinance which is expected to go before the Board of Supervisors in either December or January. Representatives from around the Monterey Bay area have been meeting to deal with the problem of polystyrene containers. When all local jurisdictions adopt such ordinances, the result will be a level playing field for all food vendors. San Francisco, Berkeley, Santa Monica, Oakland, and other California cities have all banned polystyrene takeout containers.

For over 18 years the City of Santa Cruz has been encouraging restaurant owners to switch to environmentally-acceptable food containers. As far back as 1989 the City established a policy to eliminate polystyrene foam packaging for food. For 18 years compliance has been voluntary. In 2008 businesses must not use polystyrene takeout containers if they wish to qualify as a "Clean Ocean Business."

The advantages of not using polystyrene are many. Since polystyrene cannot be recycled practically, its use reduces the life of the landfill, produces non-biodegradable litter, and harms wildlife.



Rafik Abelian dishes out ice cream in paper cups in downtown Santa Cruz.

Workers who manufacture polystyrene are exposed to eye, skin, and respiratory irritation and headaches. Styrene is classified as a possible human carcinogen by the EPA. Food containers made of Styrofoam should not be heated in a microwave since toxic chemicals can leach into the food they hold.

Fortunately new choices in food containers abound. Besides cardboard containers there are now take-out boxes made from sugarcane stalk, cornstarch, and rice and potato starch. If such containers end up as litter, they eventually break down. What's more, they're

compostable. Rafik Abelian, owner of the Coldstone

Creamery in downtown Santa Cruz, did not wait for the ordinance. He has almost completed his store's switch to paper ice cream cups. Since the creamery is a franchise, his inquiries to the Arizona-based corporation hastened its transition to paper ice cream cups for the entire company.

When Chris Moran, Waste Reduction Manager for the City of Santa Cruz, notified Rafik of the City's intention to ban polystyrene take-out containers, Rafik was using 3500-4000 Styrofoam cups a week. Conservatively estimated, that's over 180,000 containers/year! If one multiplies that by the 1850 stores in the corporation, the impact of the company's decision to switch to paper is mind boggling. At press time the corporate office was examining options for sustainable smoothie containers.

Rafik likes the new paper containers much better than the old polystyrene ones. "They are much more colorful and attractive," he enthuses. "But more im-

portant, it's the right thing to do."

## How to help

- Contact the Santa Cruz City Council and ask them to ban polystyrene take-out containers: [citycouncil@ci.santa-cruz.ca.us](mailto:citycouncil@ci.santa-cruz.ca.us).
- Bring your own cup or container. While paper cups and sugarcane containers are far better than Styrofoam, the best alternative is to bring a reusable container from home.
- Thank businesses that do not use polystyrene take-out containers. Patronize businesses that demonstrate that they care about the environment.
- Let your county supervisor know that you support an ordinance to ban polystyrene take-out containers.
- If your city does not yet have such an ordinance, contact your council member.

## Plastic is forever

Every single bit of plastic ever made is still around. That's because no organisms, no bacteria break down this non-natural product. Some plastic ends up in landfills, some is reused, and some finds its way into the gutter, then down the storm drain and into our creeks, rivers, the Bay, and eventually the Pacific Ocean.

When it does, birds and animals beware.

Because plastic does not biodegrade, it breaks into smaller and smaller pieces by sunlight and other forces. Sea birds often mistake the particles for food. Greenpeace reports finding a dead turtle in Hawaii with over 1000 pieces of plastic in its stomach and intestines.

There is an area of plastic in the Pacific Ocean twice the size of the state of Texas. It just swirls in place because of the pattern of the ocean currents. Even tiny jelly fish-like creatures in the ocean ingest plastic particles they mistake for plankton. In parts of the Pacific, plastic outweighs plankton 6 to 1.

For more information visit [www.surfridersantacruz.org/plastics.html](http://www.surfridersantacruz.org/plastics.html).



Too often, polystyrene cups become litter like this cup photographed on Mission Street in Santa Cruz.

Please recycle this paper again

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## 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 using the coupon on p. 15.

Thank you!

## 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 are general guidelines. (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:

**Black Bear Diner 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. This is the 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: K-Mart Seaside**

*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/).*

## NOTICE

Club events such as potlucks, slide shows and other get-togethers are on page 6 in the Calendar listings.

