

THE MUSSELL MESSENGER

PUBLISHED BY THE SANTA MARIA VALLEY SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB (SMVSCC)

510 East Park Avenue
Santa Maria, CA 93454
smvseniors@gmail.com
805-349-0688

www.smvsc.org
Follow Us On Facebook @
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Club Receptionist Hours:
Monday - Friday
10 am - 2 pm

Travel Committee Hours:
Tuesday - Thursday
12:30-3:30 pm



From the President GIFT OF A SMILE



**President
Carolyn
Cabrera**

Have you ever thought how much a gift of a smile can be? It can lighten the day for someone. Give it a try to see if it can work for you. It works for me. Life is short, make every moment count!

What Smiles Can Do (unknown author)

A smile is quite a funny thing,
It wrinkles up your face,
And when it's gone, you never find
Its secret hiding place.

But far more wonderful it is
To see what smiles can do;
You smile at one, he smiles at you,
And so one smile makes two.

He smiles at someone since you smiled,
And then that one smiles back;
And that one smiles, until in truth
You fail in keeping track.

Now since a smile can do great good
By cheering hearts of care,
Let's smile and smile, and not forget
That smiles go everywhere!

Mission Statement

Our purpose is to promote the happiness of active adults 50+ so they may enjoy life to the fullest. We provide fun and interesting activities, opportunities, and information. We do this while espousing no political, religious, philanthropic, ideological, or social enterprise.

MAY 2026 | VOLUME 32 ISSUE 5

02 WELCOME – WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU!

2026 Officers

President

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Rec & Parks Department Staff

Recreation Leader, Jenna

805-925-0951, ext. 2174

Recreation Receptionist

805-925-0951, ext. 2207

Primary Office

805-925-0951, ext. 2260



JOIN US!
**SANTA MARIA
VALLEY SENIOR
CITIZENS CLUB**

**Stop into the Elwin Mussell Center
510 E Park Ave, Santa Maria
Monday-Friday, from 10 am-2 pm
Pay by cash, check, or credit card***
*(*plus an added \$1 processing fee)*

**or send a check for \$25 per person to
PO Box 6688, Santa Maria, CA 93456**
*(Be sure to include a stamped self-addressed envelope
If you wish to receive your membership card by mail.)*

*Membership year runs January to December,
and is not prorated if you join later in the year.
However, if you join in November or December, you will
not need to renew until the end of the following year.*

Newsletter Committee

We need a couple more volunteers to serve on the Newsletter Committee. This group will prepare the printed newsletter for mailing. Total time will be about 1-2 hours each month, depending on the number of volunteers. If you are interested in helping out with this each month, please reach out to the **Corresponding Secretary** (contact information at left).

**Thank you to all our members for your support,
especially those who volunteer their time and
make a difference one way or another!**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Alice Torres	3
Cookie Hobbs	5
Betty Savage	10
Lorraine Pregozen	15
Ruth Jackson	18
Debbie Montijo	19
Donald Koloze	20
Sharon O'Neil	21
Janet Sobottka	21
Wendy Combs	23
Dee Markstone	24
Mike Stadnick Jr.	30
Ofelia Tise	31

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Mavis & Elena Deparini	14
Don & Irene Carpenter	16
Nick & Yolanda Gonzales	24



New/Rejoining Members

Marian Canaday
Cecelia Davis
Carole "Cookie" Hobbs
Eva Macias

Please Note:

If any of the birthdays or anniversaries listed here are not accurate, or if your name and special day is not listed, please contact Laura Selken, at laura.selken@gmail.com, or 805-406-9989.



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04 TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES



Mystery Trip

\$42

MAY 18, 2026 | DEPART: 9:30 AM / RETURN 2:00 PM

Journey back in time ... then have lunch on your own with six eateries to choose from. We guarantee you'll love this adventure! Did you know members can bring one non-member between 40 and 50 years of age with them? (There is a limit of three non-members per trip and only one non-member per family unit – subject to space and availability. Note: the guest does have to pay a \$25 fee in addition to the cost of the trip.)



Morro Bay Chowder Cruise

\$83

JUNE 5, 2026 | DEPART: 9:30 AM / RETURN 2:30 PM

Join us on a two-hour cruise that includes lunch on the boat, including award-winning chowder! Take in the stunning sites of the Morro Bay area and enjoy a drink at the full-service bar. Sign up soon, as this trip sells out FAST!



