

# Sierra Sage

Sierra Sage of South Orange County, a Group of the Sierra Club ■ Bimonthly Events & Outings

## You are invited to join us at our annual SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY OPEN HOUSE

*Thinking about joining the Sierra Club?  
Already a member and are not sure how to help?  
Just interested resident?*

### ...The Open House is for Everyone!

*How do I start hiking? Where? How can I save the environment? How can I get involved in protecting the planet? When and where do you meet? What is happening in South Orange County? How can I find out what events are coming up in the near future?*



...These questions and many more will be answered by our many experienced members at the Open House. So come and find out how to have fun and help the planet! You can even join the Sierra Club and the Sierra Sage Group of South Orange county

**CHILI COOKOFF!** In addition, we will have a **Chili Cookoff Contest**. If you want to make Chili, you can bring it cooked and in a Crock Pot and enter. Join the fun, maybe you will be a winner and get an REI gift card.

So, come and have a bowl of chili on us! (to enter the contest, contact **Patty Sappingfield** at (949) 768-3610 for information and to sign up). Everyone samples the chili's and votes on the one you like best.

**WHERE:** **Norman Murray Community  
& Senior Center**

24932 Veterans Way  
Mission Viejo, CA

**WHEN:** 7:00 PM, Tuesday,  
January 28, 2020

**ROOM:** Palo Verde

#### **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 & Oso Creek. Turn left onto Veterans Way and drive to Murray Center Parking Lot.

— ADVANCE NOTICE —

ANGELES CHAPTER and SIERRA SAGE GROUP

*presents*

NEW MEXICO IN THE FALL

**October 10–17, 2020**

Leaders: Mike Sappingfield, Patty Sappingfield



**The trip will be open for applications effective February 1, 2020.**

Requests for application forms can be made by phone, mail, or email to the leaders on or after February 1.

Applications will become official upon receipt of the Application form, Medical form, and Participant Agreement form along with the Deposit.

Come with us to explore northern New Mexico in October in a comfortable professionally driven tour bus. See the colorful Hot Air Balloons at the world famous Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta. Browse and shop in the 17th/18th century town plazas in Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Taos. Visit the incredible Chaco Cultural Historical National Park in Chaco Canyon, Taos Pueblo, Acoma Sky Pueblo, Los Alamos and the birth of the Atomic Bomb, Bandelier National Monument, the Georgia O'Keefe Art Museum and more in this Land of Enchantment.

Our 8-day, 7-night trip includes lodging costs (double occupancy), transportation while in New Mexico, admission fees to schedule attractions such as museums, pueblos, parks and monuments and most breakfasts. *Not included:* Airfare or Amtrak fare to/from Albuquerque, and most meals.

**The cost is \$1495 for Sierra Club Members, \$1595 for Non-Members.**

**A \$500 deposit will hold your place on the trip,  
the remainder is due by July 1, 2020.**

Both leaders can be reached by phone at 949-768-3610

**Mike Sappingfield** email: [mikesapp@cox.net](mailto:mikesapp@cox.net) | cell: 949-633-6993

**Patty Sappingfield** email: [solanese@cox.net](mailto:solanese@cox.net) | cell: 949-233-6993

Mail should be sent to the Sage Post Office Box  
**Sierra Sage Group | P. O. Box 524 | Lake Forest, CA 92609**

# OUTINGS...

Contact leaders for more information for all hikes and outings.

## ● Saturday, January 4, 2020, 8:00 AM

### 0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

#### O: Trail Maintenance on the Verdugo Trail

Volunteers, male and female, from the OC Group, Sierra Sage Group, and the Gorgonio Chapter maintain trails in the San Mateo Canyon Wilderness on a monthly basis. In January, we will extend work on the Verdugo Trail that was done in November. Top priority is brushing a section that is located 2.2 miles from the trail head. Additional work zone could extend to 3 mi. from trail head. *No experience needed, only a willingness to work.* Tools and instructions are provided. Meet at South OC Rideshare, in front of Ball Park Pizza, Rancho Viejo Rd & Ortega Hwy.

