

SIERRA CLUB CRIER

GREATER FORT WORTH GROUP • 817/588-1167

ONE EARTH, ONE CHANCE

JULY 2003

Conference set on open spaces

Topics to center around parkland, open space conservation

On Saturday, July 19 the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club will host its seventh annual Conservation Conference at Southwest Texas University in San Marcos.

The day-long conference will feature an array of speakers on current parkland and open space conservation issues facing Texas. Speakers include some of the key players in determining future land conservation activities in the state.

The conference will highlight recent state legislation that affects parks and wildlife conservation. In addition the conference will feature Government Canyon State Natural Area as a model for future state parks and protected areas.

Each presentation at the conference will be followed by a question and answer session.

This conference is a follow-up to last year's conservation conference in Houston and to the conservation conference in Dallas in 2001, both of which featured the Lone Star Chapter's Wide Open Spaces Campaign.

For more information about the upcoming conference please check the Lone Star Chapter web site at www.texas.sierraclub.org <http://www.texas.sierraclub.org/> or contact the Sierra Club State Conservation Office in Austin at 512-477-1729.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Providing Parks and Protecting Open Spaces

8:30-9:00: Registration and Coffee

9:00-9:15: Welcome and Opening

Remarks

9:15-10:15: Solutions to Land Fragmentation – Julie Shackelford, Field Director, American Farmland Trust, Fred Ellis, Government Affairs Director, Hill Country Conservancy

10:15-10:30: Break

10:30-11:15: Conservation Finance and Economic Benefits of State Parks, George Bristol, Director, Texas Coalition for Conservation

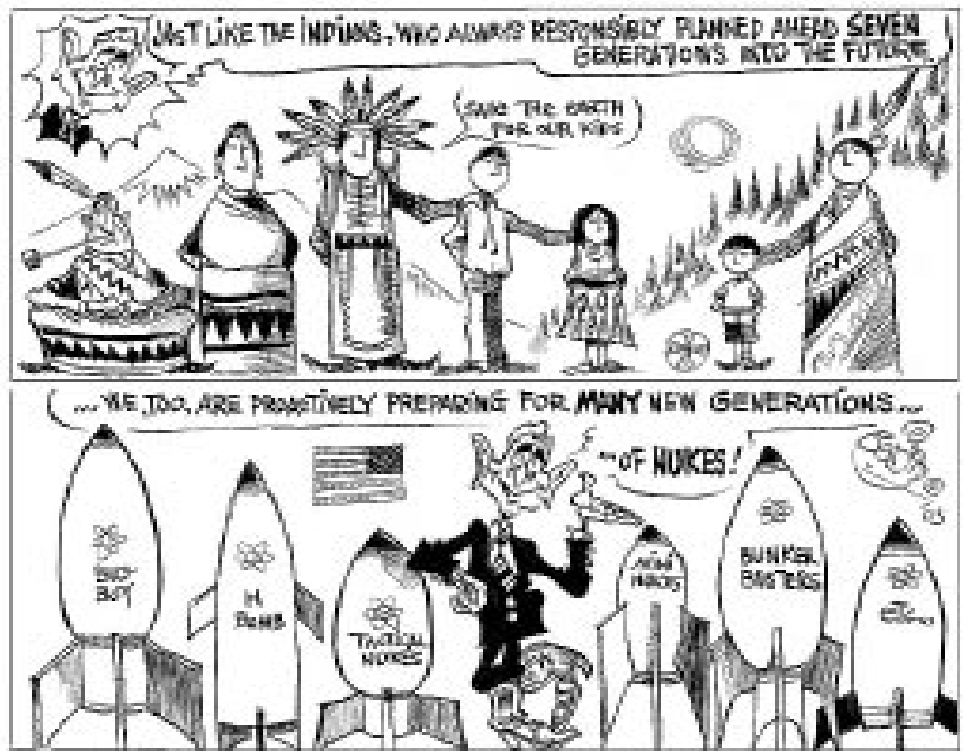
11:15-12:00: Government Canyon

A Model for Future State Parks, Jason Corzine, Project Manager, Trust for Public Land, Deirdre Hisler, Manager, Government Canyon State Natural Area

12:15-1:15: Lunch (Box Lunch Provided)

1:15-1:45: Managing Urban Growth, Jeff Barton, Community Relations/Planning Manager, Douce & Associates Inc. Consulting Engineers

Please see SPECIAL, Page 4



**Program
Notes**

July Program: More fun than a pot luck supper! You never know what you'll get! When it's the program of the Fort Worth Group of the Sierra Club, though, you can count on it being a first-class treat. It's another surprise program (which, loosely translated, means that the exact program wasn't available at press time). All we can say for sure is you'll be sorry if you miss it.

