



EXPLORE, ENJOY, & PROTECT THE PLANET.

TOIYABE APRIL - MAY - JUNE 2016 TRAILS

**SPRING
OUTINGS
Issue**

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

From the Chair

Are you busy?

BY DAVID VON SEGGERN
(vonseg1@sbcglibobal.net)

Seems like we're all over-busy these days, myself included. It's difficult to stay focused when we have access to innumerable streams of data, opinions, and analyses — and when we make multiple, sometimes unfulfillable, commitments. I learned something important from a training course once: Stomp on elephants, not on mice.

That is what your Executive Committee (ExCom) is trying to do as we navigate the torrent of issues, diversions, and developments in our path. Yet it is difficult to avoid trying to stomp on those mice scurrying beneath our feet. Clearly the elephants in our path remain as public lands and renewable energy. We are giving these items priority again as we forge through 2016 to the elections.

Public Lands Task Force. Regarding public lands, we are pressing national Sierra Club leaders and staff to raise this issue at the national level. This is an issue that has been highlighted by the illegal occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in January and February. The issue was again recently

Please see FROM THE CHAIR, page 2.

**Need information
about Toiyabe Chapter?**

Try the . . .

Chapter website

<<http://toiyabe.sierraclub.org>>



Photographers in field of Desert Gold Sunflower (*Geraea canescens*) at sunset in Death Valley National Park. Photo: Dennis Ghiglieri.

Three new California Desert National Monuments!

On February 12, 2016, the Obama administration announced it would permanently protect special areas of the California Desert as **Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow, and Castle Mountains National Monuments**. The national monument designations preserve the stark beauty of the desert, well-loved recreation areas, Route 66, and other historic sites, as well as important cultural artifacts. Together they conserve and connect habitat to help buffer the desert, its wildlife, and communities from a changing climate.

Sierra Club Executive Director Michael Brune and Joan Taylor, vice chair of the Sierra Club's California/Nevada Desert Committee, issued the following statements.

"The Sierra Club applauds President Obama for reaffirming the incredible natural wonder of California's deserts by adding Mojave Trails, Sand to

Snow, and Castle Mountains to our treasured list of national monuments. My wife and I have taken our children on some of our most memorable camping trips through this beautiful region; it's heartening to know that it will now be permanently protected well into the future for families to enjoy as well," said

Please see NEW CA NAT'L MONUMENTS, page 2.

Make a tree happy! Get your Trails online

Opt out of the paper *Toiyabe Trails* and walk the Sierra Club talk by saving our natural resources. Email us at "optout@toiyabe.sierraclub.org" (put that address in the "To" line). Then put "optout" in the "Subject" line — that's all you have to do.

NEVADANS, REGISTER TO VOTE NOW!

(by May 14, 2016)

BY JANET CARTER

AS ALL OF YOU undoubtedly realize by now, this is an election year. The Toiyabe Chapter of the Sierra Club has already endorsed one Congressional Candidate, **Dina Titus**, who is running for re-election for NV Congressional District 1.

The Chapter and local groups will no doubt endorse other candidates at all levels, and your votes are crucial to determine who will serve to protect the environment of our region and our planet! But you must be registered to

Please see NEVADANS REGISTER TO VOTE, page 2.

National Sierra Club election coming this spring

Ballot deadline: April 27, 2016

STEVE KRIEG, CHIEF INSPECTOR OF ELECTION

The annual election for the Club's Board of Directors is now underway. Those eligible to vote in the national Sierra Club election will receive in the mail (or by Internet if you chose the electronic delivery option) your national Sierra Club ballot. This will include information on the candidates and where you can find additional information on the Club's website.

The Sierra Club is a democratically structured organization at all levels. The Club requires the regular flow of views on policy and priorities from its grassroots membership in order to function well. Yearly participation in elections at all Club levels is a major membership obligation. Your Board of Directors is required to stand for election by the membership. This Board sets Club policy and budgets at the national level and works closely with the Executive Director and staff to operate the Club. Vot-

ing for candidates who express your views on how the Club should grow and change is both a privilege and responsibility of membership.

Members frequently state that they don't know the candidates and find it difficult to vote without learning more. You can learn more by asking questions of your group and chapter leadership and other experienced members you know. Visit the Club's

Please see NATIONAL SIERRA CLUB ELECTION, page 2.



IN THIS ISSUE

DesCom Spring Trips	3
Nevada Wilderness Service Trip . . .	3
Mono Lake Free Volunteer Training . .	3
Range of Light Group	4-5
ROL Group Spring Outings	4
CA-NV RCC Report	4
Truckee River Agreement	6
BLM "Organic Act" (FLPMA) 40 th . .	6
On the Waterfront: Water Questions . .	7
Desalination Conference	7
Water in Nat'l Wildlife Refuges . . .	7
Our Mountain Lion Neighbors . . .	7
Great Basin Group & Outings . . .	8-9
Kids Practice LNT & Snow Science . .	8
Peak Section News & Deseret Peak . .	8, 9
S. Nevada Group	10-11
S. Nevada Group Outings	10
Las Vegas ICO Finds Lost Creek	10
Toiyabe Chapter ExCom Meeting . .	12

FROM THE CHAIR . . .

continued from page 1

highlighted by the alarming positions on public lands by some presidential candidates. An added factor of urgency has arisen with the introduction in Congress of several bills that would greatly impact our public lands, some introduced and co-sponsored by our own Congressional representatives.

We have reconstituted the Toiyabe Chapter's Public Lands Task Force under Anne Macquarie as chair to address this issue at the state and federal level and to enlist national Sierra Club support mechanisms. We will write letters, broadcast our opinions, participate in rallies, and basically keep up the drumbeat for public lands protection. We invite any member keenly interested in public lands to volunteer with the task force (annemacquarie@gmail.com).

Energy Task Force. Regarding energy, we have an active Energy Task Force which has been conducting weekly teleconferences for years now under the leadership of Joe Johnson and Jane Feldman. This task force tries to examine every wrinkle in the complex energy developments within Nevada. The transition to a new, clean, and renewable energy economy is not an easy route. The latest Public Utility Commission rulings regarding net-metering in Nevada have left us and our partners both incredulous and dismayed. Basically, net-metering allows homeowners to install solar panels to lower their electricity bills while fulfilling a personal commitment to counteract global warming. The Nevada PUC decision has stretched the owner's payback period on the installation to unrewarding lengths. But this means we will increase our efforts to achieve a long-term, workable legislative and regulatory framework in Nevada to hasten the energy transition.

Poll after poll shows Nevadans are strongly supportive of renewable energy. Our Nevada Attorney General, in bringing litigation against the Clean Power Plan, truly lives in the last century, clinging to the past of fossil-fuel dominance. We will build partnerships to grow grassroots support of the renewable energy transition and invite all our members to be part of that. We invite any member keenly interested in renewable energy to volunteer with the task force (feldman.jane@gmail.com).

Political Committee. Lastly, we have an active Political Committee, now with Caron Tayloe as able chair (crntayloe@gmail.com). This committee will enable us to elect Nevada candidates for federal and state offices who will help us on the two big issues discussed just above.

THREE NEW CALIFORNIA DESERT NATIONAL MONUMENTS . . .

continued from page 1

Michael Brune.

"After nearly a decade working to safeguard these special pieces of the California desert, today local communities and desert-lovers from across the state are celebrating! The monuments feature some of the most spectacular scenery, best wildlife habitat, and most outstanding recreation opportunities in

NEVADANS, REGISTER TO VOTE NOW! . . .

continued from page 1

vote if you wish to participate in the election process!

Are you registered to vote? Fortunately, voter registration in Nevada is easier than ever! First of all, if you voted in the last general election, and you have not moved or changed your name or party affiliation, there is no need to re-register.

How to register to vote. If you do need to register, you have many easy options to do so. Any resident of Nevada who is a U.S. Citizen, not restricted from voting due to certain previous felony convictions, and will be at least 18 years of age on Election Day may register.

If you are a college student, you have a choice of registering at your home OR your college address. However, if you are voting for the first time you may be required to show proof of residence at the address you will use. This could be a driver's license or state I.D., a rent receipt, bank statement, credit card statement, tax bill, or a utility bill.

Registering to vote online. If you do need to register to vote, in many cases you may do so online! However, to do so in Nevada you must already have a valid Driver's License or state DMV ID card. The website to register can be found at <https://nvsos.gov/sosvoterservices/Registration/step1.aspx>.

Changing your address. Please keep in mind that if you are changing your address, you must still enter the zip code on your driver's license or state ID card (even if that is still the old address). This won't change the address of your driver's license; it will only be used to validate your signature.

(Author's note: I changed my voter registration address online recently, and it took me several tries to figure this out. I assumed that they were asking for my NEW zip code, and I kept getting an error message). Registering online only takes a few minutes, and you will receive your new voter card in the mail in about 10 days.

Registering to vote without ID. If you do not have a Nevada driver's license or state ID card but still wish to register to vote, you have many options. You may

NATIONAL SIERRA CLUB ELECTION . . .

continued from page 1

election website: <http://www.sierraclub.org/board/election>.

The above site provides links to additional information about candidates, and their views on a variety of issues facing the Club and the environment.

You should use your own judgment by taking several minutes to read the ballot statement of each candidate. Then make

download a form from the Secretary of State's website (nvsos.gov), fill it out, and mail it in. You may also register to vote at any Nevada DMV office, or at any county elections office. Of course, most political or campaign offices will have voter registration forms on hand as well!

Voting deadlines. There are a few important deadlines to remember if you want to vote in our upcoming elections:

1. May 14, 2016 – This is the last day to register to vote for the June primary or update your existing registration without doing so in person or online. From May 15th to the 24th you may still register for the primary elections in Nevada, but only in person at your county election offices or online.

2. May 24, 2016 – This is absolutely the last possible day to register to vote for the Nevada primaries.

3. Early Voting May 28 - June 10, 2016 – The state of Nevada allows early voting for all elections! This can be very convenient, as during this time period you may vote at any designated polling place in the county. Your sample ballot (as well as the local newspapers) will have a list of locations and hours they are open. These early voting sites are often in local grocery stores, libraries, and the like. Weekend and some early evening hours are available, but these will vary by location so check the schedule! There is usually no waiting in line at early voting locations!

4. June 7, 2016 – This is the last day for the elections department to RECEIVE written mail (aka ABSENTEE) BALLOT requests. These must be filled out, signed and returned by Election Day.

5. June 14, 2016 – Primary election day. The polls will be open from 7am to 7pm, and you must attend your assigned polling place -- unless you have already cast an ABSENTEE BALLOT or participated in early voting.

And don't forget that the general election is on November 8, 2016, when we will be choosing a new President. Don't forget to vote then, too!

your choice and cast your vote. Even if you receive your election materials in the mail, please go to the user-friendly Internet voting site to save time and postage. If necessary, you will find the ballot is quite straightforward and easy to mark and mail. Ballots are due no later than election day on April 27, 2016.

EDITOR'S NOTE. Please see Joan Taylor's blog at <http://www.sierraclub.org/lay-of-the-land/2016/02/california-desert-national-monuments-decades-making#Vr35WERIBul.facebook> for the inspiring story of how these three new California desert monuments were created.