**Leader: John Kaiser** | (714) 968-4677 | jkai39@gmail.com

**Daniel Donovan** | (562) 596-1225 | daniel.paul.donovan@gmail.com

**Rich Maxey** | (949) 310-5134 | richmaxey@yahoo.com

## ● Wednesday, January 8, 2020, 9:00 AM

### 0407-So. OC Group Outing, Aliso Wood Grand Tour

#### O: Aliso Wood Grand Tour

11.5 miles, 900' gain. Start the New Year right with great views and 3 parks. Starting at Canyon View, we'll go down Wood Canyon, then take Meadows Trail up to Moulton Meadows for lunch. Then we'll head for Alta Laguna (Top of the World), and return via the West Ridge and Cholla Trail. While there's a big climb in the middle, it's downhill at the end! The distance can make it rather strenuous. Meet 9:00 am at Canyon View Park (from El Toro Rd go S on Moulton Pkwy, R on Glenwood, uphill & over Toll Road where it becomes Pacific Park Dr., R on Canyon Vistas Dr to bottom of hill) with water, lunch, lug-soles. *Rain cancels.*

**Helen Maurer** | (949) 768-0417 | 7gables@cox.net

**Ed Maurer** | (949) 768-0417 | balois@cox.net

## ● Saturday, January 11, 2020, 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM

### 0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing O: Laurel-Lizard Hike

LOCATION: Laguna Canyon-Ent 20101 Laguna Coast, LB 92651

5.5 mi, 600' gain hike in the Laguna Coast Wilderness. We will meet at Willow Staging Area at 8:30 am and hike up lower Laurel Trail then up Lizard Trail to Bonner, then return to Willow Staging Area via Bonner and Willow trails. Bring \$3 for parking per car at Willow, snacks, a qt/ltr of water, hat and poles.

**Michael Sappingfield** | (949) 768-3610 | mikesapp@cox.net

**Linda Ledger** | (949) 444-1285 | linda.ledger@me.com

## ● Sunday, January 12, 2020, 3:30 PM

### 0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

#### O: Naples Island Sunset Walk

MEET: E 2nd St & Pacific Coast Hwy Long Beach 90803

O: Join us for a scenic moderately paced walk to and around Naples Island (3.5-4 miles, relatively flat, with some stairs). We will walk along-side Alamitos Bay and thru the Naples Island canals finishing up as the sun sets. Afterward, optional dinner/refreshments at Whole Foods in the newly opened 2nd & PCH center in Long Beach.

**Karen DeWeese** | (562) 270-3487 | kldeweese@me.com

**Karen Belville** | (310) 486-8583 | karen.belville@gmail.com

## ● Sunday, January 12, 2020, 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM

### 0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

#### O: Crystal Cove Sunset Hike

O: Join us for an easy 2-mile hike from the north end of Crystal Cove to the Cottages, then back north another 2 miles on the beach to the north end at the overlook to enjoy the view for the Sunset behind Catalina Island. Meeting Place is the west side at the intersection of the PCH and Cameo Shore Dr. Recommended: 1 qt/ltr water, hat, and a camera. We will walk back to Cameo Shore after the Sunset. *Rain Cancels.*

**Michael Sappingfield** | (949) 768-3610 | mikesapp@cox.net

**John Kaiser** | (714) 968-4677 | jkai39@gmail.com

## ● Wednesday, January 15, 2020, 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM

### 0407-Orange County Group Outing

#### O: Oso Creek—Jeronimo Open Space Hike

5.5 mile, 400 ft gain/loss hike on Oso Creek Trail, the Jeronimo Open Space, and the Nacimiento Trail and return via loops. Enjoy walking along running creeks, lots of flowers, and the views of the Arroyo Trabuco. Meet up at the north parking lot at Norman Murray Center, 24932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo at 9:00 AM. Bring 2 qts/ltrs of water, munchies, Poles optional. *Heavy Rain Cancels.*

**Michael Sappingfield** | (949) 768-3610 | mikesapp@cox.net

**Helen Maurer** | (949) 768-0417 | 7gables@cox.net

## ● Saturday, January 18, 2020, 8:00 AM

### 0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing | O: Morgan Trail Hike

10 miles r/t, 1200' gain/loss. We will start from the Candy Store and follow the Bear Canyon Trail to its junction with the Morgan Trail, which will take us up to the South Main Divide Road through a mix of chaparral and woodland to a scenic grove of Oaks. Return by the same route. Bring water, lunch & hiking boots. *Rain cancels.* Meet 8:00 am at South OC rideshare or 8:35 am at San Juan Loop parking lot on Ortega Hwy.

