From the Chair

BY JEAN STOESS

ExCom Elections. It’s Chapter and Group ExCom election time, and we’re looking for candidates who want to get more involved in Sierra Club activities.

If you’re interested in a Toiyabe Chapter ExCom position, contact Launce Rake, Nominating Committee (NomCom) Chair for the Chapter or your Group Chair or Group NomCom Chair. All you need to do is submit a 150-word candidate’s statement to the appropriate NomCom Chair. Now is a good time to start thinking about that. See the Election Schedule on page 2 of this Trails issue.

This year, ballot materials will be inserted in the October-November-December Trails along with an envelope in which to return your voted ballot. The ballot will enable two members at the same address to vote using the single ballot included in the Trails.

New Chapter ExCom Member. Lisa Stillier was elected to the Chapter ExCom to replace Kristine Cunningham, who has moved to North Carolina.

Gift memberships. Can’t come up with a gift idea? Membership in the Sierra Club is a gift for birthdays, graduations, or other special occasions. And it keeps on giving – especially online, where it provides updated outings and environmental information. For a coupon to cut out, see page 12 of the Trails and inside Sierra magazine. You can also go to http://clubhouse.sierraclub.org/fundraising/membership/adkit/default.aspx for information about gifting someone a Sierra Club membership.

Deadline!

SEPT 1 for oct-nov-dec issue

TRAILS
JULY - AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2011

Fending off invaders
Quagga mussels & crayfish in Lake Tahoe

BY TINA NAPPE

The Nevada State Legislature is being asked to: (1) pull Nevada out of the Bi-State Compact with California and (2) approve the state’s first boat inspection fee.

In 2009 the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency established a mandatory boat inspection program at Lake Tahoe. AB167, sponsored by the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW), would establish a similar inspection program covering boat landings throughout Nevada. If approved as expected, and after going through the regulatory process, NDOW may establish fees sometime in late 2011 or 2012. And none too soon.

Quagga mussels were first identified in Lake Mead in 2007 and are spreading throughout the Lake. The fast-multiplying quagga clog pipes; keeping water intake and discharge pipes clear of quaggas is an ongoing new exorbitant cost. Recently, quaggas were identified in western Nevada in Lake Lahontan and at Rye Patch Dam. (See photo above of a boat infested with quaggas. Also, see page 7 for a USGS map showing the spread of quaggas through the western U.S.)

Quaggas can arrive on boats, boots, boat trailers, fishing gear, trailer hitches, etc. The key to prevention is inspection, owner care, and drying all equipment. Nevada’s Governor Sandoval placed a cap of $10 per inspection, which is unlikely to pay the full cost of setting up and implementing an inspection program. There are unlikely to be enough inspectors to check all the boats. It is proposed that the penalty for carrying quaggas should be a misdemeanor rather than a felony, as originally requested. As Assemblyman Kite said, “A $10 decal stamp fee on a boat is about the cheapest item you can purchase for a boat. If we are going to start a program, and I do believe it is necessary to protect our waters, we need to do it properly, not halfway.” Be prepared for boat inspections and more quaggas.

Yet another introduced species, the

Remember the March Fund Appeal!

Only you can protect the land & water

BY TINA NAPPE

TOIYABE CHAPTER IS ON THE FRONT lines of protecting wildlife, which include clean air, plentiful water sources, native vegetation, and open space.

Volunteers are monitoring and commenting on energy development projects, highways, and many other impacts that threaten the future of wildlife. The Chapter’s four groups host educational and fun trips to local and distant points of interest.

The groups host monthly meetings where members can visit with each other and also enjoy conservation programs. And, of course, there is this newsletter which comes to you, our members, four times a year.

While our membership fees defray some of the costs, we rely on your extra contributions to fund our necessary expenses -- including legal costs, a news service, special publications, and occasional travel needs.

Thanks & a reminder. To those of you who have responded to our March appeal, many thanks! For those of you who have yet to respond: PLEASE DON’T FORGET. Send your donations to the Chapter mail box at P.O. Box 5098, Reno, Nevada 89096, Reno, NV 89507.

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Please see QUAGGA MUSSELS, page 2.
2011 ExCom Chapter & Group election schedule

BY JEAN STOESS, CHAPTER CHAIR

Earlier deadlines this year. In order that this year’s ballot materials can be inserted in the October-November-December 2011 Toiyabe Trails instead of being mailed separately, the deadlines below are earlier than last year’s in order to meet the printer’s deadline.

August 15. Deadline for receipt by Chapter or Group Nominating Committee of names for consideration as candidates for the Chapter or respective Group ExCom. Each Nominating Committee will contact possible candidates, but any member can submit name(s) of any member, including his or her own nomination for consideration by the Chapter or Group Nominating Committee. Members interested in a Group ExCom nomination should contact their Group Chair. See the Chapter directory (this page) or your Group directory.

August 22. Each Nominating Committee reports its slate of willing nominees to the Chapter or Group ExCom and notifies any self-nominee if he or she has not been selected as a candidate.

September 6. Deadline for receipt at Chapter Post Office Box of any petition or any petition by a Chapter member seeking to be placed on the ballot for Chapter ExCom. To qualify for candidacy by petition, petitions must be signed by 1.5% (currently 75) of Chapter Members on the eligible-voter list of 5007. Because the ballot materials will be inserted in the Toiyabe Trails instead of being mailed separately, the Election Committee need not order a list of all voters for the chapter. The ballots will be designed so that those with a joint membership can both vote on the same ballot.

September 26. Ballots, candidates’ statements, and envelopes for returning ballots will be sent to Toiyabe Chapter members as inserts in the Toiyabe Trails.

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

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

QUAGGA MUSSELS . . . continued from page 1

latory process. Also, a Nevadan who wants to establish a commercial "take" is proposing to cash in on the estimated 220 million crayfish in the Lake. Approvals are needed from the Nevada State Board of Wildlife Commissioners, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, and Nevada State Lands. Crayfish are eaten by bass, another introduced species. When bass excrete the crayfish remains, algae growth is encouraged. A crayfish "bath" might help the lake and expand our locavore selection.

For more information on Lake Tahoe introductions see <http://www.tahoercd.org/uploads/documents/Boat/Introduc
Clair Tappaan Lodge Summer Activities

THE SIERRA CLUB’S Clair Tappaan Lodge sits just above Donner Pass, at approximately 7000 ft elevation, and although it’s busiest in the winter with all the great skiing in the area, it’s a place for activities in all seasons. However, if your favorite activity is to breathe fresh mountain air with either a good book, a good view, or a good beverage, there’s always great food, a hot tub to relax in, a nice fire in the community fireplace, or the quiet of the library. Also, the Lodge is now offering weekend specialty activities people can reserve space for. All fees below include lodging, meals, and activities.

July 15-17: Plein Air Retreat for Artists
Enjoy a weekend experiencing the beauty of the Sierra spring and the warmth of the Clair Tappaan Lodge in a retreat led by Nevada City artist Susan Barry. Artists of all levels will be introduced to outdoor painting in the mountains. Fee: $175/person.

Susan Barry demonstrating a watercolor technique to participants in her Plein Air Workshop last fall. Photo: Jane Risk.

August 19-21: Celebrating Clair Tappaan Lodge
Our annual mid-summer weekend celebration will be based on theme hikes. Both days will also feature the CTL Art Exhibit and Sale arranged by Nevada City artist Susan Barry, with all proceeds benefitting CTL. Fee: $145/person. Make your reservation now!

