

ALAMO GROUP MEETINGS

General membership meets 6:30 p.m., third Tuesday each month, Witte Museum, 3801 Broadway.

Tues., Jan 15:

Aldo Leopold's Land Ethic and How He Got There by Kevin Hartley

Tues., Feb 19:

Slides of Texas Water Features by Photographer Charles Kurvand and Water Update by Ken Kramer

Tues., Mar 19:

Sustainability and Car Sharing Program by Bill Baker, AICP, COSA Office of Sustainability

SIERRA SOCIALS

Drinks, food, fun. If planning to attend, contact Loyd Cortez, 674-9489, loydcortez@earthlink.net.

Fri., Jan 25: Candlelight Coffeehouse, 301 N. St. Mary's, 6-8 p.m.

Fri., Feb 22: Little Italy, 824 Afterglow Street, 6-8 p.m.

Fri., Mar 22: Cheddar's, 7403 Northwest Loop 410, 6-8 p.m.

The Alamo Sierran

The Alamo Group of the Sierra Club Newsletter

VOLUME 47, NUMBER 01

JANUARY 2013



Word from Chair

By Margaret (Peggy) Day

This is our first quarterly print newsletter. For those of you who have not sent us your email addresses, please do so now. That way you will receive future monthly e-newsletters automatically. Don't miss out on Alamo Group conservation issues, events, and outings news.

While you are at it, I suggest that you look into some of the Club's online offerings. One is *Insider*, the Sierra Club's online newsletter. In this twice-monthly e-newsletter you will find "environmental news, green living tips, urgent action alerts on important environmental issues, great outdoor trips, new books and movies to check out, special offers, and more." Go to http://action.sierraclub.org/site/PageServer?pagename=Signup_Insider.

An online site of interest is Sierra Club Communities (<http://www.sierraclub.org/diversity/>). Here you can join or follow a variety of interest groups that showcase the Club's diversity. Some of these communities are Mission Outdoors, Inner City Outings, Environmental Justice and Community Partnerships, Military Families and Veteran's Initiative, Population and the Environment, Sierra Student Coalition, Water Sentinels. We also have the Puerto Rico Chapter and *EcoCentro*: Sierra Club en Español, our online Spanish language newsletter. The Alamo Group tries to promote these communities. If you are interested in engaging locally in any of these programs, let us know, to help orient and support you.

I am particularly proud of the Sierra Club's diversity policy and efforts. The Club recognizes and prioritizes diversity as a conservation imperative and necessary for the Club's success as an environmental movement leader. Our policy states,

Like a healthy ecosystem, our differences strengthen us in our efforts to preserve and protect the natural and human environment. Diversity fosters greater involvement of all persons and organizations that share our vision for a healthy planet. We are united by our common concern for the future of our earth and our communities. In support of the mission of the Sierra Club, we strive to be inclusive and to engage individuals from all communities in our work and activities. Our vision is for the Sierra Club to reflect the communities of our nation. As an ongoing effort, we will build and integrate diversity into the conservation initiatives, program strategies, membership, workforce, structure, budget, business practices, communications and culture of the Sierra Club.

Another item from a recent *Insider* issue that I like and signed onto is "The Daily Ray of Hope!" In a world where there is so much bad news, fortify your spirits every day with an inspiring nature photo and a few words of wisdom. If you like to photograph and have special photos you would like to share, you can send them to [Daily Ray of Hope group on Flickr](#). Your images might be selected for the Daily Ray.

Finally, if you are more of an armchair activist, you can participate in the Sierra Club's Activist Network online at <http://connect.sierraclub.org/forums/>. There are teams, projects, events, discussions, and resources that allow you to find your niche within the broader action world of the Club.

Thank You Auction Donors

We would like to give special thanks to our 2012 December auction donors: Betty Dabney, Bird Bakery, Blue Star Brewing & Bicycle, Broadway Daily Bread, Chilpotle, Culinary Institute of the Americas, Dos Carolinas, Dudley Harris, El Mirador, Eloise Stoker, EZ's, Flemings, Green Restaurant Alon, Grimaldi's, Half Price Books, Jason's Deli, John Hertz, K Charles Aveda, Kathleen Cox, Kathleen Trenchard, La Madeliene, La Panera, Liberty Bar, Loretta Van Coppenolle, Madhatter's Tea Garden, Margaret Day, Melissa Guerra's, Pet Supplies Plus, Picante Grill, Soluna/Mirasol, The Twig Bookstore, The Wash Tub, Trader Joe's, Vegeria Restaurant, and Whole Earth Provision.

Save A Tree....)

Please help our club offset our newsletter paper copy printing and postage cost by considering receiving the newsletter electronically by email.