**John Kaiser** | (714) 968-4677 | jkai39@gmail.com

**Leaders: Linda Ledger** | (949) 444-1285 | linda.ledger@me.com

## ● Sunday, January 19, 2020, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

### 0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

#### O: Whiting Ranch, Borrego to Red Rocks Family Hike

LOCATION: Whiting Ranch Wilderness Trail, Portola Pkwy, 26701 Portola Pkwy, Foothill Ranch, CA 92610

**Welcome on our Monthly Family Hike.** This one is an easy hike from the Whiting Ranch Parking Lot at Market and Portola in Foothill Ranch, up the Borrego Trail and the Red Rock Trail to the Rocks, and return. Bring 1 qt/ltr of water, snacks, and a hat. The Family hikes are designed for families with children 5 yrs old or older and include stopping for interesting flowers, etc. on the hike. Meet us at 2:00 PM at the Whiting Ranch Parking Lot, corner of Market and Portola in Foothill Ranch. Directions from I-5 is exit onto El Toro Rd Eastbound approximately 5 miles to Portola, left on Portola approx. one mile to Market, just past the Ralphs, and park in the Whiting Ranch Parking Lot. \$3 fee for parking. Credit cards and Park passes are acceptable.

**Michael Sappingfield** | (949) 768-3610 | mikesapp@cox.net

**Audrey Tomovich** | (949) 204-7600 | tomovich@cox.net

## ● Saturday, January 25, 2020, 8:30 AM

### 0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

#### O: Whiting Ranch Glenn Ranch Road Hike

LOCATION: 27901 Glenn Ranch Rd, Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679

Moderate 5-mile hike with approximate 600' gain Whiting Ranch Regional Park. Our hike is from the south side of the Park to Water Tower and back on different trails. Route is Serrano Cow Trail, then Whiting Ranch Rd, return on Cactus Hill Trail and back to the cars. Meet at the

(Outing continues on the next page...)



Glenn Ranch Rd Parking Lot. (\$3 per car parking). Directions from I-5, exit on El Toro eastward to Portola, left on Portola to Glenn Ranch Rd, right up the hill. Parking lot is on left hand side. Suggest hats, up to 2 qtrs/ltrs water, snacks, and poles (opt). *Rain and/or muddy trails cancel.*

**Michael Sappingfield** | (949) 768-3610 | mikesapp@cox.net

**John Kaiser** | (714) 968-4677 | jkai39@gmail.com

● **Tuesday, January 28, 2020, 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM**

**ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE & CHILI COOKOFF**

**0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Club Support Event**

You are invited to join us on our annual Open House to newcomers, old timers, and everyone else who cares about Preserving, Protecting, and Enjoying the wild places of the earth. We will have several presenters to explain what we do and when, and answer all your questions. We will also have a Chili Cookoff and you may, if you wish, bring your own best Chili and enter our contest. All participants can taste and vote for the best. Winners get a Gift Card from REI. Open House begins at 7:00 PM and will end before 9:00 PM. Location: Norman Murray Community & Senior Center, 24932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo, CA

**Michael Sappingfield** | (949) 768-3610 | mikesapp@cox.net

**Patty Sappingfield** | (949) 768-3610 | solanese@cox.net

● **Saturday, February 1, 2020, 8:00 AM (Time Tentative)**

**0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing**

**O: Trail Maintenance in San Mateo Canyon Wilderness**

Volunteers, male and female, from the OC Group, Sierra Sage Group, and the Gorgonio Chapter maintain trails in the San Mateo Canyon Wilderness on a monthly basis. The location is selected each month based on current needs. No experience is needed, only a willingness to work. Tools and instructions are provided. *To receive announcements with details of each month's activities contact...*

**John Kaiser** | (714) 968-4677 | jkai39@gmail.com

**Daniel Donovan** | (562) 596-1225 | daniel.paul.donovan@gmail.com

**Rich Maxey** | (949) 310-5134 | richmaxey@yahoo.com

● **Sunday, February 2, 2020, 1:00 PM**

**0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing**

**O: CSULB Sculpture & Gardens Walk**

O: A fun 3-mile walk, slight grade, with moderate pace and some stairs, exploring Cal State University Long Beach (CSULB). 20-plus pieces of monumental sculpture were constructed on the grounds of CSULB during the Long Beach international Sculpture Symposium in 1965. Other sculptures were added to the university's collection in the years since. We will view these sculptures as we walk the Campus, and explore the Earl Burns Miller Japanese Garden.

