



EXPLORE, ENJOY, & PROTECT THE PLANET.

# TOIYABE JULY - AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2016 TRAILS

## SUMMER OUTINGS ISSUE

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

### From the Chair

## Words about water

BY DAVID VON SEGGERN  
(vonseg1@sbcglibobal.net)

The news on water is mixed. Recall that we live in the most arid state of the nation. (And don't ignore that our Range of Light Group in eastern California does little better — less than 6 inches average annual precipitation.) Nevada lies almost wholly in the Great Basin, a geographical region where no streams exit to any ocean; and the remainder is in the Mojave Desert which, although it holds the West's greatest river (Colorado River), is also a very arid region.

Nevadans tend to get accustomed to seeing little flowing water, and the past few years have certainly left us wondering what streams and ponds should look like. But we witnessed a good El Nino winter, and the Truckee River in Reno is flowing well again. Lakes, reservoirs, and ponds are again filling.

Yet our general lack of water is a main reason why we have so much open landscape to roam and explore and enjoy. Without the benefit of water resources, Nevada was never able to fulfill the manifest destiny of populating the

Please see FROM THE CHAIR, page 2.

**Need information  
about Toiyabe Chapter?**

Try the . . .

**Chapter website**

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



Happy kids had the time of their lives this spring thanks to Great Basin Group's continued "Get Kids Outdoors" (GKO) funding initiative. Two sixth grade classes spent two nights and three days on the shore of Lake Tahoe in May with Great Basin Outdoor School, studying aboard a Tahoe research boat, learning astronomy, geology, and life sciences. These are schools where the need is great, and teachers, parents, and children sincerely appreciated the support from our GKO fund that helped make the trips possible.

## DESALINATION: Pipeline Alternative for Southern Nevada

BY ROSE STRICKLAND

Several dozen Nevadans attended a desalination conference in Las Vegas on April 23 at the College of Southern Nevada (CSN). They heard presentations and participated in discussions on the widespread use of desalination all over the world, the diminishing costs of desalting ocean water, and desalting benefits.

Sponsored by the College and the Dallas-based Integral Scientific Institute, the interested audience was informed of an alternative in lieu of the groundwater pumping and pipeline from rural Nevada for growth in So. Nevada: construction of a desalination plant on the California coast powered by renewable energy from a floating solar PV facility at Lake Mead.

Colorado River storage system. Speaker John Shields, an agricultural engineer with the Bureau of Reclamation, opened the conference by setting the stage about So. Nevada's dependence on the Colorado River. His presentation included the amounts of water stored in Colorado River reservoirs and the plumbing system to distribute it among the 4 upper river states and the 3 lower river states, according to the 1922 Compact and subsequent laws. Despite the extended drought in the southwest, Shields believes that the reservoir stor-

age system has worked well, although the Lake Mead level at which an official shortage is declared, which triggers reductions in allotments to the states, has just been reached. Improving resilience of water supplies and responding to worsening drought depends on continuing collaboration by the 7 states. Questions about the amount of river water losses due to reservoir evaporation and leakages as well as unresolved allocations to Indian tribes initiated thoughtful discussions.

Costs and benefits of desalination. CSN professor Mark Bird and adjunct professor Genevieve Minter provided information on both declining costs and increasing benefits of desalination as reflected in the over 18,000 desalt plants in 150 countries all over the world. The presentation sparked excellent discussions of the values of increasing water supplies vs decreasing water demands through improved water conservation and efficiency, as

### Make a tree happy! Get your Trails online

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Please see DESALINATION, page 7.

## Annual Chapter election heads-up

THE TOIYABE CHAPTER will hold its annual election for ExCom members in December. Any Chapter member interested in serving on the ExCom should contact the Nomination Committee Chair, Richard Cook ([richard\\_cook99@yahoo.com](mailto:richard_cook99@yahoo.com)).

## Make a meaningful contribution now & in the future!

BY JANET CARTER

Would you like to help the Sierra Club and our Toiyabe Chapter protect our beautiful lands even after you are gone? It's easy to do so, and you may find that it provides a tax advantage as well! Just consider leaving a bequest to the Toiyabe Chapter in your will.

There are several excellent benefits to making the Toiyabe Chapter and the Sierra Club and/or the Sierra Club Foundation your beneficiaries.

- Your chosen assets will remain under your control during your lifetime.
- You can modify your gift over time to address any changing circumstances.
- You can direct your gift to a specific

Please see CONTRIBUTION, page 2.

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## FROM THE CHAIR . . .

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West. This left us with few communities across Nevada and relatively little infrastructure to impede our views of the beautiful landscape.

If you wish to know the tight connection of water and civilization, read "Water" by Steven Solomon (reviewed on the last page of this issue). But all that journalism applies only tenuously to Nevada simply because there is so little water. What little we have is ever more precious. Therefore, the Toiyabe Chapter is committed to wise water-resource planning and management.

We have worked with the Great Basin Water Network during recent years to thwart the large, misguided water pipeline planned by the Southern Nevada Water Authority. This pipeline would, according to the EIS, lower water tables in many valleys of eastern Nevada and lead to flora and fauna die-offs. We have protested many water applications at the State Engineer's office when these would move water from one basin to another or when they simply overreached the available groundwater supply. We have protested water applications that amounted to nothing other than water speculation in this state.

Water withdrawals up and down the Colorado River have caused immense loss of fresh groundwater. The scale of the withdrawals is such that it amounts to massive water mining, an unsustainable resource extraction which should be curtailed. Lake Mead now sits at its lowest level since its inception in the 1930s and upstream Lake Powell sits woefully at 45% of capacity.

Your Chapter leaders will continue to monitor water doings in Nevada. We support wise and sustainable water management and the needs of wildlife as well as those of people and businesses. We support agricultural research and crops that will lead to less water usage per acre or per unit value. We support water-wise landscaping and water restrictions where appropriate.

Such Chapter actions will probably become more important in the years ahead because the consensus scientific prediction is that Nevada will be getting hotter and drier (see, for instance, the report <<http://nca2014.globalchange.gov/report/regions/southwest>>).

## CONTRIBUTE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS . . .

continued from page 1

purpose (such as Toiyabe Chapter efforts to preserve Lake Tahoe or the Wild America campaign).

- Under current tax law there is no upper limit to the estate tax deductions available for charitable bequests.

If you do include the Sierra Club in your will, you will be invited to join the Rachel Carson Legacy Society. This prestigious group has no membership fees or obligations, but members receive a special society newsletter and frequent updates on club activities as well as invitations to special events.

Bequests can also be made in the form of a gift of life insurance (where you transfer ownership of a paid up life insurance policy to the Club). The Sierra

## Chapter ExCom report

BY JANET CARTER

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF TOIYABE CHAPTER had another successful meeting in Reno and by Google Hangout on April 16, 2016. The ExCom began by welcoming our newest elected at-large member, Laura Martin. Laura is the Associate Director of the Progressive Leadership Alliance (PLAN) of Nevada, and is based in their Las Vegas office. (The Toiyabe Chapter is a member group of PLAN). Laura is a graduate of Colorado State University, and has a strong background in social and racial justice issues and community organizing. Welcome aboard, Laura!

**Political races.** The discussion at the meeting focused on upcoming political races and goals for the coming legislative session in Nevada. The Chapter Political Committee has a new chair, Caron Tayloe of Reno. Her committee is concentrating on identifying candidates for endorsement by the Chapter. They have developed a number of questionnaires and interview questions to insure that candidates we endorse share our vision on important issues such as preserving public lands, supporting renewable energy, setting bold sustainability goals, and increasing awareness and action regarding climate change. All of us should help insure that our elected officials properly address these and other environmental issues.

**Funding requests.** The Toiyabe Chapter ExCom also approved several funding requests. These included a request for \$2500 to help fund a short documentary by David Gibson on the feasibility of net zero energy housing. This documentary could be distributed to schools as well as used for education on energy efficiency to the legislature and other public bodies. A second funding approval will allow the purchase of 44 compost collecting bins to be used by the Two Hands Collective and the Reno Rot Riders. This group collects organic waste from local restaurants via bicycle which is then composted for use by community gardens.

**Come to our ExCom meetings!** All Chapter members are welcome

to attend any meeting of the Toiyabe Chapter Executive Committee. We welcome your input, suggestions, and criticism. (And we often have great potlucks the night before the meeting; all are welcome!).

**Next ExCom meetings.** The date will be *Saturday, July 16*, in the cool *Mammoth Lakes, CA*, area. See Page 12 for details.

Also, on the weekend of *October 1* we are planning a very special meeting in *Baker, NV*, as part of the celebrations of the *100th anniversary of the National Park Service*.

This location was chosen because nearby Great Basin National Park is the only national park wholly within our Chapter boundaries. We are planning special interpretive events and hikes in conjunction with the meeting. Look for more information in the next issue of the *Trails!*

## WATER . . .

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the public at large.

The last chapter is the obligatory "hope" ending. After reading so many pages documenting the immense water challenges in most parts of the world, I can hardly buy it. It is particularly interesting that the author suggests that full-scale commodifying of water may be the answer. Before you protest, read the author's cogent arguments.

*Water*, by Steven Solomon, will surely be a touchstone for those concerned about water.

and information.) We invite you to play a meaningful role in protecting the environment for future generations. Your family will thank you!



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



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](mailto: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](mailto: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.



## Friends of the Inyo Outings

### A summer of stewardship

JULY 9 (SAT)

**White Mountains Exploration.** Come with Friends of the Inyo and explore White Mountains Potential Wilderness Additions. This will be a half driving, half hiking tour of gorgeous landscape of the mountain range on eastern side of Inyo National Forest. Exact time and meeting location TBD. Please RSVP. Details: info@friendsoftheinyo.org (760-873-6500).

AUGUST 13 (SAT)

**Mammoth Trails Day.** Join Town of Mammoth Lakes, U.S. Forest Service, and Friends of the Inyo (with funding from Measure R) for Mammoth Trails Day on Mammoth Lakes Trail System. Come on out and care for trails in Mammoth Lakes Basin. Meet at 8:30, exact meeting location TBD. Details: info@friendsoftheinyo.org (760-873-6500).

