

KERN RIVER VALLEY HIKING CLUB

Outings Schedule: July through December, 2010

The Kern Valley Hiking Club was started in 1987 by Bill and Ruby Jenkins of Kernville to help people explore the splendor of the Southern Sierras and to promote and assist in trail development and maintenance. The group is nonpolitical and nonaffiliated. Most of the hikes are taken from the books, "Exploring the Southern Sierra", which are updated versions of "Self-propelled in the Southern Sierras", written by their son, Jim Jenkins when he was in his twenties. Jim was killed by an erratic driver in 1979. Ruby took on the job of keeping the information as accurate as possible, hiking the area and making notes until her death in October 2007. Bill recently moved to Thousand Oaks, CA to be near family.

We are asking for volunteers who know the roadhead, trailhead and trail to lead the scheduled hikes. All hikes subject to change, depending on weather, snowpack, etc. It is your responsibility to become aware of any changes by accessing the Yahoo group site, by calling a club member, or by calling one of the numbers below.

Kern River Valley Hiking Club, (KRVHC)
P.O. Box 1161
Bakersfield, CA 93302
661-778-3453
661-747-5065
hike@lakeisabella.net
<http://www.lakeisabella.net/hiking/>

Kernville Chamber of Commerce
Michelle Sweet
P.O. Box 397
Kernville, CA 93238
760-376-2629 or 800-Kernville
kernvillechamber@lightspeed.net
www.kernvillechamber.org

Yahoo Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kernrivervalleyhikingclub/>

Trips (*i.e.* T30) are noted in the two guidebooks (by J.C. Jenkins and Ruby Johnson Jenkins): *Exploring the Southern Sierra: East Side (ESS: ES)* and *Exploring the Southern Sierra: West Side (ESS: WS)*. For example, the first hike is (ESS: WS T30). If you wish, you can purchase each of these books at many locations throughout California: Visitor centers at Forest Service and Park Service, CALM, museums, mountaineer stores, bookstores, internet sellers, etc.

Our semimonthly hikes are usually on Saturdays. You need not complete hikes, but always tell someone that you are turning back. Bring lunch and 2+ quarts of water. Sandals not recommended. Children must always stay with their parents or guardians. Dogs must be leashed. Only physically fit people should try the moderate-to-strenuous hikes. Anyone capable of walking for several miles on rough terrain with elevation gain, regardless of pace, is welcome on all our hikes.

Conventional cars can be driven to trailheads unless otherwise noted. Rain, snow, or lack of a trip leader cancels trips—please check Yahoo Group site & your email if hike is questionable.

RH=Roadhead, where we meet. TH=Trailhead, where we begin our hike. RT=Round Trip, total length of hike.
If you plan to drive directly to a trailhead, bypassing the roadhead, please first confirm the trip is as planned.

Roadheads:

Greenhorn Summit: Junction of Highway 155 and Rancheria Road in the Greenhorn Mountains.

Lake Isabella Park: (with war vehicles)—Lake Isabella Blvd. south of signals.

James Sierra Gateway Market & Spirit Gas: (SE of Isabella Lake) 14606 Hwy 178, South Lake

Riverkern Market: 3.0 miles upriver north of Kernville on Sierra Way.

Bakersfield Meeting Locations:

Chevron Station: Junction of Highways 178 & 184 (Weedpatch Hwy.)

Starbucks Coffee, East: Junction of Highways 58 & 184 (Weedpatch Hwy.) Northwest corner by Denny's.

Hodel's Dining: Northwest corner of Olive Drive and Highway 99.

Starbucks Coffee, South: Lowe's shopping center, northeast on Panama Lane and Highway 99.

July 3, 2010 Siretta Peak (9977') followed by fireworks picnic on Isabella Peak

On this Moderate to strenuous hike we climb on trail in a sylvan canyon along the upper caches of Salmon Creek. We reach the southernmost grove of high-elevation foxtail pines before leaving the trail to climb 0.7 mile cross-country to Siretta Peak.

9.2 miles RT

ESS:ES T59

2630' elev. gain

RH: James Market in Kernville at **7:30 AM**

Water: 2 to 3 liters, depending on temps RH to TH is 34.4 miles

Leave Bakersfield Chevron @ **6:15 AM**.

