

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Volunteering at Goodan Ranch is such a wonderful time. You get to share information with visitors, see the wildflowers and watch and hear all the birds. Please think about joining Bob Kiang and me and having a few hours of your own down there. (You get to drive – slowly – down to work)!

Welcome to new Staff : Kathy Mitchell (Sat. & Sun) and Matt McGraw (Tu, Th & Fri) who join Kevin (Sun, Mon) and Bill (We, Th, Fri, Sat) and Maureen (all the time!). We are so blessed to have you all!

The gate from Hwy 67 is now open seven days a week – weather permitting. Please be very careful entering and exiting as there is not a traffic light there.

Summer hours are 8AM – 7PM.

Our new book, [Goodan Ranch, The Land then and Now](#) is available at \$10 which includes tax. An additional \$2.25 is needed for Postage and shipping.

Carol

Minutes: Friends of Goodan Ranch and Sycamore Canyon Open Space Preserves

The meeting of May 5, 2008, was called to order at 7:15 pm at Poway Coco's. Present were Carol Crafts, DeAnne Erickson, Ann Laux, Phoenix von Hendy and Nancy U. Out of town: Terry Callan and Karen Larsen Gordon.

Treasurer's Report

DeAnne submitted the treasurer's report: our current total balance is \$18, 825.75

Carol has a number of receipts for printing, the new plaque and other items.

DeAnne also had an accounting of Expenditures, to date, which we have made for the Goodan Ranch;

**April 2004 John Deere ATV (with additional monies from a donation)
\$1.363.00**

Dec. 2004	"Scat Track" repair	500.00
Jan. 2007	Purchase of infra-red scouting camera	449.95
Jan. 2008	Purchased Acorn naturalists displays	1.981.49
Feb. 2008	Purchased four taxidermied animals	3.267.00

Old Business:

The Powerlink project still needs to be followed. SDG&E is preparing another EIR.

Historic Status: Carol was contacted by two students in a Senior Parks and Recreation Systems Management major at SDSU.

Their report was to be presented at 4 pm on May 5, 2008.

Brochure: Karen Larsen Gordon prepared a new membership brochure which has been printed.

May 10th – Recreate in your County Park Day. A full day of events is planned with shuttle's bringing visitors to the valley floor.

Concern was expressed about the need for RSVP volunteers on Hwy. 67 at least during start and stop times of the equestrian event (8:30 – 9:30 and 1pm – 2pm). Also “Special Event” placards at Garden Road and Sycamore Canyon Rd.

By-Laws – Karen Larsen Gordon, Andy Kean and Terry Callan are working on the review of the bylaws. Their suggestions will be prepared and sent to members before the Aug. meeting.

Bronze Sign: A plaque for the Stone House has been made and delivered to Ranger Maureen.

Camera: Still not installed.

New Business:

Fire History – Mike McFedries sent Carol the history of fires in Goodan/Sycamore. Nancy heard him speak recently and said he gave a great presentation.

County name tags – Karen, Phoenix, DeAnne and Carol have just received official name tags.

Change in Dues – The new membership form has an increase in several categories.

Poway Community Leadership Institute. PCLI – Carol received a letter from Gary Rossi inviting us to consider this program.

None present are interested.

Nominations – A slate of officers for 2009 will be prepared. Voting should take place in November.

Seller's Permit – Carol has revised and printed 1000 copies of the Guide Book. DeAnne moved that Friends pay for this. The motion was seconded. All were in favor. Carol has obtained a Seller's permit from the State Board of Equalization. This means that \$320.29 should be refunded from the cost. Each book actually costs approx. \$4.20. Discussion was held about selling price: \$20 or \$10? We decided to keep the price low and hopefully sell more. \$9.29 + 71 tax = \$10.00.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

The next meeting is set for Monday, 4 August 2008 at 7:00 at Poway Coco's.
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May 10th Event

With great weather and a lot of work the event held May 10th went very well. Thank you to all the Friends and County Staff for making this a full day of fun and food. It was especially nice to See Nancy Conney and her Sky Hunter birds.

Fires in Goodan/Sycamore

After hearing Rick Halsey speak about fires and the land recovery, I began to wonder about the history of fire in our park. Mike McFedries was able to answer my questions.

