

# BASECAMP NEWS

camp • hike • cycle • kayak • backpack • rollerblade • river raft

Feature Destination

Day Hike & Potluck

## ARROYO HONDO PRESERVE

Please join us on Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, as we enjoy a potluck lunch and walking tour of a very historical and beautiful area, The Arroyo Hondo Preserve! Owned and run by the Land Trust for Santa Barbara County, it is called 'The Jewel of the Gaviota Coast.' This 782-acre preserve is a magnificent canyon located west of Santa Barbara between Refugio State Beach and Gaviota State Park. It is the location of the historic Ortega Adobe Ranch House built in 1842, which was used as a stagecoach stop between Lompoc and Santa Barbara in the late 1800s.



*Comin' Right Up!*  
**SUN., APR. 5TH**

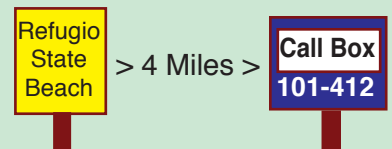
This canyon is rich with history and natural beauty, especially this time of year as all the wildflowers are usually in full bloom. We will hike on stream-side trails shaded by towering sycamore and bay trees. You will be able to see sweeping vistas of the Gaviota Coastline and the distant Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, an experience you don't want to miss!

As well as bringing your favorite food item to share, we are asking a suggested donation of \$5 per person, which goes directly to supporting the Land Trust and all the amazing work they do! To learn more about them visit [www.sblandtrust.org](http://www.sblandtrust.org).



**Here are the particulars:** Please arrive at **10:45 AM** (directions below) Bring a main dish or a side dish to feed about 4 people. Also bring your favorite beverage! Wear comfortable hiking shoes, skin protection; bring sunglasses and water. We will hike first (about 2 hours) with potluck to follow. Make sure you have something in which to store your food while we are hiking, such as a small cooler. The park closes at 4 PM.

**From Santa Barbara:** Traveling northbound on the U.S. Highway 101, the Preserve is about a thirty minute drive from downtown and approximately four miles past Refugio State Beach. After the Refugio exit, pay attention to the blue CalTrans call boxes spaced one mile apart on the right-hand side. The Arroyo Hondo entrance is located at **Call Box 101-412**. Make an immediate right turn into the driveway. Follow the signs to the parking lot and we'll meet in front of the barn to begin our hike.

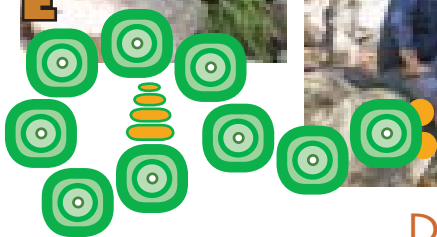


Please call or e-mail me to confirm you are going so I have an accurate count of whom to expect! (805) 407-9001, e-mail: [muddbilt@verizon.net](mailto:muddbilt@verizon.net)  
Look forward to seeing you!  
-Brian M.

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# RATTLESNAKE CANYON



## DAY HIKE REVIEW

Despite its name, we encountered no rattlesnakes on our hike up Rattlesnake Canyon. The February Great Outdoors day hike took us up one of the most popular trails in Santa Barbara. While only minutes from downtown, you still have the feeling that you are in the mountains and away from civilization. There are reminders, however, including the periodic glimpses of the populated city below and the ocean beyond, as well as a mountain-top house (or I guess you could call it a “retreat”, “mansion”, or “estate”).

Brian M. led a group of nine of us up the canyon (and thankfully all of us returned!). The 5-mile hike started at a small stone bridge near Skofield Park. The mostly-wooded trail followed a creek up the mountain, which it periodically crossed back and forth several times. Eventually the trail stayed up to the left of the stream and ascended up the side of the mountain (1,000 feet total elevation gain).

