



The Mariposa

Winter 2006

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY PARKS' OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

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SLO COUNTY PARKS TAKES OVER COASTAL DUNES RV PARK

As of October 1, 2006, San Luis Obispo County Parks took over operations and management of Coastal Dunes RV Park. This 232 campsites RV park is located along Highway 1 in Oceano, California.

County Parks plans to keep campground operations status quo for the near future. The really good news is County Parks will have the opportunity to put revenue generated from the RV park back into the budget to help fund other recreational programs. In addition to camping, the RV park offers cable TV, a heated pool, dry storage for RV's, and is situated in a great location just minutes from Pismo State Beach. For information and reservations call (805) 781-5930.



SKATE PARK PASSES

Los Osos Skate Park passes are available through local merchants. Buy passes now at: AZ*HI*AZ*I*AM, Wavelengths, Central Coast Surfboards and Los Osos Boardshop. One-Day Pass is \$2 - 12-Entry Pass is \$20.



Passes make great stocking stuffers!

RECREATION PROGRAMS

YOGA AT THE SLO VETERANS HALL

Mondays & Wednesdays, starting January 8
Beginners: 5:15pm - 6:15pm
Continuing: 6:30pm - 7:45pm, (All levels welcome)
For more information call Shoosh at 772-3560

DOG OBEDIENCE AT EL CHORRO PARK

Wednesday Evenings
Session One: January 10 – January 31, 2007
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Contact instructor Janet Neumann for more information at 773-3269 or 610-1157

ARGENTINE TANGO AT THE SLO VETS HALL

Mondays 8:00pm – 10:00pm
\$4/class fee. For more information contact Rich Howe at 783-0596 or go online to www.slotango.org.



TENNIS AT NIPOMO COMMUNITY PARK

Tuesdays and Fridays beginning December 5, 2006, beginning to advanced level lessons are offered. Contact Davide Mascia at (805) 458-4008 for class times or visit our website at www.slocountypark.org

2007 ANNUAL PASSES AVAILABLE

Are you looking for a gift for someone who likes the outdoors? Are you a regular visitor to Lopez Lake or Santa Margarita Lake? If so...you may now purchase your 2007 Annual boat or vehicle pass at either lake facility. Boat or vehicle passes are \$70 each. Regional passes, which can be used at either lake, and all day use parks are \$105. Senior/ Disabled boat or vehicle passes are \$63 and Senior/Disabled regional passes are \$95. For more information, contact Lopez Lake at (805) 788-2381 or Santa Margarita Lake at (805) 788-2401.

2ND ANNUAL SKATE PARK BOARD BASH



On Sunday, November 19th, Cal Poly Recreation students and San Luis County Parks organized the 2nd Annual Skate Park Board Bash. The event raised \$1,000 to go towards Free Skate in 2007 at the Los Osos Skate Park. Skate passes are \$2 for one entry and \$20 for 12 entries.

Event activities included: a skate-off for kids 6 & under, competitions for all ages, food, two raffle drawings, and a live band. Thanks to all local businesses who donated items to our raffle and the Rotary club of Los Osos for donating the food.

If you are interested in making a donation or becoming a sponsor to provide free skating for the community, please contact Stacey King at (805) 781-4385.

UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS

Bob Jones Pathway – San Miguel Street to Avila Park:

This portion of the Bob Jones Pathway will extend the existing Class I bicycle path by a ¼ mile. Rather than end at San Miguel Street, the bicycle path/pedestrian corridor will extend to First Street on Avila Valley Resort property. A future traffic signal at First Street will provide a safer crossing than the current San Miguel Street location. On December 1, 2006, the County received a Coastal Permit and Minor Use Permit for the project. Construction is anticipated in late 2007.

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Parks and Recreation Element (PRE):

The County Planning Commission completed its review of the PRE on September 14, 2006. The Planning Commission made some minor changes, and on November 14, 2006, the Board of Supervisors conducted their first hearing of the Element. Almost a full-day hearing was held to discuss whether trails should be required when agricultural lands convert to urban uses. On December 19, 2006, the Board approved the Park and Recreation Element. The PRE, the project's final environmental impact report, and the Element's maps are available online at www.slocountyparks.org.

Santa Margarita Lake:

Visitors have set new camping records at Santa Margarita Lake. It is no wonder why this is occurring. This pristine natural area is becoming more popular with the following: new restroom and shower complex located near the swimming pool; a popular slate of events and activities; a full lake; always good fishing; a revamped Marina; first-rate multiple use trails adjacent to the lake, and coming soon a group camping area.

