

RECREATION THIS WEEK: September 3, 2014

Recreation Department News...

ADULT COED DODGEBALL THIS FALL AT THE RECZONE

The Recreation Department is bringing back Dodgeball! Games will be held every Monday and Wednesday at the Mammoth RecZone beginning at 5:30 p.m. This will be a great time under the lights at the RecZone (adjacent to the library) with music, fun and more! Games commence September 3 and wrap up on September 29, 2014. Fee is only \$84 per team. Teams must have at least 4 men and 2 women on the court at all times.

TENNIS LESSONS EXTENDED TO SEPT. 25

Drop-in sessions and private lessons have been extended through September 25. Kyle Osland - former Head Coach at the Nick Bollettieri IMG Tennis Academy and Varsity Husky Tennis Coach is offering group sessions every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon for juniors and adult. Kyle is also available for private lessons. For additional information or to schedule a private with the pro, please email Kyle or call (619) 200-2150.

Drop-in Tennis Sessions:

Private Lessons

Who: Anyone!
Time: 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.
When: Tuesday & Thursday
Dates: End Sept. 25
Cost: \$35/hr.

Junior Tennis Pros

Who: Ages 7-12
Time: 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
When: Tuesday & Thursday
Dates: July 8 – Sept. 25
Cost: \$10 per session

Adult Drill Clinic

Who: Int./Adv.
Time: 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.
When: Tuesday & Thursday
Dates: July 8 – Sept. 25
Cost: \$10 per session

FIVE PUNCH CARD: Buy a 5 lesson punch card for only \$50 and get the 6th lesson FREE!

WHITMORE POOL CLOSURES FOR LAP SWIM SEPT. 5

Lap swimming is offered Monday to Friday from 6:30 - 8:30 a.m. and every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. through September 5, 2014. Call the pool phone at (760) 935-4222 or visit www.mammothrecreation.com for all the details.

GYMNASTICS/TUMBLING PROGRAM

Join Melissa and Kari, our level 5 gymnastics coaches at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center for the following classes:

- * 3 yr. olds Saturday: 8:30 - 9:15 a.m.
- * 4-5 yr. olds Saturday: 9:15 - 10:00 a.m. & Tuesday: 5:00 – 5:45 p.m.
- * 5-8 yr. olds Saturday: 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
- * 8-12+ yr. olds Tuesday: 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. (invitation only)
Friday: 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.



Saturday: 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Five session punch card for \$60, drop-ins welcome at \$15 session. Want to try it out? Try your first session for free! Please call (760) 934-8989 x222 for more information or visit 'Mammoth Gymnastics' on Facebook.

PICKLEBALL IS NOW IN MAMMOTH LAKES!

Join in and learn the fastest growing sport in America - easy to learn, fun to play and FREE! Pick-up games are scheduled every Tuesday from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center Tennis Courts. For additional information please contact Bob or Tess Meggs at (530) 277-0199.

Recreation News, Events & Activities in Town...

MAMMOTH FALL CENTURY & GRAN FONDO RETURNS SEPT. 6

The 2014 Mammoth Fall Century & Gran Fondo returns to the Eastern Sierra on September 6, 2014. Last year, this event brought over 1000 cyclists to Mammoth Lakes, Mono County and the Eastern Sierra - most of them drove through Bishop and Inyo County on the way to Mammoth. In 2014, we hope to see that many cyclists again or more. The Fall Century and Gran Fondo will once again begin from The Village but at a new starting time of 7:00 a.m. The shorter 42 Mile "Piccolo" and 70 Mile "Medio" courses also start (9:00 a.m.) and end at The Village in Mammoth Lakes rather than Whitmore Ball Fields.

New this year is a Prologue Hill Climb Time Trial, on Friday, September 5, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. starting at the "Chain-up" area at US HWY 395 and SR 203 and finishing at the Mammoth Mountain Inn near the Gondola Building.

