

# Santa Susana Mountain Park Association

SSMPA NEWSLETTER - SUMMER 1991

## SEE OUR NEW VIDEO

Monday, July 22 - SSMPA Special Meeting - 7:30 pm  
At our Visitors Center in Chatsworth Park South  
22360 Devonshire St., Chatsworth, CA 91304

Please note that the time and place is different than usual!  
A SPECIAL SHOWING of our new VIDEO about the Runkle Ranch (Rocky Peak Park) and China Flats portions of the Bob Hope Land Exchange. For those of you who have not yet seen either of these areas, here is your opportunity! Come and join us!

## HUMAN RACE RESULTS

We raised approx. \$1,600 gross!!! Thanks to all who participated! SSMPA will be presented with 75% of that amount at the July 25th Awards Celebration at the SFV Volunteer Center.

## INITIATIVE UPDATE - BAD NEWS

Cal Paw II was dropped because Governor Wilson promised the California Heritage Land Bond Act 1992. It was felt that in the present financial climate, the initiative wouldn't pass. Assembly Bill AB 72 (Cortese and Costa) gives 48 million to the Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy, but it SUBTRACTS funds from Prop 117 - (which are already committed), so there would be no funds for new local projects! Senate Bill SB 710 also has 48 million for the Conservancy - in addition to the Prop 117 funds. To find out how you can help, come to the meeting!

## GOOD NEWS!!!

City Cultural Heritage Monument #92 (a.k.a. the 55 acres) has finally been purchased!!!! The State Parks Department purchased it with Prop 70 funds on May 3rd, 1991. This was the last unpurchased portion of the Old Stagecoach Trail that was on the National Register of Historic Places--a twenty year effort reaches fruition!!!! (Yahoo!!!!) Finally!

## BAD NEWS/GOOD NEWS

Doreen Rusen suffered a severe head injury in an auto accident in May. She has had a remarkable recovery and is now home from the hospital, thus allowing visitation. Thank goodness and best wishes to you, Doreen. We missed you!

## ENCLOSURES

### RIM OF THE VALLEY NRA (National Recreation Area)

Enclosed is a petition which requests the cooperation of various government agencies in establishing a Rim of the Valley NRA. Please read it, and if you think you can get more than ten signatures, please duplicate it first. We would like to get about 20,000 signatures before presenting them to the appropriate congressmen in hopes of getting legislation introduced. The Rim of the Valley has the potential for creating a large contiguous recreation area for the benefit of all of Southern California.

Also enclosed find the latest and greatest fact sheet for SSMPA. Please recycle your fact sheet by giving it to a friend who might want to join SSMPA (membership form is at the bottom). If your membership has expired, perhaps you might want to use the form yourself!

## FUND RAISERS

### 7-Star Suites Hotel

The 7-Star Suites Hotel in Chatsworth (21603 Devonshire St.) will give discounts to visitors if they use the Foundation for the Preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains' referral form (enclosed). The Foundation would get 10% of the fee.

### Environmental Products

We are seriously contemplating a rather classy approach to fund raising: selling quality, useful, home/office/auto environmental filtration products at competitive prices. For this purpose we have contacted a professional fundraiser that helps groups like ours to market these products. These are marketed on a "take it home and try it" basis to friendly (i.e. known) parties. If you like smog-free air and unchlorinated water, or if you buy bottled water, or have allergies, you will love these products. If you are interested in this idea and would like to check it out (on behalf of the group) and become the group's contact person, please call Jan at (818) 884-9610.

In addition to the environmental products, there are some others that might sell well too, such as a device that will carbonate any liquid (like Sundance?). Another very exciting product is a Personal Learning System for pre-schoolers - only sold by this company. Parents will not want to be without this brand new product! Call Jan.

## SEA's - Significant Ecological Areas

Policy revisions have been adopted by the L.A. County Board of Supervisors on June 11, 1991. They are improvements, 'tho minor, and still with loopholes. The major revision that we requested was that SEA's be backed by an open space zoning, such as that which Ventura County has - 160 acres per dwelling unit. That was not even considered. Come to the meeting for details.

### SEA 64 - Valencia

Jan attended a hearing before the Regional Planning Commission about a week after a hearing on Oak trees. She reiterated a new and startling fact which is: one mature Oak tree gives off 105 gallons of water into the air PER DAY.\* This process, known as transpiration, is an extremely important part of the water cycle part of our eco-system which includes evaporation, condensation and precipitation. \*(Oak Tree Foundation)

In other words, Oak trees are such a vital part of our eco-system that our very survival depends on them! Moving them causes trauma which makes them more subject to disease. Another interesting fact is that one Oak leaf has more stomata per square inch than any other tree. This is the oxygen producing part! Oaks are indeed precious to our environment, and they're still being cut down!

Guess what! The Regional Planning Commission listened to us, and told Newhall Land and Farming to stay out of SEA 64, and go back to the drawing board on the remaining acreage. Will wonders never cease?

## COMING UP

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and the SMMtnsNRA are having a one day seminar on "Carving Out Wildlife Corridors: Preservation of Critical Regional Habitat Linkages from the Santa Monica Mountains to the National Forests".

DATE: Friday, August 16, 1991, 9:15 - 3PM  
PLACE: WODOC (William O. Douglas Outdoor Classroom), Franklin Cyn.  
101/Coldwater Cyn.-South to Mulholland/Right (90 ) across to  
COST: \$15 (includes lunch) Payable to MRCA.\*  
RSVP: by August 2 - call Lucy Grossman (213) 456-7807.  
MAIL: \* Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority  
3700 Solstice Canyon Rd., Malibu, CA 90265