

OZARK SIERRA CLUB

One Earth

One Chance

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Transportation Crystal Ball is Cloudy

by Ron McLinden,
Ozark Chapter Transportation Committee Chair

By the time you read this, decisions will probably have already been made regarding whether Missouri faces up to its transportation funding crisis.

Missouri's transportation needs far exceed the money available to meet those needs. MoDOT says the difference is \$1 billion per year. \$100 million of this would be for public transit and an additional \$20 million or more for inter-city passenger rail and buses.

Missouri voters will have to approve any tax increase to raise the money. The issue could be on the ballot either in August or November this year. The main question is, how big an increase?

Several transportation tax bills have been considered in the General Assembly. The front-runner in the Senate is SB 915 introduced by Senator Morris Westfall. It would yield about \$475 million per year by raising the gas tax by six cents per gallon and the general sales tax by three-eighths of a cent.

In the House, it is Representative Don Koller's HB 1570. His bill, as introduced, would raise the gas tax by four cents per gallon and the general sales tax by one cent, yielding about \$1 billion per year. It has since been scaled back to yield about \$650 million per year.

If both pass, some sort of compromise would be worked out in a conference committee.

Meanwhile, Missouri's major business and transportation interests have laid the groundwork for an initiative petition campaign to put a measure on the November ballot that would yield about \$650 million per year. Three versions were filed with the Secretary of State on February 22: a one cent sales tax; a three-fourths cent sales tax with a three cent gas tax; and a five-eighths percent sales tax with a five cent gas tax. Each of the alternatives reportedly would provide about \$80 million per year for transit. Public polling — likely to take place in late March — would determine which proposal would actually be circulated to get the 200,000 or so signatures needed by May 5 to put the issue on the ballot.

If anything actually happens this year, it won't be enough to satisfy anybody. Highway folks would

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National Security is spelled Efficiency

by Gina DeBarthe,
Ozark Chapter Conservation Committee Chair

National Security is a buzzword a lot of politicians are using lately. It seems that every bill going through Congress is important because it is for "national security." This call is especially loud when it comes to drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska.

The Arctic Refuge is home to a rich diversity of life, including polar bears, caribou, wolves, and migrating birds. Drilling in the coastal plain of the refuge would alter it significantly. Proponents of drilling claim that only 2,000 acres would be disturbed. What they don't say is that these 2,000 acres are not contiguous. The acres are added up by how much space the physical drill, pipeline, and processing plant would take up. The oil companies would be able to build a web of these that could affect more than 2,000 acres.

Those who support drilling in the Arctic Refuge claim that this is a national security issue because it will reduce our dependency on foreign oil. The United States uses 25 per cent of the world's oil supply. We have less than five per cent of that supply in oil reserves. In fact, if we did drill in the Arctic Refuge we would gain less than a nine-month supply and it would be ten years before that oil would reach the market. There isn't enough oil in our reserves to meet the current demand. Drilling the Arctic is a not a solution.

Efficiency on the other hand is a viable solution. If tire companies sold replacement tires that were as fuel efficient as those on new cars, 5.4 billion barrels of oil would be saved. That is more oil than geologists expect to find in the Arctic Refuge. If auto companies increased fuel standards on new cars and trucks to 40 miles per gallon, it would save three million barrels of oil every day. That is more oil than we would get from the Arctic Refuge, Persian Gulf imports, and off-shore drilling in California combined.

Please contact Senator Bond and Senator Carnahan and ask them to oppose any bills that would allow drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The Capital Switchboard is (202)224-3121. —

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Corps of Engineers Upper Mississippi & Illinois Rivers Navigation Study Resumes

by Caroline Pufalt

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' much-plagued and scandalized study of how to improve the efficiency of commercial navigation traffic on the Upper Mississippi River above St. Louis and on the Illinois River from Peoria to the Mississippi River was restarted in August of 2001.

The Corps restart recognizes that the previous study, limited to examining just improvement to commercial navigation, was too limited, and failed to address key concerns regarding the environmental degradation that has occurred in sixty plus years of damming-up these rivers and the resulting increase in barge traffic.

A paraphrasing of the restated Goals and Objectives of the Navigation Study reveals their observations on how to proceed:

- u The navigation system is aged and inefficient.
- u The ecosystem of both waterways is in decline.
- u The growing barge traffic may accelerate the decline, perhaps precipitously.
- u The stated the goals are to improve effectiveness of the navigation system, and to achieve environmental sustainability of the navigation system and the resources it directly impacts, and to explore developing a comprehensive and holistic approach considering multiple purpose uses.

Biologists all agree that the river ecosystems are in serious decline due to sedimentation of backwaters, resuspension of sediment due to barge wake action, and wind fetch due to loss of backwater and side-channel habitat areas. The in-balance of current management practices must be changed to restore these rivers.

Clearly this leaves lots of room for interpretation and the environmental community is approaching the restarted study with cautious optimism. The Corps study team, located in the Rock Island District, is aggressively pursuing a policy of collaboration with all potential partners and to their credit are attempting to move the study forward in that atmosphere.

The Corps Study Team is tasked by Corps Headquarters with completing an Interim Report for forwarding to Congress by July 2002. This report is not intended to complete the study, but rather to update Headquarters and Congress on how the team believes it must proceed under the new collaborative atmosphere and with a balance of all resources towards sustainability in mind. Potential conflicts in current authorities that

restrict Corps management in achieving sustainability should be identified in the report, as well as outlining a framework by which the Navigation Study can be completed and comprehensive planning needs addressed.

The key is comprehensive planning of managing all the uses of the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers. Since 1986, the Federal government has invested well over \$1 billion in rehabilitating and restoring the concrete and mechanical/electrical components of the locks and dams. An additional \$1 billion was invested in the building of the new Lock and Dam 26 near Alton, Illinois. Additionally over \$800 million went into regular annual operations and maintenance of the locks and dams, bringing the commercial navigation investment to nearly \$3 billion. During this same time period, only about \$220 million was invested into the Environmental Management Program initiated out of compromises on building the second 1200 foot lock at Lock and Dam 26 at Alton.

Biologists all agree that the river ecosystems are in serious decline due to sedimentation of backwa-

ters, resuspension of sediment due to barge wake action, and wind fetch due to loss of backwater and side-channel habitat areas. The in-balance of current management practices must be changed to restore these rivers. The restarted Navigation Study, if done with a requirement for achieving sustainable ecological operations of the commercial navigation system, may provide the proper management atmosphere. But it will require vigilance. The study will last a minimum of two more years and realistically, comprehensive management requires constant study and management assessment of ongoing operations and observation of natural resource changes. This isn't going away any time soon.

In mid-March, the Corps hosted five public meetings to update the public on the restarted study and to elicit feedback regarding the new study approach. Sierra Club members around the state voiced their interest in the Corps pursuing comprehensive management options, as we all believe the law requires, and voiced the need for a restored river ecosystem.

For further information contact Sierra Club Mississippi River Protection Project Volunteer Coordinator, Mark Beorkrem, at (314)882-8425 or at mbeorkrem@hotmail.com. —

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Items for publication: Contact Keet Kopecky via E-mail at kkopecy@kc.rr.com or phone (816)966-9544. **PRIOR TO SENDING**, for information on how to submit articles.

The editors reserve the right to edit articles! Material may be edited for length, content, or clarity. It is our job to help you communicate. If you have strong creative ownership of your writing, and wish 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 dearly welcome. Pleease: send us photos...

OZARK SIERRAN

The published deadline is the real, honest-to-goodness, drop-dead deadline—not a couple of days or a week later! Submissions received after the deadline are subject to the possibility they won't appear in the

issue: you will feel bad and we will feel bad. Call us nasty, but we are determined this newsletter will come out on time!

The *OZARK SIERRAN* is produced on a Macintosh computer, so we strongly prefer to receive material electronically (E-mail), or on a Mac or PC disk (3.5"), **WITH A HARD COPY OF THE TEXT**. Typed articles are also OK (must be received 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 SASE.

