



TRAILS

FALL ELECTIONS Issue

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS OF NEVADA AND THE EASTERN SIERRA FROM THE TOIYABE CHAPTER OF THE SIERRA CLUB

From the Chair

BY JEAN STOESS

Summer activities

TOIYABE CHAPTER AND THE GROUPS had a busy summer, with many outings and attendance at events such as Earth Day around the state.

Lake Tahoe Summit 2011. Toiyabe Chapter had a table at the Lake Tahoe Summit, a bi-state gathering, on August 16 in Homewood, CA. This was the 15th year of the Tahoe Summit, which was founded by Nevada Senator Harry Reid. For the first time in many years, both Governors, Brian Sandoval of Nevada and Jerry Brown of California, attended. Other political luminaries included Senator Dianne Feinstein of California, and Nevada Senators Harry Reid and Dean Heller.

SC Tahoe Task Force. After the passage of SB 271 in the Nevada Legislature, which mandates that Nevada pull out of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency if certain demands in the bill are not met, Toiyabe Chapter formed a task force to seek common ground among Tahoe stakeholders which, as we and other environmental organizations hope, might prevent Nevada's withdrawal from TRPA.

Kate Marshall endorsement. The Sierra Club endorsed Democrat Kate Marshall, candidate for the open seat in CD-2 created when the governor appointed Congressman Dean Heller to the U.S. Senate following Senator John Ensign's resignation. The Marshall campaign sent our endorsement press release to media throughout the state, and we mailed a get-out-the-vote postcard to Chapter members in CD-2.

Please see FROM THE CHAIR, page 2.



Draft EIS findings indicate that wildlife habitat for elk, deer, sage grouse, and pronghorn antelope (above) will be among public resources negatively impacted in eastern NV and western UT by the massive pumping proposed by Southern Nevada Water Authority. For example, 650,000 acres of antelope habitat will be reduced or lost over a century of pumping groundwater and sending it 300 miles away to fuel Las Vegas growth. Please see "Say no to the water grab," page 6. (Photo: Dennis Ghiglieri)

Take your camera & save the photos!

BY TINA NAPPE

The Toiyabe Chapter of the Sierra Club was founded in 1957. Fortunately, through the newsletter (once the *Toiyabe Tatler*), reports of field trips, members' activities, and conservation campaigns are prominent in the pages.

Special Collections at University of Nevada, Reno, and Las Vegas house the Chapter's history. However, they can only store those items that Sierra Club members donate. Sierra Club history is relived



Ichthyosaur State Park service trip, 1957. (Photo: Gus Bundy)

through the many volunteers who lead outings, serve as ExCom members, take photos, or support the

environment through letters, or testify.

If a record is not kept and then deposited in a designated collection, the past disappears. These photos are from the Gus Bundy photography collection. A founder of the Toiyabe Chapter, Bundy was never without his camera. He enjoyed those early Sierra Club outings. The photo on

Please see PHOTOS, page 2.

ExCom elections to be via U.S. Mail

BY JEAN STOESS, CHAIR, ELECTION COMMITTEE

Due to unexpected technical problems having to do with address label requirements, the Election Committee has opted to distribute the ExCom Elections ballot material by U.S. Mail instead of as inserts in the Toiyabe Trails, as originally planned.

The following election schedule has been amended by listing the date for ordering the list of eligible voters. None of the other dates have been affected. The impact on the budget will be considered at the next ExCom meeting.

REVISED CHAPTER & GROUP EXCOM ELECTION SCHEDULE FOR 2011

September 19. List of eligible voters in Toiyabe Chapter ordered from label department in San Francisco.

September 26. Ballots and candidates' statements sent via U.S. Mail to Toiyabe Chapter members.

October 25. DEADLINE date ballots must be received by Toiyabe Chapter Election Committee. Ballots received after that date will not be counted.

November 2. Ballots counted at the home of Marge Sill, 720 Brookfield Drive, Reno, at 5 pm. Winners will be notified the following day.

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S. Nevada Group	Taj Ainlay	702-682-9361, tajainlay@aol.com
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Wilderness Chair	Marge Sill	msill@juno.com
Wildlife Co-chair	Rose Strickland	775-329-6118, rosenreno@sbcglobal.net
Wildlife Co-Chair	Tina Nappe	tnappe@nvcbell.net

PHOTOS...

continued from page 1

page 1 is from a service trip to Ichthyosaur State Park in 1957. (If you can help us identify the people in this photo or in any others in the collection, please let me know.)

At Bundy's death, his photography collection, approximately 30,000 images, was donated to UNR's Special Collection. The Collection is now housed in the new UNR Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center. As requests for copies are made, a digital image is added to the Bundy online photo base. The collection is indexed and available for use. See <http://knowledgecenter.unr.edu/digital_collections/exhibits/bohemians/bundy/>.

What you can do. So, please do not throw out your past photos, *Toiyabe Trails*, or letters, but consider donating them to Special Collections. Thank you for your contributions!

FROM THE CHAIR ...

continued from page 1

Black bear hunt. This year the Nevada Wildlife Commission approved a highly controversial first black bear hunt in Nevada. At the January 2011 ExCom the Chapter discussed the bear hunt, using Resolution A (I'll call them A and B here) as the starting-off point for discussion. After removing all the whereases and other extraneous material, the ExCom passed Resolution B, which discussed the pros and cons of the bear hunt but did not take a position.

The ExCom thought the Wildlife Commission, whose members had been appointed by former Governor Jim Gibbons, did not want public input, which turned out to be true.

Unfortunately, Resolution A found its way from the ExCom to an anti-hunt group known as NoBearHuntNV. This group misinterpreted Resolution A to mean that Toiyabe Chapter approved the bear hunt.

They posted this on their website, along with templates for writing protest e-mails to the Chapter threatening to not renew their SC memberships. We received numerous irate letters, e-mails, and phone calls until we were able to get the group to withdraw all references to the Sierra Club from their website.

VOTE!

EXCOM ELECTION
COMING UP SHORTLYDEADLINE!
DECEMBER 1FOR
JAN-FEB-MAR ISSUECreate an
Environmental
Legacy.

Bequests have played a key role in Sierra Club's environmental successes over the years.

Planning now may make your gift more meaningful and reduce taxes on your estate. We have many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

For more info and confidential assistance, contact:

Sierra Club
Gift Planning Program
85 Second Street, Second Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
gift.planning@sierraclub.org • (800) 932-4270

Toiyabe Trails

SERVING NEVADA
& CALIFORNIA'S E. SIERRA

Toiyabe Trails is published four times each year by the Toiyabe Chapter of the Sierra Club, P.O. Box 8096, Reno, NV 89507, to help keep our members well-informed and better able to protect the environment—for our families, for our future.

Editor – Lynne Foster (94 Mountain View Drive, Swall Meadows, Bishop, CA 93514-9207; 760-387-2634; lfoster@schat.net).

Assoc. Editor – Kathy Morey (760-938-2050). Kathy usually does one issue each year.

Deadlines – Contributions are due by the 1st of the month for publication in the following month's issue: December 1 for January-February-March; March 1 for April-May-June; June 1 for July-August-September; September 1 for October-November-December.

Submissions – Call or e-mail editor before deadline for late submissions. Submit news, story ideas, photos, and letters-to-the-editor to the editor (contact info above). Please include your name, phone, e-mail address, and group with all contributions. Please send your contributions by e-mail. If you don't have a computer, please ask a friend to help you. For photo return, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The *Toiyabe Trails* reserves the right to edit all contributions for reasons of space, clarity, slander, or libel.

Subscriptions – *Toiyabe Trails* is free to all Toiyabe Chapter members. Subscription cost for non-members is \$12 per year. To subscribe, send check for \$12, payable to "Toiyabe Chapter," to *Toiyabe Trails* Subscriptions, Sierra Club, Toiyabe Chapter, c/o Treasurer. Contact Treasurer, Glenn Miller (775-846-4516) for address.

Change of address – Postmaster & Members, please send address changes to Sierra Club, Change of Address, P. O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968 or <address.changes@sierraclub.org>.

Membership information – There is a membership coupon in each issue of *Toiyabe Trails*. You can also call the Chapter Membership Chair (see Chapter Directory, this page) or the Sierra Club office in San Francisco (415-977-5663).

Other Sierra Club information. Call the Toiyabe Chapter Chair or Conservation Chair (see Chapter Directory, this page) or the Sierra Club Information Center in San Francisco (415-977-5653). Also, see group pages for website addresses of groups.

70 state parks scheduled to close

IF YOU'RE THINKING OF VISITING one of California's state parks, you'd better get there soon – because by the summer of 2012, the state plans to close down 70 out of its 278 state parks. For the official Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR) news release and full list of parks to be closed, see: <www.parks.ca.gov/pages/712/files/2011parkclosures_attachments20110518.pdf>.

This shocking and unprecedented action is the result of a nearly 30% slash to the state-parks budget. The cut was adopted by the legislature in late March and included in the trailer bills signed by Gov. Brown on March 24. This is the first time in the 100-year history of California's state park system that parks would be closed.

Sierra Club California is working to reduce the cut and prevent the closures. The cuts add up to less than 1/3 of 1% of the \$9.6 billion state deficit. The DPR says that the cuts will preserve 92% of park attendance and 94% of revenues. Yet these numbers do not reflect what the closures will do to the communities and economies that depend on the tourism these parks bring.

The plans to shut down these parks have already run into problems. For various reasons, the total number of parks with legal issues blocking closure comes to 25 of the 70.

Sierra Club California supports two pending bills that would safeguard state parks. SB 580 and AB 42. The former would prohibit the selling off of state park lands or their use in ways incompatible with park purposes, unless suitable substitute land is received in exchange. The latter would make it easier for DPR to set up operating agreements to allow nonprofit organizations to help run some of the parks slated to be closed.

What you can do. Closing any of our state parks would be a tragedy. Please contact Gov. Jerry Brown, your state senator, and your assemblymember at: State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 94814. Ask them not to allow our state parks to be closed. Demand a plan to secure the future of our state park system.

For more information on what Sierra Club California is doing to keep parks open, go to <www.SierraClubCalifornia.org>.

— excerpted from an article
by Jim Metropulos, Senior Advocate,
Sierra Club California

Sierra Club Clair Tappaan Lodge

Fall 2011 activities

The Lodge boasts a cheerful dining room, a large living room with huge fireplace, a cozy library with wood-burning stove, a recreation room, and a hot tub. Sleeping accommodations include separate dormitories for men and women, small rooms for couples, and larger rooms for families. Guests must bring their own sleeping bags or bedding, although pillows and cases are provided. Bathrooms are shared. See

Please see CTL LODGE FUN, page 12.

