



Summer 2009 **BLACK ROCK / HIGH ROCK NEWS**

Hot Springs in Black Rock Country

Matthew Ebert, Executive Director

One attraction for many people visiting the Black Rock Desert is the possibility of visiting natural hot springs. In recent years, the BLM has launched a campaign to publicize the dangers of hot springs. You may have seen the billboard on I-80, with a graphic showing a skull and crossbones with swirling steam from a hot spring and bearing the text: "Hot Springs on Public Lands... Stay Out & Stay Alive!" The BLM warns against hot springs mostly because the temperature of the water at natural hot springs can vary widely, or in some instances is outright dangerous.

There have been instances of fatalities at Double Hot—someone died and another was seriously injured after trying to save a dog that had leapt into the 180°F water. Although the spring itself is on private property, the BLM did pay a settlement to the family of the victim.

Last fall Friends and several OCTA volunteers erected a new split-rail and wire-mesh fence around the source pools. There are also permanent signs to warn the casual visitor to the danger of the water at Double Hot. It is still possible to approach the spring, as seen in the photo, but it is not advised. There is still a risk to unattended pets as well, so caution is required. If you are looking for a good soak, there is a steel tub set off at a distance from the spring. It is possible to fill the tub with a mixture of cooled

water and piping hot spring water. The polite thing to do is to make sure the valve is shut when you leave, thereby allowing a later visitor to bring the tub up to their desired temperature.

Black Rock hot spring is not too far away from this site and is also along the Emigrant Trail. While people certainly have soaked here before, I have never gone in and cannot offer any advice about its temperature or safety.

Another dangerous hot spring is the Great Boiling Spring just outside of Gerlach. To some, it would seem obvious that springs named "Great Boiling" and "Double Hot" are indeed dangerous! This spring is on private property, and access is limited. Friends of Black Rock does include this site occasionally on our hot spring tours,

pending permission from the owner on a case-by-case basis.

Great Boiling spring was "discovered" by John C Fremont and Kit Carson on their trip through the area in 1844. The two explorers could see the steam rising, clear from their camp in the mountains east of the playa. When they arrived at the spring they noted that the site had many Paiutes camped there. These hot springs also have temperatures around 180° F, but the hottest springs are now protected by chain-link fence. There are



Double Hot Springs. Photo by Justin Robbins, BLM.

Friends of Black Rock / High Rock
380 Main Street
Box 224
Gerlach, NV 89412
775-557-2900

Board of Directors

Will Roger Peterson
President

Sam Stern
Vice President

Jim Kudrna
Secretary

Lucy Moreton-Hall
Treasurer

Jeff Barker

David Book

Wayne DeGeere III

Liz Margerum

Dan O'Day

Dennis Porter

Debbie "Sam" Smith

Arlo Stockham

Lorraine Watson

Staff

Matthew Ebert
Executive Director

Bill Carson
IT Director

Michael "Crow" Black
Volunteer Coordinator

Margie Reynolds
Communications Director

Newsletter

Matthew Ebert - *Editor*
Margie Reynolds - *Production*
Cover Photo - *Steve Chandler*

The Friends of Black Rock High Rock is a 501 (c)(3) organization which helps manage the resources of the Black Rock Desert region and educates the public to foster stewardship and preserve its unique character.

blackrockdesert.org

nevada
travelsnevada.com



Trego Hot Ditch. Photo by Margie Reynolds

stories of people dying in these hot springs too, and while other springs here are not as hot, the temperature varies widely and the site is off limits to the public.

Frog Pond, aka Garrett Ranch, situated off Jungo Road is a popular hot spring also located on private property. Unfortunately the owners have been somewhat forced to leave the gate open. People have trespassed, regardless of the signs, and in some instances have damaged the fence to gain entry. This is an unfortunate and truly shameful state of affairs, and the site is starting to show signs of abuse.

Trego hot ditch lies northeast of the Garrett Ranch property, also not far from Jungo Road. This hot spring is actually on public lands within the NCA, and is a popular spring for area visitors. This spring also is showing wear and tear from many vehicle paths. Unfortunately, it is unclear to the casual visitor where the designated roads are located. This problem will be addressed in the future.

