



A Gay and Lesbian Outdoor Recreation Group  
December 2006 Newsletter

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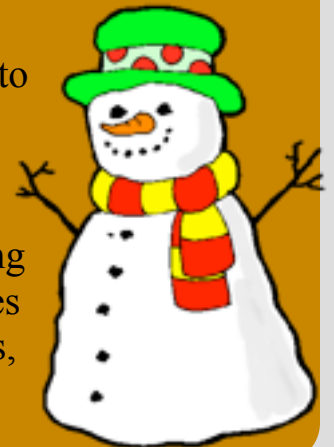


Hello everyone and happy holidays!

Well, another year has come and gone, and once again, we have a great year planned ahead. The chapter trip planning meeting hosted by Chris Fava was a big success. We have a couple of new faces that will be leading trips this year as well as us familiar ones.

There are, however, a few areas of ‘unfinished’ business that needs to be attended to. As you probably already know, I am no longer the president. I was elected corporate chairman of the Great Outdoors at our last Conference and at this time no one has stepped forward to be the new President of our chapter. I can’t think of a better group of people that I’ve had the privilege to work with than those from the Great Outdoors. If this sounds like something you’d like to do, call me, let’s talk!

In the meantime, get ready for a great New Year as we start gearing up for all the exciting camping trips, day hikes, potlucks and parties for 2007. And last but not least, we have a new chapter joining us, San Diego! So... Let the good times begin! -Brian



**Monthly Pizza Social - Wednesday, December 13, 2006 @ 6:45pm**

Great Outdoors SB/VC holds a social meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of every month. We meet at Rusty's Pizza in the Lighthouse across from Stearn's Wharf, near the lower end of State Street. We gather at 6:45pm to order pizza, then socialize until the feasting and meeting start around 7pm. The meetings are open to anyone interested in helping to make our chapter a success. Come join the fun...

## Great Outdoors Christmas Party - Friday, Dec 8, 2006



GO SB/VC's Annual Holiday Party! The party will be on Friday, December 8th. Get together with your friends from Great Outdoors and celebrate the Holidays. We will gather at 7:00 pm and socialize for an hour. Dinner will start serving at 8:00 pm. Bring a dish to share for four people. GO will provide the plates, napkins, cups and eating utensils.

**Holiday Food Drive.** Like last year, bring your canned food goods which the Great Outdoors will donate to the local Pacific Pride Foundation Food Pantry.

**White Elephant Gift Exchange:** For fun, bring a wrapped unusual or gag gift, valued under \$10 for our White Elephant Gift Exchange. This annual GO tradition is always a riot!"

**Jon and Claude's** - 621 Island View Dr, SB. Exit 101 at Carrillo St and drive toward the ocean. Turn Right At Island View Dr. and look for 621 Island View Dr.

## Victorian Christmas Home Tour of Camarillo & Oxnard - Sunday, Dec 10, 2006

Join your hosts Jean-Guy Dube & Paul Williams as we tour some of the historic Victorian Homes of Camarillo and Oxnard. To begin at 12 noon, we will be given a guided tour of the Camarillo Ranch - including this magnificent Victorian mansion, its gardens and outbuildings.

Bring a sack lunch and beverages, as we'll picnic on the grounds after our tour concludes. GO will provide light treats and desserts. We'll then continue our journey to Oxnard's Heritage Square, in historic downtown Oxnard.

Heritage Square in Oxnard is a unique collection of 15 Victorian homes and buildings, that will be decorated for the holidays. With costumed docents, carolers, and vintage displays of Christmas, you won't want to miss! This year's theme is "A Victorian Christmas by the Sea."

The Day Trip fee, which includes your admission into both the Camarillo Ranch and Heritage Square is \$15 a person.

If you are interested in carpooling, we will be meeting at Vons on the corner of Hollister Avenue and Turnpike Road at 11am to give us time to be at the Camarillo Ranch for our 12 noon tour. We'll park close to Sav-On. Look for the Great Outdoors Camping Banner on Jean-Guy & Paul's Car.

**Hosts:** Please RSVP for you and/or a guest to Jean-Guy Dube & Paul Williams [jgdube@hotmail.com](mailto:jgdube@hotmail.com) (805) 570-1929.





# REGISTER NOW!



1. Ancient Indian structures
2. Hikers make their way through sandstone canyons
3. Sitting around the fire
4. Indian petroglyphs are easily found all over Valley of Fire

## Valley of Fire State Park February 15-18, 2007

Please join us for our second visit to the 'Valley of Fire'. We have reserved Groupsite #3, where we were camped last year. This is a truly spectacular group camping spot.

Located six miles from Lake Mead and 55 miles northeast of Las Vegas via Interstate 15 on exit 75, it is one of the oldest and largest state parks in Nevada, dedicated in 1935.

The Valley derives its name from red sandstone formations and the stark beauty of the Mojave Desert. Ancient trees and early man are represented throughout the park by areas of petrified wood and 3,000 year-old Indian petroglyphs. The area was once vast sand dunes during the age of the dinosaurs 150 million years ago, but through time, complex uplifting and faulting has occurred leaving dramatic and spectacular rock formations we see today.

We will be going on some incredible day hikes where we will see much of the area's unique terrain and historical significance. This is a four-day camping trip beginning Thursday, Feb. 15th thru Sunday, Feb 18th. You can get more information about the Valley of Fire by going online to <http://parks.nvgov/vf.htm>.

