



## Santa Susana Mountain Park Association

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

Volume 40  
Issue 3

# March 2010 Newsletter

Website:  SSMPA.com      E-Mail:  Mail@SSMPA

Community Meeting Monday March 15, 2010.  
7pm at the Rockpointe Clubhouse.

This meeting is an open forum to discuss a proposed subdivision at 9503 Andora Avenue, which will include a discussion about comments to be made on the new Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR). We have invited neighbors from Andora Avenue that will be the most familiar with details in the DEIR.

The DEIR has recently been issued for 9503 Andora Avenue, an 89 acre parcel that proposes to create a 45 home subdivision at the southerly end of Andora Avenue, in the westerly foothills above Valley Circle/Plummer/Baden Avenue and Lassen Street. The project creates a road that adjoins to Eagles Nest which proposes another 18 homes on 43 acres. Therefore, this project effectively approves 61 additional homes that have their sole access from Andora Avenue. The project features an equestrian trail in the development that will go from Andora Avenue to the Ventura County line.

The project requires movement of 600,000 cubic yards of dirt. A large portion of the dirt to be moved will be used to fill a beautiful natural canyon that provides drainage from the south ridgeline of the Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park to create the road that joins the two projects.

Review of the DEIR is encouraged prior to the meeting. Representatives from various community groups that may comment on the DEIR are also encouraged to attend. Comments on the DEIR are to be made to the City by April 5, 2010.

To access the EIR online, go to: <http://cityplanning.lacity.org/>. Click Environmental on the left side, then choose Draft EIR

The first DEIR is "Andora Avenue TTM Project". Click that title, it is clickable...and then you can pull it up section by section at the bottom.

We hope to see you at the meeting.

SSMPA Community Meetings take place every 3rd Monday. September through November and January through May (or June) at the Rockpointe Clubhouse, 22300 Devonshire Street. Chatsworth, CA 91311, on the south side, 1 block before the entrance of Chatsworth Park South. Our Program meetings start at 7:00pm 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.



## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

If you have not submitted your annual renewal in September, 2009, please submit to:  
SSMPA, P.O. Box 4831, Chatsworth, CA 91313-4831. Make your check payable to SSMPA.



     \$15.00 for Individuals         \$20.00 for a Family         \$30.00 for a Business or Organization  
     \$ 150.00 for an Individual Life Membership         \$200.00 for a Family

Last year we changed our membership renewal to September of each year rather than the month you joined to make management of the renewals easier. Your membership and contributions help SSMPA work to preserve and protect the Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park - which state budget cuts threatened to close but we kept open through a call to action and enlisting 60 volunteers! SSMPA is currently working to ensure the Chatsworth Nature Preserve remains an open space preserve, SSFL is cleaned up to standards set by California State and then the area region is converted to an open space park (crucial to the Rim of the Valley Wildlife Corridor) and many other important needs to preserve and protect the Santa Susana Mountains-Simi Hills region. **We thank you for your continued support through your membership and contributions!**

## FEBRUARY KUDOS for SSMPA

Reported by: Carla Henry

Jack Unger, SSMPA President working with Mitch Englander, Chief of Staff, Council District 12 and Rosemary White, PhD., Sierra Club-Angeles Chapter, were able to block a planned Marine Helicopter activity in the Chatsworth Nature Preserve. The CNP is rich in cultural, ecological and archeological sites and it is the season Canada Geese are present



SSPSHP Visitor's Center: John Luker reports ground has been cleared for the building to be moved on its designated site. It will be months before electricity and hookups are installed but the progress is exciting to watch. A celebration is being planned!

## JERRY ENGLAND - WESTERN MOVIE HISTORIAN

Jerry's new book covering Iverson Movie Ranch in the Santa Susana Pass, Chatsworth area, "Rendezvous at Boulder Pass - Hollywood's Fantasyland," is now available in eBook format: pdf on dvd, 362 pages, color and B&W, 2.17 GB, 2010 Echo Press, available for \$19.95 (includes S&H) at <http://www.cowboyup.com>

## SSMPA OFFICER ELECTIONS

Officers running for re-election:

Jack Unger - President

Members-at-Large: Carla Henry (and back up secretary)

John Luker - Vice President

Teena Takata - Secretary

Diana Dixon-Davis - Treasurer

Warren Stone (Website Host)

