



4-Victor

*The Newsletter of the
San Gorgonio Wilderness Association
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SGWA services are supported by the U.S. Forest Service and your National Forest Adventure Pass.

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- Phelan Grange #607
- Verizon Foundation

President's Message

Jaome Wilson, SGWA President

Dear Volunteers, Members, and Friends of SGWA.

Someone out there is using the forest differently than I do! Someone found a different way to appreciate nature and it just isn't the same way I like to appreciate nature! And Someone doesn't exactly believe in my personal values in regards to Public Lands!

But don't grab your pitchfork and torch to join me in harassing and haranguing Someone because it turns out that Someone happens to be You. Nobody experiences the Wilderness or National Forests in exactly the same way. Of course, there are shared experiences and values, but no two people share the exact same beliefs.

What happens when you encounter Someone who doesn't share the same level of Wilderness appreciation as you? Well, if you appreciate Wilderness more than your own ego you probably try to find common ground and understand why they don't share your level of appreciation. In the process, you might help them see a viewpoint they hadn't considered before. Perhaps you end up building a Wilderness Ally.

If you talk to a lot of Volunteers, you'll discover that some of our strongest Volunteers are former Wilderness Miscreants. Some encountered one of our Patrols while they were breaking a regulation. Fortunately for us, those Patrols took the effort to build awareness.

Most people are involved with SGWA because they feel strongly and passionately about preserving and protecting Wilderness. In fact, our roots spring from the Defenders of the San Gorgonio Wilderness, a group directly responsible for establishing federal protection to our unique piece of wild lands.

When you get into a passionate argument with Someone about preserving and protecting San Gorgonio, be cautious that your ego doesn't place winning an argument over actually preserving. Do you come up with clever zingers that attempt to shame them for not sharing your level of commitment? If veins pop out in your forehead, you are probably not winning an Ally. In fact, you might be creating a Wilderness Adversary and that is worse than if you had done nothing at all.

When you encounter people who do not share your Wilderness values, the best scenario is to build an Ally. The worst scenario is to build an Adversary. In many cases the best you'll be able to do is to handle Someone with respect. They may not be entirely convinced in your beliefs, but they at least appreciate your position and won't devote their lives into working against your cause.

A case in point. Recently the topic of geocaching created a wild stir on the bulletin board on the SGWA website. Geocaching is an activity that involves testing GPS skills by attempting to find a cache that someone hides at certain coordinates.



Many people who practice this activity use it as just another excuse to get out in nature, much like those of us who backpack or ride horses. People who like to get out in nature are probably open to learning about how to preserve and protect it. A golden opportunity to obtain many Wilderness Allies was presented an opportunity to bring awareness to our values.

Unfortunately, the opportunity may have been squandered. The geocachers were ordered by other bulletin board users to take their trash out of our Wilderness. Passions were inflamed and veins popped out of foreheads. The geocachers were "run out of Dodge" and many Wilderness Advocates felt smug and secure that they helped to preserve the Wilderness.

But if you visit the geocache community, you'll discover that the experience created strong adversaries. Had the encounter been kept calm and rational with no bulging veins, most could have become Wilderness Allies.

If you search your own memory to discover how your own appreciation for Wilderness was formed, it probably did not involve someone angrily deriding you. If your true objective is to preserve Wilderness, it will involve building Allies and reducing Adversaries. If Someone won't become an Ally, at least keep them from becoming an Adversary.

Welcome New Volunteers

John Flippin, Volunteer Coordinator

A wonderful new group of very dedicated people is us joining us this May in serving the public. We already know these 30 men and women have a keen interest in the San Gorgonio Wilderness and surrounding forest. Although they could go out and enjoy their forest on their own whenever they wish, they have chosen to give their time and money to help others have more enjoyable and safer visits to the forest. Dedicated? They are dedicated without a doubt – proven by their taking the time to complete required training and spending significant personal funds on uniforms and equipment, not to mention the considerable amount of time they've promised to serve.

They are a diverse group of all ages, male and female, hikers and equestrians, from all over southern California. They will be greeting visitors at various visitor centers, maintaining trails, and performing education/safety patrols in and around the San Gorgonio Wilderness. Thank you to the new volunteers for joining us to help the public maintain and improve their physical, spiritual, and mental health while recreating in their National Forest.

Someone is Getting Older

The San Gorgonio Wilderness will be celebrating its 40th birthday next year. September 3, 2004, will mark the 40 year anniversary of the Wilderness Act and this

is an opportunity to celebrate and commemorate an important event.

Most people get a little depressed at their own 40-year birthday, so we will have to make sure San Gorgonio comes to terms with reaching "middle age."

The Board of Directors has directed me to create a Wilderness Act Commemoration Planning and Advisory Committee to brainstorm the various activities that SGWA could take part in to properly commemorate this event. At the same time, commemorating the Wilderness Act provides us great opportunities to further the goals and objectives of SGWA.

