



Since 1976

Sierra Club Palos Verdes – South Bay Group / Angeles Chapter

May-Jun 2015

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*voting officer

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<u>Vice Chair, Membership & Outreach</u>	
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<u>Alternate Chapter Rep</u>	
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<u>Webmaster</u>	
Michael Moore	310-398-8219
<u>Publicity</u>	
Paul Rosenberger	310-545-3531

You're Invited!

PV-SB Open House

Wednesday, July, 25, 2015
6-9 PM

Learn how you can become part of Sierra Club's mission to "explore, enjoy, and protect the planet!"

Read more: Activities page 7

PV-SB Group, Sierra Club
PO Box 2464, PVP, CA 90274
<http://angeles2.sierraclub.org/palos-verdes-south-bay>

**March Election Results
A Big Win for Environment
by Dean Francois**

Sierra Club members have a lot to be proud of with the recent South Bay election results.

Against the odds, with big-money spending on the other side, Redondo Beach's Measure B was defeated. Sierra Club members volunteered on this campaign and our local executive committee secured the Sierra Club endorsement for a "no" vote.

Measure B would have up-zoned the AES power plant property to allow for a build-out of residential and commercial development, leaving very little space for any open parks.

Hopefully, a better ballot measure will be offered to voters, with the smallest amount of development possible to fund a park on the remaining land. The city will be forming a task force as planning moves forward. We encourage our members to get involved.

We also worked to defeat Hermosa Beach's Measure O, which would have allowed oil drilling in the small beach city. The position of Sierra Club and other environmental organizations was for a "no" vote and the measure was soundly defeated. The city must now come up with funds to pay off E&B Oil in order to satisfy a negotiated settlement regarding the oil drilling rights.

**Poodle-dog Bush
by Frank Atkins**

When in bloom, poodle-dog bush (*Turricula parryi*) is an attractive wildflower. But this is one poodle-dog not to be petted . . . or touched, or smelled. It contains a potent skin irritant and can cause a severe allergic reaction.

A hiker friend of mine, not being familiar with poodle-dog, once decided to experience the fragrance (*Bush*, p.2)

**Prevent Party Pollution
by Eva Cicoria**

Party balloons, be they mylar or latex, should never be released into the air. Here in the South Bay and on the Peninsula, balloons released from our bluff-top parks often land in the ocean, where sea life mistake them for food, ingest them, become sick, and die.



Capturing mylar (photo by Eva Cicoria)

On a recent afternoon sail, my shipmates fished out of the water 11 balloons, three of which were latex, the others mylar. We saw many more beyond our reach, floating in the distance among dolphins, whales, and other sea life.

(*Bush*, cont.)

of this attractive wildflower. Three days later he was in the clinic getting cortisone shots for the numerous sores breaking out on his body. On hikes after that, he made sure to give it plenty of space.

Poodle-dog is endemic to Southern California and Baja California and its altitude range is from 3300' to 7500'. It thrives in places that have been recently disturbed by fire or landslides.

Before the Station Fire, when I hiked the fire road adjacent to Mt Lowe, I would point out the one lone poodle-dog bush to my hiker friends. After the Station Fire, the area remained closed for a couple of years. After re-opening, we saw thousands of poodle-dog forming a hedge along the road as far as the eye could see. Recalling my friend's experience, we too gave it plenty of space.



Poodle-dog bushes

(photo by Frank Atkin)

(*LAX*, cont.)

We consumers have been besieged lately with articles and broadcasts warning us of the sure-to-be-implemented water rationing, yet when the opportunity to implement such a hugely significant water-saving system arose—nothing. Plumbing as usual was designed, approved and implemented. Yet the City is telling residents and homeowners that rationing is inevitable?

When you stop to consider the huge number of gallons which are spent in this terminal daily, the City of Los Angeles has shown an appalling lack of foresight here. How can our civic leaders expect compliance when the City has missed such a huge opportunity to itself conserve?

And that's not the only missed opportunity. The roof of the new Bradley terminal doesn't appear to have solar panels. Solar energy is a proven method to save tremendous amounts of energy, yet not here.

Whomever designed this new terminal, as well as City review and oversight departments, dropped the ball here, missing not only the opportunity to conserve energy and water, but missing an opportunity to lead by example.

