



Santa Susana Mountain Park Association

A Non-Profit 501(c)(4) Organization
Incorporated August 31, 1971

January 2009 Newsletter

Volume 38 Issue 1



Wild Geese by Mary Oliver

You do not have to be good.
 You do not have to walk on your knees
 for a hundred miles through the desert, repenting.
 You only have to let the soft animal of your body
 love what it loves.

Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.
 Meanwhile the world goes on.
 Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain
 are moving across the landscapes,
 over the prairies and the deep trees,
 the mountains and the rivers.

Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,
 are heading home again.
 Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,
 the world offers itself to your imagination,
 calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting--
 over and over announcing your place
 in the family of things.

Quotes by Henry David Thoreau

*Live each season as it passes; breathe the air,
drink the drink, taste the fruit, and resign yourself
to the influences of each.*

In wildness is the preservation of the world.

*What is the use of a house if you haven't got a
tolerable planet to put it on?*

*I went to the woods because I wished to live
deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life,
and see if I could not learn what it had to teach,
and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived.*

There is no remedy for love but to love more.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

January 19, 2009 at 7:15PM

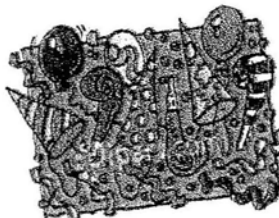
FIRST OF ALL HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

For our first meeting of 2009, we will have
two presenters:

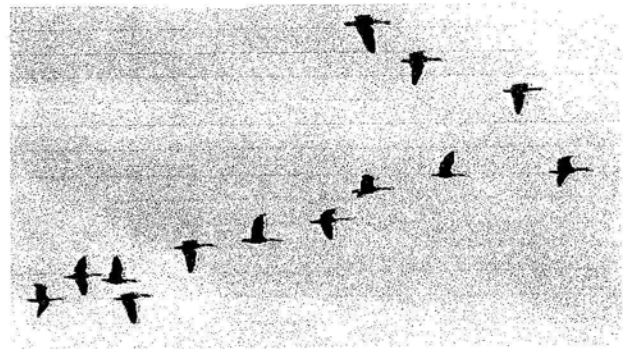
John Luker will update us on the
Docent Program.

A presentation on the Chatsworth Nature
Preserve will be given by Jack Under

SSMPA General Membership Program
meetings take place every 3rd Monday,
September through November and January
through May at the Rockpointe Clubhouse,
22300 Devonshire Street, Chatsworth, on the
south side, 1 block before entering Chatsworth
Park South. Our program meetings begin at
7:15pm and conclude at 9:00pm.



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.

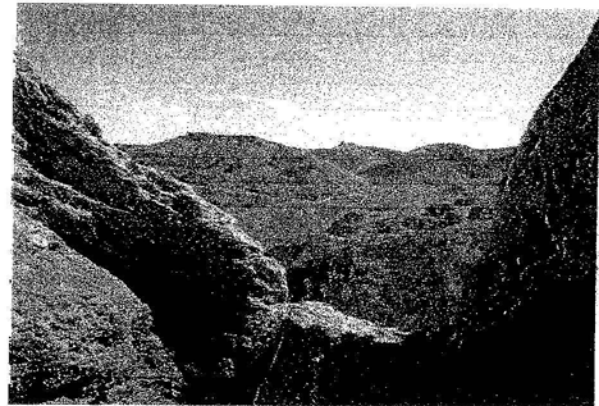


Chatsworth Nature Preserve (Currently under threat from proposed adjacent Roscoe-Fallbrook retail shopping center development)



Devils Canyon (Currently under threat from approved surrounding development!!)

Dayton Canyon (Expected destruction at any time due to already-approved residential development!!)



Manson Caves (Protected as part of the Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park)

Ahmanson Ranch (Protected - Now known as the Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve)

SCENES FROM SACRED TREASURES SURROUNDING OUR VALLEY. SOME ARE SAVED, BUT SOME ARE IN DANGER. THEY ARE WHY WE CARE.

PHOTOS BY JOHN LUKER AND APPEAR ON THE SSMPA WEBSITE.

Thank you for renewing your SSMPA membership: PLEASE EXCUSE THE OMISSION. IF YOU HAVE PAID YOUR DUES RECENTLY AND IT IS NOT REFLECTED YET, IT WILL BE NOTED NEXT MONTH. PLEASE NOTE: WHEN SENDING YOUR RENEWAL, PLEASE INDICATE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS IF YOU HAVE ONE.



