

Celebrate Earth Day - April 22 with your family & friends!  
Plant a tree! Take a hike! **Outings pg. 11-12.**

# Canyon Echo

www.arizona.sierraclub.org

Grand Canyon Chapter

March/April 2003

## Opportunity for Common Ground Governor says keep environmental protections

There is new leadership in the Governor's office and also a new opportunity for discussion of environmental protections. This year, for the first time, a sitting governor addressed environmental advocates at the annual Environmental Legislative Day. **Governor Janet Napolitano** made it clear to those in attendance that she was not willing to sacrifice environmental protections during these challenging budgetary times.

More than 80 environmental advocates gathered at the Capitol on February 4 to listen to and communicate with the Governor and legislators regarding protecting our natural heritage, our air, and our water. In addition to hearing from the Governor, those gathered heard from **Representative Tom O'Halleran**, **Representative Randy Graf**, and many other groups and experts on the environmental issues before our state. The Governor discussed the need for better water management and conservation and both she and Representative O'Halleran talked about the need for better planning relative to water as well as land use issues.

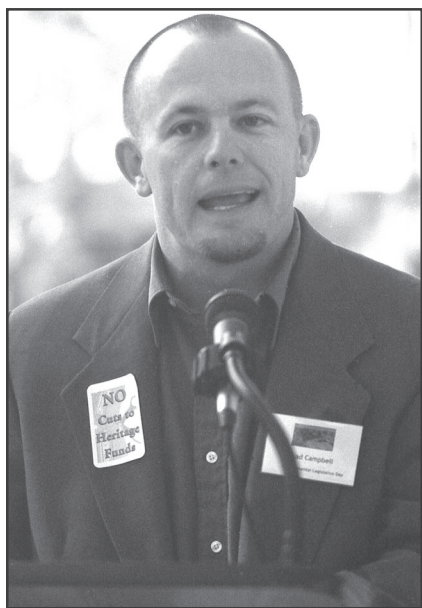
Representative Graf spoke about the need to invest in and promote renewable energy and energy efficiency in Arizona. He is sponsoring two bills that help advance these issues — one that will promote energy efficiency in state buildings and another that will clarify certain tax exemptions for solar contractors.

Representative O'Halleran announced that he would be introducing two additional bills, one that requires legislators to receive information about the status of water issues on a regular basis and also one that requires that they receive information on forest health and related matters. **Vera Kornylak** from the Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest addressed the state's public trust responsibility for keeping water in the streams and rivers rather than let it be depleted by groundwater pumping and other diversions.

Other speakers addressed the importance of defending and protecting environmental progress by keeping the Heritage Fund whole and stopping legislative attempts to divert these dollars from their intended purposes — wildlife and parks; stopping measures to undercut citizens' ability to engage in the initiative and referendum process; protecting the Clean Elections Act; and stopping bills that would limit local planning efforts like Pima County's Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan.



**"No cuts to Heritage Fund":** Governor Napolitano (above) discussed the need for better water management and conservation. She emphasized there would be no cuts on Heritage Fund money. Her comments were received with loud applause from environmental advocates. Photo courtesy of Bob Ball, Palo Verde Group.



**Chad Campbell** from the Arizona Advocacy Network presented a summary of a report, *Investing in Arizona's Future: Common Sense Proposals to Protect Arizonans' Pocketbooks and Environment*, and **Susan Culp** from the Arizona League of Conservation Voters presented an environmental agenda for Arizona. The Arizona Public Health Association's **Merle Lustig** talked to those gathered about important public health measures and the critical need to protect the environment relative to public health.

Twenty-five organizations had displays on the Senate lawn where they helped educate members and others about the importance of parks, protecting wildlife, protecting the last of our old growth forests, preserving land, and many other issues.

- **Sandy Bahr**  
Conservation Outreach Director

**Facts and Figures:** Chad Campbell, Arizona Advocacy Network, summarizes a report and Arizona's environmental budget. Photo courtesy of Bob Ball, Palo Verde Group.

**Environmental Networking:** Brian Lane asks for information about the Sierra Club. Left to Right (below): Heidi Slagle, Brian and La Quita Lane. Photo courtesy of Bob Ball, Palo Verde Group.



Enjoy, explore and protect the planet

# Arizona Chapter Action Directory

## Canyon Echo

Vol. 39 No. 2  
March/April 2003

Canyon Echo (ISSN 0164-7024) is published bimonthly for \$1 for Sierra Club members and \$10 for non-member subscribers. Canyon Echo is published by the Sierra Club Grand Canyon Chapter, 202 E. McDowell Rd., Ste. 277, Phoenix, AZ 85004.

Phone: (602) 253-8633  
Fax: (602) 258-6533

### POSTMASTER

Send address changes to Sierra Club Member Services, c/o Canyon Echo, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968.

Periodicals postage paid at Phoenix, AZ. Printed at Valley Newspapers. Copyright Sierra Club Grand Canyon Chapter, Canyon Echo 2003.

### EDITOR

Heidi K. Slagle  
(602) 253-9140  
heidi.slagle@sierraclub.org

### DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS

#### Outings

Jerry Nelson  
(602) 279-4668  
peakbagger2@cox.net

#### Photographers

Bob Ball, Kathy Roediger, Jim McCarthy

#### Mailing Organizers

Jerry Nelson, Bill Gill

#### Publications Committee

Jack Foster, Richard Genser, Michelle Pulich

#### Publications Chair

Michelle Harrington  
(602) 246-6498  
mharrington@biologicaldiversity.org

#### Webmaster

Dawson Henderson  
dawsonh@earthlink.net

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual dues to the Sierra Club are \$39, (\$1 for the *Canyon Echo*). Subscriptions rate for non-members is \$10. Send check payable to "Sierra Club" - *Canyon Echo*, 202 E. McDowell Rd., Ste. 277, Phoenix, AZ 85004.

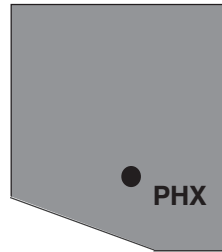
### ADVERTISING

Advertising is sold on a first-come, space-available basis. Endorsements of the advertisers by the Sierra Club is not implied, and all interactions between advertisers and consumers are solely the responsibilities of those parties. Contact Editor for more information.

### SUBMISSIONS

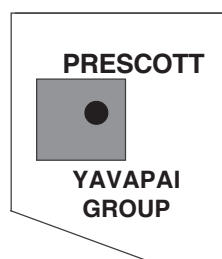
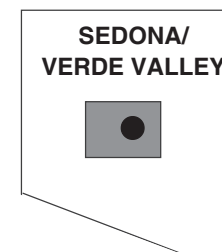
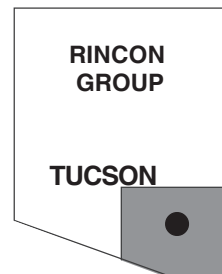
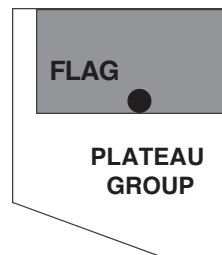
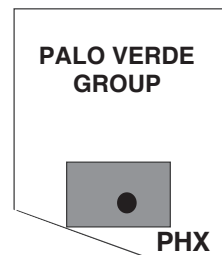
Send typed articles to the Editor. Label disks; include software and file name. Please send a S.A.S.E. for return of disk. We are not responsible for lost or damaged items. Writer's guidelines can be obtained by sending a #10 S.A.S.E. to the Editor or by e-mailing the Editor. All rights to publication of articles in this issue are reserved. The Canyon Echo deadline is the **first Friday of the month** preceding the month of the issue. Opinions expressed in the Canyon Echo are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the Sierra Club.