Chris Beauvais (Newsletter Editor)

Reid Bogert

Jan Hinkston, Founder/Honorary Member



Please contact Carla Henry: [carlamamay@aol.com](mailto:carlamamay@aol.com) or message: 818-340-7357 if you are interested in serving on the SSMPA Board for 2010-2011. We need more board members or volunteers to help with various assignments: Grant Writing, Event Participation, Letter Writing, Volunteer Coordinators, or anyone with special talents to help SSMPA fulfill our mission to preserve and protect the Santa Susana Mountains-Simi Hills. Elections will be held at the April Community Meeting.



## Activities Schedule FOR SIMI TRAILBLAZERS

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

### Sunday Evening - Rocky Peak Fire Road

Meet at 4 PM at the Rocky Peak Fire Road trailhead. Take the Rocky Peak exit on the 118 Freeway and head north over the freeway. Park at the trailhead or across the bridge on the Santa Susana Pass Road. (Meet at 5 PM during daylight savings time.) (Strenuous - 4.8 MRT - 1,100' elevation gain)

### 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 - 450' elevation gain) NOTE: This hike is divided into two groups with two leaders: one for beginners and the other for intermediate hikers.

### 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 - 1,100' elevation gain)

## March Activities

### March 13th /Tierra Rejada Park Exploratory Hike

8 - 10 MRT - Moderate to Strenuous (1,500' - 2,000' elevation gain) Come with us and explore Tierra Rejada Park and the trails to the eastern side of Moorpark. Directions: From the 118, take Madera Road south and turn right on Tierra Rejada Road. Continue on to Stargaze Place and turn right. Park at the end of the street near the trailhead. Bring 2-3 quarts of water and trail snacks. Wear boots.

### March 20<sup>th</sup>/Chivo Canyon Loop

6 MRT - Easy to Moderate (800' elevation gain) Meet at 8 AM. Bring 2 to 3 quarts of water and a snack. Wear boots. Trailhead: In Simi Valley, take Hwy 118 to Yosemite Avenue and head north (past McDonald's). Drive 1.9 miles and then turn right (north) on Westwood St. Park near the junction of Yosemite Ave (aka Cottonwood Dr.) and Westwood St. Please do your best to minimize the impact on the residents of the neighborhood. Trailhead coordinates are N 34° 18.131' W 118° 41.677'.

### March 27<sup>th</sup>/Work Party - Lower Stagecoach Trail

Meet at the eastern end of the Corriganville Parking lot at 8:00 AM. Corriganville is located at the east end of Smith Road off of the south end of Kuehner Drive. Bring 2 to 3 quarts of water, hat, sunscreen, and gloves to work on the trail. Wear sturdy boots. Tools will be provided. As always, you are welcome to work for a shorter time period if you desire. Hope to see you there.

## April Activities

### April 1st

#### Appalachian National Scenic Trail Shuttle\* 2,175 miles one-way

We'll be hiking at least 10 hours a day for six months. For more information go to [www.simitrailblazers.com/activities/index.html](http://www.simitrailblazers.com/activities/index.html).

### April 3<sup>rd</sup>/Wildflower Walk - Antelope Valley\*

It's flower season again, and we'll be driving out to the Antelope Valley Poppy Preserve to check out the plant life and beautiful scenery. This will be an ALL DAY event. Meet at the 118 & Stearns St. Park & Ride at 8 AM. Bring your camera, water and lunch. A high-clearance vehicle is required to drive on the roads inside the preserve. For more information about the Poppy Preserve, go to [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=627](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=627). Please note: The trip may be cancelled, if there is not a good showing of flowers, resulting from a less than optimum spring rainfall.

## STAGECOACH TRAIL

Stagecoach Trail: Meet 9:00 am. 3rd Sunday of each Month, months November through June. No hiking in the summer-early fall due to hot weather. Interpretative hike into history of Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park. Hike is a 3 to 4-1/2 mile loop (400' gain) up the historic Stagecoach Trail. Directions: From Topanga Cyn. Blvd., turn west on Devonshire St., to Larwin Avenue about 200 feet south of Devonshire on right. Meet at park entrance on Larwin Avenue. Park on street. Leader: Lee Baum (818-341-1850/ Sierra Club-Santa Susana Mtns. Task Force Outing.)



