



# Friends of los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve

July – Sept. 2017

## Upcoming Events

**2017 SUMMER MOVIES IN THE PARK** 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY 2007-2017

Presented by **SHARP** Rees-Stealy Medical Centers

Free evening movies all summer for the whole family

**Saturday, July 8:**  
**The Jungle Book (2016)**  
**(PG)**

Movie will begin 15 minutes after sunset

**Location:**  
**Los Peñasquitos Adobe**  
12122 Canyonside Park Driveway  
San Diego - (858) 484-7504  
This is a smoke-free park. Dogs on leash are welcome.

Looking for a fun, free, and fabulous family activity in your neighborhood?  
Summer Movies in the Park is a perfect chance to relax and enjoy a safe and special night under the stars.  
**Come early and get a good seat!**

Produced by **COMMERCIAL CINEMA**

For full series schedule and select movie trailers, visit [www.SummerMoviesinthePark.com](http://www.SummerMoviesinthePark.com)

**Friends of Los Peñasquitos Canyon Reserve**

Please join us for “The Jungle Book” at Los Peñasquitos Ranch House! Summer Movies in the Park is co-hosted by the Friends of Los Peñasquitos on Saturday, July 8 from 8:15 to 10:00 pm in the East Field of the Adobe – 12122 Canyonside Park Drive, San Diego, CA 92129. Parking and the Movie will be just beyond Canyonside Park Ballfields. Looking for a fun, **free** family activity in our neighborhood? Bring chairs, bug spray, warm clothes if necessary, and your family to relax and enjoy a safe and special night under the stars.

## Special New Event

### Ride with a Ranger.

Sun., July 9, July 23, Aug. 6, Aug. 20, 3 p.m.  
Come on a bike ride-a-long with a County Park Ranger to the waterfall and back. This is an inter-mediate ride, about 6 miles of fun terrain to the waterfall and back. You'll also learn some of the flora/fauna and history of the canyon. Free. Bring your own mountain bike and helmet. Meet at the Community Gardens at the historic Adobe Ranch House.

## Volunteer Projects

### Ranger John's Graffiti Warriors

Sun., July 9, Aug. 13, Sept. 10, 8:30 a.m. – noon. Join Ranger John Garwood for trash cleanups and other types of projects. Meet at the Ranger Station, 12005 Black Mtn. Rd., SD 92129.

### Ranger John's Environmental Projects

Sun. July 23, Aug. 27, Sept. 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.

### Black Mtn. Open Space Restoration

TBA. Depends on hot weather. Sign up for notice. Join the Friends of los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve watering plants put in the ground on earlier events and doing some weeding. Community service credits available for students. Email Mike Kelly for more info at [kelly.mike8388@gmail.com](mailto:kelly.mike8388@gmail.com). Wear long pants and bring gloves if you have them. Meet in the northeast corner of Black Mtn. Community Park at 14700 Carmel Valley Rd./Black Mountain Park Way in Rancho Peñasquitos, CA 92129.

### Ranger Melanie's Peñasquitos Canyon Restoration Project

Sat., July 15, Aug. 19, Sept. 16, 9-12.  
Join City Ranger Melanie Fontana in restoring habitat sites. Get on the list for the meeting

place at this URL at the City's volunteer portal to sign up:

(<https://app.betterimpact.com/PublicEnterprise/e7ef01a2-fd5d-40e9-a8d0-78324d817ec7>).

### Beginning Tracker/Naturalist Class - Part 1 (classroom session)

Wed, Sept. 13, 7 – 9pm

The Beginning Tracker/Naturalist class provides you with information and skills to identify tracks, scat, and other sign from wildlife that inhabit our local nature preserves. This class includes a Wednesday evening classroom session and a Saturday in the field for "dirt time" instruction. The field session is Saturday, September 16, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Beginning Class topics include: arts of tracking, sensory awareness, journaling, the process of track identification, common species encountered locally, and introduction to gaits. Los Peñasquitos Ranch House, Canyonside Park Driveway, San Diego, CA 92129

### Beginning Tracker/Naturalist Class - Part 2 (field session)

Sat, Sept. 16, 8 am – 3:30 pm

Los Peñasquitos Ranch House, Canyonside Park Driveway, San Diego, CA 92129, USA ([map](#))

## Walks

### Gonzales Canyon Nature Walk

Sun., July 16, 9:00 a.m. at Gonzales Canyon Open Space Park, Sword Way Trailhead  
Join a Park Ranger for an exploration of beautiful Gonzales Canyon. We'll see a variety of plant types and plant communities up close and learn about ethnobotany. This is a 3 mile walk on mostly flat and sandy surfaces and will be good for beginner to intermediate level hikers. There will be some shade but definitely bring plenty of water, sturdy shoes and sun protection. Leashed, friendly dogs are welcome. Call the Ranger Office for more information: (858) 538-8021.



