WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO



Energy upgrades on the state's dime | Think you can get the state to pay for those energy upgrades you've been thinking about. The answer is maybe yes. Check it out. >> check it out on page 3



Public Lands Protection

Utah Chapter volunteers and Sierra Club staff are gearing up to protect resilient habitats on the Colorado Plateau and Greater Grand Canyon. Find out what resilient habitats mean. >> get the scoop on page 5



Chapter Elections | It's that time of year! Elect your chapter leadership. >> see page 6

Governor Herbert Has a Plan

by Mark Clemens



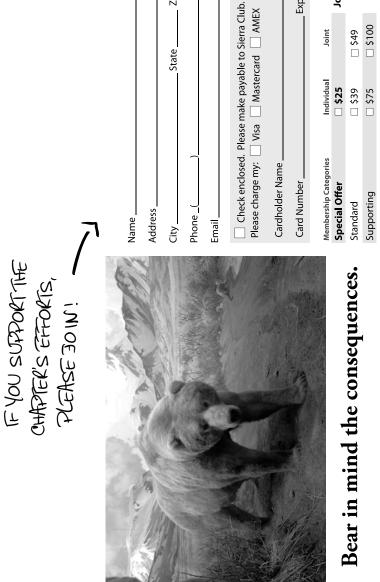
Which energy sources should power Utah's future?

hen you open this issue of the Utah Sierran, Governor Gary Herbert's ten-year energy plan will still be a work in progress. He announced his intention to write a 10-year strategic energy plan on June 8, 2010. The statement that accompanied his announcement is online, http://www.utah.gov/governor/priorities/energy.html. It makes genuflections to quality of life and energy efficiency but otherwise reads like a commitment to the fossil fuel status quo. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

AMEX

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

PERMIT NO. 571



Zip

The Yellowstone grizzly bear is an irreplaceable part of America's natural Act in 1975, the grizzly bear has made a strong recover, but there is still more heritage, a symbol of the independence that defines the American character work to be done. Help Sierra Club protect our forest friends; they prefer the and an icon of all tha tis wild and free. The Bush administration set forth a proposal that would remove federal protection for the Yellowstone grizzly

Student/Limited Income

Senior

Contributing

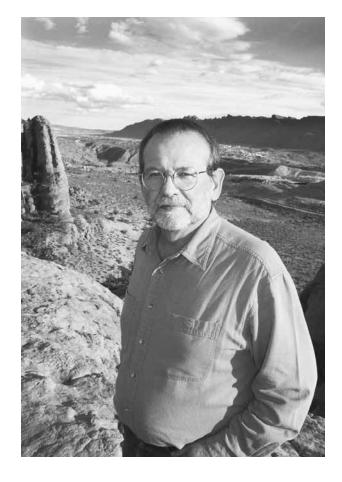
Get grizzly and JOIN Sierra Club.

Utah Chapter Sierra Club 2159 South 700 East, Suite 210

Salt Lake City, Utah 84106

Wayne's World

Fill in the Blank by Wayne Hoskinson



R ecently I purchased *So Rugged and Mountainous* by Will Bagley, a well known Utah historian. He covers the history of the Oregon and California Trails from 1812 to 1848. If you enjoy western history, I strongly recommend it. If you do not like history consider checking it out from the library and you might change your mind.

A good detailed history reveals significant changes in the world and So Rugged and Mountainous is an incredibly detailed history. The book describes early trappers, explorers, and pioneers experiences as they crossed the continent. He describes their methods of travel, the wagons they used, the food they ate, their squabbles, their clothes, their daily lives and much more. He describes the trappers and first pioneers encountering bison in the intermountain west, in the northwest and in California. A few years ago this would have startled me. But bison were a continental species. Bison wandered all of North America. Some were eastern wood bison and some were the prairie bison. The largest herd of free roaming bison lives in the Wood Buffalo National Park in Alberta, Canada.

In the 1820s trappers reported buffalo in northwest Utah and in Cache Valley. But the reported numbers were erratic. Sometimes they reported large numbers of buffalo but in 1825 Peter Skene Ogden reported, "Buffalo scarce but grizzily Bears in abundance..." near Blacksmiths Fork. (Edwin V. Rawley, Early Records of Wildlife in Utah). Will Bagley reports that bison disappeared from the Snake River plains and the Salt Lake Valley by 1840. Game along the

Oregon and California Trail became scarcer each year as more and more emigrants completed the trek.

Loss of the bison west of the continental divide was one change. They had already disappeared from the east coast. Only a few decades in the future the bison were nearly extirpated from North Americas.

In 1818 the military sent four steamboats up the Missouri River hoping to explore the Yellowstone region. The last boat stopped short of what is now Omaha. One sank, two never got much further than Independence, Missouri. The industrial revolution had reached the west, but it was not quite ready for its challenges. The mechanization of human society was another change. Humans began to change the world and to change the world at an accelerating rate.

In 1847 my ancestors took 15 weeks to travel from the Missouri River to the Salt Lake Valley. I have traveled the same route in two easy days with a car powered by exploding hydrocarbons beneath the hood. Carbon dioxide flows out of my tailpipe.

In 1947, about 100 years after the era described by Will Bagley, Dr. Walter Cottam, a distinguished professor of botany at the University of Utah, delivered an address titled "Is Utah Sahara Bound?"

Referring to the national forests he said, "Fifty years have passed [since the creation of the national forests] and the overall gains in watershed conservation are not substantial. Soil losses still continue, the little revegetation of denuded areas leaves much to be desired and the need for further livestock reduction on most ranges is still with us."

Lake bed core studies from two alpine lakes in southwest Colorado indicate not much has changed in the 50 years since Cottam's address. Dust has been deposited in these lakes for millennia. Prior to the mid 1850s the dust accumulated at a relatively steady and low rate. Following 1850 dust deposited at a dramatically increasing rate. There was a huge spike of dust deposits during the Dust Bowl era with a decline following passage of the Taylor Grazing Act. But that drop in rate appears to have ceased and the rate remains elevated and has for the last 50 years. Most of that dust comes from the Colorado Plateau with some contribution from the Mojave Desert. Only a small portion comes from the fine aeolian dust that has always moved soils around.

Looking back from 2010 we recognize many changes. It is hard not to see changes.

One of the projects I have been working on is identifying reference areas. This is a simple concept. We

"The large majority

of climate research

predicted the Earth

would warm as a

carbon dioxide."

consequence of

in the 1970s

simply searched for sites of 100 to 1000 acres that are dominated by native plants, have not been grazed commercially for over ten years, have not been logged (or logged so long ago it is no longer apparent), and have no roads or ATV routes. It would be difficult to claim these are pristine sites or sites that represent pre-settlement conditions. But they do retain a high level of naturalness. The intention is not to maintain these sites in a static condition. They will change with time, all vegetation does. But it will give a point of reference to see how permitted activities like grazing, logging, and motorized recreation

interact with the natural history of some vegetation communities. They would become the controls in our huge experiment of a human-dominated landscape.