People should not camp or park right next to any springs, it's actually a state law. NRS 503.660 states: "It is unlawful for any person to camp within 100 yards of a water hole in such a manner that wildlife or domestic stock will be denied access to such water hole." Camping is defined as erecting a tent or a shelter of any material, preparing a sleeping bag or other bedding material for use, or parking of a motor vehicle, motor home, or trailer for overnight occupancy. The cumulative effect is that these springs have less and less vegetation surrounding them and more and more litter.


The owners of Frog Pond have indicated an interest in having the property managed as a commercial campground in order to arrest this abuse and insist on responsible practices there. This is something in which Friends of Black Rock may become involved in the future.

There will also be increased efforts by the BLM to improve the camping and designated roadways around Trego hot spring. All of these hot springs are closed during Burning Man to ensure that they are not further overrun and negatively impacted.

Farther north, Soldier Meadows Ranch is home to several natural hot springs. The guest ranch has some services available, and the springs here are a popular attraction for bathers. Please visit soldiermeadows.com for more information or to make a reservation. There is a hot creek with several small soaking areas located west of the ranch, in the Soldier Meadows Area of Critical Environmental Concern. It is extremely important to follow all rules when visiting this area. A campground exists near the creek.

Located in the Hualapai Flat adjacent to the Black Rock Desert lies colorful Fly Geyser. A constantly spouting artesian well gushes over the beautiful mineral buildup of which

it is formed. On private property, the site is off-limits to the public. The Friends of Black Rock will conduct limited special tours of Fly Geyser during the Black Rock Rendezvous on Memorial Day Weekend.

People have asked about the danger of infection or other disease related to entering hot springs. Research indicates that while the risk of disease from various bacteria does exist, it is pretty low. Certainly, if many people have been in a small hot spring pond, there is a chance of infection with hepatitis. Also, bacteria from fecal material is another concern, especially since cattle can often be found in the vicinity of any water source in rangeland. On the other hand, many people espouse the health benefits of soaking in mineral rich hot springs. You can read a very good article on the subject of disease in hot springs from the World Health Organization, linked from our website: blackrockdesert.org/wiki/index.php/Springs. 

From the President: New Strategic Plan Energizes Group

Will Roger Peterson, President

The Friends of the Black Rock/High Rock met in Reno, NV, on January 24 & 25 to develop a new Strategic Plan. The purpose of this effort was to engage new board members and to make sure we are clear on our priorities for the next few years. We were very fortunate to bring Barbara Rusmore from Bozeman, Montana, to facilitate the workshop. Barbara manages the Western Office of the Institute for Conservation Leadership. Over the past 30 years, Barbara has been involved in a range of conservation activities. She has worked with national, regional and local conservation, as well as environmental groups in the Rocky Mountain West, the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. And now the Great Basin Desert! Barbara did an outstanding job creating and holding us to an agenda, providing insight toward our issues and ultimately helping us create an ambitious, achievable, inspiring strategic plan.

The sessions were well attended by the board and staff, with only 3 board members absent. First we brainstormed the vision, and each of us was given an opportunity to express our own concept of what we would like to see in the future.

Some ideas from this exercise include:

- Sustainable development while we protect and revive springs
- Increase awareness of eco-tourism
- Interpretive center and campground managed by Friends
- Increased protection of resources, prevent vandalism
- Maintaining unique recreation opportunities
- Enrich the experience
- More public collaboration with BLM management
- 10,000 national members

Then we spent some time analyzing our mission statement. We worked at making several changes but in the end concluded that this statement expresses who we are as concisely as possible. There was much discussion here, indicating that we should revisit this at some point in the near future. I encourage the reader to express their opinion on this topic (or any other public lands issue) by sending an e-mail to info@blackrockdesert.org

We looked carefully at our values, context, and strategic directions. In this discussion we analyzed our organizational strengths, weaknesses and challenges as follows:

Internal Organizational Strengths and Assets:

- The land – our commitment to it
- Diversity and acceptance – history
- New & vibrant board, good leadership
- Strong and dedicated staff
- Office and visitor station in Gerlach
- Support of & relationship with BLM

