



Trail Connections

The Newsletter of the Carson Valley Trails Association

Communities connected to nature through a system of trails

Photo by Deby O'Gorman

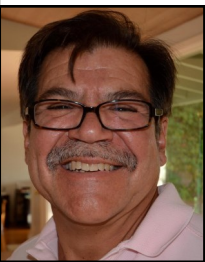
Winter 2015

Silver and Gold

Treasuring our New and Old Friends

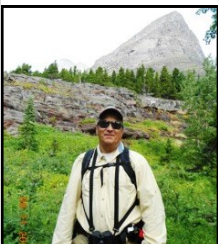
In efforts to sustain its mission, CVTA relies, not only on donations and volunteers, but on an active board and its relationships with our partners. In January, we welcomed Marcia Kerl and Juan Guzman to our board. Both bring a wealth of knowledge, expertise, and enthusiasm to the Association.

Marcia and her husband, Chuck, came to the Valley for the first time in 1997 and decided to retire here. In 2005, a week after their last child left for college, they were on their way! Marcia grew up in the Midwest and has always loved the outdoors. She began hiking area trails and wondered "who builds these great trails and who maintains them?" She learned about CVTA from a neighbor and became a volunteer trail builder on the Genoa Trail System. Now as she hikes she proudly remembers, "Hey, I built this switchback!" Marcia has worked on trail construction for several years and is honored to now be part of the CVTA board.



Juan F. Guzman was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Geography from the University of Puerto Rico and attended three years of graduate studies at the University of California, Riverside Campus, in the Geography Department with emphasis on urban studies. After visiting and falling in love with the Sierra Nevada Mountains, he shifted focus and migrated north to work with Mono County Planning Department. Subsequently, Juan worked as a Planner for Douglas County and Carson City, and in 2001 became the first Carson City Open Space Manager. He held this position for 14 years culminating in his retirement. In his capacity as Open Space Administrator for Carson City, he collaborated with organizations such as Carson Valley Trails Association (CVTA). As a resident of Douglas County he kept track of the work of CVTA since he wanted trails in close proximity to home. He would like to help CVTA to continue building relationships with other non-profits and government agencies. Given his past education and work experience in trail planning and the permitting processes, he looks forward to assisting with future projects. He enjoys teaching others and coordinating the work of volunteers. He believes, "CVTA is a fantastic organization that I will be proud to serve!"

Chic Moxley and Melissa Shaw Granat recently retired from the CVTA board after six years. Chic and Melissa were valued members bringing their passion and unique experience to the table. Both served on the fledgling Hike for Health committee in 2009, which has grown into an annual event.



Chic has given countless hours to trail building and educational events. His expertise can be seen in many projects, especially the Sierra Canyon Bridge. Chic loves sharing his trail building knowledge and his love of the natural world with everyone. Thank you, Chic!

Melissa assisted with obtaining several grants to build trails and increase the capacity of our board. She stepped down as co-president in November to pursue other passions outside the state. CVTA thanks her and will miss her dedication and hard work!





President's Message - Winter 2015

Barb Wilson

It's winter in the Carson Valley...or is it? A dry, warm winter is ideal for hiking, biking and equestrian adventures on the trails. But it's certainly hard to believe that it's winter when the only visible snow is atop Jobs Peak and most of the snow at Heavenly is machine-made.

The members of the CVTA board are busy making plans for 2015. This year, our focus will be membership - increasing our membership numbers and reaching out to members who want to work on the trails, volunteer for a CVTA committee or, possibly, join the CVTA board. In addition, we will "add value" to your membership by offering several "member-only" activities advertised exclusively to CVTA members. Of course, we hope you will invite friends or family who are not members to come with you to these events and encourage them to support CVTA by joining or making a donation.

CVTA is an all-volunteer organization and we need YOU, our members, to help us continue our work to achieve our vision: "Communities connected to nature through a system of trails." During the past year, CVTA members and volunteers constructed the new Pinyon Trail in the Pinenut Mountains east of Gardnerville. When this new trail opens later this spring, it will add another 5 miles of non-motorized trail within the Carson Valley for you to enjoy.

Our ability to continue to take on and complete future trails projects depends upon having an active CVTA membership that is willing to volunteer time and energy to continue the momentum that has been built the past several years. We invite you to get involved and hope to see you out on the trail!



Carson Valley Trails Association

ANNUAL MEETING & SOCIAL

Tuesday, March 3, 2015, 6 to 8 p.m.

**At the new Douglas County Community & Senior Center
1329 Waterloo Lane, Gardnerville**

Free — Open to the Public — Invite a friend!

Displays, refreshments, no-host bar & more! Find out about current & future trails projects, upcoming events & how YOU can get involved.

