

# OZARK SIERRAN

One Earth

One Chance®

Volume 29 Number 2

May/June 1997



## Season's Paradox

By Sherry Best

Spring is a transition, the season of "firsts". It is a time of progression. One by one, we see the steps of change: jonquils, then daffodils in the front yard, the return of migratory birds. Spring is the awakening, the warming of days, the sun on our skin, the first hike in our shirt sleeves. As the steps accumulate, we become more aware of the constant motion of nature. Each increment is a small-scale measure of universal growth. The day the dogwoods start blooming, the morning the morels emerge, will never be repeated. Next spring will be different.



Continued on page 14 .....PARADOX

"Mayapples", Burr Oak Woods, Blue Springs, MO, 1995, Photo by Sherry Best

## Sierra Club Sets 1997-1998 National Conservation Priorities

By Roy C. Hengerson

Every two years the Sierra Club sets its overall conservation priorities in conjunction with a new Congress starting up in the nation's capital. This is voted on by the Board of Directors after extensive input from Club activists, groups, chapters, regions, and staff. It is also based on the political landscape the Club must deal with, given the results of the last election.

For 1997-1998 the Sierra Club's

overall conservation priorities are:

1. To protect and restore America's forests by reforming national and state forest laws, policies, and practices.
2. To protect and restore America's clean water and wetlands by reforming national and state laws, policies, and practices.
3. To protect and recover endangered and threatened species and their habitats by reforming national and state laws, policies, and practices.

In addition, the Sierra Club will

Continued on page 2 .....PRIORITIES

INSIDE	
Carrying Capacity .....	3
Chipmills .....	5
Campaign Reform .....	7
Chicken Doings .....	8
Outings .....	11

## Chapter Executive Committee

### At Large:

**Gale Burrus**, *Chapter Chair, Sierra Club Council Delegate*  
9828 Willow Avenue, #1A, Kansas City, MO 64134, (816) 763-5120

**Andrew Gondzur**, *Vice Chair*  
4037 McDonald Ave., St. Louis, MO 63116

**Keet Kopeccky**, *Treasurer, Newsletter Editor*  
9211 Olmstead, Kansas City, MO 64138, (816) 966-9544

**Jim Rhodes**, *Secretary*  
878 Victoria, St. Louis, MO 63122, (314) 821-7758

**Rebecca Schedler**, *Membership Chair*  
1103 Jewell Avenue, Apt. 1, Columbia, MO 65203, (573) 443-4401

**Chris Hayday**, *Political Chair*  
700 West Blvd. N., Columbia, MO 65203, (573) 875-4507

**Claus Wawrzinek**  
P.O. Box 45542, Kansas City, MO 64171, (816) 561-7863

### Group Representatives:

*Thomas Hart Benton Group*, **Bob Sherrick**  
10807 E. 205th Street, Peculiar, MO 64078, (816) 779-6708

*Eastern Missouri Group*, **Ginger Harris**  
556 Oakhaven Lane, St. Louis, MO 63141, (314) 432-2618

*Osage Group*, **Hank Ottinger**  
511 Westwood Avenue, Columbia, MO 65203, (573) 443-4957

*Trail of Tears Group*, **Brian Alworth**  
2826 Whitener St., Cape Girardeau, MO 63701, (573) 334-7978

*White River Group*, **Bob Rodgers**  
RR 5 Box 323, Rogersville, MO 65742, (417) 753-5051

### Chapter Committee Chairs:

*Conservation*: **Caroline Pufalt**  
13415 Land-O-Woods, #3, St. Louis, MO 63141, (314) 878-3165

*Transportation*: **Ron McLinden**  
3236 Coleman Road, Kansas City, MO 64111, (816) 931-0498

*Highlands Activity Section*: **Lori Anne Clark**  
3027 Hogan Dr., Jefferson City, MO 65109

*Longview Student Section*: **Gina De Barthe**  
2036 James Downey Road, Independence, MO 64057, (816) 257-1198

*Population*: **Robert Elworth, M.D.**  
RR 2 Box 5324, Willard, MO 65781 (417) 742-2775

*Legal, Deferred Gifts Officer*: **Roger Hershey**  
18308 Hanthorne Drive, Independence, MO 64057, (816) 795-7533

*Legislative*: **Joe Engeln**  
2407 Topaz, Columbia, MO 65203

### Staff/Chapter Office:

**Ken Midkiff**, *Program Director*

**Traci Sneed**, *Administrative Assistant*

914 N. College, Suite 1, Columbia, MO 65202 <----- NEW ADDRESS

(573) 815-9250 voice/answering machine

(573) 442-7051 FAX/modem

(800) 628-5333 Water Quality Hotline

The *Ozark Sierran* is published **2** times a year by the Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club. Annual dues of Sierra Club members pay for a subscription to this publication. Non-members may subscribe for \$15 per year.

If you have items for publication, contact:

*Ozark Sierran*

Claus Wawrzinek

P.O. Box 32727

Kansas City, MO 64171

phone: (816) 561-7863

E-mail: clausw@worldnet.att.net

Please cc: kkopeccky@aol.com

The editors reserve the right to edit articles. Material may be edited for length, content or clarity. If you have strong creative ownership of your writing and wish to reserve the right to review your edited article before publication, consider your deadline 10 days prior to the published deadline. With notice, we will be happy to work with you.

