

# Santa Susana Mountain Park Association

MARCH 1992

## SSMPA'S MARCH 16, 1992 MEETING

In addition to our annual election for new officers, we are also fortunate to have as our guest Professor Allan Keller who will share his own film entitled "Birds of the San Fernando Valley" at our general meeting on Monday, March 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Glendale Federal Community Room located at 21821 Devonshire St. in Chatsworth just two blocks east of Topanga Canyon Blvd. He'll feature such areas as Pierce College and Chatsworth Park South. Janice and I saw his presentation at the January Audubon Society meeting and it was fantastic.

Please come, renew your dues so you can vote, perhaps run for office and also enjoy the wonderful program Dorian arranged for us.

Glenn Bailey, our Foundation President, announced that he would also like to have an election for a 1992 Foundation board as well. We need to fill the Simi Valley Area Chairman and the Santa Clarita Area Chairman spots.

Last month's program was very successful. Over 40 people attended the program put on by Edwin Iverson from the Iverson Movie Ranch family. We'll undoubtedly invite him again some time in the future because he has a very large film library and has many interesting stories to tell about the old Iverson Movie Ranch days.

Don't forget our April 20, 1992 meeting either. We will be honored to have Milt McAuely as our guest. More about this in our April newsletter.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 28, 1992 Theodore Payne Foundation, 10459 Tuxford, Sun Valley, "Spring Open Space and Plant Sale". (818) 768-1802

Sunday, April 12, 1992 Centennial Hike (Sierra Club is one hundred years old this year.) Jan Hinkston (Angeles Chapter) and Erik Rose (Conejo Chapter) are leading this one way hike from Las Virgenes Canyon to China Flats - an 8 to 9 miler. Call Jan (818) 884-9610.

APRIL 12 Also deadline for the newly revised FOREST FOREVER INITIATIVE PETITIONS. Mail them to 2401 Lincoln Bl., 2nd Floor, Santa Monica, CA 90405. One postage stamp will carry the four-sheet petition which contains only eight spaces for registrated voter signatures. Call (310) 399-5521 for more information.

Saturday/Sunday, May 2nd & 3rd - TRAIL DAYS Stagecoach Trail Hikes Sat. with a cleanup emphasis, Sun. for fun! (Statewide observance)

Saturday, May 9, 1992 THE HUMAN RACE Be a Sponsor or a Participant 2, 5, or 10K. This was an excellent fund raiser last year - let's make it even better this year!

Saturday, May 16, 1992 Another centennial hike...on a full moon night...starts at 4PM at the Chumash Trailhead in Simi Valley.

## LA WILD

Imagine a land trust solely for the L. A. County area. It would purchase land and easements connecting wildlife corridors linking Los Padres and Angeles National Forests to the Santa Monica Mountain National Recreational Area. If this sounds good to you, put in the individual annual dues of \$25.00 to The Mountains Conservancy Foundation in care of Ruth Kilday at 3800 Solstice Canyon Road, Malibu, Ca 90265. If you have writing or publicity skills to volunteer, also call Ruth at (310) 456-7154.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR ADDRESS LABEL - AND RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Name _____	Student or Senior	\$5.00	_____
	Individual	\$10.00	_____
Address _____	Family	\$15.00	_____
	Supporting	\$25.00	_____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	Business	\$25.00	_____
	Life Member	\$100.00	_____
Phone ( ) _____	(Make checks payable to SSMPA)		

PRESIDENT'S FAREWELL ADDRESS

For the past two years, it has been my pleasure to serve as SSMPA's President. My goal was to leave it a stronger and more thriving organization than I found it. To help accomplish this, I insisted that the newsletter come out every month. In April, 1990, I insisted that the plans for holding a 20th anniversary celebration be featured in every monthly newsletter so that this idea would not die on the planning table. Several SSMPA activists worked diligently to turn the plans into the November 18, 1990 entertaining and award giving successful event attended by over 80 people, some of whom we hadn't seen in years. The activists responsible for this successful event were the following: Corina Antonucci, Pauline Aue, Brad Banyon (Horowitz), Lee Baum, John Burton, The Dedheads, Char Griffith, Janice Hinkston, Kent Kellegrew, Nancy Razanski, Doreen Rusen, Bea Samuel, and Bonnie Tompkins.