**Karen DeWeese** | (562) 270-3487 | kldeweese@me.com

**Karen Belville** | (310) 486-8583 | karen.belville@gmail.com

● **Wednesday, February 5, 2020, 9:00 AM**

**0407-Orange County Group Outing**

**O: Laguna Canyon/Stairsteps Loop**

Moderate 8 mi, 1300' gain, 1900' loss. Starting at Willow, we'll climb to Bommer Ridge and hike to Laguna Beach via Water Tank. There we'll catch Laguna Beach shuttle to Top of the World and then follow West Ridge to Stairsteps, which will return us to the Canyon and our starting point. Hike begins at 9:00 at Willow parking lot. (From I-5, take El Toro Rd towards Laguna Beach to the T, L on Laguna Canyon and almost immediate R into parking lot.) Bring water, lunch, lugsoles, hiking poles recommended, \$3 for parking or OC Parks permit. *Steady rain cancels.*

**Helen Maurer** | (949) 357-9931 | 7gables@cox.net

**Ed Maurer** | (949) 768-0417 | balois@cox.net

● **Saturday, February 8, 2020, 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM**

**0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing**

**O: Casper's Park East Ridge**

LOCATION: 31654 Rancho Viejo Rd, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

6.5 mile hike up the East Ridge Trail, then down Cougar Pass Trail and Bell Canyon Trail to cars. Great views of the foothills of the Santa Anas while walking on ridge. Bring 2 qts/ltrs water, snacks, hat; poles useful on steep downhills. We will meet up at 8:30 AM at the South OC Rideshare point (Parking lot in front of Ball Park Pizza, intersection of Rancho Viejo Rd and Ortega Hwy in San Juan Capistrano (1 blk east of I-5)). From there, we will form carpools to go into Casper's Park. Those who wish to meet us in Casper's should expect us about 8:45-8:50 AM at the Old Corral Parking Lot in Casper's. (Past park entrance at Casper's, drive north to the Old Corral Parking Lot (Northern end)). (Note: Casper's Park is approx. 7 mi. east from I-5). *Rain or muddy trails will cancel.*

**Michael Sappingfield** | (949) 768-3610 | mikesapp@cox.net

**Linda Ledger** | (949) 444-1285 | linda.ledger@me.com

● **Wednesday, February 12, 2020, 9 AM**

**0407- Orange County Group Outing**

**Laguna Niguel Regional Park Hike**

An easy 5-mile, 270' gain walk through the park takes us by a lake with Canada geese, White Pelicans and other water fowl. For plant lovers, we will walk through the Niguel Botanical Preserve with a wide variety of labeled plants. Park in the farthest parking spaces adjacent to tennis courts. Turn right after entering park and then right to tennis courts. Meet at 9:00 AM with good walking shoes, water, snack and sunhat.

**Linda Ledger** | (949) 444-1285 | linda.ledger@me.com

**John Kaiser** | (714) 968-4677 | jkai39@gmail.com

● **Saturday, February 15, 2020, 9:00 AM**

**0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing | O: Pectin Reef Walk**

LOCATION: 28241 La Paz Rd, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677

This easy 6-mile walk follows a stream with many chances to view water birds. At Pectin Reef, we will take time to wander the mound looking for some of the many sea animal fossils which we will leave in place! Meet at 9:00 at the Laguna Niguel Regional Park at the far end of the tennis courts. Bring water, good walking shoes, hat, and a snack if desired.

**Leaders: Linda Ledger** | (949) 444-1285 | linda.ledger@me.com

**Michael Sappingfield** | (949) 768-3610 | mikesapp@cox.net

● **Sunday, February 16, 2020, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM**

**0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing**

**O: Buck Gully Family Hike**

Join us with your friends on our easy, family hike in Buck Gully, Corona del Mar. This hike is designed for folks who want to get into the outdoors and enjoy nature. We walk along a running stream with lots of bushes and trees along the way. Meet us at the intersection of Poppy and 5th Avenues in Corona Del Mar. Park on the legal areas along Poppy Ave. Bring a quart of water and some snacks. This is a family hike and children 5+ years with a family member are welcome. *Rain Cancels.*