The Mammoth Century and Gran Fondo is a fundraiser for the Mammoth Mountain Community Foundation (MMCF) under the direction of Executive Director Lindsay Barksdale. MMCF contracts Mammoth Mountain Ski Area to produce the event. Bill Cockroft serves as the lead for MMSA and takes on the role of Event Director where he has an assembled team of professionals including ride director John Armstrong with the help of local cycling club, Eastside Velo, and many others to help produce the event.

Former pro cyclist and Assistant Editor of Road Bike Action Magazine, Neil Shirley, rode the 2013 event and wrote an online and print article about it where he stated that the Mammoth Fall Century & Gran Fondo is "on Par with Levi's Gran Fondo in Santa Rosa, CA." Levis Gran Fondo is widely considered the "benchmark" Gran Fondo event in the US and each year sells out 7500 rider registrations. See Neil Shirley's article here:

<http://www.roadbikeaction.com/Features/content/313/7350/Being-There-Mammoth-High-Sierra-Fall-Gran-Fondo.html>

The event has averaged 40% year over year growth the last two years, and in 2013, 1050 participants came to Mammoth Lakes bringing with them the economic benefit of shopping, lodging, eating and playing in Mammoth Lakes. The goal this year is 1,400 riders!

Riders will welcome additional rest stops on the route with improved menus including vegetarian and gluten-free options and staffed by local volunteer groups and businesses including Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra,



Mammoth Lakes Swim Team, Mono County Search and Rescue, Bishop High School Broncos Football Team, MHS Baseball Team, Crowley Lake Store and the Mammoth Track Club.

1984 Olympic Gold Medalist, Steve Hegg, will be joining the Gran Fondo Ride, along with 1984 Olympic Silver Medalist, Nelson Vails. VIP packages are available with both riders.

Riders are encouraged to stay for the After Ride Party and Gourmet Buffet in The Village on Saturday afternoon. Don't miss great food, music and a vendor expo in the courtyard of The Village for the after-ride party and gourmet buffet feast! All rider participants are provided with free pictures of themselves on the ride immediately after the ride at the After-Ride Party and Gourmet Buffet Feast

Significant sponsorship support (personnel, equipment, supplies, marketing, financial and substantially discounted services and supplies) for the Mammoth Fall Century & Gran Fondo is provided by the following local businesses: Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, Town of Mammoth Lakes (Measure U), Footloose Sports, Sierra Nevada Brewing, Bonk Breaker, VisitMammothLakes.com, SkyTime Helicopter Service, Alaska Airlines, Road Bike Action Magazine, Fendon's Furniture.

A big thanks also goes out to the following agencies for working with the Mammoth Fall Century & Gran Fondo to put on a safe and well organized event: California Highway Patrol, Mammoth Lakes Police Department, Mono County Sheriff, Caltrans, Mono County Road Department, and the Town of Mammoth Lakes. Please visit www.FallCentury.org to learn more, Register for the Ride and invite your Friends!

We need your help! To sign-up to help, go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e49afae2aa02-2014>.

TRAFFIC ADVISORY: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2014

The Mammoth Fall Century and Gran Fondo Charity Bike Ride, produced by the Mammoth Mountain Community Foundation (MMCF) will take place on Saturday, September 6, 2014. The Fall Century and Gran Fondo will once again begin from The Village but at a new starting time of 7:00 a.m. The shorter 42 Mile "Piccolo" and 70 Mile "Medio" courses also start (9:00 a.m.) and end at The Village at Mammoth rather than the Whitmore Ball Fields. Due to the extensive number of riders, area covered and for the safety of the cyclists, specific traffic control measures will be in effect.

The Town would like to notify motorists of the following traffic control measures scheduled for Saturday, September 6, 2014.

1. Lower Canyon Boulevard will be closed between Lake Mary Road and Hillside Drive from 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
2. Between 7:00 a.m. and approximately 7:20 a.m. eastbound traffic will be delayed on Lake Mary Road and Main Street (SR 203) including northbound traffic on US 395 for the Mammoth Fall Century 100 mile ride departing from The Village.
3. Between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. US 395 northbound from SR 203 to the junction of SR 120 will experience heavy bicycle traffic.



