

# Friends of Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Hikes and Volunteer Opportunities January, February, March 2012

## Every month

### **Wildlife Tracking Walk**

**Sat. 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. Jan. 14, Feb. 11, Mar. 10**

Everyone is invited to join an SDTT tracker for a free, easy introductory tracking walk to learn about the art of tracking and the Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve. Look for tracks, scat, and further evidence that coyotes, bobcats, raccoon, deer and other wildlife have been in the area! Information at [www.sdtt.org](http://www.sdtt.org). Meet at the Historic Adobe Ranch House on Canyonside Park Drive and Black Mountain Road, Rancho Peñasquitos.

### **Volunteer Weed Warriors**

**Sun., 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Jan. 22, Feb. 26, Mar. 25**

Volunteers needed to help control invasive weeds throughout the preserve! Community service credits available. Meet at the Rangers station office 12115 Black Mountain Road (same driveway as Canyonside Stables). Call Ranger John Garwood at 858-538-8066 for more info.

## Every two months

### **Black Mountain Open Space Park Citizens Advisory Committee**

**Thurs., 6:30 p.m. Jan 12, Mar 8**

Public is welcome to attend this meeting to plan park activities. Meet in the Canyonside Recreation Center at Black Mountain Road and Canyonside Park Driveway, Rancho Peñasquitos.

### **Peñasquitos Canyon Citizens Advisory Committee**

**Thurs. 6:30 p.m. Jan. 19, Mar. 15**

Public is welcome to attend this meeting to plan park activities. Meeting is at the Historic Adobe Ranch House on Canyonside Park Driveway and Black Mountain Road, Rancho Peñasquitos.

### **Friends of Peñasquitos Canyon Board of Directors**

**Tues., 7 p.m. Jan. 3, Mar 6**

Members are welcome to attend this business meeting to plan Friends' activities. Meeting is at the historic Adobe Ranch House at Black Mountain Road and Canyonside Park Driveway, Rancho Peñasquitos.

## Quarterly

### **Beginning Tracking Wildlife Surveys**

**Sat. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Jan. 14**

This class prepares you to participate in surveys that monitor the wildlife in major open space preserves and other critical areas. Topics include basic recognition and identification of animal tracks and other signs, introduction to track patterns and gaits, wildlife journaling, an overview of the survey protocol, and more! Classroom time is supplemented with plenty of time in the field ("dirt time").

This training is required for survey volunteers and also serves as a prerequisite for the Intermediate Tracker/Naturalist class. After this training, students are expected to participate in at least one SDTT wildlife survey. Preregistration is not required for individuals, but requested for groups. The \$25 fee includes a number of valuable reference materials. Dress prepared to spend time outdoors and bring a sack lunch and water. Also, please bring your calendar to sign up for transects. For more information: 760.715.4102 or [www.sdtt.org](http://www.sdtt.org). Meet at the Historic Adobe Ranch House on Canyonside Park Driveway and Black Mountain Road, Rancho Peñasquitos.

### **Intermediate Tracking for Wildlife Surveys**

**Class: Wed. 7- 9 p.m. Mar. 14**

**Field: Sat. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Mar. 17**

This class expands on the beginning training and includes recognition and interpretation of tracks and sign on a variety of surfaces. There are exercises in speculative tracking, aging, soil dynamics, debris interaction, trailing, mammal skull and dental identification, and tracking on various substrates. Additional gait interpretation is covered. Cost: \$50 (\$10 discount for SDTT or Friends members). Pre-registration required. Go to [www.Peñasquitos.org/classes.htm](http://www.Peñasquitos.org/classes.htm) for more information or e-mail [lpitt@cox.net](mailto:lpitt@cox.net) to register.

## January

### **Miner's Loop Trail Walk, Black Mountain Open Space Park**

**Sat., Jan. 21, 9 - 11 a.m.**

Join hike leader Arne Johanson to hike the Miner's Loop trail on the north face of Black Mountain Park. Meet at the parking staging area at 14850 Carmel Valley Road, about 1/4 mile east of the intersection with Black Mountain Road in Rancho Peñasquitos.

### **Volunteer Planting Project**

**Sat., Jan. 21, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Volunteer planting to restore a Friends of Peñasquitos owned canyon. Bring gloves, water and sun protection. Community service hours available. Groups RSVP to Mike Kelly at 858-342-8856 or email [mkelly1@san.rr.com](mailto:mkelly1@san.rr.com). Meet on Waterford Street at Adobe Bluffs. Park on Waterford. St.

