

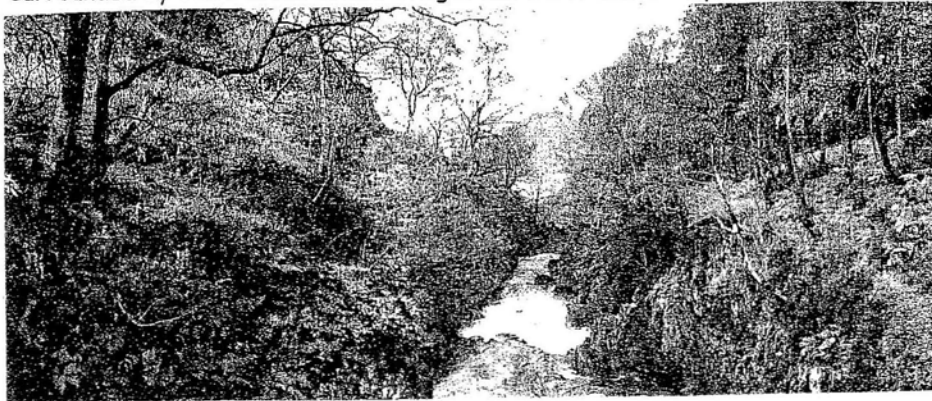
September 2001 Newsletter

What are Corridors?

Biological corridors are literally the lifelines of a mountainous region. They are segments of land creating a link between critical habitats. Many include the rich, riparian ribbons that line and network rivers and streams. These linkage zones are where species migrate and intermingle as they have for millennium, ensuring genetic interchange and consequently long-term survival. These corridors include both roadless and partially developed areas. Almost always, biological corridors are unprotected and vulnerable to development and activities destructive to wildlife values and ecological functions.

Scientists believe that without migration corridors allowing animals to move between protected areas and other public lands, Californians risk losing some of the most important and charismatic species found in the state--mountain lions, bobcats, badgers, salmon and steelhead, to name a few.

Every species of animal requires a unique combination of environmental conditions and other life forms in order to survive and reproduce. These factors constitute its "niche", or in looser terms, its "habitat". For most species, the landscape is a sea of habitat islands: areas where the living is good, often surrounded by other areas where living is more difficult or impossible.



Landscapes and species have evolved together as functioning ecosystems. Animals and plants have migrated and dispersed across landscapes for millennia in order to survive and reproduce. Landscape-level processes such as wildfire and disease and hydrologic events such as periodic floods have been a part of these systems. Animal movements have been fine-tuned by evolution to function within the natural range of variation existing in the landscape. However, human alterations in modern times have changed the landscape too rapidly and too extensively for most animals to adapt. As one consequence, most animals must now try to move across landscapes that are often much more hostile than anything they are prepared to encounter. To get from one good habitat island to another an animal often has to expose itself to predators, travel through areas

(continued on page 2)

SSMPA General Membership Meeting

Monday, October 1, 2001 - There is a wonderful place in western San Fernando Valley of which many people are not aware. It has potential for future trail development and is almost close enough to touch a state park and a natural preserve, and it is time for us to get to know it better in order to appreciate its value to our community and our lives. Jim Shirley, a Jet Propulsion Lab planetary scientist working on the currently active Galileo Millennium Mission to the Jupiter system, will give a slide show and lecture on this "blank spot on the map": **Box Canyon**. Last year Jim presented a fascinating program at a general meeting on local geology. On October 1st, through Jim's interesting slides you will learn about the biological resources, wildlife corridors, geology, geography and year-round springs of this important watershed area. Jim will also talk about current development pressures. His knowledge of the subject will make this night's program one to be long remembered.

