



From the Mailbag

News from Members and Friends

by Douglas Dunaway

In memory

John Callen of Rancho Santa Margarita sent gifts in memory of **Thomas N. Callen**. **Alexandria Fabbro** of Mammoth Lakes sent a gift in memory of **Dave Thompson**. **Betty Harrold** of Las Vegas, NV, renewed her membership in memory of **Milton E. Harrold**. **Judy Hughes** of Hughson gave a gift in memory of **Warren Hughes**. A gift was sent by **Mary Elliott James** of San Simeon in memory of **Bryce Tingle**.

Gifts in memory of Committee member **Vern Keller** of Reno, NV, were sent by **Jack B. Bernard**, **Carol Galantuomini**, **Lela Terry**, the **Comstock Insurance Agencies**, and **L. David Kiley**, a friend of 50 years.

In honor

Lois Tandy of Altadena sent a gift in honor of the birthday of **Robin Roberts** of Santa Cruz.

Matching gifts

Many thanks to all of the members who have given matching gifts from **IBM** over the years. The Mono Lake Committee is fortunate to receive in-trade IBM products from these

donations. Six flat-screen monitors have been purchased—increasing much-needed desk space around the office. Thank you for thinking of us!

Special recognition

Memorial services were held in Bridgeport for local County Supervisor **John Cecil**, who passed away on April 9th, 2006. John Cecil represented the 4th District of Mono County on the Board of Supervisors for two terms. He was a Mono Lake Committee friend and advocate, and he will be missed by all.

Twenty-eight year Committee member **Betty White** passed away this spring. During the last five years Betty and her husband Burdette, both Fellows of the Photographic Society of America, could be seen every summer in their motor home exploring and camping around the Mono Basin. Betty was a strong believer in promoting education by founding scholarships for high school and college students that encourage the study of medicine and environmental studies. The Committee will miss her wonderful visits, her true sense of stewardship, and her dedication to Mono Lake.

Outdoor Experiences Program Wish List

The Outdoor Experiences Program needs some help. Do you have any of these items to donate?

- Cast iron frying pans
- Heavy duty cooking pots with lids
- 10–12 cup coffee maker
- Heavy duty outdoor tablecloths
- Motorola Talkabout T5710 walkie talkies
- Warm clothes! Young adult/teen sized jackets, gloves, knit caps, sun hats, mittens, bandanas, and scarves
- Sturdy day packs
- Binoculars
- Large plastic cereal/soup bowls
- Bookshelves
- Books on nature and natural history

If you can donate any of the above—either in new or good used condition, please contact Santiago Escruceria (santiago@monolake.org) at (760) 647-6595. Thank you!

Speaking up on behalf of Mono Lake

On February 15th, 2006 several dedicated Mono Lake Committee members spoke at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hearing on the new set of Clean Air Act regulations that would be detrimental to Mono Lake's protection. Thank you for speaking for Mono Lake—literally! One member, Anna Mills, sent us her statement, and we thought we'd pass along her inspirational words:

“My name is Anna Mills and I'm here as a member of the Mono Lake Committee. I have visited Mono Lake with my family and with summer camp groups for fifteen years. It is the wildest and most beautiful land I know, and I'm not sure how I could sustain myself through the year without such a place to return to every summer. I always think that I'm looking at a moonscape as I come down through Tioga Pass and see a silver-blue lake in a great grey bowl. Its vastness humbles me. But I know that it is far from barren—it is full of seagulls and fried egg poppies and piñon pines and blazing rabbitbrush and sagebrush that scents the air when it rains. I've watched lightning play over the white and black volcanic islands. I've spread my arms to the hills around the lake and drawn in the freshest, emptiest air I could imagine. Now I learn that this air could become one of the worst sources of toxicity in America. I hope we can ensure that this basin remains a sanctuary and not a bowl of dust to poison us.” Thank you, Anna.