Fall Desert Trips

The CNRCC Desert Committee's purpose is to work for protection, preservation, and conservation of California/Nevada desert.

All Desert Committee activities, unless stated otherwise, are suitable for anyone who enjoys the outdoors. The average car or high clearance vehicle will be adequate for most trips. For a good guide to desert travel we recommend the Sierra Club book, *Adventuring in the California Desert*, by Lynne Foster.

For questions about, or to sign up for, a particular outing, please contact leader listed in write-up. For questions about Desert Committee outings in general, or to receive outings list by e-mail, please contact Kate Allen (kjallen96@gmail.com, 661-944-4056).



Sierra Club California/Nevada Regional Conservation Committee

OCTOBER 7-9 (FRI-SUN)

HOT SPRINGS & COOL NIGHTS IN NEVADA'S BLACK ROCK DESERT

Camp at a hot spring in Black Rock and visit other hot springs in area. This is right on route of Emigrant Trail so we'll learn about Black Rock, hot springs, and Emigrant Trail. Days and nights are starting to cool off, so there are fewer visitors. This is a great time to visit Black Rock! Leader very familiar with area. Sign up after 9/15. Leashed dogs ok. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.

Great Basin Group, Toiyabe Chapter CNRCC Desert Committee

OCTOBER 28-30 (FRI-SUN)

DEATH VALLEY SERVICE TRIP

Wilderness restoration in a beautiful and remote National Park. Friday, help install wilderness boundary signs in Salsberry Pass. Saturday, hike 2 mi up Cottonwood Canyon for some work on trail. Primitive camping in Cottonwood Canyon. Need moderate to high clearance vehicle. Work Friday afternoon and Saturday. Sunday, be treated to a ranger guided hike thru narrows of Marble Canyon. Leader: Kate Allen (kjallen96@gmail.com, 661-944-4056).

CNRCC Desert Committee

OCTOBER 29-30 (SAT-SUN)

GHOST TOWN EXTRAVAGANZA

Spend Halloween weekend with ghosts

of California's colorful past. Visit this eerie desert landscape near Death Valley; camp at historic ghost town of Ballarat (flush toilets, hot showers). Saturday, a challenging hike to ghost town, Lookout City, with historian Hal Fowler. Hal will regale us with tales of this wild west town. Return to camp for Happy Hour and potluck feast, followed by midnight visit to Ballarat's graveyard. Sunday, a quick visit to infamous Riley townsite. Group size strictly limited. Info: contact leader, Lygeia Gerard, (760-868-2179).

CNRCC Desert Committee

OCTOBER 29-30 (SAT-SUN)

ROCK ART IN E. CALIFORNIA

This is an opportunity to visit four different petroglyph sites. Saturday, visit sites in southern Owens Valley area bordering Coso Mountains. Sunday, be escorted to famous sites in China Lake Naval Weapons Center. Government restrictions apply when on the Weapons Center, all arrangements and confirmations must be completed by October 10. High clearance 2WD sufficient. Group limit: 12. Info: contact leader, Craig Deutsche (craig.deutsche@gmail.com, 310-477-6670).

CNRCC Desert Committee

DEC. 29, 2011 - JAN. 2, 2012 (THU-MON)

HOLIDAY SERVICE IN CARRIZO PLAIN

Return to Carrizo Plain to celebrate end

A chance to permanently protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge!

BY PAM BRODIE, ALASKA CHAPTER CHAIR

WE'VE WAITED OVER 50 YEARS for this moment: to permanently protect the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as wilderness. We need every American to get behind protecting America's most iconic wilderness.

The Arctic Refuge is about its unique wildlife, wilderness and recreational values, not its development potential. Oil and gas drilling in the Arctic Refuge would harm the unique wildlife and wilderness even as the region faces global warming. Once this wilderness is destroyed, it's gone forever.



But even now, Big Oil wants to drill in the coastal plain and change this magical place forever. Take this historic opportunity to protect the wildlife and wilderness of the Arctic Refuge.

Comprehensive Conservation Plan needs your comments. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) has just released a draft revised Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for the Arctic Refuge. It is an important milestone, in that USFWS is formally considering a **WILDERNESS** designation for the Refuge's Coastal Plain – the biologic and symbolic heart of our nation's wilderness.

What you can do. Write your comment to USFWS urging it to recommend a wilderness designation for the Arctic Refuge's Coastal Plain to protect it from oil and gas development. Here are three ways to submit your comments:

- e-mail to ArcticRefugeCCP@fws.gov
- mail to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Arctic NWR, Sharon Seim, 101 12th Ave., Rm 236, Fairbanks, AK 99701
- fax to 907-456-0428

Also, here is some suggested language. Please personalize it.

SUBJECT: Comprehensive Conservation Plan: Designate the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge's Coastal Plain as wilderness

TO: Dan Ashe, Director, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

I urge you to recommend wilderness designation for the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

Please see ARCTIC REFUGE page 12.



Built by Sierra Club members in 1934, this rustic, hostel-style lodge stands atop historic Donner Pass, less than an hour from Reno, an hour and a half from Lee Vining, two hours from Mammoth Lakes, and two and a half hours from Bishop. Expect convenient access to all mountain activities, excellent family style meals, friendly staff, and a casual atmosphere.

The Lodge grooms its own cross-country ski and snowshoe trails, rents equipment for these activities, and offers cross-country ski lessons. Quick, easy access to the backcountry!



For more info on these programs, to receive a schedule of activities, or to make a reservation, please go to <www.sierraclub.org/outings/lodges/ctl> or call 800-679-6775.

of year and offer service to pronghorn antelope in this National Monument. Lying between Bakersfield and San Luis Obispo, this vast grassland is home to pronghorn antelope, tule elk, kit fox, and wide variety of birds. Welcome hike on Dec. 29, then 2.5 days of service modifying barbed wire fencing. Full day for hiking and exploring is also planned. Accommodations at Goodwin Ranch included. Limit: 14; cost of \$30 covers four dinners and breakfast on New Year's morning. Info: contact leader, Craig Deutsche (craig.deutsche@gmail.com, 310-477-6670).

CNRCC Desert Committee

Range of Light Reflections

Range of Light Group



Group News

Letter from the Chair

BY MALCOLM CLARK (wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com)

ExCom. Next meeting (tentative) is Tuesday, Oct 18, 3 pm, at Malcolm Clark's home.

Conservation Committee. Normally meets the 2nd Monday of each month, 10 am, at Mary Kay Prentice's home. Conservation issues should be brought to the Conservation Committee before being put on the ExCom's action agenda (mkp@npgcable.com).

Meetings. In June, Claus & Connie Engelhardt, along with Sharon & Malcolm Clark, gave a slide presentation on their trips to Patagonia (plus Iguazu Falls and Easter Island) taken earlier this year. Our July and August meetings were cookouts at the Hayden Cabin and Rock Creek Lake. Mary Shore is taking over from Claus Engelhardt as our Programs chair. Many thanks to Claus for his years of service in this difficult job!

Outings. Summer outings are over. Winter outings will begin in January. Henning Jensen has resigned as our summer outings leader, so please suggest yourself or someone else to fill this important post for our 2012 summer outings.

Conservation. *Bodie Hills:* Once again we and our partners mobilized to defeat a proposal before the Mono County Board of Supervisors (August 2) which would have released Bodie

WSA. The same proposal would have endorsed the "McCarthy" bill, which seeks to release most WSAs and IRAs nationwide.

Lawsuit challenging Inyo County General Plan Amendment: Range of Light Group, together with the Center for Biological Diversity, filed a lawsuit challenging this amendment and map designating large areas of the county suitable for renewable energy development. Our lawsuit contended that the amendment required environmental review before approval. Rather than fight the lawsuit, on August 22 the Inyo Board of Supervisors revoked the amendment.

New California state director for BLM: Jim Kenna was recently appointed to this position.

New Devils Postpile National Monument General Management Plan: Four preliminary alternatives are available for comment.

Other current issues: Tufa State Reserve still on list of state parks to be closed; land exchange between Mammoth Mountain and USFS; Inyo National Forest restoration planning for Oak Creek and Deadman Creek. Please see our website (below) for further information.

Group ExCom meetings

We usually meet on a Tuesday in January, April, July, and October. Tentatively, our next meeting is October 18, 3pm, at Malcolm Clark's home. All are welcome but please confirm date, place and time (Malcolm Clark, 760-924-5639 or rangeoflight.sc@gmail.com), as meeting dates frequently are changed in order to assure a quorum at the meeting.

RANGE OF LIGHT GROUP

OFFICERS

Chair	Malcolm Clark*	760-924-5639
Vice Chair	Mary K. Prentice	760-934-0355
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At Large	Mauriça Anderson*	
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Publicity	Rosemary Jarrett*	see At Large, above
Webmaster	Jo Bacon	jbacon22@verizon.net
Webmaster Emeritus	Owen Maloy	760-934-9511

* Voting ExCom member

ROL Group Website
<http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup/>
 &
 Chapter website
<http://toiyabe.sierraclub.org>

Range of Light Calendar

FALL OUTINGS NEWS

SUMMER-FALL OUTINGS ENDED SEPTEMBER 25. Winter outings begin in January and will be announced in the Jan-Feb-Mar 2012 issue of the Trails. Some Sierra Club Desert Committee Fall outings are in or near the ROL area (see page 3 of this issue for details).

Summer Photo Gallery



Summer school students and future environmentalists from Bridgeport Elementary School made it up to Cooney Lake in the Virginia Lakes Basin. On this Eastern Sierra Inner City Outing in mid-August with leader Mauriça Anderson, there were lots of wild flowers and snow cones made with boysenberry syrup. (Photo: Mauriça Anderson)

You're Invited!

Range of Light Group Monthly Meetings Everyone welcome!

Please note the following changes: the Crowley potluck now begins at 6:15 and the program begins at 7 pm. Also note that the Holiday (December) potluck is on the 2nd (not the 3rd) Tuesday.

For all potlucks bring your own *non-disposable* table setting. (We only provide table settings for the speaker.) For months with a program, you are welcome to skip the potluck and come only for the program. There are no potlucks allowed when we meet at the Mammoth Community Library but you are asked to bring "finger food" – appetizers or desserts.

October 18 (Tuesday)

Potluck & Social 6:15 p.m.

New Crowley Lake Community Ctr

(next to Crowley Lake Store)

Please bring a dish for 6-8 people.

Program: 7 pm

"A House Made of Straw"

Urs Willimann will speak about building his own straw bale house. Urs and his wife Rosemary are relatively new to the Eastern Sierra and have settled in Bridgeport, where they built their own "green" house. We'll hear about their trials and tribulations when building their house.

