



# TOIYABE TRAILS

JULY - AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2012

SUMMER OUTINGS Issue II

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

## From the Chair

BY ERIK HOLLAND

### Power to the people!

We Sierra Clubbers witnessed early Fourth of July fireworks when Patricia Spearman defeated John Lee in the recent primary election!

It is important to remember that, despite all discouraging news to the contrary, we the people hold the ultimate power...through our vote!

Primary elections are important. They attract the most informed and engaged voters, and in this election, Lake Tahoe, democracy won! Congratulations, Las Vegas voters, and to Sierra Club, Progress Now, and other activists! We made a difference!

Notice the tiny vote totals and realize that those of us who vote have enormous power. Even the annoying robo calls testify to that power...they are calling US!

So, please help your favorite politician this fall. Most run for office because they believe they can make our world better. They need our help!

We in Washoe County also have an important "wedge issue": Winnemucca Ranch and leapfrog sprawl. I am looking forward to working with our political committee here throughout the summer and fall developing a questionnaire to hold our would-be leaders accountable on this and other issues. As the economy slowly revives, that issue will require increased attention.

I survived chairing my first meeting in April. I realized, with no small amount of angst, the night before the meeting, that there were no plans for breakfast, OR coffee! Bottom line: I went shopping that night. The buck stops here! Thank you, Tina Nappe, for providing coffee, and Sharon Marie Wilcox, for going shopping with me.

I wish to congratulate new ExCom member, Laura Cunningham, on her beautiful new book, *A State of Change: Forgotten Landscapes of California*. Laura, an artist and naturalist, has written and illustrated a

Please see FROM THE CHAIR, page 12.



Holly leading snowshoe on Chickadee Ridge, 2012. (Holly lower right.)

## Holly Coughlin receives Club's Oliver Kehrlein Award!

BY DAVID VON SEGGERN

We are so proud of Holly Coughlin, our Great Basin Group outings chair. She will receive the **Oliver Kehrlein Award** from the national Sierra Club. Toiyabe Chapter has had a few individuals over the years receive a national award, but that has been rare.

Almost every active member of the Great Basin Group has been on a hike led by Holly Coughlin. Holly not only has been Outings Chair since 2000, but she frequently leads hikes herself, either on weekends or for the well-known Wednesday evening conditioning hikes.

Holly's avocation as a hike leader began well before that, and as Outings Chair she has brought an era of exceptional participation in our local outings.

Holly has also attracted many outings leaders into our active program. The participant list may run into the thousands for sign-ons to her trips alone. It is no wonder that we were able to assemble



Holly Coughlin, Great Basin Group Outings Chair and winner of the national Sierra Club's Oliver Kehrlein Award.

a very competitive nomination package for Holly this year. You can read the nomination letter on our website at [http://sierraclub.self-help-sites.com/documents/news-item\\_109.pdf](http://sierraclub.self-help-sites.com/documents/news-item_109.pdf).

The Oliver Kehrlein Award is given once every year by national Sierra Club and honors service to the Sierra Club Outings Program over an extended period of time

either at the local or national level. Holly will receive her award in San Francisco on August 6 at the Sierra Club's Annual General Meeting in San Francisco.

## Results of Club's 2012 Board of Directors election

IN LATE APRIL, the Inspectors of Election reported the final results of the 2012 Sierra Club Board of Directors election as follows.

The five candidates **elected** were:

Lane Boldman	25,553
David Scott	23,862
Chris Warshaw	23,208
Liz Walsh	23,175
Spencer Black	21,300

The candidates below the cut line were:

Arjun Makhijani	19,756
Chuck Frank	16,639
Katherine Pendleton	13,690
Chip Wolfe	12,684

Valid Returns by Internet	11,308 (29.29%)
Valid Returns by Mail	27,297 (70.71%)

Total Valid Ballots	38,605
Total Invalid Ballots	262

## Chapter and Group Elections 2012

BY DAVID VON SEGGERN, ELECTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR, TOIYABE CHAPTER

EACH YEAR the Toiyabe Chapter and the separate groups elect members to their Executive Committees (ExCom). We are always looking for people who are willing to step into these leadership roles. Please contact someone on either the Chapter or your Group ExCom if you are interested. The election cycle for 2012 has the following important dates.

October 10. Deadline for receipt by Chapter or Group Nominating Committee of names for consideration as candidates for the Chapter and all Group

Please see CHAPTER EXCOM ELECTION, page

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# DEADLINE! SEPTEMBER 1

FOR OCT - NOV - DEC ISSUE



## TOIYABE CHAPTER DIRECTORY

## CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Chair	Erik Holland*	775-322-3582, erikreno@aol.com
Vice-Chair	David Hornbeck*	DavidHornbeckLaw@msn.com, 775-323-6655
Secretary	Jane Feldman*	feldman.jane@gmail.com
Treasurer	Glenn Miller	775-846-4516, gcmiller@unr.edu
At Large	Laurel Ames*	530-541-5752, laurel@watershednetwork.org
At Large	Ann Brauer*	702-879-3376, blu lupine@gmail.com
At Large	K.C. Brekken*	702-463-5210, kc.brekken@gmail.com
At Large	Laura Cunningham*	775-553-2806, bluerockiguana@hughes.net
At Large	Launce Rake*	702-917-7541, launcerake@rocketmail.com
At Large	Mary Winston*	775-250-9796, marywinston@hotmail.com

## GROUP CHAIRS (DELEGATES TO THE CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE)

Great Basin Group	David von Seggern	vonseg1@sbcglobal.net
Range of Light Group	Malcolm Clark	760-924-5639, wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com
S. Nevada Group	Taj Ainlay	702-682-9361, tajainlay@aol.com
Tahoe Area Group	Bob Anderson	530-577-2000, bob-a@sbcglobal.net

## ISSUES, OUTINGS, &amp; COMMITTEES

Chapter Delegate	Laurel Ames*	530-541-5752, laurel@watershednetwork.org
Chapter Delegate	Graham Stafford	graham@grahamstafford.com
CNRCC NV Vice Chair	Erik Holland*	775-322-3582, erikreno@aol.com
CNRCC Toiyabe Chap. Del.	Sam O'Brien	sam@rainshadowcchs.org
Conservation Chair	Dennis Ghiglieri	776-329-6118
Elections Chair	Open	
Endangered Species Liaison	Tina Nappe	tnappe@nvcbell.net
Energy Task Force Chair	Joe Johnson	775-348-7192, jj935@juno.com
Environmental Ed. Chair	Jean Dillingham	760-648-7109, dillinghamjean@gmail.com
Fundraising Chair	Tina Nappe	tnappe@nvcbell.net
Great Basin Peak Section Chair	Sharon M. Wilcox	775-852-5075, sharon.marie@sbcglobal.net
Legislative Comm. Chair	Lois Snedden	775-827-2353, loissnedden@aol.com
Lobbyist	Joe Johnson	775-348-7192, jj935@juno.com
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Mining Comm. Co-Chair	Glenn Miller	775-846-4516, gcmiller@unr.edu
Mining Comm. Co-Chair	Malcolm Clark	760-924-5639, wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com
National Parks Chair	Marge Sill	msill@juno.com
Nominations Committee	Open	
Outings Chair	Eric Blumensaadt	702-566-9429, 7speeder@cox.net
Outreach & Public Rel. Chair	Launce Rake*	702-451-9363, launcerake@rocketmail.com
Political Co-Chair	Taj Ainlay	702-682-9361, tajainlay@aol.com
Political Co-Chair	Erik Holland*	775-322-3582, erikreno@aol.com
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Ruby Pipeline Task Force Chair	David von Seggern	775-303-8461, vonseg1@sbcglobal.net
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Sierra Club Council Delegate	David von Seggern	vonseg1@sbcglobal.net
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Wilderness & Wild Lands 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

\* Chapter ExCom member

## CHAPTER 2012 ELECTIONS...

continued from page 1

ExComs. Each Nominating Committee will contact possible candidates, but any member can submit name(s) of any member, including his or her own, for consideration by the Chapter or Group Nominating Committee. Members interested in a Group ExCom nomination should contact their Group Chair. Chapter Nominating Committee members are Taj Ainley and Laura Cunningham.

**October 15.** Each Nominating Committee reports its slate of willing nominees to the relevant ExCom and to the Election Committee and notifies any self-nominee if he or she has or has not been selected as a candidate.

**October 29.** Deadline for receipt at Chapter Post Office Box of any issue petition or any petition by a Chapter member seeking to be placed on the ballot for Chapter ExCom. To qualify for candidacy by petition, petitions must be signed by 1.5% of chapter members on the prior year's eligible-voter list of members (72 of 4770 members).

**November 26.** Ballots and candidate statements will be sent to Toiyabe Chapter members in a separate mailout.

**January 2.** Date by which ballots must be received by the Toiyabe Chapter Election Committee. Ballots received after that date will not be counted.

**January 2.** Ballots will be counted at the home of David von Seggern, 2585 Sunline Dr., Reno, at 6 pm. Results will be communicated to the ExCom Chairs and the winning candidates the next day.

### "Lands & Legacy Fun Ride" in the beautiful Eastern Sierra Saturday • July 21 • 9 am



THIS SUMMER BILL WALTON and Eastern Sierra Land Trust (ESLT) will join together to bring attention to the beautiful lands of the Eastern Sierra with a 23-mile bike ride around some of the most beautiful scenery to be found anywhere. The "Lands & Legacy Fun Ride" around the June Lake Loop's jaw-dropping scenery.

The Eastern Sierra Land Trust came together 11 years ago, to help find a balance between development and conservation of private land in the Eastern Sierra Nevada region. ESLT has so far helped preserve over 7800 acres of important lands and has grown to over 700 members, including people from far beyond the Eastern Sierra.

One of these out-of-area supporters is NBA Hall of Famer and UCLA basketball great, Bill Walton, who says "I always do whatever I can to support the awesome purpose and mission of Eastern Sierra Land Trust. If we don't take the time now to realize that conservation of private property plays a vital part . . . the legacy that we leave for future generations will not be worth anything."

**Details of ride.** The ride will start and finish at June Mountain Ski Area and include lunch at the mid-chalet of June Mountain afterward. This event is just one of several exciting activities ESLT is offering during its two-day Lands & Legacy event.

For more info, contact Eastern Sierra Land Trust (info@eslt.org, 760-873-4554, <www.eslt.org>).

## Create 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>.

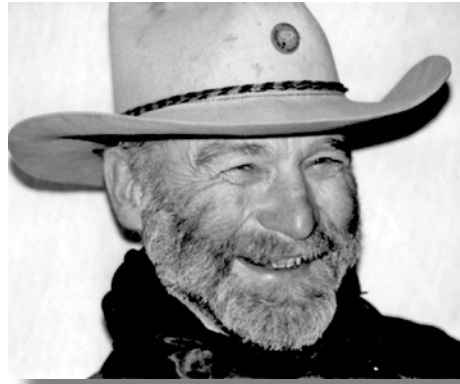
**Membership information** – There is a membership coupon in each issue of *Toiyabe Trails*. You can also call the Chapter Membership Chair (see Chapter Directory, this page) or the Sierra Club office in San Francisco (415-977-5663).

**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.

## In Memoriam

## Dan Heinz

Dan Heinz of Nevada's Pah Rah Mountains died peacefully at home April 30, at the age of 75. A "tough, bearded outdoorsman of the first order," Dan's storied career as a U.S. Forest Service ranger led to another in conservation -- in defense of wild lands and wildlife. Dan cultivated activists like he shepherded the land at the high mountain home he shared with his wife, Karen Boeger.



He was a co-founder of non-profit organizations American Wildlands and Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, and served as board member of many other conservation organizations, including the Executive Committee of the Toiyabe Chapter of the Sierra Club.

An outfitter, guide, and black powder enthusiast, his hunting stories have been recounted around many a campfire. In addition to his five children (John, Anne, Joan, Madonna, and Mark), 10 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren, he leaves Karen, her children Patrick and Carolyn Tanner, and granddaughter, Ruby, of Reno.

