

Ojai Valley Green Coalition Bulletin

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WEBSITE

www.ojavalleygreencoalition.org



Mission: to bring together community organizations, governments, schools, businesses, and citizens of all ages to make Ojai Valley a model green and sustainable community.

Coalition and Community

Earth Day: Less than two weeks away and it's coming together pretty well for 7 weeks preparation time. Action Committee Chairs just received a list of the literature available from Communications for your committee table. We were able to easily get information for some committees; others were tougher. C & P will need your literature wish list and digital files ASAP. We can't promise to print everything but we'll do our best. Each table will also have a Coalition sign-up form and mission statement list. Each committee has a \$200 stipend to cover a 6-month period, which can help with costs to put an interactive project together.

Presentation Series: Our first presentation last Thursday was deemed a success. We had approximately 70 attendees and no major faux pas occurred. The many oohs and aahs from the audience would suggest the information was new and interesting. We are off to a great start and can only improve over time. We want to thank the Building committee for the idea and going first! Events and Communications obviously did their job and our president, Tim Baird provided set-up of the audio visual system and bought the one and only t-shirt sold. Mr. Baird you are a true Coalition champion along with all the board members who worked diligently as the Coalition for a year and then got us all to the roundtable last September.

Ojai Reads project: We will be unveiling our reading event (spearheaded by Transportation chair, Kenley Neufeld) at Earth Day. The first book planned is *Plan B: 3.0* by Lester Brown. Look for details at the Coalition booth. The book will be for sale at Local Hero Bookstore and at Earth Day for the discounted price of \$15.

Message from the Coalition Coordinator

The name has a nice ring to it, doesn't it? I've been holed up in Oak View for 7 years; I joined the Coalition and within 6 months. I have my name and picture in the paper. Now that's what I call Coalition clout!

Seriously, as I shared with Chairs at last Executive meeting, this is strictly an OJT position. You'll have plenty of opportunity to doubt my ability, appropriateness and maybe even sanity but you will not have an opportunity to doubt my commitment, sincerity or loyalty to the Coalition and to each of you for your effort and good work. I am here to support the mission and the work 110% or as time allows. I appreciate everyone who has sent articles, website links and the like. Keep them coming. I just won't be able to get to all of them pronto.

On to Earth Day. I know the universe provides and all that but I am getting a tad nervous. We still need a couple of more pop-ups and donated gifts for our eco-treasure hunt. People it's time to pull out the address book and start calling. Don't feel nervous asking for our good causes. We add value to the community and it is a privilege not a chore to ask for support. See Want Ad on page 2. You can contact me at coordinator@ojavalleygreencoalition.com or 649-8631. Thanks for this privilege and opportunity.

Deborah Pendrey

Meeting & Event Calendar

- 4/1** – Bldg & Construction, 7pm
Room 6, OUSD
- 4/3** – Waste Management, 7pm
Oak Grove School, Main house
- 4/3** – Watershed, 7pm
Chaparral Auditorium, OUSD
- 4/8** – Communications, 6:30pm
Sheri Ann Cate's office, 202 W. Aliso
- 4/9** – Environ. Health, 6:30pm
Rainbow Bridge
- 4/10** – Food & Ag, 6pm, Dale
Hanson's office - see next entry
- 4/14** – Events, 5pm, Dale Hanson's
OV Real Estate, 221 E. Matilija St.
- 4/14** – Resources, 6:30pm
Tim Baird's office, OUSD
- 4/15** – Bldg & Construction, 7pm
Room 6, OUSD
- 4/16** – Executive meeting, 6:30pm
Board Room, OUSD
- 4/17** – Energy, 7pm
Room 6, OUSD
- 4/24** – Food & Ag Presentation, 7pm
Chaparral Auditorium

Transportation, please check website

Check It Out! New

SBCC Adult Education has a slew of talks and workshops coming up. Try to carpool. For details go to: <http://ce.sbcc.edu/environment.htm>.