Contact loydcortez@earthlink.net to make the switch.

Make Your Voice Be Heard!

City council decisions, regulatory actions, legislation in Austin; we need to be ready to act at a moment's notice to support the good and stop the bad.

Sometimes all it takes is a simple phone call or email message to sway the opinion of our local elected leaders and officials.

Contact loydcortez@earthlink.net to add you to our club's action alert list.

Our Facebook site is up and running again. Check it out and "like" us at: www.facebook.com/pages/Sierra-Club-Alamo-Group/

Outings: Hikes That Lead Us Into Winter

General Requirements: *Wear clothes and shoes appropriate for hiking. Bring water and a snack. Minors allowed only when accompanied by parent/guardian or with Consent Form and Medical Authorization. Dogs not allowed unless specified, and must be leashed and socialized. Donations to Sierra Club always welcomed.*

Full descriptions of these outings are found at <http://texas.sierraclub.org/alamo/Outings.htm>

And Also At

<http://www.meetup.com/Alamo-Sierra-Club-Outings/>

Participants are encouraged to read the full descriptions and contact the Outings Leader.

Saturday, January 26th: Oak Loop Nature Walk (Birds)

This Oak Loop walk led by Master Naturalists Patsy and Al Kuentz will focus on the birds of Phil Hardberger Park.

The purposes of the walk are to appreciating the beauty of the natural areas along the Oak Loop Trail, observing how nature changes through the seasons, and learning about birds.

Contact [Wendy Drezek](mailto:Wendy.Drezek@sierraclub.org) (493-0939) if you require further information.

Saturday, February 23rd: Oak Loop Nature Walk (Trees)

This Oak Loop walk, led by Master Naturalist Ron Tullius, will focus on the variety of trees in Phil Hardberger Park.

The purposes of the walk are appreciating the beauty of the natural areas along the Oak Loop Trail, observing how nature changes through the seasons, and learning about trees.

Contact [Wendy Drezek](mailto:Wendy.Drezek@sierraclub.org) (493-0939) if you require further information.

Sunday, March 5th: Fredrich Wildness Park

Meet at 8:45 AM at trailhead for 3.5 mile hike of moderate difficulty. Contact Leader Nancy Anderson at (210) 833-1291 or Anderson@loyno.edu to RSVP and for more information.

Three Nice Programs Coming Up!

Tuesday, January 15: Aldo Leopold's Land Ethic and How He Got There

Leopold was one of the founders of the American environmental movement and one of the first to understand, and teach, the importance of understanding the interdependence of species. There will be some photos of protected areas in the US that resulted from Leopold's work, including the Grand Canyon and Gila National Forest; some from the Gila Wilderness are just prior to the major fire earlier this year. Presented by Kevin Hartley.

We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect. -Aldo Leopold, from a Sand County Almanac.

Tuesday, February 19: Water and Texas

Landscape photographer Charles Kruvand will present images of water features in Texas. This will be a wonderful program, as Charles Kruvand is the artistic photographer who provided the photographs for the book *The Living Waters of Texas*, which was edited by Ken Kramer, the recently retired Director of the Lone Star Chapter. Ken is still actively involved in water issues and will also provide a water update for us. *The Living Waters of Texas* was published by Texas A&M University Press and contains photographs taken over many years. Come view the beautiful water images and welcome Ken Kramer. Charles will bring copies of the book if you would like to purchase one.

Tuesday, March 19: New Carsharing System: Flexible, Efficient

Bill Barker of the City of San Antonio's Office of Sustainability will give an overview of the new, downtown carsharing system operated by Hertz On Demand. The recent background, expected impacts and current status of this system will be presented. Bill will provide the sustainability argument for this transportation option and show how carsharing is compatible with the significant shift in demographics and technology now taking place. Attendees will be given specific information on how to enroll and use the carshare system.

Programs start at 6:30 pm, at Witte Museum auditorium, 3801 Broadway. Parking available in garage at Tuleta and Ave B. Free and open to the public.

Fourth Wednesday Programs at Lion's Field

On January 23, VIA staff will provide update on Public Hearing held on November 28 on alignment of downtown streetcars.

Gardening will be the focus of next two programs with the Gardening Volunteers of South Texas teaching us about vegetable gardening on February 27, and growing peach, pear, or citrus trees will be discussed on March 27, by David Rodriguez, Texas AgriLife Extension Horticulturist.

Programs start at 6:30 pm at Lion's Field, 2809 Broadway at Mulberry. Programs are free and open to the public.