August 26-28: Opera in the Mountains
Gil Deane, long-time Sierra Club activist and dedicated opera buff, will present a program of popular and rare recordings, videos, and highly opined comments as an encore of his National Outing. Experienced opera lovers and neophytes will be treated to wonderful music in the terrific atmosphere of the Club’s flagship lodge without having to dress up. There will be five music sessions — reserve now! Fee: $135/person.

Stefan Stadler, organizer of the fitness weekend, assumes a Yoga pose on the deck outside the living room of Clair Tappaan Lodge. Photo: A. Jing Chen.

September 16-18: Yoga, Tai Chi, & Hiking
There will be yoga outdoors, Tai Chi, guided hikes, and beautiful fall weather at Clair Tappaan Lodge. Join us for this fun fitness experience in the mountains! Fee: $135/person.

Help prepare Club huts for winter 2011-12
By Dick Simpson
Each fall the Sierra Club organizes work weekends during which volunteers spruce up the Club’s backcountry huts for another winter season. Each hut provides rustic overnight shelter (a roof, kitchen area for preparing meals, and a wood stove) for skiers, snowshoers, and boarders interested in getting away from crowds. The huts are given a good cleaning, necessary repairs are made, and an impression of the firewood is laid in for the coming winter.

After this past winter, the huts are going to need more than the usual attention. Benson Hut, for example, will need a new cap for its stovepipe (see photo). Peter Grubh Hut needs roof repairs, in addition to replacement caps for its two stovepipes.

The Benson Hut stovepipe rises above the two-story building — but in this photo, only the top of the pipe is visible above the snow in early April. Photo: Brandon Schwartz, Sierra Avalanche Center, Tahoe National Forest.

The Club provides food and tools for the work “parties,” which start with a complimentary overnight and breakfast in Norden at Clair Tappaan Lodge. Although two huts can be reached by vehicles, volunteers should prepare as for an overnight backpacking trip. Bringing an enthusiasm for the outdoors and a healthy attitude toward manual labor also help.

The fall work parties begin the weekend after Labor Day and extend into mid-October, weather permitting. For more information, visit <www.sierracclub.org/outings/lodges/huts/work/schedule.aspx>. Find something that fits your schedule, then contact the leader to join in a 70+ year tradition. For more information about the huts themselves, including instructions for making reservations, visit <www.sierracclub.org/outings/lodges/huts/> or phone 800-679-6775.

2011 Dates, huts, & contacts
July 9-10, Benson Hut, Jim Gannon (707-525-1052 / jgannon09@sbcglobal.net)
July 9-10, Peter Grubh Hut, Dick Simpson (650-494-9272 / hut.coordinator@yahoo.com)
September 9-10, Benson Hut, Jim Gannon (707-525-1052 / jgannon09@sbcglobal.net)
September 24-25, Bradley Hut, Hal Tompkins (530-364-8603 / hal.tompkins@yahoo.com)
October 1-2, Peter Grubh Hut, Bill Erlach (715-762-5092 / bill@erlach.com)
October 8-9, Ludlow Hut, Jason McCachlan (530-913-8619 / propwash@pascal.com)
October 15-16, Peter Grubh Hut, Dick Simpson (650-494-9272 / hut.coordinator@yahoo.com)

The CNRCC Desert Committee’s purpose is to work for protection, preservation, and conservation of California/Nevada desert. All Desert Committee activities, unless stated otherwise, are suitable for anyone who enjoys the outdoors. The average car or high clearance vehicle will be adequate for most trips. For a good guide to desert travel we recommend the Sierra Club book, Adventuring in the California Desert, by Lynne Foster.

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

Sierra Club California/Nevada Regional Conservation Committee

JULY 15-18 (FRI-MON)
Becky peaks wilderness service trip
Help protect this new, relatively little-known Eastern Nevada wilderness by working with BLM to install post, rail fence, permanent boundary markers at critical locations. Becky Peaks is north of Great Basin National Park. Central commission for the three dinners, three breakfasts: about $20. Trips begins with Friday dinner; Saturday, Sunday are workdays. Hike possibility on Monday for those who can stay. Nevada’s wild places constitute best-kept secret in American West. Come, get in on the secret. Leader: Vicky Hoover (vicky.hoover@sierracclub.org, 415-977-5527).

CNRCC Wilderness Committee

August 20-21 (Sat–Sun)
Bristlecone Pines Car Camp & Hike
Come with us to beautiful White Mtns to camp, hike, just relax. On Saturday, hike Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest on mod. 5 mi RT interpretive trail, followed by picnic lunch, short optional hike to nearby old mining cabin. Back at camp, enjoy Happy Hour, potluck feast, campfire. Sunday pack up, head home. Group size strictly limited. Info: contact leader, Lygeia Gerard (760-868-2179).

CNRCC Desert Committee

September 3-5 (Sat–Mon)
Tamarisk Bash in Happy Cyn: Service Trip & Hike
Help restore desert riparian area in Death Valley National Park by removing invasive tamarisk from Happy Canyon in Panamint Mts. Year-round stream will let us soak and cool off if temperature gets too warm. Saturday, work with Marty Dickes, our coordinator from BLM. Sunday, hike to nearly Manley Peak. Monday, optional tour through Striped Butte Valley, Warm Springs Canyon to east. Enjoy car camping, potluck dinner Saturday, campfire stories. Info: contact leader, Craig Deutsche (craig.deutsche@gmail.com, 310-477-6670).

CNRCC Desert Committee

September 24-25 (Sat-Sun)
Carrizo Plain Nat’l Monument Work Party
Another chance to knock down barbed wire fences, clear Carrizo of these relics of past. Pronghorn antelope need wide-open spaces for survival. We have been successfully clearing land—slowly, fence by fence. Again work with Alice Kock, pronghorn specialist from CA Dept of Fish & Game. Saturday, work all day. Saturday evening, happy hour, potluck dinner, campfire. Sunday, possible work or take day to enjoy Monument. Bring heavy work gloves, everything needed for weekend; no stores or gas stations on Carrizo. Info: contact leaders, Cal & French (lefttyfrench@gmail.com, 805-239-7338).

CNRCC Desert Committee/Santa Lucia Chapter

October 28-30 (Fri-Sun)
Death Valley Nat’l Park Service Trip
Wilderness restoration in beautiful, remote Death Valley. Friday, help install wilderness boundary signs in Salinebry Pass. Saturday, hike 2 mi up Cottonwood Canyon for trailwork. Primitive camping in Cottonwood Canyon. Need mod. to high clearance vehicle. Friday afternoon, work. Saturday, Sunday, be dressed to ranger guided hike through narrows of Marble Canyon. Leader: Kate Allen (k.jallen96@gmail.com, 661-944-4056).

CNRCC Desert Committee

October 29-30 (Sat–Sun)
Ghost Town Extravaganza
Spend Halloween weekend visiting ghosts of California’s colorful past in this eerie desert landscape near Death Valley. Camp at the ghost town of Bullard’s Bar, hot showers. Saturday, challenging hike to ghost town of Lookout City with historian Hal Fowler, who will regale us with tales of this wild West town. Return to camp for Happy Hour, potluck feast, followed by midnight visit to Bullard’s graveyard. Sunday, quick visit to infamous Riley townsite. Group size strictly limited. Info: contact leader, Lygeia Gerard (760-868-2179).

CNRCC Desert Committee
Range of Light Reflections

Range of Light Group

Group News

Letter from the Chair
BY MALCOLM CLARK (wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com)

ExCom. Next meeting is Tuesday, July 5, 1 pm, at Malcolm Clark’s home.