Santa Susana Mountain Park Association

Officers:
President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

Jack Unger-
Warren Stone
Teena Takata
Diane Dixon Davis

Members at Large:
Reid Eogert
Carla Henry
John Luker
Jan Miller
Patty Miller
Newsletter Editor
Chris Beauvais

SAVE TREES AND HELP SSMPA SPEND MONEY WISELY

We have been getting a good response to our plan to send future Newsletters via E-Mail. We are still compiling the list

Please send your e-mail address to: chrissmpa@gmail.com
We are compiling our membership e-mails to have your SSMPA news letter sent via e-mail for many reasons:

- 1) Saves postage and printing cost.
- 2) Reduces our expenditures so we can utilize our funds more wisely.
- 3) Allows us to publish any changes in presenters or any other time sensitive information we need to expedite to you for the news letters and special announcements.



You can continue to receive your newsletter via the Postal System as well as E-Mails, just let us know your choice. Our cost to send out via US mail has become more costly than the amount of monies received annually for new and renewable membership so we do want to reduce our mailing costs.

MEMBERSHIP - ANNUAL DUES

The SSMPA Board decided to make membership a more efficient process by having everyones member-ship dues renewed September 1st. This simplifies our address labeling and membership list updating. If you have renewed your membership through December 2008, your membership will be due next September 1st for the year 2009 through September 2010. However, this is a non-profit organization and an all-volunteer membership, including Board Members, so we welcome any additional contribution you might wish to make when renewing next September 1st.

Membership cost: Senior or Student (\$15.00) Individual (\$15.00) Family (\$20.00) Life Member (\$150.00) Business/Organization (\$30.00)

INDIVIDUALS COUNT

Two very important environmental issues were won because you, SSMPA, and others took action:
-Los Lomas Development: This development was stopped at City Hall because many people in the community went to meetings, wrote to their supervisors, representatives, and overall got involved. Greig Smith, Councilmen 12th District led the fight against the developer.

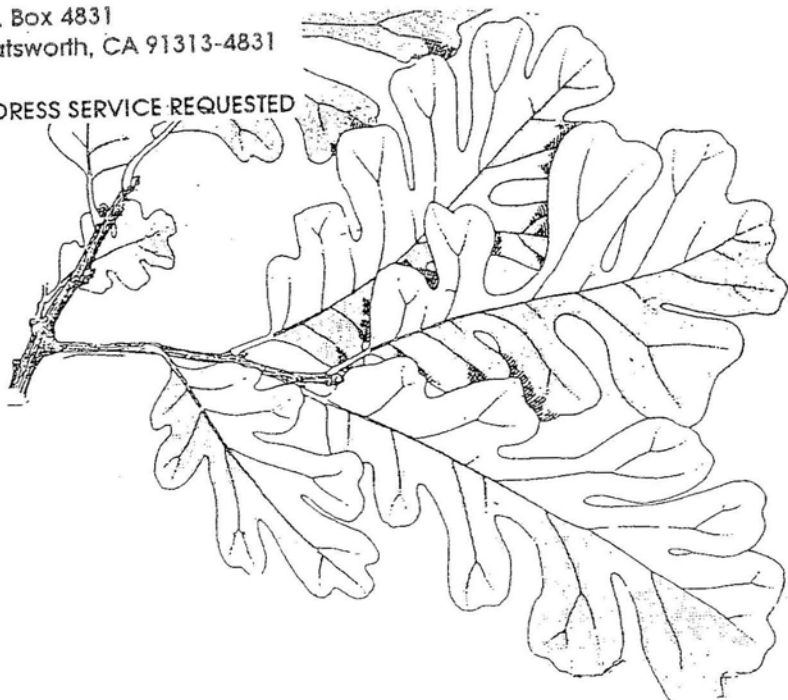
- New Toll Road proposal through San Onfre Beach - shot down.



ST00 15022115

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Non-Profit
US Postage
Paid
Van Nuys, CA
Permit No. 761

LIFE Member
Nancy Razanski
22149 James Alan Circle
Chatsworth CA 91311-2051

UPCOMING HIKE

Bring water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. RAIN CANCELS

Rancho Simi Trailblazers

Regularly Scheduled Hikes

(Hikes are canceled if it rains. There are no hikes on holidays.)