Donations in Dan's honor will be gratefully accepted at Backcountry Hunters & Anglers or any conservation organization of the giver's choosing. A

## Charlie Watson

Charles S. Watson, Jr., the Nevada Outdoor Recreation Association, and The Lands that No One Knows may not be well-known to many, but those who have heard of them know that we are talking about the public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, the BLM. Charlie Watson died quietly on April 17, 2012 in a nursing home in Carson City, Nevada. Those who encountered Charlie knew that there was no stronger advocate of the BLM and our public lands. It will be tough for anyone to follow in his footsteps.

The Nevada Outdoor Recreation Association (NORA), which Charlie cofounded and directed until 2011, had its start in 1964. It is the oldest BLM public lands advocacy organization in the nation.

Charlie coauthored the book, *The Lands that No One Knows*, in 1975 and was instrumental in creating the Federal Lands Management Act. This organic act for the BLM provided a new road map for the BLM in managing the "commons." While a lot of focus

## Summer 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

JULY 13-16 (FRI-MON)

## HIGHLAND RANGE NEVADA SERVICE

Once again we partner with Ranger John from Ely, Nevada, office of BLM for a scintillating Wilderness service project in Highland Ridge, just S of Great Basin National Park. Help find and mark old historic trail, clean up aspen grove in order to keep vehicles on designated cherry stem route, do historic Arboglyph inventory in aspen stand, maybe also put up a small post-&-rail fence, do route obliteration/rehab etc. Good work at a beautiful location. To sign up, contact: Vicky Hoover (vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org, 415-977-5527). Central commissary offered.

CNRCC Wilderness Committee

SEPT 15-16 (SAT-SUN)

## BRIGHT STAR SERVICE &amp; HIKE

Bright Star Wilderness Area, N of Ridgecrest, has been impacted by both trash and by illegal ORV trespass. Saturday, assist BLM Wilderness Resource Specialist Marty Dickes in putting up barriers, concealing illegal routes, plac-

ing signs. Sunday reserved for long hike through interior of wilderness to visit Cortez Creek and monitoring cherry-stemmed vehicle corridor. Ponderosa forest and chaparral should provide a delightful diversion in early fall. Leader: Craig Deutsche (craig.deutsche@gmail.com, 310-477-6670).

CNRCC Desert Committee

OCT 13-14 (SAT-SUN)

EXPLORE & SERVE IN THE  
CARRIZO PLAINS

Pronghorn antelope will not jump fences to escape predators, but attempt to crawl under. This trip is one of a continuing series to either remove or modify several sections of fence to facilitate this mobility. Saturday, work day. Camp and have a pot-luck dinner that evening in one of the campgrounds. Sunday, at choice of group, will be either a hike in Caliente Range or else a tour of popular viewing areas in the Plains. Leader: Craig Deutsche (craig.deutsche@gmail.com, 310-477-6670).

CNRCC Desert Committee

has been on our public lands managed by the National Park Service, Forest Service, Fish & Wildlife Service, and other agencies, public lands managed by the BLM are an important part of the fabric that makes up much of the West. (Charlie would point out that important BLM holdings are in the East as well.)

The BLM lands have long been regarded as lands that could be grazed, mined, and disposed of because they were of little value. When people looked at early maps of Nevada, public lands were blank, with no BLM wilderness areas or National Conservation Areas.

Charlie traveled the West documenting the hidden treasures of the BLM lands. He put together a "Big Book" of Nevada and was eager to show anyone who would listen of the biological, geological, and cultural wonders found on the BLM lands. He encouraged, in his travels, others to band together to promote the BLM and its lands. He lobbied members of Congress to view our public lands in a different light. He and the Nevada Outdoor Recreation Association would go to court if that's what it took.

Nevada was his stomping ground.

Long before Red Rock National Conservation Area was formally designated by Congress, Charlie talked of its creation as a milestone for BLM in the management of our public lands. When the MX missile was proposed for the BLM lands in Nevada, Charlie joined the fight. When Las Vegas sought applications for groundwater in rural Nevada, Charlie was there. When the Department of Defense wanted to expand their aerial training over much of rural Nevada, Charlie was part of the opposition.

Fighting to save Walker Lake was important to Charlie as well as other Nevadans. When Aerojet General sought BLM lands at Coyote Springs for a rocket test facility and later conveyed those lands to a private developer, Charlie cried foul. Sagebrush rebels,

Annual Lobby Day  
in Sacramento!Join us Sunday & Monday  
August 19-20

BECOME PART OF A TEAM to help Sierra Club California pass our priority legislation during the most exciting and challenging time of the year at the State Capitol! You will have opportunities to interact with other activists and our professional lobbying staff, as well as with legislators and their staff.



This is a two-day event. On Sunday, starting at around noon, our advocacy team will train you on how to lobby and brief you on our priority bills so that you can effectively advocate for them. On Monday, you will work the halls of the Capitol as teams, with meetings scheduled from morning through the afternoon.

**Accommodations.** Sierra Club California will reserve beds at the Sacramento Hostel for members who are joining us from out of town. You have the option to sign up to stay in the Hostel, at no cost to you, when you register for Lobby Day.

As a courtesy to our participants who would prefer more private accommodations at their own expense, Sierra Club California is also looking into special group rates at a nearby hotel as well as special travel rates for the weekend.

**Travel \$\$.** Limited travel subsidies are available by request, based on need and distance traveled, with special consideration given to advocates from targeted districts.

**Questions & sign-up.** For more info, please contact Annie Pham (annie.pham@sierraclub.org). To sign up, visit <http://sierraclubcalifornia.org/lobby-day-2012/>.

who wanted to dispose of our public lands to the states found their match in Mr. Watson. Charlie was a stalwart in defending the public lands that he knew and loved.

Charlie traveled the world looking at lands that had been overlooked, and he urged better management of the commons. He played a part in the protection of Alaska public lands by weighing in on the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act in 1980.

Charlie will be missed. Let us hope that his strong, passionate defense of our public lands and his efforts to strengthen the stewardship of our public lands by the BLM will continue by those who follow in his path.

To those who wish to learn more about Charles Watson, Jr. and his role in protecting our public lands, Charlie published his book, *The Great Terrain Robbery*, in 2009.

—Rose Strickland



# Range of Light Reflections

## Range of Light Group



## Group News

### Letter from the Chair

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

**ExCom.** Next meeting in the 2nd half of July. E-mail for details.

**Conservation Committee.** Contact Mary Kay Prentice with items for committee consideration and for information on next meeting (mkp@npgcable.com).

**Meetings.** In March the Walters gave a travelogue on their return trip to *Kyrgyzstan* to 40 attendees. In April, Rich Foye, a volunteer guide at *Panum Crater* (adjacent to Mono Lake), shared with 24 people his experience with and understanding of the crater. There was no meeting in May as many of us wanted to attend the SNARL lecture on the *geology of the Mammoth Mountain volcano*.

**Outings.** Outings continue to be handled by a committee of outing leaders. Contact me if you are interested in becoming our Outings Chair. "Fitness & Fun" hikes have been switched from Wednesday to Thursdays at 5:30 pm. Outings leaders (and potential leaders): remember to renew (or get) outings leader certification every four years. This only takes two to four hours on line. Also, renew your first aid certification every four years.

**Conservation.** Together with the Owens Valley Committee and the Big Pine Paiute Tribe, ROLG filed a *lawsuit*

*against Los Angeles Dept. of Water & Power (LADWP)* regarding plans to use ground water pumping to make up for water used in the Regreening project.

The *Owens Lake Bed Master Plan draft revision* is moving forward although significant unresolved issues remain including how to implement the plan.

The *Bodie Partnership Coalition* (ROLG is a member) continues efforts to protect the Bodie Hills, including a training session for activists held in April (Lesley Bruns attended).

Sarah Tomskey, *new deputy district ranger* for Mammoth and Mono Lake Ranger Districts will be working out of the Lee Vining Ranger Station.

Plans to develop the "*Royal Gold*" *mining claim* near Mammoth Lakes have been shelved.

Malcolm attended a meeting on Adaptive Management Planning for *new Forest Rule planning* in Region 5, including the Inyo National Forest. He also attended a BLM RAC meeting field trip updating participants on *sage grouse issues* in our area and the meeting of the South Lahontan Regional Forum of DWR.

## Group ExCom meetings

WE USUALLY MEET quarterly (January, April, July, October) at 5:15 pm. The next meeting will probably be in the last half of July. All are welcome but please confirm date, place, and time (Malcolm Clark, 760-924-5639, wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com), as meeting dates frequently are changed in order to assure a quorum at the meeting or because of weather.

## RANGE OF LIGHT GROUP

### OFFICERS

Chair	Malcolm Clark*	760-924-5639
Vice Chair	Sandy Burnside*	kburnside@aol.com
Secretary	Lesley Bruns*	lestravel@hotmail.com
Conservation	Mary K. Prentice	760-934-0355
Treasurer	Mary Ann Dunigan	760-924-5982
At Large	Mike Shore*	mary.shore@gte.net
At Large	Jean Dillingham*	760-648-7109
At Large	Mauriça Anderson*	
At Large	Lesley Bruns	lestravel@hotmail.com
At Large	Sandy Burnside	kburnside@aol.com
Chapter Del.	Jean Dillingham	760-648-7109
Editor	Lynne Foster	760-387-2634
Hway Cleanup	John Walter	760-934-1767
Hospitality	Wilma Wheeler	760-934-3764
LORP	Mark Bagley	760-873-5326
Membership	Shalle Genevieve	760-934-9668
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Summer Outings	rangeofflight.sc@gmail.com	
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Publicity	Rosemary Jarrett	rosemaryjarrett@gmail.com
Webmaster	Jo Bacon	jbacon22@verizon.net
Webmaster Emeritus	Owen Maloy	760-934-9511

\* Voting ExCom member

## ROLG ExCom nominations needed!

Our group is seeking candidates for this year's ExCom election. The three members whose terms end this year are Jean Dillingham, Mauriça Anderson and Malcolm Clark. Continuing members (term not expiring) are Lesley Bruns, Sandy Burnside, and Mike Shore.

Please send your suggestions for anyone you think could make a valuable contribution to our ExCom and who might be willing to serve. Don't hesitate to suggest yourself (self-nomination), if you have time and willingness to serve.

The ExCom committee normally meets four times a year. It is the voting and final decision-making body of the Range of Light group. We would appreciate having self-nominations and suggested names of other possible candidates by Sept 14. See page 1 of this Trails issue for details of this year's Chapter and group elections.

**What you can do.** Send nominations to the Range of Light Nominating Committee: Shalle Genevieve (marshalle@earthlink.net) or Lesley Bruns (lestravel@hotmail.com). When possible, we like to offer a choice by fielding more than three candidates.

## Range of Light Calendar

### SUMMER HIKING, CONDITIONING, & EXPLORATION TOURS

BY RANGE OF LIGHT GROUP OUTINGS LEADERS

**ALL OUTINGS INCLUDE CONSERVATION EDUCATION ACTIVITIES!**

**All phone numbers are 760 unless otherwise noted.**

CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.

#### JULY 1 (SUNDAY)

**Woods Lakes.** A 9 mi loop hike, 800 ft gain, off-trail hiking. Start at Coldwater Canyon Campground and hike to Woods Lakes, two beautiful, seldom-visited back country lakes. Amount of x-c hiking determined at start of hike. Lunch at one of lakes, return via Duck Pass trail. Meet ML Union Bank parking lot, 9 am. Bring water, lunch and snacks, hiking boots, layered clothing, camera, sun screen, bug spray. Well-mannered dogs welcome. Leaders: Melissa (760-937-0499, melissal@verizon.net), Mary K (760-934-0355, mkp@npgcable.com). ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

#### JULY 5 (THURSDAY)

**Take a Walk in the Woods! Thursday Summer Fun, Fitness, & Discovery Evening Hikes.** Don't miss fun and great exercise! Explore local trails, learn about our natural surroundings, geology, wildflowers, trees. All hikes moderate to easy – beginners and parent-accompanied children welcome. Back to trailhead by dark. Rain cancels. Bring water, snacks; sturdy shoes, layered clothing recommended. Meet ML Union Bank parking lot, 5:30 pm. Leaders: Andree (760-934-4333, awallis@gte.net), Shannon (760-934-4798, lowersherwin@earthlink.net), Mary Ann (760-924-5982, maryann17@gmail.com). Well-behaved dogs usually OK. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

#### JULY 8 (SUNDAY)

**Glass Creek Meadow.** Short but steep trail leads to beautiful meadow filled with wildflowers, home to threatened Yosemite toad. About 4 mi RT, moderate. Bring water, lunch and snacks, hiking boots, hat, sun glasses, layered clothing, camera, sun screen, bug spray, hiking sticks, binoculars. Meet ML Union Bank parking lot, 8 am, or Glass Creek Rd parking area, 8:30 am. Leader: Jean (760-648-7109, dillingham-jean@gmail.com). Well-behaved dogs OK, but must be leashed in meadow to protect toads. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

#### JULY 12 (THURSDAY)

**Take a Walk in the Woods! Thursday Summer Fun, Fitness, & Discovery Evening Hikes.** Don't miss fun and great exercise! Please see details, July 5. Leaders: Malcolm (760-924-5639, wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com), John (760-934-1767, salt1143@gmail.com). Well-behaved dogs usually OK. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

#### JULY 15 (SUNDAY)

**Porcupine Flats to North Dome, Yosemite.** Hike in beautiful old growth forest of very tall red fir and hemlock trees. When we leave forest we are face to face with Half Dome. Short walk down to top of North

Please see ROL CALENDAR, page 5.

