



## 2012 – A Year of Celebrations

“Old Glory” Valley Oak -  
(Our Own Special Holiday Tree)  
Doing Well Ten Years after the Great Tree Sit

Original Photo by Tom Barron

And We Celebrate Our 25th Year!

Valley Oaks are the monarchs of California Oaks by virtue of their size, beauty, and age. The largest trees have massive trunks, like our own “Old Glory Oak” in Stevenson Ranch, sometimes measuring six or seven feet in diameter and may tower a hundred feet above the ground. The lobed, felt-covered leaves bud out in the spring to become a summer kingdom of shade in a landscape drenched in hot, bright sun.

Ten years ago, tree-sitter John Quigley climbed this ancient oak in protest over its imminent demise to make room for more development. His 72 days in the tree sparked international media attention and brought thousands of visitors rallying for its preservation. Ultimately, the tree was moved just down the road to an open space park where it stands today, still healthy, thanks to the care of the County Parks Dept.

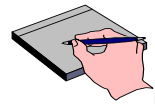
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Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment  
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### What we did in 2012



**Reviewed**, commented on and appeared at hearings for multiple projects including Newhall Ranch River Permit, tract maps, General Plan Updates, water plans and various projects impacting the Santa Clara River floodplain, endangered species, air & water quality, and water supplies. **January** mentored students participating in COC Community Service Program **March** Gathered

signatures for GMO labeling initiative **April** Information booth

at City Earth Day Celebration **May** Nature Center Open

House, Environmental Movie Night **June** Continued work to oppose Lennar’s river permit to channel the SC river and 80% of its tributaries **July** Environmental float in 4th Parade, Annual

Meeting at Placerita Park. **August** party to celebrate our 25th

birthday! **September** Booth at River Rally, Court Decision setting

aside the Newhall Ranch River Permit, Regional Water votes to require Newhall to pay for chloride abatement **October** Film

and Discussion on GMO Food labeling **November** participated in Whittaker Bermite Advisory Group to ensure clean up of contaminated water

*“Never doubt that a few committed individuals  
can change the world -*

*Indeed, that is the only thing that ever has.”*

*- Margaret Meade*

*May the New Year bring you the courage of  
an ancient oak that stands alone,  
but with joyful branches raised high,  
reaching for the blue sky.*



**SCOPE wishes you and your family  
the very best of holidays**

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