



COUNTY PARKS SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 28th & 29th

Scott Tinley Triathlon at Lopez Lake
Info: 238-8225

SEPTEMBER 28th

Too SLO Turtle & Tortoise Show at the SLO Vets Hall
Info: 528-5740

SEPTEMBER 29th

Century Bike Ride at Shamel Park
Info: 543-9514

OCTOBER 20th

SLO Blues Concert at the SLO Vets Hall
Info: 541-1837

OCTOBER 27th

Kid's Fishing Clinic at Lopez Lake
9am -12pm
Info: 788-2381

NOVEMBER 17th

Kid's Fishing Clinic at Lopez Lake
9am -12pm
Info: 788-2381

FAMILY EVENT

Come and join Cal Poly Recreation Students as they organize a first ever **"Family Fun Run" at Santa Margarita Lake** scheduled for **Saturday, November 17th**. Check the County Parks website often to get more details regarding the event or call 781-4385 for info.

To view our Special Events Calendar or photos from previous events go to our website at www.slocountyparks.org and click on either Special Events Calendar or Special Event Photos

UPGRADES TO BUNKERS AT CHALK MT GOLF COURSE BY RAY FESTA, GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT

Work began this week on the bunker renovations and tee box leveling project at Chalk Mountain GC under the direction of Golf Course architect Damian Pascuzzo. Over the next 6-8 weeks every bunker will be rebuilt to their original design with a new drainage system and sand. Several tee boxes are scheduled for re-leveling in the project as well. This comes on the heels of replacing all 850+ irrigation heads at the facility. Early response of the improvements by golfers is good: play in July was up 25% (899 rounds) over the same month in 2006.



☹ VANDALISM HITS HARDIE PARK ☹

Arson was to blame for the destruction of the Hardie Park playground in July. The evening blaze destroyed the entire play structure and surface as well as causing severe damage to the trees surrounding the children's play area. The investigation is still on-going.

DOGGIE SPLASH DAYS AT TEMPLETON POOL BY STACEY KING, PARK OPERATIONS COORDINATOR

The first ever Dog Splash Days at Templeton Pool on September 8 & 9 was a huge success thanks to the planning efforts of Paula O'Farrell and Parks-4-Pups. Over 200 dogs took part in the fundraising event. Tails were wagging, dogs were barking and having a "splashing good time." No dog owner had a dry piece of clothing when they left with their "best friend."

There were several dog lifeguards in the water helping some of the dogs who couldn't figure out how to get into or out of the pool. The therapists would call the dogs by name and reassure them it was ok. After a few timid attempts, the dogs figured it out and then....their fun began! There were also life jackets available for many of the dogs that needed a little bit of flotation help.

As it worked out there were multiple sessions for the dogs that lasted 45 minutes each. Enough time to catch some toys and stay cool.

Parks-4-Pups would like to thank the numerous sponsors and volunteers for making this event a splashing success.





RECREATION PROGRAMS

NEW

❖ **SCUBA DIVING** w/
CenCal SCUBA at
Hardie Park Pool. For
current class schedule
contact instructor
Chad Lortie at (805)
704-8468

❖ **SCOTTISH DANCE**
at SLO Vet's Hall
Thursday Evenings
Beginning Oct 11
Info: 528-8280

ON-GOING

❖ **YOGA** w/ Shoosh
at SLO Vets Hall
Mon's & Wed's
5:15pm Beginners
6:30pm Continuing
Info: 772-3560

❖ **Dog Obedience** at
El Chorro Park
Wednesday Nights
S7: 9/12 – 10/3
S8: 10/10 – 10/30
Info 610-1157

❖ **TENNIS LESSONS**
at Nipomo Park
Tuesdays & Fridays
Info: 458-4008

❖ **TANGO CLASSES**
at SLO Vets Hall
Monday Evenings
8:00 pm - 10:00pm
Info: 783-0596

❖ **AQUA AEROBICS**
at Hardie Pool
Tues & Thurs
Aug 28 – Nov 1
Info: 781-5930

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www.slocountyparks.org

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE SALINAS DISTRICT BY KEN KLIS, SUPERVISING RANGER

The Salinas District Parks Staff is currently working many projects and a few more will begin shortly. Here's a small sampling of some of these projects:

- This fall we'll be making repairs to the pool decks and plaster at Templeton and San Miguel Pools.
- There will be major repairs to the playground water feature at Heilmann Regional Park in Atascadero.
- Staff at Santa Margarita Lake have been creating a new group camping area that will accommodate up to 80 people and 20 vehicles. This site will have a fire ring, water and electricity as well as a shade structure and BBQ pit.
- Diseased tree removal and replanting continues at Santa Margarita Community Park.
- Final construction phase of the new Las Pilitas Trail will be completed soon. This trail will be accessible by boat or by hiking 4 miles in along the Blinn Trail.

PARKS' MENTORING PROGRAM CONTINUES BY ERNIE DEL RIO, PARKS SUPERINTENDENT

The mentoring program implemented as part of County Parks Succession Planning has proven to be a big success. For the last three months Parks management staff has been providing training opportunities to staff. We have completed the first rotation of phase I of the program and will be in the middle of the second rotation by the time this article is released.

