



Sawtooth Wilderness

Wendy Lambert shares her adventures in Idaho.

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Fast Track Legislation

No kidding around, It's a bad idea.

Page 1



Adult Supervision

Unknown toddler oversees volunteers constructing a new sidewalk at the Dallas Nature Center.

Photo by Bud Melton

INTO AFRICA
ON PAGE 1

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THE COMPASS

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE DALLAS SIERRA CLUB



HELP PUT FAST TRACK IN THE SLOW LANE

Democracy under attack! Local, state and federal laws at risk, including environmental, public health, etc!

Did you know that obscure language in an international trade agreement is usurping democracy in the United States, Canada and Mexico, challenging our laws and demanding that taxpayers pay foreign corporations for what they claim are lost profits when those laws restrict their ability to maximize profits?

Trade policy should be a force for progress, not trade away environmental and health standards. Yet under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), foreign corporations gained new powers to sue U.S., Canadian and Mexican taxpayers for billions, while putting the laws they say restrict their profits at risk. This is already happening! Laws have already been dropped and weakened and money paid to corporations. Already, a Canadian chemical company has sued the United States for \$1 billion in an effort to undercut an important California clean water law.

Laws to protect our air, promote smart growth, or save our forests could be next on the chopping block. This back-door attack on our laws is also having a chilling effect on proposed environmental and public health legislation, as attorneys for polluting industries threaten to sue under this trade agreement if federal, state or local legislation they claim is restrictive to their profits passes.

Now the Bush administration wants the House of Representatives to pass



"fast-track" trade legislation in order to expand NAFTA to 31 more countries. Fast track would restrict Congressional debate on trade bills and take away Congress's ability to amend future trade agreements, paving the way for expansion of NAFTA's corporate lawsuits. At a time when corporate misconduct is damaging our economy, Congress should demand more corporate accountability not hand out more corporate privileges!

We can stop expansion of this, but only with a HUGE outcry from citizens. YOUR HELP IS NEEDED NOW!

What can you do?

Educate yourself and others and contact Members of Congress.

Trading Democracy Screenings:

Don't miss the free screenings and discussion of Trading Democracy, Bill Moyers' powerful program which aired earlier this year on PBS TV stations about the very real and present danger to democracy, the environment and public health, labor, taxpayers etc. in international trade agreements. The devastating consequences of obscure provisions of Chapter 11 of the North

American Trade Agreement are explored with real life examples. There will also be time for discussion afterwards with panelists knowledgeable about the issues. Bring friends, family, co-workers and neighbors! THIS IS ESSENTIAL VIEWING! DON'T MISS IT! We are scheduling screenings of Trading Democracy and other videos on trade and the environment now, so let me know if you are interested in attending one, arranging one at your church or organization or volunteering at one. For questions, or to volunteer (please help!), call Molly Rooke at 214-369-6667 or e-mail at Molly@LaRosa-Ranch.com.

Here's a description of the program from the www.film.com website:

Bill Moyers Reports: Trading Democracy. While the benefits of the North American Free Trade Agreement are still being argued, the perils of one of the treaty's most powerful secrets are beginning to emerge. Bill Moyers Reports: Trading Democracy is the first television investigation of what has been called an "end run around the Constitution." Corporate investors are using the obscure NAFTA provision to challenge laws designed to protect the public health, environmental regulations-and even jury verdicts. The cases are heard not in open court, but before international trade tribunals that make rulings in secret. The program details a

SEE "SLOW LANE" PAGE 6



A young lioness relaxes in the Kalahari sun, in northern Botswana. Picture by Martha Ohlson.

INTO AFRICA

During the late summer of 2001, one of our more adventurous Dallas Sierra Club members -- Martha Ohlson -- took a month-long trip to Botswana and Namibia in southern Africa.

The first leg of this trip found the adventurers canoeing and primitive camping in the Okavango Delta in northern Botswana. The Okavango River never flows into the ocean. Instead, it flows into an inland delta on the edge of the Kalahari Desert. As the home to many species of animals including lions, elephants, giraffes, zebras, hippos and crocodiles, this area creates a wildlife photographer's dream. The group camped on a small island and canoed and group hiked during the day. The roars of nearby lions and the thrashing of elephants

through the vegetation filled the night air. The guide warned the group to never wander off alone. All obeyed.

For the second leg the group sat in the open back of a pickup truck for a week-long game-viewing safari in the Moremi Wildlife Reserve and Chobe National Park - also in Botswana. The open back of the truck allowed close access to many of the animals that humans normally fear. From their vehicle, the group twice spotted cheetahs - a rare site according to the guide. While the group never witnessed a hunt, since the carnivores hunt at night, they did witness two separate prides of lions feeding off of fresh kills. The explorers ventured within 10 feet of the lion in the picture.

SEE "INTO AFRICA" PAGE 5

August's Program

Martha Ohlson will be speaking at August's General Meeting. The General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 14, at the E.D. Walker Vanguard School.

Galleria	Valley View
	LBJ Freeway
	Harvest Hill
	E.D. Walker Vanguard School
	Wozencraft
	Forest Lane
Tollway	Preston Road

The Dallas Sierra Club's general meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month. Meetings are open to all interested persons. The meetings begin at 7pm at the E.D. Walker School on the corner of Montfort and Wozencraft, MAPSCO 15S.

