



CVTA NEWS

FALL 2014

CVTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Co-Presidents

Melissa Shaw Granat

Barb Wilson

VPs/Co-Presidents Elect

Genie Littlebeaver

Joni Jackson

Secretary

Michael Hartstein

Treasurer

Sanne Steele

Past President

Carlo Luri

Trail Operations VP

Jeremy Vlcan

Outreach VP

Sue Moxley

Fund Development VP

Sheryl Gonzales

BOARD MEMBERS

Margie Donaldson

Norah Gastelum

Steve Hale

Brenda Hunt

Sue Knight

Chic Moxley

Deby O'Gorman

SAVE THE DATES!

Sat. Sept. 20

8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Hike For Health

River Fork Ranch, Fay-Luther & Genoa Canyon Trailheads

Sat. Sept. 27 & Mon.

Sept. 29

Trail Building

Pinyon Loop Trail

Mon. Nov. 16, 6 p.m.

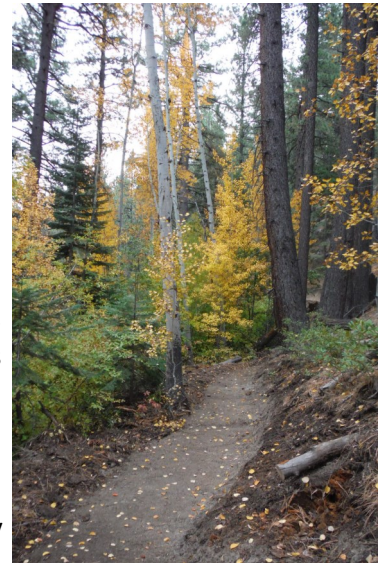
"Meet and Greet"

Social & Board Meeting

TNC's River Fork Ranch

CLEAR CREEK TRAIL OPEN

Carson Valley Trails Association, in partnership with the US Forest Service, Douglas County, Carson City, The Nature Conservancy, Clear Creek Tahoe, private landowners, Nevada State Parks, and the Nevada Conservation Corps, recently built the new Clear Creek Trail, which opened in April. The trail is about 10.5 miles long and is open to hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians. Trail access begins at Jacks Valley Trailhead, located next to Jacks Valley Elementary School on Jacks Valley Road just south of Carson City in Douglas County. There is plenty of parking room for autos and horse trailers at this location. A secondary access point suitable for autos only is available 0.3 miles further west of the school along Jacks Valley Road where the trail crosses the road.



The trail winds its way for the first three miles through typical low elevation sagebrush and bitterbrush, passing by some rocky crags. Much of the trail then travels through private property surrounded mostly by Jeffrey Pine and white fir. The trail leads to a destination at Knob Point, seven miles from the trailhead, with views of the Carson Valley in sight most of this length. The trail then continues another few miles, crossing the only permanent water along the entire trail at the south and north forks of Clear Creek. The trail currently ends about 1,000 feet shy of Highway 50. There is no trail access or parking from this end due to private roads and other land ownerships, so trail users must return on the trail to the Jacks Valley Trailhead.

About half of this trail travels through private lands. Cooperative partnerships allow the trail to traverse comfortably through several different private and public lands through trail easements and agreements. For this reason, trail users must be respectful of all private lands by using the designated trail only and staying off all cross roads. Trail access is only permitted from the two access points near Jacks Valley Elementary School.

The trail is well signed along its length and the trail grade is modest at only 5% on average. The elevation ranges between 4,950 feet at Jacks Valley Trailhead to a high point of 6,200 feet at the south fork crossing of Clear Creek. It can be quite warm during the summer months, particularly the first few miles where shade is very limited.

More detailed trail information, along with pictures and a trail map, can be found at:
<http://carsonvalleytrails.org/Trails-ClearCreek.html>.

CVTA'S VISION:

Communities connected to nature through a system of trails.

CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

A friend recently posted this quote by anthropologist, Margaret Mead, on Facebook: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." This is a perfect description of the Carson Valley Trails Association. The founding members of CVTA were "a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens" who worked hard to ensure access to the beautiful public lands within and surrounding the Carson Valley. What began in 1994 as a small, grassroots organization has grown over the years and worked with numerous partners to access, build and maintain 40+ miles of non-motorized public trails for present and future generations to enjoy.

This has been a momentous year for CVTA. In February, we completed the extremely successful "Love Your Trails" matching campaign, raising over \$50,000 to help ensure CVTA's financial capacity to undertake and complete future trails projects. In April, we hosted the grand opening celebration for the new 10.5-mile Clear Creek Trail. This month, we'll begin construction of the new Pinyon Loop Trail on the east side of the Carson Valley. We invite you to join this volunteer community trail building project. If you want to help, send an email to info@carsonvalleytrails.org and we'll send information about where and when to meet and what you need to bring.

Achievements like these are made possible through the financial and volunteer contributions of hundreds of CVTA members, donors, partners and volunteers who share CVTA's vision: "Communities connected to nature through a system of trails." CVTA is an all-volunteer organization with no paid staff. Every milestone achieved is made possible by our members, donors, partners and volunteers. We thank each and every one of you for contributing to CVTA's success this year and all the years past.

