

OZARK SIERRA

One Earth One Chance

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<http://missouri.sierraclub.org>



Just When You Thought It Was Safe To Go Into The Water...

by Ken Midkiff

So what's the problem with running a backhoe or frontloader into the creek, scooping out a few bucketloads and loading up the dump truck?

No problem at all. In fact, it helps the creek to have sand and gravel removed. At least, that's the claim of those engaged in the practice of mining Ozark streams.

Anglers, canoeists and other water recreationists (swimmers, divers) have a somewhat differing perspective. They say there is plenty wrong and not much good about sand and gravel mining.

For one thing, the sand and gravel mining operations are responsible for stirring up polluted sediments — and fish don't exactly thrive in such waters. Canoeing and swimming in murky, polluted waters is not only no fun, it is downright dangerous. So, the fishing, canoeing and environmental/conservation groups are a bit up in arms about moves by the General Assembly and the State Land Reclamation Commission to lessen stream protec-



Sand and gravel operation on the upper Jacks Fork — note that this operation went right into the flowing water, but no violations were observed by Land Reclamation staff.

tion measures. One of the proposals by the Land Reclamation Commission — now memorialized in a State Rule — will allow sand and gravel operations to take place no more than ten feet from the water channel.

Now, ten feet isn't very far, especially when it considered that the water channel in August or September may be completely inundated in April or May and all those loosened and polluted sediments end up smothering the very areas where fish spawn. Fish won't spawn on gravel or rocks covered with muck. (Muck is just a common name for sediments.)

Ten feet is way too close for canoeists. There you are, paddling along on the Big Piney or Eleven Point, and there's a noisy, smelly backhoe only ten feet away. While many football games have been lost because of a failure to advance those last three yards, canoeists will now be expected to float that distance away from a mining operation.

continued on page 6...Gravel Dredging

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John Kerry Defends Environment

by Chris Hayday

Want to make the environment a reason why Missouri votes for John Kerry? Then join Enviros for Kerry.

By creating a steady and consistent drumbeat of support, we can raise the awareness of the environment as a campaign issue and help others understand what we already know: the environmental and public health protections that have done so much are under attack; that George Bush isn't on our side and feels that the profits of corporate polluters are more important than our health; and that John Kerry will defend the environment.

We have a lot of work to do between now and November 2, but the workload gets easier and easier with every new volunteer who joins the effort. When newspapers receive letter after letter, they will be printed

and the environment becomes an issue. When supporter after supporter attends a rally with an "environmental voter for Kerry" sign, the environment becomes an issue. When activists join together for an event to demonstrate how good things can be or how bad things have become, the environment becomes an issue.

To learn more about how you can be a part of this effort, please respond to Chris Hayday at chayday@mchsi.com and sign up at www.envirosforkerry.com.

Endorsements on page 2, for up-to-date endorsements visit:
<http://missouri.sierraclub.org>

Missouri Blue Green Alliance Unites Conservation and Labor

by Carla Klein and Jill Miller

United in a common goal to protect the environment while keeping and creating jobs, labor and conservation groups have created the "Missouri Blue-Green Alliance," an exciting partnership of environmentalists, labor unions, farmers, fishermen, and others. Blue stands for blue-collar workers, while green, as you may have guessed, represents environmentalists and conservation groups.

Following the successful joint launch of the new Ford hybrid at the UAW hall in Kansas City on August 4 we held an informational workshop that included the basis for further blue-green organizing (please see relat-

ed article on page 3).

On August 19, our blue-green organizing efforts expanded with a meeting in Jefferson City at the IBEW hall (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers). National Steelworker organizers Rebecca Cooper from Seattle and Tara Widner from Minneapolis gave an overview of blue-green organizing efforts in other states, including Washington, Minnesota, and Iowa. Several advocates for sustainable farming practices and family farms were in attendance as well as organizations working on watershed and floodplain projects. During our discussions, it became clear that we are concerned about

continued on page 3...Blue Green Alliance

2004 Election Endorsements

U.S. President

John Kerry

U.S. Senate

Nancy Farmer (D)

U.S. Congressional District 8

Dean Henderson (D)

U.S. Congressional District 9

Linda Jacobsen (D)

Missouri Statewide offices:

Attorney General

Jay Nixon (D)

Missouri House of Representatives

Eastern Missouri Group

Tom Green (D-15)

Yaphet El-Amin (D-57)

Rodney Hubbard (D-58)

Jeannette Mott Oxford (D-59)

Robin Jones (D-63)

Michael Vogt (D-66)

Michael Daus (D-67)

Regina Walsh (D-69)

Esther Haywood (D-71)

Margaret Donnelly (D-73)

Tom George (D-74)

Bruce Darrough (D-75)

Michael Spreng (D-76)

Michael Corcoran (D-77)

Clint Zweifel (D-78)

Ted Hoskins (D-80)

Sam Page (D-82)

Barbara Fraser (D-83)

Marilyn Morton (D-87)

Rick Johnson (D-90)

Patricia Yeager (D-96)

Gloria Sennert (D-98)

Sue Schoemehl (D-100)

Tom Villa (D-108)

Belinda Harris (D-110)

Thomas Hart Benton Group

Meg Harding (D-30)

Trent Skaggs (D-31)

Sharon Sanders Brooks (D-37)

Dan Bishop (D-38)

John Burnett (D-40)

Melba Curls (D-41)

Craig Bland (D-43)

Jenee Lowe (D-44)

Cathy Jolly (D-45)

Kate Meiners (D-46)

Mike Sager (D-48)

Terry Young (D-49)

Osage Group

Jeff Harris (D-23)

Travis Ballenger (D-24)

Judy Baker (D-25)

Missouri Senate

Eastern Missouri Group

Jeanne Kirkton (D-15)

Thomas Hart Benton Group

Philip Willoughby (D-17)

Springfield rejects Coal Power Plant

by Linda Chipperfield

On August 3, Springfield voters rejected a bond issue to build a new coal burning power plant. The vote was 19,587 in favor, 21,073 opposed. Several groups came out against the \$578.5 million proposal including the local Sierra Club group, the League of Women Voters, Missouri Coalition for the Environment, American Lung Association, Missouri Organic Growers, Missouri Public Interest Research Group and the Rate Payers for Affordable Utilities Committee.