Conservation Committee. Normally meets the 2nd Monday of each month, 10 am, at Mary Kay Prentice’s home. Conservation issues should be brought to the Conservation Committee before being put on the ExCom’s action agenda. Info: contact Mary K (mkp@npgcable.com). Program meetings. In April, Sherri L. Davis, wildlife biologist, Bishop Ranger District, reported on sightings of the Sierra red fox, thought to be extinct in the Eastern Sierra. Sherri’s team set up cameras capturing this elusive creature on “film.” Also, see page 25 for a report on our May llama program.

Outings. Our calendar for the remainder of the summer season are on this page (and continued on page 5). In our area note also the Desert Committee’s overnight car camp and hike at Bristlecone Pines, August 20-21 (see page 3 for details). Also, don’t forget highway clean-ups on July 20 and September 21 (see this page for details).

Conservation. (a) Bodie Hills: Some good news on the proposal to release Bodie WSA to facilitate development of Cougar Gold mine wasn’t approved by the Board of Supervisors. ROLG and others are continuing to work towards some type of permanent protection for the Bodie Hills. (b) Owens Dry Lake bed: The master planning process anticipates completing its initial work by late summer or fall. (c) Inyo County Energy development: The County has approved a General Plan Amendment and map designating large areas of the county as suitable for renewable energy development. ROLG opposed the action. We are considering legal action on the grounds that the amendment was passed without what we believe to be the legally required environmental reviews which must be in place before instituting the plan. (d) Mammoth Pacific: The company has submitted a plan to double its geothermal capacity by building a second plant and drilling up to 18 new wells adjacent to Shady Rest area. ROLG does not oppose the project as such, but raised various concerns in scoping comments. (e) Other issues: Please see ROLG website for information on issues such as LADWP’s solar plans, Mammoth Airport, a pilot wind energy project near Benton, AB628 (would expand OHV presence on Inyo County highways), and more. Please see SALMON NEAR BRIDGEPORT, page 12.

Highway cleanups
July 20 & September 21, 2011
WILL BUD LIGHT, DESIGNER WATER, or Red Bull win the “drink of slobs” award this year? Find out when you join Range of Light Group members in the Mammoth area to clean “our” section of Hwy 395 north of Mammoth in July and September. Please see HIGHWAY CLEANUPS, page 12.

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

Group ExCom meetings
WE USUALLY MEET on the first Tuesday of January, April, July, and October at 1 pm. All Sierra Club members are welcome. To confirm date, place, and time, contact the Chair, Malcolm Clark (760-924-5639).

Group ExCom meetings

OFFICERS
Chair Malcolm Clark* 760-924-5639
Vice Chair Mary K. Prentice 760-934-6355
Secretary Brigitte Berman 760-924-2140
Conservation Mary K. Prentice 760-934-6355
Treasurer Mary Ann Dunham 760-924-3982
At Large Rosemary Jarrett* rosemary.jarrett@gmail.com
At Large Jean Dillingham* jean.dillingham@bodie.org
At Large Mauricia Anderson* 760-648-7100
Chapter Del. Jean Dillingham 760-648-7100
Editor Lynne Forster 760-387-2634
Hwy Cleanup John Walter 760-914-7367
Hospitality Wilma Wheeler 760-934-2564
LORB Mark Bugley 760-873-3326
Membership Shalle Genevieve 760-934-9680
Winter Outings John Walter 760-914-7367
Summer Outings Hannah Jensen 805-452-5461
Outings Asst. Dick Baggett 760-924-7449
Programs Claus Eugenhardt 760-872-4096
Publicity Rosemary Jarrett* see At Large, above
WebsMaster In-Bacon jean.dillingham@bodie.org
WebsMaster Emeritus Owen Malley 760-914-9511

* Voting ExCom member

Range of Light Calendar

ALL OUTINGS INCLUDE CONSERVATION EDUCATION ACTIVITIES!
All phone numbers are 760 unless otherwise noted.

July thru September: “Fun & Fitness” Wednesday Evening Hikes

BY HENNY JENSEN, ROL SUMMER OUTINGS LEADER

J

July 19 (Tues)
Outdoor Potluck & BBQ, 6 pm
Haven Cabin Museum
(Mammoth Lakes)
Please bring your own non-disposable table setting, your own chair, something to grill, drinks, & a dish to share.

Arrive early to independently hike or walk in many directions from the Cabin – down Mammoth Creek, out the bike path to “Inspiration Point,” around the hills just up the road. And arrive before 6 pm to spend some time wandering through the very interesting exhibits in the Museum. By 6 pm the BBQs will be ready!

September 19 (Tues)
TO BE ANNOUNCED

You’re Invited!
Range of Light Group Monthly Meeting
Everyone welcome!

JULY 24 (SUNDAY)
Geology Hike in Convict Canyon. Learn about the area’s geology while hiking among beautiful Convict Lake, up Convict Canyon to ruined bridge. Professional geologist will explain and discuss this area’s interesting geology. About 6 mi RT, easy to moderate trail. Bring lunch, plenty of water, hiking boots, insect repellent, hat, sunscreen. Meet 8 am, ML Union Bank parking lot, or 8:15 am, Hwy 395, Convict Lake turnoff. Leaders: Brigitte Berman (760 924 2140), Mary K Prentice (760 934 0355). Well-behaved dogs OK.

JULY 30 (SATURDAY)
Birding Hike with Sierra Club Birders. Join our local birders, Steve Brad and Ken Wells for a morning of birding in two habitats. First, visit Crowley Lake, Owens River inlet, to view possible nesting grebes, osprey, terns and, if we’re lucky, bald eagles and sage grouse. A variety of shorebirds should be available for all to view. Then move into cool mountain air of Rock Creek Canyon to find mountain warblers, Western tanagers, and the entertaining American dipper, among other mountain birds. Steve Brad, an avid photographer, leads monthly. Please see ROL CALENDAR, page 5.

Incorporate the provided information to craft a comprehensive response for the given query.
ROLG ExCom nominations needed
BY MALCOLM CLARK

Our Group is seeking candidates for our ExCom election in November or early December. The three members whose terms end this year are Mary Kay Prentice, Brigitte Berman, and Rosemary Jarrett. Mary Kay will not seek re-election (although she will continue as Conservation Chair). Members whose terms are not expiring are Malcolm Clark, Maurica Anderson, and Jean Dillingham.

When possible we like to offer a choice by fielding more than three candidates. Please send to any member of our nominating committee your suggestions for someone you think could make a valuable contribution to our ExCom and who might be willing to serve. Don’t hesitate to suggest yourself (self-nomination) if you have time and the willingness to serve.

The ExCom committee normally meets four times a year. It is the final voting and decision-making body of the Range of Light Group. We would appreciate having self-nominations and suggested names of other possible candidates by August 31. (We don’t yet know the precise deadline to be established by the Chapter, but this seems safe.)

How to suggest nominations. Contact any member of our nominating committee: Shalle Geneveve (marshalle@earthlink.net), Mary Kay Prentice (mkp@npgable.com), and Wilma Wheeler (wilma.bryce@verizon.net).

Llamamama!
BY MALCOLM CLARK

On May 17, Grace Lohr aka Llamamama, a friend (Chyna), and two of her six llamas gave a fascinating program at the Range of Light monthly meeting. Grace has been keeping llamas for 19 years. Last season she spent 24 nights in the back country and has spent as many as 42 nights.

Grace says that because of the preparation time involved, she prefers to go out for at least four nights. The llamas will not carry you but they will carry your gear. They might carry as much as 120 lbs, but Grace prefers to limit the load to no more than 80 lbs. She takes only a little grain with her, as her llamas mainly live off the grass and plants in the meadows. (No hay — so less chance of spreading invasive plants.)