November 15 (Tuesday)

Potluck & Social: 6:15 pm

New Crowley Lake Community Ctr

(next to Crowley Lake Store)

Please bring a dish for 6-8 people.

Program: 7 pm

"Update from Inyo National Forest"

Mammoth and Mono Lake Districts in the

Inyo National Forest will give us an update and clarification of Forest Service Funding, current fire policy as it applies to our local forest, and on staging areas for OSVs and OHVs in Shady Rest area. There will be opportunity to ask questions.

December 13 (Tuesday)

Holiday Party & Potluck

6 pm, at the home of John & Nancy Walter, 240 Mammoth Knolls Drive, Mammoth Lakes

The Walters once again graciously invite you to their home for our annual Holiday celebration. Join your Sierra Club friends and enjoy an evening of food, conversation and cheer. Please bring your own non-disposable table setting and a special dish to share for 6-8 people. More: John and Nancy (760-934-1767).



Summer Photo Gallery

continued from page 4



Members of ROL kayaking among water smartweed on Bridgeport Reservoir on August 14, 2011. About 16 boats took to the water. (Photo: Malcolm Clark)



ROL cleanup crew prepares to pick up trash along Hwy 395, June 22. (Photo: Shalle Genevieve)



Fun, food, and fellowship at Rock Creek Lake on August 26, 2011. (Photo: Malcolm Clark)

What is an IRWMP?

BY MALCOLM CLARK (WMALCOLM.CLARK@GMAIL.COM)

There are over 50 Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) areas in California, covering more than 84% of the state. The aim is to promote integrated regional water planning. No entity has to join their area RWM Group, but the availability of substantial state funds available only to entities belong to a RWMG provides a strong incentive to join.

Local Groups in the Eastern Sierra began to meet regularly in 2008 to form the Inyo-Mono IRWMP. The first tasks were (1) to establish a governance structure for the group (formalized in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and (2) to define the boundaries of the regional area (subject to state approval).

Included in our group are all of Inyo and Mono Counties, plus portions of Kern and San Bernardino counties (i.e., the Indian Wells Valley - Ridgecrest area). More than 30 groups belong to our RWMPG: water districts; agencies, local & county government, and environmental groups (including ROLG).

Following acceptance of the group and its boundaries by the state, we proceeded simultaneously to the 2nd and 3rd stages: writing an IRWMP (plan) and submitting our first round of proposals for funding from the state.

Each member can fill out worksheets and rank the proposals, resulting in an overall priority rank. Initially (May) we

were disappointed to receive no funding. But after much effort by staff and members, we were awarded \$1,075,000 in August.

A second round of implementation proposals will be prepared for submission toward the end of 2011, with awards to be made in 2012.

Governance. The RWMG is democratically governed. There is a small coordinating committee but all substantive decisions are made by the entire group (the "planning committee"). Decisions are made on a thumbs up/thumbs down vote – with even a single negative vote meaning the proposed decision is rejected.

Meetings typically are held monthly, follow the Brown Act requirements, and are open to the public. Environmental considerations are among the six primary plan objectives. For more information see the conservation page of the ROLG web site or go to <www.inyomonowater.org>. (ROL website address on page 4 of this issue.)



ROL members and friends participate in a birding outing July 30 to Crowley Lake, Laurel Pond, and Rock Creek Canyon Lake. (Photo: Shalle Genevieve)



Brigitte Berman enlightens ROLG hikers about Convict Canyon geology on July 24, 2011. (Photo: Malcolm Clark)

DEADLINE!

DECEMBER 1

FOR JAN-FEB-MAR ISSUE

CONSERVATION ROUNDUP

I go to nature to be soothed and healed, and to have my senses put in order.

— John Burroughs

President proclaims National Wilderness Month

BY MARGE SILL

Wilderness lovers will certainly appreciate this excerpt from a recent presidential proclamation.

The mystery and wonder of wilderness is deeply rooted in our national character. For many of the first Americans -- American Indians and Alaska Natives -- the wilderness provided a source of sustenance and a foundation for their ways of life. Later, as explorers and the pioneers of a young country moved west, they found adventure and new beginnings in the landscapes of our Nation.

As we continue our country's proud journey and explore new opportunities in the 21st century, the importance of maintaining our wilderness has only grown. Protecting our wilderness areas and their riches -- clean water, stretches of undisturbed land, thriving wildlife, and healthy ecosystems -- is critical to the health of our environment and our communities. Today, wilderness areas serve as places for us to roam, hunt, fish, and find solitude. They are also strong

engines of local economies, providing tourism and recreation revenue for communities.

... And in recognition of the importance of our wilderness, my Administration has expanded protected wilderness areas by 2 million acres.

From our earliest days, America's identity has been tied to the powerful waterfalls, soaring peaks, and vast plains of its land. As a people, we are defined by its diversity and empowered by its richness. This month, we honor this land that we love, and commit to ensuring our wilderness remains a place where all can experience the spirit that has shaped America. During National Wilderness Month, let each of us embrace our Nation's legacy of protecting and preserving our vast wilderness for generations to come. ...

— from The White House Office of the Press Secretary, September 1, 2011

Time to say NO to the water grab!

BY ROSE STRICKLAND

Both the Nevada State Engineer and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) are requesting public comments on the massive groundwater exportation project proposed by the Southern Nevada Water Authority. Seeking to prevent another Owen's Valley environmental and social disaster in eastern Nevada, the Sierra Club and the Great Basin Water Network are urging all concerned to add their voices to help stop this controversial proposal.

The State Engineer has re-scheduled hearings this fall on SNWA applications in four remote rural valleys: Spring, Cave, Dry Lake, and Delamar in Lincoln and White Pine Counties. This can happen thanks to the NV Supreme Court ruling which voided SNWA water rights and gave the public the opportunity to participate in these critical water decisions.

BLM has released its draft pipeline Environmental Impact Statement and is seeking comments from the public. The draft EIS can be found online at: <www.blm.gov/5w5c>. The EIS discloses devastating impacts of proposed groundwater pumping, including huge declines in local water tables, major subsidence over 575 square miles, drying up of hundreds of springs, seeps, wet meadows, wetlands and streams, and losses of wildlife habitat and wild horse water sources.

Nevada cannot afford this \$15.5 billion project or the environmental harm it would cause to our public lands. The BLM wants the public to tell it which of the draft EIS alternatives to select. Unfortunately, all of the alternatives

will permit massive environmental harm from SNWA pumping.

What you can do. Check the GBWN website at <<http://greatbasinwaternet.org>> for a 4-page EIS guide. Check all the issues important to you which are listed on the last page, add your personal comments, name and address, and send to the BLM by the October 11, 2011 deadline. Tell the BLM that it cannot issue a Right-of-Way for the pipeline and also protect public lands and resources.

The State Engineer has set aside October 7 to accept testimony from the public in Carson City. The public can also submit written testimony through the month of November. Check the Great Basin Water Network website for information on the location of the hearing room and also the address for written comments: <<http://greatbasinwaternet.org>>. Ask the State Engineer to NOT approve the SNWA water applications for this proposed groundwater mining project.

If you have questions, contact Rose Strickland, chapter water campaign coordinator (775 329-6118).

Ruby Pipeline completed, but not without future concerns

BY DAVID VON SEGGERN, RUBY PIPELINE TASK FORCE, TOIYABE CHAPTER

AS THIS ISSUE GOES TO PRESS, the Ruby Pipeline has been operating for nearly two months, carrying natural gas from Opal, Wyoming to Malin, Oregon. The Chapter still has a stake in this, though. First is our lawsuit in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, in conjunction with Defenders of Wildlife and Great Basin Resource Watch.

Lawsuit challenges BLM. Our lawsuit refutes BLM's acceptance of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and grant of a Right of Way (ROW) to Ruby for construction across public lands in Nevada and the other states along the route. Our case is based on, among other issues, inadequacy of the EIS and the fact that many essential pieces of the EIS were not available to the public at the draft EIS stage. Oral arguments are due to be heard in the appeals court on October 10.

Our case has been admirably developed by Adam Kron of Defenders of Wildlife and his colleagues. Because the pipeline is complete, it is unclear at this time what redress the court might give if they are sympathetic to our arguments.

Restoration monitoring & 3D documentation. The second part of our stake in the pipeline is the future monitoring of efforts to restore the pipeline corridor

to prior conditions. The 110-foot ROW could easily become a permanently visible feature on the dry, high desert Nevada landscape.

In July, Howard Goldbaum and I visited a randomly selected milepost (MP420) on the pipeline corridor near Winnemucca to do a baseline photo documentation of vegetation recovery. Howard produced one of his 360-degree, panoramic, 3-D virtual reality scenes at the pipeline, which is now viewable at <<http://www.allaroundnevada.com/?p=1664>>. (Have a look! The editor was impressed.) We also took several still photographs.

The photographs show that the pipeline corridor has been taken over nearly 100% by cheatgrass at this spot. The photos were used in a document which was prepared and sent to FERC regarding the unfortunate state of revegetation at MP420. This was filed in the official docket; Ruby Pipeline has recently replied with another filing. They essentially make the same claims as in the FEIS and accompanying documents: that restoration will be near-perfect after a number of years.

What the Club can do. We feel that continued Sierra Club monitoring of this effort is needed to make sure they are accountable for their claims. Also, long-term documentation of the pipeline corridor should bolster our claims that these scars are largely unrestorable in many areas.

Serious map & trail problems in the Sierra Nevada

BY BRIGITTE BERMAN

I JUST CAME BACK FROM A 10-DAY backpacking trip into the Hoover Wilderness, Emigrant Basin, and the northernmost segment of Yosemite National Park. There is a very serious map and trail maintenance problem in these areas.

The Hoover Wilderness was just recently included in a wilderness designation. The new maps recently published by the Forest Service have a date of 1956! Trails maintained by packer outfits and abandoned trails are not on these "new maps." Trails are poorly signed. The Emigrant Wilderness book and map by Ben Schiffrin is dated 1990. This map (and text) are outdated – after all, they are twenty years old, though "newer" than the Hoover maps.

Further south, the famous John Muir Trail is very well maintained but has been re-routed away from lakes and mead-

ows many times. And none of these changes have been edited into the famous old contour maps which are by now 50 years old.

The computer maps are no better. They are a compilation of the old maps. Worse, they combine feet and meter maps without changing into one or the other.

For a successful back pack trip you need up-to-date, 7½-minute topographic maps to find your way cross-country whenever the trail disappears.

What the Club can do. It should be in the Sierra Club's interest to help produce new updated versions of the old contour maps. It seems the Forest Service does not have the resources to attack this major problem.



DEADLINE!
DECEMBER 1
FOR JAN-FEB-MAR ISSUE



Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better.

