

1147

**\*\*\* Come Celebrate Jim Carlin's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday \*\*\***

**September 11, 2013 - Will Rogers State Park**

Hike Mistress:

Patricia Forbess                      hikeplf@verizon.net

**Trailhead Directions**

From the Valley: Take Topanga Canyon to PCH, go south and turn left on Sunset. Go approximately 4 miles (and after Chautauqua Street) turn left on Will Rogers State Park Road.

From the 405: Take Sunset Blvd. going west and then turn right into Will Rogers State Park Road.

If coming North on PCH, after going thru the tunnel, the second light will be Chautauqua. Turn right **UP** the hill. At the top of the hill turn right onto Sunset and watch for Will Rogers State Park Road and turn left.

Enter Will Rogers State Park (parking fee is \$12, for seniors \$11). If you support the "California State Park Foundation", you can use one of your passes. Park at the far end near the picnic area.

There are a bathrooms at the parking lot near the Visitor's Center.

**Our hike** will assemble at 9:30AM near the picnic area. We follow the road toward the entrance kiosk and just past the restrooms we'll join the trail near the tennis courts, west of park headquarters, and begin ascending north (left) onto the Inspiration Point Loop Trail. Climb steadily, reaching the Inspiration Point junction at 0.8 miles near the top of the knoll. Bear right to the overlook on the flat knoll. After resting and savoring the views of the entire ranch, and on a clear-day the Santa Monica Bay, the metropolis, the San Gabriel Mountains, and even Catalina Island, we'll return to the main loop. Just north of Inspiration Point we will come upon a bifurcation (fork) with the Backbone Trail. (those wishing a **shorter hike continue** on the Inspiration Loop for about 3 miles back to the parking lot)

**For the more hardy souls** continue north past the information kiosk for the Backbone Trail and continue until your heart's content (it continues 55 miles to Point Mugu, **just be back in time for Jim Carlin's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party at 12:30pm**) Find a nice spot for lunch and then return back down onto the Inspiration Loop Trail. Turn left to complete the loop back to the picnic area.

Those hikers doing a **shorter 2 mile hike** may want to leave the Inspiration Loop Trail via the Service Road near Inspiration Point (see map) and descend back to the picnic area or walk around the stable area along the Bone Canyon, Heart Canyon or Mitt Canyon trails (see map)

**\*\*\* Jim Carlin's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration \*\*\***

**We will begin about 12:30 pm at the WRSP picnic area.**

**All family and friends are welcome**

On Line Information

[http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=626](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=626)