

Volunteer Report

Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting
March 1, 2016

February 2016 Highlights

- Winter weather continued to be a significant factor in lower volunteer hours this February. The Arboretum gardening volunteers, for instance, had twice the amount of hours last February because there weren't as many cold/windy/snowy days. UNR volunteer groups got an earlier start to spring volunteering last year as well at Rancho San Rafael – however the park still had two fraternity groups over the last two weekends.
- The *Horticultural Training for Arboretum Volunteers* series was “sold out” for the first time ever this year, with over 30 people attending. Classes began Tuesday, Feb. 23 and will end on Tuesday, March 15. Prospective volunteers participate in 10 classes covering a variety of subjects that are directly applicable to volunteering at the Arboretum. Garden tours, presentations by local area experts, demonstrations, and hands on opportunities to practice are incorporated into the training. The last day of class will include a group volunteer project and potluck BBQ.

February Volunteer Hours/Value:

	February 2016	February 2015	% Increase	Total for YTD 2016	Compared to YTD 2015	% Increase
# of Volunteer Hrs	904	1,110.5	-18.6%	1,540	1,761	-12.5%
# of Intern Hrs	178.75	185.5	-3.6%	322.75	257.5	25.3%
Total \$\$\$ Value*	\$24,979.04	\$28,693.44	-12.9%	\$42,973.64	\$44,782.46	-4.0%

*The hourly rate of \$23.07 used for calculating the dollar value is based on the estimated national value of volunteer time as reported by www.independentsector.org.

Upcoming Events

- Washoe County Parks will be participating in the University of Nevada's ASUN Center for Student Engagement's "Greeks in the Street" day of service. This annual event is part of Greek Week and usually draws over 1000 fraternity and sorority members to various locations and agencies throughout the county. This year's event will take place on Saturday, March 12th from 9am to 1pm and Rancho San Rafael, Sun Valley Regional Park, Bartley Ranch Regional Park and Bowers Mansion Regional Park will be likely locations.
- Intern hours should be starting up strong again with a new Job Corp intern starting at both the Arboretum and with the Rancho San Rafael Rangers, and interns cycling through pretty consistently at the May Museum. Volunteer Coordinator Denise Evans will also be interviewing additional Children's Cabinet interns to hopefully start up again in March through the summer.

Crossroads in partnership with Washoe County Parks work crews

- Total number of participants/volunteers from Jan. 24 – Feb. 24: 128