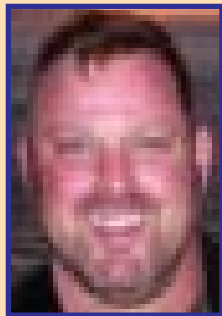
The hike allowed us an excellent opportunity to view first-hand and up close the effects of wildfire on the landscape. The Tea Fire swept through this area in November of last year, eventually destroying 230 homes and charring almost 2,000 acres of land. Not all the area was burnt. The fire appears to have been fickle, totally scorching an area here, but then skipping another area yonder. The contrasts are remarkable. Some areas, still black and charred, appear to be scenes from the moon or some

distant barren planet. But even out of the ashes there is much life sprouting up. The black and brown are contrasted with vibrant green and color. New grasses are growing out of blackened soil. Scorched oaks and other trees have fresh buds growing from the tips. An abundance of life remains in what appears to be a singed area.

The destination of our day’s hike was the meadow (also referred to as “Tin Can Meadow”). This provided a great resting stop for the group to sit and relax and eat a bit of lunch before our return back down. The meadow also provided a great opportunity to view the several hang gliders that were passing overhead. (On our return, we saw what appeared to be an unplanned landing in a nearby area adjacent to St. Mary’s Seminary.)

Overall, it was a great day hike and offered a nice little adventure into the beautiful natural world that surrounds Santa Barbara. See you on the trail next time!

—Kyle R.



## President's Message

Springtime is here! The hills are green, local creeks are flowing and wildflowers are everywhere. The Central Coast comes alive at this time. We are so lucky to live in the Santa Barbara area.

Your local Santa Barbara-Ventura Great Outdoors Chapter wants to give back to our community, and you can help. In the near future, we are going to work with several local agencies, from our local Parks and Trails Commission to Pacific Pride, to name a few, lending a hand and helping those who help others.

We will give you a chance to volunteer along with your fellow G.O. members to help maintain local hiking trails, clean up local beaches or assist Pacific Pride at one of their numerous fundraising events. What a GREAT way to give back to your community, get OUTDOORS and meet fun, interesting people. Newsblasts to come.

It is with a heavy heart that I must report that Ted H. is stepping down after 4 years as our Chapter's Treasurer when his term is up next Sept. Ted does an amazing job and will be missed. Ted, I thank you for all that you continue to do.

The Core Group position of Treasurer is open to anyone who is organized, good with numbers and wants to volunteer a few hours a month for our chapter. Contact Ted if interested.

Don't forget to support Pacific Pride, and also Bears Ventura and their BearBust, 1st Sunday of the Month at Paddys.

Hugs to all,

*Sean*

GOSB/ Vt. President

## Trip Stats

**Upper Klamath Whitewater Raft**  
**Registration Deadline: Mar. 31**  
**Check for availability**

**"Dragon Lake" (Nacimiento)**  
**Check for availability**

**Arroyo Hondo Preserve**  
**Call Brian M. to confirm**

**Not On Board?**

**For complete trip notes and registration:**  
**[www.greatoutdoors.org/sb](http://www.greatoutdoors.org/sb)**



Best Wishes to all our  
April Birthday Members!

### MEMBER WELCOME!

Current Members  
61

NEW MEMBERS  
0

RETURNING MEMBERS  
Ted H.

Don't let your  
G.O. Membership  
EXPIRE!!!  
Contact Joe D.

## Great Outdoors Membership Application

Register and Renew your membership  
ONLINE at: [www.greatoutdoors.org/sb](http://www.greatoutdoors.org/sb)

Please fill out this form and mail with check payable to:  
Great Outdoors • P.O Box 21051 • Santa Barbara, CA 93121

New Member     Renewal     Update Information

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Membership Type (check one):

1 Year Regular      \$25  
 1 Year Household    \$40  
 1 Year Student        \$15

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.