4. Between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. motorists should expect heavy bicycle traffic along SR 120 east between US 395 and the Benton Crossing Road.
5. Minaret Road from Forest Trail to Main Lodge (SR 120) will be closed from 9:00 a.m. to 9:20 a.m. for the start of the shorter 42 mile "Piccolo" and 70 mile "Medio" courses. Access to Scenic Loop Road will also be temporarily closed from 9:00 a.m. to 9:20 a.m.
6. Expect heavy or increased bike traffic throughout the day for both southbound and northbound US 395 motorists between Crowley Lake and the Junction with SR 203. Please be aware of increased bike traffic on Crowley Lake Drive and potential delays.

The 2014 Mammoth Fall Century and Gran Fondo event expects approximately 1,200 cyclists in Mammoth Lakes to experience the stunning Eastern Sierra on two-wheels in support of our children's education and athletics. Cyclists will ride on highways SR 203, US 395, SR 120, and Benton Crossing Road on Saturday, September 6, 2014.

Please welcome riders to our community, share the road, and maintain three feet between you and a cyclist at all times.

34TH ANNUAL TIOGA PASS RUN – SEPT. 7

For the 34th year, a hearty group of runners will gather at the base of Tioga Pass in Lee Vining on Sunday, September 7, 2014. Their mission: to run 12.4 miles with 3,200 feet of elevation gain to Yosemite National Park, Tioga Pass Entrance Gate. Olympic Marathon runner, Ryan Hall, set the course record of 1:20:57 in 2010. Most racers take 1 ½ to 4 hours to complete the race, including those in the walking division who leave one hour prior the runners.

Proceeds for the Tioga Pass Run go to the Mono Lake Committee, a non-profit citizens' group dedicated to protecting and restoring the Mono Basin ecosystem, educating the public about Mono Lake and the impacts on the environment of excessive water use, and promoting cooperative solutions that protect Mono Lake and meet real water needs without transferring environmental problems to other areas.

For a thoroughly challenging weekend, consider the Graniteman Challenge sponsored by the High Sierra Triathlon Club:

- Friday, September 5: Swim 1-mile at the Granite to Granite Swim
- Saturday, September 6: Bike 100-miles at the High Sierra Fall Century/ Gran Fondo
- Sunday, September 7: Run 12.4-miles at the Tioga Pass Run

For more information on the Tioga Pass Run: www.monolake.org/visit/tiogapassrun

Facebook: Tioga Pass Run

Email: Info@HighSierraTri.org

Phone: (760) 717.0176

USFS PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION BEGINS SCOPING ON REVISED FOREST PLANS

The U.S. Forest Service today announced a 30-day public scoping period to start the National Environmental Policy Act process for revising forest plans on the Inyo, Sequoia and Sierra National Forests. The scoping period begins August 29, 2014 with the publishing of the Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register. The Inyo, Sequoia and Sierra are three of eight national forests selected as “early adopters,” meaning they will be the first forests to revise their land management plans under the 2012 Forest Service Planning Rule. The planning rule provides the framework for Forest Service land management plans on national forests across the nation.

These three forest plan revisions will be completed through the development of one environmental impact statement (EIS). The final EIS will result in three separate Records of Decision and three separate forest plans. Forest Supervisors are the responsible officials for making decisions on their specific forest plans.

A “scoping period” gives the public a chance to tell the Forest Service what issues and concerns they think should be addressed in the EIS before alternatives are developed and analyzed in the EIS. Public involvement is a critical piece of this analysis and considered in the range of alternatives, which will be made available for public review and comment when drafted.

