President’s Message

Chris Yandall continues to maintain our web site. If you haven’t looked at www.goodanranch.org recently, please do so. There is a link there to “Searching for Stowe” on blip.tv!

There are many activities scheduled for our park – some have been cancelled due to poor response. Please support our Rangers and the events they have planned.

It has been a long and sometimes very hot summer. As our weather cools, look for more wildlife activity. I saw a coyote today☺

Carol

PROTECT OUR BIRDS

SDG&E Plans to remove these trees where our hawks have successfully nested for several years. Rather than remove the trees, remove the lines which were located too close to the visitor center. Put the lines underground if they are a hazard.

* Euc trees, SDG&E insist on cutting down. I (MA) have requested a cost estimate to bury the lines here from County General Services Department. I know we do not have money budgeted for this yet maybe I can use some services and supplies money then get creative to cover the total cost. The hawks occasionally visit the tree off and on yet are done with the nest this year.

The financial report was phoned in by DeAnne in the following amounts: Savings $408; Money Market $215.85; Checking $2638.67; CD $6808.60; for a total of $10,071.12. Carol noted one returning member has sent his membership.

Old Business:

1) Phoenix reported the usual wildlife suspects were tracked on the latest SDTT survey.

2) SunRise Powerlink’s southern route is awaiting review. Sycamore Canyon towers are still impacted with increased height.

* ( SDG&E Powerlink contractors continue to periodically do surveying, seismic testing, biological and archaeological surveys here in the Preserve. SDG&E have contracted biologists from the SDNHM, including Drew Stokes & Faulkner to complete biological studies for the Powerlink project. SDG&E’s plan is
to locate a new giant tower just south of our Hwy 67 gate and grade for a storage area. – (M)

3) The Fanita Ranch in Santee is on hold due to Barrett America being in Chapter 11, the struggling economy & the continued work by Van Collingsworth of Preserve a Wild Santee.

4) Gardiner reported that earnest discussion has begun regarding Spring Canyon in Mission Trails Regional Park and Goodan Ranch.

New Business:
1) Bill will be missed as he has taken a position in El Cajon! Sergio Cruz is his replacement. Welcome, Sergio!

2) Marian Kirkpatrick Staver – a member of the Goodan family – recently passed, Marian’s name had been on the ranch house fireplace mantle.

3) A nice article was published in the San Diego Union Tribune regarding a hike led by the SDNHM Canyoneers.

4) The County of San Diego Management Plan for Goodan Ranch/Sycamore Canyon has been released. One Response was filed by the Friends clarifying that our group is not responsible for exotic plant removal, but is regularly reporting species observed to organizations certified for eradication. Additional exotic species commonly sighted were added to the list.

5) Paying for “sins” with mitigation was discussed as an opportunity to fund improvements to the preserves. Creating a bank of projects and likely organizations (Helix Water District, SD Co. Water Authority, etc.) was proposed.

6) Carol participated in the Escondido Public Library’s Coyote Conservation meeting…and so it is on our agenda at the:

Sunday, August 16th, 2009, 11:00am-1200pm Coyote Conservation

Saturday, August 22nd, 2009, 4:00pm – 5:30pm PEAK Program.

A request was made to have the DVD made with A nice article was published in the San Diego Archeological Center played at our next
Next Meeting: November 2, 2009 7:00pm Coco’s on Poway Road

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

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* Ranger Report:

1) We will have the visitor center floors completely resurfaced within the next couple of months, the building will be shut down for two to three days (money was requested last year)

2) New small acreage acquisition on the Goodan Ranch southern border includes money for trail work on the lower half mile of the Ridge Trail. That work may happen within weeks.

3) Ranger Justin Gibbons is now assigned to our Preserve full time and doing a super job on interpretive programming. Parks advertisement needs to be stepped up.

4) PMW Sergio Cruz has transferred in and actively repairing and trouble shooting problems.

5) Volunteer Dwain Grimes will be celebrating his one year anniversary working in our Preserve the end of December. He is an excellent asset to our staff and can out work any of us seriously. He loves the Preserve and if you see him make sure you say hi and introduce yourself.