Hard-working, All-volunteer Editorial and Production Staff: Keet Kopecky, Editor; Bob Sherrick, and Claus Wawrzinek

Chapter Executive Committee

AT LARGE

- Keet Kopecky**, Chapter Chair, SC Council Delegate, 9211 Olmstead, Kansas City, MO 64138, kkopecy@kc.rr.com, (816)966-9544
Chris Hayday, Vice Chair, Political Chair, 700 West Blvd N, Columbia, MO 65203, chayday@mcshi.com, (573)443-7041
Gale Burrus, Secretary, 9828 Willow Avenue, #1A, Kansas City, MO 64134, gburrus@att.net, (816)763-5120
Gina DeBarthe, Conservation Chair, 20 Oak Hill Cluster, Independence, MO 64057, gmdebarthe@aol.com, (816)257-1198
Donna Clark Fuller, Volunteer Coordinator, 7400 E. 235th St., Peculiar, MO 64078, (816)779-7284
Andrew Gondzur, 4037 McDonald Ave., St. Louis, MO 63116, (314)772-8810
Wallace McMullen, 2805 Mohawk Dr., Jefferson City, MO 65101, mcmulw@sockets.net, (573)636-6067
Tom Moran, Columbia, MO, tomvmoran@yahoo.com, (573)442-6955
Caroline Pufalt 13415 Land-O-Woods, #3, St. Louis, MO 63141, (314)878-3165

GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

- Eastern Missouri Group: Tim Pekarek**, greenfellaheen@hotmail.com
Osage Group: vacant
Thomas Hart Benton Group: Bob Sherrick, 10807 E. 205th St., Peculiar, MO 64078, (816)779-6708

Trail of Tears Group: Brian Alworth, 2444 Glenridge Drive, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701, (573)334-7978

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Education Chair: Leslie Lihou**, leslielihou@postnet.com
Fund-raising Chair: Doris Sherrick, 10807 E. 205th St., Peculiar, MO 64078, (816)779-6708
Legal Chair: Deferred Gifts Officer: Roger Hershey, 3412 South Trail Ridge Drive, Independence, MO 64055, (816)842-3636
Legislative Chair: Roy C. Hengerson, 2201 Weathered Rock Rd., Jefferson City, MO. 65101, (573)635-8066,
Membership Chair: Donna Clark Fuller, 7400 E. 235th St., Peculiar, MO 64078, (816)779-7284
Newsletter Editor: Keet Kopecky, 9211 Olmstead, Kansas City, MO 64138, kkopecy@kc.rr.com, (816)966-9544
Transportation Chair: Ron McLinden, 3236 Coleman Rd., Kansas City, MO 64111, (816)513-3477
Treasurer: vacant
Website Chair: Cheryl Hammond, 12231 Hillcrest, Maryland Heights, MO 63043, (314)291-5907

CHAPTER OFFICE STAFF

- Carla Klein**, Program Director
Terri Folsom, Chapter Coordinator
Angel Kruzen, Water Sentinel
 1007 N. College, Suite 1, Columbia, MO 65201
 (573)815-9250 voice/answering machine
 (573)442-7051 FAX/modem
 (800)628-5333 Water Quality Hotline

Energy Efficiency: Is There Controversy in the Club?

by Jack Eastman

I really want to talk about refrigerators. They're so cool! We put a new one in our home and our electricity consumption went way down. We also began sleeping through the night, no longer waking from the old fridge groaning. So I had this idea for an article in which I would rave about this great energy-efficient fridge, a Sunfrost, helping us cut our electricity usage to the point that our home became a prospect for a solar electric system. In the article I was going to encourage everybody to buy one of these fridges and install renewable energy equipment on their homes. Then they could stop buying electricity produced from coal-fired generators that are fouling our air and contributing to global warming.

I hopped on the Internet, and posted my intentions and questions to the Sierra Club's Energy Forum.

Bob Maginnis replied first with some useful info. "The Sunfrost saves 547 kilowatt-hours per year over an inefficient fridge, or 1095 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO₂) per year, equal to a quantity of coal bigger than the overall volume of the refrigerator." Good stuff for my article.

Ned Ford, the owner of the Listserv, followed, and that's when I started to notice a twist in the plot: "The better current refrigerators are about half as efficient as the Sunfrost, which wipes out the economic justification we used to have for the Sunfrost, when the best commercial models were a quarter as efficient, about fifteen years ago." My neat plans began to unravel. What's this about economic justification?

In

Dates You Need to Know

6/5	Deadline: July/Sept Clark Sierran
6/8	Chapter ConsCom meeting: Kansas City, Missouri contact Gina DeBarthe, gdebarthe@aol.com
6/9	Chapter ExCom meeting: Columbia, Missouri contact Keef Kopecky, kkopecy@kc.rr.com, (816)966-9544
7/27	Chapter ConsCom meeting: St. Louis, Missouri
7/28	Chapter ExCom meeting: St. Louis, Missouri

defense of my expensive fridge, I countered, "Advantages of the Sunfrost come more into play when one of the objectives is switching from grid (utility company) to a renewable home-powered electrical system." Little did I know I was playing into Ned's next move.

"People building PV (photo-voltaic) homes can avoid five times the cost of a Sunfrost by buying one, but that is because they are effectively paying five times the average price of utility-provided electricity for the power they do get. That's not a particularly good model to hold up to the public." In other words, PVs aren't cheap.

To which I replied, "This is a Sierra Club Listserv and the owner of the list is suggesting that we do not recommend renewable energy homes because they are not economically justified? Every environmental group in the country is shouting renewables." I go on, at first tentative, "If we led our decisions by economics where would we be?" And then with conviction, "Where would renewables be if pioneers were not out there making a market for them? They are showing it can be done and they are setting examples for living intentionally and responsibly. The Sunfrost doubles the efficiency of the nearest corporate-made model. That's half the pollution, half the CO₂ from coal plant emissions." Then I pulled my trump card, "Find an economic model that weighs that into the figuring and we're getting closer to the truth." That used about all my ammo. Ned, however, had another round.

"If we want to make a change in public policy, we are going to have to reach beyond preaching to the choir. The vast majority of the public indicates in poll after poll that they are willing to pay more for environmental quality, but they are also under the impression that you can't buy much environmental quality except for prohibitively expensive investments like PV.

I found out later that Ned chaired the Energy Technical Advisory Committee of the Sierra Club. Public policy was his forte. "We must change the perception, two ways. We must convince people that there are enormous resources that cost less than our present expenditures on energy, AND we must convince people that there are practical programs that provide systematic ways to capture these savings."

I asked Ned about these "enormous resources" and "practical programs," and he referred me to two reports: one on CO₂ reduction strategies, which confirms that controlling CO₂ costs less than not controlling it,¹ and the other finds that it makes more sense to raise the fuel efficiency of vehicles than drilling in environmentally sensitive areas.²

He continued, "If you are preaching energy efficiency, make the argument convincing. Avoid mixing in technologies that require a massive subsidy, or a massive cost above that of the current utility-provided power."

Ned points out that wind power is competitive with the cost of a new coal plant. When he refers to technologies such as PV that require massive subsidies or costs above utility-provided power, he does so at the risk of angering renewable advocates on grounds that the comparison fails to weigh in hidden costs. For example, a report based on research conducted by the Abt Associates, a consulting firm for the Environmental Protection Agency, claims that power plant pollution is linked to 30,000 premature deaths every year.³ Another example sited is Desert Storm and the cost of protecting our oil interests abroad. Ned knows these things, but he also has his own ideas on what emphasis will get the most bang for the buck in terms of governmental policies.

"We already have all the people who don't think economics matter when it comes to sustainable energy on our side. We have a substantial struggle ahead, just to get the current crop of elected officials to pay attention to the factual evidence that demonstrates a massive efficiency potential. Unless you start looking at the efficiency resource, and making clear changes that increase the rate of efficiency adoption, we will have no reductions in CO₂ from the electric sector this decade."

At which point I'm all ears. Global warming is no laughing matter. I know. Record summer temperatures are already high enough.

Ned goes on, "Advocating photo-voltaics, or the like, with public funds, or money that results from a public program, is EXACTLY what the present administration wants us to do. It gives them a clean field of fire to deny the existence of any solution to climate change, so they might as well build a huge number of new coal and natural gas plants." Not a pretty picture.

"If instead, you point out that they, not the environmentalists, are the ones who are sticking their heads in the sand, because there are massive efficiency opportunities that rely on proven technology and proven programs, we will undermine the security of ignorance that protects them and their tragic objectives. We have the economic high ground. Let's take advantage of it. The Sierra Club and the environmental movement will get where they are going through the work of a lot of different people who don't all see things the same way."

One such person is Phil Scott, board member of IRENEW, a grassroots organization advocating

continued on page 8...Energy Efficiency

The Missouri Group of the Sierra Club — A History Before the Ozark Chapter

by Dorothy K. Stade,
35-year member of the Sierra Club

Another decade has passed, and the Ozark Chapter recently turned thirty. With the increased national interest in the past and the ever growing number of new members in the Chapter who do not know anything of our past, perhaps it is time to look at the roots of the Ozark Chapter.