The nearly monthly newsletter not only engendered enthusiasm for the anniversary celebration, but stimulated several life memberships.

Another strengthening factor occurred when Janice and I in August, 1990, wrote our first open letter to those behind in their dues. It worked. Dozens of renewals flooded in. We need another one for this year!

Several great things happened during the past two years. One occurred when Robert Baxter from the State Parks Department called to tell me that the last 55 acre portion of the Old Stage Coach Trail property had just been purchased by the State Parks Department from the <sup>1983</sup> 1988 Proposition 70 funds. Another was when the 156 acre Ransbottom property above the cemetery was purchased. Along with other smaller purchases in our Simi Hills, the total acreage owned by the State Parks Department went from 428 to 673 acres. The third highlight was the Bob Hope Land Swap. The new Ahmanson amendment looks even more promising. What an exciting time for me to have served as SSMPA's President with the prospect of preserving the 4,369 acre Runkle Ranch (Rocky Peak) currently owned by Bob Hope. Lastly, the great fundraiser our Foundation participated in on Saturday, May 11, 1991 gave us \$1140. It was a 2, 5, 10K walk/run called "The Human Race" in which SSMPA general member, Eleanore Rembaum, a runner and one of our participants won a third-place trophy for her age group. We hope to do as well or better on Saturday, May 9, 1992, so please get involved as a participant and or a donor. Yet still another good thing happened. In mid-1991, SSMPA obtained Dorian Keyser as a member. This dedicated, well-organized retired engineer and college physics teacher helped us apply for two major grants and serves as our program chairman who's the best one we ever had. Thanks to him our general meetings are always entertaining as well as exciting. You should attend more often, it's fun!

Upon leaving my office, I hope that if you got pleasant feelings from what has been accomplished by SSMPA, that you do not applaud the hard-working activists (pleasant as that is). The only hand we really need is the kind when you roll up your sleeves to pitch in to help. If you can give six hours a month on the 1st and 3rd Monday evenings to serve on our board, we need you! We have a critical need for a recording secretary to help us keep track off all our exciting happenings. We also may need a treasurer if Zelma Van accepts the office of president. She'll help any new treasurer get started! Becoming a member-at large is another good way to help run our board. We also need Sunday hiking and visitor center alternates as well as more weekday children's hike leader docents. Please consider our needs to keep this SSMPA healthy, so it can continue to serve our community by preserving more of our magnificent mountainous open space. Please renew your dues. Check the overdue date highlighted in colored pencil by Glenn Bailey who prepares our labels for mailing. We should have 250 paid members to keep economic pace with our mailing list.

As I take a year out from SSMPA to renew my teaching license, I'll miss you! I may still treat myself to an occasional general meeting to relax and enjoy the wonderful programs Dorian provides us. Good-bye and bless SSMPA's goals forever. Also bless those who work to turn our dream of a state park in our hills into a reality. That includes yourself if you become an activist in this very worthwhile organization.

Love, SSMPA President Nancy Razanski  
March 19, 1990--March 16, 1992

GIVING DUE CREDIT

Besides Janice Hinkston and Dorian Keyser as reported in last month's newsletter, several other people did a lot of work to prepare information for the application to get the culvert built under Topanga Canyon. These people were as follows: Pauline Aue, Sandra Fernandez, John Otter and Nancy Razanski. Along with Dorian, we did the ground work when Janice was in Costa Rica.

ADDRESS CORRECTION

DATED MATERIAL

Foundation for the Preservation  
of the Santa Susana Mountains  
Post Office Box 4831  
Chatsworth, CA 91313-4831