# Whitewater Rafting – Upper Klamath River August 15-16, 2009

- Adrenaline-pumping high adventure!
- Middle Fork of the American and Upper Klamath Rivers!
- 17 miles of churning Class IV + rapids!
- Volcanic canyonlands, ancient Indian sites!
- Wilderness-style camping under the stars!
- A Wilderness Adventures guided excursion!



Questions or Availability? Contact trip leader Chris F.  
(805) 509-8240 or [trancefusion@mac.com](mailto:trancefusion@mac.com)  
**[CLICK HERE](#)** for info and registration

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MARCH 31st!**

All-inclusive, guided rafting trip and riverside camping will be for *Great Outdoors Members Only!*  
Cost: \$355 per person • \$75 deposit by March 31 • Balance due July 31, 2009  
You DO NOT need any previous rafting experience!

## G. O. Bulletin Board

### Reminder to Core Group Officers:

The 2nd Quarter Corporate Board Meeting will take place April 25th in Long Beach

### Cancelled:

~~SBVC Matilija Back Packing Trip  
May 8-10~~

### Alternatives:

OCLB Wheeler Gorge Trip  
May 8-10  
[www.greatoutdoors.org/oclb/](http://www.greatoutdoors.org/oclb/)

•  
SD Mt. Palomar Trip  
May 8-11  
[www.sandiegogreatoutdoors.com/](http://www.sandiegogreatoutdoors.com/)

### All Chapter Event:

10-day Utah National Parks Loop Car Camp and Tour  
August 29-September 7, 2009  
Trip Leader: Danny S. 323-654-8466  
SBVC Carpool: Brian M. 805-407-9001

## Marriage Town Halls

Join us at community meetings across the state to decide how we will work together to secure the freedom to marry.

- Hear from legal experts about the Prop 8 legal challenge
- Voice your opinion

Events statewide

Thursday  
April 9th

[Santa Barbara](#) (Pacific Pride Foundation)  
Web site: [www.eqca.org/townhall](http://www.eqca.org/townhall)

LINK ALERT  
**facebook**

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/group.php?gid=38892145938>

If you are planning an event (day hike, camping trip, pot-luck, etc.) and you are on Facebook, please post the information (you can create an "event"). If you are not on Facebook, then please contact someone who is to post the info on there (Kyle, Brian, Sean, Chris). Some photos or a visual image, in addition to a description of the event will be required. Direct any questions to Kyle R.

## Feature Destination

# "DRAGON LAKE"

Lake Nacimiento Camp Out  
Thurs., April 9—Sun., April 12

Hosted by Rick & Steve  
Presented by SB/VC and OC/LB



- Santa Lucia Mountains in N. San Luis Obispo Co.
- 24 acres on Nacimiento Lake between Cambria and Paso Robles!
- Perfect weather, wildflowers, waterfalls, and flowing streams!
- Wine country, cattle ranches, rolling hills, beautiful scenery!
- A feeling of 'really getting away'
- Several levels to camp on—even by the water!
- Bath and shower facilities! (yay!)
- Full RV hookups, choice of location, limited #
- Kayaks, pontoon boat, jacuzzi, star gazing!
- Panoramic lake view!

Come relax, have fun,  
get away from the city!

For trip notes, directions, a schedule of events,  
and trip registration:

[CLICK HERE!](#)

Cost \$27.50 for members per person  
\$32.50 for non members per person

Dixie P. @ 1-714-529-7267 or [dms15@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dms15@sbcglobal.net)  
Michael R. @ 562-533-1577 or [mlroth@mymlrothcalif.com](mailto:mlroth@mymlrothcalif.com)

## ALERT: DATE CHANGES!

The Great Outdoors...  
is waiting for you!

# The Outdoors Experience 2009

Join us this fall for our  
Annual Outdoor Skills  
and Leadership Program



The California Great Outdoors  
is a nonprofit organization  
for gays, lesbians and others  
who enjoy playing outside—  
Hiking, Camping, Kayaking, RVing  
and getting together for fun  
under the sun or under the stars...