## You're Invited!

### Range of Light Group Monthly Meetings Everyone welcome!

For all potlucks bring a dish for 6-8 people and your own *non-disposable* table setting. For months with potluck and program, you are welcome to skip the potluck and come only for the program. NO food allowed when we meet at Mammoth Lakes Community Library.

#### July 19 (Tuesday)

#### Outdoor Potluck & BBQ 6 pm Mono County Park, Lee Vining

Come **early** to independently explore historic cemetery, follow boardwalk to lake edge to see many species of birds, walk up creek, and more. BBQs ready by 6 pm. See Calendar for directions and details, including what to bring.

#### August 21 (Tuesday)

#### Outdoor Potluck & BBQ 6 pm Rock Creek Lake Campground, above Tom's Place

Meet at campground **early** for optional activities such as kayaking, hiking, fishing, photography. Your choice! BBQs ready by 6 pm. See Calendar for directions and details, including what to bring.

#### September 18 (Tuesday)

#### Potluck & Program Details to Come

More: Mary (mary.shore@gte.net). Check ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.



Please submit suggestions for program topics and/or speakers to our program chair, Mary Shore (mary.shore@gte.net). We always need fresh ideas!

## Range of Light Summer Calendar

continued from page 4

Dome. About 8 mi RT, no dogs allowed on trails in Yosemite. Bring water, lunch and snacks, hiking boots, hat, sun glasses, layered clothing, camera, sun screen bug spray, hiking sticks, binoculars. Fee or pass required to enter Yosemite NP. Meet 8 am, ML Union Bank parking lot, or 8:30 am, Lee Vining Ranger Station on Tioga Road. Leaders: Brigitte (760-924-2140, jungberman@mac.com), Mary K (760-934-1767, mkp@npgcable.com). ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**JULY 17 (TUESDAY)**

**Mono County Park, Lee Vining, Outdoor Potluck & BBQ.** Arrive early to independently explore nearby historical cemetery. Follow board walk to lake edge, view many species of birds, walk up a creek just down road, and more. By 6 pm BBQs will be ready. Bring something to grill, a dish to share, your own chair, non-disposable place setting, drinks, binoculars. More: Mary K (760-934-1767, mkp@npgcable.com), Shalle (760-934-9668, marshalle@earthlink.net). No dogs allowed in park.

**JULY 18 (WEDNESDAY)**

**Highway Cleanup.** Join our cleanup day -- who knows what treasure you may find! Meet Crestview rest area, about 5 mi N of Mammoth Lakes, 8 am. We provide required reflective vests, hard hats trash bags, picker-uppers,, gloves. We normally finish by 10:30 am and then enjoy some light refreshments together (provided). Bring water, sun screen, hat. More: John, (760-934-1767, salt1143@gmail.com), Malcolm (760-924-5639, wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com). ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>. No dogs.

**JULY 19 (THURSDAY)**

**Take a Walk in the Woods! Thursday Summer Fun, Fitness, & Discovery Evening Hikes.** Don't miss fun and great exercise! Please see details, July 5. Leaders: Andree (760-934-4333, awallis@gte.net), Shannon (760-934-4798, lowersherwin@earthlink.net), Mary Ann (760-924-5982, maryann17@gmail.com). Well-behaved dogs usually OK. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**JULY 22 (SUNDAY)**

**Rock Creek to Hilton Creek.** About 10 mi, 1200 ft gain, 3100 ft loss. Car shuttle. Enjoy wildflowers, Hilton and Davis Lakes, Hilton Creek. Moderate. Meet ML Union Bank parking lot, 8:30 am, or Crowley Lake Library (Crowley Lake Drive), 9 am. Bring plenty of water, lunch and snacks, hiking boots, hat, sun glasses, layered clothing, camera, sun screen, bug spray, hiking sticks, binoculars. Leaders: Sandy (760-935-4004, kburnsides@aol.com) & Greg. Well-behaved dogs OK. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**JULY 26 (THURSDAY)**

**Take a Walk in the Woods! Thursday Summer Fun, Fitness, & Discovery Evening Hikes.** Don't miss fun and great exercise! Please see details, July 5. Leaders: Malcolm (760-924-5639, wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com), John (760-934-1767, salt1143@gmail.com). Well-behaved dogs usually OK. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**JULY 29 (SUNDAY)**

**Dorothy Lake from Rock Creek Lake.** From Rock Creek Lake ascend lateral moraine west of Wheeler Ridge for beautiful loop hike to Dorothy Lake. About 7 mi on moderate trails, 900 ft gain. Bring lunch, plenty of water, hiking boots, insect repellent, hat, sun screen. Meet 8 am, ML



ROL hikers on Snow Ponds trip above June Lake. Photo: © Joanne Hihn.

Union Bank parking lot, or 8:45am parking lot at east end of Rock Creek Lake. Leaders: Grethe & Henning (805-452-5461, hsj1@cox.net). Well-behaved dogs OK. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**AUGUST 2 (THURSDAY)**

**Take a Walk in the Woods! Thursday Summer Fun, Fitness, & Discovery Evening Hikes.** Don't miss fun and great exercise! Explore local trails, learn about our natural surroundings, geology, wildflowers, trees. All hikes moderate to easy -- beginners and parent-accompanied children welcome. Back to trailhead by dark. Rain cancels. Bring water, snacks; sturdy shoes, layered clothing recommended. Meet ML Union Bank parking lot, 5:30 pm. Leaders: Andree (760-934-4333, awallis@gte.net), Shannon (760-934-4798, lowersherwin@earthlink.net), Mary Ann (760-924-5982, maryann17@gmail.com). Well-behaved dogs usually OK. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**AUGUST 5 (SUNDAY)**

**Ragged Peak Plateau via Young Lakes Trail from Lembert Dome, Yosemite.** About 8 mi RT, strenuous hike at high elevation. Optional peak climb if you sign out from group. Fee or pass required to enter Yosemite NP. No dogs allowed on trails in Yosemite. Meet ML Union Bank parking lot, 8 am, or Lee Vining Ranger Station on Tioga Road, 8:45 am. Leaders: Dave & Janet (760-647-6431, jcarle@qnet.com). ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**AUGUST 9 (THURSDAY)**

**Take a Walk in the Woods! Thursday Summer Fun, Fitness, & Discovery Evening Hikes.** Don't miss fun and great exercise! Please see details, July 5. Leaders: Malcolm (760-924-5639, wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com), John (760-934-1767, salt1143@gmail.com). Well-behaved dogs usually OK. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**AUGUST 12 (SUNDAY)**

**Clarice, Laua, & Altha Lakes.** Strenuous 13-mi loop, 1400 ft gain, off-trail hiking. Visit three beautiful, seldom-visited back country lakes. Leave from Agnew Meadow, hike past Shadow Lake, leave JMT for

lunch at one of lakes. Return via River Trail. Meet ML Union Bank parking lot, 8 am, bring water, lunch, snacks, hiking boots, layered clothing, camera, sun screen, bug spray, and shuttle bus fare. Well-mannered dogs welcome; bring muzzle and leash for shuttle bus (mandatory). Leaders: Melissa (760-937-0499, melissal1@verizon.net), Jean (760-648-7109 dillinghamjean@gmail.com). ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**AUGUST 16 (THURSDAY)**

**Take a Walk in the Woods! Thursday Summer Fun, Fitness, & Discovery Evening Hikes.** Don't miss fun and great exercise! Please see details, July 5. Leaders: Andree (760-934-4333, awallis@gte.net), Shannon (760-934-4798, lowersherwin@earthlink.net), Mary Ann (760-924-5982, maryann17@gmail.com). Well-behaved dogs usually OK. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**AUGUST 19 (SUNDAY)**

**Details to come.** Check ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**AUGUST 21 (TUESDAY)**

**Rock Creek Lake Campground (day-use area): Outdoor Potluck & BBQ.** Hwy 395 to turn-off at Tom's Place, marked Crowley Lake Drive/Rock Creek Lake. Head south on Rock Creek Rd to just past Rock Creek Lake Resort/Pie-in-the-Sky restaurant, turn left at Rock Creek Lake Campground, follow road to end (about 0.6 miles), to day-use area on right. We will be at one of table/fire pit areas near road. Bring something to grill, a dish to share, your own chair, non-disposable place setting, drinks. Meet at campground early for optional activities -- kayaking, hiking, fishing, photography -- your independent choice. BBQ's ready by 6 pm. All dogs need to be on leash outside area of gathering. More: Mary K (760-934-1767, mkp@npgcable.com), Malcolm (760-924-5639, wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com).

**AUGUST 23 (THURSDAY)**

**Take a Walk in the Woods! Thursday Summer Fun, Fitness, & Discovery Evening Hikes.** Don't miss fun and great exercise! Please see details, July 5. Leaders: Malcolm (760-924-5639, wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com), John (760-934-1767,

salt1143@gmail.com). Well-behaved dogs usually OK. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**AUGUST 26 (SUNDAY)**

**Tuolumne Cascades.** Moderate hike on a little known fisherman's track along Tuolumne River, following cascades to a swimming hole. Learn about late season wildflowers, with possible sightings of American dipper. Distance about 6 mi. No dogs allowed on trails in Yosemite. Fee or pass required to enter Yosemite NP. Meet ML Union Bank parking lot, 8 am, or Lee Vining Ranger Station on Tioga Road, 8:45 am. Leader: Jean, 760-648-7109, dillinghamjean@gmail.com. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**AUGUST 30 (THURSDAY)**

**Take a Walk in the Woods Thursday Summer Fun, Fitness, & Discovery Evening Hikes.** Don't miss fun and great exercise! Please see details, July 5. Leaders: Malcolm (760-924-5639, wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com), John (760-934-1767, salt1143@gmail.com). Well-behaved dogs usually OK. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**SEPTEMBER 6 (THURSDAY)**

**Take a Walk in the Woods! Thursday Summer Fun, Fitness, & Discovery Evening Hikes.** Don't miss fun and great exercise! Please see details, July 5. Leaders: Malcolm (760-924-5639, wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com), John (760-934-1767, salt1143@gmail.com). Well-behaved dogs usually OK. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**SEPTEMBER 9 (SUNDAY)**

**Mono Lake Kayak/Canoe.** Explore shoreline of Mono Lake starting at Navy Beach. See and learn about wide variety of birds, Tufa, brine shrimp, Mono Lake story. Bring boat, paddle, lunch, water hat, sun screen. PFD (lifejacket) mandatory. Waterproof bag for camera and binoculars advised. Some space in boats may be available, call to reserve. Meet ML Union Bank parking lot 9 am, or Navy Beach, 9:45 am. Leaders: John (760-934-1767, salt1143@gmail.com), Jean (760-648-7109, dillinghamjean@gmail.com). ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>. No dogs.

