

Explore,  
Enjoy,  
and  
Protect the  
Planet

# Sierra Sentinel

The Greater  
Fort Worth  
Group of the  
Sierra Club  
JULY 2005

## Bush misleading public on safety, costs of providing nuclear power

*Statement of Carl Pope,  
Executive Director, Sierra Club*

"President Bush's recent appearance at the Calvert Cliffs nuclear power plant demonstrates that his administration is more beholden to industry friends than to the public good.

"The Bush administration and its allies in Congress have painted a glowing picture of nuclear power to justify billions of dollars in new taxpayer subsidies for the industry. In reality, nuclear power poses a major security risk and produces a radioactive waste, which we have no way to store safely over the long term.

"It also makes absolutely no sense to waste tax dollars on new power plants when we have not secured or cleaned up the waste from existing nuclear power plants.

"Not only is nuclear energy dangerous, it is prohibitively expensive. The huge safety risks associated with nuclear facilities make them impossible to insure, which is why the industry wants taxpayers to pay all liability costs. And then there is the high cost of decommissioning nuclear power plants. Radioactive waste needs to be secured and stored for 10,000 years.

"Anyone who thinks nuclear power is

a silver bullet is really just passing the buck to future generations.

"Rather than spending billions of taxpayer dollars to subsidize a very expensive and unsafe form of energy, America should be investing in technologies that improve efficiency and tap renewable resources like wind and solar power.

"Every dollar invested in renewables and efficiency makes America more secure without making our families less safe or saddling future generations with debt.

"The solutions are there. What's missing is the leadership."

## Make your summer vacation into a National Outing

The Sierra Club's National Outings program has space available on a number of high-quality family adventures across the country. Whether it's rafting a Utah river, exploring tidepools in Cape Cod, doing service work in Colorado, visiting Navajo land in Arizona, canoeing through Maine's North Woods, beachcombing in Hawaii, watching wildlife in Alaska, or camping in the eastern Sierra, it's not too late to let us help you plan an enriching summer family vacation.

In Utah, participants can choose from several exciting rafting expeditions on the San Juan or Green Rivers. These trips offer fun (and child-appropriate) rapids, great scenery, side trips to explore petroglyphs and ruins, and chances to learn about the stunning geology of the Southwest. Trip offer-

ings include the historic Outlaw Trail trip (July 21-25) and the always popular Dinosaur National Monument trips (Aug. 7-10 and 14-17).

Farther north, a Toddler Tromp for the younger set in Maine's Acadia National Park (Aug. 16-23).

If you're a grandparent, consider a western Massachusetts trip (Aug. 3-8) designed to bring you and your grandkids together for some quality bonding time outdoors, or get your hands dirty on one of two multigenerational service trips in Colorado's wilderness (July 9-15 13-19). You can opt for a more "laid back" adventure in Colorado on the Rocky Mountain Family Ramble (Aug. 3-10), or experience a more exotic setting like the Families in Paradise, a 9-day tropical adventure on Oahu, Hawaii (Aug. 9-17).

On average, the trips last a week. Most trips include all meals and activities; airfare is additional (some Alaska trips include charter flights). Participants 18 or older do need an active Sierra Club membership.

For autumn colors, there's no better place than right here in Texas on a national trip led by Fort Worth Group member James Moody. His Top Of Texas service project in the Guadalupe Mountains has been featured on The Today Show. This October's trip will be filmed by the TP&W for showing on PBS.

All Sierra Club outings serve as great opportunities not only to bring families together on a great vacation, but to offer education and enrichment tools for people of all ages. In addition to providing a safe and enjoyable outdoor experience, the Club hopes to inspire participants to continue the protection of our global environment.

For more information or to make reservations for any of these trips, call 415-977-5522, e-mail the national outings department or visit our Web site.

**Update!**  
**Update!**  
**Update!**

The July program information was unavailable as of press time. Dates of this year's Fall Big Bend Trip have been announced, though, so it's not too early to plan to join us Nov. 9-13. Todd Nichols coordinates the trip and will lead one segment of it. James Moody has again committed to lead another. More information will be announced later.

