



TOIYABE TRAILS

JULY - AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2011

SUMMER OUTINGS Issue

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

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 Stiller 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.



Boat infested with quagga mussels (top). Quagga mussel examples from a workshop (below, right). Both courtesy of Kim Jolly, Nevada Dept. of Wildlife. Closeup of quagga mussel (below, left). Courtesy of Amy Benson, U.S. Geological Survey. See map on page 7 showing spread of quaggas through the western U.S.

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 quaggas clog pipes; keeping water intake and discharge pipes clear of quagga 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

Please see QUAGGA MUSSELS, page 2.

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 8096, Reno, NV 89507.



DEADLINE!

SEPT 1

FOR OCT-NOV-DEC ISSUE

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Range of Light Group	Malcolm Clark	760-924-5639, wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com
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Wildlife Co-Chair	Tina Nappe	tnappe@nvcbell.net

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, 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 issue petition or any petition by a Chapter member seeking to be placed on the ballot for Chapter ExCom. To qualify for candidacy by petition, petitions must be signed by 1.5% (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 eligible voters for the elections. 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 "fishery" 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>

Create an Environmental Legacy.

Bequests have played a key role in Sierra Club's environmental successes over the years.

Planning now may make your gift more meaningful and reduce taxes on your estate. We have many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

For more info and confidential assistance, contact Gift Planning Program
85 Second St. 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
(800) 932-4270
planned.giving@sierraclub.org

Toiyabe Trails



SERVING NEVADA
& CALIFORNIA'S E. SIERRA

Toiyabe Trails is published four times each year by the Toiyabe Chapter of the Sierra Club, P.O. Box 8096, Reno, NV 89507, to help keep our members well-informed and better able to protect the environment—for our families, for our future.

Editor – Lynne Foster (94 Mountain View Drive, Swall Meadows, Bishop, CA 93514-9207; 760-387-2634; lfoster@schat.net.

Assoc. Editor – Kathy Morey (760-938-2050). Kathy usually does one issue each year.

Deadlines – Contributions are due by the 1st of the month for publication in the following month's issue: December 1 for January-February-March; March 1 for April-May-June; June 1 for July-August-September; September 1 for October-November-December.

Submissions – Call or e-mail editor before deadline for late submissions. Submit news, story ideas, photos, and letters-to-the-editor to the editor (contact info above). Please include your name, phone, e-mail address, and group with all contributions. Please send your contributions by e-mail. If you don't have a computer, please ask a friend to help you. For photo return, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The *Toiyabe Trails* reserves the right to edit all contributions for reasons of space, clarity, slander, or libel.

Subscriptions – *Toiyabe Trails* is free to all Toiyabe Chapter members. Subscription cost for non-members is \$12 per year. To subscribe, send check for \$12, payable to "Toiyabe Chapter," to *Toiyabe Trails* Subscriptions, Sierra Club, Toiyabe Chapter, c/o Treasurer. Contact Treasurer, Glenn Miller (775-846-4516) for address.

Change of address – Postmaster & Members, please send address changes to Sierra Club, Change of Address, P. O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968 or <address.changes@sierraclub.org>.

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

Other Sierra Club information. Call the Toiyabe Chapter Chair or Conservation Chair (see Chapter Directory, this page) or the Sierra Club Information Center in San Francisco (415-977-5653). Also, see group pages for website addresses of groups.

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 water color 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 benefiting 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 opinionated 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: 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.

Summer Desert Trips

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

All Desert Committee activities, unless stated otherwise, are suitable for anyone who enjoys the outdoors. The average car or high clearance vehicle will be adequate for most trips. For a good guide to desert travel we recommend the Sierra Club book, *Adventuring in the California Desert*, by Lynne Foster.

For questions about, or to sign up for, a particular outing, please contact leader listed in write-up. For questions about Desert Committee outings in general, or to receive outings list by e-mail, please contact Kate Allen (kjallen@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 commissary for the three dinners, three breakfasts: about \$20. Trip 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@sierraclub.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

SEPTEMBER 30-OCTOBER 2: PLEIN AIR RETREAT FOR ARTISTS

Enjoy a weekend experiencing the beauty of the Sierra fall 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.

OCTOBER 7-9: CHIX IN THE STIX

An event especially for women. A fun opportunity for women to gather for hiking, crafts, and short, interesting programs. Organized by Trudy Boardman, Nevada City certified Sierra Club Outings leader. Fee: \$135/person.

For details of all of these activities and more, go to the Clair Tappaan website: <www.sierraclub.org/outings/lodges/ctl/>.

— contributed by Chuck Shackett,
Clair Tappaan Lodge Committee

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 nearby 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 eve, 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 & Letty French (lettyfrench@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 Salsberry Pass. Saturday, hike 2 mi up Cottonwood Canyon for trail-work. Primitive camping in Cottonwood Canyon. Need mod. to high clearance vehicle. Friday afternoon, work. Saturday, Sunday, be treated to ranger guided hike through narrows of Marble Canyon. Leader: Kate Allen (kj.allen96@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 historic ghost town of Ballarat (flush toilets, 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 Ballarat's graveyard. Sunday, quick visit to infamous Riley townsite. Group size strictly limited. Info: contact leader, Lygeia Gerard (760-868-2179).

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 impressive stash of 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 Grubb 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.sierraclub.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.sierraclub.org/outings/lodges/huts/> or phone 800-679-6775.

2011 Dates, huts, & contacts

July 9-10, Benson Hut, Jim Gannon (707-525-1052 / jgannon99@sbcglobal.net)

July 9-10, Peter Grubb Hut, Dick Simpson (650-494-9272 / hut.coord@yahoo.com)

Sept 9-10, Benson Hut, Jim Gannon (707-525-1052 / jgannon99@sbcglobal.net)

Sept 24-25, Bradley Hut, Hal Tompkins (650-364-8603 / hal_tompkins@yahoo.com)

Oct 1-2, Peter Grubb Hut, Bill Erlach (775-762-5092 / bill@erlach.com)

Oct 8-9, Ludlow Hut, Jason McLachlan (530-913-8619 / propwash@pacbell.net)

Oct 15-16, Peter Grubb Hut, Dick Simpson (650-494-9272 / hut.coord@yahoo.com)

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 Lisius, wildlife biologist, Bridgeport 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 ??? for a report on our May llama program.

Outings. Our calendar for the remainder of the summer season are on this page (and continued to 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 -- 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.

Group ExCom meetings

WE USUALLY MEET on the first Tuesdays 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).