**SEPTEMBER 13 (THURSDAY)**

**Take a Walk in the Woods! Thursday Summer Fun, Fitness, & Discovery Evening Hikes.** Don't miss fun and great exercise! Please see details, July 5. Leaders: Malcolm (760-924-5639, wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com), John (760-934-1767, salt1143@gmail.com). Well-behaved dogs usually OK. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**SEPTEMBER 16 (SUNDAY)**

**Birding with local expert birders.** Details to come. Leaders: Karen (949-240-3956, kmschlaep@cox.net), Mary K (760-934-1767, mkp@npgcable.com). Check ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**SEPTEMBER 18 (TUESDAY)**

**Potluck & Program.** Details to come. More: Mary (mary.shore@gte.net). Check ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

**SEPTEMBER 19 (WEDNESDAY)**

**Highway Cleanup.** Join our cleanup day -- who knows what treasures you may find! Meet Crestview rest area, about 5 mi north of Mammoth Lakes, 8 am. We provide re-

ROL GROUP continued on page 12.

Huge juniper in Snow Ponds area above June Lake. Photo: © Joanne Hihn.



# CONSERVATION ROUNDUP

*How we spend  
Our days, of  
course, is how we  
spend our lives.*

— Annie Dillard

## Conservation Briefs

BY MARGE SILL

**WILDERNESS.** The Pine Forest Range Wilderness Bill has still not been passed, despite its favorable hearings in both the House and the Senate. No legislation has been introduced for Gold Butte National Conservation Area with wilderness although the Clark County Commission and many businesses in Southern Nevada have given strong support to the idea.

In the meantime, the so-called "Sportsman's Heritage Act" has been passed by the House and sent to the Senate. This bill would have a deleterious effect on wilderness and the national park system. It has been opposed by all major conservation groups including the National Wildlife Federation as well as many hunting groups, including Back Country Hunters & Anglers. The Sierra Club Wilderness and Wildlands Committee is taking the lead in opposing this legislation.

A national celebration of the 1964 Wilderness Act will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in October, 2014. We are working on local celebrations in Las Vegas, Reno, and Eastern California. Any help or suggestions would be appreciated by Marge Sill (msill@juno.com) who is acting as Toiyabe Chapter coordinator.

**NATIONAL FOREST NEWS.** The Lake Tahoe Management Unit released its Draft Environmental Impact Statement and proposed management plan on June 1. The comment period on this plan and its four alternatives lasts until August 30.

**What you can do.** Anyone interested in the management of the forests of our magnificent national treasure -- Lake Tahoe -- should contact our Sierra Club coordinator, Lauren Thorpe (lauren.thorpe@sierraclub.org) for further information and how to get involved.

The Inyo National Forest has started scoping on its management plan revision under the new Forest Service Planning Rule. Issues to be addressed include fire, summer and winter recreation, wildlife, and wilderness management.

The huge Toiyabe-Humboldt National Forest, which covers all of Nevada and much of Eastern California, has not started revising the existing Forest Management Plan which has been in effect since the late 80s. The new planning rule will require some differences in approach.

The Center for Biological Diversity has appealed the northeast Nevada Travel Management Plan which came out in May because of the proliferation of questionable roads.

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT NEWS.** The Carson City BLM District is doing scoping on its Management Plan Revisions. The Wilderness Committee has submitted comments on management of Wilderness Study Areas and on inventory of lands with wilderness characteristics.

The Draft Plan for the Battle Mountain District and the final revised plan for the Winnemucca District have not been issued to the public yet for review.

## U.S. Forest Service plans management strategy for Lake Tahoe

IN THE FIRST WEEK OF JUNE, 2012, the Forest Service released a draft management plan for Lake Tahoe, which includes restoring habitat, cleaning up creeks and keeping the lake and surrounding areas clean.

The plan, which has not been updated since 1988, is an attempt by the agency to provide direction on what recreational activities are allowed on the 154,000 acres of public land around the Tahoe Basin and how the area's natural resources will be managed over the next two decades. The goal is to maintain the natural beauty of the area as more vacation resorts and homes have popped up in the region and recreation has damaged the landscape.

The clarity of the lake, which lies on the Nevada-California border, has been at issue for many years. It has gotten steadily worse but recently is believed to have stabilized.

The agency has come up with four alternatives that address watershed and forest health, aquatic ecosystems, hazardous fuels and wildlife habitat, sustainable recreation and access to forests, facilities, roads and trails. The agency will seek public input on the draft through Aug. 30. A final plan is expected to be in place by the end of the year.

"This is an opportunity to protect the Lake Tahoe region's forests and rivers so they can be enjoyed by our children and grandchildren," said Sarah Matsumoto, a senior representative of the Sierra Club. "Much has changed in the Tahoe region over the past 24 years, and it's time to take a 21st-century approach to forest planning."

— Sierra Club press release (June 4, 2012)

## Citizens monitor springs in Black Rock National Conservation Area for BLM

BY DOROTHY HUDIG

There are 2000 springs indicated in the Black Rock National Conservation Area north of Gerlach. This water is the life blood of the desert. Most of the springs have flow rates less than a gallon a minute. People, climate, cattle and horses are impacting the springs.

The project started as a dream of two ecologists, Roger Farschon, of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and Don Sada, Ph.D., of the Desert Research Institute. In 2008, they organized an intergovernment agency workshop in Gerlach. The costs of professional

field technicians would be prohibitive, so top priority became inventory by trained citizens. Today, under BLM sponsorship, specific assignments are made by Brian Beffort of Friends of Nevada Wilderness. The BLM provides the monitoring kits, each worth more than \$1000.

Data gathered include locations, flow rates, water temperature and conductivity (as an indicator of how long the water has been underground), watercress and snails (indicators of year-round water), and damage by cattle and horses. Photos have landmarks such as boulders and mountains so that someone can return later to re-photograph and track changes in vegetation. This field work is a challenge for the legs and brain.

Our results are straight from Milton's Paradise Lost. A volunteer may find nothing or a dry spring. The spring may be pristine, gurgling, green with moss

and watercress, and have snails (Paradise) or trampled, oily, and stinking of horse urine like the race track at New Orleans Jazzfest after rain (Hell).

**What you can do.** Monitoring is fun and worthwhile. More volunteers are needed! If you'd like to help, contact me (hudig@sbcglobal.net) or Mike Thorson (sorethumb@att.net). For the next training, contact Brian Beffort in Reno (brian@nevadawilderness.org) or Karen Dallett of Friends of the Black Rock in Gerlach (info@blackrockdesert.org).



Dorothy Hudig with conductivity meter. Photo: Anon.



**DEADLINE!**  
**SEPTEMBER 1**  
FOR OCT-NOV-DEC ISSUE

## States' & Interior's sage grouse ruling

BY TINA NAPPE

SAGE GROUSE ARE A STATE MANAGED species. Since 1950 their numbers have been declining. State wildlife agencies have responded by underwriting research, protesting incursions into sage grouse habitat and creating state initiatives. Unfortunately, wildlife agencies are no match for livestock grazing, mining, renewable energy, utilities, wild horses, or recreational use. The Ruby pipeline, for instance, recently bulldozed through hitherto untouched sagebrush habitat, leaving in its wake a new road covered with cheat grass.

Today the sagebrush ecosystem is regarded as the most endangered ecosystem in the United States. Yet for most of Nevada's history the sagebrush steppe was a low priority. Founded in 1957, the Toiyabe Chapter, for instance, focused on Lake Tahoe and the Sierra, or on selecting mountain ranges appropriate for wilderness status. The Sierra Club's recent focus on renewable energy also presumes use of public lands.

In March, 2010, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service determined that listing the sage grouse was "warranted but precluded" and set a 2015 deadline for BLM to ensure protection. States were encouraged to help. Wyoming has issued a Governor's Executive Order protecting sage grouse habitat and enabling energy development and other uses move forward.

Nevada's Governor Brian Sandoval established The Governor's Greater Sage Grouse Advisory Committee, with a deadline of July 31, to develop a similar Executive Order. (Nevada will include the bi-state sage grouse population in Inyo and Mono County California.) The Great Basin, subject to extensive wild fires, may face difficulty setting aside sage grouse habitat. Gold mining, cattle grazing, and horse use will impact other lands.

Historically, interest groups besiege BLM demanding their rights. State Executive Offices usually weigh in on the side of development. Sage grouse, the key species in the sage brush steppe, may now have some equality with development in the Executive Office.

In recognition of the growing complexity of multiple use, The Nature Conservancy, for instance, is shifting its emphasis. "We spent the 20th century protecting nature from people, and we will spend the 21st century protecting nature for people." (Friedman, *New York Times*, June 3, 2012, p. 13)

**What you can do.** In protecting sage grouse we help ourselves. As a member of Governor Sandoval's Committee, I welcome your views. Contact me at tnappe@nvcbell.net.

Perhaps the truth  
depends on a walk  
around the lake.  
— Wallace Stevens



## SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SIERRA CLUB

You still have time to contribute to your  
Toiyabe Chapter! Please send to  
P.O. Box 8096, Reno, NV 89507.

Explore, enjoy, and protect the planet.

## Unfair decision: Groundwater mining approved by state

BY ROSE STRICKLAND

On March 22, 2012, the Nevada State Engineer approved all but four of the applications filed by Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) to pump and export 84,000 acre feet of groundwater annually to southern Nevada from four valleys in Eastern Nevada. The ruling was issued despite protesters' arguments, evidence challenging the need for the rural groundwater, SNWA's ability to finance the \$15.7 billion project, and the unacceptable environmental and social impacts.

BLM says pumping not sustainable. The draft Environmental Impact Statement written by the Bureau of Land Management disclosed that SNWA's proposed pumping is not sustainable and would seriously harm the environment and existing water users. The pumping would cause over 200 foot declines in water tables, subsidence over 500 square miles, and reductions in flows in creeks and in springs on which endangered species depend. Other impacts include drying up of water sources and vegetation on which ranching, wildlife, and wild horses depend in eastern Nevada. There would also be increased dust pollution as far as the Wasatch Front in Utah.

The State Engineer's ruling did require

monitoring and mitigation for adverse pumping impacts on affected senior water rights holders and the environment. But farmers, ranchers, tribes, and communities will have to "prove" adverse impacts through hiring water attorneys and expert witnesses to challenge the expected SNWA denials: "It's the drought — it's climate change — it's somebody else's pumping."

State Engineer ignores evidence. Also, the State Engineer ignored the arguments of Dr. John Bredehoeft and other hydrologists that even if SNWA is ordered to cease pumping, drawdowns will continue for months to years, while recovery from overpumping could take decades or hundreds of years. This delay will doom many species of plants and

animals whose habitat requires specific amounts of spring flows, temperatures, and water chemistry. For other pumping impacts, including the loss of water, subsidence, and loss of cultural sites, there is also no mitigation.

Groups appeal unreasonable decision. In April, the Great Basin Water Network, White Pine and other rural counties, tribes, the Sierra Club, and dozens of rural residents appealed the State Engineer's ruling to state district court. Why? The huge amount of evidence presented by protesters in support of their case in during the six-week water hearing — including the draft Environmental Impact Statement — was not considered or was dismissed.

## Glover's silk moth found again in Spring Mountains!

BRUCE M. BOYD (BBOYD20@COX.NET)

The Spring Mountains located just west of Las Vegas are arguably the most ecologically important and the most studied mountain range in the Mojave Desert and in the state of Nevada. On any summer day teams of researchers can be seen gathering data on a well documented suite of rare and endemic species of plants and animals.

Despite decades of intense scrutiny new and unique species are still being discovered in the Spring Mountains; -- and, not all of those species are tiny, colorless and living under rocks. A relict population of Glover's silk moth (*Hyalophora columbia gloveri*) the largest species of Lepidoptera (butterflies and moths) now known in the Spring Mountains was documented and described in a paper submitted to *The News of the Lepidopterists' Society* earlier this month.

Glover's silk moth is widely distributed in North America. Regionally it is known to occur in eastern California (in the Panamint and White mountains), central Nevada, southwestern Utah and northern Arizona.

Adults in the Spring Mountains population appear similar to those found elsewhere but the bright green



ground color and color of the scoli (fleshy spines) of the larvae are unique to this population indicating a long period of genetic isolation from other populations, possibly since the end of the Pleistocene era.

Because of its rarity almost nothing is known about the natural history of the Spring Mountains population. The flight period appears to be in late summer; adults do not feed and probably live about one week.

The photographs depict a fully developed larva and a prepared adult male (about 5 inches from wing tip to wing tip). The specimen will be donated to the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity in Gainesville, Florida.