The side benefit of having a successful Mentoring Program has resulted in increased communication with staff at all levels. Participants took their participation in the program seriously and as a result shared their experiences. In return staff began to ask more questions, management staff had them research and attain the knowledge to answer the questions and therefore the communication and dissemination of information improved. What does this mean? An informed and educated staff is more in line with the goals and objectives of the organization. The public is better informed and is provided better service. This translates into increased customer satisfaction. Customer satisfaction leads to increased visitation and increased visitation means more recreation opportunities for visitors and increased revenue flow for County Parks.

Wow! Who would have thought that such a simple concept to teach others about your job and prepare them for the future would have such great side effects.

County Parks is looking forward to implementing the second phase of the Mentoring Program which is to facilitate mentoring at the field Supervising Ranger level. It can be very challenging to Supervise staff and direct project activities. It will prove to be a great opportunity for those interested in upward mobility.

Stay tuned for more in this series!



INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

LOPEZ LAKE

- ❖ Erosion control
- ❖ Modification of campsites and group day use areas
- ❖ Upgrades for traffic control

EL CHORRO REGIONAL PARK

- ❖ Parks staff planted new cypress trees, native shrubs as well as a new irrigation system on both sides of the entrance into El Chorro Regional Park.

“Thank You” 2007 Aquatics Program Sponsors

- 3Ink Screenprinting
- Cayucos Candy Counter
- Cayucos Lioness Club
- Cayucos Lions Club
- Cayucos Pharmacy
- Cayucos Surf Company
- Good Clean Fun
- Morro Bay Surf Company
- Old West Kettle Korn
- San Miguel Lions Club
- Shandon Valley Lions Club
- Surfrider Foundation
- Templeton Lions Club
- Terry Moore, D.D.S.



AND, a very special “THANK YOU” to all of our Junior Lifeguard parents. Your help was greatly appreciated!

PROJECT UPDATES

BY JAN DILEO, SENIOR PARK PLANNER



Nipomo Park Master Plan

On March 22, 2007, the County’s Parks and Recreation Commission provided direction to Parks staff to finish the environmental document for Nipomo Community Park Master Plan. The draft environmental document should be available for public review in the fall of 2007. The project will be going back to the commission for a final recommendation in late 2007 or early 2008.

Bob Jones Bike Trail Between San Miguel Street and Avila Park

This portion of the Bob Jones Bike Trail would be located on Avila Golf Resort property and will extend the existing bike path by roughly one-quarter mile. The intent is to provide a safe crossing of Avila Beach Drive for bicyclists and pedestrians. The current bike path/pedestrian corridor crosses Avila Beach Drive at San Miguel Street which has a poor line-of-sight. The proposed project would move the current crossing from San Miguel Street to First Street. A traffic signal is planned at First Street. The project is grant funded.



At this point Parks is waiting for a permit from the California Coastal Commission. Once Coastal Commission approval is obtained construction of this one-quarter mile segment may begin. You can help by sending a letter to the California Coastal Commission indicating your support for the project. Letters of support should be sent to:

Jonathan Bishop, California Coastal Commission, 725 Front Street, Suite 300, Santa Cruz, CA 95060-4508. Make sure you reference the name of the project in your letter.

Trail Acceptance Countywide

Parks staff is currently putting together a list of outstanding trail offers countywide. If you are interested in hearing more about these offers, the Parks and Recreation Commission will be reviewing this item on October 25, 2007. The meeting starts at 6:00 pm and will be located at the San Luis Obispo Veterans Memorial Building located at 801 Grand Avenue, San Luis Obispo, CA.

BENCH & BIKE RACK DONATIONS

Every year County Parks receive dozens of donations which enhance our recreational facilities and public buildings. Some of these gifts come through volunteer efforts like the Adopt-a-Park program and others are financial contributions like purchasing a tree, bench or bike rack. If you are interested in purchasing a bench or bike rack please contact Anna Diaz at (805) 781-5930 or email her at adiaz@co.slo.ca.us.





From the Manager's Desk

In the weeks and months ahead you'll be hearing more about something called the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights (COBR). Reacting to growing concerns about the detachment of young people from outdoor activities and their lack of physical exercise, the California Roundtable on Recreation, Parks and Tourism has adopted the COBR as a way to encourage greater involvement in basic outdoor activities that were taken for granted by earlier generations. The list is pretty basic and includes things like camping under the stars, exploring nature, learning to swim and playing on a team. The objective is to provide an opportunity for every child in

California to experience these basic outdoor activities by the completion of their 14th year. On July 6, Governor Schwarzenegger issued a Proclamation recognizing the COBR. Your County Parks and our colleagues throughout the county will be raising the awareness of this issue in the coming months along with a series of opportunities for young people to experience outdoor activities of all types. Watch your local news and recreation providers for more on how to encourage our children to turn off the TV, put down the video game, and go outside to play.

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.....	MB & DC Golf Courses 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.