RANGE OF LIGHT GROUP

OFFICERS

Chair	Malcolm Clark*	760-924-5639
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Secretary	Brigitte Berman*	760-924-2140
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At Large	Jean Dillingham*	760-648-7109
At Large	Maurica Anderson*	760-387-2634
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Editor	Lynne Foster	760-934-1767
Hwy Cleanup	John Walter	760-934-1767
Hospitality	Wilma Wheeler	760-934-3764
LORP	Mark Bagley	760-873-5326
Membership	Shalle Genevieve	760-934-9668
Winter Outings	John Walter	760-934-1767
Summer Outings	Henning Jensen	805-452-5461
Outings Asst.	Dick Baggett	760-924-5749
Programs	Claus Engelhardt	760-872-4596
Publicity	Rosemary Jarrett*	see At Large, above
Webmaster	Jo Bacon	jbacon22@verizon.net
Webmaster Emeritus	Owen Maloy	760-934-9511

* Voting ExCom member

Highway cleanups

July 20 & September 21, 2011

WILL BUD LIGHT, DESIGNER WATER, or Red Bull win the "drink of slob" 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.



Range of Light Calendar

ALL OUTINGS INCLUDE CONSERVATION EDUCATION ACTIVITIES!

All phone numbers are 760 unless otherwise noted.

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

July thru September: "Fun & Fitness" Wednesday Evening Hikes

BY HENNING JENSEN, ROL SUMMER OUTINGS LEADER

Join us every Wednesday evening, 6 pm, ML Union Bank parking lot for hike to get fit, stay fit for summer fun. Explore local trails, learn about our natural surroundings, geology, wildflower, trees. All hikes mod. to easy, completed by dark. Bring water, layered clothes, sturdy shoes. Info: call leader, Dick Baggett (760 924 5749). Well-behaved dogs OK.

JULY 3 (SUNDAY)

Holiday week end. No outings.

JULY 10 (SUNDAY)

Flower Walk to Glass Creek Meadow. Hike to beautiful Glass Creek Meadow to see millions of buttercups, effect of sheep grazing, meadow. About 7 mi RT, mod. trail. Optional hike to top of White Wing Mountain. Bring lunch, lots of water, hiking boots, insect repellent, hat, sunscreen. Meet 8 am, ML Union Bank parking lot. Leaders: Jean Dillingham (760 648 7109), Wilma Wheeler (760 934 3764), Kathy Duvall (760 387 2122), Shalle Genevieve (760 934 9668). Well-behaved dogs OK.

JULY 17 (SUNDAY)

Rock Creek to Mono Pass, Golden Lake. From Mosquito Flat ascend via beautiful Ruby Lake, many spectacular switchbacks to Mono Pass; meander x-c down to Golden Lake with downhill return to trailhead at bridge just below main Mosquito Flat parking lot. About 11 mi RT. Bring lunch, lots of water, hiking boots, insect repellent, hat, sunscreen. We'll have lunch, then swim at Golden Lake, if you choose to. This strenuous hike is for acclimatized hikers who can hike at steady pace with group at high elev. Please call leaders for info. Meet 8 am, ML Union Bank parking lot or 9 am, Mosquito Flat trailhead. Leaders: Dave Pedersen (650

388 6581), Kathy Duvall (760 387 2122). No dogs.

JULY 24 (SUNDAY)

Geology Hike in Convict Canyon. Learn about area's geology while hiking around 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 mod. 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 month-

Please see ROL CALENDAR, page 5.

You're Invited!

Range of Light Group Monthly Meeting Everyone welcome!

July 19 (Tues)

Outdoor Potluck & BBQ, 6 pm!

Hayden 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

August 16 (Tues)

Outdoor Potluck & BBQ, 6 pm!

Rock Creek Lake Campground

Day Use Area

Take Hwy 395 turnoff at Tom's Place - marked "Crowley Lake Drive/Rock Creek Creek Lake." Head S on Rock Creek Rd to just past Rock Creek Lake Resort/store,restaurant/pie-delight), turn L at Rock Lake Campground, follow road to end (about 0.6 mi), to day-use area on R. We will be at one of the table/fire pit areas near the road.

Please bring your own non-disposable table setting, your own chair, something to grill, drinks, & a dish to share.

Meet at campground at 3 pm for optional activities: kayaking, hiking, fishing, photography, your choice. All dogs need to be on leash in the area of the gathering. By 6 pm the BBQs will be ready!

INFO. Mary K (760-934-0355, mkp@npgcable.com or Shalle (760-934-9668, marshalle@earthlink.net).

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, Mauriça 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 Genevieve (marshalle@earthlink.net), Mary Kay Prentice (mkp@npgcable.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 be 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.
- She cannot take a mixed group of males

and female llamas together on the trail, as females ovulate "on demand."

- Llamas are gentle, especially around kids.
- 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 up on 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 Pederson 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 WW I.

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 mule 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 plume, 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/rolgroup/> for the latest updates.



Heading up to Black Eagle Camp on our Spark Plug Mine adventure. Photo: Roberta McIntosh.

The Range of Light Group's new display board debuted at the Banff Film Festival in April. Rosemary Jarrett (pictured) and Shalle Genevieve "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

ly field trips for Buena Vista Audubon (Oceanside), also trips once or twice year



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 Sea & Sage Audubon group when they visit Mammoth area. An avid birder, he keeps detailed monthly and yearly records of birds sighted in Mono County. Bring lunch, 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 Genevieve (760 934 9668). No dogs.

JULY 31 (SUNDAY)

North Lake to Lamarck & 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 car-pool. 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 paddle, bird watch, and explore for about 2-3 hours (depending on wind), then have lunch on shore. See, learn about wide variety of birds, particular waterfowl. 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, RV 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 Genevieve (760 934 9668), Phyllis Benham (760 934 8283). No dogs.

AUGUST 21 (SUNDAY)

Coldwater Canyon to Sky Meadow Pass. From Coldwater trail head, follow trail to Sky Meadow, then hike x-c over Sky Meadow Pass, back towards Heart Lake. About 10 mi RT, mod. to strenuous trail, x-c. Steep x-c descent. Bring lunch, plenty of water, hiking boots, insect repellent, hat, sunscreen. Meet 8 am, ML Union Bank parking lot. Leaders: Henning Jensen (805 452 5461), Grethe Jensen (805 453 5726). Well-behaved dogs OK.

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). Dogs: Check with leaders beforehand.

SEPTEMBER 4 (SUNDAY)

Labor Day weekend. No outings.

Please see ROLCALENDAR, page 11.

CONSERVATION ROUNDUP

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

— John Muir

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.

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 draw-downs 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.

Good news. Nearly 1000 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.greatbasinwaternet.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.

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.

If anyone is interested in helping,

please get touch with me at erikreno@aol.com, or with Sarah Matsumoto at sarah.matsumoto@sierraclub.org to get involved.

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 (NDOW) 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



The U.S. Fish and Wildlife set up this interactive, 40-foot Lahontan cutthroat trout tent at Walker Lake Education Day at Sportsman's Beach on May 7. Photo: Lorna Weaver.



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.

Lake. Bob Goodman of Lahontan Audubon Society, who shared his spotting scope with Education Day visitors, reported seeing only a fraction of the birds which 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.



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.

DEADLINE!
SEPT 1
FOR OCT-NOV-DEC ISSUE



I frequently tramped eight or ten miles through the deepest snow to keep an appointment with ... an old acquaintance among the pines.