Reproduction-quality photographs (prints) or artwork are greatly appreciated.

The published deadline is the drop-dead deadline. Submissions received after the deadline might not appear in the issue.

The *Ozark Sierran* is produced on a Macintosh computer, so we prefer to receive material electronically (e-mail), or on a Macintosh or PC disk (3.5"), saved in Microsoft Word or "text" (ASCII) WITH A HARD COPY OF THE TEXT. Typed articles are also accepted (especially a few days before the deadline.) All submissions must include name, address, and phone number of the author. If you want your submission returned (including your disk), please include a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope (SASE).

## PRIORITIES .... continued from page 1

continue to fight back the "War on the Environment" that has been and continues to be waged by some elected and appointed officials. The Club will defend against attempts to roll back environmental laws under the guise of takings or regulatory reform. It will work to stop the weakening of pollution standards whether through legislation or regulatory revisions by the federal Environmental Protection Agency and state environmental agencies. It will also work to defend our public lands from incompatible development or other impairment.

Finally, the Sierra Club will continue its priority campaigns in the international arena, including green trade, global warming, population, development funding, and human rights and the environment.



# Carrying Capacity Corner: The 12th Annual Great American Meatout

By John Leon Fish

Be an environmentalist three times (or more) every day...eat low on the food chain

Every year, beginning in 1985, the Farm Animal Reform Movement (FARM) has promoted an event they dubbed the Great American Meatout. The idea is for everyone to "kick the meat habit on March 20th (first day of Spring) and to explore a less violent, more wholesome diet" for at least that one day. But what does that have to do with carrying capacity?

Quoting from one of FARM's publications:

"Millions of acres of forestland are devastated through conversion to grazing land and cropland to feed farm animals, both in the US and abroad. Runoff from these lands carries suspended and dissolved solids, organic matter, nutrients, and pesticides into our lakes and streams, accounting for more water pollution than all other human activities combined. Overgrazing and intense cultivation eventually turn these lands into desert."

According to 1991 USDA figures, you must feed cattle 13 pounds of corn to produce one pound of edible beef. The corresponding figure for pork is 6 pounds; for broiler chickens, 3 pounds; and for sheep, 19 pounds. This means that much more grain must be grown than would be necessary if people were eating the grain directly instead of cycling it through the digestive tracts of animals.

Think also of how many acres could be returned to tallgrass prairie, wetlands, and natural flood plains if we stopped feeding 70% of US grain production to animals. That could make for a whole lot of restored wildlife habitat.

Of course, it also requires enormous water and energy inputs to produce enough grain to support the typical American diet, leading to aquifer depletion, topsoil loss, soil salinization, air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, and a growing dependence on imported fossil fuels.

In addition, America's farm animals produce about two billion tons of manure each year--about 10 times that of the human population. This waste spills and seeps into groundwater, wells, rivers, lakes, and streams, leading to wildlife kills and nitrate poisoning of humans.

While people think of the typical American diet as normal, it isn't by historical standards. In fact, it is largely a creation of the post-World War II era. It seems normal because it is the only diet most people in this country have known during their lifetimes.

According to a 1985 report by the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences entitled

Diet and Health, Implications for Reducing Chronic Disease Risk, Americans eat, on average, eating half the grains and potatoes they consumed at the turn of the century, 33% more dairy products, 50% more beef, and 280% more poultry. Though these figures have likely changed somewhat since then, they haven't changed dramatically enough to alter the basic point: the average American's diet has gone from being plant-based to being animal-based over the course of this century.

Moreover, since 1900, the US population has grown from 76 million to about 266 million today. Something had to change in order to provide ever-greater amounts of animal foods to an ever-growing population, and that change took the form of industrialized agriculture. Now we are seeing the consequences in rising grain prices; herbicide- and insecticide-contaminated rivers, lakes, and streams; and manure-lagoon spills from mega-hog factories.

For most of us, the most direct and powerful way we can act to solve our carrying capacity crisis, simply by altering what we choose to eat everyday. All we have to do is choose to eat a plant-based diet, one based around grains, vegetables, and fruits, containing small amounts of animal foods, at most. Just like that, you dramatically lower your own personal impact on the Earth, while improving your health. Not bad results for a change that opens your life up to wonderful new horizons of delicious, ethnic, plant-based cuisines.

If you would like to do more to educate others about the benefits of plant-based diets for the Earth, please contact me at (816) 353-9305, or e-mail me at 72633.211@compuserve.com.



# Bad Air and Bad Politics

By Ken Midkiff

In 1990, the federal Clean Air Act, in recognition that metropolitan areas continued to suffer from extremely unhealthy air, required reductions in emissions that contribute to ground-level ozone.

Emissions from polluting industries had been the first target of clean air laws in the 1970s, and indeed, the smoke-belching factories of yesteryear are almost a memory.

Such sources of pollution were relatively easy to identify and relatively easy to clean up.

