

## Voters reject Big Oil for big change

**Look ma, no hanging chads — and the result is a mandate for new leadership for a new direction**

The Sierra Club praised voters across the country for electing new local, state and national leaders who are ready to move America's energy future in a dramatically different direction.

"Voters clearly voted for big change, not Big Oil. They want new leadership to move America in a dramatically different direction," said Carl Pope, Sierra Club Executive Director. "And a big part of that change concerns energy security and enacting smart energy solutions that decrease our oil dependence, clean up our environment, curb global warming and create jobs."

"Voters elected a greener Congress and several greener governors. Now America can move forward in a new direction," said Cathy Duvall, Sierra Club Political Director. "That means ending subsidies to big oil and coal companies and instead reducing our oil addiction, reducing pollution, and taking meaningful steps to curb global warming. Americans want an energy plan that invests in wind and solar and other clean renewable energy sources; makes our cars go farther on a gallon of gas and uses American technological know how to make better, more effi-

cient products and create better jobs."

Never have more candidates, of both parties, run on energy and environmental issues. Voter concerns earlier this year over high gas prices deepened over the course of the election cycle into doubts about our current energy policy, about the lack of responsible leadership, the shortage of forward-looking solutions the corrupting influence of the oil and gas interests, and finally to widespread voter concern about our energy security--the fact that our dependence on oil ties our fate to the most unstable parts of the world and increases the threat of global warming.

"This year, the Sierra Club ran one of the largest grassroots organizing effort in competitive House, Senate and Governor's races," said Duvall.

"Sierra Club took our message of a new direction on energy door to door, neighbor to neighbor in hundreds of communities across America. We had thousands of members from our 450 groups working on the ground to educate voters and to get out the vote. "

Sierra Club and Sierra Club Political Committee's activities included:

- Actively working in more than 30 races including 7 Senate, 19 House and 5 Governor races, and a handful of state legislative races

- Micro-targeting 310,000 environmental-first voters in seven states.

- Recruiting more than 2,600 Sierra Club volunteers.

- Organizing close to 2,400 final weekend get-out-the-vote canvass and phone shifts manned by approxi-

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## It's a meeting, sure, but it's also a Christmas party in December

If you like holiday parties, then yule love the December general meeting of the Fort Worth Group of the Sierra Club.

While every meeting throughout the year is a great one; this one is different. It's just for fun!

There's no reports and no program; just a lot of good eats and even more great fellowship with other Sierrans as we get together with friends to celebrate the holiday season.

It will be at the same time and the same place, but in lieu of a regular meeting in December, the Group will once again host its annual Christmas Party.

The festivities will be held Dec. 20

in the Azalea Room of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden Center Complex. Tickets are \$4 in advance and \$6 at the door.

Those attending the party are requested to bring along finger foods, sandwiches, cookies, cake, etc. Cups, plates, napkins, etc will be provided by the club. We will also provide soft drinks and wine. No alcoholic drinks other than wine or champagne are allowed at the Botanical Gardens.

Sierra Club calendars will be on sale there and, if you haven't already voted in the Executive Committee election, be sure and bring along your ballots from the newsletter. This will be the last opportunity to vote.



# Merry Christmas

# Sierra Club a factor in election results CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

mately 1,400 staff and volunteers

- Making 2,246,000 voter impressions including mail, phone and door knocks.

- Mail: 1,150,000 (54 different pieces on 31 different races); Phone calls: 974,000; Doors: 122,000.

- Educating our 750,000 members

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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>

Changes of address: [address.changes@sierraclub.org](mailto:address.changes@sierraclub.org)

(Phone numbers below are Area Code 817 except as noted)

### Executive Committee

Chair Susan Haney 254-582-8228 [srobinson@whitneytx.net](mailto:srobinson@whitneytx.net)

Vice-chair Todd Nichols 937-5217 [toddnichols@comcast.net](mailto:toddnichols@comcast.net)

Secretary Bryan Haney [bryon.m.haney@swf02.usace.army.mil](mailto:bryon.m.haney@swf02.usace.army.mil)

Treasurer Todd Nichols

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### Conservation Contacts

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Bob Scott 282-1372 [roscoff@flash.net](mailto:roscoff@flash.net)

### Outings Contacts

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Bicycling Dan Smith 410-2955 [fwsieran@aol.com](mailto:fwsieran@aol.com)

Backpacking Open

### Administrative Contacts

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Lone Star Chapter Delegate Tolbert Greenwood

### Newsletter Staff

Editor James Moody 817-295-1623 [jmoody166@mac.com](mailto:jmoody166@mac.com)

Circulation dir. Steve Turner 457-7131



### 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.

through the magazine and chapter newsletters.