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

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 (Bishop, CA; 760-873-3829; lfoster@schat.net.)

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.

the nation. They provide vital connections between areas previously protected as national parks, preserves, and wilderness areas. National monument status will benefit both the environment and the economy well into the future," said Joan Taylor.

-- from National Sierra Club press release

Friends of the Inyo Outings

APRIL 2 (SAT)

Chocolate Mountain Hike. Join Friends of Inyo in climbing Chocolate Mountain in Piper Mountain Wilderness. Piper Mountains are located on western edge of Great Basin and are an excellent example of Great Basin desert landscape. This will be a nice change from the valley floor. Expect a strenuous walk with significant elevation gain and loss. Space is limited, so please RSVP. Info & RSVP: info@friendsoftheinyo.org or 760-87-6500.

APRIL 22-24 (FRI-SUN)

Owens Lake Bird Festival. Join Friends of Inyo at 2nd annual Owens Lake Bird Festival celebrating migrating shorebirds as they move between hemispheres at Owens Lake Important Bird Area, highlighting the significance of the Owens Lake story and the return of threatened habitat. Join expert local guides on Saturday and Sunday outings. Camping and lodging available in Lone Pine area. Contact/Registration: info@friendsoftheinyo.org and 760-873-6500.

MAY 14 (SAT)

International Migratory Bird Day. Join Friends of Inyo in celebrating the 2016 International Migratory Bird day. Trip specifics, meeting location and time TBD. Bring binoculars, appropriate clothing, sturdy footwear, water, and lunch. Info: info@friendsoftheinyo.org, or 760-873-6500.

JUNE 4 (SAT)

National Trails Day. Come out with Friends of Inyo and celebrate National Trails Day by volunteering your time. Assist Friends of Inyo stewardship crew with light trail maintenance and cleanup. Location and time TBD. Please wear long pants and close-toed shoes. Info: info@friendsoftheinyo.org or 760-873-6500.

JUNE 24 (FRI)

June Lake Trails Day. Join Friends of Inyo and June Lake Trails Committee for the 7th Annual June Lake Trails Day. We'll work on various trails around June Lake Loop so there will be job for everyone. Free bagel breakfast and lunch provided, along with raffle. Make sure to have appropriate clothing and sturdy, closed-toe shoes. Location and time TBD. Info: info@friendsoftheinyo.org or 760-873-6500.

Founded in 1986, Friends of the Inyo is a Bishop, CA-based non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation, exploration and stewardship of the region's public lands, made possible through member support, grant funding and federal agency partnerships.

Memorial Day Nevada Wilderness Service Trip

THE CALIFORNIA/NEVADA Wilderness Committee of the Sierra Club has scheduled its annual service trip with the wilderness staff of BLM's Ely District office for Memorial Day weekend – May 27 to 30.

Join us in the Weepah Spring Wilderness, at the northern edge of Nevada's brand new Basin & Range National Monument, as we work once again with wilderness ranger John Miller.

And we hope for a fun hike to Mt Irish--on the south side of the new Monument. Could a monument tour be included? Central commissary offered. Contact Vicky Hoover at 415-977-5527 or vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org.

Spring 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



Desert sunflower (Geraea canescens) and sand verbena (Abronia villosa) display in Death Valley National Park. Photo: Dennis Ghiglieri.

MARCH 25-27 (FRI-SUN)

CALIFORNIA DESERT WILDERNESS SERVICE.

Join Mojave Group and CA/NV Wilderness Committee for our annual desert wilderness service project with wilderness staff from Needles office of BLM. This year's destination is still top-secret at press time, but Turtle Mountains, Dead Mountains, or Clipper Mts are all potential choices for some fun and useful restoration work, wilderness enhancement, and spring desert enjoyment. Central commissary, contact Vicky Hoover (415-977-5527, vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org).

CNRCC Wilderness Committee

MAY 27-30 (FRI-MON)

BLACK ROCK RENDEZVOUS.

This annual event makes a great first trip to Black Rock; it typically includes speakers, guided tours, visits to hot springs, rocket launches, rock hounding, Dutch Oven cook-off, drawings, and more. Co-Sponsored by Friends of Black Rock, BLM and Friends of Nevada Wilderness. Bring your RVs and trailers. Primitive camping, but with portable toilets. May be Kid's Camp activities hosted by

Nevada Outdoor School. Bring your HAM radio and join Ham activity. Dogs on leash; be prepared to pick up after them. For more info go to: www.blackrockrendzvous.com. Questions/sign ups: David Book (775-843-6443).

Great Basin Group/CNRCC Desert Committee

JUNE 19-25 (SUN-SAT)

ESCALANTE RIVER BACKPACK.

Enjoy stunning landscape of southern Utah on this backpack along 27 mi of Escalante River and 10 mi of deep and narrow Harris Wash Creek. Side trips along way will explore narrow canyons and creeks. Arrive in town of Escalante at Escalante Interagency

Black Lake Celebration Day

Saturday, May 14

Hosted by Eastern Sierra Land Trust

MAY 14 IS INTERNATIONAL Migratory Bird Day. In its honor, Eastern Sierra Land Trust (ESLT) will be out on the land with Eastern Sierra Audubon celebrating the donation of the new Black Lake Preserve.

This secluded, 482-acre desert wetland is located within the Adobe Valley's Important Bird Area. Rimmed by moist alkali meadows, Black Lake attracts wildlife from miles around; it serves as an important breeding outpost for dozens of migrating bird species, and provides a critical water source for a diverse array of flora and fauna.

Join ESLT as they celebrate the conservation of this spectacular landscape with speakers, walking tours, birdwatching opportunities, and much more. For additional information, visit www.eslt.org or call (760) 873-4554.

Visitor Center around noon MDT to get our free permit and latest route information. Then set up car shuttle beginning at Hwy 12 bridge and ending at Harris Wash Trailhead. Bring a daypack for side trips and footwear appropriate for being in and out of river all day. Option of ending trip June 24 or 25. David Hardy (702 875-4826; email preferred, hardyhikers@embarqmail.com).

S. Nevada Group/CNRCC Desert Committee

Mono Lake Needs You!

Be a volunteer at Mono Lake this summer and meet visitors from all over the world while sharing your knowledge of the Eastern Sierra.



Volunteers are very important to the visitor experience! There are opportunities to rove and answer questions at the shore and/or visitor center, guide group tours and help with trail maintenance and weed removal. An 8 hour commitment per month, June through September, is requested. Participants must be at least 18 years old, able to walk short distances and stand for 2 hours in sunny locations.

Free Training Sessions
May 25 & 26* and June 1, 2, 8 & 9
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Volunteers are requested to attend all half-day training sessions. * May 26 session 9:00 am—12:00 pm.

Please contact Jessica Horn at Jessica@monolake.org or call 760-647-6595 for more info or to sign up



Sponsored by the Mono Lake Committee, U.S. Forest Service, California State Parks, The Bodie Foundation & The Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association.

Range of Light Reflections

Range of Light Group



Group News

California/Nevada Regional Conservation Committee Report

BY LESLEY BRUNS ROL GUEST COLUMNIST

It was a spring-like Saturday morning in February as I walked the quiet streets of downtown L.A. near Staples Center. As CNRCC delegate for Toiyabe Chapter, I found it ironic that Sierra Club's office is located in the Petroleum Building, built in 1925 by oil magnate Edward L. Doheny.

The CNRCC website (<http://www.sierraclub.org/california/conservation-committee-cnrcc>) explains that CNRCC is comprised of up to 58 delegates from the 13 California Sierra Club Chapters, including Toiyabe (which contains Nevada and Eastern California). These delegates study issues, develop positions and help establish Sierra Club California's policies on statewide environmental issues.

There were nine of us in the L.A. conference room. Using Google Hangout, we had audio/video links to delegates meeting throughout the state, including Sacramento, San Diego and San Francisco. Other participants called in on the conference line.

Legislative report. As we settled in for the morning session, we heard a staff report from **Kathryn Phillips, Director of Sierra Club California**. She informed us about SB 380, the moratorium on natural gas storage, brought on by the crisis in Porter Ranch. Other bills coming up in the state legislature concern a plastic bag ban and an increased cigarette tax.

We discussed the drought and water issues and learned that two hearings are planned for the "Twin Tunnels" scheme that will divert water from the Sacramento Delta.

Diane Allen, Chair of the California Legislative Committee (CLC), reminded

us that Sierra Club needs to speak with one voice on advocacy issues. *Chapters should check with staff before signing on to letters from other organizations regarding legislation.* CLC priorities include oil dependence reduction, state park funding, wildlife and forest protection, and climate disruption.

Recruiting volunteers. A new website, developed by David Haake of Angeles Chapter, will help Sierra Club groups recruit volunteers. He gave a PowerPoint presentation of Volunteer Connection (<http://www.clubvounteer.org>) -- a resource available nationwide.

Resolutions. After lunch we reconvened to vote on resolutions. The first offered guidelines for Open Ocean Aquaculture Policy, another included recommendations for the Renewable Energy Certificate Policy, and a third addressed monitoring and eventual closures of Urban Underground Geologic Natural Gas Storage Facilities. Each resolution passed easily.

With the day's agenda complete, we returned to the outdoors that we're working to preserve.

* Dick Hihn, ROL Chair, has had to take time off to recover from appendicitis surgery!

ROL Group ExCom

BY DICK HIHN, ROL CHAIR

Our ExCom will next meet on Wednesday, April 27, at 5:30 pm, at the home of Dick and Joanne Hihn. You are welcome to attend. Please contact me in advance for details (rhihn@skidmore.edu or 760-709-5050).



ROL Group Website

<<http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup/>>

&

Chapter website

<<http://toiyabe.sierraclub.org/>>

Range of Light OUTINGS

BY JOANNE HIHN & DICK HIHN

SPRING 2016 OUTINGS

ALL OUTINGS INCLUDE CONSERVATION EDUCATION ACTIVITIES!

All phone numbers are 760 unless otherwise noted.

CST2087766-40. Registration as seller of travel does not constitute approval by State of California.

CHECKING FOR UPDATES. In addition to contact information listed in the *Trails*, check for updates on . . .

- our WEB PAGE at <www.sierraclub.org/toiyabe/range-light>
- on FACEBOOK, search "Range of Light Group"
- on MEETUP at <<http://www.meetup.com/ROLG-SierraClub-Outings-Meetup/>>
- in LOCAL MEDIA (newspapers, etc.), where we submit outings information (note that it does not always get included in their calendar of events and sometimes published information is not accurate).

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

We have added weekday outings, in addition to Saturday or Sunday offerings.

WHAT TO BRING ON ALL OUTINGS. Water, lunch, snacks, layered clothing, appropriate hiking footwear (boots/skis/snowshoes, sunscreen, bug spray in warm weather, desired personal items such as cameras, binoculars, hiking poles.

THURSDAY EVENING OUTINGS. Short Mammoth Lakes area hikes, back before dark, emphasis on local history, natural history, conservation issues, dependent upon leader's interests. All hikers welcome, including beginners

IMPORTANT NOTICE. Outings destinations may change due to unforeseen weather conditions. Abominable weather will cancel an outing. If in doubt, please contact leader ahead of time.

