

The Wagon Tongue

Newsletter of the California Trail Heritage Alliance



Fall 2022

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Kudos for New Trail Center Leadership

Before I summarize recent work by the California Trail Heritage Alliance, I want to commend the new leadership at the California Trail Interpretive Center. Paul Benowitz the Trail Center Manager and Thomas Valencia the Supervisory Park Ranger have brought new energy, leadership and effort to their roles. Their work to evaluate and upgrade the exhibits, especially in the Great Basin area, is much appreciated. Outreach to the community and their work to strengthen ties with many partners including Great Basin College is a very positive step. The inclusion of CTHA in 2022 Trail Days and planning for the 2023 event is also a strong signal about the importance they place on partners.

Elko Hot Walk

The work to locate and provide interpretive panels about the history and geology of the Elko Hot Hole is now completed. It provides a great place for tourists and locals alike to learn about the hot of Elko history.

NEP Mapping

In late August, under the leadership of Kerrie Lee and with the involvement of professional archaeologist Tim Magley, the last section of the Hastings Corridor on U.S. Forest Service land in Ruby Valley was in-

vestigated. Unfortunately, the area we inventoried only seemed to have modern trails and there was no evidence of any artifacts associated with the emigrant era. However, the ten people who participated had an opportunity to learn more about trail mapping and to map routes and Over routes.

BLM ARPA Permit

I have submitted a request to the BLM for an ARPA permit. Once approved by the NV State Office, additional work will be needed to obtain the field work authorization from the Elko District.

Interpretive Signage

Walt Goodland and other board members did a "walk-around" in the main Elko Corridor in the spring. Walt is currently working on photo-dropped images that show potential signs at locations the group thought was desirable. When ready, Walt will share this information with the appropriate city, county and state officials. This will determine when and how we can move forward with additional directional, informational and interpretive signs.

Membership Brochure

Lisa Dierwider has recently reviewed the membership brochure and has made some excellent recommendations to improve and update the information in it. Currently new photos are being taken and parts of the text will be re-written. Design and layout will be done by a yet to be-determined local business.