Nature Knowledge Workshop

Sponsored by the Natural Science Section
Of the Sierra Club – Angeles Chapter
June 12-14, 2015

The workshop begins with dinner and a program Friday evening and ends with lunch on Sunday. Some of the area's top naturalists will be leading walks and teaching workshops. Topics will include plants, earth science, insects, birds, Native American culture, and nature art. We will have habitat walks and other outdoor sessions, as well as indoor, evening sessions. Kathy Keane will be leading the birding activities. Accommodations are rustic – a church camp near Barton Flats – but comfortable, and include six excellent meals.

You can find more information and a registration form at <http://www.sierraclub.org/angeles/natural-science>.

City of LA Drops the Ball on Water and Energy Conservation at Bradley Terminal

by Bill Lavoie

In April, I wrote to Mayor Garcetti about two missed opportunities with regard to water conservation and energy efficiency at the new Bradley International Terminal at LAX. I traveled through there last January on a trip to Santiago, Chile and while it is beautiful, I was struck by the glaring failure to install energy and water conservation technology

Recent innovation has produced a waterless urinal which is not only efficient, it saves countless gallons of water. With the current water crisis we are experiencing, I have to ask why, oh why doesn't this new building incorporate this new technology? (LAX, p.2)

HELPFUL HINTS ON WATER CONSERVATION

by Bill Lavoie

Kitchen

- **Turn off faucet when washing hands.
- **Use a washtub/bucket in the sink when washing vegetables, then use it on garden.
- **Use eco-wash on dishwasher.
- **Run the dishwasher only when it has a full load.
- **Fix dripping faucets.

Bathroom

- **Turn off faucet when washing face, hands and brushing teeth. Use that stopper!
- **Fix dripping faucets in sink, shower and tubs.
- **Fix a leaking/running toilet.
- **Have your own bathroom? No company coming? Don't flush after "minor" usage.
- **Don't use a toilet as a wastebasket.
- **While waiting for a shower to begin running hot water, use a bucket to collect the water that would otherwise go down the drain, then use it as garden water.
- **Install low-flow shower heads.
- **Limit time spent in the shower. Use a timer if you have to.
- **Install low-flow toilets.
- **Install aerators on faucets.

Laundry Room

- **Run only full loads in the washing machine.
- **Install front-loading water-efficient washing machines. Check for rebates.
- **Use biodegradable soap and, if possible, re-route your washing machine's "gray water" to irrigate yards and gardens.

Outdoors

- **Got a swimming pool/hot tub? Utilize a cover when not in use to reduce evaporation.
- **Don't wash down driveways and sidewalks—sweep them instead.
- **Washing your car at home? Do it on your lawn if possible. Or reconsider--carwashes recycle water.
- **Install rain barrels to collect roof water to use irrigating your yard and plants.
- **Replace planted grass with xeriscape plantings.
- **Utilize a hose nozzle that shuts off when hand-watering a yard.
- **Install a drip system for watering plants.
- **Water only in the early morning or in the evening to prevent evaporation.
- **Use mulch on soil surfaces.

Bristlecone Pine: A Poetic Trip Report

by Bob Caplan

Some years ago I was on a Sierra Club bus trip that visited the bristlecone pines in the White Mountains. These trees are the world's oldest. The poem that follows describes how two hikers experience the wilderness of the bristlecone pines. Before this "trip report" begins, I have included some information that may be useful as you read the poem.

Bristlecones live in the soil of an ancient seabed from the Silurian era. The soil is broken down dolomite or calcium magnesium carbonate whose origin is the skeletons of seas from the Silurian era. Uplift has raised the seabed thousands of feet above sea level, so you have to hike *up* to reach the old ocean floor on which the trees thrive.

The poem refers to several plants in the White Mountain area including the Curleaf Mountain Mahogany. About 6 feet high, its seeds are attached to hairy tendrils whose corkscrew shape helps drill its seeds into the soil.

Methuselah, for whom one of the groves is named, allegedly lived 969 years. He and Gilgamesh, a king in what is believed to be the oldest written epic on earth, its text carbon-dated to around 2600 BCE, are mentioned in the poem because the oldest bristlecones were seedlings 5,000 years ago.

The poem starts and ends at a trailhead sign.

Bristlecone Pine

"Do we need that sign,
To know that this is wilderness?"
I ask.

Do we need it to know that these
are California's White Mountains,
Western rim of The Great Basin
Whose rivers cannot escape,
Cannot reach the sea?