AUGUST 23-27 (TUE-SAT)

**Humphreys Basin Volunteer Trip.** Join Friends of the Inyo and Sierra National Forest in a volunteer project over Piute Pass in John Muir Wilderness. We'll be working on campsites around Lower Golden Trout Lake in order to restore Sierra yellow-legged frog habitat. Expect a moderate to strenuous hike in and three day of work. There will be pack support for tools and food, but volunteers must carry their own gear. Perks include good work, good people, 5 days in a beautiful landscape, and spectacular views of back side of Mt. Humphreys. Space is limited so please RSVP. Details: info@friendsoftheinyo.org (760-873-6500).

AUGUST 27 (SAT)

**Devils Postpile Founders Day Stewardship Event.** Join Friends of the Inyo and National Park Service in celebrating National Park Service's Centennial with a volunteer stewardship event at Devils Postpile National Monument. Celebrate Devils Postpile by helping out with restoration projects. Exact meeting time and location TBD. Details: info@friendsoftheinyo.org (760-873-6500).

SEPTEMBER 3 (SAT)

**Glass Mountain Exploration.** Come explore Glass Mountain Potential Wilderness Area with Friends of the Inyo. Tour the 17,000 acre roadless area by hiking to top of Glass Mountain's prominent summit. Expect a strenuous all day trip, with steep off-trail and sometimes loose and rocky travel. The summit has extreme views of Sierra, Whites, and adjoining valleys. Meeting time/location TBD. Please RSVP. Details: info@friendsoftheinyo.org (760-873-6500).

SEPTEMBER 10 (SAT)

**Mammoth Creek Clean Up.** Friends of the Inyo, in partnership with Mono County and Inyo National Forest, is looking for your help in cleaning Mammoth Creek. Meet at Mammoth Creek Park at 8:30, then walk upstream and

## Summer Desert Trips

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

All Desert Committee activities, unless stated otherwise, are suitable for anyone who enjoys the outdoors. The average car or high clearance vehicle will be adequate for most trips. For a good guide to desert travel we used to recommend the Sierra Club book, *Adventuring in the California Desert*, by Lynne Foster. However, this book is now out of print, though used copies are available on the internet.

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

AUGUST 19-21 (FRI-SUN)

#### PERSEID METEOR SHOWER IN THE BLACK ROCK DESERT.

Come enjoy the Perseid Meteor shower in a dark sky area. We'll probably have about 100 people camping in the widest part of the Black Rock Desert about 100 mi north of Reno. Expect a potluck, tours, and meteor watching. Sky will be pretty dark in this remote area and meteors show up really well. Side trips to hot springs and Emigrant Trail likely. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443).

Great Basin Group/CNRCC Desert Committee

SEPT 23-25 (FRI-SUN)

#### NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY IN BLACK ROCK DESERT.

Join us in helping out in this beautiful and remote desert about 100 mi north of Reno. Plans are not definite yet, but we'll be doing a work project of some

downstream picking up trash along creek. Details: info@friendsoftheinyo.org (760-873-6500).

SEPTEMBER 17 (SAT)

**Great Sierra River Clean Up.** Join Town of Mammoth Lakes, U.S. Forest Service, and Friends of the Inyo (with funding from Measure R) for the Great Sierra River Clean Up on Mammoth Lakes Trail System. We'll pick up trash throughout Mammoth Lakes Basin as a celebration of the great summer we've had. Meet at 8:30 at Horseshoe Lake Parking Lot. Details: info@friendsoftheinyo.org (760-873-6500).

SEPTEMBER 24 (SAT)

**National Public Lands Day/James Wilson Memorial Project.** Celebrate our wonderful public lands by joining Friends of the Inyo in giving back. Exact time and meeting location TBD. Details: info@friendsoftheinyo.org (760-873-6500).

OCTOBER 1 (SAT)

**BLM National Public Lands Day #2.** Join Friends of the Inyo in giving back to your public lands. We'll work on the third section of Rock Creek Trail, brushing trail and widening trail corridor in

sort. Trip usually includes a day of work and day of play. More info available as time draws nearer. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443).

Great Basin Group/CNRCC Desert Committee

OCT 22-23 (SAT-SUN)

**GHOST TOWN EXTRAVAGANZA.** Celebrate Halloween by visiting ghosts of California's colorful past in eerie desert landscape near Death Valley. Camp near historic ghost town of Ballarat. Saturday, a challenging hike to ghost town Lookout City with historian Hal Fowler, who will regale us with tales of this wild west town. Return to camp for Happy Hour and a potluck feast, followed by a midnight visit to Ballarat's graveyard. On Sunday, tour town of Ballarat itself before heading home. Leader: Lygeia Gerard (760-868-2179). Asst. Leader: Marguerite McGuigan).

Mojave Group/CNRCC Desert Committee

some sections. Also, we'll plant native brush in Swall fire burn area near communities of Paradise and Swall. Time: 8:30-12:30, Meeting location TBD. Details: info@friendsoftheinyo.org (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.*

DEADLINE!  
SEPTEMBER 1



FOR  
OCT-NOV-DEC ISSUE

## Great Basin Group News

continued from page 5

A very special program  
Thursday, September 8, 2016

### "Arctic Light"

with Stephen Wheatcraft

STEVE'S INTEREST IN THE ARCTIC started with a trip to Iceland in May of 2012. In August, 2013, he went to Svalbard to photograph landscapes and wildlife, especially polar bears. Svalbard is an island archipelago about half way between the northern coast of Norway and the north pole, at about 76°-80° north. Svalbard is managed by Norway and has one town of about 2000 people, Longyearbyen, the northernmost town in the world.



In March, 2014, Wheatcraft made a second trip to Iceland, with the specific objective of photographing northern lights and ice caves in the glaciers. Most recently, in August 2015, he made a trip to the west coast of Greenland, circumnavigating Milne Land Island in a 44 foot sail boat. The area around Milne Land Island is the largest fjord system in the world, with 6000-foot rock faces at sea level. The west coast of Greenland has only one settlement, Ittoqqortoormiit, with a population of about 200 Inuits.

Steve's show will be about his travels around Svalbard and Greenland, and include a few of his best slides from Iceland.

**Background.** Stephen (Steve) Wheatcraft is a Professor Emeritus of Hydrologic Sciences at the University of Nevada, Reno. He has been seriously interested in landscape/nature photography for about 15 years. He has photographed in a variety of exotic places from Svalbard (80 degrees north latitude) and Iceland to New Zealand, and from the U.S. and Canada as far away as Kazakhstan. He is currently a featured artist at the Sierra Arts Foundation in Reno, Nevada.

Recently, Steve has done aerial photography using quadcopters and octocopters in California and Nevada, including the Alabama Hills, near Lone Pine, California and Mono Lake, near Lee Vining, California, and at Lake Tahoe.



# Range of Light Reflections

## Range of Light Group



## Group News

### Greetings from Mammoth Lakes, CA!

BY DICK HIHN, ROL GROUP CHAIR

**Changes in outings announcements.** I want to alert readers that there is going to be a change in our procedure for announcing our outings. Our outings leaders are finding it increasingly difficult to schedule outings on a three-month basis, due both to personal scheduling and to weather conditions. Therefore, we will not include a three-month outing schedule in the Trails at the moment. We will, however, include the outings for which we have leader commitments. These outings begin on this page.

Our outings will, of course, continue as planned!continue as planned! For details of outings not included in the Trails:

- **Visit our website** at: <http://www.sierraclub.org/toiyabe/range-light/activities>. There you will find information about ROLG, along with descriptions of outings, Conservation Chair Malcolm Clark's conservation updates, and more. There is also a link for subscribing to our e-newsletter, which also contains descriptions of our upcoming outings, conservation activities, volunteer opportunities, and more.
- **Find us on Facebook** at: <https://www.facebook.com/Range-of-Light-Group-464737966890277/>.
- **Connect with us on our Meetup page** (currently 172 members) which also lists all our outings: <http://www.meetup.com/ROLG-SierraClub-Outings-Meetup/>.
- **Look for us in various newsprint media**, including the *Mammoth Times*, *The Sheet*, *Inyo Register*, and *Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association Calendar* (Lynn Boulton, our Publicity Chair, submits our outings to all these media).

**Recent outings.** A few of our recent outings have included day hikes to Davis Lake from the Hilton Creek trailhead, Bohler Canyon (devastated last August by the Walker Fire), Upper Horse Meadow and the Gibbs Lake trail, and a hike to O'Harrel Canyon in the Glass Mountain Range, one of the areas the Sierra Club hopes the Forest Service will include in their consideration of new wilderness areas. See photos on this page and the next.

**Thursday outings.** In the months of June, July, August, and September, we will have our usual Thursday shorter outings (late afternoon/early evening). These are easier excursions, and often relate to a point of history in the Mammoth area. For details see OUTINGS, beginning on this page.

**Saturday and Sunday outings.** These will include bird and flower walks, a family walk, a local history walk with historian Robert Joki, and an outing for women only. Some of our moderate to difficult Saturday and Sunday hikes

Please see ROL GROUP NEWS page 5.

### 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](mailto: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

### SUMMER 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](http://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 (except evening hikes), snacks, layered clothing, appropriate hiking footwear (hiking boots for summer), sunscreen, bug spray (in warm weather), working headlamp or flashlight (for evening or longer Saturday and Sunday outings), and 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, depending on leader's interests. All hikers welcome, including beginners.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY SUMMER OUTINGS.** Longer hikes varying in difficulty (moderate to strenuous). Contact: leader for permission to bring your dog. Abominable weather cancels.

**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

#### JULY 3 (SUNDAY)

NO OUTING. 4TH OF JULY HOLIDAY WEEKEND.

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.

#### July 19 (Tuesday)

5:30 pm, Picnic Potluck  
McGee Creek Trailhead

(turn W off Hwy 395, at McGee Creek sign, at north end of Crowley Lake/Hilton Creek community)

There are picnic tables, a restroom and parking lot. Enjoy the company, spectacular canyon views, and an opportunity to share experiences of the season. Come early or stay later for a walk up the Canyon.



#### August 16 (Tuesday)

5:30 pm, Picnic Potluck  
Millpond Park, Bishop

(6 mi NW of Bishop -- turn S on Ed Powers Rd, then W on Sawmill Rd to Park entrance)

Please join with Bishop area members and friends at this beautiful park. Come early, bring your swimsuit and take a dip in the pond.