## DECEMBER

Thursday, December 13

**HIKE: NISENE MARKS**

This 7-mile loop with 900' elevation gain begins on the Loma Prieta Trail, takes us through a lovely redwood forest and along beautiful creeks with several crossings. Moderate pace with stops to enjoy flora & fauna. Meet in Seaside at the Home Depot parking lot near the gas station by 8:45 a.m. or in Aptos in the parking lot behind Dance Synergy by 9:30 a.m. Bring water and lunch. Call for a reservation; limit of 8. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

Saturday, December 15

**HIKE: GROVER GULCH & BATES CREEK**

A 6-mile loop beginning from "The Land of the Medicine Buddha." We'll hike up beautiful Grover Gulch into the southwest corner of Nisene Marks and return along the ridge above Bates Creek. 500' elevation gain through mostly second-growth redwoods. Meet at Sears 41st Ave. at 9:30 a.m. Bring water, lunch and \$1 for carpool. Leader: Ed Gilbert, 685-8389.

Saturday, December 15

**HIKE: OLD COAST ROAD TO SAN JUAN BAUTISTA**

We'll hike from Old Coast Rd. over the hills and down to San Juan Bautista to lunch and explore the Mission and old town. Then back the same way. 12 miles and 1000' elevation gain at a leisurely pace. Bring a hat, water, and lunch, or \$ for lunch. Wear good shoes. Bring your hiking poles. Meet at Home Depot in Seaside near the gas station at 8:30 a.m. Heavy rain cancels. Leader: Anneliese Suter, 624-1467.

Sunday, December 16

**MIDDAY STROLL: OLD MONTEREY**

We'll check out parts of the historic walking path, admire old gardens, find where the restrooms are, look into the jail for Pelon—whatever. Let's meet in front of Colton Hall at 10:30 a.m. If there happens to be a huge fiesta there, look for me in the big parking lot just past the library across from the fire station. From there we'll mosey along Pacific toward the shore and back, perhaps finding somewhere along the

way for a snack. Easy walk—no more than a couple of miles. Rain cancels. More info from Leader: Mary Gale, 626-3565.

Tuesday, December 18

**HIKE: MITTELDORF PRESERVE**

This 4-mile loop begins near a rustic log lodge, has 8 bridged, creek crossings and 900' elevation gain. We'll hike through a redwood forest and lunch at a spectacular vista. Moderate pace with stops to enjoy flora & fauna. Meet at the Black Bear Diner Park & Ride on Rio Road by 9:30 a.m. Bring water and lunch. We need 4- and all-wheel drive vehicles. Call for reservation. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

Wednesday, December 19

**HIKE: LODATO PARK, SCOTTS VALLEY**

We'll hike the ridge overlooking Scotts Valley 7 miles uphill through the redwoods, over to Granite Creek Rd. and Redwood Dr. in Santa Cruz. Excellent views out over the ocean as we walk through an area that was selectively logged over 20 years ago and is now a wilderness preserve. Bring lunch and water. Hiking boots suggested. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. to carpool, (\$1) or at the trailhead for Lodato Park at the end of Green Hills Rd., Scotts Valley, in back of the last office building at 9:25 a.m. Leader: Diane Cornell, 423-5925.

Sunday, December 23

**HIKE: WEST MOLERA**

Moderately strenuous hike to West Molera. Great views of the Big Sur coast and a hidden pocket beach. 8 miles and 1000' elevation gain. Wear boots, bring lunch and water. Meet at Save Mart in Carmel Valley at 9:00 a.m. Heavy rain cancels. Leader: Steve Legnard 402-1422.

Thursday, December 27

**HIKE: BLUFF CAMP**

This lovely 8-mile hike takes us behind the Los Padres Reservoir and along the upper Carmel River with one unbridged river crossing. Lunch beside the river at Bluff Camp. Moderate pace with stops to enjoy flora & fauna. Meet at the Black Bear Diner Park & Ride by 9:00 a.m. Bring lunch and water. Call for reservation. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

Friday, December 28

**BIKE RIDE: PACIFIC GROVE-MARINA**

Let's explore the new links in the Coastal Trail through Monterey and Sand City and see how they connect with the Monterey / PG Rec. trail and the old Fort Ord bike path. Meet at Lovers Point in Pacific Grove at 10:00 a.m. at the start of the rec. trail. Our route will be almost all on paved bike trails, with a little street work. Expect a relatively flat ride with a few short, sharp hills. Be prepared for headwinds

and some congestion on the trail, especially around the Fisherman's Wharf area. 30 miles, at a leisurely pace. Helmets mandatory. Rain cancels. Bring water and lunch, which we'll eat at Lock Paddon Park in Marina. Leaders: Cath Farrant and Mary Dainton, 372 7427.