OUTINGS

APRIL 3 (SUNDAY)

Volcanic Tablelands, Bishop. Moderate pace, distance determined by group, One big hill at start, then gentle terrain. Well-behaved dogs welcome. Meet at dirt lot, corner Pleasant Valley Dam Rd, Hwy 395. Contact: Lisa (720-238-2581, lgbuckley@gmail.com).

APRIL 10 (SUNDAY)

Ski Horseshoe Lake. Up to Mammoth Pass (depending on snow conditions). About 8mi,

moderate, no dogs, Meet 8a., ML Union Ban. Contact Brigitte (760-924-2140, jungberman@mac.com).

APRIL 17 (SUNDAY)

Ski Mammoth Lakes Basin (depending on snow conditions). About 8mi, moderate, no dogs. Meet 9am ML Union Bank. Contact: Brigitte (760-924-2140, jungberman@mac.com).

Please see ROL OUTINGS, page 5.

You're Invited!

Range of Light Group Monthly Meetings Everyone welcome!

For all potlucks please 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.

April 19 (Tuesday)

6:45 pm, Announcements
7 pm, Program

SNARL (Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Center) Potluck
1016 Mt. Morrison Rd, Mammoth Lakes
(turn W off Hwy 395 at the green church

Dr. Frank Davis, Director, National Center for Ecological Analysis & Synthesis, UCSB, will bring us up to speed on "Climate Change Risks to California Forests."

February 16 (Tuesday)

6:45 pm, Announcements
7 pm, Program

SNARL (see details and directions above, under April 19)

Paul Page, volunteer at Valentine Eastern Sierra Reserve, will give a program titled, "Drones." Be prepared to hear all about the latest developments.

June 21 (Tuesday)

6:15 pm, Social & Potluck
7 pm, Program

Crowley Lake Community Ctr (next to Crowley Lake Store)

Fran Hunt, Sierra Club Eastern Sierra Organizer, will give a program on "Our public lands: The long range plan & the direction of management for the Inyo National Forest."

Please submit suggestions for program topics and/or speakers to our program chair, Mary Shore (marymikesore@gmail.com). We always need fresh ideas!

Range of Light Group

OFFICERS

Chair	Dick Hihn*	rhihn@skidmore.edu
Vice-Chair	Malcolm Clark	760-924-5639
Secretary	Lesley Bruns*	lestravel@hotmail.com
Conservation	Malcolm Clark	760-924-5639
Treasurer	Mary Ann Dunigan	760-924-5982
At Large	Mike Shore*	mary.shore@gte.net
At Large	Fran Hunt*	fran.hunt@sierraclub.org
At Large	Joanne Hihn*	photos73@gmail.com
Chapter Del.	Jean Dillingham	760-648-7109
Editor	Shalle Genevieve	760-934-9668
Hwy Cleanup	Dick & Joanne Hihn	photos73@gmail.com
	Mary & Mike Shore	mary.shore@gte.net
Hospitality	Wilma Wheeler	760-934-3764
ORWC** Chair	Mark Bagley	760-873-5326
Membership	Shalle Genevieve	760-934-9668
Outings	Dick Hihn	rhihn@skidmore.edu
Co-Chairs	Joanne Hihn	jhphotos73@gmail.com
Programs	Mary Shore	mary.shore@gte.net
Publicity	Rosemary Jarrett	rosemaryjarrett@gmail.com
Webmaster	Jo Bacon	jbacon22@verizon.net
Webmaster Emeritus	Owen Maloy	760-934-9511

* Voting ExCom member

** Owens River Watershed Conservation Chair

Range of Light OUTINGS

continued from page 4

APRIL 21 (THURSDAY)

Ski, Snowshoe, or Hike (depending on "shoulder season" conditions). Please check ROLG website or ROLG Outings Meetup for up-to-date info. Meet 10a, ML Union Bank. Contact: Mike or Mary (805-217-5563, marymikesore@gmail.com).

APRIL 24 (SUNDAY)

Ski, Snowshoe, or Hike (depending on "shoulder season" conditions). Please check ROLG website, ROLG Facebook page, or ROLG Outings Meetup for up-to-date info. Meet 8a, ML Union Bank. Contact: Melissa (760-937-0499, melissas1@verizon.net).

APRIL 28 (THURSDAY)

Ski, Snowshoe, or Hike (depending on "shoulder season" conditions). Please check ROLG website, ROLG Facebook page, or ROLG Outings Meetup for up-to-date info. Meet 10a, ML Union Bank. Contact: Mike or Mary (805-217-5563, marymikesore@gmail.com).

MAY 1 (SUNDAY)

Ski Rock Creek Basin (depending on snow conditions). About 10 mi, strenuous. Meet 8a, ML Union Bank. Contact: Brigitte (760-924-2140, jungberman@mac.com).

MAY 8 (SUNDAY)

Ski Tioga Pass Area to Greentreble Lake (depending on snow conditions). About 10 mi, strenuous. Meet 8a, ML Union Bank or 8.30a, Lee Vining Ranger Station. Contact: Brigitte (760-924-2140, jungberman@mac.com).

MAY 15 (SUNDAY)

Bohler Canyon. Re-visit canyon after fire to monitor regrowth, to visit many arborglyphs among canyon aspens. About 4 mi RT, easy, with some x-c. Meet 8.30a, ML Union Bank or 9a, behind June Lake Shell station. Contact: Jean (760-648-7109, dillinghamjean@gmail.com).

MAY 18 (WEDNESDAY)

Highway Clean-up. Join ROLG on morning cleanup of our 2 mi section of 395. Meet 8a, Crestview Rest Area (5mi N of ML. Vests, hard hats, trash bags, pickers, gloves, refreshments, all provided. Contact: Dick or Joanne (760-709-5050, rhihn@skidmore.edu).

MAY 22 (SUNDAY)

Hilton Lakes Trail (Crowley) to Davis Lake. About 10-12 mi RT, strenuous. Well-behaved dogs welcome. Meet 9a, Eastside Bakery off of 395. Contact: Lisa (720-238-2581, lgibuckley@gmail.com).

MAY 29 (SUNDAY)

Hike O'Harrel Canyon. Near Glass Mtn,

possible trip to Glass Mtn summit depending on group interest. Panoramic views of canyon, Sierra, along stream, meadow, in open terrain, x-c hiking required. Well-behaved dogs welcome. Meet 8a, ML Union Bank. Contact: Melissa (760-937-0499, melissas1@verizon.net).

JUNE 5 (SUNDAY)

Hike or Snowshoe Little Lakes Valley to Gem Lakes. About 7.7 mi RT, 700 ft gain, views of Mts. Morgan, Bear Creek Spire, Dade, Abbot. Pass several back country lakes. Well-behaved dogs welcome. Meet 7.30a, ML Union Bank. Contact: Dick, Joanne (760-709-5050, rhihn@skidmore.edu).

JUNE 12 (SUNDAY)

Hike Horsetail Falls & Beyond About 5 mi RT, 1400 ft gain on switchbacks past Horsetail Falls or more if group desires. Lovely views of Twin Lakes, Sawtooths, abundant wild flowers. Meet 8a, ML Union Bank or 930a, Annett's Mono Village (Upper Twin Lake outside Bridgeport). Dogs limited. Contact: Maurica (760-932-7175, Maurica_And@yahoo.com).

JUNE 17-19 (FRIDAY-SUNDAY)

Mono Lake Bird Chautauqua.

JUNE 23 (THURSDAY)

FIRST EARLY EVENING OUTING OF SEASON! Hike to Snow Ponds near Reverse Peak. Explore several new additions to USFS trail system to ponds, which may have water in them this year. About 2.5mi RT, short, steep uphill/downhill, easy walk across plateau, many Sierra vistas. Meet 4.30p, ML Union Bank. Contact: Jean ((760-648-7109, dillinghamjean@gmail.com).

JUNE 26 (SUNDAY)

Hike Silver Lake to Parker Bench. About 4mi RT, 2000 ft gain, beautiful views of Silver Lake, Mono Lake, many aspen arborglyphs. Meet 8a, ML Union Bank or 845a, Rush Creek Trailhead across from Silver Lake Campground. Dogs limited. Contact: Maurica (760-932-7175, Maurica_And@yahoo.com).

JUNE 30 (THURSDAY)

McLeod Lake Hike. About 1.1 mi RT, 300 ft gain, easy, walk through barren, white forest of trees killed by CO₂, enjoy views of Mammoth Mt., Mammoth Crest, eat a snack along sandy lake shore, well-behaved dogs welcome. Meet 4:30pm ML Union Bank. Contact: Dick, Joanne (760-709-5050, rhihn@skidmore.edu).

MOUNTAIN LIONS ...

continued from page 7

contributed by sportsmen, Wildlife Services, and road kills. UNR graduate Dr. Alyson Andreasen, led the research project.



Collared young mountain lions at a water development in the Virginia Range, Nevada. Photo: NDOW.

Not unexpectedly, where mule deer are readily available -- as in the Sierra Nevada -- the deer are a primary food source. However, mountain lions may lose cached kills to black bear. In the Virginia Range, where horses dominate the landscape, mountain lions have learned to prey on horses.

For years, the common assumption was that surplus mountain lions from California (where mountain lion hunting is prohibited), migrated to Nevada -- where hunting is permitted and, presumably, vacant habitat was available. Collar data, however is documenting that some Nevada lions, particularly young males, will disperse to California, where hunting opportunities (for the lion) seem more opportune. Not surprisingly, one young male lion was killed and consumed by another lion when he entered territory already occupied by the resident lion.

Range of Light WINTER PHOTO GALLERY

Photos by Joanne Hihn



Lisa Buckley led a ski/snowshoe outing in the Owens River Gorge on Feb. 4, 2016. "It was a beautiful day. We skied behind Sunnyslopes and enjoyed views down into the Gorge, snow-covered Bishop tuff, and 360-degree Sierra mountain views." Two dogs, Penny and Banner, added to the fun.



Ghia frolics with Penny and Banner. Sadly, this was Banner's last ROLG outing.

Nevada listed mountain lions as a game animal in 1965. This designation enabled the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) to limit the number of mountain lions killed and to require post mortem information. A hunter who has killed a mountain lion is required to bring the pelt to NDOW for tagging and data collection.

Nevada has an estimated 1100 - 1300 adult lions. This is about half the lion population at the time when mule deer populations peaked in the mid-1980s, and possibly 100% more than when Europeans arrived in the Great Basin and mule deer were rare.

What of the future? The Sierra Nevada, high value habitat for mountain lions, black bear, and mule deer, is becoming an island surrounded by hous-

ing developments and faster highways. With thousands more people moving to western Nevada, prey species and migratory corridors may also be affected here.

NDOW will next look at bear and lion interactions at kill sites and how this affects mule deer. The project is being funded by NDOW and the Wildlife Conservation Society.

DEADLINE!
JUNE 1
FOR
JUL - AUG - SEP ISSUE

CONSERVATION ROUNDUP

This land is your land . . .