Of course, the polluting industries claimed the sky was going to fall. They claimed that the cost of pollution prevention would be so prohibitive that civilization as we know it would end, and even worse, corporate profit margins would be decreased. It turns out that none of this was true; the cost of prevention was relatively cheap. Some companies even realized economic benefits by finding uses for what had previously been spewed away.

But ground-level ozone continued to be a problem - particularly in metropolitan areas that rely almost exclusively on single-occupancy vehicles for transportation - such as St. Louis.

An easy way to address this was to require that auto manufacturers produce automobiles that get better gas mileage to reduce the per-auto emissions and to install efficient emission-control systems. Cleaner, fuel efficient cars were produced, with some gnashing of teeth, by the auto industry folks.

But, as these cars age, the systems that make them clean and efficient need to be maintained. Otherwise, we end up with the same pollution-belching, gas-eating monsters as in the past. The thrust, then, of current efforts to clean up the air in our cities is to make sure that automobiles are properly maintained.

To do this, programs have been designed to check the emissions in simulated driving conditions. This involves putting the car on a treadmill that gives varying degrees of resistance over a four-minute period, while checking the emissions through a pipe hooked up to the exhaust that runs through a computerized measuring system. Euphemistically called "I/M 240" (Inspection and Maintenance - 240 seconds), this program is quick and efficient. It tells whether the car is meeting emission standards, and provides a readout of what the problem is and how to fix it. The cost proposed for the St. Louis metro area would be a piddly \$24.00 per car every two years.

So, not only would this program clean up the air,

but every two years auto owners would get a physical exam on the car. Fuel economy is directly related to emissions, so not only would the air be cleaned up, but gas mileage would stay efficient. Everyone benefits.

Enter the politicians. Three years ago, the Missouri General Assembly approved the I/M 240 system for implementation in the St. Louis metro area. This was done primarily to keep the US EPA happy so that federal highway funds would not be shut off. It was clear from the git-go that not many legislators gave a hoot about clean air or the health of their constituents.

The General Assembly also instructed the Attorney General's office to sue the US EPA so that Missouri would not have to comply with the federal clean air requirements. This was done, and the state lost the suit. Last year, the General Assembly refused to provide funding for the I/M 240 program.

In the meantime, the air quality in the St. Louis area got worse. The ambient air monitoring devices around the area detected many, many days each summer when the air was literally unfit to breathe. Hospital admissions for respiratory problems showed a one-to-one correlation with "bad air days". Health professionals urged the implementation of the I/M 240 program to clean up the air.

But, just two weeks ago, the House Budget Committee killed the funds in the budget of the Department of Natural Resources for the clean air program. Deleted were \$4.5 million dollars plus the salaries for seven new state employees to oversee the I/M 240 process.

Rep. Lori Donovan (R - Florissant) introduced the motion to kill the funding. Voting for the deletion were Democrats May Scheve, Russell Gunn, and Tim Green and Republicans Rich Chrismer and Emmy McClelland, all from the St. Louis area.

Other St. Louis state representatives, such as Joan Bray, Sue Shear, and Sheila Lumpe, recognized the real issue: human health. Forget the US EPA, forget highway funds. The members of the legislature should be concerned about clean air and the health of the citizens of the St. Louis area, rather than whining about "expensive federal mandates".

The air needs to be cleaned up - that is the bottom line. The I/M 240 program would do that efficiently and inexpensively, with little or no inconvenience. St. Louis legislators need to put aside posturing and demagoguery and deal with the real problems: bad air and human health.

# Can Missouri's Forests Survive Chip Mills?

By Caroline Pufalt

There's a new saw mill coming to southern Missouri. That would normally not be notable news but this particular type of mill and what it may represent has many people worried about the future of Missouri's forests. The mill is a chip mill, which means it is designed to use a variety of tree sizes to mill into chips for eventual paper processing. If a significant chip mill industry develops in Missouri, as it has in some other states, it could mean the transformation and loss of many of our hardwood forest acres.

At this writing a large timber company, Willamette Industries, is planning to develop what it calls a "wood recovery facility" in Wayne County, Missouri. The exact dimensions and capacity of this facility are not clear, but it is designed to mill hard and softwoods into chips for paper pulp. Chips from the mill will be sent to Kentucky for processing. Concern is that the new mill, and others that may follow, represent the start of a growing chip mill industry in Missouri.

In order to understand why this prospect is viewed as a threat, one needs some background on types of mills and their products. Missouri has many saw mills (about 400) which use medium to large size trees for hardwood and softwood lumber for products such as flooring, furniture, and pallets. Most mills produce some waste products such as slabs and chips. In an effort to be more efficient and economical some mills have small onsite chipping facilities which use these residue chips.

However, a mill devoted to the production of chips is a different sort of operation. Such chip mills are designed to use almost any size tree and often the whole tree primarily for the production of chips to be used for paper pulp. Softwood, such as pines, have been the most common source of paper pulp. But in recent years paper mills have devel-

oped methods to also use hardwoods for paper. Thus, Missouri's forests, often a mix of hard and soft woods, can be used for paper pulp.

Chip mills come in various sizes. What concerns forest watchers most are the larger high capacity chip mills. These mills are sometimes called remote or satellite facilities because they often supply a paper mill a distance from the source forest. The type of logging associated with larger chip mills can be devastating. That logging often results in large and complete clearcutting. It is sometimes aimed at type conversion, such as converting a hardwood or mixed forest to a pine plantation.