- Coordination with all concerned parties on NCA, networking and business support

Weaknesses and Challenges:

- Board staff communication, coordinate (effective committees)
- Projects: simplify & prioritize;
- Membership development: increase visibility, use Burning Man better, website changes, clarity around sharing appropriate information, what's in it for members
- Plan for financial well-being: cost controls, coordinated fundraising plan, how to do it?
- Working with new BLM staff and effects of the new Presidential administration
- False perception that we are controlled by BLM or Burning Man

From this we developed a strategy for three-year goals and objectives. Most significant to this strategy was that we re-organized our committee structure around achieving these goals—we created two new committees with new chairpersons. These committees. Like our mission statement, reflect who we are as an organization and what our most important goals are. We now have a Conservation Committee chaired by Debbie Smith and an Education and Outreach Committee chaired by Liz Margerum. These committees complement our existing Fundraising Committee chaired by Jeff Barker. Each of our committees created a mission, objective, and three-year goals.

Lastly, we committed to annual monitoring and renewal of the plan. Staff will prepare short reports prior to each quarterly board meeting to demonstrate progress on goals, and to highlight any changes that have occurred and why, and any unanticipated outcomes or shifts in the issues. Quarterly review will be used to tune up and problem-solve the implementation of the plan. At least once a year the board and staff will do a complete review of the plan and accomplishments to date, exploring what they have learned and asking what has changed in environment and internally, if the assumptions of the plan still hold true and if the overall goals and strategies need adjusting. The board will then decide what changes need to be made in the plan and its implementation.

The complete text can be found at <http://blackrockdesert.org/friends/2009-strategic-planning-meeting-notes>.

I look forward to hearing from you, the reader, for without your involvement it will be impossible for us to survive as an organization, or to achieve our goals.

To contact us email info@blackrockdesert.org, or call the office at 775-557-2900. 

Featured Partner: AeroPac

Camp Matilda, AeroPac

Founded in 1989 by Bill Lewis, the Association of Experimental Rocketry of the Pacific (AeroPac) is an all-volunteer club that launches rockets from the world's best site for high-powered rocketry -- the Black Rock Desert. Our 'leave no trace' policy requires that the only things we leave behind after a launch are foot prints and tire tracks. AeroPac is a Northern California and Northern Nevada prefecture of the Tripoli Rocketry Association— however, AeroPac was founded long before its involvement with Tripoli and has roots in the earliest times of high-power rocketry. In the beginning, AeroPac consisted of about 15 men and women that would come out to the playa a few times a year to hold research launches. Since then, AeroPac has grown to nearly 500 members across the globe with members in the US, Taiwan, New Zealand, the UK and more.

In 2008, Aero-Pac was incorporated as a 501c (3) nonprofit for public benefit. We currently hold four launches a year. There's Mudrock, in June (when the playa is often still wet), then Aeronaut in late July (often called AeroHOT), and then we end the launch season with ARLISS and XPRS, which are held concurrently in September. ARLISS (A Rocket Launch for International Student Satellites) is a program that provides a learning experience for advanced high school and college level students from around the world. ARLISS students learn how to design a complex electronic payload "satellite" that will have to operate in a harsh / hostile environment (for electronics). These payloads are typically lofted to altitudes of 12,000 to 14,000 feet and are designed to either conduct experiments or to participate in a competition to autonomously return to a predetermined location on the playa surface.



Mudrock, Aeronaut and XPRS are open to the general public— we invite you to spend a few days at one of the most amazing places on earth and fly your rockets. XPRS tends to be the largest of the three launches and is a great opportunity to network with some of the world's most seasoned high-power rocketry enthusiasts. Our launches typically span three days with attendance ranging from 100 to 500 people and averaging 100 to 600 flights. With the exception of XPRS, the first day of the launch is reserved as a 'research launch' day. On a research day, qualified members are allowed to fly rockets using their own propellant formulas in homemade motors. Commercially manufactured motors are allowed as well but only for qualified fliers. A large majority of people camp on the playa either in tents or RVs, however some do choose to stay in Gerlach.

