

I go to nature to be
soothed and healed
and to have my
senses put in order.

John Burroughs

TREKS THROUGH TIME

SUMMER - FALL 2008

**Stephanie Lorensen (left)
Trek Coordinator at the
Nevada County Land
Trust accepts a check
for \$300.00 from Eric
and Pattie Boudier,
Peaceful Valley Farm
Supply.**



One of the most important things today is a curious and happy child. It is because of them that our community will continue to grow and thrive. This year through the generosity of Eric and Pattie Boudier at Peaceful Valley Farm Supply, the Land Trust is able to present a program that includes the entire family. The focus of this series is on growing organically and buying locally. Because our friends at Peaceful Valley Farm Supply believe that by helping a child plant a garden you help to cultivate a healthy community, this program is being offered free of charge. Thank you Peaceful Valley! See pages 3 & 4 for the Free Trek details.

TREKS THROUGH TIME

Reservation Form

Contact Information

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone/Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

* All information is kept confidential and is not released to third parties

Payment Information

Check Credit Card

Name on Card: _____

Card Billing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

Trek Information

Name of Trek: _____ Number in Party: _____

Name of Trek: _____ Number in Party: _____

Name of Trek: _____ Number in Party: _____

Amount included for Trek Reservations: _____

Membership Information (Optional)

Are you a member of the Nevada County Land Trust? Do you want to conserve the natural and agriculture legacy of the Northern Sierra foothills – acre by acre? Please consider becoming a member. Memberships start at \$35.

Amount enclosed for Memberships: _____

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TREKS THROUGH TIME SUMMER - FALL 2008

Saddleback Lookout and Chimney Rock Trek with John Skinner

Sunday July 13, 2008

8:30 am to 4:30 pm

On this trek we will drive on the back roads high above Downieville and stop to visit at the Saddleback Lookout. The 360-degree views are awesome, and John can describe some of the landmarks below our walkway and on to the horizon. The lookout can describe the solo life of a firewatcher on the remote outpost. We'll then drive another 20 minutes to the trailhead for the Chimney Rock Trail. From there, we'll hike to the unusual geologic formation that straddles the narrow ridge far above wild Canyon Creek valley to the north and Downie River to the south. As time allows, we can continue walking the trail through the photogenic spires crafted during the volcanic era that formed the Sierra Nevada that we see today.

Cost: \$12 Members/\$17 Non-members

Level: To visit the lookout requires a short, modest climb to the building. Trekkers will want to be comfortable while standing on the deck walkway with only the railing between you and the awesome views. The hike is moderate with a climb of 200 feet elevation and a 4-mile roundtrip walk to Chimney Rock.

South Yuba Trail with Hank Meals From Missouri Bar trailhead upstream to Poorman Creek near Washington.

Saturday July 19, 2008

8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Hank Meals, archaeologist, photographer and author of "Yuba Trails", and his new book "The River," invites you to join him on a walk along one of the most remote and beautiful parts of the South Yuba. Learn how the river was mined and diverted by gold miners in the 19th century and see evidence of their operations. Since the glory days of mining the South Yuba been diverted for hydroelectric generation, irrigation and domestic uses. See how the river is recovering/surviving today. This nine-mile trek will take a full day so be prepared with enough water, snacks and sunscreen. There is some climbing but nothing major. Wearing a hat and shoes with lug soles is important to ensure a safe and comfortable walk.

Cost: \$12 Members/\$17 Non-members

Level: Moderate to Strenuous 9 miles

**A "Flower Safari" with Kris Wakefield
Following the Mt. Judah Loop Trail**

Sunday July 27, 2008

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Kris Wakefield photographs nature... especially wildflowers. Each year Kris hikes a different section of the Pacific Crest Trail where he continues to find his heart enriched by the local

environments and their seasonal changes. Join Kris on this safari through the terrain around Donner Pass and along the Mt. Judah Loop Trail while he shares his professional knowledge with you. This impressive trail affords many excellent vista points along the way to the awe-inspiring view from the summit of Mount Judah. You will be able to photograph tiger lilies, red rockets, lupin, mules ear and penstemons. What a wonderful way to learn from a professional while having a great outdoor experience. An optional group dinner will conclude this day of beautiful vistas.