“In Goodan, there was a fire in 1950 (looks like 20 acres) named the Elliot Reservation Fire. Probably a prevailing winds fire.

In Sycamore Canyon there have been a few more. Keep in mind that Goodan was probably grazed and was Agricultural land, so fires coming from Sycamore Canyon were most likely easy to suppress as they went into the ranch.

1938 – No name for the fire, 3,468 acres, no date on the fire.

1950 – Elliott Reservation Fire, 323 acres, started July 4

1950 – Sycamore Canyon Fire, 3,150 acres, started Nov. 3

1955 – Goat Mountain Fire, 651 acres, started Sept. 2

1971 – (on the very northern end of Goodan/Sycamore) Rabbit Fire, 1,223 acres, started Oct. 5

1985 – Sycamore Fire (CDF is very original in naming fires, don't quote me), 525 acres, started July 27

1986 – Sycamore #2 Fire, 34 acres, started Sept. 5

1994 – Rocos Fire, 3,217 acres, Jan. 12

1995 – Sycamore Fire, 2,115 acres, started July 16”

I knew about the three more recent:

* 2002 – Sycamore – 15 acres

* 2003 - Sycamore 300 acres and Goodan 25 acres

* 2003 – Cedar fire that consumed the entire park
Fires have always been a part of southern California, however the increased frequency is probably do to man not nature and the lands may have trouble recovering.

Project Wildlife

The rabbit team is requesting fresh dandelion greens from untreated yards. This is the best diet we can give the bunnies, so if you have a clean yard (no fertilizers or pesticides), please let me know and start collecting your dandelion leaves. Keep them in a bag in the fridge and drop them off at the CC when you have a chance.

The bunnies thank you!

Ali Higgins
Director of Wildlife Care

Our postal address is
PO Box 80696
San Diego, California 92138
United States

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

BioScience

Article: pp. 192–197 | [Abstract](#) | [PDF \(10.80M\)](#)

Citizen Science: Can Volunteers Do Real Research?

Jeffrey P. Cohn

<http://www.bioone.org/perlserv/?request=get-document&doi=10.1641%2FB580303>

Other sites:

Water Conservation Websites: There are many. Here is one:

www.nrcs.usda.gov/feature/backyard/watercon.html

WILDFLOWER “FIRE FOLLOWERS,” photos from areas burned in the Witch Creek Fire are posted on “Wayne’s Word” website (Wayne Armstrong, botany professor at Palomar College), <http://waynesword.palomar.edu/ww0604f.htm> .

Wild fires: <http://www.inciweb.org/>

<http://mtnbkr.smugmug.com/share/SHJwH9sGtYF7s> containing Sycamore Canyon

www.sdcrn.org as a Friends group, we support The San Diego Conservation Resource Network.

<http://www.pandemicflu.gov/planguide/checklist.html>

We need to keep following 2 issues: the Water District's San Vicente Pipeline and SDG&E's Powerlink.

www.sdewa.org; click on "infrastructure"; then "esp"; then "San Vicente Pipeline"

<http://www.blueskyreserve.org/>

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

*******County Notes:**

Dear Valued Park and Recreation Customer,

The Spring 2008 County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation Program Guide is now available at:

<http://www.co.san-diego.ca.us/parks/docs/destinations.pdf>

Whether you are looking for free, fun, and safe spring activities for your children or are planning an affordable, local weekend get-a-way, the Program and Activity Guide offers many opportunities for you to have fun and be healthy. The guide is your handy resource for camping and picnic information, recreation programs, and special events.

Thank you for your continued patronage and we look forward to seeing you this spring at a County park, preserve, or community center.

"Bureaucrats are Human Too"

By

Walt Ekard
Chief Administrative Officer
County of San Diego

April 23, 2008

Since I began this column, a number of you have written to me saying you don't really have a handle on the broad range of services the County provides. (Translation: you don't have a clue what the County does!).

I'd like to help change that. After all, San Diego County spends \$5 billion of your tax dollars every year and has a boatload of responsibility for what happens in this region. So why is it that County government appears to be the most significant government no one ever heard of?

I suspect there are several reasons.