In 1892 the Sierra Club founders did not envision a powerful national environmental organization, but that is what has developed. Originally a California organization with chapters only within that state, the Club's name and numbers spread slowly but surely across the country. Eventually chapters were formed outside California's boundaries, and the Club divided the country into what might be called regional chapters, each of which encompassed several states. As membership increased in those states, especially in the late 50's and through the 60's, each state became a group within the regional chapter and then worked toward achieving chapter status of its own. One such group was the Missouri Group of the Great Lakes Chapter.

The Great Lakes Chapter, headquartered in Chicago, included not only Great Lakes states, but also upper Mississippi River and lower Ohio Valley states. As time passed, a dozen or more chapters were formed within the area originally covered by the Great Lakes Chapter. One of them was named the Ozark Chapter. How did the Missouri Group become the Ozark Chapter? It did not happen overnight. It took several years and the work of many dedicated people to achieve this result.

Our Group began in late 1967 when Carl Seltzer sent a letter to some Missouri Sierrans asking if there was interest in getting together to do things as Sierrans. This small Group chose some officers, held meetings sporadically at several locations, and went on some outings, but it was far from being a viable Sierra Club entity. This changed in 1969, in part because of a float trip.

A group of Sierrans, who originally had become friends as cavers, was sitting around a gravel bar campfire telling stories and reminiscing about shared experiences and accomplishments. The conversation turned serious as they discussed the future of the Sierra Club in Missouri. They felt there were many things that needed doing, and they decided to get the Club really organized and active in the small environmental community which existed in Missouri at the time.

Ron Oesch volunteered to chair meetings until an official election could be held. Don Stokes volunteered to edit a group newsletter called *The Clarion* to communicate with all Sierrans in the area, and Audrae Stevens organized what became a very busy, varied and popular outings program. A regular time and place was established for both general and ExCom meetings, and the group became a genuine Sierra Club entity by officially

becoming the Missouri Group of the Great Lakes Chapter. The Group By-Laws stated that the Group's membership "shall comprise members of the Sierra Club who reside in Missouri and Arkansas and the following Illinois counties: Calhoun, Jersey, Macoupin, Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair."

An election was held in the fall, and 1970 saw the Group being led by Chairman John Stade, Vice-Chairman Dave Bedan, Treasurer Ed Marks, Recording Secretary Pat Harris, Corresponding Secretary Leo Kluesner, Conservation Chair Eva Lovett, Program Chair Dick Youse, Membership Chair Jeane Allen, Outings Chair Audrae Stevens, and Editor Don Stokes.

Under John Stade's leadership, a real Sierra Club presence was established in Missouri, and the Group worked towards its next goal — chapter status. Stade represented the Group at Great Lakes Chapter ExCom meetings and other events, testified for the Group at numerous hearings, helped to increase member involvement, and brought the Sierra Club name before the public (although in the early days, we were often referred to as the Sahara Club). Group members participated in Chapter outings and activities like the Save Allerton Park and Save Lusk Creek campaigns and the effort to stop the "Peabody Ditch" (channelization of the Kaskaskia River for coal barge traffic). The Group also mobilized to join in Club efforts opposing the SST, the Timber Supply Act, and Disney's Mineral King Valley development; and supporting the creation of the Buffalo National River and maintaining a free-flowing Cossatot River. But the real focus was more local, and the next two years laid the groundwork for the Chapter's later successful campaigns and effective programs.

In the St. Louis area the Group worked against Linclay Corporation's Earth City in the Missouri River flood plain, opposed the L-15 levee in St. Charles County, and supported a more primitive development plan for Queeny Park. Statewide the Group supported hiking trail efforts, and began monitoring strip mining and associated efforts to re-claim strip mined areas. The Group was very involved in an ill-fated effort to create a Missouri Scenic Rivers System, and worked diligently with the Citizen's Committee for Conservation in an initiative petition campaign for a tax on soft drinks to support an expanded program for the Missouri Department of Conservation. Later, of course, the Chapter worked hard in support of the Department's Design for Conservation.

Other major activities included a long-range study of the free-flowing Ozark streams with the possibility of gaining protection for some of them as National Scenic Rivers; a long-range study of the Mark Twain National Forest; a roadless area/de facto wilderness area survey leading to eventual federal wilderness area protection; and the development of a plan opposing the construction of the Meramec Park Dam and other dams in the Meramec Basin Project which led, over some years, to the de-authorization of the project.

Slowly but surely the Sierra Club was becoming an environmental force in Missouri. By mid-1971 the Group had over 800 members with many of them participating in meetings and outings and actively involving themselves in committee work. The Group ExCom voted to apply for Chapter status. Petitions to that effect were sent to Group members for their signatures, letters were sent to the Great Lakes Chapter and Mills Tower (Club headquarters at the time), and Elaine Hackerman was given the responsibility for compiling the Group's history and filling out the lengthy questionnaire received from San Francisco. This she did very ably, and the Missouri Group's application to become the Ozark Chapter (Missouri and Arkansas) was approved at the Board of Directors meeting in San Francisco on December 5, 1971. On January 1, 1972, the Ozark Chapter officially came into existence as the 36th Chapter of the Sierra Club. The Group's Illinois counties continued as the Piasa-Palises and Kaskaskia Groups of the Great Lakes Chapter, and later Arkansas attained its own Chapter status.

The process by which Chapter status was achieved may have been long, and sometimes arduous, but it was well worth the effort. A firm foundation had been laid, programs were well-established, a cadre of very capable leaders had been developed, and the members' esprit de corps could not have been higher. The many successes of the past thirty years show the importance of the sturdy roots provided by the Missouri Group.

For three decades, Dorothy K. Stade has consistently been one of the most generous contributors of volunteer time and financial support to the Sierra Club in Missouri. Her long list of leadership duties includes twelve years on the Chapter Excom, Chapter Secretary, Chapter Vice-Chair, Chapter Conservation Chair, four years as Chapter Chair, Delegate to the MRCC, and Delegate to the Sierra Club Council of Club Leaders. Her various Sierra Club honors include 1974 Ozark Chapter Sierran of the Year, 1981 Ozark Chapter Distinguished Service Award (the highest honor bestowed on a member by the Ozark Chapter), and the 1982 Susan Miller National Sierra Club Award. All of the 10,000 members of the Ozark Chapter are deeply indebted to Dorothy and to all the others who helped anchor our Chapter so securely so many years ago. —



Melody Torrey Receives Citizen's Award

by Scott Dye, Sierra Club Water Sentinels Program Director

Congratulations to Ozark Chapter member Melody Torrey of rural Putnam County on receiving the 2001 Citizen's Award from the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society.

Melody recently traveled to the Natural Resources Conference at the Lake of the Ozarks to accept the prestigious award, which is presented annually to a single outstanding Missourian in recognition of their substantial contributions to protecting and enhancing our state's aquatic resources.

Melody was nominated for the honor by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Melody's tireless efforts and her accuracy as a state trained and certified volunteer water quality monitor have become the stuff of legend within Missouri's nationally recognized Stream Team Program. Melody relentlessly tests the region's rivers and streams for a variety of pollution impacts including malfunctioning municipal wastewater treatment plants and polluted runoff from the industrial hog factories of Premium Standard Farms.

Her watchful eyes and trusty equipment have helped initiate several MDNR enforcement actions; some culminating in Notices of Violation or more protective permit revisions.

The award plaque reads as follows: "This award is to acknowledge Melody's past and present efforts as a dedicated Stream Team Volunteer Water Quality Monitor of Stream Team #714 - The Family Farms Group. Melody has attended water quality monitoring training and is now one of a limited number of certified Level 3 monitors. Level 3 is the highest level obtainable by volunteers in the Stream Team Program.

"Melody is dedicated to maintaining and improving water quality in North Missouri streams. Beginning in 1999, she has made 513 trips to 44 monitoring sites in Putnam, Sullivan and Mercer Counties. She is faithful to report any

changes in the water quality of her adopted streams - North Blackbird Creek and its tributaries, Little Shoal Creek and its tributaries, Rooks Branch and its tributaries, and tributaries to Sandy Creek. In addition to essential chemical parameters, Melody reports any and all factors that could cause changes in her adopted streams.

"Melody has been instrumental in encouraging Putnam County Commissioners to establish a county health ordinance that would regulate industries and practices which could impact surface water, groundwater, soil and air quality and negatively affect the health and well-being of citizens.

"For Melody's stewardship in protecting and enhancing Missouri's aquatic resources, the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is proud to recognize her contributions with its Citizen's Award."

Melody and her family joined the Sierra Club in 1999, and have been tireless and vocal advocates for environmental protection and sustainable rural communities. The Torreys supply the local farmers market and area families with pasture raised chicken, pond raised catfish, fresh produce and the best pies north of the Missouri River.