Cost: \$12 Member/\$17 Non-members

Level: East to Moderate

Grouse Ridge Prehistoric Sites with Bill Slater

Saturday August 2, 2008

9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Bill Slater, Archaeologist with the Tahoe National Forest, brings a wealth of diverse experiences and archaeological interests to our treks program. He has worked with the Sioux, Crow and other tribes in developing interpretative information for the Medicine Mountain Medicine Wheel. Join Bill as he leads us to some of the prehistoric sites on Grouse Ridge. The modern Sierra Nevada is considered to have originated in the last 65 (space) million years. There were two main volcanic episodes represented by two geologic formations visible in this area...The Valley Springs Formation dated about 20 million years ago and the Mehrten Formation dated 10-12 million years ago. The last glacial episode ended about 10,000 years ago. Grouse Ridge is a wonderful roadless area on the Tahoe National Forest that is right in the "back yard" of the I-80 corridor and very accessible. On this trek we will view high altitude prehistoric sites, following an old trail into a relatively pristine environment. Bill will also explain how archaeologists perform surveys, document archaeological resources and work to protect sites. Bill has worked with Friends of Sierra Rock Art in protecting many rock art sites including the one you will see on this trek along with typical high elevation habitation sites.

Cost: \$12 Members/ \$17 Non-members

Level: Strenuous

The Night Sky and Native American Legends With Alan Stahler and Members of the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe

Sunday August 24, 2008

8:00pm – 11:00pm

Observe the moon's mountains and valleys and craters and basins, in the comfort of your own chair at the beautiful Burton Homestead. For this event you will want to bring a chair and blanket so you can get comfortable for an amazing trip through the galaxy. Along with Alan Stahler, Dan Chaplin will take the moon's image, captured by his telescope, and present it, in real-time, on a video monitor. This allows everyone to observe at the same time and ensures we're all looking at and talking about the same thing. From the moon, our voyage will take us to more distant objects - galaxies, star clusters, even a star that lets us see what our sun might look like in some five billion

years or so. Each of us will be looking through the scope individually for a maximum view. Alternating with Alan's commentaries and answers to questions, members of the Tsi-Akim Maidu tribe will share traditional legends and beliefs as we gently settle into the evening sky.

Cost: \$12 Members/\$17 Non-members Children under 16 free

Level: Easy

"Where Does Our Food Come From?" (Free Trek)

August 24, 2008

**A Tour and Picnic at Riverhill Organic Farm with Farmers
Alan Haight and Jo McProud**

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Come join the Nevada County Land Trust and our hosts, Alan Haight and Jo McProud, for a tour and family picnic at their Riverhill Farm just outside of Nevada City. Enjoy the abundance of beautiful produce and the farm's pastoral environs during this unique event. Bring your lunch while taking advantage of the produce that they will share with you as well! This is an important family event and a great opportunity for adults and children alike to see a working farm at the peak of its seasonal splendor. Few children (and few adults!) today have a clear idea of where their food comes from or what food crops look like away from the grocery store shelf. At this event, you will have a chance not only to see the produce but also to taste it straight out of the fields! Riverhill Farm is a beautiful and natural site for a farm, the last level terrain before a 1500' drop into the canyon of the Yuba River. Although it is a new farm, it is a place, which has a long history of human use. There are Native American grinding rocks which were used to process acorns from the abundant native oaks, and many features of the landscape reflect the work of the Italian homestead farmers who inhabited the farm between the mid- to late-1800's and the mid-1900's. Our tour will highlight these relics of the past.

A Community Garden Event (Free Trek)

Prepare and Plant Your Garden Vegetables

Sunday September 7, 2008

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Peaceful Valley Nursery Manager Linda Carlson and her husband Paul invite you to join them for two sessions in their Community Vegetable Garden. During the first session you and your young gardener will plan your rows, prepare your soil, and plant your own vegetables. Linda will teach you about how they grow, what you need to do to keep them healthy and what they look like when they are ready for harvesting.

Care and Harvesting of Your Garden Vegetables (Free Trek)

Sunday October 5, 2008

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

At this session Linda and Paul will show your "budding gardeners" how to water and care for a garden. Linda will teach them how to keep their vegetables healthy and happy. By the end of the session everyone will experience the joy of harvesting. Linda says, "One of the best parts of having a

community garden is the laughter that is shared between the young an old alike". Make it a point to come and participate in this fun day.

Come Celebrate!

**Deer Creek Powerhouse 100-year Birthday and South Yuba Canal 150-year Birthday Trek with Dale Johnson
Sunday, September 14, 2008**

9:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

When completed in 1858 the 16-mile long South Yuba Canal was the largest-ever water project in the state. This canal is still in operation and provides water to the Deer Creek Powerhouse, constructed 50 years later. After a storyboard history presentation we head to Bowman Lake Road in Bear Valley where we view the upper section of the canal. Then we head for "Big Tunnel" and view the canal at both portals. The flume for the water to Deer Creek Powerhouse starts here. We then visit the fore bay for the powerhouse and finally the powerhouse itself. This plant is historic for two reasons 1) because it was the first one built by PG&E after its founding in 1906 and 2) most of the original equipment is still in use after 100 years.