# FULL MOON HIKES

Thursday, June 8th at 7:15 pm

Sunday, July 9th at 7:45 pm

# SOLAR ECLIPSE WALK

Monday, August 21st at 9:15 am

Meet at the Hilltop Community Park, 9711 Oviedo Way, San Diego, CA 92129. We will be hiking a total of 4 miles on rocky, steep and uneven surfaces with an elevation gain of 900 feet on Full Moon Hikes. Bring a flashlight and warm clothes, water and sturdy shoes.

The Solar Eclipse Walk will encircle Hilltop Park and will be wheelchair and stroller friendly. Bring water, hat, and sunblock.

Friendly, leashed dogs are always welcome. Call the Ranger Office for more information: (858) 538-8021

\*Look for the trailhead on the north side of Sword Way near where it becomes Winstanley Way.

\*Nearest public restrooms are at Torrey Highlands Park, 1/2 mile west.

### **Camino Ruiz Rim to the Valley Hike**

Sat., July 22, 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 switchback 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. The park is located at the junction of Camino Ruiz and Calle Cristobal in Mira Mesa. Email Mike Kelly at [kelly.mike8388@gmail.com](mailto:kelly.mike8388@gmail.com) for more info. No reservations necessary unless bring a larger group.

### **Wildlife Night Hike with Mike Kelly,**

Sat. July 22, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

A moderately paced on flat ground. Do bring insect repellent and a flashlight. Enjoy the Preserve at night. On past walks we've seen Mule Deer, bats, tarantulas, owls, and more. Visit the old immigrant trail, the route of the very first trans-continental mail, and the Kit Carson Crossing. Meet at the kiosk near the corner of Park Village Road and Camino del Sur Rd. in Rancho Peñasquitos, 92129.

### **A Tour for All People**

Sun. July 23, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Join a Park Ranger for a tour of the Jas Arnold Trail for All People, San Diego's first wheelchair-accessible hiking trail. On this ¼ mile loop trail participants will learn about native plants, wildlife, and the geology of Black Mtn. Open Space Park. This free event is accessible for those with mobility issues and people of all ages and abilities. Leashed, friendly dogs are welcome. Meet at the

Miner's Ridge Loop Parking Area, 14895 Carmel Valley Road, near Valle del Sur Ct., San Diego, 92129.

### **Owl Prowl with Brian Swanson**

Sat., July 29, 7:45 – 9:30 p.m.

Owls! Spiders! Bats! Join Friends' naturalist Brian Swanson and shake those critter jitters while enjoying a pleasant stroll in the Preserve as we look for western screech owls, bats, spiders, and other creatures active at night. The walk is flat, but wear sport or hiking shoes are recommended. Bring a flashlight per person. Bring a light sweater and insect repellent. Meet at the kiosk near the west edge of Canyonside Park ball fields (West of Black Mtn. Road, north of Mercy Rd.).

## **August**

### **Full Moon Night Walk**

Sat., Aug. 5, 7:30 – 9 p.m.

A walk in the canyon under the light of the moon. It's an unusual and peaceful place filled with many wonders . . . that are painted in fifty shades of gray. . . . The senses – hearing, fragrance, and touch – are enriched. Orb spider architects build huge beautiful webs across the trail. Crickets and cicadas soothe with sound . . . The moon, stars, and constellations are ripe for contemplation. Bring a flashlight, water, and insect repellent. Meet at 4206 Sorrento Valley Blvd.

### **Owl Prowl with Brian Swanson**

Sat., Aug. 12, 7:30 – 9:15 p.m.

Owls! Spiders! Bats! Join Friends' naturalist Brian Swanson and shake those critter jitters while enjoying a pleasant stroll in the Preserve as we look for western screech owls, bats, spiders, and other creatures active at night. The walk is flat, but wear sport or hiking shoes are recommended. Bring a flashlight per person. Bring a light sweater and insect repellent. Meet at the kiosk near the west edge of Canyonside Park ball fields (West of Black Mtn. Road, north of Mercy Rd.).