We trudge along,
Feeling the occasional brush of our clothing
Against each other,
Against slabs, chipped rock, flakes
Against their dark sienna, burnt tangerine,
Weston shades of grey.

Damp with sweat, hot, breathing heavily
The rush of wind is welcome
Cools our faces, chills our backs
Bends soft tufts of Indian rice grass
Quakes stiffer clusters of bitter brush
That Piute and Pima once ground
Into flour, turned into mush.

We search for prehistoric seabed.
Odd that to reach it
We need climb another thousand feet
On trails already nine
Or ten thousand feet high.
Isn't the ocean always below us?
My mind would prefer it that way.
My problem, I think, not Nature's.

I pause, listen, wonder,
Is the forest better
Without my footsteps?

Above me wordless whispers fly
Pouring their air through boughs of pine
I draw in, inhale,
Feel the afternoon's dry heat,
Hear.
Hear silence,
Stillness...
An insect's fading whine.

Then unexpectedly,
A startling rattle,
A terrifying blur,
My sudden loss of breath, rhythm, pace
Only a grasshopper
Perhaps as frightened of me
As I am by my ignorance.

Voice shaking, I mutter "Made me jump!"
We look at each other.
"Me too," she answers

We laugh, walk on,
Quiet as teenagers
Aching to touch, failing to do so.
Our fingers feathering rumped hairs
Twirling corkscrew tendrils.
To us Methuselah's mop.
To others, the Mountain Mahogany's seed.

Our heavy breathing
Climbs into bed with us
Onto a chalk white mattress
Of calcium carbonate
And dolomite,
A Silurian cemetery.

(Poem, p.5)

(*Poem*, cont.)

Long abandoned,
Perhaps for four millennia,
Perchance more,
This ancient sea
Has been tuned
To a single weather report.

“And now, what’s in store
For the next five thousand years?”
Booms the reporter,
“There’ll be staggering winds,
Occasional thunderstorms,
Ice, freezing rain.”

The words continue, rivet,
Command attention.
“Withering volleys of hail,
Snow, always snow,
Extended periods of drought.”

The voice becomes more casual,
More matter of fact.
“As usual, the growing season will be short.
Expected annual growth?
Seven one-thousands of an inch.”

Few like those odds,
Fewer, indeed just the bristlecone pines,
Can beat them.

Into their midst we switchback
Among contorted, agonized trunks,
Past branches misshapen, gnarled,
Twisted, grotesque
Past life seeded before the creation of Egypt’s
pyramids, India’s Vedas
Gilgamesh, Adam, Cheops.

Invocative of Grendel, gryphons, and goblins,
Blazes of deep yellow and dark orange
Run down their cores,
Beauty to us, they are the scars of lightning,
That burned, wrenched, and sometimes shattered
these giants
Perhaps twenty, perhaps two thousand years ago.

We exit, descend, drop below
The abandoned sea
Walk once more on stones
Of dark sienna, burnt tangerine
Weston shades of grey.

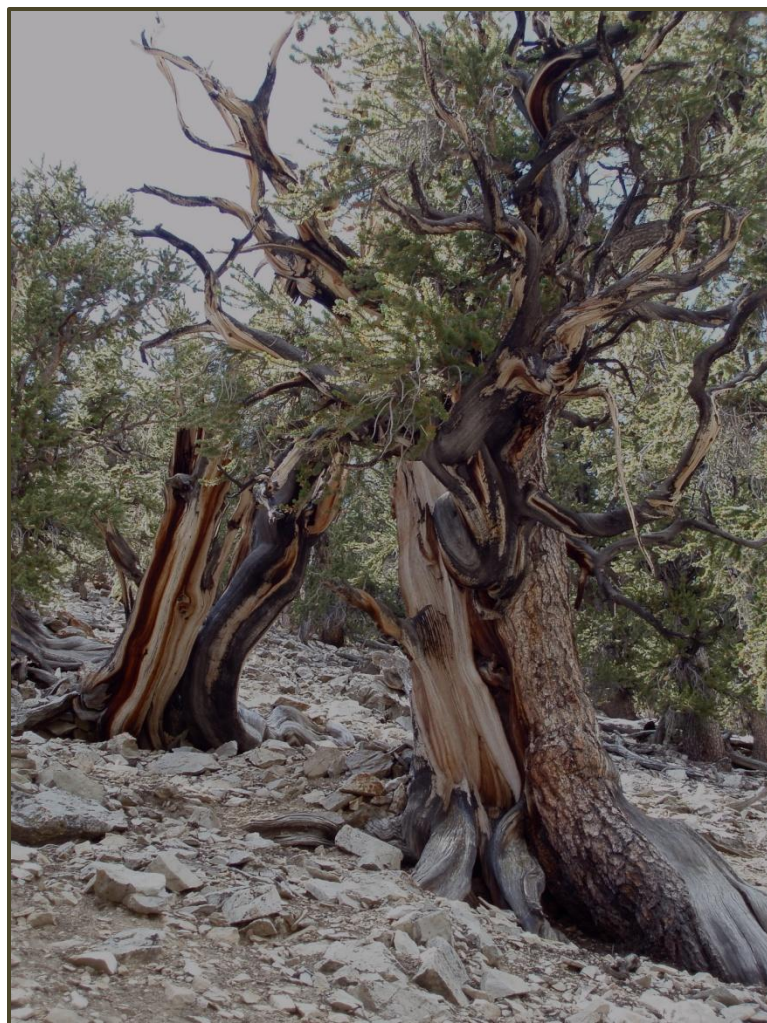
Again feel the cooling wind
Watch it part soft tufts of Indian rice grass