By the way, Melody also recently won a well-deserved 15-foot Pelican International canoe from the Stream Team Program for her dedicated and effective monitoring efforts. So if you run into her out paddling on her favorite reaches of the Chariton or Current Rivers this year, stop her and say thanks for all she's doing to protect Missouri's resources. —



Melody accepts the 2001 Citizen's Award from the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society at Tan-Tar-A Resort on January 31, 2002.

Angel Kruzen, Water Sentinel

I would like to introduce myself to you. My name is Angel Kruzen and I am the Sierra Club's Water Sentinel for Missouri. I am currently working in the Kansas City area but plan on working later in St. Louis. I am focused on the watersheds of the Blue River, Little Blue River, Indian Creek and Brush Creek in Kansas City.

I grew up in the suburbs of Chicago, so I understand the problems of the urban stream. As a child I loved to go to my Aunt Is's house because two doors down was a beautiful little stream. I remember the stream introducing me to my first tadpole, wading, and hopping from rock to rock. I remember the fun I had as a child catching my first frog. Then, later, I remember the puzzlement of wondering what was happening to my friends. Where were the frogs, what was that green slime, and why did it stink? I remember my mom telling me to stay away because I could get sick.

I now know that what had happened to my stream was that it had been turned into a drainage ditch for the city. I hope that the Water Sentinel

Program can help to save or restore some of the urban streams for children to remember and love.

There is nothing like watching the light of understanding and love that comes into a person's eyes as they learn about the life of a stream. I am looking forward to working with all of you.

You can reach Angel at pansgarden@hotmail.com —



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assistance, contact:

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Independence, Mo 64055
(816)842-3636

Letters to the Editor:

A Volunteer's Perspective on Glade Restoration in the Roaring River Wild Area

by Susan Farrington

I am writing concerning Ken Midkiff's letter to the Ozark Sierran in which he opposed DNR's request to use chain saws to control cedars on glades in the Roaring River State Park Wild Area.

I have participated as a Sierra Club glade restoration volunteer for five years, leading the volunteers during the last two years. Sometimes when we are participating in glade restoration, it seems like a major manipulation of the area, and the cedar stumps can be unsightly temporarily. Certainly while we're working, we feel like we're creating a bit of a "moonscape."

But when we see the results of our work in the next year and the years to follow, we are amazed. The seed bank is there and the grasses and wildflowers return on their own once we let the sunshine in. This is not glade creation; we are not planting the flowers or grasses that emerge. These glades have been openings in the woodlands for many thousands of years, maintained both by natural fires and by the purposeful actions of Native Americans. The frequent fires kept the cedars from growing on glades, relegating them to the river bluffs where fire could not reach. It is only in the last 50 to 75 years that we have sought to suppress the frequent fires that kept the glades open, and the cedars have quickly taken advantage.

Glades support tremendous biodiversity, providing invaluable habitat to many plants and animals. Tarantulas, collared lizards, painted buntings, prairie warblers, Bachman's sparrows, Fremont's leather flower, Missouri evening primrose, Trelease's larkspur, Bush's poppy mallow and the federally endangered Missouri bladderpod all depend on open glade habitat. Since glades are south-facing, they are the first habitats to green up in the spring, providing numerous hungry animals with their first spring meal, including black bears just emerging from hibernation.

I was disappointed in Ken Midkiff's letter which contained some inaccuracies. He stated, "The historical records reveal that naturally occurring wildfires seldom burned more than an acre. Current data support this. Unlike the arid West, there are no "dry strikes" of lightning in Missouri..."

I'm not sure what current data Ken is citing, but dry lightning strikes do occur in Missouri, though certainly not as often as in the West. According to Douglas Halliwell, Fire Program Staff Supervisor with MDC, 172 lightning fires were reported in the eight years between 1992 and 2000, burning a total of 2,153 acres. This would be an average of 12.5 acres burned per lightning fire. When fires are ignited by these strikes, they are often quickly extinguished by local firefighters. Roads, parking lots and plowed fields also prevent the spread of these fires. Before these barriers and fire departments existed, lightning fires would no doubt have burned many more acres.

Ken also wrote, "We no longer have bison, elk, grizzly bear, black bear, mountain lions, or Indian tribes roaming the state...." Actually, black bears are roaming Missouri once more, as are mountain lions. And Missouri was never home to grizzly bears.

I was particularly upset with Ken's characterization that, "We don't want to see stumps or wide open spaces between trees where pretty flowers grow — there are such places all over the state, including most cities." First, that implies that glades are an artificial habitat, which they are not. Second, he is likening a glade to an urban park or a botanical garden, but they are not alike at all.

Ken appears to attack glade restoration anywhere, likening it to gardening. If you agree with him that glade restoration is not a worthy undertaking at all, then there isn't much to discuss with regard to save Roaring River's glades. But if you accept the premise that glade restoration is worthwhile, then let's examine the issue of glade restoration in the Roaring River Wild Area.

First, no one can dispute that it is setting a possibly dangerous precedent to make an exception to allow chain saws in a wild area. Certainly someone in the future might try to use this precedent for bad purposes. But while this is a possible danger, the absolute danger facing us right now is that Roaring River's glades will soon be gone if nothing is done. One suggestion is to use prescribed fire more aggressively to control the cedars at Roaring River. While cedar seedlings are easily controlled by fire, the only fire that will kill large cedar trees is a catastrophic fire, the kind that burns whole forests to ashes. No one would wish such a fire on this wild area.

Glades support tremendous biodiversity, providing invaluable habitat to many plants and animals.

The glades in the wild area will soon be shaded out to the point of no return, and the task of removing the large cedar trees there is far too monumental to handle with manual crosscut saws. It is very labor intensive even to remove them with chain saws, and it is prohibitively intensive to do it without them. Yes, chain saws are annoying, and no one wants to hear them when hiking in a wild area. But the intrusion would be short-lived, and could be structured to avoid peak visitation. Once the trees are removed, there will be no further need to return with chain saws: prescribed fires every few years will keep cedar trees from encroaching again.

It is true that there are glades in Roaring River State Park that are outside the wild area, and nothing prevents us from clearing the cedars and maintaining these glades. But there are twice as many acres of glade in the wild area as in the rest of the park, and the glades in the wild area provide crucial links between these habitats. We would be los-

ing a great deal to lose the glades in the wild area. In an idyllic world, we would manage wild areas completely hands-off, and if an area were truly undisturbed, far from any human manipulation, we could do just that. But what do we do when kudzu erupts in the middle of a wild area? Cuivre River State Park's wild area is a prime example. Surrounded by numerous invading exotic species, the area would soon be overrun with these exotics if no land management was practiced. Yes, this is manipulation, but we as humans have wreaked such havoc on the land that little is truly wild and untouched anymore. We are forced to make decisions to try to maintain the wildness as best as we are able. We may not always make the right decisions; history will ultimately judge us. But do we want history to judge that we merely stood by and watched species disappear because we didn't want to interfere?

A Biologist's Perspective on Glade Restoration in the Roaring River Wild Area

by Alan R.P. Jounet, Conservation Chair, Trail of Tears Group

There is no doubt that the natural world offers a tremendous opportunity for spiritual renewal. John Muir eloquently argued this over a century ago, and generations of Sierrans have agreed ever since.

At the turn of the twentieth century, the main concern that environmentalists had was for the loss of beautiful and spiritually renewing wilderness. At that time there was little or no thought given to the possibility that human activity might push species in the U.S. towards and over the brink of extinction. It was for this reason, I suspect, that wilderness was the focus of Muir's concern. Certainly we could not argue that there now exists an excess of wilderness across the land, but unlike a century ago, we now realize that human activities pose a serious threat to the continued existence of many of the species with which we share the planet. Conservation has thus become a concern of the Sierra Club along with preservation and recreational beauty.

It seems to me that the most critical question that we need to ask ourselves in addressing the management dilemma of the Roaring River wilderness and its glades, is whether we are now first conservationists and second preservationists, or vice versa. This question might be answered differently by each of us.

Generally, as John Karel suggested, "most of the time the(se) priority missions (of Missouri's state parks: natural resources, cultural resources, and recreation) reinforce and complement one another but on occasion initiatives from one mission conflict with values from another. Then we must use prudence as we sort out the most critical resources and the most important long-term benefits...." While we may have individual concerns about cultural resources, our primary focus as a club concerns management of the natural resources and the spiritual recreational opportunities provided. In these discussions, we are forced to identify our priorities among these missions, and respond accordingly.

