



Volume 22, Issue 3 Published Bimonthly by the Sierra Sage of South Orange County Group of the Sierra Club
May 1, 2014 through June 30, 2014

LESS THAN A MONTH TO BUY YOUR TICKETS

15TH ANNUAL STARR RANCH BBQ

This is to alert all of our members that we will be having our 15th annual STARR RANCH BBQ at the Audubon Starr Ranch Sanctuary again this spring.

WHEN: Sunday, May 18, 2014
1:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

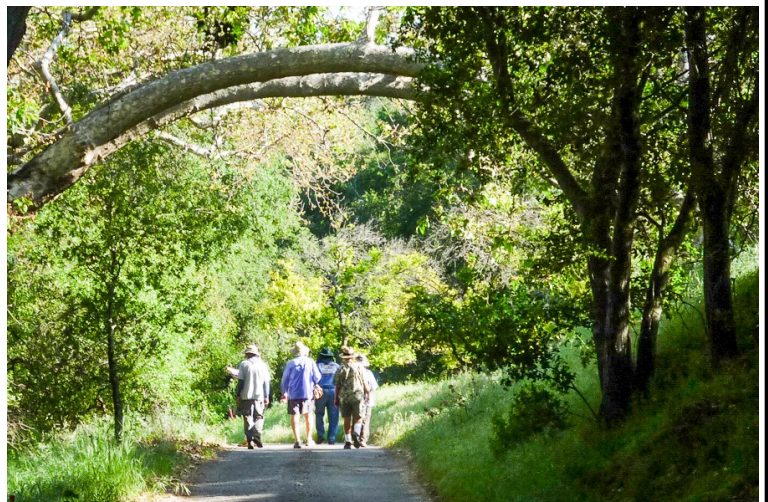
WHERE: STARR RANCH in South Orange County. (Map provided with ticket receipt.)

TICKETS: \$30 per adult,
\$15 per child under 12

TO ORDER TICKETS: Send check or money order, made payable to Sierra Sage along with a self addressed stamped envelope to:

STARR RANCH BBQ
c/o Patty Sappingfield
26352 Via Juanita
Mission Viejo, CA 92691

continued on Page 3



You are invited to join us at our bi-monthly meeting:

Program: Pacific Northwest Wonderland.

Mike and Patty will conduct a presentation of the wonders of Mt. Rainer, the Olympic National Park, the Makah Nation, and Victoria BC.

**WHERE: Norman Murray Community and Senior Center
24932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo, CA**

WHEN: 7:00 PM, Tuesday, May 27 2014

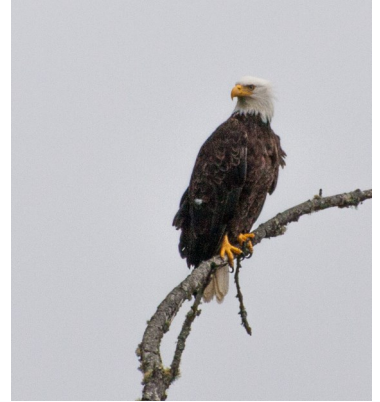
ROOM: Juniper

Refreshments Provided

DIRECTIONS:

Northbound on I-5, exit at La Paz, turn right onto La Paz, cross Marguerite Parkway and proceed over Oso Creek. Turn left onto Veterans Way and drive to the Murray Center Parking lot.

Southbound on I-5, exit at La Paz, turn left onto La Paz, cross Marguerite Parkway and Oso Creek. Turn left onto Veterans Way and drive to the Murray Center Parking Lot



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SAN ONOFRE TASK FORCE

The Task Force was part of a great victory: permanent closure of the troubled and technologically defective San Onofre nuclear power plant. The Task Force consistently urged against the fast-track restart sought by Edison. This proved to be the crucial point. When the NRC would not grant that request, Edison shuttered the plant in June 2013.

The Task Force worked with but did not formally join the Coalition to Decommission San Onofre. After shutdown, we played a lead role in organizing, financing and hosting a Community Symposium on Decommissioning, held October 2013 in San Clemente. National experts discussed nuclear waste management issues that became the key focus after shutdown.