Jim is a Board member of SSMPA, a long-time environmentalist and member of the Sierra Club, NRDA and other activist groups, and the California Native Plant Society. He was first editor of a 100-page "Encyclopedia of Planetary Sciences" published in 1997 by Chapman & Hall, which won an award from the Geoscience Information Society as the "Best Reference Work" for 1999. He received a combined Physics/ Geosciences MS from CSUN in 1995. Jim is married, has two children, and lives in a home in Box Canyon that has been in his family since 1927. Plan to come--bring your family and friends. You won't regret it! ☒

General Membership Program meetings take place every 3rd Monday of the months September through November and January through May. Program meetings begin at 7:15 p.m. and generally conclude by 9:00 p.m. Refreshments are served. The venue is the meeting room at the Rockpointe Clubhouse, 22300 Devonshire St., Chatsworth, on the south side, one block before entering Chatsworth Park South.

SSMPA members are also invited to attend Board of Directors meetings, which take place at the Chatsworth Park South Visitors Center on the first Monday of the month.

(continued from page 1)

where there is nothing to eat or drink, take its chances crossing an 8-lane highway, or risk getting lost and never finding another secure island of suitable habitat. All this and more can happen if an animal chooses to leave its home range, or if it is forced out. Increasingly cut off and confined, dozens of species across California are doomed to extinction, scientists fear, unless people can clear blocked corridors and preserve open ones.

Ever since scientists began to recognize that wildlife habitat was becoming more and more fragmented, there has been great interest in the concept of designing reserves and maintaining connectivity between those reserves of wildlife habitat. To do this requires identifying corridors or linkage zones.

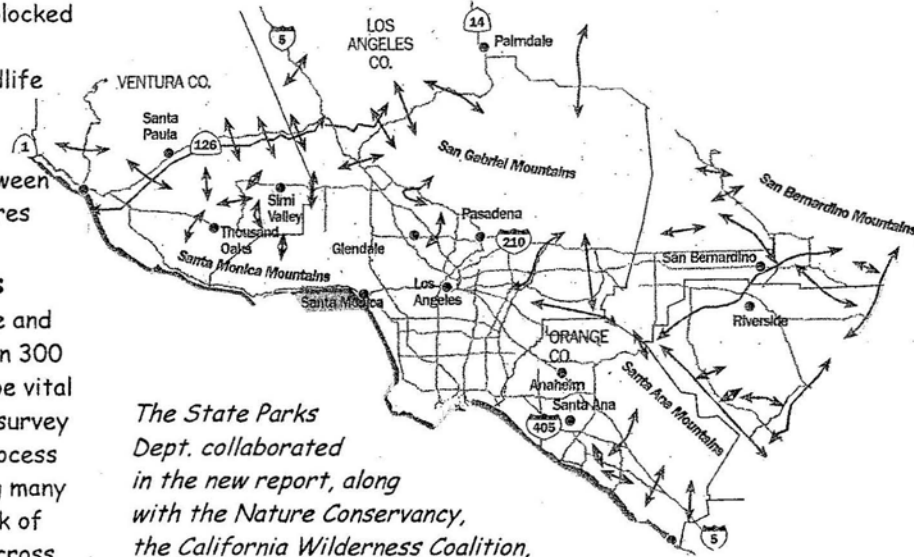
An Effort to Preserve Wildlife Corridors

A team of biologists representing California state and several conservation groups has identified more than 300 natural pathways throughout California thought to be vital to the survival of dozens of wildlife species. Their survey of wildlife corridors is a key step in an ambitious process that ultimately could lead to preserving or restoring many of the pathways. Scientists hope to forge a network of such links to allow animals to move back and forth across parks, wildlife preserves and other wild lands in California. Many of the links would function as land bridges across developed areas. A big part of the challenge ahead is buying the land or acquiring necessary rights of way. A report released by 5 public agencies and nonprofit groups on August 6th predicts that **without action now, many linkages will be severed, turning wildlife refuges and other chunks of wilderness into fragmented islands in a sea of development.** Island habitats long have been known as hotbeds of extinction, where wildlife are highly susceptible to inbreeding and disease. The danger looms large here, where there are more federally endangered and threatened species than any other state but Hawaii.