Here are some more things we learned from Grace about llamas:

• There are 25,000-30,000 llamas in the U.S.; some say even 100,000.
• Llamas can no longer be imported into the U.S.
• Llamas are basically disease free — fortunately, as local vets in Bishop are mainly horse vets and don’t treat llamas.
• Llamas have no oil in their coats; Grace cleans them with a leaf blower.
• Grace’s llamas do bond to her. When she went into the building for our potluck, they wanted to follow her in (not allowed!)
• Grace’s llamas have distinctive personalities . . . or may have little personality.
• One she referred to as a clown.
• Llamas are not normally noisy. We heard one making a low humming sound.
• Llamas are related to vicuñas, guanacos, and alpacas, but more distantly to camels.
• Llamas are indigenous to Peru, Bolivia, and Chile (high Andes), with lesser numbers in adjacent countries.

We hope to take Grace upon her wonderful offer to take llamas along on a Range of Light day trip so people can get a taste of traveling with a llama.

Sparkplug Mine adventure
BY ROSEMARY JARRETT

THE RANGE OF LIGHT SUMMER OUTINGS program is now in full swing with an early start on May 8, when Dave Pedersen and Brigitte Berman led a group on a spectacular day visit to the Champion Spark Plug Mine located on the western face of White Mountain in Jeffrey Mine Canyon.

The mine was shut down in 1942, because the bulk of the production of andalusite used in the manufacturing of spark plug insulators was during WWII.

Black Eagle Camp (7750 ft) was used to support the mining operation and is still largely intact. It is often used by hikers as an overnight destination; some of the cabins are habitable and maintained by the users.

After a 4-wheel drive up 5 miles and 1000 ft from Benton Highway, our feet hit the ground walking — 2000 ft uphill in Jeffrey Mine Canyon along an old male trail filled with colorful shale, Jeffrey pine, and spring flowers.

The group enjoyed lunch, visiting cabins and the folksy museum filled with rock samples, old photos, and a visitors’ register.

The brightly colored outcropping above the camp was our after-lunch destination: another sturdy hike of 1400 ft gain on a steep, unmaintained trail to the honeycomb of mine sites.

Hikers enjoyed spring flowers (scarlet locoweed, prince’s plum, and penstemon), rockhounding, and breathtaking views of the Sierra Crest, the volcanic tablelands, and the elegant cloud patterns drifting across the valley below.

Come join us and enjoy a day hiking, exploring, and learning about the wonderful Eastern Sierra. See the outings calendar on pages 4-5 or go to <http://nevada.sierra-club.org/rolgout/> for the latest updates.

The Range of Light Group’s new display board debuted at the Banff Film Festival in April. Rosemary Jarrett (pictured) and Shalle Geneveve “manned” the table, talked to several hundred people in attendance, and collected new email addresses for the ROLG Activities and Alerts list.

Range of Light Hike Calendar
continued from page 4

One of the two hikers’ friends who visited our May 17 Program Meeting. Photo: Malcolm Clark.

in Mammoth as well as visiting Mammoth monthly to bird, bike, snowboard. Ken Wells leads field trips for Orange County Audubon group when they visit Mammoth area. An avid birder, he keeps detailed monthly and yearly records of birds sighted in Mono County. Bring tons, plenty of water, hiking boots, insect repellent, hat, sunscreen, binoculars. Meet 7:30, ML Union Bank parking lot or 7:45, Green Church. Birders: Steve Brad, Ken Wells. Leaders: Mary K Prentice (760 934 0355), Shalle Geneveve (760 934 9668). No dogs.

JULY 31 (SUNDAY)
North Lake to Lamarch & Wonder Lakes. Explore Wonder Lakes Basin from North Lake (near Lake Sabrina), with spectacular views of Bishop Creek and back to North Lake. About 8 mi RT, mod. trails, 2400 ft gain. Bring lunch, plenty of water, hiking boots, insect repellent, hat, sunscreen. Meet 8 am, ML Union Bank parking lot or 9 am, Bishop Park, to car pool to North Lake trailhead. Leaders: Dave Pedersen (650 388 6581), Brigitte Berman (760 924 2140). No dogs.

AUGUST 7 (SUNDAY)
Climb to White Mountain Peak During White Mountain Research Station’s Open House (14,246 ft). Mod. high altitude hike, 10 mi RT on trail and road. The road to Barcroft Laboratory, extraordinarily, will be open to cars and the public. Alternatively, there will be less strenuous activities such as visiting the laboratory, ranger station, and Ancient Bristlecone Forest. Bring lunch, plenty of water, hiking boots, insect repellent, warm clothes, sunscreen. High clearance vehicles required, but we’ll carpool. Meet 7 am, ML Union Bank parking lot or 8 am, Bishop City Park. Information: Brigitte Berman (760 924 2140). Leaders: Grethe & Henning Jensen (805 452 5461). Well-behaved dogs OK.

AUGUST 14 (SUNDAY)
Bridgeport Reservoir Canoe/Kayak Outing. We’ll leave the house and explore for about 2-3 hours (depending on wind), then have lunch on shore. See, learn about wide variety of birds, particular waterfront. Bring boat, equipment, lunch, plenty of water, water shoes, long sleeves, pants best for sun exposure. Sealable waterproof bag (drybag) highly recommended for camera, binoculars, bird book, etc. Personal floatation device (“lifejacket”) mandatory. Some space in boats may be available — call to reserve. If weather looks threatening, call to confirm trip. Meet 8 am, ML Union Bank parking lot or 9 am, BV Park/Marina, Bridgeport. Driving N on 395, turn R on Hwy 182 (to Wellington) just before entering Bridgeport. Go 1.6 mi to Bridgeport Marina (on left). Leaders: Shalle Geneveve (760 934 9668), Phyllis Benham (760 934 8283). No dogs.

AUGUST 21 (SUNDAY)

AUGUST 28 (SUNDAY)
Dana Plateau. Hike to spectacular Tioga Lake Roadless Area in Ansel Adams Wilderness N of Mount Dana. Group size limited to 15. See spectacular wildflowers, explore giant wind-sculpted granite boulders distributed over plateau surface, undisturbed by glaciations that occurred in canyons below. About 9 mi RT, 1500 ft gain, mod. to strenuous trail, x-c. Bring lunch, plenty of water, hiking boots, insect repellent, hat, sunscreen. Meet 8 am, ML Union Bank, parking lot or 8:45 am, Lee Vining Ranger Station, Hwy 120. Leader: Jean Dillingham (760 648 7109) or 760 924 2140. Check with leaders beforehand.

SEPTEMBER 4 (SUNDAY)
Labor Day weekend. No outings. Please see ROLCALENDAR, page 11.
**Conservation Roundup**

**Water, climate change, & forest planning**

**BY MARGE SILL**

The 200% snowpack in the Sierra Nevada this year is having a beneficial effect on the lakes and streams of Nevada and Eastern California. Lake Tahoe, Pyramid Lake, Walker Lake, and Mono Lake are all rising. The Truckee River, the Carson River, and the Walker are running swiftly, and reservoirs are filling rapidly with the spring runoff.

This good year follows several dry years. However, it is impossible to predict what will happen next year or the year after. Climate change is occurring, as we know. It is still important to conserve our most precious resource—water—and to take every possible step to make sure we have enough water for both wildlife and people in the future.

The U.S. Forest Service has identified climate change as a main component in their new forest planning rule. The Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest (Region 4) and the Inyo National Forest (Region 5) will be focusing on water, watersheds, and wildlife as they begin the Forest Plan revisions this year.