It took a lot of searching to find a few places that people have not changed. We have altered our world to an extent that seems impossible. Some of the changes we cannot see. We can only measure them. Such a change is the level of carbon dioxide in our air. When the pioneers first entered Oregon our cumulative CO, emissions were essentially zero. In 2000 it was about 1,250 gigatonnes. Total atmospheric CO₂ increased from 2,100 gigatonnes to about 3,000 gigatonnes. That is 3,000 billion metric tons (2,205 lbs) of CO₂. Nature found a way to hide away quite a few billion tonnes but not enough and will fall far shorter in the future.

Dr. Cottam said, "Nature, undisturbed by man, always tends to establish dominant types of vegetation peculiarly adapted to climate." So far we have pretty much found a way to alter almost all of nature, and now we have found a way to alter climate. Our future is looking_ Go ahead and fill in the blank. In fact, it's up to us and our political leadership to assure it's a synonym for the

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Bylined articles represent the research and opinions of the author and not necessarily those of the Sierra Club or the Utah Chapter.

Sierra Club's sexual harassment policy can be found online at mitchell.sierraclub.org/leaders/policies/sexual-harassment.asp or by contacting the Salt Lake City office.

MONEY AND ADVICE TO IMPROVE HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY

by Mark Clemens

The Utah State Energy Office has created a program that involves public and private-sector expertise to help guide and finance homeowners through the process of evaluating and improving their houses' energy efficiency.

As this issue was going to press, some elements of the program still had not been put in place. The program outline is described on line at http://www. utahhomeperformance.com/program-overview/. The first step is to determine if your house provides good scope for improvement. An on-line quiz rates your house's energy performance. If your house scores below 60 and it was built before 2000, the program is probably worth your time.

Next the homeowner chooses a contractor qualified by the Building Performance Institute to carry out an assessment of the most effective improvements. The assessor charges a flat fee of \$100.

The key incentive is step three that helps the homeowner find financing for the improvements. A combination of programs can grant up to 80% of the cost.

The final step is an inspection to insure the consumer gets full value from the renovation. With the certificate in hand, the consumer can apply for a grant representing up to 80% of the cost.

Look for a follow-up article in the Winter 2011 issue of the Utah Sierran in which we'll track a member of the Utah Chapter whose Sugarhouse bungalow will be featured as a potential candidate for a home performance overhaul.



Gallery

UTAH'S SPECTACULAR WILD PLACES, THROUGH THE EYES OF OUR READERS



DAN SCHROEDER | Moon behind Bottleneck Peak in the San Rafael Swell, with the stars of Virgo and Leo, plus Saturn near the center and Mars at right.



KELLEN SAKRISON | Redrock texture and angles contrast with fresh winter snow near Moab.



PETER A. FECTEAU | The greatest snow on earth covers Utah's peaks.





The Utah Chapter of the Sierra Club extends a very special thanks to the

GEORGE B. AND OMA E. WILCOX AND GIBBS M. AND CATHERINE W. SMITH CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

for its continuing generous support of the Chapter's programs. The Foundation challenges *you* to increase your support for the Utah Chapter in 2010.

Air&Energy

Time for Gary Herbert to Get Serious about Clean Air

n the Summer 2010 issue of this newsletter, we celebrated the second annual observation of the Clear the Air Challenge, www.cleartheairchallenge.org, sponsored jointly by Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County and the State of Utah. The results are now in, and they undoubtedly played a role in making the air cleaner for everyone along Utah's urban Wasatch Front.

The challenge attracted 8,923 participants in 2010 who avoided 106,185 trips of 1,307,084 miles saving 59,407 gallons of gas and protected the rest of us from total airborne emissions of 2,194,594 pounds. These results are as of 31 July 2010.

These are important elective contributions by individual and corporate participants, but no voluntary program can make a significant and consistent difference in air quality. Such changes can only be made with statewide policy that affects all Utahns.

Protecting air quality in Utah is the responsibility of the Utah Division of Air Quality (UDAQ). The US Environmental Protection Agency devolved the enforcement of the federal Clean Air Act (CAA) to UDAQ many years ago. UDAQ has, without much haste, enforced the Clean Air Act's provisions governing major point source polluters such as Geneva

Steel, Kennecott Utah Copper and US Magnesium, formerly known as MagCorp.

Most of the improvement seen in compliance with CAA standards for criteria pollutants such as fine particulate matter, ozone and volatile organic compounds has come from reductions at these large point sources. More improvements can and should still be made by industry, particularly by Utah's oil refineries. The problem over the long term is much of the rest of the problem comes from individual tailpipes and residential chimneys. Further improvement in air quality will depend heavily on changing the behavior of individuals rather than industry.

And in this category the state's performance has been poor. The state relies almost entirely on voluntary response to its color-coded air quality system, www.airquality.utah.gov, to reduce ozone and particulates. The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) reports a 6 decrease in cars passing a sensor on I-15 on red air quality days, and some UDOT employees have been quoted attributing the decrease to the air quality messages on their roadside variable message boards. The only part of this system that isn't voluntary is the ban on wood-burning stoves on red air-quality days during the winter.

Here are some things the state would be doing if it were serious about improving air quality:

- providing incentives to scrap older, more polluting vehicles,
- building new bike and pedestrian trails and adding bike lanes to existing roads,
- incorporating clean air into land use by discouraging building in remote, car-only suburbs and promoting transit-oriented development,
- joining California and thirteen other states plus the District of Columbia to require higher automobile emissions standards,
- changing the Utah Constitution to allow gas tax to be used to build public transportation infrastructure,
- helping UTA and other transit agencies to avoid service cutbacks and fare increases during the recession,
- subsidizing UTA fares on red air quality days,
- creating a comprehensive plan to reduce fugitive dust emissions from federal, state and private lands, and
- establishing a stakeholder process to examine and reduce refinery emissions.

The contrast with the policy of Salt Lake City is instructive. Although municipalities don't have much authority over air quality, Salt Lake City has set a standard for Utah and the nation in promoting bicycle use. In 2010, Salt Lake City was upgraded from bronze to silver award status by the League of American Bicyclists to recognize the city's efforts. In 2009, Salt Lake City added 38 miles of new bike lanes, and in a time of increasingly restricted budgets, dedicates \$500,000 per year to a variety of programs promoting bicycle use.

Furthermore, Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker walks the walk. He bikes regularly and participated in the Clean Air Challenge. As reported by the Salt Lake *Tribune* (10 August 2010), Governor Gary Herbert couldn't be bothered. Neither the symbolism nor, more importantly, the substance interests him.