# Coming Events

**July 20, Wednesday, 7 p.m.**

Newsletter deadline. Submit articles, ads, letters, or other information in writing. Articles may be submitted by mail or email. B&W or color nature photos and electronic images (150 dpi or greater) will be accepted (prints returned if submitted with SASE). Photographs of

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## Greater Fort Worth Sierra Club

P.O. Box 1874, Burleson, TX 76097-1874

<http://sierraclub.org/chapters/tx/fortworth/index.html>  
(Phone numbers below are Area Code 817 except as noted)

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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 environment and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.

# General Meeting

**Wednesday, July 20**

7:00 Main Auditorium, Univ. of N. Texas Health Science Center, Camp Bowie at Montgomery (exit Montgomery off I-30, go north to Camp Bowie). Program notes on Pg. 1.

outings or other club activities encouraged. Identify subject of photo and state photographer's name. Do not write on the back of photos. Mail submissions to Newsletter Editor, P.O. Box 1874, Burleson, Texas 76097-1874, bring to the ExCom meeting, the general meeting, or email [jmoody166@mac.com](mailto:jmoody166@mac.com).

**July 29, Friday**

Noon meeting for Sierrans unable to attend the evening general meeting. This group meets the last Friday of each month, 12 noon-1:00, at Local Color Art and Coffee, 208 W. Main St., Arlington. Bonnie Bowman will be

### Letter to the editor

## June Sentinel a mess; name change unnecessary

I see no advantage in changing the name and many aspects of the Sierra Club Crier and I see many disadvantages in publishing a newsletter that omits the program notes so we don't know the content of the June 15 program. The June issue has many other errors.

The editor obviously rushed to print and failed to give proofreaders time to do their job and the newsletter folders obviously did not read what they were folding.

Always, the Greater Fort Worth Sierra Club has been a democratic organization. Stay that way. Don't go changing things that didn't need changing, espe-

### Letter to the editor

## Thanks for printing the Bill Maher excerpt

Bravo, Sentinel, for publishing the Bill Maher excerpt, a bold decision indeed! As a deeply spiritual person, I have a problem with his obviously atheistic attitudes, but he hit the nail on the head with the James Watt quote concerning using up our resources before the 'end' comes.

I understand this rather fanatical view is held by our administration at the top, and that scares the bejeebers out of me; and not just concerning the environment. Still, I don't agree that

heading up this meeting.

**August 1, Monday**

Newsletter folding party at Braum's, 6770 Bridge St. at 6:30 p.m. Call Steve Turner, 457-7131.

**August 2, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.**

Fort Worth Sierra Club ExCom Meeting, 6:30 p.m., at Spiral Diner, 1314 W. Magnolia. For more information, contact Susan Haney, 254-582-8228.

**August 2, Tuesday**

Outings Meeting immediately following the ExCom meeting to plan new outings and reminisce about old trips. See location above. Contact Claudia Blalock, 817-924-6242.

**August 9, Tuesday, 7 p.m.**

The Conservation Committee meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. All members are welcome. For meeting location, contact: Chair Glenn Ford, 469-6540, Earl Burnam, 244-2328, or Bob Scott, 282-1372.

cially without consulting membership. I hope you will hear from many members who like the name of the newsletter and the masthead as they were.

Sierra Club Crier is a better name than Sierra Sentinel. It names a newsletter of a group within the Sierra Club and it is good to say that in the newsletter's name.

Your June issue is a mess and waste of money, paper, and other forms of energy. I am a dues-paying member and I protest waste of money, paper, and other forms of energy, but I forgive a Sierra Club member almost anything.

Abigail Brown

"You cannot argue rationally with religious people." It's just the cultish, fanatical 'fundies' that seem irrational.

The Bush hijack is way more about corporate greed than religion. Carl Rove simply used religion to hook voters who want to return to 'the good 'ol days.'

I hope America becomes a land of tolerance and respect for diverse views again, once we get through the next three years (God help us!)