“Murder On the Air”

SEPTEMBER 5, 2026 | TIMES & COST TO BE DETERMINED

We are heading to the Great American Melodrama in Oceano to see its production of “Murder on the Air”! In 1938, at station WBFR, a live radio broadcast faces chaos with picketing musicians, a dwindling crew, and the rumored death of the leading lady, whose body has disappeared. The remaining staff must continue with various programs while solving the mystery all while staying on the air!!



Cape Cod & the Islands

SEPTEMBER 11-17, 2026

\$4214 PP DBL./\$5278 PP SGL.

Join us for a fall tour for seven days/six nights (five nights on Cape Cod); highlights include Boston City Tour • Martha's Vineyard Tour • Nantucket Island Visit • Plymouth Rock • Newport, RI • Mayflower II • New England Lobster Dinner • Cranberry Bog, and MORE! Hosted by Premier World Discovery.

We are also planning a trip to the Space and Missile Heritage Center at the Vandenberg Space Force Base. From the early days of the Cold War to current non-classified advancements in military, commercial, and scientific space exploration, the Center provides a comprehensive narrative of Vandenberg's pivotal role in space history. Watch this space for updates!

Monthly Membership Dinner

MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026

Doors Open: 5 pm / Dinner: 5:15 pm

Reserve and pay by Friday, May 8 @ Noon

All meals are currently catered by Jovi's Delight



Celebrate your May Birthday with us!

Menu: Lemon chicken breast, rice pilaf, steamed vegetables, salad, roll, & dessert.

Cost: \$17 per person



Program: Sue Eisaguirre, Director of **Nature Track**, will be sharing information about her foundation that provides nature opportunities for seniors, especially wheelchair users and others with physical disabilities. She will also talk about volunteer opportunities! Learn how to experience nature in the golden years!



Non-members are welcome to attend up to three times before joining (must still reserve and pay by the due date). Membership required after three dinners.



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06 MAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
 <p>MONTHLY DANCE SUNDAY, MAY 3 Don't miss our annual "Senior Prom" from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Open to the public and FREE! Membership is not required to attend.</p>		
4	5	6
<p>9:30-11 Balance & Mobility*F 10-12 Scrabble*F 10:30-11:30 Tai Chi for Arthritis*F 12-4 Duplicate Bridge 1:30-4 Knit, Chat, & Crochet*F <i>(Bilingual every Monday)</i></p>	<p>10:30-11:30 OWL Program*F 12:30-3:30 Travel 1-2 Grief Support Group*F 1-3 Bunco* (\$3 donation) 1-3 Knit, Chat, & Crochet*F</p>	<p>9 Board Meeting 9-10 Dance Fitness with Keith* 9:30-11 Balance & Mobility*F 12:30-3:30 Travel 1-4 Beginning Bridge 1:30-3:30 Brushes & Beyond*F</p>
11	12	13
<p>9:30-11 Balance & Mobility*F 10-12 Scrabble*F 10:30-11:30 Tai Chi for Arthritis*F 12-4 Duplicate Bridge 1:30-4 Knit, Chat, & Crochet*F 5 Membership Dinner (\$17)</p>	<p>10:30-11:30 OWL Program*F 12:30-3:30 Travel 12:30-4 Double Deck Pinochle*F 1-2 Grief Support Group*F 1-3 Knit, Chat, & Crochet*F</p>	<p>9-10 Dance Fitness with Keith* 9:30-11 Balance & Mobility*F 12:30-3:30 Travel 1-4 Beginning Bridge 1:30-3:30 Brushes & Beyond*F</p>
18	19	20
<p>10-12 Scrabble*F 10:30-11:30 Tai Chi for Arthritis*F 12-4 Duplicate Bridge 1:30-4 Knit, Chat, & Crochet*F</p>	<p>10:30-11:30 OWL Program*F 12:30-3:30 Travel 1-2 Grief Support Group*F 1-3 Bunco* (\$3 donation) <i>"MOST WANTED"</i> 1-3 Knit, Chat, & Crochet*F</p>	<p>9-10 Dance Fitness with Keith* 12:30-3:30 Travel 1-3 Coffee, Convo & Treats*F <i>(bring a treat to share)</i> 1-4 Beginning Bridge</p>
25	26	27
	<p>10:30-11:30 OWL Program*F 12:30-3:30 Travel 12:30-4 Double Deck Pinochle*F 1-2 Grief Support Group*F 1-3 Knit, Chat, & Crochet*F</p>	<p>9-10 Dance Fitness with Keith* 12:30-3:30 Travel 1-4 Beginning Bridge</p>

MAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS 07

THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1
<p>FREE Rec & Park Activities: 9-4 Billiards* (Mon-Fri) 1:30-4 Table Tennis* (Mon) 9-10 Table Tennis* (Tue) 12-4 Pickleball* (Wed & Thu)</p>	<p>9-10 Dance Fitness with Keith* 10-11:30 Balance & Mobility*F 10-12 Scrabble*F 12-4 Mah Jongg*F 12-4 Bingo 1-4 Board Games*F</p>
7	8
<p>10:30-11:30 Tai Chi for Arthritis*F 10:30-11:30 OWL Program*F 12:30-3:30 Travel 1-4 Hand & Foot 1:30-2:30 Petals & Pastels Tea Gathering</p>	<p>9-10 Dance Fitness with Keith* 9:30 FoodBank/Cooking Class 10-11:30 Balance & Mobility*F 10-12 Scrabble*F 12-4 Mah Jongg*F 12-4 Bingo 1-4 Board Games*F</p>
14	15
<p>10:30-11:30 Tai Chi for Arthritis*F 10:30-11:30 OWL Program*F 12:30-3:30 Travel 1:30-2:30 Sweet Treats* Cupcake Decorating</p>	<p>9-10 Dance Fitness with Keith* 10-12 Scrabble*F 12-4 Mah Jongg*F 12-4 Bingo 1-4 Board Games*F</p>
21	22
<p>10:30-11:30 Tai Chi for Arthritis*F 10:30-11:30 OWL Program*F 12:30-3:30 Travel 1-4 Hand & Foot</p>	<p>9-10 Dance Fitness with Keith* 10-12 Scrabble*F 12-4 Mah Jongg*F 12-4 Bingo 1-4 Board Games*F</p>
28	29
<p>10:30-11:30 Tai Chi for Arthritis*F 10:30-11:30 OWL Program*F 12:30-3:30 Travel 2:30-4:30 Mussell Cinema*F "Ratatouille"</p>	<p>9-10 Dance Fitness with Keith* 10-12 Scrabble*F 12-4 Mah Jongg*F 12-4 Bingo 1-4 Board Games*F</p>

PLEASE NOTE:
Classes/activities may be changed or canceled by the instructor, city, or Senior Club as needed.

Activities shown with an **asterisk*** are hosted by the City of Santa Maria Recreation & Parks Dept. Advanced registration is required in most cases (see City Receptionist for assistance or call 805-925-0951, ext. 2207). An **"F"** indicates it is FREE.

Club membership is not required to register for city activities.

Items in bold are Club activities, and a Club membership is required to participate (with the exception of Bingo).

Club Activities CONTACT PERSONS

Duplicate Bridge
 Alan @ 408-499-5333

Beginning Bridge
 Frank @ 805-574-3237

Hand & Foot
 Christel @ 805-332-3328

Bingo
 Loretta @ 805-264-7160

08 MONTHLY DANCE

The Santa Maria Valley Senior Citizens Club presents



FREE!



Senior Prom
at the
Copacabana



featuring



RIPTIDE
Big Band

May 3, 2026

1:30-4:00 pm

Elwin Mussell Senior Center
510 E. Park Ave., Santa Maria



with vocalists
Bob Nations &
Mitch Latting



Info: Judy @ 775-813-5186

Visit RiptideBB.com or

Riptide Big Band on Facebook



City of Santa Maria
Recreation & Parks
Department



THE *Community*
FOUNDATION
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY



Hand & Foot

1st & 3rd Thursdays
1 - 4 p.m.

For more info: Christel @ 805-332-3328

Bridge

Duplicate: Mondays @ Noon
Beginners: Wednesdays @ 1 pm

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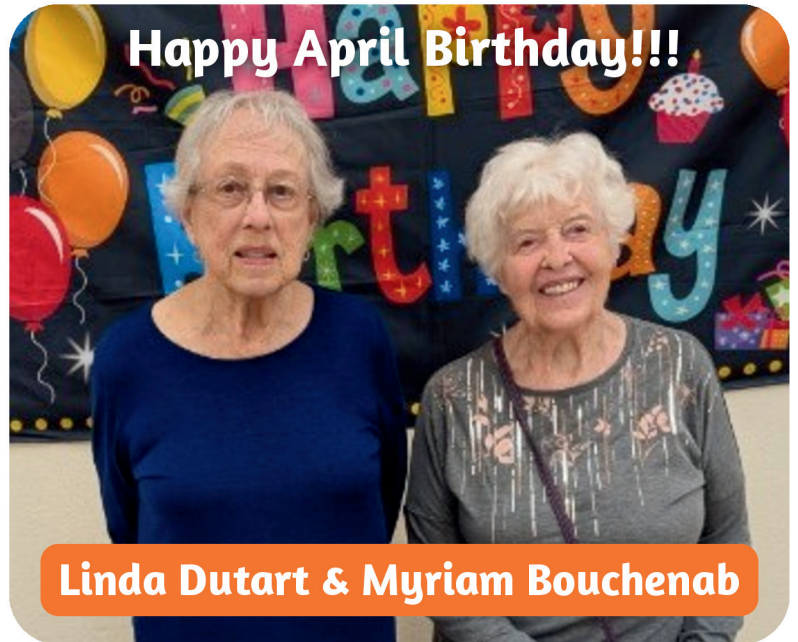
10 SUNSHINE CORNER & BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Sunshine Corner

