

1.
Dec 71

SANTA SUSANA MOUNTAIN PARK ASSOCIATION
A Non-Profit Incorporated Organization
P.O. Box 831, Chatsworth, California 91311
(805) 527-0925 (213) 347-3736

NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 1971

Dear Friends,

Happy Holidays to all of you celebrating the victory of the Hebrews in their struggle for religious freedom in 165 B.C. and now commemorated each year by Jews in the festival of Hanukkah - and to all who are celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ who is the Son of God and Savior to all Christians who commemorate His birth at Christmas. Both of the holidays are joyous and dedicated to Peace on Earth - Good Will Toward Men and so let us make this our holiday wish to all.

There will be no December meeting due to the Holidays, however there will be one in January 1972 on the third Monday of the month as usual.

As you may have noted in our letterhead, WE ARE NOW INCORPORATED and AN OFFICIALLY LISTED CALIFORNIA NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION AND DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

DONATIONS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO "S.S.M.P.A. LAND TRUST FUND" which is a special fund set up for purchasing land for non profit purposes, the ultimate goal being that of preserving for this and future generations as much of the natural beauty, geology, historical values, geology and archeology of the Santa Susana mountains as possible. There are many ways in which land can also be donated or willed to S.S.M.P.A. For further details on this call Jen Hinkston (Pres.) 213-347-3736.

OUR MOST IMMEDIATE AND URGENT project is that of raising \$5,000 for an option on the upper part of the stagecoach trail now owned by Mr. Webster. This is the steep part of the trail, (Devil's Slide), as well as the location of the plaque. America the Beautiful has given us a grant of \$1,000 toward this, PROVIDED we can raise the other \$4,000. The lower part of the trail has already gone into Escrow by a developer and the upper area of the trail could suffer the same fate momentarily. If any of you OR ANYONE YOU KNOW would like to donate to this as a year end tax deduction, charity donation, as present in someone else's name or simply as a gesture that you care about the land and those who will follow us.....then just write a check to "S.S.M.P.A. Land Trust Fund" now and mail it to the above address. WELLS FARGO BANK has offered to assist us in obtaining loans so if you feel you could underwrite one in the amount of \$500 or \$1,000 or more contact Jen Hinkston at 213-347-3736. WE NEED THIS BY THE END OF THE YEAR SO we can negotiate an option before our January 16th and 23rd HIKE-INS.

Our upcoming BIG EVENT is the JANUARY HIKE-IN on the 16th and the 23rd. Hikes will begin at 9:30 a.m. and continue throughout the day. In addition there will be entertainment and refreshments will be available, as well as photos and brochures. We will meet in CHATSWORTH PARK SOUTH, however, since the park does not contain adequate parking facilities we are asking those with available land in the area (for parking) to contact us as soon as possible. We are planning to run a shuttle service

Dan Murphy

between the park gate and the area of the hike as so if you have a van or station wagon and would like to assist in this call Warren Zetterhaus at 213-341-1817.

REMINDER: This is membership renewal time (Nov. 1 thru Oct 31 of this year). Enclosed is the membership form for new members and those who may choose to purchase a different type of membership this year. Mail it to Sandi Pimus, 408 Laguna Terrace, Simi Valley, California 93065

FLYERS will be out soon on the Hike-In... Anyone wanting to distribute some call (San Fernando area) Nancy Olive 341-6085 or (Simi Valley area) Ruth Smoot (805) 527-7834. Many thanks to the Chatsworth Junior Women's Club who is handling our publicity releases, dissemination of flyers and such in the L.A. County area.

OUR STAGE COACH TRAIL PARADE and COUNTRY FAIR, originally planned for January 15th has been postponed till March in order to facilitate better planning and participation for all those too rushed by the Holidays and mid-term exams to prepare properly... so for those who have not yet signed up for a booth, activity, parade entry or other assistance there is still time... in Simi Valley call Bob Perrault (805) 526-4286 and in San Fernando Valley call Mary Guilmette (213) 341-4246. Mary Guilmette has agreed to be our new vice-president until March and has been working tirelessly contacting all the individuals and organizations in San Fernando Valley who wish to take part in the Fair. Mary is also the Fair Chairwoman.

