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213-347-3736
San Fernando

SANTA SUSANA MOUNTAIN PARK ASSOCIATION
- A Non-profit California Corp. -

805-527-0925
Simi Valley

NEWSLETTER for FEBRUARY 1972

Dear Friends,

IT'S BEEN A GOOD month. We are happy to report that only \$250.00 more in donations will enable us to obtain the option on the upper 42 acres of the Stage Coach Trail. \$250 is a lot of money, but not when we stop and realize that we have already raised the balance of the \$5,300.00. Especially significant is the fact that \$4,000 of it came from many small donations, none over \$60 from any one individual.....and the money has been coming in, not just from the Chatsworth area where the Stage Trail is, but from all over the Los Angeles area as well as Ventura County on the other side of the Santa Susana Mountains. On two days notice two Simi Valley P.T.A.s obtained a carfull of home-made food to sell at the Jan. 23rd Hike-In on the Trail. This was the kind of cooperation experienced from individuals and organizations for miles around. We have been trying to send notes of thank-you to all the groups and organizations without whose assistance our January Hike-Ins would never have been such a success. We wish we could also thank personally the countless individuals who gave so unselfishly of their time and energy but it is physically impossible. SSMPA doesn't have an office..(would anyone like to donate office space, we don't need much), and for this reason our 'office efficiency' is quite limited; so if we have overlooked any group please let us know.

NEARLY 8,000 people hiked the Stage Coach Trail during the two January Hike-Ins and no known injuries, nor were police or firemen needed at any time. Considering the area involved, the non-professional volunteers who organized and handled this massive event and the need for public cooperation - it's certainly more than evident this part of California has a lot of fine people who care about the environment, history and each other. And thanks again Martha to you and all who assisted you.

BEFORE GOING INTO THE DETAILS of our upcoming Parade and Country Fair, Commemorative Souvenir Book and other activities we shall once again announce that our PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN for the AD BOOK is Nanci Oliva, and Adelle Campbell is PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN for the COUNTRY FAIR. Any press releases emanating from SSMPA should be handled through them to avoid possible conflicting or erroneous statements. They'll see that it gets to all the news media for you.

ON MARCH 4th, from 10am to 4 pm there will be a GARAGE SALE sponsored by the Canoga Park Junior Women's Club. Mary Gorman (our fund raising chairman) has asked that everyone give their attic, garage and house a pre-spring cleaning once-over and bring everything they no longer need that's salable to her house (21843 Rodax, Canoga Park) on March 2nd or 3rd. Profits go to SSMPA Land Trust Fund so bring your 'extras' and get your neighbors to bring theirs.

A BIKE RALLY is scheduled to blast off the all day ecology program on March 18, 1972 at 10:30 a.m. in the back parking lot of Sears, Canoga Park. The all day fair is being sponsored by Sear's Teen Board, in conjunction with the SAVE project (Seventeen Acts for Viable Environment), and the Bike Rally event proceeds will go to the Santa Susana Mountain project. Participants will be given information packets which will direct them to their destination. They must decipher codes and be observant of details on the road. The bike run is conducted in much the same way as a car rally. Separate routes have been devised for those in Elementary and

Doris Murphy

Secondary Schools. A fabulous prize will be awarded to an Elementary, Jr. High, and High School winner. Other prizes will be raffled off. To participate in this event, contestants must donate \$2.00 to the Santa Susana Mountain project. At the conclusion of the bicycle rally, everyone is invited to attend an ecology fair. The fair runs from 9:30 am to 6:00 pm in the lower level of Sears, Canoga Park. Information, displays, and refreshments will be available. Registration for the bike rally begins 9:30 am, March 18. All ages are welcome. Contestants may expect to be finished in a few hours.

Large parchment-type maps are available of old stage trails through the San Fernando Valley and of Griffith Park for \$1.00 each. They may be purchased at our next meeting...FEBRUARY 21st (Mon.) - Glendale Federal Savings & Loan, 21881 Devonshire, Chatsworth at 8 pm. (Will BOARD MEMBERS please be there at 7 pm for a special meeting.) This meeting (both the board and general membership meetings) are of particular importance because the nominating committee will be accepting names of those wishing to run for office in our upcoming election. If you wish to run for any office or know of someone who would please contact Jan (our President) 213-347-3736 or Zelma Skillman, 213-882-2695 before Feb. 21st...or indicate your wishes at the meeting on the 21st.

IF YOU DESIRE TO serve on any particular committee you will have the opportunity to sign up on one or more of a number of different areas of interest. Now is the time to sign up because next month each committee will be formulating their plans for the coming year.