Saturday - Thursday, December 29 - January 3  
**HOLIDAY SERVICE CARRIZO PLAIN**

The Carrizo Plain, east of San Luis Obispo, is a vast grassland, home to pronghorn, elk, kit fox, and a wide variety of birds. Welcome hike 12/29, 3-1/2 days of work modifying barbed wire fencing, and another day for hiking/exploring. Accommodations at Goodwin Ranch included. Limited to 12, \$25 covers 5 dinners. For more info, contact: Craig Deutsche, deutsche@earth link.net, (310-477-6670).

Sunday, December 30

**HIKE: HOLT ROAD TO SNIVELY RIDGE**

We'll walk up from Mid Valley on Holt Road, through the forest on the northern trail to Garland Ranch's Snively Ridge and higher, if we want. We'll return down to the Garland Ranch. Moderately strenuous 9 miles, 1500' elevation gain. Bring water and lunch. Meet at Mid Valley shopping center in Carmel Valley next to the bank on Berwick Street at 9:30 a.m. to carpool. Heavy rain cancels. Leader: Anneliese Suter, 624-1467.

## JANUARY

Tuesday, January 1

**SENIOR WALK: ASILOMAR SOUTH**

A NEW EVENT!! For those who are not football watchers come walk from Asilomar south to Pt. Joe and back. Easy 3 miles includes dirt paths, streets, paths and boardwalks by the ocean. Lunch at tables just north of Pt. Joe with great views. The Fishwife Restaurant is NOT OPEN that day. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. or by the Fishwife at 10:30 a.m. Dress for weather. Bring water, lunch, \$4 carpool. Leader: Bev Meschi, 475-4185.

Tuesday, January 1

**BIKE RIDE: WILDER RANCH CLIFFS**

Let's start the new year with an ocean view ride along the cliffs, and our first chance to work on our resolutions. 10-12 miles, mostly flat. Dress in layers, bring lots of water and lunch. Heavy rain cancels, light rain morphs into a hike. No excuses! Helmets mandatory. Meet at the Santa Cruz Police Dept. at 10:00 a.m. Call to help others get bikes to meeting place. Leader: John Howerton, 476-4253.

Wednesday, January 2

**HIKE: WADDELL CREEK, BIG BASIN**

A great time of year to start at the end of the Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail and walk up to Berry Creek Falls which could be in winter an awesome torrent plunging more than 50 feet over mossy and fern-adorned sandstone cliffs. The hike starts on a wide, flat trail through a variety of scenery and then winds its way up through the redwoods to the falls. Bring lunch and water for this 10-mile hike. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. to carpool (\$4) or at the trailhead on Hwy. 1 across from Waddell Beach at 10:00 a.m. Leader: Diane Cornell, 423-5925.

# OUTINGS

*Saturday, January 5*

**HIKE: WILDER RANCH**

An 8.5-mile loop, with 900' elevation gain, along the Engelsmann, Long Meadow, Chinquapin, Eucalyptus, Old Cabin and Wild Boar Trails in the east and north sections of this state park. We'll traverse several riparian forests and open meadows with beautiful ocean vistas. Meet at the Santa Cruz County Govt. Center parking lot at 9:30 a.m. Bring water, lunch and \$1 carpool. Leader: Ed Gilbert, 685-8389.

*Sunday, January 6*

**HIKE: WHALE PEAK AT SOBERANES PT**

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 you have them. 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. Back by early afternoon. Rain cancels. Meet at the Black Bear Diner Park & Ride at 10:00 a.m. Leader: Mary Gale, 626-3565.

*Tuesday, January 8*

**SENIOR WALK: W CLIFF/NAT BRIDGES**

One of our favorites. We'll walk from Lighthouse Field to Natural Bridges to visit the Monarchs and hopefully, take the Nature Trail to Moore Creek Lagoon. Lunch at the Visitor's Center. Easy 4 miles. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. or at 9:50 a.m. at Lighthouse Field parking lot across from Surfing Museum. Leader: Jean Harrison, 425-5447.

*Wednesday, January 9*

**HIKE: FORT ORD PUBLIC LANDS**

The rugged and scenic Chaparral Loop uses Old Reservation Rd. and canyon dirt roads through beautiful oak groves, lush grasslands, and chaparral. After years of military use to train soldiers in WWII and Vietnam, it is being reclaimed as a park. It is named after a Civil War general. Lots of wide vistas for viewing hawks, interesting rock formations, and views of the Gabilan and Santa Lucia Mts. Bring water and lunch. 8 miles. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. to carpool (\$4) or at 9:15 a.m. behind the gas station at Rio del Mar and Hwy. 1. To meet at the trailhead at 10:00 a.m. drive down Reservation Rd. to where it meets Hwy. 68, take Portola Dr. and in 0.2 mile turn onto Creekside Terrace. The trailhead is at the end of the street. Leader: Diane Cornell, 423-5925.