#### Sept. 20 (Tuesday)

6:45 pm, Announcements  
7 pm, Program  
Location TBA

David Carle, retired State Park Ranger and author, will give a colorful slide talk — "Water & the California Dream: Historic Choices Shaping the Future" — that looks at how California's environment and quality of life was transformed by decisions to move water from the Eastern Sierra, Colorado River, and Northern California rivers to serve urban centers and farms in drier parts of the State.

Please submit suggestions for program topics and/or speakers to our Program Chair, Mary Shore ([marymishore@gmail.com](mailto:marymishore@gmail.com)). We always need fresh ideas!

### Range of Light Group

#### OFFICERS

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

\* Voting ExCom member

\*\* Owens River Watershed Conservation Chair



## Range of Light OUTINGS

continued from page 4

### JULY 7 (THURSDAY)

**Heart Lake from Coldwater Campground.** Short 2.4 mi hike from campground to Heart Lake. About 550 ft gain. Meet 4:30 pm, Mammoth Union Bank. Dogs OK. Contact: Malcolm (760-924-5639, WMalcolm.Clark@gmail.com).

### JULY 9 (SATURDAY)

**Hike with FOI & ROLG.** Hike into Deadhorse Meadow, Wyman Canyon, and possibly climb Blanco Peak. Stay tuned for more detailed info. Contact: Jora (760-873-6500, jora@friendsoftheinyo.org).

### JULY 10 (SUNDAY)

**Gem Lakes.** Hike Little Lakes Valley to Gem Lakes. About 7.7 mi RT, 700 ft gain, views of Morgan, Bear Creek Spire, Dade and Abbot Mtns, passing several back country lakes. Well-behaved dogs welcome. Meet 7:30 am, ML Union Bank. Contact: Dick & Joanne (760-709-5050, rhihn@skidmore.edu).

### JULY 14 (THURSDAY)

**TJ/Barrett Lakes.** Easy loop trail hike starts at Lake George and swings around Lake Mary. About 4 mi RT. Well-behaved dogs OK. Meet Mammoth Lakes Union Bank, 4:30pm. Contact: Malcolm (760-924-5639), WMalcolm.Clark@gmail.com.

### JULY 17 (SUNDAY)

**Starkweather Wildflower Walk.** Hike the Starkweather Trail on this slow-paced, 3 mi, wildflower discovery walk from Minaret Vista to Starkweather Lake. Allow 2-3 hours for this mostly downhill hike to view flowers and learn about distribution of trees by elevation. We will supply hand lenses. Bring \$7 shuttle fee (exact \$). Optional extension: ride shuttle to Devil's Postpile and hike to Rainbow Falls, about 4 mi. Meet 9 am, Minaret Vista Kiosk. No dogs. Contact: Jean (760-648-7109, dillinghamjean@gmail.com).

### JULY 19 (TUESDAY)

**Picnic Potluck Supper at McGee Creek.** Enjoy the company, spectacular views, opportunities to share experiences of the season. Build up an appetite with a walk before dinner to explore geologic features of soaring cliffs surrounding a high desert meadow in McGee Canyon. Picnic tables and restrooms. Come early or stay late. Dinner begins at 5:30 pm. Adequate parking. Contact: Mike & Mary (805-217-5563).

### JULY 20 (WEDNESDAY)

**Highway Clean-up.** Join ROLG on morning clean-up of our 2-mi section of 395. Meet 8am, Crestview Rest Area (5 mi N of Mammoth Lakes). Vests, hard hats, trash bags, pickers, gloves, and refreshments provided. Contact: Dick & Joanne (760-709-5050, rhihn@skidmore.edu).

### JULY 23 (SATURDAY)

**Birding Outing.** Local bird expert Steve Brad will lead a morning birding walk in the

## ROL GROUP NEWS ...

continued from page 4

will include destinations such as Gem Lakes, Budd Lake, Fern Lake, Glass Mountain, and Warren Fork Canyon. For details see OUTINGS, beginning on this page.

Summer monthly ROL Group meetings. In July and August our meetings will include picnics at McGee Creek Trail Head and Millpond Park. Our September meeting location is TBA, and will have an interesting program by David Carle, retired State Park Ranger and author. Please look for details from our Program Chair, Mary Shore, in "You're Invited," on Page 4.

Mammoth Lakes area. Look for resident birds and migrant; there may be some surprises. Location TBA, depending on weather conditions and bird activity. Meet 7:30 am, ML Union Bank. Binoculars necessary. No dogs. Contact: Karen (949-240-3956).

### JULY 24 (SUNDAY)

**Budd Lake.** Moderate hike, 6+mi RT, 1600 ft gain (begins at 8565 ft). Hike from Tuolumne Meadows along the beautiful Budd Creek gorge on this unmapped, unmaintained trail with views of Unicorn, Cockscomb, and Cathedral Peaks. Wildflowers, granite, and spectacular views. No dogs. Meet ML Union Bank, 8 am or 8:45 at Ranger Station, Hwy 120. Contact: Mauriça (760-932-7175, Maurica\_And@yahoo.com).

### JULY 28 (THURSDAY)

**Earthquake Fault.** Walk with a student of geology along route to discover if it is a fault or a fissure. Meet at Earthquake Fault Parking Lot, accessed from Hwy 203 (1.8 mi from stop light at Minaret and Main) 4:30 pm. All ages welcome. Contact: Mike & Mary (805-217-5563).

### JULY 30 (SATURDAY)

**Family Walk.** Families meet at Hayden Cabin in Mammoth Lakes at 10am to look for stream invertebrates that are food for fish. All ages welcome. Families will walk along the creek for a short outing, before returning to Hayden Cabin picnic area. Bring shoes that can get wet and dry ones for the walk. Prepare for both warm and cool weather. Bring water, along with a picnic lunch. Contact: Jean (760-648-7109, dillinghamjean@gmail.com).

### JULY 31 (SUNDAY)

**Fern Lake.** Join us on this 10 mi RT, 2400+ ft gain, strenuous hike with possibly-tricky stream crossing, from Devil's Postpile trailhead. Contact: Melissa (760-937-0499, melissas1@verizon.net).

### AUGUST 4 (THURSDAY),

### AUGUST 7 (SUNDAY),

### & AUGUST 11 (THURSDAY)

**Check ROL website, Facebook, MeetUp, & local papers for details.** See beginning of Outings section for internet addresses.

### AUGUST 14 (SUNDAY)

**Hall Natural Area Reserve (bordering Yosemite).** Magnificent Alpine-like glacial lakes basin in shadow of Mt. Conness, moderate 5 mi RT on and off-trail, about 600 ft gain + optional 200 ft. Meet 8 am, Mammoth Union Bank or 8:45 am, Lee Vining Ranger Station on Tioga Road. Well behaved dogs ok. Leash required first 1/2 mile. Contact:

### AUGUST 16 (TUESDAY)

**Picnic Potluck Supper at Millpond Park, Bishop.** Please join together with Bishop area members and friends at this beautiful park. Come early, bring your swimsuit, and take a dip in the pond. Dinner begins at 5:30 pm. Contact: Mike & Mary (805-217-5563).

### AUGUST 18 (THURSDAY)

**Mine Walk.** Seek out the mines of Mineral Hill. Walk uphill (3/4 mile) to find some openings to the "Mammoth" mines that gave Mammoth its name. On the way there are spectacular views of the town of Mammoth. Meet at Union Bank Parking Lot, 4:30 pm. Contact and details: Mike & Mary (805-217-5563).

### AUGUST 21 (SUNDAY) & AUGUST 25 (THURSDAY)

**Lake & Mine Walk.** About 2 mi RT. Meet at Coldwater Parking area, 4:30 pm (near the Consolidated Mine trailhead). Contact and details: Mike & Mary (805-217-5563).

### AUGUST 28 (SUNDAY)

**Women's Fun Outing and After-Hike Get-**

## Range of Light SUMMER PHOTO GALLERY

Photos by Joanne Hihn

May 15, 2016. We returned to Bohler Canyon, site of a fire in August 2015, to observe Nature's restoration of the area. Hillsides were resplendent with wildflowers. We climbed the ridge separating Bohler and Bloody Canyons for glimpses of Walker Lake, Mono Pass and surrounding area.



April 21, 201. We enjoyed a hike in Inyo National Forest along Doe Ridge. The desert peach was just starting to bloom. We ate lunch at Hot Creek, where several hikers remembered soaking in the warm to hot waters, before shifting steam vents made water temperatures in this area too unpredictable for continued public use.

**Together.** Destination TBA, Contact: Joanne (760-709-5050, jhphotos73@gmail.com).

### SEPTEMBER 1 (THURSDAY) & SEPTEMBER 3 (SATURDAY)

**Glass Mtn hike with FOI & ROLG.** Details to follow. Check ROL website, Facebook, MeetUp, and local papers for details. See beginning of Outings section for internet addresses.

### SEPTEMBER 4 (SUNDAY) & SEPTEMBER 8 (THURSDAY)

**Mine Walk.** Walk uphill about 3/4 mi to take a look at Monte Cristo Mine Site. Ponder the life of a miner as you take in views of surrounding mountains. Meet at Union Bank Parking Lot, 4:30 pm. Contact & details: Mike & Mary (805-217-5563).

### SEPTEMBER 11 (SUNDAY)

**Local History Walk with historian Robert Joki.** Check ROL website, Facebook, MeetUp, and local papers for details. See beginning of Outings section for internet addresses.

**September 15 (Thursday)**

### SEPTEMBER 18 (SUNDAY)

**Check ROL website, Facebook, MeetUp, and local papers for details.** See beginning of Outings section for internet addresses.

### SEPTEMBER 20 (TUESDAY)

**ROL Monthly Meeting.** Program By David Carle, retired State Park Ranger and Author of "Water & the California Dream: Historic Choices Shaping the Future," a colorful slide talk that looks at how California's environment and quality of life were transformed by decisions to move water from the Eastern Sierra, the Colorado River, and

Northern California rivers to serve urban centers and farms in drier parts of the State. Meet 7pm; announcements, 6:45pm; location TBA. Contact: Mike & Mary ((805-217-5563).