Following the vote, City Utilities (CU) General Manager said "At the end of the day, we simply didn't do a good enough job communicating the need to the citizens." CU has already send a questionnaire to 6000 residents and has also budgeted \$225,000 in 2005 for "research."

Citizens for Clean Energy, a group that was active in defeating the powerplant, will continue to educate the public on alternatives and the benefits of energy efficiency, said Linda Chipperfield, a member of the Southwest Missouri group. ☺

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

Items for publication: Contact **Claus Wawrzinek** via E-mail at claus@missouri.sierraclub.org or phone (816) 517-5244, **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. Please 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 CD, **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 CD), please include a SASE.

Hard-working, All-volunteer Editorial and Production Staff: **Claus Wawrzinek** Editor; **Bob Sherrick**, production.

Your Vote Counts

by Chris Hayday

Politics may very well be the best tool we have to protect public health and safeguard the environment. We can only expect good laws to pass and bad laws to be defeated if legislators who care about clean air and clean water are elected — so it is incumbent upon us to help these candidates. It is not enough for us to simply vote; rather it is our responsibility to educate others and help voters understand the importance of electing legislators who will protect the environment and public health.

Please take a moment to review the list of candidates endorsed by the Sierra Club. They have pledged to be your advocates but their promises are meaningless without your help. We expect them to sponsor legislation and to defend our environmental and health protections, and they expect us to help them get elected. Take a moment to call your group's political chair to learn where you help is most needed. Volunteer to help distribute campaign literature, write a letter-to-the-editor, or make a financial contribution to a candidate. Sadly, money is an all too important part of campaigning, but the simple fact is that it doesn't matter how good the candidate may be because if they don't raise enough money they can't reach the voters.

Before thinking that your one vote won't make a difference, remember that in 2000 the presidential race in New Mexico was decided by 366 votes. Talk to your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers and share your concerns as you may very well help convince someone. There is still plenty of time to get involved in a campaign and to make a difference — but the important thing is to do something. ☺

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Missouri Constitutional Amendment 3 — Highway Robbery?

by Ginger Harris

Coming in November to a voting booth near you — the “highway robbery amendment.”

Actually I’m talking about “Amendment 3,” and it’ll promise the moon and the stars — or at least better highways — and all for free. Amendment 3 would increase funding for highways — not by raising gas taxes or by adding a new tax on heavy trucks, but by taking money away from other state services.

Amendment 3 will greatly restrict the transfer of gas taxes and license fees to other state agencies for transportation related services they provide to MoDOT.

The Highway Patrol is currently the greatest recipient of such transfers. Its money will continue to flow — as it should, since traffic law enforcement is essential to highway safety. The Revenue Department is the second largest recipient. It currently receives highway user fees in return for collecting motor fuel tax revenues, motor vehicle sales tax revenues, issuing driver and vehicle licenses, and enforcing “drunk driving” laws. The arbitrary limit on appropriations for the Revenue Department set by Amendment 3 will only cover

approximately 30 percent of the department’s highway-related functions. That leaves a \$41 million hole to fill (\$46 million by fiscal year 2009). That cost will have to be picked up out of general revenue, which means there will be \$41 million less available for vital state functions such as education, environmental protection, etc.

But the “sleeper” is that Amendment 3 will also grab \$141 million per year of sales tax money (general revenue) by fiscal year 2009 and use it to finance at least \$1.3 billion in bonds to build new roads. This could add to the miles of state roads needing maintenance. And by reducing general revenue it will result either in cutbacks in other state programs like environmental protection, education, health, mental health, indigent and senior services, courts, public safety, etc., or a tax increase to make up the difference.

Proponents of Highways-above-all-else apparently think that because they already get half of the state sales tax on motor vehicles, they should get it all. They allege that half of the money is currently being diverted from highways. Nothing could be further from the truth. A sales tax is a tax on the transfer of property — whether a

computer or a hummer — and it’s general revenue. Not until 1979 was the constitution amended to allocate half of the tax on vehicles to the road fund. So if any diversion has occurred, it was when half of the revenue was taken from the general revenue fund (and from services like education which it supports). Now the highway people want it all. Led by the Associated General Contractors of St. Louis, the Heavy Constructors Association of Kansas City, and other construction interests, proponents spent more than \$400,000 earlier this year to have petitions circulated among Missouri voters. Voters signed on to a “fix our roads with no tax increase” pitch, and the required number of signatures was verified in July.

Amendment 3 is being promoted with a very simple message: end the diversions, fix our roads, no tax increase. Nothing in the ballot language mentions the sales tax, or reducing the amount of general revenue for other state services. In fact, the ballot language — approved by the Secretary of State — specifically says, “The constitutional amendment has a zero net fiscal impact.” So much for truth in advertising. ☞

Blue Green Alliance . . . continued from page 1

many of the same issues. We all agreed we could be far more effective working together than alone.

The goals of the Missouri Blue Green Alliance include some basic principles and beliefs that have been adopted in other states. Alliance members are coming together because we believe we must change the direction our country and states have taken in recent years on issues of labor and the environment.

We agree environmental issues are economic issues, and a clean and healthy environment is directly related to family-supporting, safe and healthy jobs. Practices that result in long-term sustainability of the environment will also create a foundation for job security.