*Saturday, January 12*

**HIKE: CASTLE ROCK FROM KINGS CREEK**

We'll explore an unusual access route almost to the top of Castle Rock SP from Boulder Creek. Weather allowing, we'll see wonderful vistas over Monterey Bay from 2600'. 8 miles with 1700' elevation gain. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Santa Cruz County Government Center to carpool. Call Nick if you need additional info. Leader: Nick Wyckoff, 462-3101.

*Saturday, January 12*

**KAYAK TRIP: ELKHORN SLOUGH**

Elkhorn Slough National Estuary is California's 2nd largest wetland area. Depart 10:00 a.m. from Moss Landing, Kayak Connection's dock. We'll go into the slough with the tide and return when the tide changes direction. Expect to be back at around 4:00 p.m. Required: intermediate kayaking skills, sea-worthy equipment. Kayak rental available in Moss Landing, at Kayak Connection. If renting, arrive by 9:00 a.m. so paperwork and fitting are done by 10:00 a.m. Bring lunch, water, sun protection, wildlife story to share. We may have an Elkhorn Slough docent to share interpretive talk with us. For info call, only between 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Leader: Jukka, 429-8513.

*Saturday, January 12*

**FUTURE OUTINGS PLANNING**

Interested in cross country skiing? backpacking? Utah? biking? overnight trips? hot springs? Yosemite? Show up for an informal night of brainstorming and idea sharing for possible trips for the coming year. Lets get some ideas going now! Call for information. John Howerton, 476-4253.

*Sunday, January 13*

**WALK: GARLAND RANCH**

Easy 4-mile hike. We'll go up to the Mesa via Buckeye and Waterfall Trails, come back via Fern, Mesa, and Lupine Loop Trails. Nice valley views; trails may be muddy. Meet at Albertson's to carpool at 9:00 a.m. or at Garland parking lot at 9:20 a.m. Bring snack/lunch and water. Rain cancels. Leader: Martha Saylor, 372-9215.

*Tuesday, January 15*

**SENIOR WALK: SUNSET BEACH**

We'll walk both the bluffs and the beach. Moderate 4 miles with only one small hill. Dress for weather. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. or at the Sunset Beach kiosk parking lot at approx. 9:50 a.m. Bring water, lunch, \$2 carpool. Leader: Joan Brohmer, 462-3803.

*Thursday, January 17*

**HIKE: GARZAS CREEK**

Our 4-mile loop with 800' elevation gain takes us through a redwood canyon and along Garzas Creek with six picturesque crossings. Moderate pace with stops to enjoy flora & fauna. Meet at the Black Bear Diner Park & Ride by 10:00 a.m. or at the Garzas Canyon trailhead on East Garzas Road by 10:20 a.m. Bring water and lunch. Call for a reservation. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

*Saturday, January 19*

**HIKE: SOQUEL DEMO STATE FOREST**

This demonstration forest, one of only two in the state, is used for forest practices research and forestry training. Located high on a ridge (2600') and deep in a canyon (800') behind The Forest of Nisene Marks, this forest is bordered on the north by Soquel Creek and is directly above the San Andreas Fault. We'll hike from the junction of Eureka Cyn Rd. and Highland Wy. through the upper reaches of Nisene Marks to the Ridge Trail, then to the Braille Trail where we'll drop into the canyon and follow Hihn's Mill Rd. to hike's end at Highland Wy. 10-miles. Car shuttle. Meet at Sears 41st Ave. at 9:00 a.m. Bring plenty of water, lunch and \$4 carpool. Leader: Ed Gilbert, 685-8389.

*Sunday, January 20*

**HIKE: PINNACLES**

We'll celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Pinnacles as a National Monument this week! Usually the warmest local place to hike in winter. 10 miles with 1000' elevation gain. We'll be looking for condors, enjoying the great views and green hills. Bring 2 liters water, lunch, and ideas for future hikes! Super heavy rain cancels. Call leader for carpool information. Leader: John Howerton, 476-4253.

*Tuesday, January 22*

**SENIOR WALK: RIO DEL MAR**

Choice of a level 4-miles along Seacliff and Rio Del Mar or walk up Cliff Dr. in a neighborhood for 1 mile and back down to beach along a little-known path. We'll also walk past the cement ship. Lunch at the picnic area. Meet before 9:30 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. or the parking lot at Rio Del Mar by Rio Cafe at 9:50 a.m.