### SHADED AREAS REPRESENT INDICATED REGION OF ACTIVISM



### GRAND CANYON CHAPTER

**BECOME INVOLVED:**  
Contact a representative in your area to voice your concerns and participate in local activities



### CONSERVATION OUTREACH DIRECTOR

Sandy Bahr 602-253-8633 grand.canyon.chapter@sierraclub.org

### SOUTHWEST REGIONAL STAFF DIRECTOR

Rob Smith 602-254-9330 rob.smith@sierraclub.org

### CHAPTER OFFICES & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

(xc) 2003 Chapter Executive Committee (Ex-Com) Members (x) Group Ex-Com Member

**Chairperson/Personnel:** Jim McCarthy (xc) 928-779-3748  
seamusmccarthy@qwestonline.com

**Vice-Chair:** Ken Langton (xc) 520-749-3829 kplangton@msn.com

**Secretary:** Bev Full (xc) bfull21456@aol.com

**Treasurer:** Dale Volz (xc) dvolz@earthlin.net

**Conservation:** Don Steuter (xc) 602-956-5057 donsteuter@aol.com

**Nominations Chair:** Joni Bosh jbosh@aol.com

**Political Chair:** Chad Campbell (xc) chad@azadvocacy.org

**Outings Chair:** Ted Gartner (xc) 480-961-0370 gartneraz@netzero.net

**Membership Chair:** Ted Gartner (xc) 480-961-0370 gartneraz@netzero.net

**Elections Chair:** Tom Cadden

**Legal Chair:** Jill Winans

**Fundraising Chair:** Rich Genser 520-529-4899 rexgnsr@aol.com

**Wildlife Com. Chair:** Kathy Roediger (xc) 602-266-6358 kroediger@aol.com

### Southwest Regional Conservation Committee (SWRCC) Delegates:

**Council Delegates:** Elna Otter (xc) Sharon Galbreath (alt)  
Jim McCarthy (xc) Ken Langton (alt) (xc)

### 2003 Group Voting Representatives to Chapter Ex-Comm:

**Palo Verde:** Jon Findley (xc) **Plateau:** Roxane George (xc)

**Rincon:** Rich Genser **Yavapai:** Tom Slaback (xc)

**Sedona/Verde Valley:** Craig Dible (xc)

### PALO VERDE GROUP - PHOENIX <http://arizona.sierraclub.org/paloverde/>

202 E. McDowell Rd., Suite 277, Phoenix, AZ 85004

**Chairperson:** Ted Gartner (x) 480-961-0370 gartneraz@netzero.net

**Vice-Chair:** Mike Erickson (x) 480-753-7125 wisendonkey@earthlink.net

**Secretary:** Chris Gehlker (x) 623-866-9024 canyonrat@mac.com

**Treasurer:** Dan Cline (x) 480-921-9142 danpsu@ionet.net

**Chapter Delegate:** Jon Findley (x) 480-756-2916 jonaz@learnweb.com

**Conservation:** Don Steuter (xc) 602-956-5057 donsteuter@aol.com

**Political Chair:** Ted Gartner (x) 480-961-0370 gartneraz@netzero.net

**Outings Chair:** Dan Cline (x) 480-921-9142 danpsu@ionet.net

**Inner City Outings (ICO):** Denise Berringer-Wood (x) 602-867-3017 dberringerwood@yahoo.com

**Membership Chair:** Ted Gartner (x) 480-961-0370 gartneraz@netzero.net

**Programs Chair:** Mike Erickson (x) 480-753-7125 wisendonkey@earthlink.net

**Sierra Singles:** Alan Stater 480-654-1234 astater@cox.net

**Mountaineering:** Ted Gartner (x) 480-961-0370 gartneraz@netzero.net

**At-Large Members:** Martin Braatelen (x) 623-847-1613 vlmargaritis@worldnet.att.net

Vicki Margaritis (x) 602-997-4010 ecyorl@yahoo.com

Lorena Royce (x) 623-974-5964

### PLATEAU GROUP - FLAGSTAFF <http://www.arizona.sierraclub.org/plateau/>

P.O. Box 38 Flagstaff, AZ 86002

**Co-Chair:** Sharon Galbreath 928-774-1571 sharoneg@earthlink.net

**Co-Chair:** Roxane George (x) 928-213-9507 flagact@infomagic.net

### RINCON GROUP - TUCSON <http://www.arizona.sierraclub.org/rincon/>

738 N. 5th Ave., Ste. 214 Tucson, AZ 85705

**Co-Chair (events):** Linda Rothchild-Tepper (x) 520-747-5078 ltepper@juno.com

**Co-Chair (EJ):** Rob Kulakofsky (x) 520-623-3874 colorw@cox.net

**Secretary/Rivers:** Elna Otter (x) 520-212-9736 otter@theriver.com

**Treasurer:** Roy Emrick (x) 520-326-7883 remrick@mindspring.com

**Conservation Co-Chairs:** Rich Genser 520-529-4899 rexgnsr@aol.com

Rob Kulakofsky (x) 520-623-3874 colorw@cox.net

**Cons. Coord./Water:** Todd Schramm 520-620-0758 TSchram@PIRNIE.com

**Hospitality:** Chris Hamel 520-327-9605 xejuan@dakotacom.net

**Inner-City Outings (ICO):** Matt Nelson 520-770-0668 onejourney@juno.com

William Drabkin 520-791-7739 spiruman@aol.com

**Listserv Owner/Energy:** Jack Foster 520-293-7265 gadflop@aol.com

**Membership Co-Chair:** Keith Bagwell (x) 520-623-0269 akbagwell@hotmail.com

**Membership Co-Chair:** Leigh Robinson 520-319-8305

**Political/Merchandise:** Lee Oler 520-791-9246 cloler@mindspring.com

**Newsletter Chairs:** Brian and Kim (x) Beck 520-326-9587 knbeck@mindspring.com

**Outings Chair:** David Martin 520-795-9159 deugenemartin@yahoo.com

**Publicity:** Jan Anderson 520-682-8850 jan.anderson1@att.net

**Social/Singles Chair:** Loren Dawn 520-327-5692 kloren@myexcel.com

**State Lands:** Randy Serraglio (x) 520-622-3085 soawsw@earthlink.net

**Transportation:** Keith Bagwell (x) 520-623-0269 akbagwell@hotmail.com

**Volunteer Coordinator:** Linda Rothchild-Tepper(x) 520-747-5078 ltepper@juno.com

**Webmaster:** Rob Kulakofsky (x) 520-623-3874 colorw@cox.net

### SEDONA/VERDE VALLEY GROUP <http://www.arizona.sierraclub.org/sedona/>

P. O. Box 3913, West Sedona, AZ 86340

**Chairperson:** Craig Dible (x) 928-284-2000 dible@sedona.net

**Vice-Chair:** Bennie Blake (x) 928-282-6578

**Secretary:** Joanne Johnson (x) 928-284-1656 Hjhn99382@aol.com

**Treasurer:** Harry Easton (x) 928-282-6710 No6@sedona.net

**Membership:** Lynn Dible (x) 928-284-2000 dible@sedona.net

### YAVAPAI GROUP - PRESCOTT

1866 Forest View Dr. Prescott, AZ 86305

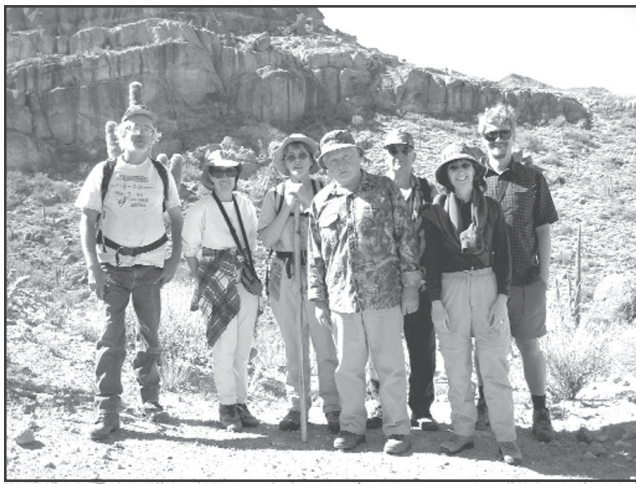
**Contact:** Tom Slaback (x) 928-778-4233 prescotttkid@webtv.net

## Wilderness committee update:

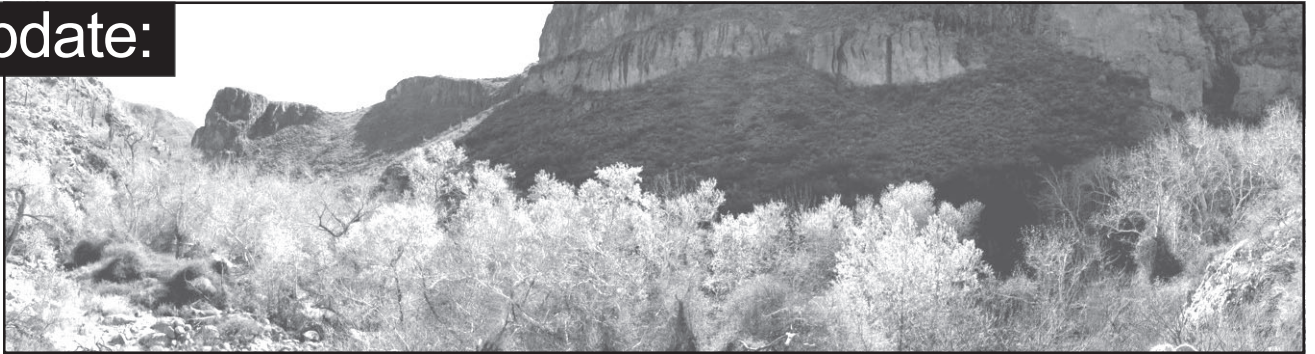
### Wilderness Stewards

The Grand Canyon Chapter is strengthening its existing wilderness adoption programs with a Wilderness Stewards Program. Everyone who cares about a wild place, be it officially designated wilderness or yet-to-be-declared, is welcome and encouraged to get active with this program. For those of you who want to know more, read the description of Wilderness Stewards below and attend our first Wilderness Stewards gathering (advertised in next issue).

- **Michelle Pulich**  
Chapter Wilderness Chair  
(480) 820-9172  
flora22selva@yahoo.com



**Goin' Wild:** Scenery from Peeples Canyon in the Arrastra Wilderness (top right). Sierra Club members hike in Arrastra Wilderness. (Left to Right: Jim Vaaler, Lynn Vaaler, Phyllis Smith, Tom Lazelle, Mike Harrison, Sandy Bahr and Alex Stewart.) (above). Photos courtesy of Michelle Pulich, Palo Verde Group.



#### Wilderness Stewards Program

Wilderness Steward volunteers pick a favorite Arizona wilderness area that they want to adopt and defend. Wilderness Stewards can be composed of pairs or groups as well as individuals. If they don't have an area in mind, talk to a committee member to get ideas. We have recommendations!

#### What Wilderness Stewards Can Do

- Verify the boundary of their area, including roads in and out, both on the ground and on maps.
- Introduce themselves to agency personnel in whose jurisdiction the wilderness exists.
- Determine if there is a wilderness management plan in place.
- Develop a relationship with agency personnel (keep in touch with the wilderness specialist or ranger).
- Note and record threats and positive conservation acts in area.

**For more information on wilderness areas currently designated in Arizona contact Michelle, (480) 820-9172 or visit:**

[www.wilderness.net/nwps/maps/az\\_map.cfm](http://www.wilderness.net/nwps/maps/az_map.cfm)  
[azwww.az.blm.gov/wildarea.htm](http://azwww.az.blm.gov/wildarea.htm)

#### Roadless Areas Need Volunteer Adopters

**Tonto National Forest:** Cherry Creek (east of Sierra Ancha Wilderness), Boulder Mountain – Sycamore Creek (in Mazatzal Mountains north of the Four Peaks Wilderness), Goldfield Mountains, Ash Creek (drains into Salt River above Gleason Flats), Black Cross Butte, Horse Mesa. Also the Sierra Ancha Wilderness could use many excellent additions that are currently outside of the wilderness proper. White Canyon Wilderness (south of Superior) has some excellent roadless area additions.

#### Bureau of Land Management (BLM) areas around the Phoenix metropolitan area:

Saddle Mountain (near Tonopah), Little Horn Mountains (east of Kofa Game Range), East Clanton Hills (south of the Eagletail Wilderness), Granite Wash Mountains (west of Wendon), Face Mountain (northwest of Gila Bend).

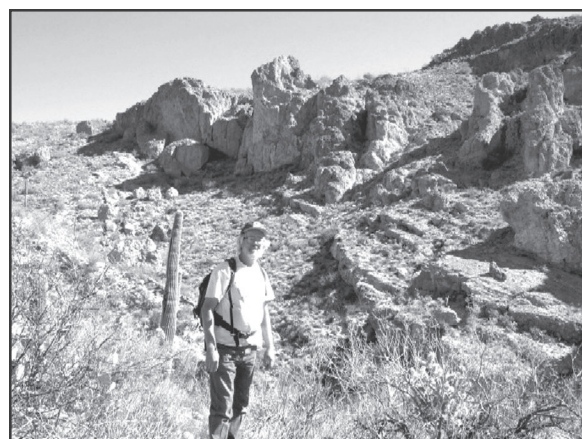
This is a partial list of "roadless areas" in central Arizona. There are many more that I have not listed. This should be a good start for Phoenix area volunteers to start working on and getting familiar with. The Club is holding regular wilderness meetings. Call the Club office for details (602) 253-9140 or Michelle (480) 820-9172.

## Enchanted Evening of Wilderness and Wolves

Join us April 9 for the Palo Verde Group meeting. The Wilderness Committee will host an informative evening sure to expand your awareness of past efforts on behalf of wilderness and the continuing need for increased wilderness in the Grand Canyon state.

Five veteran Sierra Club wilderness activists will discuss their historical actions and their present work on behalf of the wild.

- Come and learn from **Tom Wright, Jim Vaaler, Rob Smith, Bobbie Holaday, and Joni Bosh**
- **Michael J. Robinson** from the Center for Biological Diversity will present "Extermination or Reconciliation: The past and future of the Mexican Gray Wolf."



When: **Wed. April 9 6:30 PM**

Where: **The Phoenix Zoo Auditorium**

**Please RSVP to Michelle so that we have enough chairs and snacks!**

**Peaceful Hiking:** Ocotillos gracing the landscape in the Eagletail Mountains Wilderness (above). Sierra Club member Jim Vaaler hikes in Arrastra Wilderness (left). Both photos courtesy of Alex Stewart, Palo Verde Group.