**Info.** For information on the butterflies of the Spring Mountains, go to <[www.butterfliesofthespringmountains.com](http://www.butterfliesofthespringmountains.com)>.



"This is another example of the species richness and uniqueness of the Spring Mountains. It also illustrates that, in what is arguably the most studied mountain range in Nevada, new discoveries continue and proper habitat management is needed to protect additional species still unknown to science."

— Bruce Boyd

## Sierra Club Benefit Cruise Island Hopping in Channel Islands National Park, 2012 3-Day, Live-Aboard, Multi-Island Cruise August 12-14, 2012

EXPLORE THE WILD, windswept islands of Channel Island National Park. Enjoy the frolicking seals and sea lions. Train your binoculars on rare sea and land birds, and for whales and dolphins. Watch for the endangered Island fox. Hike trails bordered by blankets of wildflowers and plants found no other place



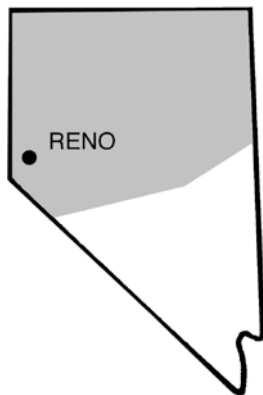
on earth. Kayak or snorkel the pristine waters--- or just relax at sea.

All tours depart from Santa Barbara aboard the 68-foot twin diesel, Truth. Fee for all tours, \$590, includes an assigned bunk, all meals, snacks, and beverages, plus the services of a ranger/naturalist who will travel with us to lead

Please see CHANNEL ISLANDS, page 12.



# Great Basin Gatherings



## Great Basin Group

### Chair's Report

BY DAVID VON SEGGERN

**Summer hiking.** We have already started another active hiking season, with choices on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings plus all the great weekend hikes to our favorite places. There's been a change in the leader lineup this year though: David von Seggern is doing the Tuesday hikes while Yvonne Jerome has switched to handling the Thursday hikes. Holly Coughlin still remains leader of the infamous Wednesday night conditioning hikes (aptly named).

**ExCom takes a holiday?** The group ExCom is taking the summer off (mostly) -- we resume in September with our ExCom and general meetings (see our Calendar). However, we have one big event lined up for this summer and invite all Great Basin

Group members to join us on July 22 at Galena Park (see Calendar again) for a fundraiser party and potluck for our Get Kids Outdoors campaign (see accompanying article).

**No vacation for conservation.** Great Basin Group continues to be involved in a number of conservation issues, and our new Conservation Chair, Graham Stafford, is chasing numerous developments in this area.

We plan to participate in the comment period for the forest plan revision of the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit this summer. Did you know that 80% of the Basin is U.S. Forest Service land (= our land)?

# 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.

**JUNE 29 - JULY 1 (FRIDAY-SUNDAY) TBA**

**Emigrant Trails in Black Rock.** Probably leave Friday evening, head up to meet group of Trails West people doing survey of Emigrant trail between Double Hot Springs and Mud Meadows about 20 mi N. Some hiking, driving, time in hot springs. Probably visit ghost town site of Hardin City; Lassen-Clapper Murder site nearby. Sorry, no RVs or trailers, 4 WD strongly preferred. Sign up 6/15-6/27. ND. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.

**JULY 3 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM**

**Tuesday Evening Hike.** These hikes are geared toward beginning hiker. Trips about 2-3 mi RT, 1-2 hrs. Fairly easy trails in and around Truckee Meadows, walking at pace comfortable for all. See our schedule under "Sierra Club Hiking Reno" at <www.MeetUp.com> for more info on each week's hikes. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461; vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Easy.

**JULY 5 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM**

**Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Join us for evening conditioning hikes of 3-5 mi at moderate pace, with gain of 750-1000 ft. Discover trails, learn about nature, geology in and around Truckee

Meadows. Trail info, including if dogs are allowed, posted on hotline Tuesday prior. DL. DL. Leader: Ridge Walker (473-1445). Co-Leader: Yvonne Jerome (473-1445; sjerome@att.net). Mod. Easy.

**JULY 7 (SATURDAY) 8:30 AM**

**Lola Montez Day Hike.** Hike to lower lake for lunch, swimming, and quasi-cross-country to upper lake for additional swimming, sight-seeing. View flora, fauna along way. About 8 mi RT, 1000 ft gain. DL. Leader: Craig Mastos (775-348-1862; maquis@softcom.net). Moderate.

**JULY 10 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM**

**Tuesday Evening Hike.** Please see July 3 for details.

**JULY 11 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM**

**Moderately Fast-Paced Conditioning Hike.** Outing in hills surrounding Truckee Meadows; 4-5 mi, may have 800-1400 ft of gain. Bring plenty of water, trail shoes, dress for weather. Hike for about 2 hrs. Learn about flora or fauna along trail. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (473-1445; ladyhiker1@att.net). Mod. Strenuous.

**JULY 12 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM**

**Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 5 for details. Mod. Easy.

Please see GB CALENDAR, page 9.

## Great Basin Peak Section News Our 3rd Birthday!

BY SHARON MARIE WILCOX

This July the Great Basin Peak Section celebrates its third birthday! In July 2009, the Great Basin Peak Section was formally recognized by the Toiyabe Chapter of the Sierra Club. The Toiyabe Chapter covers most of the area known as the Great Basin and includes four Sierra Club Groups: Great Basin Group, Range of Light Group, Southern Nevada Group, and Tahoe Group.

The GBPS peak trips are listed in the outings schedules of these groups or as impromptu trips e-mailed to Peak Section members. Some overlap exists with the Desert Peak Section list, so also check their outings since they organize fun trips to Great Basin Peaks.

**Wanna lead?** If you are interested in leading trips to Great Basin peaks or want to share trip

reports on our website, please let us know.

**E-mail glitch.** The glitch in e-mail communications concerning the Great Basin Peak Section has been solved thanks to our webmaster, Dennis Ghiglieri. For a number of months, anything sent has not been received, so if you have not had your e-mails answered, please try again.

**Ticks!** A number of articles have recently cautioned that this is an early and abundant tick year.

For great information on ticks and their removal check out the Center for Disease Control link: <<http://www.cdc.gov/ticks/>>.

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



## Black Warrior Peak

BY SHARON MARIE WILCOX

THIS YEAR'S CONTINUED LACK of winter weather has provided good desert hiking conditions and snow-free peaks. Another clear blue-sky winter day in February beckoned us to hike another desert peak.

Even though Black Warrior Peak isn't a list-

ed Great Basin or Desert Peak Section Peak, it has been a peak of interest. We've admired a nice view of this prominent black summit knob from the south end of Winnemucca Dry Lake each trip driving north towards Gerlach. From the west side of Pyramid Lake, the mountain silhouette is a reclining figure.

Ready to explore this peak, Larry Grant, Niki Houghton, and Sharon Marie Wilcox headed off to the Truckee Range to hike Black Warrior Peak (6338 feet).

From Reno we drove east on I-80 to Wad-

Please see BW PEAK, page 9.

## "Family Fling" for kids!

Sunday • July 22 • 5-8 pm • Galena Creek Park

BY SUE JACOX, SUEJACOX@NVBELL.NET

FOR OUR NEXT GENERATION to explore, enjoy, and protect the planet, they need our help! Our Great Basin Group is dedicated to supporting more outdoor experiences for local kids and invites you to a fun fundraiser at Galena Creek Park on Sunday, July 22, from 5-8 pm.



Sunday, July 22, Mountain Girls will entertain at Galena Creek at the old Fish Hatchery building, with proceeds from the event supporting outdoor activities for local kids. Mountain Girls will entertain the whole family!

**Activities.** The lively bluegrass and folk tunes of the Mountain Girls will get you kicking up your heels!

Great Basin Outdoor School will lead outdoor activities for kids and families and will have kid-friendly pocket field guides of local plants and animals available. (See Bookshelf on page 12 for details!)

**What to bring.** Bring a potluck dish (main dish, salad, or dessert) to share and your beverages (wine and beer OK). Also bring a donation to sup-

port outdoor activities for kids (\$10 or more suggested, tax deductible). And, of course, bring the kids or grandkids to explore and enjoy with you. All donations, including donations for great raffle prizes, will help children who rarely get off the pavement to get out on our forest trails.

**How to get there.** The park is seven miles up the Mt. Rose Highway from the intersection with U.S. 395. You'll reach the historic old fish hatchery building above Marilyn's Pond by entering the park at the "Galena Creek South Entrance" sign.

**About the "Fling."** Our youth need the physical and psychological benefits of outdoor activity and connecting with nature, and our planet needs advocates and conservationists. This family fling is a fun way to fund activities for tomorrow's outdoor leaders.

**What you can do.** We hope to see you there, but even if you can't make it, please help! To donate a raffle prize, to assist with the event, or to make a special tax-deductible contribution for children, you can reach Sue Jacox at [suejacox@nvbell.net](mailto:suejacox@nvbell.net).

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	David von Seggern*	775-303-8461	vonseg1@sbcglobal.net
Vice-Chair	Valerie Andersen*	775-853-4769	mtnval@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Sue Jacox*	775-849-1890	suejacox@nvbell.net
Treasurer	Martin Mace*	775-745-4703	mace.martin@gmail.com
Conservation	Jen Huntley*	775-232-8847	drjenhs@gmail.com
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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



# Great Basin Group Calendar

continued from page 8

**JULY 13-15 (FRIDAY-SUNDAY) 2 PM**  
**Sheldon Wildlife Refuge Fence Removal.** Help antelope habitat! This has been huge benefit to native pronghorn. Please join us on car camping service outing. All meals except lunch provided. DOK. Details: contact leader, Graham Stafford (775-686-8578; graham@grahamstafford.com). Co-Leader: Pat Bruce (pbruce@nevadawilderness.org). Easy.

**JULY 14 (SATURDAY) TBA**  
**Easy Map & Compass Class.** Meet, do "classroom" session at trailhead in Reno area. Discuss compasses, maps, contour lines, general back country navigation both on foot and by vehicle. After class, all will take a brief hike to put what you've learned into practice. Leader is long-time desert rat, search, rescue member. About day. DOK. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.

**JULY 14 (SATURDAY) 8 AM**  
**Shower's Lake at Carson Pass/Hwy 88.** Day hike of about 9 mi in loop through wildflowers with scenic views along Meiss Ridge. Return through Upper Truckee River watershed with grassy meadows usually with profusion of wildflowers. Gain of about 2000 ft for day. Learn some history of area. Drivers need \$5 cash for parking fee at Trailhead. ND. Leader: T Taro (775-530-2935). Strenuous.

**JULY 15 (SUNDAY) 9 AM**  
**Andesite, Castle Peaks Day Hike.** Study natural history of area with particular focus on wildflowers. Includes steep, off-trail sections. ND. Leader: John Ide (321-525-2050; johndie1@yahoo.com). Moderate.

**JULY 17 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM**  
**Tuesday Evening Hike.** Please see July 3 for details. Easy.

**JULY 18 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM**  
**Moderately Fast-Paced Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 11 for details. Mod. Strenuous.

**JULY 19 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM**  
**Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 5 for details. Mod. Easy.

**JULY 20-22 (FRIDAY-SUNDAY) 2 PM**  
**Range Allotment Survey (1 hr N of Tonopah).** Grazing monitoring in Alta Toquima Range. Work with Forest Service to gather info on impacts of grazing on public lands. All meals included except lunch. ND. Details: contact leader, Graham Stafford (775-686-8578; graham@grahamstafford.com). Co-Leader: Wes Hoskins (762-6730; wes@nevadawilderness.org). Moderate.

**JULY 21 (SATURDAY) 9:30 AM**  
**Ginny Lake Day Hike.** Stroll through verdant vales above Tahoe Meadows to seldom-visited glaciated basin that holds Ginny Lake. Hope to see deer, marmots, grouse. After lunching there, climb to saddle to N, loop back home along Tahoe Rim Trail. About 8 mi RT, 1000 ft gain. DL. Leader: Ridge Walker (853-8055; edc@unr.edu). Co-Leader: Stephanie Lashuk (410-5562). Moderate.