High capacity chip mills may also have a negative long term impact on a local economy. When a local economy depends on traditional saw mills, trees are permitted to grow larger and used for forest related products, such as furniture, and there is a ripple effect in the economy. Jobs can be had for loggers, mill workers and those involved in processing and manufacturing the final product. And, of course, the land owner profits. If trees are cut using a professional approach, such as selection logging, some trees are left standing. The landowner can have a reliable source of income and the land can remain primarily forested.

But in a high capacity chip mill economy, landowners are often under pressure to permit clearcutting in which their land is completely cut over. Smaller or medium sized trees are used before they can develop into quality lumber. Land that is completely cut over will take a long time to develop into saw timber. The temptation will be to cut it again before the forest reaches maturity, or to convert it to a non-forest use, such as pasture. In either case the land owner is left with a drastically changed resource and the forest never returns as before.

Chip mills are often very mechanized, employing few people and taking the resource out of the local

area to be processed. Since high capacity chip mills can process large volumes quickly, they are sometimes short lived. Thus, the local economy "exports" its resources, realizing few benefits in the process. What's left are cut over hillsides that will take many decades to recover.

Will this happen to Missouri? The answer depends on what types of mills develop and how landowners respond. One view is that chip mills will provide a market for what are called intermediate cuts or timber stand improvement cuts. Those are forestry terms for a cut designed to thin a forest so that the remaining trees can develop into higher quality timber. Sometimes there is no market for the smaller trees cut in this process and thus it is costly to the landowner. If chip mills provide a market for those thinnings this type of timber stand improvement could be profitable.

But the fear is that the presence of chip mills, particularly high capacity mills, will result in temptations for more clearcutting, forest type conversion and even land conversion. Unfortunately this has been the experience elsewhere. High capacity chip mills have been prolific in the southeastern U.S. and they are viewed by many as an ecological and economic disaster.

What can the state do to help insure that Missouri's hardwood and softwood forests are not threatened by high capacity chip mills? The Ozark Chapter has joined other groups in the southeastern US in asking the EPA to do an environmental impact statement on high capacity chip mills. We can also ask our local Department of Natural Resources to be vigilant as it considers granting permits to larger mills. But perhaps most important is to make sure that landowners have the information they need on the economic and ecological impacts of high capacity mills so they can make choices to manage forests sustainably.

PARADOX..... continued from page 1

We can feel this process in our bones. We want to interact with it. My response is to photograph it, to record it RIGHT NOW. The moment passes, as it must, but RIGHT THEN, it was so. The mayapples have bloomed; next week, the mayapples have fruit. The steps keep their assigned order, constant, immeasurably subtle, imperceptible.

This is Zeno's Paradox. Zeno of Elea was a Greek philosopher who lived around 490 - 430 B.C. He argued that motion wasn't real. Each step in a sequence could always be divided into smaller fractions, until the fractions were so infinitesimal that movement from one to the next became irrelevant. His most famous argument is Achilles running after a tortoise. Zeno stated that Achilles could never overtake the tortoise, because each time his progress was measured from one starting point to the tortoise, the tortoise had moved on.

The process of growth is that elusive. Our lifestyles don't allow constant observation, so we witness growth in steps. We need to maintain a connection to the process, to get away from the things that keep us busy. The first day of Spring is the day we get out into it. We want

to be refreshed, to keep in touch with our natural heritage. By experiencing beautiful places, we feel united with them.



"Mayapples from the ground", Burr Oak Woods, Blue Springs, MO 1995  
Photo by Sherry Best

That unity is important to us. It is so important that we dedicate our time and energy to preserving it. We gain something immaterial: we grow as much as the nature does. We do not take a harvest; we certainly do not receive a profit, but we do achieve a reward.

The growth continues without our presence, moment to moment, day to day, season to season, after we go back to the mundane. If we

return, we can see the progress. RIGHT NOW, the redbuds are blooming. RIGHT NOW, the duckweed has spread to that stream bank. NOW, the grasses

have overtaken the mayapples. Achilles has reached the tortoise. Experience proves Zeno wrong.

The growth continues without human intervention. If it is stopped, it is lost. We participate in it by not interrupting it. That's our paradox now. We are part of this continuity, part of the environment. If we fail, it fails. I believe that's why we need exposure to it. I am

convinced that's why we preserve it. If we didn't need to learn from it, we wouldn't bother.



"Mayapples from the ground" Black Pond Woods, Ann Arbor, MI, 1990, Photo by Sherry Best

# Missouri Alliance for Campaign Reform

By Caroline Pufalt

Mark Twain once remarked that " I think I can say with pride, that we have legislatures that bring higher prices than any in the world." His remark, though humorous, points to a real and enduring problem in American politics. Advocates for serious campaign reform point out that we can look to history for many examples of the need for reform, but no successful solutions.