BY MARGE SILL

The first words of Woody Guthrie's song echo what many of us believe -- that our public lands belong to all American citizens and are a priceless heritage for those who come after us.

We in Toiyabe Chapter are fortunate to have so much public land that is open to everyone. Some of this land is in special categories -- national parks, national monuments, national wildlife refuges, designated wilderness, and more -- but most of it is just for people who want to visit and enjoy our beautiful far-flung lands in whatever way they choose. You can ride a horse or an ATV; you can walk or see the land from your car; you can bring your family for a picnic or join your friends on an outing. You can hunt, fish, or just take pictures. You can camp or seek lodging in a rural town. "No trespassing" signs are conspicuous by their absence.*

Public lands are an important part of our freedom as Americans. If they are sold and become private, we lose much of this freedom to live our lives in the way that we choose. We lose our precious and unique heritage that helps to make our country so great. Let's keep singing "this land is your land" and make sure that it remains that way.

The BLM "Organic" Act's 40th Anniversary

BY DENNIS GHIGLIERI

In the summer of 1976, along with many of my fellow conservationists from across the country, I was in Washington D.C. for an environmental workshop on learning how to lobby for wilderness, parks, and wildlife. Jimmy Carter was running for President against President Gerald Ford. And a landmark piece of legislation was before the Congress that summer called the Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA).

While there we met with Congressional Staff and Congress members to lobby for wilderness, parks, and wildlife -- essentially all ways to protect parts of the public domain for future generations. Excitement over FLPMA was high that summer because it would establish that the public lands were to be retained and managed under the new law.

We had very high hopes for FLPMA because important environmental legislation had been enacted under President Nixon in 1970, creating the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and establishing the Clean Air Act and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

"Flipma", as FLPMA is now referred to, created the authority that establishes how the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) carries out its management responsibilities throughout the United States on 240 million acres of public land (about 4.1% of the land area of the entire country today.) [See sidebar on "Organic Act".] As today, some within the ranching and mining and commodity industries opposed FLPMA and lobbied (President Ford especially hard) to oppose the legislation. However, Congress passed FLPMA on October 1, 1976 and



Mt. Irish Petroglyph site on BLM managed public land in NV north of Alamo. Photo: Dennis Ghiglieri.

President Gerald Ford signed it on October 21, 1976. FLPMA gave the BLM authority to conduct wilderness studies and wilderness management and create Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs). FLPMA says "... the public lands be managed in a manner that will protect the quality of scientific, scenic, historical,

ecological, environmental, air and atmospheric, water resource, and archeological values; that, where appropriate, will preserve and protect certain public lands in their natural condition; that will provide food and habitat for fish and wildlife and domestic animals; and that will provide for outdoor recreation and human occupancy and use . . ."

While there are those in the ranching and mining industries who continue to advocate for disposal of public land, widespread public support remains for continued Federal management of the public domain's wide open spaces.

The public lands are every American's national heritage and FLPMA is essential to keeping the public lands public. Sidebar:

What is meant by "Organic Act"?

"FLPMA is called the BLM Organic Act because it consolidated

Please see ORGANIC ACT, page 7.

On the waterfront: Water questions for the future

BY ROSE STRICKLAND

Since the last *Trails* was published, the gamut of water-oriented happenings in Nevada and neighboring states is an indication of the importance of water in our futures. Water is in the news, from . . .

- FBI raids of the offices of the Bureau of Reclamation in S. Nevada, to . . .
- a special session of the Nevada Legislature to implement a "deal" with Faraday Future (which could override NV Water Law requirements), to . . .
- reports by experts on Snake Valley groundwater pumping impacts, to . . .
- water scholars detailing declining Colorado River flows, and more.

Questions to ask about our region's water

How are our water managers doing? What more can be done to secure future water supplies? Which water projects should be axed? What can you do? Follow the links to learn more about the complex and confusing water questions and how citizens can get involved. One opportunity is an April conference in Las Vegas on desalination as an alternative water supply to the water grab. (See announcement in box at end of article.)

What are other states' problems?

One can read nearly daily newspaper articles on California's drought, efforts to stretch its limited water supplies, and prayers for a wet winter salvation by a strong El Nino. And in Utah, the news is of feverish attempts by promoters of a pipeline from the declining Lake Powell reservoir to provide water for growth in two counties to get state funding for the expensive, risky, and controversial project.

A bad political deal with Faraday Future?

In December, Nevadans were surprised when Governor Brian Sandoval called a special Legislative Session to develop four bills to authorize a deal with Faraday Future, a car maker, to move to the old Apex site, east of Las Vegas. Several provisions of this deal threatened NV water law by authorizing substitution of politics for science as the basis for water appropriation decisions. These provisions would affect not just the five water basins near the proposed site at Apex, but all of Nevada. The Sierra Club, the Great Basin Water Network (GBWN) and many allies were able to block most of these bad provisions from legislative approvals.

How important are aquifer connections?

In January, the U.S. Geological Survey published a report evaluating the connection of aquifers in Snake Valley on the NV/UT border to springs and streams in Great Basin National Park to increase understanding of the impacts of proposed pumping by the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) on the Park. The conclusion reinforced the concerns that all additional groundwater pumping in Snake Valley would affect the Park because... "The aquifers are

separated by confining units in some areas and are in contact with each other in other areas, yet function as a single, composite aquifer system." Read the report at <<https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/pp1819>>.

More water news

Spring Valley. Also, on January 28, a Nevada Supreme Court ruling denied a procedural issue raised by the Mormon Church to protect its ranch in Spring Valley from impacts of SNWA's proposed groundwater pumping in Nevada's Spring Valley. The ruling does not affect GBWN's lawsuit victories by both State District and Supreme Court rulings. In the meantime, the State Engineer had done nothing (publicly) in response to the court ordered remand to fix errors in his previous rulings in Spring Valley and other targeted basins.

Interim drought water agreement. Also in the news were two reports from the Colorado River Research Group, which (1) evaluated deficiencies of an interim water agreement made by seven Western states to address drought impacts and declining River flows and (2) proposed some solutions to address the historic overappropriation of Colorado River water of the 1930s.

Read more about these important Western water issues at <http://www.coloradoriverresearchgroup.org/uploads/4/2/3/6/42362959/crrg_interim_guidelines_white_version_updated2.pdf> and <http://www.coloradoriverresearchgroup.org/uploads/4/2/3/6/42362959/crrg_environmental_management.pdf>.

Raids on BLM offices. In February, Nevadans were shocked at newspaper reports of raids on offices of the Bureau of Reclamation in S. Nevada to obtain documents on awarding of a \$1 million dollar contract to an accounting firm for an audit of the agency's Hoover Dam program. Read more at <<http://www.reviewjournal.com/news/las-vegas/official-targeted-fbi-probe-linked-firm-he-supervised>>. No further articles have appeared on the results of the investigation of the powerful federal agency which manages water and power in the West.

Nevada Drought Forum. This group produced a final report on its findings and recommendations to Governor Sandoval on how to ad-

Please see WATER QUESTIONS, page 7.

WATER QUESTIONS . . .*continued from page 6*

dress ongoing drought. For details, see <http://drought.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/droughtnv.gov/Content/Home/Feature/Executive%20Summary_ASTP.pdf>. Fortunately, the development-oriented panel did not recommend more interbasin water transfers from rural areas to cities as a possible supply option.

Nevada State water problems study meetings. In another State effort on reviewing Nevada Water Law, the Nevada Legislative Commission's Subcommittee to Study Water is planning six meetings around the state to hear about water problems and possible solutions. The subcommittee is authorized to submit up to five bill draft requests to the 2017 State Legislature. For details, see <<http://www.nevadaappeal.com/news/20557473-113/nevada-committee-begins-treacherous-journey-to-look-at#>>.

One area of study was brought out when Jason King, Nevada State Engineer, testified that "...out of 256 basins in Nevada, there are 53 basins where water is severely over-appropriated." The subcommittee members will be considering whether these failures and possible attempts to correct overappropriated basins will require changes in the state water law or changes in the administration of the current water law.

Looking to the (possibly desalinated) future

The future promises more exciting developments in water issues as the 15-year drought continues and is being exacerbated by climate changes. You can get more water news in Nevada and the West on the GBWN website, at <<http://greatbasinwaternet.org>>, including more details on the April 23, 2016 conference in Las Vegas: Green Desalination for a Water-Secure Nevada (see press release below for interesting details of the conference).

Desalination Conference

Dallas, Texas – February 10, 2016 – The Integral Scientific Institute today announced a conference on desalination to be held April 23, 2016, on the campus of the College of Southern Nevada in Las Vegas, Nevada:

Green Desalination for a Water-Secure Nevada

April 23, 2016 • 9 am to 4 pm • Las Vegas, Nevada,

sponsored by College of Southern Nevada Environmental Strategies Committee and Integral Scientific Institute

The conference will convene concerned citizens, scientists, public officials, engineers, and inventors to discuss key water issues facing Nevada today.

Invited conference panelists include water resources experts from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the College of Southern Nevada, the Metropolitan Water District of Los Angeles, California, the Integral Scientific Institute of Dallas, Texas, and others.

"We are very excited about the level of enthusiasm we have received from invited speakers and prospective attendees for conference" said Saïd Majdi, co-founder and president of the Integral Scientific Institute. "We look forward to bringing together the many Nevadans who are interested in water security for a substantive discussion of real-world solutions to crucial water issues facing Nevada today."

The Integral Scientific Institute is a think tank that is developing a unique, coherent paradigm of study and action focusing on interrelationships between water resources, food production, energy security, transportation efficiency, and climate policy. Achieving an integral understanding of the water-food-energy-transportation-climate nexus is crucial if we are to take responsible actions toward making our social and economic activities compatible with having a sustainable natural environment.

Keeping water in National Wildlife Refuges: Problems & solutions

BY TINA NAPPE

MOST OF OUR NATIONAL WILDLIFE Refuges, as you probably know, have been established to preserve wetland-dependent birds. The takeover of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (January 2-February 11) by Ammon Bundy and friends brought attention to our national wildlife refuges, though not in the way we might have wished.

Problems: Many

Attempts to transfer federal public lands to states. While we could breathe a sigh of relief as the takeover of Malheur ended, the agitation continues with legislation at both the state and federal level to transfer new federal public lands to states.

Location. The fact that many wetlands are located at the end of water systems is another serious problem negatively affecting our National Wildlife Refuges (NWR) and state-owned Wildlife Management Areas (WMA). Many of these wetlands are located at the end of water systems. In some cases, agencies purchased water rights along with land, in other cases they did not.

ORGANIC ACT . . .*continued from page 6*

and articulated BLM's management responsibilities. Many land and resource management authorities were established, amended, or repealed by FLPMA, including provisions on Federal land withdrawals, land acquisitions and exchanges, rights-of-way, advisory groups, range management, and the general organization and administration of BLM and the public lands. FLPMA also established BLM as a multiple-use agency..." For details of this important act, see <<http://www.blm.gov/flpma/organic.htm>>.