### SEPTEMBER 22 (THURSDAY)

**Check ROL website, Facebook, MeetUp, and local papers for details.** See beginning of Outings section for internet addresses.

### SEPTEMBER 23-25 (FRIDAY-SUNDAY)

**Military Festival Weekend.** Check ROL website, Facebook, MeetUp, and local papers for details. See beginning of Outings section for internet addresses.

### SEPTEMBER 25 (SUNDAY)

**Warren Fork Canyon.** Moderate hike/scramble, about 6 mi RT, 1300 ft gain (begins at 8995 ft). Up Warren Fork stream off Tioga Pass before Ellery Lake. Seldom used, unmaintained trail through various terrains. Views, wildflowers. Dogs OK. Meet ML Union Bank, 9 am or 9:45 Ranger Station, Hwy 120. Contact: Mauriça (760-932-7175, Maurica\_And@yahoo.com).

### SEPTEMBER 29 (THURSDAY)

**NO OUTING.**

### SEPTEMBER 29-30

### & OCTOBER 1 (THURSDAY-SATURDAY)

**Sierra Arts Adventure.** Check ROL website, Facebook, MeetUp, and local papers for details. See beginning of Outings section for internet addresses.



# CONSERVATION ROUNDUP

## A summer travel guide to Toiyabe Chapter's Nat'l Park Service sites

BY MARGE SILL

MANY AREAS IN THE TOIYABE CHAPTER are managed by the National Park Service. These include most of Death Valley National Park, Great Basin National Park, Devil's Postpile National Monument, Tule Springs National Monument, much of Lake Mead National Recreation Area, and Manzanar National Historic Site.

This is a good year to visit some of these important areas — they will have much less visitation than the more famous Yellowstone National Park and Yosemite National Park.

Though much of Death Valley NP is too hot to visit in the summer, there are some high areas to the west of the park, such as Telescope Peak, which are possibilities.

Great Basin National Park is celebrating its 30th anniversary. This small gem of a park offers something for everyone, entrance is free, and the park is family friendly. Lehman Caves are accessible all year with guided tours by rangers, focusing on the geology and history of these spectacular natural wonders. Even in summer one can climb Wheeler Peak (13,065 ft), the second highest in Nevada, or take a short walk to marvel at the ancient bristlecone pines, or picnic at Baker Lake after a much longer walk along Baker Creek. There is an excellent visitor center in the small town of

Baker just east of the Park. Note that there will be a 30th Anniversary celebration on October 17!

Great Basin NP's annual astronomy festival will be held from Sept. 29 through Oct. 1 this year. It will celebrate the new telescope that has been funded and is now being built. Great Basin has probably the clearest night sky of any national park in the United States. There will be 30+ telescopes available for viewing and many activities for kids. For details, go to <https://www.nps.gov/grba/planyourvisit/greatbasinas-tromyfestival.htm>,

Devil's Postpile National Monument can be reached by shuttle bus from Mammoth Lakes all summer.

Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument (near Las Vegas) is new, voted in by Congress in 2014 because of its wonderful fossil remains.

Anyone interested in American history and civil rights should visit Manzanar, near Independence, California, to reflect on the efforts of a group of people to live constructive and happy lives in spite of being in an internment camp during World War II.

Toiyabe Chapter is indeed fortunate to have all these treasures within its boundaries — try to visit as many as you can this year!

## New forest plans: Futures of Inyo, Sierra, & Sequoia National Forests at stake

BY FRAN HUNT, SIERRA CLUB E. SIERRA ORGANIZER

National forest lands, managed by the U.S. Forest Service, cover about 20 percent of California. They provide 50 percent of the state's drinking water, support 38,000 jobs, help clean our air by filtering out pollution, and draw millions of visitors each year to hike, fish, ski, picnic, view wildlife, and otherwise enjoy our forest lands.

Four years ago, the Obama Administration announced new planning standards to guide how America's national forests will be managed and protected into the future. Three national forests in California — the Inyo, Sequoia and Sierra — were chosen by the Forest Service to be among the first in the nation to go through the new planning process. What happens in California on these three forests will set the precedent, for better or worse, for how the agency manages other national forests for decades to come. The new forest plans were released as drafts on May 27, 2016, for public review and comment.

Unfortunately, though the draft forest plans do contain some important wildlife and wildland protections, they fall short of the mark in many ways. A few examples of what they fail to provide are: (1) measurable standards for protecting key recreation areas and facilities;



Looking east toward Deep Springs Valley and across Deep Springs North — a potential new wilderness area on the Inyo National Forest. PHOTO: Todd Vogel.

(2) adequate safeguards for rare and vulnerable species like the California spotted owl, Pacific fisher, black-backed woodpecker, and California golden trout; (3) recommended wilderness status for many key wildlands on each of the three national forests; and (4) science-based limits on salvage logging and snag removal after fires.

With regard to fire management, the Forest Service also has a great opportunity to create new plans better reflecting advanced scientific thinking. For example, using fire as a natural process, instead of artificially suppressing it, can improve forest health while better protecting human communities.

**What you can do.** Now is our time to get it right. You can have your voice heard by attending public meetings and writing a comment to the Forest Service before the 90-day comment period is over at the end of August. Please do your part by asking the Forest Service to

## Update

### Gold Butte National Monument?

BY CHRISTIAN GERLACH, SIERRA CLUB OUR WILD AMERICA NATIONAL ORGANIZER

Our Wild America Campaign has been hard at work collecting petition signatures, holding meetings, and activating communities to protect Nevada's and America's #GrandCanyonHeritage. Now more than ever we are closer to another two National Monument designations, Gold Butte or "Mah'ha Ga-do" (Gold Butte in its native Southern Paiute name) and the proposed Greater Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument.



Martin Luther King day of service at Gold Butte.

Over the past few months, I've been working hand in hand with volunteers and activists like Fawn Douglas, of the Las Vegas Band of Paiute, and Tygel Pinto, local musician, to collect petition signatures and engage the public at dozens of events. The support we witness at these events echoes the recent calls by Senator Reid and Dina Titus to protect Gold Butte as a monument. With their support, we will most certainly see a designation before the end of the year.

It's no wonder there is such support for the area: Mah'ha Ga-do is not only the ancestral home of the Southern Paiute, a sanctuary for wildlife, and the last vestiges of a dark sky region, but is also among the most beautiful examples Mojave Desert yet to be fully

safeguard the health and beauty of these three national forests.

Here is the public meeting schedule:

- **August 1.** Inyo National Forest Public Meeting, Cerro Coso College, Mammoth Lakes, CA, 6p-8p
- **August 2.** Inyo National Forest Public Meeting, Cerro Coso College, Bishop, CA, 6p-8p
- **August 3.** Sequoia National Forest Public Meeting, Porterville, CA, 6p-8p
- **August 4.** Sierra National Forest Public Meeting, Clovis, CA, 6p-8p

**For more info.** Sierra Club's Eastern Sierra Organizer, Fran Hunt, is based in Bishop, CA. Please contact her for additional information, such as fact sheets and sample comment letters, as well as information on the strengths and weaknesses of the Forest Service's proposals ([fran.hunt@sierraclub.org](mailto:fran.hunt@sierraclub.org), 703 424 3143). If you'd like to review the (lengthy) draft forest plans, Fran will send you a link (too long to publish here).

You may also provide public comments by contacting the Forest Service at: [r5planrevision@fs.fed.us](mailto:r5planrevision@fs.fed.us).

recognized in Southern Nevada.

On the work to protect the proposed Greater Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument, we have a bit more to do in Nevada. This monument seeks to protect 1.7 million acres of watersheds that drain into the Grand Canyon and the Colorado River from the uranium mining just a stone's throw away from Grand Canyon National Park.

Sierra Club's efforts are certainly moving forward, but the majority of that support has come out of our Grand Canyon Chapter. We could use the help of Toiyabe Chapter members to push this project over the finish line with calls to President Obama's office (see info in What You Can Do, below).

Unfortunately, there is a lot of misinformation being pushed out by a well-funded opposition, but with your letters and calls we can dispel the lies and protect what we have left of Our Wild America.

**What you can do.** Please contact the White House about Gold Butte's status.

The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500  
Phone: 202-456-1111  
Online contact form:

[www.whitehouse.gov/contact/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/)



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



## A Sierra Club volunteer in New York City

BY TINA NAPPE

THE SIERRA CLUB SERVICE TRIP description was inviting. "You will be volunteering in the last remaining natural forest in New York State," the promo read. Located in the New York Botanical Garden, we could tour the 250 acre garden, visit the annual orchid show, and enjoy the acres of daffodils.

As a satisfied customer of previous



Sierra Club service trips in Point Reyes, Kauai, and New Orleans, this urban trip was irresistible. Annually, the Sierra Club offers three service trips to New York City. The other two are to Pelham-Barstow Plantation and to Riverside Park. Anticipating a leisurely time, I was surprised and subsequently worn out by the pace of the trip.

The old growth forest looked a bit wimpy to me. The oak, black cherry and birch trees were thin and surrounded by deep piles of leaves. Once called the "Eastern hemlock forest," the few remaining hemlocks were

diseased and likely to disappear. An old tree, we were told, was 200 years. By my standards this seemed young. A 1000-year-old tree in the West is respectably old.

Our work in the forest was to remove two invasive species: a dandelion-like flower, carpeting the lawns and invading the old growth forest and a ranunculus called "lesser celandine." The entire plant had to be removed and bagged. Another invasive species was Virginia creeper, a member of the grape family.

Unfortunately, over 100 native species have been lost through hurricanes, drought, storms, invasive species, and human impacts like walking. To keep native species intact requires keeping the public on trails (deer are fenced out), vigilance against invasive insects, plants, and other blights. A hands off approach does not work. (To visit the Thain Family Forest online, go to <<http://www.nybg.org/gardens/thain-family-forest/index.php#>>.)

We stayed at the Hi-Youth Hostel, built in the 1880s, but now with a modern interior. Our leaders provided walking tours, options for plays or music in the evening and, of course, two days off for exploration.

And there was exercise. One elevator for 600 people at the Hi-Youth Hostel meant that the 18 of us used stairs many times a day to our third floor rooms and for accessing the subway, which was often two floors down. The closest subway exit to the forest park entrance was eight blocks; the work sites were farther in. We appreciated the reality of a "walk-able city". I highly recommend Sierra Club volunteer service travel.