At all launches, you will have the opportunity to see scale models of military and space agency rockets, futuristic and wacky designs, and rockets that are bare-bones minimum so as to maximize the speed and altitude of the motor used. People have even built rockets out of such unconventional things as a Webber BBQ Grill – and believe it or not, it flew beautifully! Most rockets flown at our launches use an Ammonium Perchlorate Composite Propellant (APCP). This is the same type of propellant used in the Space Shuttle booster rockets and packs a much bigger punch than the typical Black Powder hobby rocket motors with which most folks are familiar. The rockets themselves are usually constructed from cardboard, fiber glass, or carbon fiber tubing and components. Many fly with onboard flight computers to measure G forces at liftoff, speed and the highest altitude reached. These computers can also be programmed to automatically fire tiny, explosive deployment charges at specific altitudes which cause the release of the rocket's parachutes, bringing the rockets safely back to earth.

After the sun goes down you can have a great time traveling from camp fire to camp fire listening to stories and lore. On Saturday nights, we hold a weather-dependent night launch which is quite a treat to see. Flashing multi-colored lights lift up into the sky on plumes of fire and then appear as twinkling stars drifting gently back to earth on their parachutes. Though our focus is primarily on high power rockets and pushing the limits of current technologies, kids are always welcome to come and fly smaller model rockets alongside mom and dad.

So – whether you are flying an Estes Alpha on an A class motor or that big beast you built to fly on a M class motor, you will have a good time and find all the help that you need to get your rocket in the air. AeroPac provides a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) standing waiver to fly rockets up to 100,000 feet MSL and 35 launch pads, which accommodate the smallest to the largest of rockets. There are porta-potties and (usually) a vendor or two with rocket kits, parts and motors (and sometimes even food). In addition to our rocket launches, AeroPac participates in events each year with the intention of educating people about hobby and amateur rocketry. The Maker Fair in San Mateo, California (put on by Make Magazine), and The Black Rock Rendezvous held out on the playa itself (hosted by Friends of the Black Rock and the BLM) are two examples. If you are interested in learning more about this fascinating avocation, come to one of our launches, the Black Rock Rendezvous, the Maker Fair or visit www.aeropac.org.


Wilderness Bill establishes National Landscape Conservation System

Matthew Ebert
Executive Director

On March 30, 2009, President Obama signed a large lands legislation package into law, establishing two million acres as wilderness and creating a new national system to conserve land held by the BLM. This collection of 170 different bills represents the most significant wilderness law in at least 15 years and provides the highest level of federal protection to areas mostly throughout the West. The law also permanently establishes the 26-million acre National Landscape Conservation System, which protects environmentally and historically significant lands including the Black Rock Desert / High Rock Canyon - Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area. Language was added to the law ensuring access to hunting, fishing, trapping and recreational shooting on public lands after the legislation initially ran into trouble over such concerns.

Although some Friends of Black Rock High Rock applaud these protections, and some view them as beneficial to communities in Western states where the federal government owns a great deal of land, others are not as pleased with these developments. Many people are concerned that wilderness designation greatly limits the activities and uses of public lands to all but a select few persons. Because wilderness areas prohibit mechanized vehicle traffic, some people may never have an opportunity to view these lands except from afar, or through pictures. Areas that have been accessed by hunters on ATVs for decades now are only accessible on foot or horseback.

There is also concern that ranchers whose families homesteaded these lands and have worked them for generations will have to severely curtail their livelihoods. Although Double Hot Springs is privately owned, for example, building a geothermal power plant there would significantly diminish the primitive and pristine environment that the Emigrants experienced, and it would be difficult to run power lines because of conservation restrictions.

The Friends of Black Rock High Rock continues to strike a balance between these competing viewpoints, and to work with the BLM to make sure that restrictions are not inadvertently expanded. We have learned from various people that a barricade was placed across a road into the North Black Rock Wilderness several hundred yards before where it was meant to be installed. We brought this to the attention of BLM staff, who have admitted that this was done in error. The barricade will now be removed and reinstalled at its proper location in a future project. This is a great example of how the Friends of Black Rock High Rock works to protect your interests in public lands, and why it is so important that we have your support through volunteerism, membership, and other charitable contributions. 