Environmental issues are also health issues. Workers are usually the first to be exposed when toxins are produced or released into the environment. The health and safety of our families is one of the driving factors for laborers and environmentalists alike. We all want clean air and water and a healthy environment. Ultimately it is impossible to separate the environment and health.

“Blues” and “Greens” have already been working together for ten years in the strong and effective Fair-Trade Coalition, on various toxics and right-to-know coalitions, and on corporate accountability initiatives. We don’t agree on all issues, but our shared values and goals far outweigh our differences.

Additional meetings are planned. One of the first goals will be to draft joint resolutions in support of clean water, clean air, renewable energy, fair trade, and sustainable farming practices. ☞

Sierra Club Applauds Hybrid Ford Escape

by Jill Miller, Missouri Conservation Organizer
Sierra Club-Global Warming & Energy Program

On August 4 near Kansas City, labor and environmental groups joined forces to applaud the new Ford Escape Hybrid as good for jobs and the environment.

National, chapter, and group Sierra Club representatives held a press conference with the United Autoworkers, Steelworkers, The Ecology Center, Burroughs Audubon of Kansas City, the Institute for Labor Studies, and the Apollo Alliance to spread the word about the importance of fuel-saving technology. The press conference produced dozens of media hits in Kansas City and around the country — from Hawaii to New York.

The new Escape is the first American-made hybrid, and also the first hybrid SUV to reach the market. The 35 mile-per-gallon Escape is rated as a Partial-Zero Emission Vehicle (PZEV) and meets California’s strict air pollution standards — something most people never expected to hear about any SUV. It emits a fraction of the air pollution of a regular SUV, and greenhouse gas emissions are dramatically lower as well.

Dave Hamilton, director of the Sierra Club’s Global

Warming and Energy Program in Washington, D.C., spoke at the press conference, calling Ford’s hybrid “a rolling advertisement for better technology and a cleaner environment.” He acknowledged that the Sierra Club has been a long-time critic of the U.S. auto industry’s inaction on improving the fuel economy of cars and light trucks, but “you have to give credit where credit is due.”

Just as importantly, the hybrid Escape will help retain good jobs at Ford’s Claycomo assembly plant where the Escape is manufactured. The Claycomo plant employs over 5,600 members of UAW Local 249.

“The introduction of U.S.-made hybrids and other fuel-efficient technologies are essential to staying competitive, which will help the industry create and preserve good union jobs while also protecting the environment,” said Mike Perry of UAW Local 249.

Hybrids have both a gasoline engine and an electric motor powered by a rechargeable battery. Braking and coasting recharge the battery, so it never needs to be plugged in. Like Toyota’s hugely popular Prius hatchback, the hybrid Escape’s systems work independently as well as together. The gasoline engine can disengage completely until needed for a boost in acceleration in city driving, or for traveling at steady highway speeds.

Although hybrids are still thought of as a niche mar-

ket in the U.S., there’s evidence of strong demand for hybrid vehicles. The 2004 Toyota Prius, named Car of the Year by *Motor Trend* and *Car and Driver*, is the fastest-selling vehicle in America. In fact, there are waiting lists of 6 months to more than a year at dealerships around the country. Toyota has stepped up production. Foreign manufacturers sold more than 43,000 hybrids in 2003. That number is expected to double in 2004 and reach 350,000 units by 2008.

With new hybrid models becoming available in the next 6 to 12 months,



People in the picture from left to right: Jeff Rickert (Apollo Alliance), Matt Snell (United Auto Workers), Mike Perry (President, UAW Local 249), Charles Griffith (Ecology Center), Jill De Witt (Burroughs Audubon Society), Emil Ramirez (United Steelworkers of America), and David Hamilton (Sierra Club).

Energy Notes

by Wallace McMullen

Energy Center Creating Wind Work Group

The DNR Energy Center is organizing a work group to advance wind power in Missouri. The group



Wallace McMullen discovers a mini-car used by Fair staff which is solar powered

will meet, at least at first, by conference call. The plan is to have at least ten locations around the state where interested activists may congregate and join in the conference call. Locations presently arranged include the Energy Center office Jefferson City, the Discovery Center in Kansas City, and the Choutou building in St. Louis. The first call is tentatively set for October 1 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Rick Anderson is the contact person at DNR for this initiative.

Kansas City Power and Light Wants More From Ratepayers — Adverse Health and Environmental Consequences

KCPL has petitioned the Public Service Commission for a proceeding, which has been titled an "Electricity Working Group." Although it was presented as a collaborative process, what the utility appears to expect is that the process will lead to an agreement from a number of stakeholders that they should get approval from the PSC to allow them to have higher rates for the purpose of building the new coal burning power plant they have been seeking. A number of Sierra Club activists have been participating with the intent of advancing the case for reducing the amount of coal burned through implementing energy efficiency and use



Wallace McMullen touching the nose of a 65,000 Watt wind generating turbine (manufactured by Vestas) on display.

of clean renewable sources. The results may have considerable impact on the future of energy policy in Missouri. ☞

Sierra Club Advocates Cleaner Power for Missouri

by Carla Klein, Ozark Chapter Director

Sierra Club activists across the state have been working hard to educate voters on the potential of energy efficiency to help address our state's present and future electricity needs.

✦ Springfield voters rejected a new coal-fired power plant, August 3rd. Despite City Utilities best efforts to convince citizens that a dirty coal plant was their only option, Springfield White River Group members formed a coalition and convinced voters there was a better way. They sent City Utilities back to the drawing board and are pushing for a study on energy efficiency.

✦ Kansas City, Thomas Hart Benton activists have been attending joint meetings with KCP&L (Kansas City Power & Light) and the Public Service Commission, promoting energy efficiency as a resource.

✦ Columbia Osage members have mounted a successful initiative petition campaign to place a "Renewable Energy Standard requirement on the ballot, giving citizens the opportunity to vote for renewable energy and improved efficiency programs.

