



## Friends of los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve

April 2017

### Early Schedule of 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr. Events

#### Walks

##### Lusardi Canyon Flower Safari

Sat. April 1, 8:30 a.m.

Take a hike with a Ranger to search for wildflowers in beautiful Lusardi Canyon. On this intermediate 3 mile hike we will learn about plant communities and plant families and view evidence of recent storm damage. Meet at the parking area on the west side of Camino del Sur between Cerro del Sur and Paseo del Sur, San Diego, CA 92127. Leashed dogs are welcome on this hike. For more information call the Black Mtn. Ranger Office: (858) 538-8021.

##### Vernal Pool Walk with Mike Kelly

Sat., April 8, 9 – 11 a.m.

Vernal pools are our most endangered habitat. Learn about them and the *extremophile* plants and animals that live in them. Enjoy the endangered San Diego Mesa Mint and the *Downingia cuspidata* and other flowers and amphibians. Meet at 11125 Taloncrest Way, San Diego, 92121. Contact Mike Kelly at [mkelly1@san.rr.com](mailto:mkelly1@san.rr.com) if you have any questions.

##### Nature and Lichens Walk with Les Braund in Eastern Peñasquitos Canyon

Sat., April 15, 8-10 a.m.

Join Les Braund, former president of the S.D. Mycological Society, to see a variety of lichens and other things of natures on this easy walk. Bring water and sun protection. This is the first walk in many years into the eastern Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve. Meet at the equestrian center at 12115 Black Mtn., S.D. 92129. After entering the center take the first right to park by the old Trailers.

#### Restoration Projects

##### Ranger John's Graffiti Warriors

Sun., April 9, 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.

##### Black Mtn. Open Space Restoration

Sun., April 9, 1 - 4 p.m.

Join us for a restoration work party. We'll be planting native plants and watering plants put in the ground on earlier events. Community service credits available for students. Call Mike Kelly for more info at 858-342-8856 or email [mkelly1@san.rr.com](mailto:mkelly1@san.rr.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., April 15, 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/ef01a2-fd5d-40e9-a8d0-78324d817ec7>).



*Some of the 57 Girl Scouts and their families helping us plant native March 26. Friends volunteers Beth Mather, Cindy Burrascano, Mike Kelly, Esther Hsueh, and Matt Urely worked with the scouts. The Total Raptor Experience (TReX) provided an intermission educational show with 4 live types of raptors. Photo by Mike Kelly.*



## Friends of los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve

April – June 2017

### Schedule Update of 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr. Events

#### Special New Event

##### Ride with a Ranger.

Sun., June 11, June 25, July 9, July 23, August 6,  
August 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

##### Peñasquitos Fiesta Street Fair

Sun., May 7, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help the Friends staff our booth at this annual fair. Help give out hike flyers and other educational materials to the public about the Preserve. Email Mike at [mkelly1@san.rr.com](mailto:mkelly1@san.rr.com) to sign up.

##### Ranger John's Graffiti Warriors

Sun., May 14 and June 11, 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.

##### Black Mtn. Open Space Restoration

Sun., April 23, May 14, June 11, 1 - 3 p.m.  
Join the Friends of los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve for a restoration work party. We'll be planting native plants and watering plants put in the ground on earlier events. Community service credits available for students. Email Mike Kelly for more info at [mkelly1@san.rr.com](mailto:mkelly1@san.rr.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., May 20 and June 17, 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>).

#### Walks

##### Tour for All People.

Sat., April 29 and May 27 at 9:30 a.m.

Join a City Ranger for a tour of the Jas Arnold Trail for All People, San Diego's first wheelchair accessible trail. At this ¼ mile trail participants will learn about the plants, animals, and geology of Black Mtn. Open Space Park. Meet at Miner's Loop Trail Parking Lot at 14895 Carmel Valley Rd. at Valle del Sur.

##### Waterfall & History Walk w Mike Kelly

Sat., May 6, 9 – 11 a.m.

Join naturalist Mike Kelly on this easy walk to the waterfall and back. Learn about habitats, wildlife, and geology. Visit the historical location of the old immigrant trail, the first transcontinental mail route, and the Kit Carson crossing. Bring water and sun protection. Meet near 7107 Park Village Rd., SD 92129.

##### Nature Walk with Les Braund

Sat., May 20, 8-10 a.m.

Join Les Braund for an easy nature walk. Bring water and sun protection. Meet at the kiosk at Park Village Rd. and Camino del Sur in Rancho Peñasquitos.

### **Full “Strawberry Moon” Walk**

June 8, 7:15 p.m.

Join a Black Mountain Ranger for a hike up the Nighthawk Trail to Black Mountain Peak. We will view the “Strawberry Moon” and learn about astronomy and Native American legends. This free event is recommended for intermediate hikers. We will be walking a total of 4 miles on rocky and uneven surfaces with an elevation gain of 900 feet. Please bring a flashlight, water, warm clothes, and sturdy shoes. Meet at Hilltop Community Park, 9711 Oviedo Way, San Diego, CA 92129. Friendly, leashed dogs are welcome. Call the Ranger office for more information: (858) 538-8021.

### **Nature Walk with Les Braund**

Sat., June 10, 8-10 a.m.

Join Les Braund for an easy nature walk. Bring water and sun protection. Meet at the kiosk at Park Village Rd. and Camino del Sur in Rancho Peñasquitos.

### **Wildlife Night Hike with Mike Kelly Sat., June 17, 7:30 p.m.**

A moderately paced walk 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. Meet at the kiosk near the corner of Park Village Road and Camino del Sur Rd. in Rancho Peñasquitos, 92129.

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

Sat., June 24. 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.

## **Other Events**

### **Advanced Tracker/Naturalist Class Part 2 (field session)**

Sat., May 20, 8–4 p.m.

As the culmination of the three part Tracker Natural series, this class concentrates on fine detail and further development of your profi-

ciency as a tracker. We provide significant dirt time experience to further develop your track identification, interpretation and aging abilities to help you expand your knowledge base, point out areas you need to work on and give you a taste for what it would be like to go through a tracker evaluation. A detailed discussion of track patterns and gaits will be presented. Prerequisite: Intermediate classroom session + Intermediate field session. Visit [www.sdtt.org](http://www.sdtt.org) for details.

## **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.

## **Every Two Months**

### **Friends’ Board of Directors Meeting**

Tues., May 2, 2017 at 7 p.m.

Friends’s members are welcome to attend these planning meetings for our varied activities. At the ranch house at Canyonside Park Driveway off 12020 Black Mtn. Rd., San Diego 92129.

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

Thurs., May 11, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Public is welcome to attend these planning meetings which advise Park officials on park matters. Meet in the Canyonside Recreation Center located on Canyonside Park Driveway off 12020 Black Mtn. Rd., San Diego 92129.



Ranger Carey interprets for hike participants.