— Albert Einstein

Election results for NV's Congressional District 2

BY JEAN STOEISS

FORMER STATE SENATOR Mark Amodei was elected to the open Congressional District 2 seat in Nevada Tuesday, September 13, defeating State Treasurer Kate Marshall. Marshall had been endorsed by the national and Toiyabe Chapter of the Sierra Club.

In final unofficial returns, Amodei, a Republican, received 74,976 votes and Democrat Marshall tallied 46,669. Helmuth Lehmann, an Independent, had 5354 votes and Independent American, Tim Fasano, tallied 2415.

Registration in CD-2 is heavily Republican; no Democrat has ever been elected to the seat. The CD-2 seat was open after the resignation of U.S. Senator John Ensign, and the gubernatorial appointment of Congressman Dean Heller to the Senate.

Death by dog: Dogs on trails

BY TINA NAPPE



BELOVED ZOIE. The golden mantled ground squirrel twisted in agony from Zoie's quick impulsive bite. Death, please come quickly. The

youngster, eager for life could not be saved. Soon, the squirrel lay quiet. We walked on, focused on the trail and our destination, the beauty of the mountains, the abundant and colorful flowers after a wet winter, the companionable conversation.

Last year on July 4, another dog killed a squirrel in the same area. This trail, in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, sees about 50 hikers a year, at least a third of them with dogs. With the popularity of hiking and mountain biking, new trails are being constructed throughout the Sierra and the Carson Range, thus increasing the fragmentation of wildlife habitat. Some trails are used all year.

Our dogs continually harass small creatures such as squirrels, chipmunks, lizards, and birds, intruding on these other animals' need for space, safety, and food. We view these creatures as so much flotsam. "Giving my dog some exercise", we say as we watch

Please see DOGS ON TRAILS, page 12.

Toiyabe Chapter & the black bear hunt

BY TINA NAPPE

The Toiyabe Chapter has received complaints that it approved a Nevada Black Bear Hunt. Actually, the Chapter has never supported this bear hunt or any other hunt. In fact, the Chapter did not testify, because the majority of the Nevada State Board of Wildlife Commissioners endorsed the hunt and had already demonstrated their disinterest in opinions other than their own. We regret now that we did not testify.



Instead, the Chapter focused on changing the Commission membership both through legislation and endorsement of new commissioners. These Commission changes went into effect in July. And the Chapter has written the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) asking that this new Commission, appointed by Governor Sandoval, establish a Committee to work with bear advocates, local governments and others to address the bear hunt and nuisance bear conflicts.

NDOW, like other Nevada natural resource agencies, is almost solely dependent on user fees to operate the agency. The legislature eliminated general funds (public taxes) to address nuisance wildlife. NDOW is responsible for public safety and managing wildlife. The only income source that NDOW currently has to address nuisance bears is hunting; one could say that deer hunting is currently underwriting the nuisance bear program.

The agency has encouraged local governments to pass bearproof trash regulations in order to reduce bear/human conflicts. However, some local governments have lagged not only in approving regulations but enforcing them. Why? Because, as one county commissioner stated at a hearing, local government is not responsible for wildlife; NDOW is. Not our problem. As a result, the bear population has grown, resulting in vehicle caused deaths, orphan cubs, trash dependent bears destroyed, delays in hibernation, and a higher birth rate.

The Black Bear Committee can address, among other issues, the following:

- 1) Repopulating black bears into historic range.
- 2) Encouraging volunteers to assist in enforcing trash container regula-

tions by working with waste disposal companies and local government. A regulation with weak enforcement does not reduce the problem.

3) Providing an effective education program.

4) Helping Animal Ark care for orphan cubs until they can be released to the wild. The organization has received 13 cubs from NDOW so far and have just received two more. For more info, go to <<http://animalark.org/>>.

5) Working to: (a) reduce inappropriate development that infringes on bear habitat and increases bear/human conflicts and (b) acquire essential habitat.

6) Providing a broader role for citizens in bear management.

The number of nuisance bear complaints, one factor which has precipitated NDOW's bear hunt, can be significantly reduced if nonprofit organizations, homeowner's groups, local governments and individuals work together. In Nevada, wildlife belongs to the citizens; we all need to contribute to ensuring the future for black bears.

Snowlands Network's Quiet Quadrant Campaign

BY GAIL FERRELL, PRESIDENT, SNOWLANDS NETWORK

The Quiet Quadrant Campaign, championed by Snowlands Network, is aimed at improving and balancing quality opportunities for non-motorized winter recreation in the Lake Tahoe Basin. The organization is working with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) in the Lake Tahoe Basin to mitigate the imbalance between non-motorized and motorized winter recreation.

In pursuit of this goal, Snowlands Network has proposed a specific alternative to the current land use plan. (The Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit – LTBMU – of USFS is working on updating the current land use plan within the Lake Tahoe Basin. This updated plan will include planning for winter recreation within the Lake Tahoe Basin.)

Skiers and snowshoers far outnumber snowmobilers in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

In fact, in winter, human powered recreationists outnumber motorized users 10 to 1 in the Lake Tahoe Basin! This data reflects the users of public lands, not users at ski resorts or users of commercial guides for snowmobiling.

As stated in an earlier article by Snowlands Network, 53% of public lands within Lake Tahoe Basin are open to snowmobiling. However, some of those public lands are wilderness, far from

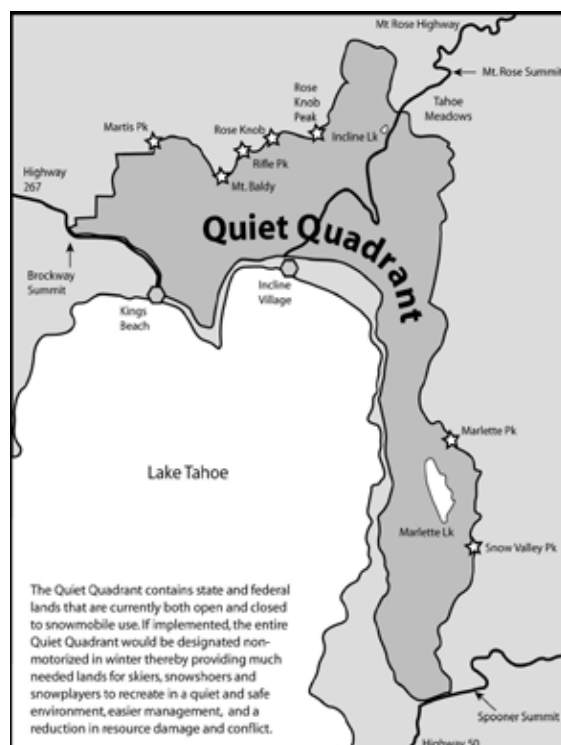
plowed roads, and provide a challenge to access in winter on skis or snowshoes.

A more realistic view of the land available for human-powered winter recreationists, free from the motorized world, is 31%! In other words, less than one third of public lands are accessible for human powered winter recreation within the LTBMU. With skiers, snowshoers and snowplayers outnumbering snowmobilers 10 to 1, this is grossly unfair and must be changed.

What you can do. The LTBMU is (probably) a year away from making decisions about land uses on federal land, but it is not too late for you to write a personal e-mail or letter to the Staff at the LTBMU strongly advising them to adjust the imbalance in winter recreation. They can do so by adopting the Quiet Quadrant: the area between Hwy 267 and Hwy 50, including Hwy 431, the Mt. Rose Highway. This area includes both state and federal lands which are open and closed to snowmobiling. (See map.)

Please write to the LTBMU and tell them

Please see QUIET QUADRANT, page 12.



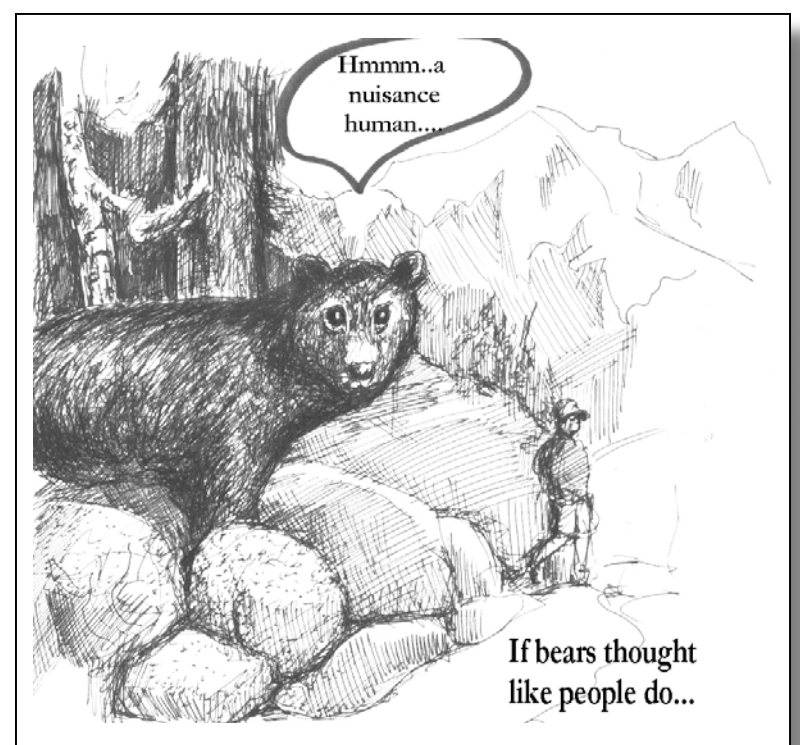
Cleaning up U.S. 395 near Mammoth Lakes

BY JEAN STOEISS

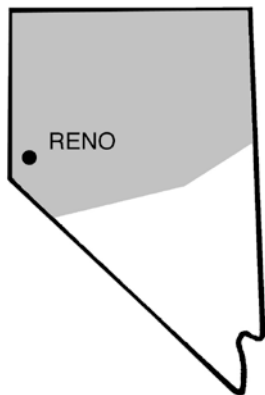
On the southbound lanes of U.S. 395 just before Mammoth Lakes is an Adopt-A-Highway sign for the Range of Light Group, a group project organized by John Walter.

And on the northbound lanes above Mammoth Lakes is a sign for Mauriça Anderson, an at-large member of the ROL ExCom who has been doing the cleanup by herself for nine years, ex-

Please see ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY, page 12.



Great Basin Gatherings



Great Basin Group

Group News

BY CATHERINE SCHMIDT, GROUP CHAIR

Help Wanted

OUR LOCAL GROUP is led by a small group of dedicated volunteers, the Executive Committee (ExCom), who meet monthly from September to May to plan activities, take on conservation issues, and decide how to spend Great Basin Group funds.