Deepest Sympathy to ...

Carm Wyckoff and family for the loss of her husband (and fellow member), James Wyckoff

If you know any members in need of a "get well," "thinking of you," or sympathy card, please get in touch with Teri DeAngelo at 805-698-6478 or teriangelo@gmail.com.



Each month at our Monthly Membership Meeting, we honor those who are celebrating their birthday that month. It's a great way to enjoy a nice dessert and celebrate your special month with others!! Don't forget to RSVP and pay during your birthday month!

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Recreation & Parks Department WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MAY ~

It's springtime at the Mussell Center, and we're inviting **YOU** to join the celebration in May! From colorful crafts and lively games to tasty treats and plenty of seasonal cheer, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Come share the smiles, the laughter, and the fresh joy of spring as we celebrate the season together!

Tai Chi for Arthritis (NEW PROGRAM)

Mondays & Thursdays | 10:30-11:30 am

Join us for this gentle, low-impact program that helps improve balance, flexibility, and overall well-being while reducing joint pain and stiffness. Perfect for beginners and all fitness levels. Come move, relax, and feel better!



Activity #28176

Brushes & Beyond

Wednesdays, May 6 & May 13 | 1:30-3:30 pm

Relax and unwind as you explore Zen doodling, a calming art form that combines simple, slow, intentional patterns with soft backgrounds. Inspired by vibrant mosaic designs, we'll use repeating lines, shapes, and textures to quiet the mind and stay present in the moment.



Activity #27970

Petals & Pastel Tea Gathering

Thursday, May 7 | 1:30-2:30 pm

Join us for an afternoon of connection, creativity, and fun. Enjoy a relaxing selection of teas, light snacks, and engaging activities, including painting and trivia.



Activity #28319

Sweet Treats ~ Cupcake Decorating

Thursday, May 14 | 1:30-2:30 pm

Join us for a fun and creative afternoon as you decorate your very own cupcakes! Make them as colorful, sweet, and unique as you'd like! (\$5 suggested donation)



Activity #28001

Bunco ~ Most Wanted Western Edition

Tuesday, May 19 | 1:00-3:00 pm

Roll the dice and kick up your boots at our "Most Wanted: Western Edition" bunco celebration! Prizes, laughter, and plenty of fun await, so dust off your favorite western or denim look and join us for a rootin'-tootin' good time! (\$3 buy-in)



Activity #27964

Coffee, Conversation & Treats

Wednesday, May 20 | 1-3 pm

Bring your favorite sweet treats to share and enjoy a nice refreshment, good company, and great conversation with friends. We can't wait to sip, snack, and connect!



Activity #28319

Mussell Cinema ~ "Ratatouille"

Thursday, May 28 | 2:30-4:30 pm

Bring a friend, sit back, and enjoy a cozy movie moment with some light refreshments. It's the perfect way to relax, laugh, and enjoy this heartwarming favorite together!



Activity #27961

For more information about these and other City Recreation & Parks Department activities, and/or assistance with pre-registration, please visit the **city** receptionist desk Monday through Friday from 9 am to 4 pm, or you can call directly at 805-925-0951, **ext. 2207**.



Santa Maria Valley Senior Citizens Club

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SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2026
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

FREE ADMISSION

Elwin Mussell Senior Center
510 E Park Ave

COINS BOUGHT & SOLD



Saturdays

Brunch & Browse

Free to attend

Food Trucks



April 25th May 30th June 27th	10 AM to Noon
--	----------------------

Elwin Mussell Senior Center → 510 East Park St. Santa Maria
Experience a delightful brunch like no other

Come shop, explore, and support amazing local vendors while enjoying delicious bites from our food trucks. There will be plenty of unique finds, handmade goods, and treats for everyone.

Questions may be directed to the City of Santa Maria Recreation and Parks Department (805) 925-0951 ext 2260