Past Alamo Sierra Club Socials



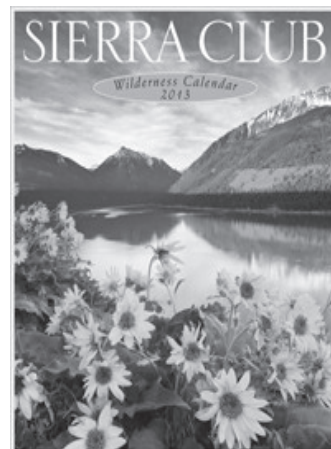
Social at Candlelight Coffee House, November 2006



Social at Casa Rio on the Riverwalk, December 2006

Support Inner City Outings.

Buy A Calendar. Contact
Anne.pearson@att.net



*On behalf of the
Alamo Sierra Club, we
wish you and your fam-
ily the best of health
and peace of mind for
the coming new year.*

Meeting Dates and Contact Information

General Meeting	3rd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.	Peggy Day	829-5632
Executive Committee Mtg.	3rd Thursday, 6:30 p.m.	Peggy Day	829-5632
Newsletter Submissions	Deadline last day of month	Loyd Cortez	674-9489
Political Committee Mtg.	2d Thursday, 7 p.m.	Dave Wells	271-0640
Newsletter Mail Party	2d Tuesday, 6-8:30 p.m.	Whole Foods	
Outings Committee Mtg.	1st Wed., every odd month., 6:30 p.m.	Jerry Morrisey	382-2614
Conservation Committee Mtg.	1st Thursday, 7 p.m.	Russell Seal	289-9088
Inner City Outings Mtg.	1st Tuesday 7 p.m.	University Prebysterian Church	408-6321

Alamo Group of the Sierra Club
Executive Committee Officers & Members

Margaret (Peggy) Day, Chair Person	829-5632
Loyd Cortez, Vice Chair Person	674-9489
Karen Dalglish Seal	226-8101
Hector Gonzalez	226-6069
Dave Wells, Treasurer	271-0640
George Rice	737-6180
Gay Wright	343-0222

Administrative Contacts

Programs	Barbara McMillin	734-4170
Fundraising	Vacant	
Publicity	Gay Wright	343-0222
Editor	Loyd Cortez	674-9489
Membership	Vacant	
Mailings	Vacant	
Website	Richard Alles	494-2088

Committee Contacts

Outings Chair	Jerry Morrisey	382-2614
Inner City Outings (ICO)	Anne Pearson	408-6321
Political	Dave Wells	271-0640

Conservation Contacts

Conservation Chair	Russell Seal	289-9088
Assistant Chair	L. Van Coppenolle	492-4620
Green Buildings	John Hertz	413-4100
Education	Ken Clifton	646-6833
Fluoride Issues	L. Van Coppenolle	492-4620
Organic Gardening	Dave Klar	485-6880
Recycling	Carolyn Wells	271-0640
Tree Conservation	Richard Alles	494-2088
Transportation	Barbara McMillin	734-4170
Water Issues	George Rice	737-6180
Climate Change	Mobi Warren	496-4942
Drought	Alyssa Burgin	381-4021
Endangered Species	Mobi Warren	496-4942

U.S. Congresspersons

Joaquin Castro	684-6896
Lamar Smith	821-5024
Henry Cuellar	271-2551
Pete Gallego	1-512-463-0566
Lloyd Doggett	1-866-916-5921

City Council (Continued)

Dist. 2: Ivy R. Taylor	207-7278
Dist. 3: Leticia Ozuna	207-7064
Dist. 4: Rey Saldana	207-7281
Dist. 5: David Medina, Jr.	207-7043
Dist. 6: Ray Lopez	207-7065
Dist. 7: Cris Medina	207-7044
Dist. 8: W. Reed Williams	207-7086
Dist. 9: Elisa Chan	207-7325
Dist. 10: Carlton Soules	207-7276

City Council

Mayor Julian Castro	207-7060
Dist. 1: Diego Bernal	207-7279

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Go to our website at <http://Alamosierraclub.org>

Recycle your batteries.

Don't throw away those small rechargeable and non-rechargeable batteries in the trash bin where they will end up in over-crowded land fills.



Bring them to the monthly Witte meeting where we will have a container for you to drop them off.

Please no car batteries because they are too big and heavy.

Alamo Group website address
www.alamosierraclub.org

Thanks to SA Offset Printing, Inc. 4115 Gardendale, San Antonio TX. Tel 210-692-9166 Fax 210-692-9963 for our nominal newsletter cost

Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
Special Offer	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Student/Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

Contributions, gifts and dues to Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1 for your Chapter newsletters.

Enclose a check and mail to Sierra Club, P.O. Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

or visit our website www.sierraclub.org F94Q W19131