Volunteer Opportunities From Camping to Chillin' in the Shade.

By Michael "Crow" Black
Volunteer Coordinator


Friends of Black Rock volunteers have an opportunity to give back to the region which has given so much inspiration to us. Not only does it feel good, **volunteering imparts free membership and other perks**, it provides opportunities to get out to remote places you might not otherwise see.

2009 Volunteer Projects - sign up at blackrockdesert.org

- Slumgullion Campsite restoration, May 24 (Rendezvous)
- Coyote Dune conservation, May 24 (Rendezvous)
- Guru Road restoration, July 18 – 19 (camp or stay in town)
- Summit Twin Spring restoration, August 7 - 9 (camping event)
- National Public Lands Day, September 18 – 20 (camping event)

Are you looking to hang out, learn and meet new people?

Volunteers are needed to staff shifts in the Visitor Contact Station just outside of Gerlach, every weekend through October. Spend the day meeting other Friends and passers-by. The Station is stocked with maps, merchandise and staff or experienced volunteers are on hand to help get you up to speed.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, call 775-557-2900 or send a message to volunteer@blackrockdesert.org . 

Hams? In the Black Rock?

David Book, KD7YIM


Have you ever wanted to have some communications in the Black Rock? Citizens Band (CB) only has about a three to five mile range and Family Service Radio (FRS) is about the same. Cell phones don't work in the Black Rock, so what if there's emergency? Consider ham radio, also known as amateur radio, where you can talk worldwide at no cost.

Over the last few years it's become easier to get the license and you don't need to learn Morse Code anymore. There are three levels of licenses and the first license only requires a 35-question, multiple-choice exam. Passing only takes 26 correct answers. It's a pretty easy test and it gets you operating privileges that will let you talk to people in Reno and Sparks when you are at Double Hot Springs! Higher license levels get you onto the worldwide frequencies. With the middle license, the radio in my truck lets me talk to people all over the Western States and even farther at night! Furthermore, Ham Radio doesn't have the obnoxious factor often found on CB radio. Ham Radio operators have a reputation for being friendly, polite, and helpful.

The Ham Radio community has a series of "repeaters" or relay stations located around Northern Nevada that extend communications far beyond what would otherwise be possible. That's why you can talk over 100 miles from Double Hot Springs to Reno. Otherwise communication with the first license would

be limited to about 25 miles with a car radio and about 8 miles with a hand-held radio. Car mounted radios cost about \$200 and hand-held radios cost about \$150. Car mounted radios are usually about 50 watts (CB radios are 5 watts) and hand-held radios are usually 5 watts. Friends of the Black Rock is also working on installing a repeater in the Granite Mountains that will enable people to talk from about Soldier Meadows Hot Springs, around most of the NCA, and far south of Gerlach.

There are quite a few study guides for the tests. My favorite is Gordon West's "Technician Study Manual 2006-2010", \$18.95 from www.w5yi.org. Free practice tests made up from exactly the same questions as the real test are available at www.radioexam.org. Free study materials and free practice tests are available at www.hamclass.org. Tests are given about once a month in most areas. For general information on amateur radio check www.hello-radio.org or www.arrl.org. Schedules of tests are posted at www.arrl.org/examsearch and the test is only \$14.00. Licenses are good for 10 years.

Quite a number of the Black Rock users already have Ham licenses. Many of the rocket hobbyists use amateur radio frequencies for telemetry and also to locate their rockets after they land on the playa. There's even a regular group of "Burning Hams" during the Burning Man. Already have an amateur license? Stop at the kiosk near the Gerlach water tower for a list of useful repeater frequencies for use in the Black Rock. 

Water for Wildlife

Jim Kudrna, Secretary


Throughout the ages, Native Americans, ranchers, farmers, explorers, settlers, and many others have cleaned and repaired the natural fresh water flows from springs and seeps throughout the Black Rock Desert - High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails region.