As Karel further noted: "An unusually large number of native plant and animal species make their homes at Roaring River, including many that

are rare, threatened, or endangered — in the nation, the state or the park system.” If this is the case, and some of these species of concern are glade dwellers, then the conservationist in us would argue that we should manage to retain and restore glade habitat in order that the survival potential of these species might be enhanced. But, even if these specific glades contained no species of conservation concern, glade habitat conservation is important. This is because at the hands of human resource managers, glades comprise a rapidly dwindling habitat throughout the state. As we know, the goal of conservation should be to do more than address rare and endangered species already on the brink; rather we should be managing natural resources such that species do not drop in numbers to a level that renders questionable their future existence.

While an important habitat, glades are often generally short-lived, becoming encroached by woody species that eliminate the glade characteristics and thus the glade habitat. Assuredly, this is a natural process. If we had sufficient forest in Missouri that natural processes were at work re-creating glades through fire, there would be no concern that we need to manage to restore and retain those glades that we have. Unfortunately, this is not the case — forestry and development have seen to that. The Roaring River area is targeted for this restoration because it contains a significant number of glade areas.

Karel and Flader suggest that glade management should be restricted to the state park allowing the glades in the wilderness to undergo whatever transformations they will. Unfortunately, the majority of recoverable glade area of the region is actually in the wilderness (668 acres in the Wild Area vs 370 acres in the State Park). If our goal is glade conservation, it makes sense to undertake restoration where the potential for glade recovery is greatest.

The available evidence suggests that the only effective way to maintain glades that are becoming heavily encroached by cedars is to remove the cedars. An effective way to do this is to subject to prescribed, controlled fire the area being encroached while the cedars are still young and susceptible. This is the natural unmanaged technique (maybe with Native American help) that resulted in a mosaic of glade habitats through the Ozarks prior to European settlement. Unfortunately, fire prevention policies such as the Smokey Bear campaign have been so successful that fires have been largely eliminated in the forests that remain, thus allowing cedars to grow to maturity in many glade areas. This result is a consequence of a human management decision. Even the forests that we now like to think of as pristine wilderness have not escaped the heavy human hand — but have been subjected to human management probably continuously since they arrived in the state several thousand years ago. Unfortunately, the kind of fire intensity necessary to eradicate mature, established cedars would be quite hazardous from the perspective of control, and potentially damaging to the system that we are trying to conserve and restore.

A far more controllable approach would be to clear the cedars manually. Admittedly this has the consequence of breaching management principles, and might be somewhat unsightly to some folks in a way that fire scorching is not — but this constitutes a personal aesthetic value judgment rather than a management judgment. The question here deals with priorities again. Is the semi-pristine nature of the wilderness so critical that management beyond fire is not permissible?

The problem now, as it is in many cases where human (mis)management has produced extensive habitat loss, is to apply what knowledge and understanding we have regarding threatened systems to restoring them. Inevitably, our lack of total knowledge means that practitioners in the fields of conservation biology and ecological restoration must apply the best available wisdom to decisions. This does not imply arrogance on their part, or pretense of complete knowledge. It merely represents a desire to do the best that can be done to restore structure and function to endangered habitats with the knowledge available. Adaptive management can then be applied, allowing modifications to management regimes in the light of experience gained from techniques already applied.

What we are faced with, it seems to me, is a toss up between preservation and conservation. In a nutshell, the dilemma to me is this: On one hand we have a shortage of wilderness with its inherent right to exist and its spiritual values. On the other we have a shortage of glade habitat rendering endangered an unknown number of habitat specialist species that can never be recovered once extinct. Meanwhile, the pure wilderness nature of the area so designated is a little trammled by the recognition that all forests in Missouri have been exposed to human management since their arrival in the area probably some time between five and ten thousand years ago.

There are abundant examples of federal and state agencies attempting to undermine environmental protection and conservation; we can agree on many of these and oppose them with a concerted coordinated front. But here, there seems to be a desire to stand in the way of an agency that is fundamentally attempting to achieve goals with which we agree because we disagree with their tactics.

It is unfortunate that the environmental community seems to be divided on this issue. I hope, however, that we can discuss it amicably and acknowledge the legitimacy of opposing views rather than split vocally and visibly into opposing camps.

In light of these considerations, I suggest that we not endorse the proposals of John Karel and Susan Flader since I judge them to be weighted more heavily than I like towards non-conservationist preservation goals as opposed to my major concern, which is conservation of biodiversity. I suppose that in this context, I am more of a pragmatist than an idealist, and feel that the best way to achieve the conservation ends in this region is to follow the plan proposed by DNR.

I hope that the Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club will support glade restoration efforts in the Roaring River Wild Area. —

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Energy Efficiency.....continued from page 3
 renewables in Iowa. He joined the discussion, admittedly late, and on a “soapbox.” “If we as a society, culture, and world economic community don’t make the hard decision right now to make the change to a non-polluting, sustainable energy economy, it is entirely likely that the human species and certainly civilization will not survive beyond the next 75 to 100 years.”

Ned agreed that the ability of the planet to support the majority of the human population is at considerable risk. I think Phil, like me, is quick to jump when even so much as a hint of doubt is cast upon renewables. “It is past the time to be polite,” Phil continued, “Everyone who has the means to go solar, wind, hydro, or whatever, should be encouraged to do so.” He went on, “If we were to factor in the cost that our fossil fuel energy system has cost the average citizen just in terms of the Defense budget for the past two decades there would be no comparison. In unsubsidized terms, solar and wind are already cheaper than fossil fuel energy.”

At this point I’m standing on the pew, pumping my fists. I’ve installed PV panels on my house and have cut our consumption of grid electricity by 3,630 kWh per year, thus reducing the carbon dioxide emissions from the coal power plant by over three and half tons. Phil installed panels on

his house ten years ago. We have reduced our impact on the earth and it feels good. But what are we to do about these differing viewpoints within the Sierra Club?

In an effort to clear up these discrepancies, Ned rephrased the main point of his advice, “Separate the renewables message from the efficiency message.” It is Ned’s belief that the majority of Americans are not going to examine the moral implications of using fossil fuels. Looking around at all the oversized SUVs, I’m inclined to agree with him. He feels we can get “the greatest movement toward a sustainable economy by teaching something that they are already conditioned to think they support – money-saving efficiency.” He’s got a point, but I was happy nearing the end of this discussion when Ned gave a nod to the renewable advocates. “It’s not an either/or proposition. We need some people to be trailblazers, and we need sustained interest in renewables.”

So what does this have to do with refrigerators?

A. If you have the money and you feel a moral obligation to reduce your impact on the planet to as great an extent as possible, plus you want the lowest electric bill possible, buy a Sunfrost, or equivalent. Payback runs close to 15 years, and should you ever decide to install wind or solar, you have made a good choice.

Here’s some specs: Model RF-19, 19cu.ft, \$2,460, 281 kilowatt-hours/year.

B. If you are on a budget and it’s time to buy a new fridge, and you are willing to spend a little more for a high efficiency fridge, buy one. The extra cost will pay for itself in savings in less than ten years and you will be helping the environment. For example: Whirlpool Model 83982-4, 18.8 cu. ft., \$800, 440 kilowatt-hours/year.

For anyone buying a new appliance, I recommend taking the time to visit:
<http://www.ACEEE.org> The American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy maintains an online buyers guide for appliances.

¹ U.S. Department of Energy. Scenarios for a Clean Energy Future, Nov. 2000.

