



Friends of los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve

Jan.– Feb. – Mar. 2019

Volunteer Projects

Friends' Volunteer Restoration Projects in Black Mountain Open Space Park

Sun., Jan. 20, Feb. 3 & 17, Mar. 3 & Mar. 17: 1-4 p.m. Planting parties. Help plant natives. No experience needed. Community Service Credits available. Join us at Black Mtn. Ranch Community Park at the northeast corner, 14700 Carmel Valley Rd., Rancho Peñasquitos 92129.

Ranger John's Graffiti Warriors

Sun., Feb. 10 & Mar. 10: 8:30 – noon. Join Ranger John Garwood for trash cleanups and other type of projects. Meet at the Ranger Station, 12005 Black Mtn. Rd., SD 92129.

Ranger Melanie's Peñasquitos Canyon Restoration Project

Sat., Jan. 19, Feb. 16, & Mar. 16. Join Ranger Melanie Fontana in restoring wildlife habitat sites. Get on the list for the meeting place at: mfontana@sandiego.gov.

Ranger John's Environmental Projects

Sun., Jan. 27, Feb. 24, & Mar. 24: 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. Join Ranger John Garwood for trash cleanups and other types of projects. Meet at the Ranger Station, 12005 Black Mtn. Rd., SD 92129.

Walks

January

Camino Ruiz Rim to the Creek Hike w Les Braund

Sat., Jan. 26, 8 – 10 a.m.

Join naturalist Les Braund for a hike leaving from Camino Ruiz Park. Most of the hike is in the shade of tall Chaparral vegetation and follows a switch-back trail from the rim of the canyon down to the valley floor and stream side. See un-common native plants such as the Summer holly shrub and others. Les says this is one of the most beautiful walks he's knows. The park is located at the junction of Camino Ruiz and Calle Cristobal in Mira Mesa.

History Nature Hike w Mike Kelly



Members of Girl Scout Troop 4531 (Mira Mesa) on Friends' hike led by Mike Kelly.

Sun., Jan. 27, 9 – 11 a.m.

Join Mike Kelly for a history and nature hike in Peñasquitos Canyon. Stand on the site of the old Immigrant Road into San Diego, the site of the first Transcontinental Mail and passenger delivery, and the Kit Carson crossing from the battle of San Pasqual. Learn about the local nature as well. Meet at the white barricades and kiosk at the END of Park Village Road in Rancho Peñasquitos, 92129.

Lopez Homestead History Hike w Will Bowen

Sun., Jan. 27, 3 – 5 p.m.

Join Anthropologist Dr. Will Bowen to hike out into Lopez Canyon to learn about the Ramon Lopez Homestead — a small turn-of-the-century dairy farm. Visit the orchard, the Old Road, and see the remains of the house, barn, and milking station. Find out about the importance of the Lopez family in early San Diego history. West End Parking Staging Lot at 4300 Sorrento Valley Rd., San Diego.

February

Vernal Pool Walk with Mike Kelly

Sat., Feb. 9, 9 – 11 a.m.

Vernal pools are our most endangered habitat. Learn about them and the extremophile plants and animals that live in them. Should be good

wildflowers too. Meet at 11125 Taloncrest Way, San Diego, 92121.

Camino Ruiz Rim to the Creek Hike w Les Braund

Sat., Feb. 23, 8 – 10 a.m.

Join naturalist Les Braund for a new hike location, leaving from Camino Ruiz Park. Most of the hike is in the shade of tall Chaparral vegetation and follows a switch-back trail from the rim of the canyon down to the valley floor and stream side. See uncommon native plants such as the Summer holly shrub and others. Les says this is one of the most beautiful walks he's knows. The park is located at the junction of Camino Ruiz and Calle Cristobal in Mira Mesa.

El Cuervo Adobe History Hike

Sun., Feb. 24, 3 – 5 p.m.

Join Anthropologist Dr. Will Bowen to hike out into the West End of Peñasquitos Canyon for an intimate look at the ruins of the El Cuervo Adobe built by the Avarado family. Includes a short side hike to examine Norwood Brown's old roundup corral and to discuss the impact of the cattle which once grazed in the Preserve. Meet in parking lot at 4206 Sorrento Valley Rd., San Diego.

March

Camino Ruiz Rim to the Creek Hike w Les Braund

Sat., Mar. 16, 8 – 10 a.m.

Join naturalist Les Braund for a new hike location, leaving from Camino Ruiz Park. Most of the hike is in the shade of tall Chaparral vegetation and follows a switch-back trail from the rim of the canyon down to the valley floor and stream side. See uncommon native plants such as the Summer holly shrub and others. Les says this is one of the most beautiful walks he's knows. The park is located at the junction of Camino Ruiz and Calle Cristobal in Mira Mesa.

Carmel Mountain Tadpole & Fairy Shrimp Hike

Sun., Mar. 17, 4–6 p.m.

Join Anthropologist Dr. Will Bowen for a hike to look for and learn about fairy shrimp, tree frog tadpoles, and spadefoot toad tadpoles — the short term inhabitants of the

ephemeral rain pools and road puddles that form during the "wetting" phase of the vernal pool cycle. Learn about the anurans' and anostracans' life cycles and behaviors. Meet at the Carmel Mountain Trail Head at the corner of Shorepointe Way and Fairport Way.

Birding with all Your Senses w Jeanie Anderson

Sat., March 23, meet 7:45 a.m., Hike 8-10 am. Join Ornithologist Jeanie Anderson on a path in the canyon with many birds both visible and calling. Bring sturdy shoes, binoculars and cover-ups. Handouts and checklists will be provided. Meet at the west end of Canyonside Park Driveway, 1 block west of Black Mtn. Rd. at the Preserve sign at the beginning of the white ranch house fence. 12350 Black Mtn. Rd. Rancho Peñasquitos, 92129.

Every Month

Historic Adobe Ranch Tour

Saturdays at 11 a.m., Sundays at 1 p.m. San Diego County Park docents lead a free guided tour of San Diego's second oldest standing residence, Rancho Santa Maria de los Peñasquitos. See an historic Mexican rancho with three foot thick adobe walls, settler and Indian artifacts and tour the grounds. The ranch house is located on Canyonside Park Driveway off 12020 Black Mountain Rd., San Diego 92129 between Mira Mesa and Rancho Peñasquitos.

Visit www.penasquitos.org for lots of information on hikes, volunteer activities, meetings, and decades of newsletters, videos, and more.

Reach Mike Kelly at kelly.mike8388@gmail.com or call 858-863-7393 for questions or more information.