Before any of these Cities opt for more polluting coal, they better take a hard look at how much electricity savings can be captured at what price. A wide variety of programs around the country are generating electricity by mining the vast amount of energy we waste — and they are doing it cheaply. Several


states are consistently saving power — thus returning what would have been used to the overall supply — for two cents per kilowatt hour.

A study conducted by the Southwest Energy Efficiency Project suggests that communities can reduce their electricity consumption by 18% by 2010 and by 33% by 2020. This "waste not want not" adage could save consumers and businesses billions of dollars, create jobs and drastically cut air and water pollution. Helping small businesses choose more efficient equipment when they do capital upgrades, subsidizing appliance retailers to feature Energy Star models, upgrading the city traffic lights to Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs), or working with builders to include efficient options in new homes are just a few of the saving options. Since Springfield City Utilities (CU) has not actively promoted energy efficiency programming to date, there are a lot of low-hanging fruit to be picked.

Despite new emission technologies, burning coal is still a highly polluting fuel source resulting in serious public health and environmental consequences. The Environmental Protection Agency has identified 67 hazardous pollutants in the emissions from coal burning power plants. Collectively, these pollutants are associated with asthma attacks, respiratory disease, heart disease, neurological disorders, and even premature death. The new coal plant proposed by CU will still add an additional 2.2 million tons of these pollutants into the air each year.

Cities like Seattle, Washington and Austin, Texas have saved millions of dollars for their ratepayers, reduced local pollution, and created local jobs by aggressively pursuing energy efficiency programs. Before citizens are forced to vote again on a new coal plant, the cities should seriously consider all of the options available and rigorously assess what can be achieved by saving energy. ☞

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**Annual Ozark Chapter
Sierra Club Ballot**



Your official ballot for the Ozark Chapter Executive Committee Election is on the right of this page. The ExCom sets Chapter policy and oversees the business of the Ozark Chapter. It is made up of nine members elected from the membership at large (you), plus one additional member appointed by each of the four Sierra Club groups in Missouri. ExCom members are elected to staggered two-year terms. Of the current ExCom members, Linda Chipperfield, Keet Kopecky, Wallace McMullen, Ken Midkiff, and Doris Sherrick continue in office. That leaves four members to be elected this year. You may vote for up to four of the candidates named on the ballot, or you may write in the name(s) of other qualified member(s). If yours is a joint membership, two members may vote. Write your 8-digit membership number in the return address space of your envelope to validate your ballot. The number will be verified before the ballot is opened, and separated from the rest of the ballot before counting to assure that your vote is secret.

Executive Committee Ballot Profiles

Cheryl Hammond — The Sierra Club in Missouri must continue to be an important voice in protecting Missouri's environment. We must support clean air and oppose new coal burning power plants and the Holcim Cement Plant. We must oppose off road vehicle abuse in the Mark Twain National Forest and protect our forests. I support our continued efforts to complete the Ozark Trail and the initiatives for guidelines on trail use which promote a good experience for the hiker and minimize erosion and trail degradation. The chapter political endorsements are critical. Many other environmental issues are important and deserve Sierra Club attention.

I have been actively involved with the club including: current member Ozark Chapter Excom, second term member EMG Excom, two years as EMG chair, 2002-2003, chapter Political and Conservation committees member, EMG Conservation and Transportation & Smart Growth committees member, chapter webmaster, help compile and send the weekly Missouri Environmental News Links, and Sierra Club representative to the Missouri DNR Air Pollution Control Program Advisory Committee. I am a self-employed computer consultant, resident of Maryland Heights in St. Louis County, and hold degrees from Illinois College and Iowa State University.

Roy C. Hengerson — Experience: Active member of the Sierra Club since early 1973. Life member. I have served on all levels of the Club including 9 years on the national Board of Directors. I have served 2 years as Club Treasurer and 4 years as Assistant Treasurer. Also 11 years on the Finance Governance Committee, 5 years on the Outdoor Activities Governance Committee, and 2 years on the Organizational Effectiveness Governance Committee. I have been active in the Midwest Regional Conservation Committee, including 4 years as Midwest Regional Vice President. On the Chapter level I have served in many capacities including Conservation Chairman, Political Chairman, and am currently Legislative Chairman and Awards Chairman.

Statement: The Sierra Club has become the premier environmental organization because of its effectiveness and clout. The basis of our strength is the active, involved grassroots members who work tirelessly for our health and environment across the United States and Canada. While I have served at the national levels of the Club, I have always continued to be active at chapter and group levels, knowing the importance of our chapters and groups to the Club. Despite the tough political climate the Sierra Club has shown it can achieve significant victories and I am confident that we can continue to provide needed leadership on environmental issues into the future. Thanks for your support.

Claus Wawrzinek — We face daily obstacles to be able to live in more harmony with the environment. As a longtime environmental activist, I am hoping to make a difference in support of the environment.

I have been involved in environmental activities for more than 20 years, and have been active with the Sierra Club for more than 11 years. I previously served as Chair of the Thomas Hart Benton Group as well as member of the Ozark Chapter Executive Committee. I am the current Political Chair, and Chair of the Website Committee of the Thomas Hart Benton Group. I have previously lead efforts in the Kansas City area to bring individuals and groups together in a coalition for more sensible transportation.

I have most recently focused my environmental involvement on politics, urban development, transportation, and energy issues.

I personally lead a very environmentally conscientious lifestyle and have the urge to do more for the environment than feel I already do.

Serving on the Executive Committee of the Ozark Chapter would allow me to have input on decisions that enable the Sierra Club to show environmental leadership that effects the entire State of Missouri. Thank you for your consideration.