## BLACK WARRIOR PEAK . . .

continued from page 8

sworth, then headed north on NV SR 447 to Nixon. At the Nixon post office (left side of the highway), we took a hard right onto S. Hollywood Rd. In 1.1 miles we turned left on the dirt road. Then we drove another 14.1



Hiking towards Black Warrior Peak (6338 feet).  
Photo: Sharon Marie Wilcox.

miles on numerous dirt roads that braided through the area before pulling off of the road just beyond the capped well.

We hiked up to the saddle and then contoured the ridgeline to the summit. Most of our hiking terrain consisted of rocky slopes

**JULY 21 (SATURDAY) 8:30 AM**  
**Jamison Lake.** Hike to lake from Jamison Mine area near Graeagle. Observe flora and fauna along way. 6 mi RT, 1000 ft. gain of. DL. Leader: Craig Mastos (775-348-1862; maquils@softcom.net). Moderate.

**JULY 22 (SUNDAY) TBA**  
**Pennsylvania Creek Day Hike.** Visit beautiful Mokelumne Wilderness off Ebbetts Pass on Pacific Crest Trail. Hike through beautiful vistas, great volcanic formations. Hoping to see early flowers. Moderately strenuous because of 12-mi length, possible walk thru snow fields, snow patches in trail. Worth work. Bonus is visit to eagle. Because of high altitude at beginning, only about 1000 ft of gain. DL. Leader: Lucrecia Belancio (775-851-9279; lucrecianature@gmail.com). Co-Leader: Jim Gosar. Mod. Strenuous.

**JULY 22 (SUNDAY) 4:30 - 7:30 PM**  
**Sierra Club Member's Summer Party at Galena Fish Hatchery.** Join us for fun afternoon of socializing, eating good food, listening to entertaining live bluegrass music. Our social is geared for everyone, including families. Special games and other activities for children will be hosted by Great Basin Outdoor School. Bring dish to share, beverage of your choice. Look for Summer Party article for more details. DOK. Leader: Valerie Andersen (mtval@sbcglobal.net). Co-Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Easy.

**JULY 24 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM**  
**Tuesday Evening Hike.** Please see July 3 for details. Easy.

**JULY 25 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM**  
**Moderately Fast-Paced Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 11 for details. Mod. Strenuous.

**JULY 26 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM**  
**Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 5 for details. Mod. Easy.

**JULY 28 (SATURDAY) 8 AM**  
**Elephant's Back at Carson Pass/Hwy 88.** Day hike to visit Frog, Winnemucca, Round Top Lakes. Scale Elephant's Back, enjoy sweeping views of high Sierra. Possibly return by Woods Lake, including hiking on portion of Emigrant Wagon Train route. Wild flowers should be in full display. Learn about history of area. About 9.5 mi, 1700 ft of gain. Portions off-trail with boulder scrambling, brush. Drivers need \$5 cash for parking fee at trailhead. ND. Leader: T Taro (775-530-2935). Strenuous.

**JULY 28 (SATURDAY) 8:30 AM**  
**Mt. Elwell, Lakes Basin Day Hike.** Start at Lakes

camouflaged by dry golden cheat grass. We found an easy route weaving our way through the final rocks towards the summit.

We signed the peak register and had a quick lunch, but an icy breeze didn't make it comfortable to linger for the superb 360-degree views. Great surrounding views included

Pyramid Lake, Anaho Island (a National Wildlife Refuge and nesting site for American white pelicans), plus the surrounding Great Basin Ranges.

We kept our eyes peeled all day for area pronghorn antelope, but failed to spot them. A golden eagle did soar overhead on our return.

An interesting feature on the upper slopes of the surrounding hillsides are dark vertical rows of rock known as "stone stripes". Thought to result from

the freeze thaw cycle, they contrast with the dried vegetation.

Passing the time as we bounced around on the rocky dirt road, we created tales about the Black Warrior and savored the memory of another beautiful day spent in the Great Basin.

Basin Campground in Graeagle area. Go by six mountain lakes, including Long Lake, which is quite large. Usually, there are many wildflowers, including tiger lilies. About 8 mi, 1760 ft gain overall. Lunch atop Mt. Elwell, enjoy vistas often reaching to Mt. Lassen. Trip limit 14. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (331-7488; ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Stephanie (slashuk@peoplepc.com). Mod. Strenuous.

**JULY 29 (SUNDAY) 8 AM**  
**Echo Lake to Aloha Lake Day Hike.** Take water taxi (\$10/person each way) from lower Echo Lake to upper lake, start hike into Desolation Wilderness from there. Learn about this wilderness area. About 11 mi RT, 1000 ft gain.

**It's not just  
a good basin,  
it's a  
GREAT BASIN!**

ND. Leader: Donna Inversin (775-315-6763; donnannv1@gmail.com). Moderate.

**JULY 31 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM**  
**Tuesday Evening Hike.** Please see July 3 for details. Easy.

**AUGUST 1 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM**  
**Moderately Fast-Paced Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 11 for details. Mod. Strenuous.

**AUGUST 2 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM**  
**Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 5 for details. Mod. Easy.

**AUGUST 3-5 (FRIDAY-SUNDAY) 2 PM**  
**Sheldon National Antelope Wildlife Refuge (This outing may be canceled or changed due to fire conditions.** Contact leader before trip for full details). Please see July 13-15 outing for details. DOK. Leader: Graham Stafford (775-686-

8578; graham@grahamstafford.com). Easy.

**AUGUST 5 (SUNDAY) 6 AM**  
**White Mountain Day Hike, near Bishop, CA.** White Mtn elevation 14,250 ft. Hike on "jeep road," about 16 mi RT, about 2500 ft gain. Hikers must be experienced, well conditioned, must have hiked with leader before. Conditioning hikes offered before trip; please contact leader ASAP for conditioning hikes signup. At least one overnight stay, due to very early start; two nights would be safer to avoid driving back to this area in dark on day of hike. Transportation and lodgings are hikers' responsibility. Storms/smoke will cancel hike. ND. Leader: T Taro (775-530-2935). Strenuous.

**AUGUST 7 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM**  
**Tuesday Evening Hike.** Please see July 3 for details. Easy.

**AUGUST 8 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM**  
**Moderately Fast-Paced Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 11 for details. Mod. Strenuous.

**AUGUST 9 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM**  
**Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 5 for details. Mod. Easy.

**AUGUST 10 (FRIDAY) TBA**  
**Perseid Meteor Shower Campout.** Head up Friday evening to camp mid-playa, about 20 mi N of Gerlach. Porta-pottie provided. Also visit nearby hot springs. Near-dark moon will mean great stars, meteors. Plan to stay up late for best viewing. Learn about Black Rock Desert on this easy car camp. Expect sizeable group, as they'll be setting up for Burning Man event, so crew members usually stop by. LNT (Leave No Trace), be prepared to clean up after any dogs. Sign up after 8/1. DL. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.

**AUGUST 10-12 (FRIDAY-SUNDAY) 2PM FRI**

**Summit Twin Springs Fence Removal.** Volunteers will be hiking out wire and posts from an enclosure (strenuous). You need to be good hiker, able to work at high altitude to participate. Route to project can be extreme, requires high clearance vehicles. Transportation can be provided. All meals except lunch provided. DOK. Details: contact leader, Graham Stafford (775-686-8578; graham@grahamstafford.com). Co-Leader: Pat

Please see GB CALENDAR, page 11.

## GB GROUP 2<sup>ND</sup> THURSDAY PROGRAM MEETINGS

All programs open to the public

On the 2nd Thursday of each month (September - May), come and enjoy fun socializing and informative programs with the Great Basin Group. All programs are free and open to the public.

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/gb-group>). Also check our Calendar, which begins on this page of the *Trails*.

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

### "TrailSafe & Nevada Trapping"

**Date: Thursday, September 13**

**Time: 7p social, 7:30p program**

**Location:** Girl Scouts of the Sierra Nevada Building, 605 Washington St., Reno (S of Hwy 80). Contact: Valerie Andersen (775-544-3061, gbg-programs@toyabe.sierraclub.org).

At the September program meeting, TrailSafe co-founder, Trish Swain, will discuss Nevada trapping laws and the organization's efforts to reform them. Long-time wildlife activist, Dr. Don Molde, will also demonstrate how to release pets from several styles of traps. There will be a question-&-answer period after the presentation.

TrailSafe was formed in January 2007, when Sierra Club activist Carol Tresner and Swain were alarmed by newspaper reports of dogs trapped in the Galena area. Tresner's

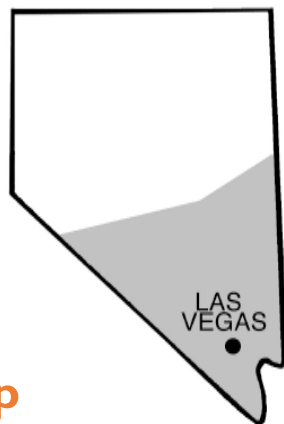
dog, Shasta, had previously been trapped elsewhere in Nevada.

Their efforts saw success November 3, 2007, with a new regulation written into Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) guaranteeing no steel traps or snares would be permitted within 1000 feet of seven popular Galena area trail systems.

Today, TrailSafe continues efforts for public safety and humane treatment of pets and wildlife. For more information about TrailSafe, contact Trish Swain at [info@trailsafe.org](mailto:info@trailsafe.org), visit the TrailSafe website at <http://www.trailsafe.org>, or check them out on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/TrailSafeNevada>.

In addition, On May 19, 2012, the Sierra Club adopted a trapping policy which can be found at [www.sierraclub.org/policy/conservation/Trapping-Wildlife.pdf](http://www.sierraclub.org/policy/conservation/Trapping-Wildlife.pdf).

# The Mojave Monitor



## Southern Nevada Group

### Group News

## Updated national Sierra Club outings leader policy adopted

BY TAJ AINLAY

Outings are an integral part of Sierra Club activities, allowing us to explore and enjoy our local environs. We hold our outings leaders to a particularly high standard. Each one must meet seven criteria for certification, referred to collectively as "currency," including a special Outing Leadership Training (OLT).

**Outings leader regulations.** Specifically, "Every four years from the date a leader first met all requirements to lead an outing, regardless of level, OLT101 must be refreshed and any lapsed first aid certifications must be renewed."

In 2008, a new policy was adopted by the Club at the National level. Experienced outing leaders were initially exempted from the requirement to take OLT101 and OLT201 or comparable training. However, "four years after the date of the enactment of this policy (July 1, 2008), such persons must meet all currency requirements." In other words, by July 1, 2012, all outings leaders must comply with the policy.

**Chapter ExCom passes resolution addressing OLT policy.** At the Toiyabe Chapter ExCom Meeting on April 28, 2012 in Reno, the following motion was passed:

*"Whereas uncertified outing leaders who lead outings for the chapter may expose everyone to liability, and whereas it is the policy of the Chapter ExCom that outings comply with all requirements of the Sierra Club, therefore move that after July 1, 2012, no outings shall*

*be conducted within the Chapter without at least one certified leader, and that immediately, but not later than 90 days from now, the group chairs assure that all their outings leaders are certified and arrange that their outings leader data are input into the Club database, and that the chapter outings chair communicates these requirements to all outings leaders."*

**SNG can list outings, but not leaders.** Despite trying hard to meet the OLT requirement, the Southern Nevada Group was unable to complete the required verification process in time to publish the group's outings schedule in this issue of the *Trails*.

Therefore, although the outings listed below have been planned for July-September, please note that we cannot list the associated outing leaders or their contact information at this time.

Group completing OLT certification as quickly as possible. Rest assured that steps are being taken to complete verification so that outings may continue without interruption.

**Where to find OLT certified outings.** Sierra Club sanctioned activities can be found online at <http://toiyabe.sierraclub.org/sngroup/text/snevent1.asp>.

Contact information will be added there as each leader's credentials are verified. We aim to provide our members with unmatched opportunities to explore and enjoy the outdoors in the months ahead!

**Questions?** Those who have questions are encouraged to contact Southern Nevada Group Chair, Taj Ainlay (702-682-9361, [tajainlay@aol.com](mailto:tajainlay@aol.com)).