Questions? Email info@carsonvalleytrails.org

www.carsonvalleytrails.org

SAVE THE DATES!

Sun. Feb. 22

Snowshoe Thompson

Snowshoe/hike

Fay-Luther Trail

See details on Page 4



Tues. Mar. 3

6 p.m.

Annual Meeting & Social

**Douglas County Senior and
Community Center**

See details Page 2



Thurs. Mar. 12

Nevada Big Give

Click the logo below to give!



Sat. Mar. 14

10:00 a.m.

Pinyon Trail Grand Opening

See details page 3



On-going

Trail Building

Check

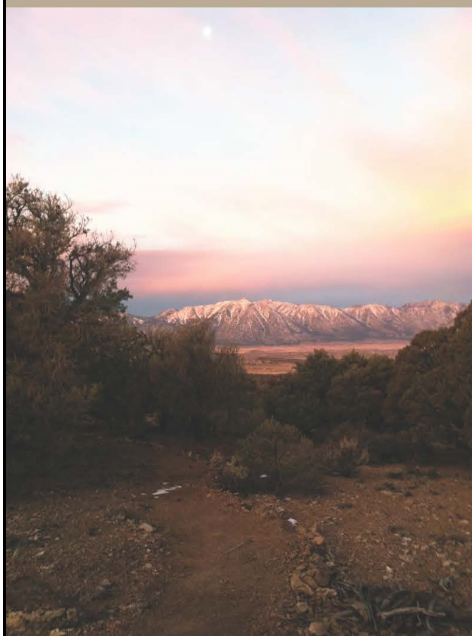
www.carsonvalleytrails.org or

Email info@carsonvalleytrails.org

The Carson Valley Trails Association presents...

GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

Pinyon Trail



WHEN?

Saturday, March 14th at 10:00 a.m.

Alternate poor weather date will be Saturday, March 21st at 10:00 a.m.

WHERE?

Pinyon Trailhead

Trail map can be found at www.carsonvalleytrails.org

EVENTS?

**10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - Pinyon Trail overview;
Brunch and refreshments provided**

**11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - Guided trail tours for
hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians**



Comment on BLM Draft Resource Management Plan

The BLM Carson City District Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is available for a 150-day public review and comment. The comment period began on November 28, 2014 and has been extended to **end April 27, 2015**. For information regarding the public meetings and on how to submit comments, follow this link: <https://www.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/planAndProjectSite.do?methodName=renderDefaultPlanOrProjectSite&projectId=22652>



Scouts Build Boardwalk on the Bently-Kirman Tract Trail By Dick Morissette

Symon DeWitt finished his Eagle Scout Project with Troop 411 this past Saturday, January 17th on the Bently-Kirman Tract Trail. "I would like to thank all of the individuals who helped me along the way to complete a project that benefits our community", Symon said. He coordinated the project with the Carson Valley Trails Association to construct an additional 30 feet of boardwalk along the first loop of the trail system. Working alongside many fellow scouts, friends and family, Symon added the additional boardwalk onto an existing 25 feet of boardwalk that was completed last summer by fellow scout Kyle Camara. Symon received most of the materials from the Home Depot at a discounted rate with additional funding provided by the Carson Valley Lions Club and Rotary Club of Minden. The boardwalk serves to keep the feet of trail users dry when the area becomes muddy or underwater.

Trail Operations Update

Bently-Kirman Tract Trail:

Three brushing days occurred in January on part of the first loop and all of second loop. About three more brushing days will occur to finish the trail system. Additionally, Symon Dewitt completed his Eagle Scout Project adding 30 more feet of boardwalk to the existing 25 feet of boardwalk on the first loop. See article on Page 3. A second boardwalk 1/4 mile from the trailhead was also completed by Eagle Scout, Nate Finley, on January 31, 2015. He supervised the construction of 30 feet of boardwalk along a short floodplain channel. Nate thanks all his supporters including Bently Agrodynamics, The Nature Conservancy, CVTA, fellow scouts, friends and family.

Clear Creek Trail

A few trees that fell in the latest round of windstorms have been removed. CVTA is working diligently with Nevada Division of State Lands and both Carson City and Douglas County on placement of a trailhead on the Highway 50 side of this trail. Stay tuned for more details.

Fay-Luther Trail System

After the recent windstorms, downed trees were removed from the trail. Large rocks were cleared from the trail south of the Valley View Loop junction.

Genoa Trail System

A new kiosk has been installed at the south end of the West Fork Trail along Muller Lane. Maintenance work on the trail included removal of several downed trees and the rebuilding of a retaining wall along the steep drop-off section of the trail just before the Sierra Canyon Bridge.