The ExCom usually meets the first Monday of the month for an hour; any member is welcome to attend. **The dates for the fall meetings are: October 3rd, November 7th, and November 28th.**

As you vote in the Chapter and Group elections this year, give some thought to what you could contribute to our local Great Basin group. For example, we always need volunteers to serve as program night greeters, on the Conservation Committee, and at Earth Day and other events.

What you can do. If you'd like more information about the Great Basin Group ExCom, or getting involved in other ways, please contact any one of the Group's officers listed in the *Trails* directory on this page or contact me at cathsch256@aol.com or 323-6316.

It's that time of year again . . .

PATAGONIA'S HOSTING, the good food is roasting! Must mean it's time for our annual GBG Holiday Party! Join us Saturday, December 3rd from 6-9 pm for a stupendous pot luck dinner, great company, recognition of giving members, and dancing.

Bring a dish to share and, because we try to be environment-friendly when we gather, your bringing your own place setting, glass, and utensils would be appreciated. The Club will provide non-alcoholic punch and water. BYOB if desired.

Mark your calendars now for a warm, wonderful evening of fun! (See details on page 11.)

Directions. The Patagonia building is located at 8550 White Fir Drive, Reno. Take I-80 west to exit 10 (W. McCarran), go L on McCarran. Take a R on W. 4th St., follow W. 4th two miles to Woodland St. Take a L, cross the railroad tracks, then take the first R on White Fir St. Follow White Fir around to the L. Turn into the last drive before the bridge and park in the lot.

For questions, call or e-mail Cathy Schmidt at cathsch256@aol.com or 323-6316. See you there!

Great Basin Group Calendar

All phone numbers are 775 unless otherwise noted. ALL events include conservation education activities.

CST Nevada Tour Operator – Registration Information, Nevada Tour Operator Ref. No. 2008-0041 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.

SEPT 30 - OCT 2 (FRIDAY-SUNDAY)

Hot Springs, Cool Nights. Camp at hot spring in Black Rock, visit other hot springs in area. Right on route of Emigrant Trail, so we'll learn about Black Rock, hot springs, Emigrant trail. Days and nights are starting to cool off, there are fewer visitors, so this is a great time to visit Black Rock! Leader very familiar with area. Sign up after 9/1. Start time TBA. DL. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.

OCT 1 (SATURDAY) 9 AM

Duane Bliss Peak (8658 ft). Day hike to bag this medium-sized peak off beaten path, overlooking Carson City. Hike S from Spooner Summit along TRT for approach; final mi will be 900 ft ascent x-country over granitic terrain. Great vistas, lots of trees. About 8 mi. RT, 1500 ft gain. DL. Leader: Ridge Walker (853-8055, edc@unr.edu). Co-Leader: Lucrecia Belancio (851-9279). Moderate.

Please see GB CALENDAR, page 9.

Kids get outdoors, thanks to Great Basin Group

BY SUE JACOX, SUEJACOX@NVBELL.NET

"I CAN REALLY HELP THE EARTH," one Sun Valley Elementary School fifth grader wrote after spending four days at a Tahoe science camp with Great Basin Outdoor School (GBOS) in May. With nearly 90% of the school's population living in poverty, most had never hiked in the forest, and about a quarter of them had never seen Lake Tahoe. Now, this school year's fifth graders will get the opportunity to hike and learn at Tahoe with some support from the Sierra Club's Great Basin group.



Sun Valley students get healthy outdoor activity and learning at Tahoe with Great Basin Outdoor School.

More importantly, the group is exploring means of continuing support so that more children can benefit from an annual fund for outdoor education.

Not only can kids learn to help the earth, but connecting kids with the earth will help them be happier, healthier, more creative, and more resilient. Sun Valley Elementary School teacher Stefanie Braun thanked the Sierra Club, saying, "Many of our students at Sun Valley Elementary do not ever get the opportunity to go camping or even up to Lake Tahoe. GBOS gives our students the opportunity to not only experience camping and the beauty of Lake Tahoe, but opens up their

Please see KIDS OUTDOORS, page 9.

Great Basin Peak Section News

On the trail! Clouds over Kumiva

BY SHARON MARIE WILCOX

Gray skies and a slight drizzle couldn't convince us to cancel the re-scheduled April 23rd trip to Kumiva Peak. Five hikers – Lu Belancio, Larry Grant, Eric Morrill, Bob Morrill, and Sharon Marie Wilcox – headed for the trail in uncertain weather conditions.

We accepted the fact that after a drive to the Selenite Range a downpour might greet us. Still, we agreed there was the possi-



bility of missing the storm.

Heading north on NV Highway 447, we spotted a golden eagle and an antelope. When the Selenite Range came into view, Mount Limbo and Purgatory were visible on the south end of the range; however, Kumiva, to the north, was hidden by clouds. Kumiva Peak is the high point of the Selenite Range. This range was named for outcrops of crystallized gypsum or selenite along its western border.

We parked 3.1 miles from the highway turnoff and hiked along Jenny Creek, following the path of least resistance around rock outcrops, brush, as-

Please see KUMIVA, page 9.

GB GROUP 2ND THURSDAY PROGRAM MEETINGS

All programs open to the public

ON THE 2ND THURSDAY OF EACH month (September - May), come and enjoy fun socialization and informative programs with the Great Basin Group. Non-members welcome, too!

For details on program topics and location, go to the Sierra Club web site about a month before the scheduled date (<http://nevada.sierraclub.org/gbgroup>). Also check our Calendar, which begins on this page of the *Trails*.

For additional information, contact the program chair, Valerie Andersen (775-544-3061, mtnval@sbcglobal.net).

.....
"Tahoe Rim Trail to Reno"
Date: Thursday, Oct. 13

Time: 7p social, 7:30p program
Location: Girl Scouts of the Sierra Nevada, 605 Washington Street Reno (S of Hwy 80). Contact: Valerie Andersen, 853-4769, mtnval@sbcglobal.net.

Learn about proposed new trails connecting Tahoe Rim Trail to Reno and how you can get involved from Mary Bennington, Director of Tahoe Rim Trail Assoc. In Oct. 2010, representatives from the Tahoe Rim Trail Association, United States Forest Service (Carson Ranger District), Great Basin

Institute, and Washoe County Regional Parks & Open Space joined volunteers in breaking ground on a new trail connecting Tahoe Rim Trail to Reno. Tahoe Rim Trail circles the mountain ridges above Lake Tahoe, through the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest's Mount Rose Wilderness. The Rim-to-Reno project will build new trail segments connecting existing trails and creating a new system that includes loop trails

Please see GB PROGRAMS, page 9.

Don't forget to visit the Great Basin Group website
<http://nevada.sierraclub.org/gbgroup>
 & the Chapter website
<http://toiyabe.sierraclub.org>

GREAT BASIN GROUP

OFFICERS

Chair	Catherine Schmidt*	775-240-3785	cathsch256@aol.com
Vice-Chair	David von Seggern*	775-303-8461	vonseg1@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Sue Jacox*	775-849-1890	suejacox@nvbell.net
Treasurer	Martin Mace*	775-745-4703	mace.martin@gmail.com
Conservation	David von Seggern*	775-303-8461	vonseg1@sbcglobal.net
Distribution	Craig Mastos	775-348-1862	
Energy	Jeff Hardcastle*	775-313-8442	jeff.hardcastle@sbcglobal.net
Membership	Graham Stafford*	775-686-8478	graham@grahamstafford.com
Outings	Holly Coughlin	775-331-7488	
Political	Open		
Programs	Valerie Andersen	775-853-4769	mtnval@sbcglobal.net
Webmaster	Peter Johnson	775-250-2576	peter.johnson@charter.net

* ExCom member

KIDS GET OUTDOORS ...

continued from page 8

world to so many other opportunities. It lets them be explorers, thinkers, geologists, and teaches them how to treat each other. GBOS has been very beneficial to our students, families, and our community here in Sun Valley."

What you can do. Interested members can see more about Great Basin Outdoor School programs at greatbasinos.org and also can arrange a visit by contacting Sue Jacox at suejacox@nvbell.net.

GB PROGRAMS ...

continued from page 8

along with the connector trail to Reno. If you'd like to volunteer to help, work days will run on Thursdays and Saturdays until the snow flies. To join a volunteer work crew, register online at www.tahoerimtail.org.

"Along High Sierra Trails"

Date: Thursday, Nov. 10

Time: 7:00 social, 7:30 program

Location: Girl Scouts of the Sierra Nevada, 605 Washington Street Reno (S of Hwy 80). Contact: Valerie Andersen, 853-4769, mtnval@sbcglobal.net.

Join photographers Mike White and Mark Vollmer for an awe-inspiring slide show, exploring the "Range of Light" from Yosemite going south. Mark's award-winning work has chronicled the Sierra in visuals and words. Mike, also an award-winner, has authored trail guides for much of the Sierra as well as "Afoot & Afield Reno-Tahoe." Join them as they chronicle some of their fantastic hikes in the central and southern Sierra, and share how to create evocative photos of outdoor experiences.

KUMIVA TRIP ...

continued from page 8

pen, and snow banks as we ascended.

Our gray day started without precipitation, but added a light spitting snow after we crossed Jenny Creek. The clouds thickened and dropped more snow as we neared the summit.

On the 8237-foot summit, we quickly ate lunch, snapped photos, and signed the register.

As we descended, the snow stopped, but a light rain drizzled during the remainder of the hike. In the end, we enjoyed another interesting day of variable weather and hiking in the Great Basin. The only things we missed on this trip were sun and great summit views! (See photos, this page.)

Join us! For details on membership, recognition categories, peak list, our new emblem patch, and trip reports, check out Great Basin Peak Section at <http://toiyabe.sierraclub.org/GB-PeaksSection.html>.

DEADLINE!
DECEMBER 1
FOR
JAN-FEB-MAR ISSUE

**Great Basin Group
Calendar**

continued from page 8

OCT 3 (MONDAY) 6:30 - 7:30 PM

GBG Ex Com. Meet at Cathy's house. Call for directions. ND. Leader: Cathy Schmidt (240-3785, cathsch256@aol.com). Easy.

**OCT 7-9
(FRIDAY-SUNDAY)
TBA**

Hot Springs, Cool Nights.

Meet up Friday eve in Reno, head on up for Fall Hot Springs Tour in Black Rock at end of "Regular" camping season. Weather is starting to cool off, most crowds are gone, so it's a great time to visit playa! It will be nearly a full moon. Exact itinerary depends on playa conditions. High clearance required, 4WD preferred. Sign-up: 9/20-10/5. DL. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.