- Contacting 294,000 members directly through phone calls, mail, and e-mail.

- Gathering signatures, organized coalitions and educated voters about renewable energy initiatives in Washington and California, and educated voters about the hazards of takings initiatives in those two states as well as in Idaho, Arizona and Montana.

- Running radio ads in CA-11, PA-4, and VA-2.

- Organizing Latino voters in AZ-8 and CA-11.

- Highlighting on mobile billboards the traffic problems created by development, the Republican Chair of the Natural Resources Committee Congressman Richard Pombo's family business.

- Barnstorming of Minnesota, Ohio, and Pennsylvania by Sierra Club Executive Director Carl Pope and the head of the Steelworkers union, Leo Gerard.

Following the election, Sierra Club volunteers will now help federal and state lawmakers act quickly and wisely on this call for a new direction in our energy policies. The group will be identifying and recommending smart, safe, clean, cheaper energy solutions that can be adopted quickly to break

our oil addiction and curb global warming. This will include solutions like increasing fuel economy for cars and trucks and energy-efficient buildings, and stopping the rush to build coal-fired power plants.

"We are looking forward to working with newly elected officials in statehouses and in Washington to enact policies that create a new energy economy that cuts pollution and creates jobs," said Pope.

In terms of 2008, this year's Election Day was also a kick-off of our 2008 strategy to make energy security and curbing global warming priorities in the next Administration. On Tuesday In New Hampshire 250 volunteers fanned out across the state to collect the 8,000 signatures needed to put a Climate Change Resolution on the ballot of 200 New Hampshire town meetings.

The resolution calls on President Bush and Congress to address global warming and empowers each town's governing body to appoint an energy committee to recommend local smart energy solutions. In addition to assisting local communities to do their part in curbing global warming, the goal of the NH Climate Change Resolution Project is to make global warming a priority issue among NH citizens and consequently, a major issue for presidential candidates in both parties. Pick

## Enough rope to hang themselves

Prior to President Bush's meeting with the CEOs of General Motors, Ford, and DaimlerChrysler, the Sierra Club issued the following statement from Daniel Becker, Director of the Sierra Club's Global Warming program.

"Instead of focusing on innovation and 21st century vehicles, American auto industry executives are asking the Bush administration for more rope with which to hang themselves. The meeting is an effort to blame others for Detroit's woes and to propose false solutions. The unseen elephant in the room is the failure of the auto industry to produce more fuel efficient vehicles since the last major increase in fuel economy standards in the 1980's. Unless the industry modernizes, they will continue to lose sales to foreign automakers resulting in lost jobs and income and more closed plants.

"Much of the Big Three's failure to compete in the marketplace is the result of its refusal to build more fuel-efficient vehicles at a time when Toyota and Honda have led the industry. Instead of building vehicles that can compete in the marketplace, the auto industry is asking for more incentives for flex-fuel vehicles (FFVs) and hydrogen. Yet, even the President's own Department of Energy acknowledges that 99 percent of the time, FFVs don't run on ethanol.

"The auto industry likes to say that what you drive says a lot about you. In this case, it rings true. The CEOs of General Motors and Ford Motor Company are arriving at the White House in their company's best hybrid vehicles. But sadly, neither of these vehicles comes close to the fuel economy of Toyota and Honda's best hybrids, which also happen to have the highest sales. In General Motors'

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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.

### **December 12, Tuesday**

Mid-Suburban Sierra Singles at Thai Jasmine, 3104 Harwood at Hwy 121, SW corner, Bedford. Come at 6:30 for wine and mingling. Order at 7 p.m. Leader: Terry Jensen, updates@dfwnetmall.com. 972-988-8687 3101(W)

### **December 16, Saturday**

Interlochen, Christmas Lights Night Hike. The Interlochen subdivision in North Arlington has some of the best Christmas lights you will see anywhere. Meet at 7 p.m. at Randol Mill Park in the 1800 block of Randol Mill Rd. in north Arlington (FW-Mapsco 82-A). From I-30, exit Fielder, go south (left from Dallas, right from Fort Worth) on Fielder, and then west (right) on Randol Mill. Turn left into the parking lot at the first road inside the park. We'll walk through Interlochen to view the dazzling array of lights. Afterwards, join us for hot chocolate and dessert at the local Braum's. Suitable for children and strollers. Please no dogs. Leaders: Don Callaway don.callaway@comcast.net 817-312-4657(H) and Terry Jensen

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# Club Outings

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updates@dfwnetmall.com. 972-988-8687 3101(W)