Pinyon Trail:

After more than 1,200 trail building hours by roughly 200 volunteers, only a few work days remain to complete this hand built, 4 mile-long eastside trail. The BLM will be completing the trailhead parking area in late February 2015. A Grand Opening event with trail overview, guided hikes and rides, is scheduled for Saturday, March 14th at 10:00 a.m. See flyer on Page 3 and spread the word. Follow the link to see trail photos:

<http://carsonvalleytrails.org/Photos-PinyonLoopTrail.html>



Photo by JP Kiel

Simple Trail Safety Tips

- ♦ Be aware of and respectful to other trail users and the wildlife.
- ♦ Hike with a companion. You won't be alone in case of an emergency.
- ♦ Keep your pets under control. Some trails require dogs to be leashed. Be familiar with the rules.
- ♦ Carry necessary supplies for changes in weather or other conditions.
- ♦ Contact the police and file a report in the rare event you experience problems related to personal threats.
- ♦ Keep your vehicles locked and valuables hidden when parking at trailheads.

For a comprehensive guide to Trail Safety go to:
<http://www.americantrails.org/resources/safety/>

The Carson Valley Trails Association invites you to
A SNOWSHOE TREK ON THE FAY-LUTHER TRAIL with


SNOWSHOE THOMPSON
"MAILMAN OF THE SIERRA"

2 to 4 p.m., Sunday, February 22, 2015
FREE — Open to the public
Meet at the Fay-Luther Trailhead*
(*Located on Foothill Rd. 4.5 mi. south of the Kingsbury Grade)

This leisurely, historical snowshoe trek will be enjoyed by the entire family. While on the trail, you'll meet John "Snowshoe" Thompson, the legendary "Mailman of the Sierra". For nearly 20 years during the Gold and Silver Rushes of the mid-1800s, Snowshoe was the only winter link back and forth between Mormon Station (Genoa) and Hangtown (Placerville, CA). Snowshoe will amaze you with his stories and exploits from carrying the U.S. Mail on homemade skis through wintery blizzards and 90 miles of wilderness each way.

Participants must provide their own snowshoes and equipment appropriate for traveling over snow. Dress appropriately for the weather and bring water. Hot chocolate will be provided after the trek.
This event will take place with or without snow.

QUESTIONS? Send an email to info@carsonvalleytrails.org

 The Carson Valley Trails Association is a nonprofit, 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

A Special Thank You!

CVTA's efforts rely on collaborative relationships with our partner organizations and agencies. A shout-out to The Nature Conservancy and its Carson River Project Director, Duane

Petite, for providing CVTA a home for equipment and board meetings at the Whit Hall Interpretive Center located at TNC's River Fork Ranch. CVTA is truly thankful!



Photo by Brenda Hunt



TRAIL BUILDING VOLUNTEERS

If you are interested in assisting CVTA with trail building and maintenance contact us at: info@carsonvalleytrails.org.

CVTA LEADERSHIP TEAM & BOARD

PRESIDENT

Barb Wilson

PAST PRESIDENT

Carlo Luri

TRAIL OPERATIONS VP

Jeremy Vican

OUTREACH VP

Sue Moxley

FUND DEVELOPMENT VP

Sheryl Gonzales

SECRETARY

Michael Hartstein

TREASURER

Sanne Steele

CO-PRESIDENTS ELECT

Genie Littlebeaver

Joni Jackson

BOARD

Deby O'Gorman

Margie Donaldson

Norah Gastelum

Juan Guzman

Steve Hale

Brenda Hunt

Marcia Kerl

Sue Knight

There is no poop fairy.



Please clean up after your dog.

Dog waste doesn't biodegrade like wild animal waste. It sticks around for a long time. Meanwhile, it contains harmful bacteria, pollutes groundwater, and smells disgusting on the bottom of a shoe. Please help keep parks, trails and neighborhoods free of poop piles by picking up your dog's waste.

CVTA MERCHANDISE

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

Hats \$15

Cling \$1

Long/Short Sleeve T-Shirts \$15

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



Is your CVTA Membership Current?

Become a member of CVTA and support our trails! Our new Annual Membership Levels* are:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ➔ Individual \$25 | ➔ Senior/Student \$15 |
| ➔ Family \$35 | ➔ Carson River \$50 or more |
| ➔ Business \$45 | ➔ Pine Nut Mountains \$100 or more |
| ➔ Carson Range \$500 or more | ➔ Jobs Peak \$1000 or more |

**The 2-year membership has been eliminated, but if you are currently a 2-year member, your membership will be active until the end of the 2-year period.*

We also have a new membership renewal process! Just return the envelope enclosed in your renewal letter and choose an annual renewal level. If you want to become a member or renew your membership go to our website www.carsonvalleytrails.org or contact CVTA Membership Records Coordinator, Margie Donaldson, at 775-901-6810 or ladybugz1@charter.net.

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WWW.CARSONVALLEYTRAILS.ORG

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