Your ideas and/or participation will be needed. If you have an interest in participating in drafting a plan, please contact me as soon as possible. We thought of hiding behind San Jacinto and jumping out for a surprise party for San Gorgonio, but there are probably better ways to mark this event.

Once the plan is presented to the Board on June 24, they will determine what parts of it to adopt. At that time we will likely need people to actively participate in doing tasks and activities to prepare for the commemorative plans. If you think you will want to play an active role in that work, let me know that as well.

Jarome Wilson
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Thank You For Your Support!!

Many who know the great value of our forest and wilderness areas may not have the time but have the monetary resources to help the SGWA continue to "Serve, Protect, and Educate." Recent contributing members to whom we and forest visitors owe many thanks are:

Individual (\$25)

Frank and Judy Sprinkle

Save a Tree and Postage!

**Teri Cappuccio and
Ann Robinson, 4Victor Editors**

Thank you for your continued support of SGWA. Your support, whether as a Volunteer, a Contributing Member, or simply a friendly advocate for what we do,

is important and greatly appreciated. Most of you receive this newsletter through the mail. More and more of you are reading our newsletter online at our website at <http://www.sgwa.org/4victor.htm> and don't wish to also receive it in the mail. Some of you have asked that we save the cost of mailing and save a few trees in the process. If you would prefer to only obtain the newsletter at the website and wish to be removed from the mailing list, please contact **Ann Robinson** at amrobinson@earthlink.net.

Adopt-a-Trail

Mary Hart, Adopt-a-Trail Leader

I want to thank all those who helped clean up the Whispering Pines and Ponderosa Nature Trails on Saturday, April 26. We raked and pick up a lot of trash on both trails and did some much-needed repair on the Ponderosa Trail. The day couldn't have been any better

-- the sky was blue, the air was fresh, and there was snow on the surrounding peaks and plenty of donuts!  The crew included **Teri Cappuccio, John Flippin, John Grzeskiewicz, Jan Gudgegell, Mickey Kacherwski, Janelle Kotzin, Joe McGregor** and grandson **Josh, Pat Peters, Danny** and **Val Silva** along with **Cassidy**, and **Larry Stiles**.

The Forest Service appreciates our volunteers performing various trail projects, thereby allowing more time for the Forest Service trail crews to do much needed work that only they can do. To expand our dedicated trail work a little more this year, the SGWA board of directors has just approved formal adoption of the Ponderosa Nature Trail. Additionally, the board has renewed our adoptions of the Whispering Pines Trail and a section of the Pacific Crest Trail, from Coon Creek south to the Forest boundary near Mission Springs.

After finishing Saturday's trail work and then a few small chores at the Barton Flats Visitor Center and Camp Tulake, we headed back down the mountain. While dropping off trail guides at the Whispering Pines Trail, a young family reading the Ponderosa interpretive sign started heading up the trail. Mom and

Dad were leading a pigtailed girl about four years old and her brother, a year or so older, with his "big" newly found hiking stick -- two new explorers beginning an adventure leading to a lifetime of hiking in beautiful mountains and forests. That's what it's all about. Thank you to all our volunteers.

Thank you, Ideal Graphics!

Printing of the 4-Victor Newsletter is contributed in part by **Scott Watson, Ideal Graphics**, Ontario, CA. A big thanks goes to Scott and his staff for their service and consideration.

Environmental Expo

Karen Saffle
Contributing Member Program

A big thanks to **Ted Schofield, Jarome Wilson, Dan and Diane Riley, and Bob Villa** for staffing the Earth Share booth at the Cal State Environmental EXPO. This event provided the opportunity for Earth Share and the SGWA to visit with many of the estimated 10,000 to 12,000 visitors that attended this fantastic event. Also present were **Raven, Shirley, and Eric "Smokey" Sweetman** from the U.S. Forest Service. This was the first time in three years that it didn't rain on EXPO, making the day even sweeter. These events provide an excellent forum for our message of cherishing and protecting the wilderness.

Thank You Phelan Grange #607

Protecting the wilderness and serving visitors takes a lot of volunteers in today's environment of very limited federal funding and ever increasing public use of the forest. In addition, it takes a lot of money to recruit, administer, train, coordinate, and support all of those great volunteers. The SGWA currently manages about 120 volunteers. Fortunately, in addition to a cost-sharing grant from the U.S. Forest Service and the Adventure Pass Program, we have many contributing individuals and several major private sponsors. One of our best private sponsors is the **Phelan Grange #607**. Phelan Grange #607 has just provided

another very large donation that will be multiplied in value many times by the volunteers it will enable us to support in their service to the public. Phelan Grange #607 truly "unites with others in elevating and advancing the interests of Community Life, Family Values, and Agriculture."