Independence Day hike to Isabella Peak (3025')

On Saturday, July 3rd there will be an Independence Day hike to Isabella Peak (3025') (35.663982, -118.474968) located on the northwest side of scenic Lake Isabella. We will be meeting at the [Hungry Gulch Campground](#) (35.671000, -118.470809) ([Map Here](#)) at 7:00PM. We will hike 1.5 miles with an elevation gain of 350 feet in the early evening to Isabella Peak where we will relax on blankets, eat snacks, and watch the stars come out. Families are encouraged and welcome.

At 9:15 PM (or whenever it is dark enough) the firework show will begin over the Lake. I contacted the [Kern River Valley Chamber of Commerce](#) and they mentioned that the fireworks are launched from Engineers Point which is the land area between the main dam, and the auxiliary dam (above is a photo of our view). Hypothetically then from our position we should have a wonderful view of the fireworks exploding over the lake. The fireworks last about thirty minutes, and then we will hike back to the trailhead, locate our cars, and head on out.

July 10, 2010 Sherman Peak (9909') & Bass Peak (9945') Hike on the Kern Plateau

Great views from the peak after an easy-to-moderate hike along a trail shaded by firs and pines.

5.0 miles RT

ESS: ES T95

1170' elev. gain

After we return to the parking lot hikers will have the option to hike to Bass Peak (9945'). We zigzag up the ridge through the trees until we reach the route I ducked to the summit. Part of this route is a boulder scramble. There is a class 3 climb at the top which is short, and can be easily avoided. The view is great from up there.

2.0 miles RT

ESS: ES T95

850' elev. Gain

RH: Leave Riverkern Market at **9 AM** (leave Bakersfield Chevron @ **7:30 AM**)

July 24, 2010 Mt. Pinos - Sawmill Mt. - Mt. Cerro Noroeste Peak to Peak to Peak Hike

Peak elevations are Mt. Pinos 8831'; Sawmill Mt. 8818'; side trip to Grouse Mt. 8582'; Mt. Cerro Noroeste 8280'.

This peak to peak hike thru lovely pine forests and great vistas will be cohosted by the Condor Group of the Sierra Club for those hikers who wish to go only one way with a car shuttle. Starting from Mt. Pinos the hikers cross the mountain ridges over to Cerro Noroeste. This hike, 6 to 7 miles requires much stamina and strength. For those who are able the rewards are many; wonderful views on every side, the beauties of late blooming wildflowers and the cool breezes of the mountains. There even might be a condor or two flying overhead. We start at **8 AM** from Pine Mountain Clubhouse Parking Lot. Bring a lunch, plenty of water, wear good shoes and be prepared for an enjoyable, strenuous time. Reservations are a must so call 661-242-0432 for hikers who plan a one way journey.

6.5 miles one way

Mt. Pinos to Mt. Cerro Noroeste

1490' elev. gain

Mt. Cerro Noroeste to Mt. Pinos

1720' elev. gain

Bakersfield carpoolers going to the Pine Mt. Clubhouse leave at **6:30 AM** from **Starbucks Coffee, South:** Lowe's shopping center, northeast on Panama Lane and Highway 99.

13 miles RT for the hardy hikers.

3210' elev. gain

Hardy hikers who plan to do the 13 miles RT will meet the one way hikers at Mt. Pinos parking lot at 9 am.

Bakersfield carpoolers going to Mt Pinos leave at 7:30am from **Starbucks Coffee, South:** Lowe's shopping center, northeast on Panama Lane and Highway 99.

August 7, 2010 Lakes Trail - Watchtower and Alta Peak (11204') - Sequoia Nat. Park

This hike delivers magnificent alpine scenery and four picturesque lakes. Spectacular vistas abound from the Watchtower section, a narrow trail dynamited out of a sheer cliff almost 2000 feet above Tokopah Valley. Those preferring to avoid such treats can opt for the Hump Trail. Both trails converge at Heather Lake, 3.75 miles from the starting point. The trail continues from there, ending at Pear Lake, for an 11.5 mile round trip. A 9 am start will assure that all hikers wishing to complete the entire trail will have time to do so.