The *Sierra Club Crier* is published monthly by the

Greater Fort Worth Sierra Club

P.O. Box 1925, Fort Worth, TX 76101

817/588-1167

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Web Pages

Fort Worth Group <http://sierraclub.org/chapters/fortworth/index.html>
National, Lone www.sierraclub.org
Lone Star Chapter www.texas.sierraclub.org

Special price until July 16 CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

1:45-3:15: Regional Parkland Acquisition Programs

—The Trinity River Vision and Trail System, Wayne Owens, Planning and Development Manager, Tarrant Regional Water District

—San Antonio Land Acquisition Program, Susan Crane, Special Project Manager, City of San Antonio

—Houston Wilderness Project, Chuck Hunt, Houston Wilderness Executive Committee/Big Thicket National Preserve

3:15-3:30: Closing Remarks

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

The conference will be held Saturday, July 19 at Southwest Texas University in

San Marcos in the LBJ Student Center, Room 3-14.1.

The preregistration fee for attending the conference is \$15, which will include all conference materials, and lunch. A vegetarian option is available for lunch.

In order to get this special preregistration price, the Lone Star Chapter must receive your registration by Wednesday, July 16. After that the registration fee increases to \$25.

Check-in/registration for the conference will begin at 8:30 a.m. on July 19 with the conference concluding by 3:30 in the afternoon. Setting is limited so register today!

Send letters to curb diesel pollutants

The Environmental Protection Agency is holding hearings on proposed regulations designed to eliminate substantial amounts of pollution created by off-road diesel equipment used in construction, agriculture and some industries. Please urge for final adoption of the revised rules.

Small particulate matter (PM) spewed by diesels is thought to be even more harmful to our lungs than ozone. The proposed rules would significantly reduce PM and also some NOx, a precursor to ozone. We need a lot of letters to offset industry attacks on the proposed regulations.

Although the deadline for comments is not until Aug. 20, we need to send them as soon as we can.

SAMPLE LETTER:

Environmental Protection Agency
EPA West (Air Docket)
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Room: B108, Mail Code: 6102T
Washington, D.C. 20460

Attn: Docket ID No. A-2001-28

Dear EPA Administrator:

I strongly support the proposed regulations to require manufacturers to start incorporating advanced emissions control systems for off-road diesel equipment by 2008 with full phasing in by 2014 or earlier. I also support a major reduction of sulfur in diesel fuel.

The proposed regulations are very important to our health and well being. As you are aware, the EPA has estimated that the health care costs benefits of the proposed regulations would be \$80 billion a year.

And the EPA also estimated that the new regulations would prevent 9,600 premature deaths, 8,300 hospitalizations, 5,700 children's asthma-related emergency room visits and almost 1 million work days lost annually by 2030.

Your name and address. Contact: Earl Burnam at 817-244-2328

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817-282-3135 or 817-268-0270 (metro) Madeline & Max Armstrong

Greater Fort Worth Group Sierra Club

Fort Worth Sierra Club outings are open to members and nonmembers. Trip leaders serve in a volunteer capacity and assume no responsibility above that of organizing the trip. If you have special needs or medical requirements, notify the leader prior to the trip. All outings officially begin at the trailhead. Leaders cannot assign carpools, but may help coordinate ride sharing. Many outings require advance reservations at the trip designation as well as from the participant. Notify the trip leader promptly if you must cancel. Donations of \$3 per person and \$5/family are requested for overnight trips to be used for conservation efforts of the club. Any park and/or camping fees are the responsibility of the participant. In order to participate on one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms> or call 415-977-5630.

July 12, Saturday

Canoeing at the Fort Worth Nature Center. Join leader Jim Walling to canoe from the West Fork of the Trinity River to Eagle Mountain Lake Dam early in the morning. The river has no currents and is shaded for most of the trip, but

Cavers inviting interested persons to go under ground

The board members of the Dallas and Fort Worth caving groups (called "grottos") have invited interested Sierrans to come to a grotto meeting and learn about caving.

Both groups occasionally provide beginner caving trips similar to our Sierra Club outings.

The grottos are especially interested in attracting participants who have a sincere environmental ethic. Though not for the claustrophobic, or for those who are squeamish about dark places and getting a little dirty, the trips are extremely interesting and fun.

And you will have the opportunity to visit and explore caves that are open only to the caving community.

The chairman of the Fort Worth Group of the Sierra Club, Dan Smith, has been a member of both grottos for several months and has taken a number of trips with both groups.

