



CVTA NEWS

WINTER 2010

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CARSON VALLEY TRAILS ASSOCIATION RECEIVES COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF WESTERN NEVADA GRANT

CVTA has been awarded a \$40,000 grant from the Bingham Charitable Fund at the Community Foundation of Western Nevada to support the Genoa Foothill Trail System project.

In 2008, CVTA received a \$396,378 Question 1 grant from the Nevada Division of State Lands to help fund required environmental assessments, land surveys and construction of the first two of three phases of the non-motorized Genoa Foothill Trail System, to be located in the foothills of the Carson Range west of the Town of Genoa, and to the north and south, from Adams Canyon to the Kingsbury Grade. Environmental studies for this trail system have begun and are expected to continue through most of 2010. Trail construction is expected to begin in the spring of 2011.

The Community Foundation of Western Nevada is a collection of charitable funds to benefit the communities of Western Nevada. More information is available online at www.nevadafund.org.

CVTA OFFICERS & BOARD

President
Kerstin Wolle

Secretary
Nick Pchelkin

Treasurer
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Board Members

Dan Aynesworth
Phil Brisack
John Cobourn
Bill Hay
Jean Hay
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Dick Morissette
Chic Moxley
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Joyce Richardson
Anne Thomas
Jeremy Vican
Barb Wilson
Harmon Zuckerman

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *by Kerstin Wolle*

It was windy, partially cloudy with a winter chill in the air when I persuaded my husband to take a hike with me up Jobs Peak Ranch Trail. Close to the trailhead, we met a young woman with a little one strapped to her back and a toddler in tow. No weather was going to hold her back. Later, we met up with four young boys, all under age nine—being the mother of four boys and nine grandchildren, I am a pretty good age guesser. The boys were running down the trail and laughing and wearing only shorts and T-shirts, and they seemingly had no worries about the cold or wind. How refreshing!

CVTA recently raised funds for the Genoa Foothill Trail System project by handling trash removal at the 2009 Genoa Candy Dance. Dan Aynesworth coordinated the volunteer crew of CVTA members and students from Douglas High School's Alpine Hiking Club. The CVTA volunteers were Jeremy Vican, Dick Morissette, Chic & Sue Moxley, Jim & Lisa Klovstad, Jim & Barbara Slade, Phil & Nancy Brisack and Kerstin Wolle. I want to thank Tara Chitwood for organizing the participation of these students: Abby Chitwood, Shannon Demarre, Sierra Montana, Kylie Mosley and Katie Sawicki. On the trail or helping with our outreach services, we love the young people, and all who are young at heart, who realize the precious importance of protecting nature and treasure the opportunity to enjoy its beauty.

For more information about CVTA visit www.carsonvalleytrails.org

TRAILS UPDATE *by Jeremy Vlcán*

Genoa Foothill Trail System: The U.S. Forest Service is continuing environmental assessment studies for this project area. Vegetation studies were completed this past October. CVTA still needs to raise approximately \$72,000 for eventual trail construction expected to begin in the spring of 2011. Thank you to all who have donated thus far!

Through the strategic project planning efforts of CVTA and the ability to provide direct cash payment for these environmental studies through donations, the overall environmental assessment costs for this project have been substantially reduced. As a result, we have been able to completely fund the environmental assessment studies for the nearby Jacks Valley Trail System which is expected to begin this coming spring. These two projects are occurring simultaneously to improve overall cost and resource efficiency. More details to come.

Fay-Luther Interpretive Signs: Drafts for eleven interpretive signs on the Interpretive Trail at the Fay-Luther Trail System are now complete. Editorial reviews are occurring this winter. Installation of these educational signs is expected in early June for National Trails Day.

Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Grant: This service based grant from the National Park Service kicks off in January and will focus on a strategic approach for implementing the greater Carson Valley Trail System following the Douglas County Trails Plan. The overall goal is to work with public and private partners to provide short loop trails near the various communities of Carson Valley and connect them through a single trail, the Carson Valley Trail.

2010 TRAILS WORK AND TRAINING

by Phil Brisack

The Genoa Foothill trail system has 22 miles of trail undergoing required studies due to be completed in 2010 with building starting in 2011. Some work on existing trails is needed for sign placement and maintenance in 2010, but the need for trained volunteers will become urgent as we start construction of the Genoa Foothill Trail System in 2011.

The Tahoe Rim Trail Assn. will present a trails training workshop the weekend of May 14-16, 2010. Three courses will be offered: basic trail building (no experience required); advanced structures (some experience required) and crew leader (for those with experience

who want to lead work days or projects). More information and signups will be available on the TRTA website, www.tahoerimtrail.org, or by calling 775-298-0012. The cost last year was \$65 for the weekend, which included room and food provided by Bella Affair catering.

The TRTA started working on new trail building on the Daggett Summit trail system in 2009. This trail building will be ongoing for several years for those who want to gain trail building experience.