For various reasons, this invaluable work has not been done during the most recent 50 or more years. The current wildlife populations of the region are reportedly less than 10% of their traditional or historic levels as a direct result of this lack of maintenance, and also due to the tremendous pressure which has been placed upon these invaluable desert water resources from increased use.

Yes Friends, it is time for change. The Friends of Black Rock board and staff, at the recent strategic planning session, unanimously recognized this injustice and the importance of really doing something to see to it that all the springs and seeps of the region are made to function naturally again. This new commitment by this most important and dynamic group will certainly help pave the way to the renewal of the regions wildlife



and bird populations. But, we need your help. While Friends has committed to the repair of the non-functioning and low flow (damaged) springs in the region, we will need volunteer help and other financial help with this monumental effort. If you love this Desert and its plants, birds and other wildlife, you will want to help us make a real difference in repairing these water resources.

Please— DONATE funds (which can be restricted only to "Water for Wildlife" use) by simply contacting the Friends office in Gerlach today. For more information and/or to learn how you can help us with the "Water for Wildlife" projects in planning please contact Debbie Smith, Chairman of Friends Conservation Committee or Michael Black, Friends Volunteer Coordinator. We are here to help you help the wildlife. Thank You for your continuing support. 



Help Reduce Destructive Impacts

Jeff Barker
Chair, Fundraising and Membership Committee

We, as Friends of the Black Rock, must work towards educating people to protect our area-- both from destructive impacts AND from future policy enforcement through area closures and travel restrictions. We have a concern that many of you may have noticed already. This problem has increased exponentially in the last few years. I am talking about off-road use of motorcycles (primarily) and also "race" ATVs. We have two distinct forms of travel through our area on these machines. One way is fast and furious. It turns up the dirt, makes ruts, influences water flow and erosion, disturbs wildlife, and "tags" the desert with a giant scar taking years to repair.

The other way to travel is to "tour" our desert area. This choice is a slow paced tour always using 4-wheel drive to reduce tire slippage. After a day of travel, there is little one can find that a machine had been there just the day before. We stay on designated trails and worn roads without widening them, or making turn-outs. We minimize our impact everywhere we go. We pick up trash left behind by others. We ask others to stay on trails and reduce our impact on the terrain and environment. When everyone sees that 'Leave No Trace' behavior benefits everyone, the environment and the wildlife, we will ward off further restrictions on travel in the Black Rock Desert for some time in the future while helping the overall ecosystem. 🏔️

The Black Rock Desert comes to YOU.

Liz Margerum
Chair, Education and Visitor Information Committee

The Friends of Black Rock High Rock Visitor Contact Station went on the road this spring to several events around Reno. First we attended Cabela's Spring Great Outdoor Days on March 21-22, and we managed to simultaneously hold our Spring Kickoff Party on March 21 at the Great Basin Brewery in Sparks. Thank you to everyone who participated— we had a great time and came out ahead from the raffle, your donations, new memberships, and other contributions.

We then attended Earth Day events April 18th in North Lake Tahoe, April 19th at Idlewild Park in Reno, and April 25 in South Lake Tahoe. These events provide an opportunity to engage the local communities, recruit new members, and spread the word about the work we are doing.

Catch us next on May 9 & 10 at the Jackpot of Gems Show at the Reno Livestock Events Center, then at X Night - First Thursday at the Nevada Museum of Art on August 6 or the Black Rock Rendezvous over Memorial Day weekend.

If you are looking for a reason to get out to the Black Rock/ High Rock (and who isn't?) we always need volunteers. It's an opportunity to learn the history of the region and to provide a vital service to people by providing area information.

As the education committee it is important to work with our community to expand their knowledge of the region. This can only be done with your help. Please contact us at education@blackrockdesert.org to suggest field trips, classes, or other events where we can participate. 🏔️

Gerlach News

Matthew Ebert, Executive Director

From March through December in 2008, the Gerlach Empire Citizen Advisory Board underwent a process of reviewing the High Desert Area Plan (HDAP), which is the Washoe County development code specific to Gerlach and Empire. A survey was sent out to area residents and property owners, and several meetings were held with the public to aid the plan update. The HDAP recently was adopted after review by the Truckee Meadows regional planning authority. It was recognized that more local-serving commercial businesses are needed to support the residents of Gerlach, and that tourism does not often contribute to the local economy. More opportunities for tourism-related businesses would help to resolve this issue. It also recognized that the fragile desert ecology needs to be


protected as it is becoming increasingly more popular with recreational users, and that more effective weed abatement measures are needed due to the increased incidence of invasive species.

