

Happy 20th Birthday!

SSMPA News

Santa Susana Mountain Park Association  
P.O. Box 4831 - Chatsworth, California 91313

MAY 1990

Editor: n. Razanski

SSMPA - May 21 - General Meeting - PROGRAM - 7:30 PM

The meeting will be highlighted by a slide presentation given by Siegfried Othmer of Save Open Space (S.O.S.). The slides will be of the Cheeseboro Park and Jordan Ranch area. Both sides of the controversial Bob Hope land transfer will be discussed. Refreshments will be served. Please plan to attend this most informative meeting at Glendale Savings, 21821 Devonshire St., Chatsworth.

#### PROPOSITION 117 UPDATE

The California Wildlife Protection Act (Prop. 117), was approved by L.A. City Council recently by a 10 to 0 vote. We are now waiting for a vote by the County Supervisors -- please call Mike Antonovich's office at 346-4470. If you live in Ventura County, please check to see if your City and County officials have yet approved this measure. Free bumper stickers will be available on a first come, first serve basis at the meeting!

#### S.E.A. UPDATE

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy decided at its May 7th meeting to hold a conference to discuss how to best enforce the Significant Ecological Areas (S.E.A.) laws. The SEA ordinances are the L.A. County's attempt to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The only trouble is that the County does not comply with its own ordinance. Most often, it is necessary to sue (as SSMPA has done). Joan Sander is responsible for initiating the idea.

#### COMPUTER! YEAH!

Jan has been busily cranking letters out on our new computer - just in time to be able to respond to the Hope controversy. Speaking of which, we need to generate some letters and phone calls to our Senators Cranston and Wilson, and Representative Elton Gallegly post haste! PLEASE ask them to support the purchase!

#### BOOTH AT NORTHRIDGE PARK JUNE 2 - 3RD

Call Jan at 884-9610 if you could help at our booth!

#### DOCENTS NEEDED

On hikes, at visitor center, and on nature-history walks for school children...please call Jan!



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of the Santa Susana Mountains  
Post Office Box 4831  
Chatsworth, CA 91313-4831

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DATED MATERIAL



Creatures can't write,  
but  
people can!



Senators Cranston/Wilson  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Representatives Gallegly/Beilenson  
House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

EXCERPTS FROM TIMES COLUMNIST, ROBERT A. JONES

"Hold Your Nose and Enjoy the View", which appeared in the Tuesday, May 8th issue, told of a woman from a land trust who once said, "Bob Hope is the key person in the mountains. He owns the biggest chunks, the best stuff. But forget it, Hope was suspicious of land trust deals. Hope only talked to developers."

Robert Jones asked her, "What would it take to get Hope to the table? She shrugged, 'some incredible deal' she said. Bob Hope is now at the table..."

Jones goes on to say that Hope wanted to develop Jordan Ranch, but needed access - the 59 acres belonging to the National Park Service near the entrance to Cheeseboro. "Stung by news stories that paint him as the scrooge of the Santa Monicas...he offers the S.M.Mtns Conservancy 5700 acres of land at three different sites. Two of the parcels would be transferred to the Park Service and the third would become a State Park. The State would have to pony up \$20 million for the site in the Santa Susana Mountains...

An evil deal...but a deal that we should take anyway. We should take it because, who's kidding whom, the Santa Monicas will never be a pure park. We lost that war a long time ago. The price of land in the mountains is now so high that no government can afford the major pieces...

That little piece of road was the leverage that brought a man to the table when he didn't want to be there at all. We may not be that lucky again..."

SSMPA agrees. This turn of events could make our 20 year dream of a Santa Susana Mountain Park (including the Santa Clarita Woodlands area) a very real possibility! We wish that there didn't need to be a trade off, but common sense tells us that the resources obtained in exchange far surpass those being relinquished. Two very significant sections of the wildlife corridor will be saved from development! And it is a great relief to know that Blind Canyon will not become a dump!

So numbers count in this game of politics. Please make your voice heard on our behalf. Call or write! There is a very strong opposition who have been quite effective in Washington DC in presenting their case. The politicians need your input. The National Park Service will be making a decision also.



If your label is dated 90-04 or earlier, it's time to renew.  
Thank you for your continued support!

*Membership Renewal*

DUES: \$10 individual, \$15 family, \$5 student/senior,  
\$25 contributing/business, \$100 life membership



Do you know someone who is interested in the SSMPA? Why not send us their address or phone number? We are eager to share the splendor of our mountains with new friends. If you should receive an extra copy of our newsletter, please pass it on. We are up against some tough opposition...we need some strong support!

Checks payable to SSMPA, P.O. Box 4831, Chatsworth, CA 91313

