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# Utah Sierran

utah.sierraclub.org

Fall 2013 Vol. 46 No. 4

## This Issue

**PAGE 3** The Wilderness Act turns 50 next year but isn't showing even a hint of gray. Page 3 is all things wilderness. Join our celebrations.

**PAGE 5** Would you go solar if Rocky Mountain Power is paying the bill? Beat high power bills and coal-powered utilities with your own rooftop solar photovoltaic panels. Learn how to beat the grid.

**PAGE 10** Get ready to strap on your snowshoes! But there will be a few more hikes before the snow flies. Check out all the options in our outings section.



**LikeUs**  
on Facebook for the latest!

## Road Claims Agreement will protect Deep Creeks



JEFF CLAY | CLAYHAUS.NET

**Wilderness lands in Trout Creek are protected under the new agreement.**

**T**he Bureau of Land Management, Juab County, the State of Utah, and three conservation groups announced on August 19th an agreement to resolve a long-running dispute over primitive dirt roads and trails in the Deep Creek Mountains of western Utah. The agreement settles a handful of the State of Utah and Juab County's right-of-way claims on BLM-managed land in a fashion that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

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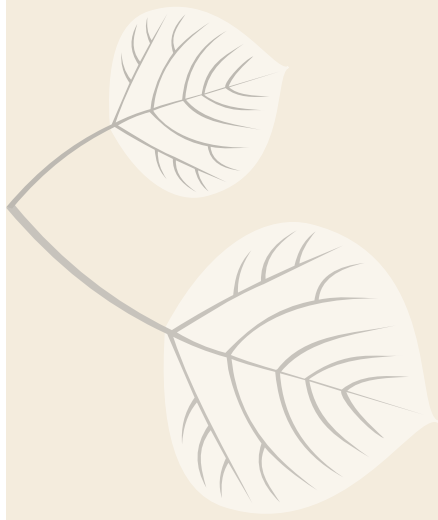
## NEWSLETTER GOING GREEN— PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR ADDRESS

The chapter's executive committee has voted to produce only two print issues of the Utah Sierran in 2013. This change will reduce our ecological footprint and keep our budget in the black. Please help us stay in touch by submitting your e-mail address to us on our chapter website, <http://www.utah.sierraclub.org/>. This change began with the Winter 2013 issue of the newsletter. We don't want to lose touch with a single chapter member!

Many life-long bibliophiles have now tried e-books. Formerly cyber-phobic grandparents keep tabs on their family using social networks. The chapter is keeping up with the times by expanding our outreach using the web, Facebook (Friend us at <http://www.facebook.com/utahsierran>) and Convio (our e-mail delivery system). Our Communications Chair Jeff Clay just launched our new Flickr site, <http://www.flickr.com/groups/utahsierran/>. Check it out and submit your own favorite shots.

Utah Chapter, Sierra Club  
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Salt Lake City UT 84101






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Salt Lake City office.

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## Our Mission

The Utah Chapter of the Sierra Club  
is a grassroots volunteer organization  
dedicated to:

Protect and promote Utah's  
outdoors and natural landscapes;

Educate and advocate for the  
responsible preservation of clean air,  
water and habitats; &

Support the development of  
sustainable renewable energy;

For the benefit of  
present and future generations.



JEFF CLAY | CLAYHAUS.NET

### Wilderness protected--Ibapah Peak and the high country of the Deep Creeks Range.

balances protection of the remote Deep Creeks Wilderness Study Area with motorized vehicle access. The settlement marks an historic first—a negotiated resolution of some of the 14,000-plus claims of so-called highways brought by Utah and Utah counties.

The State of Utah and Juab County agreed to give up claimed roads in several canyons leading into the Deep Creek Mountains, while conservationists agreed not to oppose limited motor vehicle use at two locations where historic use was evident. The State of Utah and Juab County also agreed not to pursue claims for several alleged rights-of-way in neighboring lands proposed for wilderness designation in America's Red Rock Wilderness Act.

"This settlement reflects a case where everyone understood the need to protect special places from too many roads and the threats that motorized use pose for one of the Great Basin's most remote and remarkably beautiful places," said Heidi McIntosh of Earthjustice. "The Deep Creeks settlement may prove to be a model for resolving many of the thousands of claims that remain."

Juab County's claims were based on R.S. 2477, a Civil War-era statute that granted states and counties rights-of-way across federal lands to meet transportation needs in the then sparsely-settled West. Although the law was repealed in 1976, congress recognized that valid rights-of-way would not be extinguished. As no accounting of these routes was required by the antiquated law, the federal government and conservation groups are now engaged in legal battles over which of the thousands of routes claimed on federal lands by the State of Utah and counties are legitimate.

"This settlement is a positive development, but it shouldn't be lost on anyone that the State of Utah has twenty-nine other active lawsuits claiming more than 14,000 other dirt roads and trails (totaling more than 36,000 miles) as RS 2477 highways," said Stephen Bloch, legal director for the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance. "These claims, many of which are nothing more than cow paths or dry streambeds, crisscross national parks, national monuments, and Utah's remarkable red rock wilderness. Conservation groups have been permitted to intervene in several of these cases and are actively working to defend the United States' title to these claims."

The Deep Creek Mountains, located just east of the Nevada border, are western Utah's highest mountains, an isolated island overlooking the Great Salt Lake Desert culminating in 12,087-foot Ibapah Peak. This unique range rises 7,800 feet above the surrounding desert lands and is known for its rich biodiversity, perennial streams, and opportunities for solitude. Nearly 70,000-acres in the heart of the range have been designated as the Deep Creek Mountains Wilderness Study Area and are managed for their wilderness qualities.

"Lawsuits are a needlessly expensive way to address road issues when negotiations with reasonable parties can

provide both needed access and the protection of beautiful and fragile landscapes like the Deep Creek Mountains," said Wayne Hoskisson of the Sierra Club. "Importantly in this case, and in contrast to many of the R.S. 2477 claims in Utah, the county and state were able to provide significant evidence of historic use as the basis for the settlement," Hoskisson added.

### A BETTER FUTURE APPROACH?

"This settlement shows that even the most divisive issues surrounding our public lands can be resolved if reasonable minds are willing to come to the table," said Phil Hancford, Assistant Director of Agency Policy and Planning at The Wilderness Society. "It gives us hope we can work together with diverse stakeholders elsewhere in Utah to provide more certainty and protection for our wildest public lands."