**OCT 8
(SATURDAY) 9 AM**

Salt Wells Basin Conservation Tour. Double feature on Salt Wells Basin SE of Fallon. First stop is ENEL state-of-the-art binary geothermal plant. Learn about plant, then catch Pony Express historical sign near plant. Cross Highway 50 to Sand Mtn, learn about fragile existence of blue butterfly, efforts of BLM to protect their habitat. Easy. Trip limit 16. ND. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461, vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Easy.

**OCT 8
(SATURDAY)
11 AM**

Wetlands Walk. Enjoy fall walk along Damonte Ranch scenic wetlands in SE Reno. Learn about local birds, riparian environment. Bring binoculars. About 4 mi RT. DL. Leader: Lucrecia Belancio (851-9279). Co-Leader: Vicki Toy

Eric Morrill, Sharon Marie Wilcox, Bob Morrill, Lucrecia Belancio, & Larry Grant on Kumiva Peak Summit.



Smith (826-0932). Easy.

OCT 9 (SUNDAY) 4 PM



Eric Morrill, Bob Morrill, Sharon Marie Wilcox, Lucrecia Belancio, & Larry Grant.

Black Rock Digital Photography, Tour. Join retired photographer and teacher Graham Stafford on car camping, digital photography outing at Black Rock/High Rock National Conservation Area N of Reno NV. Explore Black Rock/High Rock and its natural hot springs – a photographer's wonderland. Learn technical, artistic

aspects of digital photography. All levels of photography experience accepted, beginners encouraged. View Graham's work on his website. DL. Leader: Graham Stafford (775-686-8478, graham@grahamstafford.com). Easy.

**OCT 13 (THURSDAY)
7 SOCIAL; 7:30 PROGRAM**

"Tahoe Rim Trail to Reno" PROGRAM MEETING. Learn about proposed new trails connecting Tahoe Rim Trail to Reno and how you can get

involved. For more details on topic, location, visit Sierra Club website about month before scheduled date, <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/gbgroup>. ND. Leader: Valerie Andersen (775-544-3061, mtnval@sbcglobal.net). Easy.

**OCT 15
(SATURDAY) 8 AM**

Buckland Station, Fall Leaf Day Hike. Almost 10 mi loop hike on flat ground. Start at historic Buckland Station, proceed

downstream along Carson River, enjoying riparian habitat, Fall leaves. Return on segment of Pony Express Trail route. Learn some history of area. Fee: \$1 cash/person State Park walk-in fee. Option to tour remains of Fort Churchill on your own after hike (additional fee). Learn some history of area. Part of hike on soft sand. ND. Leader: T Taro (775-530-2935). Moderate.

**OCT 15
(SATURDAY) 8 AM**

May Quartz Be With You. Trip is Just S of Sonora Pass Jct with Hwy 395. Two-hour drive time to trailhead from Reno. Enjoy mod. strenuous hike, due to distance. Large juniper trees line trail to wide open canyon with numerous aspen trees, mountain views. Potential to explore giant quartz field. About 9 mi, gradual gain. Trip limit 12. DOK. Leader: Julie (530-1566, summitatempter@yahoo.com). Co-Leader: Donna Inversin (775-315-6763, d-inversin@yahoo.com). Mod. Strenuous.

OCT 22 (SATURDAY) 8 AM

Machado Postpiles. Fire, ice. Day hike in Carson Pass area. Existence, location of these natural hexagonal basalt columns were not confirmed until about 1990. Similar to, but believed to be millions of years older than, Devils Postpile near Mammoth. That's 'fire'; 'ice' is evidenced by numerous large erratics near beginning of hike, as well as glacial striations. About 5 mi; an in-out, about 800 ft gain. Not on trail. ND. Leader: T Taro (775-530-2935). Mod. Easy.

OCT 23 (SUNDAY) 10 AM

Galena Forest Day Hike. Join us for hike in forest area near SW Reno. About 4-6 mi, 600 ft gain. Exact destination to be determined. Learn about flora, fauna. About 3-4 hrs. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (331-7488). Co-Leader: Vesna Koracin (853-1863). Mod. Easy.

OCT 28 (FRIDAY) 8:30 AM

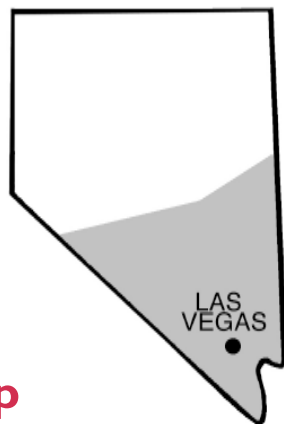
Nevada Day Hike. Come celebrate our State and ourselves making it through one more year, with traditional peak bag of local landmark, Peavine Mt. (8300 ft) We'll try to find novel route up "backside." About 10 mi, 3300 ft gain. Learn a lot about diverse habitats we'll climb through, if we are lucky, See migrating mule deer. DL. Leader: Ridge Walker (853-8055, edc@unr.edu). Co-Leader: Holly Coughlin (331-7488). Mod. Strenuous.

OCT 29 (SATURDAY) 8 AM

El Dorado Canyon Near Dayton. Day hike is 12 mi on an in-out, with under 600 ft gain. Riparian habitat with many crossings of small stream. Lunch at natural arch. Also small slot canyon to view on way out. Learn some history of area. High clearance vehicle needed or ride share. ND. Leader: T Taro (775-530-2935). Moderate.

**NOVEMBER 5 (SATURDAY) 8 AM
Mt. Davidson: Range High Point.** First this season of series of highest peaks in local mountain ranges. Mt. Davidson in Virginia Range (7664 ft), overlook-

The Mojave Monitor



Southern Nevada Group

Group News

ExCom meetings

OUR EXCOM MEETINGS are usually held from 6-830 pm on the last Monday of each month in the Sierra Club office at 708 S. 6th Street, Las Vegas 89101. Because of the holiday on October 31, that meeting has been moved back to October 24. The following month we will be meeting as usual on November 28. There is no ExCom meeting in December.

SN Group Focuses on Future

BY TAJ AINLAY, SN GROUP CHAIR

On the last Saturday of August, Sierra Club SNG members gathered for a day-long "Focus on the Future" workshop. Our goal was to start developing a **five-year plan** for the Group...and to have fun while doing so.

By mid-morning we had identified dozens of priorities to tackle through 2016. Topics identified ranged from outdoor activities and environmental initiatives to leadership, membership, education, politics, and more.

Brainstorming. A key part of the process was a brainstorming technique called the Walt Disney Method. We used it to focus on Group finances, coming up with nearly 50 ideas for raising funds, potentially worth millions of dollars.

Green Cookbook. Using an "idea auction," the concepts were narrowed down to nine for draft planning and presentation. After each plan was critiqued by the participants, two were selected for actual implementation—a major entertainment event and a local "green" cookbook.

Major Events TF. Next steps are for the SNG ExCom to form a Major Events Task Force and an Editorial

Board to move the two projects forward. Members are encouraged to volunteer for either or both groups.

Membership Chair needed. We also discussed the need to get our Membership Committee up and running again ASAP. The search is now on for a Membership Chair.

New office space Open House. Following the planning session, an Open House was held to show off our new office space and share our vision of the future with others. Two Nevada State Assembly members were present—AD 3's Peggy Pierce and AD41's Paul Aizley—both Sierra Club members..

Award given to Assemblywoman Pierce. A highlight of the evening was an award presented by the Group to Assemblywoman Pierce for her "steadfast dedication, exemplary leadership, and outstanding achievements in support of the local environment."

Free Home Energy Audit Raffle.

Raffled off at the end of the event was a free "Home Energy Audit" worth \$299. In total, about 30 members and friends participated during this long and very enjoyable day.

What you can do. Why not join in the fun to follow? Contact Taj Ainlay, SNG Chair, (tajainlay@aol.com, 702-682-9361).



Southern Nevada Group Calendar

All phone numbers are 702 unless otherwise noted.

(Please use email when leaders state that they prefer email, especially if you have a long distance telephone number.)

ALL EVENTS INCLUDE CONSERVATION EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

Nevada Tour Operator – Registration Information, Nevada Tour Operator Ref. No. 2008-0041.

OCTOBER 1 (SATURDAY)

Trail Canyon to Pahrump Overlook. Head through aspen and beyond scree field for fall colors. What makes leaves change color? About 6-7 mi. Leader: Sasson Jahan (499-9218) Level 3-4.

OCTOBER 1 (SATURDAY)

Cathedral Rock, Kyle Canyon, SMNRA. Family hike: all ages (babies, too!). Friendly dogs welcome. Cool fall temperatures, autumn colors (golden aspen trees), an awesome view of canyon and surrounding mountains at top of "Rock." Learn little geology, too. About 2.8 mi RT, 1000 ft gain. Leader: Gary Beckman (648-2983) Level 2-3.

OCTOBER 2 (SUNDAY)

Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup: SR 159 to Red Rock. Meet at Pizza Hut on Charleston at Antelope, 8:30a. Where do flash floods coming down Blue Diamond Wash go? Bring hat, sunscreen, water; about 2 mi. Leaders: Sandy Gogatz (248-4443), Jack Sawyer (228-3857).

OCTOBER 3 (MONDAY)

General PROGRAM MEETING. Time & Place: 7p; NV Energy Bldg., 6226 W. Sahara (E entrance, Wengert meeting room). Program: "Resurrection: Glen Canyon Institute & a New Vision for the American West". Glen Canyon Institute is a non-profit organization dedicated to restoring a free-flowing Colorado River through Glen Canyon and Grand Canyon. GCI's executive director, Michael Kellett, will be presenting the film. He will also discuss the background of Glen Canyon and the Colorado River, as well as current projects the organization is working on. All members and general public welcome. Announcements, refreshments, door prize, free literature, too. Info: Eric King (677-4751).

OCTOBER 8 (SATURDAY)

Bristlecone Loop, SMNRA. Look for those yellow aspen. What chemical causes yellow color? About 5 mi, 300 ft gain. Leader: Jack Sawyer (228-3857) Level 1-2.

OCTOBER 9 (SUNDAY)

Pine Creek, RRCNCA. Begin on trail and then scramble up canyon to cool, shady narrow parts. How is geology in this canyon like that of Zion? Leader: David Hardy (hardyhikers@embarqmail.com, e-mail preferred; 875-4826). Level 3.

OCTOBER 15 (SATURDAY)

Across Black Mountain to Boulder City Overlook. What kind of small wildlife inhabits this type of wash? About 8 mi. Leader: Sasson Jahan (499-9228) Level 3-4.

OCTOBER 22 (SATURDAY)

Hamblin Peak & Badlands, LMNRA. Leader: Bill Marr (433-0743) Level 3-4.

OCTOBER 23 (SUNDAY)

Valley of Fire Loop, LMNRA. See unusual colors of rock formations, narrow canyons along these 7 mi. Enjoy shaded sections. What minerals make up colors? Leader: David Hardy (hardyhikers@embarqmail.com, e-mail preferred; 875-4826). Level 2.