**Michael Sappingfield** | (949) 768-3610 | mikesapp@cox.net

**Sylvia Stevenson** | (949) 487-2660 | sjstevenson2828@yahoo.com

● **Wednesday, February 19, 2020, 8:30 AM**

**0407-Orange County Group Outing**

**Serrano Creek/Fish Taco Hike**

Serrano Creek/Fish Taco Hike: Two versions to choose from: an easy 4.7 mi, 590' gain for short hike, or a moderate 11 mi, 690' gain for long hike. Starting at Heritage Hill in Lake Forest, we meander on the trail in Serrano Creek Park, cross Trabuco Rd and continue along a shady suburban trail, climbing gently toward Foothill Ranch. The short hike ends before we cross Rancho Pkwy, and participants return to the starting intersection by public transportation (OCTA Bus #177). The longer hike

(Outing continues on the next page...)

continues into Whiting Ranch following Live Oak Trail and returning on Serrano Creek Trail back to Trabuco Rd with a stop for lunch (picnic or eatery) in Foothill Ranch en route. Meet 8:30 AM at Heritage Hill parking lot on Serrano Rd, less than a block north off Lake Forest Dr (west of Lake Forest Dr & Trabuco Rd intersection). Bring water, snack, lunch or lunch money (long hike), water, snack, bus fare (75¢ seniors, \$2 adults) for the short hike. Walking shoes okay for both hikes. *Rain cancels*

**Ed Maurer** | (949) 357-9931 | balois@cox.net

**Helen Maurer** | (949) 768-0417 | 7gables@cox.net

● **Saturday, February 22, 2020, 8:00 AM**  
**0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing**  
**O: New Sugarloaf (3227')**

Beginning at Blue Jay Campground, we will use a combination of the San Juan and New San Juan trails for a loop hike to this rocky peak on the Lower Peaks list. The hike is an 8-mile r/t with a lot of ups and downs each way for a cumulative gain of 3000 ft. Meet at 8 am at the south OC ride share location (31654 Rancho Carrillo Rd, San Juan Capistrano) or 8:50 am at the west end of Bluejay Campground.

**John Kaiser** | (714) 968-4677 | jkai39@gmail.com

**Linda Ledger** | (949) 444-1285 | linda.ledger@me.com

● **Sunday, February 23, 2020, 4:00 PM**  
**0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing**  
**O: Signal Hill Sunset Hike**

LOCATION: 2475 Cherry Ave, Signal Hill, CA 90755

O: Join us on a moderate 4 mile, 750 ft gain loop hike exploring the Signal Hill Trail System. The route makes maximum use of the walking trails inside the private residential areas before they close to the public at Sunset. Enjoy 360° views to the ocean, San Pedro, Downtown LA and Long Beach, and learn a little about the history of Signal Hill. Later, optional refreshments at Mothers Market Cafe and outdoor patio. Meet near entrance of Mothers Market on Cherry Ave., Signal Hill.

**Karen DeWeese** | (562) 270-3487 | kldeweese@me.com

**Sylvie Cote** | (949) 547-2998 | mlsylvie@hotmail.com

● **Saturday, February 29, 2020, 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM**  
**0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing | O: O'Neill Park Hike**

6 mi, 800' gain in O'Neill County Regional Park. Enjoy hiking uphill and down with excellent views of the eastern mountains, etc. from the ridges and Vista Point. Route includes hiking up Live Oak View Trail to the Vista Point, then back on Live Oak View to Hoffman Trail, then drop down into Live Oak Canyon on the Hoffman trail north past the old Hoffman Homestead, then back up and over the ridge to the cars. Bring at least 2 qt/ltr water, hat, and snacks; poles are recommended. We will meet at the south end of Meadowridge Road. Directions are from I-5, take El Toro Road exit and drive east on El Toro Road, approximately 5 miles to Valley View Drive. Turn right on Valley View drive, which becomes Meadowridge Road. Park on roadside as far south as the curb allows. *Rain and/or muddy trails cancels.*

**Michael Sappingfield** | (949) 768-3610 | mikesapp@cox.net

**Linda Ledger** | (949) 444-1285 | linda.ledger@me.com

● **Wednesday, March 4, 2020, 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM**  
**0407-Orange County Group Outing | O: Caspers East Ridge**

Enjoy wildflowers in this 6 mi 500' gain hike with views of Bell Canyon on the West and the Santa Anas on the East. Meet up at 8:30 am at the South O.C. Rideshare Point (in front of Ball Park Pizza, plaza at intersection of Rancho Viejo Rd and Ortega Hwy. 31654 Rancho Viejo Rd, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675. People who wish to meet with us a Caspers Park, look for us at the northern side of the parking area near the Old Corral about 8:45 to 8:50 AM. Bring 2 qts/ltrs of water, munchies, and poles are optional. \$5 Park fee per car at entrance. *Rain Cancels*