In this settlement, three rights-of-way entering the Deep Creeks are granted to Juab County, who will maintain the roads for responsible use and in large part only to their current width. The county in turn will withdraw its claims for other rights-of-way that intruded on wilderness quality lands and did not rise to the standards of use and maintenance required by law. The county will also pass and enforce an ordinance to limit motorized vehicle use to designated routes. Off-road vehicle damage has been a problem in the area and enlisting the county as a partner with BLM in constraining vehicle use to designated routes will enhance enforcement.

### WHAT THE STATE AND COUNTIES MUST SHOW

Recognizing R.S. 2477 rights-of-way gives the state and counties the right to use a route as a county or state highway, diminishing the ability of federal land managers to protect surrounding land from the noise, dust, scars and erosion that often comes from such routes. Because many of the pending claims in the State of Utah's other twenty-nine lawsuits involve faint trails, dry stream beds, and two-tracks in special places such as national parks and national monuments, as well as vast stretches of wilderness and other lands valued for ecological, recreational or scenic importance, conservation groups have fought these claims. Under R.S. 2477, the county and state are required to demonstrate by "clear and convincing" evidence that the route was used continuously by the public for at least ten years before 1976 for a right-of-way to be considered valid.

The 2005 federal lawsuit settled by this agreement was brought by the State of Utah and Juab County against the United States in Federal District court. Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, The Wilderness Society and the Sierra Club intervened as defendants and were represented by Heidi McIntosh and Ted Zukoski from the public interest environmental law firm Earthjustice and by Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance attorneys. This article is based on a press release issued on Monday, 19 August 2013.

# OurLand

## The Wilderness Act is 50 Years Old, and We're Having a Party

by Jeff Clay

**F**ifty years ago our federal legislators and our president, writers and photographers, advocates and outdoorsmen, indeed, the nation came together and agreed on the intrinsic value of wilderness. With bold and eloquent language, wildlands were declared essential:

*"A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain."*

With President Lyndon Johnson's signature in 1964, over nine million acres of wild lands were preserved and the Wilderness Act became the law of the land. It was a visionary victory for those that prize the unpaved, open lands and wildlife that are so much a part of America's landscape and natural heritage. Over the years many congressional sessions have set aside wilderness and today more than 100 million acres are protected by the National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS).

The NWPS was established as much for the protection of wild lands and animal habitats as for the use and enjoyment of the American people and the generations to come. Wilderness provides many direct and indirect benefits, relating to ecological,

geological, scientific, educational, scenic, spiritual, economic, recreational, historical, and cultural uses and activities. There are currently 757 wilderness areas within the NWPS. They are managed by all four federal land managing agencies: the Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, and National Park Service. To learn more about the Wilderness Act and the NWPS, visit [www.wilderness.net](http://www.wilderness.net).

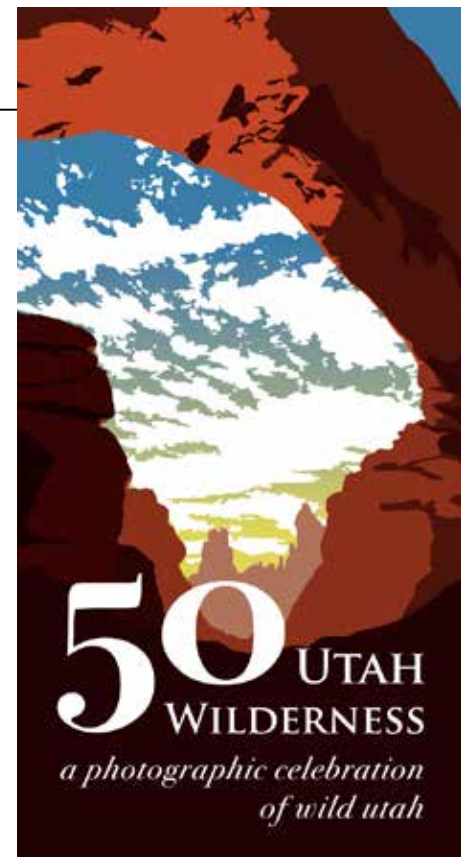
To celebrate the 50 anniversary of the Wilderness Act, a coalition of nearly 30 non-profit organizations, academic institutions, and government agencies has been formed. *Wilderness 50* is currently planning and helping to implement local, regional, and national events, projects, and celebrations around the country. This coalition is charged with raising public awareness of wilderness and engaging youth during 2014, the 50th anniversary year. For more information about *Wilderness50*, visit [www.wilderness50th.org](http://www.wilderness50th.org).

Although Utah includes millions of acres of spectacular red rock canyons and mountains suitable for wilderness, only a little over one million acres have been protected by congress. In fact, Utah has the smallest acreage protected as Wilderness among the mountain west states. However, over three million acres currently enjoy

limited protection as Wilderness Study Areas and the proposed legislation of America's Redrock Wilderness Act identifies over nine million wilderness-worthy acres. Add National Forest lands, National Park units, and other BLM lands and potential wilderness quickly adds up to 17 million acres!

To recognize the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, as well our own wild lands in Utah, a coalition of non-profits and agencies has partnered with the Natural History Museum of Utah to create "Wilderness 50: A Photographic Celebration of Wild Utah." This project will comprise a juried competition to create an exhibition of 50 photographs depicting the wild public lands of Utah. Images for the exhibit will be Utah-inclusive and in the spirit of the Wilderness Act. The judges include internationally recognized photographers/writers James Kay, Tom Till, and Stephen Trimble. **The exhibit will be featured in the 2,000-square-foot Sky Gallery at the Natural History Museum of Utah and is slated to run from September 2014 through November 2014.**

Very soon additional information on this exhibit will be available on a new website, [www.wilderness50utah.org](http://www.wilderness50utah.org), which is currently under development. Shortly after the first of the new year submissions for the exhibit will begin



being accepting. Check for details on the website.

The Utah *Wilderness 50* team is comprised of members of various land conservation non-profits, including Utah Chapter Sierra Club, as well as relevant federal agencies. There are many other activities that we are considering, but we need dedicated volunteers to make these other events happen. Interested in helping to celebrate 50 years of Wilderness? Please complete this very brief form: <http://utah.sierraclub.org/content/wilderness-50-utah-volunteer-form>.