But the lack of historical models has not weakened the resolve of many citizens determined to clean up the electoral process and provide democracy with a level playing field for all. Many

Missourians are participating in this effort through a group called the Missouri Alliance for Campaign Reform (MACR). The recent controversy surrounding various campaign finance irregularities in the Presidential election have focused attention on the federal election level. But real efforts at reform are brewing at the state level. The 1996 election produced an inspiring campaign finance reform in the state of Maine. Missourians are drawing inspiration from that example. A conference held by MACR in January featured

George Christie, an activist from the Maine reform campaign.

Why is this an issue of interest to Sierrans? Our program director, Ken Midkiff, attended the MACR conference to give his views on the role of money and influence in Jefferson City. Ken lobbies there on behalf of the Ozark Chapter and has seen first hand the influence of



business in legislation affecting the environment and on campaigns in which the environment was an issue. It costs an average Missouri State Senator \$180,000 to run successfully for office. It is difficult for citizens to impact that process and the influence of large donor sources, primarily corporate and business interest, easily dominate.

Despite the recent increased efforts of labor unions in the 96 elections, business and corporate interest far outspend all others at state and federal levels. The Sierra Club, as well as

other citizen based interest groups and individuals, are beginning to see the need for campaign finance reform.

Relatively recent efforts at campaign finance reform began in 1972 in response to the Watergate scandal. The 1972 reforms helped foster the growth of political action committees (PACs) and increased the importance of an individual's own contribution to their campaign, making it easier for wealthy individuals like Perot or Forbes to compete. This was partially due to a Supreme Court ruling that negated some of the reform provisions.

The very limited success of these reforms

have led many to view public financing of campaigns as the best course. That is the solution the state of Maine pursued. Advocates of reform in Missouri are attempting to follow a similar path and have introduced a bill, HB 407, in the Missouri House of Representatives to establish a publically financed campaign option for Missouri state races. For more information on this contact MACR at 4144 Lindell #504, St Louis MO 63108., phone 314 531 9630 ( St Louis) 816 531 2443 (Kansas City) or email at macrmo@aol.com.

# Chapter staff report - Chicken Doings

By Ken Midkiff

In the southwestern-most area of Missouri, a mess has been brewing for many years. The poultry industry moved into McDonald County in the late 1970s through the early 1980s, expanding out of northeast Arkansas. The concentration of production that is now occurring in other areas of agribusiness - particularly hogs and cattle - was long ago completed in the poultry industry.

A few large companies control literally all poultry and egg production. By some farm economists' estimates, 90% of this industry is controlled, through various means, by only four companies. After reviewing the environmental compliance files of some of these companies, and finding a dismal record of pollution of local streams, lakes, and lands, I traveled down to McDonald County and adjacent counties in Oklahoma.

Local farmers and rural residents took me on a tour of the area, visiting the large poultry houses, slaughterhouses and packing plants, and most importantly the local streams and lakes. What they showed me was not pretty. Not much can be learned by going inside the chicken houses (10000 birds to a house, usually 10 houses on a site) or the slaughterhouses and packing plants (300000 birds per day at one plant I toured), but what comes out of these facilities is startling.

At the wastewater treatment plant at one processing facility owned by Simmons Industries, 1.2 million gallons of semi-treated water is released into one small creek called Cave Springs Branch. In fact, the packing plant contributes over 80% of the flow of this stream for several miles, until small springs and tributaries add more volume. It almost goes with-

out saying that this stream is heavily polluted.

Cave Springs Branch, by the accounts of the Missouri Department of Conservation and the Oklahoma Fish and Wildlife Department, and by observation of local "Waterwatchers" teams, is virtually devoid of all aquatic life except algae. Seining and sampling revealed only one half-alive fish in a five mile stretch of the creek.

This is bad enough, but Cave Springs Branch flows into Honey Creek, which then enters Grand Lake of the Cherokees. The city of Grove, Oklahoma, depends almost completely on the Honey Creek Arm of Grand Lake for its economic base, as well as its drinking water. Obviously, the citizens of Grove are not very happy to have their lake contaminated with processed waste composed of the leftovers from chicken guts. Of course, all of this pollution comprises flagrant violation of the state and federal clean water laws. So where is our Department of Natural Resources and the US Environmental Protection Agency, the agencies that industry is always yelling about as being ecogestapos, the agencies that are in place to monitor and enforce environmental laws and protect the public health and welfare and our natural resources?

Well, DNR did a good job of documenting the problems and citing Simmons Industries for violating the conditions of its wastewater discharge permit and the laws of the state and the United States. But that is as far as it went. Official Notices of Violations were issued to Simmons, with no follow-up enforcement actions - even though way back in 1988 a Court Order was issued for Simmons to get into compliance and stay there, or be subjected to a \$10000 per month fine.

For whatever reasons...political clout, bureaucracy inertia, directives from higher up...whatever, DNR provided constant oversight to a constant barrage of degradation to the streams and rivers of McDonald County, watching over and documenting the death of a stream. The word "complicity" comes to mind. The very agency mandated to protect the natural resources and the public health from pollution, made notes and watched and did nothing.

One vivid image stands out from my visit to the "poultry capital". Bill Berry of Delaware County, Oklahoma, and I were standing along Honey Creek on Bill's farm, looking at the severely polluted waters of the creek. Dead algae covered the bottom, coating the rocks, sand, and gravel with a thick muck that choked all living things.