Quake the bitter brush
Feel the occasional touch of our clothes
Against each other.

Our fingers touch, brush, entwine
And then we see the words
Imprinted in the wood.
“Do we need that sign to tell us
That this is wilderness?”
I ask.

“Or that this is not?” she replies,
Breaking our touch,
Reaching for the car door,
And releasing its lock,

Bob Caplan
White Mountains, California
Redondo Beach, California 2006



Bristlecone Pine

(photo by Judy Shane)

Weekly Activities

Conditioning Hikes: Wear lug sole boots. Arrive early. Rain cancels. Bring red lens flashlight.



Monday Nights O: Rancho Palos Verdes: Slow moderate 2 hr 4-6 mi hike. Not for beginners. Leave 6:30 PM from end of Crenshaw (Del Cerro Park). Hike the trails of Portuguese Bend Reserve, Filiorum, and some streets. Some steep trails. Only one group. Wear sturdy shoes or lug sole boots and bring a red lens flash light. Rain cancels. Ldrs: Bill Lavoie, Jacques Monier, & Zoltan Stroll.



Tuesday Nights O: San Pedro/PV: 2 hr, 5-8 mi hike. 2 hiking groups: fast/strenuous and moderate (suitable for newcomers/beginners). Leave 6:30 PM from 8th and Averill. Ldrs: Brooks Chadwick, Barry Bonnicksen, Joyce White, Dorie Chadwick, Jacques Monier.



Thursday Nights O: Palos Verdes Peninsula: 2 hr, 5-8 mi hike, flat/hilly streets/trails. Up to 5 hiking groups: slow, slow mod, mod, fast mod, fast/strenuous. Leave 6:30 PM from parking lot near Rite Aid Drugs at Hawthorne & Silver Spur. Ldrs: Linda Werk, Brooks Chadwick, Joyce White, Jacques Monier, Bill Lavoie, Judy Shane, Dorie Chadwick, Zoltan Stroll.



Saturday Hikes: For all Sat hikes, wear lug sole boots, bring a snack & water. If you anticipate rain, wear rain gear. **See locations and other details in Other PV-SB Group Activities listings and at the website.**

Monthly Activities



Executive Committee Meeting. Second Wednesday of every month at 6:30 PM the PVSB Group Executive Committee meets to discuss matters relevant to the Group. Meeting open to all Sierra Club members. Call secretary for meeting location.



Moonlit Hikes in Palos Verdes O. Friday before or on full moon. Meet 7:30 PM. Easy to moderate 1.5-2 hr hike in Palos Verdes hills. Go for pizza afterwards. Check website for details.

Other PV-SB Group Activities

[Symbols used for outings: hiking, flight, backpack, educational, conservation, bird watching, slides, moonlit hike, bus trip, flowers, skiing, lodge, trail work, snow shoeing.]



May 1 Fri O: Moonlite Hike in Palos Verdes/Lunada Bay. Travel trails along coastal bluffs. Meet 7:30 PM at intersection of Palos Verdes Drive West, Yarmouth, and Via Anacapa across from Lunada Bay Fountain. Rain Cancels. Wear sturdy shoes. Ldrs: Stephen Bradford and William Lavoie.