Sunday Evening - Rocky Peak

Meet at 4 PM at the Rocky Peak trailhead at the end of Rocky Peak Road on the Santa Susana Pass. (Meet at 5 PM during daylight savings time.) (Strenuous - 4.8 MRT)

Tuesday Evening - Long Canyon

Meet at 6:30 PM in the Long Canyon parking lot. Directions: Take First Street South. Continue when the road's name changes to Long Canyon Road. The parking lot is at the intersection of Long Canyon Road and Wood Ranch Parkway. (Easy to Moderate - 3.0 MRT)

Thursday Evening - The Chumash Trail

Meet at 6 PM at Chumash trailhead. Directions: Take the 118 Freeway to Yosemite exit. Go north on Yosemite and turn right on Flanagan Dr. The trailhead is at the end of Flanagan Drive. (Moderate to Strenuous - 5.2 MRT)

January Activities

January 3rd

Nicholas Flat Trail*

7.5 MRT - Moderate to Strenuous (1,650' elevation gain)

Magnificent ocean views, and a beautiful pond, near Malibu. Bring lunch, 2 to 3 quarts of water. Meet at 8 AM near Donut Delite at the corner of Madera and Royal. Please note, there is a \$10 parking fee at the trailhead. [Go to simitrailblazers.com](http://www.simitrailblazers.com) for more information about this hike.

January 10th

Santa Paula Canyon*

8.1 MRT - Moderate (1000' elevation gain)

The trail takes you through picturesque St. Thomas Aquinas College, then along the shady banks of Santa Paula Creek, with plentiful swimming holes, capped by a spectacular 25 foot waterfall just past Big Cone Camp. Bring 2 - 3 quarts water, lunch and a pair of shoes/sandals that you don't mind getting wet. Wear boots. For more information about this hike, [go to simitrailblazers.com](http://www.simitrailblazers.com). Meet at 8 AM near Donut Delite at the corner of Madera and Royal.

January 17th

Work Party - Mt. McCoy Trail

Meet at the Mt. McCoy Trailhead. To get there, take Royal Avenue west of Madera Road, take a right at the "T" intersection with Acapulco Avenue and an immediate left on to Washburn. The trail begins where Washburn curves and becomes Los Amigos Avenue. Bring 2 - 3 quarts of water, hat, sunscreen, and gloves to work on the trail.

January 24th Matilija Falls*

Moderate 9 MRT (950' elevation gain)

Hike up Matilija Creek, passing two waterfalls, turtle ponds and swimming holes. For more information about this hike, [go to simitrailblazers.com](http://www.simitrailblazers.com). Meet at 8 AM near Donut Delite at the corner of Madera and Royal. Bring 2 - 3 quarts of water, a snack and a pair of shoes/sandals that you don't mind getting wet. Wear boots.

January 31st

Backbone Trail Part 1 - Ray Miller Trailhead to Big Sycamore Canyon*

9.9 Miles - (1,086' elevation gain) - Moderate to Strenuous

[Go to simitrailblazers.com](http://www.simitrailblazers.com) to see the National Park Systems Backbone Trail System flier.

February Activities

February 7th

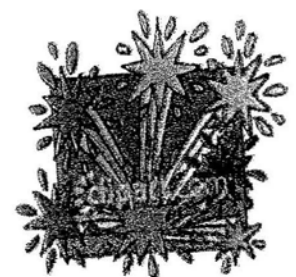
Backbone Trail Part 2 - Sandstone Peak Trailhead to Big Sycamore Canyon Trailhead*

12.5 Miles - (1,400' elevation gain - 3,000' elevation loss) - Moderate to Strenuous

THERE IS AN E-MAIL WITH TERRIFIC GRAPHICS THAT DETAILS HIKE THROUGH DECEMBER 2007
Zuliebear@aol.com
ATTN: Dianne

STAGECOACH TRAIL

STAGECOACH TRAIL - 9:00AM. INTERPRETATIVE HIKE INTO HISTORY OF SANTA SUSANA PASS STATE HISTORIC PARK. MEET AT 9:00AM FOR A 2 1/2 MI (400' GAIN) LOOP UP THE STAGECOACH TRAIL. Corrections: change Trail head (meeting place) to park entrance on Larwin Ave. about 200 feet south of DEVONSHIRE on right. Park on Street. LEADER: LEE BAUM (818-341-1850/SIERRA CLUB-SANTA SUSANA MTNS TASK FORCE OUTING). STAGECOACH TRAIL HIKE WILL BE ON THE 3RD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH, STARTING OCTOBER.



Santa Susana Mountain Park Association

invites you to JOIN / RENEW (circle one).

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 contribution lend your support. Make your check payable to SSMPA and send to SSMPA, P.O. Box 4831, Chatsworth, CA 91313-4831.

- Senior or Student ((\$10.00)
- Individual (\$15.00)
- Family (\$20.00)
- Life Member (\$150.00)
- Business / Organization (\$30.00)

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Street Address: _____ E-mail: _____
 City / State / Zip: _____
 Special Interest / Expertise: _____