Andrew Williams

The Greater Fort Worth Group of the Sierra Club

*No pets, firearms or radios are allowed on Sierra Club outings. All children (17 years or less) must be accompanied by a parent on any outing. All overnight trips require preregistration with the trip leader. A donation of \$5 per person to the Fort Worth Sierra Club is requested for all overnight trips.*

### **July 9, Saturday**

River Legacy day hike - east. Hike 4-6 miles on a paved trail on the newly-opened trail in north Arlington with opportunities to observe the Trinity River bottom forest, wildlife and open areas east of River Legacy Park. The river and wildlife (herons, egrets, beaver, turtles and more) are more visible on this section than along the west trails of the park. Pace of hike will be about 3 mph. Bring water and sunscreen. From I-30 in Arlington, take Collins north past Green Oaks Blvd. Turn left into the River Legacy Park east entrance and park at the south section (walk south from the parking lot to find the map). Meet at 9 a.m. by the large park map and drinking fountains. Leader: Claudia Blalock 817-924-6242 and Judy Cato. Please no dogs on hike. No reservations needed.

### **Sierra Singles Events**

#### **July 10, Sunday**

Tour of Meadows Museum at SMU, 1 p.m.. Cost: \$8. Meet where they sell tickets. See some of the international treasures in the regular and special col-

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# Club Outings

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lections. The museum houses the largest collection of Spanish art outside of Spain. Also, an impressive array of traditional and modern sculpture (inside and out), and even a special display of Dallas architecture. From Central Expwy., exit Mockingbird Lane, turn west and go two blocks (Stadium is on the right). Turn right on Bishop Blvd., turn right on Schlegel Street and make an immediate left into the parking garage under the Museum. Enter the right entrance into the garage marked as museum parking. Contact: Anne Bee, 214-762-7533, b\_ann@prodigy.net.

#### **July 11, Monday**

DFW Sierra Singles Dinner, 7 p.m., at the Clay Pit Grill & Curry House, 4460 Belt Line Road in Addison on the south side of Beltline between Midway and Inwood across from Chamberlains. They have a bar, numerous vegetarian items, and a menu filled with many tasty dishes. No RSVP required. Individual checks. Contact: Paul Heller, 972-620-1703, psheller@comcast.net.

#### **July 16, Saturday**

Cavanaugh Flight Museum in Addison. Meet at the ticket counter at 11

a.m. Admission: \$8. Tour this unusual museum with a docent who knows the history of the three dozen vintage airplanes that are on display. Afterwards, we'll eat at an Addison restaurant. The museum is adjacent to the Addison airport. On Addison Road, go about one-half mile north of Keller Springs Road, turn left onto Westgrove, and then left onto Claire Chennault. Contact: Sheila Rummery, (972)233-4460, bip1198@sbcglobal.net.

#### **July 22, Friday**

Owling hike at Cedar Hill SP. Meet at the Duck Pond Trail at 8 p.m. From the Ranger Station, turn left, drive to the first parking lot on the left, which is for the Duck Pond Trail. Park staff will give an owl call orientation, then lead a 1.5 mile night hike. Wear sturdy walking shoes or boots. Bring bug spray, water, flashlight and \$5 park admission fee. There's a 20 person limit. RSVP with name, phone number and the number in your party. Park is 10 miles SW of Dallas. Leader: Grayson Garner. For directions and park information, see [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/cedarhil/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/cedarhil/). Contact and RSVP: Rebecca Meher, 214-300-3831, capnbec@netscape.net.

#### **August 1, Monday**

DFW Sierra Singles Dinner, 7 p.m. Regular monthly dinner. Watch for details.

Backpacking • Kayaking • Climbing

# Mountain Sports

[www.mountainsports.com](http://www.mountainsports.com)

**Greater Fort Worth Sierra Club**  
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**Membership**

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Individual (\$39)  Joint (\$49)  Senior/Student (\$25)

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

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Mail to Sierra Club Member Services, 85 Second St.  
2nd Floor, San Francisco, Calif. 94105-3441