- **Michelle Pulich**  
Chapter Wilderness Chair  
(480) 820-9172  
flora22selva@yahoo.com

## Echo News You can Use

### Inside

- 4 Top 10 challenges facing Governor
- 5 Tribute to a true conservationist, Mike Seidman  
Our thank you lists
- 6 Environmental laws
- 7 Verde Valley water at risk - action needed
- 8 Visit Lime Creek Cabin
- 9 Native fish workshop
- 10 Meetings & outings
- 11 Arizona hikes and trips

### On the Web

**Chapter Action Network**  
[grandcanyon.sierraclubaction.org](http://grandcanyon.sierraclubaction.org)

**Sierra Club Home Page**  
[www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org)

**Online News**  
[www.sierraclub.org/news](http://www.sierraclub.org/news)

**Sierra Magazine**  
[www.sierraclub.org/sierra](http://www.sierraclub.org/sierra)

**The Planet**  
[www.sierraclub.org/planet](http://www.sierraclub.org/planet)

**New Site**  
**Register Today! No cost or risk!**  
Go to: <http://grandcanyon.sierraclubaction.org>  
Click on the "Sign Up" button.  
You may unsubscribe at any time.

The Grand Canyon Chapter is pleased to announce a new email/web-based alert and action service for Club members. As a participant in the Action Network, you will receive regular email action alerts on important issues. After reviewing the alert message and, if you prefer, additional information posted on the web, you may send either a prepared or a personalized fax or email to elected officials or other decision-makers. The effort on your part need take no more than a few clicks of the mouse. Keep informed on urgent issues and take action to let decision-makers know your feelings.

# Blazing New Trails: Top Ten Challenges Facing Governor and Administration

Conservation and environmental protection have taken a back seat in recent Arizona administrations. Former Governor Hull was openly hostile to environmental protection and to those who advocate for its protection and former Governor Symington supported some of the worst environmental legislation of the last decade. In light of that, the Sierra Club's Grand Canyon Chapter issued a top ten list for the new governor. The Sierra Club looks forward to working with the new administration to begin to address these issues and the many other challenges that face our state.

1. **Support conservation of state trust lands** that are important for plant and wildlife habitat or that provide critical open space for growing areas. Work with a variety of interests to pursue a constitutional amendment to add a conservation mandate for the State Land Department and direct the Land Commissioner to follow the Supreme Court decision to consider conservation grazing leases.
2. **Give us Blue Skies** instead of Brown Clouds over Phoenix and Tucson. Support and enforce state and federal environmental laws like the Clean Air Act, which protect the health of Arizona residents.
3. **Support meaningful growth management and land use planning** — if bigger is better then after the past decade of growth we ought to be number one in conservation, education, etc. instead of near the bottom.
4. **Direct the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality** to fulfill its mandate to protect Arizona's environment and the health of its citizens — the regulated entities ought not to be the ones writing the rules.

5. **Appoint Game and Fish Commissioners who recognize their responsibility for all of Arizona's wildlife, and that support recovery of endangered species** like the Mexican gray wolf, California condor, and black-tailed prairie dogs.
6. **Support forest policies that protect the last 5 percent of our old growth and the large trees in Arizona.** Promote thinning of smaller trees and prescribed burns and focus these thinning efforts on areas that protect communities at risk. Support public involvement in the forest management decisions that affect our public lands.
7. **Support environmental justice** — that means clean air, clean water, and a healthy living environment for everyone. Stop policies that push hazardous waste and polluting industries into the poorer areas of our cities and towns.
8. **Support protection of rivers and streams** — with more than 90 percent of the areas along our rivers and streams (riparian areas) degraded or destroyed, it is past time to stand firm in protecting the rest. Recognize the public trust responsibility for the state's streambeds.
9. **Say no to raids on the Heritage Fund** — this is critical to our parks and wildlife and the dollars are already dwindling due to lower lottery revenues. Keep the parks open and funded. Parks and wildlife are important to Arizona's environment, quality of life, and our economy.
10. **Say the word environmentalist without prefacing it with "radical."**

■ **Sandy Bahr**  
Conservation Outreach Director

## Join a Committee

**Conservation**  
Chair: Don Steuter  
(602) 956-5057, donsteuter@aol.com

**Energy**  
Chair: Jack Foster  
(520) 293-7265, gadflop@aol.com

**Environmental Justice**  
Chair(s): Rob Kulakofsky, colorw@cox.net  
Keith Bagwell, akbagwell@hotmail.com

**Forest Conservation**  
Chair: Sharon Galbreath  
(520) 774-1571 sharoneg@earthlink.net

**Grand Canyon**  
Chair: Jim McCarthy  
(928) 779-3748  
seamusmcarthy@qwestonline.com

**Grazing**  
Chair: Frank Welsh, (602) 277-5080,  
welshfj@yahoo.com

**National Parks & Wild Refuges**  
Chair: Ken Langton (520) 749-3829,  
kplangton@msn.com

**Mining**  
Chair: Don Steuter, (602) 956-5057,  
donsteuter@aol.com

**Recreation**  
Chair: Vacant, contact Conservation Chair

**Toxics**  
Chair: Rob Kulakofsky, colorw@cox.net

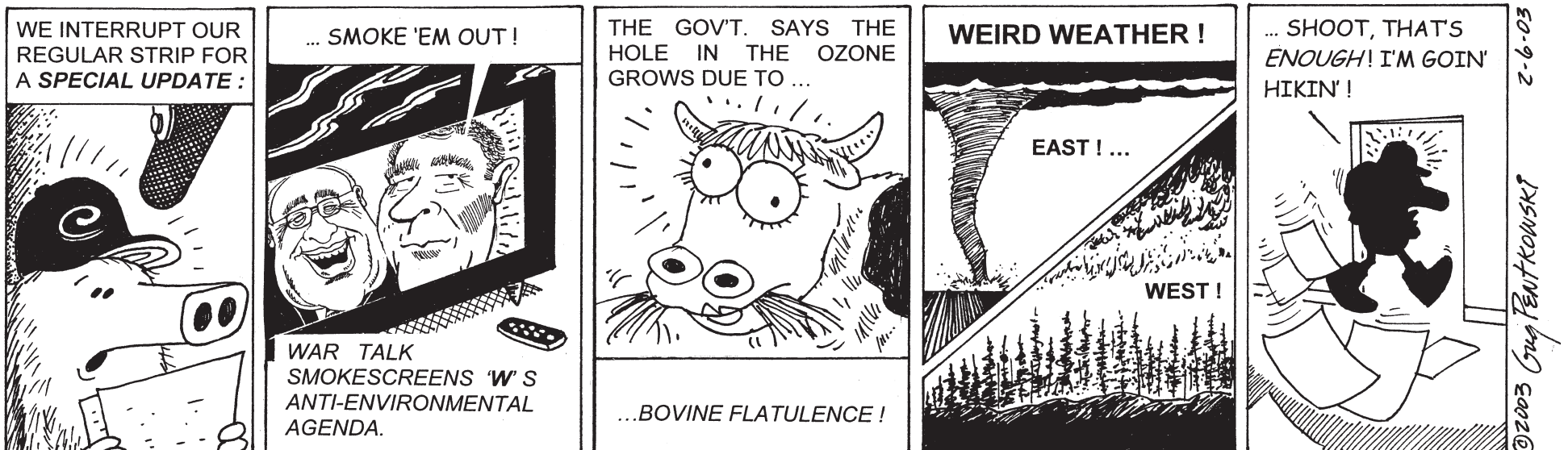
**Urbanism & Urban Sprawl**  
Chair: Chad Campbell,  
chad@azadvocacy.org

**Water & Watershed Protection**  
Chair: Vacant, contact Conservation Chair

**Wilderness**  
Chair: Michelle Pulich  
(480) 820-9172, flora22selva@yahoo.com

**Wildlife & Endangered Species**  
Chair: Kathy Roediger,  
kroediger@aol.com

## Beyond the Slab by GREG PENTKOWSKI



©2003 Greg Pentkowski 2-6-03

# Call & Echo

As a member of the Sierra Club, have you ever had a "burning" environmental question that you wanted an expert to answer? In each issue, the *Echo* will feature questions focusing on environmental concerns from our members that will be researched and answered by one of our committee chairs who focus on that particular issue. If we don't know the answer, we will find someone who does. You do not need to include your name. If you feel you have a question that you think other members would benefit from and want to learn more about, please send your question to:

**Sierra Club — Grand Canyon Chapter  
Editor, Canyon Echo**  
202 E. McDowell Dr. Ste. 277  
Phoenix, AZ 85004  
heidi.slagle@sierraclub.org

## Call to the Canyon

**How has President Bush worked to undermine our environmental protections?**

■ **Halina Szyposzynski**  
Phoenix, Ariz.

## Echo Response

**P**resident Bush has not succeeded so far in getting major conservation laws repealed directly — clearly an unpopular move with the American public — but instead has used the "stealth" tactic of weakening important programs through lack of enforcement or delay to achieve the same ends.

The list of recent setbacks is long. It includes Bush's refusal to sign the Kyoto accords on global warming; efforts to drill for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and other sensitive areas; proposals to limit public involvement regarding forest decisions — putting timber companies in charge; resistance to implementation of a "roadless" plan for national forests; exemptions from environmental laws for the Defense Department; reversal of a ban on snowmobiles in Yellowstone National Park; elimination of important new source review requirements relative to cleaning up older, dirtier power plants and factories; removal of restrictions that kept coal mining companies from dumping material from mountaintop mining into rivers and streams; and implementation of policies to relax Clean Water Act protection for so-called isolated wetlands — that means important wildlife habitat, and the list goes on.

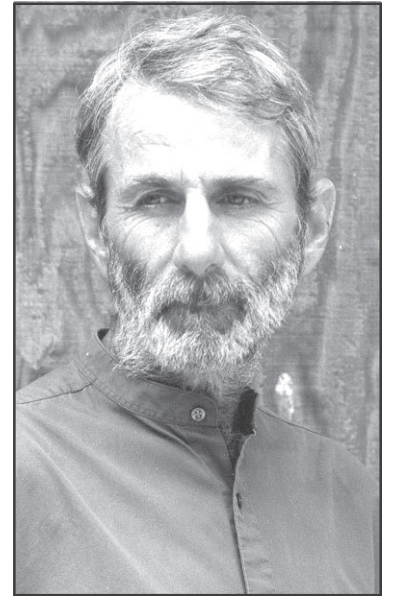
- **Sandy Bahr**  
Conservation Outreach Director
- **Rob Smith**  
Southwest Regional Staff Director

## Long Time Conservationist and Wildlands Advocate, Mike Seidman, Passes Away

Mike Seidman passed away in Phoenix, Ariz. on December 31, 2002. Mike spent more than 30 years of his life advocating for the protection of wildlife and the habitat they depend upon in the arid Southwest and Northern Mexico. He was instrumental in the reintroduction of the Mexican Gray Wolf and the black-footed ferret and worked tirelessly and advocated on behalf of the black-tailed prairie dog, beaver, jaguar, desert tortoise and other species of concern.

Mike served as the Conservation Officer for the Arizona Zoological Society and the Phoenix Zoo. He served on the Board of the Directors for the Arizona Wilderness Coalition and the Sky Island Alliance, and was a member of the Grazing Clearing House, Arizona Riparian Council, Middle Gila Conservation Partnership, Sierra Club's Grand Canyon Chapter and the Sonoita Valley Planning Partnership. Mike brought knowledge, integrity and passion to every project, discussion, and debate. Whether one agreed or disagreed with Mike, he was highly respected for his unwavering efforts to protect those places dear to all Arizonans. We miss you, Mike.

Those wishing to express their appreciation for Mike Seidman and his work may direct memorial contributions to the Sky Island Alliance at P.O. Box 41165, Tucson, Arizona 85717-1165.



**True Conservationist:** Mike Seidman shared his knowledge and love of nature and wildlife with the Grand Canyon Chapter. Photo courtesy of Dick George.