— Henry David Thoreau

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

the current conservation representative (who only joined the Sierra Club, for instance, so he would be eligible) with someone supported by conservationists and sportsmen. Unfortunately, the Governor could not unilaterally 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 harassed to force 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 wee hours of the last day of 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, com-

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 1300 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



Jane Feldman. Photo: Par Rasmussen.



PV on roof. Photo: Steve Rypka.

Green press initiative

BY JEAN STOESS

IF YOU STILL READ BOOKS — you know, with pages that you physically turn in order to progress through the book — rather than curling up with a Kindle or other electronic gizmo, you should know that some book publishers are using green techniques in their printing processes.

A note in a book I read recently said the book was printed on 30% post-consumer recycled paper, processed chlorine free, which saved: 12 trees, 5342 gallons of wastewater, 4 million BTUs of total energy, 324 pounds of solid waste, and 1109 pounds of greenhouse gases. The publisher, McBooks Press, chose this paper because their printer

Please see GREEN PRESS, page 12.

Please see GREEN HOME, page 12.

Great Basin Gatherings

Great Basin Group

Group News

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 people 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 your 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 (cathsch256@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 "presenters" 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!

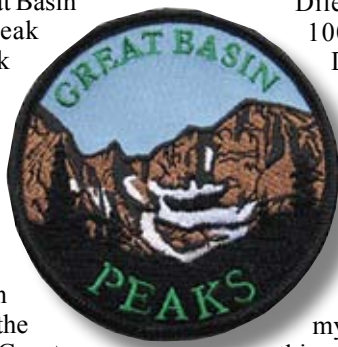
Great Basin Peak Section News

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 overstep 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.

I challenge you to answer my initial questions by taking this 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

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Vice-Chair	David von Seggern*	775-303-8461	vonseg1@sbcglobal.net
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Treasurer	Martin Mace*	775-745-4703	mace.martin@gmail.com
Conservation	David von Seggern*	775-303-8461	vonseg1@sbcglobal.net
Distribution	Craig Mastos	775-348-1862	
Energy	Jeff Hardcastle*	775-313-8442	jeff.hardcastle@sbcglobal.net
Membership	John Davis*	775-448-6067	nmgreen87901@yahoo.com
Outings	Holly Coughlin	775-331-7488	
Political	Open		
Programs	Graham Stafford*	775-686-8478	graham@grahamstafford.com
Webmaster	Peter Johnson	775-250-2576	peter.johnson@charter.net

* ExCom member

Great Basin Group Calendar

All phone numbers are 775 unless otherwise noted.
ALL events include conservation education activities.

CST Nevada Tour Operator – Registration Information, Nevada Tour Operator
Ref. No. 2008-0041 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.

JULY 1-4 (FRIDAY-MONDAY) TBD
Leader's Choice Black Rock Car Camp. Join mixed bag of people on playa for annual 4th of July celebration. Expect lots of people, big fireworks on playa. We'll probably camp near one of hot springs, take short side trips during weekend. Expect to get your car dusty! Learn about Black Rock Desert. Sign-up after 6-15-11. Call for details. DL. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.

JULY 2 (SATURDAY) 8:30 AM
Ralston Peak. Hike to this peak (9235 ft) from Echo Lake. Look for, learn about pikas, marmots, both of which live near this summit. About 9 mi, involves over 2000 ft gain. Part will be off-trail, over rough terrain. ND. Leader: John Ide (321-525-2050, johnide1@yahoo.com). Mod. Strenuous.

JULY 5 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM
Easy Conditioning Hike. Easier-paced weekly evening conditioning hikes, about 3-4 mi, with minimal to mod. gain. Get acquainted with trails in Reno-Sparks foothills, meet like-minded hiking friends, learn about history, flora, fauna of areas we hike. Call Hike Hotline for time, place on weekend before Tuesday hikes. DL. Leader:

Yvonne Jerome (473-1445). Mod. Easy.

JULY 6 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM
Fast-Paced Wednesday Conditioning Hike. Join us on brisk after-work hike somewhere in hills surrounding Truckee Meadows. Hikes generally 4-5 mi, 800-1200 ft gain. Learn about trails to hike, flora, fauna we observe. Bring water, trail shoes. Call Hike Hotline. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (473-1445). Mod. Strenuous.

JULY 7 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM
Thursday Conditioning Hike. Join us for conditioning hikes of 3-5 mi, mod. pace and gain. Discover trails in, around Truckee Meadows, learn about flora, fauna. DL. Leader: Grace Caudill (473-1445). Co-Leader: Ridge Walker (473-1445). Moderate.

JULY 9 (SATURDAY) 9 AM
Avoid Second Hike: Tire Changing Class. You're way out in the forest and hike back to your car, only to find a flat tire. There's no cell service. What now? Oh, it looks like rain! We'll meet in flat, clean parking lot, go through the steps of tire changing, including some easy tricks to make it easier. You must bring your car, owner's manual, and jack/tire tools that came with your car! This will be "hands-on," so wear old clothes. Learn to do it yourself, become self-sufficient, give your boyfriend some tips! We'll finish up about lunchtime. ND. Leader: David Book (775-843-6433). Easy.

JULY 12 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM
Easy Conditioning Hikes. See July 5 for hike description. Call Hike Hotline for weekly details. DL. Leader: Yvonne Jerome (473-1445). Mod. Easy.

Please see GB CALENDAR, page 9.

Building Bridges to the Outdoors

BY SUE JACOX, SUEJACOX@NVBELL.NET

MOMS, DADS, AND GRANDPARENTS brought children of all ages to a family exploration of Oxbow Nature Study Area on a sunny Sunday in May. A 22-acre urban nature center along the Truckee River just a mile from downtown Reno, Oxbow is a hidden gem and a convenient place for families to explore outdoors.



Children explore at the edge of the Truckee River at Oxbow Nature Study Area in Reno during Great Basin group family outing. Photo: Sue Jacox.

This outing was a follow-up to Reno's first screening of "Mother Nature's Child" at the May Great Basin group program meeting. The film was inspired by Richard

Louv's best-selling book, *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature Deficit Disorder*, and emphasizes the crucial role of outdoor experiences for a child's intellectual, physical, and psychological development.

Great Basin group leaders Valerie Andersen and Craig Mastos, and Great Basin Outdoor School president Sue Jacox, led the Oxbow outing to encourage parents to help their children connect with nature and to support our local chapter's interest in Sierra Club's national "Building Bridges to the Outdoors" initiative.

For more information about building bridges to the outdoors for children, contact Sue Jacox (775-849-1890, suejacox@nvtbell.net) and see <www.greatbasin-os.org>.

GB 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.sierraclub.org/gbgroup>). Also check our Calendar in this issue of the *Trails*.

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

Don't forget to visit the

Great Basin Group website

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

& the Chapter website

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

Great Basin Group Calendar

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JULY 13 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM
Fast-Paced Wednesday Conditioning Hike. See July 6 for details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (473-1445). Mod. Strenuous.

