



Sycamore Sage
Vol. 13, Issue 4 December 2011
www.goodanranch.org

PARK UPDATE: Trails at southeast side of Sycamore Park Drive maybe closed temporarily due to Sunrise Powerlink construction activities. Additionally, helicopters and heavy machinery may temporarily increase noise levels, dust, and other disturbances; hours of construction are Monday – Saturday, 7:00am to 7:00pm. For more information on the project, visit sdge.com/sunrisepowerlink or contact Todd Voorhees at sunrisepowerlink@SDGE.com or by telephone at (877) 775-6818.

The Parks website is www.sdparks.org. During rainy weather and post rainy weather the Parks Preserves are closed for safety and damage control due to muddy, wet trails and roads. Please check the Parks website or call the ranger's office at 858-513-4737 for Preserve status.

Below is the link to the most current Program Guide.

http://www.co.san-diego.ca.us/reusable_components/images/parks/doc/destinations.pdf

President's Message:

Another year is nearly past. Thank you to all for your support of our fantastic Open Space. Thank you to our wonderful staff led by Ranger Maureen for the improvements at the visitor center and on the trails. Congratulations to Matt McGraw who received a promotion and moved up to Felicita Park. We will miss you. Thank you to DeAnne for serving as Treasurer for so many years. We are glad you are continuing on the Board of Directors. Thanks to Web Master, Chris Yandall for keeping our web site "out there". www.goodanranch.org

.Our thoughts are with Jerry Schad, the author of Afoot and Afield, widely considered the local bible of hiking in San Diego County, who passed away Sept. 22nd. <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2011/sep/22/hiking-writer-jerry-schad-dies/>

I was asked to speak at Las Donas Past Presidents Club (CF Women's Club) and received a \$25 donation for The Friends. I also sold 6 books to their members. Need customized running shirts to honor or celebrate cancer victims, friends or causes?

Look at:

<http://cancer-sux.net>.

Memberships are again due as of 1 January 2012. Happy Holidays.

Carol

Minutes of the Friends of Goodan Ranch and Sycamore Canyon Open Space Reserves

November 1, 2011

In attendance: Carol Crafts, Bob Crafts, Karen Larsen Gordon, Terry Callan. DeAnne Erickson, Nancy Ujazdowski, Phoenix Von Hendy and Gardner Grady. The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm.

-Secretary's Report: The motion passed to approve the minutes of the meeting held August 1, 2011.

-Treasurer's Report: Balances to date are: Checking - \$3,413.83, Primary Savings - \$484.63, Money Market - \$422.23, Certificate of Deposit - \$6,857.23, Total - \$11,177.92.

Outstanding bills include Internet Connect for \$455.00. Phoenix will contact Chris Yandall regarding fees billed. A bobcat taxidermy mount is pending. Terry is proposing consolidation of accounts. The 2010 fiscal audit is pending.

-Rangers Report:

1) Facilities: The Hagey parcel is in escrow and a tour of the land will be available to Friends once escrow closes. Bridgework is ordered for replacement of two old bridges and construction of one new bridge. Dam adjustments and reinforcement are planned this fall.

1) Programs: Effective November 2011, the 3rd Friday of each month will be Star Parties at the Highway 67 Staging Area from 5-10pm. Hours of operation will be strictly enforced.

4) Signage: A new kiosk has been installed at the Goodan Staging Area courtesy of a local eagle scout. All kiosks soon will have one side designed in a standard Parks' format.

5) Staff: Felipe has join staff for maintenance, building and planting projects. He brings ample skills and is a welcome addition. Park Assistant, Jeffrey, is working split shifts with Heritage Park.

6) Habitats: Non-native baccharis has been removed. A local wildflower book author has identified Stinkwort. The anti-invasive species and clean storm water campaigns are making progress. The cans, rakes and shovels for manure and discarded pine chips are being cleaned up by visitors. Staff continues to maintain trails. A graduate student, Megan Jennings, is conducting a bobcat study. Domestic fowl was rescued near Hwy. 67.

-Wildlife Monitoring: October 28 was the last survey with increased sign of spotted skunk, as well as both species of wood rat. Coyotes are increasing in number vs. bobcat. Barry Martin is working with preserve staff regarding monitoring mountain lion and badger. Also, Barry picked up a road-kill bobcat on Highway 67, and county staff hopes Friends will acquire the specimen for display.

-Old Business:

1) August 1 program by Friends had 20 in attendance. September 24 did not have any attendees.

2) Letters to the Marine Corps regarding the Stowe Trail have not had responses. The County of San Diego is considering trail options.

3) San Vicente reservoir and ESP project are over budget per recent news articles.

4) Observations of the Sunrise Powerlink construction of new towers have proven interesting due to the use of helicopters. Fire containment is placed prior to materials and the actual erection of towers.

-New Business:

1. The Hagey property acquisition was approved on a consent agenda on October 12th. Correspondence supporting the county purchase was sent October 5th.

2. Connectivity in Poway to the Coast to Crest Trail has been established, with a launch on October 13th. Trail users are able to utilize neighborhood trails in Poway to connect to the San Dieguito River Valley.

3) County of San Diego Parks and Recreation has been exploring cost recovery

program with Green Play. The report is online for evaluation, and is currently before the Board of Supervisors for approval of implementation of various recommendations.

4) Gardner will coordinate another trail maintenance event, including a Friends hosted BBQ this winter.