JoinUs | NOVEMBER 9-12



JEFF CLAY | CLAYHAUS.NET

### WESTERN UTAH WILDERNESS EXPLORATION EXPERIENCE

Join the countdown to the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act with the national Utah Wilderness Task Force and Utah Chapter in a visit to western Utah's Mountain Home Range and San Francisco Peaks under consideration as new wilderness in a new BLM resource plan--but not recognized by the BLM as having wilderness characteristics. So we'll go there ourselves and hunt for wilderness characteristics to help them out. Help document wild values like scenic beauty, natural silence, and sweeping wide-open wild spaces with no human developments. Enjoy car camping with central commissary in these remote ranges over Veterans Day weekend, Saturday, November 9, 2013, to Tuesday, November 12. Can meet Friday evening. Contact Vicky Hoover, (415) 977-5527, [vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org](mailto:vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org) or Jim Catlin at (801) 328-2550 [jim@wildutahproject.org](mailto:jim@wildutahproject.org).

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 2013.

# OurLand

## Victory for Canyons Protection—Tavaci Defeated

by Mark Clemens



Salt Lake County Council took the target off the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon.

**B**y a four to three vote on Tuesday, 6 August, Salt Lake County Council protected the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon from a massive development proposed by developer Terry Diehl. Diehl has been scheming to build on a steep parcel at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon for years. It's bad enough he was given the green light to build a single unsafe road to serve a proposed development of forty-plus houses, but he subsequently decided to up the ante and ask for a mixed commercial and residential zoning change that could allow hundreds of units—some of them up to a 100 feet tall—on this relatively small and highly visible parcel.

### PLEASE THANK OUR FRIENDS

It was encouraging to see the vote to protect the integrity of the canyons enjoyed bi-partisan support. Council members **Jim Bradley, Arlyn Bradshaw, Sam Granato and Richard Snelgrove** all voted against the re-zone. Take a moment to thank them by using the sample message provided below or by giving them a phone call.

Photos and contact info for all council members are on the Salt Lake County website, <http://www.slco.org/council/>. Every Salt Lake County resident is represented by the three at large members whose photos are at the top. In addition to that each resident has a geographical representative in a numbered district; find which one is yours here, <http://www.slco.org/council/>.

<< Sample Message >>

Dear Councilmember \_\_\_\_\_,

Thank you for your vote to uphold the planning commission's recommendation to deny a zoning change to Terry Diehl's Cottonwood Estates Development on August 6. You gave the public a chance fully to air the potential impacts of the project and then reached the correct decision.

Your vote not only protected an important parcel visible from much of Salt Lake County but the principle of careful zoning in environmentally-sensitive places. This decision also sets a useful precedent against intrusive, multi-story development high in the foothills elsewhere in the county.

The Cottonwood Canyons are superlative assets for Salt Lake County as watershed, wilderness, family and solitary recreation, and, in the appropriate locations, economic development. These values are once again secure thanks to your vote!

Sincerely,

[your name]

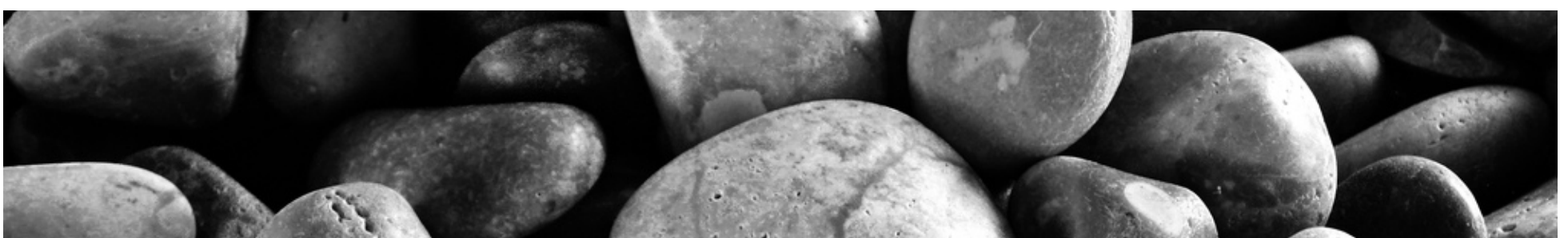
### SHOULD THE TAVACI PROPOSAL BE DESCRIBED AS TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT?

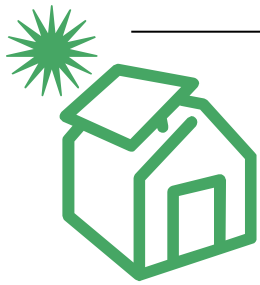
At the 6 August Salt Lake County Council meeting, one of the council members observed incorrectly he

“would catch hell from his friends at the Sierra Club” if he voted against the re-zone because it was a transit-oriented development. Later, in conversation with a member of Sierra Club staff, the council member volunteered that he thought the project could be made transit friendly by connecting the proposed development—separated from any future transit in the bottom of the canyon both by Big Cottonwood Creek and a couple of hundred feet in elevation—to light rail or a bus system via a short funicular railroad. Since the developer proposed at the same meeting a total of 380 residential units plus a hotel, it seems improbable that the cost of a funicular railroad, however short, could be amortized by a development of this size.

The Sierra Club enthusiastically supports transit-oriented development *but not on every conceivable site*. This site in particular is ill suited. Moreover the project rejected by the council would not have been transit-oriented development. The common denominator for transit-oriented development is that they should be accessible on foot from high-quality transit. It's probably safe to say that the only pedestrians who will ever walk down the steep, narrow and scary luge-run that passes for an access road into the Tavaci site are those who have accepted it on a bet or a dare.

Club members and the general public should know the chapter has opposed this project since its inception.





## Is It Time to Tame Your Power Bill?

**C**reative Energies teamed up with the Sierra Club in June 2013 to initiate the Utah Solar Homes Program. The program has been a terrific success in the last three months. We've had interest from around the state with nearly 100 requests for design proposals and site assessments for Utah homes and businesses.