JULY 14 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM
Thursday Conditioning Hike. See July 7 for details. DL. Leader: Grace Caudill (473-1445). Co-Leader: Ridge Walker (473-1445). Moderate.

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

JULY 16 (SATURDAY) 8 AM
Showers Lake via Meiss Ridge near Carson Pass. Showers Lake Loop hike at Carson Pass off Highway 88. About 9 mi in loop, first through wildflowers, then with scenic views along Meiss Ridge. Return through upper Truckee River watershed with grassy meadows. Usually there are many wildflowers. Gain about 2000 ft for day. Learn some history of area. Drivers need \$5 for parking fee at trailhead. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Mod. Strenuous.

JULY 19 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM
Easy Conditioning Hike. See July 5 for hike description. Call Hike Hotline for weekly details. DL. Leader: Yvonne Jerome (473-1445). Mod. Easy.

JULY 19 (TUESDAY) 8:30 AM
Pah Rah Range Peak Ramble. Ridge ramble to two of highest summits of Pah Rah Range: Virginia Peak (8366 ft) and Pah Rah Mtn (8240 ft). Both are GBPS peaks. Panoramic vistas of Pyramid Lake, points N. Mostly cross-country over rolling volcanic terrane. Hope to see desert wildlife including eagles, antelope. Ten mi round-trip, 1000 ft elev. gain. Moderate difficulty. Trip limit 12. DL. Leader: Ridge Walker (853-8055, edc@unr.edu). Co-Leader: Sharon Marie Wilcox (852-5075). Moderate.

JULY 20 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM
Fast-Paced Wednesday Conditioning Hike. See July 6 trip details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (473-1445). Mod. Strenuous.

JULY 21 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM
Thursday Conditioning Hike. See July 7 trip details. DL. Leader: Grace Caudill (473-1445). Co-Leader: Ridge Walker (473-1445). Moderate.

JULY 23 (SATURDAY) 8:30 AM

Fair pay for your share of the fare

BY HOLLY COUGHLIN, GREAT BASIN GROUP OUTINGS CHAIR

With gas reaching the \$4 mark this year, it is important for all of us to consider contributing reasonable amounts to participants who volunteer as drivers to outings locations.

The average vehicle gets around 22 mpg and the driver spends about \$0.61/mile to run their automobile. If we look at only the gas, here's a quick mileage guide to consider:

25 miles RT: contribute \$3.00-4.00
50 miles RT: contribute \$6.00-7.00
75 miles RT: contribute \$9.00-10.00
100 miles RT: contribute \$12.50-13.00

This is bare-bones, considering gas at \$4.00/gal and only one person ride-sharing. If there are more people carpooling, adjust the cost accordingly.

Remember, the reasons we ENCOURAGE ride-sharing are:

- to save nonrenewable energy sources,
 - for air quality
 - to save money
 - because it's a fun way to meet new people
- It's only FAIR to help out with the "FARE" costs of the volunteer drivers.

Lola Montez. Hike Hole-in-the-Wall Trail area, N of Royal Gorge to lower, upper Lola Montez lakes. Great swimming, quasi-x-c hike to upper lake. About 7 mi, 1000 ft gain. DOK. Leader: Craig Mastos (348-1862, maquis@softcom.net). Moderate.

JULY 23 (SATURDAY) 7:30 AM
Pennsylvania Creek. About 12 mi RT, with 1200 ft gain, on Pacific Crest Trail from Ebbet's Pass (Hwy 4). Probably multiple snowfield crossings. Scenic, majestic views throughout. Learn about wildflowers while hiking through wonderful volcanic formations and by three beautiful lakes. Mod. strenuous because of altitude. DL. Leader: Lucrecia Belancio (775-851-9279, lucrecianature@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

JULY 23 (SATURDAY) 8 AM
Schneider Cow Camp/Showers Lake Loop. Enjoy, learn about spectacular wildflowers, vistas on this 8 mi loop. Stop at Showers Lake for lunch, swimming. About 1800 ft gain. DOK. Leaders: Valerie Andersen (775-544-3061, mtval@sbcglobal.net), Grace Caudill (775-233-6404, myoki@att.net). Moderate.

JULY 24 (SUNDAY) 8:30 AM
Lakes Basin/Mt. Elwell Loop Day Hike. We will wind by Big Bear, Little Bear, Cub, Long, Silver, Mud Lakes on our way to ascend Mt. Elwell (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 26 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM
Easy Conditioning Hike. See July 5 for hike description. Call Hike Hotline for weekly details. DL. Leader: Yvonne Jerome (473-1445). Mod. Easy.

JULY 27 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM
Fast-Paced Wednesday Conditioning Hike. See July 6 trip details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (473-1445). Mod. Strenuous.

JULY 28 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM
Thursday Conditioning Hike. See July 7 trip details. DL. Leader: Grace Caudill (473-1445). Co-Leader: Ridge Walker (473-1445). Moderate.

JULY 30 (SATURDAY) 8 AM
Elephant's Back near Carson Pass. Near Carson Pass, Highway 88. Visit Frog, Winnemucca, Round Top Lakes. Scale Elephant's Back, enjoy sweeping views of high Sierra. Possibly return by Woods Lake, including hiking on part of emigrant wagon train route. Wildflowers should be in full display. Learn about history of area. Drivers need \$5 for parking fee. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Mod. Strenuous.

JULY 30 (SATURDAY) 8:30 A.M.
Jamison Lake. Hike from Jamison Mine area to Jamison Lake. Another great swimming spot. Learn about old mining operation. About 7 mi RT, 1000 ft gain. DOK. Leader: Craig Mastos (348 1862, maquis@softcom.net). Moderate.

JULY 31 (SUNDAY) 8 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 (775-315-6763, d_inversin@yahoo.com). Mod. Strenuous.

JULY 31 (SUNDAY) 8:30 AM
Marlette Peak (8,780 ft). Northbound hike from Spooner Lake past scenic, historic Marlette Lake to Marlette Peak, overlooking Lake Tahoe. Learn about firs, pine trees along way. About 10 mi RT, 1800 ft gain. Trip limit 12. DL. Leader: Ridge Walker (853-8055, edc@unr.edu). Moderate.

AUG 2 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM
Easy Conditioning Hike. See July 5 for hike description. Call Hike Hotline for weekly details. DL. Leader: Yvonne Jerome (473-1445). Mod. Easy.

AUG 2 (TUESDAY) 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 by scaling third-highest peak in Tahoe Basin. About 10 mi, 2100 ft gain. Spectacular views of Lake Tahoe, Reno, beyond. Learn about wildflowers, history of area. Trip limit 15. ND. Leader: Karen Todd (775-225-

2805, kmtodd@gmail.com). Co-Leader: Sharon Marie Wilcox (775-852-5075, gbpeaks@toyabe.sierraclub.org). Strenuous.