Gazing down the stream to where the bluff line began, a splash of white caught our eyes. Perched high in a sycamore tree was a magnificent adult bald eagle, watching us warily, its bright white head cocked. Then we saw its mate, and two other immature eagles in the tops of nearby trees on the bluffs.

Bill explained that the eagles roosted in his valley in the evenings after a day of foraging around Grand Lake. Their vantage above the creek provided them with a panoramic view of a creek killed by an industry that only cares for stewardship when forced to do so.

But, while this scene was depressing, it also held out hope. The bald eagle is not only our national symbol, it is also symbolic of what can be achieved when we as a people decide that enough is enough. The bald eagle was almost extinct, its ranks decimated from the effects of the pesticide DDT.

*Continued on page 9 .....CHICKEN*



# Membership Update

By Rebecca Schedler

It's time once again for the Annual membership report. I thought this year I would include more information about our membership numbers gathered from the membership report I receive from the Sierra Club's San Francisco office every month. Here are the numbers as of December 1996: Ozark Chapter - 9,192; Eastern Missouri Group - 5,885; Thomas Hart Benton group - 1,920; Osage group - 760; White River Group - 486; and Trail of Tears group - 130. We are 808 members away from 10,000!

All of our groups are in good shape though they are certainly diverse in location, demographics, size, and level of activism. I am

trying something new this year to foster better communication between groups, and between chapter and groups, by sending every Sierra Club leader a complete list of who all the other leaders are with a schedule of all meetings large and small. One thing I hope this master schedule will be used for is to get groups together on joint outings. For example, there was an outing planned between the Osage and Trail of Tears Groups to visit Hawn State Park on April 26th to enjoy the great springtime flowers and waterfalls. Also I hope that Conservation Committee (ConsCom) chairs, Membership chairs, and others will feel free to talk about problems and projects they are working on. For example, the Osage group ConsCom is

working on an endangered species project, and hope to share with other groups about the process of doing this.

The other thing I am hoping to improve upon is the attendance of our members at the Chapter Conservation Committee meetings when we are in your area. Please feel free to contact Caroline Pufalt, the Chair, at 314-878-3165 or e-mail her at caroline.pufalt@sierra-club.org to find out what is on the upcoming agenda.

Finally, I just want to thank our members for sticking with us year after year. I am happy to report that more people voted this year in our Chapter elections. If 808 members each get one new member we can reach the 10,000 member mark. Let's see if we can accomplish this by this same time next year.

**CHICKEN** ..... *continued from page 8*

The problem was identified and strong, assertive action was taken to ban the production and use of DDT. Habitat restoration, propagation, and other positive actions were taken to restore the eagle population to the healthy, sustainable level enjoyed today.

The American people, the citizens of Missouri, and the residents of southwest Missouri and northeast Oklahoma care deeply about their lands, their streams, their rivers, and the plants and animals with which we share this planet. We need to insist..demand.. that the Missouri Department of Natural Resources take the strong, assertive steps needed to make Simmons clean up its act.

There is no right to pollute. It is against the law to pollute. Simmons needs to be made painfully aware of this. A message should be delivered to agribusiness industries that while their jobs are welcomed, they had better keep it clean - or get out.



## Ozark Chapter T-shirts Available in two styles

organic cotton (beige) and conventional cotton (white).

**Sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL**

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Total</u>
Organic cotton (beige color)	_____	_____	x \$14.-	_____
Conventional cotton (white color)	_____	_____	x \$12.-	_____
Shipping and handling			\$2.-	\$2.-
			<b>TOTAL</b>	_____

Please send orders along with a check made out to Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club

Please send orders to  
Sierra Club  
Attn: T-shirts  
P.O. Box 32727  
Kansas City, MO 64171

Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for shipping.



Please join us along the Current, Jacks Fork, and Eleven Point Rivers for a weekend of music, fun, interaction, and conscious recognition of Missouri's Ozark Scenic Rivers Area. Friday, May 30 through Sunday, June 1 1997 at the Pulltite Campground on the Current River.

**Saturday, May 31**

Float trip/clean up on the Current River

**Evening music / program:**

- Musician Stan Slaughter of the All Species Project
- Naturalist Tom Kruzen
- Cave scuba diver Don Rimbach
- Scenic River protection with Don Pierce
- Presentations on environmental concerns in the Scenic Rivers Area: Lead Prospecting, Chip Mills, and Even-Age Logging.

Your opportunity to paddle a river, enjoy music, and friends, and experience the wonders of the Scenic Rivers. You are invited to bring your musical instruments to jam after the Saturday program.