As the program continues into the fall, we hope to build the momentum for solar power in Utah and increase the number of satisfied Sierra Club customers. Find out more and get a free solar site assessment of your home through our website at: <http://sierraclubsolar.org/>

### ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER SWEETENS THE POT

All Rocky Mountain Power customers should be aware of the Rocky Mountain Power Solar Incentive Program. This is a rebate program which funds between \$0.80 to \$1.25 per watt of installed photo-voltaic (PV) systems. Photo-voltaic systems capture the sun's energy to generate electricity from your rooftop. The size of the rebate depends on the size of the system installed. Creative Energies can help members and supporters determine the exact value of the rebate for each solar system.

Creative Energies will assist with the system design and application process for the rebate application. The Rocky Mountain Power Solar Incentive Program has completed accepting applications for the 2013 program year. Rocky Mountain Power Incentive Program will begin accepting applications for the 2014 program year on January 15, 2014.

Additional incentives still apply for all members and supporters living in Utah. There is a federal tax credit available for 30% of the total system cost and a state tax credit of up to \$2,000. Additionally each utility offers its own net-metering policy for renewable energy. Please contact Creative Energies to see if your utility offers rebates or incentives for going solar, <http://sierraclubsolar.org/>.

LEARN MORE

#### UTAH CLEAN ENERGY

<http://www.utahcleanenergy.org/homes/solar#.Ui3bWbyE6pY>

#### UTAH SOLAR INCENTIVE PROGRAM FAQ

<http://www.rockymountainpower.net/env/nmcg/usip/faq.html>

## Why Jellyfish Might Rule the Future

**A**re jellyfish taking over? Dr. Lisa-ann Gershwin, author of *Stung! On Jellyfish Blooms and the Future of our Oceans* and the director of the Australian Marine Stinger Advisory Sciences, has outlined how rising temperatures and the toxicity of the earth's oceans have resulted in an increase in jellyfish blooms. We recently asked the marine biologist about the rise of the jellies and whether humans are smarter than brainless invertebrates.

*Can you start off by telling me what Stung! is about?*

It's about human impact on the oceans and the unexpected and unwanted consequences of jellyfish taking over. Nobody could have imagined that jellyfish could have done so well in damaged ecosystems.

*There is a really powerful quote in your book: "Here we are at the dawn of a new millennium, in the age of cyberspace, and we are at the mercy of jellyfish." What is the significance of that quote to you?*

Despite all of our gadgets and all of our technologies and all of our good intentions and our good management models, despite our ability to do things right, nonetheless jellyfish are getting the best of us. We're losing this battle to jellyfish. Mind you, it's not their fault, we're not losing the battle to ourselves because we want our cake and we want to eat it too. It's our fault because we're damaging the ecosystems to the point that they're able to exploit that damage.

*I love that you mention our gadgets — it makes me think of how jellyfish don't even have a heart, brain gills, all these things that we consider evolutionarily novel. . .*

We've got this huge brain and we're being outsmarted by something with no brain. They're simply doing what jellyfish do — taking advantage of opportunities. And we're giving them all the opportunities they could possibly wish for.

*You wrote your book in five and a half months. When did you sleep? I really didn't sleep very much. But it was an amazing experience!*

*How did you come to study jellyfish?*

On the 21st January of 1973, I visited a small public museum with my third grade class called Cabrillo Marine Museum. And I knew on that day, 21st of January, 1973, that I would be a marine

biologist. But I dropped out of high school without ever finishing. Several years [later], I decided to take a marine biology class and it was everything I ever wanted it to be. We ended up going to the Cabrillo museum. We went back there, I saw jellyfish on display, and they captivated me.

*You have discovered about fifty different species of jellyfish, which one is your favorite?*

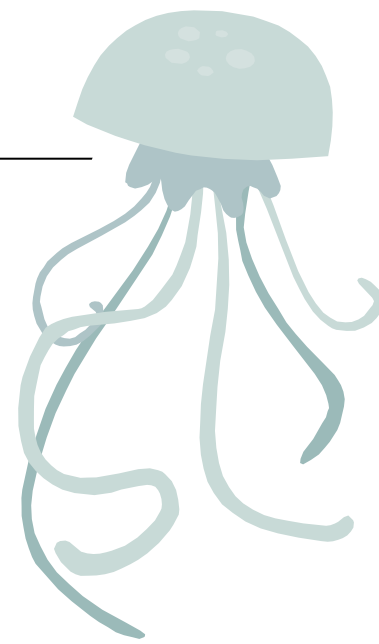
If I had to pick one and I'd say, "No, no! Don't make me pick one!" It would probably be *Chrysaora achlyos*. It was my first new species. It was also the largest invertebrate that was discovered in the 20th century. All of my species, in their own way, and many species that I haven't discovered — they are beautiful, incredibly dangerous, they have their own personality. Well, personality isn't the right word because that implies that they have a brain.

*If humans continue to have the same relationship with the seas and oceans, what will the future look like? What role will jellyfish play?*

The quick answer, but maybe not the fully correct answer, is we're screwed, they're taking over. I don't know that that has to be the inevitable outcome. The more damage we do, the more ecosystem shifts. I do think that we are heading towards a more jellyfish future. The evidence is overwhelming. I think at the same time, we do have control over it. We need to stay passionate, we need to raise hell and we need to say "Hell, no!"

*Ailsa Sachdev is an editorial intern at Sierra. She is a rising senior at Mount Holyoke College and spent the last semester reporting on witchcraft in Morocco. She is passionate about food and travel, and knows how to say "I'm hungry" in over 10 languages.*

*[Excerpted from The Sierra Club's Green Life blog September 13, 2013]*



IF YOU SUPPORT THE CHAPTER'S EFFORTS, PLEASE JOIN!



### Bear in mind the consequences.

The Yellowstone grizzly bear is an irreplaceable part of America's natural heritage, a symbol of the independence that defines the American character and an icon of all that is wild and free. The Bush administration set forth a proposal that would remove federal protection for the Yellowstone grizzly bear. Since it was first listed as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act in 1975, the grizzly bear has made a strong recovery, but there is still more work to be done. Help Sierra Club protect our forest friends; they prefer the woods than being on display.

Get grizzly and JOIN Sierra Club.

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Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!



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# OurAir

## Stewart Faces Constituents Demanding Answers

by Carl Ingwell



CHERISE UDELL

Utahns ask why Rep Chris Stewart resists cleaning up air quality.

In Utah, air quality has become quite the hot topic lately. Along the Wasatch Front, there is a paradigm shift happening; people are owning up to their contributions to our complex air pollution dilemma. The same people that accept responsibility for their actions, however, are frustrated. Many feel the public is being asked to address their share of the pollution pie, when our elected officials do nothing but coddle big polluters and vote down key air quality legislation.