Governor Herbert CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The governor's announcement fails to take account of current problems and opportunities and also fails to outline a constructive path forward. Energy has been an important topic in the public forum and at the legislature since at least 2002, but there's no evidence of that in his plan. Utah Senate Bill 202, passed unanimously in 2008, commits Utah to buying 20% of electricity from renewable sources by the year 2025 yet there is no word in his plan acknowledging this commitment.

It's essential for the public to know if the Herbert plan will be informed by and build on discussions and decisions already made or if he will be writing on a blank slate. And if the latter, it's his responsibility to explain why.

Herbert could move towards a future of cheap, non-polluting renewable energy, but this plan doesn't show any evidence of understanding the opportunity. In 2009, 39% of all new electricity added to the grid (about 10,000 MW) in the US was wind power.

By contrast, coal is becoming ever less attractive. Communities are pushing back against coal ash and emissions, and the US Environmental Protection Agency is supporting them. Even with existing regulations, a number of coal plants under construction, such as the Prairie State

Coal Plant in Illinois, will be producing electricity at much higher prices than developers promised.

We're also concerned that a task force dominated by fossil fuel interests will draw up his plan behind closed doors.

Throughout the statement Herbert expresses his determination to leave decisions to the free market. Why then have a 10-year plan? If the market alone decides, it could be expressed on one page. Should we suspect the plan will pick winners and losers based on the composition of the task force Herbert selected? We're also concerned that a task force dominated by fossil fuel interests will draw up his plan behind closed doors.

THE PUBLIC TO THE RESCUE

Here's where you come in. Although the task force has already met three times, the public still has an opportunity to submit comments through **October 15**, **2010.** We need your help to convince the governor that Utahns want a balanced portfolio of energy sources that promotes a green economy rather than promoting reliance on dirty, unsafe sources such as coal and oil shale.

Comments may be sent via e-mail to abuchholz@utah.gov, or via US Mail to:

Ted Wilson, Energy Plan Director c/o Ashlee Buchholze Office of the Governor Utah State Capitol, Ste 200 Salt Lake City, UT 84114-2220

We also have a pro-renewables comment letter on the Utah Chapter website, www. utah.sierraclub.org/energy_plan, that you could cut, paste, personalize and send to the governor.

Below are some talking points to use in the discussion of the governor's 10-year plan:

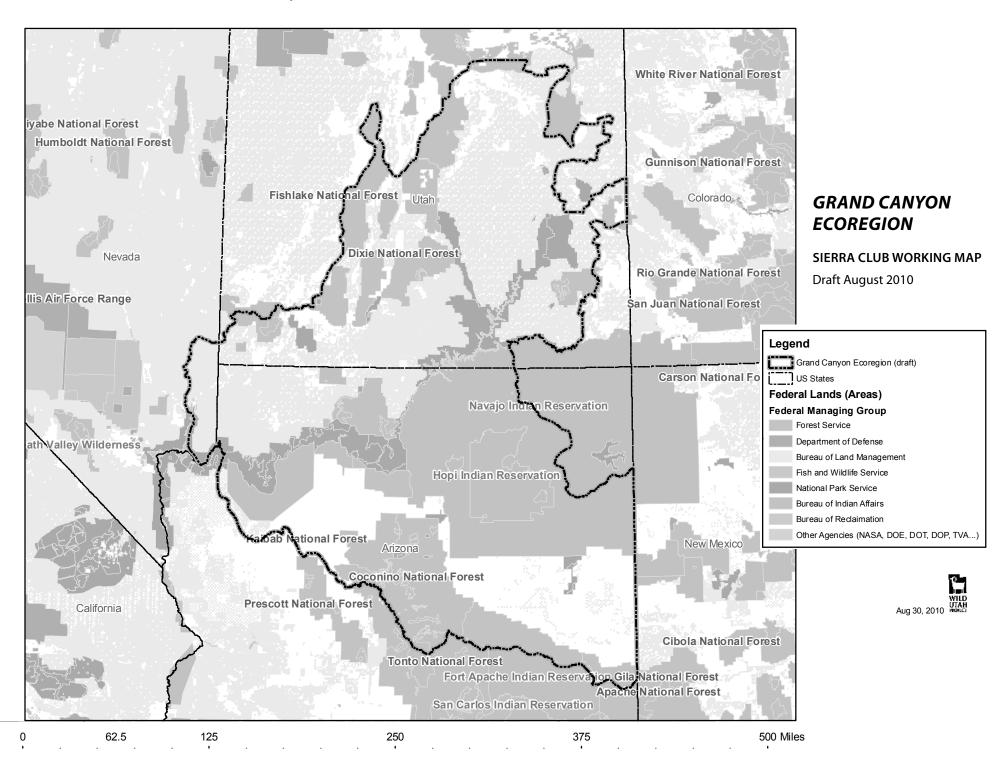
- While fossil fuels are volatile, renewable energy costs continue to come down as technology improves, systems become more prevalent, and more investment dollars reach the market.
- Renewable energy of all forms in both commercial scale and distributed generation will provide significant boosts to Utah's rural and urban economies, attracting more developers and manufacturers that will improve Utah's job market.
- A greater percentage of energy coming from renewable sources would hedge Utah's economy against the risks of dirty fossil fuels. A disproportionate 82% of Utah's electricity came from coal in 2008.

- States that are embracing clean energy technologies are seeing their economies grow substantially.
- Clean energy dollars are flowing into states that have implemented some form of market adjustment to jump start renewable energy development. States such as California, Colorado, New Jersey and others that have enacted a renewable energy standard, tax credits, or similar policies have seen their clean energy economies explode. For example in 2008, a year after the state of California passed carbon regulations, clean-technology venture capital investment reached an all-time high of \$3.3 billion, capturing 57 percent of the national total.
- The US led the world at the end of 2009 with 35,000 MW of installed wind power capacity, a 26% increase over 2008. Even though Utah has lagged behind other states, the technology is practical and competitive.
- Coal has serious external costs, including excess deaths and hospitalizations, increased incidence of asthma attacks, acid mine drainage, gigantic quantities of coal ash, and global climate destabilization.



Condor Corner

Sierra Club Launches Resilient Habitats to Protect Life's Diversity by Dr Marion Klaus



A t the time when our national parks and wilderness areas were established, it was assumed that the climate would remain relatively stable. Now we know these protected areas will not escape the effects of climate change. The plants and animals that depend on these preserves are at risk. Our past accomplishments, which include the protection of more than 260 million acres of our nation's most precious natural resources, are at risk because of climate change.

Since 2005, Sierra Club's Climate Recovery Partnership (CRP) has fundamentally redirected Sierra Club resources toward the climate crisis. The CRP is composed of six integrated campaigns that combat climate change and is dedicated to the belief that global warming is the defining challenge of our generation. The sixth of these CRP campaigns, the Resilient Habitat (RH) campaign, is getting up to speed now.

