

Environment loses a good friend

Earl Burnam was an icon for a variety of environmental groups, including the local Sierra Club

Earl Henry Burnam, 77, environmental advocate and retired General Dynamics Engineering Administrative Manager, died early Saturday morning, Sept. 30, from congestive heart failure and emphysema.

Earl was born February 20, 1929 at home in Chillicothe, Texas. After graduating from Chillicothe High school in 1946, he enlisted in the Army and was shipped to Tokyo, Japan, with U.S. forces occupying the country after the end of World War II.

Earl began college at West Texas State University in Canyon, but left school to earn money. He moved to Artesia, New Mexico, in the spring of 1952 to work for a geophysical seismograph crew.

The crew took their coffee breaks at a corner drug store, where he met the local telephone operator who would become his wife. Alma and Earl Burnam were married on October 11, 1952.

Lon M. Burnam, the first of their three sons was born in 1953, and the family moved to Fort Worth where Earl went back to school at Texas Christian University and to work at Convaair. Daniel C. Burnam was born in 1956 and Robert R. Burnam in 1959. Earl received his Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics from TCU in 1965.

Earl had a passion for the environment and outdoor activities. He and his family enjoyed camping, hiking, backpacking, canoeing and bird watching. Earl climbed Guadalupe Mountain and Emory Peak in Texas and Kebnekaise in Sweden. Alma and Earl canoed extensively along the Rio

Grande, at Caddo Lake State Park, and in the lake country in Sweden. Both of them were also active with their sons Dan and Bob with the local Explorer Post that focused on outdoor learning and activities.

He also had a committed role in conservation activities, which included lobbying elected officials, serving on the Executive Committee of the Fort Worth Sierra Club chapter, the Tarrant Coalition for Environmental Awareness, and as Conservation Chair and on the Board of Directors for the Audubon Council of Texas. Earl also served a two-year term as president of the Audubon Council of Texas. In 2005, the Fort Worth Nature Center dedicated the Burnam Environmental Outdoor Learning Center in honor of Earl and Alma Burnam, and a scholar-

Please see BURNAM, Page 4

Four seek spot on the Group's Executive Committee

A ballot for the Executive Committee election can be found on Page 3. Please mark it and mail it to arrive no later than Dec. 20 or bring it to the Christmas party. Candidates have submitted the following statements:

Dewayne Quertermous

I have been a Sierra Club member for about 4 years and an ExCom member for 2 years. I am currently the conservation chair and webmaster of the Fort Worth group. Wilderness protection, habitat conservation, endangered species protection, and regulation of pollution and hazardous materials are of particular interest to me.

I believe society should move in

the direction of more sustainable policies and behaviors that will ensure a healthy future for humanity, wildlife and planet Earth.

Bonnie Bowman

I am a lifetime member of the Sierra Club because I wanted to make sure I would always be a card carrying member of the best known environmental group in the country. I am currently president of the Tarrant Coalition for Environmental Awareness, serve as the environmental representative on the Vision North Texas Advisory Committee, an anti-sprawl initiative of the Urban Land Institute, NCTCOG, and the University of Texas as Arlington, and facilitate the daytime Sierra meet-up in Arlington. I share my home in Arlington with a husband, two cats,

and three dogs.

Mark Peters

The environment we hand generations that follow can't be allowed to "just happen." The plans by Governor Rick Perry to fast-track multiple coal-fired power plants re-ignited my decades-long interest in the environmental activism. While a long-lapsed member (1990's), I feel this is a good time to become active and help push an agenda of environmental stewardship. As Margaret Mead said, "Never underestimate the power of a small group of individuals to change the world, indeed it is the only thing that ever has." I would like to be a part of the process by which we create a better, cleaner, more environmentally aware planet for those that follow.

**Program
Notes**

The program for the November general meeting of the Fort Worth Group of the Sierra Club will be a screening of the internationally acclaimed film "Being Caribou – Five Months on Foot With the Porcupine Herd." The film will be presented by Bill Greer, who brought us "Kongakut River Adventure 2005" as a program last year.

