



# 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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## IT'S MUSHROOM TIME AGAIN



After our hike at The **Forest of Nisene Marks State Park** on Sunday January 11 we hope to visit the Santa Cruz Fungus Fair at Louden Nelson Community Center (at the corner of Laurel and Center Streets, Santa Cruz).

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

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

Big Basin:	Jan. 10, Feb. 14 and Mar. 14	leader Jeff Bleam -	(831) 338-0774
Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail:	Jan. 10, Feb. 14 and Mar. 14	leader Al Lisin -	(408) 252-8106
Castle Rock:	Jan. 17, Feb. 21 and Mar. 21	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.

**January 4, Sunday: Mt. Tamalpais**— Marin hike from Pantoll Ranger Station. Hike the Matt Davis Trail down to Stinson Beach and return on Steep Ravine Trail with our lunch at the beach — about 8 miles. Marin rain cancels the hike. Meet at Page Mill & 280 at 8:15 or Pantoll Ranger Station at 9:30. Toni Bassett, 650-948-7344.

**January 10, 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.

**January 10, 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. Meet at Saratoga Gap at 9:00 AM.

**January 11, Sunday: Forest of Nisene Marks State Park**— A loop of 10 miles, up the West Ridge Trail, over to Maple Falls and then back down the Loma Prieta Trail. Meet at George's Picnic Area at 9:30, at Page Mill Road and 280 at 8:00 or at the Municipal Parking Lot at Los Gatos at 8:30. Call Todd Patterson for details. (831) 239-6618. We may shorten the hike somewhat so as to make time to visit the Santa Cruz Fungus Fair.

**January 17, 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.

**January 18, Sunday: Sam McDonald and Pescadero Creek County Parks**— A moderate 10 mile hike. Meet at the ranger station at Sam McDonald Park at 9:30 AM or join us for an overnight at the Hikers Hut in Sam McDonald on January 17. The first 11 people to contact Mark are guaranteed a spot. For more info call Mark

Bowden at (408) 735-8736.

**January 25, Sunday: Stanford and The Dish**— This will be about an 8-mile hike, starting with a climb up to the Dish, lunch at Tressider Union (you can bring your own), and a hike through parts of campus. Be ready to leave from the Stanford Shopping Center at 9:30. Meeting place between Nordstrom's and Crate and Barrel at the tiled square. No parking on front of Andronico's and the Barn. Call Don Farrell at (650) 327-6863. Rain or shine.

**February 1, Sunday: Big Basin Redwoods State Park**— We will hike the Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail to Berry Creek Falls then return by Sunset Trail. This is a moderately strenuous hike of about 11 miles. Meet for carpooling, 8:15 at Page Mill & 280 or 8:45 behind La Fondue at Saratoga. Call Martin Donald (650) 966-1984.

**February 8, Sunday: Baylands and Stevens Creek Trail**— This will be a true flatlander's hike, the highest elevation being the pedestrian bridge over Central Expressway and the Caltrain tracks. Meet behind the Tied House pub in Mountain View at 9:15 for a car shuttle to Byxbee Park by the old Palo Alto dump. We will hike Palo Alto Baylands, Mountain View Shoreline Park and the Stevens Creek Trail. The distance is about 10 miles and the leader is Martin Donald (650) 966-1984. Rain will cancel.

*After the hike we will plan next quarter's hikes over lunch at the Tied House, so please bring your calendar for April/May/June and your ideas for hikes you would like to lead.*

**February 14, Saturday: Big Basin Trail Maintenance**— Join Jeff Bleam again for some more enjoyable trail maintenance at Big Basin. See January 10 entry for details.

**February 14, Saturday: Trail Maintenance - Skyline to the Sea Trail**— Call Al Lisin at (408) 252-8106 for more information.

# 3 TRAIL NEWS



**February 15, Sunday: Uvas Canyon County park**— A seven mile hike including a 1 mile leisurely paced loop for photographing some beautiful waterfalls. Meet at the Park and Ride at 85 and Cottle at 8:45 AM or at the park entrance at 9:30.

**February 21, 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 January 17 entry.*

**February 22, Sunday: Purisima Creek Open Space Preserve**— We will meet at Page Mill/280 at 8:45. Hike starts at 9:30 from west entrance of the park located off Higgins Purisima Road, reached from Hwy. 1 just 1.2 miles south of its intersection with Hwy. 92 in Half Moon Bay. (I want to start from the bottom so we don't have to make that long hike uphill after lunch.) Judy Holmes (408) 379-3756.

**March 1, Sunday: Pacheco State Park**— Pacheco State Park. A moderate 10 mile hike. Expect to see spectacular wildflower displays. We will take the Dinosaur Lake Trail to Canyon Loop to South Boundary Loop and return on the Spikes Peak Trail. Meet at the parking lot near the park entrance off Dinosaur Point Road at 9:30 AM or carpool from the Park and Ride Lot at Cottle Road and Hwy 85 at 8:30 AM. Rain cancels. Call Janet McCarron at (408) 245-1519 for more information.

**March 8, Sunday: Santa Teresa County Park**— This will be a moderate hike to see early spring flowers. Carpool from Park and Ride (VTA) at Cottle and Hwy 85 at 9.00 or meet at the Stile Ranch trail head parking lot at the end of Fortini Rd. 9.30. Heavy rain will cancel the hike. Vivian Jung (408) 238-3388.

**March 14, Saturday: Big Basin Trail Maintenance**— Meet Jeff Bleam (831) 338-0774 at park headquarters at 9:00 AM. *See January 10 entry.*

**March 14, Saturday: Trail Maintenance - Skyline to the Sea Trail**— Call Al Lisin (408) 252-8106 for more information.

**March 15, Sunday: Pinnacles National Monument**— Our annual outing to the Pinnacles is always spectacular. We will do our usual hike of about 10 miles, going up to The High Peaks and returning via The Balconies. We will start early. Call Steve Braley (408) 981-9753 for time and place of carpooling.

**March 21, 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 January 17 entry.*

**March 22, Sunday: Butano State Park**— This moderate loop hike of about 11 miles is mostly through the redwoods. We'll hope to see early wildflowers, including trillium and hopefully Calypso orchids. Meet at Page Mill and 280 at 8:30 AM to carpool, or at the entrance kiosk at 9:30 AM. Leader is Cathy Howard (650) 966-1850.

**March 29, Sunday: Pleasanton Ridge Regional park**— Climb 1200' past giant oak, bay and sycamore groves to the ridge, viewing Livermore Valley and Altamont Pass to the east, Diablo and Sunol Parks to north and south, and a hidden canyon to the west. Continue north on the ridge and loop back for 10 miles total. Meet at 9:30 at the parking lot west of Fwy 680: Go 1/2 mi. W. from Castlewood Dr. exit, then 1/2 mi. S. on Foothill Rd or meet for carpooling at Rengstorff & Middlefield at 8:45. Led by Martin Donald, (650) 966-1984.

## Save these dates

**April 25 — TRAIL DAYS:** Trail days will be the fourth Saturday in April (as usual). Please leave that date free to help out the trail crews doing Trail maintenance.

August 12-16 Car camping at Grover Hot Springs with Vivian and Mark.

SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS TRAIL ASSOCIATION  
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Regular member	\$ 7.50	_____
Couples at same address	\$12.50	_____
Sponsor	\$30.00	_____

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State and zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## TRAIL NEWS

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### FIRST CLASS

*The current calendar date indicates when your dues need to be paid. For example, 02/01/09 means your dues expire on that date, 02/01/09*



**ACTIVITY SCHEDULE**  
JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH 2009