If issues of linkages and connectivity are not considered, the result is merely protected islands that lose their health over the long term. **In order to have healthy, vibrant sites with a full array of representative species, it must be considered how the site remains connected to larger landscapes.**

Although wildlife biologists have been mapping corridors for years, the new survey identifying 300 pathways stands out because it brought together 160 experts from public agencies, advocacy groups, consulting firms and academia. The survey represents a maturing of a scientific theory once thought of as novel. Now, even state parks officials are embracing the notion of linkage preservation as they debate what lands to purchase. "To me, it's the most important thing we can do to preserve values on parks lands today," said Richard G. Rayburn, chief of natural resources at the State Dept. of Parks and Recreation. He recalled the warning of Harvard University professor emeritus E.O. Wilson several years ago about the problem of fragmented landscapes: that unless society moves quickly, it would be left with "pathetic remnants" of wild lands. "That really hit home to me. You can't wait around much longer."

But the confidence that linkages will save species is not universally shared. Some scientists have questioned the importance of corridors, saying they can serve as vectors for disease and predators. The state nonetheless has begun to purchase land for corridors.



The State Parks Dept. collaborated in the new report, along with the Nature Conservancy, the California Wilderness Coalition, the Biological Resources Division of the U.S. Geological Survey, and the Center for Reproduction of Endangered Species of the Zoological Society of San Diego. The project stemmed from an April 1999 workshop at the UC Riverside James Reserve near Idyllwild, organized by the California Wilderness Coalition. There, scientists mapped corridors in Southern California and promised to continue their efforts statewide. Last November all of the experts met in San Diego to identify linkages throughout the state and attempted to rank their importance. The proceedings have been assembled in the report, "Missing Linkages," written by Kristeen Penrod, executive director of the South Coast Wildlands Project. The entire 79-page report, including colored maps, is on the Web at: www.calwild.org/pubs/reports/linkages/index.htm

"Wilderness with a slick highway through it is no longer wild.... I have come to the conclusion that to be complacent is to be ineffective, and to be tolerant of obvious error or injustice is unforgivable. Perhaps there is something amiss with the genes of Homo Sapiens that does not innately command us to protect our home, Earth, as we instinctively protect ourselves."

Ansel Adams

Thank you for renewing your membership!

Bob Lisenby, Melissa Lovelady, Midge Downer & family,
Suzanne Hart, Karl Benink, Larry Merken, Doreen Rusen,
Ellen Pifer, Patti Milow, Terrie Brady, Eugene &
Jeannette Davis and Michael & Lizzie Novotny & family.
Welcome, new member Bob Johnson!

About this newsletter: If you have comments or would like to submit an article for publication in this newsletter, write to SSMPA, Attn: Newsletter Editor, P.O. Box 4831, Chatsworth, CA 91313-4831. *Susan Gerke, Editor*

A LETTER YOU CAN WRITE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE. (Use your own words.)

Mr. Al Wright
Executive Director
Wildlife Conservation Board
1807 Thirteenth Street, #103
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Wright:

I urge you to help the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to acquire the pristine 1,700+ acre Joughlin Ranch, a key property whose acquisition will almost complete the connection between the Conservancy-owned Santa Clarita Woodlands Park and Runkel Ranch, which abuts the north side of the 118 Freeway in the Santa Susana Pass. Its acquisition is essential to preserve the wildlife corridor/habitat linkage between the Santa Monica Mountains and the much larger Los Padres and Angeles National Forests via the Simi Hills and Santa Susana Mountains.

The Joughlin Ranch has valley and coast live oak trees, black walnut trees, coastal sage shrub, chaparral, native grasses, and copious wildflowers. It contains 4.9 miles of blue line streams in Devils, Ybarra, and Brown Canyons, which are key watershed arms of the Los Angeles River. It is populated by raptors and numerous other bird species, mountain lion, bobcat, raccoon, mule deer, opossum, rabbit, fox, ground and tree squirrel, mice, rattlesnakes and other types of snakes, and amphibians. It has spectacular geology, rock formations and canyons, plus Native American archeology.

