Words about water
BY DAVID VON SEGGERN
(vonseg1@sbcglobal.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 land. 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.

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 Las- das-based Integral Scientific Institute, the interested audience was informed of an alternative in lieu of the ground water 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 south-west, Shields believes that the reservoir stor-

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.

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).

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 Foundation your beneficiaries.

• Your chosen assets will remain under your control during your lifetime.
• You can modify your gift over time as your circumstances change.
• You can direct your gift to a specific project — that’s all it takes!

Make a tree happy!
Opt out of the paper Toiyabe Trails and talk by saving our natural resources. Email us at “optout@toiyabe.sierraclub.org” (put that address in the “To” line). Then put “optout” in the “Subject” line — that’s all you have to do.

Please see DESALINATION, page 7.

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Make a tree happy! Get your Trails online

OPT OUT OF THE PAPER TOIYABE TRAILS AND TALK BY SAVING OUR NATURAL RESOURCES. EMAIL US AT “OPTOUT@TOIYABE.SIERRACLUB.ORG” (PUT THAT ADDRESS IN THE “TO” LINE). THEN PUT “OPTOUT” IN THE “SUBJECT” LINE — THAT’S ALL YOU HAVE TO DO.

Please see CONTRIBUTION, page 2.

From the Chair
FROM THE CHAIR . . .
continued from page 1

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 journey will tend to apply equally 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 and the stamps of wildlife 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 an 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 as well as 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-saving 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>).

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 Coordinator 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 pots lucks 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 . . . continued from page 12

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.

CONTRIBUTE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS . . .
continued from page 1

purpose (such as Toiyabe Chapter efforts to preserve Lake Tahoe or the Wild and Scenic 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 Club then has the option of cashing in the policy or holding it up until the appropriate time. If you make such a gift, not only are you sharing an asset that you and your family no longer need, but you also may receive an income tax deduction equal to the surrender value of the policy.

Obviously, you should consult with your family probate attorney and/or financial advisor prior to making major decisions regarding the beneficiaries of your will. There is sample language for your will as well as more information about bequests on the Sierra Club website at http://sierraclub.plannedgiving.org/. (Also see page 2 of any Trails issue for the Club’s Planned Giving art and information.) We invite you to play a meaningful role in protecting the environment for future generations. Your family will thank you!

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; toiyabe@sierract.net)
Deadline – 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 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 stamp, 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 12968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968 or <address.changes@sierraclub.org>.

Membership information – There is a membership coupon in each issue of Toiyabe Trails. You can also call the Chapter Membership Chair (see Chapter Directory, this page) or the Sierra Club office in San Francisco (415-977-5653).

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.

Deadline! SEPTEMBER 1 FOR OCT-NOV-DEC ISSUE
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 Nevada Forest in a volunteer project over Piute Pass in John Muir Wilderness. We’ll be working on campsite around Lower Golden Trout Lake in order to restore Sierra yellow-legged frog habitat. Expect a moderate to strenuous hike in and 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 basin 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 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 some sections. Also, we’ll plant native trees 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).

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 meteor shower really show up well. Side trips to hot springs and Emigrant Trail likely. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443).

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: Margaret McGuigan.

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, Adventure 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

SEPTEMBER 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 meteor shower really show up well. Side trips to hot springs and Emigrant Trail likely. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443).

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In March, 2016, 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 sailboat. 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 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 no longer include a three-month outing schedule in the Trails at the moment. We will, however, continue the outings for which we have leader commitments. These outings begin on this page.

Our outings will, of course, continue as planned! For details of outings not included in the Trails:
• Visit our website at: http://www.sierraclub.org/rolgroup
• Find us on Facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/Range-of-Light-Group-464739668902777/
• Connect with us on our Meetup page (currently 172 members) which also lists all our outings: http://www.meetup.com/ROLSierraClub-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. These are easier excursions, and often relate to a point of history in the Mammoth area. For details see OUTINGS, beginning on this page.

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 strenuous outings have included day hikes to 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.

OUTINGS

JULY 3 (SUNDAY)
NO OUTING.

September 4th (SUNDAY)
5:30 pm, Picnic Potluck and Northern California rivers to serve canyon views, and an opportunity to relate to a point of history in the Mammoth area. For details see OUTINGS, beginning on this page.

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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.Clarke@gmail.com).

July 9 (Saturday)  
Hike with FOI & ROLG. Hike into Deadhorse Meadow, Wyman Canyon, and possibly climb Black 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, rhinn@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.Clarke@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 the distribution of plants by elevation. We will supply hand lenses. Bring $5 shuttle fee (exact $). Optional extension: ride shuttle to Devil’s Postpile and hike to Rainbow Falls, about 4 mi. Meet 9 am at Minaret Vista Knoll. No dogs. Contact: Jean (760-648-7109, dilinghamjean@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 sway late. Dinner begins at 5:30 pm. Adequate parking. Contact: Mike & Mary (805-217-5563).

July 20 (Wednesday)  
Highway Clean-up. Join ROL 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, rhinn@skidmore.edu).

July 23 (Saturday)  
Birding Outing. Local bird expert Steve Brad will lead a morning birding walk in the Mammoth Lakes area. Look for resident birds and migrant; there may be some surprises. Location TBD, depending on weather conditions and bird activity. Meet 7:30 am, ML Union Bank. Binoculars necessary. No dogs. Contact: Karen (949-240-3956).

August 4 (Thursday), August 7 (Sunday), & August 11 (Thursday)  
Check ROL website, Facebook, MeetUp, & local papers for details. See beginning of Oouting 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 ½ mile. Contact: 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 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 (¾ 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. Contact and details: Mike & Mary (805-217-5563).

