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June 28th

Dear Doreen Saylor:

In this news item, reporting the Sierra Club's very successful outing yesterday as part of the "Sunday in the Sand Dunes" series of outings, you will note that I have not used the name "Santa Lucia Group". I purposely did not mention the name of the group because our Santa Lucia Group Chairman, Mr. Lee Wilson of Arroyo Grande, phoned me last week and took me to task for putting the name of our Group in the announcement you published Wednesday June 23 about the outing of June 27.

There is no doubt in my mind that Mr. Wilson is mistaken when he took me to task -- because the sand dunes series of outings was passed on by our Santa Lucia Group Outings Committee, then it was passed on by the Los Padres Chapter Outings Committee, and then finally okayed by the Los Padres Chapter Executive Committee. So, what I am saying is that I sent you accurate material, and your paper printed it accurately. In fact, I liked your own editing of the material I sent - very much - and thank you, as always.

However, in order to reduce friction in our Group, I have left out of the attached news item any reference to the Santa Lucia Group.

You see, my appointment as "Sierra Club Coordinator for the Nipomo Dunes Preservation" campaign of the national Sierra Club, is a national appointment, directly from the national Board of Directors of the Sierra Club. And my instructions are to carry forward the campaign to the best of my ability, to keep in close touch with the national president of the Club, Dr. William E. Siri, at Sierra Club headquarters in San Francisco, and that I report directly to him -- My activities in behalf of working to "save the Dunes" are not under the jurisdiction of either the local Group nor under the tri-county chapter. However, of course the entire Sierra Club usually marshals its forces in a unified way in any cause which the national Club champions. So it is an unhappy situation that there actually is some friction locally about the "saving of the Dunes". Nevertheless, I constantly try to include the Santa Lucia Group in the total effort of the campaign. It was right to state that the outing on June 27 was a Group outing (and one in a series of Group outings), but - as I said above - in order to reduce friction which appeared, from our Chairman, Mr. Wilson, I have left the Group name out of enclosed report.

I like your page, The Family Page, and always read it. I very much like all your handling of the Sierra Club news.

I am not sure whether Doreen Case is still on vacation or not; but anyway, I have sent her a carbon copy of the enclosed news report.

Cordially,

Kathleen Jackson

From: Mrs. Kathleen Jackson - Sierra Club
1039 Chestnut St., Paso Robles
Phone: 238-4353

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 28, 1965

Family fun keyed the "Sunday in the Sand Dunes" outing conducted by the Sierra Club yesterday, June 27th, in the Oso Flaco area of the Nipomo Dunes.

Family groups totaling fifty persons turned out with the inviting beach weather, further to enjoy and to explore the Dunes.

Among the many children along, was infant Eric Outcalt, of Santa Barbara, age three months, probably the youngest participant yet to take part in a Sierra Club sand dune outing; he rode in a kiddie carrier on his father's back. His brothers: Greg, Kevin and Jeff, ages 3, 4 and 5, along with their mother, took the two and a half mile hike like veterans, including side excursions to slide some of the highest dunes. 13

A runner-up for the title of youngest participant was baby age ~~18~~ months John Putnam, also taking it the easy way in a kiddie carrier on the back of his dad, Dr. Charles Putnam, Sierra Club member of San Luis Obispo. Most of the children along were under ten. There was also a sprinkling of teenagers. One of the adults was an energetic lady of seventy-six.

Those present came from Ventura, Santa Barbara, Goleta, Santa Maria, Shell Beach, San Luis Obispo, Paso Robles, and one guest, David Argetsinger, was from Juneau, Alaska. None but the leaders had ever visited the Dunes before; all the newcomers were unanimous in their surprise and pleasure at the unusual beauty and recreation of the area.

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cc Bureau Case
Tel-Trib
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A high point in the surprises of the day was the finding of a perfect white arrowhead of native chert, by Dr. Arthur Butzbach, of San Luis Obispo, who made Mike Tomlinson of Goleta the proudest boy on the trip by giving him the treasure. Mike intends to consult the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History Indian Department about the find, as it is a rarity.

While the group rested in a grassy glade, under the shade of Wax Myrtle and Willow trees, eating snacks, Dr. Butzbach called attention to a Yellow Throated Warbler, an American Goldfinch, a brilliant Rufus-Sided Towhee, the bouncing song of the Wren Tit and two song sparrows.

Mr. Charles O. Blodgett, naturalist of San Luis Obispo, enriched the trip with information about where the dunes came from and described some of their special natural features, mentioning that the first time he ever visited the area he ~~estimated~~ ^{observed} 44 different plants, 20 different insects (including a weird hump-backed cricket, equipped with hairy padded feet for fast digging in the sand), heard ten birds, and noted evidences of unusual geology:

"There is very little about the geology of this area that has been published or is generally known," Mr. Blodgett stated, adding: "There is still much to be learned here. What I have brought out today on our trip is that in addition to all the fun you have had, there is a wide variety of natural science available in this particular area. We have touched several of the principal scientific points of concern today: entomology, zoology, ornithology, botany, but especially geology. A whole earth story from ancient ice-ages to the present is written in these Pismo Dunes and is waiting to be studied thoroughly."

There will be no Sierra Club sand dune walk on 4th of July.

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The next outing will take place Sunday, July 11. Participants will meet at 1:15 p.m. at the corner of Highway One and Oso Flaco Lake Road. The public is cordially invited. Any age is welcome. The group will stroll from 2 to 3 easy and leisurely miles round trip. Bring drinking water and a snack.

(END)

Mrs. Kathleen Jackson
Sierra Club Coordinator
Nipomo Dunes Preservation