### SOUTHERN NEVADA GROUP

#### OFFICERS

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Vice-Chair	Eric King*	702-436-9088	<a href="mailto:teamprosperitylv@yahoo.com">teamprosperitylv@yahoo.com</a>
Secretary	Jane Feldman*		<a href="mailto:feldman.jane@gmail.com">feldman.jane@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Desiree Saporito	702-875-2668	
At Large	Gecko Benjamin*	702-505-0000	
At Large	Scott Stevens*	702-252-3223	<a href="mailto:sOs@mac.com">sOs@mac.com</a>
At Large	Roxanne San Jose*	702-505-1168	
Coal Power Plants	Jane Feldman*		<a href="mailto:feldman.jane@gmail.com">feldman.jane@gmail.com</a>
Conservation	Jane Feldman*		<a href="mailto:feldman.jane@gmail.com">feldman.jane@gmail.com</a>
Endangered Species & Wildlife	Jane Feldman*		<a href="mailto:feldman.jane@gmail.com">feldman.jane@gmail.com</a>
Energy	Jane Feldman*		<a href="mailto:feldman.jane@gmail.com">feldman.jane@gmail.com</a>
Global Warming	Jane Feldman*		<a href="mailto:feldman.jane@gmail.com">feldman.jane@gmail.com</a>
Inner City Outings	Eric King*	702-436-9088	<a href="mailto:teamprosperitylv@yahoo.com">teamprosperitylv@yahoo.com</a>
Membership	Taj Ainlay*	702-682-9361	<a href="mailto:tajainlay@aol.com">tajainlay@aol.com</a>
Outings	Par Rasmusson	702-215-9119	<a href="mailto:par@mvdsl.com">par@mvdsl.com</a>
Outings	Jack Sawyer	702-228-3857	<a href="mailto:lvsawyer@hotmail.com">lvsawyer@hotmail.com</a>
Parks, Refuges	Ed Rothfuss	406-756-0028	<a href="mailto:mroth9827@aol.com">mroth9827@aol.com</a>
Political	Teresa Crawford	702-526-8445	<a href="mailto:tailspinterry@hotmail.com">tailspinterry@hotmail.com</a>
Programs	Eric King*	702-436-9088	<a href="mailto:teamprosperitylv@yahoo.com">teamprosperitylv@yahoo.com</a>
Publicity	Desiree Saporito	702-875-2668	
Transportation	Jane Feldman*		<a href="mailto:feldman.jane@gmail.com">feldman.jane@gmail.com</a>
Webmaster	Par Rasmusson*	702-215-9119	<a href="mailto:par@mvdsl.com">par@mvdsl.com</a>

\* ExCom member

## 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.

### Outings planned for July-September 2012

Please see <http://toiyabe.sierraclub.org/sngroup/text/snevent1.asp> for contact information and outing details to be added as each leader's credentials are verified.

#### JULY 7 (SATURDAY)

Beginner's Bristlecone Trail Hike, Lee Canyon, SMNRA.

#### JULY 13 (FRIDAY)

Highland Range (Lincoln County) Service Trip.

#### JULY 14 (SATURDAY)

South Loop to the Meadows Hike, SMNRA.

#### JULY 15 (SUNDAY)

South Sister, Lee Canyon Hike, SMNRA.

#### JULY 21 (SATURDAY)

Adopt-a-Highway Clean-up, Red Rock National Recreation Area.

#### JULY 22 (SUNDAY)

Fletcher Canyon Loop Hike, SMNRA.

#### JULY 26 (THURSDAY)

Highland Ridge (Lincoln County) Service Trip.

#### JULY 29 (SUNDAY)

Rain Tree & Mummy Springs Hike, SMNRA.

#### AUGUST 3 (FRIDAY)

Laguna Beach Hiking Weekend.

#### AUGUST 4 (SATURDAY)

Full Moon Hike to Cathedral Rock, SMNRA.

#### AUGUST 11 (SATURDAY)

Bonanza Peak Hike from Cold Creek.

#### AUGUST 18 (SATURDAY)

Fletcher Peak Hike, SMNRA.

#### AUGUST 19 (SUNDAY)

Beginners Telephone Canyon Hike, SMNRA.

#### AUGUST 25 (SATURDAY)

Bristlecone to Bonanza Trail Hike, SMNRA.

#### AUGUST 25 (SATURDAY)

Beginner's Horse Canyon, Deer Creek Road Hike, SMNRA.

#### AUGUST 26 (SUNDAY)

Almost Full Moon Hike: Bristlecone Trail, Lee Canyon, SMNRA.

#### SEPTEMBER 8 (SATURDAY)

Beginner's Horse Canyon, Deer Creek Road Hike, SMNRA.

#### SEPTEMBER 9 (SUNDAY)

Mummy Mountain Hike, SMNRA.

#### SEPTEMBER 15 (SATURDAY)

Ruby Crest Trail Backpack.

#### SEPTEMBER 15 (SATURDAY)

Beginner's Stanley B Spring Hike, SMNRA

## Las Vegas Inner City Outings launches

BY BETTY GALLIFENT

INNER CITY OUTINGS (ICO) is a community-outreach program of the Sierra Club dedicated to providing outdoor recreational experiences to low-income youth of diverse cultural backgrounds.

The newly formed Las Vegas Inner City Outings group conducted its first outing on April 27, 2012, with 12 students from Burk High School. These students, from teacher Chris Axas' science class, took a day hike along the First



Students taking photo of cactus along trail. Photo: Anon.

Please see ICO outing, page 11.

### SN Group ExCom meetings

Our Executive Committee meetings are typically held on the last Monday of each month, holidays notwithstanding, in the Sierra Club office at 708 S. 6th Street, Las Vegas 89101. ExCom meetings are open to all members. Please feel free to join us on July 23 or September 24, from 6-8:30 pm. There is no meeting in August.

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

## Tule Springs: Nevada's next National Monument!

BY LYNN DAVIS, NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

PICTURE THIS: HERDS OF ICE AGE Columbian mammoths – with tusks longer than six feet and molars the size of a human head – each devouring 300 to 600 pounds of leafy vegetation in the lush and verdant wetlands of Las Vegas. That's right, Las Vegas.

Nevada's newest proposed national monument is likely to be located within 30 minutes of the neon lights of Las Vegas, Nevada. In an arid desert wash now dotted with scrappy salt brush and creosote remain thousands of fossils of Ice Age mammoths, massive bison and American lions, camelops (a larger version of today's Bactrian camels), sloths the size of small sports cars, and at least two species of ancient horse.



A seven-foot mammoth tusk was discovered right in the ground at Tule Springs in December 2010. One of the paleontologists working there is also pictured. Photo: Anon.

Scientifically documented, Tule Springs is significant for the vast span of time the fossils represent. Fossils and fossilized pollen in the area span 700-250,000 years ago, offering important insight into at least two Ice Ages and multiple warming and cooling periods. The national monument is expected to attract scientists from around the world, and will offer travelers and local residents unparalleled access to observe fossil excavations.

The area also sustains four unique and imperiled plants, Joshua trees and several species of cacti, in addition to threatened desert tortoise, burrowing owls, kit foxes, raptors, kestrels, barn

## ICO OUTING...

continued from page 10

Creek trail in the Red Rock National Conservation Area about seven miles west of the city proper. The trail led the students through a desert area filled with cholla, yucca, Joshua trees and a colorful array of wildflowers, then up into a canyon fed by a natural spring. As they entered this riparian area with a running stream, scrub oak, manzanita, and Ponderosa pine, the students may as well have been in a different world.

They cut their lunchtime short to explore upstream where they found the water alive with toads and tadpoles. They were awed by a hummingbird in her nest perched on a low branch, and

Bruce (815-5598; pbruce@nevadawilderness.org). Strenuous.

**AUGUST 14 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM Tuesday Evening Hike.** Please see July 3 for details. Easy.

**AUGUST 15 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM Moderately Fast-Paced Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 11 for details. Mod. Strenuous.

**AUGUST 16 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 5 for details. Mod. Easy.

**AUGUST 18 (SATURDAY) 8 AM Five Lakes & Two Snowbanks near Carson Pass/Hwy 88.** Hike from ranger station to Frog, Winnemucca, Round Top, Emigrant, Caples Lakes. About 12 mi loop hike with vehicle shuttle. Gain of about 1500 ft with some x-c/boulder scrambling. Learn a bit about history of Emigrant Wagon Trail in area. Drivers need \$5 cash for parking fee. ND. Leader: T Taro (775-530-2935). Mod. Strenuous.

**AUGUST 21 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM Tuesday Evening Hike.** Please see July 3 for details. Easy.

**AUGUST 22 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM Moderately Fast-Paced Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 11 for details. Mod. Strenuous.

**AUGUST 23 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 5 for details. Mod. Easy.

**AUGUST 24-26 (FRIDAY-SUNDAY) 2 PM Sheldon National Antelope Wildlife Refuge** (This outing may be canceled or changed due to fire conditions. Contact leader before trip for info.) Please see July 13-15 outing for details. DOK. Leader: Graham Stafford (775-686-8578; graham@grahamstafford.com). Easy.

**AUGUST 25 (SATURDAY) 9 AM Gourmet Hike to Loch Leven.** A great way to spend the day -- hiking to a fabulous spot, taking a swim, eating an array of gourmet foods. Everyone brings a dish to share (potluck style), but with gourmet twist. About 6 mi RT, 1300 ft gain, sp not "easy." Learn about some flora, fauna along way. Trip limit 14. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (331-7488; ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Stephanie (slashuk@peoplepc.com). Moderate.

**AUGUST 26 (SUNDAY) 8 AM Fallen Leaf Lake to Half Moon Lake (via Glen Alpine Trail).** A chance to visit some historic sites of old Glen Alpine settlement. About 9 mi RT, 1000 ft gain. Learn about flora, fauna. ND. Leader: Donna Inversin (775-315-6763; donnannv1@gmail.com). Moderate.

**AUGUST 27 (MONDAY) 6:30 PM Great Basin Group Outings Meeting.** Join us if you're interested in learning about outings or would like to get started by co-leading. We'll be planning outings for October, November, December. Bring pot-luck dinner item to share. All beverages provided. Meeting graciously hosted at Chuck's home off west Plumb Ln. Call for details. ND. Leader: Chuck Oliveira (786-2988). Co-Leader: Holly

by the butterscotch smell of the Ponderosa pines. Downstream, the students discovered that the creek dropped over a waterfall and down into a pool surrounded by a grotto of ferns, moss, and conglomerate rock. Some cooled themselves from the day's heat in the mist of the water, while others hunted for caves in the surrounding rock formations.

The theme for the hike focused on how plants, animals, and people adapt to survive in this area. Students learned, for example, how the Joshua tree and the yucca moth mutually rely on each other in order to reproduce. This outing in multiple ways met the goals of the Inner City Outings leaders—to give students the opportunity to explore

## Great Basin Group Calendar

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Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Easy.

**AUGUST 28 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM Tuesday Evening Hike.** Please see July 3 for details. Easy.

**AUGUST 29 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM Moderately Fast-Paced Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 11 for details. Mod. Strenuous.

**AUGUST 30 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 5 for details. Mod. Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 4 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM Tuesday Evening Hike.** Please see July 3 for details. Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 5 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM Moderately Fast-Paced Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 11 for details. Mod. Strenuous.

**SEPTEMBER 6 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 5 for details. DL. Leader: Ridge Walker (473-1445). Co-Leader: Gracie Caudill (473-1445). Mod. Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 8 (SATURDAY) 8 AM Thunder Mountain Day Hike in Carson Pass area/Hwy 88.** About 7 mi, about 2000 ft gain on in-&-out hike. Scenic views on established trail, mostly on ridge line. Learn some history of area. ND. Leader: T Taro (775-530-2935). Mod. Strenuous.

**SEPTEMBER 10 (MONDAY) ExCom Meeting.** All Great Basin Group members are welcome to come and view our ExCom meeting, starting at 6 pm at Swill Wine & Coffee. Your ExCom plans activities throughout the year, manages income and expenses, and sets policy for GB group. Interested in perhaps moving into a leadership position? Please attend or let us know. Info: David von Seggern (775-303-846; vonseg1@sbcglobal.net).

**SEPTEMBER 11 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM Tuesday Evening Hike.** Please see July 3 for details. Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 12 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM Moderately Fast-Paced Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 11 for details. Mod. Strenuous.