Recently, Representative Chris Stewart (R-UT) caused a public outcry when he attacked peer-reviewed science that is the basis of the EPA's air pollution regulations. On his website, Stewart calls these studies "secret science," and has subpoenaed the EPA, "...forcing the agency to release the secret science it uses as the basis for costly air regulations." This is coming from the Environment Subcommittee Chairman Chris Stewart.

In making these statements, Stewart showed that he not only does not understand the process of peer-reviewed science, but that he also doesn't understand the environment; he doesn't understand the air quality crisis his home state is facing; and he doesn't understand his constituents.

On Sept 4<sup>th</sup>, we planned a clean air rally to take place outside Congressman Stewart's town hall at the Sweet Library. We wanted to let Stewart know that his constituents care about clean air, and that we weren't going to accept his current attacks on air pollution studies, EPA and the Clean Air Act. We also planned on attending the town hall following the rally and asking Stewart why he is working *against* the clean air that we've all been working so hard *for*.

The rally was a success. Seventy-five to a hundred enthusiastic people showed up with signs, American flags, and lots of

energy. The speakers at the rally got the crowd behind numerous clean air issues such as the Shared Solution instead of the West Davis Freeway, keeping tar sands mining out of Utah, and the shutdown of the Stericycle medical waste incinerator.

We finished the rally early so people would have 10-15 minutes to get situated inside the town hall. When we went inside to the room where the town hall was taking place, we found a packed house. And the library staff was not letting anyone else inside. It turns out that the Greater Avenues Community Council had a meeting that took place before the town hall, and those folks carried over into the town hall.

Many of the ralliers were outraged. They felt that a town hall is an event where you can go to personally ask your elected officials questions, and they felt that they weren't given the opportunity to do so. People were shouting from the doorways, asking Congressman Stewart why they couldn't come in so he could answer *their* questions. Stewart replied that would gladly meet individually, at his office, with anyone that had a question for him. If you have any questions (about air quality, science, or anything else) for Congressman Stewart please visit <https://stewart.house.gov/contact/request-a-meeting> and request a private meeting.

*Carl Ingwell is one of the lead volunteers who organized the rally.*

## What if They Threw a Coal Mine and No One Came?

by Mark Clemens

*While King Coal is being dethroned, it's important to prevent other dirty fossil fuels from taking its place.*

Wyoming Public Radio reported on 21 August 2013 that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Wyoming found no bidders for approximately 150 million tons of coal from public lands lease parcels in the Powder River Basin in northeastern Wyoming, <http://wyomingpublicmedia.org/post/powder-river-basin-coal-lease-sale-gets-zero-bids>. Apparently they've never offered coal leases and found no takers. Coal production in the US is down by nearly 15% since 2008, <http://www.eia.gov/coal/>. Growth in electricity demand has been stagnant; natural gas and renewables are both substantially cheaper than coal even before coal's externalities are

accounted for; and utilities and consumers are wary of committing themselves over the long term to climate-disrupting technologies.

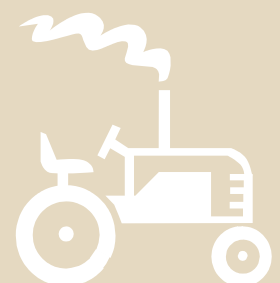
With your help, we'll require BLM in Utah to take changing market conditions into account as they consider whether to allow coal mining on public lands adjacent to the existing Alton Coal Mine, currently operated exclusively on state and private land, and near Bryce Canyon National Park, <http://utah.sierraclub.org/content/alton-coal-strip-mine>. Tell Secretary Jewell to keep dirty coal in the ground and protect important wildlife habitat by denying permits for the mine, <https://secure.sierraclub.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=11734>.

While King Coal is being dethroned, it's important to prevent other dirty fossil fuels from taking its place. Please take a moment to send a message to members of congress to encourage President Obama not to allow the Keystone XL Pipeline, <https://secure.sierraclub.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=10457>.