The Forest Service expects to release a draft of the EIS and alternatives for public review by spring 2015. The EIS allows for a robust public involvement process, which begins with the scoping period announced today. Public meetings to answer questions and accept written public comment are scheduled. For the Inyo National Forest, they will be held on:

- 6:00-8:00 pm -Monday, September 15, at the Dyer Community Center in Dyer, NV
- 6:00-8:00pm - Thursday, September 18, Tri-County Fairgrounds, Sierra Street & Fair Drive, Bishop, CA

The Forest Service values public participation. Communications from the public regarding this project, including commenter’s names and contact information, will become part of the public record.

Comments, including anonymous comments, will be accepted at any time. However, comments posted after the close of a designated comment period may not be given full consideration. Anonymous comments and comments submitted after the close of the final designated comment period will not provide the commenter standing for administrative review.

Scoping comments must be received by September 29, 2014 and may be submitted:

Online: <http://tinyurl.com/r5earlyadopters> (click on the “**Comment on Project**” hyperlink under the “Get Connected” topic at the right side of the webpage),

Electronic mail: R5planrevision@fs.fed.us, or

U.S. mail: Land Management Plan Revision, U.S. Forest Service, 1839 South Newcomb Street, Porterville, CA 93257.

Please remember to specify which forest or forests your comments apply to. For forest-specific information, please contact that forest directly:

- Inyo NF: Deb Schweizer at (760) 873-2427 or debraaschweizer@fs.fed.us
- Sequoia NF: Alicia Embrey at (559) 784-1500 or aliciamembrey@fs.fed.us



- Sierra NF: Dirk Charley at (559) 297-0706 x4805 or dcharley@fs.fed.us

The NOI, detailed proposed action and maps are available for review at <http://tinyurl.com/r5earlyadopters>. For earlier information regarding forest plan revision documents and the planning process prior to the release of the NOI and scoping period, please visit the Pacific Southwest Region's planning website at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/r5/FPR>.

TIMELESS FOR 50 YEARS- AN ENDURING LEGACY OF WILDERNESS

On Wednesday, September 3rd a uniquely American institution turns fifty years old. On this day in 1964, President Johnson signed the Wilderness Act into law. An unprecedented piece of federal legislation, the Wilderness Act created a protected network of publicly owned land "to secure for the American people of present and future generation the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness."

The Wilderness Act defined Wilderness as public land where "the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain." The framers of the Wilderness Act, driven by increasing suburbanization and industrialization born of America's post-war prosperity, were looking to lock up a little bit of the America they grew up in. Basically, Americans who came of age in a landscape largely lacking in internal combustion, when cutting a tree took time and refrigeration meant sawdusted ice, were looking to keep a little of bit the wild places they loved around for their kids.

Anyone who lives in or travels through the Eastern Sierra today literally surrounds themselves with wild fruits of the Wilderness tree planted back in 1964. Three of the Eastern Sierra's most beloved wilderness areas – the John Muir, Minarets, and the Hoover – were part of the original class of '64. These three areas represent classic "wilderness landscapes" of rock, ice, and alpine glory. However, just as our understanding of the land evolved over the last five decades, the institution of wilderness evolved to meet changing circumstances.

In 1984, President Ronald Regan, by signing the California Wilderness Act of 1984, expanded the wilderness area west of Mammoth, known then as the Minaret further south to connect with the northern boundary of the John Muir and renamed it the Ansel Adams. As the story goes, the joining of the Ansel Adams and John Muir Wilderness areas finally foreclosed on the threat of a highway cutting through what is today some of Mammoth's best loved backcountry.

A decade later, the 1994 Desert Protection Act preserved large chunks of the previous maligned, bombed, and ignored Mojave desert as wilderness as many finally acknowledged what mystics from all cultures have known for decades – that deserts are sacred places.

Even as America's National Wilderness Preservation System evolved and expanded, myths and misperceptions about wilderness persist. A classic remains that designated wilderness areas are "closed to all people, nobody can go in there or use it." A quick trip up Rock Creek Canyon or the Duck Pass Trail or into Tuolumne Meadows quashes this notion as families fish, friends reconnect, and the hungry settle into a picnic.