5) A tentative slate of officers has been presented:

President: Carol Crafts

Vice President: Gardner Grady

Secretary: Karen Larsen Gordon

Treasurer: Terry Callan

Board Members:

Phoenix VonHendy

DeAnne Erickson

Nancy Uzdowski

Bob Crafts

Effective immediately, Terry will take over as treasurer and complete the audit. Ann Laux will be contacted to see if she is interested in remaining a Board Member, and the final slate will be circulated via email for a vote. Installation of officers and board members will be at the Annual Meeting held on February 7, 2012.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Next Meeting: February 7, 2012 7:00pm Coco's. Please note meetings will now be held on Tuesdays.

**

Following more discussion, our meetings will remain on FIRST MONDAY so plan on 6 February, 2012

Looking for a fun outing? Plan to do this run around Lake Poway (to the Ramona Dam as well if you do the 10K) on Sat. May 5, 2012.



[6th Annual Cinco de Mayo Trail Run - 10K • 5K • Kids Race](http://cincodemayotrailrun.org)

cincodemayotrailrun.org

6th Annual Cinco de Mayo Trail Run –
10K • 5K • Kids' Race

MTRP Saturday, Dec. 3 8:30 AM Tracking Walk – Free Information at MTRP Web Site.

MTRP Visitor Center Saturday, Dec. 10 8:00 AM free Information at SDTT Calendar.

Saturday, January 7 Tracking Walk – Free Los Peñasquitos Ranch House 8:30 AM

Saturday, January 14 8:00 AM Tracking Walk – Free Los Peñasquitos Ranch House

Greetings from the Historic Route 395 Association!

Please find attached our November newsletter.

If you have missed previous newsletters, you can visit the Temecula Valley Historical Society website. The link is <http://www.temeculahistoricalsociety.org/hwy395.html>

Do you have any stories about Highway 395? If you do, please send them in.

When Native Shrublands Collide with Ideology: a challenge to preservation and restoration

Halsey, Richard W. 1

1California Chaparral Institute, PO. Box 545, Escondido, CA 92029, USA.

After the huge 1889 Santiago Canyon Fire in southern California, a regional San Diego newspaper exclaimed, "The menace should be removed by the removal of the brush. It is unsightly and dangerous." After the 2007 Witch Creek Fire, San Diego County's Department of Planning and Land Use developed a plan to remove "invading chaparral shrubs" from thousands of acres of wildland. The California State Park System is currently embarking on a project that will eliminate what they have classified as "unnatural monocultures of *Ceanothus palmeri*" (a common chaparral shrub) in a large state park that is characterized by extensive chaparral plant communities. Due to misunderstandings about Mediterranean-type ecosystems, a bias favoring trees over shrubs, and the large influx of federal money to conduct vegetation management projects, the preservation and restoration of native shrublands in California continues to be challenging. However, new research demonstrating the ecological importance of shrublands, their vulnerability to increased fire frequency, and how humans can live within fire-prone environments without radically compromising habitat values provides hope. Science is also providing a potent legal tool to help protect native shrublands from inappropriate land management strategies based

on outmoded paradigms.

Dead Birds: Dead less than 24 hours – no obvious damage – do Not freeze. Call 1-888-551-4636. Weekends: 858-565-5255

Have you found an **injured or orphaned** bird or mammal in San Diego County? Call **Project Wildlife** at 619-225-9202. See their web site at: www.projectwildlife.org

We need to keep following 2 issues: the Water District's San Vicente Pipeline www.sdcwa.org; click on "infrastructure"; then "esp"; then "San Vicente Pipeline" and SDG&E's Powerlink: <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/aspen/sunrise/sunrise.htm>

Events at Goodan Ranch/Sycamore Canyon:

Over ten miles of trails and service roads open to hiking, mountain biking and equestrian use. Preserve visitors are welcome to visit our new visitor center. Live animals and exhibits on Goodan History, Cedar Fire, Kumeyaay and the MSCP are on display.

Events, hikes and programs start at various Preserve locations. **Some require a one mile walk from Goodan Ranch staging to the Visitor Center. ALLOW 1/2 HOUR TO PARK AND WALK TO THE VISITOR'S CENTER. Please check descriptions closely.** No vehicular traffic is permitted in the Preserve. Transportation for those with disabilities can be arranged, by calling the ranger at (858)513-4737. Goodan staging area accessed from Poway Rd. east on Garden Rd, then south on Sycamore Canyon Rd. Sycamore Canyon Rd. ends at parking lot.

Highway 67 staging area accessed through SOUTHBOUND Highway 67 only, half a mile south of Scripps Poway Parkway.

All events are free. For information or to make event **reservations** call (858)513-4737 or email Justin.Gibbons@sdcounty.ca.gov.

16 Dec. Star Party

20 Jan. Star Party

4 Feb. History Hike with Karen and Carol at 9AM.

17 Feb. Star Party

JOIN NOW FOR 2012 All Memberships are from 1 January of each year.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

_____ \$20 Senior 62 plus

- _____ \$20 Student
- _____ \$25 Individual
- _____ \$40 Family
- _____ \$100 Patron
- _____ \$250 Corporate
- _____ \$1000 Lifetime

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK OUT TO “FRIENDS OF GOODAN RANCH”

AND SEND IT TO: MEMBERSHIPS

13030 Birch Lane,
Poway, CA 92064