Ginger Harris — I am running for Chapter ExCom because of my interest in the Chapter's efforts to increase membership and to increase members' effectiveness in protecting the environment. My experience within the Club includes: membership on Transportation Committees (Group, Chapter and national) and Chapter Conservation Committee during most of the past decade; service on Chapter Executive Committee for several years, including Chapter Membership Chair; Chair of Transportation & Smart Growth Committee of Eastern Mo. Group; member of Political Committee, and "urban hiker" on behalf of some of our endorsed candidates; delegate from Sierra Club on Rate Commission of Metropolitan Sewer District; and lemonade squeezer.

John W. Barham — As a native of the Ozarks who has had a love affair with Missouri's unique natural environment since childhood, I am concerned about a myriad of issues that could have negative consequences for future generations of Missourians. Basic to these issues is how our environmental quality will be affected by law makers, business and industry and how ordinary citizens act through the political process to improve water and air quality, ensure the responsible use of our public lands and encourage the firm enforcement of both federal and state environmental protection legislation.

I have especially strong feelings about the preservation of the unique heritage we have in our Ozark streams and how we choose to defend them from the negative effects of pollution, irresponsible recreational use, industrial exploitation and gravel mining.

My background would enable me to make a good contribution to Excom. Career wise, I have had a long career as an instructor and administrator in higher education and currently serve as coordinator of University Forest, located near Wappapello. Other organizations in which I am active include Mo. Ozarks Regional Explorers, Conservation Federation of Mo. and Eastern Ozarks Forestry Council.

Mac Dillon — I am genuinely concerned for the welfare of the environment and the Sierra Club. I believe I have demonstrated this over the last eight years of engagement with politics, and before that with outdoor activities. I will have some time to participate in the Ozark Executive Committee. This is less than a full time job. I would be able to give service as an ExCom member, managing my time better.

I have some ideas concerning improvements in the political process of the Club and want to present them to the ExCom.

The political effectiveness of the Ozark Chapter is greatly undermined by the apathy and non-participation of members in every group. I am interested to promote engagement of members with political consciousness.

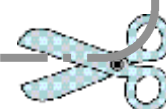
I would seek ways to advertise the corporate abuses of the environment. I would promote ways to inform the public about the Sierra Club's positions on environmental issues. These things could be accomplished if we aroused enough members to participate.

These are some of the undertakings that I would promote as a member of the Ozark Executive Committee. If you too think these undertakings valuable, then I ask for your vote.

I vote for ...

(see personal profiles at left and above)

1st member	2nd member	
()	()	Cheryl Hammond
()	()	Roy C. Hengerson
()	()	Claus Wawrzinek
()	()	Ginger Harris
()	()	John W. Barton
()	()	Mac Dillon
()	()



Ozark Chapter ExCom Ballot instructions

To vote:

- 1) Vote for **up to four** (4) people (you may write in additional names)
- 2) If yours is a joint membership, two (2) members may vote
- 3) Insert ballot into an envelope and address to:
Keet Kopecky, Election Committee Chairman
9211 Olmstead Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64138-4957
- 4) Write **your membership number** (the 8 digit number on top of the computer address label of your *Sierra* magazine) in the return address space of the envelope.
- 5) Affix a 37¢ stamp and mail to us so it arrives by **December 31, 2004**.

Energy and “Resource Effectiveness” and “Our Posterity” and the Election

by Ron McLinden

How the world has changed. Until thirty-six months ago, it was unthinkable that commercial airliners would be used as lethal weapons by suicidal zealots. It's no longer unthinkable. In fact, looking back, there were many clues that such action might be forthcoming.

How the world hasn't changed. Today, the notion that the earth's limited resources might not be adequate to meet rapidly growing human demands is still foreign to most of the world's people, and even to leaders of the world's “last remaining superpower.” Yet the evidence is growing that we are headed for a resource crunch of unprecedented proportions, and with unthinkable consequences.

Furthermore, there is growing evidence that human use of energy contributes to the unmistakable warming of the earth, with the result that future climate disruptions will add to disruptions resulting from resource shortages.

Amazingly, there is only disbelief and denial. Just as with the terrorists, indicators are all around. This time, though, it's not likely there'll be a single dramatic event to galvanize us to action.

In response to terrorist attacks the United States embarked on an aggressive campaign to defend ourselves by keeping the terrorists “over there.” What arrogance. As if the rest of the world is our own private battlefield. Such arrogance will surely heighten the contempt in which others hold us. Such arrogance will surely make us less secure.

We delude ourselves into believing the answer is to “liberate” other nations and give them democracy —

especially if they see democracy as the camel's nose of a “capitalist imperialism.” The result, at best, will be decades of internal conflict as the formerly-powerful struggle to hold on to power. In the course of those struggles tens of thousands of lives will be lost and scarce resources will be squandered. As a result, future disruptions due to resource shortages and climate change will be hastened.

Rather than a world-wide war “over there,” perhaps what we need is a fresh introspection into the foundations of our own form of government. Consider the Preamble to our Constitution:

“We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”

Those 52 words, written some 215 years ago, need to be re-examined in today's context. If those words are still valid for us, then we must also see what those words mean in an interdependent global economy. To “establish justice” must apply to all nations, respecting their varied cultures and values along the way. Promoting the “general welfare” must mean the well-being of all peoples of the world. “Ourselves” must include all members of the human family. Most important, we must elevate “our posterity” to a new level. Our posterity are children and grandchildren — not just our own, but of all people.

The prevailing paradigm seems to be that government should maximize opportunity for individuals to pursue their own interests as they see them — e.g., by cutting taxes and easing regulations — with the tacit

assumption that the result will be the best outcome for all. That paradigm must give way to one that stresses individual responsibility to contribute to the greater good, to “promote the general welfare” of all.

We Americans will make the world safer to the degree that we exercise restraint, and as we work for justice and an adequate standard of living for all people. And if that course of action seems too idealistic for some, we should at least be willing to do so for the sake of our own progeny.