OCTOBER 29 (SATURDAY)

White Rock Loop, RRCNCA. About 6 mi of splendid views with no signs of civilization from back of White Rock Peak. Lunch spot is like another world from Vegas. How

many eco-zones are visible along this hike? Leader: George McDonald (808-3855) Level 2-3.

OCTOBER 30 (SUNDAY)

The Arches at Sunrise Mtn. About 4-5 mi loop hike, walking ridge lines; some rock scrambling. Leader: Roger Olsen (526-2181) Level 3-4

NOVEMBER 5 (SATURDAY)

Anniversary Narrows & Beyond, LMNRA. What did they mine here? Leader: Bill Marr (433-0743) Level 3-4.

NOVEMBER 6 (SUNDAY)

Pine Creek: S. Fork, RRCNCA. More fall color and cooler temps amid fabulous cliffs of Aztec sandstone framing stream. Why do ponderosa pines grow here at 4500 ft instead of in their normal zone at 8000 ft? Leader: Jack Sawyer (228-3857) Level 1-2.

NOVEMBER 12 (SATURDAY)

Frenchman Mtn. Great 360-degree views from top. About 1900 ft gain in 0.5 mi. Difficult. Leader: Roger Olsen (526-2181) Level 4.

NOVEMBER 13 (SUNDAY)

Red Rock Escarpment from Mountain Springs, RRCNCA. Begin near Mountain Springs Summit, climb up to ridge overlooking Red Rock. Then trek back down to cars. View of Spring Mtn Ranch. What kind of trees are in forest? About 8 mi, 1500 ft gain. Leader: David Hardy (hardyhikers@embarqmail.com, e-mail preferred; 875-4826). Level 3.

NOVEMBER 14 (2ND MONDAY)

General . Time & Place: 7p; NV Energy Bldg., 6226 W. Sahara (E entrance, Wengert meeting room). Program: "Everest Trek: Renewable Energy in the Himalayas" Our very own ExCom member describes his journey toward the top of the world! Photo slide show and presentation! More details to come. Check web and e-mails! All members and general public welcome. Announcements, refreshment, door prize, free literature, too. Info: Eric King (677-4751).

NOVEMBER 19 (SATURDAY)

Saturday November 19, to top of La Madre via springs and mine. Do bighorn sheep frequent this area? About 7 mi. Leader: Sasson Jahan (499-9218) Level 4-5.

NOVEMBER 20 (SUNDAY)

Cabin at Hidden Forest, Desert National Wildlife Refuge. About 10 mi RT, 1200 ft gain. Leader: Roger Olsen (526-2181) Level 2-3.

NOVEMBER 24 (THURSDAY)

THANKGIVING DAY

Cottonwood Valley Loop, RRCNCA. Go out along high ridge, return via trail through

Please see SN CALENDAR, page 11.

SOUTHERN NEVADA GROUP

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Webmaster	Par Rasmusson*	702-215-9119	par@mvdsl.com

* ExCom member

Don't forget to visit the Chapter website
<http://toiyabe.sierraclub.org>

S. Nevada Group Calendar

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canyons. In area of Red Rock that is S of Hwy160. Why is this called "Cottonwood Valley?" About 1000 ft gain. Leader: David Hardy (hardyhikers@embarqmail.com, e-mail preferred; 875-4826). Level 2-3.

NOVEMBER 26 (SATURDAY)

Bowl of Fire, LMNRA. Explore brilliant rock formations and canyons. What minerals were mined in this area? Leader: David Hardy (hardyhikers@embarqmail.com, e-mail preferred; 875-4826). Level 3.

NOVEMBER 27 (SUNDAY)

Blue Diamond Hill Loop, RRCNCA. Hike from houses to top of Blue Diamond Hill, then down to Blue Diamond. What will Blue Diamond Hill look like with a city of 20,000 people? About 7-8 mi. Leader: David Hardy (hardyhikers@embarqmail.com, e-mail preferred; 875-4826). Level 2-3.

DECEMBER 3 (SATURDAY)

Valley of Fire: Northeast Area. Fossil hunting and slot canyons. LMNRA. Leader: Bill Marr (433-0743) Level 3-4.

DECEMBER 4 (SUNDAY)

Nevada Hot Springs. About 5-6 mi RT. Boulder hopping, some scrambling. Leader: Roger Olsen (526-2181) Level 3-4.

DECEMBER 10 (SATURDAY)

Top of Black Mountain. What type of wildlife does this mountain range support? About 6 mi. Leader: Sasson Jahan (499-9218) Level 3-4.

DECEMBER 11 (SUNDAY)

Arizona Hot Springs, LMNRA. Loop route, bring bathing suit. Why is spring so hot and river so cold here? Leader: Jack Sawyer (228-3857) Level 2-3.

DECEMBER 12 (2ND MONDAY)

SN HOLIDAY PARTY!

General Program Meeting. Time & Place: 7p; NV Energy Bldg., 6226 W. Sahara (E entrance, Wengert meeting room). **NO PROGRAM. HAPPY HOLIDAYS! Holiday Potluck Party & Celebration! Bring food/drink and/or your smile and share in good times. Music, community, food, drink, laughter, and FUN!** Info: Eric King (677-4751).

DECEMBER 17 (SATURDAY)

Hole 33 to Geode Field Loop. LMNRA. Leader: Bill Marr (433-0743) Level 3-4.

DECEMBER 18 (SUNDAY)

Rainbow Gardens near LMNRA. About

5-6 mi loop hike. What minerals cause these rainbow colors?. Some rock scrambling. Leader: Roger Olsen (526-2181) Level 2-3.

DECEMBER 24 (SATURDAY)

Velvet Canyon Loop, RRCNCA. Beginning in Blue Diamond, over ridge to Velvet Canyon, then loop back to Blue Diamond. If it's been cold enough, we may see frozen pond in canyon. Are there frogs here? About 1000 ft change. Leader: David Hardy (hardyhikers@embarqmail.com, e-mail preferred; 875-4826). Level 3.

DECEMBER 25 (SUNDAY)

CHRISTMAS DAY

Cottonwood Valley Loop to Base of Mt. Potosi, RRCNCA. Hike via pass and back down through Red Canyon. What is red in Red Canyon? Leader: David Hardy (hardyhikers@embarqmail.com, e-mail preferred; 875-4826). Level 2-3.

DECEMBER 26 (MONDAY)

Pinto Valley Loop, LMNRA. About 8-10 mi, through interesting canyons and rock formations with fossils. Enjoy brilliant colors of land and canyons. Where do cows come from? Leader: David Hardy (hardyhikers@embarqmail.com, e-mail preferred; 875-4826). Level 2-3.

DECEMBER 31 (SATURDAY)

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Calico Loop, RRCNCA. Begin at Red Spring, hike into Gateway Canyon and up a short distance, then up trail to Sandstone Quarry. Follow trail back to Red Spring. Petroglyphs, narrow canyons. What are average temperatures now? Leader: David Hardy (hardyhikers@embarqmail.com, e-mail preferred; 875-4826). Level 2-3.

JANUARY 1, 2012 (SUNDAY)

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Hangover Hike. Start New Year right by joining other hikers on traditional moderate but scenic hike to Calico Tanks in Red Rock Canyon. Begin late morning. Geology of Aztec sandstone will be discussed. Group limited to 15 by BLM. Leader: Geologist Gary Beckman (648-2983). Level 2-3.

JANUARY 2 (MONDAY)

Blue Diamond Hill to Wheeler Spring, RRCNCA. Another route on Blue Diamond Hill including deep canyons. Begin at houses and end up at Wheeler Spring. Where does water come from? Leader: David Hardy (hardyhikers@embarqmail.com, e-mail preferred; 875-4826). Level 2-3.

ing Virginia City. Day hike about 7 mi in loop, about 1000 ft gain. Parts off trail; steep with brush. See segment of a wooden flume which brought water to VC. ND. Leader: T Taro (775-530-2935). Strenuous.

NOVEMBER 7 (MONDAY)

6:30 - 7:30 PM

GBG Ex Com Meeting. Meet at Cathy's house. Call for directions. ND. Leader: Cathy Schmidt (240-3785, cathsc256@aol.com). Easy.

NOVEMBER 10 (THURSDAY)

7 SOCIAL; 7:30 PROGRAM

"Along High Sierra Trails": PROGRAM MEETING. Join photographers Mike White, Mark Vollmer, for awe-inspiring slide show, chronicling some of their fantastic hikes in central and southern Sierra. They also share how to create evocative photos in outdoors. ND. Leader: Valerie Andersen (775-544-3061, mtval@sbcglobal.net). Easy.

NOVEMBER 11-13 (FRIDAY-SUNDAY) TBA

Cold Nights, Hot Springs. This is for all people who gripe about hot weather in Black Rock. Meet up in Reno on Friday evening, head on up for 4WD-oriented hot springs tour. High clearance vehicles required, 4WD preferred. Leader's choice of springs will depend on playa conditions. Visit several springs, maybe camp at either Double Hot or Black Rock Hot, visit Lassen-Clapper Murder Site, nearby section of Emigrant Trail. Possible visit to Soldier Meadows Hot Springs. Sign up 10/15-11/9. Dogs limited; be prepared to clean up after your dog. DL. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.

NOVEMBER 12 (SATURDAY) 8 AM

Juniper Peak Day Hike. Hike to Juniper Peak in Truckee Range E of Nixon. This seldom-visited peak is a difficult x-country trek, with gain of roughly 2500 ft. Learn about vegetation in arid, volcanic regions of Nevada. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461). Co-Leader: Ileana Tibuleac (781-258-3619). Mod. Strenuous.

NOVEMBER 19 (SATURDAY) 8 AM

Cleaver Peak: High Point in Desert Mountains. Second range high point in series this season. Cleaver (6700 ft) is S of Silver Springs. About 8 mi RT, with about 2400 ft gain. Off-trail, boulder scrambling, steep in places. Learn about history, flora. ND. Leader: T Taro (775-530-2935). Strenuous.

NOVEMBER 21 (MONDAY) 6:30 PM

Outings Meeting. Join us to help plan outings for Jan., Feb., March. We'll enjoy pot-luck dinner at home of Gracie off Los Altos. All beverages provided. Find out what it takes to become trip leader. Fun! DOK. Leader: Gracie Caudill (233-6404H myoki@att.net). Co-Leader: Holly Coughlin (331-7488). Easy.