http://www.ornl.gov/ORNL/Energy_Eff/CEF.htm

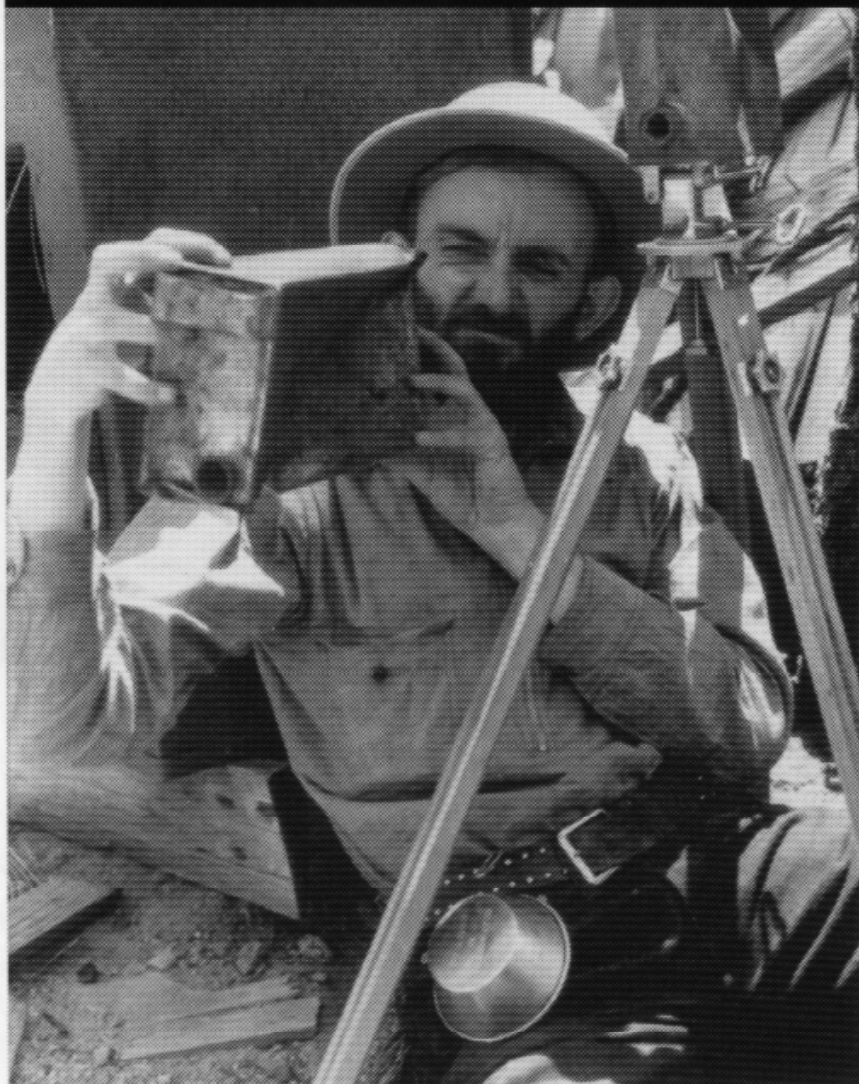
² Friedman, David et al. Union of Concerned Scientists, Drilling in Detroit: Tapping the Ingenuity of the Automaker Industry to Build Safe and Efficient Automobiles, 2001.

<http://www.ucsusa.org/index.html>

³ Hansen, Brian, “Power Plant Pollution Linked to 30,000 Premature Deaths Each Year,” Environmental News Service, 17 Oct. 2000.

<http://ens.lycos.com/ens/oct2000/2000L-10-17-15.html> —

Ansel Adams on PBS—Sunday, April 21, 2002



© Cedric Wright

Sierra Club Productions invites you to watch ANSEL ADAMS: A DOCUMENTARY FILM. The documentary will air on PBS’s American Experience on Sunday, April 21, 2002. This project, from Steeplechase Films and Sierra Club Productions, is the first comprehensive biography of the legendary photographer, produced in cooperation with the Ansel Adams Publishing Rights Trust. The film explores the meaning and legacy of Adams’ life and work within the context of the great themes that absorbed him throughout his career: the beauty and fragility of “the American earth,” the inseparable bond of man and nature, and the moral obligation the present owes to the future. No photographer has had more profound an impact on how Americans grasp the majesty of their own continent. Producer/director Ric Burns of Steeplechase Films is a documentarian known for his award winning series for PBS “New York,” as well as “The Donner Party” and “Coney Island.” Sierra Club Productions creates diverse, quality dramatic and non-fiction film and television entertainment that reflects the belief that every person is connected to, inspired by and responsible for the natural world.



SIERRA CLUB
 PRODUCTIONS

Save The Ales: Bringing Conservation to Campus

by Katya Tomlen, Executive Leader, Washington University Sierra Student Coalition

Teaching conservation to today's MTV, SUV, and DVD generation is a challenge for environmentalists, especially when the message attacks the type of lifestyles we find so comfortable. Though global warming, renewable energy, wildlife and habitat preservation rank high on student lists of concerns, many times studying, career-planning, and just plain living interfere with effective campus action. A solution? Save the Ales: an annual event on the Washington University in St. Louis campus that mixes education, activism, and a little ale to encourage the student body to take a stand against some of the country's most pressing environmental problems.

"Save the ales" is a concept borne of frustration and urgency — top scientists worldwide agree that global warming is happening at an alarming rate and with alarming consequences, but we still can't get appropriate fuel efficiency standards imposed upon sport-utility vehicles. There is a pressing need to educate the nation about the consequences of our behavior, especially the students who will inherit the global warming problem in a few short years.

The brainchild of Power Shift, a grass-roots organization that champions alternative fuels, Save the Ales originally began as a fundraising and awareness event hosted by a local bar. The event's name capitalizes on the relationship between climate change and hops production in the U.S.; Power Link points out that hops, the flowers used

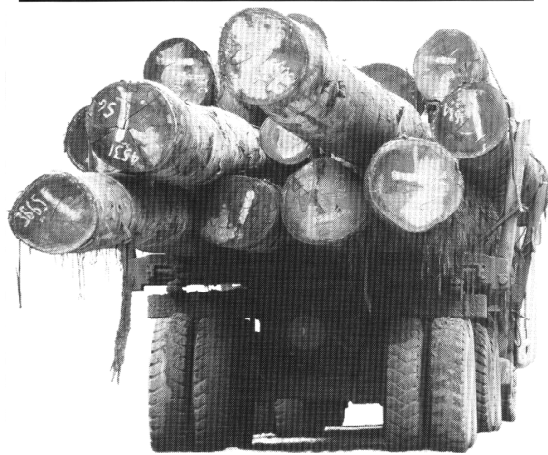
to make beer bitter, are threatened by global warming. The majority of hops produced in the U.S. are grown in the Pacific Northwest, where drier global warming summers would be disastrous for a plant that requires large amounts of water. Global warming conditions could also lead to a population boom of aphids and Japanese beetles, which prey upon hops. Easily understood by even the least ecologically-minded, Save the Ales is a hybrid of politics and pleasure that has inspired thousands of letters and several imitations.

Washington University's Save the Ales was held on December 6, 2001, incorporating Power Shift's global warming theme with the Sierra Club and Sierra Student Coalition's own campaigns to save the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The Sierra Student Coalition brought together all walks of campus life for an evening of "bands, beer, and big, bad oil companies." Joining forces with other progressive campus groups such as Amnesty International, Save the Ales attracted activists for a variety of different issues to raise support for the Arctic Refuge. Student musicians volunteered their talents for the event that drew students, staff, and community members alike. Informational tables showcased information, action tips, and petitions to Senators calling for the protection of the Refuge from all prospecting and drilling. Attendees also hand-wrote letters to their individual senators urging immediate action to protect the Refuge. Participants tested their eco-knowledge by spinning the wheel of SSC's Eco-Challenge and answering questions about energy consumption,

politics, and indigenous peoples connected with the Arctic Refuge issue. Then Sierra Club Global Warming Director (and now Missouri's Sierra Club Chapter Director) Carla Klein was also on hand to educate attendees about the links between energy policy, energy practices and global warming. The culmination of WU's Save the Ales was a raffle for various prizes donated by local businesses, with ticket proceeds benefiting SSC's SO₂ Permit Fund. SSC is working on a plan to reduce SO₂ emissions in our atmosphere by purchasing one of a limited number of permits available to release a ton of SO₂. A permit for SSC means one less for industry.

Only in its second year, Save the Ales has already become one of the most well-attended fall events on WU's campus. Scanning the crowd, one can see that it attracts a healthy cross-section of the student population: freshman, Greeks, student government representatives, even recent alumni. Save the Ales has shown that in a community of diverse backgrounds, interests, and directions in life, it is still possible to unite for a single cause. The trick is presentation — as environmentalists, we must speak in the vernacular. By throwing a party with a purpose, the Sierra Student Coalition showed WU's campus that environmental problems touch our lives in ways we never considered, and that activism can be both effective and fun. Environmental degradation is everyone's problem; fighting it is everyone's responsibility. But that doesn't mean you can't have any fun along the way. —

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Transportation Crystal Ball.....continued from page 1 really like the nearly \$900 million per year MoDOT says they need. Transit and rail passenger folks really want the \$120 million or so needed to meet the identified needs, including funding to upgrade track for higher-speed rail passenger service between St. Louis and Kansas City.

In testimony before a Senate committee in November we contended that highway needs were “fully funded” — at least at the level identified at that time — when the so-called fifteen-year highway plan was funded back in 1992. We contended that transit needs ought to be “fully funded” before additional funds are sought for highways. That argument doesn’t go over well in the Capitol.

To make matters worse, transit is in an especially weak financial position this year, and so is not in a good bargaining position. Local sales taxes have declined and forced service cuts. And with the state also having budget problems, just getting an annual appropriation of about \$8.5 million to help support transit operations is taking time that would otherwise be devoted to getting a bigger share of a transportation tax package.