Your contribution will add to the funds that are already available to the Conservancy from the year 2000 California Proposition 12. Without it, there would be insufficient funds to purchase this very important property.

Sincerely,
Name and Address

cc: Ms. Kerrie Stewart
4949 View Range Ave.
San Diego, CA 92123

Indian Graves Found in Canyon

(reprinted in part from Daily News, Monday, August 27, 2001)

CHATSWORTH - Archaeologists have unearthed prehistoric bone fragments in 32 American Indian burial sites in Dayton Canyon, LA County coroner's officials said. Development at the site near Valley Circle and Roscoe boulevards has been halted while an archaeological excavation takes place. Archaeologists, working for SunCal, a company planning to build a 150-home subdivision at the 100-acre site, discovered the bones in individual graves during the last month. It could not be immediately estimated how old the bones are but the bones will be tested to determine their age. From a representative sample of what's in the ground they will project who left the remains behind and how they lived. A report on the excavation could take a year to complete.

Through the decades, archaeologists have studied the area and have found stone tools and other artifacts. They are studying the possibility that the bones could have been from a mixed tribe of Chumash and the Fernandeno, whose people were bilingual. Beverly Folkes, a Fernandeno Indian who is believed to be a descendant of the tribe that lived on the land until European conquest, is watching the excavation for the California Native American Heritage Commission. "It's sad to me that I am continually having to defend the sacredness of remains," Folkes said. "The only concern to me is the safe reburial of the remains."

Officials of the commission, which negotiates with the archaeologists for a timely reburial of the remains, called the find significant because of the number of remains found. "Typically we hear about one burial discovered at a time," said Rob Wood, an associate governmental program analyst for the commission. Wendy Teeter, a curator of archaeology at the Univ. of CA, LA, Fowler Museum, said it's an important find because of the rarity of undeveloped land in the region. "These sites are becoming endangered species because development keeps plowing over them," she said. "All of these sites are significant, insofar as there are so few left."

As part of the mitigation measures to reduce the impacts of the building and outlined in the final EIR for the Dayton Canyon project, archaeologists are required to excavate the site before bulldozers and other heavy machinery begin clawing into the ground. After the excavation is complete and grading permit issued by the city Planning Dept., an archaeologist will remain on site to monitor grading operations.

The developer, SunCal Inc. of Chatsworth, has hired Orange County archaeology company RMW Paleo Associates to perform the excavation, retrieve the materials and analyze them at labs across the Southland. A chain-link fence now surrounds the site, and a private security firm keeps watch over the property.

Notes from the Public Hearing on Saturday, August 25, 2001

AHMANSON RANCH PROJECT

by Terrie Brady

The hearing started at approximately 9:40 am with an overview given by Steve Weston, the Ahmanson Washington Mutual (WAMU) legal counsel, who stated that 90% of the property would be permanent open space. His calculation included parks, golf courses and 900 acres of public open space. Mr. Weston stated that he had won an award for best environmental document from the California Association of Environmental Professionals and another award from the National AEP. He claimed they have donated 10,000 acres to federal and state parks for this 5,000 acres project. He also claimed that there would be no decline in water quality. The details of how this is possible were not explained. He stated that he had established the Las Virgenes Institute for Resource Management. The Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR), to be released this fall, is only the first of 4 phases.

Brad Sherman stated that the project would cause 45,000 additional traffic trips, and adversely affect quality of life. He stated that the permit of the Army Corps of Engineers cannot go forward if endangered species will be destroyed. He asked where the affordable housing is in this project. Zev Yaroslavsky stated that with 40,000 additional traffic trips, 3 million dollars in traffic mitigation was inadequate and that the County of LA would have required 15 to 25 million dollars for this much additional traffic.

