

Santa Susana Mountain Park Association P.O. Box 831, Chatsworth, California 91311

Founder: Jan Hinkston -- SUMMER 1977 NEWSLETTER -- President: Pearl Turbush

SPECIAL SSMPA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

*Monday, August 1, 1977 8 p.m.*

To be held "under the stars" in...

CHATSWORTH PARK NORTH, Southeast Corner

(near intersection of Valley Circle Blvd. and Germain St. -- enter the Park parking lot from either Chatsworth St. or from Valley Circle)

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This special meeting, which will be held in lieu of our regular meeting this month, has been called to vote out the remaining \$4,000 in our park land acquisition fund for the purchase of Nichols property and to close escrow. The other portion of the \$10,000 initial downpayment was previously approved by the membership. An important report on pending state legislation for Santa Susana Mountain parkland acquisition will also be given--don't miss it!

We will be meeting on the grassy area adjacent to the southerly portion of the parking lot--you'll be sure to find us. See you then!

Please note that the regular August 15 meeting has been cancelled. Our next general membership meetings will be held at 8 p.m. on Monday, September 19 and Monday, October 17 at Glendale Federal Savings & Loan, 21821 Devonshire St. \*\*\*\*\*

**URGENT --**

**SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATION NEEDED!!!**

Please write and/or telephone your State Assemblyman and Senator urging amendment of SB 341 (and alternatively SB 592 and SB 448) to include funds for a Santa Susana Mountain park.

Address: State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Do it TODAY!! These bills will be considered during August. More info? Come to the August 1 meeting or call Maureen Cates 883-2165 (evenings only).

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**SUMMER EVENING HIKES SLATED**

The Santa Susana Mountain Park Task Force of the Sierra Club will be conducting hikes on the third Tuesday of August, September and October (Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18) at 7:30pm. Enjoy panoramic views of the San Fernando Valley and explore those big rocks. Leisurely paced hikes of 2-4 miles. Boots and flashlights recommended. Meet at Santa Susana Pass Rd. at Rocky Peak exit of Simi-SFV Fwy. Leaders: Bob and Maureen Cates, 883-2165 (evenings).

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**SSMPA WANTS YOU !**

"People power" is urgently needed for the SSMPA display and informational booth at the San Fernando Valley Fair to be held Wednesday, August 10 through Sunday, August 14 at Devonshire Downs in Northridge.

Those who volunteer will of course be able to enjoy the rest of the Fair before and/or after the time spent at the SSMPA booth.

Since a number of our regular volunteers are out of town, your assistance during the above afternoons or evenings would be most appreciated. Please call volunteer coordinator Pearl Turbush 343-5963.

The weekend of September 17-18 will feature the second annual Wildlife and Conservation Fair at Encino Park from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. This year's fair, sponsored the Wing Art Gallery, promises to be even a bigger success than last year, and we hope you'll join us for an exciting and fun-filled weekend.

To volunteer, call Jan Hinkston at 347-3736.

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PLEASE USE THE TEAR-OFF OF THE ENCLOSED FACT SHEET TO RENEW YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP TODAY! TO BE SUCCESSFUL. WE MUST HAVE YOUR SUPPORT. THANK YOU.

We've been busy!

Your help is needed, too!

VALLEY NEWS

# Valley state park site studied

Van Nuys, Calif. — Sunday, June 5, 1977

By GLAD BRANSON

Herbert Rhodes, director of California Department of Parks and Recreation, while in the Valley Thursday to study the site of the proposed Santa Susana Mountain Park, had a meeting here at the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association, and a nine-hour tour of the area was given by Maureen C. Hinkston, current president of the association, and other members.

## Last-Ditch Effort Made to Save Mountain Park Land

Cline Gathering Support in Sacramento to Include 1,000 Santa Susana Acres in Parks Funding Bill

CHATSWORTH—Emergency efforts to preserve more than 1,000 acres in the picturesque Santa Susana Mountains as a state park are under way in Sacramento after a seven-year battle by residents to save the scenic hills.

The proposed park was endorsed by Herbert Rhodes, who termed the area worthy of high priority for preservation after touring the region.

Assemblyman Robert C. Cline (R-Northridge) said he is meeting with parks officials in Sacramento to obtain support for including the Santa Susana Park in an omnibus park bill to fund acquisition of land from the 1976 bond act.

The bill, authored by Sen. John A. Nejedly (R-Walnut Creek) and endorsed by the State Department of Parks and Recreation, lists areas for land acquisitions throughout the state, and Cline wants Santa Susana on the list.

The last-minute legislative effort was initiated after members of the Santa Susana Mountain Park Assn. and the Sierra Club persuaded leading state and local park officials and legislators to tour the region.

Major parts of the area reportedly are scheduled for immediate development, including a 480-acre parcel, scheduled to close escrow in July, which is expected to be subdivided into country estates.

Members of the Santa Susana mountain Park Assn., in a move to prove their dedication, have entered escrow to purchase another 265 acres for almost \$570,000.

Referred to as the McDonald-Nichols property, the land includes a

major part of an 1895 stagecoach which was the main artery between Los Angeles and San Francisco 1915.

Association members raised \$100,000 over the last seven years, through community sponsored dinners and guided tours of the historical region.

The \$50,000 required as down payment is being met by using the Foundation for the Preservation of the Santa Susana Mts. and \$40,000 provided by the Los Angeles County Resource Conservation District. The balance of the \$100,000 is due next year.

Association members have petitioned the purchase of the land to develop it. They are hopeful that the state will recognize the need to preserve the area.

If not, they will sue those chicken farmers, Hinkston, four members of the park association.

The struggle is being joined by the Santa Susana Mountain Park Task Force for the tour for a week last week.

A 1970 motion picture recommended that 10 square miles in Chatsworth be set aside, pleading for 1,020 acres, or 100 acres, Maureen C. Hinkston, current president of the association, and other members.

## Conservationists, Developers Fight Over a Ranch

BY MARTHA L. WILLIAMS  
Times Staff Writer

CHATSWORTH—Fifty years ago, a multimillionaire, Nelson...

Assistant to State Assemblyman Robert C. Cline, R-37th District, Northridge, represented Cline who was in Sacramento to sponsor legislation for state purchase of the proposed park site. State Sen. Lou Cusanovich, R-19th District, Westlake, who has promised to guide the bill through the Senate if it passes the Assembly, was also present.

The Preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains has already won approval from the West Los Angeles Conservation District and the purchase. The endorsement of the bill by the community organization of the Santa Susana Mountain Park Assn. will be presented Thursday by Gail Rusch.



Touring proposed park, from left, Pearl Turbush, Jim Schumann, James Hadaway, Herbert Rhodes and Jan Hinkston, Rhodes, director of the state recreation and parks department, was the guest of the group.

SANTA SUSANA MOUNTAIN PARK ASSN.  
P.O. Box 831  
Chatsworth, CA 91311

Special Membership Meeting  
Monday, August 1 8 p.m.  
Chatsworth Park North  
(details inside)