As we began our two-year term as CVTA Co-Presidents, we decided that our #1 goal would be to more actively involve and engage CVTA members in the leadership of the organization. With that goal in mind, we have defined board roles and responsibilities, developed job descriptions and updated the board structure. Now we're ready to move on to the next step—recruiting new board members to expand and sustain CVTA's future leadership capacity. We have developed a new CVTA Board Member Application to use in the board nomination process. The application outlines board roles and responsibilities and will provide information about the interests, skills and available time of prospective board members. Nominations and election to the board are ongoing and we invite interested CVTA members to apply. The application can be downloaded from the CVTA website: www.carsonvalleytrails.org. For more information about serving on the CVTA board, send an email to: info@carsonvalleytrails.org.

We are planning a **"Meet and Greet" Social for prospective board members at 6 p.m. on Monday, November 17.** CVTA members with an interest in finding out about serving on the CVTA board are invited to attend. You'll have a chance to talk to current board members about what they do, find out about current volunteer opportunities and attend the board meeting following the social at 7 p.m. Come and find out how your involvement can make a difference.

We hope you are planning to join us on **Saturday, September 20, for the annual Hike for Health Trail Adventure Day.** This popular annual event will include a number of outdoor activities for you to enjoy. The event is free and will include a complimentary BBQ lunch for CVTA members. A flyer with details about the event is available on the CVTA website: www.carsonvalleytrails.org.

Happy Trails!

Melissa Shaw Granat & Barb Wilson, CVTA Co-Presidents

IS YOUR CVTA MEMBERSHIP CURRENT?

Annual membership dues are an important source of funds for CVTA projects. If your membership has lapsed, you will receive a postcard in the mail inviting you to renew your support as a CVTA member. If you have questions about your current membership status, contact Margie Donaldson at (775) 901-6810 or mdonaldson1751@gmail.com.



TRAIL OPERATIONS UPDATE

Pinyon Loop Trail: In October 2013, the BLM approved the construction of the Pinyon Loop Trail off of Pine Nut Road in the Fish Springs area. This entirely new, single track trail will be open to non-motorized users including hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians. It is an all volunteer trail-building project with signage and trailhead costs paid for by CVTA's fundraising efforts (a.k.a. YOU)! Construction is scheduled to begin on Saturday, September 27th and continue, weather permitting, every Saturday and Monday throughout October. The Pinyon Loop Trail may be finished by late spring or early fall 2015.

Bently-Kirman Tract Trail: A 24-foot boardwalk was built over a section of trail by Eagle Scout, Kyle Camera, and members of Boy Scout Troop 411. CVTA worked closely with Kyle to complete this project in July.

Trail Maintenance: Now that the Carson Valley has over 40 miles of trails to enjoy, maintenance has been on-going throughout the year. In the winter of 2014, CVTA saw to the brushing, removal of downed trees and the rebuilding of a stream crossing on the Fay Luther and Jobs Peak Trails. In August, the entire Discovery Trail had a rock raking, and brushing treatment. Signs were replaced and the Sierra Canyon bridge and kiosk received a fresh coat of oil. It's fun to envision and plan new trails, but we must be sure that we can maintain what has been built. Thank you to our **Trail Scouts and Trailhead Hawks** for walking their designated sections and reporting concerns. If you are interested in being a Trail Scout or Trailhead Hawk, send an email to info@carsonvalleytrails.org.

TRAIL BUILDING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NEW PINYON LOOP TRAIL PROJECT

Work starts Saturday, September 27th and will continue, weather permitting, every Monday and Saturday throughout October. If you are interested in being part of this all-volunteer project and learning about meeting locations and times, sent an email to:

info@carsonvalleytrails.org



2ND ANNUAL GENOA PEAK MAD-A-THON

On August 9th, runners from across the country ran or hiked on the Genoa Trail System for the 2nd Annual Genoa Peak Mad-a-thon. The event offered full and half marathon distances, with spectacular views of the Carson Valley and Lake Tahoe. *Trail Runner* magazine included the event as part of their 2014 Trophy Series. The event was organized by Kevin Bigley from Ascent Runs. CVTA assisted with local publicity and provided volunteer support on race day. Ascent Runs supports CVTA by donating part of the proceeds from each registration fee to CVTA. CVTA recently received a \$400 donation from the 2014 event. **Thank you Kevin Bigley and Ascent Runs!**

CVTA LOGO MERCHANDISE

Looking for a unique holiday gift? How about a warm fleece vest or cap with the CVTA logo? Consider showing your support on a car or office window with a CVTA Logo Cling.

Vests \$35

Caps \$15

Logo Clings \$1

To place an order or find out about available sizes and colors, contact Genie Littlebeaver at glbago@aol.com.



Sierra Canyon Trail Runners

The Carson Valley Trails Association is a non-profit, volunteer based organization working with partners to provide access to public lands through a recreational trail system for present and future generations to enjoy.

WWW.CARSONVALLEYTRAILS.ORG

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!