AUG 3 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 AM
Fast-Paced Wednesday Conditioning Hike. See July 6 trip details. DOK.

Leader: Holly Coughlin (473-1445). Mod. Strenuous.

AUG 4 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM
Thursday Conditioning Hike. Join us for 3-5 mi conditioning hikes at mod. pace and gain. Discover trails in, around Truckee Meadows. DL. Leader: Grace Caudill (473-1445). Co-Leader: Ridge Walker (473-1445). Moderate.

AUG 6-7 (SATURDAY-SUNDAY) TBA
Two Hikes in Yosemite National Park, Toulumne Area. First hike: Young Lake 14.6 mi loop, about 1600 ft gain, starting by Lemert Dome area (8,600 ft). Destination is series of lakes in deep, wide glacial cirque. Great scenic views of majestic peaks. Upper lake nestled at high meadow at 10,218 ft. On way back, hike is mostly downhill, but toward end an additional uphill -- worth the effort! Mod. strenuous. Second hike: Mono Pass day hike starts at 9700 ft, about 9 mi RT, with about 1000 ft gain. Learn about flowers, fungi in meadows. Great views of Mt. Gibbs, Mt. Dana, Kuna Crest. Side trip to mining cabins. On Mono Pass, see down to Bloody Canyon, Mono Lake. Route used by area indians to trade. Mod. strenuous because of altitude. Leaders will camp out in White Wolf campground 8/2-8/7. Welcome to join us anytime. Camping first come, first serve. ND. Leader: Lucrecia Belancio (775-851-9279, lucrecianature@gmail.com). Co-Leader: Donna Inversin (775-315-6763). Mod. Strenuous.

AUG 7 (SUNDAY) 8:30 AM
Mt. Tallac Day Hike. Climb to summit (9735 ft) in Desolation Wilderness. Learn

about area ecology along way. Over 2500 ft gain, 10 mi. ND. Leader: John Ide (321-525-2050, johnde1@yahoo.com). Mod. Strenuous.

AUG 9 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM
Easy Conditioning Hike. See July 5 for hike description. Call Hike Hotline for weekly details. DL. Leader: Yvonne Jerome (473-1445). Mod. Easy.

AUG 10 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 AM
Fast-Paced Wednesday Conditioning Hike. See July 6 trip details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (473-1445). Mod. Strenuous.

AUG 11 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM
Thursday Conditioning Hike. See AUG 4 trip details. DL. Leader: Grace Caudill (473-1445). Co-Leader: Ridge Walker (473-1445). Moderate.

AUG 12-14 (FRIDAY-SUNDAY) TBA
Perseid Meteor Shower in Black Rock. Meet group of other Black Rock enthusiasts, 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. DL. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.

AUG 13 (SATURDAY) 8 AM
Five Lakes at Carson Pass Day Hike. Hike from ranger station off Hwy 88 to Frog, Winnemucca, Round Top, Emigrant, Caples Lakes (five lakes, two snow banks). About 12 mi one-way hike with vehicle shuttle. Gain about 1500 ft, some x-c, boulder scrambling. Learn a bit about history of emigrant wagon trail in that area. Drivers need \$5 for parking fee. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Mod. Strenuous.

AUG 13 (SATURDAY) 8 AM
Lake Angela, Flora Lake, Azalea Lake Day Hike. Enjoy great swimming, wonderful views on this 6 mi loop, 500 ft gain, while visiting three pretty, granitic, alpine lakes in Donner Pass area. Learn about flora, fauna. DL. Leaders: Valerie Andersen (775-544-3061, mtval@sbcglobal.net), Grace Caudill (775-233-6404, myoki@att.net). Mod. Easy.

AUG 13 (SATURDAY) 8 AM
Leavitt Peak Day Hike (11,659 ft). Trek from Sonora Pass S along Pacific Crest Trail to 11,659 ft summit of Leavitt Peak. See, learn about high alpine environment of central Sierra Nevada. About 9 mi RT, 2000 ft gain. Mod. strenuous. Trip limit 12. DL. Leader: Ridge Walker (853-8055, edc@unr.edu). Mod. Strenuous.

AUG 14 (SUNDAY) 9 AM
Appetite Warmup Day Hike. Join us on morning hike for two hours somewhere near GBG Members' Picnic area. About 3-4 mi, 500-800 ft gain. Bring water, trail shoes. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (331-7488). Mod. Easy.

AUG 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 right. GBG will provide hamburgers 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 bring a friend, meet other members. Children welcome. DOK with leashes. Call for details. Leader: Holly Coughlin (331-7488). Easy.

AUG 16 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM
Easy Conditioning Hike. See July 5 for hike description. Call Hike Hotline for weekly details. DL. Leader: Yvonne Jerome (473-1445). Mod. Easy.

AUG 17 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 AM
Fast-Paced Wednesday Conditioning

Please see GB CALENDAR, page 11.

The Mojave Monitor

Southern Nevada Group

Group News

Monthly meetings

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 the 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 protectors 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?



ICO girl giving thumbs-up! Photo: Eric King.

Southern Nevada Group Calendar

All phone numbers are 702 unless otherwise noted.

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

ALL EVENTS INCLUDE CONSERVATION EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

Nevada Tour Operator – Registration Information, Nevada Tour Operator Ref. No. 2008-0041.

JULY 9 (SATURDAY)

High Meadow on South Loop, SMNRA. Climb up to meadow to see if Julie Andrews is singing today. How many climate zones can we see from the meadow at 10,000 ft? About 10 mi RT. Leader: Bill Marr (433-0743). Level 3-4.

JULY 10 (SUNDAY)

Fletcher Canyon Loop, SMNRA. From Trail Canyon and 30 yards off North Loop, we start very steeply down Fletcher Canyon. Soon we reach a stream to follow most of way. Some rock scrambling and down rabbit hole -- then trail is easy. Car shuttle required. What plants are in bloom? Leader: David Hardy (hardyhikers@embarqmail.com, 875-4826). Level 3.

JULY 15 (FRIDAY)

Rain Tree: Full Moon Hike, SMNRA. Feel romance of full moon dancing through twisted bristlecone pines with twinkling lights of Las Vegas far below. Where are bristles on a bristlecone pine? About 6 mi RT, 1200 ft gain. Leader: George McDonald (808-3855). Level 3.

JULY 16 (SATURDAY)

Bristlecone Loop to Bonanza Trail in Search of Wild Horses, SMNRA. What are two predators who prey on wild horses as a part of their diet? About 7-8 mi. Leader: Sas-son Jahan-Shahi (499-9218). Level 4-5.

JULY 23 (SATURDAY)

North Loop Overlook into Lee Canyon, SMNRA. How can you tell a limber pine from a bristlecone pine? About 10 mi RT. Leader: Bill Marr (433-0743). Level 4.

JULY 30 (SATURDAY)

Stanley B. Springs, SMNRA. How many weeks do columbine blossom? Beginner hike, always water, either 3 mi or 5 mi RT with up and over through pines. Leader: Jack Sawyer (228-3857). Level 2-3.