### DONATE YOUR CAR, PLANE, TRACTOR...

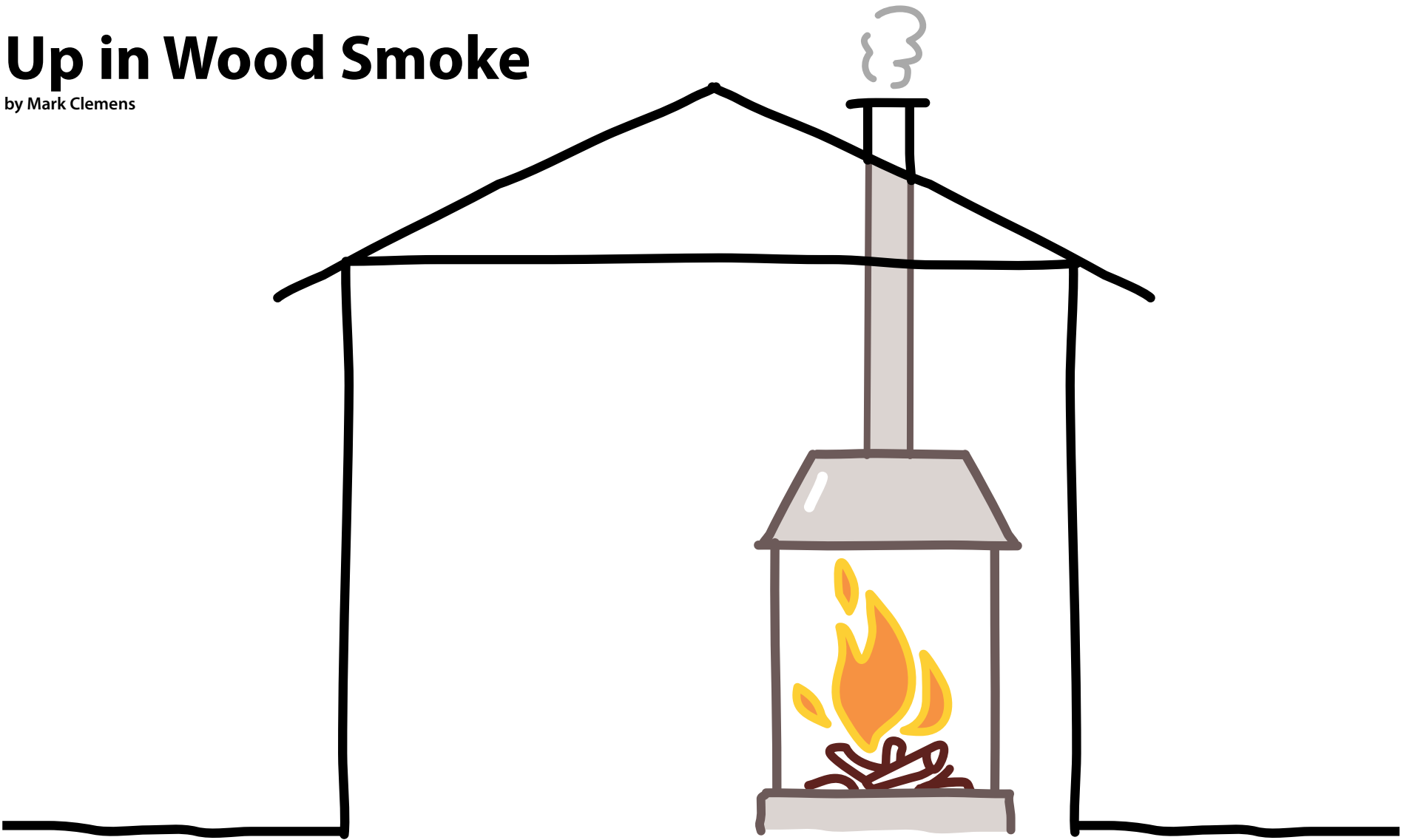
The Sierra Club Foundation is pleased to announce a new partnership with CARS (TM), a national vehicle donation program. This program is a great opportunity for you to donate or recycle your old, polluting vehicle while helping to clean our air, end our dependence on dirty fossil fuels, and move toward a clean energy future. CARS (TM) will accept almost anything that is in one piece and towable from any location in the continental United States -- cars, trucks, motorcycles, RVs, trailers, boats, planes, ATVs, even farm equipment. Read more about The Sierra Club Foundation's vehicle donation program and learn how easy it is to donate your vehicle at <http://scf-cardonations.org>



# OurAir

## Up in Wood Smoke

by Mark Clemens



Is there a Sierra Club member who hasn't picked out a newly-learned constellation from a seat on a log at the edge of a dying campfire? Who doesn't cherish a memory of caroling around a fireplace during the holidays? Or a lifelong friendship forged on the periphery of a bonfire at summer camp?

The sentimental roots of wood fire go very deep for many people. In fact there's substantial evidence that our species evolved its large brain thanks in part to the accessible calories from roasted meat and other cooked foods made possible by hundreds of thousands of campfires on African veldts and Near Eastern rock shelters.

But we're no longer hunter-gatherers on the veldt, nor embattled Neolithic hunters fighting off the chill of the winter solstice. In Utah we're a populous, hyper-urban society facing unprecedented resource and health challenges. We must use the large brains wood fires unlocked for us to commit an act of salutary ingratitude. Is it time to douse the embers and close the flue? Read on with an open mind.

What was once necessity transformed into cozy accoutrement to an evening's relaxation, has evolved yet again into a poisonous menace. According to the California Air Resources Board the inhalable particle pollution from one woodstove is equivalent to the amount emitted from 3,000 gas furnaces producing the same amount of heat per unit. Given our unique topographical circumstances, we simply can't afford for anyone to be using a heat source that pollutes 3,000 times more than natural gas—itsself not entirely free of emissions.

Wood smoke contains many of the same toxins as tobacco, such as carbon monoxide, formaldehyde, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) but in greater and more dangerous concentrations. It also contains toxic chemicals such as dioxin not found in cigarette smoke.

Of course most wood fires will also produce a much greater volume of smoke than a cigarette. The EPA estimates that a single fireplace operating for an hour and burning 10 pounds of wood will generate 4,300 times more PAHs—powerful carcinogens—than 30 cigarettes (1).

And this poisonous cloud affects more than the household burning the wood. Simply keeping one's doors and windows closed during the winter provides only limited protection. A study by the University of Washington showed that 50 to 70 percent of the outdoor levels of wood smoke were found in nearby homes that were not burning wood. EPA did a similar study in Boise, Idaho, with similar results. (2)

### *Wood smoke contains many of the same toxins as tobacco.*

Because these pollutants have a diameter often smaller than a human hair, they can penetrate deeply into the lungs and sometimes pass directly into the blood. For people with heart disease, even short-term exposure has been linked to increased heart attacks and strokes. (3) Healthy folks are at risk too—of headaches, coughs, eye irritation, depressed immune system functioning (4), and carcinogenic exposure. (5)

#### **HOW MUCH OF OUR PROBLEM IS CAUSED BY WOOD SMOKE?**

A reasonable person will ask that question. Particulate pollution can come from many sources including refineries, smelters, coal-fired power plants and automobiles. But a recent study by Kerry Kelly and others at the University of Utah suggests that wood burning and cooking could be as important a source as gasoline emissions. (6)

Research in other areas corroborates the scale of the problem. In some locations, residential burning causes

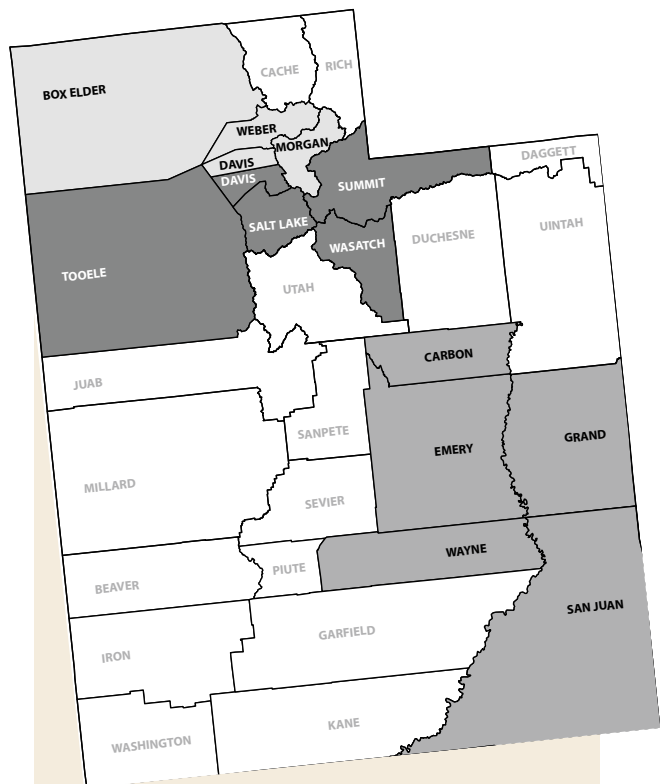
90% of particulate pollution on certain days. (7) We've already tried the green, yellow and red burn days system, and it appears not to have worked. Maybe it's time for a wood-burning ban from November through February every year.