Environmental review process and policy considerations were discussed by lawyers for the assembly and the city of Calabasas. The development agreement purports to limit environmental review and caps mitigation for issues unknown back in 1992. One lawyer stated that the development agreement would give way to CEQA. The details are in a report in Fran Pavley's office. Another lawyer (Sullivan) stated that the development agreement states that if the State law changes, then the development agreement "shall" be changed. Sullivan (CEQA) also mentioned that Article II of the constitution and some other document means that a development agreement cannot be used to avoid compliance with CEQA. One of the lawyers recommended waiting for scientific review of other parties before deciding on a course of action. The development agreement states there would be no further cost to the developer, which would indicate that Ventura County would have to pay the cost of any additional necessary mitigation. Sheila Kuehl pointed out that this would make the County of Ventura less inclined to find that there was need for additional mitigation. There were statements by the company that they were waiting for the County of Ventura to finish their SEIR.

Cultural Resources. Mati Waiya, Chumash priest and director of Wishtoyo Foundation, stated that there are many sacred sites on the Lasky Plateau. He stated that the ancient name for the Native American village here was UWAM. Coincidentally, the employees of Washington Mutual were wearing stickers bearing a similar word 'wamu'. Chester King stated that many of the sites are yet to be identified. Mr. King and Mati both stated that there is a significant cave called the Cave of Minutz.

Endangered Species. David Magney, the vice president of legislation for the California Native Plant Society, said that there are 900 rare plants species with fewer than 10 populations in Ventura County. 200 of these species are found in the watershed of Calleguas Creek, part of which is located within the development parameters. The full report of these rare species is available on the CNPS website at www.cnps.org. Gary Busted, park biologist, National Park Service, described the results of a survey of amphibians in the creeks in the area. He stated that habitat diversity decreases downstream to urban areas as opposed to downstream to wild areas. Furthermore, he stated that total dissolved solids (translate: excrement) are higher, and exotic species such as bullfrogs and crayfish are more prevalent. These exotics fiercely compete with native species for food. All of these conditions lead to lower native species survival. This biologist observed no red-legged frogs or California tree frogs. This would indicate that the statement made by the lawyer for the developer, Steve Weston, that there would be no decline in water quality is false.

Sean Manion, conservation biologist for the Resource Conservation District (RCD), stated that 2/3 of the streams would be altered by the plan. Furthermore, he stated that the 10% that the developer had earlier described as what they would develop was the habitat of endangered species. Mr. Manion stated this was a serious concern when a "take" of 10% of one of two remaining populations existing in the world is destroyed. He said that protection of the headwaters (located on the Ahmanson property) is essential to protect the red-legged frog. He reiterated that the nonnative exotics such as bullfrog and crayfish have a negative effect on native amphibians. Minor changes in water quality negatively impact amphibians. "This population of red-legged frogs would have little chance of survival if even one pregnant bullfrog or crayfish escaped into this area." Brian Troutline of Environmental Defense Center asked how the biologic plan would assist the recovery of the species.

Watershed. Steve Fleischli of Santa Monica BayKeeper, raised the issue of how the Tidewater Goby, (an endangered species that lives in the Malibu Lagoon--the point where the creek from Ahmanson reaches the sea) will be affected. Rosi Dagit stated that 2/3 of drainages will be impacted. She asked if the Army Corps independently evaluated this impact on waterways. She pointed out that the area on the map provided by the city of Calabasas will be graded. This area appeared to be much more than the 10% that the developer claimed. It appeared to be more like 80%. One can get on the city of Calabasas mailing list for updates by calling (818) 878-4222. Rosi Dagit also pointed out that we are only considering Phase A. There are 5 phases; we need to see the impact of all the phases to know the full impact. She also asked who determined that substituting lakes in golf courses, sludge catchments, made up for destroying natural ponds and streams.