THE COMPASS

August 2002
Volume 100, Issue 0802

The Compass is the monthly publication of the Dallas Group of the Sierra Club's Lone Star Chapter. Members of the Dallas Group support The Compass and receive the publication as a part of their membership.

Subscriptions. For information concerning your subscription, call Arthur Kuehne at (214) 353-2927. Non-member subscriptions are available: one year, \$10 (includes postage). To subscribe, send a check made payable to "Dallas Sierra Club".

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Address Changes. If you have questions or comments regarding your membership, change of address, or mailing problems and delays, please mail or e-mail Sierra Club headquarters at:

Sierra Club Member Services
PO Box 52968
Boulder, Colorado 80322-2968
address.changes@sierraclub.org

Submissions. Article and photograph submissions are always welcome. Please send submissions by the deadlines given in the General Calendar. Send submissions to the newsletter editors at the e-mail address and phone numbers listed on the back fold.

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and protect the
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SIERRA CLUB

LETTER FROM CHAIR

Introspection: It's Up to You and Me

For 25 adult years I was a sideline environmentalist. Three years ago I decided to take off my warm up and get in the game. But, different from my college football experiences, this game is deadly serious. From Sierra Club literature, conferences and talking to members, I now know just how threatening our water, land air and other environmental problems are.

One thing becomes clearer in my mind as an answer to our local, national and global dilemma. YOU AND I MUST CONTINUE MAKING PRACTICAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS ON A DAILY BASIS. We must get in and stay in the game. Use whatever cliché you like (one small step at a time, if it is to be it's up to me, think global act local etc.) But it is true that the changes MUST start with you and me and continue forever. (don't miss this month's article on the positive environmental things your Excom leaders are doing). As my high school coach would say, "no matter what you are doing today, you will either improve or get worse; you won't stay the same".

I'm trying to practice what I preach. To illustrate, I'll use the life-changing situation of my 2nd (and last) child's surprise birth. The surprise / shock was not with the birth, but the fact that two 42 year olds could so easily defy the biological odds. I realized my current conservation efforts weren't enough. Learning that the production of one pound of beef required 2,500 gallons of water, I sharply curtailed eating beef and pork. Seeing the CAFO (confined animal feeding operations) for chickens, I'll only eat chicken on a rare occasion. Our internal household water use has remained steady, but I've ceased watering the front yard and rely on rain. We cycle to the library, swimming pool and grocery store etc. to reduce short pollution causing drives. And our recycling/ composting is up while our electricity use is from a non-polluting supplier. To reinforce our social responsibility to participate in the political process, as a family we even went to Joe Barton's town hall meeting to confront him on his air quality position. The kids loved their air masks and wanted to sit in the front row.

I challenge each Dallas Sierra Club member to stay in the game and keep making environmentally positive changes in your lifestyle. Your leadership and example will influence someone else.

Wishing you a safe and environmentally sound summer.

John Rath

Dear Editor:

The signs of summer: picnics and potato chips, cookouts and summer camps, vacations and family visits. Oh did I mention increased air pollution, ozone alerts and respiratory assaults.

During the past 2 weeks Grapevine and surrounding cities have had, on a daily basis, serious (orange) and very serious (red) levels of pollution including lung attacking ozone. (This, despite Representative Joe Barton, chair of the house subcommittee on energy and air quality, telling a town hall meeting that except for a few bad periods our air is getting better). And guess what? Weather maps show Grapevine has been at the eye of the ozone storm.

- Auto/airplane exhaust and industrial/commercial polluters (i.e. Cement kilns and older power plants) are big culprits, but so are the day to day individual things you and I do. I WANT to believe there are many citizens helping out by:
- Not idling their cars outside grocery stores, fast food restaurants and bank drive up windows.
- Not mowing lawns on hot, windless days.
- Eliminating unnecessary car trips during the morning and afternoon hours.
- Telling others you would like them to do their part too.

BUT I still observe a lot of people who continue adding their personal pollution to our air.

It's only June and we have been lucky not to have a serious heat wave. I'm afraid to think what our air will be like during the dog days of July and August. Both business and individual citizens have a responsibility to reduce air pollution. As a former coach once said "If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem". In this case "if you're not part of the solution, you're part of the pollution". If my fellow Grapevine/ Tarrant county citizens want to reduce the ozone danger, they must personally act. Otherwise, potato chips, cookouts and other outdoor activities may not be part of summer for much longer.

John Rath

Image by Ansel Adams.
Protection by you.



Photograph by Ansel Adams courtesy of the National Archives, photo no. 079-AAG-7

Ansel Adams chose a camera. You could use a computer, a telephone or your time to protect America's wild lands and wildlife. Since 1892, Sierra Club members like Ansel Adams and millions of others have helped to make a difference. We know you care about America. Now you can help care for America. Please, contact us to find out how.



Explore, Enjoy and Protect the Planet.