A special designation was created, called the Downtown Gerlach Overlay District, which is comprised mostly of the properties along Main Street. There is a continuing process to determine what specific characteristics this district will have, although "mixed use" zoning for businesses and residences was the overwhelming desire of the citizens who participated in the process. The goal is to relax development restrictions such as landscaping and paving requirements, and to find other ways to foster business growth in Gerlach. The HDAP is available online: http://www.co.washoe.nv.us/comdev_files/cp/high_desert_area_plan.pdf.

Why Join Friends of Black Rock?

Friends is comprised of people who love Black Rock / High Rock country. We represent and belong to many user groups, often with differing opinions, but we share a common love and respect for the region.

- We help preserve the unique Black Rock experience by educating visitors who might cause irreparable damage.
- We work with the BLM to achieve many of their goals, therefore fending off the need for user fees or land closures.
- We host tours and events in the NCA with knowledgeable desert veterans.
- We perform volunteer service projects including dune and spring restoration.
- We provide the most up-to-date source for Black Rock country news and information on the web.

Friends does all of this and more, but it's not possible without your support. So please, join us today and make a tax deductible donation that will make a difference for generations to come. *Thank you!* 

Black Rock Rendezvous May 22-25.

Don't miss this year's Rendezvous. This year welcomes the addition of cowboy poetry, self-guided wild horse tours and a dazzling night-time rocket launch. Get all of the details online, as the schedule is evolving weekly.

www.blackrockrendezvous.org 

Thank you to all of our new members and supporters

Roger & Connie Alther
Seth Ames
Jacob Atkins
Russell Atkinson
Matt Blaisdell
Larry & Beverley Blaylock
Gerrit Boerman
David Boyer
Pete Bret
Tom Brewer
Todd Brittingham
Kevin Brittner
Gessner & Lisa Brown
David Calvert
Poy Chin
Will Crawford
Bob Culley
Jody Curry
Claudia Davison
Brad deGraf
Marcy DeLuce
Doug Drummond
Dan Duhigg
Brion Dunbar
Morris & Diane Erickson
Darryl Ferrucci
Peter & Melissa
Fleischmann
Tonya Flint
Wendy Floersch
Jen Foote
Lynn Gamroth

Clane Gessel
John Godlove
Gaylen & Jill Grover
Richard Hagen
Freddy Hahne
Brian Jensen
Rosemary Jones
Ernest Kastenbein
Joanne Kimball
Patrick Kleames
William Kunder
Josh Levine
Bob Lickter
Tauria Linala
Karen Lyons
Liz Margerum
Tomas McCabe
Marcy Mendelson
Derek Menningen
Meg Millard
Sunny Minedew
Debbie Moorhead
Gar Nelson
Catherine Oliver
Ken Otto
Stanley Paher
Donna Pennington
James Perry
Catrina Peters
Jerome & Donna Petersen
John Pettitt
Merrilee Proffitt

Neil Pyke
Carla Roccapriore
Gordon Rogers
Bill & Jeanne Sanford
Jon Sarriugarte
Karen Sceva
Sandy Scott
Matthew Scully
Jean Sickler
Anna Jean Slaughter
Johnson
Farmer Lou Solari
Robert Stack
John Stetz
Roger Stimson
Steve Stuckey
Karen Todd
Tami Tracey
Earl & Edie Troutman
Dennis Turrin
Doug & Marilyn Urbani
Steve Veirs
Seth Wallace
Bob Ward
Priscilla Wheeler
Jack Whitney
Pat Williams
Britt Wisdom

**Bold denotes
Opal Class**

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Reno, NV
Permit #379

Friends of Black Rock / High Rock
Box 224
Gerlach, NV 89412