Drain water can run out. In other cases, such as in Lahontan Valley, Nevada, wetlands designated as a Western Hemispheric Shorebird Reserve historically relied on drain water. That is,



The American wigeon is just one of many species which enjoys the benefits of our NWRs (and suffers the harm when they are degraded). Photo: Fred Petersen.

water rights holders upstream received their water first. By the time agencies realized people had to own water to receive it, costs had risen, financing was an issue, and less water was available. For instance, millions of dollars were spent acquiring water in Lahontan Valley beginning in 1990, but despite this effort the wetlands were dry in 2015.

Solutions: Few

Investing in upgrades. There are also urban wetlands in city, county, or state parks where wildlife may not be a priority -- but these pocket wetlands have long been a sanctuary for migrating, resting, and even some nesting birds. Recently, in Reno, the Lahontan Audubon Society successfully encouraged the City of Reno to invest several hundred thousand dollars to upgrade Virginia Lake, a popular urban bird "home" subject to both draining and pollution.

Legislation. During the drought many critical wetlands both urban and rural

went dry. An increasing dependence on wells lowers water tables and even sucks water out of rivers. Fully appropriated surface water goes first to municipal or industrial use, drying up wetlands and urban ponds. In Nevada, legislation is being developed to revise state water law to build efficiencies in water delivery to avoid wasting it on plants and birds.

Fundraising. Ducks Unlimited and California and Nevada Waterfowl Associations raise money through banquets to build efficiencies in water delivery in NWRs and WMAs. Refuge Friends groups help raise money and volunteer. See <<http://www.fws.gov/refuges/friends/>> for details.

Duck Stamps. Income received from charging duck hunters is a welcome source of revenue. But with the drought, duck hunting has dropped. Because Duck Stamps directly help wildlife refuges, Friends groups encourage purchasing them. See <<http://www.fws.gov/birds/get-involved/duck-stamp.php>> for details.

Land Trusts. The Nature Conservancy and other land trusts also are leaders in saving water sources.

Federal Government leadership and financing. All these sources help, but the federal government, with its leadership, laws, policies, and financial contributions is a primary underwriter and savior of wetlands.

What you can do

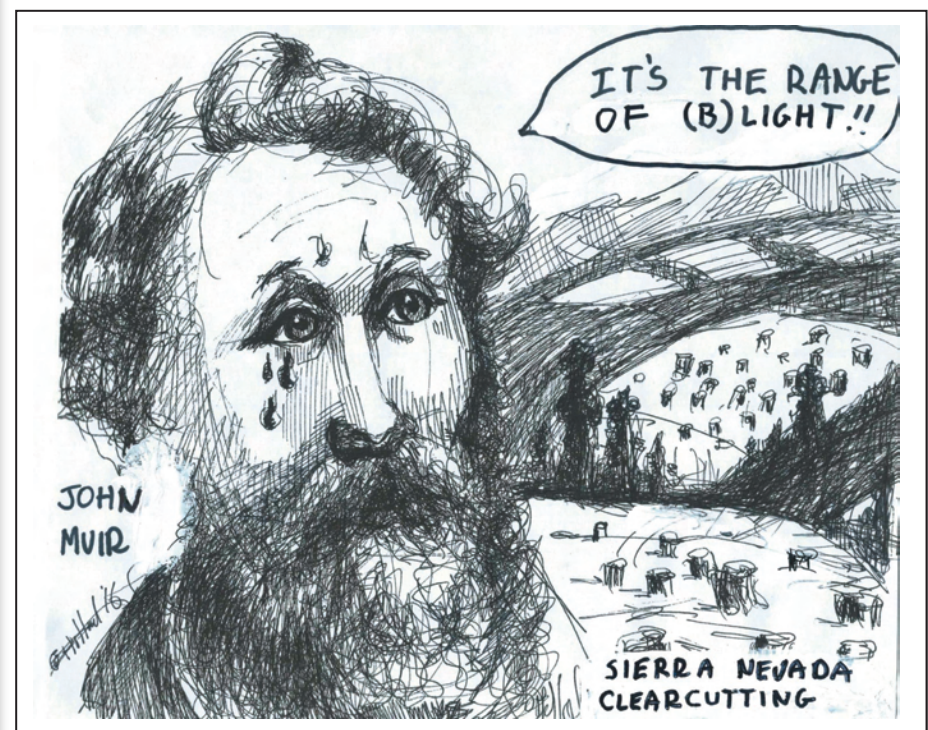
It is important to speak out for wetlands. The Malheur Wildlife Refuge takeover resulted in a lot of media attention for refuges (though not in the way we might wish). Now it is our job is to keep water flowing to them.

Our mountain lion neighbors

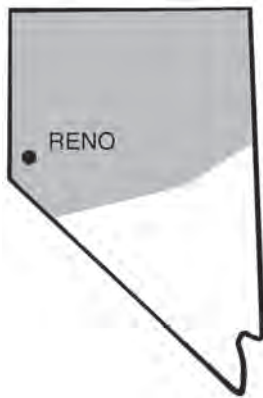
BY TINA NAPPE

The daily life of Nevada's elusive mountain lion is being revealed. From 2009-12, 48 mountain lions in the Virginia Range, Pine Nut Mountains and the Sierra Nevada were radio collared. Their territories, migration routes, kill sites, and dens were subsequently tracked. To gather DNA data, blood samples were drawn and combined with tissue samples

Please see MOUNTAIN, LIONS, page 5.



Great Basin Gatherings



Great Basin Group

Message from the Chair

Spring events!

BY KATY CHRISTENSEN, GROUP CHAIR

EVENING HIKES ARE STARTING. As the air warms, and spring begins to bloom throughout the Great Basin, hikes offered by the GBG will include increased evening hikes – up to four weekly evening hikes throughout the spring and summer months. Check for details in the Calendar listings which begin on this page of the Trails, and check for frequent updates at www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Hiking-Reno.

GEAR UP Silent Auction. Mark May 12 on your calendar! The Great Basin Group's annual Gear Up silent auction event will be held on May 12 at the Bartley Ranch location beginning at 6:30 pm. This event is a fundraiser for the Get Kids Outdoors (GKO) group programs. All are invited to bring gently used items, such as hiking and camping equipment and clothes, outdoor sports equipment, and outdoor and travel related books, CDs, and/or DVDs. Such equipment and items may be brought to the April evening program at Bartley Ranch, or beginning at 6 pm on the evening of the Gear Up event. See the GBG Calendar for further details, or email Katy Christensen (mabelnv@hotmail.com).

2016 GKO programs. Supported by the Great Basin Group, these included an opportunity for 50 5th graders from Robert Mitchell Elementary School to attend

a 4-day Great Basin Outdoor School program during spring break in March. In May, Rita Cannon Elementary School K-6 students and families will participate in a field trip to explore Galena Creek area forests and ecosystems.

EARTH DAY booth. Also, please plan to visit the GBG's booth at the annual **Earth Day event in Reno**, on **Sunday, April 24**, at Idlewild Park. Interested in volunteering for an hour or two? Call Katy (702-755-2267).

Monthly programs. We look forward to seeing members and meeting all other nature-loving folks at our monthly programs at Bartley Ranch Regional Park Western Heritage Interpretive Center on the second Thursday of each month (usually) throughout the spring. See **Thursday, April 14** for a program on Patagonia and **Friday, May 13**, for the "Mountain lion celebration." See our Calendar listings for details.



Great Basin Peak Section News Update on peak numbers!

BY SHARON MARIE WILCOX

MORE SNOW in the mountains this year will make it challenging to find dry roads and peaks until later in the season. We'll check in again at the end of the year to see how many new peaks our members have experienced. Plus maybe we will get to celebrate another list finisher? In any case, have a great hiking season!

Peak numbers update. Last year the following members shared their current progress on the Great Basin Peaks list. Here is an update of their new peak numbers.

Robert Stolting 9	Gerry Pennington 23
Franklin Enos 11	Marge Sill 24
Niki Houghton 21	Jim Scott 25
Mitch & Janice	Gretchen Nelson 25
Brown-Silveira 31	Ute Dietrich 27

Laura Newman 28
Daniel Baxter 29
James Barlow 29
Bob Michael 35
Bob Morrill 35
Kathy Rich 35
James
Morehouse 38
Tobi Tyler 46
Howard
Steidtmann 49
Al Sandorff 50
Dave Porter 54
Randy McNatt 63
Mary Brooks 66
Larry Grant 73
Ken Jones 79
Daryn Dodge 80
Charlie
Winger 82
Sharon Marie
Wilcox 89
Larry Dwyer 102

Please see GB PEAK SECTION NEWS, page 9.

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.

NOTE: Meetup address referred to in some outings below is <http://www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Hiking-Reno/events/calendar/>.

APRIL 5 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

Tuesday Evening Hike. Tuesday evening hikes are planned to accommodate most hikers, regardless of condition. Moderate pace, 2-4 mi, under 600 ft gain. Conservation issues, as appropriate, will be highlighted along our walks. Trip location announced on MeetUp (<http://www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Hiking-Reno/events/calendar/>) by Sunday evening before Tuesday hike. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461; vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Mod. Easy.

APRIL 6 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

Wednesday Conditioning Hike. Join us to get in shape for weekend hikes. About 4-6 mi in 2-2.5 hours in different locations around Truckee Meadows. Pace moderate to mod. fast. Learn about local flora, fauna. Bring plenty of water, clothing for weather; trail shoes highly recommended. Dogs welcome, but must be well-mannered and have leash, just in case. Some outings will be in rattlesnake territory. All conditioning hikes are posted on our local Meet-Up site (see address at beginning of Calendar on page 8). DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Moderate.

mot@gmail.com). Moderate.

APRIL 7 (THURSDAY) 5:30P

Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike. Get in shape after work with evening conditioning hike of 4-6 mi at brisk pace. Gain up to 1000 ft. Discover trails, learn about nature, geology in and around Truckee Meadows. More info at: Meet Up site (see beginning of Calendar for address). DL. Leader: Ridge Walker Co-Leader: Rhonda Jarrett Mod. Easy.

APRIL 7 (THURSDAY) 8A

Sawmill in Desert Day Hike. Near Buckland Station/Silver Springs, along Carson River. 9 mi loop; mostly flat. Remains of sawmill operation, current route of railroad, with 100-year-old bridge, on rail line to Hawthorn. Hike part of route of Carson & Colorado Railroad, circa early 1880, with original wooden culvert. A few enigmas. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Mod. Easy.

APRIL 10 (SUNDAY) 9A

Spanish Springs Peak (7406 ft). Moderate Day Hike/Peak Bag. Expect lots of glorious wildflowers; if we're lucky we'll see few antelope, golden eagles. Five mi, 1500 ft to summit; half x-c across volcanic terrain. Learn local ge-

Please see GB CALENDAR, page 9.

*GB GROUP WEBSITE: <http://toiyabe.sierraclub.org/gbgroup/>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/scgbg/> (Sierra Club GBG)

MEETUP: <http://www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Hiking-Reno/events/calendar/>

Kids practice LNT & learn snow science

BY SUE JACOX, SUEJACOX@NVBELL.NET

Fun hand signals made it easy for students in Great Basin Outdoor School's winter programs to remember all seven "Leave No Trace" principles.