Currently we are one of only two environmental organizations represented on the Citizens Engagement Panel established by Edison to provide independent review of the decommissioning plan.

—Glenn Pascall, Chair

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO THE GREEN CITIES INITIATIVE IN ALISO VIEJO?????

Over the past several years, most of the cities of South Orange County have been active participants in the Green Cities Initiative with some significant results to show for it. However, after a lot of activity, much city funds spend on consultants, & many public meetings, we cannot find any evidence of any real action. CITIZENS OF ALISO VIEJO, WE NEED YOUR HELP. If you know of any significant accomplishment from the effort and tax dollars spent, please let the editor know. We will publish what we hear in the next issue.

If you live in Aliso Viejo, and you do not know of any actions to come out of the Green Cities Initiative, we suggest you write your newspaper and the City Council members and ask. Please let us know what you find out. We would be delighted to give credit where credit is due, or help light a fire to get things moving if they are stalled.

Editor: Mike Sappingfield
Email: Mikesapp@cox.net

STARR RANCH BBQ (cont.)

For more information, call 949-768-3610 or email Mike at mikesapp@cox.net or Patty at solanese@cox.net

WHAT: food will be grilled hamburgers or veggie burgers, beans, salads, fruit, chips, and all the fixings.

Hikes and birdwalks will be conducted during the afternoon by various leaders. Some will be short and easy, others will involve a bit more energy.

Starr Ranch is world renowned for its live videos of owls, hummingbirds, hawks, and many other types. They promise to provide a viewing place for folks to check out the live bird cams.

A live bluegrass band will play for much of the afternoon for your listening pleasure.

In addition to the regular events, children's' programs and/or events will be presented periodically throughout the day..

It takes about 30 people to put on the BBQ. If you would be willing to help out in any way, call or email Mike or Patty (see above). Ticket discounts available for BBQ volunteer workers.



Outings



Wednesday, May 07, 2014 8:30 AM

0407-Orange County Group Outing

O: San Juan Capistrano Figure 8 Loop

Moderate, 10 mi, 1750' cum. gain. In the course of this hike, we'll be on 11 wide horse trails within the San Juan, with great views in all directions. Starting from the Cerro Rebal trailhead, we'll ascend to the ridgeline that separates San Juan Capistrano from San Clemente. Heading E, then N, we'll make our way down to San Juan Creek where we will have lunch at picnic tables under the only shade on the hike. After lunch, we'll make another ascent to the highest elevation of the hike, then return to our starting point. Meet 8:30 am at the South Orange County rideshare point. Bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles. Rain within 3 days cancels.

Ed Maurer 949-768-0417 balois@cox.net

Sherri Sisson 949-786-7681 sksisson@gmail.com

Saturday, May 10, 2014 9:00 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: Salt Creek Trail

Join us as we hike the Salt Creek Trail along the watershed, from Chapparosa Park in Laguna Niguel to Salt Creek beach in south Laguna Beach and back. This is a 6 mile round trip, 400 feet gain, easy-to-moderate hike, with potentially spectacular views of the ocean. Bring hat, sunscreen, comfortable walking shoes, 2 quarts water, light jacket, snack, and money for beverage (optional). At mid-point, we will stop at a cafe near the in Chapparosa Park. From the 5 freeway, take Crown Valley exit and turn west. Turn left at Golden Lantern. Turn right at Chapparosa Park road and drive to the end of the park. Park near the restrooms. The trailhead is at the end of the parking lot. Contact leaders for more information.

Todd Clark 714-803-0195 clarkta@hotmail.com

Sylvie Cote 949-547-2998 mlsylvie@hotmail.com

Saturday, May 17, 2014 9:00 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

C: Tour Coastal Water Treatment Plant

Join us for this rare opportunity for a docent-led conducted tour of our local water treatment plant. We will carpool from the Wood Canyon parking lot in Aliso Viejo, \$3 fee, via private access road. Supervised children are welcome and encouraged to join us. *Sylvia Stevenson 949-616-2765 sjstevenson2828@yahoo.com*

Sunday, May 18, 2014 1:00 PM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Club Support Event