For any number of reasons, a new commitment to moderation — in the use of energy and all natural resources — is the prudent course of action. For some, that commitment will follow from a deeply held belief that man's role on earth — at least in part — is to be faithful stewards of the Good Work of Creation and to make wise use of what has been entrusted to us. For others, the commitment will follow from purely humanistic values like justice and the well-being of all peoples. For still others, the commitment should be seen as simply a prudent course of action, following from a purely pragmatic and self-interested desire not to have to fight a defensive war within our own borders.

A commitment to moderation logically begins with a focus on efficiency — accomplishing the same or more while using less. Efficiency must shortly give way to “resource effectiveness” — a conscious and deliberate use of energy and all resources so as to derive the greatest good from each unit of energy or other resource consumed. And that includes stopping to evaluate whether a thing to be done more efficiently is even worth doing at all.

The details remain to be worked out, to be sure, but that's the overall direction I believe we must take — and that's the perspective I'll take into my voting booth in November. The alternative is almost certainly a set of consequences that are still unthinkable. 🙏

Gravel Dredging . . . continued from page 1

In the interests of fairness, there are some who claim that there should be NO gravel-mining operations in Missouri streams. These claim that any such operation just has too much impact on other uses, they are too noisy, and too polluting.

To add to these claims, it seems that the staff of the Missouri Land Reclamation are much more inclined to protect polluting operations than they are to prevent pollution. They don't much care about sand and gravel

operations, seldom checking to ensure that even the minimal standards are observed. Even when violations are called to their attention, it is with great reluctance and much defensiveness that investigations are launched. This notable lack of enthusiasm for doing their job leads to a lack of enforcement, even when there is evidence of gravel-mining in and below the stream bed.

The laws of physics dictate that nature abhors a vacuum. When gravel is taken out, the hole fills back up — with gravel. Where does it come from? Upstream, or

from an adjacent bank. Tagged “headcutting”, this has led to bank cave-ins, which actually results in even more gravel entering a stream — contrary to the claims of those who make a profit from sand and gravel.

In short, the gravel-mining operations are violating the laws of the United States (the Clean Water Act), the laws and regulations of Missouri, the laws of the universe.

Not bad for a buncha guys on backhoes. 🙏



Sand and gravel operation next to Hwy 17 Bridge over Barron Fork of Tavern Creek. There are present: Frontloader, dump truck, two gravel screeners, and two large piles of sand and gravel. The investigator for Land Reclamation claimed that he saw none of this.

The Ozark Chapter has joined with fishing and conservation groups to launch HELP PROTEST MISSOURI STREAMS.

A petition drive is underway to collect thousands of signatures to present to legislators next session to demonstrate that Missouri citizens do not want stream protections weakened!

Contact the Chapter office (800) 628-5333 to get your copy of the petition and talking points. Let's be proactive in protecting MO streams!



Sand and gravel operation on Tavern Creek just downstream of Hwy A (Miller County) bridge. Note water standing in the area of excavation indicating that it has been dug below the water level and had also operated within water channel. This site was deemed “personal use exemption” by MO Land Reclamation staff, even though it was over 100 yards long and took in the width of the gravel bar.

SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS OZARK CHAPTER

Eastern Missouri Group

Oct 1 (Fri) Turning leaves hike at Buford Mountain. Join us on our 10-mile hike. Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762.

Oct 8 (Fri) Hike the Chubb Trail to see the yellow paw paw trees and enjoy soup-n-salad after. Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762.

Oct 8-10 (Fri-Sun) Join the Kaskaskia Group of Illinois on a Shawnee National Forest service outing. We will be cleaning up litter on some of the short, popular trails around the Garden of the Gods Recreation Area. There will be ample time allowed for hiking and exploring in this area so well known for its spectacular sandstone cliffs and outcrops. Our group campsite will be shared with Sierrans from other parts of the state. Evenings will be spent around a campfire where we will hear stories of the natural history and conservation issues of this area. Call Terry Allen, (618) 398-1087.

Oct 9-10 (Sat-Sun) Overnight canoe trip on the Current River. See early fall colors on a clear Ozark stream. Toni Armstrong & Richard Spener, (314) 434-2072.

Oct 15 (Fri) Hike 8 miles on the Lewis and Clark trail near Weldon springs. Call Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762, or e-mail Harry Tuthill, htuthill@access4less.net.

Oct 16-17 (Sat-Sun) Trail maintenance on the

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.

Blair Creek section of the Ozark Trail. We will start where we left off and work our way south. We will camp at Himont site. Common commissary Saturday night. We will meet at Gravois and 270 at 7:30 am. Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352, lonebuffalo@earthlink.net, or Bob Gestel (636) 296-8975, or rgestel@sbcglobal.net.

Oct 17 (Sun) The best Mississippi River bluff view at Trail of Tears State Park. We will hike some of the Peewah Trail and finish with the Trail of Tears story at the park visitors center. Wayne Miller, (314) 569-0094, or millwy@aol.com.

Oct 20 (Wed) The Chubb trail has wonderful foliage this time of year! Let's take a hike over hill and dale and see some of the fall colors. We will hike a four or five mile loop. Katie Wodell, (636) 240-0675, before 9:00 P. M.

Oct 1-3 (Fri-Sun) Chapter Reunion at beautiful Camp Pin Oak in Lake of the Ozarks State Park. If you have not been to one of these, they are really a treat. Camp Pin Oak has rustic cabins and a large dining lodge. There will be plenty of outings, activities for the whole family, good food, a bonfire, and a chance to make new friends and renew old ones. Look for the coupon that will appear in the next issue of the Ozark Sierran, send it in with your payment, and look forward to a good time. The camp out is put together by volunteers, and we could really use your help. If you would like to lead an outing, help plan meals or grocery shop, assist with children's activities, have items to contribute to our silent auction, or just want to assist with odd jobs such as camp preparation or clean-up, we would really appreciate it. Greg Leonard at (573) 443-8263.

