

Vote in the 2024 Sierra Club Angeles Chapter Elections - Oct. 1 to Nov. 13

The annual Angeles Chapter elections begin Tuesday October 1, and ends Wednesday, November 13th. Active members will be voting for

- At-large Positions on the Angeles Chapter Executive Committee.
- Members of the Executive / Management Committee for their Regional Group in the Chapter.

Ballots: There are two ways to access the ballot needed for you to vote:

- 1) **Online:** Members who have access to the internet can vote at sc.org/VoterPortal
 - a. All members have an account, but you may need to request a password to access this. For support and questions about your membership status, contact Sierra Club member services (415-977-5500) or member.care@sierraclub.org
- 2) **By Mail:** All members who voted by Paper Ballot last year will automatically receive a Paper Ballot in the mail. You may request a paper ballot by contacting the Chapter Office at angeles.sierraclub@gmail.com or (213) 728-7543 or mail your request to Sierra Club Angeles Chapter, 617 W. 7th St, Los Angeles, CA 90017.

For ballot requests, please include your Sierra Club member ID (7 or 8 digit number) if you have it, the names of voting members in your household and your mailing address for a Paper Ballot. Please allow 5-7 business days to receive Paper Ballots.

Voting Deadline is Nov. 13

- Paper Ballots must be delivered to the Chapter office before it closes at 5:00 pm on Nov. 13th, 2024.
- Online Ballots must be submitted by 12:00 midnight the evening of Nov. 13th, 2024.

Announcements:

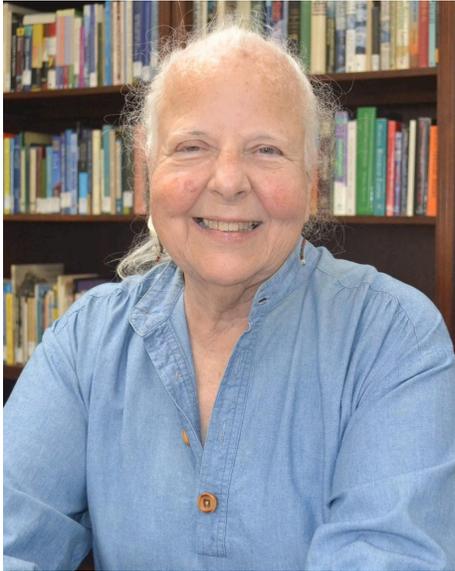
- All members receive the information on how to vote, either electronically or via SoCal now.
- Results will be tallied on November 15th, and posted on the Chapter website that day. Results will also be announced in the first SoCal Now of 2025

Candidates

Angeles Chapter Executive Committee: There are five candidates for four open at-large positions on the Angeles Chapter's governing body, the Executive Committee or ExCom. Top four vote-getters will be elected to serve in the 2025 – 2026 term of office. **Brief statements from the candidates are available below.** Longer statements are available on line at angsc.org/elections

Group Executive Committees: Information about the candidates running for group executive committees is available on line at angsc.org/elections

Sharon Koch



Sharon Koch seeks your vote for Angeles Chapter at-large representative.

The Angeles Chapter continues to face challenges and opportunities presented by a declining membership, a complex world, and a need to more clearly represent our society.

We must consciously resist efforts to roll back environmental protections, diminish our cherished national lands, put perceived financial gains above the value of wild places and wildlife. A government agenda that benefits the few at the expense of the many is not democracy as our forefathers envisioned it. Together we can speak up, submit public comments, mobilize our grassroots in rapid response to actions contrary to our values, and express support for those who advance our goals and objectives.

Challenges also present opportunities: to engage our members, welcome new activists, increase our financial support, and make our voices heard as we stand up for an equitable, inclusive and just country whose leaders recognize their responsibility to protect our public lands, ensure that all our residents breathe clean air, have access to clean water, and can live without fear that the land they live on is damaging their health.

Our outings community does not want to hike where the vista is despoiled by drilling and mining operations. Our conservation community does not want to see polluted water, unhealthy air, or damage wrought to local communities by industrial irresponsibility. Our political activists do not want to see public officials ignore their responsibility to the people, wildlife, land, air, and water. We must broaden our base while encouraging more active membership. There is a place for everyone in the Angeles Chapter.

The Angeles Chapter Executive Committee has a responsibility not only to work locally to advance our mission and goals, but to make our voices heard at the state and national levels of the Sierra Club. It is up to us to make sure that members' views are solicited and heard before any changes in policies or structure are enacted by the Sierra Club.