SSMPA's COMMEMORATIVE SOUVENIR BOOK (Ad Book) will be published around May 7, our Ad Book chairman Joy Totschek informs us. The book will be primarily an ad book; however, this one will be unique in that it will also contain (one-fourth of it) an editorial section. This will contain background information on SSMPA and historical data on the Stage Coach Trail and where it extended through both the San Fernando Valley and the Simi Valley. Little known stories of the trail along with excellent photographs will be included. Anyone wishing to contribute information may contact Leslie Goldman in San Fernando and in Simi Valley Doris ✓ Murphy 805-527-0925. Ads are not limited to any specific area and business ads begin at \$10 for business card size and for 1/4 page ad it's \$25, 1/2 page is \$50, 3/4 page is \$75 and full page is \$100. A special section will be included for individual name listings; \$1 for children (birth thru' 12th grade) and \$2 for adult listing (either as one individual or as Mr. and Mrs.). The deadline for turning in ads is April 1st. Results thus far are very good in San Fernando but as yet we have a shortage of salesmen for Simi Valley...for information regarding selling purchasing or otherwise contributing to this Ad Book project in the Simi Valley area call Ruth Smoot at 805-5262730. Joy's number in S.F.340-1743.

THE STAGE COACH TRAIL PARADE and COUNTRY FAIR will be held March 11 and 12 at Chatsworth Park South (West end of Devonshire in Chatsworth). Mr. and Mrs. Marion Luster are chairmen of the Parade which, like the Fair, will accept only entries that will fit into the theme of the 1800's. They have many unusual entries. The Lusters have been working hard and long on this and we look forward to the genuine, old time parade they have planned. They are still accepting some entries..just call the Lusters at 213-341-5206. BOOTH CHAIRMAN for the FAIR is Steve Berk (213-348-9286). All booth activities must conform to games, artwork, handcrafts and foods that will not detract from the theme of the Country Fair and Parade which is the old stage coach days of the 1800's.

Among the activities planned for the Fair is a Country Store which will be handled by the Chatsworth 4-H. All kinds of home made foods and preserves will be sold. There are any number of things that can be used for booth projects....Artist Booth (Caricatures, pastel or pencil portraits, painting exhibit or sale, etc.).....Handcraft Booth (embroidery, crochét, knitting, sewing, jewelry, rock hound trade, woodcraft, leathercraft, etc).....Food Booth (Mexican food, Indian food, Pioneer food, recipe books (of old time dishes), lemonade stand, etc)Educational Booth (pamphlets, photos, books on the history of the area (Santa Susana Mountains and Pioneer, Indian, Mexican, Spanish settlement), geology, birdlife, plant life, etc.).....There are many many more ideas. If interested just contact Steve and we'll send you a page of ideas to work on. It's doubtful that anyone in this area can remember the last time a 'genuine' old time Country Fair was held around here so we could make this a time to remember.

WE REGRET losing Sandi Binns as our treasurer. She is still an active member and has done an excellent job as SSMPA treasurer (which meant living in Simi and handling the bank accounts in San Fernando, among other things). She has other pressing obligations which prevent her from continuing in that position.Thanks much Sandi.

WE ARE ALSO FORTUNATE in having Adelle Campbell accept the position of treasurer in Sandi's place. Adelle walked into it in the middle of the January Hike-Ins and didn't seem the least bit ruffled by it all. Adelle is by profession an accountant so we are doubly appreciative of her services as SSMPA treasurer.

IS THERE ANYONE WHO hasn't purchased a sweatshirt or tee-shirt with the beautiful stagecoach and horses insignia on it? We've ordered more so just call Mary Guilmette - 213-341-4246 and she'll see that you receive one.

ANY YOUTH GROUPS wishing to take part in the Country Fair may receive full details from Kathy Guilmette 213-341-4246 who is coordinating all school and youth group participation.

TO ALL SSMPA MEMBERS: Be sure to come to the meeting and bring a guest.
TO ALL WHO ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING SSMPA MEMBERS or LEARNING MORE ABOUT SSMPA: Be sure to come to the meeting and bring a guest.

See you Monday....

Teddy Roosevelt said it..when he was speaking of the importance of National Parks:.....

"Leave it as it is..You cannot improve it. The ages have been at work on it and man can only mar it. What you can do is to keep it for your children, for your children's children and for all who come after you."

Doris Murphy
Newsletter Editor

think about it.....

P.S. This is a special note to the Chatsworth Junior Women's Club and the Canoga Park Junior Women's Club: Your efforts on our behalf have been invaluable, unselfish and appreciated far more than we can say but it should and will receive the recognition it deserves in our next Newsletter.

Doris Murphy