California Conservation Corp crews recently began the final phase of work on a new 5-mile backcountry trail on the north side of the lake. The challenging trail loops off the Blinn trail to the north and travels through pristine chaparral, spring watercourses, unique rock formation, and wildlife zones high above the lake. Although it is hot and dry in late summer, vernal pools and south-facing flowers make late winter an ideal time for a day or overnight visit to this area. This



trail, located on the recently acquired Bureau of Land Management property, pushes the recreation area over 10,000 acres in size.

www.SLOCountyParks.org

2007 SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY INSTANT REWARDS PROGRAM



Instant Rewards Benefits

Volume Card \$250.00

Adult Card \$135.00

Senior Card \$135.00

- Receive (3) Free Rounds – One at each county Golf Course
- Bring up to (3) Guests on Three Separate Occasions at your Green Fee Rate
- 10% Discount on Pro-Shop merchandise at Morro Bay & Dairy Creek

For more information, call the Golf Reservation Line at (805) 782-8060.

STUDENTS RE-CONSTRUCT 17TH TEE AT MORRO BAY GOLF COURSE

Cal Poly student interns, Joe Oles and Brittani Axtell, have completed a tee construction project on the 17th hole. In completing this project, the students gained experience in golf course design, irrigation, drainage design and installation, and construction techniques. This is all in keeping with Cal Poly's "learn by doing" motto. Now Morro Bay players have a beautiful new tee to enjoy on the golf course. Great work Joe and Brittani!

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

County Parks is looking for volunteers to help improve our parks. There are many different ways to volunteer including: trails work and patrol, ADOPT a Park program, Tree Planting and much more. Visit our website www.slocountyparks.org for more information.



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CAMPHOSTS NEEDED

All San Luis Obispo County Parks are in need of camphosts. Maintenance and clerical positions are currently available, and twenty hours per week of work will exchange for a designated host campsite. Please contact (805) 781-5930 for more information.

WELCOME OUR NEW EMPLOYEES

We are pleased to announce the addition of new staff members to County Parks.

Park Ranger II's:

Tim Archie – Lopez Lake

Christine Call – Lopez Lake

Logan Mitchell – Coastal Dunes

Lee Thompson – Coastal Dunes

Will Wilkerson – Coastal Dunes

Administrative Assistant II:

Ingrid Schuman – Lopez Lake

Groundskeepers

Steve Smith – Pecho District

David Ybarra – Pecho District



San Luis Obispo County Parks takes this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of Parks and Recreation and looks forward to providing enhanced services for our visitors. We wish you happy holidays and a New Year filled with quality park experiences.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS TO ALL!



www.SLOCountyParks.org



From the Manager's Desk

Regular readers of The Mariposa are probably aware that Parks staff and a number of dedicated volunteers have been working for six years on an update to this county's 1968 Recreation Element. That's right...our current Park's blueprint is 38 years old. Well, thanks to the efforts of a great many people, the County's Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted an update to that plan in December. The Parks and Recreation Element (PRE) lays out the roadmap for the next 20 years (hopefully not another 38 years) of developing parks, open space, recreation programs, trails, and much more. While there was a certain amount of misunderstanding about the nature of the plan, particular the proposed trails and associated policies, our Board recognized the value of such planning efforts. As was noted at the adoption hearing by Park Commissioner Pandora Nash-Karner, "the PRE is about shaping communities, providing for a livable county, and providing a desirable and lasting quality of life for generations."

Major projects like this don't just happen. Years of thoughtful planning, seemingly endless community meetings, draft after draft of rewritten policies, and compromise upon compromise were all part of the process. Perhaps most important, the countywide community which will be served by this plan was a major part of its success. Not only did the public provide major input into the projects desired for future recreation, they also helped to shape the policies that are the heart of the document. And when the time came for the Board to consider final adoption, those people showed up and spoke up to their elected officials about how important it is to plan for our future and the pressures of inevitable growth.

But no team can be successful without a leader. In this case, Senior Park Planner Jan Di Leo was the team leader who shepherded this project through a very trying six years. This community and future generations owe Jan a big thank you for her tenacity and professionalism. Without her, this plan might never have seen the light of day. Thanks, Jan!

Wishing you all a terrific 2007.

Pete Jenny, Parks Manager

Pete Jenny.....	Parks Manager
Ernie Del Rio.....	Parks Superintendent
Denis Philbin.....	Parks Superintendent
Ray Festa	Golf Course Superintendent
Jan DiLeo.....	Senior Park Planner
Shaun Cooper.....	Park Planner III
Stacey King.....	Park Operations Coordinator

Anna Diaz	Parks and SLO Vets Hall Reservations
Tom Massey	Morro Bay Golf Course Supervisor
Russ Krok	Dairy Creek Golf Course Supervisor
Chuck Lowe	Supervising Park Ranger, Pecho Dist.
Mark Wagner	Supervising Park Ranger, Mesa Dist.
Ken Klis.....	Supervising Park Ranger, Salinas Dist.
Don Melin.....	Supervising Park Ranger, Huasna Dist.



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