First, the sheer size and complexity of County government makes it hard to get one's arms around it. In effect, the County is a huge corporation with dozens of unrelated business units. How often do you find a single company that fixes potholes, operates jails and inoculates kids against childhood diseases?

Second, many of the services we provide just don't have the sex appeal to draw the interest of local media, (unless of course, we make a mistake, at which point there is no shortage of interest). We care for elderly people, young people, sick people, poor people and people in trouble with the law -- people that don't always have the loudest or most powerful voices.

I think it's important that all San Diegans know about County government because it touches each one of our lives in many ways...each and every day.

For example:

When you wake up in the morning and take a nice deep breath, that air you're breathing is regulated by the County Air Pollution Control District.

When you get in the car and stop for that \$80 tank of gas, (or maybe it's \$90 this week), the gas pumps are monitored for accuracy by the County Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures.

If you decide to stop at your neighborhood Denny's for breakfast, that big "A" (hopefully you see an "A"), in the window means it has been given a clean bill of health by the County Department of Environmental Health's award winning restaurant inspection program.

If you walk out of the restaurant and get bit by your neighbor's Pomeranian, the County Department of Animal Services may be called to investigate.

If you get mad and decide to bite your neighbor in return, you're likely to receive a visit from the local constable; a.k.a. the County Sheriff...who will be pleased to escort you to a County Jail.

If you happen to be the victim of a sub prime mortgage and you can't afford a defense attorney, you will be assigned one from the County Public Defender's Office.

Then you'll be prosecuted in a County Courthouse by Bonnie Dumanis and the fun-loving folks at the County District Attorney's Office.

A judge might sentence you to probation, at which time your new best friend will be an officer from the County Probation Department.

Or, just maybe you'll be lucky enough to get a Pomeranian-hating judge who will let you off the hook and set you free! But that doesn't mean you won't have issues which require County services.

What happens if that Pomeranian was carrying a contagious disease when she bit you? You'll need to pay a visit to Dr. Wilma Wooten and her fine team at County Public Health Services! And while you're at it, you can check out other services we provide in the County Health and Human Services Agency...like County Mental Health, or County Alcohol and Drug Services, or County Aging and Independence Services. We can help you adopt kids, or become a foster parent, or access health care and veteran's services.

If it's Election Day and you go to the polls to vote, you'll be greeted by poll workers trained by the County Registrar of Voters, and you'll vote on the County's new touch screen voting machines!! (Oops, I forgot, we aren't allowed to use those machines). Instead, you'll vote on the County's tried and true punch card machines!! (Nope, can't use those anymore either). Oh, what the heck, we'll do a show of hands and move on with our day!

And, you might spend the rest of that day visiting a County Library, picnicking at a County Park, getting married by County Assessor/Recorder/ County Clerk, Greg Smith, (also known as the Doctor of Love), or sitting in on a meeting of the County Board of Supervisors (or, you could watch grass grow!).

And finally, if you don't survive the Pomeranian bite and your time amongst us comes to an end, the County Medical Examiner's Office will be your last stop before you ascend to that great County government in the sky. (I hope to see most of you there someday!).

County government is in business to serve you. I've talked about a few of the things we do...but there are hundreds upon hundreds of others. If you're interested in finding out more, check out our Website at www.sdcounty.ca.gov .

Until next time...

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June 7th – National Trails Day. The major event will be held at Rancho Penasquitos from 10 - 3.

June 9th – 7 pm - Hear Fred Puhn talk about the high-performance sports car called “The Santee” at Santee Historical Society meeting. For more information call Elaine Murphy at 448-8099

July 4th event – Univ. City: www.rosecanyon.org

July 25, 2008 Star Gazing at Sycamore Canyon – 8pm Enter off Hwy. 67. Call for reservations 858- 513-4737

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Thank you to all who have joined renewed or made a generous donation.

RENEW OR JOIN NOW FOR 2008

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ **Fax** _____

Email _____

Senior 62 plus	___ \$20	Student	___ \$20		
Individual	___ \$25	Family	___ \$40		
Patron	___ \$100	Corporate	___ \$250	Life	___ \$1000

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

AND SEND IT TO: MEMBERSHIPS/13030 Birch Lane, Poway, CA 92064

All Membership renewals are now due 1 January of each year.