**Getting to outings**

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



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**Tuesday, January 22**

**HIKE: JULIA PFEIFFER BURNS**

This gorgeous 4-mile lollipop loop on the Ewoldsen Trail has 1600' elevation gain and follows McWay Creek through dense coastal redwood forest. Lunch at a panoramic overlook of the Big Sur coastline. Moderate pace with stops to enjoy flora & fauna. Bring water, lunch, and

optional binoculars. Meet at the Black Bear Diner Park & Ride at 9:00 a.m. Call for a reservation. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

**Wednesday, January 23**

**HIKE: HENRY COWELL STATE PARK**

Let's enter the park from Hwy. 9, 6 miles north of the Hwy. 1 junction in Santa Cruz. We'll get to the trail through the old-growth, virgin Redwood Loop past the visitors' center toward the San Lorenzo River. The Eagle Creek Trail will take us up to the Observation Deck for a view over Monterey Bay. We'll circle the campground and return along Pipeline Rd. Bring lunch and water. 8 miles through forest, chaparral, and riparian areas. Meet at Sears 41st Ave. at 9:00 a.m. to carpool (\$3) or in front of the visitors' center inside the park gate at 9:35 a.m. Leader: Diane Cornell, 423-5925.

**Friday, January 25**

**HIKE: BLUFF CAMP**

Let's try again for this hike that was cancelled in Nov. because of the forest closure. Meet at the Black Bear Diner Park & Ride at 9:00 a.m. to carpool to Princes Camp in Cachagua. Our 8-mile walk is across the dam and along the edge of the reservoir to lunch at Bluff Camp on the upper Carmel River. Expect scenic and moderately strenuous terrain at a leisurely pace. Bring lunch and water. Rain cancels. Leaders: Cath Farrant and Mary Dainton, 372 7427.

**Saturday, January 26**

**HIKE: RANCHO SAN ANTONIO CO PARK**

This is a Santa Clara Co. Park on the east side of the Santa Cruz Mountains ridge, just south of Black Mountain. Views from Mt. Tam to the northwest to south San Jose, weather permitting. Interesting flora. It is at times a huff and puff 2000' elevation gain in 9 miles. I'll pace the walk for a pleasant experience. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Santa Cruz County Government Center to carpool. Call Nick for additional information. Leader: Nick Wyckoff, 462-3101.

**Saturday, January 26**

**HIKE: TERRACE CREEK**

Hike the Pine Ridge Trail to Terrace Creek, go up the wonderful narrow valley to the Old Coast Rd., and then down to the Ventana Inn. This 14-mile, 2000' elevation gain strenuous hike in Big Sur has views of a beautiful creek as well as the Big Sur coast. Meet at the Save Mart in Carmel Valley at 9:00 a.m. to carpool. Wear boots, bring water and lunch. Heavy rain can-

cels. Leader: Steve Legnard, 402-1422.

**Sunday, January 27**

**HIKE: POST SUMMIT**

A steep, strenuous climb via trail and fire road to dramatic viewpoint overlooking the Big Sur Coast. Ten miles, 3500' elevation gain. Bring lunch and at least one quart of water. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Black Bear Diner Park and Ride. Rain cancels. Leader: Eugene Sobka, 449-0873.

**Tuesday, January 29**

**HIKE: NISENE MARKS**

This 8-mile loop with 900' elevation gain begins on the Loma Prieta Trail, takes us through a lovely redwood forest and along beautiful creeks with several crossings. Moderate pace with stops to enjoy flora & fauna. Meet in Seaside at the Home Depot parking lot near gas station by 8:45 a.m. or in Aptos in the parking lot behind Dance Synergy by 9:30 a.m. Bring water and lunch. Call for a reservation. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

**Wednesday, January 30**

**HIKE: MEMORIAL COUNTY PARK**

You can't really brag about climbing Mt. Ellen because the elevation is only 700', but the Pomponio Trail will take us to the top to a sunny ridge and back down past walls of ferns through a grove of big second-growth redwoods. The Creek Trail along Pescadero Creek returns us to the park picnic area. Bring lunch, water, and a walking stick for this 9-mile hike. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Sears 41st Ave. to carpool (\$5) or at the corner of King and Mission at



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# OUTINGS

9:15 a.m. We'll be in the picnic parking area off Pescadero Rd. at 10:20 a.m. to start the hike. Leader: Diane Cornell, 423-5925.

## FEBRUARY

Saturday, February 2

### HIKE: FALL CREEK EAST RIDGE

A 9-mile, semi-loop hike, with 1200' elevation gain, entering from SLV High School along the High School, Ridge, Truck and Big Ben Trails. Our return will follow gorgeous Fall Creek past the machinery at the ruins of the old barrel mill, the lime quarry and the lime kilns from the 1870s. Meet at the Santa Cruz County Government Center at 9:30 a.m. or at Felton Faire at 9:50 a.m. Bring water, lunch and \$2 for carpool. Leader: Ed Gilbert, 685-8389.