Club Outings

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.

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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

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

Executive Committee

Chair Susan Haney 254-582-8228 srobinson@whitneytx.net

Vice-chair Todd Nichols 937-5217 toddnichols@comcast.net

Secretary Bryan Haney bryon.m.haney@swf02.usace.army.mil

Treasurer Todd Nichols

James Moody 295-1623 jmoody166@mac.com

Glenn Ford 817-731-8382 gfordfortworth@hotmail.com

Terry Jensen 817-545-0140, updates@dfwnetmall.com

Dewayne Quertermous 214-558-1407

shadowy_poet@yahoo.com

Conservation Contacts

Chair Dewayne Quertermous 214-558-1407

Bob Scott 282-1372 roscott@flash.net

Outings Contacts

Acting Chair Claudia Blalock 924-6242 cpblalock@msn.com

Day Hikes Claudia Blalock

Canoeing Marilyn Turnage

Bicycling Dan Smith 410-2955 fwsieran@aol.com

Backpacking Open

Administrative Contacts

Membership Dan Smith 817-410-2955 fwsieran@aol.com

Programs Glenn Ford 817-731-8382

Lone Star Chapter Delegate Tolbert Greenwood

Newsletter Staff

Editor James Moody 817-295-1623 jmoody166@mac.com

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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.

November 4, Saturday

Dayhike in the woods at River Legacy Park, Arlington. 9 am. Enter at new park entrance on west side (right coming from Hwy 183; left coming from I-30) of Hwy 157 (N Collins) about 1 block north of Green Oaks. Meet us by bridge over Trinity River. We will hike for about two hours in the woods, seeing ponds, wooded trails, and some wildlife, then have an optional lunch/brunch in Arlington. Leader: Don Callaway 817 312-4657 don.callaway@comcast.net Co-leader: Terry Jensen 972 988-8687, ext 3101, ss@dfwnetmall.com

November 8-12, Wednesday-Sunday

Big Bend National Park Van Trip. Join us for a long weekend in one of the nation's most scenic national parks, about 9 hours away from Fort Worth. We'll travel by van, leaving early Wednesday morning and arriving before sunset. Todd Nichols may lead a car camping (van-camping) trip from the Chinos Basin campground if there are enough signups to divide the group. If the group is divided, then James Moody will most likely lead a variety of day hikes throughout the national park, including the rarely visited Apache Canyon. Other possibilities, depending on the preferences of the group, could include Dog Canyon, Devil's Den, The Chimneys, Red Rock Canyon, Top of Burro Mesa Pouroff, Pine Canyon, Mariscal Mine, and other beautiful areas within the park. More than likely, the entire group will be exploring the Rancherías hiking trail in the Big Bend Ranch State Park since currently there are only enough signups for a single trip. For details, contact him-817-295-1623 or (cell) 817-688-3656. The cost remains at \$175 per person – a real bargain with the price of gas. Mail checks prior to Nov. 1, payable to Fort Worth Sierra Club, to Todd Nichols, 200 Hibiscus Dr. Arlington 76018. For more information contact Nichols at 817-937-5217.

November 11-12, Saturday-Sunday

Beginner Backpack Trip on the Little Missouri National Wild and Scenic River Part 2 ñ The Drier Version. Backpack about 10 miles along a beautiful narrow valley near the source of the Little Missouri River. The trail follows the river and has little elevation change, making it ideal for beginners. Preference will be given to those who have taken the fall 2006 beginner backpack class. Those of you who went on the extremely wet and flood-

ed spring 2006 trip, this is your chance to complete the trip. You are welcome to join us. Leaders: Marcos Jorge 972-394-2546(H) or mjorge@ustgolfshaft.com and Steve Longley

November 14, Tuesday

Mid-Suburban Sierra Singles Dinner Hunan Dynasty, 972 444 9760, 8150 North MacArthur Blvd, Suite 190, Irving/Valley Ranch 75063, one block north of LBJ at Ranchview, NE corner. Order at 7 pm; come early for mingling in the bar area. Leader: Terry Jensen 972-988-8687 ext 3101(W) or ss@dfwnetmall.com