### **Crest Canyon Nature Exploration**

Sun., August 13, 9:00 a.m. at Crest Canyon Open Space Park, Durango Trailhead  
Join a Park Ranger for walk through Crest Canyon, one of San Diego's hidden gems. Learn about rare native plants and unique geology found only in this area. This is a 2 1/2 mile walk on sometimes sandy surfaces with some stairs and will be good for beginner to intermediate level hikers. There will be some shade but definitely bring plenty of water, sturdy shoes and sun protection. Leashed, friendly dogs are welcome  
\*Look for the trailhead at the corner of Durango Drive and Lozana Road, north of Del Mar Heights Road  
\*Nearest public restrooms are at Powerhouse Park, 1 mile northwest in Del Mar or Torrey Highlands Park, 2 miles east in Del Mar Heights. Call the Ranger Office for more information: (858) 538-8021.

### **Camino Ruiz Rim to the Valley Hike**

Sat., Aug. 19, 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 switchback 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. The park is located at the junction of Camino Ruiz and Calle Cristobal in Mira Mesa. Email Mike Kelly at [kelly.mike8388@gmail.com](mailto:kelly.mike8388@gmail.com) for more info. No reservations necessary unless bring a larger group.

### **A Tour for All People**

Sat., Aug. 26, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.  
Join a Park Ranger for a tour of the Jas Arnold Trail for All People, San Diego's first wheelchair-accessible hiking trail. On this ¼ mile loop trail participants will learn about native plants, wildlife, and the geology of Black Mtn. Open Space Park. This free event is accessible for those with mobility issues and people of

all ages and abilities. Leashed, friendly dogs are welcome. Meet at the Miner's Ridge Loop Parking Area, 14895 Carmel Valley Road, near Valle del Sur Ct., San Diego, 92129.

### **Wildlife Night Hike with Mike Kelly,**

Sat. Aug. 26, 7:15 – 9:15 p.m.  
A moderately paced on flat ground. Do bring insect repellent and a flashlight. Enjoy the Preserve at night. On past walks we've seen Mule Deer, bats, tarantulas, owls, and more. Visit the old immigrant trail, the route of the very first transcontinental mail, and the Kit Carson Crossing. Meet at the kiosk near the corner of Park Village Road and Camino del Sur Rd. in Rancho Peñasquitos, 92129.

## **September**

### **Owl Prowl with Brian Swanson**

Fri., Sept. 1, 7:15 – 9 p.m.  
Owls! Spiders! Bats! Join Friends' naturalist Brian Swanson and shake those critter jitters while enjoying a pleasant stroll in the Preserve as we look for western screech owls, bats, spiders, and other creatures active at night. The walk is flat, but wear sport or hiking shoes are recommended. Bring a flashlight per person. Bring a light sweater and insect repellent. Meet at the kiosk near the west edge of Canyonside Park ball fields (West of Black Mtn. Road, north of Mercy Rd.).

### **Camino Ruiz Rim to the Valley Hike**

Sat., Sept. 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 switchback 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. The park is located at the junction of Camino Ruiz and Calle Cristobal in Mira Mesa. Email Mike Kelly at

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### **Full Moon Night Walk**

Sat., Sept. 16, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

A walk in the canyon under the light of the moon. It's an unusual and peaceful place filled with many wonders . . . that are painted in fifty shades of gray. . . . The senses – hearing, fragrance, and touch – are enriched. Orb spider architects build huge beautiful webs across the trail. Crickets and cicadas soothe with sound . . . The moon, stars, and constellations are ripe for contemplation. Bring a flashlight, water, and insect repellent. Meet at 4206 Sorrento Valley Blvd.

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ner of Park Village Road and Camino del Sur Rd. in Rancho Peñasquitos, 92129.

### **Birding with all Your Senses**

Sat., Sept. 23. 7:45 – 9:45 a.m.

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 Saturday & Sunday**

### **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.



**Ranger Carey Goldstein,** pictured here with a hiking group, is leading interpretive walks on a regular basis in parks managed by the Black Mtn. Open Space Park District. The District manages Black Mtn. Park, Gonzalez Canyon, Crest Canyon, Clevenger Canyon, and Mt. Woodson Parks.