Traffic. Barry Wilter, Transportation Planning for County Dept. of Public Works, and Bob Sassaman, CA Dept. of Transportation, stated that the numbers in the report from Ahmanson are the same as those from SCAG (So. Cal. Assn. of Governments). However, the Dept. of Public Works concluded that the increase in traffic was significant while Ahmanson claims it is not. One of the proposed changes is to extend Thousand Oaks Blvd. into LA Co. This extension would require a permit for the removal of oak trees. It will go before the LA Co. Planning Commission for a hearing on December 12, 2001.

During the public comment period, one of the most interesting comments was made by Alyse Lazar of Save Open Space and the Endangered Species Task Force of the Sierra Club. She stated that the project donated Calleguas Creek but granted itself many easements to water rights on the creek and the right to build its water infrastructure on public open space. The developer said the impacts of this would be addressed in the SEIR. The SEIR should be released in Sept. or Oct. There will be hearing for comments on the document in Nov. and Dec.

You always knew that Roy Rogers, the Lone Ranger and "Stagecoach" were filmed here in Chatsworth. Would you like to see the actual locations? Please visit the Iverson Movie Ranch on September 22 and 23rd for its annual Wild, Wild West Days! The event features various celebrities, a film festival, music, western vendors, arts & crafts, western style BBQ, raffle prizes, historic exhibits, a classic car show, and much more. Special guest of honor and cowboy actor Herbert Jeffrey will celebrate his 90th birthday by performing at the event. Jeffrey is most noted for his role in the movie, "The Bronze Buckaroo". Admission is \$5.00. All proceeds from this event will be donated to the Roy Rogers & Dale Evans Happy Trail's Children's Foundation and the Chatsworth Land Preservation Association. Location: Take Topanga Cyn. Blvd. to Santa Susana Pass Rd.



400 More Acres Added to Park

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy has closed escrow on a 324-acre piece of property on Mullholland Drive and is nearing an agreement for an adjacent 68-acre property at 21000 Mullholland. The additional 400 acres will be added to the 10,000 acres of the Topanga State Park, the national's largest park within a metropolitan area. The purchase was made as a result of the \$4 million in state funding coming from Proposition 12. The remaining money on this current deal will come from the Conservancy. The money was guided through the budget process by Assemblywoman Fran Pavley (D-Agoura Hills).

Calabasas Pumpkin Festival Squashed!

This year's Calabasas Pumpkin Festival, where nonprofit organizations have been able to earn some cash for their operations, has been canceled due to "the uncertainties of events that have developed in recent months and the economy." Part of the decision to cancel the popular yearly festival centers around the City of Calabasas not wanting to participate with the Chamber because of the involvement of main sponsor Washington Mutual, who is trying to develop the controversial Ahmanson Ranch development near Calabasas. The City of Calabasas is currently involved in a lawsuit with Ahmanson Ranch and has voted to become completely neutral in dealing with the developer by avoiding the appearance of any sort of partnership.

Safe Places for Depleted Fish Stock

Sections of ocean encircling Catalina Island and reaching from Malibu to Palos Verdes are part of a necklace of proposed marine parks and reserves designed to help fish recover from decades of excessive harvesting, as mapped out by a team of biologists and made public July 9th.

By next April, the CA Fish & Game Commission must approve a network of such marine-protected areas to meet the requirements of the state's 1998 Marine Life Protection Act. The new plan can be viewed at www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/mlpa.

Hydrogen as Fuel for the Future by Dorian Keyser

Some thoughts about the world's energy crises:

- ✧ The world's supply of petroleum and natural gas will be used up before the end of this century, and its supply of more polluting coal will last through the next one.
- ✧ There is no safe way of disposing of radioactive waste from nuclear reactors or of disposing of the structures of nuclear plants when they become weakened by exposure to nuclear radiation.
- ✧ Although hydroelectric power sources can be increased by building additional dams and installing larger generators in existing ones, we have dammed most our rivers, and silt will eventually end the useful life of each dam.
- ✧ Additional windmills can be built to serve as a source of electricity where there are sources of wind.
- ✧ Generating electricity from geothermal sources can be used where these sources are available.
- ✧ Solar generated electricity is practical via solar panels using relatively scarce materials.
- ✧ Using tides and/or waves to generate electricity needs to be considered.