The source of new transportation money is also a major problem. There’s not much resistance to funding transit with a sales tax — though one could certainly make a good case for funding it from gas taxes — but reliance on a sales tax for highway funding rubs a lot of people the wrong way. The sales tax is regressive — low-income people pay a greater percent of their income in sales taxes than do upper-income people. Thus, there is a widespread feeling that the new funds should come more from a gas tax than a sales tax.

Unfortunately, the gas tax has its limits. Raise the gas tax much higher than that in adjoining states, and a lot of people will simply buy their gas elsewhere — and that could result in gas tax revenues lower than anticipated. This is particularly true in the Kansas City area where many Missourians either commute to Kansas daily for work or live relatively close to the Sunflower state.

At this writing it’s hard to predict what will happen. We should and will be working to influence a package that fully meets transit and inter-city passenger transportation needs, and that raises as much of any new highway money as possible from the gas tax and other user fees. You can help by telling your own legislators where you stand.

By going after the sales tax to make up for the highway funding shortfall, truckers and other highway people will have to forever abandon their fictitious claim that they pay their own way. Anyone with an open mind would acknowledge that local streets are largely financed by local property taxes, and that means a lot of gas tax money attributable to local travel on those streets actually goes to fund highways. In fact, it’s going to be tough for the highway users to refute the argument that, had they actually been paying their own way for the roads they’ve been using all these years, Missouri wouldn’t be in its current highway pickle.



YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR WORLD

In March we mailed each of our members an appeal for funds. These contributions really do make a difference to us 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 back yard. You allow us to continue our work to protect wilderness and wildlife, to improve the quality of life in our cities, and to promote the enjoyment of nature.

Bike and Pedestrian Needs to Go Unmet

Whatever comes out of the General Assembly or an initiative petition process, it is likely there will be nothing to address the state’s backlog of bike and pedestrian needs. Most state maintained roads in cities and towns will still be unsafe for people wanting to travel along or across them without benefit of a motor vehicle. Look around your own town for the evidence: Manchester Avenue in St. Louis, Noland Road in Independence, Missouri Boulevard in Jeff City, Glenstone Avenue in Springfield, Stadium Drive in Columbia.

We should expect that all future road projects will include appropriate accommodations for non-motorized travelers. However, roads that are currently adequate for traffic won’t be improved any time soon, and so there will be no opportunity to address bike and pedestrian safety needs as part of a road project. Thus, we’ll all have to work on our local and state officials, including MoDOT, to get them to fund projects that focus primarily on bike and pedestrian safety. With new sales tax money going for roads, it’ll be tough for them to argue that pedestrians and cyclists don’t contribute to the road budget.

Tolls Have a Place

Nobody likes tolls. However, they are probably the fairest way to pay for “premium service” roads like urban and rural “freeways.” Without tolls, these roads get used for short trips that don’t warrant such a facility, and such trips get in the way of longer-distance travelers, add to congestion, and contribute to the notion that the freeway should be widened.

Freeway congestion is evidence of traffic “demand” greater than the “supply” of road space. Our economy uses prices to allocate scarce resources, yet there is reluctance to apply that market mechanism to high-cost public highways. Yes, we built I-70 and the other freeways to be “free” ways. But they are worn out now, and they need to be totally rebuilt. Rebuilding them as toll roads — even if the tolls charged don’t cover their full cost — is a reasonable way to better distribute traffic across the entire highway system.

“Congestion pricing” — higher tolls during peak travel periods — has the added benefit of reducing congestion and the perceived need for excess capacity that is needed only during those peak periods. A further benefit of such tolls is that they could help slow the suburban sprawl that is fueled by the expectation that MoDOT will keep adding freeway capacity forever. —

Outings Continued

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Jun 22 (Sat) Test water quality on Fox Creek near Eureka.



Help us identify the aquatic insects, test for dissolved oxygen and other chemical parameters, and measure stream flow. We should see a lot of macroinvertebrates. Leslie Lihou (314)726-2140.

Jun 22 (Sat) A walk in Forest Park. As a hiker you can either walk three or six miles. Paul Stupperich (314)429-4352.

Osage Group

None submitted

Thomas Hart Benton Group

Apr 5-7 (Fri-Sun) Ozark Highlands Trail, Ozone, AR. We'll hike Section 5 (20 miles) of this very scenic trail from the Ozone Campground to the Big Piney Trailhead. Dave Patton (816)461-6091 or dgpatton01@aol.com

Apr 13 (Sat) Biking on the KATY Trail near Rocheport.

Bike along the Missouri River on one of the nation's premiere bike trails. Bike rentals available. Lee Ann Googe (816)453-8558.

Apr 26-28 (Fri-Sun) Hercules Glades Wilderness, Hilda, MO. Join us for a leisurely backpacking trip where we will stop and smell the flowers on this favorite trail of ours. Dan & Donna Clark Fuller (816)779-7284 or donnadan@accessus.net



May 3-4 (Fri-Sat) Car Camping and Trail Maintenance, Wallace State Park, Cameron, MO. A great outing for families. We'll car camp on Friday evening, then work on the trail on Saturday. Lee Ann Googe (816)453-8558.

May 4 (Sat) Scavenger Hunt, Ernie Miller Nature Center, Olathe, KS. Adults and children alike are welcome on our scavenger hunt to Ernie Miller Nature Center. Ellen Brenneman (816)523-2944 or ebrenn1@hallmark.com

May 5 (Sun) Bicycle Workshop, Kansas City. Join us for this workshop where we will discuss safe bicycle operation, techniques, rules and tips for riding in traffic. Group size limited to 20. Must have own bicycle and helmet. Paul Gross (816)228-6563 or wildwoodp@hotmail.com

May 11 (Sat) James A. Reed Wildlife Refuge, Lee's Summit. Riparian woodlands, limestone cliffs and a waterfowl marsh are among the sights on this short dayhike. Marilyn Gottlieb-Koshland (816)537-5988 or koshland@mindspring.com

May 18-19 (Sat-Sun) Flint Hills Backpacking Trip, Beaumont, KS. Come learn about the interaction of cattle and this sensitive ecosystem. Scott Hooper (816)561-0575 or scott@hooper.net



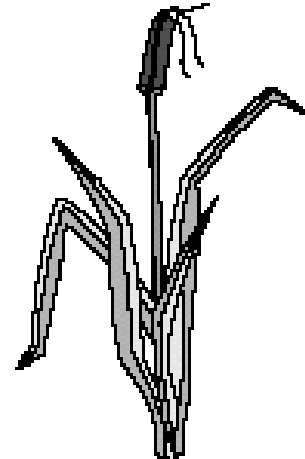
Jun 8-9 (Sat-Sun) Buffalo River Float Trip, northwestern Arkansas. Join us for a two day float on the Buffalo National River in Arkansas. We will have a base camp in the Kyle's Landing area and float downstream one day, and start upstream and back to our camp the next day. Canoe rentals are approx. \$30/day and shuttle charges are \$5/person/day. The float section of the river we may do will be dependent on the water level and spring rains in June. Paul Gross (816)228-6563 or wildwoodp@hotmail.com

Jun 15 (Sat) Sunset Tour of Wild Onion Farm, Lone Star, KS. We'll tour this organic farm near Lawrence that grows vegetables and flowers, and maybe have an evening potluck.

Steve Hassler (913)599-6028 or hassler@planetkc.com

Jun 22 (Sat) Discovery Center, Kansas City. Come with us on a guided tour of the new Discovery Center at 47th & Troost. Ellen Brenneman (816)523-2944 or ebrenn1@hallmark.com

Jun 29 (Sat) Summer Tour of the Haskell-Baker Wetlands, Lawrence, KS. We'll observe how the wetland ecosystem works during the summer, with Dr. Roger Boyd from Baker University as our guide. Jim Horlacher (913)649-1611 or jimhorlach@aol.com



Trail of Tears Group

Apr 14 (Sun) World Bird Sanctuary. Join Alan Journet's Conservation Biology class on a trip to the World Bird Sanctuary in Eureka. Planned departure about 9:00 a.m. with lunch en route. Scheduled for 1:00 p.m. at WBS for program on captive breeding programs and species recovery efforts, with a tour of the new facilities. Limit of 20 participants. Alan Journet (573)651-2366.

Apr 27 (Sat) Pioneer Forest. Join Alan Journet's Conservation Biology class to the Pioneer Forest in Shannon County to explore sustainable forestry management on the largest private forest in Missouri. Depart from Southeast Missouri State University at 7:30 a.m. Bring packed lunch and warm clothing, returning by 8:30 p.m. Limit of 20 participants. Alan Journet (573) 651-2366.