"They are a fun bunch of folks!" he said.

If interested contact Dan Smith at 817-410-2955 or email him at Riverdog-dan@aol.com for more information on caving and local area grottos.

July 2003

bring water, snacks, insect repellent. Wear comfortable and cool clothing. Canoes, paddles, and life jackets will be provided. The Fort Worth Nature Center is located two miles west of the Lake Worth Bridge on State Highway 199 in northwestern Tarrant County. To reserve your place and details, call Jim Walling at 817-444-4416. Space is limited.

September 7-12, Sunday-Friday

High Sierra Fly fishing. The search of the elusive California golden trout requires a strenuous 35-mile backpack in the Ansel Adams Wilderness. Brookies, rainbows and browns will also be

sought. This fly fishing trip is from Devil Post Pile to Tuolumne Meadows on the John Muir Trail. The trip is rated strenuous and only for those who have had extended backpack trips in bear country. Bear resistant canisters are required for food storage. A California nonresident fishing license and trout stamp is required for angling. There is a nonrefundable fee of \$5 for the wilderness permit. The trip is limited to six experienced backpackers. Contact the leaders who will determine if you qualify for the trip. Leaders: Marcos Jorge 972-394-2546 (mjorge@ustgolfshaft.com) and Steve Longley, 972-394-2546.

Leader training program in October

The Sierra Club's Outdoor Activity Training Program has recently announced that it is bringing its highly successful Core Outing Leader Workshop to the Lone Star State.

If you're a Sierra Club outing leader or want to become one, this interactive and educational workshop is for you.

Leader training is a never-ending process, so whether you're an old hand or have never led before, you're invited to attend a weekend of interactive learning, networking with leaders from all outing programs, and of course, lots of fun. It's all brought to you by the Outdoor Activities Training Program (OATP), managed in the Outings Department of the National office. This is the only Core OATP workshop in this region for the year.

The goals of the Core workshop are to learn and enhance leadership skills, bring people and programs together to share and exchange ideas, to welcome new outdoor leaders, to learn what it takes to lead for other outings programs of the Sierra Club, and once again, to have a lot of fun.

The purpose of the Core workshop is to bring together new and seasoned leaders from Inner City Outings, Group and Chapter Outing), and National Outings. The agenda for the workshop will encompass an extensive array of leadership topics presented in both group and break-out formats.

"Trying to learn to be a leader by using your intellectual skills only – by sticking to hard-edged, quantifiable stuff – is like owning a TV that tunes to only one channel: there's no way you can

get the full range of information and insights you need. Making the head/heart connection not only provides information and insights that will make your trips safer and more likely to reach their goals, it also provides richer, fuller, and more personal experiences for everybody involved." – John Graham, author of "Outdoor Leadership."

Registration Information

On-line – <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/training/> (includes plenty of other information as well).

Three other ways to register (include name(s), address, telephone number, email, membership number, and workshop number – 03996A)

Mail – send check or money order for \$45 to Sierra Club Outings, 85 Second Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, Calif. 94105.

Call – credit card only: 415-977-5588, Monday-Friday, 10:30-7, CST

Fax – credit card only: 415-977-5795, include card number, expiration date, and signature. Workshop is limited to 50 people, first come, first served.

Contact – Steven Shewach, Sierra Club Outdoor Activities Training Manager at steven.shewach@sierraclub.org or at (415) 977-5711 for more information.

Where: Austin Sunshine Camp. Located in Zilker Metro Park.

When: October 10-12.

Friday: Check-in and dinner from 6 p.m. At 7:30 p.m., opening program.

Sunday: Ends at 1:15 p.m. with lunch.

Cost: \$45. Includes all meals and bunk-style lodging.

Coming Events

August 5, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Fort Worth Sierra Club ExCom Meeting, 6:30 p.m., at Panera Bread, 1700 S. University Dr. in Fort Worth. For more information, contact Dan Smith, 410-2955.

July 16, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Fort Worth Sierra Club General Meeting.

Newsletter deadline. Submit articles, ads, letters, or other information in writing. Articles may be submitted by mail, email, or on Iomega Zip disks accompanied by hard copy. B&W or color nature photos and electronic images (150dpi or greater) will be accepted (prints returned if submitted with SASE). Photographs of outings or other club activities are particularly encouraged. Identify subject of photo and state photographer's name. Please do not write on the back of photos. Mail

General Meeting

Wednesday, July 16

Program: See Pg. 1 for information on July program.

7:00 Main Auditorium, University of North Texas Health Science Center, Camp Bowie at Montgomery (exit Montgomery off I-30, go north about a mile to Camp Bowie).

submissions to Newsletter Editor, P.O. Box 1925, Fort Worth 76101, bring to the ExCom meeting, the general meeting, or email jmoody166@aol.com.