Her daughter Kathy has been very active in the Chatsworth H.S. making students aware of the Stage Coach Trail and the needs of the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association. The Ecology Clubs and Student Council involved with helping us with the Country Fair and Hike-In will have displays at the high school along with artifacts found at an Indian village in the Chatsworth vicinity. The Country Fair arose out of Kathy's decision to choose the saving of the stage coach trail as her ecology project in order to compete in a national contest sponsored by Seventeen Magazine for all the high school girls involved in the Fashion Coordinator program through various department stores. Kathy is the Chatsworth H.S. representative from the Broadway. If she should win this contest she will be eligible for a college scholarship and the community project (Stagecoach Trail) will be eligible for a \$2,000 grant. We're very fortunate to have someone of Kathy's caliber working on this, getting people together to make it a success. Kathy and her family have been of great help to our Stagecoach Trail project and we thank them so much.

SEVERAL NEW members obtained through the Guilmettes have already taken over a number of Fair responsibilities, among them is Joy Totschek who is moving ahead like a ball of fire on fund raising project and seeing to it that all the news media is kept well supplied with all the facts about our trail and the plans for the upcoming Hike-In festivities and fair.

PARADE CHAIRMEN are Mr. and Mrs. Marion Lester. They are leaders of the Chatsworth 4-H and have involved this group in our project. Their job is a difficult one, so IF any of our readers know where we can borrow stagecoaches, wagons or other vehicles of the 1800's... and if you know of any celebrities who might like to ride shotgun, ride their horses, or on a float or feet they would like to assist us with

Doris Murphy

order. I'll be glad to say "hello" to you from the
through the local newspaper's interest. In making a list
All in the name of the "5000", then give the numbers a call. (714) 41-5400
(On the 5000 also call Santa Clara (95) 527-4038).

ON THE 5000 OF THE DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE is Nancy Oliver (one of the original
members of the 5000 and one of those people, along with Jean's circle of friends,
she's work is so responsible, constant and unselfish that we began to take
their work for granted. Bob Hanson, our Historian, also does a type of
work within our group that doesn't make headlines but without it we
would not have been able to do as we have. Some of the members we see the
least do the most. Nancy, all been doing our best but most of us have
been "out there" the entire list which is a reward in itself. So a very
special thanks to those listed, and all of you others whose efforts I
still hope to learn about.

The Chatsworth Junior Women's Club has presented us with a 375 check
and have printed some positions for our Stage Coach Park. Have you
signed one - and would you like any to circulate? Then call Nancy
Oliver (95) 343-6065. All of our publicity material on the Fair and
Hike-In is coordinated through Nancy.

OUR VERY able First Lady, Sherron, Mary Gomez, is a natural when
it comes to creative ideas and through her efforts as Canoga Park
Junior Women's Club chairperson of the Conservation Committee they have
also been contributing to our efforts.

ADDITIONAL STAGE COACH PARKERS have been made recently bringing the
total to 70 or more organizations and groups. Most recent ones are
the Rockpointe Homeowners Association, San Fernando Valley 4-H, Dece-
Mount Club, City Cultural Heritage Board and Chatsworth Park Eleme-
ntary School PTA. Jim Hinkston (our inexhaustible president) handles
the Los Angeles County office presentations (213) 347-3736 - and Jean
Scaris gives the presentations in Ventura County (805) 259-1239 so if
anyone would like to see this beautiful presentation give them a call.