Cost: \$12 Members/\$17 Non-members

Level: Easy

**New! Extreme Trek for the Serious Minded Trekkers
Black Buttes Eastward and Northward with Trail
Enthusiast Albert Earl**

Saturday September 20, 2008

7:00 am – 4:00 pm

This is an *extreme trek* that will consume most of the day and terminate with all trekkers being quite tired but with the memory of unbeatable views. The trek will leave Grouse Ridge lookout parking area and hike the few miles to Glacier Lake for a little rest and to replenish water containers. With luck there may still be some snowmelt ponds on the ridge. Walking to the southern end of the lake trekkers will climb the talus slope heading eastward until reaching the ridge. To the south, Byers Lakes, Old Man Mountain and views of the Summit open up. Trekking the ridge eastward and northward will provide views of the entire Grouse Ridge area, French Lake and more of the Summit. Photo opportunities abound here! The descent into a steep brush ravine takes the group to Five Lakes Basin and then westward arriving at a small lake with a nice camping area where a cool and refreshing swim will be on everyone's mind. After resting there will be a southward climb on granite and a meeting with the Sand Ridge trail where the group will decide between alternate routes back to the upward climb to the vehicles. The topo map is English Mountain.

Cost: \$12 Members/\$17 Non-members

Level: Extreme – Strenuous 8+ miles/8 1/2 hours

**Loney Lake with Hank Meals
From Blue Lake to Loney Lake and Back Again.
Saturday September 27, 2008**

8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Hank Meals, archaeologist, photographer, author of "Yuba Trails", and his latest book "The River", will lead this trek.

Loney Lake is in the extreme southern part of the Grouse Ridge Roadless Area at 6,330 feet. Your Trek begins at Blue Lake, climb Zion Hill to start with a view and then walk the Blue Lake Trail to a bench above the west branch of Granite Creek. From there you will head north and overland in rugged and open country with many up and downs until reaching beautiful Loney Lake. From the granite slopes of Fordyce Canyon the view south includes Spaulding Reservoir, Red Mountain, Old Man Mountain and much more. At Loney Lake the dramatic view to the north is essentially the same as it's been for 10,000 years. This eight-mile trek covers rugged terrain so you must be a competent hiker.

Cost: \$12 Member/\$17 Non-members

Level: Strenuous 8 miles

Colgate Powerhouse and Pelton Wheel Trek with Dale Johnson

Saturday, October 25, 2008

9:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

See Lester Pelton's first functional water wheel at the Masonic Lodge in Camptonville, built in 1878 to power his landlady's sewing machine. We then travel to the Colgate Powerhouse near Dobbins where we climb inside the wheel-pit of one of the generating units during a shutdown for annual maintenance. There we will see an 18-foot single casting wheel, the largest Pelton-style waterwheel in the world — a fitting monument to Pelton's invention. The icing on the cake is a visit to the 635-foot high Bullard's Bar Dam where we look at it from the bottom up and go for a short visit inside the base of the dam.

Cost: \$12 Member/\$17 Non-members

Level: Easy

**Pole Creek Basque Tree Carvings with Archaeologist
Carrie Smith**

Saturday October 25, 2008

10:00 am – 3:00 pm

What is Aspen art? Who were the Basque? Tahoe National Forest Archaeologist Carrie Smith will take you to see their story tucked away in the northern Sierra. The Basque traditions of Aspen tree carvings are strongly associated with the activities of Basque shepherders whose history over the past 100 years is recorded on the trees themselves. This unique means of communicating among themselves that has since become an important source of cultural information about their origins and immigration. Carrie will also take us to visit the Wheeler Sheep Camp. Dan C. Wheeler entered the sheep business in 1867 when he brought a herd of sheep from southwest Oregon to the Truckee Meadows. Wheeler's home ranch, the Lake Ranch, was located in what is now southwest Reno. Eventually Wheeler held grazing rights on public and private land west and north of Lake Tahoe, extending as far north as Sardine Peak. Wheeler Sheep Camp, located in Kyburz Flat, was one of the main sheep camps. You will want to bring a lunch and a folding chair for this event.

Cost: \$12 Member/\$17 Non-members

Level: Easy