## Above & Beyond the Call of Duty

**Thank you for making Environmental Legislative Day a huge success!**

Thank you to all of the volunteers and staff that helped make Environmental Legislative Day a great event. Special thanks to **Don Steuter** and **Heidi Slagle** for getting the truck, the awning, food and drinks, and tables from storage. It meant a lot of lugging around.

We really appreciate all of the assistance with clean up as well. Thank you to the folks at the Legislative Council for making it easy to do this event at the Capitol and working with us on the logistics.

Each year we learn a little something about how to improve the event. If you have thoughts on that, please do not hesitate to share them with Sandy Bahr (602) 253-8633.

**Muchas gracias mis amigos!**

**Thank you to the following organizations that have helped our conservation programs!**

We want to acknowledge REI for their help and willingness to let us use their store for holiday gift wrapping. We appreciate you working with us. Thank you.



**Earth Friends**

P.O. Box 11217 • Jackson, WY 83002

We want to acknowledge Earth Friends for their generous support of the Grand Canyon Chapter. Last year they helped fund our service work relative to Mexican gray wolves. This year they are providing support for the Chapter's "Northern Goshawk and Old Growth Forest Protection Project." We very much appreciate it.

### Volunteers

Robert Ball  
Chad Campbell  
Rachel Gartell  
Rich Genser  
Dave Komm  
Diana Marquez  
Jim McCarthy  
Michelle Pulich  
Kathy Roediger  
Don Steuter  
Dale Volz  
Paul Zemboy

### Speakers

Governor Janet Napolitano  
Susan Culp  
Chad Campbell  
Representative Randy Graf  
Vera Kornylak  
Merle Lustig  
Michael Neary  
Representative Tom O'Halleran

### Contributors

Arizona League of Conservation Voters (underwrote cost of food and rental equipment)  
Fry's for cookies & drinks  
Kathy and Mary Roediger (cookies/bread, they were delicious!)  
Sierra Club

### Special Thanks

Wild at Heart for the birds of prey and helping to educate us about these wonderful creatures.

# Policy impacts our wild treasures

Arizona has 59 federally listed endangered or threatened species, including 40 animals and 19 plants. We have more species on the path to extinction than 41 other states in the United States.

Congress passed the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 1973 to give these species a lifeline and to provide for their recovery. The intent of the act is to "provide a means whereby the ecosystems upon which endangered and threatened species depend may be conserved, and to provide a program for the conservation of these species."

## The Endangered Species Act: A lifeline to species at risk

■ **Sandy Bahr**  
Conservation  
Outreach Director

While the ESA provides a lifeline to species, without a concerted effort to protect habitat and to eliminate the factors that promote species endangerment, these plants and animals are

destined to have a precarious future and many will face extinction. Out of the 32 fish native to Arizona, five are already extinct and 18 are listed as threatened or endangered including the **Apache Trout, Spikedace, Razorback Sucker, and Desert Pupfish**, among others. Threats to these fish species include grazing in riparian zones, stocking of non-native fish, deforestation, road building, water diversion and groundwater pumping. To truly recover them, we need to eliminate and mitigate many of these factors.

Recovering a species after it has been extirpated from its home habitat is a difficult prospect at best and for some may prove impossible. The efforts to recover the **Mexican Gray Wolf** have demonstrated that human inflexibility and intolerance, plus the failure to fully protect these animals under the ESA (they were introduced as experimental and nonessential) will mean this animal has a modified zoo existence at best. The wildlife biologists who know the problems with the program, and a concerted effort by all of us is needed, to ensure the wolves have the space, the habitat, and the protection they need for recovery. The ESA requires that species be added to the list of endangered or threatened species for a number of reasons including habitat destruction and other human activities that negatively impact the species and its chance of survival. It also requires that the agency identify and designate critical habitat for

the species and develop a recovery plan. Neither federal agencies nor private landowners may destroy or adversely modify critical habitat of any listed species without obtaining a "take" permit.

Protection for listed plants is significantly weaker than for animals. The ESA also requires federal agencies to make sure their actions do not jeopardize the continued existence of threatened and endangered species. They must look at timber sales, mining activities, water diversions, road projects, and other activities to determine if it is having a negative impact on a listed species.

Litigation comes as the result of the excessive foot dragging by the government to list species and protect habitat. Rather than strengthen the act, as is needed to better protect healthy ecosystems, there have been numerous attempts to weaken it both in the Congress and administratively. Currently, the Bush administration is ignoring the listing of species and protecting their habitat and is instead keeping them in limbo which ultimately contributes to their demise.

**To learn about how to better protect some of Arizona's endangered wildlife, join us for the native fish workshop on March 22 (details on page 9) and April 19 for a Mexican Wolf service trip. Contact the Chapter office at (602) 253-8633.**

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires basic environmental responsibility and accountability from all federal agencies. Enacted by Congress and signed by the President in 1970, NEPA is intended to ensure that each agency consider the environmental impact of its actions and explore the range of reasonable alternatives for the action. It also provides significant opportunities for public comment and review throughout the process.

Currently the Bush Administration is trying to weaken or gut some of the key NEPA provisions. Under the misnamed "Healthy Forest Initiative", the Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management could say an area in the forest is at "high risk of fire" and that the logging is a fire reduction strategy. Then they can avoid the provisions in NEPA and public scrutiny and involvement. They use the

excuse of expediting projects. In doing so, they eliminate two crucial elements to environmental protection and our democratic system — public involvement and government responsibility and accountability.

NEPA makes it difficult for the government to ignore the public and while it does not ensure that the least environmentally damaging action is chosen, it does mean the government has to look at it and also has to examine the possibility of taking no action. It is critical that we participate and comment throughout the process to protect the air, water,

and land, and that our government is held accountable for its actions.

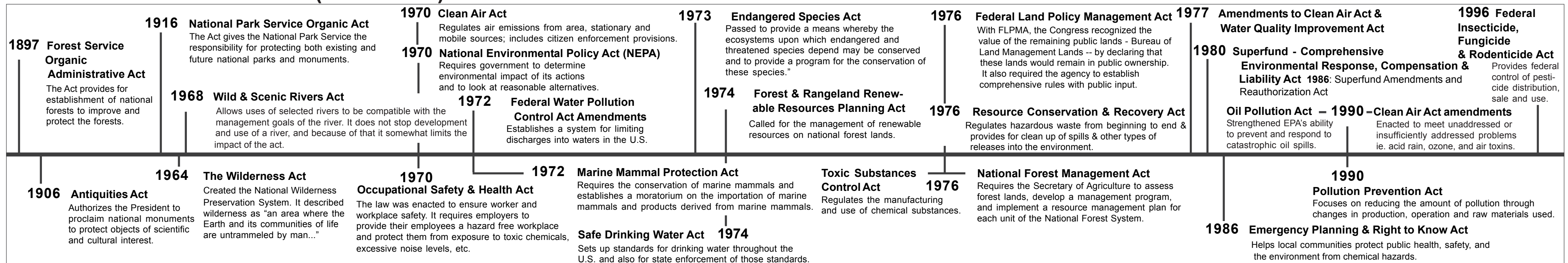
The heart of NEPA is the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). An EIS is required if three basic requirements are met: the proposed action is federal, qualifies as a "major action," and has a significant environmental impact. Opportunity for public comment is provided for throughout the NEPA process including the initial scoping period. The agency must also discuss environmental impacts of the alternatives including direct, indirect and cumulative impacts.

Let the President and his administration know that you care about this and other important environmental protections and that you oppose their efforts to weaken them.

## What is NEPA?

■ **Sandy Bahr**  
Conservation  
Outreach Director

## Environmental Laws: (1897-1996)



## From Public Lands to Private Hands Land, water at risk from Yavapai Ranch Land Exchange

Dr. Fred Ruskin, a Scottsdale anesthesiologist and part-time rancher, has proposed an exchange with the United States Forest Service which would trade approximately 35,000 acres of his land in northern Yavapai County (called the "Yavapai Ranch") for public lands administered by the Forest Service in Yavapai and Coconino counties. The ranchland is configured in what is known as "checkerboard ownership". The private and public lands are arranged in alternate ownership of each other by square mile. Consolidation of land ownership is the rare part of this land exchange which does make sense.

Dr. Ruskin asked Representative J.D. Hayworth, a Maricopa County representative, to propose the trade as a bill before the US Congress. He contends the legislated process takes far less time and is less expensive than the administrative process. Unfortunately, because of the lack of environmental analysis and the political nature of the legislated land exchanges, they actually cost the public more than an agency administrative trade, both in land value given away and in ecological impacts. This may well end up the case with Verde Valley water supplies!

According to the bill which passed Congress in 2002, Dr. Ruskin would receive two huge parcels in the Verde Valley. One is approximately 2,200 acres of presently public land, around and just west of the I-17 Interchange at General Crook Trail in Camp Verde. Another is a parcel within the town limits of Clarkdale, consisting of 820 acres. Oddly enough this is adjacent to an area where residents are plagued with groundwater supply problems. Other lands he would receive are 950 acres adjacent to the Williams airport and golf course, 1,500 acres next to the Flagstaff airport, and summer camp properties in or near Prescott & Flagstaff, amounting to another 437 acres. In the midst of the acreage slated to go into Forest Service hands, Dr. Ruskin would retain an approximately 3,200 acre inholding of private land. This land, next to the **Juniper Mountain Wilderness Area** is the very reason the Forest Service professes that the trade is vital in order to

protect valuable pine forest. Inholdings of this kind are contradictory to the long standing Forest Service policy which would normally make every attempt to acquire inholdings within Public Lands. Along with this precious private property within the forest, Dr. Ruskin will retain the water rights on the land he is trading to the public! The bill presently leaves Dr. Ruskin with the ownership of several wells on the land proposed to go to the Forest Service. Along with the ownership and reservation of development rights to these wells Dr. Ruskin will retain 40-acre easements surrounding each well. Along with the "reserved" water and surrounding land rights, Dr. Ruskin will be granted 20-foot-wide easement rights to run water lines where he wishes across the Public Lands. This will enable him to develop the water uses in whatever manner he chooses.

The impact of this trade on the Verde Valley as it is currently proposed would be disastrous. It would add 3,000 acres of development to our valley, stressing an already arguably insufficient water supply. The questionable water issues in the Verde Valley parcels are made all too obvious by the water supply problems endured by, among others, the neighboring residents in the Haskell Springs area. It would also reduce the value of current private property holdings by adding nearly 5 square miles of developable land to the local market. The loss of public recreational lands to both local residents and visitors would be great. Forest Service lands in the Verde Valley are used extensively for hiking, horseback riding, ATVs, target shooting, hunting, exercising, bird watching, bicycling, picnicking and enjoying nature.

As our population grows on private land, this type of public land will be in greater demand, and in fact, is one of the reasons people move here. Many local families who thought their property would always adjoin Forest Land, could now see their borders filled by residential and commercial developments. It is clear that this trade is good for Dr. Ruskin, but bad for the residents of the Verde Valley. The Verde Valley parcels should be removed entirely from this trade.

At a recent meeting in Sedona Sen. McCain asked for a stack of e mails, waist high, from Verde Valley citizens stating their position on the trade. Tony Gioia and numerous other citizens recommend we request the Verde Valley parcels be removed from the trade. Land values can be equalized within Ruskin/F.S. checkerboard ownership in the Yavapai Ranch area.

Now is the time to have your input heard, while the bill is being rewritten. Please write to Senators McCain and Kyl by email or fax and ask them to remove the two Verde Valley parcels from the Yavapai Ranch Land Exchange bill.

