



# TRAIL NEWS

A publication of the

**Santa Cruz Mountains Trail Association**

...building...maintaining...hiking...riding

the trails of Santa Cruz Mountains parks

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Santa Cruz Mountains Trail Association • P.O. Box 1141 • Los Altos, CA 94023 •

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## Featured Hike

Come and join Mark Bowden as he leads us on the Wilder Ranch hike coming up on October 31st. It's a lovely hike that we will find ourselves first strolling through the redwoods and ocean hillsides with spectacular views of the ocean.

He will then take us through Wilder Ranch where we will learn a little history about early ranchers and farmers along the Central Coast. The site was actually originally the main ranch supplying Santa Cruz Mission. It later became a successful and innovative dairy ranch. Surrounding grounds include Victorian homes, gardens, and historic adobe. They have restored this site and it has been extremely successful. Since 1994, the agricultural fields have been returned to wetland and riparian habitats with their native tree, shrub and plant species. Wetland birds, and hawks nest in habitat that formerly was farmland. Red-legged frogs and other wetland animals have moved into the area.

Traditionally, as an added thrill we walk along the cliffs at the end of our hike beside the spent pumpkin and brussel sprout fields. I've even seen a poor rejected pumpkin sneak into someone's backpack to go home and become a successful jack-o-lantern! A perfect ending for Halloween.

Hope to see you!

A gentle reminder that everyone's annual dues were due on July 1.

### **Support Our Trail Maintenance Groups**

If you enjoy hiking our trails, please help maintain them.

Big Basin:	Oct. 9, Nov. 13 and Dec. 11	leader Jeff Bleam -	(831) 338-0774
Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail:	Oct. 9, Nov. 13 and Dec. 11	leader Al Lisin -	(408) 252-8106
Castle Rock:	Oct. 16, Nov. 20 and Dec. 18	leader Martin Donald -	(650) 966-1984

Our web site is <http://www.scmta-trails.org>

# 2 TRAIL NEWS



For all hikes: Bring lunch, liquid and clothing appropriate for the season (summer fog, winter rain).  
For trail maintenance: Wear long pants, boots, and long sleeved shirt and bring gloves, lunch and liquid.

**October 3, Sunday: San Francisco**— Hike from Lands End Parking Lot in San Francisco, by the Cliff House, to Golden Gate Bridge and back. 8.5 mile loop. Meet at the parking lot at 9:30. There are several restaurants for lunch in the area after the walk. Since this is the last day of the Susan Koman 3Day Breast Cancer walk, I will be driving to the Marina Green and cheering in walkers who will be finishing their 60 mile walk in three days, if anyone would like to join me. Nancy Davidson, cell 650 575-5889. Carpool from Edgewood Park&Ride at 8:15 or no-host at Page Mill P&R at 8:00.

**October 9, Saturday: Big Basin Trail Maintenance**— Meet Jeff Bleam at park headquarters at 9:00 AM for some hands-on trail work. This group meets the second Saturday of each month. Call (831) 338-0774.

**October 9, Saturday: Trail Maintenance - Skyline to the Sea Trail**— Al Lisin, (408) 252-8106, leads a group that maintains the Skyline to the Sea Trail. This group also meets on the second Saturday of the month. The group meets at 9:00 AM. Please call Al for meeting place (which changes).

**October 10, Sunday: San Francisco, Marin - fleet week hike**— Hike a 5 mile loop before lunch on Bobcat and Miwok trails. Afternoon options include hiking a 4 mi loop or hike to Hawk Hill or drive to Fort Baker to watch the Blue Angels. No-host carpool at Page Mill & 280 at 8:15 AM or meet at the Marin Headlands Visitor Center at 9:30 AM. Leaders: Carolyn Courtney and Mary Ellen Quinn. Call Carolyn at 408-379-1853 for questions.

**October 16, Saturday: Castle Rock State Park Trail Maintenance**— The third Saturday of every month Martin Donald leads trail work in the Castle Rock area. Meet at Saratoga Gap parking lot at 9:00 AM. Call Martin at (650) 966-1984. Bring boots and gloves, lunch and liquid. Tools are supplied but bring your own favorites if you prefer.

**October 17, Sunday: Sweeney Ridge starting at Shelldance Nursery**— Mori Ridge & Baquiano Loop 7.0 mile round trip with 1400 foot gain to Portola Discovery site and west to Cattle Hill and back. Visit the orchid gardens or do an alternate hike to Mori Point on way back, 3.0 miles RT. Carpool at Meridian & Parkmoor Post Office at 08:30 or 280/Page Mill Park & Ride at 08:45; or meet at trailhead: Shelldance Nursery Parking Lot at 09:30. Valerie Chataignier (408) 292-2725/966-1598 cell, Mary Ellen Quinn (408)885-0184.

**October 24, Sunday: Redwood Regional (Oakland)**— A 8-9 mile loop on French trail and Stream trail. Carpool at Meridian & Parkmoor PO at 8:30 AM or meet at the Skyline Gate trailhead at 9:30 AM. Leaders: Carolyn Courtney and Mary Ellen Quinn. Call Mary Ellen at 408-885-0184 for questions.

**October 31, Sunday: Wilder Ranch State Park**— Moderate hike, 10 miles. Meet at 8:30 in Los Gatos, municipal parking lot to carpool; or at the main Wilder Ranch parking lot on Highway 1. There is open space and redwoods, also a 3 to 4 mile walk along the ocean cliffs. Call Mark Bowden for details (408)\_735-8736.