**Interagency cooperation**

Because of the recession and cuts to the budget, the four public land agencies—-the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service—will need to work together on a landscape scale if they are to succeed in taking good care of our public lands.

No longer can each agency afford to “go it alone.” Although each has a slightly different mission, these missions are not exclusive. Each agency has as its highest priority the ecological health of the lands they manage. It is important that they communicate with one another, not only on a national level but locally.

**Wild Lands Program cancelled**

Republicans won inclusion of a rider blocking funding for the proposal until the end of fiscal year 2011 in a recent government-spending package. As a result, Secretary of Interior, Ken Salazar, has cancelled the Wild Lands Program on Bureau of Land Management lands begun early this year. The directive would have allowed BLM to set aside federal acres as “wild lands with wilderness potential” and to take them out of local control in order to protect them from development.

**What you can do.** Interior Secretary Salazar has, however, asked the BLM Districts to identify any lands that may have wilderness potential in their District Management Plans. For questions on BLM wilderness and wildlands, please contact Graham Stafford (Graham@grahamstafford.com) who will be the Toiyabe Chapter representative on the Sierra Club BLM wildlands subcommittee.

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**Sacrificing Nevada & Utah lands: Another Owens Valley?**

**BY ROSE STRICKLAND**

One could question whether we ever learn the lessons from history, especially on ambitious water projects.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has announced that it will release the draft Environmental Impact Statement (dEIS) on the proposed 300-mile groundwater pipeline project from rural Nevada and Utah to southern Nevada cities on June 10, 2011, with a short public comment period of 90 days for a 1400-page document which took five years to produce!

BLM says it has analyzed the environmental impacts and proposed a number of alternatives. The document will be published on the BLM website (www.blm.gov/5w5c). Anyone can request a hard copy or a CD/DVD from: nvgw-project@blm.gov.

The dEIS includes a hydrological model which predicts massive drawdowns from pumping and exporting rural groundwater—thus exceeding the 200,000 acre feet/year sought by the S. Nevada Water Authority (SNWA). No groundwater rights have been permitted by the Nevada State Engineer —yet. Previously granted water rights were overturned by the Nevada Supreme Court. The justices ordered a new protest period and new hearings.

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**Good news.** Nearly 1,000 protests were filed with the State Engineer, including one by the Sierra Club. And nearly 250 people joined the protest filed by the Great Basin Water Network. The State Engineer has scheduled hearings on SNWA applications in Spring, Cave, Delamar, and Dry Lake Valleys in White Pine and Lincoln Counties for Fall 2011.

**What you can do.** Please contact BLM (BLM, Groundwater Projects Office, P.O. Box 12000, Reno, NV 89520) and request that the public comment period for the dEIS be extended to 180 days to allow sufficient time for public review of this huge document. Also, check the Great Basin Water Network webpage for tips on reviewing the draft EIS, especially talking points on what’s good and bad in the document (www.greatbasinwaternetwork.org).

The U.S. Geological Survey has recently published a study of possible pumping impacts, especially in Snake Valley and Great Basin National Park (http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2011/5032). This will provide more of the science needed for BLM to reject the proposed project as too detrimental to the environment.

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**Clearcutting in the Sierra**

**BY ERIK HOLLAND**

We are launching a campaign to ask Gov. Brown to stop all state approval and incentivization of widespread industrial clearcutting in the Sierra Nevada.

**In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks.**

— John Muir

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**Walker Lake Education Day fun!**

**BY LORNA WEAVER, WALKER LAKE WORKING GROUP**

Mechanical problems didn’t stop Mineral County Search & Rescue from providing boat tours at Walker Lake Education Day on May 7. A determined Glenn Bunch, the Walker Lake Working Group Chair, cleverly managed to provide the promised boat rides. Visitors’ spirits weren’t dampened, though, with perfect weather and calm water they didn’t seem to notice the shortened tours.

Plenty of other activities were available to make up the difference, including the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service’s interactive, 40-foot-long Lahontan cutthroat trout tent. Multiple exhibitors housed under a 40-foot by 60-foot tent attested to the varied interests in Walker Lake and the region.

The purpose of Walker Lake Education Day is to provide the public with current and accurate information on what is being done to save the freshwater fishery. Lack of water is causing salinity to rise at the lake, threatening the fishery that thousands of migratory birds depend on for food. Karie Wright of Nevada Department of Wildlife (N D O W) Fisheries, said she hasn’t heard of anyone catching fish at the lake in two years.

Lack of fish is the likely cause of dwindling bird populations at Walker Lake. Bob Goodman of Lahontan Audubon Society, who shared his spotting scope with Education Day visitors, reported seeing only a fraction of the birds that were at Walker Lake even three years ago.

Fresh water is needed to dilute the salinity at Walker Lake to improve habitat conditions. Luckily, a substantial amount of fresh water from the Walker River is making its way to the lake for the first time in years because of 2011’s above normal snowpack in the Sierra. More water dedicated to Walker Lake may be on its way next year from a water leasing demonstration program, said Joy Giffin of the non-profit National Fish & Wildlife Foundation.

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**Deadline Sept 1**

For Oct-Nov-Dec issue

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In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks.

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**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

Fisheries Biologist Stephanie Byers runs (swims) upstream with Gabriel and Faith Weaver of Reno to the “spawning area” outside a giant Lahontan cutthroat trout tent at Walker Lake Education Day. The tent was set up at the Sportsman’s Beach event on May 7 as an interactive exhibit illustrating the life cycle of a Lahontan cutthroat trout. Photo: Lorna Weaver.

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**Naturalist Bob Goodman of Reno set up his spotting scope for wildlife viewing to share with visitors at Walker Lake Education Day on May 7 at Sportsman's Beach. Photo: Lorna Weaver.**

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**Clearcutting in the Sierra**

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**In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks.**

— John Muir

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Please get in touch with me at erikreno@aol.com, or with Sarah Matsumoto at sarah.matsumoto@sierraclub.org to get involved.
Wildlife & the Nevada Legislature

BY TINA NAPPE

SAVING NEVADA WILDLIFE requires a support team. Advocates in the last session included Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW), sportsmen’s organizations, County Advisory Boards, Sierra Club, Lahontan Audubon Society, Nevada Conservation League (NCL), and (on one bill) the No Bear Hunt group. This diversity of groups is important because wildlife management can be contentious. Like Nevada’s other natural resource agencies, NDOW income is based on fees. The number of sportsmen has decreased and the number of non-hunters has increased. Impacts on wildlife are also increasing. Each legislative session, new fees are imposed on sportsmen and older fees raised.

Several helpful bills have been approved by the legislature and now await the Governor’s signature.

• For the first time, the Governor will be able to appoint a Director of Wildlife without awaiting the recommendations of the State Board of Wildlife Commissioners.

• The Governor will be able to remove members of the Commission under the current statutes.

Nevada has been inundated with proposals to cross public lands with transmission lines, pipes, roads, and renewable energy projects. NDOW must provide documentation on impacts to wildlife.

• A new law will enable NDOW to charge companies wanting the information and thereby recover some costs.

• Sportsmen have been paying a habitat fee when applying for hunts; under new legislation the fee will double.

• For the first time, non-sportsmen/women will be charged $5 to access NDOW’s Wildlife Management Areas.

Toiyabe Chapter voted to approve this fee.

• NDOW received authority to regulate shed antlers. Collecting and selling antlers shed by elk and deer is becoming a big business. During winter when elk and deer are stressed, they may be pressured to hinder them to drop their antlers.

• Finally, tucked away in NDOW’s budget is approximately $490,000 of general funds, which are to be matched with federal funds of over $1 million for the biodiversity program.