**Senator John McCain**  
email: senator\_mccain@mccain.senate.gov  
Fax: (202) 228-2862 or (602) 952-8702

**Senator Jon Kyl**  
email: http://kyl.senate.gov/con\_form.htm  
Fax: (202) 224-2207 or (602) 957-6838

**Congressman J.D. Hayworth**  
email: jdhayworth@mail.house.gov  
Fax: (202) 225-3263 or (520) 556-8764

**Congressman Rick Renzi**  
P.O. Box 219  
Flagstaff, AZ 86002  
email: rickrenzi@msn.com  
phone: (202) 225-2315  
Fax: (202) 226-9739

You can also fill petitions with signatures and fax them to our representatives: due to anthrax the mail in DC is severely delayed. Kindly retain a copy for yourselves and send a copy to: Tony Gioia, PO Box 464, Camp Verde AZ. 86322  
**Obtain petitions at:** www.panix.com/~genders  
**Please send your letter today; they need to know how you feel!**

- **Tony Gioia**  
Councilmember, Camp Verde, Ariz.
- **Doug Von Gausig**  
dougvg@commspeed.net



Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!

My Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 email \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club  
 Please charge my  Mastercard  Visa  Amex

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES INDIVIDUAL

**INTRODUCTORY**  \$25

Contributions, gifts and dues to the 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 \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

Enclose check and mail to:  
**Sierra Club, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968**



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

## Green River Canoe or Kayak Float Trip April 26–30



Car pool to Moab Utah (8 hr. drive) for our outfitter shuttle to Crystal Geysers on the Green River. Float/paddle for five days through beautiful Labyrinth Canyon camping at night on sandy beaches. Includes canoes, shuttle service, equipment, and meals. You must bring or rent your own kayak. Sponsored by the Grand Canyon Chapter Fund Raising Committee. Donation of \$250.00 is requested.

To reserve please send a deposit of \$50.00 to Sierra Club Grand Canyon Chapter, 202 E. McDowell Rd., Ste. 277, Phoenix, AZ 85004.

Contact: Bev Full (480) 595-2306 or bfull@cox.net.

## Wilderness Notes from the Lime Creek Hilton

Outings can be the touchstone to wilderness, and wilderness can lead to many other issues and concerns. For example, a love of wilderness can lead to the absolute hatred of urban sprawl. A love of wilderness may also lead to an appreciation of the flora and fauna found in our wild areas. A love of wilderness may lead an activist to take a hard look at grazing. Hiking in wilderness may make a person aware of our poor air quality. Wilderness can make us think about our historical and pre-historical past and the need to protect artifacts from that past. Wilderness can even make us think about the political process in a positive light.

The Lime Creek roadless area transitions from Upper Sonoran Desert to Pinyon Juniper Woodlands. Many slopes with a southern exposure are covered with Saguaro Cacti. The riparian corridor of Lime Creek proper supports extended populations of Cottonwood, Sycamore, Walnut, and Willow trees. In winter, the trees form a sinuous and beautiful corridor of fall colors visible for miles, both upstream and downstream, visible from the ruins across from the cabin. Springtime wild flower shows are spectacular.

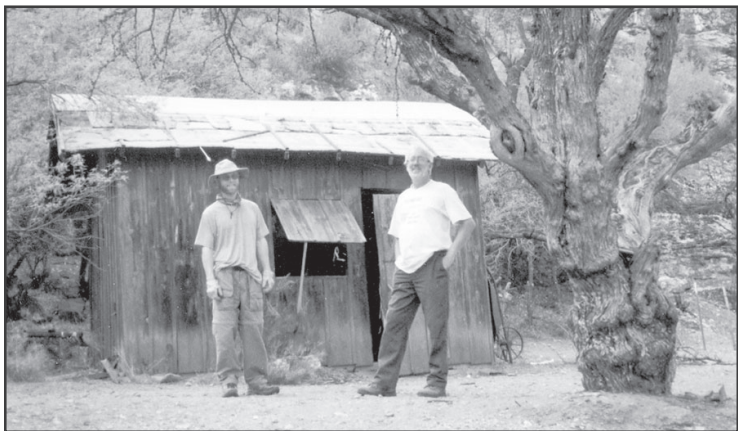
Sunset Mountain provides a visually prominent focal point that is easily seen from almost everywhere up and down the Lime Creek drainage. It is not the highest point in the area but is the scenic backdrop that is visible from the cabin. It is also the first feature you notice when you top the crest hiking in from Walnut Springs.

The Lime Creek roadless area, along with all of Arizona's wilderness areas, are "*Remnants of a Deeper Purity*" that once existed prior to the heavy hand of man upon the landscape. Wilderness is, at once, both the antithesis and the antidote to an overcivilized and overdeveloped state. It is safe to say that as long as the bulldozers keep rolling and destroying, we have a right and a sacred obligation, to seek more wilderness areas, more National Parks and Monuments, more urban open spaces, more county parks, more scenic easements on state trust lands, and more Wild and Scenic rivers. In short, more of anything that preserves our state in its God-given natural state.

Hiking Lime Creek makes one realize that urban sprawl is a crime against the land and the creator of the land. Calls, letters, faxes and email to the Tonto National Forest as well as involvement by volunteers in grazing allotment decisions will be needed to guarantee a management strategy that makes riparian values, archeological and cultural values, wildlife values, wilderness based recreational opportunities, and floral diversity a top priority.

■ Jim Vaaler

\* Jim Vaaler would like to acknowledge and thank "Black Tape for a Blue Girl."



**Wild Accommodations:** To wilderness lovers this is the "Hilton". Lime Creek Cabin offers a base camp to Jim Vaaler (right) and his friend on their exploration of Lime Creek. Photo courtesy of Jim Vaaler, Palo Verde Group.

Tonto National Forest has an excellent opportunity to properly manage a beautiful riparian area. The greater Lime Creek roadless area is about 35,000 acres. Wilderness designation or some form of an administrative management plan (one with teeth) would be very helpful in helping to protect Lime Creek. Wilderness values abound in the Lime Creek roadless area. A complete inventory and cataloguing of archeological sites has probably never been fully accomplished by professional archeologists.

The flowing sections of Lime Creek (upstream of Long Canyon and downstream of the fence and gate at the 2,600 ft. contour interval) would make a perfect location for the reintroduction of native fish populations.

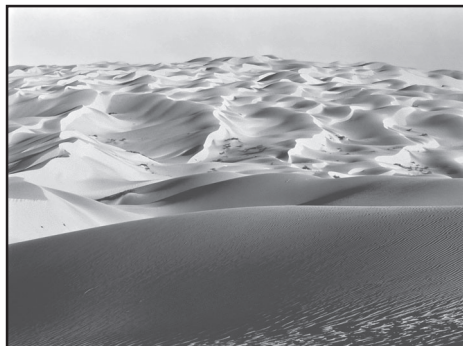
The travelway from Walnut Springs leads to the Lime Creek Cabin. The cabin makes an excellent base for dayhikes into the surrounding countryside. Other travelways exist in upper Lime Creek upstream of Long Canyon, traversing an incredible riparian area of permanently flowing water before heading north up Long Canyon. The lower end of Lime Creek, closer to Horseshoe Reservoir, has a very old travelway.

### Algodones Dunes Photographic Exhibit

*A visually stunning and educational exhibit exploring the unique and fragile Algodones Sand Dunes of the Sonoran Desert.*

**MARCH** - See selected exhibit photos at:  
 LUX Coffeebar  
 4404 N. Central Ave., No. 1  
 Phoenix, AZ 85012

**MARCH & APRIL** - See the full exhibition at:  
 The Phoenix Zoo  
 (near the reptile display)  
 455 N. Galvin Parkway  
 Phoenix, Arizona 85008



Call Michelle at 602-628-9909 for more information or to make a donation to help fund the tour of this important exhibition. See a slideshow of Andrew Harvey's incredible photographs of the Algodones Sand Dunes at [www.biologicaldiversity.org](http://www.biologicaldiversity.org) (click under "What's New On Our Site").

Sponsored by the Center for Biological Diversity, Desert Protective Council, Natural Trails and Waters Coalition, Sierra Club and [visualjourneys.net](http://visualjourneys.net).

## Something Fishy? You bet! Fossil Creek on Sat. March 22, 10 AM—3 PM

Please join us for a fun and informative workshop on Arizona's native fish. This Native Fish workshop is an effective tool to expand awareness of native fish issues. Learn how to I.D. fish, life history requirements, threat mitigation, habitat, and sampling techniques. Improve the lot of native aquatic species across the landscape. Plan on a short hike (1 mile), wear shoes or boots that you do not mind getting wet, bring waders if you have them, and finally water, a hat, and sunscreen are a must. For more information on the workshop, carpooling, and meeting location, plus to RSVP, please contact:

Sandy Bahr  
(602) 253-8633  
grand.canyon.chapter@sierraclub.org



at Scottsdale Community College  
Presents a Spring Lecture Series:

### Reading, Writing, and Restoration

<p><i>Lecture One</i> Thursday, February 27 7:30 pm - 8:45 pm</p> <p><b>Writers, Poets &amp; the Establishment of Ironwood National Monument</b></p> <p>Presented by: <i>Alison Hawthorne Deming*</i> Associate Professor in Creative Writing Department of English University of Arizona</p>	<p><i>Lecture Three</i> Thursday, March 27 7:30 pm - 8:45 pm</p> <p><b>I Live in Town... ...Why Should I Care About Biodiversity?</b></p> <p>Presented by: <i>Ms. Mary Irish*</i> Garden Writer</p>	<p><i>Lecture Five</i> Thursday, April 24 7:30 pm - 8:45 pm</p> <p><b>Letters from Browns Ranch</b></p> <p>Presented by: <i>SCC Students, CNUW Staff &amp; Volunteers</i></p>
<p><i>Lecture Two</i> Wednesday, March 12 7:30 pm - 8:45 pm</p> <p><b>The Restoration of a Lawn</b></p> <p>Presented by: <i>Dr. John Alcock*</i> Regents' Professor of Biology Department of Biology Arizona State University</p>	<p><i>Lecture Four</i> Wednesday, April 16 7:30 pm - 8:45 pm</p> <p><b>Wildlife Restoration in Arizona</b></p> <p>Presented by: <i>Dave Brown*</i> Faculty Associate Department of Biology Arizona State University</p>	<p>Free and Open to the Public</p> <p>All lectures Meet in the Turquoise Room at Scottsdale Community College</p> <p>For information call the Center for Native and Urban Wildlife at 480-423-6730</p> <p><small>*Author's book will be available for purchase</small></p>

*Providing Healthy Indoor Environments and Safe Products for Clean Living*

**www.ecoclean-az.com**

Air Purifiers/Humidifiers/Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning/Non-toxic Paints/Sealers/Cleaning Products

**EcoClean**  
3511 N. 70th St.  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
(480) 947-5286

Call for a free catalog or visit our showroom

**NEW Classified Ads** (\$8 for 30 words or less for each issue. \$48 for entire year. 25 cents for each additional word. Reaches more than 12,000 readers throughout Arizona. To place an ad, please mail or email your copy to the Editor. We are not accepting personals. Please make your check payable to Sierra Club, Grand Canyon Chapter).

**New Age Social Group:** A Non-Profit, valley-wide social group for New Agers, ongoing activities. Singles and couples welcome. Sign up for our email newsletter at: [www.idowebpages.com/nasg/index.html](http://www.idowebpages.com/nasg/index.html).