The hike to Alta Peak is 14 miles RT and 4200' elevation gain.

Directions: Travel north on Hwy 99 to the Visalia/198 exit. Go east on 198, through Visalia, past Lake Kaweah, and through the town of Three Rivers. Shortly past the end of 198, you will arrive at the Ash Mountain entrance station to Sequoia National Park. Each vehicle will need either a National Parks pass or to pay the fee for a 14-day pass. Drive approx 18 miles north on the Generals Highway from the entrance station. Following the signs, make a right turn to the Wolverton trailhead and continue straight past the General Sherman Tree parking area.

11.5 miles RT to Pear Lake, 7.5 miles RT to Heather Lake

2795' elev. gain to Pear Lake

RH: Leave from Hodel's parking lot in Bakersfield @ 6:00 AM

TH: Wolverton parking lot, Sequoia Nat. Park

August 21, 2010 Ancient Bristlecones and White Mountain Peak (14,246') hikes

The hike through ancient bristlecones is an enjoyable walk through trails amongst the oldest living trees in the world.. Although starting elevation is high around 10,000', the elevation gain is minimal but should be considered moderate due to high elevation.

For an added bonus - plan on overnight camping. We will hike the 14,246 foot White Mountain on Sunday. This is about a 15 mile round trip hike that is mostly on well defined trail. This is to be considered strenuous due to elevation. Estimated gain is only about 4000 feet but the hike does start at 10,000'.

Directions: RH Bakersfield hikers should meet at **Starbucks Coffee, East:** Junction of Highways 58 & 184 (Weedpatch Hwy.) Northwest corner by Denny's. at **6 AM.** Drive time to Schulman Grove is estimated at 4 hours. from Hwy 58 drive east to Hwy 14 and go north to Hwy 395. About 45 miles north of Lone Pine is the town of Big Pine. From Big Pine we will travel east on Hwy 168 up the Schulman Grove and visit the 4000+ year old Bristlecone Pines. Trip is all day due to driving mileage. Plan on a quick stopover at McDonalds in the morning for bathroom and a quick breakfast.

Some people may choose to drive up and stay at the Grandview Campground in the White Mountain recreation area. This campground is but a short 20-30 minute drive from the Schulman Grove Visitor Center where Saturday's hike starts. For those who wish to stay overnight and hike White Mountain on Sunday, we will drive to the trailhead Saturday afternoon after the club hikes. The trailhead is not a campground and could be considered dry camp conditions with no fires permitted. Sleeping at the trailhead will save the nearly hour long drive from Grandview Campground. Meals for Saturday night should be simple and easy to prepare. There are no fresh water locations and it is recommended to take at least 3 gallons of fresh water before departing Big Pine and driving into the desolate White Mountains. Also remember to bring plenty of food and snacks – there will be no services nearby and could be close to a 2 hour drive to the nearest store.

September 4, 2010 Big Meadow to Manter Meadow More details to follow

Big Meadows is where you park and start the hike. The trail leads to Manter Meadows. Highlight attractions include old cowboy camp at the west of the meadow and also the very obvious "ground zero" of the Manter Fire – the second devastating wildfire to hit the Kennedy Meadows area in a few short years(on the heels of the McNally Fire)

December 11, 2010 Chimney Peak - Pacific Crest Trail Hike-West

The trail starts on the PCT for approximately 2 miles to a 4wd road and hike another $\frac{3}{4}$ mile on 4wd road to reach the ridge leading to Chimney Peak summit. Ridgeline is off trail for approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ mile with a small amount of boulder scrambling at the summit.

Trip is mostly easy with some moderate rating for final ascent/boulder scramble. Estimated hiking time is 5-6 hours. On a clear day mountains are visible at over 100 miles away including Baldy, Mt. Whitney, and Mineral King. A fantastic way to end out the year's hiking season.

7 miles RT

ESS: ES T32

2200 elev. gain

RH: Leave James Sierra Gateway Market & Spirit Gas at **8 AM** (leave Bakersfield Chevron @ **6:45 AM**) and drive to TH located at the PCT crossing of the Chimney Peak Rd (labeled Canebroke Rd on some maps).

RH-to-TH: 28 miles

Additional hikes will be announced on the website.

KRVHC
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