Thank you all for your help and support of Goodan Ranch / Sycamore Canyon Preserve!

Sincerely Ranger Maureen

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What is a “PEAK” Program?

Promoting Environmental Awareness in Kids.
Led by Chris, an employee of REI, 6 young people and 6 adults learned the “Leave No Trace” 7 principles for having a safe and environmentally friendly outdoor outing.

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 “espc”; then “San Vicente Pipeline” and SDG&E’s Powerlink:

http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/aspen/sunrise/sunrise.htm

http://www.blueskyreserve.org/

Sycamore Canyon / Goodan Ranch Preserve Fall 2009 Program Schedule

16281 Sycamore Canyon Road
Poway, California 92061
(858) 513-4737

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. 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 staging area. 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.

Saturday, September 26th, 2009 9:30am – 11:30am Scavenger Hunt. Do you love the outdoors? Are you good at following clues and solving puzzles? Well here is your chance to experience them all together. Join park staff for a self-guided, fun scavenger hunt designed

Friends of Goodan Ranch & Sycamore Canyon Open Space
Carol B. Crafts, President
13030 Birch Lane, Poway, CA 92064 858-486-0919
geocaches will be placed out specifically for this event. 
Program will meet at Goodan staging area. Rain or muddy conditions cancel.

Friday, October 16th, 2009
7:00pm – 10:00pm
Star Party. Join SDAA volunteer astronomers and County Parks for a night with the stars. Come experience the chance to view Jupiter, the Andromeda Galaxy, the Ring Nebula, the Dumbbell Nebula, the Double Cluster, and many more. These events are informative and fun for the whole family. We promise you will be wowed by this star experience!
Program will be held at Highway 67 Staging area accessed Highway 67 southbound only. RAIN or CLOUDS CANCEL.

Saturday, October 24th, 2009 11:00am – 12:00pm
Owl Program. Join Ranger Maureen and her owl friends and see these amazing animals up close and personal. Learn all there is to know about these amazing nighttime raptors and their incredible adaptations. We will have several local native species for guests to see as well as owl pellets to dissect. This is sure to be a fun program for all ages so make a day of it and come out.
Space is limited to 50 so please call (858)513-4737 for reservations. Guests will park at Goodan Staging area and must walk approximately 1 mile down to visitor center. Program will be held at Preserve Visitor Center.

Saturday, November 7th, 2009 9:00am – 12:00pm
Wildlife Bingo. Bingo! Come join park staff for a chance to play a fun game while immersing yourselves within our local plant and animal life. This bingo game, designed specifically for children, will give your small ones a chance to seek out several species of our local plants as well as our furry, scaly and feathered friends. Participants will be given a bingo card containing pictures and it will be the child’s task to locate and cross off each one in an attempt to get Bingo! Each child will receive a small token for playing along. Parent participation is encouraged so bring out the whole family for a fun day at the park. Space is limited to 50 so please call (858)513-4737 for reservations. Guests will park at Goodan Staging area and must walk approximately 1 mile down to visitor center. Program will be held at Preserve Visitor Center.
Ecology Walk. Fall is here and Winter is fast approaching. With the new seasons comes a whole new batch of plants and animals. Come enjoy the cool weather and learn all about how nature and the animals and plants within it interact with each other. This walk, lead by Ranger Maureen, will teach you all about the different, unique and amazing creatures we have throughout our park and how they all interact with each other. She will show you the abundant plant life we have throughout the preserve and why these plants are important for the survival of everything else. Everything here is connected, so come out and learn how! This hike is moderate to strenuous so make sure you are up for the challenge.

Program will meet at Highway 67 staging area. Rain or muddy conditions cancel.

Saturday, December 12th at 9am. Edible plants walk; Lisa Chaddock leading it. Call (858)513-4737 for reservations.

*For other County activities: The Activity and Program Guide is now available at: http://www.co.san-diego.ca.us/reusable_components