HAVE YOU HEARD of the Gadsden Parkway? If you haven't, you will. The
plans call for it to extend into the Santa Susana Mountains from the
end of Devonshire and cut through Chatsworth Park South extremely close
to the Pictographs, the stage trail itself and the unique outcroppings
of rock as well as many old oak trees near the park. It will cross
the Old Santa Susana Road, the Limi Freeway, and ultimately provide
access to large tracts of land owned by developers from Chatsworth to
Pima in areas now remote and beautiful and settled only by those who
had hoped to escape some of the city noise, polluted air and assembly
line type of living. It will also permanently destroy a great deal of
natural beauty and rural area of living our organization has been working
to preserve in these mountains. The public pays for those roads but has
little to say about where they go. If you don't think it's necessary to
put another big highway through these mountains then write Supervisor
Garryn E. Horn, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, 500 West Temple
St., Los Angeles 90017. Or (if you live in Ventura County) write
Supervisor Glenn Roberts, Ventura County Courthouse, Ventura 93001 and
tell them how you feel. If you want any petitions on it call Nancy Oliver
or Sandra Sims at their previously listed numbers.

CHURCH BAYS PLANS... The Metropolitan Water Dept. (MWD) plans to install
an 8 foot (minimum) water pipeline in a 300 foot deep trench...
Chatsworth Park... this... (714) 41-5400

Douglas Murphy

carve its way through Chatsworth Park over an existing spring so that the Feather River water may be brought into the mountain area (Santa Susana Mountain Area). We have new evidence to indicate that a trail (in the path of the LWD) is the old El Camino Santa Susana y Simi which was the old Spanish trail between missions before the Stagecoach Trail was built. Write to your city councilman Robert Wilkenson, Room 319, City Hall, 200 North Spring St., L.A. 90012 if you object to this and ask what the city plans to do.

NEW LEGISLATION FROM SACRAMENTO: Assemblyman Cline reports (Nov. 29, 1971) that "Next year the Attorney General of California will have the power to sue on behalf of the public to prevent environmental abuses of all kinds (types)." Previous law allowed the Attorney General to intervene in environmental actions only to abuses which had already occurred. The new law (SB 678) (Largomarsino) "provides the legal authority to prevent environmental abuse where existing laws may prove inadequate." SSMFA members hope the public will lose no time in acquainting themselves with this law because when the power of the developers and polluters to destroy the environment at will becomes too strong locally, the public can now request the aid of the State of California in specific cases.

THINGS IN THE MAKING: We're working on Fact Sheets, Brochures, an Ad Book, Logos, Bumper Stickers and Posters for the Hike-In and Fair. Joy Totschek (213) 340-1473, is in charge of the Ad-Book so if you're interested in placing an ad give her a ring on the phone.

THE STAGE COACH TRAIL IS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY...DO NOT TRESPASS. Legal access to this trail for any interested parties must be obtained from the owners, through SSMFA president Jan Hinkston EACH TIME the trail is used. ABUSE OF THESE PRIVILEGES will force the owners to close the area to everyone. We have learned that some individuals believe this area is open to the public and they may come and go as they please and have been attempting to do it. Mr. Webster and Mr. Palmer have thus far been most cooperative with SSMFA in allowing us to conduct so many tours. We only hope the general public will do their part.

SPECIAL NOTE TO BOX CANYON RESIDENTS AND OTHERS CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR LAND BEING 'TAKEN OVER': Contrary to what some might have you believe, SSMFA has no intention of getting the government to seize your property for our park. No one need sell or donate their land unless they choose to do so. We do not seek to remake the beautiful Santa Susana Mountains, but we do seek to preserve them as they are now and to preserve the priceless historic treasures such as the pictographs, Indian artifacts and old trails BEFORE the unsupervised general public naively destroys them. For those who live in the mountains and love them for what they are now, we share your interest. However, for those who look forward to seeing the mountainsides and tops replaced by condominiums or other financially rewarding enterprises, we might not find ourselves in such accord. Members and non-members, friends and enemies are welcome to our monthly meetings and we shall be pleased to answer any questions or doubts you may have. SSMFA is an incorporated, non-profit organization and as such prevents any member from deriving any personal gain from the organization or its activities.

Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and may the New Year find us placing the welfare of our 'brother' above that of ourselves.

See you - Doris

Doris Murphy, Newsletter and Public Relations