Saturday, February 2

### HIKE: JACKS PEAK

We'll walk around Jack's Peak clockwise, starting at the school on Olmstead Rd. (near the airport). 7 miles with < 1,000' elevation gain. Beautiful views of Monterey and Point Lobos. Bring water and lunch. Meet at the elementary school on Olmstead Road at 9:30 a.m. Heavy rain cancels; drizzle doesn't count. Dress for the winter weather. Confirm by calling a few days before. Leader: Anneliese Suter, 624-1467.

Saturday - Sunday, February 2 - 3

### MECCA HILLS CAR CAMP

Explore the Mecca Hills Wilderness Area east of Indio, CA. While ATVs roar through the Algodones dunes to the south, we'll walk qui-

etly through the gravel washes and rocky hills to several well-known, spectacular sites. Sat. we visit Hidden Springs and the Grottos, and Sun. we'll explore Painted Cyn. Car camping will include the civilized amenities: potluck supper and campfire Sat. night. Limit 12. Leader: Craig Deutsche, deutsche@earthlink.net, (310-477-6670). CNRCC Desert Committee.

Sunday, February 3

### HIKE: MOUNT MANUEL

Usually known as the best (winter) trail in the Ventana, this hike has a steady uphill grade with views of the Big Sur River and the coast. See an early start of the wildflower season and coastal mid-winter at its best. 10 miles, 3000' elevation gain. Bring 2 liters of water and lunch; dress in layers. Heavy rain cancels. Meet at the Black Bear Diner Park and Ride at 9:00 a.m. Santa Cruz hikers call leader for carpool info! Leader: John Howerton, 476-4253.

Sunday, February 3

### HIKE: TORO PARK OR FORT ORD

Let's see what the weather and mood incline us to do for a not-too-fast hike up a canyon and along a ridge. At Toro Park, Wildcat Cyn is fun; at Fort Ord, Engineer Cyn leads to a short climb to a mesa which might have Indian warrior and Zygadene in bloom. Either hike calls for layered clothing, good shoes, a stick if you have it, lunch and water. Hard rain cancels. Meet at the newish parking lot inside the entrance to the BLM lands off Reservation Rd. at Portola Dr. Need more help finding your way? Google it, or call leader before the morning of the hike! Leader: Mary Gale, 626-3565.



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## Ventana Chapter

Mailing Address—The Ventana Chapter, P.O. Box 5667, Carmel, CA, 93921  
Phone: 624-8032 (Santa Cruz Group Phone: 426-4453) 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	15040 Charter Oak Blvd.	Prunedale, CA 93907	633-8709
	George Jammal	601 Manzanita Ave.	Felton, CA 95018	706-4233
	Beverly Bean	39 Calera Cyn Rd.	Salinas, CA 93908	484-2451
	Steve Zmak	3200 Crescent Ave.	Marina, CA 93933	883-4459
	Heather Zissler	615 Lobos Ave. #B	Pac. Grove, CA 93950	541-337-7511
<b>Admin Chair/Sec</b>	Mary Gale	25430 Telarana Way	Carmel, CA 93923	626-3565
<b>Coastal Chair</b>	Leah Rose	P.O. Box 996	Pacific Grove, CA 93950	601-6477

### Conservation Committee

Co-chairs	Gudrun Beck	23765 Spectacular Bid	Monterey, CA 93940	655-8586
	Gillian Taylor	52 La Rancheria	Carmel Valley, CA 93924	659-0298

### Local Wilderness Committee

Chair	Steve Chambers	319 Caledonia St.	Santa Cruz, CA 95062	425-1787
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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	706-4233
	Patricia Matejcek	P.O. Box 2067	Santa Cruz, CA 95063	768-8187

### Population Committee

Chair	Harriet Mitteldorf	942 Coral Dr.	Pebble Beach, CA 93953	373-3694
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### Political Chair

	Terry Hallock	P.O. Box 22993	Carmel, CA 93922	915-0266
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### Sierra Club Council

Delegate	George Jammal	601 Manzanita Ave.	Felton, CA 95018	706-4233
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

<b>Ventana Editor</b>	Debbie Bulger	1603 King St.	Santa Cruz, CA 95060	457-1036
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### Pajaro River Committee

Co-chairs	Lois Robin	4701 Nova Dr.	Santa Cruz, CA 95062	464-1184
	JoAnn Baumgartner	P.O. Box 1766	Watsonville, CA 95077	722-5556