O: 15th Annual Starr Ranch BBQ

The ranch, on over 4,000 acres set in the foothills east of Rancho Santa Margarita, is used primarily as an educational and research facility for the Audubon Society. BBQ Activities include hiking, bird watching, listening to a live Band, great conversation, special activities, and enjoying tasty food. Often, the Starr Ranch staff are able to have a live video feed from a hawk's or owl's nest as the mother feeds her young chicks. Deer often wander through the picnic area during the day. Hamburgers, Veggie Burgers, salads, beans, potato chips, desserts, fresh fruit and all the trimmings will be provided. A beverage bar (donations welcome) for your beverage of choice is available. Tickets are \$30 per person, \$15 for children under 12. To request tickets, send check, made out to SIERRA SAGE, and a SASE (Self Addressed Stamped Envelope) to Starr Ranch BBQ, c/o Patty Sappingfield, 26352 Via Juanita, Mission Viejo, CA 92691. For more info or to volunteer to help, call Mike or Patty Sappingfield at 949-768-3610 or email solanese@cox.net. Map and directions are provided with each ticket.

Michael Sappingfield 949-768-3610

mikesapp@cox.net

Patty Sappingfield 949-768-3610 solanese@cox.net

Sylvie Cote 949-547-2998 mlsylvie@hotmail.com

John Kaiser 714-968-4677 jkai39@gmail.com

Wednesday, May 21, 2014 8:30 AM

0407-Orange County Group Outing

Serrano Creek Trail

Wednesday, May 21, 2014: 8:30 AM: Serrano Creek Trail: 5 mi. one way, 590 ft. gain; 10 mi, round trip, 690 ft. gain/loss Starting at Heritage Park in Lake Forest we meander along the trail in woodsy Serrano Creek Park. We cross Trabuco Road and continue up along a rather shady suburban trail climbing gently toward Foothill ranch. Where we cross Lake Forest Drive, the short hike ends, and participants return to the starting point by public transit (OCTA Bus #177). The longer hike continues into Whiting Ranch following Live Oak Trail and returning on Serrano Creek Trail all the way back to Trabuco Road with a stop for lunch (picnic or eatery) in Foodhill (sic) Ranch en route. Meet 8:30 AM at Heritage Hill Parking Lot on

Serrano Road, less than a block north off Lake Forest Drive (west of the intersection of Lake Forest Drive and Trabuco Road). Bring water, snack, lunch (long hike), water, snack, and money for only for short hike. Walking shoes ok for these hikes. Rain cancels. Ldrs: Ed & Helen Maurer (long hike), bus (\$0.75 for seniors, \$2 for adults).

Ed Maurer 949-768-0417 balois@cox.net

Helen Maurer 949-768-0417 7gables@cox.net

Saturday, May 24, 2014 8:45 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: Trabuco Ridge Loop: 4.8 miles, 1,000' gain. A series of San Juan Capistrano trails between Rancho Viejo Road and Mission Viejo borderline, with amazing views of wilderness and urban scenes from several steep hills. Meet 8:45 am at the Park&Ride lot at Junipero Sierra Road and Rancho Viejo Road, 1 block East of I-5 Freeway in San Juan Capistrano. (NOT the South OC Rideshare). Bring water, hat, lugsoles. Rain cancels. *Chester Stipe 949-697-1985 chetbar@cox.net*

Don Clarence 949-709-2967 donclarence@hotmail.com

Saturday, May 31, 2014 9:00 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: Tijeras Creek & Chiquita Ridge

5 mile loop, 300' gain. Hike on Tijeras Creek Trail (road) with a short rise to Chiquita Ridge (road), which loops down to re-join the creek trail. From here we hike downstream along the creek on smooth single-track trail through meadows and beneath Oaks and Sycamores to the Cañada Vista Park. Return on the creek trail to our starting point. There will be good views and seasonal flowers. Meet 9 am at corner of Bienvenidos Street & Antonio Parkway, North of the 241 Tollway, in Rancho Santa Margarita. Bring water, lugsoles, hat, snack. Rain cancels.

