



# From the Mailbag

News from Members and Friends

by Erika Obedzinski

*“An invitation—to explore, befriend and learn from Mono Lake...  
to walk its beaches, float on its waters and climb its volcanoes...  
to ponder what our children should inherit...”*

—David Gaines

If it's not happening already, warmer weather is just around the corner—so as you make your summer plans, don't forget to include a visit to Mono Lake! If you are able to make a trip to Lee Vining, please stop by the Mono Lake Committee Information Center and Bookstore to say hello while you're here. Many of activities will be going on this spring and summer—here are a few things to keep in mind.

The Committee's **guided canoe tours** are a great way to see the lake from late June to early September. Tours depart weekend mornings at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00AM. Reservations are required.

Guided **walking tours at South Tufa** are offered daily during the summer at 10AM, 1PM, and 6PM. This one-hour, one-mile walking tour is a fun introduction to Mono Lake. The tour is free, and is enjoyable for both kids and adults—meet at the South Tufa parking lot.

**Bird walks** take place during the summer on Friday and Sunday mornings at 8AM at County Park north of Lee Vining. Come and learn some of the many birds who visit Mono Lake in the warmer months. All levels of bird enthusiasts are welcome.

We will be offering **Lee Vining Creek tours** once again this summer! Meandering the 1.6 mile community-built Lee Vining Creek Trail with a naturalist is a wonderful way to see Lee Vining Creek as it is being restored to health.

An **exhibit of fine art landscape photography** by world-class mountaineer and adventurer **Claude Fiddler** will be

showing in the Committee gallery May–October. While you're here, check out the **Mono Lake Story video** too!

Spend a weekend learning more about the Mono Basin on a **Mono Lake Committee Field Seminar**. Seminars are listed on page 19—spaces are limited and reservations are required.

The **3rd Annual Mono Basin Bird Chautauqua** will take place from June 18–20 in the Mono Basin. Don't miss out on this fun weekend of birds, field trips, music, art, and more! Details on page 8.

New this summer from the Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce: **Campfire Programs**. Talks, music, and fun Thursday–Sunday evenings from 8:00–9:30 at Gus Hess Park.

And if you're in town you won't want to miss the **Mono Basin Historical Society's lecture series**. Come learn about human history in the Mono Basin! Lecture series takes place the last Monday of each month at 7pm at the Lee Vining Community Center.

For more information on any of these activities please call the Information Center at (760) 647-6595, or check the calendar of events on the website [www.monolake.org](http://www.monolake.org). We hope to see you soon! ❖

*Erika Obedzinski is the Committee's Membership Coordinator. She is looking forward to taking a canoe trip in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness this spring!*

## In Memory

**Stacy Brown** of Los Angeles made a donation in memory of **Greg Esgate, Paul Green, Mary Hanson**, and all other special Mono Lake lovers we have lost. **Mary & Walt Callesen** of Livermore gave a gift in memory of **George Klein**. **Alice T. Chan** of San Francisco made a contribution in memory of **Eunice Elton**, and **Dorothy H. Fowler** of San Francisco also made a contribution in memory of **Ms. Elton**. **Kenneth & Barbara Coates** of Claremont made a donation in memory of **Bob & Louise Hill** of Mariposa. **Patricia Holland** of Lee Vining gave a gift in memory of her father, who loved the Eastern Sierra. **John & Inna MacDougall** of St. Helena made a contribution in memory of **Francis Fisher** of

Norfolk, MA. **Genny Smith** made a donation in honor and memory of **Rick de Laet**. **Mary E. Vestal** of Boise, ID gave a gift in memory of her husband **Elden Vestal** whose significant role in saving Mono Lake meant much to him.

## In Honor

**John & Katharyn Crabbe** of Santa Rosa made a contribution in honor of **Robert & Glenda Crabbe** of Sacramento. **Caren & Dan Deardorf** of Lexington, MA made a donation in honor of **Mimi & Neil Burton** of Kentfield. **Jeanne Walter** of Bishop gave a gift in honor of **Denise Waterbury's 50th birthday**—Happy Birthday Denise!