**SEPTEMBER 13 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 5 for details. Mod. Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 15 (SATURDAY) 8 AM Leavitt Meadows Day Hike.** Down near Sonora Pass, about 2-hr drive, but very nice hike with little gain. Very gradual climb up drainage of W. Walker River, where you can go as far as you like, without having to do any major climbs. We plan to do approx. 10 mi RT, to enjoy turning autumn leaves, towering peaks on each side of valley. Hoping to see wildlife like migrating deer, reclusive mountain quail. DL. Leader: Ridge Walker (853-8055). Co-Leader: Karen Todd (225-2805). Moderate.

**SEPTEMBER 18 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM Tuesday Evening Hike.** Please see July 3 for details. Easy.

wilderness areas and gain an appreciation and understanding for what's out there, to enjoy these areas safely, and to develop a desire to protect open spaces within their local community.

At the end of the day's journey, students declared this "the best field trip we ever had" and asked if they were welcome to return on their own. They also wanted to know when ICO was going to plan another trip for them!

The Las Vegas ICO would like to thank their sponsors, REI and Red Rock Interpretive Association. For more information and to learn how you can support Las Vegas ICO, contact Chair Charles Schneider (charlie\_nancy@cox.net).

**SEPTEMBER 19 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM**

**Moderately Fast-Paced Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 11 for details. Mod. Strenuous.

**SEPTEMBER 20 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 5 for details. Mod. Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 21-23 (FRIDAY-SUNDAY) 2 PM**

**National Public Lands Day at Black Rock NCA.** This is an opportunity to visit some incredible country and take an active role in preserving your public lands. Learn about Black Rock NCA. Projects will include Trego Hot Springs Rehab and Clean-up. All meals included except lunch. This is a car camping trip. DOK. Details: contact leader, Graham Stafford (775-686-8578; graham@grahamstafford.com). Co-Leader: Pat Bruce (815-5598; pbruce@nevadawilderness.org). Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 21-23 (FRIDAY-SUNDAY) TBA**

**National Public Lands Day in Black Rock.** Meet Friday evening and head on up. Camp at hot spring N of Gerlach. Put up rail fence to protect sensitive dunes, archaeological resources. Porta-pottie provided. Learn about hot springs, Black Rock Desert. Have a work day and a play day. Probably visit other area hot springs. Sign up after 9/3. LNT (Leave No Trace); be prepared to clean up after any dogs. DL. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 22 (SATURDAY) 7 AM Leavitt Peak at Sonora Pass/Hwy 108.** Day hike up Leavitt Peak, 11,700 ft. Celebrate first day of Autumn. About 13 mi RT, mostly above 10,000 foot elevation. An in-&-out hike on PCT. About 3500 ft gain for day. Learn some history of area. Strenuous; hikers should be experienced, conditioned. ND. Leader: T Taro (775-530-2935). Strenuous.

**SEPTEMBER 25 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM Tuesday Evening Hike.** Please see July 3 for details. Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 26 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM Moderately Fast-Paced Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 11 for details. Mod. Strenuous.

**SEPTEMBER 27 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 5 for details. Leader: Ridge Walker (473-1445). Co-Leader: Gracie Caudill (473-1445). Mod. Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 29 (SATURDAY) 3 PM Kayak from Willows Campground, Pyramid Lake.** Late afternoon kayak trip on (we hope) placid part of Pyramid Lake known as "Windless Bay." Turnoff to Willows campground is exactly 2.5 mi down road past end of pavement on Route 445 N of Sutcliffe. Ignore first Willows Campground sign; that road requires 4x4. Camp overnight. We'll bring two extra inflatable kayaks for those without. Fee: \$7 to enter reservation, \$9 to camp overnight. Road down campground is easily managed by towed trailer. See location at <https://maps.google.com>. ND. Leader: Howard Goldbaum (775-772-8579; hgoldbaum@gmail.com). Co-Leader: Robin Courts. Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 30 (SUNDAY) 8 AM Genoa Loop Trail.** A new trail built by Carson Valley Trails Association. About 8.75 mi RT, 1200 ft gain. Start N of historic Genoa behind old cemetery in Sierra Canyon. Climbing up, we'll head south above Genoa, come down Genoa Canyon. Return by walking through township of Genoa. Learn about history of area. ND. Leader: Donna Inversin (775-315-6763; donnannv1@gmail.com). Moderate.

**SEPTEMBER 30 (SUNDAY) 9 AM Mt. Rose Day Hike.** This is a locals' favorite hike. Mt. Rose's summit, at 10,776 ft, is the tallest peak within close range of Reno. We'll take a newer route of about 10 mi RT, 2400 ft gain. Participants need to be in condition for this peak bag, which will be at moderately fast pace. Learn about flora, fauna we observe along way. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (331-7488; ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Ridgewalker (853-0855; edc@cs.unr.edu). Mod. Strenuous.

# Bookshelf

## THE POCKET NATURALIST GUIDE TO TAHOE AREA PLANTS & ANIMALS

Waterford Press, 2012.

This is a wonderful guide to some of the more common animals and plants you will encounter in the Tahoe area. It's a handy reference that anyone in the outdoors will use again and again. And, as a bonus, it easily fits in your pocket – no cumbersome book to carry around. Enjoy!

— Alan Gubanich, Lahontan Audubon Society & Emeritus Faculty, Department of Biology, University of Nevada, Reno

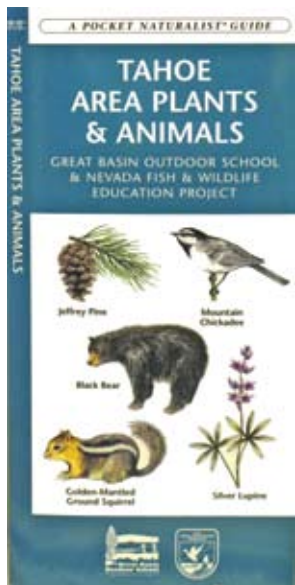
### Tahoe Pocket Naturalist Guide helps kids!

BY SUE JACOX

MAKE YOUR NEXT OUTING more enjoyable by identifying flowers, trees, shrubs, animals, and animal signs like scat, markings, and footprints with a compact pocket field guide.

"The Pocket Naturalist Guide to Tahoe Area Plants & Animals" is light, water-resistant, and colorful -- perfect for introducing your kids and grandkids to our common species. Adults love them, too.

Every penny from the sale of these custom Tahoe area guides supports outdoor learning for local children when you order directly from Great Basin Outdoor School!



**How to purchase the guide.** The price is just \$8, including postage. For your copy/ies, send a check to "GBOS," c/o Sue, 5535 Goldenrod Dr., Reno, NV 89511.

You can also find them for \$7 in Reno at Great Basin Group events, Sundance Books, Nevada Discovery Museum, Galena Creek Visitor Center, Swill Coffee & Wine, Nevada Museum of Art, and the Nevada Store.

In Carson, look for them at the Legislative Gift Shop, and many places around Lake Tahoe.

To purchase in bulk and raise funds for your own organization, contact Sue Jacox (suejacox@nvgbell.net).


## CHANNEL ISLANDS...

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hikes, call attention to items of interest and present evening programs.


**For info & to reserve.** Contact leader, Joan Jones Holtz (626-443-0706, jholtzhl@aol.com).

This fundraising cruise benefits Sierra Club California.




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- John Muir

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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 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968 or visit our website [www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org)

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## Range of Light Group Activities

continued from page 4

### ROL Highway Cleanup! July 18 & September 19, 2012

THE GROUP'S SEGMENT OF Highway 395 was relatively clean when we arrived for our first clean-up of the year on May 16. Help keep it clean by joining our two remaining clean-up days this year: the Wednesdays following our monthly general meeting. Who knows what "treasure" you may find!

Meet at the Crestview Rest Area, about 5 miles north of Mammoth Lakes at 8 am. We provide required reflective vests, hard hats, and trash bags, along with picker-uppers and gloves.

When 10-12 people show up, we normally finish by 10:30 and then enjoy some light refreshments together. Info: John Walter (760-9321767, salt1143@gmail.com) or Malcolm Clark (wmalcolm.Clark@gmail.com).

### Clean-up Day: September 15, 2012

At the ROLG Conservation Committee meeting in February it was agreed that Range of Light would collaborate with Friends of the Inyo for an end of the season clean-up. (This will probably be in the Lakes Basin.) The date – Saturday, September 15, 2012 – is also Coastal Clean-up Day.

## Range of Light Group Calendar

continued from page 5

quired reflective vests, hard hats trash bags, picker-uppers,, gloves. We normally finish by 10:30 am, then enjoy some light refreshments together (provided). Bring water, sun screen, hat. More: John, (760-934-1767, salt1143@gmail.com), Malcolm (760-924-5639, wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com). ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>. No dogs.

### SEPTEMBER 20 (THURSDAY)

**Take a Walk in the Woods! Thursday Summer Fun, Fitness, & Discovery Evening Hikes.** Don't miss fun and great exercise! Please see details, July 5. Leaders: Malcolm (760-924-5639, wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com), John (760-934-1767, salt1143@gmail.com). Well-behaved dogs usually OK. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

### SEPTEMBER 23 (SUNDAY)

**Gaylor & Granite Lakes, Yosemite.** Start hike just inside Tioga pass entry to Yosemite. Moderate 6 mile RT. Steep first mile, some rocky x-c. Spectacular views! Loop back via an abandoned mining area. Limited to 15 hikers. Fee or pass required to enter Yosemite NP. Meet ML Union Bank parking lot, 8 am, or Lee Vining Ranger Station on Tioga Road, 8:45 am. Leader: Mary K, 760-934-1767, mkp@npgcable.com. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>. No dogs.

### SEPTEMBER 27 (THURSDAY)

**Take a Walk in the Woods! Thursday Summer Fun, Fitness, & Discovery Evening Hikes.** Don't miss fun and great exercise! Please see details, July 5. Leaders: Malcolm (760-924-5639, wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com), John (760-934-1767, salt1143@gmail.com). Well-behaved dogs usually OK. ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

### SEPTEMBER 30 (SUNDAY)

**Details to come.** Check ROLG website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

## TULE SPRINGS...

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owls, and great horned owls.

The proposed national monument is located at the base of the Sheep Mountain Range, an imposing and ruggedly carved mountain range that rises steeply from the desert floor. It adjoins the U.S. Fish and Wildlife-managed Desert Wildlife Refuge, the largest wildlife refuge in the lower 48 states, providing options for vital wildlife corridors and habitat protection.

The national monument also adjoins Red Rock National Conservation Area, managed by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management. Nearby, to the west, is Spring Mountains National Recreation Area, managed by the U.S. Forest Service.

Public support for Tule Springs is noteworthy. Several years ago, an active friends group -- the Protectors of Tule Springs -- was formed by neighborhood leaders. The grassroots group launched a public awareness campaign and collected more than 10,000 signatures to protect the area. They have since sustained strong awareness and broad community support.

In June 2009, equipped with the National Park Service analysis of the area's scientific significance and evidence of resource destruction, a campaign was launched by a coalition of supporters to make Tule Springs a unit of the National Park Service. Coalition members, including members of the Sierra Club, have worked tirelessly for nearly three years making presentations, conducting tours of the site, and organizing an impressive clean-up that involved state and city governments, University of Nevada Las Vegas, and several conservation groups.

Notably, three local government entities -- the Clark County Commission, the City of Las Vegas, and the City of North Las Vegas -- unanimously passed resolutions in November 2009 asking Congress to make Tule Springs a part of the National Park System. In addition to local support, the national monument has the bipartisan backing of Nevada's Congressional delegation.

Once the necessary legislation is passed and the new Tule Springs National Monument is created, local elected officials and community leaders hope to work with the National Park Service to choose entrance points, plan visitor amenities, and establish best-management practices. These will make Tule Springs National Monument a world-class destination that adds to Southern Nevada's economy and enhances the area's quality of life.

## FROM THE CHAIR...

continued from page 1

book which depicts California landscapes before and after development. It's very interesting, and her art is amazing. She has an upcoming show in Oakland.



## Toiyabe Chapter ExCom Meeting

**Saturday, July 28, 2012**  
Mammoth Lakes, CA

For details, contact the Chair,  
**ERIK HOLLAND**  
erikreno@aol.com  
775-322-3582