## DESALINATION FOR NEVADA . . .

continued from page 1

well as through smart growth instead of the current urban sprawl growth pattern in S. Nevada.

SNWA pipeline proposal problems. A roundtable discussion among participants during the lunch break continued these discussions. Also considered were deficiencies of



Participants in desalination conference held in Las Vegas this spring. PHOTO: Dennis Ghiglieri.

the current Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) proposal which not only pits urban Nevadans against rural Nevadans, but is extremely expensive (\$15.7B and increasing costs). The proposal would cause significant harm to the environment and the rural Nevada and tribal economies in Eastern Nevada and Utah.

Desalination vs the SNWA pipeline. Inventors and environmentalists, Tom Manaugh and Said Majdi, co-founders of the Integral Scientific Institute, explained how using a systems approach (and also Said's engineering expertise) has resulted in their MIT award-winning proposal to meet future So. NV water needs through ocean water desalination and renewable solar energy instead of the SNWA pipeline project. The Institute seeks to develop environmentally sus-

tainable and practical solutions to problems in the water-food-energy-transportation-climate nexus. Using new thinking for humans to survive in the future, the Institute focuses its solutions on underused resources. For Nevada, the solution would utilize

inexhaustible ocean water, unlimited solar energy and the underused energy distribution infrastructure at Hoover Dam, while preserving limited rural groundwater for community and environmental needs.

Conference conclusion. Great Basin Water Network board member, Rick Spilsbury, concluded the conference with an historical overview of water issues in Southern and rural Nevada and suggestions for confronting the complicated political and technical options faced by the communities dependent upon the Colorado River and Nevada's limited water resources.

Conference presentations are posted on the GBWN website: <[http://greatbasinwaternetwork.org/desal\\_conference-2016.htm](http://greatbasinwaternetwork.org/desal_conference-2016.htm)>.

## The Black Rock experience: So much to do!

BY TINA NAPPE

FOR SOMEONE UNACCUSTOMED to the desert and concerned about safety,, the Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon, Emigrant Trail National Conservation Area of 2000 may seem too dangerous or too distant to attract interest. Three hours from Reno, the largest population center, "The Black Rock" as it is fondly called, is sometimes left to the 4-wheelers, motorcyclists, rocket launcher, or the 70,000 "burners" who attend Burning Man.

Black Rock, has found a way to encourage the general public to visit. This is accomplished through two primary events: The Black Rock Rendezvous (last weekend in May) and Public Lands Day (in September). For both events, BLM partners with Friends of Nevada Wilderness and Friends of Black Rock. At the Rendezvous, Nevada Outdoor School provides programs for the kids. (Note: the kids won the competition for both dessert and side dish in the Dutch Oven cook-off.)

The Rendezvous offers tours and vol-



Walking Past the Danger Sign at Double Hot Spring. The sign says, "175° water." Photo: Tina Nappe.

Yet "Being in the Black Rock" is a special experience. Dare one say that life is not complete without travelling at least a few miles off the 120-mile Lassen-Applegate Trail and appreciating the hardships of the pioneers who first travelled it? Or standing in the middle of the playa and enjoying the space around you. (Unfortunately, silence is become rare.) Or visiting the three key hot springs -- Trego, Black Rock and Double Hot -- recognizing how little water is available. The first spring is warm; the last is boiling hot. Or maybe you want to visit Soldier Meadows Hot Springs and see the Soldier Meadows dace, which lives nowhere else in the world.

Fortunately, the Bureau of Land Management, the agency administering the

unteer opportunities. This year, the first morning was devoted to a series of short presentations on the history, natural resources, and uses of the Black Rock.

A favorite presentation and subsequent viewing was on rocketry. There were tours to the hot springs and an opal mine. A highlight is participating in the Dutch oven cook off competition either as contestant or an appreciative consumer.

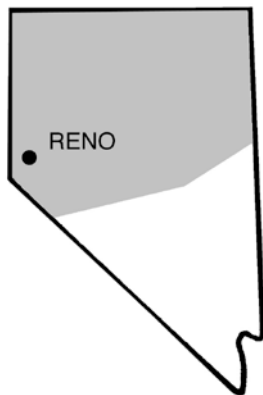
This year's service trips were to clean up the Visitor's Station near Gerlach and trash at Trego Hot Spring. On Public lands Day, campsites have been created or cleaned up or an old cabin restored.

The Sierra Club's David Book sometimes offers outings during the year; watch for them and "book one". You will not be disappointed.





# Great Basin Gatherings



## Great Basin Group

### Message from the Chair

#### Summer events!

BY KATY CHRISTENSEN, GROUP CHAIR

**OUTINGS.** The wilds of our beautiful Great Basin are calling! Time to hit the trails in earnest. The hikes offered by the GB will include 60 – 80 hikes during summer and early fall months and increased evening hikes -- we hope up to four weekly evening hikes throughout the summer months. New hike leaders have been trained as well. Check for details in Outings listings beginning on this page. Check for frequent updates at [www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Hiking-Reno](http://www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Hiking-Reno). Watch for info regarding the annual GB Group members end-of-the-season picnic also!

**MONTHLY PROGRAMS.** The GB program schedule will kick off a new year of programs on **September 9, 2016**, with Steve Wheatcraft, retired UNR hydrologist and amateur photographer. He will show slides of the Arctic. Watch for info regarding the GB Meet the Candidates event in October also! 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, September through May. See Outings listings for details. **NOTE: There will be a very special program on September 8! See Page 3 for writeup.**

**GET KIDS OUTDOORS.** Spring GKO programs supported by the Great Basin Group included an event in May for Rita Cannon Elementary School K-6 students. They and their families participated in a field trip to explore Galena Creek area forests and ecosystems. See additional highlights of GKO events in an article (with photos), beginning on this page.

**CONSERVATION.** Bins for collecting organic waste from large downtown Reno businesses will soon be sporting Sierra Club logos after recent Toiyabe Chapter approval to purchase the bins. Reno's Master Plan revision continues to see input from many Great Basin Group members and reflects this with conservation commitments. This "Re-imagine Reno" exercise puts Reno on a more sustainable course.

## 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/>.

#### JULY 1-4 (FRIDAY-MONDAY)

**Fourth of July, Black Rock Desert.** This will be really busy weekend on the Playa, as many Burning Man attendees use this as a shakedown trip. No specific plans yet, but probably meet in Reno Thursday eve, head up to Black Rock, camp on edge of Playa with Friends of Black Rock members. Probably visit area hot springs, Emigrant Trail! Primitive Camping, bring all supplies, shovel for personal needs! Ham Radio License -- be sure to bring your radio! Leader very familiar with area! Dogs on leash, be prepared to pick up after them. Primitive camping, bring shovel for personal needs or we may have port-a-potti. Sign-up after 6/15! DOK. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.

#### JULY 5 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

**Tuesday Evening Hike.** These are planned to accommodate most hikers, regardless of condition. Moderate pace, usually 2-4 mi, under 600 ft gain. Conservation issues, as appropriate, will be highlighted on our walks. Trip location announced on MeetUp (<http://www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Hiking-Reno/events/calendar/>) by Sunday eve before

Tuesday hike. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461, [vonseg1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vonseg1@sbcglobal.net)). Easy.

#### JULY 6 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

**Wednesday Conditioning Hike.** Rated mod. strenuous to get in shape for more challenging outings in summer. About 4-5 mi, may have over 1000 ft of gain, mod. fast pace, about 2 hr. Not for beginners, but good for folks who are ready to step up pace. We'll point out flora or fauna sighted along the way. Bring plenty of water, good trail shoes, clothing for weather conditions, and note that trekking poles are suitable on many of our hikes. Well-mannered dogs welcome on hikes, but some trails have leash laws or there may be snakes. Waiver to be signed at trailhead. Please check out our meeting location at MeetUp (<http://www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Hiking-Reno/events/calendar/>). DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin ([ladyhiker1@att.net](mailto:ladyhiker1@att.net)). Co-Leader: Jim Call ([freneticmarmot@gmail.com](mailto:freneticmarmot@gmail.com)). Mod. Strenuous.

#### JULY 7 (THURSDAY) 5:30P

**Moderate Evening Conditioning**

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/>



### Great Basin Peak Section News A peak birthday!

BY SHARON MARIE WILCOX



WHERE IS THE BEST PLACE for a birthday celebration? On a peak, of course! In April, Sue Wyman planned a hike up Thisbee Benchmark for her birthday, to be followed by a feeding frenzy back at the trailhead.

GBPS members and friends headed up Thisbee BM (5971 ft) on a cloudy, gray morning that threatened rain. We reached the summit, where we could look down to the

Truckee River Canyon and Derby Dam on one side and USA Parkway vicinity on the other. We were happy that the rain only drizzled a bit on the return hike down but otherwise didn't interfere with the birthday celebration. Numerous wildflowers, horned toads, and a Great Basin rattlesnake added to the day's celebration.

A peak, food, and friends certainly equates to a winning birthday. Thanks for the fun day, Sue! (Please see photo on next page.)

**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>.

### Kids excited about outdoors

BY SUE JACOX, SUEJACOX@NVBELL.NET

Happy kids had the time of their lives this spring thanks to our Great Basin Group's continued "Get Kids Outdoors" funding initiative. Rita Cannan students enjoyed a family hike at Galena Creek on May 21, led by Sierra Club hike leaders. Hiking in the forest was a first-time experience for most of them.

Two Robert Mitchell sixth grade classes spent two nights and three days on the shore of Lake Tahoe in May with Great Basin Outdoor School hiking at Spooner Lake. The kids studied aboard a Tahoe research boat, learning astronomy, geology, and life sciences — and entertaining one another with songs and skits.

These are both schools where the need is great, and teachers, parents, and children sincerely appreciated the support from our "Get Kids Outdoors" fund that helped make the trips possible.

Robert Mitchell teacher, Kara Murphy, wrote, "The smiles are so huge! The excitement the students have while they are learning is palpable!" A sixth grade girl who chose the nature name "Cardinal" wrote, "Going to camp was



Lu Belancio and other Sierra Club volunteers gave Rita Cannan families a day to remember at Galena Creek Park.

an amazing experience for me. I liked being able to learn how to take care of the environment while having fun." A smaller group of students involved with recycling initiatives at their schools traveled to the coast where they visited the Monterey Bay Aquarium and went tidepooling.