## Santa Susana Mountain Park Association

Invites you to **JOIN/NEW** (circle I). Investing in the future of our Communities and its resources is probably one of the best expenditures of our time and

effort. Return this cut off with your contribution and your support. AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2009 THE NEW YEARLY DUES ARE: ( )\$15.00 for Individuals ( )\$20.00 for a Family ( )\$30.00 for a Business or Organization ( )\$150.00 for an Individual Life Membership ( )\$200.00 for a Family Membership. Make your check payable to SSMPA and mail it to our Post Office Box Address (see last page). Please be sure to include your Name, Mailing Address, Phone and E-Mail Address. Please tell us about any special interests, special skills or special expertise that you have.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

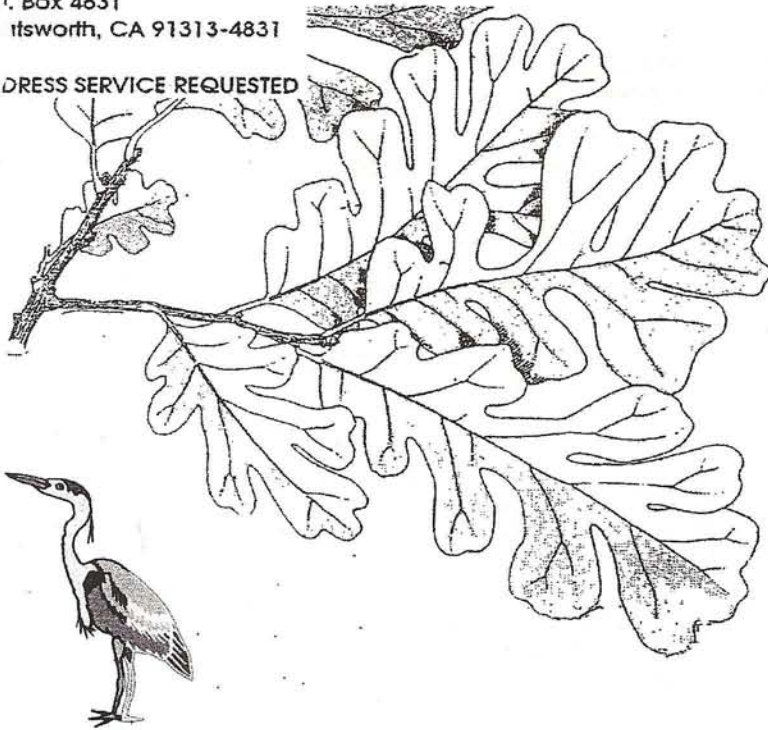
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 Foundation for the Preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains  
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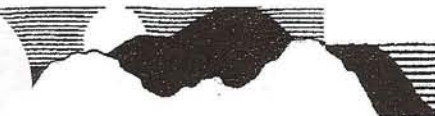
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NOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR: I know it's been a while now since we started announcing that "soon" this Newsletter would be available for delivery to your own Email address, maybe in time for morning coffee. Well, fear not, it will happen, hopefully "soon". Your editor is slowly but surely conquering this computer thing and the last issue was all done on it, no scissors cut & paste. Please continue your patience. Just before this goes out over the ether, those of you who have supplied us your Email addresses will get a test announcement, with a request to respond, so we make sure we have the correct information. Again I thank you for your faith this will get done and thanks to all (especially Reid Bogart and all the other Board Members) for helping me muddle through. Chris Beauvais

DON'T FORGET WE HAVE TEE SHIRTS FOR SALE. Check the Website for details

EARTH DAY WILL BE HELD AT THE CHATSWORTH NATURE PRESERVE. THE EXPECTED DATE IS THE FIRST SUNDAY IN APRIL, BUT CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR COMPLETE DETAILS.



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|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Officers: President | Jack Unger        | Members at Large: | Newsletter Editor |
| Vice President      | John Luker        | Warren Stone      | Chris Beauvais    |
| Secretary           | Teena Takata      | Reid Bogart       | Honorary Member:  |
| Treasurer           | Diana Dixon Davis | Jan Miller        | Jan Hinkston      |
| Back up Sec         | Carla Henry       | Patty Miller      |                   |