May 2 Sat O: Central Peninsula Hike #2. Moderate 7 mi, 1000' gain, 3 hrs. Meet at Rolling Hills Estates City Hall, NW corner of Crenshaw and Palos Verdes Dr North, at 8:00 AM. Trails: Landfill Loop, Chadwick Cyn, and more. Wear lug sole boots, bring snack and water. If you anticipate rain, wear rain gear. Ldrs: Barry Bonnicksen and Terri Straub.



May 9 Sat O: Sea Cave Hike. Moderate 6 mi, 1000' gain, 3 hrs. Meet at 8:00 AM. Take Palos Verdes Dr South to Forrestal Dr, north to gate. Hike along Exultant, Red Tail, Canyon View, Dauntless, Conqueror and Smugglers Trails. Wear lug sole boots, bring a snack and water. If you anticipate rain, wear rain gear. Ldrs: Steven Morris and Barry Bonnicksen.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

In order to participate on one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see <http://sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms> or call 415-977-5528. In the interest of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing, or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel. CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.

For the most up-to-date information on all activities: **See the PV-SB website**

(http://angeles2.sierraclub.org/palos_verdes_south_bay)

Subscribe to Listserv

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Name: _____ Sierra Club #: _____ Expiration Date: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone No: (____) _____ E mail: _____

Thank you for your Membership! Remember to Renew!

Activities continued



May 16 Sat O: Central Peninsula Hike #1. Moderate 7 mi, 600' gain, 2.5 hr. Meet at Rolling Hills Estates City Hall, NW corner of Crenshaw and Palos Verdes Dr North, at 8:00 AM. Trails: Moccasin, Howlett, Valmonte Canyon, Via Palomino. Wear lug sole boots, bring snack and water. If you anticipate rain, wear rain gear. Ldrs: Barry Bonnicksen and Steven Morris.



May 23 Sat O: Ocean Trails Hike. Moderate 4 mi, 1000' gain. Meet at 8:00 AM. Take Palos Verdes Dr South to La Rotonda Dr to end and into the trail parking lot (inside the gate). We will take the Prickly Pear, Ocean Vista, East Portal, Gnat-Catcher, Switchback, Dudly and Lakeview Trails, and will walk beside the ocean and visit tidal pools. Wear lug sole boots. Bring a snack and water. If you anticipate rain, wear rain gear. Ldrs: Steven Morris and Emile Fiesler.



May 30 Sat O: Palos Verdes Coastal Hike. Moderate 9 mile, 300' gain, 3 1/2 hrs. Meet 8:00 AM at Rolling Hills Estates City Hall. Walk the west side of PV, using dirt trails wherever possible, to Golden Cove Plaza at south end of Hawthorne Blvd. Take Metro Bus back to starting point. Bring \$1.75 (or \$0.35 Senior 62+) bus fare. Bus runs every 40 minutes. We will take the 11:22 bus back to start. Wear lug soles, bring snack and water. If you anticipate rain, bring rain gear. Ldrs: Terri Straub and Steven Morris.



Jun 13 Sat O: Miraleste Trails Hike. Moderate 6 mi, 1000' gain. Meet at 8:00 AM in the parking lot of Peck Park in San Pedro. The entrance to the park is at the southeast corner of Western Ave and

West Crestwood St. We will meet about 100 yards into the first parking lot. We will take the Canada, Lorraine, Via La Paloma, Frasceti and Colinita Trails. Wear lug sole boots, bring a snack and water. If you anticipate rain, wear rain gear. Ldrs: Steven Morris and Aileen Wiglesworth.

June 20 Sat O: Hollywood Bowl. Join us at the Hollywood Bowl for opening night, with rock icon Journey, special guests and fireworks! We will take the bus from Wilson Park on Crenshaw between Carson and Sepulveda. The first bus leaves at 5:40 PM. The program begins at 8 PM. Bring a picnic dinner and beverage. The price includes the ticket for the program, printed program, seat cushion, and bus fare. Send a \$40 check payable to PVS SB Sierra Club to Joyce White, 789 W. 29th St., San Pedro, CA 90731, with a SASE for the ticket return. If you have questions, call Joyce at 310-383-5247.