Our Resilient Habitats Campaign reduces ecosystem vulnerability to climate change with an intense, science-based organizing effort starting in 10 iconic ecosystems across the country. To maximize species survival, we must provide adequate space, protect migration corridors, apply climate-smart land management, and reduce non-climate stressors such as pollution, habitat fragmentation, invasive species, over-harvest and over-grazing. The Greater Grand

Canyon/Colorado Plateau (GGC/CP) Ecoregion is among the first ten chosen to initiate the Resilient Habitats Campaign, and our mascot is the condor.

The Resilient Habitat Local Delivery Team (LDT) for the GGC/CP consists of 11 Sierra Club volunteers and professional conservationists. It is led by Marc Heileson, Western Regional Representative for the Sierra Club and Kim Crumbo, Conservation Director for Grand Canyon Wildlands Council. Already, the LDT has formulated a working map of the region for this campaign (left/right/above/below) and generated a document that includes our specific initiatives.

As the Resilient Habitat Campaign for the Greater Grand Canyon/Colorado Plateau Ecosystem develops, your help will be crucial to its success in Utah. I'll be providing regular updates in the Utah *Sierran* so please watch for ways to get involved and make this crucial campaign a success!

Dr Marion Klaus is a distinguished biologist, now retired, who serves on the Environmental Quality Advisory Commission for Salt Lake County, the national Sierra Club Resilient Habitats Leadership Team and is liaison

The Resilient Habitat Campaign

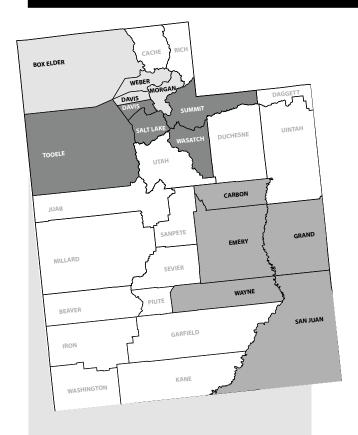
is quickly developing into a significant conservation effort in Utah's Red Rock Country.

Watch for ways you can help build the resiliency to climate change and connectivity our plants and animals need to survive.

UtahChapter

ExComElections

2010



NO GROUP AFFILIATION

GLEN CANYON GROUP

OGDEN GROUP

SALT LAKE GROUP

This year's ballot includes candidates for the chapter executive committee as well as for the Ogden and Salt Lake groups. The Glen Canyon Group will mail its own ballot.

All members—even those who don't live in one of these areas with groups—are welcome to vote for candidates for the chapter executive committee—the volunteers who decide Sierra Club policy at the state level. If you live in an area affiliated with the Sierra Club group, you're also requested to vote for the members of your group executive committee—the volunteers who apply Sierra Club policy at the local level. Consult the map, below, or the list of ZIP codes preceding each group's candidate statements to see if you're affiliated with one of the groups.

Please read the candidate statements, vote, and return your anonymous ballot in the envelope provided. All ballots must be postmarked no later than **November 22, 2010.**

<u>Ogden**Group**</u>

INCLUDING ALL MEMBERS IN THE FOLLOWING ZIPS: 84015, 84037, 84040, 84041, 84050, 84056, 84067, 84075, 84089, 84302, 84307, 84309, 84310, 84312, 84315, 84317, 84324, 84334, 84337, 84340, all 844__



RANEE JOHNSON

I am a Licensed Professional Counselor who was born and raised in Weber County. I have been a member of the Sierra Club off and on for sixteen years, and steadily for the past nine. I have been a member of the Ogden Group Executive Committee for six years and have been currently serving as the Ogden Group Chair for the past several years. I served on the Utah Chapter Executive Committee for four years and was chapter delegate to the National Council of Club leaders. I look forward to contributing, in any way I can, to preserve and protect the natural beauty we enjoy in Utah and would enjoy serving another term on the Ogden Groups Executive Committee.



DAN SCHROEDER

I've been a Sierra Club member for 23 years and an active member of the Ogden Group for 17 years. During this time I've served as Ogden Group Chair, Outings Chair, Webmaster, Newsletter Editor, Outings Guide Editor, and delegate to the Utah Chapter ExCom, where I was secretary and treasurer for two years. I also served for three years on the club's national Recreation Issues Committee. As the current Ogden Group Conservation Chair, I've been focusing my efforts on promoting better public transit, preserving Ogden's publicly owned open space, and protecting our mountains from inappropriate off-road vehicle use. If re-elected I will continue to work on local issues where the club can make a difference, developing alliances with other groups and individuals to achieve our important goals.



CATHERINE SHARPSTEEN

Having just retired from the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, I've lived in Utah twenty-nine years, and love the outdoor opportunities in this region. I joined the Sierra Club in the early 1980s, and was active for about eight years in the then-functioning Cache Group as membership, secretary, and outings chair. I served as a training coordinator for the Utah Chapter, and volunteered for the national organization as an elections inspector when Moore Business Forms in Logan had the contract for the ballots.

I fully support the environmental objectives of the Sierra Club, and I must admit that the camaraderie of the outings keeps me coming back. I would be honored to serve on the Ogden Group Executive Committee.

SaltLake Group

INCLUDING ALL MEMBERS IN THE FOLLOWING ZIPS 84006, 84010, 84011, 84014, 84017, 84020, 84022, 84025, 84029, 84032, 84035, 84036, 84044, 84047, 84049, 84054, 84055, 84060, 84061, 84065, 84068, 84070, 84071, 84074, 84084, 84087, 84088, 84090-95, 84098 AND ALL 841___



Why am I submitting my name as a candidate for election to the Sierra Club's Salt Lake Group? Though most of my 80 or so years have been spent in schooling or working, I have an abiding love of the outdoors and would like to do what I can to help preserve its wonders for current and future generations. My boyhood found me swimming, fishing but mainly sailing on the Chesapeake Bay. I served 4 years in the Navy after my graduation from the Naval Academy in 1951 but left the Navy for an entrepreneurial business career that is not completely over yet.

Soaring with raptors, vultures, swallows and racing sailplanes was mid-life outdoor love until my wife and I engaged in a three-year losing battle with pancreatic cancer. Since then gardening, hiking, and skiing are my outdoor pleasures. A recent 8-day trip through the Grand Canyon has me hooked on White Water and a desire to do what I can to help assure future generations of the intense pleasure I derived from that outdoor experience. How magnificent is the Canyon! Then, too, there is much work to be done in achieving sustainable and improved environmental objectives.



PRESTON MOTES

I have been a member of the Salt Lake Group for the past 23 years. I have served in several positions within the group. (group chair, group conservation chair, outings chair) For the past several years I have been the treasurer. I would be privileged to continue in this position for another term. I keep informed on environmental topics and write letters in support of many issues. I thank you for your support.