Oct 22 (Fri) Pere Marquette State Park is always beautiful in the fall. Join us for a 6-8 mile hike through the hills. Late lunch afterwards in Brussels or Grafton. Call Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762, or e-mail Harry Tuthill, htuthill@access4less.net.

Oct 23 (Sat) Amidon Conservation Area near Fredericktown. Experience the incredible, picturesque pink granite boulders of the Castor River Shut inns, on this moderate 2-mile walk. Will stop to enjoy the scenery and take photographs as we walk the Cedar Glade Trail. Jim Rhodes, (314) 821-7758.

Oct 24 (Sun) Fall color canoe trip on the smallest stream with enough water in it. Mineral Fork, Courtois, Huzzah, or the Meramec river. Some streams may require your own boat. Jonathan Lehmann, (314) 991-3969.

Oct 29 (Fri) Annual fall colors hime at Hawn State Park. Late lunch in St. Genevieve at the historic Red Brick Restaurant. Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762.

Oct 29-31 (Fri-Sun) Tentative Third Annual Introductory Car Camping and EMG Fall Celebration. Great for beginner campers and families. Learn the basics: tent set up, stove use, food preparation. Bring your own gear and food. Call if you need advice or suggestions. Small camping fee to be determined. Enjoy day hikes and fall colors. Bring sense of humor and musical instruments for sing-along. George Behrens (314) 821-0247, after 6pm only.

Oct 30-31 (Sat-Sun) Dedication of the Brushy Creek Trail. Join us for the grand opening of Missouri's newest hiking and backpacking trail. The Brushy Creek Trail is now ready for public use and we need your help to prepare for the grand opening. Come join us on Thursday or Friday, Oct 28-29, to hike the trail and finish up any

continued on page 8...Outings

Carl Pope's challenge to socially responsible investors for the New Year

Environmentally Responsible Investing: Working for Change

a speech by Carl Pope, Executive Director of the Sierra Club

For a free video or DVD copy of this presentation by Carl Pope from the 2003 SRI in the Rockies Conference, please mail, phone, or email your request to:

First Affirmative Financial Network
5960 Dearborn, #107
Mission, KS 66202
1-800-341-0528

Email: treehuggerjim@aol.com
Please specify: VHS or DVD, and DVD format



First
Affirmative
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Jim Horlacher,
Comprehensive Financial Planner
and Investment Advisor



Outings Continued

maintenance work or just come to relax and hang out and enjoy the fall colors. Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352, lonebuffalo@earthlink.net, or Bob Gestel, (636) 296-8974, rgestel@sbcglobal.net.

Nov 5 (Fri) Enjoy the great views on our Taum Sauk/Russell Mountain 8-mile hike. Call Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762, or e-mail Harry Tuthill, htuthill@access4less.net.

Nov 6 (Sat) 6:30 p.m. Lemonade Volunteer Appreciation Party. Celebrate the close of another successful season at the home of Phyllis & Jim Young, 905 Lami Street in the Soulard neighborhood. Please call Jim Young to RSVP, (314) 664-9392.

Nov 10 (Wed) Explore Tower Grove Park and check out the pavilions and stone works. A three-mile hike. Level and easy walking. Get out and shake off the gray skies or enjoy the sunshine. Good for beginners, preschoolers and old timers. Katie Wodell, (636) 240-0675, before 9:00 p.m.

Nov 12-14 (Fri-Sun) For the really ambitious. Join us on the Ozark Trail, Current River maintenance outing for one day or more. Call Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762, or e-mail Harry Tuthill, htuthill@access4less.net.

Nov 13 (Sat) Enjoy a walk along the bluffs of Graham Cave State Park. This is a great place for icicles and/or waterfalls, depending on the weather. It's also the site of a shelter cave which was home to native Americans thousands of years ago. Katie Wodell, (636) 240-0675, before 9:00 PM.

Nov 13 (Sat) An exploratory north county outing. Visit sites along the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers such as the Riverlands, Confluence Point State Park, Columbia Bottoms, St. Stanislaus Conservation Area, and Pelican Island. Birding and hiking opportunities; bring binoculars and lunch. Easy hiking; minimum mileage. Access dependent on river levels. Approx. 9am-3pm. Lois and Joe Walsh, (636) 343-6875.

Nov 13 (Sat) Highway Cleanup. It's time to keep an eye out for frost flowers and the Leonid meteor shower. Diane DuBois, (314) 721-0594.

Nov 13-14 (Sat-Sun) An easy backpack trip suitable for beginners. We will go to a "No Hunting Area" and set up our camp near a spring or stream. In the evening we will have a campfire and sit around and tell stories. Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352, lonebuffalo@earthlink.net, or Bob Gestel (636) 296-8975, rgestel@sbcglobal.net.

Nov 18 (Thu) Members Slide Show. Assemble 5 minutes of your best slides and narration to show at our November General Meeting. We've seen some great vacation pictures in the last few years. Call ASAP! Limit 8 presenters. Ann Eggebrecht (312) 725-1560.

Nov 19 (Fri) Ten-mile hike on the wilderness loop at Meramec State Park. Lunch at the Mexican

restaurant after. Call Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762, or e-mail Harry Tuthill, htuthill@access4less.net.

Nov 20-21 (Sat-Sun) 2-day canoe and kayak trip. Experience open spaces, beautiful bluffs and distant train whistles on this annual Missouri River pilgrimage. George Behrens, (314) 821-0247, after 6 p.m. only.

Nov 26-28 (Fri-Sun) Spend three days backpacking and exploring the Pioneer Forest. Blair Creek, Sugar Camp Hollow, the North Prong Hollow and Brushy Creek will be on our route. Approx. 5 miles per day. Bob Gestel, (636) 296-8975, or Paul Stupperich, (314) 429-4352.