Thus, the greatest potential source of untapped energy can come from hydrogen, which can be generated from relatively abundant water, leaving oxygen as a residue. Unfortunately, this approach has not been given sufficient research because its implementation would be less profitable to established providers of petroleum and natural gas, significant funding has not been available from the public sector for research, and its implementation would require massive investments. However, an environmentally safe and cost effective way to generate hydrogen from water and using it as a fuel for vehicles and to generate electricity is *essential* for the future of mankind on the earth.

At our last general meeting, held on Monday, August 20th, the SSMPA membership:

- learned of SSMPA's need for an experienced recording secretary (know of anyone?)
- voted 20 to 1 to donate \$2,000 to Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority toward the \$15,000 additional funding needed for the purchase of a primary acquisition in a wildlife corridor. It was also voted (14 yes, 7 no, 4 abstentions) to donate more--up to \$5,000--if the goal of \$15,000 is not met.*
- heard an interesting explanation by Reid Bogert of the introduction of a new bill in the U.S. House of Representatives by Congressman Adam B. Schiff: H.R. 2715, the Rim of the Valley Corridor Study Act.
- became educated as to the timely rezoning land issue in Chatsworth by Susan Eskander of Chatsworth Land Preservation Association (CLPA), including the way the problem is being addressed--a lawsuit against LA. City.

** Update: As of August 25th, between actual donations and solid pledges, the goal of \$15,000 has been met! The time schedule for the acquisition has been put off approximately 2 months, and for the time being the MRCA said they will hold people's donation checks. (The escrow has been extended between the MRCA and the sellers to accommodate the time problem.)*

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of John Downey, Sr., who died from a hiking accident on August 11, 2001. John was a member of SSMPA. His many contributions to his community, friends, family and all whose lives he touched go on and on. John was newsletter editor for the Rancho Simi Trail Blazers and a docent at Strathern Historical Park. A passionate and avid hiker, he also enjoyed leading hikes, especially those with children. John regularly participated in trail work parties in the Simi Hills. He was always upbeat and cheerful -- a good person to know.

John leaves his wife Martha, son John Jr., daughter Kathleen, brother Frank, and grandsons Kenneth and Patrick. He will be missed by all who knew him.





SEPTEMBER HIKES

Rim of the Valley Hikes (Santa Monica Mtns Conservancy / Mtns Recreation & Conservation Authority) Phone: (310) 589-3200

Sat. 9/1 Towsley Canyon: Explore the fascinating nocturnal world of owls and bats. Beat summer heat on 2 hr evening hike. Meet at 7 pm at Ed Davis/Towsley Park (Take Calgrove exit from 5 Fwy. Turn west back under Fwy and take The Old Road south. Go to park entrance on the right.) Park in back lot and meet at kiosk.

Sun. 9/2 Happy Camp Canyon: Come help us look for owls and other nocturnal critters on this full moon 2 hr hike. Bring binoculars and perhaps some hot chocolate for the end. Meet at 7 pm at 14105 Broadway, Moorpark. From 101 Fwy and 118 Fwy take 23 north, exit New Los Angeles Ave. Go west to 3rd signal (Moorpark Ave, turn right. Go 2.6 mi beyond railroad crossing to a sharp left turn. DO NOT TURN LEFT but continue straight and make an immediate right turn on to Broadway Ave. Meet at parking lot at end of Broadway. (0.4 mi from turn)

Sun. 9/30 Happy Camp Canyon: 3 hr hike. Family activity. Enjoy wildflowers and hike to Cathedral Grove and back (3mi RT). Bring binoculars. Meet at 3 pm at parking lot (see 9/2 hike above).