The Wilderness Act was not intended to create static nature dioramas where you have to sit on the outside looking in. Just the opposite. The Wilderness Act mandates wilderness areas "shall be administered for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such a manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and



enjoyment as wilderness.” Wilderness areas are places preserved for you and yours, places to love, nurture, share and steward. They are a gift from Americans past to Americans future.

On this 50th birthday of the Wilderness Act, get out and enjoy the wildness right out the back (and front) doors. Celebrate with a walk among the bristlecones of the Patriarch Grove in the White Mountains Wilderness, a day casting for Goldens in the 20 Lakes Basin of the Hoover Wilderness, a meander among the foxtail pines from Horseshoe Meadows in the John Muir Wilderness, cloud counting from the shade of a pinyon pine in the Granite Mountain Wilderness or a day working to improve a favorite wilderness trail.

Whatever you chose, enjoyers of wilderness can know that the land they’ve just left will remain largely the same a half century from now thanks to that uniquely American institution of Wilderness.

Throughout the month of September, join Friends of the Inyo in celebrating 50 years of Wilderness with many opportunities to care for and explore wilderness and wild places. Visit friendsoftheinyo.org or call 760-873-6500 for more information. To learn more about wilderness and places to explore in the National Wilderness Preservation System visit wilderness.net. For more info, please call Ursula Esser at (760) 873-6500 or visit www.friendsoftheinyo.org.

WILDERNESS 50 EVENTS- CELEBRATION OF 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WILDERNESS ACT (WHICH WAS SIGNED ON SEPTEMBER 3, 1964):

- **September 6 - Virginia Lake Trail Project and Clean up**

Join Friends of the Inyo for a celebratory trail and lake clean up at Virginia Lake to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Wilderness Act, hosted in partnership with the Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest and the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance. Meet at Virginia Lake trail head at 9 am for a light bagel breakfast. Clean up around the lake and light trail maintenance from 9:30 am till 1 pm. Please wear closed toe shoes and work appropriate clothing. More information available via email (info@friendsoftheinyo.org) or by calling (760) 873-6500.

September 7- Sunset Hike and Full Moon Outing in Owens River Headwaters Wilderness

- In celebration of Wilderness, join Friends of the Inyo for a sunset hike and picnic in the Owens River Headwaters Wilderness and watch the full moon rise over Glass Creek Meadow. Wear good hiking shoes and bring plenty of water, warm clothes, headlamp, walking stick and your own picnic. And your favorite wilderness passage to share. Light libations will be provided. Group size is limited, please RSVP. Meeting at 4 pm near trailhead and return no later than 9:30 pm. Please contact Ursula at ursula@friendsoftheinyo.org or call 760-873-6500 for more information and to RSVP.

FREE PUBLIC OUTINGS PLANNED FOR BODIE HILLS THIS SUMMER & FALL

The Bodie Hills Conservation Partnership is planning to lead a series of public outings and stewardship projects this summer and fall on lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the Bodie Hills. The outings vary in length and difficulty and are free and open to the public. Space is limited, and pre-registration is required. For more information or to register please contact Jeff Hunter at info@bodiehills.org or (423) 322-7866.

- Sept. 13: Obsidian Quarry tour with BLM Archaeologist Greg Haverstock. Rated Easy.



- Oct. 25: 4-mile hike to summit of Mt. Biederman. Rated: Moderately Strenuous.

In addition to the above listed outings, volunteers are also sought for one last stewardship projects planned for September 27: National Public Lands Day stewardship project. Project yet to be determined.