**\$5 Off**  
... plus Frequent Reader Bonus.  
Good through 4/30/03 on purchases over \$25. Not valid with other discounts. One coupon per customer.

"Best Thing to do without leaving town"  
- Phoenix Magazine

**Wildflower Bread Company & espresso bar next door**

**Changing Hands BOOKSTORE**  
New & Used Buy, Sell & Trade **Sale Books 40% to 60% Off**  
Author Events • Kids' Events  
Cards • Journals • Classes • Book Groups  
Gifts • Pottery • Windchimes

SW CORNER OF MCCLINTOCK & GUADALUPE ☎ 480.730.0205 ☎ [www.changinghands.com](http://www.changinghands.com)

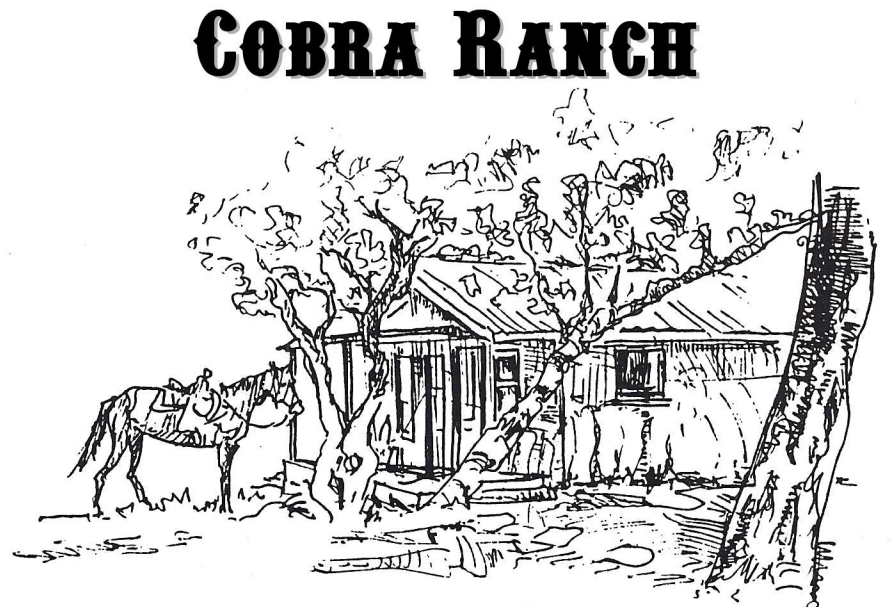
**MOVING?**

Paste the current mailing label here and write in new address below.  
(Please allow 4-6 weeks processing time.)

My current mailing address is shown above. Please change to address below. **Thank you.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:  
**Sierra Club**  
P.O. Box 52968  
Boulder, Colorado  
80322-2968



## ARAVAIPA CANYON

Experience southeastern Arizona's premier riparian habitat at the historic Cobra Ranch. Adjacent to the Nature Conservancy Preserve and the Aravaipa Wilderness. Wildlife abounds - a birdwatcher's paradise!

## LODGING

Offering fully equipped and furnished 1 - 3 bedroom cabins accommodating groups up to 20+. Ideal for corporate retreats. Inquire about authentic Old West group adventures. For further information concerning rates and availability, please call (520)296.4551 or email



[info@cobraranch.com](mailto:info@cobraranch.com)  
[www.cobraranch.com](http://www.cobraranch.com)



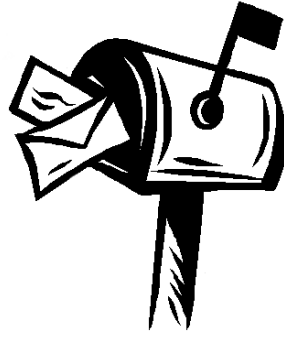
# Happenings Around the State

**You are invited!** The Sierra Club Grand Canyon Chapter is composed of five groups (see page two for listings). Conservation, political activism, and administrative work are just a few areas which offer diverse opportunities for activism. **All are open to members interested in learning more about the Sierra Club.** We are working to make this world a better, more livable place. **We need your help!** For more information and meetings/events near you, please check out our website: [www.arizona.sierraclub.org](http://www.arizona.sierraclub.org) - click on meetings.

## Look in your mailbox: You can make a difference!

In March we mailed you an appeal for funds. These contributions make a big difference and are an important part of our Chapter's budget. When you make a donation to the Chapter, you support the Sierra Club's work in your own backyard. You allow us to continue our work to protect wilderness and wildlife, to improve the quality of our cities and promote the enjoyment of nature.

**Thank you for your support.**



## Chapter Announcements

**Mar. 18 (Tues) Political Meeting 5:30 PM**, Contact: Chad Campbell; chadc100@hotmail.com. **Fundraising Meeting, 6:30 PM**. Contact Rich Genser, RexGnsr@aol.com. Both meetings at 202 E. McDowell, Ste. 277.

**Apr. 4 (Fri): Copy Deadline for Canyon Echo Theme: Water/Energy**  
Contact: Heidi Slagle, (602) 253-9140 or heidi.slagle@sierraclub.org. See writer guidelines on pg. 2. Contact Editor before writing. Thank you.

**Apr. 12 (Sat): Chapter Ex Com and Conservation Meeting**  
Contact: (602) 253-8633 for details.

**Apr. 28 (Mon): Canyon Echo Mailing Party, 2-8 PM (stop by anytime).**  
Help us save money and join us as we swap stories and paste on labels.

Announcing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual

## Caring for Creation Conference

**Saturday, March 8**

Community Christian Church,  
1701 S. College Ave., Tempe, Ariz.

Eight workshops, lunch and dinner to include 120 different foods from 7 different cultures, book sales, information displays, music, and excellent networking opportunities

For more information or to register:

Visit: <http://home.earthlink.net/~caringforcreation>

Email: [caringforcreation@earthlink.net](mailto:caringforcreation@earthlink.net)

Call: (480) 967-5266

Sponsored by the Environmental Task Force of the Arizona Ecumenical Council



## Sea of Cortez

**April 5-12 Lindblad Expeditions**

Cruise to the wild and beautiful Sea of Cortez with Linblad Expeditions, aboard the *Sea Lion*. Lindblad Expeditions is noted for its conservation ethic and adventurous, educational trips with great food and company. Join us for this once in a lifetime opportunity.

- 8-day environmental educational cruise
- Departs April 5 - Guaymas, Mexico
- Returns April 12 - La Paz, Baha, CA

Experienced naturalists will be on board to enhance your enjoyment as you meander among remote islands, stop for walks on deserted beaches, snorkel with friendly sea lions, and kayak in pristine waters. For the less adventurous, zodiac forays will be arranged to look for the largest creature ever to live on Earth, the blue whale, as he travels these biologically diverse waters. Passengers will enjoy lingering over beach barbecues, observing sea birds, and enjoying the sunset. Cost of trip includes double occupancy cabin, all meals, services, snorkel gear, wet suits, kayaks, zodiacs, and educational services. **For Reservations:** Send a check for \$300 made out to: **Linblad Expeditions. Mail to:** Linblad Expeditions c/o Grand Canyon Chapter, 202 E. McDowell Rd., Ste. 277, Phoenix, AZ 85004. For more information and a brochure, contact **Bev Full**, (480) 595-2306 or [bfull@cox.net](mailto:bfull@cox.net).

Photo: Sea lion. Courtesy of freestockphotos.com.

## Keepin' Groups in the Loop

### Palo Verde Group (Phoenix and suburbs)

Meetings are open to public. **Sierra Club office, 202 E. McDowell Rd., Conference Room, Second Fl.** For directions, please call or email the contact person listed. Thank you.

**Mar. 13 & Apr. 13 (Thu) Political Committee, 6 PM, Sierra Club office** City council elections will be held in March 11th city council primary election results. In April, the group will review the upcoming May 20th city council general election. There may be run-off contests in various locales such as Apache Junction, Carefree, Cave Creek, Gilbert, Goodyear, Peoria, and Surprise, as well a recall election in Fountain Hills and a referendum in Buckeye regarding the proposed Douglas Ranch development. The political committee will be working with candidates who may be interested in the Sierra Club endorsement process: developing questionnaires, reviewing results, and recommending endorsements to the executive committee. **Contact:** Ted Gartner, (480) 961-0370 or [gartneraz@netzero.net](mailto:gartneraz@netzero.net).

**Mar. 13 & Apr. 10 (Thu) Conservation Committee, 7 PM, Sierra Club office** Discuss issues related to desert preservation, forest protection, wildlife and endangered species, energy conservation and growth management. **Contact:** Don Steuter, (602) 956-5057 or [donsteuter@aol.com](mailto:donsteuter@aol.com).

**Mar. 13 & Apr. 10 (Thu) Executive Committee, 8:30 PM, Sierra Club office** Review of group reports, discussion of local issues, and group business. **Contact:** Ted Gartner, (480) 961-0370 or [gartneraz@netzero.net](mailto:gartneraz@netzero.net).

**Apr. 9 (Weds) Wolves and Wilderness, 6:30 PM, Phx Zoo auditorium,** Join the Wilderness Committee for an informative evening with great speakers (see pg. 2). **Contact:** Michelle Pulich (480) 820-9172 or [flora22selva@yahoo.com](mailto:flora22selva@yahoo.com).

**Inner City Outings (ICO)** Join us for laughter, food and fun the second Friday of each month, at the Willow House, McDowell Rd., 6:30 PM. Please call Denise Berringer-Wood (602) 867-3017 or email [dberringerwood@yahoo.com](mailto:dberringerwood@yahoo.com) to confirm.

### Rincon Group (Tucson and suburbs)

**Mar. 11 (Tues) Be A T.V. Star!, 6 PM**

Volunteer to take pledges as we go to KUAT-TV for the PBS Affiliate's pledge drive. Get on T.V. Call (520) 747-5078.

The following meetings are held at the Historic Y Main Floor Meeting Room, 738 N. 5th Avenue near University Blvd.

**March 13 (Thu) 7 Issues/Conservation Committee Mtg., 7 PM followed by Special Program.** Trevor Hare and Matt Skroch of Sky Island Alliance will give us background information on Sky Island and update us on the Wildlife Monitoring Program. Hosted by Rich Genser. Open to all. Refreshments served.

**April 10 (Thu) Issues/Conservation Committee Mtg., 7 PM followed by Special Program.** "Rafting the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge- A Journey of the Spirit." In June 2002 Judy Bassnet fulfilled a dream of fifteen years by rafting the Hulahula River through the heart of the Refuge and section 1002 where oil drilling is proposed. For 11 days she camped, hiked, and experienced the beauty of the tundra, the Brooks Range, the wildlife, and the coastal plain...through snow-fall, sleet, frigid rains and the midnight sun! Share her spirit and journey through photos and stories. Judy is an administrator at the University of Arizona, and is now serving as the Arizona Field Coordinator of the Alaska Coalition. (See article in the Rincon Group's Newsletter). All welcome. Reservations suggested. Call (520) 747-5078.

**March 27 and April 27 (Thu) Executive Committee Mtg., 7 PM** Committee Reports and discussion of club business. Open to all Sierra Club members.