Please see KIDS GET OUTDOORS, page 9.

#### 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	Open		
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



Summit of Snowflower Mountain—Bill Bowers, Linda Blust, Sharon Marie Wilcox, Lu Belancio, Gretchen Nelson, and Bob Ralston. PHOTO: Sharon Marie Wilcox.

**Hike.** Get in shape after work with an 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 on Meet Up site (<http://www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Hiking-Reno/events/calendar/>). DL. Leader: Jeanne Kettler (775-843-9828). Co-Leader: Yvonne Jerome. Mod. Easy.

## JULY 7 (THURSDAY) 8A

**Showers Lake/Carson Pass Day Hike.** A 9 mi loop, via Meiss Pass, with very scenic views. Out through Upper Truckee watershed, usually with profusion of wildflowers in meadows. Gain, 2000 ft. Some history of area. Drivers need \$5 cash for parking fee at trailhead. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Mod. Strenuous.

## JULY 9 (SATURDAY) 8:30A

**Loch Leven Lakes Day Hike.** From Big Bend area, other side of Donner summit, to Middle Loch Leven, for nice lunch, swimming spot. Learn about railroad. About 8 mi. RT, 1000 ft gain. DL. Leader: Craig Mastos (775-348-1862; maquis@softcom.net). Moderate.

## JULY 12 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

**Tuesday Evening Hike.** For details, please see trip description for July 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461, vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Easy.

## JULY 13 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

**Wednesday Conditioning Hike.** For details, please see July 6. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

## JULY 14 (THURSDAY) 8A

**Elephant's Back/Carson Pass Day Hike.** Visit Frog, Winnemucca, Round Top Lakes on this scenic hike. Scale Elephant's Back, enjoy views of high Sierra. About 9.5 mi, 1700 ft gain possible. Possibly return by Woods Lake including hiking on portion of emigrant wagon train route, viewing highway markers from two different more recent eras. Wild flowers should be in full display. Learn some history of area. Significant portions will be off-trail. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Mod. Strenuous.

## JULY 14 (THURSDAY) 5:30P

**Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.**

Please see July 7 for details. DL. Leader: Jeanne Kettler (775-843-9828). Co-Leader: Yvonne Jerome. Mod. Easy.

## JULY 19 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

**Tuesday Evening Hike.** For details, please see trip description for July 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461, vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Easy.

## JULY 20 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

**Wednesday Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 6 for details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com).

Mod. Strenuous.

## JULY 21 (THURSDAY) 5:30P

**Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.**

Please see July 7 for details. DL. Leader: Jeanne Kettler (775-843-9828). Co-Leader: Yvonne Jerome. Mod. Easy.

## JULY 23 (SATURDAY) 8:30A

**Lola Montez Lake Day Hike.** Hike to lower lake only, in area of Castle Creek, from other side of Soda Springs. About 7 mi RT, 800 ft gain. Some trail is dusty,

*Great Basin Peaks Section Members and Friends Celebrating Sue's Birthday.* PHOTO: Sharon Marie Wilcox.



some on roadway. Creek should be low enough for easy crossing. DL. Leader: Craig Mastos (775-348-1862; maquis@softcom.net). Moderate.

## JULY 26 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

**Tuesday Evening Hike.** For details, please see trip description for July 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461, vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Easy.

## JULY 27 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

**Wednesday Conditioning Hike.** For details, please see July 6. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

## JULY 28 (THURSDAY) 5:30P

**Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Please see

July 7 for details. DL. Leader: Rob Jarrett (jarrett102@gmail.com). Co-Leader: Kim Glasgow. Mod. Easy.

## AUGUST 2 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

**Tuesday Evening Hike.** For details, please see trip description for July 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461,



Lu, Bill H., Linda, Mary, Gretchen, Bill B., Kathy, Robin, Bob, and Ray heading into the Mount Rose Wilderness. PHOTO: Sharon Marie Wilcox.

vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Easy.

## AUGUST 3 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

**Wednesday Conditioning Hike.** For details, please see July 6. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

## AUGUST 4 (THURSDAY) 5:30P

**Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** For details, please see July 7. DL. Leader: Jeanne Kettler (775-843-9828). Co-Leader: Rob Jarrett. Mod. Easy.

## AUGUST 9 (TUESDAY) 5:30P

**Tuesday Evening Hike.** For details, please see trip description for July 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461, vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Easy.

## AUGUST 10 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P

**Wednesday Conditioning Hike.** For details, please see July 6. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@

Please see GB CALENDAR, page 11.

## Snowflower Mountain (10,243 ft)

BY SHARON MARIE WILCOX

Section members and friends repeated a hike to Snowflower Mountain in the Carson Range. We started at Mount Rose Wilderness Boundary in Thomas Creek Canyon on a sunny autumn day. The road to the trailhead is usually rough — a high clearance vehicle is best, especially if there is water in the rocky creek crossing over the road.

The trail has been improved and re-routed since we hiked up in 2009. This good trail heads to the ridgeline, where you depart from the trail to follow the ridge south about a half-mile to the rocky summit.

In autumn the aspens make this a colorful late season hike, but no matter when you hike this trail you will see the rock formation that locals call Rainbow Rock. In the right lighting it is rainbow striped and a great photo subject.

Though this peak had been mislabeled on some maps as Sunflower



Rainbow Rock in the Mount Rose Wilderness. PHOTO: Sharon Marie Wilcox.

Peak, a query to Jack Hursh, executive secretary of the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names, confirmed that it was named by Alvin McLane and is officially Snowflower Mountain.

So what is a "snow flower" or "snow plant" (*Sarcodes sanguinea*)? This red-colored, alien

looking plant comes up after snow melts in conifer forests. It doesn't have chlorophyll and derives nutrition from underground fungi. For detailed information check out the Botanical Society of America at: <http://botany.org>.

Because we weren't visiting in the right season, we missed the peak's

## KIDS GET OUTDOORS...

continued from page 8

Your GKO contributions at our holiday "Giving Tree", your participation in our "Gear Up" sales of gently-used outdoor gear, and your checks throughout the year, help make these experiences possible for children who have little or no contact with nature without our help. Thank you for your continued support!

When your birthday comes, think about following the example of one of our own Great Basin Group members, whom we sadly just lost to cancer. Barbara Allain was a retired Washoe County teacher with a huge heart for helping the most underprivileged of children. She came up with the idea of designating her birthday as a good time to remember making an annual gift to help the most needy of children get outdoors. We miss you, Barb! Help carry on her legacy by remembering these children.

DEADLINE!

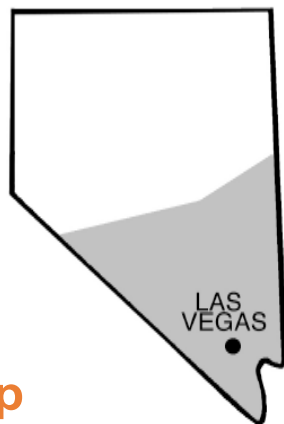
SEPTEMBER 1

FOR OCT - NOV - DEC 15-



# The Mojave Monitor

## Southern Nevada Group



### Group News

#### Monthly ExCom Meetings

**Wednesdays: July 6 & September 7 (dark in August)**

Open to all members, the monthly meetings of our Executive Committee (ExCom) are held on the first Wednesday of each month, unless otherwise noted.

We meet from 5:30 to 8pm 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 July 6 or September 7;** dark in August.

**NEW OUTINGS LEADER!** We are excited to announce that we have a newly certified outings leader as of this quarter. She is Michele Addington, who comes to us from France via California. Michele is highly experienced, tremendously motivated, and looking forward to leading some fun excursions this summer. Look for her scheduled outings in the adjacent calendar or online at [www.sierraclub.org/toiyabe/southern-nevada](http://www.sierraclub.org/toiyabe/southern-nevada).

**NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION.** Also, Membership Chair Kobbe Shaw will be hosting our new member orientation on **Tuesday, July 12**. Even if you are an existing member, feel free to join us as we welcome our newest members at the Sierra Club office at 6:30pm. It's a great opportunity to introduce a friend to the Group, too. Light refreshments

will be served.

**RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!** And finally, and most importantly, the Sierra Club operates solely on the generosity of our donors and members. If you are a member, thank you, and remember that your membership expires one year after you purchased it. Please double check to make sure you are a member in good standing. We really need your support! You can renew by mail or go to <http://tinyurl.com/renew-sng> to renew securely online. Also, there is a membership coupon on Page 12 of every Trails, Memberships are what makes the Sierra Club work!

#### New Member Orientation Tuesday, July 12

This gathering is open not only to new and prospective members but also to current members with an interest in learning more about the Sierra Club, the Toiyabe Chapter and the Southern Nevada Group. We will be meeting for one hour, starting from 6:30pm at the Sierra Club Office. Bring a friend! Light refreshments will be served. Info: [kobbeshaw@gmail.com](mailto:kobbeshaw@gmail.com).

#### SOUTHERN NEVADA GROUP

##### OFFICERS

Chair	Taj Ainlay*	702-576-6815	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	Open		
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*	702-576-6815	tajainlay@aol.com
Publicity	Open		
Transportation	Jane Feldman*		feldman.jane@gmail.com
Webmaster	Taj Ainlay*	702-906-5741	tajainlay@aol.com

\* ExCom member

## 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](http://www.sierraclub.org/toiyabe/southern-nevada). You can also visit us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/sierraclub.sng](http://www.facebook.com/sierraclub.sng), and please "like" our page.

#### JUNE 27 (MONDAY)

**Upper Bristlecone Trail, Lee Canyon, Spring Mtns 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, reaching elevation of 10,000 ft before looping back. Hike through strange -- some say enchanted -- Bristlecone forest. How old are bristlecone pines? Why did President Roosevelt stop construction of a road? This is my favorite hike in Mt. Charleston and worth doing more than once a summer. Leader: geologist, Nick Saines ([greatunc@aol.com](mailto:greatunc@aol.com), 702-896-4049). Level 4.