August 21 (Sunday) & August 25 (Thursday)  
Lake & Mine Walk. About 2 mi RT. Meet at Union Bank 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-Together. Destination TBA. Contact: Joanne (760-709-5050, jphophous73@gmail.com).

September 1 (Thursday) & September 3 (Saturday)  
Glass Mn hike with FOI & ROLG. Details to follow. Check ROL website, Facebook, MeetUp, and local papers for details. See beginning of Oouting section for internet addresses.

September 4 (Sunday) & September 8 (Thursday)  
Mine Walk. Walk uphill about ¾ 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 Oouting section for internet addresses.

September 15 (Thursday)  
Check ROL website, Facebook, MeetUp, and local papers for details. See beginning of Oouting 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 Oouting 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 Oouting section for internet addresses.

September 25 (Sunday)  
Warren Fork Canyon. Moderate hike/scramble, about 6 mi RT, 1300 ft gain (begins at 8905 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 Oouting section for internet addresses.
CONSERVATION ROUNDPUP

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 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/greatbasinstarye.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 constructively 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 forests, 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 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; (2) adequate safeguards for rare and vulnerable species like the California spotted owl, 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 recognize in Southern Nevada.

On the work to protect the proposed Greater Grand Canyon 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/>

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.

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 safeguarded. 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 safeguarded. 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 safeguarded.

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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- Kaui, and New Orleans, this urban trip seeks to develop environmentally sus-

The 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-

able 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.


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 Las-

sen-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 race, which lives nowhere else in the world.

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

The rendezvous offers tours and vol-

utes 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.

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 im-

The following text is an extension of the previous page.

DE SalinAtIon FOr NEVAdA . . . continued from page 1

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

development of the SNWA pipeline proposal problems. A roundtable discussion among participants during the lunch break continued these discus-
sions. Also considered were deficiencies of the current Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) proposal which not only pits urban Nevadans against rural Neva-
dalans, 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-

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

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sen-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 race, which lives nowhere else in the world.

Fortunately, the Bureau of Land Management, the agency administering the...
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 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 sportiing 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 “Reimagine Reno” exercise puts Reno on a more sustainable course.

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>.

Outings.

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 Juplaya, 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) 5:30Pm
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). Easy.

JULY 6 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30Pm
Wednesday Conditioning Hike. Rated medium 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. Be prepared 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). Co-Leader: Jim Call (fenreticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

JULY 7 (THURSDAY) 5:30Pm
Moderate Evening Conditioning

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 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.


FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/scgbg/> (Sierra Club GBG) MEETUP: <http://www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Hiking-Reno/events/calendar/>
Great Basin Group Calendar

continued from page 8


JULY 7 (THURSDAY) 8A

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 for details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Sustained.

JULY 21 (THURSDAY) 5:30P
Moderate Evening Conditioning Hike. Please see July 7 for details. DOK. 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, 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 for details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Sustained.

July 8 (Sunday) 8:30A
Snowflower Mountain (10,243 ft) by Sharon Marie Wilcox

S
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 ridge line, 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 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

August 3 (Tuesday) 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. Sustained.

August 4 (Thursday) 5:30P

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@gmail.com).

Please see GB CALENDAR, page 11.

KIDS GET OUTDOORS…

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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.
Southern Nevada Group Calendar

All phone numbers are 702 unless otherwise noted. All hikes and service projects are led by certified outings leaders.

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

**ALL EVENTS INCLUDE CONSERVATION EDUCATION ACTIVITIES**


A full calendar of our outdoor activities can be found online at www.sierracub.org/toiyabe/southern-nevada. You can also visit us on Facebook at 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, 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, 702-896-4049). Level 4.

**JULY 11 (TUESDAY) 5P**

Calico Basin, Red Rock NCA. About 3 mi, 350 ft gain, easy. Much of this hike is classic desert, with no shade. Discussion of formation of Calico Basin rock geology, wildlife, flowers, birds. Bring 2 liters water, hat/sunscreen, flashlight, camera (area has abundant small wildlife). Park at Calico Basin, 801 Pavilion Center. Meet at NE corner of Calico parking lot closest to Pavilion Center Dr. for beginning of hike. Leader: Michele Addington (travel92037@gmail.com, 858-334-8019). Level 1½.

**JULY 24 – 30 (SUNDAY-SATURDAY)**


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

Laguna 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, 702-896-4049). Level 2.

**AUGUST 2 (TUESDAY) 5P**

S. Nevada Group Calendar

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Great Basin Group Calendar

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

SEPTEMBER 21 (WEDNESDAY) 3:30P

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.

SEPTEMBER 22 (THURSDAY) 8A

Machado Post Piles near Carson Pass Day Hike. Fire and ice. Existence of formation confirmed in 1990. Hexagonal basal 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 details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (ladyhiker1@att.net). Co-Leader: Jim Call (freneticmarmot@gmail.com). Mod. Easy.

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.
IF YOU WANT TO KNOW 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.”

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. Such as the Rise & Fall of the Great Powers, The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers meant for the mass audience, such as the Rise & Fall of the Great Powers, 1491.

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 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 (geotunac@aol.com, 702-896-4049). Level 3%.

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 lowest 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 1%.

SEPTEMBER 9 (FRIDAY) 8 AM Muffin Trail, outside Red Rock NCA. About 8½ mi, 1200 ft gain, strenuous. Spectacular hiking 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 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.

Red Spring Thrust Fault, Red Rock Canyon NCA. About 3 mi RT, 500 ft gain, 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 (geotunac@aol.com, 702-896-4049). Level 3%.

SEPTEMBER 27 (TUESDAY) 5P 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 flowers. 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 for beginning of hike. Leader: Michele Addington (travel92037@gmail.com, 858-334-8019). Level 1%.

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

Toiyabe Chapter ExCom 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.