### Forestry Chair

	Jodi Frediani	1015 Smith Grade	Santa Cruz, CA 95060	426-1697
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## Santa Cruz County Group of the Ventana Chapter

Group Office: 1001 Center St., Santa Cruz, next to Actors' Theatre Website: www.ventana.sierraclub.org  
Mailing Address: Sierra Club, Santa Cruz Group, P.O. Box 604, Santa Cruz, CA 95061-0604  
Phone: 831-426-HIKE (426-4453), Fax: 831-426-LEAD (426-5323), email: scsccrg@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	Shandra D. Handley	147 S. River St., Ste. 221	Santa Cruz, CA 95060	477-1981
Other members	Kristen Raugust	454 Swanton Road	Davenport, CA 95017	423-8566
	Charles Paulden	415 Palisades Ave.	Santa Cruz, CA 95062	462-3423
	Bojana Fazarinc	25401 Spanish Rnch Rd.	Los Gatos, CA 95033	408-353-5536
	Dennis Davie	P.O. Box 651	Capitola, CA 95010	427-2626
	David Kossack	P.O. Box 268	Davenport, CA 95017	427-3733
	Patricia Matejcek	P.O. Box 2067	Santa Cruz, CA 95063	768-8187

### Treasurer

	Aldo Giacchino	1005 Pelton Ave.	Santa Cruz, CA 95060	460-1538
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### Conservation Chair

	Patricia Matejcek	P.O. Box 2067	Santa Cruz, CA 95063	768-8187
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### Forestry Chair

	Jodi Frediani	1015 Smith Grade	Santa Cruz, CA 95060	426-1697
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### Outings Chair

	George Jammal	601 Manzanita Ave.	Felton, CA 95018	706-4233
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### Transportation Chair

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

	Gary Lasky	2350 Felt Street	Santa Cruz, CA 95062	476-5702
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### Coastal Chair

	Patricia Matejcek	P.O. Box 2067	Santa Cruz, CA 95063	768-8187
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### Water Chair

	Ken Reiller	990 Hecker Pass Rd.	Watsonville, CA 95076	728-4046
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## Ventana Chapter Candidates

**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 electro-plating 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.

**Eva Haase**



I am earnestly dedicated to natural resource conservation, policy advocacy, and community empowerment. I have been fortunate enough to exercise these passions in both my work as the Agriculture and Land-Based Training Association's Agricultural Conservation Associate as well as through my academic pursuit of a dual Master of International Environmental Policy and Business Administration at the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

I am certified in Conservation Program Leadership, Conflict Resolution, and Wilderness First Response. Previously, I worked to restore degraded desert environments in Joshua Tree National Park,

California. My roots in conservation, began in Oregon where I used my environmental and cultural geography background to inform species recovery and habitat conservation studies, educate schoolchildren concerning the role and importance of healthy ecosystems, and grow and market sustainable food crops.

I believe that grassroots investments in cultivating appropriate and innovative approaches to environmental conservation can advance social and ecological welfare.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness.

**Rita Dalessio**

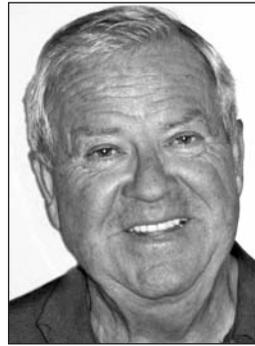


As Chapter Chair, I have worked with other Executive Committee members to protect natural resources in Monterey County. We are currently one of the fastest growing counties in the state. Powerful special interests with money and influence seek to develop, especially large subdivisions on unincorporated county land and in the coastal zones. If re-elected to Ex Com, I will continue to oppose projects that threaten our air quality, water supply, farmland and wildlife. Using the expertise and legal clout of the Sierra Club I will work to ensure that environmental laws and procedures are enforced in our area.

As a hiker, I am also very committed to protection of the vast Ventana Wilderness. Our Chapter is actively promoting the preservation of this national treasure to ensure that these spectacular wild lands will continue to be a sanctuary for hikers and wildlife.

## Santa Cruz Group Candidates

**Paul Elerick**



I've been a resident of Aptos since 1970. My wife Sharon and I have two adult children, Paul Jr., and Denise who are living in Aptos.

I am retired, after commuting "over the hill" for 30 years. I saw Santa Clara County in the '60s change from beautiful agricultural land to huge expanses of asphalt. We vowed not to let it happen in Santa Cruz County. We knew Santa Cruz had a chance of keeping its soul if people stood up for the environment.

I am presently serving as chair of the Campaign for Sensible Transportation that helped defeat Measure J which would have widened Highway 1. I also serve as the chair of the Santa Cruz Group's Transportation Committee.