#### JULY 4 (MONDAY, 4TH OF JULY)

**Big Falls, Kyle Canyon, Spring Mtns NRA (aka Mt Charleston).** About 4 mi RT, 500 ft gain, strenuous. Hike to Big Falls, a 100 ft waterfall and one of the treasures of Spring Mtns. Examine possible glacial till exposure on way up. Perfect time of year to hike our beautiful High Country trails. 2 mi of Boulder & log scrambling unless there is thick snow. Have Spring Mountains been glaciated? If so, what geological features would we expect to find? Leader: geologist Nick Saines ([greatunc@aol.com](mailto:greatunc@aol.com), 702-896-4049). Level 4.

#### JULY 11 (MONDAY) 5P

**Calico Basin, Red Rock NCA.** About 3 mi, 350 ft gain, easy. Much of this hike is classic desert, with no shade. Discuss formation of Calico Basin rock geology, wildlife, flowers, birds. Bring 2+ liters water, hat/sunscreen, snack, hiking poles. Bathroom pits at parking lot. Max 15 persons. Participants should be able to walk 3+ mi at a pace as slow as the slowest person. Children welcome. No dogs. Meet at Calico Basin Red Springs Picnic Area. Leader: Michele Addington ([travel92037@gmail.com](mailto:travel92037@gmail.com), 858-334-8019). Level 1½.

#### JULY 12 (TUESDAY) 6P

**Cottonwood Canyon Park (Summerlin).** About 2.8 mi, 250 ft gain, easy. Lightly trafficked loop trail near Las Vegas featuring beautiful wildflowers. Discuss formation of Canyon and water flows. Good for all skill levels. Trail primarily used for hiking and walking, accessible year-round. Dogs okay but must stay on leash. Please bring 2 liters



On April 6 we let our 4-legged friends (horses and mules) do the hiking as we took a horseback ride at Cowboy Trail Rides in Red Rock Canyon. The morning ride was led by Keith Wheeler. There were fabulous views of Red Rock Canyon escarpment.

water, hat/sunscreen, flashlight, camera (area has abundant small wildlife). Park at Costco, 801 Pavilion Center. Meet at NE corner of Costco parking lot closest to Pavilion Center Dr. for beginning of hike. Leader: Michele Addington ([travel92037@gmail.com](mailto:travel92037@gmail.com), 858-334-8019). Level 1½.

#### JULY 24 - 30 (SUNDAY-SATURDAY)

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park Summer Service Project.** Daily outing details vary. Join us in this National Park Service Centennial Year for a week of service in our nation's most-visited national park. For details please watch our Video Invite: <https://youtu.be/k7EN2ZWcs14>. Leader: Par Rasmusson ([parasmusson@gmail.com](mailto:parasmusson@gmail.com), 702-215-9119). Level varies.

#### JULY 25 - 27 (MONDAY - WEDNESDAY)

**Laguna Beach Beach Break.** Moderate difficulty. Escape heat for a beach break on beautiful California coast. Walk along Laguna Beach and in gorgeous Heisler Park; eat meals at oceanside restaurants. Visit an art museum, the Pageant of Masters (optional), and intertidal Marine Preserve. Also relax on beach. How does tide impact ecology? We leave Monday morning, return Wednesday evening. Two nights in motel in Irvine. Leader: geologist Nick Saines ([greatunc@aol.com](mailto:greatunc@aol.com), 702-896-4049). Level 2.

#### AUGUST 2 (TUESDAY) 5P

**Calico Basin, Red Rock NCA.** About 3 mi, 350 ft gain, easy. Much of this hike is classic desert with no shade. Discuss formation of Calico Basin rock geology, wildlife, flowers, birds. Bring 2+ liters water, hat/sunscreen, snack, hiking poles. Bathroom pits at parking

Please see SN CALENDAR, page 11.



## S. Nevada Group Calendar

continued from page 10

lot. Max 15 persons, participant should be able to walk 3+ mi, pace is as slow as slowest person. Children welcome. No dogs. Meet at Calico Basin Red Springs Picnic Area, Calico Basin Rd & Calico Dr. Leader: Michele Addington (travel92037@gmail.com, 858-334-8019). Level 1½.

**AUGUST 9 (TUESDAY) 6P**  
**Cottonwood Canyon Park (Summerlin).** About 2.8 mi, 250 ft gain, easy. Lightly trafficked loop trail near Las Vegas featuring beautiful wildflowers. Discuss formation of Canyon and water flows. Good for all skill levels. Trail primarily used for hiking and walk-

ing, accessible year-round. Dogs okay but must stay on leash. Please bring 2 liters water, hat/sunscreen, flashlight and camera (area has abundant small wildlife). Park at Costco, 801 Pavilion Center. Meet at NE corner of Costco parking lot closest to Pavilion Center Dr for beginning of hike. Leader: Michele Addington (travel92037@gmail.com, 858-334-8019). Level 1½.

**AUGUST 9 – 11**  
**(TUESDAY – THURSDAY)**  
**Utah Shakespeare Festival & SW Utah Hiking, Cedar City, UT.** Mod. strenuous in Cedar Breaks due to altitude (10,000 ft), moderate in Snow Can-

yon. One of the pleasures of summer is the tradition of attending renowned Shakespeare Festival. Play of your choice on Tues & Wed nights. Play Orientation and Green Show each night. Check <www.bard.org>, under Calendar for these dates. On Wednesday, hike in Cedar Breaks National Park. On Thursday, hike in beautiful Snow Canyon (where black volcanics are on top of red sandstone) on our way back to Las Vegas. Leader: geologist Nick Saines (greatunc@aol.com, 702-896-4049). Level 2½-3.

**AUGUST 22 (MONDAY)**  
**Stanley B. Springs, Spring Mtns NRA**

(aka Mt. Charleston). Great Kyle Canyon hiking trail with variety of forested terrain from gentle to steep. About 1000 ft gain, 3 mi RT, mod. strenuous. Why does a spring emerge so high up on mountain? Leader: geologist Nick Saines (greatunc@aol.com, 702-896-4049). Level 3½.

**SEPTEMBER 5**  
**(MONDAY, LABOR DAY)**  
**Glacial Geology of Spring Mtns.** Mod. strenuous due to altitude. Whether or not Spring Mountains have been glaciated has long been debated by geologists. Join geologist Nick Saines and

Please see SN CALENDAR, page 12.

gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

**AUGUST 11 (THURSDAY) 8A**  
**5 Lakes, 2 Snowbanks Day Hike in Carson Pass Area.** Hike around Frog, Winnemucca, Round Top, Emigrant, Caples Lakes. About 12 mi, ONE WAY, with vehicle shuttle. Gain 1500 ft with some x-c/boulder scrambling. Learn bit about history of emigrant wagon trail. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Mod. Strenuous.

**AUGUST 11 (THURSDAY) 5:30P**  
**Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** For details, please see July 7. DL. Leader: Rob Jarrett (jarrettr102@gmail.com). Co-Leader: Kim Glasgow Mod. Easy

**AUGUST 13 (SATURDAY) 8:30A**  
**Donner to Old Hwy 40 Day Hike.** Beautiful scenery, vistas, on this 7-mi hike! On PCT with very gradual gain of about 600 ft, rated moderate. Bring plenty of water, lunch, dress for weather, any possibilities. We'll find a scenic lunch spot. Meet off McCarren and MaeAnne in Kohl's/McDonald's parking lot. Hike could change due to weather conditions. DL. Leader: Connie Webb (772-4187). Co-Leader: Jeanne Kettler (775-843-9828). Moderate.

**AUGUST 14 (SUNDAY) 8:30A**  
**Loch Leven Lakes Day Hike.** This hike switchbacks through granite, is mostly forested. About 6.5 mi RT, with a little over 1000 ft gain. Lakes are great for swimming, enjoying lunches. Learn about flora, fauna on way. Trip limit: 14. Only well-mannered dogs allowed. Leader: Holly Coughlin (775-432-9948; ladyhiker@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Moderate.

**AUGUST 16 (TUESDAY) 5:30P**  
**Tuesday Evening Hike.** For details, please see trip description for July 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461, vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Easy.

**AUGUST 17 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P**  
**Wednesday Conditioning Hike.** For details, please see July 6. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

**AUGUST 18 (THURSDAY) 5:30P**  
**Moderate Moonlight Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 7 for details. DOK. Leader: Ridge Walker Co-Leader: Jeannie Kettler. Easy.

**AUGUST 18 (THURSDAY) 8A**

## Great Basin Group CALENDAR

continued from page 9

**Red Lake Peak at Carson Pass Day Hike.** Two peaks over 10,000 ft. Learn some history of area. At least 2000 ft of gain, about 6 mi, mostly off trail. Wildflower viewing. For experienced, conditioned hikers. Bad weather cancels. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Strenuous.

**AUGUST 23 (TUESDAY) 5:30P**  
**Tuesday Evening Hike.** For details, please see trip description for July 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461, vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Easy.

**AUGUST 24 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30P**  
**Wednesday Conditioning Hike.** For details, please see July 6. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

**AUGUST 25 (THURSDAY) 5:30P**  
**Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 7 for details. DOK. Leader: Ridge Walker Co-Leader: Rob Jarrett (jarrettr102@gmail.com). Mod. Easy.

**AUGUST 30 (TUESDAY) 5:30P**  
**Tuesday Evening Hike.** For details, please see July 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461, vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Easy.

**AUGUST 30 (TUESDAY) 5:30P**  
**Wednesday Conditioning Hike.** For details, please see July 6. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

**SEPTEMBER 1 (THURSDAY) 5:30P**  
**Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 7 for details. DL. Leader: Ridge Walker Co-Leader: Jeannie Kettler. Mod. Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 6 (TUESDAY) 5:30P**  
**Tuesday Evening Hike.** For details, please see trip description for July 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461, vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 7**  
**(WEDNESDAY) 5:30P**  
**Wednesday Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 6 for details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@

gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

**SEPTEMBER 8 (THURSDAY)**  
**Monthly Program Meeting.** A very special program with Steve Wheatcraft: "Arctic Light." Please see Page 3 for details of this excellent entertainment! Place: Bartley Ranch Center. Time: 7 pm. Easy!