**Michael Sappingfield** | (949) 768-3610 | mikesapp@cox.net

**Linda Ledger** | (949) 444-1285 | linda.ledger@me.com

● **Saturday, March 7, 2020, 8:00 AM (Time Tentative)**

**0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing**

**O: Trail Maintenance in San Mateo Canyon Wilderness**

O: Trail Maintenance. Volunteers, male and female, from the OC Group, Sierra Sage Group, and the Gorgonio Chapter maintain trails in the San Mateo Canyon Wilderness on a monthly basis. The location is selected each month based on current needs. No experience needed, only willingness to work. Tools and instructions are provided. *To receive announcements with details of each month's activities contact*

**John Kaiser** | (714) 968-4677 | jkai39@gmail.com

**Daniel Donovan** | (562) 596-1225 | daniel.paul.donovan@gmail.com

**Rich Maxey** | (949) 310-5134 | richmaxey@yahoo.com

● **Wednesday, March 11, 2020, 8:30 AM to 11:00 AM**

**0407-Orange County Group Outing**

**O: Billy Goat Hill from Borrego Trail**

Join us for a delightful hike up the Borrego Trail, Mustard Road, and Billy Goat Trail to the Water Tank. After a break, we will return to the tail head via Mustard Road and the Borrego Trail. Meet at 8:30 AM at the Whiting Ranch Parking Lot at Market and Portola in Foothill Ranch. \$3 per car required for parking. No parking allowed in Ralphs Parking Lot. Directions from I-5 east on El Toro to Portola (approx. 4 miles), left on Portola approx. 1 mile and turn on Market. Parking lot is on the north side of Market. Bring 2 qts/ltrs of water, munchies, and poles are recommended. *Rain and/or heavy mud cancels.*

**Michael Sappingfield** | (949) 768-3610 | mikesapp@cox.net

**Audrey Tomovich** | (949) 204-7600 | tomovich@cox.net

● **Sunday, March 15, 2020, 5:15 PM**

**0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing**

**O: Signal Hill Sunset Hike**

LOCATION: 2475 Cherry Ave, Signal Hill, CA 90755

O: Join us on a moderate 4 mile, 750 ft gain loop hike exploring the Signal Hill Trail System. The route makes maximum use of the walking trails inside the private residential areas before they close to the public at Sunset. Enjoy 360° views to the ocean, San Pedro, Downtown LA and Long Beach, and learn a little about the history of Signal Hill. Afterward those interested can join us for refreshments at Mothers Market Cafe and outdoor patio. Meet near the entrance of Mothers Market on Cherry Ave. in Signal Hill. 2475 Cherry Ave., Signal Hill, CA 90755.

**Karen DeWeese** | (562) 270-3487 | kldeweese@me.com

**Karen Belville** | (310) 486-8583 | karen.belville@gmail.com

● **Sunday, March 15, 2020, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM**

**0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing**

**O: James Dilley Preserve Family Hike**

Join us for a easy hike in the James Dilley Preserve. We will walk the Lake Trail to Barbara's Lake to check out the water fall, make a stop at the Nix Center, then make an easy hike back to the cars at the James Dilley Parking Lot. We should see a lot of flowers in March. Bring water, snacks, and \$3 per car parking fee. Meet us at 2:00 PM at the James Dilley Parking Lot, on the northbound side of the Laguna Canyon Hwy CA-133 just north of the Toll Road Overpass. *Rain cancels.*

**Michael Sappingfield** | (949) 768-3610 | mikesapp@cox.net

**Sylvie Cote** | (949) 547-2998 | mlsylvie@hotmail.com

*Please contact hike/outing leaders  
 for more information.*

## LETTER FROM THE CLIMATE FRONT, JANUARY 2020

## A Time for a New Decade's Resolution | Ed Mauer

*Dear Sierra Sage Member,*

The Twenties are coming around again! The 1920's have gone down in history as the "roaring" or "golden" Twenties, even though they ended with a financial crash that caused a world-wide economic catastrophe. The 2020's begin with an economic boom for some and camping out on city streets for others, and all of humanity faces the worsening impacts of climate change—perhaps we'll call them the "feverish" Twenties? Due to global warming, huge amounts of meltwater cascaded 1,000 meters down into Greenland's ice sheet last summer, while the Victoria Falls in Africa dried up almost completely, and wildfires in California, Australia and elsewhere are evolving into veritable cataclysms. And yet, we keep on pumping more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere! I believe that Greta Thunberg was right when she said: "Since our leaders are behaving like children, we will have to take the responsibility they should have taken long ago," and this is why **I'm asking you today to take a pledge to become personally climate neutral by the end of this decade.**