ExCom**Elections** 2010

UtahChapter

BOB BECKER

I'm 67 years old, originally from Brooklyn, NY. Been backpacking and day hiking in mountain and desert country all my life. I moved to Ogden eight years ago from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, finally realizing a lifelong dream of living in the mountain west, and within walking distance of a trailhead. I've served as the chair of the Ogden Group's political committee, its alternate representative to the chapter Ex Com, and I'm currently the Ogden Group's acting vice chair. I represent the Ogden Group on the Hill Air Force Base Restoration Advisory Board, a civilian advisory and oversight group monitoring the base's long term efforts to clean up toxic waste groundwater plumes that have migrated off-base. I'm currently serving an interim appointment on the chapter Ex Com, filling a vacancy created by a member having left mid-term. Recently retired (as an American History professor), I have time available to devote to ExCom work if I'm elected for a full regular term. Other wilderness and conservation affiliations include SUWA and The Nature Conservancy.

DAN MAYHEW



I've been a Sierra Club member for six years but have only been in a position to become more active during the past two years following my retirement from the Department of Veterans Affairs, where I served as Managing Director of one of nine national employee education

resource centers. I have a lifelong love of wide open spaces and as an admirer of the work of the Sierra Club, had

always thought that when time permitted, I would look for opportunities within our Utah Chapter to become environmentally active. Since that time, I've enjoyed a number of opportunities to serve the chapter. These include:

- Member of the National Wildlands and Wilderness Team BLM Roadless Areas Sub-Team
- Member of the Resilient Habitat Greater Grand Canyon ecoregion Local Delivery Team
- Member of the Utah Chapter Executive Committee
- Filed formal protests for the Sierra Club with the Utah State Engineer against the proposed water rights transfers necessary to construct a nuclear power plant near Green River, UT
- Chair, Utah Chapter Conservation Committee
- Former Chair, Utah Chapter Legislative Committee

My wife and I are avid trail runners and cyclists, and I have a history of bicycling and alternative transportation activism to include six years as Chair of the Salt Lake City Mayor's Bicycle Advisory Committee.

With the myriad of threats facing Utah's incredible wildlands and habitat, there is truly no better time to become involved and support the work of the Sierra Club, both nationally and in Utah. I am very excited for the opportunity to continue as a member of our Executive Committee and to do what I can to make our Chapter successful.

STEVE THEISS



Born in Albuquerque, I came to admire and respect the environment at an early age. My parents were avid outdoors-persons, so we spent many wonderful hours in the magnificent Sandia and Jemez Mountains in northern New Mexico. My formative years were spent in El

Paso, where I gained an appreciation for the beauty and wonders of the desert and red rock territory around Hueco Tanks and Hueco Mountains.

Visiting family in Salt Lake City every summer, I loved recreating in the Wasatch Mountains and traveling to southern Utah to hike and bike. Later, as I raised my family in Salt Lake, we enjoyed Utah's great outdoors, and I was always careful to teach my children to appreciate, and care for, the environment.

As my career progressed, I was able to support Sierra Club and other environmental groups financially, but not able to give much of my time.

Now semi-retired, the opposite is true. I volunteer regularly at the Utah Chapter offices, and I am the newest member of the Chapter's Political Committee. I'm looking forward to the opportunity of taking a more active role in Sierra Club activities, especially in view of the current challenges facing our environment.

DETATCH AND MAIL



UTAH CHAPTER SIERRA CLUB 2010

Executive Committee Election Ballot

our ballot must received by November 22, 2010. Mail your completed ballot in the enclosed envelope. The second set of boxes below are for the second member of a joint membership only. Blank lines are for write-in candidates.

OgdenGroup

	• • • • • • • • • • • •	
RANEE JOHNSON	S	J
DAN SCHROEDER	S	J
CATHERINE SHARPSTEEN	S	J
	S	J

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 3 INCLUDING WRITE-INS

SaltLakeGroup

GOVERT (SANDY) BASSETT	S	J
PRESTON MOTES	S	J
	S	J
	S	J
•••••		

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 3 INCLUDING WRITE-INS

UtahChapter

S	J
S	J
S	J
S	J
	S S

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 4 INCLUDING WRITE-INS

YOUR ZIP CODE:

ThankYou!

OurLand



WHERE WILL WE GO (when our country, our islands are gone?)

This photographic exhibit at the Day-Riverside Branch Library, located at 1575 West 1000 North in Salt Lake City, continues through October 15, 2010. Everyone is welcome. The photographer and author is Carol Curtis.

The Republic of the Marshall Islands, located about 2,500 miles southwest of Hawai'i, consists of approximately 1,225 individual islands that form 29 atolls and 5 solitary low coral islands. These very small islands make up a total land area of only seventy square miles spread out in an ocean area of over 750,000 square miles. The elevation of these islands averages seven feet above sea level, but in many places where people are living at high tide is only a foot or less above the water line. With climate change and sea level rise it is projected that the atoll nations of the world—Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Tuvalu, and the Maldive Islands—will disappear through no fault or action of the people who live there.

These atoll nations are the epitome of beauty, "idyllic South Sea islands," with long very white sandy beaches; turquoise, aqua-marine exquisite lagoons; swaying coconut palm leaves; fresh trade winds; indescribable sunsets; the moon as one's evening lantern and the stars as the sky's jewels! To say the least these atolls are beautiful.

What about the people, their cultures, their traditions and stories, their ways of life that have been developed over millenniums in order to maintain themselves and survive in such a severely limited environment and on such small, isolated pieces of land? What happens to their languages that describe so well this environment of an atoll, with numerous words describing in detail the various daily

and seasonal phases of the ocean tides, or the stages of the development of a new coconut, or the detail descriptions of the ocean currents which are used to navigate around the vast expanses of ocean? What happens to their way of life, their cohesiveness, their understanding of how to get along in such isolated circumstances? What happens to their cultures? And finally what happens to their enthusiasm for life, their laughter, their amazing generosity, their ways of being all inclusive towards everyone, their gentleness—their spirits?

I raise these questions because of my love for these unique environments and cultures - a love that developed over the twenty-five years I lived in the Marshall Islands between 1969 and 2000. Thus the purpose of my exhibit is to illustrate the physical and cultural uniqueness of atoll life, and to bring awareness to the viewer of the moral, and ethical aspects of climate change. Questions of justice, equity, equality, are all issues closely linked to the over-all issue of climate change.

A crisis is looming over and encompassing the lives of atoll peoples' everywhere. So I begin with a question to everyone: what would you do today, now, if you knew that your way of life, your home, your city, your village, your land, your state/province, your country, your culture would literally and completely disappear in the next few decades?

For open hours and directions to the Day-Riverside Library Branch, consult http://www.slcpl.lib.ut.us/locations.jsp?parent_id=8&page_id=36.

