

OCTOBER 2023

RIVERSCAPE



Top Stories



Charmer: Senior Interpretive Ranger Leana Bulay and Sage, a rescued rosy boa, prepare to meet and greet visitors to the Grape Day Festival.



Hot Ticket: River Valley Fest

River Valley Fest 2023 is sold out! We can't wait to see ticket holders on Oct. 15 at Morgan Run Club & Resort.

Thank you!

To all of our guests and especially to our sponsors, thanks so much!

Hosted Dinner

Peter & Kathleen DeFrancesca; Ellie & Tim Haviland; Lee Haydu & Bill Sims; Mark & Susan Hennenfent; Dan & Kim King; Cindy Outlaw & Ed Murphy; Karen Searcy; Jim & Jane Lea Smith; Gabriele Wienhausen & Steven Wasserman

Osprey Sponsor (\$5,000)

Karen Berger; Chris Khoury & Linda Corey; Gabriele Wienhausen & Steven Wasserman; Judy Bernstein & Kate Sheehan

Goldfinch Sponsor (\$2,500)

Brad Bartlett & Jane Meyers; Diane Coombs; SDG&E; Jim & Jane Lea Smith; Betty Wheeler & Dwight Worden; Jacqueline Wright; Kim Godwin & Tom Wilcox

Bell's Vireo (\$1,000)

Nate & Deb Northup; Phil Pryde; Al & Steve Tarkington; Glenn and Randee Warren

Violet-Green Swallow (\$500)

Sarah Wiley Henriksen; Ed & Phyllis Mirsky; John & Nancy Weare

[River Valley Fest](#)

Renew Your Membership

For nearly 40 years, we have delivered conservation, education and recreation programming. The San Dieguito River Valley is thriving and, as a 2023 Nonprofit of the Year, so are we.

Your generosity makes our important work possible.

Thanks so much for taking a moment to renew your membership.

[Renew Membership](#)



Upstream



Oct. 15: Yoga at the Birdwing

What could be sweeter than savasana at the Birdwing? Led by Susan McCrea, our free yoga class meets from 10 to 11 a.m. on the third Sunday of each at the Birdwing Open Air Classroom. Bring water and a yoga mat and park at the ranger station at 15648 San Andres Drive, Del Mar.

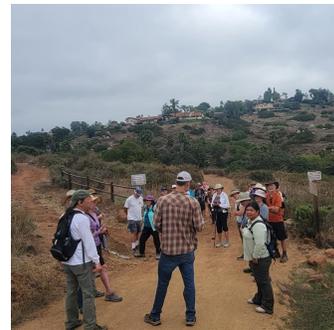
[Details](#)

Downstream



Walk N Talk at Sikes Adobe and RB

Our monthly Walk N Talk hike Sept. 14 took us from Sikes Adobe to the base of Bernardo Summit.





Grape Day Festival

Sage, the rescued rosy boa, was a great conversation starter during the Grape Day Festival Sept. 9 in Escondido. We delivered a conservation message together with rangers from San Dieguito River Park JPA.





Coastal Cleanup Day

During the 39th Annual I Love a Clean San Diego Coastal Cleanup Sept. 23, an upbeat crew of volunteers joined us to remove debris and invasive plants while also planting native species along the east basin of San Dieguito Lagoon.





Del Mar Foundation Picnic

A big thanks to Del Mar Foundation for welcoming us to their community picnic Sept. 17 at Powerhouse Park. Thanks to a gift from the Foundation, we were able to provide wonderful giveaway items to guests.



High Tech Elementary visits Sikes Adobe

We're always excited to welcome students, parents and staff from High Tech Elementary to Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead.



During a tour of Salk Institute for Biological Studies, Associate Professor Julie Law (second from left) shows specially propagated seedlings to Joseph Rivera, Debbie Croft, Crystal Crawford and Kim Godwin.

Coast to Crest Trail Challenge



Repeat Challenger: Susie Kara

Year 7 Coast to Crest Trail Challenge

Have you started the Year 7 Coast to Crest Trail Challenge?

Complete the five hikes in any order, however and whenever you'd like.

This year, we're pairing each hike with a monthly Walk N Talk.

You can hike with the group, go solo, with spouses, sweethearts, besties, kids, dogs or any combination of the above. Send us your selfies!

Find details on the Year 7 C2C Challenge Webpage.

The five hikes (and Walk N Talk dates) are:

- HIKE 1: San Dieguito Lagoon Trail (July 13).
- HIKE 2: Santa Fe Valley (Aug. 10).
- HIKE 3: Sikes Adobe to the base of Bernardo Summit (Sept. 14).
- HIKE 4: Santa Ysabel Lower Truck Trail (Nov. 9).
- HIKE 5: Pamo Valley (Dec. 14).



**Patch by Canyon Crest Academy student
Chaehong Yun.**

**Year 7 C2C Challenge
Webpage**



George Okada



Chris Griffith



Daniel Fernandez

River Park News



Original Builder Applies TLC and Fresh Paint to Kiosk

The Dust Devil Nature Trail kiosk and the Boy Scout who built it have come a long way since 2012. That's when Andy Smetana of Troop 616 built the structure.

"I was excited to have the opportunity to build something that would help all those visiting the area," he said.

Young Andy went on to become an Eagle Scout and graduate from Canyon Crest Academy High School and Appalachian State University. Today, he lives in Washington DC and works as a contractor for the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Back home, members of his family continue to send him pictures of the kiosk which, after 11 years, needed some TLC. During a recent visit, Andy was happy to oblige.

"The structure itself is still solid," he said. "It just needed to be cleaned up with a fresh coat of paint. After a couple hours of work, the kiosk looked good as new. I hope the kiosk continues to stand tall for years to come and benefit all visiting the park."

Oct. 8: Monthly Trail Maintenance

Work with rangers to improve the trails and restore native habitats from 9 a.m. to noon Oct. 8 in Escondido. Meet at the Ysabel Creek Trailhead Staging Area, 16414 Ysabel Creek Rd.

We'll provide tools, training and work gloves. Please bring drinking water, sun protection and wear sturdy, closed-toed shoes. We can't wait to see you!

Contact: leana@sdrp.org

Oct. 28: Outdoor Safety Training

David Shorey, a certified Wilderness First Responder and First Aid Instructor, will lead an outdoor safety training session from 10 to 11 a.m. Oct. 28 at Escondido Library, 239 S. Kalmia St., Escondido.

Shorey, of Kit Fox Outfitters in Ramona, will cover the basics on how to prepare for various environments in San Diego County.

Contact: calei@sdrp.org

Antique Sewing Machine on Display at Sikes Adobe

Strategically placed next to a bright window in the east side porch of the Sikes Adobe is an antique Singer Manufacturing Company sewing machine.

[Open Full Story](#)



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Photo: John Weare

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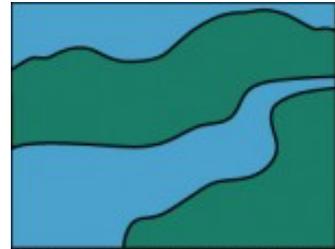
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RIVER VALLEY**



CONSERVANCY

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