Girls show LNT antler sign for "Respect wildlife."

While on snowshoe outings in the Spooner summit area, eager young protectors of the planet collected piles of trash and broken sleds left behind by others. Students also learned about winter safety, snow science, astronomy, and winter adaptations.

Classes who participated in overnight 2-day programs at Lake Tahoe were surprised during their snowshoe trek by pioneer snow scientist, Dr. James Church, as portrayed by retired Forest Ser-

vice professional Steve Hale. Hale demonstrated the use of the Mt. Rose snow sampler designed by Dr. Church to calculate our snow's water content and explained that the snow is "white gold" providing our vital water supply.

Throughout January and February, 420 local children participated in Great Basin Outdoor School's various day and overnight winter programs. Most had never snowshoed before and were excited to master a new outdoor recre-

Please see KIDS PRACTICE LNT, page 9.



Students practicing LNT gathered trash in Spooner summit area.

GREAT BASIN GROUP

OFFICERS

Chair	Katy Christensen*	702-755-2267	mabelnv@hotmail.com
Vice-Chair	Holly Coughlin*	775-331-7488	ladyhiker1@att.net
Secretary	Sue Jacox*	775-849-1890	suejacox@nvbellnet
Treasurer	Roleigh Martin*	952-905-0822	roleigh@pobox.com
Conservation	Open		
Energy	Open		
Membership	Jim Call	775-420-6363	freneticmarmot@gmail.com
Outings	Holly Coughlin*	775-331-7488	ladyhiker1@att.net
Political	David von Seggern*	775-303-8461	vonseg1@sbcglobal.net
Programs	Charlotte Cox*	775-848-0741	charcox@charter.net
Publicity	David von Seggern*	775-303-8461	vonseg1@sbcglobal.net
Webmaster	Mitch Silveira-Brown	775-233-6971	potzagilla@gmail.com

Great Basin Group Calendar

continued from page 8

ology, wildlife. Moderate hike, not for beginners. ND. Leader: Ridge Walker (853-8055). Co-Leader: Jeannie Kettler (843-9828). Moderate.

APRIL 10 (SUNDAY) 12 NOON

Would You Be Lost Without a Leader? Beginning Map & Compass Class. If you'd be lost without leader, this class is for you! Meet Sunday at noon, conduct "classroom" part of class in parking lot at S Reno trailhead near McCarran and Longley. Then do short hike to "put it into practice," finish up at 2 or 3 pm. We'll talk about different types of compasses, how to find your location on map, and easy navigation tricks, then talk briefly about GPS (however, this is not a GPS class). Leader is SAR guy, has used map and compass for years. Feel free to bring compass, but trip leader will supply maps and compasses. Dogs on leash OK; be prepared to pick up after them. Bad weather cancels. Signup after 4/1! DOK. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.

APRIL 12 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

Tuesday Evening Hike. See trip description for April 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461; vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Mod. Easy.

APRIL 13 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

Wednesday Conditioning Hike. Join us to get in shape for weekend hikes. Please refer to write-up on 4-6-16 for info. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Moderate.

APRIL 14 (THURSDAY)

Monthly Meeting. Program: "Patagonia — Photography & Tall Tales." Place: Bartley Ranch Center. Time: 7 pm. Presenter: Chip Carroon, landscape photographer and geologist, will present a slide show highlighting the hiking possibilities at two of the most notable national parks in Patagonia. The emphasis will be on route descriptions and photographic explorations of suggested destinations. Carroon will also tell some stories associated with previous climbing and hiking experiences in these Patagonian locations.



APRIL 14 (THURSDAY) 5:30P
Moderate Evening Conditioning

GB PEAK SECTION NEWS ...

continued from page 8

John Ide 114

We now have a page on Facebook. Please add pictures or reports from your trips to share with other hikers. (You know how much you like to hear the tales from other hikers!)

Join the GBPS! For details on membership, recognition categories, peak list, and trip reports check out Great Basin Peaks Section at: <<http://www.sierraclub.org/toiyabe/great-basin-peak-outings>>.

Hike. Get in shape after work with evening conditioning hike of 4-6 mi at brisk pace. Gain up to 1000 ft. Discover trails, learn about nature, geology in and around Truckee Meadows. More info at: Meet Up site (see address at beginning of Calendar). DL. Leader: Ridge Walker Co-Leader: Jeannie Kettler. Mod. Easy.

APRIL 16 (SATURDAY) 9A

Mayberry Park to Hunter Creek Falls Day Hike. A strenuous 9-mi hike, starting with short climb to Steamboat Ditch Trail, then relatively flat for about 1.5 mi before starting climb to Hunter Creek Falls. spectacular waterfall at 4.5 mi mark makes for perfect lunch spot, with great photo opportunity. The return to Mayberry Park will be all downhill, relatively easy. Bring lunch, sunscreen, plenty of water. Bad weather cancels. Well-mannered dogs okay; have leash in case it is needed. DL. Leader: Rhonda Jarrett (775-662-8698). Co-Leader: Rob Jarrett (jarrettrl02@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

APRIL 17 (SUNDAY) 9A

Stevens' Trail Day Hike. Great spring hike down to American River near Colfax. About 6 mi, but steep downhill of around 1800 ft descent, then climb out on nice, windy trail. Beautiful scenery with scrub oak, mossy rocks, very green. It may be quite warm in April, so clothing should be layered. Have lunch at river. There is poison oak off sides of trail in places, so dogs should be on leash. Trip limit 15. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (420-6363; freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

APRIL 19 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

Tuesday Evening Hike. See trip description for April 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461; vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Mod. Easy.

APRIL 20 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

Wednesday Conditioning Hike. Join us to get in shape for weekend outings. Please refer to April 6 for details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

APRIL 21 (THURSDAY) 8A

Buckland Station downstream. Buckland Station near Silver Springs. A 10 mi loop, 0 gain, from Historic Buckland Station downstream along Carson River, enjoying riparian habitat. Return on segment of Pony Express Trail. Learn some history. State park walk in fee: \$1/person. Option to tour remains of Fort Churchill on your own after hike. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Moderate.

APRIL 21 (THURSDAY) 7:07P

Moderate Moonlight Conditioning Hike. Get in shape after work with moonlight conditioning hike of 4-6 mi at brisk pace. we will start around sunset, hike for couple of hours by light of nearly full moon, in hills N of Reno. Gain up to 1000 ft. Discover trails, learn about nature, geology, in and around Truckee Meadows. More info at Meet Up site (see address at beginning of Calendar). ND. Leader: Ridge Walker Co-Leader: Rhonda Jarrett Mod. Easy.

APRIL 26 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

Tuesday Evening Hike. See trip de-

scription for April 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461; vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Mod. Easy.

APRIL 27 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

Wednesday Conditioning Hike. Join us on this hike to get in shape for weekend outings. Refer to April 6 for details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

APRIL 28 (THURSDAY) 5:30P

Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike. Get in shape after work with evening conditioning hike of 4-6 mi at brisk pace. Gain up to 1000 ft. Discover trails, learn about nature, geology in and around Truckee Meadows. More info at Meet Up site (see address at beginning of Calendar). DL. Leader: Ridge Walker Co-Leader: Jeannie Kettler. Mod. Easy.

MAY 3 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

Tuesday Evening Hike. See trip description for April 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461; vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Mod. Easy.

MAY 4 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

Wednesday Conditioning Hike. Join us to get in shape for weekend outings. Please refer to April 6 for details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

MAY 5 (THURSDAY) 5:30P

Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike. Get in shape after work with evening conditioning hike of 4-6 mi at brisk pace. Gain

Please see GB CALENDAR, page 11.

Deseret Peak, Utah

BY SHARON MARIE WILCOX

Deseret Peak sits in the Deseret Peak Wilderness – with a 5000-foot prominence, it qualifies for a number of peak lists. At 11,031 feet it is the highest peak in the Stansbury Mountains, plus being the highpoint of Tooele County (pronounced *Tu-will-uh*).

On October 10, 2015, several Great Basin Peaks Section members headed for Deseret Peak, leaving Reno at 6:30 am to reach the trailhead at Loop Campground before dark.

We had a brief lunch stop for Cornish pasties at B.J. Bull in Elko and topped off gas in Wendover before heading across the Bonneville flats. This large desert expanse gave an illusion that surrounding peaks were ships floating on a white sea. The unusual Tree of Life sculpture

added an interest point as we drove through this desert.

From Grantsville, our drive up South Willow Canyon twisted through sun-blazed aspen between high rock walls. Deer with fawns greeted us in the campground as we set up camp and prepared our yummy potluck dinner. The night sky was clear and littered with stars as we retired early to get some sleep before our early start time.

Summit of Deseret Peak: Sharon Marie, Niki, Carol-Lynn, Mary, and Bam.



Our morning start with headlamps allowed us to see the many color changes of first light on the mountains as we hiked up the canyon. An 1800-foot climb in the first 1.5 miles kept us warm on this chilly morning. Unlike many Great Basin Peaks, Deseret has a trail to the summit and can be found in numerous

hiking guides.

We had the trail to ourselves all the way to the summit. Enjoying the solitude and clear day, we sat an hour on top eating lunch, taking photos, and relishing the impressive views. There is a register and benchmark on the summit. After the most leisurely summit rest I've ever enjoyed, we returned on the loop trail, descending Pockets Fork/Dry Lake Fork Trail for variety.

Another day to treasure on a Great Basin peak!

KIDS PRACTICE LNT ...

continued from page 8

ational skill. Boots and warm clothing were lent to all who needed them, and sunshine and ample snow made for perfect outings.

Spring science camps at Tahoe are already fully booked, including one 4-day session for sixth graders from Robert Mitchell Elementary School -- supported by a Sierra Club Great Basin Group's "Get Kids Outdoors" grant. A few openings for spring day trips and fall 4-day science camps remain. Interested teachers can contact Haley (775-324-0936 or Haley@greatbasin-os.org).

The Mojave Monitor



Southern Nevada Group

Group News

Monthly ExCom Meetings

Wednesdays: April 6, May 4, & June 1

Open to all members, the monthly meetings of our Executive Committee (ExCom) have been moved to the first Wednesday of each month, unless otherwise noted. We meet from 6 pm to 8:30 pm at the Sierra Club Office, located just off West Sahara near Palace Station at 2330 Paseo del Prado, Building C, Suite 109, Las Vegas NV 89102. There is plenty of free parking in the surrounding lot. Please join us on April 6, May 4 or June 1.

All phone numbers indicated in the Calendar section (beginning on this page) are within the 702 area code unless otherwise noted. All hikes and service projects are led by certified outings leaders. A full calendar of our activities can be found online at www.sierraclub.org/toiyabe/southern-nevada. You can also visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/sierraclub.sng. Please "like" our page!

Southern Nevada Group Calendar

All phone numbers are 702 unless otherwise noted.

All hikes and service projects are led by certified outings leaders.

(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.

A full calendar of our outdoor activities can be found online at www.sierraclub.org/toiyabe/southern-nevada. You can also visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/sierraclub.sng, and please "like" our page.