My experience at all Sierra Club levels will help the Chapter reach its goals:

- Angeles Chapter Chair 2016-2020
- National Chapter Chair Representative team – 2 terms
- Sierra Sage South Orange County Executive Committee 2010-2024
- prior Orange County chair Angeles Chapter Political Committee
- Sierra Club California Political Committee co-chair
- Member, National Ballot Statement Review Committee

Together we can build a better tomorrow by working collaboratively now. Please vote for Sharon Koch as at-large representative.

Nancy Barba



I am a mom, climate professional, organizer with Culver City for More Homes, former planning commissioner, Sierra Club West LA Group vice chair, wife, and first-generation Latina.

Professionally, I direct energy efficiency and decarbonization programs that transform the water and air heating markets from natural gas to electric energy sources, getting us closer to California's greenhouse gas reduction goals. I lead teams to deliver market transformation, regional and statewide decarbonization and energy efficiency projects. I lead the design and development of programs for Regional Energy Networks and Community Choice Energy organizations. My strategic funding consulting empowers governments to serve hard to reach and disadvantaged communities. I have worked on a wide range of energy efficiency and conservation initiatives through federal, state, utility and local grants throughout California.

I bring a rich background of worked and lived experience to stakeholder and community engagement in all my roles. My effective communication skills and facility to manage diverse priorities contribute to my engaged, results-driven leadership.

As an organizer with Culver City for More Homes, a grassroots group committed to creating new housing growth in job-rich, transit-rich, and high-opportunity communities.

I have served on the Sierra Club West LA Group Executive Committee since 2021. Through my PolCom work, I have served on several endorsement recommendation teams. In support of watershed health and sustainability in the area, I attended meetings to support the West LA College Soccer Field Basin Dry Well Project.

I center policy changes that address the critical need for urban infill, a priority for the future of climate adaptation and resiliency. I support the removal of land use and process barriers to housing production and advocate for a general plan that addresses the long history of inequality and racism.

I ask for your support to bring a vision of urban environmentalism that centers equity and social justice, values diversity, and engages all people to care for our commons and address the climate emergency.

David Haake



I am a life member of Sierra Club and have been volunteering with the Angeles Chapter since 2010. I am running for re-election to the Angeles Chapter's Executive Committee. I was elected in 2022 and also served on the Chapter's Executive Committee from 2010-2013 and as Vice Chair in 2013. I currently serve as Chair of the West Los Angeles Group of the Angeles Chapter. I am a physician at the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System and faculty member at UCLA.

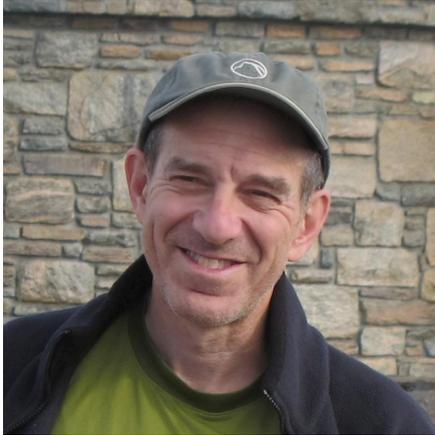
I am O-Rated Outings Leader and a 2013 graduate of the Sierra Club's Wilderness Travel Course. I enjoy backpacking and for many years co-led the West LA Group's weekly hike to the Parker Mesa Overlook in Topanga State Park in the Santa Monica Mountains. This summer I backpacked with Sierra Club in Olympic National Park. My favorite destination is Thousand Island Lake in the Ansel Adams Wilderness.

I serve as Chair of the CLEAN BREAK TEAM of the Angeles Chapter (2012-present), which is working towards a just and equitable transition from dirty fossil fuels to clean renewable energy. The Clean Break Team played an integral role in Culver City's 2021 decision to protect public health and safety by standing up to the oil industry to phase out oil operations in the Inglewood Oil Field. I am the outgoing chair of the Community Advisory Committee of the CLEAN POWER ALLIANCE, which provides 100% renewable energy to over 2 million people in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.

I am a recipient of the PHIL BERNAYS SERVICE PLAQUE, the highest service award conferred by the Angeles Chapter. It is awarded to a Sierra Club member who has provided long-term and outstanding service to the Angeles Chapter. On the national level of the Sierra Club, I chaired the Leader Recruitment Committee, which created VOLUNTEER CONNECTION (<https://clubvolunteer.org/>) as an open and equitable portal for volunteers to connect with Sierra Club volunteer opportunities.