#### **SOURCES**

1. Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District – Agenda, page 5. <http://airquality.org/bod/2005MarParticulateMatterSB656Briefing.pdf>
2. New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services – Air Resources <http://www.des.state.nh.us/ard/smoke.htm>
3. *Environmental Health Perspectives*. Vol. 113, No. 4, April 2005. Weinhold, Bob. "The Heart of Toxicity: Details of Cardiovascular Damage Uncovered." <http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/articlerender.fcgi?artid=1278521>
4. American Lung Association – Air Quality <http://www.lungusa.org/site/pp.asp?c=dvLUK900E&b=23354>
5. New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services – Air Resources <http://www.des.state.nh.us/ard/smoke.htm>
6. Kelly, KE, et al, *Journal of the Air Waste Management Assoc.* 2013 May;63 (5):575-90.
7. Jane Koenig and Timothy Larson, *A Summary of Emissions Characterization and Non-cancer Respiratory Effects of Wood Smoke*, USEPA DOC #453/R-93-036, 1-919-541-0888

# UtahChapter ExComElections

2013



- NO GROUP AFFILIATION
- GLEN CANYON GROUP
- OGDEN GROUP
- SALT LAKE GROUP

**T**his year's ballot includes candidates for the chapter executive committee. 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. 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, 2013**.

### KIM CRUMBO



Kim is currently on the Utah Chapter EXCOM. He served as a Sierra Club's Volunteer Co-leader for the Greater Grand Canyon—Colorado Plateau Resilient Habitats campaign, and has served on the Plateau Group (Grand Canyon Chapter) EXCOM, and held a staff position as the Club's Utah Wilderness Coordinator (1976-77) Kim is the Director of Conservation for the Grand Canyon Wildlands Council, a non-profit, Flagstaff-based wildlife conservation organization dedicated to protecting and restoring native wildlife. He is an official stakeholder on USFWS Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan Revision process. Kim has strived to develop and maintain professional relationships with other conservation groups, legislators and their staff, and agency personal as well as general public outreach. He served 20 years with the National Park Service in Grand Canyon as the river ranger and later as Wilderness Coordinator. Kim worked as professional river guide for 10 years.

Before his experience on rivers and in wilderness activism, he spent four years with the Navy's SEAL Team One completing two combat deployments to Vietnam. As a result of his military service, Kim earned several combat decorations, including a Bronze Star.

He received a B.S. in Environmental Studies from Utah State University, with postgraduate work in outdoor recreation. His publications include A River Runners Guide to the History of Grand Canyon.

### WAYNE Y. HOSKISSON



For many years I have been committed to volunteering with the Sierra Club. I served as the Chair of the Utah Chapter Executive Committee. As a Chapter volunteer I work on issues related to wilderness, National Forest management, National Park management and creating new National Monuments. I wrote Sierra Club comments on Wild and Scenic River designation on National Forests in Utah, BLM Resource Management Plans for several counties and regularly work with other organizations on other projects concerning management of public lands and national forests. For many years I have been involved in RS 2477 right of way issues including keeping the Utah Chapter a key partner in the campaign against county and state claims for so-called highways that would ruin our wild places.

### LESLIE HUGO



I joined the Sierra Club in 1994 while living in Nebraska, after attending a club led backpacking trip. I immediately became active with the club, and joined the Nebraska Chapter Conservation Committee, later serving as a rep on the RCC for a year, and also serving as a CCL Delegate for one year and attending the Sierra Summit. Major issues I focused on in Nebraska were BLM land use issues and Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs).

In 1998 I moved to the Chicago area and became the Sauk-Calumet group rep to the Illinois Chapter ExCom for several years. I was also active with conservation issues, mostly fighting mercury emissions and coal fired powered plants. I also served as Secretary to the Sauk-Calumet Group in 2005 and Secretary to the Illinois Chapter in 2006.

In 2007, my husband and I moved to Utah, and I have been appointed Secretary to the Utah Chapter for 5 of the past 6 years.

In my free time, my husband and I love hiking and skiing in the beautiful Wasatch Mountains.

I am seeking to run for the Utah Chapter Executive Committee to continue working toward improving our environment. I am interested in air and water quality issues, and preserving wilderness.

**vote  
TODAY!**





# OurAir

## Coal's Demise and the Shape of Things to Come

Utah is among the most hard-core coal states. According to the US Energy Information Agency, we produced 19.6 million tons of the stuff in 2011. More than 80% of the electricity generated in state comes from coal. And when in 2009 it was revealed that Governor Gary Herbert's campaign cashed a check from the proponents of a coal mine near Alton on the same day he met with company officials to plan how to pressure the agency that issues coal mine permits to speed up issuance of the permit, relatively few thought anything amiss in the picture. What's wrong with buying a little influence for such a wholesome industry?

Friday the 20th was a lucky day indeed.

But as this newsletter went to press two developments show that no matter how much irresponsible Utah politicians drag their feet, Utah and the nation as whole are moving steadily out of the coal age into cleaner and more sustainable renewables and energy efficiency.

The Salt Lake *Tribune* reported on Friday, 20 September, that Energy Capital Group, based in Provo, plans to build a 300 megawatt solar farm north of Delta (<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/news/56893328-78/state-energy-solar-utah.html.csp>). In addition to providing rent to the

State Institutional Trust Lands Administration of at least \$21,000 a year, construction will employ 200 people. This power plant will produce sufficient energy to supply 80,000 homes.