### **January 7, Sunday**

Sustainable Sunday Lunch. Thai plant-based buffet at Thai Jasmine, 3104 Harwood at Hwy 121, SW corner, Bedford. This all-you-can-eat buffet is served from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$8 for adults, \$4 for children. Separate Sierra Singles table. Leader: Terry Jensen updates@dfwnetmall.com. 972-988-8687 ext 3101(W)

### **February 3-4, Saturday-Sunday**

Car camp and dayhiking at Brazos Bend State Park. This park is located about 30 miles south of Houston and is about a 5-6 hour drive from Fort Worth. The park has lakes for fishing, 21 miles of hiking trails, a small nature center with alligators, a short .5 mile nature trail, and contains the George Observatory with three telescopes. On Saturday night we will visit the Observatory, provided weather is clear. We will hike on Saturday for longer distances (10 miles) and again on Sunday morning. The pace of the hiking is moderate to slow with opportunities for observation of plant

and wildlife and for photography. This is not a trip for speed hikers. To register, call Claudia Blalock, 817-924-6242. You must pay \$10 in advance to cover your share of the campsite prior to Jan. 25 after contacting Claudia. Trip is limited to 10 persons. Park website <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/brazos>. Coleader: Martha Ohlson.

## **-Autos** *CONTINUED FROM PG. 2*

case, their first hybrid vehicle came on the market nearly 8 years after the first hybrid was sold in the U.S.; and DaimlerChrysler still doesn't make one.

"The Big Three have become technology laggards because for more than 25 years, they have been protected from higher fuel economy standards. They failed to invest in better technology while their competitors brought the next generation of vehicles to the market. America's oil addiction, more global warming pollution, and the industry's current crisis are the direct result of the Big 3's failure to innovate.

"Making new cars and trucks go farther on a gallon of gas is the biggest single step we can take to saving money at the gas pump, curbing global warming, and cutting America's oil dependence. It is also the key to returning the American auto industry to profitability.

Backpacking • Kayaking • Climbing

# Mountain Sports

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

Greater Fort Worth Sierra Club  
P.O. Box 1874  
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**Membership**

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

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.

<b>F94QT19002</b> F94Q W99901	-1 Entity Code
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Mail to Sierra Club Member Services, 85 Second St.  
2nd Floor, San Francisco, Calif. 94105-3441

## Coming Events

### December 16, Saturday

Newsletter deadline. Submit articles, ads, letters, or other information by mail or email. Photos of club activities encouraged. Mail submissions to Newsletter Editor, P.O. Box 1874, Burlison, Texas 76097-1874, bring to the general meeting, or email jmoody166@mac.com.

### December 29, Friday

Noon meeting for Sierrans unable to attend the evening general meeting. This group meets the last Friday of each month at 1 p.m. at Cup a Joe, 602 W. Abram, Arlington. Contact Bonnie Bowman, bfbg@comcast.net

### December 27, Wednesday

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

### Dec. 5 and Jan. 2, Tuesday, 6 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.

## General Meeting Wednesday, December 20

7:00 Azalea Room of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden Center Complex. Going north on University, take the 2nd entrance into Botanic Gardens. The Garden Center is straight ahead.

### Dec. 5 and Jan. 2, Tuesday

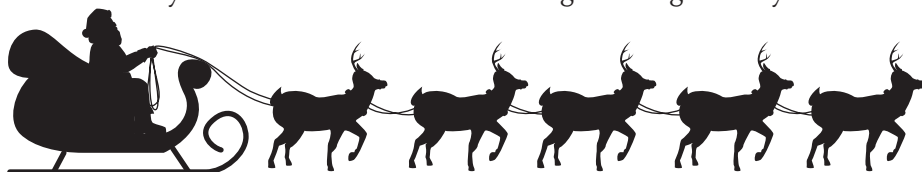
Outings Meeting immediately following the ExCom meeting. Contact Claudia Blalock, 817-924-6242.

### Conservation Committee Meeting

The Conservation Committee meets on an as-needed basis. Contact: Chair Dwayne Quertermous 214-558-1407, or Bob Scott, 282-1372.

## 2007 calendars will be on sale at the Christmas party

The 2007 Sierra Club calendars are now available (\$12 for the wall calendars and \$13 for the engagement calendars). Pick up several at the Christmas party. You'll want some for yourself as well as for Christmas gifts that give the year round.



## Fundraiser is needed for our Sierra Group

The Greater Fort Worth Sierra Club needs a professional fund raiser.

Similar groups to ours have been very successful using this approach to raise the badly needed funds to carry out Group activities.

One annual fund raising program of this nature can replace many of the fund raising efforts of the Group, this freeing up the leadership to concentrate more on local, state, and national environmental issues.

If you can do this or know someone who can, please contact Dwayne at fw.sierra.fundraising@gmail.com.

The Greater Fort Worth Group of the Sierra Club