



Danny's Skullcap- seen on Mt Calavera

Another huge thank you to James Dillane for our annual wildflower hike on Mt. Calavera. As always folks were having such a great time no one wanted to leave. Maybe next year we will have to plan this as a camp-out! And thanks to Mary Anne and Paige for all of their work coordinating this annual event.

### **SOS for Open Space – Saving the Natural Lands of Carlsbad**

Our grassroots campaign to save some of the priceless natural lands of Carlsbad is well underway- now we need you to take us over the top ! Four of the properties on the Citizen's Open Space Committee list are under threat of development- with recommendations for hundreds of more homes instead of open space. ( Quarry Creek, Kato/Manada, Murphy along Batiqitos Lagoon and Village H). Others all across Carlsbad remain at risk. Now is the time for your voice to be added to those of hundreds of other residents and say: We care about preserving these natural lands. We want some of those excess reserve funds we voted on in 2002 to be allocated to open space and trails. Please take a few minutes and **sign our on-line petition** at <http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/sos-for-open-space.html>

Then take a few more minutes and **forward this link to everyone you know in Carlsbad**. Let's make sure that everyone who cares about saving our natural lands signs the petition and has their voice heard! There will be critical community meetings to help lobby the Mayor and Council- we'll send out an action alert as soon as those dates are confirmed. And please let us know if you would like to get more involved with our campaign to save these natural lands- your help now could make a big difference.

### **Quarry Creek Project and Story Pole Naming Contest**

The judges are still pondering all of the names submitted for our contest to name those abominable poles that mark McMillin's proposed 656 homes in the Buena Vista Creek Valley just downstream from the sacred El Salto Waterfall. We'll issue a press release as soon as we have their decision. You can view these poles from the cul-de-sac along Haymar Dr, just past Mossey Nissan- or come to our event at the adobe on May 20th and get the full story. McMillin calls this project Quarry Creek- but we have gotten lots of other names for this project that will forever change this valley with its priceless natural, historical and cultural resources- one of the real treasures of Carlsbad.

### **May Activities**

**May 12 Sat 8:30 - 11:30 AM**

*Trail Volunteer Work session at Carlsbad Oaks North*

This is one of the regular monthly work sessions by the Carlsbad trail volunteers- open to the public. Work tasks will include trail erosion repairs, trash pick-up, placing signs and other as needed work. Wear sturdy work boots/shoes, a hat and bring your own water (tools, water and snacks will be available on site also). Community service credit provided. Check-in/ parking is at the small park next to the pump station. From I-5 take Palomar Airport Rd east. Turn Left on El Fuerte. Pump station/parking lot is about 1 mi on righthand side (just before Faraday). For more info contact Liz at 760-434-2978.

**May 16 Wed 7pm Social 7:30 pm Program**

*The Owls of Starr Ranch with Pete DeSimone*

This free program by Buena Vista Audubon will focus on one of our oldest vertebrates- going back 60m years- the owl. Pete will share his insights from 25 years of working with the owls on Starr ranch- a 4,000 acre Audubon reserve in Orange County. The BV Nature Center is located at 2202 S. Coast Highway in Oceanside, on the south side of the lagoon at the border of Oceanside/Carlsbad.

**May 19 Sat 1- 3 PM**

*Anstine Reserve Potluck*

The Anstine Audubon Nature Preserve is excited to offer a Community Pot Luck event. Bring a dish to share and join us for good food and good company. This community event is designed to bring the members of the Vista and surrounding communities together to meet and get to know each other and the Anstine Preserve. So cook up your favorite food and come on down. Meet a new friend or catch up with your neighbors. Please contact Rebecca Wilbanks @ (760) 295-1548 or [beckywilbanks@cox.net](mailto:beckywilbanks@cox.net) for more information.

**May 20 Sun 2 - 5 PM**

*Endangered Species Day at the Historic Marron Adobe*

This free special event will just be a good time at the old adobe- a little tour, a chance for a walk in the valley , enjoy some found art projects and exhibits about some of our special local critters, and kick back with Mel Vernon and friends for a country valley jam. What could be a better lazy Sunday afternoon- music, fresh air, history , critters and fun. There will be a collection of interesting silent auction items and a chance to take them home and help us preserve some of these priceless natural lands. So come on down and bring a few friends. To reach the Marron Adobe take the College exit of # 78 and head north. Take first right onto Haymar Plaza ( road goes in front of Mossey-Nissan and parallels # 78) . The adobe is about 7/10th of a mile west of College at the end of Haymar. Parking along both sides of Haymar.

**May 26 Sat 9 am - 12 noon**

*Wilderness Awareness Class*

The Anstine Audubon Nature Preserve will be offering an Introduction to Wilderness awareness class. Sat. May 26<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 12pm. In this 3 hour course you will learn outdoor safety, bird languages, uses for native plants and mammal track and sign. A \$15 donation is requested. If interested please contact please contact Rebecca Wilbanks @ (760) 295-1548 or [beckywilbanks@cox.net](mailto:beckywilbanks@cox.net) for reservations.

**Future Events :**

June 7 Thurs Carlsbad Citizen's budget workshop- tell them its time to reserve funds for open space

June 26 Tues Carlsbad adopts annual budget- let's make sure it includes funds for open space and trails.

Our all volunteer organization can't do what we do without your help. Your time, talent and donations can make a difference- right here in your own backyard. Donations can be made through our website at <http://www.preservecalavera.org/donate.html> or by mailing a check.

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