Chester Stipe 949-697-1985 chetbar@cox.net

Michael Sappingfield 949-768-3610

mikesapp@cox.net

Saturday, June 14, 2014 8:30 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: James Dilley Preserve

4 mile loop, 300' gain. Interesting trails lead to the summit and to Barbara's Lake, in this preserved natural habitat. Meet 8:30 am at Dilley parking (\$3) on northbound Laguna Canyon Road, just North of the 73 Tollway. Bring water, hat, lugsoles. Rain cancels. *Sylvia Stevenson 949-487-2660 sjstevenson2828@yahoo.com*

Chester Stipe 949-697-1985 chetbar@cox.net

Saturday, June 21, 2014 8:00 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: Butler Peak (8535') car camp

Join us as we hike one of the "seven summits of Big Bear", the third most prominent peak of the San Bernardino mountains. This is a day-long 10 mile hike with 1800 feet gain on a fire road. Weather permitting, there will be wonderful views. There will also be the possibility to explore the fire lookout, if staffed. Bring 10 essentials, lunch, lugsole boots, hat, sunscreen, jacket, 3 quarts water, \$10/person for camp site, camping gear. Join us for car camping on Friday night and/or Saturday night at Hanna Flat Campground. We will have Happy Hour on Saturday night. USFS Adventure Pass required for daytime parking at the trailhead. Forecasts of thunderstorms and/or rain or fire cancel. Prior registration for the hike and car camping required. Contact leaders for more information.

Todd Clark 714-803-0195 clarkta@hotmail.com

Sylvie Cote 949-547-2998 mlsylvie@hotmail.com

Frances Penn 714-434-2754 fpenn@rutan.com

Saturday, August 16, 2014 8:00 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: Sugarloaf Mountain (9952')

Join us as we hike one of the "seven summits of Big Bear", the highest peak in the range outside of the San Geronio Wilderness. Weather permitting, you will be treated to all-encompassing views of the whole eastern half of the San Bernardinos. This is a day-long 8 miles, 2000' gain, hike. Bring 10 essentials, lugsole boots, hat, jacket, sunscreen, 3 quarts of water, lunch. USFS Adventure Pass is required at the trailhead. Forecasts of thunderstorms and/or rain, or fire cancels. Pre-registration required. Contact leaders for more information.

Todd Clark 714-803-0195 clarkta@hotmail.com

Sylvie Cote 949-547-2998 mlsylvie@hotmail.com

Frances Penn 714-434-2754 fpenn@rutan.com

OCSS CONDITIONING HIKES -

EVERY TUES/THUR @ 6:30 PM

O: IRVINE TURTLE ROCK. Easy/Moderate/Tiger paced hikes, 4-7 mi rt on hilly trails. Bring Water, light hiking boots. 405 Fwy, exit S at University/Jeffery, L on Ridgeline, L on Turtle Rock, pass Sunnyhill, L into parking lot of Turtle Rock Community Park, Ldrs, John LaRue, Markey and Robert Neighbors, Kim Gunderman, Ron Campbell, Gigi Logan, and others.

RIDESHARE MEETING POINTS

N Orange Co... Park-N-Ride, E side of Tustin Av just S of Lincoln Av, Orange.

S Orange Co... Ortega Plaza parking lot SE corner, Ortega Hwy/Rancho Viejo, San Juan Capistrano



ADVANCE NOTICE FLORIDA KEYS AND EVERGLADES



The Sierra Sage Group along with the Angeles Chapter and the Sierra Singles Section of the Sierra Club are pleased to be able to announce a week long vacation trip next spring to Florida to explore and enjoy the Florida Keys and Everglades National Park.

Join us for this 8 day, 7 night fly-drive excursion to the wonders of Florida Everglades and the Florida Keys. Highlights will be visiting the Everglades National Park, viewing the many varieties of birds such as Herons, Anhinga's, Ibis, Cranes, Egrets, as well as alligators, turtles, snakes and many more wild creatures. Who knows, we might even see some manatees and American Crocodiles. We will visit John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park on Key Largo to view the reef on a glass bottom boat, swim and or maybe even snorkel. Key West is one of the destinations with opportunities galore to enjoy the shops, museums, and historical places and/or take advantage of the tours, etc available. We will even stop at the Dolphin Research Center on Grassy Key and the History of Diving Museum on Upper Matecumbe Key in Islamorada.