As a member of the Sierra Club you already subscribe to the motto "explore, enjoy and protect the planet", and our planet needs a lot of protection, especially from us. You see, in many south Orange County cities the average household emits about 25 tons of planet-warming CO<sub>2</sub> (or about 10 tons per capita), which is enough gas to fill 25 balloons, each with a diameter of 10 yards, and you can—and must—reduce the number of these balloons to zero by 2030. At about 3 balloons less a year you'll reach your goal earlier.

Starting in 2020, let's stop filling some of these black balloons with some easy, behavioral changes when sitting behind the wheel and at home to begin on the path toward climate neutrality.

- **Do not exceed posted speed limits. Driving slower burns less CO<sub>2</sub>.**
- **Accelerate moderately when a traffic light turns green and after a full stop. Driving with a lead foot increases CO<sub>2</sub>-emissions.**
- **Keep your thermostat at 68 degrees F during the winter.**

For more dramatic balloon-eliminating actions, the homeowner will need to

- **replace your natural gas water heater (0.89 mt CO<sub>2</sub>) with an electric water heater and get rid of one balloon,**
- **replace your gas clothes dryer with an electric model (0.9 mt CO<sub>2</sub>) and get rid of another balloon,**
- **replace your natural gas HVAC with a heat-pump and another 3 balloons hit the dust.**

But electrifying your home is only sensible if your electricity is green, i.e.: produced with renewable energy. California has made great strides in this respect, yet the best way to get clean energy is to have a solar roof. Another way to get greener electricity is to support your city's efforts to join a Community Choice

Aggregation program that typically offers customers several energy programs to choose from: a default program (usually an energy-mix similar to that provided by the incumbent utility), a program based on solar energy and a more expensive, 100% renewable program.

The average age of a car in California is 11 years; therefore, it is therefore entirely realistic for you to replace your vehicle(s) during this decade. Your next car needs to be electric. Retiring a fossil car reduces your emissions by 3–5 balloons. The next few years will bring greater driving range and lesser cost to electric vehicles, while charging stations will become ubiquitous. I see hybrids as a transitional solution whose time has passed as we need to eliminate the use of fossil fuel.

However, we do it, we all will have to reduce our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to the point where we achieve the blessed state of climate neutrality. Of course, each member has different priorities and finances, and there is no single path that fits all of us. I'd rather have us do what we can personally and voluntarily achieve, rather than being forced into a one-size-fits-all set of regulations.

## FAMILY HIKE-OF-THE-MONTH

**Sunday, January 19, 2020**

**FROM 2:00 PM TO 4:00 PM**

**0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing  
O: Whiting Ranch, Borrego to Red Rocks Family Hike**

**Whiting Ranch Wilderness Trail, Portola Pkway  
26701 Portola Pkway, Foothill Ranch, CA 92610**

**W**elcome on our Monthly Family hike. This is an easy hike from the Whiting Ranch Parking Lot at Market & Portola in Foothill Ranch, up the Borrego Trail and the Red Rock Trail to the Rocks, and return. Bring 1 qt/ltr of water, snacks, and a hat. The Family hikes are designed for families with children 5 yrs or older and include stopping for interesting flowers, etc. on the hike. Meet at 2:00 PM at the Whiting Ranch Parking Lot, corner of Market & Portola in Foothill Ranch. Directions from I-5: exit onto El Toro Rd Eastbound approximately 5 miles to Portola, left on Portola approx. one mile to Market, just past the Ralphs, and park in the Whiting Ranch Parking Lot. \$3 fee for parking. Credit cards and Park passes are acceptable. *Rain Cancels.*