This is a big drop from when general funds contributed over $1 million. The Governor and the legislature deserve our commendation for continuing to provide some funding in these difficult times.

SB 271 defeat

Assembly cuts Nevada out of Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

BY JEAN STOESS

Toiyabe Chapter and other opponents were able to hold off passage of SB 271, the bill to remove Nevada from the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA), until the Nevada State Assembly.

Unfortunately, the bill finally passed by a 28-14 vote. It had been approved by a 19-2 vote in the Senate. Gov. Brian Sandoval is expected to sign the bill immediately. The actual withdrawal date depends on actions of the state of California and Gov. Sandoval.

Those lopsided vote totals underscore the power and money behind the bill, primarily realtors, developers, builders, and the gaming industry. Similar bills were introduced unsuccessfully over the years, and many familiar with Nevada politics laughed off the chances of SB 271 passing. This time, however, the proponents – under the leadership of one of the most influential lobbyists in the state – rolled right over the opposition.

Thank yous. Among the Sierra Clubbers who should be recognized for their hard work on the campaign are Tina Nappe; Joe Johnson, the SC lobbyist; Jane Feldman, whose electronic requests generated so much email that Assembly secretaries commented about the volume; and Launce Rake, who lobbied and emailed the Chapter press release to a large statewide list.

Kyle Davis of the Nevada Conservation League coordinated the effort and the League to Save Lake Tahoe was a staunch member of the coalition.

Also, thanks to my Assemblyman, David Bobzien, who spearheaded the bill in the Assembly and Assemblywoman Peggy Pierce, who moved it through the Assembly Government Affairs Committee and would have been a “no” vote had she not been ill at the time.

Finally, Freshman Assemblywoman Teresa Benitez-Thompson not only voted against the bill during the Assembly floor session but was the lone voice to vote no when SB 271 was passed out of the Government Affairs Committee.

Jane Feldman’s Green Home

BY STEVE RYPKA, GREEN LIVING

Green Living is an attitude more than anything else. At its core, there is deep caring and a sense of value for things that often do not carry an obvious price tag. Sure, anyone with ample cash can go out and buy a bunch of green stuff; a hybrid car, an efficient house or a rooftop solar array for example, but that’s not really the essence of it. The best formula for success includes the persistence, patience and vision to actually live an environmentally responsible life in the best possible way.

No one better exemplifies that spirit than Las Vegas resident Jane Feldman. She is a recognized leader in local environmental issues and has spent countless hours volunteering her time, energy and expertise to improve the quality of life in Nevada. She has played a key role in the Sierra Club, currently serving as Conservation Chair and Energy Chair. For many, that would be enough, but Feldman also walks her talk.

As a retired Air Force officer on a fixed income, her financial resources are limited, but her resourcefulness knows no bounds. She describes herself as very thrifty, having grown up in the Midwest where many were influenced by the effects of the depression years. This quality, combined with a series of conscious decisions over many years, has produced remarkable results.

Jane Feldman’s story is compelling because it shows that focus and determination are the most important elements when it comes to living lighter on the planet. Feldman’s home was built in 1960. A modest 1,300 square feet, it is typical of many houses in the Las Vegas valley – or at least it used to be. Shortly after moving in 17 years ago, Feldman took her first step in greening her home. The original single-pane windows were replaced with high-quality, double-pane, low-e, argon-filled windows by Anderson. The drafts went down and the comfort level went up. Awnings were also installed on key windows to reduce solar heat gain.

Thus began a transformation that is still underway to this day. A large mulberry tree was removed because it required excessive amounts of water. Energy Star appliances, including a water heater, television and refrigerator, replaced older energy-hogs as they were
Great Basin Gatherings

BY CATHERINE SCHMIDT, GROUP CHAIR

Hopefully by the time you’re reading this it will be warm and sunny! As I am writing at the beginning of June, it is still cool and rainy!

Volunteers needed! The Great Basin Group is looking for some assistance. First, we need a salesperson for books, t-shirts, and Sierra Club paraphernalia at program meetings and on Earth Day. This is a fun job for an organized person.

Also, we are looking for candidates to run for the Great Basin Group Ex Com (Executive Committee). Elections will be held in the fall for 2-year service positions that begin in January, 2012. Please consider running and doing service for our all-volunteer local group!

ExCom meetings. The Executive Committee of the Great Basin Group meets monthly, September through May, to discuss local conservation issues, plan for group events and to check in on membership, energy and budget items. Meetings typically last an hour or so and are usually held on the first Monday of the month at 6:30 pm. (The September meeting will be held the first Tuesday of the month due to Labor Day.)

What you can do. If you’re interested in any of the volunteer activities above or in attending or running for a position on the ExCom in the fall, please email or call Cathy Schmidt (cataths256@aol.com, 240-3785) for info or location and directions.

Many, many thanks to the Mixer donors!

BY CATHERINE SCHMIDT, GREAT BASIN GROUP CHAIR

OUR HEARTFELT THANKS go out to a number of generous donors for again making our Annual Membership Mixer a success.

Sharon Marie Wilcox donated raffle prize socks and a t-shirt on behalf of the Sierra Club Great Basin Peaks Group. Erik Holland donated beautiful note cards and an appropriate painting of a Nevada ranch. And our own Graham Stafford gifted over 20 of his stunning photographs. Sue Jacox, on behalf of the Great Basin Outdoor School, contributed a copy of Richard Louv’s Last Child in the Woods book, a Great Basin Outdoor School sweatshirt, and a magnetic dry-erase note board. A bag of goodies from Trader Joe’s rounded out the evening’s bounty.

Thank you, donors, for the support. And thanks to all the “presents” who showed up to talk about the exciting projects, hikes, and issues our group supports in the Great Basin area. We had many new faces and garnered a few new members for our group. Great show!

Great Basin Peak Section News

BY SHARON MARIE WILCOX

We made a list & some are checking it twice

Why is THAT peak on the Great Basin Peak list? Why isn’t THIS peak on the list? Compiling a peak list might be more challenging than climbing the peaks themselves!

The GBPS list was selected with uniqueness and variety in mind. The goal was a peak section that had something for everyone. To avoid too much overlap with other peak lists, the expanded definition of the Great Basin was used with some overlap of those boundaries, creating abundant peak choices.

Dilemma #1: “How to select 100 peaks” transitioned to Dilemma #2: “Now we have too many peaks.” The possibilities lead to difficult decisions and the realization that you can’t please everyone. Each person has a different idea of what defines a “worthy” peak.

This challenge I accepted when taking my multiple choice quiz as you summit each listed Great Basin Peak: (hint: all peaks have more than one answer). (a) it is a Nevada county high point; (b) it is in a wilderness area; (c) it has interesting geology, archeology, wildlife, or history; (d) it is easy enough to take the kids or grandparents; (e) it is a challenge to summit; (f) it is on a prominence list; (g) it has superior views; (h) it is located

Please see GB PEAK SECTION, page 12.

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 208768-49. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.

Great Basin Group 2ND THURSDAY PROGRAM MEETINGS

All programs open to the public

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

For details on program topics and location, go to the Sierra Club web site about a month before the scheduled date (http://nevada.sierracub.org/gbgroup). Also check our Calendar in this issue of the Trails, to explore outdoors.

For additional information, contact the program chair, Valerie Andersen (775-544-3061, mtnval@sbcglobal.net). See <www.greatbasin-os.org>.