**November 7, Sunday: Henry Coe State Park**— Meet at Coe park headquarters at 9:30 AM. The hike is China Hole ( Madrone Soda Springs Trail and China Hole Trail ), starting at headquarters. Elevation is 1400'. No-host carpooling at 8:30 at Cottle/85 park-and-ride. Tom Groenbeck (408) 599-0699 cell.

**November 13, Saturday: Big Basin Trail Maintenance**— Join Jeff Bleam again for some more enjoyable trail maintenance at Big Basin. *See October 9 entry for details.*

# 3 TRAIL NEWS



**November 13, Saturday: Trail Maintenance - Skyline to the Sea Trail**— Call Al Lisin at (408) 252-8106 for more information.

**November 14, Sunday: Monte Bello Open Space Preserve**— Enjoy beautiful views as we go up Black Mountain and along the ridge on this 10-mile, out-and-back hike to the Ridge Winery. Anyone who is interested is invited to participate in a potluck picnic: just bring your choice of finger food or picnic food to share! We will plan our winter hike schedule over lunch, so please bring your calendar and your ideas for January, February, or March hikes. Carpool at 9:10 from Page Mill / 280 Park and Ride. Leader is Cathy Howard (650) 966-1850.

**November 20, Saturday: Castle Rock State Park Trail Maintenance**— Meet at Saratoga Gap parking lot at 9:00 AM. Call Martin Donald at (650) 966-1984. *See October 16 entry.*

**November 21, Sunday: Tilden Regional Park (Berkeley)**— A 9 mile loop visiting Wildcat peak, Rotary peace grove & Lake Anza. Carpool at Meridian & Parkmoor PO at 8:15 AM or meet at the Visitor Center parking lot at the end of Canon Dr at 9:30 AM. Leaders: Carolyn Courtney and Mary Ellen Quinn. Call Carolyn at 408-379-1853 for questions.

**November 28, Sunday: El Corte de Madera Creek OSP**— We will hike the Giant Salamander trail which is now open and the hike will be around 10 miles: promise. Carpool at Hwy 280/PageMill park&ride at 8.45 or meet at Skeggs Point parking lot at 9.30. Vivian Jung (408) 238-3388. Heavy rain cancels.

**December 5, Sunday: Joseph D. Grant County Park**— Meet at the parking lot near the ranch house at 9:30 AM. This hike, 10-12 miles. will visit the Los Huecos, Cañada de Pala, Pala Seca and Halls Valley trails. Lunch at the Line Shack. Rain cancels. Steve Braley (408) 981-9753. Carpool from Rengstorff / Middlefield at 8:30 or and 280 / N.

Meridian at 8:45.

**December 11, Saturday: Big Basin Trail Maintenance**— Meet Jeff Bleam (831) 338-0774 at park headquarters at 9:00 AM. *See October 9 entry.*

**December 11, Saturday: Trail Maintenance - Skyline to the Sea Trail**— Call Al Lisin (408) 252-8106 for more information.

**December 12, Sunday: Don Edwards Wildlife Refuge**— 6 - 8 miles easy stroll. Meet at Meridian/Parkmoor off 280 by post office for car pool meet up at 9:00am or at trail head at 9:30 for directions go to; <http://www.fws.gov/desfbay/directions.htm>. Rain will not cancel, just bring an umbrella, binoculars and lunch. Ellen 408-892-2461

**December 18, Saturday: Castle Rock State Park Trail Maintenance**— Meet at Saratoga Gap parking lot at 9:00 AM. Call Martin Donald at (650) 966-1984. *See October 16 entry.*

**December 19, Sunday: Almaden/Quicksilver CountyPark**— Hicks/Wood Road Entrance: 10.5 mile hike starting at the Hicks/Wood Road Entrance. Starting at a higher elevation, this hike has less elevation gain, and is moderately difficult. A loop on Wood Road trail, Randol trail, Mine Hill trail, Castellero trail, and returning Wood Road trail. Hike route subject to change. Rain cancels. Carpool from VTA lot at Camden and 85 at 9:00 AM or meet at Park entrance (lot on left side of road, going South on Hicks Road) at 9:30. Call Janet McCarron for more information at (408)245-1519.

**December 26, Sunday: Henry Coe State Park**— This will be the easier-than-usual Coe hike. We take the Fish Trail to Middle Ridge, then down to Frog Lake for lunch, returning on the Flat Frog Trail: perhaps leaving time for a visit to El Toro brew pub. Distance is only 8 miles. Meet at park HQ at 9:30 or at Rengstorff and Middlefield at 8:00 or Cottle and 85 at 8:30. Call Martin Donald (650)\_966-1984.

SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS TRAIL ASSOCIATION  
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

	Regular member	\$10.00	
	Couples at same address	\$15.50	
	Sponsor	\$40.00	

New      Renew

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

State and zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Clip and mail to: Santa Cruz Mountains Trail Assn., P.O. Box 1141, Los Altos, CA 94023-1141

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### FIRST CLASS

*The SCMTA membership year runs from July 1 - June 30. The date above your name and address indicates when your dues need to be paid. Thank you!!*

**ACTIVITY SCHEDULE**

OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, 2010