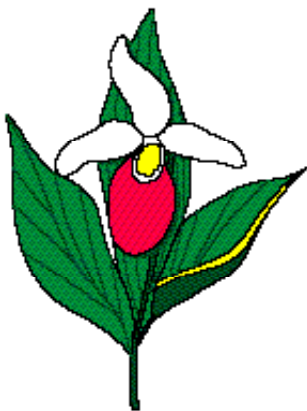
May 11 (Sat) Canoe Trip. Float the Current or the Jack's Fork River near Eminence. Jan Gieselmann (573)243-3730. —



SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS OZARK CHAPTER

Eastern Missouri Group

Apr 4 (Thu) A repeat performance by woodcocks and spring peepers. Helen McCallie (636)451-3512.



Apr 5 (Fri) Hike six-eight miles at Shaw Nature Reserve. See the yellow poppies and many other spring bloomers. Suzanne Smith (618)281-4762.

Apr 6 (Sat) Day hike at St. Francis State Park. Enjoy early spring flowers. If we're lucky the bluebells and the celandine poppies will be in bloom. Margaret Gilleo (314)991-1305.

Apr 6-7 (Sat-Sun) Farting Frogs Hollow backpack trip. Last spring I heard my first "farting frogs" down by the beaver pond where we will be camped. We will explore and hike this area while we wait for nightfall and a campfire. If all goes well the frogs will make our campfire an experience you will never forget. Camping at the beaver pond limits this trip to 10 backpackers. Paul Stupperich (314)429-4352.

Apr 7 (Sun) Bell Mountain area hike following the Ozark Trail, with great views of the valley. A traverse of the scenic Ottery Creek Shut-in is included. This will require a short off-trail trek. Wayne Miller (314)569-0094.

Apr 10 (Wed) Red Cross First Aid Class at Crestwood Fire Department. 6 pm-10 pm. Marilyn Harlan (314)966-8797.



Apr 12 (Fri) Hike the "Street of Giants" in Southern Illinois and also look for white trillium.

Check out the ex-hippies in Makanda. If you've never been to the Shawnee National Forest, here's your chance. Lunch in a historic lodge with optional overnight camping. All this is only 2.5 hours south of St. Louis. Suzanne Smith (618)281-4762 (after 7 pm, week nights only).

Apr 13-14 (Sat-Sun) Day hike in the canyon country of Southern Illinois. Our route through spectacular Jackson Hollow will follow the base of imposing, sixty-foot high sandstone cliffs, wind through building size boulders and past hundred-year old beech trees. Camping will be in a primitive Shawnee Forest campground. Because of the rugged terrain, hiking boots will be required. Terry Allen (618)398-1087.

In order to participate on one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/> or call (415) 977-5630.

In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.

Apr 13-14 (Sat-Sun) Beginners backpack trip. We will hike to our

back country camp where we will demonstrate various types of stoves, tents and other equipment. Later,

around the campfire, we will talk about safety, wilderness travel, and tell wild stories about past trips and adventures. Common commissary Saturday night. Bob Gestel (636)296-8975.



Apr 17 (Wed) Red Cross CPR class at Crestwood Fire Department. 6 pm-10 pm. Marilyn Harlan (314)966-8797.

Apr 19 (Fri) Four-six mile hike in St. Francis State Park. Late lunch at C. B. Joe's BBQ. Suzanne Smith (618)281-4762 (after 7 pm, week nights only).

Apr 20-21 (Sat-Sun) Trail maintenance on the Blair Creek section of the Ozark trail. We will be working the southern most section of the trail and will be camping on a gravel bar on Blair Creek. If it is hot enough we can go swimming. Common Commissary Saturday night. Bob Gestel (636)296-8975.

Apr 26 (Fri) Spring wildflower hike up the thousand step trail at Washington State Park. Possibly nine miles. Suzanne Smith (618)281-4762 (after 7 pm, week nights only).

Apr 28 (Sun) Washington State Park hike. This six mile hike will take us to some really nice open woodlands, glades, deep forest, and springs. We will get great views. Limit 15 hikers. Paul Stupperich (314)429-4352.

May 3 (Fri) Day hike at Meramec State Park. Late lunch in Pacific at a historic restaurant. Suzanne Smith (618)281-4762 (after 7 pm, week nights only).

May 4-5 (Sat-Sun) Spring River in Arkansas. Camp at Many Island Campgrounds near Mammoth Springs. Many small waterfalls and fast shoots create an area known as Saddler Falls. Paddlers may also have an up close opportunity to see a pool and drop geology that makes for an exciting river. There may be a side trip to Grand Gulf State Park, a collapsed cave system. Colin Maag (314)721-7397 or colinmaag@hotmail.com

May 5 (Sun) Day hike on the Ozark Trail. We will hike from Goggins Mountain to Johnson Shut-ins. Paul Stupperich (314)429-4352.

May 10 (Fri) Day hike at Valley View and Victoria Glades to see "the hills are alive" (with wildflowers, that is). Two short hikes and lunch at a new place. Suzanne Smith (618)281-4762 (after 7 pm, week nights only).

May 10 (Fri) Huzzah Creek. We will put in at Red Bluff, above where the outfitters put in. Canoes are available. This is a remote isolated stretch with quite a few twists and turns. Colin Maag (314)721-7397 or colinmaag@hotmail.com

May 11 (Sat) Highway cleanup. Let's get everything neat and tidy for Mom's Day. Diane DuBois (314)721-0594.

May 11 (Sat) Mineral Fork. The one day float on this beautiful, small, quiet, undiscovered stream is just one and

a half hours south of St. Louis. Colin Maag (314)721-7397 or colinmaag@hotmail.com

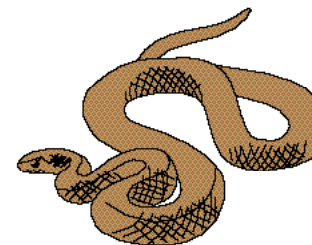
May 11 (Sat) Hike the Taum Sauk (Ozark Trail) from Taum Sauk Mountain to Johnson Shut-ins. 13 miles, moderately difficult for experienced hikers. Dinner at the Arcadian Cafe afterwards in Historic Ironton Mo. Glenn (314)845-5859 or glennkw31@excite.com

May 12 (Sun) Courtois Creek. This time of year, we will be able to put in high upstream. Colin Maag (314)721-7397 or colinmaag@hotmail.com

May 17 (Fri) Bike ride in the country. Call for location. Suzanne Smith (618)281-4762 (after 7 pm, week nights only).

May 18-19 (Sat-Sun) Middle Fork of the Vermilion River. Experience an Illinois River. The canoeing is easy and suitable for beginners. We will be car camping Saturday night. Canoe rentals are available from an outfitter. We will do the Salt Fork of the Vermilion on Sunday. Colin Maag (314)721-7397 or colinmaag@hotmail.com

May 19 (Sun) Day hike at Danville Conservation Area to visit the glades, smell the flowers, and do some serious



lollygagging. This area offers the opportunity to observe fauna of the slithery kind. Call Kathy Wodell (636)240-0675.

May 25-27 (Sat-Mon) Memorial Day weekend canoe trip. We'll paddle the Grand or the Missouri River and enjoy the full moon

from our campsites. No rentals. Experienced only. George Behrens (314)821-0247 (after 6 pm only).

May 31 (Fri) Twelve mile hike around Council Bluff Lake. Rolling hills, swimming beach, canoe rental. Suzanne Smith (618)281-4762 (after 7 pm, week nights only).

Jun 1 (Sat) Three mile hike at Valley View Glades. A good hike for beginners. Paul Stupperich (314)429-4352.

Jun 1-2 (Sat-Sun) Camp out at Council Bluff Lake and Campground. Come one day or overnight. Suzanne Smith (618)281-4762 (after 7 pm, week nights only).

Jun 7 (Fri) KATY Trail bike ride. Always a favorite. Lunch at a local restaurant. Suzanne Smith (618)281-4762 (after 7 pm, week nights only).

Jun 9 (Sun) Canoe trip on the scenic Courtois or Huzzah creeks. Jonathan Lehmann (314)991-3969.

Jun 9 (Sun) Two short hikes at Red Bluff Recreation Area on the Huzzah creek and at Dillard Mill historic site. Take a tour of the mill after the hike. Total of about four miles. Dinner afterwards. Glenn at (314)845-5859 or glennkw31@excite.com.

Jun 16 (Sun) Father's Day canoe trip. Bring your father and your whole family and join us for one day on the Meramec River. Toni Armstrong & Richard Spener (314)434-2072.