Jun 27 Sat O: Lunada Bay Hike. Moderate 7 mile, 300' gain, 3 hrs. Meet 8:00 AM at Rancho Palos Verdes City Hall, 30940 Hawthorne Blvd. Walk along coast to Lunada Bay, through Cross Country running trails, back through Ocean Front Estates trails. Wear lug soles, bring snack and water. If you anticipate rain, bring rain gear. Ldrs: Terri Straub and Emile Fiesler.



Jul 25 Sat O: Palos Verdes-South Bay Group Open House. Ever wondered what the Sierra Club is all about? Join us 6-9 PM for an open house! Grab some refreshments and talk to our local leaders who work to preserve and restore the few remaining natural places in our communities. Or chat with our outing leaders to get info on local hikes, backpack trips in the Sierras (Activities, p.8)

PV-SB GROUP LEADERS

Current leaders active in the PV-SB Group

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Rating</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Frank Atkin	310-378-5008	I	Susan Johnson	310-545-4235	O
Terry Bass	310-539-8227	O	Donna Lauck	310-541-4416	O
Bob Beach	310-375-0898	M	Bill Lavoie	310-378-8723	O
Alix Benson	310-379-8066	O	Keith Martin	310-530-1268	M
Richard Boardman	310-374-4371	M	Jacques Monier	310-320-1249	O
Barry Bonnicksen	310-519-0778	O	Steven Morris	310-530-8708	O
Dennis Bosch	310-328-3874	O	Mary Beth Oubre	310-640-8386	O
Stephen Bradford	310-993-5501	O	Cindy Pardi	818-346-6257	O
Sharon Brossier	310-376-1416	O	Richard Pardi	818-346-6257	O
Ursula Carmody	310-539-2259	O	Jerry Pupa	310-318-7101	O
Karen Cassimatis	619-955-5458	I	Paul Rosenberger	310-545-3531	O
Brooks Chadwick	310-544-0600	O	Kent Schwitkis	310-540-5558	I
Dorie Chadwick	310-544-0600	O	Judy Shane	310-379-1111	O
Arlene Chao	310-541-3902	O	Terri Straub	310-544-5017	O
Mike Dillenback	310-378-7495	I	Zoltan Stroll	310-378-8975	O
Emile Fiesler	720-834-2878	O	Linda Werk	310-676-6171	O
Sandy Graham	714-282-5661	O	Phil Wheeler	310-346-2619	I
Greg Hitchings	310-541-3902	O	Joyce White	310-383-5247	O
Dave Hixson	310-676-8848	O	Catherine Whittington	310-532-2380	O
Barry Holchin	310-378-3780	M	Diane Wood	310-245-8965	O
Liz Kennedy	310-547-1320	O			

(*Activities*, from p. 7)

and treks in distant lands. Find out how you can become part of the Sierra Club's mission to explore, enjoy and protect the planet. Venue is 423 via Mesa Grande, Redondo Beach. Contact Bill Lavoie, 310-378-8723, or Joyce White, 310-383-5247 for more information.

Ave, Reseda, CA 91335. Ldrs: Judy Shane (judyshane@aol.com) and Bob Baldwin (rbaldwin@unex.ucla.edu). Co-Ldrs: Zoltan Stroll and Emile Fiesler.

Next Submission Deadline *Foggy View* June 15, 2015



Aug 13-16 Thu to Sun O: Mammoth, High Sierras, and Bristlecone Pine Forest Bus Trip. Would you like to hike through grassy meadows under towering pines, soak your feet in pristine alpine lakes, and feast your eyes on vistas of snow-capped granite peaks? Join us August 13-16, 2015, for an adventurous four days of glorious hiking on some of the most spectacular trails in the high Sierras. The grand finale will be a visit to the ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest to hike among the oldest living things on the planet. Participants must be fit enough to hike 5-7 miles in hilly terrain at high altitudes (over 10,000'). We stay all three nights in Mammoth Lakes' Quality Inn. Price includes bus, shared motel room, driver's gratuity, and snacks. Depart early Thur from Redondo Beach and return Sun night. There is a \$40 cancellation fee. If you cancel less than 30 days before departure, you'll receive a refund only if trip is full and we find a suitable replacement for you. Send 2 business-size SASE, H&W photos, gender (M or F), email address, and check to PVSB Sierra Club for \$360 to reservationist Bob Baldwin, 7500 Wystone