Sierra Club Hikes

Sun. 9/23 Liebre Mountain: Moderate 6mi, 1700¹ gain hike. Views of Antelope Valley and Tehachapi Mountains. Steady climb through Black Oak, Digger Pine and White Sage. Meet 8:00 am Ed Davis/Towsley Park (Take Calgrove exit from 5 Fwy. Turn west back under Fwy and take The Old Road south. Go to park entrance on the right.) Leaders: Henry Schultz (661) 284-5613, Donica Wood (661) 299-4702.

Rancho Simi Trail Blazers Hikes

Every Thursday - Chumash Trail: Moderate paced 5 mi , approximately 1000¹ gain. Meet at 6 pm at trailhead. Directions: take 118 Fwy to Yosemite exit. Go north on Yosemite, turn right on Flanagan Dr. Trailhead is at the end of Flanagan Dr.

Every Sunday - Rocky Peak Trail: Strenuous, 5 mi , approximately 1000¹ gain. Meet at 5 pm at trailhead. Directions - take 118 Fwy to Rocky Peak exit. Trailhead is north of Fwy.

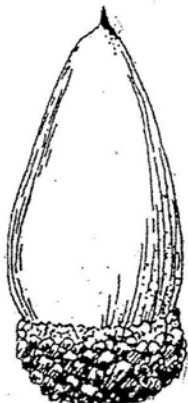
(For more information on hikes contact the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District at (805) 584-4400.)

Hikers need water, sunscreen, socks, lugsoles, hat and snack or lunch..



SANTA SUSANA MOUNTAIN PARK ASSOCIATION

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN / RENEW / REJOIN S.S.M.P.A. (Please circle one.)



valley oak

Investing in the future of our communities and its resources is probably one of the best expenditures of our time and efforts. Return this cutoff with your contributions to help ensure our futures. Please make checks payable to SSMPA and send to SSMPA, P.O. Box 4831, Chatsworth, CA 91313-4831.

- Senior or Student (\$5.00) Individual (\$10.00) Family (\$15.00)
 Business or Organization (\$25.00) Life Member (\$100.00)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Fax: _____

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Special Interest/Expertise: _____

The purposes of the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association are the protection, preservation, restoration, and enhancement of the Santa Susana Mountains and Simi Hills as open space lands and wildlife corridors linking the Los Padres National Forest and San Gabriel Mountains, including the Angeles National Forest, to the Santa Monica Mountains; as habitats for plants and animals native to the Santa Susana Mountains and the Simi Hills; as locales of unique geologic formations; as sites of ethnological, archaeological and historical interests; to provide passive recreational opportunities and environmental education opportunities; and, to support the acquisition of new public parks, open space and conservation easements, the expansion of existing parks, participate in the planning of park infrastructure and programs, and support said programs.

To find out how you can volunteer for SSMPA, call Judy Garris, President, at 818-346-7654 or Susan Gerke, Newsletter Editor, at 818-704-9304.



 **Mark your calendar**  

SSMPA BOARD MEETINGS

@ Chatsworth Park South Visitors Center:

Monday, September 10th at 7:30 p.m.

Monday, October 15th at 7:30 p.m.

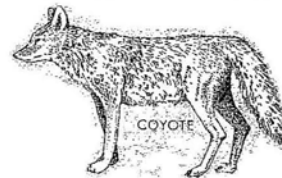
SSMPA PROGRAM MEETINGS

@ Rockpointe Clubhouse:

Monday, October 1 at 7:15 p.m.

Monday, November 19 at 7:15 p.m.

Please note the renewal date on your label and send in your dues if you wish to continue your SSMPA membership and to receive the newsletter. If you are current with your dues, kindly disregard this notice.



Santa Susana Mountain Park Association &
Foundation for the Preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains
P.O. Box 4831
Chatsworth, CA 91313-4831

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