These atoll nations are the epitome of beauty, "idyllic South Sea islands," with long very white sandy beaches; turquoise, aqua-marine exquisite lagoons; swaying coconut palm leaves; fresh trade winds; indescribable sunsets; the moon as one's evening lantern and the stars as the sky's jewels!

GetInvolved

Volunteer Corner

If you value the Chapter's work, why not get involved and be a part of the action? Our success would not be possible without a strong core of volunteers who are passionate about our great state and its wild places. There are currently several ways to become more active in the Chapter, including:

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS/ SOCIAL MEDIA

The Utah Chapter is seeking an Electronic Communications Chair (ECC). This volunteer would help establish a strong chapter presence on Facebook and Twitter that can convey club policy and solicit support. This position can also help strengthen the club's ability to influence public opinion at both the national and local levels. The ECC can also serve as a bridge between her/his chapter and the national Sierra Club's strategic conservation messaging work. S/he will work with the club's national and regional media teams to localize national conservation messages and to incorporate local concerns into national messages. The ECC can also work with local issue activists on framing and talking about conservation issues.

Potential Job Responsibilities

- Help the chapter make an impact with new media
- Be a bridge between his/her chapter and the national Sierra Club related to strategic messaging
- Co-ordinate messaging with chapter webmaster
- Help his/her chapter increase the effectiveness of its major communication tools (newsletter, website, press releases, letters to the editor/Opinion Editorials, etc.) with our members and with the general public
- Help his/her chapter craft effective messages for its campaigns and other conservation work
- Ensure effective and consistent messaging among chapter and group activists
- Provide feedback to the national Sierra Club on the effectiveness of strategic messaging in her/her geographic area

For more information, please contact Mark Clemens at mark.clemens@ sierraclub.org or 801-467-9297.



SECRETARY



The secretary performs an indispensable function for the chapter. He or she provides its memory through the minutes of its executive committee. This function helps the chapter in a very active way because only with the record the minutes provide can we track our progress.

Leslie Hugo, pictured above, is our outgoing secretary and served in this position for three years. She set a new standard of timeliness and accuracy and is willing to mentor a new secretary. If you're interested in volunteering, please feel free to send a question to her at coyotespaw@yahoo.com, or to the Utah Chapter manager at utah.chapter@ sierraclub.org.

Leslie took minutes on her laptop and after a few minutes' extra polishing, often dispatched the draft minutes to executive committee members within an hour of the end of the meeting.

Other functions that a secretary can help fulfill include assisting the chair with questions of parliamentary procedure, referencing chapter by-laws when questions arise, supervising chapter elections, and of course, training his/her replacement.

Legislative Forecast: Stormy with Flashes of Lightning

by Mark Clemens

of the Utah legislature. We'll probably see struggles over the budget, education and immigration.

It will also likely be an important year for energy legislation. We might see an effort to curb or reduce the current net metering arrangements. The completion of the governor's ten-year energy plan could spawn bills. We're hoping the forthcoming session might even produce a bill or too that will benefit the environment; for example, the legislature might take up a recommendation to improve the energy efficiency requirements in Utah building codes.

For anyone interested in keeping abreast of the most important bills affecting the environment, bookmark the chapter's legislative tracker, www.utah.sierraclub.org/tracker. We try to keep it current throughout the session.

If you're interested in getting involved with the lobbying process, get in touch with Mark Clemens at mark.clemens@sierraclub.org.



UtahChapterOutings

EXPLORE WITH US! SEPTEMBER 2010-JANUARY 2011

bbreviations in capital letters signify the group planning the outing.

[E] = educational content, [C] = conservation focus, [S] = service activities.

All members and nonmembers are welcome on any of the chapter or group activities listed.

Radios, firearms and dogs are not welcome on Sierra Club outings. Interested participants are strongly encouraged to contact the outing leader in advance and inquire as to updates, degree of difficulty, and other outing details. Participants should be prepared for various seasonal weather conditions, temperature changes that occur due to rapid increases/decreases in altitude, and bring enough food, water, and appropriate clothing for the given outing. Outing leaders reserve the right to turn away anyone who appears unprepared for scheduled outings. For the most current and updated outings listings, please visit the website utah.sierraclub.org and look at the outings under the Salt Lake, Ogden and Glen Canyon Groups.

FIND OUT about changes in hike schedules, last-minute outings and socials by subscribing to the new UT-OUTINGS-FORUM listserv.

More information is available at www.utah.sierraclub.org/email_list.asp



September

SLG, Tues, 9/28 Tuesday Night Hike from City Creek to Davis County Overlook. This hike from City Creek Canyon leads to spectacular views of the setting sun on the Great Salt Lake, sweeping views of the city and the Wasatch range. Meet at 6 p.m. (note the earlier meeting time) at the City Creek trailhead. (To get there, take Bonneville Blvd at the intersection

at 6 p.m. (note the earlier meeting time) at the City Creek trailhead. (To get there, take Bonneville Blvd at the intersection of B Street and 11th Avenue. At the curve (about ¾ mile) turn right and park as close to the gate as possible.) Bring flashlights, as darkness may greet the returning hikers. Please contact Paul at 801-450-1128 for further information.

October

GCG, Sat 10/2 Adopt-a-Highway US-191 Cleanup. Fourth shoulder cleanup of miles 117-120. Meet at the Spanish Trail Arena at 9 AM. Expect to be done by noon. Bring work gloves. More information on the group website: http://utah.sierraclub.org/glencanyon/.

OG, Sat, 10/2, Green Pond trail. Fall color special about 7 mile loop on a scenic trail. Call Joanie at 801-399-0034 for meeting time and place.

SLG, Sun, 10/3, Twin Lakes- Brighton Lakes Traverse Loop. This could be your favorite hike of the season. This loop hike starts at Silver Lake, goes up past Twin Lakes to the pass, then traverses Wolverine and Tuscarora peaks, then to Catherine's pass. The hiker is then greeting by the turquoise jewels of Lakes Catherine, Martha and Mary as one descends into the Brighton Bowl and return to the cars. Plan for about 2500 $\,$ feet elevation gain, about 8 miles, and a hike time of 5 to 6 hours. This hike is fairly strenuous and does have some exposure to heights. Please contact Connie at 801-835-6304 or Sandy at 801-574-4150 for further information.

> SLG, 10/5, Tuesday Night Hike, West Grandeur Peak Loop Hike (from Wasatch Blvd.).

Fabulous views of the city and

the setting sun are afforded from this foothill trail overlooking the city, and deer herds are often spotted on the ridges. Meet at the trailhead on Wasatch Blvd. To get there, drive east on 3300 South until it meets Wasatch Blvd, drive left or north until it terminates in the parking lot.

Note the earlier 5:30 p.m. meeting time. Bring flashlights, as darkness may greet our return. Please contact Jim Paull at 801-580-9079 for further information.