# Enjoy and Explore Arizona

**MAR 1 (SAT) "C+" Townsend Butte Dayhike** (2 mi., 450 ft. EC) Half-day hike in the desert mountains near the town of Cleator, 40 miles north of Phoenix. A steep, washed out road leads past the St. Johns Mine which AZ Game and Fish has turned into a bat cave, plus a few other vertical shafts (not going inside). There are 4 horizontal tunnels at the end of the road we can check out, then we'll scramble up a steep trail to the top of the butte for some great views of the ghost town of Turkey Creek and a good portion of the Southern Bradshaw Range. We'll stop for a late lunch at a rustic little place called The Bumble Bee Trading Post. Limit 15. Contact: Randy Smith (602) 944-1905. **Phoenix**

**MAR 5 (WED) "C" Walk After Work, 4 PM** Contact: Carolyn York for information (928) 541-1952. **Prescott**

**MAR 8 (SAT) "C+" Lime Creek Dayhike** (under 8 mi., under 1000 ft. EC) Lime Creek forms beautiful riparian habitat as it follows its eastern course to the Verde River. We'll hike this Sonoran Desert oasis to see petroglyphs and possibly spring flowers. A minor cleanup effort will be included. Contact: Jim Vaaler (602) 553-8208. **Phoenix**



**Upbeat and Positive:** Conservation Outreach Director, Sandy Bahr, "grins and bears it" through the legislative session. Photo courtesy of Bob Ball, Palo Verde Group.

**MAR 8 (SAT) "B" Southern Peak 3195 Dayhike** (7 mi., 1600 ft. EC) The ridge southeast of 3195 divides the world, with outposts of civilization on the right and a colorful wilderness on the left. We'll climb the southern 3195 ft. peak by way of Bulldog Saddle, then traverse this rugged rocky ridgeline. Hike through colorful Miocene lava flows in the Saguaro-Palo Verde forest. Contact: Ted Tenny (480) 396-3389. **Phoenix**

**MAR 8 (SAT) "B-" South Mountain Dayhike** (7 mi., 1500 ft. EC) Learn a bit about the history of South Mountain Park and the visionary leadership that made this the world's largest municipal park back in 1924. Such as the Alta trail hike in the uncrowded western portion of the park. Expect a long uphill the first 2 miles of the hike. Lunch at a nearby restaurant will follow the hike. Contact: Mike Schwarz (602) 840-0019 or malthusian@mindspring.com. **Phoenix**

**MAR 9 (SUN) "B" Picacho Peak Dayhike** (5.1 mi., 1500 ft. EC) Spectacular views and drop-offs, too! Not for the acrophobic, but no technical expertise needed either. Enjoy a great workout to one of the best panoramas in Arizona, ending with a quiet hike through

a cholla forest. Bring work gloves for the fixed cables in the hairy areas. Contact: Jon Radtke (602) 351-7415 or jradtke602@yahoo.com. **Phoenix**

**MAR 12 (WED) "C" Walk After Work, 4 PM** Contact: Carolyn York (928) 541-1952. **Prescott**

**MAR 15 (SAT) "B+" Peak 3269 Dayhike** (7 mi., 2300 ft. EC) Brilliantly colored peak 3269 rises so dramatically over the east valley as to upstage its higher neighbor, Dome Mountain. Well, we're going to climb both of them. This highly scenic peakbag involves an arduous climb from Bulldog Canyon up to Bulldog Gunsight Pass, awesome views from both peaks, and a rocky east side descent that is for the sure-footed, not the faint-hearted. Contact: Ted Tenny (480) 396-3389. **Phoenix**

**MAR 15 (SAT) Bobcat Boulder and the Loaf Rock Climbing** Learn about the current status of the proposed McDowell Sonoran Preserve that encompasses these adjacent crags on Little Granite Mountain in northeast Scottsdale, and set up a variety of top rope routes ranging from 5.6 and up, such as Shake-n-Bake (5.6), Sweet Surprise (5.7), and Snakes Are Poodles Too (5.8). Sponsored by Palo Verde Group Mountaineering. Requires Sierra Club membership, rock climbing experience, and the following equipment: climbing harness, climbing shoes, belay device, helmet, 3 locking carabiners, prusik cords or other ascending device, and personal anchor sling. Bring ropes, extra slings and carabiners. Contact: Connie or Ted Gartner (480) 961-0370 or twofast@primenet.com. **Phoenix**

**MAR 16 (SUN) Beginners' Camping Clinic 8-11 AM, Popular Store, Mesa** Learn all you need to get started in car camping from the Sierra Club and Popular Outdoor Outfitters. We're turning Popular stores into classrooms with two instructors, hands-on demos, question and answer sessions, camp planning, tips and more. Learn about: tents, stoves, lanterns, hot propane camp showers sleeping bags and outdoor cooking materials. Find out how to locate remote and scenic camp sites, how to stay found, GPS demos, portable canopies, and receive a 10% discount on anything in the store. Come see what you've been missing. Intermediate and experienced campers welcome. Held at the Popular store, 5916 E. McKellips Rd., McKellips and Recker, Mesa. Limit 20. Contact: Randy Smith (602) 944-1905. **Mesa**

**MAR 16 (SUN) "B" Robbers Roost & Geronimo Cave Dayhike** (8 mi., 2000 ft. EC) A study in the history of Old West legends as we journey back in time to find a pair of reputed hideouts for outlaws and Apaches in the Superstition Mountains. Steep and challenging ascent of the Carney Springs trail, and features a bit of route-finding as we navigate our way through some occasionally brushy and inhospitable terrain. Contact: Jim Roosen (480) 983-7344 or Ted Gartner, gartneraz@netzero.net. **Phoenix**

**MAR 16 (SUN) "B" Milagrosa to Molino Dayhike, Santa Catalina Mtns.** (8 mi. OW, 2800 ft. EC) I have a topographic map that shows a 4x4 road heading out of Milagrosa Canyon to Whitetail Tank. Does it exist? Let's find out. Once we get to Whitetail Tank, we'll continue climbing to the top the ridge that forms the southeastern side of Molino Canyon. Then we'll hike out to Point 4831 and follow the ridge back to the saddle where

## HAPPY (AND SAFE) TRAILS! FIRST AID CLASS

Please join us for this important first aid training. The Sierra Club requires that all Sierra Club hike leaders have first aid certification. If you are interested in becoming a hike leader or assistant hike leader, a good first step is to attend this first aid and CPR class on **Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup> 1 PM—5 PM** at the Sierra Club, 202 E. McDowell Rd. (second floor conference room) in Phoenix. Cost: \$25. Snacks and drinks provided. Scholarships available. For more information or to sign up, contact **Sandy Bahr**, (602) 253-8633 or grand.canyon.chapter@sierraclub.org.



**First Aid to the Earth:** Sierra Club intern, **Rachel Gartell**, lends a hand and greets attendees at the Environmental Legislative Day, Feb. 4. As a political science major, she is working at the Chapter office for the semester. Photo courtesy of Bob Ball, Palo Verde Group.

it's crossed by the Arizona Trail. We'll follow the trail down to the Molino Basin. Expect the usual "route finding," including plenty of off-trail hiking and possible physical encounters with shin daggers and Manzanita and maybe a bit of rock scrambling. There will be a short car shuttle. Bring plenty of water and a flexible attitude. Contact: Sid Hirsh (520) 326-0583. **Tucson**

**MAR 18 (TUE) Hike Leaders Planning Meeting, 7 PM** Time for our bi-monthly pilgrimage to the mecca of outdoor adventure (Ariz. Bob's house). We'll raid the kitchen cupboards, drink all the cold ones, and talk about all the hiking, biking, backpacking, camping, caving, rock climbing, and other outdoor activities we'll be leading in May, June, and beyond, as well as other social activities. Plan an event, offer suggestions, or just see what the heck we're up to. If you can't make it to the meeting, but have an event that you're planning to put on the calendar, send your idea in advance to the

outings editors (Alan Stater, astater@cox.net for the *Singles* newsletter and Jerry Nelson, peakbagger2@juno.com for the *Canyon Echo*). Contact: Ted Gartner, (480) 961-0370, gartneraz@netzero.net. **Phoenix**

**MAR 21-23 (FRI-SUN) "B/C" Alamo Canyon Backpack, Organ Pipe National Monument** (4 mi. RT, little EC/12 mi. RT, 2400 ft. EC) We will spend a few days at a primitive campsite far away from the main RV campsite near the north end of the Monument. One day will hike cross country to the top of Ajo Mtn. and another day do a short hike along Alamo Wash. If we have good rains this winter, there may be a spectacular wildflower show across this remote Sonoran desert. The cost, in addition to sharing driving expenses, will be a \$6/vehicle entrance plus \$5/site/night. Limit: 5 people per site allowed and a total of 4 sites available on a first come, first serve basis. Contact: David Martin (520) 795-9159 or deugenemartin@yahoo.com. **Tucson**

## Hiking Guidelines

The Sierra Club is a nationwide organization with active local outings for members and non-members. Please join us as we make friends and explore life enriching interests. Simply find an outing by date and phone the contact for directions, reservations, time and additional information.

### RESTRICTIONS: NO FIREARMS, RADIOS OR PETS.

Outings are by reservation. Call early (group limit 20). Each hike is rated for degree of difficulty and risk by the leader.

**"A"** +16 miles or + 3,000 ft. elevation change (EC)

**"B"** 8-16 miles and 1,500-3,000 ft. EC

**"C"** 3-8 miles, 500-1,500 ft. EC

**RT** Round Trip

**"D"** - 3 miles and 500 ft. EC

**OW** One Way

Trip leader has absolute authority to question trip participants as to their equipment, conditioning and experience before and during the trip. Sierra Club liability covers leaders only. Each person is responsible for his or her own first aid equipment. If you are injured, notify the leader immediately. If you leave the trip, with or without the leaders permission, you are considered to be on your own until you rejoin the group. Hikers are encouraged to carpool and share the driver's fuel expense. Suggested compensation is 5 cents/mile. Donations accepted from all participants at \$1 (member) and \$3 (nonmember). Money is collected by the leader and deposited with the group treasurer. For more information, call Ted Gartner, (480) 961-0370.

# Enjoy and Explore Arizona

**MAR 22 (SAT) "A" Golden Dome Life March** (12 mi., +/- 1,800-2,400 ft. EC) Three ridges come together in the heart of the Goldfields at the brilliant Golden Dome. We're going to take two of them on this one-way hike for fast, strong, and sure-footed skywalkers! We'll traverse the rugged rocky ridgeline from the Razorback, climb the Golden Dome, and then walk the wild and woolly westward ridge to peak 3097 before making our Brady Canyon descent. The Golden Dome is a volcanic tuff formation: be advised that this is one "tuff" hike. Also, the challenging middle mile is exploratory. Come prepared for a full day of boulder scrambling and bushwhacking over wildly spectacular mountains! 22 mile auto shuttle. Contact: Ted Tenny (480) 396-3389. **Phoenix**

**MAR 22 (SAT) "C" Colton Crater Dayhike & Social** (3mi. RT, 900 ft. elev. gain). Hike to the top of this near perfect volcanic crater north of Flagstaff (.7 mi. to the top). Those still having energy can hike to the bottom of the crater to examine the secondary crater in the center. We will leave or meeting place in Flagstaff mid-morning, have lunch on top of the crater and socialize for pizza afterwards. Moderate to slow pace, great views of not only the Flagstaff volcanic field but the Navajo Res. and some of the Painted Desert. Bring sturdy foot wear for walking on the loose scree, day pack, water and lunch. Contact: Bob Audretsch (928) 638-2077 (before 9 PM) or e-mail (PREFERRED): bob41@grand-canyon.az.us.