November 18, Saturday

Join Sierrans for a docent led tour of a special exhibition at the Amon Carter Museum: Regarding the Land: Robert Glenn Ketchum and the Legacy of Eliot Porter Experience the breathtaking beauty of landscape photography through the lenses of two of the art form's most important color artists: Eliot Porter (1901-90) and Robert Glenn Ketchum (b. 1947). Eliot Porter was a Sierra Club member, author of many Sierra Club books, and an advocate of many of our conservation campaigns including opposition to the flooding of Glen Canyon in 1964. Meet at 9:45 a.m. on the steps to the entrance of the Carter Museum which faces east toward downtown Fort Worth. Tour begins promptly at 10 a.m. Organizer: Charge for exhibit: \$6 per person. Organizer: Claudia Blalock, 817-924-6242. Please contact Claudia if you plan to attend by Monday, Nov. 13.

December 2, Saturday

Lake Grapevine Dayhike. 9:30 a.m. From Hwy 114 in Grapevine, exit Main St. and turn north (right from Dallas, left from Fort Worth). Turn left on Northwest Hwy (Business 114) and right on Dove Rd at PDQ Store. At the traffic light to the right of the next PDQ Store, Dove Rd. becomes Dove Loop. Continue straight (north) on Dove Loop until you enter Oak Grove Park. Turn left on first park road (see sign for McPherson Slough) and follow park road until it deadends into trailhead. Park by restrooms to right of trailhead. Please no dogs. Not suitable for strollers. Hike cancelled if raining in Grapevine. No reservations necessary, just show up. Bring your lunch if the weather is warm enough and we will picnic on a point overlooking the lake. Leader: Don Callaway, 817 312-4657 or don.callaway@comcast.net. Co-leader: Terry Jensen, 972 988-8687, ext 3101 or ss@dfwnetmall.com.

BALLOT

2007 Executive Committee
(Vote for up to 4)

- Dewayne Quertermous**
- Terry Jensen**
- Mark Peters**
- Bonnie Bowman**

Individual members, check one set of boxes. For joint memberships, each member is entitled to vote for up to four candidates. Use both sets of boxes for joint memberships. Mail ballot for delivery by Dec. 20, or bring to the December meeting/Christmas party at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden Center, Azalea Room, on Wednesday, Dec. 20.

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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.

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

Coming Events

November 15, Wednesday

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, Burlleson, Texas 76097-1874, bring to the general meeting, or email jmoody166@mac.com.

November 24, 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

November 29, Wednesday

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

Nov. 7 and Dec. 5, 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, November 15

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.

Nov. 7 and Dec. 5, 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 on sale

The 2007 Sierra Club calendars are now available (\$12 for the wall calendars and \$13 for the engagement calendars). Pick up several at the November general meeting or the Christmas party. You'll want them for Christmas gifts that give the year round.

-Burnam *Continued from Page 1*

ship fund in their name allows students to enjoy outdoor learning activities at the center.

Earl was particularly concerned about air quality and the problems caused by utilities, pollution from motor vehicles, and manufacturers. He was so well-known for his advocacy and educational activities that one friend noted, "One of these days, we're going to go to the Pearly Gates, and there Earl Burnam's going to be with his handouts – before we can get in the gates, and visit with St. Peter."

Earl Burnam is survived by his wife, Alma Burnam; son Lon Burnam and his wife, Carol Roark, son Dan Burnam and his wife Charlene Frazier Burnam; son Bob Burnam and his wife Suzy Balliet; grandson Brian Burnam; brother William "Bill" Burnam; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family requests memorial gifts be made to the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club, P. O. Box 1931, Austin, TX 78767 or to the Burnam Scholarship Fund, Fort Worth Nature Center, 9601 Fossil Ridge Rd., Fort Worth 76135.

The Greater Fort Worth Group of the Sierra Club