Next ICO meeting. Join us on Wednesday, July 20, 6:30-8pm, 708 N. 6th St. LV, 89101. For details, go to <<http://toiyabe.sierraclub.org/sngroup/text/snevent1.html>>.

Other questions? Please contact Eric King (call or text 702 677 4751) or Janet Carter (jkumar167@aol.com).

For more info on ICO, go to <<http://sierraclub.org/ico/>>.

AUG 6 (SATURDAY)

Fletcher Peak via North Loop Trail, SMNRA. Dress properly for the weather! We could always get rain in these mountains. Why do big mountains create their own weather patterns? About 8 mi. Leader: Sas-son Jahan-Shahi (499-9218). Level 4-5.

AUG 20 (SATURDAY)

Big Falls, Kyle Canyon, SMNRA. Any sign of the 30 ft of snow we found in May? Which berry bush grows in this canyon? About 5 mi RT, 600 ft gain. Leader: Jack Sawyer (228-3857). Level 2.

AUG 27-28 (SATURDAY)

Backpack to Wood Spring on Bonanza Peak Trail, SMNRA. From Cold Creek Trailhead, camp at spring, then next day go along Divide Trail to Bristlecone Loop Trailhead in Lee Canyon. What is next closest water after Wood Spring? Leader: Eric Blumensaadt (566-0073). Level 4-5.

SEPT 3 (SATURDAY)

Cave Spring, Trail Canyon, SMNRA. Which animals depend on this spring? About 6 mi RT, 1500 ft gain. Leader: Jack Sawyer (228-3857). Level 2-3.

SEPT 9-12 (FRIDAY-MONDAY)

Backpack Lamoille Creek, Ruby Mountains, N. Nevada. Camp at Lamoille Creek Trailhead Friday night. Saturday, short backpack to beautiful campsite in box canyon. Sunday, fish in small lakes, scramble over canyon's ridges to other lakes or lay around camp. Monday after breakfast, hike back to cars and head back to Vegas. What are the long, low mounds paralleling canyon sides? Leader: Eric Blumensaadt (566-0073). Level 2-3.

SEPT 13 (SATURDAY)

Full Moon Hike, Cathedral Rock, SMNRA. Romance is in air on this popular hike overlooking lodge and twinkling lights of Kyle Canyon. About 3 mi RT, 1000 ft gain. Leader: George McDonald (808-3855). Level 2.

SEPT 11 (SUNDAY)

Griffith Peak via Harris Springs Road, SMNRA. My favorite hike in Charleston area. On a clear day, see Mt. Whitney in California, Lake Mead and Mt. Wilson in Arizona, Mt. Potosi to south, and spread out before you: Las Vegas and the beauty of Red Rock Canyon. About 10 miles RT, 2700 ft gain. Leader: George McDonald (808-3855). Level 3.

SEPT 17 (SATURDAY)

Bonanza Peak, SMNRA. Of ranges to W, can you see Telescope Peak? Mt. Whitney? Which plant is elderberry? About 10 mi RT. Leader: Bill Marr (433-0743). Level 4.

Please see SN CALENDAR, page 11.

SOUTHERN NEVADA GROUP

OFFICERS

Chair	Taj Ainlay*	702-682-9361	tajainlay@aol.com
Vice-Chair	Eric King*	702-436-9088	teamprosperitylv@yahoo.com
Secretary	Jane Feldman*		feldman.jane@gmail.com
Treasurer	Scott Stevens*	702-252-3223	sOs@mac.com
Treasurer Asst.	Desiree Saporito	702-875-2668	
At Large	Eric King*	702-436-9088	teamprosperitylv@yahoo.com
At Large	Roxanne San Jose*	702-505-1168	
Coal Power Plants	Jane Feldman*		feldman.jane@gmail.com
Conservation	Jane Feldman*		feldman.jane@gmail.com
Endangered Species & Wildlife	Jane Feldman*		feldman.jane@gmail.com
Energy	Jane Feldman*		feldman.jane@gmail.com
Global Warming	Jane Feldman*		feldman.jane@gmail.com
Membership	Taj Ainlay*	702-682-9361	tajainlay@aol.com
Outings	Par Rasmusson	702-215-9119	par@mvdsl.com
Outings	Jack Sawyer	702-228-3857	lvsawyer@hotmail.com
Parks, Refuges	Ed Rothfuss	406-756-0028	mroth9827@aol.com
Political	Taj Ainlay*	702-682-9361	
Publicity	Desiree Saporito	702-875-2668	
Transportation	Jane Feldman*		feldman.jane@gmail.com
Webmaster	Par Rasmusson*	702-215-9119	par@mvdsl.com

* ExCom member

Nick Saines appointed Naturalist Interpreter at Red Rock NCA

LONG-TIME SIERRA CLUB HIKE LEADER, Nick Saines, has been named a Naturalist Interpreter/Geologist with Red Rock Canyon Interpretive Association at Red Rock National Conservation Area in Las Vegas. The RRCIA is a non-profit organization working on behalf of the Bureau of Land Management.

Nick, a semi-retired professional geologist, will be leading geology hikes and doing public outreach and education. He will also liaise with environmental groups and professional societies, including Sierra Club, Old Spanish Trail Association, and the Geological Society of Nevada.



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

S. Nevada Group Calendar

continued from page 10

SEPT 18 (SUNDAY)

Fortification Hill, LMNRA. About 5-6 mi RT, some rock scrambling. FANTASTIC view of Lake Mead and surrounding area. Why is this rock black? Leader: Roger Olsen (526-2181). Level 3.

SEPT 24 (SATURDAY)

Kingman Wash Exploratory Loop, LMNRA. About 5-6 mi RT. Great rock formations, explore old foundations and rail tracks from dam's construction days. Leader: Roger Olsen (526-2181). Level 2-3.

OCTOBER 1 (SATURDAY)

Cathedral Rock, Kyle Canyon, SMNRA. Family hike: all ages (babies, too!). Friendly dogs welcome. Cool Fall temperatures, Autumn colors (golden aspen trees) and an awesome view of canyon and surrounding mountains at top of the "Rock." Learn a little geology, too. About 2.8 mi. RT, 1000 ft gain. Leader: Gary Beckman (648-2983). Level 2-3.

ROL Group Calendar

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SEPTEMBER 11 (SUNDAY)

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 amount of large talus negotiating on way out; if this concerns you, reconsider participating. Bring lunch, plenty of water, hiking boots, insect repellent, hat, sunscreen. Strenuous hike for acclimatized hikers, who can hike with group at high elevation. Call leaders for info. Meet 8 am, ML Union Bank parking lot or 9 am, Mosquito Flat trail head. Leaders: Dave Pedersen (650 388 6581), Kathy Duvall (760 387 2122). No dogs.