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GENERAL CALENDAR

8/7 • 9/4 First Wednesday. Executive Committee Meeting 6:30PM at REI 2nd floor meeting room (I-635 between Welch Road & Midway Road, MAPSCO 14Q), to discuss Club projects, policy and finances. All members are welcome to attend and participate. Call Terry Sullivan at (972) 492-3038.

8/14 • 9/11 Second Wednesday. Sierra Club General Meeting 7:00-8:30pm in the auditorium at ED Walker School (Corner of Montfort & Wozencraft, MAPSCO 15S), come early to pick up activity materials and afterwards join the socializing at Juan's Cantina.

8/16 • 9/13 Second Friday. Deadline for electronic materials to be submitted to The Compass. E-mail to sierra-editors@egroups.com or deliver diskettes to editors during the General Meeting.

8/19 • 9/16 ICO Meeting. Third Monday. 7PM at REI. Contact Liz Wheelan at (214) 739-2269.

8/21 • 9/18 Third Wednesday. Outings Committee Meeting 7:00PM REI (MapSCO 14Q), to discuss outings schedules and issues. All outings leaders, future outings leaders, and interested Sierrans are welcome. Call Arthur Kuehne at (214) 739-2927 for more information.

7/24 • 9/25 Fourth Wednesday. Newsletter Party 7:00PM at the Churchill Recreation Center at Hillcrest & Churchill Way (MAPSCO 15V). Help sort, bundle and label the newsletter. Socializing afterward. Contact Joe DeVito at (972) 562-0082.

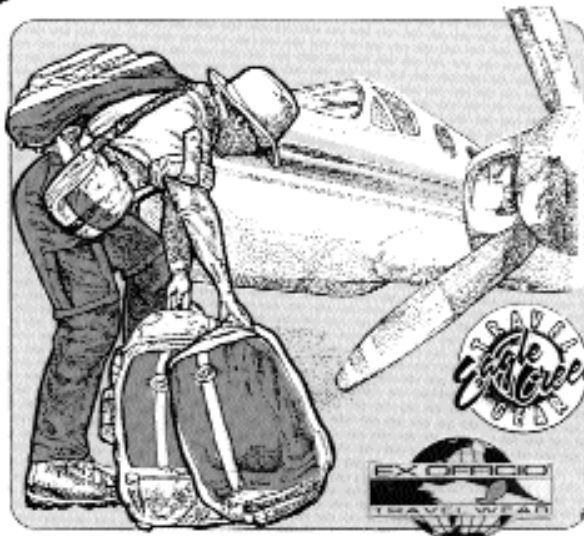
SIERRA SINGLES OUTING

On Friday, AUGUST 16 at 7:15 join us for a night hike at the Fort Worth Nature Center. Meet inside the interpretive center. Donations to the nature center are welcome. We will begin hiking promptly at 7:30 p.m. The route will be chosen by participants at the site but will most likely be about 4 miles. The nature center is located at 9601 Fossil Ridge Rd. off Jacksboro Highway in northwest Fort Worth. Wear sturdy hiking boots and bring plenty of water! Long pants are also suggested. This hike may be canceled in the event of inclement weather. Contact: Jenny Lehman.

Just a reminder that all events officially begin at the event site/trail head. You may just show up at an event unless specifically told to RSVP. The general rule is that you may show up for day hikes and dinners, and you need to RSVP for weekend camping trips. Contact for Sierra Singles information: Jenny Lehman, (817) 263-1357 or lehje@wt.net. If you would like to join the Sierra Singles yahoo group to receive these updates, send an email to dfws-subscribe@yahoo.com.



FW Midnite Hike
Call Jenny Lehman
 @
817-263-1357
 for more details.



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SIERRA CLUB TV

The Dallas Sierra Club has a television program that airs on the Dallas, Carrollton, Plano, Richardson, Garland and Rowlett Community Access channels. If you do not have cable, you can pick up a VHS copy at the Dallas Sierra Club meeting. The Dallas Sierra Club program needs your support! Watch it and let us know what you think.

If you have some video production experience, give us a call. Please call (214) 369-5543 or video committee chair at (972) 307-6791.

Project I : EARTH - PROGRAM AIR TIMES

Dallas-DCTV	AT&T Cable Services
WED	10pm 13B
SAT	2pm 13B
SUN	9am 13B
Carrollton	AT&T Cable Services
TUE	9am 74
THU	8pm 74



MEMBERSHIP POTLUCK MIXER

Sunday, August 18, All members and prospective members are invited to attend the monthly Membership Potluck. Arthur Kuehne is hosting our get together this month. He lives at 3363 Darbyshire in Dallas. We'll meet from 6:30 till 8:00 P.M. Bring a dish to share and your eating utensils. This is a great opportunity for new members to meet other members and for some good clean fun.

For more information please call George Zimmerman at (H) 972-315-2049 or e-mail: george@dallassierraclub.org

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SIERRA CLUB



Buy Groceries & Help the Sierra Club

If you shop at Tom Thumb - go to the service desk and get a reward card by giving them the Sierra Club #3941. They will explain how to use the card.

If you shop at Kroger - pick up a Kroger card at the next General Meeting, or call George Zimmerman at (H) 972-315-2049 or email george@dallassierraclub.org to get a card mailed to you.