I am grateful and honored to have received the WILLIAM E. COLBY VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP AWARD, which is the club's top award for volunteer service, honoring outstanding leadership, dedication, and service to the Sierra Club. This journey was only possible because of all the incredibly talented friends and colleagues I've been blessed to work with over the years. Looking forward to staying connected to all of you as we build a stronger Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter, and local community

Coby King



First, thanks to the voters of the Angeles Chapter for electing me to an At-Large position of the ExCom in 2022. It has been a great honor!

In my first term, I have focused on helping with financial management and on land preservation, outings, and transit. Shortly after my election, I was asked to serve on the Chapter's Finance Committee, which is a role I've filled in other organizations. I volunteered to serve as chair of the committee and was also appointed by ExCom to serve as chapter treasurer.

At the same time, I have served on committees drafting standing rules for the Chapter and its entities, and also on the committee searching for the new chapter coordinator. While not glamorous, these roles have helped build a chapter that lives its values.

If re-elected, I will continue to work hard to preserve our open spaces, be a strong voice for transit and move forward climate-friendly policies through activism, coalition-building, and OUTINGS!

A little background: For 30 years, I've been devoted to climbing peaks, especially on the Hundred Peaks Section (completed!) and Lower Peaks Committee lists (almost!). I know that maintaining a robust and well-managed Outings program is critical to achieving many of the Club's missions to preserve and protect the environment. For many, seeing our local mountains (and being amazed at their diversity and beauty) is the first step to preserving these special places from the ravages of development and climate change.

Putting those beliefs into action, I was elected to the Hundred Peaks Section Management Committee in 2013 and served as either chair or vice chair for the next eight years.

During that time, I helped move HPS in a positive direction. Our newsletter and our election process are now electronic, reducing our climate footprint. I helped HPS modernize and work to attract younger people to our outings, as HPS's Facebook administrator and in other roles that promote justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion into our programs.

ALSO, I believe deeply in the environmental benefits of TRANSIT. Over the past 12 years, I've become a leader on bringing more transit to the San Fernando Valley (where I live) including the East San Fernando Light Rail Line (a game-changer for underserved communities), improving the Orange (G) Line Bus Rapid Transit, and providing funding for the Sepulveda line to connect the Valley to the Westside.

Thank you for your support.

Ariel de la Cruz



Eco Educator and Organizer, Lead Garden Educator, Sierra Club's Activist Academy Graduate (2023) and Trainer (2024), Sierra Club Volunteer Organizer, Master's in Sustainability Leadership (2021, ASU)

As a proud Filipino, I'm passionate about creating spaces for BIPOC to take action against environmental justice issues through community education, engagement, and leadership. I believe in upholding social responsibility in everything that we do if we are to create a better world for generations to come. I am committed to providing opportunities for our POC to access outdoor spaces. It's important that our communities feel acknowledged, heard, and served when it comes to injustices that affect their livelihoods. I educate, facilitate, and empower my audiences that we deserve, belong, and need to be in these spaces.

I have volunteered with Sierra Club for 3 years. My commitment to outdoor equity has led me to be actively involved with the Outdoors for All campaign. Providing access to nature for our urban communities is something I deeply care about. I have led outdoor field trips for the youth of Long Beach to connect them to their public lands. My most recent outing highlighted the need for Transit to Trails and the expansion of the San Gabriel National Monument.

I was also a Sierra Club volunteer leader in organizing a free community gear swap earlier this year. Opportunities like this are just one way we can break barriers and include more POC in the outdoor space. As a graduate and trainer for Sierra Club's Activist Academy, I continue to see the impact this program has on empowering young adults on their activist journey into climate issues. I have facilitated trainings and mentored participants on the 30x30 Campaign.

By day profession, I am a Lead Garden Educator for Ground Education which partners with LBUSD. School gardens are much more than growing food but a green space that is vital for the well-being of our students and communities. I have been with the non-profit for the past 3 years, helping expand our programs into elementary schools. In addition, I have successfully championed raising \$30K for the past 2 years (\$60K collectively) during our biggest fundraiser.

My life and career are seamlessly intertwined with social responsibility. My values of integrity, leadership, mindfulness, and sustainability are represented in everything that I do and the lens I would bring to ExCom.