Fremont Investment and Loan Helping Build a Better Community

If you currently have accounts at Fremont or open any new accounts, just mention you want SGWA #361 to receive credit and Fremont will do the rest. Fremont will make an annual donation through their Deposit Incentive Donation Program and it costs you, an SGWA supporter, nothing. SGWA receives donations (\$480 so far) and you'll get the best interest rates on FDIC insured accounts. Fremont Investment and Loan is located at the corner of State and 6th Streets in downtown Redlands, 909-793-8080.

OUR THANKS TO FREMONT INVESTMENT AND LOAN FOR HELPING THE SGWA TO SERVE, PROTECT, AND EDUCATE.

Get Ready For the Mosquitoes John Flippin, Volunteer Coordinator

There are probably as many mosquito repellent recipes and products out there as mosquitoes chasing me down the trail -- well, almost. But for anyone who is very often outdoors during spring and summer for extended periods of time, I've run across one solution that sounds very promising -- vitamin B-1. And if it does work, it eliminates the need for chemicals such as DEET that can irritate the skin, melt plastic, and damage the liver if absorbed into the blood stream. Vitamin B-1 tablets would also avoid the gooeey, sticky, staining properties of many repellants. The odor the vitamin gives out through your skin (YOU can't smell it) is said to repel mosquitoes, black flies, no-see-ums, and gnats. It does not work on stinging insects such as bees.

A fisherman, Bob, reportedly takes one vitamin B-1 tablet (thiamine



hydrochloride, 100 mg) a day April through October. Bob says he has not had a mosquito bite in 33 years. In another case, Martine said her husband WAS a mosquito magnet until he took vitamin B-1 on recommendation of their doctor. It worked for them in Brazilia Amazonia. I'm going to give it a try this year in San Gorgonia (sic) California.



If it doesn't work I'll give up eating bananas. Mosquitoes like the smell of bodies processing banana oil. Or I could try Vick's VapoRub - reported to be the best repellent. Also, marigold flowers give off a fragrance that bugs do not like. So you may see me skipping through the woods wearing a marigold wreath upon my head. And if all else fails, I'm buying a couple frogs -- one for each shoulder. Golly, I sure hope the B-1 works.

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One Environment... One Simple Way to Care for it

How can you choose between the eagle and the buffalo? Between the elephants and the whales? Between drinking clean water and breathing clean air? Between forests and beaches? Would there be a right choice?

Now there's a way to help not just one, but all these things. It's called Earth Share of California – the world's leading environmental and conservation charities working together.

Through Earth Share you can make a payroll deduction donation that helps to preserve and protect the environment – locally, regionally, nationally, and globally. Or you can choose to help specific organizations such as the San Gorgonio Wilderness Association through your payroll deduction.

Earth Share not part of your employer's workplace giving campaign? The SGWA would like to help you with that. Call **Ted Schofield** at 909-862-1089 or send an e-mail to him at flyer1955@aol.com.

SGWA 2003 Calendar



<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity/Location</u>	
05/24-25	8:00a	Memorial Day Weekend – Open Barton Flats to the First Wilderness patrols	public
05/25	5:30p	BBQ at Tulake	
05/27	6:30p	Board Meeting, Supervisor's Office	
06/07		National Trails Day – PCT Project TBD	
06/14	10:00a	Open Big Falls Information Station	
06/24	6:30p	Board Meeting, Supervisor's Office	
06/28	5:00p	3 rd Annual Horse Shoe Tournament/Birthday Celebrations/BBQ – Tulake	
07/4-6	8:00a	July 4 th Weekend-- patrols all weekend	
07/29	6:30p	Board Meeting, Supervisor's Office	
08/16	8:00a	Forest Festival – Karen Saffle	
	5:00p	BBQ at Barton Flats	
08/26	6:30p	Board Meeting, Supervisor's Office	
09/13	8:00a	Fish Festival at Jenks Lake (Date tentative: or 9/20)	
	5:00p	BBQ at Tulake	
09/20		National Public Lands Day	
09/27		Last weekend for Wilderness patrols	
09/30	6:30p	Board Meeting, Supervisor's Office	
10/11-12	9:00a	Close Tulake, Big Falls, and Barton Flats for the season	
10/18	11:30a	Awards Luncheon, Alpine Meadows Camp	
10/28	6:30p	Board Meeting, Supervisor's Office	
11/18	6:30p	Board Meeting, Supervisor's Office	
12/06		SGWA Christmas Party	

**Here's a great way you can help support your forest
 While saving time, gas, and money!!! Just do your on-line shopping at
 The www.gretergood.com/partner/sgwa shopping mall.
 At no extra cost to you, 5-12% of your purchases will come back
 To the SGWA to help protect and maintain your San Gorgonio Wilderness.**