SEPTEMBER 17 (SATURDAY)

South Lake Kayak/Canoe Outing. Paddle, birdwatch, explore, for about three hours (depending on wind), then have lunch on shore. See, learn about wide variety of birds, in particular waterfowl, enjoy fall colors. Bring boat, equipment, lunch, plenty of water, sunscreen, insect repellent, 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, Bishop City Park. Leaders: Diane Lemm (760 872 0782), Shalle Genevieve (760 934 9668). No dogs.

SEPTEMBER 18 (SUNDAY)

Cathedral Lakes. This mod. to strenuous hike starts just W of Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center and follows John Muir trail S. About 7.6 mi RT, 700 ft gain to Cathedral Lakes. Observe, learn about geology, glaciation, which shaped this grandeur. Lunch on lakes' rust-stained bedrock shore. From lakes' W end you can look down upon Tenaya Lake. Hike limited to 15. If you have a Park Pass bring it, otherwise there is a vehicle fee. Bring lunch, plenty of water, hiking boots, insect repellent, hat, sunscreen. Meet 8 am, ML Union Bank parking lot or 8:45, Lee Vining Ranger Station, Hwy 120 or 9, trail head. Leaders: Brigitte Berman (760 924 2140), Dave

Great Basin Group Calendar

continued from page 8

Hike. See July 6 trip details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (473-1445). Mod. Strenuous.

AUG 18 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM

Thursday Conditioning Hike. See AUG 4 trip details. DL. Leader: Grace Caudill (473-1445). Co-Leader: Ridge Walker (473-1445). Moderate.

AUG 20 (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 TBA. Bring special potluck dish 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.

AUG 20 (SATURDAY) 8 AM

Red Lake, Stevens Peak near Carson Pass. Hike to summit of one of two peaks over 10,000 ft in Carson Pass area. Learn some history of area. Over 2000 ft gain, about 6 mi, mostly off-trail. Wildflower viewing. For experienced, conditioned hikers. Drivers need \$5 for parking fee. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Strenuous.

AUG 21 (SUNDAY) 8:30 AM

Freel Peak Day Hike (10,881 ft). Peak back of highest mountain in Carson Range, located on S rim of Tahoe basin. Hiking mostly on Tahoe Rim Trail, except for final x-c assault on summit. Overview, lessons on geologic history of this part of Sierra. About 8 mi RT, 2500 ft gain. Hike is about 25% harder than Mt. Rose. Trip limit 12. DL. Leader: Ridge Walker (853-8055, edc@unr.edu). Co-Leader: Holly Coughlin (331-7488). Moderate.

AUG 22 (MONDAY) 6:30 PM

Great Basin Group Outings Meeting. Join us as we plan outings for October-November-December calendar. Location: Holly's backyard deck. Bring salad, bread, or dessert. BBQ meats, beverages provided. Call for details. (Reminder e-mail to be sent mid-AUG). DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (331-7488). Easy.

AUG 23 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM

Easy Conditioning Hike. See July 5 for hike description. Call Hike Hotline for weekly details. DL. Leader: Yvonne Jerome (473-1445). Mod. Easy.

AUG 24 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 AM

Fast-Paced Wednesday Conditioning Hike. See July 6 trip details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (473-1445). Mod. Strenuous.

AUG 25 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM

Thursday Conditioning Hike. See AUG 4 trip details. DL. Leader: Grace Caudill (473-1445). Co-Leader: Ridge Walker (473-1445). Moderate.

AUG 28 (SUNDAY) 8:30 AM

Chimney Beach to Marlette Lake Day Hike. Less traveled route to Marlette Lake with fantastic views of Lake Tahoe. Climb from Highway 28 to Marlette Lake Dam, then follow lake S until we connect with trail to Spooner Lake. Then turn off Spooner Lake Trail to curve around N again, meet up with trail back to cars. About 9 mi, 1600 ft gain.

Pedersen (650 388 6581). No dogs.

SEPTEMBER 25 (SUNDAY)

Gaylor Granite Lakes. Hike to these lakes on the E edge of Yosemite. Mod. 6 mi RT, limited to 15. Explore long-abandoned "Great Sierra Mine," hear about its history and importance in opening Tioga Pass. 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. Leaders: Jean Dillingham (760 648 7109), Mary K Prentice (760 934 0355). No dogs.

Opportunity to learn about history of Marlette Lake, logging, fishing in Tahoe Basin. DOK. Leader: Donna Inversin (775-315-06763, d_inversin@yahoo.com). Mod. Strenuous.

AUG 30 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM

Easy Conditioning Hike. See July 5 for hike description. Call Hike Hotline for weekly details. DL. Leader: Yvonne Jerome (473-1445). Mod. Easy.

AUG 31 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM

Fast-Paced Wednesday Conditioning Hike. Join us for an after-work hike somewhere in hills surrounding Truckee Meadows. Hikes about 4-5 mi, 800-1200 ft gain, 2 hours. Learn about places to hike, flora, fauna we observe. Bring water, trail shoes. Call Hike Hotline. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (473-1445). Mod. Strenuous.

SEPT 1 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM

Thursday Conditioning Hike. Join us for 3-5 mi conditioning hikes, mod. pace, gain. Discover trails in, around Truckee Meadows. DL. Leaders: Grace Caudill (473-1445), Ridge Walker (473-1445). Moderate.

SEPT 6 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM

Easy Conditioning Hike. See July 5 for hike description. Call Hike Hotline for weekly details. DL. Leader: Yvonne Jerome (473-1445). Mod. Easy.

SEPT 7 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM

Fast-Paced Wednesday Conditioning Hike. See AUG 31 trip details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (473-1445). Mod. Strenuous.

SEPT 8 (THURSDAY)

Sierra Club Program Meeting. Time: 7-7:30, social; 7:30 program. Join Great Basin Group 2nd Thursday of each month for fun socialization, informative programs. Non-members welcome, too! For details on topic and location, go to Sierra Club website about one month before scheduled date: <<http://nevada.sierraclub.org/gbgroup>>. Info: Valerie Andersen (775-544-3061, mtnval@sbcglobal.net). ND. Leader: Valerie Andersen (775-544-3061, mtnval@sbcglobal.net). Easy.

SEPT 8 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM

Thursday Conditioning Hike. See SEPT 1 for trip details. DL. Leaders: Grace Caudill (473-1445), Ridge Walker (473-1445). Moderate.

SEPT 10 (SATURDAY) 7 AM

Three 10,000 foot peaks near Carson Pass. Dayhike to tops of three peaks, each over 10,000 ft. Just S of Lake Tahoe are Freel, Jobs Sister, Jobs peaks. We will ascend all three in one day. About 10 mi loop, about 4400 ft gain. Learn some history of area. Experienced, conditioned hikers only on this fast-paced hike. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Strenuous.