**Advocating:** Attendees from Environmental Legislative Day listen to series of speakers. Left to right: Michelle Pulich, Michelle Harrington, Kate Mackay, and Don Steuter. Photo courtesy of Bob Ball, Palo Verde Group.

**MAR 23 (SUN) "C" Massacre Grounds Dayhike** (3 mi., little EC) Take a step back into Arizona history to a place where a famous battle took place in 1848 between Apache Indians and Mexican miners who were mining gold from the Superstitions. In the fight, the miners were driven south against the cliffs of the mountain, in a place now known as the Massacre Grounds. If we have rain before the trip we might see a small waterfall. Lunch afterward. Contact: Nick Savinatink (480) 671-5819. **Phoenix**

**MAR 26 (WED) "C" Walk After Work, 4 PM** Contact: Carolyn York (928) 541-1952. **Prescott**

**MAR 29 (SAT) "C" De Anza Trail Dayhike** (4.5 mi. RT, little EC.) We will follow in the footsteps of the Spanish explorer Juan Bautista de Anza as we travel from Tumacacori Mission to the site of the old Spanish Presidio Del Tubac. The trail crosses the Santa Cruz river at least twice, so be

prepared to get your feet wet. We'll also see an old adobe dwelling. Bring a hat, at least 2 liters of water, and sunscreen. Pace: moderate. Contact: David Alexander (520) 887-2049. **Tucson**

**MAR 29 (SAT) "C" Go John Trail in Cave Creek Hike** (less than 5 mi.) The Hohokam Indians, followed by the Tonto Apaches, and also miners seeking gold, once occupied this area. Post hike you will have the opportunity to get up close and personal with live reptiles, bugs and learn more about other critters that lives in the area. Optional "rattlesnake" lunch afterwards. Contact: Steve Yapper@cox.net or (480) 315-0569. **Phoenix**

**MAR 30 (SUN) Beginners' Camping Clinic, 8-11 AM, Popular store, Phoenix** Learn all you need to get started in car camping from the Sierra Club and Popular Outdoor Outfitters. We're turning Popular stores into classrooms with two instructors, hands-on demos, question and answer sessions, camp planning, tips and more. 10% discount. Camping doesn't have to mean roughing it any more. Come see what you've been missing. Held at the Popular store at 2814 W. Bell Rd, at 29th Ave. and Bell, Phoenix. Limit 20. Contact: Randy Smith (602) 944-1905. **Phoenix**

**APR 2 (WED) "C" Walk After Work, 4 PM** Contact: Carolyn York (928) 541-1952. **Prescott**

**APR 5 (SAT) "C+" Siphon Draw Dayhike** (3 Mi., 1100 ft. EC) Come join me in testing our cardiovascular and hiking skills in this 1 1/2 mile (3 miles RT) 1100 ft. elevation change hike, in the beautiful Superstition Mountains. Fantastic views of the east valley where the trail ends. Also if we get some rain prior to the hike, there should be a nice waterfall at the end of our journey. Lunch afterwards at the Mammoth Steakhouse and Saloon in the Goldfield Ghost town nearby. Contact: Nick Savinatink (480) 671-5819. **Phoenix**

**APR 5 (SAT) "B" Bear Mountain Dayhike** (6.5 miles RT) This hike is in the Red Rock, Secret Mtn. W.A. A summit of Bear Mtn. is included in the 6.5 miles RT hike which has a 1990 ft. EC. The last 1/2 mile is exploratory and the trail here becomes more obscure with numerous cairns to guide the way. Interesting red rock formations are adjacent to much of the trail. Views from the summit include the San Francisco Peaks. For purposes of study, we will have an opportunity to observe the 80 million years of sedimentary deposition from the Paleozoic Era. What we will be able to see is what remains after 275 million years of erosion. You will recall that the Paleozoic Era was before T. Rex. The world had many fishes and plants then, but amphibians were just starting to live on the land. Bring 3 quarts of water, a lunch and \$5-6 for carpooling expenses. Sunscreen and hats are recommended. Contact: Joe Manceau (602) 509-9143 or jmanceau@cox.net. **Phoenix**

**APR 6 (SUN) "D" Nature Walk, Sabino Canyon** (2-3 mi. RT, little EC) Sandee Binyon and Barbara Cain will host a walk designed persons of limited mobility (but not wheel chairs) and families with younger children. Both guides are Sabino Canyon Volunteer Naturalists (Barbara has a Master's degree in Environmental Education!) Learn about the riparian area of the Canyon. Contact: Sandee Binyon (520) 232-0226. **Tucson**

**APR 9 (WED) "C" Walk After Work, 4 PM** Contact: Carolyn York (928) 541-1952. **Prescott**

**APR 12 (SAT) "B" Mt. Hughes Dayhike, Cañelo Hills** (7 mi RT, 2000 ft. EC) We will approach Mt. Hughes from the east. High clearance vehicles are necessary. This fairly open cross country hike will provide us with an opportunity to explore a portion of the Cañelo Hills. We will be treated to extensive views once we reach the summit. Bring the usual essentials for off trail hiking. Contact: Peter Bengtson (520) 219-3507 or email pybengtson@earthlink.net. **Tucson**

**APR 13 (SUN) Beginners' Camping Clinic, 8-11 AM, Scottsdale** Camping doesn't have to mean roughing it any more. Come see what you've been missing. Held at the Popular store at 7214 E. Thomas Rd, Scottsdale and Thomas, Scottsdale. Learn all you need to get started in car camping from the Sierra Club and Popular Outdoor Outfitters. We're turning Popular stores into classrooms with two instructors, hands-on demos, question and answer sessions, camp planning, tips and more. Learn about: tents, cooking and camp materials. 10% discount on anything in the store. Limit 20. Contact: Randy Smith (602) 944-1905. **Scottsdale**

**APR 13 (SUN) "D" Blevins Trail Family Hike in Uesry Mountain Park** (3 mile loop, 100 ft. EC) Please join us for this easy and fun family hike. We will learn a little about the plants and animals that inhabit this part of the desert as well as about some of the threats to our parks and to this park in particular. It is an enjoyable and leisurely hike along a loop trail. Please bring water, snack, and don't forget to wear a hat. The Park charges \$5 per vehicle for entrance fee. Contact: Sandy Bahr (602) 253-8633. **Phoenix**

**APR 13 (SUN) "B" Agua Fria Dayhike** (8 mi., small EC) Agua Fria Canyon Splash and Swim - Classic Sonoran Desert wilderness canyon. NO TRAIL. Eight slippery, wet, boulder-hopping miles IN Agua Fria Creek. T-shirt and shorts hot weather exploratory scramble with refreshing cool water and sensual sandy beaches. Hike in and out the same way. Aggressive wet-canyon slog with waterfalls, canyon narrows, exposed drop-offs, jagged cliffs, heatstroke, rattlesnakes, catclaw bushes, and other outdoor perils. Rugged wilderness and dangerous country - travel at your own risk. Contact: Arizona Bob, bob.wirth@cox.net or Jim Roosen, jroosen@juno.com. **Phoenix**

**APR 16 (WED) Full Moon Walk, 8:30 PM** Contact: Carolyn York (928) 541-1952. **Prescott**

**APR 17-20 (THUR-SUN) "A" Backpack S. Bass Trail-Tonto Trail-Serpentine Canyon, "The Jewels"** (29 mi.+ RT, 4,000 ft. + elev. gain). Leave Grand Canyon Village early Thurs. and drive 2 hrs. to the S. Bass trailhead. Hike S. Bass trail, head east on the Tonto trail to Serpentine Canyon (9.7 mi.). Base camp (Serpentine or Turquoise canyons). On Sat. we will camp near the S. Bass trail to exit by Sun. afternoon (5.9 mi). High clearance vehicle necessary, (4WD better). \$15 park backcountry fee + contribute to \$25 fee to cross Havasupai land. Limit: 5. Extra water containers mandatory. Contact: Bob Audretsch (928) 638-2077 (before 9 PM) or e-mail (PREFERRED) bob41@grand-canyon.az.us. **Grand Canyon**

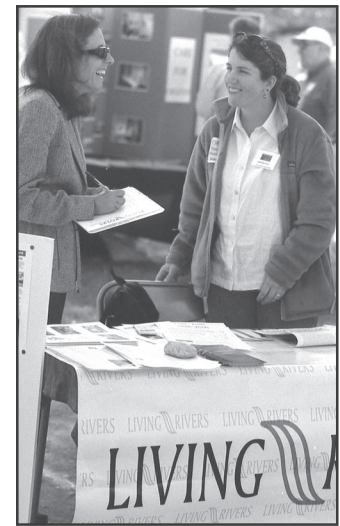


Photo courtesy of Bob Ball, Palo Verde Group.

**Water Talk:** Michelle Pulich (right) from Living Rivers converses with Solange Whitehead (left) from Environmental Fund for Arizona, at the Capitol Feb. 4.

**APR 19 (SAT) "D" Sweetwater Walk, Tucson Mountains** (2 mi., little EC) Learn about this potential park area, approx. 615 acres that will become a high priority for the Nov. 2003 Open Space Bond election. The bond will ultimately pay for this area. Get acquainted with what we hope will be the next county park. Leisurely paced. Contact: Debbie Hecht (520) 743-9494 or nuestro6@cs.com. **Tucson**

**APR 20-21 (SAT-SUN) "B" Lime Creek Backpack** (less than 8 mi. per day, less than 1000 ft. EC) Enjoy springtime in the Lime Creek Wilderness Study Area. Large pools, petroglyphs, and beautiful Sonoran Desert. We will be doing a "key swap" with one group starting near Ranch 51 and the other group starting on an old jeep track near Horse Shoe Dam. Wilderness discussions around the evening campfire. Trust in your leaders, where mistakes are almost never made. For more details, see article on pg. 8. Contact: Jim Vaaler (602) 553-8208. **Phoenix**

**APR 23 (WED) "C" Walk After Work, 4 PM** Meet in the Prescott area for a good after work hike. Contact: Carolyn York (928) 541-1952. **Prescott**

**APR 26 (SAT) Rupley Towers Rock Climbing** Learn current status of the proposed Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan that would help preserve the magnificent vistas that we'll see from these crags on Mt Lemmon near Tucson, and set up a variety of top rope routes ranging from 5.4 and up, such as Nameless Slab (5.4), Obe Wan Kanabee (5.6), Arsenio Fall (5.7), and Are We Not Men (5.9). Sponsored by Palo Verde Group Mountaineering. Requires Sierra Club membership, rock climbing experience, and the following equipment: climbing harness, climbing shoes, belay device, helmet, 3 locking carabiners, prusik cords or other ascending device, and personal anchor sling. Bring ropes/extra slings/carabiners. Contact: Connie or Ted Gartner (480) 961-0370 or twofast@primenet.com. **Phoenix**

**APR 26-27 (SAT-SUN) "D" Wolf Creek Car Camp/Dayhikes** Camp for graduates of the Beginners' Camping Clinics held at Popular stores Mar. 16, 30, and Apr. 13. Experienced campers encouraged to attend. Beautiful dispersed campsite aside Lower Wolf Creek, surrounded by ponderosa pines with low elevation. Easy, scenic dayhikes planned, alongside creeks (- 3 miles RT). Bring food for potluck Sat. Passenger cars OK, no facilities. Limit 30. Contact: Randy Smith (602) 944-1905. **Phoenix**

**APR 30 (WED) "C" Walk After Work, 4 PM** Meet in the Prescott area. Contact: Carolyn York (928) 541-1952. **Prescott**