

## PNTS E-News

### Greetings PNTS Partners and Trails Enthusiasts!

Trails Advocacy Week is coming up soon! [Register now!!!](#)

#### REMINDER:

- The PNTS Board of Directors will be meeting in the afternoon of Saturday, February 20.
- The PNTS Leadership Council will be meeting in the morning of Sunday, February 21.
- In the afternoon on Sunday, February 21, we will be talking about how we can implement the top six actions of the Decade Goals as elected. Join us for this exciting discussion!

Scroll down for further updates on Trails Advocacy week and registration information from the American Hiking Society.

See you soon!

Gary Werner, Executive Director, PNTS  
[nattrails@aol.com](mailto:nattrails@aol.com) (608) 249-7870

Julia Glad, Communications and Outreach Coordinator, PNTS  
[PNTSCommunications@gmail.com](mailto:PNTSCommunications@gmail.com)

(414) 617-2525

## A message from the American Hiking Society: Calling all hikers and trails enthusiasts!

You are cordially invited to join hikers and trails leaders and enthusiasts in Washington, DC, February 20-25 to Hike the Hill!

Register today at: <http://www.americanhiking.org/Our-Work/Policy-Advocacy/Hike-the-Hill/>

Register today! January 26th is the last day to guarantee our special room rate at the Washington Plaza Hotel.

Please be aware that **event registration and hotel reservations are completely separate**; follow the instructions listed on the American Hiking Society web page to ensure that you are registered for the event itself and have accommodations.

This Year you can get geared up for your Hill meetings by participating in [Issues Briefings and Advocacy Trainings](#) on Saturday and Sunday. (Note: See above for PNTS Leadership Council and BOD meetings)

Then kick off your week of Hill and Agency meetings on Monday, February 22, with the first annual Hike on the National Mall. Join hikers, trails advocates, college students from the greater DC Metro region, and your partner organizations in conservation education, youth stewardship and volunteerism in a celebration of America's national system of trails! The Hike on the National Mall is free and open to everyone, even if you're not attending other Hike the Hill events.

### **Why Hike on the National Mall on February 22? Because....**

Trails cross all demographics, walks of life, ages and abilities - whether you are walking or riding (stroller, wheelchair, bike, horse), trails are unifiers and equalizers...they offer opportunities for a diversity of experiences and education on a variety of levels - stewardship, conservation, health/fitness, citizenship, community activism, etc.

Trails are "empowerment corridors" - you can't get much more powerful than the National Mall! Trails can empower people to take responsibility for their health, their community transportation alternatives and economic growth (tourism, greenways, nature corridors), and they help develop a sense of place and pride.

Trails help protect and promote our treasured places - you, the hiker, are on the "front lines" of changes in and on the landscape...you see and experience impacts firsthand; trails are corridors that can be used to help monitor those changes - especially if we employ citizen science stewardship opportunities to work with agencies responsible for these lands.

The goal of the Hike on the National Mall is to celebrate (1) the contributions and commitment of our national community of trails and hiking enthusiasts and their conservation partners who work tirelessly to promote, protect and maintain our national system of trails; and (2) the countless benefits trails provide to conservation of our treasured landscapes, to our community and individual health (economic and otherwise), and to the development of a new generation of engaged, educated and enthusiastic youth stewards and volunteers.

***Save the Date!***

## **Old Spanish Trail Association 2010 Conference**

***"Trails and Tales in America's Outback"***

**Fredonia, AZ and Kanab, UT**

**April 29**

**through May 2nd.**

For more information, follow the link below:

<http://www.oldspanishtrail.org/trailsandtales/>