**Michael Sappingfield (949) 768-3610 mikesapp@cox.net**

**Audrey Tomovich (949) 204-7600 tomovich@cox.net**



## DIRECTORY OF SIERRA SAGE OFFICERS

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
CHAIR	Mike Sappingfield *	949-768-3610	mikesapp@cox.net
VICE CHAIR	Duana Miller *	949-831-0890	duana103@hotmail.com
SECRETARY	John Kaiser *	714-968-4677	jkai39@gmail.com
TREASURER	Patty Sappingfield *	949-768-3610	solanese@cox.net
ASST. TREASURER	Vicki Hazley *	949-459-8824	vhazley@cox.net
OUTINGS CO-CHAIR	Todd Clark	714-803-0195	clarkta@hotmail.com
OUTINGS CO-CHAIR	Sylvie Coté	949-547-2998	mlsylvie@hotmail.com
PROGRAM CHAIR	TBD	949-768-0417	balois@cox.net
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR	TBD	949-444-1285	linda.ledger@me.com
COMMUNICATIONS	Mike Sappingfield *	949-768-3610	mikesapp@cox.net
WEBMASTER	Bob Hansen		awildtrout@gmail.com
NEWSLETTER DESIGN	Risa Koppel *	949-647-9940	risa.koppel@me.com
CIRCULATION CHAIR	Patty Sappingfield *	949-768-3610	solanese@cox.net
POLITICAL REP	Sharon Koch *	949-717-7745	slkoch@ix.netcom.com
CHAPTER REP	Mike Sappingfield *	949-768-3610	mikesapp@cox.net
ALT CHAP REP	Vicki Hazley *	949-459-8824	vhazley@cox.net
ELECT MEDIA MGR	TBD		
EX COMM MEMBER	Tina Bach *		mmounties@gmail.com>
EX COMM MEMBER	Helen Maurer *	949-768-0417	7gables@cox.net
ALISO HOBO RIDGE, TF	Penny Elia		greenp1@cox.net
SANTA ANA MTNS, TF	John Kaiser *	714-968-4677	jkai39@gmail.com

Note: \* 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](mailto:mikesapp@cox.net) for date, time and directions.
- Preserve the Coastal areas of Orange County? Contact **Penny Elia** at [greenp1@cox.net](mailto:greenp1@cox.net)
- Interested in electing environmentally supportive politicians into local offices? Contact **Sharon Koch**, 949-717-7745 at [slkoch99@att.net](mailto:slkoch99@att.net)
- Want to keep the Santa Ana Mountains wild? Or want to help maintain trails in the San Mateo Wilderness Area? Contact **John Kaiser** at [jkai39@gmail.com](mailto:jkai39@gmail.com)

### INTERNET ADDRESSES

ANGELES CHAPTER: [www.angeles.sierraclub.org](http://www.angeles.sierraclub.org)

SIERRA SAGE: [www.sierrasage.org](http://www.sierrasage.org)

## Sierra Sage

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- ☐ 1 year ..... \$9.00
- ☐ 2 years ..... \$15.00

Note: Please mail your check to:

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**P. O. Box 524**  
**Lake Forest, CA 92609**

### PUBLICATION NOTES

- Sierra Sage is scheduled for delivery on Jan 1, March 1, May 1, July 1, Sept 1, & November 1 of each year.
- Please note that submission deadline is *one month prior to publication*.
- Electronic copies are sent via email and are free. Just send an email to [mikesapp@cox.net](mailto:mikesapp@cox.net) and tell us you want the emailed Newsletter
- Newsletter Design & Layout: Risa Koppel | Graphic Design [risa.koppel@me.com](mailto:risa.koppel@me.com)



Sierra Sage  
of South Orange County  
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## SIERRA SAGE ELECTION RESULTS

### Executive Committee Members for 2020–2021 Terms (in alphabetical order)

**Tina Bach** . . . . . *New Member*

**Vicki Hazley** . . . . . *Returning Member*

**Risa Koppel** . . . . . *New Member*

**Helen Mauer** . . . . . *Returning Member*

**Duana Miller** . . . . . *Returning Member*

Please note: **Linda Ledger**, 2016–2019 Terms,  
asked to be withdrawn from the election for  
the 2020–2021 term for personal reasons.

We congratulate all five of the elected members  
and look forward to working with them.

**Mike Sappingfield**  
Chair, Nominating Committee

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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— ON THE WEB —

Angeles Chapter: [slkoch99@att.net](mailto:slkoch99@att.net)  
Sierra Sage: [www.sierrasage.org](http://www.sierrasage.org)