Phase I: September 19 & 20

Phase II: October 2, 3 & 4

For more info about this unique program  
check out

[www.greatoutdoors.org](http://www.greatoutdoors.org)



*Prime Timers Central Coast  
presents the*

# *Annual Spring Prom*

## *“A Night of Community”*

*You are cordially invited to attend*

•  
**Saturday, April 25, 2009**  
**Mulligan’s at Santa Barbara Golf Club**  
**3500 McCaw Avenue, Santa Barbara**

•  
**Cocktails 6 PM**  
**Dinner 7 PM**  
**Dancing with live DJ until 10 PM**

•  
**Meal Choices:**  
**Roast Beef, Chicken Piccata, Salmon, Vegetarian**

•  
**Formal or Dressy Business Attire**

•  
**\$45 per person • Reserved tables for 8 available**  
**Make check payable to: PTCC**  
**Mail to: P.O. Box 2071, Santa Barbara, CA 93120**

•  
**Please R.S.V.P. by April 17**  
**For information, call Brad: 684-9544**



**PrimeTimers**  
*Central Coast, California*

## JANUARY

Jan • 31  
**Day Hike: Lecture**  
**Grauman's Egyptian Theatre**  
 Trip Leader: Brian M.

## FEBRUARY

Feb • 12  
**Day Hike & Lunch**  
**SB Zoo: VIP Tour**  
 Trip Leader: Dennis B.

## MARCH

Mar • 8  
**Day Hike**  
**Rattlesnake Canyon**  
 Trip Leader: Brian M.

Mar • 26-29  
**Camp Out**  
**Black Canyon**  
 SB/VC. & LA Chapters  
 Trip Leaders: Kyle R. & Juan S.

## APRIL

Apr • 5  
**Day Hike & Potluck**  
**Arroyo Hondo Preserve**  
 Trip Leader: Brian M.

Apr • 10-12  
**Camp Out**  
**Lake Nacimiento**  
 OC/LB & SB/VC Chapters  
 Trip Leaders: Dixie, Rick & Steve

Apr • 25  
**2Q Corp. Bd. Meeting**  
 Hosts: Byron & Ritch in Long Beach

## MAY

**CANCELLED:**  
 May • 8-10  
~~**Back Packing**~~  
~~**Matilija Area • S.B. CO.**~~  
 SB/VC Chapter  
 Trip Leader: Kyle R.

May • 17  
**Day Hike & Lunch**  
**Historic Santa Barbara**  
 Trip Leader: Brian M.

May • 31 to Jun • 6  
**AIDS LifeCycle Event**  
**Team Great Outdoors**  
**Bike Ride**  
 Trip Leader: Chris F.

## JUNE

Jun • 5-8  
**Camp Out**  
**Santa Cruz Island**  
 SD & SB/VC Chapters  
 Trip Leaders: Daniel C. & Chris F.

Jun • 14  
**Day Hike & Picnic**  
**Gaviota Peak**  
 Trip Leader: Brian M.

## JULY

Jul • 5  
**Day Hike**  
**Cold Springs Trail (west fork)**  
 Trip Leader: Brian M.

# Great Outdoors 2009 Calendar



Santa Barbara/Ventura  
County Chapter

Jul • 17-19  
**Camp Out**  
**San Simeon State Beach & Hearst Castle Tour**  
 SB/VC  
 Trip Leader: Dan P.

## AUGUST

Aug • 9  
**Day Hike & Picnic**  
**Knapp's Castle Ruins**  
 Trip Leader: Brian M.

Aug • 13-16  
**Camp Out • Whitewater Rafting**  
**Upper Klamath River**  
 SB/VC  
 Trip Leader: Chris F.

