

A Message From the CEO

Good Story, Marshland Are Growing In the Valley

by John Hawkins,
President and CEO, The Club

Here we are in the fall... and right on cue, things are really humming in the City, and here in the Club. How can I tell this? Not so much because of the weather, but by seeing how jam-packed *Alive!* is, with news of all sorts of cool events and Club benefits. Things are busy, so let's get right to it!

After that intro about how much things are bustling, I start off with... some thoughts on the quiet, pastoral beauty of the great outdoors! But that's where our *Alive!* duties took us this month, spending time with our good friends and Club Members at the DWP out of the Bishop office. What they're doing with the regrowth of native vegetation and the upgrading of the streams – without any reseeding or big machines – is awesome. It's done through better management of the lands and the cattle that graze on them. The DWP is on the case, and the land is blooming. I could feel the results on my legs as we walked through the thick, beautiful brush and grasses, and then crossed the streams, in the shadow of the mountains. This is beautiful land, made at least this much better by the DWP. Thanks to **Dave Martin, Lori Dermody, Chris Plakos** and the **whole transecting crew** for showing us a great story.

We all know the tensions the DWP faces in the Eastern Sierras. But this is the kind of story that few other media cover. *Alive!* does, because we look for them. When you start out looking for good news, looking to celebrate the good work that the City does every day, you tend to find it! They're there, for the telling. I was glad to be up in the Eastern Sierras with the DWP, as I always am. But I was doubly excited that we were able to tell our readers all about it. Can you tell I love the Club, and all that we do for our Club Members? Well, it's true.



From left: Chris Plakos, PR Manager, and Lori Dermody, Watershed Resources Specialist, both with the DWP; and John Hawkins, Club CEO.

In other news, let me take a moment to congratulate the Convention Center on its 40th anniversary. It's one of the City's best departments. They know how to get things done, and return revenue back to the City at the same time. They're in the forefront of sustainable operations and solar initiatives, while they're maintaining a strong facility. With all the talk of the new football stadium downtown, I feel that the Convention Center is getting lost. They're doing good work, and we're happy to celebrate with them.

And I would be wrong if I didn't mention one of the best Club reps/Club Members out there – **Luis Aguilar at the Convention Center**. Luis gathered the elements for the anniversary story, plus the story on the employee luncheon. He believes in the Club, and he's one of the best guys we know in the City. Thanks, Luis. You're a winner.

Let's talk about a new Club benefit now. Have you had your identity stolen, or known someone who has? I'm sure you have, as it's a real problem. We're here to help. The Club is now offering access to InfoArmor, which can help protect and defend you should you have your ID stolen. Actually, it's more like when, not if. I suggest you look into this new Club benefit. Talk to your Club Counselor.

Can you believe it's nearly Halloween? Wait no longer, and book your fun with any of the several great Club Halloween events. **Rachael Brecher, the Ticket Gal**, has lined up some great events. So don't wait! (And get your tickets now for the Pirate's Adventure, a Club exclusive event. We've booked the whole place!)

With so much going on, I need to get moving. More on that next month! Stay safe, stay secure, and have fun!

JOHN

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Alive! Cover Picture

Alive! Behind the Scenes

Club CEO John Hawkins photographs Lori Dermody, Watershed Resources Specialist, DWP, along the Crowley Lake tributary system.