APRIL 6 (WEDNESDAY)

Horseback ride, Red Rock Canyon NCA. We'll let our 4-legged friends (horses and mules) do the hiking as we take a horseback ride at Cowboy Trail Rides in Red Rock Canyon. About 1 - 1.5 hr morning ride led by Keith Wheeler, with fabulous views of Red Rock Canyon escarpment. Leader: Nick Saines (greatunc@aol.com, 702-896-4049). Level 1.

April 16 (Saturday)

Historical Railroad Tunnels, Lake Mead NRA. About 4 mi, easy. Family hike; friendly dogs welcome. Hike through five interesting tunnels on old railroad grade. Great views of Lake Mead. Spring wildflowers. Learn some history and geology. Leader: Gary Beckman (702-648-2983). Level 1-2

APRIL 22 (FRIDAY)

Celebrate EARTH DAY!! The entire month of April revolves around this

day to honor our natural environment.

APRIL 23 (SATURDAY)

Come to GREENFest! In the heart of Summerlin, the seventh annual GREENFest will honor Earth Day and celebrate local businesses, non-profits and government entities that champion sustainability and the environment here in Southern Nevada.

Sponsorship is provided by the GREEN Alliance and Republic Services in cooperation with Downtown Summerlin & Summerlin developed by Howard Hughes Corporation. There will be more than 150 booths, educational exhibits, festivities, and fun for the whole family. Look for the Sierra Club and ICO booths among the "Green Allies & Non-profits" between 10 am and 5 pm. For more information visit www.greenalliancenv.org/ or contact tajainlay@

Please see SN CALENDAR, page 11.

Las Vegas Inspiring Connections Outdoors (ICO) couldn't have asked for a more beautiful day than the 1st Saturday of February, when we headed out on the Lost Creek trail with the children from Walnut Community Center.

Beginning at Red Rock Visitor Center, the children, ranging from grades 2 through 7, were warmly greeted by "Mojave Max", the desert tortoise mascot for the local school's educational program. Along with a beautiful display of these reptiles' shells, the children quickly learned the differences between

Las Vegas ICO Youth Discover Lost Creek

BY CYNTHIA REGIDOR

the land-bound tortoise and the water-loving turtle. A bit squeamishly, the children touched a real coyote's fur displayed in a nearby presentation. After a lively introduction of all our participants and an important message from ICO's leader on "leave no trace" and respecting our public land, we were off to discover



"Ice skating" at Lost Creek waterfall. Photo: Cynthia Regidor.

without a curious comment or an apt observation.

Upon arrival at iced-over Lost Creek, the children squealed with delight, while some of us (ahem, adults) shivered from the 10-degree drop in temperature in the canyon. "It's free ice skating!" one child exclaimed, while the children gleefully slid across the ice in different directions. Our hike concluded in a dry wash running across the trail, where the children sat quietly, writing about the lessons they learned along their trek and reflecting upon their ideal "nature" name, while the afternoon sun beamed upon them.

SOUTHERN NEVADA GROUP

OFFICERS

Chair	Taj Ainlay*	702-906-5741	tajainlay@aol.com
Vice-Chair	Kobbe Shaw*		kobbeshaw@gmail.com
Secretary	Jane Feldman*		feldman.jane@gmail.com
Treasurer	Taj Ainlay	702-576-6815	tajainlay@aol.com
At Large	Christian Gerlach	702-271-6485	christian.gerlach@sierraclub.org
At Large	Helen Purkitt		purkitt@gmail.com
At Large	Bianca Gamez		bgamez@battlebornprogress.org
At Large	Naomi Lewis		lewis.naomi10@gmail.com
Coal Power Plants	Jane Feldman*		feldman.jane@gmail.com
Conservation	Jane Feldman*		feldman.jane@gmail.com
Endangered Species & Wildlife	Kobbe Shaw*		kobbeshaw@gmail.com
Energy	Jane Feldman*		feldman.jane@gmail.com
Global Warming	Jane Feldman*		feldman.jane@gmail.com
Las Vegas ICO	Betty Gallifent	702-334-7418	egallifent@cox.net
Membership	Kobbe Shaw*		kobbeshaw@gmail.com
Outings	Par Rasmusson	702-215-9119	par@mvdsl.com
Outings	Open		
Parks, Refuges	Open		
Political	Bianca Gamez		bgamez@battlebornprogress.org
Programs	Taj Ainlay*	702-906-5741	tajainlay@aol.com
Publicity	Open		
Transportation	Jane Feldman*		feldman.jane@gmail.com
Webmaster	Taj Ainlay*	702-906-5741	tajainlay@aol.com

* ExCom member

Lost Creek.

As we hiked along the rocky trail, the children used all their senses, encountering rock formations displaying sandy colored hues and "chocolate chips" as well as prickly plant life, trees adorned with juniper berries, and even mistletoe. Trekking further, we stumbled upon a perfect example of a desert dwelling during the existence of our Native Americans, the Southern Paiute. From this rock outcropping, the children gazed thoughtfully upon the open desert, imagining this as their home, perhaps as a shelter from bad weather or a strategic site in hunting for their food. With every turn throughout the hike, the children were never

Friends enjoying warm Jurassic sandstone. Photo: Betty Gallifent.



S. Nevada Group Calendar

continued from page 10

aol.com.

APRIL 25 (MONDAY)

Waterfall Canyon, Red Rock Canyon NCA. About 2.5 mi RT, mod. strenuous. Waterfall Canyon is a hidden gem of Red Rock Canyon. Canyon has a series of waterfalls in Cambrian limestone, each getting higher and higher, going in more than 1 mi, until final unclimbable falls of over 20 ft is reached. Springs emerge from valley walls at this point. Drive up Rocky Gap Road to trailhead, where there is an exposure of Keystone Thrust Fault. What conditions produce a waterfall? Leader: geologist Nick Saines (702-896-4049, greatunc@aol.com). Level 3.

MAY 9 (MONDAY)

Brownstone Canyon, Red Rock Canyon NCA. About 2 mi RT, moderate difficulty. Four-wheel drive, high-clearance vehicle trek into Brownstone Canyon, location of best pictographs in Southern Nevada. Moderate hike of about one mi after road ends. What is origin of pigments in rock art? Leader: geologist Nick Saines (702-896-4049, greatunc@aol.com). Level 2.5.

JUNE 13 (MONDAY)

Big Falls, Kyle Canyon. About 4 mi RT, 500 ft gain, strenuous. Big Falls is one of the treasures of Spring Mountains – a 100-ft waterfall. Examine a possible glacial till exposure on way

up. Perfect time of year to hike our beautiful High Country trails. Boulder and log scrambling for 2 mi, unless there is a carpet of thick snow. Have Spring Mountains been glaciated? If so, what geological features would we expect to find? Leader: geologist Nick Saines (702-896-4049, greatunc@aol.com). Level 4.

JUNE 14 (TUESDAY)

Primary Election Day. Here's your opportunity to vote for candidates who support the environment. Polls will be open from 7 am until 7 pm at designated locations throughout the state. Don't miss this opportunity to be a part of the solution. Details can be found at www.

clarkcountynv.gov/depts/election/Pages/Dates.aspx.

JUNE 19 - 25 (SUNDAY - SATURDAY)

Escalante River backpack, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, Utah. Little to no gain. This rather ambitious backpack will cover 37 mi; 27 mi along Escalante River and 10 mi out deep and narrow Harris Wash. Side trips will explore narrow canyons and creeks along way with day packs. You need to decide what shoes you want to use, as we will be constantly in and out of river. Arrive in town of Escalante at Escalante Interagency Visitor Center

Please see SN CALENDAR, page 12.

up to 1000 ft. Discover trails, learn about nature, geology in and around Truckee Meadows. More info at Meet Up site (see address at beginning of Calendar). DL. Leader: Ridge Walker Mod. Easy.

MAY 10 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

Tuesday Evening Hike. See trip description for April 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461; vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Mod. Easy.

MAY 11 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

Wednesday Conditioning Hike. Join us to get in shape for weekend outings. Please refer to April 6 for detailed info. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

MAY 12 (THURSDAY)

GEAR UP Silent Auction! Bring your gently-used outdoor gear to Bartley Ranch for this silent auction to benefit Get Kids Outdoors. You'll have the chance to donate 100% of your gear (gently used skiing, camping, hiking, climbing stuff) or earn 50% of your asking price. Don't miss this opportunity to clean out your garage for a good cause – you can even bring your gear to a meeting between now and May 12 and we'll store it. Info: Katy(702.755-2267).

MAY 12 (THURSDAY) 8A

McClellan Peak Flume Day Hike. Historic Virginia City flume system on McClellan Peak near Carson City. Hike will be along part of route of circa 1870 wooden box flume which brought water from Carson Range to Virginia City. About 10 mi, 800 ft gain. Some off-trail. High clearance 4-wheel drive vehicle necessary, or possible ride share. Learn some history of area. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Moderate.

MAY 12 (THURSDAY) 5:30P

Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike. Get in shape after work with evening conditioning hike of 4-6 mi at brisk pace. Gain up to 1000 ft. Discover trails, learn about nature, geology in and around Truckee Meadows. More info at Meet Up site (see address at beginning of Calendar). DL. Leader: Ridge Walker Co-Leader: Jeannie Kettler. Mod. Easy.

MAY 13 (FRIDAY)

Mountain lion celebration. Nevada Wildlife Alliance and Mountain Lion Foundation will host "An Evening In Celebration of the Mountain Lion" on Friday, May 13th, 6:30 pm, at Nevada Museum of Art (Reno). The event will

Great Basin Group
CALENDAR

continued from page 9

feature a presentation by Will Stolzenburg, based on his new book, *Heart of a Lion*, which appears in April. Come early for wine/cheese/snacks and a book signing. Free admission, but seating is



limited to 180. First come, first serve. For details: Don Molde (skyshrink@aol.com).

MAY 17 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

Tuesday Evening Hike. See trip description for April 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461; vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Mod. Easy.

MAY 18 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

Wednesday Conditioning Hike. Join us to get in shape for weekend outings. Refer to April 6 for more info. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

MAY 19 (THURSDAY) 8A

Lahontan Shore. Lahontan Reservoir, near Silver Springs. Enjoy silence, stark beauty, along shoreline. About 6 mi total in-&-out, nearly zero gain. View tufa formations. Near reported location of "Mark Twain" hotel described in flood of Carson River. State Park fee: \$1 cash/person. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Easy.

MAY 19 (THURSDAY) 7:07P

Moderate Moonlight Conditioning Hike. Get in shape after work with moonlight conditioning hike of 4-6 mi at brisk pace. Start around sunset, hike for couple of hours by light of nearly full moon, in hills N of Reno. Gain up to 1000 ft. Discover trails, learn about nature, geology in and around Truckee Meadows. More info at Meet Up site (see address at beginning of Calendar). DL. Leader: Ridge Walker Co-Leader: Rhonda Jarrett Mod. Easy.