Trip includes all transportation in Florida, 7 nights lodging, all admissions to scheduled places, and tours and all breakfasts. Trip does not include air fare to and from Florida and lunches and dinners, nor does it include optional items such a snorkeling tours, scuba diving, or canoe or kayak rentals.

Trip cost is \$1350 for Sierra Club Members (\$1450 for non-members) A \$500 deposit will hold your place on the trip with the remainder due by December 1, 2014. For information and to apply, contact Mike Sappingfield at mikesapp@cox.net (949-768-3610) or write to him at 26352 Via Juanita, Mission Viejo, CA 92691. **Leaders: Mary Morales, Mike Sappingfield, Patty Sappingfield**



DIRECTORY OF SIERRA SAGE OFFICERS

Title	Name	Phone	Email
Chair	Mike Sappingfield*	949-768-3610	mikesapp@cox.net
Vice Chair	Todd Clark*	714-803-0195	clarkta@hotmail.com
Secretary	John Kaiser*	714-968-4677	jkai39@gmail.com
Treasurer	Patty Sappingfield*	949-768-3610	solanese@cox.net
Outings Chair	Todd Clark*	714-803-0195	clarkta@hotmail.com
Outings Chair	Sylvie Côté*	949-547-2998	mlsylvie@hotmail.com
Membership Chair	Garry McCoppin*	714-269-5078	mccoppin@cox.net
Conservation Chair	TBD		
Communications	Mike Sappingfield*	949-768-3610	mikesapp@cox.net
Webmaster	Bob Hansen		awildtrout@gmail.com
Circulation Chair	Patty Sappingfield*	949-768-3610	solanese@cox.net
Political Chair	Sharon Koch*	949-717-7745	slkoch@ix.netcom.com
Chapter Rep	Sharon Koch*	949-717-7745	slkoch@ix.netcom.com
Alt Chap Rep	Garry McCoppin*	714-269-5078	mccoppin@cox.net
Program Chair	Sylvia Stevenson*	949-487-2660	sjstevenson2828@yahoo.com
Executive Comm	Duana Miller*	949-831-0890	duana103@hotmail.com
FOF Task Force	Bill Holmes	949-496-5323	billten4@sbcglobal.net
Aliso Hobo Ridge TF	Penny Elia		greenpl1@cox.net
Santa Ana Mtns TF	John Kaiser*	714-968-4677	jkai39@gmail.com
San Onofre TF	Glenn Pascall		gpascall@att.net

* Denotes voting member of the Executive Committee

SIERRA SAGE MEETINGS.

- Executive Committee meetings are open to all members of the Sierra Club who reside in South Orange County. Meetings are on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Contact Mike Sappingfield at **mikesapp@cox.net** for date, time and directions.
- Preserve the Coastal areas of Orange County? Contact Penny Elia at **greenpl1@cox.net**
- Interested in electing environmentally supportive politicians into local offices? Contact Sharon Koch at **slkoch@ix.netcom.com**
- Want to keep the Santa Ana Mountains wild? Or even want to help maintain the trails in the San Mateo Wilderness Area? Contact John Kaiser at **jkai39@gmail.com**
- Still think the toll road through the Richard and Donna O'Neill Nature Conservancy, San Mateo Campground, and Trestle Beach is a bad idea? Contact Bill Holmes at **bill.holmes@att.net**



Subscription Information Sierra Sage Newsletter

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INTERNET ADDRESSES:

Angeles Chapter: www.angeles2.sierraclub.org

Sierra Sage: www.angeles.sierraclub.org/sage



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HIKE OF THE MONTH

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Sylvia Stevenson 949-487-2660 sjstevenson2828@yahoo.com
Chester Stipe 949-697-1985 chetbar@cox.net

Join the Sierra Club

Yes, I want to join! I want to help safeguard our nation's precious natural heritage. My check is enclosed.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____ Zip _____

F94Q -0417

Membership Categories (circle one)

	Individual	Joint
Introductory	\$15	
Standard	\$39	\$49
Supporting	\$75	\$100
Contributing	\$150	\$175
Life	\$1000	\$1250
Senior	\$25	\$35
Student	\$25	\$35
Limited Income	\$25	\$35

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