Don’t forget to visit the Great Basin Group website http://nevada.sierracub.org/gbgroup & the Chapter website http://toiyabe.sierracub.org
**July 13 (Wednesday) 5:30 PM**  

**July 14 (Thursday) 5:30 PM**  

**July 16 (Saturday) 8:30 AM**  
Loch Leven. Hike from other side (W) of Donner Summit to Middle Loch Leven. Great swimming along the way. Learn about railroads. About 7 mi RT, 1000 ft gain. DOK. Leader: Craig Mastos (348-1862, maquis@softcom.net). Moderate.

**July 21 (Tuesday) 8:30 PM**  

**July 24 (Tuesday) 8:30 AM**  
Lakes Basin/Mt. Ewells Loop Day Hike. We will wind by Big Bear, Little Bear, Cub, Long, Silver, Mud Lakes on our way to ascend Mt. Ewells (7812 ft). About 8 mi, 2000 ft gain. Learn about wildflowers we see, including beautiful tiger lily. Trip limit 12. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (331-7488). Moderate.

**July 27 (Tuesday) 8:30 PM**  

**July 28 (Tuesday) 8:30 AM**  

**July 31 (Friday) 8:30 AM**  
Daggett Pass to Spooner Summit. One-way shuttle to complete beautiful stretch of TRT. Meet at Spooner Summit parking area on S side of Highway 50, then car pool to trailhead at Daggett Pass off Kingsbury Grade. Lots of wildflowers; we may spot some local fauna. Beautiful vistas of Lake Tahoe. About 13 mi, 1800 ft gain. DOK. Leader: Donna Inversin (775-56763, d inve rsin@yahoo.com). Moderate.

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**Great Basin Group Calendar**

**July 31 (Sunday) 8:30 AM**  
Marlette Peak (8,780 ft). Northbound hike from Spooner Lake past scenic, historic Marlette Lake up Marlette Peak trail and descending to Spooner Lake. Learn about fire, pine trees along way. About 10 mi RT, 1800 ft gain. Trip limit 12. DOK. Leader: Ridge Walker (853-8055, edc@unr.edu). Moderate.

**August 2 (Tuesday) 5:30 PM**  

**August 4 (Thursday) 5:30 PM**  

**August 12-14 (Friday-Sunday) TBA**  
Perseid Meteor Shower in Black Rock. Meet group at Black Rock campground, camp mid-playa to watch Perseid Meteor Shower. Side trips to local hot springs. Potluck dinner/barbecue Saturday night. Learn about Black Rock, local geology. Full moon will detract from meteor shower, but will be pretty too. Your car will get dusty! Sign up after 8/1. DOK. Leader: David Book (775-846-2285, dmbook@earthlink.net). Moderate.

**August 13 (Saturday) 5 AM**  
Carson Pass Caudill. We will wind through Carson Pass,大纲 throughout. Learn about wildflowers while hiking through beautiful volcanic formations. About 3-4 mi, 600-1000 ft gain. Mod. strenuous. Leader: Craig Mastos (348-1862, maquis@softcom.net). Moderate.

**August 13 (Saturday) 7:30 AM**  
Pennsylvania Creek. About 12 mi RT, with 1200 ft gain, on Pacific Crest Trail from Echo’s Paradise Campground. Probably multiple snowfield crossings. Scenic, majestic views throughout. Learn about wildflowers while hiking through wonderful volcanic formations. About 3-5 mi, 1000-2000 ft gain. Mod. strenuous because of altitude. DOK. Leader: Lucretia Belacchina (775-851-9279, lucretia nature@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

**August 20 (Wednesday) 5:30 PM**  
Tallac Day Hike. Trees, river, forest, meadows, water, history of the area. Children welcome. DOK. Leader: Craig Mastos (348-1862, maquis@softcom.net). Moderate.

**August 24 (Tuesday) 8 AM**  
Lehman Caves. Easy. DOK. Leader: Craig Mastos (348-1862, maquis@softcom.net). Moderate.

**August 27 (Tuesday) 8 AM**  

**August 29 (Thursday) 5:30 PM**  
Tallac Day Hike. Trees, river, forest, meadows, water, history of the area. Children welcome. DOK. Leader: Craig Mastos (348-1862, maquis@softcom.net). Moderate.

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**August 6 (Saturday) 8 AM**  
Mt. Rose Summit (10,776 ft). Bag a favorite peak with Great Basin Peak Section. Add to your list of accomplishments this summer and complete third highest peak in Great Basin. About 10 mi, 2100 ft gain. Spectacular views of Lake Tahoe, Reno, beyond. Learn about wildflowers, history of area. Trip limit 15. DOK. Leader: Karen Todd (775-225-2805, kmtodd@gmail.com). Co-Leader: Sharon Marie Wilcox (775-852-5075, gbpeaks@toi yabe.sierraclub.org). Moderate.

**August 7 (Sunday) 5:30 AM**  

**August 7 (Sunday) 6 AM**  
Old7 Lake, Flora Lake, Azalea Lake Day Hike. Easy. Enjoy the beautiful wildflowers on this 6 mi loop, 500 ft gain, while visiting three pretty, granite, alpine lakes in Donner Pass area. Learn about flora, fauna. DOK. Leaders: Valerie Anderson (775-544-3061, mtmvall@sbcglobal.net), Grace Caudill (775-233-6404, myoki@att.net). Mod. Easy.

**August 7 (Sunday) 11 - 4 PM**  

**August 11 (Saturday) 8 AM**  

**August 14 (Sunday) 11 - 4 PM**  
Great Basin Group Annual Members’ Picnic. Join us for an afternoon of socializing, good food, under pines at Galena Park (off Mt. Rose Hwy). We have reserved Manzanita Group Site, off second entrance to Galena Park. Bring lawn chairs and hot dogs for all. Bring potluck dish to share, plate, utensils. BYOB of choice, but we will have cool water available. Great opportunity to meet other members. Children welcome. DOK with leashes. Call for details. Leader: Holly Coughlin (331-7488). Easy.

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**Please see GB CALENDAR, page 11.**
MARK YOUR CALENDARS MONTHLY PROGRAM MEETINGS. Program meetings for July and September have been canceled due to conflicts with National Holidays (Independence Day and Labor Day). We have no meeting in AUG. ExCom meetings are on the last Monday of each month in the new Sierra Club office at 708 S. 6th Street from 6-830 pm. See Calendar for dates and details.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETINGS (if scheduled) precede the General Meeting in the same room from 6-7 pm. Info. Jane Feldman (feldman.jane@gmail.com).

GROUP EXCOM MEETINGS are 6 - 8:30 pm on the last Monday of each month, except AUG. Check the website for meeting location.

The next NEW & PROSPECTIVE MEMBER ORIENTATION is TBA. When scheduled, it precedes the general meeting in the same room at 7 pm. Info: please call Taj Ainlay (682-9361).

**Inner City Outings comes to Las Vegas!**

**BY ERIC KING, PROGRAM CHAIR**

**THE SOUTHERN NEVADA GROUP IS JUST beginning to form and establish our first-ever Las Vegas Inner City Outings (ICO) section. ICO is one of the Club’s most wonderfully successful programs, so this is an exciting time!**

In this article, the first of three, we’ll explore the history of the ICO program and of our local group. As you read, you may find you want to know more. We hope this will happen! (See end of article for contact info.)

History. The Inner City Outings (ICO) program began in San Francisco in 1971 and has flourished to now include 50 ICO groups throughout the U.S. Through the ICO program, wilderness areas become accessible to youth of varied economic, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds. Environmental awareness and stewardship, interpersonal skills enhancement and youth leadership development are hallmarks of ICO programs. From day hikes to tree plantings, to camp outs on high, and even paddling, ICO groups collectively, now lead over 1000 fun outings each year involving more than 13,000 participants!