Each time you use these cards to buy groceries, the club receives .05% of what you spend, PLUS the Sierra Club card gives you certain item specials.

SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS

WWW.DALLASSIERRACLUB.ORG



 **BACKPACKING**

 **CANOEOING**

 **CAR CAMPING**

 **CYCLING**

 **DAY HIKING**

 **EDUCATION**

 **SERVICE PROJECT**



AUG 9 (FRI) NIGHTHIKE on EAST SIDE of WHITE ROCK LAKE Meet at the Bath House at White Rock Lake (Mapsco 37-H) at 7:30 PM on Northcliff west of Buckner Blvd. We will walk 6-miles on a paved path. Bring water and comfortable shoes. No reservations, just show up. Ice cream afterwards. Leader: Judy Cato (H) 972-238-5738



AUG 10 (SAT) CANYONS OF DOWNTOWN DALLAS NIGHT HIKE Explore the sights and sounds of downtown Dallas. Hike 4- to 5-miles. Bring \$2 for DART day pass. Meet at the new elevated DART train station at the corner of Park Lane and Greenville Avenue at 7:00 PM to have time to buy passes from machine (Mapsco 26T). Train will leave around 7:20 p.m. Call leader for exact time. If you live in the South Dallas area, meet us at the convention Center station at 7:45 PM. Optional food/drink afterwards. Leader: Neil King (H) 214-739-6470 neil_king@acd.org



AUG 10 (SAT) WHITE ROCK LAKE CLEANUP Help clean up the Dallas Sierra Club's Adopted Shoreline. Meet at the For the Love of the Lake office parking lot on level below Eckerd's in Casa Linda Plaza (on Buckner facing Doctors Hospital, just north of Garland Road, Mapsco 38-J) at 8:00 AM for registration and refreshments. Leader: Carol Nash (H) 214-824-0244



AUG 16 (FRI) NIGHTHIKE on the CHISHOLM TRAIL in PLANO Meet at 7:30PM in front of the Starbucks (north side of 15th just west of US 75 (Mapsco 658-V). We will walk 5-miles on a paved path. Bring water and comfortable shoes. No reservations, just show up. Ice cream afterwards. Leader: Judy Cato (H) 972-238-5738



AUG 17 (SAT) CANINE DAYHIKE at WHITE ROCK LAKE Bring your dog for a 4-mile walk along the shore of lake. Bring water, biscuits, pooper scoop/bag, and leash. Meet at the Winfrey Point on the east side of the lake at 9:00 AM. To reach Winfrey Point from Garland Road (near the Dallas Arboretum) turn onto East Lawther Drive and follow the road along the lake for about one mile to

Winfrey Point Drive - Winfrey Point is the house-like building on top of the hill (Mapsco 37-R). Leader: Terry Sullivan 972-492-3038

AUG 21 (WED) OUTINGS COMMITTEE MEETING Meet in the upstairs program room at REI (on north side of LBJ between Midway and Welch), at 7:00 PM. Bring your ideas for the Dallas Sierra Club Outings program. We will be planning summer outings and bus trips. All outings leaders, future outings leaders, and interested Sierrans welcome. Contact: Mick Nolen (H) 972-991-9351



AUG 23 (FRI) HOWL at the FULL MOON NIGHTHIKE at WHITE ROCK LAKE We'll do a new route of 5+ miles making a loop combining the new and old trails near the dam and a walk along the shoreline. Due to the nature of the hike shorter options are available. Meet in the parking lot adjacent to the old Boat House (Mapsco 37-P) at 7:30 PM. To get there, take W. Lawther, south from Mockingbird Lane and look for the old concrete boat house at 3240 W. Lawther (also known as Tee Pee Hill). If you go under the railroad bridge you've gone too far. No reservations necessary. Water is available. Leader: Steve Longley steven.longley@att.net (H) 214-824-1128



AUG 26 (MON) NIGHTHIKE on the WHITE ROCK CREEK TRAIL Meet at 7:30PM at Moss Park on the corner of Greenville and Royal (Mapsco 26-G). We will walk 5-miles on a paved path. Bring water and comfortable shoes. No reservations, just show up. Ice cream afterwards. Leader: Judy Cato (H) 972-238-5738



AUG 29 - SEP 3 (THU EVENING-TUE MORNING) LABOR DAY BUS TRIP to the WEMINUCHE WILDERNESS in COLORADO Escape the Texas heat and join us for our second trip to the cool Colorado mountains of the Weminuche Wilderness. Trips will range from a short backpack with day-hikes to strenuous long hikes. At least 1 prior backpack trip is strongly recommended. Our sleeper bus leaves Dallas at 4:00 PM on Thursday evening and returns at about 5:00 AM on Tuesday morning. The trip cost is \$160 for Sierra Club members and \$175 for non-members. A \$10 fee is charged for

cancellations and no refunds will be made after August 20 unless a replacement is found. See the article in the July newsletter for more information. To sign up, send a check payable to Dallas Sierra Club to Mick Nolen, 6709 Harvest Glen Drive, Dallas, TX 75248 Coordinator: Mick Nolen mick@dallassierraclub.org 972-991-9351



AUG 30-SEP 2 (FRI-MON) HIGH UNITS UTAH BACKPACK TRIP Backpack in the High Units (60 miles from Salt City). Most highly rated place in Utah Mountains. Suggested fly/ drive leaving Thursday night and return Tuesday morning. If you want to fly, you need to purchase air tickets now to get low prices over popular weekend. Leader: Don Purinton 972-985-1774 dpurinton@attbi.com



SEP 7 (SAT) DAYHIKE at the DALLAS NATURE CENTER We'll hike 5-miles on dirt trails over hilly terrain. Meet at the DNC visitor center at NorthPark Shopping Center near Foly's at 9:15AM. This is the N.E. corner of the property near US-75 & Park Lane under the trees. The Nature Center is located 2.5 miles south of I-20 at 7171 Mountain Creek Parkway. Take the Mountain Creek Parkway exit off I-20 (between exits for Spur 408 and FM 1382, in Southwest Dallas County) and continue south. The entrance is on the right just south of where Wheatland Road intersects Mountain Creek Parkway. Bring hiking boots, water, and a change of shoes if weather warrants. Optional TexMex restaurant lunch afterwards. No reservations necessary, just show up. Leader: Steve Longley (214) 824-1128



SEP14 (SAT) BEGINNER BACKPACKING and CAMPING CLASS Aimed at beginners, this class is an ideal way to learn about backpacking. Topics include: wilderness ethics, outdoor clothing, boots, backpacks, tents, sleeping bags, cookware, food, and preparing for a trip. Instructors are experienced Sierra Club leaders. There will be time for questions and a hands-on look at outdoor gear. Lunch of backpacking food is included. The class will be held at REI (second floor program room). REI is at 4515 LBJ Freeway, north side, between Midway and Welch. The class will run from 10:00 AM until 6:00 PM. The fee is \$15 for Sierra Club members and \$25 for non-members. No reservations neces-

Notice: To receive this outings list monthly via e-mail, send message to: outings.list@dallassierraclub.org
Type SUBSCRIBE OUTINGS LIST on the subject line.

HOW THE OUTING PROGRAM WORKS

Dallas Sierra Club Outings are open to members and non-members. Some trips may require special qualifications and capabilities. The leaders of each outing / trip are serving in a volunteer capacity and assume no responsibility above that of trip organizer. If you have a medical problem, it is your responsibility to inform the leader before the outing / trip. Outing / Trip leaders are encouraged to participate in training and classes to increase their skills, but they are not paid professionals. They will assist you within their limitations. It is the responsibility of the participant to be aware of any personal limitations before going on an outing.

Radios and firearms are prohibited from all outings. Pets are not allowed unless specifically stated. All outings officially begin at the trail head or outing start point. Leaders cannot assign carpools, but may help coordinate ride sharing for energy conservation and to promote fellowship. All non-commercial transportation is the responsibility of the individual. Car-pooling is SOLELY voluntary, but the costs are shared. The usual method of sharing transportation cost is for all riders in the car, including the driver, to divide the cost of transportation equally. The recommended method of computing cost is to multiply round trip mileage by \$0.13 a mile for small cars, \$0.16 for large cars and \$0.19 for vans. Before leaving, be sure this or some other method is agreed upon.

Most outings require reservations. To participate in an outing contact the leader, who will decide if the trip you are interested in is suitable for you based on your capabilities and the demands of the trip. There is usually a limit to the number of people allowed on a given outing / trip. Reservations are necessary for outings unless otherwise noted. If you must cancel, inform the leader as soon as possible so that someone else can go in your place.

Please respect the wishes of your leader who has volunteered his / her free time to allow you to go on the trip of your choice. If you have any questions, or if you are interested in becoming a leader, contact either the Outings Chair or the appropriate Outings Committee Coordinator on the newsletter back page.

sary, just show up.
 Contact: Arthur Kuehne
 214-902-9260
 arthur@akuehne.com



SEPT 22-25 (SUN - WED) "BEST OF THE SOUTH SAN JUAN WILDERNESS" BACKPACK Discover the Colorado that one author calls "geographically remote, largely primeval and somehow forgotten." Hike about 22 miles, much of it above 11,000 ft., some on the Continental Divide. Magnificent views, varied types of forest. Brilliant aspen color. Option to extend for a fifth day. Moderately strenuous. Limited to 8 experienced backpackers.

Leader: Bob Crockett
 (H)972-231-0490
 (W)972-235-0255
 admark@attbi.com



OCT 10 (THU) and OCT 15 (TUE) WILDERNESS NAVIGATION CLASS

Learn the fundamentals of finding your way in the wilderness. Among the subjects covered are: purchasing maps, how to read maps, how not to get lost, what to do if you do get lost, GPS, different kinds of compasses, and how to use your compass. If you have a compass, bring it to the class. If you don't have one, we will show you what to look for when you purchase one. The class will be held at REI (second floor program room). REI is at 4515 LBJ Freeway, north side, between Midway and Welch. This two-night class will start promptly at 6:30 PM and will finish at about 8:45 PM. Also included is an optional weekend backpacking trip to the Caney Creek Wilderness in Arkansas on October 26-27. This trip will give you an opportunity to practice your new navigation and map reading skills. The fee for the class is \$10 for Sierra Club members and \$15 for non-members. No reservations are necessary; just show up. For additional information please contact:

Arthur Kuehne
 214-902-9260
 arthur@akuehne.com

or

Bill Greer
 (H)972-964-1781
 wbgreer@worldnet.att.net

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TRINITY LEVEE:

Project is too important to be delayed more

The Army Corps of Engineers is to blame for the delay of protection from flooding for the Cadillac Heights and Lamar St. area. Despite continual protests about the approach and design of the Dallas Floodway Extension, the Corps--with the encouragement of the City of Dallas--came up with a badly flawed project with deceptive benefit-cost calculations.

This is consistent with the finding of manipulative studies for the Corps' Upper Mississippi project and now with the announcement by the GAO that the Corps' Delaware Deepening Project has severely flawed economics and has been suspended. Reform of the Army Corps again has become a hot topic on Capitol Hill.

It is clear now that a combination of simply raising the existing Dallas Floodway levees first, a voluntary buyout of Cadillac Heights, and a "short" Lamar St. levee offers a vastly better benefit-cost alternative to the current DFE project--saving taxpayers dollars at a time when both the city and the federal government are in fiscal crunches. Furthermore, this alternative would allow Cadillac Heights citizens to escape their polluted neighborhood and would protect the Great Trinity Forest.

As has been pointed out before, a voluntary buyout could begin almost immediately under the Corps' Challenge 21 authorization. Congressional leaders have agreed to back Mayor Miller on her approach--simply appropriating the money in the 2003 federal budget could have residents out of the floodplain in very short order.

Letter to sent to Letters to the Editor, DMN, published July 1st, 2002]

David Gray

INTO AFRICA

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This part of the trip also involved camping in primitive, unfenced campgrounds where at night animals, including carnivores, wandered freely through the camp. The guide told the group to keep their tents zipped and Velcro in place. All obeyed.

After two weeks in Botswana, Martha flew to Windhoek, Namibia to join second group for a two-week tour of northern and central Namibia. Namibia is a very arid country due to the cold Benguela current that comes up from Antarctica and runs along the coast of southern Africa. Very little water evaporates from the Benguela current and as a result, very little rain falls along the coast. This makes water a very precious commodity. The Namib Desert includes some of the highest sand dunes in the world and provides spec-

tacular scenery.

In Namibia, Martha first visited Etosha National Park, a game preserve along the southern shore of the Etosha Pan - a dry lake bed about three times the size of Dallas county. Many species of animals make their home in Etosha, including elephants, giraffes, lions, warthogs, rhinos, hyenas and more.

After leaving Etosha, the group hiked in Damaraland, a desert area in northern Namibia reminiscent of the Big Bend area of Texas, then further south in the Namib Desert and the Nauklut Mountains.

Martha has entertained the Dallas members with stories of her trips to Antarctica and Nepal. If you enjoyed those programs, take an adventure INTO AFRICA.

SIERRA SINGLES OUTINGS

On Friday, AUGUST 16 at 7:15 join us for a night hike at the Fort Worth Nature Center. Meet inside the interpretive center. Donations to the nature center are welcome. We will begin hiking promptly at 7:30 p.m. The route will be chosen by participants at the site but will most likely be about 4 miles. The nature center is located at 9601 Fossil Ridge Rd. off Jacksboro Highway in northwest Fort Worth. Wear sturdy hiking boots and bring plenty of water! Long pants are also suggested. This hike may be canceled in the event of inclement weather. Contact: Jenny Lehman.

On Monday, AUGUST 19 at 6:00 p.m. join us for dinner at The Cheesecake Factory, located at 7700 W. Northwest Highway (near North Park Mall) in Dallas. [NOTE earlier meeting time - this is the latest reservation they will accept. I love this restaurant and want to eat there during my birthday month.] Contact: Jenny Lehman.

On Tuesday, AUGUST 27 at 6:30 p.m. join us for a Fort Worth Cats vs. Amarillo Dillas baseball game. The game begins at 7:05, tickets are \$9 for the best seats in the stadium, and it's "free stuff night." Meet in front of the ticket window by 6:30 and we'll pur-

chase tickets together. Parking is \$2 and beer is \$3.50. What a bargain! For info and directions see www.fwcats.com Contact: Jenny Lehman.

On Monday, SEPTEMBER 23 at 7:00 p.m. join us for dinner at Bahama Breeze, located near the intersection of 114 and MacArthur in Irving (same complex as Champps and BD's Mongolian). Contact: Jenny Lehman.

Friday - Sunday, OCTOBER 11-13 is the tentative weekend for our next Caddo Lake outing, to be led by DeAnn McDaniel. Details TBA.

Just a reminder that all events officially begin at the event site/trail head. You may just show up at an event unless specifically told to RSVP. The general rule is that you may show up for day hikes and dinners, and you need to RSVP for weekend camping trips. Contact for Sierra Singles information: Jenny Lehman, (817) 263-1357 or lehje@wt.net. If you would like to join the Sierra Singles yahoo group to receive these updates, send an email to dfws-subscribe@yahoo.com.



CONSERVATION NEWS



WWW.DALLASSIERRACLUB.ORG

CONSERVATION CALENDAR

AUGUST 18TH, Sunday, 2:30 pm, CONSERVATION PROGRAM "MARVIN NICHOLS RESERVOIR, A TAXPAYER BOONDOGGLE ON TAP" /COORDINATORS MEETING, at the home of Diane Randolph, 4027 Midrose Trail (off Midway north of Trinity Mills) Coordinators meet at 2:30. Program at 3:30. Come view the just released video about this proposed \$1.7 billion boondoggle water project produced by the National Wildlife Federation. Listen and learn about the forest, wildlife, and Texans who will be affected. Water will be the biggest and most sweeping environmental issue to face Texas for the next 50 years. Is there a better way? Find out more at this meeting.. For info, call Rita Beving at 214-373-3808.

OCT 5TH, SATURDAY- ANNUAL WATER CONFERENCE, focusing on the water future of Texas. If you thought last year's meeting was great, this one will prove to be as well. Location yet to be announced. Call Molly Rooke at 214-369-667 or Rita Beving at 214-373-3808 for details.

DON CALLAWAY JOINS CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP, Don Callaway, who has served with those of us in the trenches as a Sierra Club Conservation water coordinator and activist has graciously accepted the post as Conservation Co-chair for the Dallas Sierra Club.

Don has already served, in an interim move to Ft. Worth, as one of their conservation leaders and as an Executive Committee board member. He has also joined our board in the last few months as an ExComm Member and now as one of the Conservation Co-chairs for the Dallas group.

Don will be working with Rita Beving, who also remains as a Conservation Co-chair, but will be actively taking on administrative duties relaying conservation issues to the board, developing the conservation calendar, setting up programs, etc. and will be working more directly with the entire conservation group.

Rita will continue her focus on the TXI cement kiln issue and fundraising during our final appeal process, regenerating One Club activities, working on media, and helping launch the club's new initiative on defeating the Marvin Nichols reservoir project.

Please welcome Don into his new role and feel free to contact Don on any upcoming conservation issues and concerns (See Don's email / phone on the back page).

FAST TRACK

CON'T FROM PAGE 1

system of private justice that is enabling companies to obtain covertly what they have failed to achieve publicly in America's legislatures or courts. (58 minutes, color).

IMPORTANT! Call Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson, a crucial swing vote, and your member of Congress (if different than Rep. EB Johnson) and ask them to vote against Fast Track when it comes back to the House of Representatives after conference committee. You can call their district offices or use the AFL-CIO toll free number to call DC: 1-877-611-0063, or at 1-202-224-3121. Find who your U.S. Representative is at: <http://action.citizen.org/pc/dbq/officials/>.

You can read more about Fast Track at:

- <http://www.sierraclub.org/trade/>
- <http://www.publiccitizen.org/trade/fasttrack/action/articles.cfm?ID=7801>
- http://www.aficio.org/news/2002/0523_fasttrack.htm
- <http://www.now.org/issues/economic/050802fasttrack.html>
- <http://interactive.lww.org/News/News.cfm?ID=410&c=1>

Article by Molly Rooke

See Protest Letter at the bottom of the page.

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A sample letter or fax to US Representatives is to the right. U.S. Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson Fax: (202) 226-1477. Find out your elected officials and their contact info by your addresses at <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/fyi/address.htm>. You can use form to the right-be sure to both sign and clearly print your name address, or compose your own letter, and urge her or him to oppose anti-environmental fast-track trade legislation. Please act now because the House is expected to vote soon.

The Honorable _____
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Rep. _____

America's trade policy should be a force for U.S. and global progress, not trade away democracy and environmental, health and other standards designed to protect the public. I urge you to oppose anti-democratic and anti-environmental fast-track trade legislation.

Under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), foreign corporations gained new powers to sue U.S. taxpayers for billions if they claim that our environmental or other laws interfere with their profits. This puts all current and future public interest laws, as well as our tax dollars, at risk. Fast-track trade legislation would make this worse by authorizing expansion of NAFTA's corporate lawsuit provisions to 31 more countries.

Please oppose fast-track legislation. We need the Congress to help ensure that future trade deals are truly clean, green, and fair.

Sincerely,

**No Globalization
without
Representation!**



SAWTOOTH WILDERNESS

The Sawtooth Wilderness consists of 217,088 acres of the 754,000-acre Sawtooth National Recreation Area (SNRA) 90 miles NE of Boise, Idaho. The Sawtooth Mountains have approximately 40 peaks reaching 10,000 feet, topped by Thompson Peak at 10,776 feet. Portions of the wilderness lie within Sawtooth, Challis, and Boise National Forests. Within this area lie the headwaters of the North Fork and Middle Fork of the Boise River, the South Fork of the Payette River, and portions of the Salmon River, and an astonishing 300 lakes. About 85 percent of the water comes from snowmelt. Many visitors come for trout fishing, mountain climbing, hunting and outstanding camping. In winter months, Nordic skiing, cross country skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling are popular. I went for the hiking. Forty-two wilderness trails cover about 270 miles. I only got to hike about 17 of those miles and they were beautiful.

The forest is dominated by pine, spruce, and fir. It provides homes for elk and deer, black bears and mountain goats, any many species of smaller fur-bearing animals. I saw lots of chipmunks, squirrels and a couple deer. There were wildflowers still in bloom and I was surprised to see Indian Paintbrush there.

The 4th of July is early for the hiking season in the Sawtooth. One trail had snow patches but otherwise the trails were dry. The

weather was 38 at night and 78 during the day. It doesn't get much better than that. As usual, I chose to hike early in the morning and get off the trail by 1 o'clock when it gets warm. On Friday I hiked the most popular trail from Iron Creek to Sawtooth Lake. It is about 11 miles round trip with a 1,750 foot elevation gain up to 2 breathtaking subalpine lakes. It was deserted at 6 am, but there were a lot of people hiking in when I was coming out. The strange thing was that almost all of the hikers had dogs. This surprised me because they don't allow dogs in some wilderness areas. The Sawtooth just passed a lease law to take affect in July. Most of the dogs were unleashed, but well behaved.

I drove around sightseeing in the afternoon and the next day I hiked to Farley Lake, another beautiful subalpine lake. This trail was difficult to get to on a rough road, but worth every bump. The trail followed a cascading stream to a waterfall, through a granite boulder field and up to beautiful views. I am acquiring the (much needed) skill of crossing creeks on logs. My 1 wet boot attests to my not quite having mastered the technique. I took a guided rafting trip on the Salmon River that afternoon with class III rapids and didn't have to worry about staying dry.

It was a great trip and I am so glad that there is wilderness protection to this area.

Right:
Wendy and her best friend Ami



Below:
Little white fluffy clouds hanging above the Sawtooth Wilderness

Article and photos by Wendy Lambert



CLEAN AIR WEDNESDAYS



Dr. George Wharton, shown here on a bike tour in Scotland 10 years ago, is the Medical Director at the Healthsouth Rehabilitation Center located on Harry Hines. He has been a fitness enthusiast since the early '80's, but only recently decided to attempt a commute to work.

"...I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE DOING THIS?"

I had been enjoying my weekend rides around Dallas on my new bike, a Father's Day gift from my sons, and I decided that it might be fun to map out a route that would take me from my home in the Park Cities to my office on Harry Hines.

So, the first Wednesday of July, realizing that traffic would be lighter than normal, I figured now would be as good a time as any to try it.

By starting a few minutes earlier, I beat the traffic and the ozone (which doesn't form until later in the morning). Not only was the trip easier than expected, I never experienced the expected verbal assault from a single motorist. It was a truly pleasant and

invigorating experience!

I was so elated that when I went into surgery that day, I told my staff about the trip, and about how excited I was to commit to a regular effort of commuting by bike. My anesthesiologist looked up, chuckled a little, and revealed to me that he and several other staffers had made the decision to bike to work a long time ago!

I always wondered why their parking spots were usually empty! Now, mine is too - at least once a week!

Dr. George Wharton

For a chance to win a free month-long DART pass, e-mail your "Clean Air Wednesday" story and a digital photo to: melbow@swbell.net If yours is published, you're a winner!

POSITIVE LEADERSHIP: What Does Your Club Leaders Do To Help The Environment?

Terry Sullivan (Excom/Past Chair) rides a bicycle to get groceries, is saving a large tree for wildlife habitat, recycles as much as the city of Carrollton will take.

Calvin Nichols (Excom/Treasurer): conserves hot water by lowering his thermostat setting, recycles all household materials, has an organic lawn care program.

Liz Wheelan (Excom/ICO): Recycles household materials, conserves household water useage.

Carol Nash (Excom/Secretary): composts, recycles anything she can, grows her own vegetables, eats organic foods, educates kids about eco friendly practices, shops at thrift stores to make sure there is a market for recycled goods.

Joenie Mein (Excom): composts, recycles paper, cardboard, glass, aluminum, metals, plastic; conserves water with careful watering practices, uses organic lawn products only, grows and buys organic foods, and is a vegetarian.

Thomas Toland (Excom): Recycles, composts, and participates in environmental education.

Arthur Kuehne (Training Coordinator):

writes Congressional leaders often, invests in environmentally responsible financial instruments, reuses, recycles and reduces all materials.

Lisa Silguero (Audio Visual): promotes renewal energy sources, recycles

George Zimmerman (Membership Coordinator): has double pain glass windows, water saver shower plumbing fixtures, has water conserving buffalo grass.

Don Callaway (Excom): recycles at the McKinney collection center which is great for apartment dwellers. This program is in addition to the city's curbside recycling program for single family homes, signed a pledge on Earth Day in 1970 to limit the horsepower in my automobile to 100 HP. (While he have not been able to keep strictly to that limit, he still drives a small, fuel efficient car). He also had a vasectomy after the birth of his second child (30 years ago) to do his part for population control.

We'd love to hear what you are doing to protect and honor our natural resources and environment. Please send your current conservation practices etc. to Matthew Wales c/o Matt @dallassierraclub.org We'll try to recognize all contributors in our Compass newsletter.