MAY 22 (SUNDAY) 8A

Juniper Peak, Sahwave Range, Day Hike. Juniper Peak is highest point within potential wilderness designation SE of Gerlach. Travel across remote Kumiva Valley, then hike to this peak in granite-rock Sahwave Range. See wildflower blooms, view a spring or two, catch sight of Black Rock Playa at top. About 5 mi RT, all x-c, with 1800 ft gain. Trip limit 12. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461; vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Co-Leader: Dorothy Hudig (775-323-4835; hudig@sbcglobal.net). Mod. Strenuous.

MAY 22 (SUNDAY) 8:45A

Mt. Davidson Day Hike. This outing begins near Geiger Grade Summit, winds both on and off-trail to Mt. Davidson. About 7 mi, 1200 ft gain, but very steep downhill of about 2000 ft into Virginia City. Lunch on peak, time to check out some old diggings nearby. Participants must be in good shape for this hike. Hike in to Visitor Center, have cold drink before taking shuttle back. Car Shuttle required. Trip limit 15. Participants must all sign up as individuals so we can stick to our trip limit. Dogs must be well-behaved, have leash for Visitor Center, be able to squeeze into car with others. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (420-6363; freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

MAY 24 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

Tuesday Evening Hike. See trip description for April 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461; vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Mod. Easy.

MAY 25 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

Wednesday Conditioning Hike. Join us to get or stay in shape for weekend outings. Details posted on April 6. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

MAY 26 (THURSDAY) 5:30P

Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike. Get in shape after work with evening conditioning hike of 4-6 mi at brisk pace. Gain up to 1000 ft. Discover trails, learn about nature, geology in and around

Truckee Meadows. More info at Meet Up site (see address at beginning of Calendar). DL. Leader: Ridge Walker Co-Leader: Jeannie Kettler. Mod. Easy.

MAY 27-30 (FRIDAY-MONDAY) OPEN

Black Rock Rendezvous. This annual event is "Great First Trip to Black Rock" as it typically includes speakers, guided tours, visits to hot springs, rocket launches, rock hounding, Dutch Oven cook-off, drawings, similar events. Co-Sponsored by Friends of Black Rock, BLM, Friends of Nevada Wilderness. We'll be camped on edge of Playa about 15 mi N of Gerlach. Family event, bring your RVs, trailers. It's dead flat, there'll be portable toilets but no hookups! Come prepared for primitive camping but w/ portable toilets! Ham License? Bring your radio as there will be lots of Ham activity too! Dogs on leash, be prepared to pick up after them. LNT! For more info, too see last year's events go to www.blackrockrendzvous.com but website may not be current for 2016. Questions, call me. DOK. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.

MAY 31 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

Tuesday Evening Hike. See trip description for April 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461; vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Mod. Easy.

JUNE 1 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

Wednesday Conditioning Hike. Join us to get or stay in shape for weekend outings. Refer to April 6 for details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

JUNE 2 (THURSDAY) 8A

Carson River Railroads Day Hike. Near Mound House; 9 mi one-way with vehicle shuttle; gain 500 ft. Scenic, wildlife? Remains of two Comstock era railroads, Parts are off-trail. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Moderate.

JUNE 2 (THURSDAY) 5:30P

Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike. Get in shape after work with evening conditioning hike of 4-6 mi at brisk pace. Gain up to 1000 ft. Discover trails, learn about nature, geology in and around Truckee Meadows. More info at Meet Up site (see address at beginning of Calendar). DL. Leader: Ridge Walker Co-Leader: Rhonda Jarrett Mod. Easy.

Please see GB CALENDAR, page 12.

Sierra Club "Our Wild America" campaign outings

BY CHRISTIAN GERLACH, ORGANIZING REP,
SIERRA CLUB OUR WILD AMERICA CAMPAIGN

April 30 (Saturday)

Kingman Wash. Near Hoover Dam (AZ side). About 4 mi, 3-5 hours. Hike up large wash to incredible views from top of Liberty Bell Arch mesa. Some rock hopping, one little scramble. Bring light lunch, snacks, plenty of water, sunscreen. Contact leader, Christian Gerlach, before hike (Christian.gerlach@Sierraclub.org, 702-271-6485). (Level 3)

June 4 (Saturday)

Mummy Springs. Trailhead on Hwy 158 between Lee and Kyle Canyons. Strenuous hike, gain 1400 ft, RT 6 mi, 4-6 hours. Along North Loop Trail to "Raintree" (possibly largest Bristlecone Pine in Spring Mountains). Bring light lunch, snacks, plenty of water, sunscreen. Contact leader, Christian Gerlach, before hike (Christian.gerlach@Sierraclub.org, 702-271-6485).

April 18 (Monday)

Grand Canyon Campaign Kickoff. Help kick off our campaign to protect Grand Canyon from threat of uranium mining. Hear about proposal to protect forests north and south of Grand Canyon as Greater Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument. Come and share support for ensuring future generations will always be able to enjoy same awe-inspiring views we enjoy today. Time: 5:30-8 pm, location TBD. RSVP Christian Gerlach (Christian.gerlach@Sierraclub.org, 702-271-6485).

S. Nevada Group Calendar

continued from page 11

around noon MDT and get our free permit and latest information for our route. Then set up car shuttle and begin hike at Hwy 12 bridge and end at Harris Wash Trailhead. Option of ending trip June 24 or 25. What effect does salt cedar have on river banks? Leader: David Hardy (702 875-4826, email preferred: hardyhikers@embarq-mail.com). Level 3 - 4, carrying backpacks.

JUNE 27 (MONDAY)

Upper Bristlecone Trail, Spring Mountains NRA (aka Mt. Charleston). About 5 mi RT, 800 ft gain, strenuous.. Scenic trail from ski area at Lee Canyon to junction with old road; then switchbacks to top of ridge before looping back, reaching a 10,000 ft. How old are bristlecone pines? Why did President Roosevelt stop construction of road? Leader: geologist Nick Saines (702-896-4049, greatunc@aol.com). Level 4.

JULY 24 - 29 (SUNDAY - FRIDAY)

Service project, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee. In this centennial year for National Park Service, join us for a week of Volunteer Service in our nation's most visited national park. Perform trail maintenance along Alum Cave Trail, remove invasive plant species, explore. A fantastic week of Service! For details please contact Par Rasmusson (702-215-9119, parasmusson@gmail.com). Level may vary, please contact hike leader.

Great Basin Group Calendar

continued from page 11

JUNE 7 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

Tuesday Evening Hike. See trip description for April 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461; vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Mod. Easy.

JUNE 8 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

Wednesday Conditioning Hike. Join us to get or stay in shape for harder weekend outings. Refer to April 6 for details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

JUNE 9 (THURSDAY) 5:30P

Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike. Get in shape after work with evening conditioning hike of 4-6 mi at brisk pace. Gain up to 1000 ft. Discover trails, learn about nature, geology in and around Truckee Meadows. More info at Meet Up site (see address at beginning of Calendar). DL. Leader: Ridge Walker Co-Leader: Jeannie Kettler. Mod. Easy.

JUNE 11 (SATURDAY) 8A

Rubicon Trail Day Hike. Hike from D.L. Bliss Park to Emerald Bay, back. If weather cooperates, nice swimming at our lunch spot on bay. Learn about logging history, lighthouse. Parking fee. About 9 mi RT, minimal gain. ND. Leader: Craig Mastos (775-348-1862; maquis@softcom.net). Moderate.

JUNE 12 (SUNDAY) 9A

Hobart Lake Day Hike. Hike to beautiful little lake outside Washoe Valley. Trip about 7 mi, but steep at close to 2600 ft of gain on dirt road (closed-off to most vehicles). All participants must be in good hiking shape. Lunch at lake. Learn a little history about Comstock along way. Trip limit 16. All participants must sign up for themselves in order to stay within limit. Only well-mannered dogs, please. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (420-6363; freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

JUNE 14 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

Tuesday Evening Hike. See trip description for April 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461; vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Mod. Easy.

JUNE 15 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

Wednesday Conditioning Hike. Join us to get or stay in shape for weekend outings. Refer to April 6 for details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: James Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

JUNE 16 (THURSDAY) 7:07P

Moderate Moonlight Conditioning Hike. Get in shape after work with hike of 4-6 mi at brisk pace. Start around sunset, hike for couple of hours by light of nearly full moon, in foothills around Reno. Gain up to 1000 ft. Discover trails, learn about nature, geology in and around Truckee Meadows. More info at Meet Up site (see address at beginning of Calendar). DL. Leader: Ridge Walker Co-Leader: Rhonda Jarrett Mod. Easy.

JUNE 21 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

Tuesday Evening Hike. See trip description for April 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461;

vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Mod. Easy.

JUNE 23 (THURSDAY) 8A

John C Two Enigma Day Hike. Features associated with old mining operations. One-way hike of 8 mi with vehicle shuttle; 2000 ft gain. Scenic views. Return paralleling Carson River. Cactus blossoms? Hiking poles recommended; long steep descent on 'marbles'. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Mod. Strenuous.

JUNE 23 (THURSDAY) 5:15P

Longest Day Evening Hike. Hike to top of "Road to Nowhere" Peak, highest one on skyline E of Reno. Discover this little-known locale, learn geology of surrounding terrain. About 6 mi RT, 1500 ft gain. Brisk pace, not for beginning hikers. Take advantage of latest sunset, longest twilight of year, to march beyond sunset. More info at Meet Up site (see address at beginning of Calendar). ND. Leader: Ridge Walker Co-Leader: Jeanne Kettler, Cathy Schmidt Mod. Strenuous.

JUNE 25 (SATURDAY) 8:30A

Jamison Lake Day Hike. From Jamison Mine area near Graeagle to Jamison Lake. Very scenic area which includes waterfall, Grass Lake. Great swimming in Jamison Lake. Learn about mining history. About 8 mi R; 1000 ft gain. DL. Leader: Craig Mastos (775-348-1862; maquis@softcom.net). Moderate.

JUNE 28 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

Tuesday Evening Hike. See trip description for April 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461; vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Mod. Easy.

JUNE 29 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

Wednesday Conditioning Hike. Join us to get in or stay in shape for weekend outings. Refer to April 6 for detailed info. DOK. Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

Channel Islands National Park

April 3-5, 2016

Join us for a 3-day, 3-island, live-aboard cruise
Wildflowers • Birds • Whales • Seals & Sea Lions

The land, sea, & air will be teeming!

Hike, kayak, marvel, enjoy, watch, relax!

\$650 includes: assigned bunk, all meals, snacks, & beverages.

To reserve, contact leader, Joan Jones Holtz,
(626-443-0706, jholtzhln@aol.com.



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

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

Join today and receive
a FREE Sierra Club
Weekender Bag!



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

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

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

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

SIERRA CLUB F94Q W 1400 1

Toiyabe Chapter ExCom Meeting

Saturday, 9 am
April 16, 2016
RENO, NV

For details, contact the Chair,
DAVID VON SEGGERN
Chair@Toiyabe.
SierraClub.org

All Toiyabe Chapter members are welcome to attend these meetings, which usually begin at 9 am. We reserve a time slot for input from members; if you have an issue on which you want to address the ExCom, please attend. For ExCom members' contact info, see the Chapter Directory on page 2.