## Aug • 29 to Sep • 7

**Car Tour**  
**Utah Loop**  
 All Chapters (Limit 6 cars)  
 Trip Leader: Danny S.

## SEPTEMBER

Sep • 6  
**Day Hike & Picnic**  
**Jesusita Trail**  
 Trip Leader: Brian M.

Sep • 19-20  
**Outdoor Experience Phase I**  
 Location: TBA  
 Corporate Trip Leader: Mario V.

Sep • 24-27  
**Camp Out & Jamboree**  
**Morro Bay State Park**  
 Corporate Event  
 Trip Leaders: Lloyd Q. & Brian M.

## OCTOBER

Oct • 2,3,4  
**Outdoor Experience Phase II**  
 (Circle X Ranch, Malibu)  
 Corporate Trip Leader: Mario V.

Oct • 11  
**Day Hike**  
**Ghostly Tour, SB Cemetary**  
 Trip Leader: Brian M.

Oct • 16-18  
**Camp Out**  
**31st Annual GO Conference**  
**4 Q Corp. Bd. Meeting**  
 Chair: Brian M. • Host: SB/VC  
 Location: TBA  
 Trip Leaders: Tom O. & Dennis B.

## NOVEMBER

Nov • 8  
**Day Hike & Picnic**  
**Paradise Trail**  
 Trip Leader: Brian M.

## DECEMBER

Dec • 6  
**Day Hike**  
**San Ysidro**  
 Trip Leader: Brian M.

Events subject to change,  
 RSVP as required.  
 Check web site for current  
 information.



Santa Barbara / Ventura County Chapter  
P.O. Box 21051, Santa Barbara, CA 93121  
web site: [www.greatoutdoors.org/SB](http://www.greatoutdoors.org/SB)

**Core Group Officers**

- President Sean D.
- Vice President Chris F.
- Treasurer Ted H.
- Secretary Tom O.
- Corporate Board Rep. Tom O.
- Membership Joe D.
- Outreach Kyle R.
- Special Events Dennis B.
- Day Hike Brian M.
- Webmaster Don B.
- Newsletter Karyn N.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

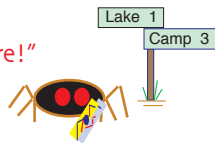
Great Outdoors is an organization dedicated to supporting and empowering the gay community through various social activities with emphasis on education and the enjoyment of the outdoor environment through camping, hiking and wilderness training.

The Great Outdoors: *where what binds us together is not electric circuitry!*

Place Label Here

**"TRIP TICK'S" REMINDER**

"Well, hair we are!"



Heads up:  
Savvy ticks never get strand-ed...  
they always find the best routes!

- Apr. 5 Day Hike and Potluck  
Arroyo Hondo Preserve  
Trip Leader: Brian M.
- Apr. 10-12 "Dragon Lake" Camp Out  
Trip Leaders: Dixie, Rick & Steve
- Apr. 25 2nd Quarterly Corporate  
Board Meeting—Long Beach  
Hosts: Byron & Ritch

**~~CANCELLED~~**

~~May 8-10 Matilija Area Back Packing~~

[web site: greatoutdoors.org/SB](http://www.greatoutdoors.org/SB)  
Trip Notes • Requirements • Registration

Check it out! **New meeting day!**  
**G.O. is moving to 3rd Wednesdays**  
from now on...

**PIZZA SOCIAL**

On-GOing Monthly Social Meetings with Guest Speakers, Prizes and Trip Planning

**NEW:**  
"The 3rd Wednesday"  
April 15th, 2009  
at 7:00 PM

Rusty's Pizza Lighthouse  
15 East Cabrillo Boulevard, Santa Barbara  
(across from Stearn's Wharf)

**Social/Pizza Dinner and General Meeting starts at 7 PM.**

We feature slide shows, guest speakers, the 10 Essentials, a 50/50 Raffle Drawing for Cash and Prizes and socializing. You can also get up-to-the-minute trip and event information, renew your membership or review our latest newsletter. See you there!