NOVEMBER 24 (THURSDAY) 10 AM

Pre-Thanksgiving Day Hike. Work up an appetite before the big feast! Hike about 5 mi, 1000 ft gain, mod. fast pace in hills E of Reno. Stop for break on ridge to have snack. Learn about flora, fauna we might encounter, including possibility of wild mustangs. About 3 hrs. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (331-7488). Co-Leader: Dale Mericle (828-4941, mericle@nvcbell.net). Mod. Strenuous.

Great Basin Group Calendar

continued from page 9

DECEMBER 3 (SATURDAY) 8 AM

Churchill Butte Near Silver Springs. Scale butte overlooking historic Fort Churchill, parts of emigrant wagon route, ancient and modern Lake Lahontan, Pony Express Trail, Lincoln Hwy. Learn some history of area. About 9.5 mi, at least 1800 ft gain for day, all in first 4 mi. Parts of hike are off-trail with steep descents. ND. Leader: T Taro (775-530-2935). Mod. Strenuous.

DECEMBER 3 (SATURDAY) 6 - 9 PM

GBG HOLIDAY PARTY!

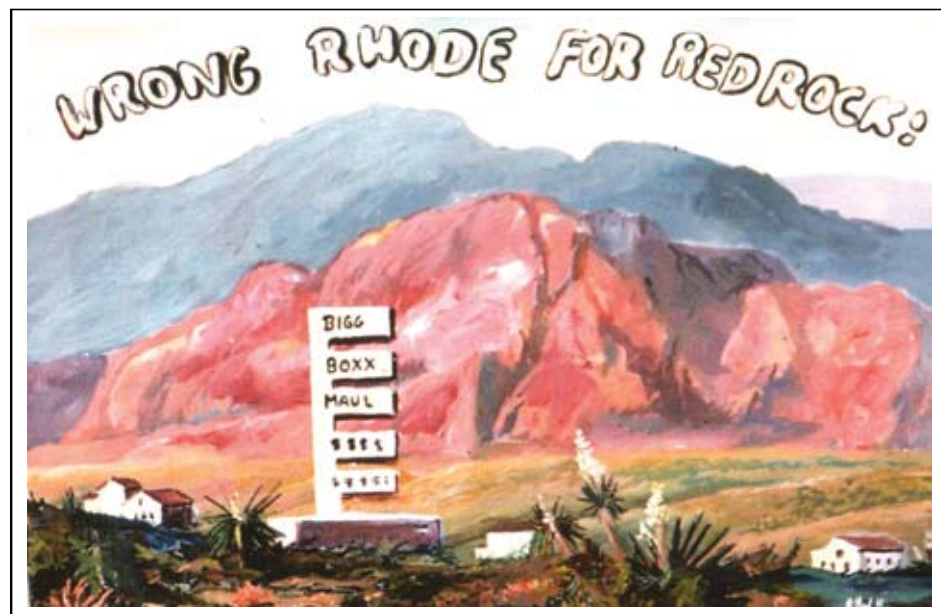
Join us Saturday, December 3rd, from 6 to 9 pm for stupendous potluck dinner, great company, recognition of giving members, dancing. Bring dish to share and be environment-friendly by bringing your own place setting, glass, and utensils. Club provides nonalcoholic punch, water. BYOB if desired. Mark your calendars now for warm, wonderful evening of fun. Patagonia building is located at 8550 White Fir Drive, Reno. To get there, take I-80 west to exit 10 (W. McCarran), go left on McCarran. Take right on W. 4th St., follow W. 4th two mi to Woodland St. Take left, cross railroad tracks, then take your first right on White Fir St. Follow White Fir around to left. Turn into last drive before bridge, park in lot. See you there! ND. Leader: Cathy Schmidt (323-6316, cathsch256@aol.com). Co-Leader: Holly Coughlin (331-7488). Easy.

DECEMBER 17 (SATURDAY) 8 AM

Carson River Railroads near Moundhouse. Day hike, about 12 mi one way with vehicle shuttle. Gain less than 1000 ft. Hike along scenic Carson River Canyon, learn about two of railroads of Comstock era. Parts of hike are x-country. ND. Leader: T Taro (775-530-2935). Mod. Strenuous.

DECEMBER 31 - JANUARY 1 (SATURDAY-SUNDAY) TBA

New Year in Gerlach. Totally informal New Year in Gerlach involving walking between three bars in Gerlach. Unless you are really hardy, stay at Bruno's Motel; check in, reservations at bar, 775-557-2220. We may have other activities -- hot springs if playa permits, local art gallery, scenic drive, etc. Dogs limited, prepare to clean up after your dog. Sign-up 12/15-12/28. DL. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.



DEADLINE! DECEMBER 1



FOR
JAN-FEB-MAR ISSUE

CLAIRE TAPPAAN LODGE FALL FUN . . .

continued from page 3

location, page 3.

A professional chef cooks hearty breakfasts and dinners that are served family-style in the dining room. Guests prepare their own brown bag lunches from plentiful and varied ingredients. Vegetarian options are available for every meal. To maintain the communal spirit, each guest pitches in daily by doing a simple chore. Check out our fall activities below and call the lodge now (800-679-6775) to make your reservations for fun-filled adventure!

OCTOBER 1

WINE & CHEESE TASTING

Take part in the tasting event on Saturday afternoon from 3–5 pm, with presentation of wines by a local winery, plus selected savory cheeses. Plan to stay at the cozy lodge on Saturday night to relax and catch up with friends. Cost: \$75/person, including one night's lodging and tasting event.

OCTOBER 7–9

CHIX IN THE STIX

An event especially for women in the mountains. Gather for hiking, crafts, and short, interesting programs. Organized by Trudy Boardman, Nevada City certified Sierra Club Outings leader. All-inclusive cost for weekend (Fri eve to Sun afternoon): \$135/person.

OCTOBER 29–30

HALLOWEEN TREATS

Our kid-safe, family-oriented Halloween Party will have a special holiday menu (maggots and cockroaches, yum...). Saturday afternoon will include games and pumpkin carving, with a prize for the most creative. The campfire will be ready for roasting hot

dogs, and there will be an after-dark hike to a party at the Witches Den. Prizes will be awarded for the most creative costume and for the scariest! Get out your witch's and pirate's outfits, and sharpen your carving knife! Cost: to be determined.



DOGS ON TRAILS . . .

continued from page 7

our dogs hunting. Larger mammals like deer and bears will avoid dogs if they can. Thus the wildlife foraging base is reduced; wildlife tension over safety increased. In National Parks, protection of wildlife is a priority equal to recreation. The absence of seasonal hunting contributes to wildlife safety, but dogs, who are often year round intruders, are also enemies of wildlife. Dogs must be on a leash in campsites and are not permitted on trails. Deer can walk through camp and browse close to trails. For those of us whose constant walking family companions are our dogs (please don't call them pets), this instinctive trait of killing wildlife, retained after 10,000 years of domestication, is hard to understand.

Recently, at the junction of Flume Trail and Tahoe Rim Trail, a man rested with a hiking stroller. Taking his baby for a walk? No, inside was his 14-year-old Shih Tzu. "He still wants to walk," his owner explained. Neither owner nor dog wanted to lose the years of friendship. Our party (eight people and four dogs) sympathized.

ARCTIC REFUGE . . .

continued from page 3

musk oxen, Dall sheep, wolves, wolverines, and birds from all 50 states.

We cannot hand this wildlife refuge over to oil development. Drilling in the Arctic Refuge will not lower today's gas prices or solve our energy crisis; it would only prolong it. Any oil drilling in the Arctic Refuge will disrupt and harm the fragile ecosystem and wildlife the USFWS Refuge system is supposed to protect.

Recommend "Alternative C" for a wilderness designation for the coastal plain. This is critical to keep this wildlife and wilderness icon protected for this and future generations.

Sincerely, Your name

Thank you for taking action to protect this incredible and unique place. For more information, please visit <www.chillthedrills.org> or "Like" us on Facebook at <www.facebook.com/chillthedrills>.

— contributed by Vicky Hoover, Alaska Chapter volunteer newsletter editor (vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org, 415-977-5527)

QUIET QUADRANT . . .

continued from page 7

you need and want the adoption of the Quiet Quadrant for human-powered winter recreation. This is a sustainable use of winter recreation. Tell them why you want the adoption of the Quiet Quadrant. Send your letters to: Nancy Gibson, Forest Supervisor and/or Jeff Marsolais, Deputy Forest Supervisor at Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit 35, College Drive, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150. Or write via e-mail to ngibson@fs.fed.us for Nancy Gibson, Forest Supervisor and/or jmarsolais@fs.fed.us for Jeff Marsolais, Deputy Forest Supervisor.

Please send a copy of your correspondence to Snowlands Network. The number of comments received by the Forest Service provides valuable data in our discussions with land managers (P.O. Box 2570, Nevada City, CA 95959 or projects@snowlands.org).

ADOPT -A-HIGHWAY . . .

continued from page 7

cept when the area is covered in snow. Her section is 2.7 miles long, 5.4 miles counting both sides, of course, but really a lot longer because she has to crisscross among the bushes. She usually does half the section at a time.

Trashed. Mauriça said the Adopt-a-Highway program requires clean-up four times a year, but not limited to just four. Sometimes she does it more often if the area has been especially trashed. When finished, she leaves the trash within her area where trucks can pull over, and CalTrans picks it up.



She separates out aluminum cans and bags most of the remaining trash although she's not supposed to touch hypodermic needles and broken glass. She said she hasn't found any hypos but did find the remains of a meth lab – empty Sudafed packages, rubber gloves, etc – as well as some refuse too colorful to be mentioned here.

Strange finds. Some of her more interesting finds include a cougar's jaw bone, a hood ornament from a Jaguar, a \$10 bill, and forgotten tire chains for cars and trucks. "There is an amazing number of pieces of auto bodies, probably from people hitting rabbits, deer, coyotes, and each other at 70+ MPH," she said.

Thank you! Mauriça Anderson and John Walter and his cohorts are giving a new meaning to the term "cleaning up the environment." (See photo on page 3.)



This Thanksgiving,
Show your true colors and help support Sierra Club.
Join now!

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone (____) _____
Email _____

YES! I would like to give a Thanksgiving gift membership to
Gift Recipient _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Join today and receive a **FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!**



Check enclosed. Please make payable to Sierra Club.
Please charge my: Visa Mastercard AMEX
Cardholder Name _____
Card Number _____ Exp. Date ____/____/____
Signature _____

Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
Special Offer	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Student/Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

Contributions, gifts and dues to Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to Sierra magazine and \$1 for your Chapter newsletters.

Enclose a check and mail to Sierra Club, P.O. Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041 or visit our website www.sierraclub.org

F94QW 1400 1

Toiyabe Chapter ExCom Meeting

October 22, 2011
Lake Tahoe, CA
For details, contact the Chair,
JEAN STOEISS
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