OG, Sat, 10/9, The Indian Trail in Ogden Canyon. 4.5 miles, about 3 hours, 1500 feet elevation gain. This is a popular local hike with great views of the canyon and Ogden. On clear days, Nevada can be seen. Call Larry at 801-731-3701 for info.

SLG, 10/9, Saturday, Epicurean Adventure at Willow Lake. Enjoy a short hike to Willow Lake and a fantastic culinary experience. Bring a plate and utensils, your favorite beverage, and something to share with the group. Let's make this a fitting celebration as we near the end of a terrific hiking season. Meet at 10:30 a.m. at the Big Cottonwood Canyon Park and Ride. Please call Aaron Jones at 801-467-3532 for further information.



SLG, Tues, 10/12, Tuesday Night Hike on the Jordan River Parkway. This is the last official (really!) Tuesday night hike of

2010 for the Salt Lake group. Come explore this riverside nature trail in the heart of the city. The trailhead is between 1000 West and 1100 South (Freemont Street). It is easily found if you approach from 900 West. Debi has several hike options she will share with the group. Meet at 5:30 p.m. (note the earlier meeting time). Please call Debi at 435-830-9021 for further information.

GCG, Thur 10/14 to Sun 10/17 Cedar Mesa Campout and Dayhikes. Primitive camping at location of last year's campout, a few miles from the Kane Gulch Ranger Station. Plan is to meet in camp. Leaders will likely arrive by early afternoon. Tentative program: Friday, day hike down into Fish Canyon from the trailhead; Saturday, Citadel West; Sunday, Sipapu to Owachamo in the canyon bottom at Natural Bridge either returning over the mesa or with a car shuttle. Come for part of all of the hiking and camping. Expect to be done by 2 p.m. on Sunday to leave time to get back to Moab and get organized for Monday. Organizer: Mike Stringham, 435-259-8579.

SLG, Sun, 10/17, Bell Canyon. Hike Bell Canyon, past the scenic reservoir and along the creek, up to beautiful lower falls, upper falls, or all the way to the meadow. Along

the way enjoy majestic views of the Salt Lake Valley. The changing fall leaves may give us a spectacular colorful display. If the group hikes to the meadow, which is 2 ¾ miles one way, and 2600 feet elevation gain, this could be a five or six hour hike. Meet at 9 a.m. at the trailhead on Little Cottonwood Rd just east (southeast) of Wasatch Blvd (approx. 3430 E Little Cottonwood Road, Sandy, UT). Call Paul at 801-450-1128 for more information.

OG, Sat, 10/23, Wellsville Mountains, Deep Canyon to Stewart Pass..The Wellsville Mountains rise above the Cache Valley west of Logan. They are said to be the steepest range in the country. Strenuous 4.5 mi. one way with 3,075 ft. elevation gain. Stewart Pass is at 8,120'The Wellsville Cone will be an option upon attaining the ridge. There are lots of Maples and

Aspens in this area so fall colors are a possibility. Migrating raptors are frequently spotted in the vicinity. Call Dan H. For info 801-479-1108

GCG, Sat 10/30 Behind the Rocks

Traverse. This is a repeat of a Sierra Club hike of March 2005. We will begin on Kane Creek Road and end at the Hidden Valley trailhead. Along the way we will visit Teardrop Arch and "The Snake" summer solstice marker and other petroglyphs. We will also practice our route-finding skills as we zigzag through a maze of fins before we reach the rim overlooking Spanish Valley. The net gain of altitude is about 2,000 feet and distance is 7.5 miles. This is a long, strenuous hike. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Center and Main, at 8 a.m. to get an early start. Leader: Mike Stringham, 435-259-8579.

November

GCG, Sat 11/6 Culvert Canyon Exploratory. This hike will explore the eastern drainages of this scenic canyon. We will hike a short distance up the canyon and then turn east below Poison Spider Mesa. Four or five miles and not too strenuous an effort required. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Center and Main at 9 a.m. Leader: Mike Stringham, 435-259-8579.

OG, Sat, 11/6, Sentry Trail on Antelope Island. 6.5 miles round-trip on a semi-loop trail, moderate, 800 feet of elevation gain. The trail is located near the Garr Ranch. We will hike to the spine of the island where we will view the west shore of the lake. We

might see some bison and, perhaps, a few bald eagles. Call Larry at 801-731-3701 for info.

SLG, Sat, 11/6, North Fork Trail of the

Provo River. The North Fork trail begins near the scenic Mirror Lake Highway east of Kamas. There are a couple options as far as hiking a loop or out and back. Either way this is a great hike through pine stands and open meadows. The trail is relatively flat with no significant uphill hiking. This outing is listed as a hike but could be snowshoe if there is enough snow. Call Ken at 801-414-6067 in advance to confirm meeting time and place.

SLG, Fri, 11/19, Full Moon Hike or Snowshoe, Grandeur Peak. This outing could be a hike or snowshoe or both, depending on snow conditions. Expect a bright full moon to light the way to the peak to enjoy the night sky and glittering city lights. There is an option to share some hot beverages and treats after the hike if participants are inclined. Bring lights and warm winter gear. Meeting time will probably be 7 p.m. at Skyline High School parking lot (3251 E and 3760 S), but call Ken at 801-414-6067 to make sure and for any other information.

GCG, Sat 11/20 Neck Spring Trail. Five miles, 300' elevation change. The trail passes by the west side of The Neck and through the upper reaches of Taylor Canyon, taking the hiker through the pinyon-juniper ecosystem that dominates the mesa tops in canyonlands country. The trail goes by Neck Spring and Cabin Spring, which still contain watering structures left over from the earlier ranching period. Along the way, one gets an excellent view of upper Taylor Canyon. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Center and Main at 9 a.m. Leader: Tom Messenger, 435-259-1756.

December

GCG, Sat 12/4 Chicken Panel. This short hike in Arches with little elevation gain should be almost weatherproof. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Center and Main, at 10 a.m. Leader: Bonnie Crysdale, 435-259-0246.

SLG, Sun, 12/5, Mountain Dell Hike, Snowshoe or XC ski (if snow!). The Mountain Dell area in Parleys Canyon offers multiple trails to choose from, including the Mormon trail through the canyon bottoms. Elk and moose are frequently seen in this area. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Parleys Way former K-Mart parking lot, 2705 Parleys Way, near the Bombay House Restaurant. From Parleys Way, turn north into the parking lot; or from Foothill Drive, turn west on Stringham Ave (2295 S) and then south into the lot. Please contact Rebecca at 801-557-5261 for more information.

GCG, Sat 12/18 Mill Canyon Mesa. Climb to the mesa top from near the Halfway Stage Station for views of Determination Towers, Courthouse Pasture, Monitor and Merrimac Buttes, Lone Mesa. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Center and Main at 10 a.m. Leader: Geoff Freethey, 435-259-0253.