I have years of experience in local political campaigns and community involvement. I'd like to use my experience to advance the goals of the Sierra Club.

**Aldo Giacchino**



I have been the Chair of the Executive Committee of the Santa Cruz Group for the past three years, and also served concurrently as the Group's Treasurer for the last two years. Before and after joining the Executive Committee I have engaged in

many community efforts to protect the Santa Cruz environment. I have successfully contested environmentally damaging projects before the Coastal Commission, City, County and regional bodies.

I love our diverse environment, the coast, mountains, forests, streams and open spaces. I will do my utmost to preserve and enhance the enjoyment of our region's natural resources.

I have a Master's degree and a ten-year career in city planning, including the position of Planning Director of a major city. I have also been an executive in several health care organizations. I have the experience to plan, manage, and work collaboratively on complex problems and organizational issues. I would appreciate your vote.

**Patricia Matejcek**



I presently serve as the Santa Cruz Group Conservation Chair, Liaison to the Ventana Chapter, Chapter delegate to the Regional Conservation Committee, Group Coastal chair and member of Great Coastal Places Steering Committee. I am seeking another term on the Santa Cruz Group Executive Committee in order to continue to work on Central Coast conservation issues.

### CLASSIFIEDS

**Rates:** \$5 per line for Sierra Club members. Payment must accompany all ads. Make checks payable to: Sierra Club. Approx. 35 characters per line. Spaces and punctuation count as characters. Typewritten or computer generated copy only.

**HAVE YOU DISCOVERED SHAVER LAKE yet??** [www.shaverlakelogcabin.com](http://www.shaverlakelogcabin.com).

**WEBMASTER.** The Ventana Chapter is looking for a volunteer webmaster. Must have at least working knowledge and some experience with html. Experience with PERL or C a big plus. Duties include website updates. No content editing needed. For more information contact George Jammal, [george.jammal@ventana.sierraclub.org](mailto:george.jammal@ventana.sierraclub.org).

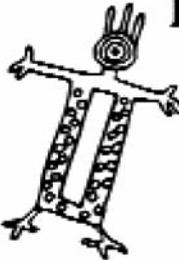
**POLITICAL COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS** Are you actively interested in political issues? The Political Committee is looking for members to work on Club endorsements for candidates and issues for the coming elections. To volunteer, call Gary Lasky, 476-5702.

**HAVE YOU PLANTED A NATIVE TREE?** Call the editor, 457-1036.

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# Voting Instructions and Executive Committee Ballot

Review candidate statements on page 14 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.)

The ballot must be postmarked by January 2.

For joint memberships, mark a vote in both columns.

After you mark your ballot, **TEAR OFF THIS ENTIRE PAGE** and mail to Sierra Club, Ex-Com Elections, P.O. Box 604, Santa Cruz, CA 95061-0604. The 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 to ensure a secret ballot.

## Ventana Chapter

Both Santa Cruz and Monterey members may vote for these  
vote for up to 3

candidate	individual or 1st joint member	2nd joint member
Joel Weinstein		
Eva Haase		
Rita Dalessio		

## Santa Cruz Group

Only Santa Cruz members may vote for these  
vote for up to 3

candidate	individual or 1st joint member	2nd joint member
Paul Elerick		
Aldo Giacchino		
Patricia Matejcek		

## What does the Executive Committee do?

The members of the Executive Committee make Chapter and Group policy for the Club. These representatives meet each month 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.

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## MEETING SCHEDULE

### Ventana Chapter (Monterey Co.)

Information: 624-8032

**Executive Committee:**

Last Thursday of the month; Call for meeting place & time.

**Conservation Committee:**

As needed.  
For dates and times call 655-8586

### Santa Cruz Regional Group

Information: 426-4453

Meeting Place: Sierra Club Office, 1001 Center St., Santa Cruz, Suite 11.

**Executive Committee:**

Wednesday, January 9 at 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, February 13 at 7:00 p.m.

**Conservation Committee:**

Call Conservation Chair for meeting times and dates: 768-8187

# The VENTANA

MAGAZINE OF THE VENTANA CHAPTER OF THE SIERRA CLUB

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OUTINGS**



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Ventana staff photo



## One of the smallest



MAGAZINE OF THE VENTANA CHAPTER OF THE SIERRA CLUB

This diminutive Ruby-crowned kinglet can be identified by its pale eye-ring. Kinglets are among our smallest birds, larger only than some hummingbirds. This one was photographed at Elkhorn Slough. The red crown patch on male Ruby-crowned kinglets is usually concealed.



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