SEPT 11 (SUNDAY) 7:30 AM

Raymond Lake Day Hike. Hike on Pacific Crest Trail from Sunset Lake to beautiful Raymond Lake in Mokelumne Wilderness. If time allows, we might bag peak. High open views of surrounding mountains. With some luck, learn about late blooming flowers. About 14 mi RT, 2000 ft gain. Bring 10 Essentials, water, food. Hiking boots required. DL. Leader: Lucrecia Belancio (775-851-9279, lucrecianature@gmail.com). Mod. Strenuous.

SEPT 13 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM

Easy Conditioning Hike. See July 5 for hike description. Call Hike Hotline for weekly details. DL. Leader: Yvonne Jerome (473-1445). Mod. Easy.

SEPT 14 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 PM

Fast-Paced Wednesday Conditioning Hike. See AUG 31 trip details. DOK. Leader: Holly

Coughlin (473-1445). Mod. Strenuous.

SEPT 15 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM

Thursday Conditioning Hike. See SEPT 1 for trip details. DL. Leaders: Grace Caudill (473-1445), Ridge Walker (473-1445). Moderate.

SEPT 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 evening and head on up. Saturday, work on a variety of projects. In the past these have included building buck and pole fences around sensitive sites, 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 9/1. DL. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Mod. Easy.

SEPT 20 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM

Easy Conditioning Hike. See July 5 for hike description. Call Hike Hotline for weekly details. DL. Leader: Yvonne Jerome (473-1445). Mod. Easy.

SEPT 21 (WEDNESDAY) 5:30 AM

Fast-Paced Wednesday Conditioning Hike. See AUG 31 trip details. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (473-1445). Mod. Strenuous.

SEPT 22 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM

Thursday Conditioning Hike. See SEPT 1 for trip details. DL. Leaders: Grace Caudill (473-1445), Ridge Walker (473-1445). Moderate.

SEPT 24 (SATURDAY) 9 AM

Mt. Rose Fall Day Hike. About 10 mi, 2400 ft gain. Must be conditioned for peak bag. Enjoy Mt. Rose Wilderness. Trip limit 16. DOK. Leader: Holly Coughlin (331-7488). Mod. Strenuous.

SEPT 24 (SATURDAY) 8 AM

Thunder Mountain Day Hike in Carson Pass Area. About 7 mi, 2000 ft gain. In-&-out hike with scenic views on established trail. Mostly on ridgeline. Learn some history of area. ND. Leader: T A Taro (775-530-2935). Mod. Strenuous.

SEPT 27 (TUESDAY) 5:30 PM

Easy Conditioning Hike. See July 5 for hike description. Call Hike Hotline for weekly details. DL. Leader: Yvonne Jerome (473-1445). Mod. Easy.

SEPT 28 (WEDNESDAY) 5:50 PM

Last Wednesday Conditioning 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.

SEPT 29 (THURSDAY) 5:30 PM

Thursday Conditioning Hike. See SEPT 1 for hike details. DL. Leaders: Grace Caudill (473-1445), Ridge Walker (473-1445). Moderate.

SEPT 30 - OCTOBER 2 (FRIDAY-SUNDAY) TBA

Hot Springs, Cool Nights. Camp at hot spring 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 9/1. DL. Leader: David Book (775-843-6443). Easy.

DEADLINE!

SEPT 1

FOR OCT-NOV-DEC ISSUE

GREEN HOME . . .

continued from page 7

At one point, environmentally-friendly insulation was installed in the attic. On another occasion a new, 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. Sealing the leaks and adding a radiant barrier in the attic further improved the home's performance.

Notice that every step so far addressed efficiency. That's where you'll find the best bang for the buck. Once the home's energy usage was minimized, and when funds allowed, Feldman decided it was time to produce some of her own clean energy. With the help of Matt Van Note at Bombard Renewable Energy, her

home now produces just about all the electricity it needs over the course of a year. 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 . . .

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is a member of Green Press Initiative, a non-profit program dedicated to helping publishers reduce their use of fiber obtained from endangered forests.

Visit www.greenpressinitiative.org and www.papercalculator.org for more information.

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.

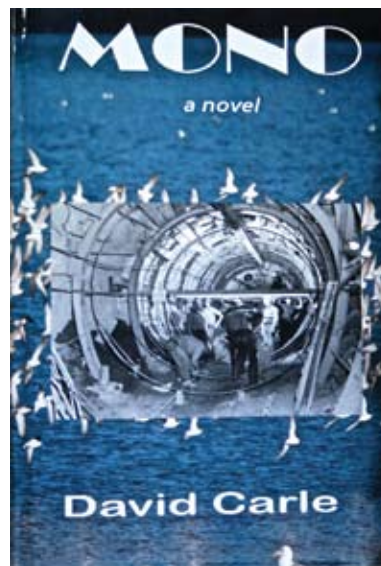


Kokanee salmon in Robinson Creek, near Bridgeport. Photo: Maurica Anderson.

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.

Bookshelf

MONO: A NOVEL
BY DAVID CARLE
Phalarope Press, 2010.



David Carle takes us back to 1930s California with the Depression in full swing and grand water schemes playing out west-wide, nowhere more grandly than in the Golden State. After already draining the Owens river and Owens Valley over two decades earlier, the City of Los Angeles has begun work to stretch its aqueduct north to the Mono Basin and capture the waters that flow to Mono Lake.

A young biologist, Justin, comes to the Mono Basin to inventory its fish for the state's Dept. of Fish & Game and runs smack into the conflicts which the massive water project creates. One conflict involves a family still living in the area after being forced from their Owens Valley farm by the City of Los Angeles water grab. Their son, Randy, lands a job with L.A. building the tunnel. However, a daughter, Alisa, can't forget the loss of the farm and her parent's hard-

ships. Justin falls in love with Alisa while studying the fish and wildlife of the eastern Sierra.

Carle writes in the first person with chapters switching in voice from Justin to Alisa to Randy. It's a good story, woven into the historical facts surrounding the City of Los Angeles's construction of the tunnel through the Mono craters. LA's power over the lives of everyone is palpable. And over everything the characters are pulled along by the forces which are leading America into World War II.

Carle introduces us to people whom most of us have met before. They are the ones who persevere in the face of overwhelming odds. Those who do what they have to do despite the powerful forces which are arrayed opposing them and end up achieving things even they never expected. Pick up Carle's book and you'll enjoy getting to know them again.

—Dennis Ghiglieri

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" eve 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).



Bear in mind the consequences.

The Yellowstone grizzly bear is an irreplaceable part of America's natural heritage, a symbol of the independence that defines the American character and an icon of all that is wild and free. The Bush administration set forth a proposal that would remove federal protection for the Yellowstone grizzly bear. Since it was first listed as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act in 1975, the grizzly bear has made a strong recover, but there is still more work to be done. Help Sierra Club protect our forest friends; they prefer the woods than being on display.

Get grizzly and JOIN Sierra Club.

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Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!



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



Toiyabe Chapter ExCom Meeting

July 9, 2011
Mammoth Lakes, CA

For details, contact the Chair,

JEAN STOESS
jstoess@aol.com
775-322-5326