### **Vernal Pool & Flower Walk on Carmel Mountain**

**Sat. Jan. 21, 9 - 11 a.m.**

Tour one of San Diego's newest nature preserves with Diana Gordon. Learn about rare Southern maritime chaparral. See spring flowers and learn about vernal pool lifecycles. Meet at 4730 Fairport Way at Shorepoint Way in San Diego.

### **Lopez Homestead History Hike**

**Sun. Jan. 29, 3 - 4:30 p.m.**

Hike into Lopez Canyon with Will Bowen, PhD, to learn about the Old Lopez Homestead - a small turn-of-the century dairy farm. Visit the orchard, the Old Road, and see the remains of the barn, house, and milking station. Discover the importance of the Lopez Family in early San Diego history. Meet at the West end Parking Staging area.

## **February**

### **Vernal Pool & Flower Walk on Carmel Mountain**

**Sat, Feb 11, 9 a.m.—11 a.m.**

Tour one of San Diego's newest nature preserves with Diana Gordon. Learn about rare Southern maritime chaparral. See spring flowers and learn about vernal pool lifecycles. Meet at 4730 Fairport Way at Shorepoint Way in San Diego.

### **Volunteer Planting Project**

**Sat., Feb. 11, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m..**

Volunteer planting to restore a Friends of Peñasquitos owned canyon. Bring gloves, water and sun protection. Community service hours available. Groups please RSVP to Mike Kelly at 858-342-8856 or email [mkelly1@san.rr.com](mailto:mkelly1@san.rr.com). Meet at 13162 Dufresne Road, San Diego 92129

### **Miner's Loop Trail Walk, Black**

#### **Mountain Open Space Park**

**Sat., Feb 18, 9 - 11 a.m.**

Join hike leader Arne Johanson to hike the Miner's Loop trail on the north face of Black Mountain Park. Meet at the parking staging area at 14850 Carmel Valley Road, about 1/4 mile east of the intersection with Black Mountain Road in Rancho Peñasquitos.

### **Volunteer Planting Project**

**Sat., Feb. 25, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m..**

Volunteer planting to restore a site at the Peñasquitos Canyon waterfall. Bring gloves, water and sun protection. Community service hours available. Groups RSVP to Mike Kelly at 858-342-8856 or email [mkelly1@san.rr.com](mailto:mkelly1@san.rr.com). Meet at the west end of Park Village Road in Ranch Peñasquitos.

### **Carroll Canyon History Hike**

**Sun., Feb 26, 3 - 4:30 p.m.**

Hike with Will Bowen, PhD, to explore little known Carroll Canyon. Learn about Pueblo Lands, the coming of the railroad, and the ranch farms of Bonafacio Lopez, Pierre Bovet, Andrew Cassidy, and Max Dietrich. See large trunked oaks and an old cattle tunnel. Meet at the corner of Scranton and Carroll Canyon Road.

## **March**

### **Vernal Pool & Flower Walk on Carmel Mountain**

**Sat. Mar 10, 9 - 11 a.m.**

Tour one of San Diego's newest nature preserves with Diana Gordon. Learn about rare Southern maritime chaparral. See spring flowers and learn about vernal pool lifecycles. Meet at 4730 Fairport Way at Shorepoint Way in San Diego.

### **Tadpole and Fairy Shrimp Hike**

**Sun. Mar. 11, 4 - 5:30 p.m.**

Hike on Carmel Mountain with Will Bowen, PhD, to look for tadpoles and fairy shrimp in the road pools and puddles formed by the early Spring rains. Meet at the Carmel Mountain Trailhead, 4730 Fairport Way at Shorepoint Way.

### **Miner's Loop Trail Walk, Black**

#### **Mountain Open Space Park**

**Sat., Mar 17, 9 - 11 a.m.**

Join hike leader Arne Johanson to hike the Miner's Loop trail on the north face of Black Mountain Park. Meet at the parking staging area at 14850 Carmel Valley Road, about 1/4 mile east of the intersection with Black Mountain Road in Rancho Peñasquitos.

### **Volunteer Planting Project**

**Sat., Mar. 17, 9 a.m. -1 p.m.**

Volunteer planting. Site to be determined. Call Mike Kelly at 858-342-8856 or email [mkelly1@san.rr.com](mailto:mkelly1@san.rr.com) for details.

### **El Cuervo Adobe History Hike**

**Sun., Mar. 25, 4 - 5:30 p.m.**

Hike with Will Bowen, PhD, into the west end of Peñasquitos Canyon for an intimate look at the ruins of the "El Cuervo" Adobe. Learn about the Alvarado family who lived there. We will also take a short side hike to see Norwood Brown's old cattle roundup corral. Meet at the parking lot at 4206 Sorrento Valley Blvd.