August 4, Monday

Newsletter folding party, Smoky's Ribs, 6 p.m., 5300 E. Lancaster. Eat, or have the beverage of your choice, while working with other Sierrans to prepare the newsletter for mailing. Call Steve Turner, 457-7131.

Conservation Committee Meeting

The Conservation Committee normally

meets the last Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m., at the University of North Texas Health Science Center, Library Building, Room 306. Contact: Earl Burnam, 244-2328 or Bob Scott, 282-1372, to verify location and date.

August 5, Tuesday

Outings Committee Meeting, 6 p.m., prior to the ExCom meeting. Contact Claudia Blalock, 817-924-6242.

October 17-19

Sierra Celebration. Initial planning has been done to hold this year's Sierra Celebration at Bastrop State Park. Cabins, bunkhouses, campsites, and "the great fire ring" have been reserved for the weekend. At this point we have environmental singer/musicians and entertainers Bill Oliver and Frank Meyer scheduled for Saturday evening for our featured entertainment. In addition plans are being made for outings events, including hikes, "casual" orienteering sessions, and "naturalist" hikes as well as social events.

Texas forest action alert email list is now being established by Sierra Club

Chris Wilhite, the new National Forest Protection Organizer for Texas, is setting up a forest action alert email list. To receive periodic action alerts about activities on the National Forests

of Texas, please send an email to chris.wilhite@sierraclub.org. If you would like to volunteer for this campaign or have any questions call Chris at 512-472-9094.

Parkland and Open Spaces Pre-Registration Form

July 19, 2003 – Southwest Texas University

Name _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone (with area code) _____ E-Mail _____

Please register _____ persons at \$15 per person (\$25 per person after July 16)

Please reserve _____ vegetarian lunches if you prefer the vegetarian option

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____, payable to Lone Star Chapter, Sierra Club

Or charge my credit card for \$ _____ Visa _____ Mastercard _____ Credit Card #: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____ Exp Date: _____

Detach and mail payment to
Sierra Club
P. O. Box 1931
Austin, Texas 78767

Sierra Singles Events

On Thursday, July 10, join us and the Bard for the "Taming of the Shrew" at the Shakespeare Festival of Dallas production at Samuell Grand Park in East Dallas. Bring blankets, food, drink, and whatever to sit on the lawn. General seating begins at 7:15. Those who arrive after 7:15, just look for our sign. Samuell-Grand Park is located east of Downtown Dallas. From I-30, exit East Grand Avenue and travel a half-mile north to Tenison Parkway. Turn right onto Tenison Pky and the Park entrance is on the right. Contact Don Callaway at don.callaway@attbi.com for more information – or just show up.

On Sunday, July 13, let's get together and see the new exhibit at the Kimbell Art Museum: "The Quest for Immortality, The Treasures of Ancient Egypt". This exhibit features sculptures, jewelry and other masterpieces of funerary art from Egypt. We will meet at the front door at 1 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person. No reservations needed, but if you want more info, please send email to alogan@raytheon.com. Optional afternoon tea following the museum tour. For more info, to www.kimbellart.org

On Friday, July 18 it's a wine tasting at Tony's Wine Warehouse in Dallas at 2904 Oak Lawn (214-520-9463) at 8:45 p.m. This is a fund raiser for the Dallas Sierra Club. You must sign-up and pay in advance by July 10. Make checks for \$20 per person to the Dallas Sierra Club and mail to Jenny Lehman. Phone (817) 263-1357 or email for information.

On Monday, JULY 21 at 7:30 join us for dinner at Lone Star Oyster Bar, on the Road to Six Flags (near Collins) in Arlington. Contact: Jenny Lehman.

On Monday, Aug. 4 join us for a Fort

Worth Cats baseball game. It's free mouse pad night! The game starts at 7:05. Meet by the box office at 6:30 . Contact: Jenny Lehman.

Just a reminder that all events officially begin at the event site/trail head.

Contact for Sierra Singles information: Jenny Lehman, (817) 263 1357 or avidhiker@killerfrogs.com.

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Membership

Yes, I want to join the Sierra Club! My check is enclosed.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (optional) _____

Individual (\$35) Joint (\$43)

Annual dues include subscription to Sierra (\$7.50) and chapter publications (\$1.00). Dues are not tax deductible.

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Mission statement

The purposes of the Sierra Club are: To explore, enjoy and protect the wild places of the earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human

. . . dedicated to the conservation and appreciation of our natural world.