OG, Sat, 12/18, Snowshoe from Snow Basin parking lot to Ogden Overlook About 5-6 miles round trip-- about 3 hours--moderate. This trail offers great views of the Snow Basin and Ogden City. Come burn off some calories before Christmas. Call Larry at 801/731 3701 for meeting time and location.

SLG, Sat, 12/18, Full Moon Hike or Snowshoe, Leaders Choice. Robert will pick a suitable destination for a Full Moon hike or snowshoe. Full moon hikes or snowshoes are magical, with the silver moonlight transforming the landscape into a winter wonderland. Bring a hot beverage and snack to share—Robert always does and it is always a treat! Plan for a meeting time of 7 p.m. and meeting place at Skyline High School parking lot (3251 E and 3760 S), but call Robert at 801-949-3597 for final details.

January

GCG, Sat 1/1/2011 Pocket Bridge, Sand

Flats. From near the entrance station follow the fins southeast to a natural bridge near the rim of the North Fork, Mill Creek. Views into the creek with the La Sals beyond. Less than three miles roundtrip. Views along the fins and over to Arches on the return. About 350' of elevation change. The slickrock must be bare. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Center and Main at 10 AM. Leader: Tom Messenger, 435-259-1756.

OG, Sat, 1/15/2011, Snowshoe in Wheetgrass Canyon. It's about 6 miles round trip-- 4 hours--moderate. One of the most beautful canyons in Northern Utah with very interesting cliff and canyon walls. Also, a good chance to see wild life. Call Larry at 801-731 3701 for meeting time and location.

OG, Sun, 1/16/2011, Full Wolf Moon snowshoe/ski (weather permitting). At the Mt Ogden Golf course. This is a Sunday night and almost my birthday so there may be cake involved, but no ice cream. call Joanie for meeting time 801-399-0034 (let it snow let it snow).



TUESDAY NIGHT HIKES

The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ridesharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel. If you choose to carpool to the trailhead, it is only fair for fees charged by the US Forest Service to be shared by all participants. Text of the outings liability waiver may be found at http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/signinwaiver.PDF. CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.

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backcountry guide

FEBRUARY 7, 2010: Sunday snowshoe trekkers at Snowbasin. Be the first (before July 15, 2010) to correctly list the first name of six of these trekkers and receive a Guide Book for the High Uintas. Send your list to Ron Younger at 920 East 1500 South, Bountiful, UT 84010-2138.

UtahChapter**Directory**

L	•
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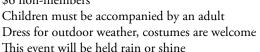


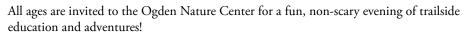
A CRAZY NIGHT OF OUTDOOR FUN - WITHOUT FRIGHT!

CREATURES OF THE NIGHT

Friday, October 22, 5-8 p.m.

Ogden Nature Center 966 W. 12th Street in Ogden \$5 Ogden Nature Center members \$6 non-members





- Take a crepuscular creep (early night-time) along Ogden Nature Center trails where you'll meet our teacher/naturalists transformed into native Utah animals, each with a tale to tell!
- Meet live owls, snakes, spiders and toads.
- Enjoy trailside treats, campfire stories, face painting & carnival games.
- Make fall nature crafts that you can take home.
- Go on a scavenger hunt for freaky facts (bring a flashlight).
- Visit the Bat Cave.
- Go through the Spider Web Crawl.
- Sing songs at the Wood Witch's Lair and try to trick the witch.

This event is for the entire community. For more information please call 801-621-7595.

Back to School

WALK TO SCHOOL (AND WIN BIG BUCKS FOR YOUR SCHOOL!)

id you walk to school when you were a kid? Uphill? In both directions? In the rain? October is International Walk to School Month and the Sierra Club is encouraging families to relive this definitive childhood moment—walking to school.

Check out our Back to School Headquarters(http://action.sierraclub.org/site/PageNavigator/nat_backtoschool), where we've got a special membership offer, a kids drawing gallery and green tips for everything from school supplies to lunch.

The Club is also teaming up with the makers of Green Works® and the National Center for Safe Routes to School for the Walk to School Challenge. During October, elementary and middle school students and their families can help their schools win one of five \$5,000 grants -- simply by walking (or bicycling) to school. The five schools with the highest levels of participation will be eligible to win a \$5,000 grant.

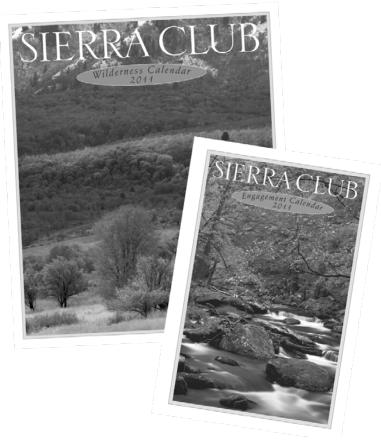
Walking uphill not required.

DON'T DELAY... PICK UP YOUR 2011 CALENDAR TODAY!



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Sierra Club 2011 Calendars



Both Engagement and Wilderness Calendars are available in the Utah Chapter office from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. through the New Year. The chapter office is located at 2159 South 700 East, Ste 210, in the Sugarhouse neighborhood of Salt Lake City. We're in a nondescript, two-storey office building on the east side of 700 East. The calendars are gift boxed. Our prices are a significant discount from other sources (Engagement, \$11; Wilderness, \$10.) Payment is accepted by cash or check. Checks should be made out to Salt Lake Group, Sierra Club. If you can't make it to the chapter office, calendars are also available through the Sierra Club website.

START A COMMUNITY SHARES/UTAH CAMPAIGN AT YOUR WORKPLACE by Mark Clemens

On the front page of each issue of the Utah Sierran, you'll find the logo of Community Shares/Utah (CS/U), and you might have wondered what it is. CS/U is a workplace-giving federation that allows employees to donate any specified amount through payroll deduction to a range of agencies and charities that work to benefit the environment, deliver critical human services, improve the community, protect human rights and promote animal welfare.

The Utah Chapter of the Sierra Club helped to found CS/U in 1989. Check out the full roster of agencies at www.communitysharesutah.org. CS/U helps raise money for the chapter and the other member agencies in most public-sector and several private sector workplaces too.

Fall is usually the season to harvest pledges for workplace giving, and thank you to all of those who already give. If you don't have the chance to contribute to Community

Shares at work and would like to, call me at 801-467-9297 or send me an e-mail at mark.clemens@sierraclub.org or Lynne Brandley, the executive director of Community Shares at 801-486-9224 or lbrandley@xmission.com.

ADVERTISE IN THE *UTAH SIERRAN* AND REACH 4,500 HOUSEHOLDS IN UTAH! CALL (801)467-9297 FOR OUR RATE CARD, OR EMAIL UTAH.CHAPTER@SIERRACLUB.ORG.