**Please visit the website:**

<http://www.surfnthe.net/users/Hon-our-Earth>

**Regional Contacts**

**Kansas City**

**Claus Wawrzinek**  
Phone: (816) 561-7863  
E-mail: clausw@worldnet.att.net

**Cape Girardeau**

**Bill Eddelman**  
E-mail: weddlema@biology.semo.edu

**Brian Alworth** (before 8:00 p.m.)  
Phone: (573) 334-7978

**Sedalia**

**Mark Freeman**  
Phone: (816) 829-1981  
E-mail: mfreeman@murlin.com

**Springfield**

**Sue Skidmore**  
Phone: (417) 882-9757  
E-mail: Sue@Hon-our-Earth.net

**Ava**

**Janice Lorraine**  
Phone: (417) 683-6245

**St. Louis**

**Chris Hoving**  
Phone: (314) 727-0600  
E-mail: moenviron@aol.com  
Attn: Chris

**Joplin**

**Gregg Gailbraith**  
Phone: (417) 358-5176

**Columbia**

**Rebecca Schedler**  
Phone: (573) 443-4401  
E-mail: rschedle@mail.coin.missouri.edu

**Randal Clark**  
Phone: (573) 875-0514

**Directions**

**From Rolla:** Take 72 south to Salem, turn onto 19 South and follow to EE. Turn right and follow to the Pulltite group campsites.

**From Springfield:** Take highway 60 East to 19 and turn left, follow 19 North to EE. Turn left and follow to the Pulltite group campsites.

We will be meeting at the Pulltite campground Saturday at 8:30 a.m. to float

Campsites will be available at the Pulltite Group Camping area—tent walk in sites. Plan to bring your own food and gear!

**Please pack:** tent, hiking, and swimming apparel, sunblock, chairs, rain gear, and binoculars.

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Total</u>
Friday evening camping site	_____	x \$ 5.00	\$ _____
Saturday evening camping	_____	x \$ 5.00	\$ _____
Canoe rent and shuttle for Saturday float/clean up	_____	x \$20.00	\$ _____
Shuttle only (own canoe(s))	_____	x \$15.00	\$ _____
Shuttle own boat(s)			
• Other more expensive options available			
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	\$ _____

Send paid registration forms by Tuesday, May 20 (registration must be received by Friday, May 23).

Make checks payable to: Ozark Scenic Rivers Community Awareness Weekend  
PO Box 10112, Springfield, MO 65808

• Unless prepaid we cannot guarantee site availability

# Outings listing

## Eastern Missouri Group (St. Louis area)

**Canoeists:** Time to plan to float this spring and summer. What's your favorite stream? One day or two? If you are experienced and want to be added to a call or mail list call Elmer McNulty, (314) 965-3181.

**May 4 (Sun) Meramec State Park.** Let's visit Hamilton Hollow, see historic sites and old home sites. We will include an underground stroll through Hamilton Cave. Wayne Miller, (314) 569-0094.

**May 10 (Sat) Day hike at Meramec State Park** to a glade-savanna complex being restored by Sierra Club volunteers. We'll hike across rocky terrain through lush native grasses and wildflowers, rest in the shade of chinkapin oaks and enjoy a spectacular view of the Meramec River valley. Penny Holtzmann, (314) 487-2738.

**May 10 (Sat) Day hike on the ten mile wilderness trail at Meramec State Park.** A long but easy hike with slight elevation gains. Steve Viggers, (314) 984-8752.

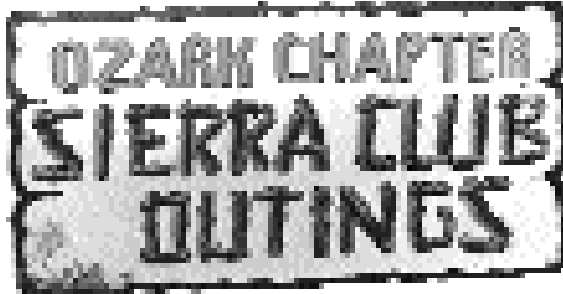
**May 10 (Sat) Visit two different prairies in Illinois:** Heartland Prairie and McAdams Peak Hill Prairie. We will spend time looking at the different wild flowers and grasses. Diane Favier, (314) 894-5549.

**May 10-11 (Sat-Sun) Canoe trip on the Lower Jacks Fork.** Alley Springs to Powder Mill. John and Dorothy Stade, (314) 524-3322.

**May 17-18 (Sat-Sun) Enjoy the Earth Day festivities** and help the Sierra Club raise funds for local environmental work. We will be squeezing fresh lemonade and making veggie burgers. If you can donate a couple of hours of your time call Jim Young, (314) 664-9392.

**May 18 (Sun) Tour de bluff bike trip.** Bike ride on top and below the bluffs of the American Bottoms where natural beauty and history abound.

We will have a picnic lunch next to a scenic stream and old mill. 15-20 miles at a moderate pace with frequent stops. Optional trip to a local winery after riding. Ted Horn, (618) 397-9430.



**May 18 (Sun) Hike to Bell Mountain** the easy way. Start at FS 2228 to the summit then descend to highway A where the shuttle cars will be. Bob Gestel, (314) 296-8975.

**May 18 (Sun) Enjoy an easy afternoon stroll** of 4 to 6 miles in historic Belle Fontaine Cemetery. See spring flowering trees and the graves of many famous St. Louisans. Kevin Hunter, (314) 544-5157.

**May 24 (Sat) Pale purple cone flowers, Missouri primrose, etc., at Valley View Glade.** See the flowers at Valley View Glade at their best. Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352.

**May 24-26 (Sat-Mon) Memorial weekend canoe trip on the Upper Meramec River.** Dorothy and John Stade, (314) 524-3322.

**May 25 (Sun) Hawn State Park.** Join me on a 6 mile mushroom observation hike. Bring your field guides. Cooking demo and tasting of wild and exotic mushrooms. Small fee required. Stephen Finch, (314) 644-2553.

**May 26 (Mon) Come see the pretty wildflowers growing on the glades at Washington State Park and Valley View Glade.** Diane Favier, (314) 894-5549.

**Jun. 7 (Sat) Eleven mile day hike on the Pike Run trail in St. Francois State Park.** Some demanding hills. Steve Viggers, (314) 984-8752.

**Jun. 7 (Sat) Fults Hilltop Prairie hike.** We will hike the "mountains" of Illinois. Would you believe we will go up and down the river bluff several times. We will have lunch on the bluff overlooking the wetlands of Kidd Lake and the historical Fort de Chartres. The fort will be having its annual 18th century rendezvous which could be an optional trip after lunch. Ted Horn, (618) 397-9430.

**Jun. 7-8 (Sat-Sun) The great Taum Sauk Mountain hike and camp out.** Join me for one or two days of hiking and looking for wildflowers in the St. Francois Mountains. 6-15 people only. Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352.

**Jun. 14-15 (Sat-Sun) Friday opt. Sierra SISTERS backpack.** Self sufficient ladies only. Pack it up, hit the trail at Hawn S.P. and River Aux Vases. App. 8-10 miles. Limited to eight ladies. Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762 (after 6 p.m., Mon-Thur), or Leslie Lihou, (314) 726-2140.

**Jun. 17 (Tue) Meet at 6 p.m. at Powder Valley for a two mile hike at Emmenegger.** Diane Favier, (314) 894-5549.

**Jun 20. (Fri) See the sun set at Valley View Glade.** Cone flowers should still be around. Diane Favier, 894-5549.

**Jun 20. (Fri) Night hike. See the arboretum in the full moon.** Helen McCallie, (314) 451-3512 (day) or (314) 742-4380 (home).

**Jun. 21 (Sat) Join me on the second annual solstice Forest Park hike.** Late afternoon hike will include supper. Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352.

**Jun. 22 (Sun) Three mile hike.** Creve Coeur Lake Memorial Park. View old growth forest threatened by Page Avenue extension. Mark

Ozark Chapter / Sierra Club  
P.O. Box 534  
Columbia, MO 65205-0534

NON PROFIT  
ORG.  
U. S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
COLUMBIA, MO  
PERMIT NO. 229

*Forwarding and  
Address Correction Requested*



Kaufmann, (314) 427-0058.

**Jun. 24 (Tue) Meet at 6 p.m. at Bee Tree Park.**

Hike about two miles.  
Diane Favier, 894-5549.

**Jun. 28-29 (Sat-Sun) Family car camping and hiking.** Swimming—weather permitting. Cuivre River State Park. Kathy Wodell, (314) 240-0675.

**Osage Group  
(Columbia area)**

**May 3-4 (Sat-Sun) Canoe on Ozark Stream** - (must arrange for your own boat). Call Ray, (573) 445-0114.

**May 10 (Sat) Bike the KATY Trail & Breakfast in Hartburg.** Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Jeff City Trail Access, ride to Hartsburg

and back with a dining stop at the famous Cafe. Call Daryl for more info, (573)395-4267.

**Thomas Hart  
Benton Group  
(Kansas City  
area)**

**May 10 (Sat) KC Zoo Outing.** Meet at 10 a.m. at the front gate of the Zoo. Check out the New KC Zoo and the Imax Theater. Dan Fuller, (913) 362-2266.

**May 11 (Sun) Country Club hike.** Meet at the park and ride lot at Gregory and Wornall at 2 p.m. for a leisurely walk toward the Plaza and return. Call Ron McLinden, (816) 931-0498.

**May 17/18 (Sat/Sun) Flint**

**Hills Outing.** Hike on a ranch in the beautiful Flint Hills. A great outings for families or beginning backpackers. Meet at 8 a.m. at Overland Park Community Center, 87th & Lamar. Call Dan Fuller, (913) 362-2266, to sign up.

**May 18 (Sun) Public Transit Hike** along the route of Kansas City's proposed light rail system. Meet at 9 a.m. at the Nichols Fountain, 47th and Main. Call Ron McLinden, (816) 931-0498 for information.

**May 24 (Sat) How Do We Impact the Environment? Tour the Kansas City Public Water Treatment Facility.** 1 p.m. Take a look at how drinking water is made for a large population in the Kansas City

region. Limit 15 people. Call Claus, (816) 561-7863, to sign up.

**Jun. 7 (Sat) National Trails Day.** Call Bob Wilshire, (913) 441-2449, to participate in this national celebration by hiking the proposed local leg of the nation-wide discovery trail.

**Jun. 8 (Sun) Powell Gardens.** Visit our local Botanical Garden and see the new Visitor's Center and garden displays. Bring a sack lunch and meet at the Lee's Summit Perkins (291 South and 50 Highway) at 9:00 a.m. Call Lee Ann Googe, (816) 453-8558, for more information.

**Jun. 8 (Sun) Country Club hike.** Meet at the park and ride lot at Gregory and Wornall at 2 p.m. for a