“HIKE THE HILL” 2010 WASHINGTON, D.C.

by Dan Aynesworth

Every year, the American Hiking Society and the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) organize and manage a coordinated effort to meet with and lobby elected and appointed officials, House and Senate committees, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the National Forest Service (NFS) in Washington, D.C.

The event is called “Hike the Hill” week and will be February 20-25, 2010. CVTA will be represented by board member, Dan Aynesworth. Dan attended the 2009 week and established relationships with Nevada’s House and Senate staffs. In addition, he met with, among others, Dean Heller, Gail Kimbell (Chief of the NFS) and Ron Wenker (acting BLM Director), who is our Nevada state director. A packet of CVTA information was also delivered to many other offices, including key senators and the Secretary of Agriculture.

During the 2009 “Hike the Hill” week, CVTA was voted in as a member of the PNTS – a big step for CVTA from a stature and visibility standpoint.

Dan will continue his networking efforts with national organization officers, national trail organization members and be part of a coordinated team lobbying for the needs of our national and local trails.

WANTED: TRAIL CLEANUP VOLUNTEERS

CVTA board member Joyce Richardson is looking for a few more “alternate” volunteers to assist with clean up on the Fay-Luther and Jobs Peak Ranch trails when a regular volunteer is on vacation or not able to work on a scheduled day. Just an hour of your time once in a while will be a huge contribution to a valuable trails beautification activity. Contact Joyce at 775-783-8462 or jlrnev@charter.net to volunteer.

For more information about CVTA visit www.carsonvalleytrails.org

FALL TRAIL BUILDING *by Phil Brisack*

In early November John McKenna, Chuck Kelley and Phil Brisack finished work on the log bridge over the creek that runs between Fay-Luther and Jobs Peak Ranch trailheads. John cut steps and grooves in the log to knock out a 16 inch tread. The project took 6 hours, which included reinforcing the step crossing for those who don't care to cross logs.

Kerstin Wolle knew we were working that day. She arrived just in time for lunch with carrot cake for the crew. She was on a round trip between the Jobs Peak Ranch and Fay-Luther trailheads, which was very fortunate. We had underestimated the amount of gas required and were going to run out. John had more gas in his car, so Kerstin was able to provide fuel for the saw and crew. Thanks Kerstin, for one more way of contributing.



*L to r: John McKenna, Kerstin Wolle & Phil Brisack
(Photos by Chuck Kelley)*



John McKenna (with chain saw) and Phil Brisack start shaping the log bridge



John and Phil finishing the bridge

BENTLY-KIRMAN RANCH TRAIL SYSTEM *by Anne Thomas*

Trail construction of the 3.7 mile Bently-Kirman Ranch Trail System with access to the Carson River is now complete thanks to a partnership between CVTA, The Nature Conservancy and Boy Scout Troop 495. The trail provides unprecedented public access to the Carson River's riparian habitat and wetlands, and provides stunning panoramic views of Carson Valley and surrounding mountain ranges.

The trail, which is designed to allow public access while preserving wildlife habitat and ongoing sustainable agriculture operations, is limited to hiking only. Dogs, horses, and motorized vehicles are not permitted. Two trail loops traverse through sage and rabbit brush into willow thickets, emerging at four sand bar beaches as the Carson River winds its way through the Kirman Field property. This is a wonderful trail opportunity for those who enjoy hiking on a flat grade or trail running.

The official public opening of the Bently-Kirman Ranch Trail System is expected to occur in the spring of 2010. Road improvements to the trailhead will be constructed by the private landowner, Bently Agrowdynamics, over the next several months. For information and access, CVTA members and others are encouraged to contact Anne Thomas at athomas@tnc.org. Additional information about the Bently-Kirman Ranch Trail is posted on the CVTA website. For information about The Nature Conservancy's Carson River Project, go to <http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/nevada/preserves>. Click on "Carson River Project."

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CARSON VALLEY TRAILS ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 222
MINDEN NV 89423

Andrew S. Rice
Financial Advisor

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



1685 US Hwy 395 North
Suite 6
Minden, NV 89423
Bus. 775-782-8280 Fax 888-827-3959
TF. 800-927-0662
www.edwardjones.com
California Insurance License 0C24309

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



GE Energy

BREAKING NEWS!

GE Energy has donated \$2000 to CVTA to sponsor the 2010 "Hike for Health"!



Save the date for CVTA's

ANNUAL MEETING

"Connecting Communities to Nature Through a System of Trails"

Monday, January 18, 2010

5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Genoa Town Hall

5:30 pm Doors Open

Social, Displays, Refreshments and No-Host Bar

6:00 pm Meeting

Genoa Foothill Trail System Project Presentation
Meet National Park Service Planner Deb Reardon
CVTA Grants Information, Current CVTA Volunteer Opportunities
2010 "Hike for Health" Preview & More!

Please come & bring a friend!!!

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