### Schedule of events;

Thursday, Feb 15th: Arrive after 3 pm. We will be in Groupsite #3 Set up camp, visit the Visitor Center, go hiking on your own, or just relax!

Friday, Feb.16th: Breakfast, Visit Lake Mead and Hoover dam, where we'll have lunch, with lots more sightseeing.

Saturday, Feb 17th: Breakfast, schedule day hikes, relax. Traditional GO tea at 4pm, Valentine theme with my specialty 'Mai-Tai' touch. Potluck dinner 5 PM.

Sunday, Feb 18th:, pack up and start the trek home...stop off at Las Vegas??

RVs are welcome and will share the group site with tent campers. Parking is very limited and is highly recommended to car pool.

**Cost** is \$32 per person for members and \$48 for non-members.

There is an additional \$6 fee per car per day (\$24 total), for **every** car, which driver must pay for separately at the campground.

Please bring two bundles of wood

**Directions;** From Santa Barbara. US-101 S. take 134 east. Merge onto 210 continuing east towards San Bernardino. Take the I-15 North towards Barstow, continue towards Las Vegas.

Take NV-169E exit- Exit 75-toward Valley of Fire/Lake Mead. Slight right onto NV-169, enter the park. This is the west entrance, go another 1.5 miles turn right at the Beehives group site area. Go through a gate to group site #3.

Travel time is approximately 6.5 hrs. from S.B. and 4.5 hrs. from LA.

The group site will have shaded tables, grills, water and restrooms. A dump station and showers are available.

Days will be mild, but can get rather chilly at night so bring lots of warm clothes and bedding! (An excuse to snuggle?!) Contact trip leader Brian Miller 805-407-9001 or [muddbilt@gte.net](mailto:muddbilt@gte.net)

**Camping Trip Registration Forms - Please check box(es), fill out form, and send to address.**

**Valley of Fire, Feb 15-18, 2007**  
 Provide Transportation # People? \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Member (tent)</u>	<u>Non-Member</u>
\$32	\$48
*plus two bundles of fire wood	

Send completed reg. and trip fee (check payable to Great Outdoors) to:  
**Great Outdoors, PO Box 21051, Santa Barbara, CA 93121**

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 G.O. Member # \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email (kept confidential) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_  
 Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Medical Insurance Carrier \_\_\_\_\_  
 Grp/Policy # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Physician Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Health problems/allergies: It is the responsibility of participants to carry on their person a record of significant allergies, medications, and medical history in the event of a medical emergency.**

**Waiver of Liability, Medical Release and Assignment**

I am aware that my participation in Great Outdoors may include potentially hazardous activities and I am voluntarily participating in these activities with that knowledge and the understanding that I will use my own best judgment to avoid injury to myself and others. I agree to follow the directions of the trip leader and abide by the rules of the facility I am using. I hereby release Great Outdoors, including its officers, trail or trip leaders, agents or other persons working with said organization from any liability for injuries, physical or mental, which I may suffer by reason of any participation in these activities. I recognize in waiving this liability that I am assuming sole responsibility for my actions and cannot blame any other person connected with Great Outdoors Inc. I hereby agree to assume full financial responsibility for any and all bills incurred by me for medical treatment as the result of my participation in the Great Outdoors activity. In the event that I am unable to consent to medical care, I hereby authorize the trip leader to consent surgery, as may be best determined under the circumstances.

Sign \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_





*A few 2006 photos*  
 (A year in review slideshow will be shown at Jon and Claude's Christmas party)



**Membership Application**

**Great Outdoors Santa Barbara / Ventura County**  
**P.O. Box 21051**  
**Santa Barbara, CA 93121**

Please fill out form and mail with check (payable to Great Outdoors) to address above.

Newsletter Format: e-Newsletter\_\_\_ or Snailmail\_\_\_

Please check one of the following:

- \_\_\_\$25 - 1yr. Regular      \_\_\_\$45 - 2yr. Regular
- \_\_\_\$15 - 1yr. Student      \_\_\_\$15 - Newsletter only
- \_\_\_\$40 - 1yr. Household (2 names = 1 newsletter)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 eMail: \_\_\_\_\_

By joining Great Outdoors and/or attending the club's events, I acknowledge that in order for Great Outdoors to assume full legal responsibility, it would have to charge higher fees than it does now. I waive the right to ever lay claim for injuries I might suffer before, during or after any Great Outdoors event. My guests will agree to these principles in writing before attending events.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Exciting news! Great Outdoors is expanding to San Diego! A few ex-Santa Barbarans who moved down there realized that San Diego is just ripe for something like a GO chapter. San Diego has the outdoors, the weather, and the men that will make GO a success in that area of SoCal.

Please take a moment to check out their new website, [www.sandiegogreatoutdoors.com](http://www.sandiegogreatoutdoors.com). Take a peak at their expanding schedule of hikes, rock climbing and outdoor adventures that are scheduled for the New Year.

They will be holding a Membership drive on Wednesday, Dec 13th at 7pm at San Filippo's Restaurant in Hillcrest. If you know of anyone in San Diego who might like to attend, please forward this on to them.

e-mail Daniel Castro for more information: [daniel@sandiegogreatoutdoors.com](mailto:daniel@sandiegogreatoutdoors.com) or call 619-405-7602.



**Great Outdoors SB/VC**  
**PO Box 21051**  
**Santa Barbara, CA 93121**



**Next Pizza Social - Rusty's Pizzeria**  
**Wednesday, December 13th, 6:45p.m.**  
**15 E. Cabrillo Blvd. Santa Barbara**

Stamp

Place Label Here