Dec 1 (Wed) Join the Wednesday Walkers for a hike in one of the newly opened parks in St. Charles. This is a beautiful park with high bluffs, beautiful overlooks and a small lake. It also has steep hills and switch back trails so this trip is not for the faint of heart. We will hike 3-4 miles. It is not long but fairly rugged. Katie Wodell, (636) 240-0675, before 9:00 p.m.

Dec 3 (Fri) 6-8 mile hike at St. Francis Sate Park. Great BBQ at C.B. Joe's after. Call Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762, or e-mail Harry Tuthill, htuthill@access4less.net.

Dec 10 (Fri) Hike 9 miles (or so) on the Huzzah section of the Ozark Trail. Late lunch afterwards. Call Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762, or e-mail Harry Tuthill, htuthill@access4less.net.

Dec 11 (Sat) Holiday party and potluck dinner. Bring a dish to share. Call for time and directions. Barb Wall, (636) 529-0477, or Marilyn Harlan, (314) 966-8797, or Ann Eggebrecht, (314) 725-1560.

Dec 17 (Fri) Rockwoods is close. Join us for about a 7-mile hike, and then eat out afterwards. Call Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762, or e-mail Harry Tuthill, htuthill@access4less.net.

Dec 18 (Sat) Spend a winter day at Hawn State Park. Part of the hike will be on trail; part, cross-country. Approx. 8 miles. Hiking boots required. Paul Stupperich (314) 429-4352.

Dec 24 (Fri) Get some exercise before the evening activities on the 7-1/2 mile Chubb Trail. Call Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762, or e-mail Harry Tuthill, htuthill@access4less.net.

Dec 31 (Fri) Work off those holiday cookies before going out. Call for more info. Call Suzanne Smith, (618) 281-4762, or e-mail Harry Tuthill, htuthill@access4less.net.

Jan 1 (Sat) Another annual New Year's Day Hike. We will hike at Meramec State Park. As always, call early. Paul Stupperich (314) 429-4352.

besides hybrids, energy efficiency, and renewable energy sources, plus a discussion of energy policies that benefit workers and the environment. A session on blue-green organizing (see related article), served as a terrific kick-off to building and strengthening Sierra Club's goals here in Missouri. ☺

Hybrid Escape . . . continued from page 3

more and more Americans will be able to find the kind of hybrid they want to drive. Upcoming models include the hybrid Honda Accord, Toyota Highlander, and Lexus RX 400H. A hybrid version of Honda's Civic, and their two-seat Insight, have been available for a few years.

The press conference was followed by an informational forum titled "The New Hybrid: Good Union Jobs and a Cleaner Environment". Speakers at the forum presented information about fuel-saving technologies

Osage Group

None submitted.

Thomas Hart Benton Group

Oct 2-3 (Sat-Sun) Elk River Backpacking, Independence, KS. Come join us on this 10-mile hike that provides great views of the river and some of the most interesting rock formations in Kansas. Mike Hurd, (816) 523-7823.

Oct 9 (Sat) Dayhiking Bluffwoods Conservation Area, Buchanan County, MO. About 1 hour north of downtown KC. After we've finished taking in all the scenic views, we'll have hiked about 5 miles. Dave Patton, (816) 461-6091, dave.patton@missouri.sierraclub.org.

Oct 16 (Sat) Blue River Glades, Kansas City, MO. Hike through an Ozark-like outcropping in the middle of KC's Swope Park. We'll learn a bit about the glades as well. Steve Hassler, (913) 599-6028, steve.hassler@kansas.sierraclub.org.

Oct 16 (Sat) Tour Arrow Rock, MO. Join us for an afternoon tour of historic Arrow Rock, followed by dinner at Arrow Rock Tavern, the oldest continuous operating restaurant west of the Mississippi River. Afterward, you may attend a play at the beautiful Lyceum Theatre. There are numerous bed and breakfasts in the area for those wishing to stay the night. You must sign up by Sept. 25. Ginger Kohler, (660) 886-8870, gingerk@missouri.sierraclub.org.

Oct 23-24 (Sat-Sun) Bell Mountain Backpacking, Licking, MO. Explore this rugged 16-mile section of the Ozark Trail. Paul Gross, (816) 228-6563, paul.gross@missouri.sierraclub.org.

Nov 6 (Sat) Perry Lake Trail Maintenance, Perry, KS. Have fun with us keeping the Perry Lake Trail clear for trail users. Bring hand tools, work gloves and lunch. Steve Hassler, (913) 599-6028, steve.hassler@kansas.sierraclub.org.

Nov 11-14 (Thu-Sun) Ozark Highlands Trail, Section 4. Enjoy the crisp fall weather as we hike this 29-mile section. Paul Gross, (816) 228-6563, paul.gross@missouri.sierraclub.org.

Nov 27 (Sat) Squaw Creek Wildlife Refuge, Mound City, MO. We'll see the visitor's center, then drive the wildlife loop to see eagles, beavers, and many, many snow geese. Steve Hassler, (913) 599-6028, steve.hassler@kansas.sierraclub.org.

Dec 11-12 (Sat-Sun) Backpacking at Hercules Glades Wilderness, Hilda, MO. We'll hike about 8 miles roundtrip on this short weekend backpacking trip. Dave Patton, (816) 461-6091, dave.patton@missouri.sierraclub.org.

Trail of Tears Group

None submitted.

White River Group

None submitted.

Take Action!

Ford plans to produce just 20,000 units of the hybrid Escape. The Sierra Club is encouraging Ford to build many more hybrids in order to cut emissions that contribute to global warming. Send CEO Bill Ford, Jr. an e-mail today! Go to www.sierraclub.org/takeaction.

To be part of future hybrid tours and local events in your area, please contact St. Louis-based Sierra Club organizer Jill Miller at (314) 645-2032 or e-mail jill.miller@sierraclub.org.