SIERRA CLUB EVENTS

Sierra Club Evening Hike, Thursday September 4, McLeod Lake.Note earlier meeting time. Meet 4:30 pm ML Union Bank. Dogs ok, Contact Sally sges4d@gmail.com

Sierra Club Outing, Sunday September 7 Benetteville. Hike in the Mine Creek drainage to Shell, Fantail, and Spuller Lakes with a stop at Cord Wood Ridge. Meet 8:00am ML Union Band. Dogs ok, Info Mary K mkp@npgcable.com

Sierra Club Evening Hike, Thursday September 11 Laurel Pond. Dogs ok, note earlier meeting time. Meet 4:30pm Mammoth Union Bank, Info Sally sges4d@gmail.com

Sierra Club Outing, Saturday September 13 Bird Outing. Local bird experts lead a morning of birding in the Mammoth Lakes area. Look for resident birds, migrants, and there may be some surprises. Location to be determined pending weather conditions and bird activity. Binoculars necessary. Meet 7:45 am Mammoth Union Bank. No dogs, Info Karen kmschlaep@cox.net or Dick rhihn@gmail.com

Sierra Club Outing, Sunday September 14 Horton Lake (10,000'), 6 mile RT hike along old mining road, moderate, possible optional hike to Upper Horton Lake, 2200' gain. Trailhead passes Buttermilk Country. Meet 8am Mammoth Union Bank. Info Brigitte jungberman@mac.com or Dick rhihn@gmail.com.

Sierra Club Potluck, Tuesday September 16. Potluck and social at 6:15pm at Crowley Lake Community Center. Bring you own table setting and a dish to share. Program at 7:00 with Jeff Hunter presenting a "Photo Perspective of Wilderness". Everyone welcome.

Sierra Club Evening Hike, Thursday September 18 TJ/Barrett Lakes. Loop trail starts at Lake George and swings around Lake Mary. 4mi rt. dogs ok,Note earlier time. Meet 4:30pm Mammoth Union Bank, Info Sally sges4d@gmail.com

Sierra Club Outing, Sunday September 21 Ediza Lake from Agnew Meadows. 13.5mi rt, 1225' gain. Please bring \$7 (per adult) for shuttle bus. Dogs ok, a leash and muzzle are required for shuttle bus. <http://www.nps.gov/depo/planyourvisit/feesandreservations.htm> Meet 8am Mammoth Union Bank, Info Melissa melissas1@verizon.net

Sierra Club Evening Hike, Thursday September 25 Mammoth Creek. dogs ok, note earlier meeting time. Meet 4:30pm Mammoth Union Bank, Info Sally sges4d@gmail.com.

Sierra Club Outing , Saturday September 27 , Pine Creek to Mosquito Flats with car shuttle, 12mi, 3000' gain, strenuous, no dogs, Meet 7am Mosquito Flats parking area, Info Cindy candj@schat.com.

Sierra Club Outing, Sunday September 28 Lyell Canyon in Yosemite National Park. 14mi RT along Lyell Fork of the Tuolumne River. At lunch, the hike leader will read excerpts from John Muir's work. Meet 8am at the Mobil Station in Lee Vining. Look for Jeff's Toyota Tacoma. No dogs. Space limited to 15 hikers. Info Jeff jeff@bodiehills.org

Upcoming & On-Going Events...

- CLOSED Mammoth RecZone – Mammoth Ice Rink opens Nov. 28
- NOW OPEN Whitmore Pool – last day Sept. 5
- ON-GOING Drop-in Tennis Lessons at Community Center Tennis Courts (last day Sept. 25)
- ON-GOING Adult Soccer League at Whitmore
- Sept 3 Adult Coed Dodgeball begins at the Mammoth RecZone (every Monday & Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.)
- Sept 4 Drop-in Tennis Lessons at Community Center Tennis Courts
- Sept 9 Drop-in Tennis Lessons at Community Center Tennis Courts
- Sept 11 Drop-in Tennis Lessons at Community Center Tennis Courts
- Sept 16 Drop-in Tennis Lessons at Community Center Tennis Courts
- Sept 18 Drop-in Tennis Lessons at Community Center Tennis Courts
- Sept 23 Drop-in Tennis Lessons at Community Center Tennis Courts
- Sept 25 Drop-in Tennis Lessons at Community Center Tennis Courts
- Oct. 24 Halloween Skate Party at the Mammoth RecZone
- Nov. 28 Mammoth Ice Rink scheduled Opening Day
- Dec. 5 Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony