

# LONE STAR SIERRAN

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SIERRA CLUB, LONE STAR CHAPTER  
Vol. XXXIII, No. 1, Spring 2007



Changing the Landscape on Energy Choices – See Pages 3-7!



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Member/Subscriber:  
Send address changes to:  
P.O. Box 1931,  
Austin, TX 78767

Advertising rates are available upon request from:

Jerome Collins,  
Lone Star Sierra Club  
P.O.Box 1931  
Austin, TX 78767  
(512) 477-1729 phone  
(512) 477-8526 fax  
lonestar.chapter@sierraclub.org

Layout and design of the Lone Star Sierran by:

DeDe Webb, Webb De'Zigns  
512-497-6427  
WebbDeZigns@austin.rr.com

**Cover: Approximately 2000 Texans rallied at the State Capitol on February 11 in support of a "Time Out" on the rush to build 19 new coal-fired power plants in Texas.**

## Lone Star Sierran

The Newsletter of the Sierra Club, Lone Star Chapter  
Vol. XXXXIII, No. 1, Spring 2007

The *Lone Star Sierran* will be published quarterly in 2007. Tentative publication dates are March 15, June 1, September 1, and December 1. Submission deadlines are four weeks prior to publication.

### Feature

- 3 Public Outrage Changing the Landscape on Energy Choices

### Your Environment

- 8 Sierra Club State Legislative Priorities for the 80<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature (2007)
- 10 Task Force Sets Ambitious Water Savings Goals
- 12 Roadmap Details Plan for Tackling U.S. Global Warming Emissions by 2050 Using Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy Alone
- 13 Step It Up 2007 – National Day of Climate Action

### State of the Sierra Club

- 14 2007 Wilderness Pow Wow is Set for April 27-29
- 15 Conference to Focus on "Texas Springs: Protection, Restoration, and Stewardship"
- 17 Explore and Enjoy While Learning to Protect
- 18 Death of a Founder of the Lone Star Chapter
- 18 Thanks to Our 2006-2007 Donors to the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign
- 19 Lone Star Chapter Leaders Selected for 2007
- 20 A Critical Plea to All Sierra Club Members and Supporters in Texas!

### General

- 22 Chapter Directory
- 23 Regional Directory
- 24 2007 Lone Star Chapter Calendar

## Thousands Rally at the State Capitol to “Stop the Coal Rush”

### Public Outrage Changing the Landscape on Energy Choices

Approximately two thousand people (as estimated by the Texas Department of Public Safety) rallied in front of the south steps of the Texas State Capitol on an otherwise dreary Sunday afternoon in February to protest the rush to permit up to 19 coal-fired power plants in Texas on a “fast track” ordered by Governor Rick Perry. The rally on February 11, followed by a citizens lobby day that in which over 250 people participated, brought statewide and national attention to the efforts to take a “time out” on the coal rush in Texas.

This outpouring of opposition to the coal rush – merely the tip of the iceberg of a widespread and diverse coalition of opponents – has combined with actions in the courtrooms and in the corporate boardrooms to force some significant changes in the headlong rush by utility giant TXU and others to expand dramatically coal-fired electric power generation in Texas. The pace of developments has been astounding.



### Back Tracking, Not Fast Tracking

Within two weeks after the rally and lobby day, there were three major developments on the coal plant issue:

- On February 20 a state district court judge questioned the constitutionality of the Governor’s executive order that was pushing the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) to process permits for the coal-fired power plants on a “fast track.”
- On February 21 the SOAH administrative law judges overseeing contested case hearings on six

of TXU’s proposed plants responded to the judge’s order by postponing the start of the hearings for over four months (until June 27).

- Then, over the weekend of February 24-25 there was a stunning announcement that in conjunction with a proposed buyout of TXU, the company was apparently dropping its plans to build eight of its 11 proposed coal plants in Texas (including the ones that were the subjects of the postponed contested case hearings).

The ground is continuing to shift on this issue, even as of this writing, but one thing is certain:



*State Rep. Charles “Doc” Anderson (R-Waco), sponsor of the coal moratorium resolution, addresses the rally.*

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## Feature: Stop the Coal Rush

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the coal “rush” has been slowed down – and the public outrage over dirty coal and fast tracking was a key factor. The “Time Out – Stop the Coal Rush” rally at the Capitol was the most visible demonstration of that outrage.

### An Energizing Event

The rally at the State Capitol on February 11 was an “energizing” event. Speakers included State Rep. Charles “Doc” Anderson, sponsor of legislation to delay the permitting of coal-fired power plants, physicians (from Austin Physicians for Social Responsibility), a clergyman, the president of the school board from a rural area near Waco (who also happens to be a farmer and the president of his county Farm Bureau), ranchers and landowners living near proposed coal plant sites, high school and college students (including the head of the Sierra Student Coalition at the University of Texas), an architectural professor from U.T. who is a promoter of solar power, and many others - including great music from a blues band, Diddley Squat, from Uncertain, Texas (“we’re from Uncertain, but were not uncertain about dirty coal plants”), Austin environmental troubadour Bill Oliver, and folk singer Eliza Gilkyson.

The Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club was the main organizer of the event, with strong participation from



***Blues band Diddley Squat from Uncertain, Texas warms up the crowd.***

**“Let’s be clear, however, that while Texans have won a battle against dirty coal plants, we have not yet won the larger conflict over the energy future for our state, our nation, and our planet,” said Ken Kramer, Director, Lone Star Chapter, Sierra Club. “Our best energy future is to pursue smart energy solutions. We must take the next steps: increase energy efficiency, expand the use of renewable energy, and clean up or replace existing dirty fuel sources.”**

Public Citizen, Sustainable Energy and Economic Development (SEED) Coalition, Texas IMPACT (an interfaith group), and Texas Campaign for the Environment and 40+ other groups. The event was funded by contributions from Sierra Club members and other individuals who donated through the Stop the Coal Rush website. The Dallas Regional Group of the Sierra Club also made a generous contribution to the funding of the rally. Supporters in East Texas and Central Texas were also donors to the event.

One of the interesting developments in the days leading up to the rally was the appearance of a new group called the Texas Clean Sky Coalition, which started running ads in major city newspapers around the state with the theme “Coal is Filthy.” Those ads directed people to a website that was then linked to the Stop the Coal Rush website that the Sierra Club had set up for the rally. The



***Landowner Caroline Brinkman makes an impassioned plea.***

## Feature: Stop the Coal Rush



**Sierra Club Clean Air Director Neil Carman stays on message while reading Lone Star Chapter Vice-Chair Margot Clarke's words of wisdom.**

ads also used information from Environmental Defense about the proposed TXU coal-fired power plants, although the Coalition and Environmental Defense were not associated.

Full-page and quarter-page ads ran in major Texas newspapers on several days. Reporters discovered that at least part of the funding for this new Coalition is coming from some folks in the natural gas industry. This Coalition apparently spent in excess of \$1 million on this ad campaign. At the rally at the State Capitol on February 11 the Coalition had free "Coal is Filthy" T-shirts and a plane flying overhead pulling a banner that read "Coal is Filthy."

The rally and lobby day came about from start to finish in six weeks.

There were some chartered buses and vans bringing people in for the rally. Others came through private transportation. About 250 people stayed over night in

Environmental Defense and Natural Resources Defense Council on the one hand and an investment group seeking to buy TXU on the other hand, an agreement which the TXU Board approved as part of its approval of the buyout of the company by this private investment group.

As of this writing, whether or not this particular

buyout goes through is still an open question. But the cancellation of the eight plants is probably fairly certain now – even if the buyout fails, the credibility of TXU claiming that they need to build all 11 proposed new coal-fired power plants to meet energy demands in Texas is thoroughly shot, and many state

legislators feel that they have been misled by TXU over the past several months.



**Marc Scott, Hallsburg ISD Member and McLennan County Farm Bureau President, speaks to the crowd.**

Austin to lobby on this issue the next day at the Capitol. That afternoon an information forum on energy issues was held in the Capitol Extension for legislators, legislative staff, and lobby day participants.

### Cancellation of Eight TXU Coal Plants

The citizen lobbyists had something big to celebrate two weeks later – the cancellation of eight of the 11 proposed TXU coal-fired power plants. The cancellation was part of an agreement reached between Envi-

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## Feature: Stop the Coal Rush

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### A Cause for Celebration, But...

The Lone Star Chapter celebrated the cancellation of the eight proposed TXU coal plants as a victory that resulted from the unprecedented coalition that mobilized vigorous opposition to the plants, but the Sierra Club raised concerns that state officials may now think that the building of other coal plants should proceed even though energy efficiency and expansion of renewable energy could avoid the need for the plants.

**“A ‘time out’ on the building of any new coal plants in Texas is still needed while the State of Texas ramps up energy efficiency, clarifies and tightens the permitting process for power plants, and develops a state energy plan that emphasizes efficiency and renewable energy,”** said Sierra Club state director Ken Kramer. **“Additionally the Texas Legislature needs to approve the numerous energy efficiency bills now under consideration, and that legislation needs to be implemented before decisions on new power plants are made.”**

“The cancellation of eight proposed TXU coal plants is certainly a victory for the people of Texas, said Kramer. “What forced the negotiations was the unprecedented and vigorous opposition to the coal plants from a diverse coalition of environmentalists, ranchers and other rural landowners, city mayors, prominent business leaders, faith-based groups, and numerous state legislators. The effort to pass a moratorium on permitting new coal plants, the tremendous concern demonstrated by the thousands of Texans who rallied at the State Capitol against fast-tracking



*Folk singer Eliza Gilkyson shows her support for the coal rush protestors.*

coal plants, the lawsuits and permit contests by environmental and landowner groups – all of these contributed to the decision to cancel eight coal plants.”

### Much Yet To Be Done

“Let’s be clear, however, that while Texans have won a battle against dirty coal plants, we have not yet won the larger conflict over the energy future for our state, our nation, and our planet,” said Kramer. “Our best energy future is to pursue smart energy solutions. We must take the next steps: increase energy efficiency, expand the use of renewable energy, and clean up or replace existing dirty fuel sources. We welcome the commitments from the new TXU in that regard and look forward to them being implemented expeditiously and vigorously.”

“The fact that TXU apparently is still planning to pursue three coal-fired power plants in Texas

– ones using dirty lignite coal – and that other utility companies are planning to pursue at least eight or more **other** coal (and/or petroleum coke) burning power plants in Texas is certainly cause for continuing con-



*Michael Garrison, UT Professor of Architecture, talks about sustainable energy choices.*

## Feature: Stop the Coal Rush



*Jacob Bintliff, speaking, and other U.T. Sierra Student Coalition members demonstrate their opinions about energy and air issues.*

cern,” noted Kramer. “We don’t understand how TXU’s intention to go forward with some new coal plants jives with their commitments on energy efficiency and renewables. A report by Optimal Energy demonstrated that energy efficiency could meet anticipated new energy demands in Texas, so why does the new TXU want to go forward with any new coal plants?”

“There is a danger that some people will now think that the cancellation of eight proposed coal plants takes care of all of the concerns that have been raised about the use of coal as an energy source and that we can now continue with business as usual,” Kramer added. “We need to move away from reliance on fuel choices that make certain communities ‘sacrifice zones’ for our wasteful energy consumption. For example, we need to address the impacts on local communities that arise from the mining, transporting, and/or burning of coal. Allowing the building of even some new coal

plants does not deal with those issues.”

**There are several important legislative steps that need to be taken to achieve a “time out” on new coal plants, improve the permitting process for power plants, and increase energy efficiency while fostering the movement to renewable energy.**

Specific legislative bill numbers are not provided here because the state legislative session is in a constant state of flux – the language and prospects for different bills are changing daily – and citing particular bills in a quarterly publication is of dubious value. For the latest information on legislative proposals to achieve these aims, check out the website [www.stopthecoalrush.com](http://www.stopthecoalrush.com) or the Lone Star Chapter website at

[www.texas.sierraclub.org](http://www.texas.sierraclub.org). If the momentum created by the Time Out – Stop the Coal Rush rally can be sustained, then this citizen-fueled effort to shape the energy future of Texas should produce some dramatic results at the State Legislature this spring.

## YourEnvironment

### Sierra Club State Legislative Priorities 80<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature (2007)

The Executive Committee of the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club has adopted a set of legislative priorities for the regular session of the 80<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature, which began January 9 and runs through Memorial Day. These state legislative priorities reflect the goals and objectives that the Sierra Club will pursue for the session. The priorities were adopted on a tentative basis last July and were revised slightly in January to reflect developments over the last six months. In addition to pursuing these priorities, professional lobbyists, staff, and volunteers for the Sierra Club will respond to any assaults on current environmental protections in state and local laws that may be introduced as legislation during the session.



#### Clean Air

**Reduction of toxic and other harmful emissions from industrial plants and electric power generating plants, prevention of air quality deterioration by a proliferation of new coal-fired power plants, and reduction of air emissions from vehicles**



- through enactment of legislation to tighten the review and regulation of the health impacts of toxic air pollution sources and to reduce emissions in toxic hotspots;
- through a moratorium on permitting of new coal-fired power plants in Texas to allow a thorough review of the proposed plant technologies, cumulative air quality impacts of those plants, and alternatives to the plants;
- through adoption of the Clean Cars Program for new vehicles; and
- through full appropriation of the funds for the Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP) and the Low-Income Vehicle Repair and Replacement Assistance Program (LIRAP).

#### Environmental Flow Protection

**Preservation and provision of instream flows and freshwater inflows to bays and estuaries**



#### **necessary to maintain healthy fish and wildlife populations**

- through enactment of legislation establishing a process to determine and to meet environmental flow needs necessary to maintain a sound ecological environment in Texas coastal bays & associated river basins

#### Smart Energy Solutions

**More efficient use of energy and increased reliance on renewable energy sources**

- through standards for greater energy efficiency for appliances sold in Texas and new buildings and homes built in Texas;
- through increased efficiency goals for investor-owned electric utilities; and
- through clarification of the goals and targets of the renewable portfolio standards of electric power utility providers



#### State & Local Parks Funding

**A dependable source of funding for acquisition, maintenance, and management of Texas state & local parks to meet growing habitat preservation and outdoor recreation needs**

- through eliminating the cap on the rev-

enue from the sporting goods tax that is allocated to state & local parks, fully appropriating sporting goods tax revenue to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, retaining and fully appropriating other current revenue streams for state parks, appropriating funds required for use of previously approved bonds for major repairs at state park facilities, and/or pursuing voter approval of new bonds adequate to meet park repair and acquisition needs over the next decade



## Water Conservation

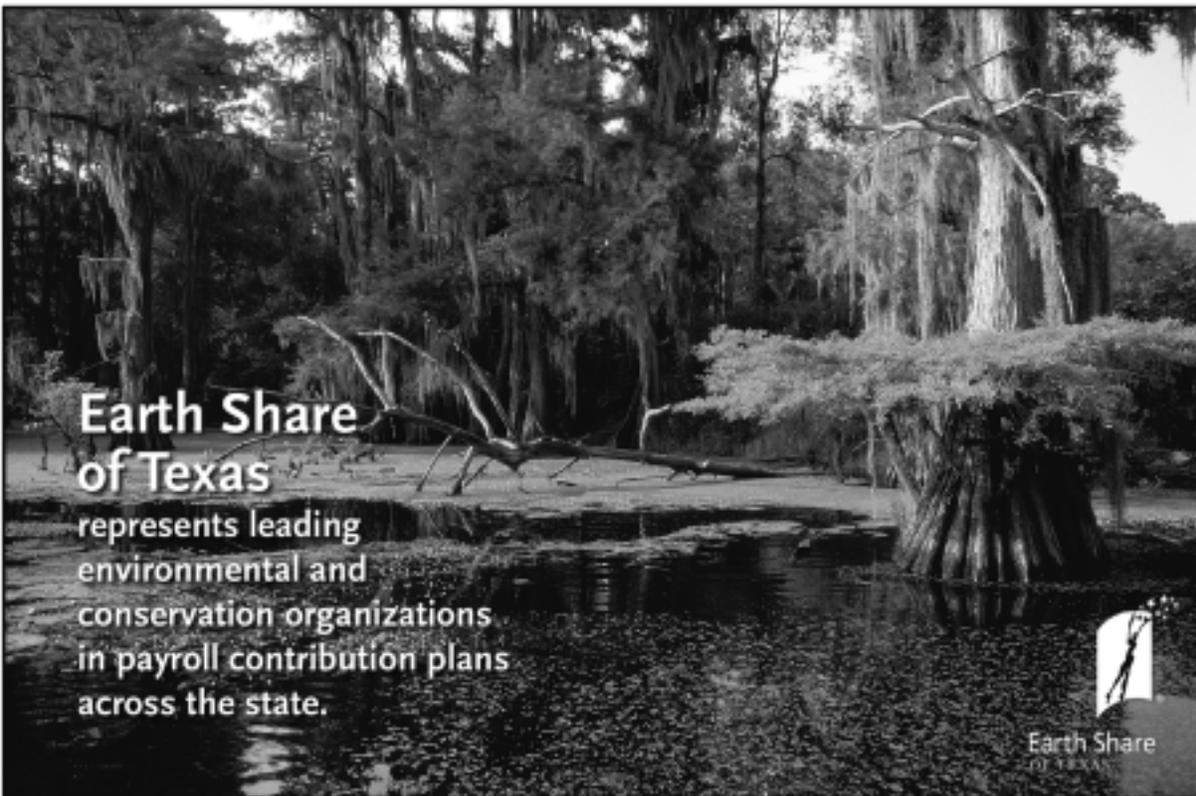
**More efficient use of water by Texas consumers, agricultural producers, businesses, and institutions through conservation**

- through enactment of the legislative recommendations of the Texas Water Conservation Implementation Task Force, including expansion of existing conservation planning requirements to a larger number of retail water suppliers



To keep abreast of legislative action, visit [www.texas.sierraclub.org](http://www.texas.sierraclub.org).

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## Your Environment

### City of Austin Ramping Up Water Conservation Efforts

## Task Force Sets Ambitious Water Savings Goals

By Jennifer Walker, Water Resources Specialist, Lone Star Chapter, Sierra Club

Faced with the prospect of requiring two additional water treatment plants in the near future, the Austin City council voted in June 2006 to begin the immediate implementation of aggressive water conservation measures. The City Council set **a goal of reducing the peak day water usage within the City by 1% per year for the next 10 years.** Among the many compelling reasons for pursuing this goal was the possibility of forgoing one of the needed water treatment plants which would provide a substantial cost savings to the city and numerous environmental benefits.

### Austin Water Use & Peak Demands

Austin's residents use about 110 million gallons of water per day (mgd) during the winter months. This winter usage is generally considered primarily to be indoor usage. During the summer, Austinites use about 180 mgd on average. The 70 million gallon difference is mostly used for landscape irrigation. Austin's peak day demand is about 250 mgd.

Water demand on the single day of the year with the greatest usage is called the peak day demand. This generally occurs during the hottest days of the summer. Peak day demand is what drives the construction of water treatment facilities and other associated infrastructure. A water supplier generally believes that it has to have enough treatment capacity to meet that highest amount of water demand.

Reducing the peak day demand is a good approach to eliminating the need for additional infrastructure that may only be fully utilized a few days of the year. Meeting peak day demand can put a tremendous strain on our water supply system.

### Conservation Task Force

The City of Austin's Water Conservation Task Force (WCTF) was established last September by City Councilmember Lee Leffingwell. The task force's goal was to produce a policy document identifying a suite of conservation measures that would enable to city to meet its conservation goals. The policy document was approved by the task force at its meeting on January 12.

The Lone Star Chapter and the Austin Regional Group of the Sierra Club worked together throughout the entire WCTF process to monitor and provide input to the Task Force deliberations. They attended all the WCTF meetings and provided written and

### Selected City of Austin Water Conservation Task Force Recommendations

- Require a mandatory retrofit with efficient fixtures for existing commercial, multi-family and single-family properties by a date-certain. (1.96 mgd savings)
- Require submeters for water billing on new multi-family and mixed use properties. (individual billing is shown to reduce water use) (.62 mgd savings)
- Irrigation System Design and Efficiency Standards for new residential and commercial systems (2.06 mgd savings)
- Changes to water use management ordinance including limiting automatic irrigation to twice per week and prohibiting outdoor automatic irrigation watering between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. during the summer months. (6.16 mgd savings)
- Requiring a minimum amount of soil for turf areas on new home construction. (.44 mgd savings)
- Leak Detection – aggressively detect and repair leaks and repair leaks on a shorter time frame. (4.80 mgd savings)
- Reuse of treated wastewater for irrigation and cooling towers. (5.0 mgd savings)
- Adjust water utility rates – add a 5<sup>th</sup> tier for residential customers and establish irrigation water rates. Modify utility bills to add graphs of current and historical water use and to be able to provide water budget information. (5.0 mgd savings)
- Increase water efficiency at city facilities. (.37 mgd savings)
- Comprehensive Public Education Campaign. (no savings amount assigned to this measure)

verbal comments on the proposed measures. The Sierra Club is very supportive of the task force and its goals, although some of those goals could be stronger.

### Goals & Recommendations

The task force considered water conservation measures to reduce indoor water use and outdoor water use and items that could be implemented on a utility-wide basis. The goal was to identify measures that would produce 25 mgd savings off of peak day demand at the end of a 10 year period. Ultimately, the task force identified 32 mgd in savings and included those in the package of recommendations forwarded to City Council. The cost associated with implementation of these recommendations is \$3.7 million. That figure is substantially cheaper than a new water treatment plant.

The package of recommendation will now be presented to the pertinent Boards and Commissions in the coming months and then forwarded on to City Council for final approval in April. The conservation staff at Austin's Water Utility will work on necessary amendments to city code and implementation of the measures. The WCTF would like to see implementation of their water saving recommendation as soon as possible.

The Sierra Club has also proposed that Councilmember Leffingwell establish a Community Conservation Committee. This committee would serve in an advisory role to the Water Utility's Conservation Program and would be comprised of stakeholders that are directly affected by the conservation programs that the utility puts into place. We believe that this committee will assist the utility in working towards the goals established by the task force and will also be useful in identifying new opportunities for water efficiency.

The savings proposed by the WCTF will triple the amount of water conservation savings currently achieved by the utility. This is the kind of action that is need to meet the water needs of our growing population, rather than building environmentally destructive reservoirs and taking even more water out of out rivers. This is a step in the right direction and will certainly help move Austin closer to the forefront of water conservation.

Information of the WCTF can be found at <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/watercon/taskforce.htm>

### Can this be done in your community?

Ask your city council to consider establishing a task force to examine the potential for water efficiency saving in your community. Use the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club's publication, *Grassroots Organizing on Texas Water Issues*, available at via download from <http://www.texas.sierraclub.org/press/Grassroots4PDFs.htm>, or call Jerome Collins at (512) 477- 1729 to have a hard copy mailed to you.

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## Your Environment

Sierra Club, Renewable Energy Experts Unveil Groundbreaking Report

# Roadmap Details Plan for Tackling U.S. Global Warming Emissions by 2050 Using Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy Alone

In January the Sierra Club joined with the American Solar Energy Society (ASES), key Congressional chairmen and representatives, and the nation's preeminent climate scientist to unveil a new report authored by ASES that lays out a plan for dramatically reducing the nation's global warming emissions. The roadmap—now the official Sierra Club global warming strategy—details how an aggressive, yet achievable increase in the use of energy efficiency and renewables alone can achieve a 60-80% reduction in U.S. global warming emissions by 2050.

"This report moves the discussion from *whether* we can achieve the necessary reductions in global warming pollution with energy efficiency and renewable energy in this country to exactly *how* we should do it," said Carl Pope, Sierra Club Executive Director. "Fully three-quarters of the reductions in global warming pollution called for by Dr. Hansen and other scientists can be realized using energy efficiency, wind, and solar—all technologies we have today. The rest can be made with geothermal, biofuels, biomass, and other renewables. We already have the best, cheapest, and cleanest solutions at our disposal; now we just need the market and our political leaders to put them to work."

## Tackling Climate Change in the U.S.

Climate scientists agree that in order to prevent the most catastrophic effects of global warming we need to halt the growth of our emissions immediately and begin reducing them within the decade. The peer-reviewed report, "Tackling Climate Change in the U.S.," is authored by scientists from the American Solar Energy Society, many of whom are employed by our nation's national research laboratories. It identifies the renewable energy resources available across the U.S. that can be used to transition away from the dirty, fossil fuel-based energy economy of yesterday toward the clean energy technologies that will fuel the economy of

tomorrow. The report brings together detailed analyses of various smart energy solutions, including energy efficiency solar (both photovoltaic and concentrating), wind, biofuels, biomass, and geothermal.

"This roadmap gives us both a destination—60-80% emissions reductions by 2050—and a plan for how to get there using the best smart energy solutions like efficiency and renewables," said Dave Hamilton, Director of the Sierra Club's Global Warming and Energy Program. "Dollar for dollar, these clean energy solutions are the best choices for America. There is no reason to invest tens of billions more in the outdated,

environmentally and economically irresponsible technologies of yesterday like coal and nuclear when we can have efficient, clean energy at a reasonable cost. If we want to build a new energy economy based on clean energy and new, good-paying manufacturing jobs, this is the road to get there."

## Key Findings of the Report:

- **We can reduce carbon emissions by 1,100-1,200 million metric tons annually by 2030 with aggressive deployment of energy efficiency and renewable energy alone;**
- **82% of necessary reductions in carbon emissions can come from wind, solar, and increased energy efficiency. Biomass, biofuels, and geothermal could comprise the rest;**
- **This plan would achieve the U.S. share of reductions required to stabilize atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels at 450-500 parts per million and limit additional average temperature rise to 1°C above 2000 levels.**

The full report can be downloaded at: [www.ases.org/climatechange/](http://www.ases.org/climatechange/)



## Step It Up 2007 – National Day of Climate Action

Bill McKibben, best selling author (*The End of Nature* – 1989) and journalist, is starting a movement to promote national action on climate change, and the Sierra Club and other groups are working together to invite support and participation in this movement from Sierrans and other citizens across the country.

McKibben wrote early and often about the perils posed by climate change, and he views it as the single greatest threat to civilization. So far, save for one march last year, there have been no mass protests, no large-scale gatherings of humanity to signal this dilemma and call for its prevention.

On April 14, a new organization called Step It Up 2007 is inviting organizations to hold rallies and events across the country to bring broader attention to this issue. So far, over 300 events are planned in 39 states. Please go to <http://stepitup2007.org/> and join one or



create an event in your community. It can be as humble as a sign, as entertaining as theater, or as bold as a mass demonstration.

This National Day of Climate Action could be an unparalleled event, drawing together people of every creed, color, and background. If events can be created in every town and city in the U.S., nothing could say more to the U. S. Congress and the President about the need for our leaders to act boldly on this issue.

We have all the tools in place to address climate change and avert a disaster, all except one: the resolve and voice of the American people willing to form a movement. It's up to all of us to make it happen. April 14, 2007 is the day. Each

community in the United States is the place. The web site <http://stepitup2007.org/> is the hub. More information will also be forthcoming on the national and Texas Sierra Club web sites ([www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org) and [www.texas.sierraclub.org](http://www.texas.sierraclub.org)).

### Coppell, Texas Joins Cool Cities List

The City Council of Coppell, Texas recently approved a resolution authorizing the City Mayor, Doug Stover, to sign the Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement. This will make Coppell the latest among a group of Texas cities in joining mayors around the country in a commitment to reduce energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Members of the Dallas Regional Group of the Sierra Club initiated the request for the City Council to act on this resolution. The Dallas Group is actively working to bring several other cities in the Dallas region into the Cool Cities family.

The Cool Cities campaign is the centerpiece of the Club's and Lone Star Chapter's "Smart Energy Solutions" initiative tackling global warming at the local level. Cool Cities Campaign volunteers are moving local governments across the country to take action to reduce energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through implementation of the Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement, begun in June 2005.

The following Texas cities are currently signed onto the Sierra Club's Cool Cities campaign:

<b>Houston*</b>	<b>McKinney</b>
<b>Frisco</b>	<b>Austin</b>
<b>Dallas</b>	<b>Euless</b>
<b>Sugarland</b>	<b>Laredo</b>
<b>Arlington</b>	<b>Richardson</b>
<b>Denton</b>	<b>San Antonio*</b>
<b>Hurst</b>	<b>Coppell</b>

\*not yet signed the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

**If you would like to join the growing list of Sierra Club volunteers actively working to make their communities Cool Cities, contact your local Sierra Group or Joe Zebrowski, Lone Star Chapter Energy Conservation Chair ([joezebrowski@earthlink.net](mailto:joezebrowski@earthlink.net)).**

## State of the Sierra Club

### 2007 Wilderness Pow Wow Set for April 27-29

## Double Lake Recreation Area is First-Time Location

For the first time scenic Double Lake Recreation Area in the Sam Houston National Forest will be headquarters for the Texas Wilderness Pow Wow weekend. April 27-29 are the dates for this the 28<sup>th</sup> annual Pow Wow, which is sponsored by the Texas Committee on Natural Resources (TCONR) and co-sponsored by the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club and other organizations.

### Nature Walks and Program

As always, there will be wonderful guided nature walks of varying lengths and habitats on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Attendees will enjoy a program with live music and other fun at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday and a campfire sing-along that night. A special feature this year will be Gina Donovan's re-presentation of Al Gore's famous climate change slide presentation, which was featured in the documentary *An Inconvenient Truth*.

The guided walk schedule has expanded: As usual, walks will take place in national forest areas including the Lake Creek Wilderness. There will also be walks in the Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge, a unit of the Big Thicket National Preserve. Finally, an outing is lined up for a nature preserve owned by Natural Area Preservation Association.



*Discovering the wonders of nature on a guided hike at last year's Pow Wow. Photo courtesy of TCONR.*

### Camping Information

**Reserve your site!** Another major change is that Pow Wow attendees can now make reservations for campsites.

At Double Lake more than half of the campsites are *reservation-only*. The remainder are first-come, first-served campsites, as we've experienced in the past.

- Campsites 1 through 28 are for tent camping with no electricity at \$15 per night.
- Sites 45 through 65 have water and electricity for \$22 per night.
- Campsites 29 through 44 have water, electric, and waste for \$50 per night.

There is a reservation fee if reservations are made in advance by calling 877-444-6777 or reserving online at **reserveusa.com**

For more details about the campground: [http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/texas/recreation/sam\\_houston/doublelake.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/texas/recreation/sam_houston/doublelake.shtml)

**To choose your walk:** A walk list will be posted at **tconr.org** as the date gets closer.

**For more information** contact Texas Committee on Natural Resources (TCONR), 512-441-1122 or [tconr@earthlink.net](mailto:tconr@earthlink.net).



*Music is a big part of each Wilderness Pow Wow. Environmental troubadour Bill Oliver is a regular performer at the Pow Wow. Photo courtesy of TCONR.*



*Forest hikers at the 2006 Pow Wow. Photo courtesy of TCONR.*

## Seventh Annual State Water Conference Set for March 30

### Conference to Focus on “Texas Springs: Protection, Restoration, and Stewardship”

Springs are a window into the health and productivity of our Texas aquifers – the vast underground water supplies that are so important to so many parts of our state. In many cases springs provide the base flows for our rivers and streams.

Not only do they serve as a water supply, springs contribute to the economies and quality of life of Texas communities. The environmental and economic ramifications of springflow loss are felt not just locally but all the way to the bays and estuaries of the Gulf of Mexico.

With the majority of Texas’ springs located on private property, the role of steward, caretaker and advocate for springs falls to the landowners and surrounding communities. This year’s Seventh Annual State Water Conference – an activity of the **Texas Living Waters Project** (a joint project of the **National Wildlife Federation, Environmental Defense**, and the **Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club**) – will incorporate private stewardship actions into a look at Texas springs, their status, and their management.

The conference will be held on Friday, March 30 in Austin at the Lady Bird Johnson National Wildflower Center. This year’s conference is co-sponsored by the **Texas Wildlife Association**, an organization with a strong commitment to the promotion of land stewardship. Cost to attend the conference is \$35 per person. Seating is limited. **Registrations must be submitted by Wednesday, March 21.**

### Conference Topics

The day-long conference (registration begins at 8 a.m., and the conference goes until 3 p.m.) will include a number of informative presentations and discussions of the following topics:

- The rich history and broad diversity of

Texas springs

- Florida’s efforts to protect their springs through the Florida Springs Initiative ([www.floridasprings.org](http://www.floridasprings.org))
- Regional and state-level groundwater management efforts and how these affect springflows
- Testimonials from spring owners on how they’ve managed their land and built relationships to protect, restore, and enhance flows
- Tools and financial resources available to landowners to protect and restore springflows
- Springflows of the Edwards Aquifer.



**Big Spring Youth Ranch**

*Photo courtesy of Texas Parks & Wildlife, Earl Nottingham*

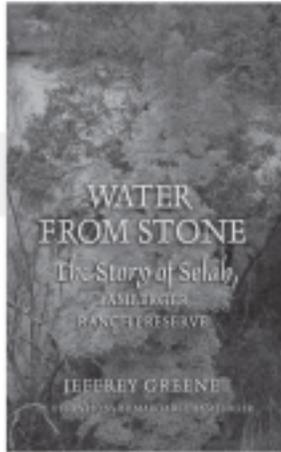
Speakers at the conference will include Frank Heitmuller, USGS Texas Water Science Center; Doug Shaw, The Nature Conservancy and Florida Springs Task Force; Robert Mace, Texas Water Development Board; Caroline Runge, Menard County Groundwater Conservation District; David Langford, Texas Wildlife Association; David Baker, Wimberley Valley Watershed Association; Bob Petersen, Kendall County rancher; Doug Sharer, Natural Resource Conservation Service; and Geary Schindel, Edwards Aquifer Authority.

### For More Information

For more information or to obtain a registration form, visit [www.texaswatermatters.org](http://www.texaswatermatters.org) or e-mail Alicia Isaac-Cura at [aisaac-cura@environmentaldefense.org](mailto:aisaac-cura@environmentaldefense.org) or phone her at 512-478-5161. A map to the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center is available at the following website: [www.wildflower.org/?nd=directions](http://www.wildflower.org/?nd=directions).

*The Texas Living Waters Project is made possible through the generous support of the Houston Endowment, Inc., the Meadows Foundation, the Brown Foundation, the Jacob and Terese Hershey Foundation, and the Magnolia Charitable Trust.*

Advertisement – Texas A&M University Press



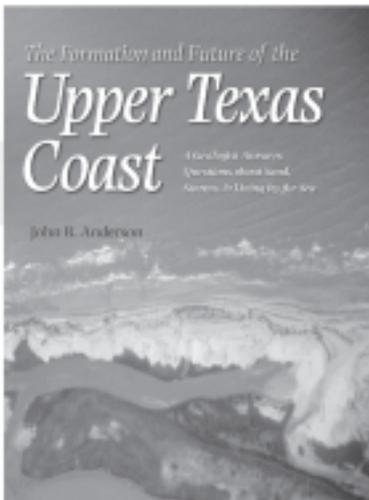
**WATER FROM STONE**

*The Story of Selah, Bamberger Ranch Preserve*

JEFFREY GREENE

FEATURING LINE ART BY MARGARET BAMBERGER

This is the story of a man who transformed a place, and in doing so, transformed himself. J. David Bamberger, co-founder and CEO of Church's Chicken, took "the sorriest piece of land in Blanco County" and made it into a Texas Hill Country preserve where he has dedicated himself and his resources to protecting species and sharing his message—we must protect the earth and anyone can help—with anyone who will listen. 20 original line art. \$24.95 cloth



**THE FORMATION AND FUTURE OF THE UPPER TEXAS COAST**

*A Geologist Answers Questions about Sand, Storms, and Living by the Sea*

JOHN B. ANDERSON

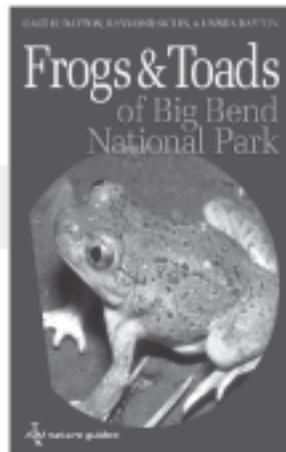
This entertaining, amply illustrated book authoritatively answers fundamental, frequently asked questions about the coast. Anderson presents a lively, interesting discussion of coastal geography anyone with ties to the coast will appreciate. 8x10. 101 color photos, 44 color, 17 b&w figs. \$24.95 flexbound with flaps

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With lively engaging text and vivid photographs and illustrations throughout, the *Houston Atlas of Biodiversity* highlights the variety, cultural importance, and global value of the natural environment found within the Houston Wilderness project area. This one-of-a-kind publication will alert the reader to the magnificent ecological treasures of this Wilderness Region. 158 color, 6 b&w photos, 17 maps, 21 illus. \$23.95 paper

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## Sierra Club Activist Outings Highlight Adventure and Advocacy

### Explore and Enjoy While Learning to Protect

The Sierra Club national outings program features several special trips each year that inform participants about the issues surrounding their particular trip and train them on how to advocate effectively for the relevant campaign. Wilderness and other preservation campaigns are the chief focus for 2007's seven activist trips, headed for West Virginia, Alaska, California, Utah, New Mexico, Washington, and Nevada.

Here are the activist outings for 2007:

#### **Wild and Wonderful West Virginia, May 18-25.**

Learn about the push to establish new wilderness in the scenic Monongahela National Forest as your tour this lovely area, in the height of spring with leader Joan Saxe and local activists Mary Wimmer and Beth Little. Day hikes accent this van touring trip. (Trip #07190A, \$625)

**Brooks Range on a Budget:** Eric Rorer's **June 10-23** backpacking trip in Western Alaska's contested National Petroleum Reserve is filled, with a waiting list. (Trip 07014A \$1,375)

**Walk Among Giants in California's Sequoia National Monument.** **June 17-23**, studies management problems in this new Monument proclaimed by President Clinton. Learn the ongoing threats to these unique big trees and their ecosystem, on day hikes with veteran leaders Cal and Letty French and former Sierra Club president Joe Fontaine. (Trip 07191A \$395)

**Rafting and activism, in Dinosaur National Monument in Utah** is a family activist adventure from **July 5 to 9** that brings kids too into figuring out why we care so much about saving Wild Utah's dazzling landscapes. Join leader Pat Fritz on the historic Green River. (Trip 07261A \$855/\$755 child)

**Wild in the Wide Open Wild Sky, backpacking in Washington State, Aug. 15-21**, studies the recently well-publicized Wild Sky Wilderness campaign. Participants will enjoy trails and views in designated wilderness and candidate areas in the heart of the Mount-Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. (Trip 07175A, \$495)

**Valle Vidal Service and Advocacy, July 22-29**, focuses on **New Mexico** issues of public land protec-



*Relaxing on a Sierra Club Activist Outing (you don't have to be active all the time!).*

tion. Join leader Gene Goldberg and local volunteer Norma McCallan in scenic day hiking plus two novel service projects, for trail and river restoration. Northern New Mexico's Valle Vidal—the Valley of Life—has just gained some protection from proposed oil and gas drilling. (Trip 07315A, \$525)

#### **Eastern Nevada's Wild Heights, September 1-9.**

Leader White Pine County has just won landmark wilderness designation for many of its beautiful wild mountain ranges, all too little-known, that leader Melinda Goodwater shares with you. Besides a brief visit to Great Basin National Park, this remarkable trip - while mostly scenic day hikes with car camping - features a two-day traverse of the dramatic High Schells with an overnight backpack. Mt Grafton and the Egan Range, and possibly the Highland Range, are other memorable destinations. Learn the complexities of Nevada wilderness politics. (Trip # 07196A, \$495)

To learn about some partial scholarships available for bringing qualified activists to these advocacy trips, contact activist outings chair Vicky Hoover (vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org or 415-977-5527).

## State of the Sierra Club

### Death of a Founder of the Lone Star Chapter

By Brandt Mannchen  
Houston Regional Group of the Sierra Club

I found out recently that Mr. Emil O. "Kinch" Kindschy, Jr., a founder of the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club, died in February 2006. Mr. Kindschy and his wife June, helped with the founding of the Lone Star Chapter in November 1965 and served as editors of the *Lone Star Sierran* for many years of the Chapter's existence and also served on the Chapter Executive Committee.

Mr. Kindschy, who lived in Conroe, Texas, served as a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army and was a chemical engineer at Shell. "Kinch" was involved through the 1960s and 1970s with the founding, construction, and maintenance of the Lone Star Hiking Trail. He had an interest in the proper management of the National Forests in Texas (NFT) and participated in numerous meetings and on many issues related to logging, wilderness, and other activities on the NFT.

Mr. Kindschy chaired the Big Thicket Coordinating Committee in the late 1960s and/or early 1970s, which was an alliance of many organizations who wanted a portion of the Big Thicket in East Texas protected. The Big Thicket Coordinating Committee was instrumental in pushing for the successful establishment of the Big Thicket National Preserve.

When I first got involved with the Houston Sierra Club in 1976 I met "Kinch". He was a big man who was always on the go and wanted to get things done. It is always sad when we lose a Sierran. Our thoughts and prayers go to the Kindschy family. Emil set an example of what a Sierran is all about: service, loyalty, and camaraderie. He will be missed!

### Thanks to Our 2006-2007 Donors to the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign –

In 2005 the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club observed its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a separate chapter of our national environmental organization. That fall we kicked off a fundraising campaign in honor of the Chapter's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of environmental advocacy in Texas.

Approximately 90 Sierra Club members and friends initially sent donations totaling more than \$20,000 in 2005 for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary campaign. Those donors (with the exception of those who preferred to remain anonymous) were acknowledged in the Spring 2006 issue of the *Lone Star Sierran*.

Several additional supporters sent 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary donations in 2006 and 2007, totaling another \$2000 for the campaign. We gratefully acknowledge those donors below (again we have honored all requests for anonymity). Thanks again to all who contributed to the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign.

#### Hamilton Level Donors (\$400+)

**Bob Heinsohn**

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**Tolbert Greenwood**

**Bruce McCandless III**

#### Jefferson Level Donors (\$80+)

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#### Washington Level Donors (\$40+)

**Doug & Jill Black**

**Annabelle Brown**

**John Gebhart**

**Richard Rundstein**

#### Other Donors

**Ria Lihs and Hank Rivers**

## Lone Star Chapter Leaders Selected for 2007

In the Lone Star Chapter election in December 2006 one member of the Chapter Executive Committee (ExCom) – **Rusty Middleton** (Austin Group), – was re-elected to a new three-year term on the ExCom. **Rita Beving** (Dallas Group) and **Don Dowdey** (Big Bend Group) were newly elected to three-year terms. The Chapter thanks Shane Allen (Pineywoods Group) and John Rath (Dallas Group) for also being candidates in the most recent Chapter ExCom elections.

There are 10 at-large positions on the Chapter ExCom that are elected by Sierra Club members chapter-wide, with three to four at-large members elected each year. At-large positions that will be up for election later this year are those currently held by **Andy Balinsky** (Austin), **Elizabeth Munger Engle** (Austin), and **Evelyn Merz** (Houston). A Chapter Nominating Committee will be at work in the summer and fall of this year to identify candidates to run in the next elections. Candidates may also offer themselves for election through a petition process. Information on the petition process will be provided in the summer and fall issues of the *Lone Star Sierran*.

In addition to the election of at-large members of the Chapter ExCom, each Regional Group within the Lone Star Chapter has the right to name a representative from the group to serve on the Chapter ExCom, which sets policies and manages the affairs of the Chapter.

### New & Returning Chapter Officers and Conservation Leaders

At its regular business meeting in January the Chapter ExCom members selected or confirmed the following individuals as officers or other Chapter leaders for 2007:

**Chair: Andy Balinsky** (Austin)

**Vice-Chair: Margot Clarke** (Austin)

**Secretary: Sandra Grimes** (Austin)

**Treasurer: Hector Gonzalez** (San Antonio)

**Assistant Treasurer: Ken Kramer** (Austin)

**Conservation Chair: Dave Klar** (San Antonio)

**Conservation Vice-Chair: Evelyn Merz** (Houston)

**Fundraising Chair: Rita Beving** (Dallas)

**Legal Chair: Tolbert Greenwood** (Fort Worth)

**Outings Co-Chairs: Tolbert Greenwood and Sandra Grimes** (Austin)

**Political Chair: David Griggs** (Dallas)

**Chapter Delegate to Sierra Club Council of Club Leaders: David Griggs**

**Alternate to Sierra Club Council: Dave Wells** (San Antonio)

See the Chapter Directory elsewhere in this issue for a complete listing of Chapter leaders.

### Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club Annual Awards Luncheon

Please join us for a luncheon celebrating the recipients of the 2006 Lone Star Chapter Awards.

**Saturday, March 31, 2007**  
**Carmelo's Italian Restaurant**  
**504 East Fifth Street, Austin**  
**11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

#### Luncheon Information

Cost of the luncheon is \$40 per person, including salad, choice of entrée (chicken, salmon, and eggplant pasta selections), dessert, and beverage.

Reservations must be made by Tuesday, March 27, 2007 to the Lone Star Chapter office in Austin. A reservation form may be found online at [www.texas.sierraclub.org](http://www.texas.sierraclub.org). For more information, call the Chapter office at 512-477-1729.

## State of the Sierra Club

# A Critical Plea to All Sierra Club Members and Supporters in Texas!

Dear Friend,

***This state legislative session will determine the fate of the Texas environment and the quality of our lives for decades to come. Your help is needed now to determine the future of our state and local parks, air quality, energy use, rivers, coastal bays and estuaries, and rural communities!***

The statement above is no hype. ***This is the big one – the state legislative session that may well be the most important one that I've experienced in my 25 years of active professional lobbying on behalf of the Sierra Club and the Texas environment.***

You've probably read or heard about the major environmental issues that the Texas Legislature is facing this spring:

- funding for our state **parks** system and local park grants,
- the threat to our **air quality** and our **public health** from dirty coal plants,
- **energy efficiency** and **renewable energy** initiatives that would preclude any need for those polluting plants,
- opportunities to curb **air pollution from cars and trucks**,
- a push for **protection of flowing rivers and coastal freshwater inflows**, and
- the effort to make **water conservation** the priority over expensive, unneeded reservoirs for meeting the state's future water needs.

There is one common element to all of these issues: **The Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club is a prominent player in the state legislative action underway on all of these critical environmental and natural resource issues. No other environmental group in the state, regardless of size or resources, is covering the breadth of issues that the Sierra Club is tackling at the State Capitol. No other environmental organization has the 40+ year track record of the Sierra Club in lobbying the Texas Legislature.**

**Our ability to be successful in shaping the outcome on parks, clean air, energy choices, environmental flow protection, water conservation, and other key issues during this legislative session, however, depends upon one critical factor: Your willingness to provide us with the financial support needed to achieve our mutual environmental goals! Your donation to the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club at this stage of the legislative session is essential if we are to have the resources to prevail against the forces trying to block environmental progress.**

We are already seeing the benefits of the groundwork that we laid in 2006 to achieve a number of major environmental goals in the Texas Legislature. The legislative process is a slippery slope, however, and we will have to work doubly hard over the next three months to assure a successful outcome. **That's why your financial contribution is so vital to help us sustain the momentum at the State Capitol this spring.**

Please respond to our annual fund appeal letter or use the donor form in this issue of the *Lone Star Sierran* to make an investment in the future of Texas.

Sincerely,

Ken Kramer, Director  
Lone Star Chapter, Sierra Club



**B**equests have played a key role in the Sierra Club's environmental successes over the years.

Planning now may make your gift more meaningful and reduce taxes on your estate. We have many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter. For more information and confidential assistance, contact:

John Calaway  
Director, Gift Planning  
85 Second Street, 2nd Floor,  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
(415) 977-5639 or e-mail:  
[planned.giving@sierraclub.org](mailto:planned.giving@sierraclub.org)

**State of the Sierra Club**



*Yes! I want to support the work of the Lone Star Chapter Sierra Club at the State Capitol and around Texas in 2007 for clean air, clean water, energy efficiency, public health, renewable energy, state & local parks and our Texas natural heritage!*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Please do not publish my name as a donor.

\_\_\_\_ I would like more information on Sierra Club's Planning Giving program (bequests).

\_\_\_\_ Please send me Sierra Club membership information (for non-member friends).

**Because of our active lobbying program, gifts to the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club are not tax deductible. For information concerning a tax-deductible contribution to support our conservation work in Texas, please contact [ken.kramer@sierraclub.org](mailto:ken.kramer@sierraclub.org) or 512-476-6962.**

*2007 Defenders of Texas*

*Sponsorship Levels*

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,500+        | <b>Legislative Circle</b> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000-\$2,499 | <b>Champion</b>           |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> \$125-\$249     | <b>Defender</b>           |

*Other Donor Levels*

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form to:  
**Lone Star Chapter Sierra Club**

## Chapter Directory

**Lone Star Chapter State Conservation Office:** Mailing: P.O. Box 1931, Austin, TX 78767-1931 phone: (512) 477-1729  
 Physical: 1202 San Antonio St, Austin 78701-1834 fax: (512) 477-8526  
<http://www.texas.sierraclub.org> lonestar.chapter@sierraclub.org

### Lone Star Chapter Executive Committee:

<b>Chair</b>	Andy Balinsky, 6601 Auburndale, Austin, 78723-2703	balinsky@employees.org	(512) 926-7312
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Margot Clarke, 5106 Evergreen Ct., Austin 78731-5420	margotclarke@austin.rr.com	(512) 463-9821
<b>Secretary</b>	Sandra Grimes, 812-D Winflo Dr, Austin 78703	sgrimes@grandecom.net	(512) 472-3774
<b>At-Large</b>	Rita Beving, 14605 Dartmouth Ct, Addison 75001	antiquerita@aol.com	(214) 373-3808
	Don Dowdey, 50 Sunny Glen, Alpine 79830	ddowdey@wildblue.net	(432) 837-3210
	David Griggs, 14605 Dartmouth Ct, Addison 75001	texvol@aol.com	(972) 406-9667
	Evelyn Merz, 7095 Santa Fe, Houston 77061	elmerz@hal-pc.org	(713) 694-8228
	Rusty Middleton, P.O. Box 3078, Austin 78764-3078	rustymiddleton@sbcglobal.net	(512) 826-7880
	Elizabeth M. Engle, 13492 N.H.183 #120-295, Austin 78750	emungerengle@earthlink.net	(512) 326-3282
	David Wells, 13318 Vista Bonita, San Antonio 78216	dwells1315@yahoo.com	(210) 271-0640
	Joe Zebrowski, 801 W. Mary Jane Dr, Killeen 76541	joezebrowski@earthlink.net	(254) 634-8996

### Regional Group Representatives:

<b>Alamo</b>	Hector Gonzalez, 615 Willow, San Antonio 78202	hgonzalez@aol.com	(210) 226-6069
<b>Austin</b>	Sandra Grimes, 812-D Winflo Dr, Austin 78703	sgrimes@grandecom.net	(512) 472-3774
<b>Big Bend</b>	Don Dowdey, 50 Sunny Glen, Alpine 79830	ddowdey@wildblue.net	(432) 837-3210
<b>Coastal Bend</b>	Hal Suter, 1002 Chamberlain St., Corpus Christi, 78404	rabblerouser@stx.rr.com	(361) 852-7938
<b>Dallas</b>	Rita Beving, 14605 Dartmouth Ct, Addison 75001	antiquerita@aol.com	(972) 406-9667
<b>Galveston</b>	Mark Muhich, P.O. Box 1392, Galveston 77553	markmarkmuhich@ev1.net	(409) 763-0482
<b>Golden Triangle</b>	Bill Tetley, 3607 Gary Ave., Nederland 77627-7145	tetley.wr@juno.com	(409) 722-8974
<b>Grt. Fort Worth</b>	Tolbert Greenwood, 6728 Kirkwood, Ft. Worth 76116	tgreenwood@canteyhanger.com	(817) 877-2842
<b>Houston</b>	Jim Williams, 4304 Fiesta Lane, Houston 77081	ezz@pdq.net	(713) 748-8133
<b>L. Rio Grande V.</b>	Ed Glaze, P.O. Box 128, Port Mansfield 78598-0128	eglaze@VSTA.com	(956) 944-2823
<b>Pineywoods</b>	Adrian Van Dellen, 48 Campus Cove, Woodville 75979-9643	naturmate@earthlink.net	(409) 429-5893
<b>Red River</b>	Joy Parsons, 4723 Augusta Ln, Wichita Falls 76302-3327	mparson@sw.rr.com	(940) 723-2811

### Conservation Issue Chairs:

<b>Conservation Chair</b>	Dave Klar, 3925 Chimney Springs Dr, S. A. 78247	dklar63162@aol.com	(210)495-2148
<b>Conservation Vice-Chair</b>	Evelyn Merz (see above)		
<b>Air Quality</b>	Brandt Mannchen, 5431 Carew, Houston 77096	brandtshnfbt@juno.com	(713) 664-5962
<b>Coastal (Lower Coast)</b>	Mary Lou Campbel, RR # 2 Box 88, Mercedes, 78570	marylou@hiline.net	(956) 514-9321
<b>Coastal (Middle Coast)</b>	Pat Suter 1002 Chamberlain St., Corpus Christi, 78404	phsuter@stx.rr.com	(361) 852-7938
<b>Coastal (Upper Coast)</b>	Page Williams, 4229 West Alabama, Houston 77027	page.williams@gmail.com	(713) 622-8533
<b>Corporate Accountability</b>	David Wells (see above)		
<b>Endangered Species</b>	Evelyn Merz (see above)		
	Page Williams (see above)		
<b>Energy</b>	Joe Zebrowski (see above)		
<b>Forest Management</b>	Brandt Mannchen (see above)		
<b>International Population</b>	Gayle Loeffler, 1472 Latigo Ln, Flower Mound 75022	gloeffler@twu.edu	(817) 430-3035
<b>State Parks</b>	Evelyn Merz (see above)		
<b>Transportation</b>	Dick Kallerman, 2510 Cedarview Dr, Austin 78702	cedartex@aol.com	(512) 444-1326
<b>Water</b>	Sheril Smith, 4875 CR 309, Lexington, 78947-9694	sherilsmith@ev1.net	(979) 773-4405

### Chapter Activity Chairs & Leaders:

<b>Awards</b>	Margot Clarke (see above)
<b>Legal Chair</b>	Tolbert Greenwood (see above)
<b>Membership / Website</b>	Jerome Collins (see below)
<b>Outings Co-Chairs</b>	Sandra Grimes and Tolbert Greenwood (see above)
<b>Political Chair</b>	David Griggs (see above)
<b>Treasurer</b>	Hector Gonzalez (see above)
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	Ken Kramer (see below)
<b>Council Delegate / Alt.</b>	David Griggs / David Wells (see above)

### Chapter Staff:

<b>Chapter Director</b>	Ken Kramer	kenwkramer@aol.com	(512) 476-6962
<b>Administrative Assistant</b>	Jerome Collins	jerome.collins@sierraclub.org	(512) 477-1729
<b>Clean Air</b>	Neil Carman	neil_carman@greenbuilder.com	(512) 472-1767
<b>Communications Coordinator</b>	Donna Hoffman	donna.hoffman@sierraclub.org	(512) 477-1729
<b>Research Associate</b>	Tyson Broad	tyson.broad@sierraclub.org	(325) 247-2301
<b>Water Resources Specialist</b>	Jennifer Walker	jennifer.walker@sierraclub.org	(512) 477-1729

## Regional Group Directory

**Alamo:** Jerry Morrisey, Chair, 19631 Encino Way, San Antonio, TX 78259-2327, 210-497-3553, Jlmorrisey@aol.com  
Mtgs: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., Witte Museum, 3801 Broadway, San Antonio.

**Austin:** Chris Lehman, Chair, PO Box 4581, Austin 78765, (512) 472-3774, lehmanck@aol.com  
or <http://www.texas.sierraclub.org/austin/index.html>. Mtgs: 1st Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., LCRA Hancock Bldg, 3701 Lake Austin Blvd., Austin.

**Big Bend:** Don Dowdey, Chair, 50 Sunny Glen, Alpine, TX 79830, (915) 837-3210, ddowdey@wildblue.net Mtgs: 3rd Thursday in February-May, September-December. Time: 7 p.m. Place: Lawrence Hall on the Sul Ross University Campus, Room 309. <http://www.texas.sierraclub.org/bigbend/index.html>

**Coastal Bend:** Pat Suter, Chair, PO Box 3512, Corpus Christi, TX 78404, (361) 852-7938, phsuter@stx.rr.com or <http://www.texas.sierraclub.org/coastalbend/index.html>. Mtgs: 3rd Tuesday of the month, please call for time and location.

**Cross Timbers:** Peggy La Point, Chair, 1900 Highland Park Cir., Denton, TX 76205, tnplapoint@aol.com (940) 891-4984  
The Cross Timbers Group does not hold group meetings, they communicate via their website, e-mail, and newsletters. Contact Peggy La Point at the above phone number and /or e-mail.

**Dallas:** Ann Drumm, Chair, 4340 Valley Ridge Rd, Dallas TX 75220-1928, (214) 350-6108, ann@dallassierraclub.org or <http://www.texas.sierraclub.org/dallas/index.html>. (day of the month as well as location has changed) – Mtgs: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., Center for Spiritual Living, 4801 Spring Valley Rd., Suite 115 (near Spring Valley Road and the North Dallas Tollway).

**Galveston:** Mark Muhich, Chair, P.O. Box 1392, Galveston, TX 77553, (409) 763-0482, markmuhich@ev1.net, Mtgs: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month, 7p.m. at Rosenberg Library.

**Golden Triangle:** Bruce Walker, Chair, 795 19th St, Beaumont 77706, 409/924-3154 bruce.walker@twcable.com or <http://www.texas.sierraclub.org/triangle/index.html>. Mtgs: 1st Tues. of the month, 5855 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont. (Lodge inside Gander Mtn. Sports Store)

**Greater Ft. Worth:** Susan Haney, 878 HCR 1314, Whitney, TX 76692, srobinson@whitneytx.net, 254-582-8228. Mtgs: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, 7 p.m., Azalea Room, Garden Center, Fort Worth Botanic Garden, 3220 Botanic Garden Blvd., Fort Worth

**Houston:** Evelyn Merz, 7095 Santa Fe, Houston, TX 77061, elmerz@hal-pc.org, 713-694-8228 Mtgs: 1st Thursday of the month, 7.00 p.m. Central Presbyterian Church, 3788 Richmond (Parking lot accessible from Timmons).

**Lower Rio Grande Valley:** Jim Chapman, Chair, 200 East 11<sup>th</sup> St, Weslaco, TX 78596. (956) 428-4171, jimcyn@hiline.net. Group website: <http://www.egroups.com/group/valleysierrans> Mtgs: call for time and location.

**Pineywoods:** Dian Avriett, Chair, 2027 CR. 3271 W., Mt. Enterprise TX 75681. (903) 822-3344, cdavriett@aol.com. Call for meeting times and locations.

**Red River:** Joy Parsons, Chair, 4723 Augusta Ln, Wichita Falls 76302, (940)723-2811, mparson@swrr.com. Mtgs: 2nd Thursday of the month, 7:15 p.m., St. Stephens Episcopal Church, 5023 Lindale, Wichita Falls.

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**Other Local Sierra Club Contacts**

**Central Texas** – Joe & Cheryl Zebrowski (Killeen), 254-634-8996, zebrowskijc@earthlink.net

**Northeast Texas** – Richard LeTourneau (Longview), 903-643-0060, richardoi@aol.com

**Permian Basin Conservation Committee** – Terry Burns (Midland), 432-689-2712, terryb4@cox.net

**Waco** – Bruce Allen (Woodway), 254-776-3036, allenbw2@sbcglobal.net

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**Chapter Calendar****2007 Lone Star Chapter Calendar**

March 30	7 <sup>th</sup> Annual State Water Conference	Austin
March 31	Cool Cities Campaign Training Session	Austin
March 31	Chapter Awards Luncheon	Austin
March 31 (afternoon)	Chapter Executive Committee Meeting	Austin
August 4-6	Chapter Executive Committee Meeting and Sierra Celebration	Davis Mtns. State Park
September (TBA)	Regional Water Conference (North Central Texas)	Dallas
Nov. 10 (daytime)	Chapter Executive Meeting	Austin
Nov. 10 (evening)	Legislative Awards Dinner	Austin

Additional details and any changes or additions will be posted to the Lone Star Chapter website ([www.texas.sierraclub.org](http://www.texas.sierraclub.org)) as they become available. For more information, check the website or call the Lone Star Chapter office in Austin at 512-477-1729.

Lone Star Sierran  
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