Events Committees:

Still in serious need of volunteers for Earth Day events at Museum and Oak Grove April 12 & 13. And unless we can get a couple of more pop-up canopies, the Energy committee's going to be getting a lot of it from the sun that day.

Communications Committee:

We really would appreciate action committee minutes in a timely fashion. Please let us know the best way to add coordinator@ojaivalleygreencoalition.com, to your group email communication system.

Building & Construction – Meetings are 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. Rm. 6, 7 pm, Chaparral High School. Committee just finished successful presentation called 'Naturally Building Our Future.' Beginning review of green buildings in the valley for the proposed OVGC Green Home & Building Tour in Oct. Working on Earth Day booth interactive exhibit.

Communication & Publicity – Meetings 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 pm, 202 W. Aliso St. Completion of OVGC Donor Packet and table top display. Ongoing updates of website. Completion of e-Bulletins and e-Newsletters. Responding to OVGC phone line and website requests. Filming of Presentation on Mar. 27th. Ongoing press releases as needed. Procurement of EPA literature for Action Committees' EarthDay booths.

Events – Meetings 2nd Monday Dale Hanson's office. Call 646-7229 for confirmation. Ongoing planning and support to Action Committees for Presentations, museum table, and Earth Day at Oak Grove School. Creation of timelines for upcoming events such as proposed Green Home & Building Tour and possible museum event in Sept. 09.

Energy – Meetings are the 3rd Thurs., Rm. 6, 7 pm Chaparral High School. Larry Rogero's Watt Watcher flier completed and ready for Earth Day. Committee will also demonstrate a device called 'Kill-a-Watt on Earth Day. Power purchase Agreements evaluated for local applicability

Environmental Health – Meetings are 2nd Wed. 6:30 pm, Rainbow Bridge. New chairperson Marlene Luckman received new member sign-up at the March 27th Presentation at Chaparral High School. Committee is actively seeking new members. Interested in addressing indoor air quality.

Food & Ag – Meetings have been 2nd Thursday at Dale Hanson's office, 6 pm. Call 646-7229 to check first. Preparations for Earth Day booth and Committee Presentation on April 24 are underway. There will be a film, an Infomark and a special game called 'Guess Those Greens'.

Resources – Meetings 2nd Tuesday, OUSD 6 pm. Tim Baird's office. Working on Sponsor/Donor program structure. Completed grant proposal to Ojai Rotary West for possible seed funding for Ojai Valley Green Home & Building Tour. Some members attended Ventura County Community Foundation workshop about non-profit fundraising.

Transportation – Call Kenley at 646-4832 for meeting date and location. Or email Kenley at Kenley@neuhouse.com. Committee will kick off an 'Ojai Reads' program at Earth Day. The first book will be Lester Brown's 'Plan B: 3.0.' There will be a discussion about the book at the Ojai Library after the reading period. Committee is seeking ideas from the public about transportation issue priorities.

Waste Management – Meetings 1st Thursday, Oak Grove School Main House, 7 pm. Subject to change. Call Deborah at 649-8631. Committee is working on 'Day without a Bag' concept. They started a second ink cartridge and cell phone recycling project in addition to the battery recycling. Committee's OVGC Presentation is June 26th. Update of recycling Infomark.

Watershed – Meetings 1st Thurs. 7 pm, Chaparral Auditorium. Committee would like to create an Ojai Valley overlay map. The watershed of the Ojai Valley would be one overlay. Other committees would add overlays about their topics, such as transportation etc.

ALL COMMITTEES – Cindy Cattle on the OVGC Board of Directors, and assistant to Supervisor Steve Bennett pointed out at the last Executive Committee Meeting that grant-making institutions regard volunteer hours as an asset with a quantitative monetary value. The current value of a volunteer-hour is around \$18 or \$19. With that in mind, The OVGC is benefitting from volunteer hours worth over \$5,000 a month. All committee chairs are encouraged to ask their members to track their volunteer hours and document them for future OVGC grant proposals.