**SEPTEMBER 8 (THURSDAY) 5:30P**  
**Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 7 for details. DL. Leader: Ridge Walker. Co-Leader: Rob Jarrett (jarrettr102@gmail.com). Mod. Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 13 (TUESDAY) 5:30P**  
**Tuesday Evening Hike.** For details, please see trip description for July 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461, vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 14**  
**(WEDNESDAY) 5:30P**  
**Wednesday Conditioning Hike.** Please refer to trip description on July 6th for details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

**SEPTEMBER 15 (THURSDAY) 7P**  
**Moderate Moonlight Conditioning Hike.** Please see July 7 for details. ND. Leader: Ridge Walker Co-Leader: Jeannie Kettler (775-843-9828). Mod. Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 15 (THURSDAY) 8A**  
**Thunder Mtn.** off Carson Pass Day Hike. About 7 mi, 2000 ft gain. An in-&-out hike. Scenic views along trail, especially on ridge line. Learn some history about area. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Mod. Strenuous.

**SEPTEMBER 18 (SUNDAY) 8:30A**  
**Marlett Lake Day Hike.** Begin at Spooner Lake Trailhead on nice, well maintained trail. About 10 mi RT through aspen forest (possibly turning by this time), and pines. Gain about 1000 ft. Lunch at lake. Parking fee/vehicle: \$6. Carpoolers share cost. Dogs need leashes for part of hike. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (775-432-9948; ladyhiker@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Moderate.

**SEPTEMBER 20 (TUESDAY) 5:30P**

**Tuesday Evening Hike.** For details, please see trip description for July 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461, vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 21**  
**(WEDNESDAY) 5:30P**  
**Wednesday Conditioning Hike.** For details, please see July 6. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

**SEPTEMBER 22 (THURSDAY) 8A**  
**Machado Post Piles near Carson Pass Day Hike.** Fire and ice. Existence of formation confirmed in 1990. Hexagonal basalt columns possibly millions of years older than Devils Postpile near Mammoth. "Fire" was lava; "ice" was glaciers, evidenced by numerous large erratics, glacial striation. About 5 mi total in-&-out, with 800 ft gain. Not on trail. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Mod. Strenuous.

**SEPTEMBER 22 (THURSDAY) 5:30P**  
**Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Get in shape after work with an evening conditioning hike of 4-6 mi at brisk pace. Gain up to 1000 ft. Discover trails, learn about nature, geology in, around Truckee Meadows. More info at: Meet Up site. DL. Leader: Ridge Walker Co-Leader: Rob Jarrett (jarrettr102@gmail.com). Mod. Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 27 (TUESDAY) 5:30P**  
**Tuesday Evening Hike.** For details, please see trip description for July 5. DOK. Leader: David von Seggern (775-303-8461, vonseg1@sbcglobal.net). Easy.

**SEPTEMBER 28**  
**(WEDNESDAY) 5:30P**  
**Wednesday Conditioning Hike.** Please refer to trip description on July 6th for more details. This is usually our last scheduled Wednesday hike for year. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Moderate.

**SEPTEMBER 29 (THURSDAY) 5:30P**  
**Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike.** Get in shape after work with an evening conditioning hike of 4-6 mi at brisk pace. Gain up to 1000 ft. Discover trails, learn about nature, geology in, around Truckee Meadows. More info at: Meet Up site. DL. Leader: Ridge Walker Co-Leader: Jeannie Kettler (775-843-9828). Mod. Easy.



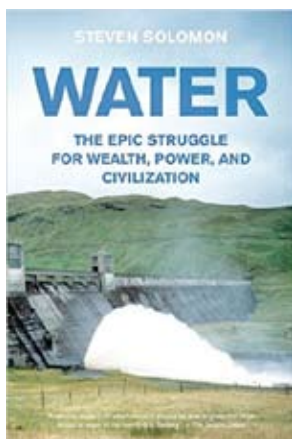
# Bookshelf

## WATER: THE EPIC STRUGGLE FOR WEALTH, POWER, & CIVILIZATION

By Steven Solomon

HarperCollins Publishers, 2011.

IF YOU WANT TO KNOW all about water usage, read this book. In this detailed, 500-page treatise, Steven Solomon, a New York Times reporter, puts water in its historical context. His case is convincing that water has played a major role in the rise of civilization, in the conflicts of nations, in transportation, and in daily lives. He argues effectively that those societies who mastered water management bested their rivals. In his own words: "That control and manipulation of water should be a pivotal axis of power and human achievement throughout history is hardly surprising."



trade and military action at sea. Management of rivers and streams was a key factor in the establishment of large, robust communities at the dawn of recorded history.

The last 1/4 of the book focuses on water today and in the future. Current usage of water is covered, as well as the stark, sometimes mortal, disparities in access to fresh water around the globe. He reinforces the oft-repeated axiom that the 20th century saw wars over oil but the 21st century will see wars over water.

The author bemoans the overallocation of the world's water resources to agricultural uses. "Generations of water resource underpricing and inefficient political management have led to colossal waste in every society's use of water...." This waste, as he explains, takes the form of gross waste of water while transporting and applying it, to its use on water-intensive crops -- which have practical and economic replacements using much less water -- and to the vast pumping of pristine fresh water from the Earth's aquifers at no cost to

Nearly 3/4 of the book is devoted to the history of water, and the book is on a par with some other sweeping historical tomes meant for the mass audience, such as *The Rise & Fall of the Great Powers*; *Guns, Germs, & Steel*; or *1491*. The author's research has been deep and thorough and brought many things to light that I was not aware of, for instance, the robust trading economies of the so-called Dark Ages. From the beginnings in Egypt and Mesopotamia, the author traces how water has been put to use on the continents and how it has enabled

# S. Nevada Group Calendar

continued from page 11

geologists from LV geology organizations on tour of possible glacial features in Spring Mtns. One mile hike to putative glacial till deposit in wash near Mary Jane Falls at elevation of 8300 ft, discussion of U-shape valley and hanging waterfalls in Kyle Canyon. Next, drive to possible glacial landforms in Lee Canyon. Leader: geologist Nick Saines (greatunc@aol.com, 702-896-4049). Level 3½.

**SEPTEMBER 6 (TUESDAY) 5P**

**Calico Basin, Red Rock NCA.** About 3 mi, 350 ft gain, easy. Much of this hike is classic desert with no shade. Discuss formation of Calico Basin rock geology, wildlife, flowers, birds. Bring 2+ liters water, hat/sunscreen, snack, hiking poles. Bathroom pits at parking lot. Max 15 persons. Participants should be able to walk 3+ mi at pace is as slow as slowest person. Children welcome. No dogs. Meet at Calico Basin Red Springs Picnic Area, Calico Basin Rd & Calico Dr. Leader: Michele Addington (travel92037@gmail.com, 858-334-8019). Level 1½.

**SEPTEMBER 9 (FRIDAY) 8 AM**

**Muffin Trail, outside Red Rock NCA.** About 8½ mi, 1200 ft gain, strenuous. Spectacular hike offering amazing views of Las Vegas. Much of this hike is classic desert with no shade. Please bring 1 gallon of water, hat/sunscreen. We will stop for lunch. No bathrooms. Maximum 12 persons. No Children, No dogs. Hiking poles recommended. Dress in layers. From W Charleston Blvd & 215, drive W on Charleston (Hwy 159). Pass turnoff into Scenic Loop Area, continue 1.1 mi to Horseback Rides parking lot on left (SE) side of road. Park here; this is trailhead. From other direction, trailhead is 1.2 mi north of Scenic Loop Road exit. Leader: Michele Addington (travel92037@gmail.com, 858-334-8019). Level 3.

**SEPTEMBER 15 - 18 (THURSDAY-SUNDAY)**

**Arches National Park Service Project.** Daily outing details vary. Join us as we work with Bureau of Land Management to clean up and maintain most popular hiking trail in Moab (UT) area. We'll be guests of BLM at Goose Island group campsite just across river from Arches National Park. On Fri-Sat, we'll be working on Negro Bill/Wm. Granstaff Trail. This 4.5 mi out-&-back trail follows a scenic stream and ends at Morning Glory Natural Bridge, which -- with a span of 243 ft -- makes it the sixth-longest natural rock span in U.S. Work will be somewhat strenuous, but very rewarding. Leader: Par Rasmusson (parasmusson@gmail.com, 702-215-9119). Level varies.

**SEPTEMBER 19 (MONDAY)**

**Red Spring Thrust Fault, Red Rock Canyon NCA.** About 3 mi RT, 500 ft gain, mod. strenuous. Back to Red Rock Canyon! Join geologist Nick on a hike to Red Spring Thrust Fault by way of Turtlehead Peak Trail. Red Spring Thrust Fault is part of Keystone Thrust System. Hike along fault, see interesting

petroglyphs, and hike through beautiful sandstone terrain, including a little slot canyon. This is one of my favorite hikes in Red Rock Canyon. How do we recognize a fault in field? Leader: geologist Nick Saines (greatunc@aol.com, 702-896-4049). Level 3.

**SEPTEMBER 27 (TUESDAY) 6P**

**Cottonwood Canyon Park (Summerlin).** About 2.8 mi, 250 ft gain, easy. Lightly trafficked loop trail near Las Vegas featuring beautiful wildflowers. Discuss formation of Canyon and water flows. Good for all skill levels. Trail primarily used for hiking and walking, accessible year-round. Dogs okay but must stay on leash. Please bring 2 liters water, hat/sunscreen, flashlight and camera (area has abundant small wildlife). Park at Costco, 801 Pavilion Center. Meet at NE corner of Costco parking lot closest to Pavilion Center Dr for beginning of hike. Leader: Michele Addington (travel92037@gmail.com, 858-334-8019). Level 1½.

**SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 2 (THURSDAY-SUNDAY)**

**Zion National Park Service Project.** Daily outing details vary. This year our annual autumn ZNP Service project will include two days (Fri and/or Sat) working with park botanists; one day we will be in park and one day at nursery/increase field. We'll be guests of the Park (no admission or campsite fees) at Watchman Campground. Work is generally not very strenuous, and always includes a tour of Zion's unique native nursery. Leader: Par Rasmusson (parasmusson@gmail.com, 702-215-9119). Level varies.

**DEADLINE!**

**SEPTEMBER 1**  
FOR OCT - NOV - DEC IS-



**Toiyabe Chapter ExCom Meeting**

**Saturday, 9 am**  
**July 16, 2016**  
**Mammoth Lakes, CA**

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.



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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

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