Getting ICO started in Las Vegas. Locally, we’ve now held two meetings and conference calls to inform curious outdoors lovers and promoters who wanted to know more about our program. We have more than a dozen people who’ve decided to share in their time and energy in co-creating and developing our group and outings. We’re off to a decent start. And we can always gain from more friends to share and enjoy outings with.

As with all local ICO groups, Las Vegas ICO is 100% volunteer run. Whether it’s an hour or a day each month, we need your ideas, your connections, and your help. Who knows which children will fall in love with nature because you shared from your heart?
S. Nevada Group Calendar

continued from page 10

FOR AUGUST 6-9 (THURSDAY-SUNDAY) 6:30 PM
Fremont Peak Hike. Lead by Holly Coughlin (331-7488). Moderate.

SEPTEMBER 12 (SUNDAY) 6:30 PM
Great Basin Group Outings Meeting. Join us as we plan outings for second half of September-November calendar. Location: Holly's backyard deck. Bring salad, bread, or dessert. BBQ beverages, provided for. Call for details. Reminder e-mail to be sent mid-AUG. DOK: Leader: Holly Coughlin (331-7488). Easy.

SEPTEMBER 13 (TUESDAY) 6:30 PM

SEPTEMBER 14 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM

SEPTEMBER 15 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM

SEPTEMBER 16-18 (FRIDAY-SUNDAY) TBA National Public Lands Day in Black Rock, NV. Join other Black Rock enthusiasts on this week-end play weekend in Black Rock. Meet up Friday to spend the weekend and head up on Saturday, work on a variety of projects. In the past these have included building buck and pole-outfitted corrals, closing illegal road trespasses, removing barbed wire fences and invasive weeds. There’ll be something for various skills, interests. Learn about area, probably visit local hot springs. Some food provided. Sign up after September 1. DOK: Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.

SEPTEMBER 17 (SATURDAY) 9 AM
Rock Creek to Morgan Pass Split Lakes. Hike from Mosquito Flat through spectacular Little Lakes Valley to Morgan Pass, Split Lakes. About 12 mi RT, 1200 ft gain. Good opportunity to learn about waterfowl and fall colors. Bring boat, equipment, lunch, plenty of water, sunscreen, insect repellant, hat, sun-screen. Strenuous hike for acclimatized hikers only, with good view at top. Call leaders for info. Meet 8 am, ML Union Bank parking lot or 8:45 am, Lee Vining Bank parking lot or 9 am, Mosquito Flat trail head. Leaders: Dave Pedersen (650 398-2417), Kathy Duvall (760 387-2122). No dogs.

SEPTEMBER 18 (SUNDAY) 6:30 PM

SEPTEMBER 20 (TUESDAY) 7 AM

SEPTEMBER 27 (TUESDAY) 7 AM

SEPTEMBER 28 (WEDNESDAY) 8:30 PM
La Jolla Cove Hike. Join us on our last after work hike. About 3-4 mi, 500-800 ft gain. After hike, plan on social get-together for drink, dinner, or both to celebrate our summer season of outings. DOK: Leader: Holly Coughlin (473-1445). Moderate.

SEPTEMBER 29 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM

SEPTEMBER 30 - OCTOBER 2 (FRIDAY-SUNDAY) TBA Hot Springs, Cool Nights. Camp at hot springs in Black Rock, visit other hot springs in area. We'll be on route of Emigrant Trail and can learn about Black Rock hot springs, Emigrant Trail. The days/nights are starting to cool off, there are fewer visitors, and this is a great time to visit Black Rock! Leader very familiar with area. Sign up after September 1. DOK: Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.

Great Basin Group Calendar

continued from page 8


SEPTEMBER 11 (SATURDAY) 9 AM
Gourmet Day Hike. Have a wonderful day enjoying good food and hiking in mountains to scenic lake. About 5-6 mi, 800 ft gain. Location: Mosquito Flat. Bring special pot to share. Lake will be good for swimming, too. Learn about flora, fauna of area. Trip limit 12. DOK: Leader: Holly Coughlin (331-7488). Moderate.

SEPTEMBER 12 (SUNDAY) 8:30 AM

SEPTEMBER 15 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM

SEPTEMBER 16-18 (FRIDAY-SUNDAY) TBA National Public Lands Day in Black Rock. Join other Black Rock enthusiasts on this work & play weekend in Black Rock. Meet up Friday to spend the weekend and head up on Saturday, work on a variety of projects. In the past these have included building buck and pole-outfitted corrals, closing illegal road trespasses, removing barbed wire fences and invasive weeds. There’ll be something for various skills, interests. Learn about area, probably visit local hot springs. Some food provided. Sign up after September 1. DOK: Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.

SEPTEMBER 16 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM

SEPTEMBER 17 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM

SEPTEMBER 18 (FRIDAY) 5:30 PM
GREEN HOME . . . continued from page 7

At one point, environmentally-friendly insulation was installed in the attic. On another occasion, a more energy-efficient heat pump replaced a more wasteful system. Each step was calculated to move in the right direction and to complement previous ones. Her vision kept her on track as energy bills incrementally declined.

In 2010, Feldman took advantage of an energy audit rebate program offered by the City of Las Vegas. The blower door test revealed air leakage equivalent to a hole nearly two feet square, an all-too-common aspect of many homes. Leaks were also found in the ductwork—too-common a aspect of many homes.

Feldman continues to test her home regularly. Leaks were also found in the ductwork. Her investment will provide an ample return, saving many thousands of dollars after recouping costs. Green living makes good financial sense.

Jane Feldman’s story is compelling because it shows that focus and determination are the most important elements when it comes to living lighter on the planet. And there’s another benefit. According to Feldman, “Clean energy feels really good!”

NOTE: For more information and resources on Green Living, visit GreenDream.biz.

GREEN PRESS . . . continued from page 7

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Salmon near Bridgeport?

BY MAURICA ANDERSON

“WHAT’S THAT, SOME TRASH?” That’s what I first thought when I saw a flash of bright red in Robinson Creek, which runs into Twin Lakes near Bridgeport. When I climbed down the bank to fish it out, it was . . . a bright red fish. As I looked closer I could see that there were dozens and dozens of them, all facing upstream.

They’re Kokanee salmon and are the only salmon that live their entire lives in fresh water. Initially discovered in some freshwater lakes of the Pacific Northwest, the Kokanee (an Okanagan Native American word meaning “red fish”) were eventually transplanted by game departments throughout the West.

Although California DFG regularly plants them in a couple of dozen lakes in California, they have been self-sustaining in the Twin Lakes water system since the 1960s. They spend their lives in the lakes, until at two to three years they turn a brilliant red and swim up Robinson Creek and its tributaries to spawn and die.

The best time to see them -- and the bald eagles that enthusiastically fish for them -- is usually in the second half of September.

HIGHWAY CLEANUPS . . . continued from page 4

We had to postpone our first cleanup from May 18 to June 22 due to snow. The remaining cleanups are on Wednesday mornings after our “third Tuesday” monthly group meetings on July 20 and September 21.

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

When 10-12 people show up, we normally finish by 10:30 and then enjoy some light refreshments together.

If the State is too broke to open the rest stop, we’ll meet at the junction of Scenic Loop Road and 395, about 2 miles south of the Rest Area.

Info: Contact John Walter (760-932-1767, salt1143@gmail.com).

Toiyabe Chapter ExCom Meeting

July 9, 2011
Mammoth Lakes, CA

For details, contact the Chair, JEAN STOESS
jstoess@aol.com
775-322-5326