The plant's rated output, 300 megawatts, will probably rhyme with club members because it's close to (about 10% larger) the output of a coal-fired plant formerly proposed for a location in Sevier County not far from the Millard County solar farm. In a landmark 2009 ruling, the Utah Supreme Court vindicated the claims of Sierra Club and the Sevier Citizens for Clean Air and Water that the air quality permit issued to the plant took into account neither the full environmental impact nor the requirement to use modern technology, and invalidated the permit.

The chapter will probably have fewer, if any, such fights in the future thanks to the news, also released on Friday, 20 September, that EPA would now require new coal plants to have total CO2 emissions not substantially higher than a gas-fired plant of the same output, <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-09-20/new-coal-plants-must-capture-carbon-dioxide-output-epa.html>. New coal plants are already more expensive than natural gas plants and wind; given the substantial additional costs of carbon capture and storage that will henceforth be necessary for coal plants, no new coal plants will be built. Friday the 20th was a lucky day indeed.



SIERRA CLUB  
FOUNDED 1892

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

## Create an Environmental Legacy.



Bequests have played a key role in Sierra Club's environmental successes over the years.

Planning now may make your gift more meaningful and reduce taxes on your estate. We have many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

For more info and confidential assistance, contact:  
**Sierra Club Gift Planning Program**  
85 Second Street, Second Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
[gift.planning@sierraclub.org](mailto:gift.planning@sierraclub.org) • (800) 932-4270

DETATCH AND MAIL

## Election Ballot

UTAH CHAPTER SIERRA CLUB 2013

Your ballot must received by November 22, 2013. 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.

### UtahChapter

KIM CRUMBO

S

J

WAYNE Y. HOSKISSON

S

J

LESLIE HUGO

S

J

S

J

S

J

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 4 INCLUDING WRITE-INS

YOUR ZIP CODE:

ThankYou!

# UtahChapterOutings

## EXPLORE WITH US! SEPTEMBER 2013–FEBRUARY 2014

**A**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.

**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](http://www.utah.sierraclub.org/email_list.asp)

### ONLINE OUTINGS TOOL!

All the outings, book club meetings and socials for the chapter and all three groups are now found in one place, [www.utah.sierraclub.org/activities.asp](http://www.utah.sierraclub.org/activities.asp). You can sort by event type or use a built-in mapping function.

## Salt Lake Group

### Sunday, October 6, 2013, 9:00 AM

Unicorn Point & Antelope Island  
Aaron Jones  
801-467-3532; [ajonesmvp@msn.com](mailto:ajonesmvp@msn.com)  
Bison, pronghorn, bighorn sheep, and coyotes may be viewed on this easy ten-mile roundtrip from the Garr Ranch on the east side of Antelope Island. Meet at 9:00 am at the Utah Travel Council, 120 East 300 North. There is a \$9.00 fee per car.

### Thursday, October 17, 2013, 6:00 PM

Full Moon Hike to Little Mountain  
Aaron Jones  
801-467-3532; [ajonesmvp@msn.com](mailto:ajonesmvp@msn.com)  
Join us for a great full moon hike. Meet at 6:00 PM at the Rotary Glen Mountain Park east of Hogle zoo. Bring warm clothing and a headlamp.

### Sunday, October 20, 2013, 10:00 AM

Lake Blanche  
Sandy MacLeod  
801-574-4150; [sandyml@q.com](mailto:sandyml@q.com)  
Kenneth C Evans 801-414-6067 [kjazz5751@yahoo.com](mailto:kjazz5751@yahoo.com)  
The hike to Lake Blanche during mid fall is a splendid way to spend the day. Cool temperatures, abundant sunshine, wildlife viewing possibilities, and an invigorating climb to the glaciated charm of an alpine lake nestled under the imposing beauty of Sundial Peak. Six and a half miles round trip, 2700 feet elevation gain, and a pace to accommodate a pleasant hiking experience. Meet at 10:00 AM at the Big Cottonwood Park and Ride, NE corner of Big Cottonwood Canyon Rd and Wasatch Blvd, then carpool to the trailhead. Bring water and snacks along with appropriate cool weather gear.

### Sunday, October 27, 2013, 9:00 AM

Thaynes Canyon Halloween Mystery Hike  
Aaron Jones  
801-467-3532; [ajonesmvp@msn.com](mailto:ajonesmvp@msn.com)  
We will leave the Desolation trail and follow a path beset by an eerie all encompassing silence where the leader has never heard a bird or a squirrel. To help solve this mystery meet at 9:00 AM at the Skyline High School parking lot, located at 3251 E. Upland Drive (3760 S.) Afterwards, we can stop in at Einstein's bagels if we return.

### Saturday, November 23, 2013, 9:00 AM

(Time Tentative)  
North Fork Provo River Snowshoe

Fred Swanson

801-588-0361; [fbswan32@msn.com](mailto:fbswan32@msn.com)  
Enjoy a day on snowshoes or skis amongst the meadows, ponderosa pines and rushing streams flanking the north fork of the Provo River. Fairly easy off-track terrain north of the Mirror Lake Highway east of Kamas. Bring all the essentials for a day-long snow sport outing.

### Sunday, December 8, 2013, 9:00 AM

(Time Tentative)  
Leader's Choice Canyon Hike/ Snowshoe in Tri Canyon  
Rebecca Wallace  
801-557-5261; [rebeccawallace38@msn.com](mailto:rebeccawallace38@msn.com)  
Leader's choice hike or snowshoe in Tri Canyon SLC area: Join Pete and Rebecca for a delightful hike or snowshoe (depending on current conditions) in our amazing local canyons. We will pick the most wonderful of the available routes, taking immediate trail and weather conditions into consideration.

### Friday, December 13, 2013, 6:00 PM (Time Tentative)

Alexander Creek Snowshoe - Friday the 13th in Moonlight  
Connie Modrow  
801-954-8324; [modrowsky@gmail.com](mailto:modrowsky@gmail.com)  
Let's enjoy snowshoeing by light of the moon on Alexander creek trail - this is a less-known trail that begins just to the west of the Little Dell Golf Course. The hills block the road noise very quickly once on the trail or in the creek bottom. We will hike the lower part of the trail that we can snowshoe in about 2 hours. The trail continues up to the Great Western Trail, west of Parley's Summit. It is an open creek bottom and hillsides, the vegetation is varied; aspen, maple, Gambel oak, brush and cottonwoods. Moose, elk, deer, beaver and more are seen here .....what nocturnal creatures will we see? Make sure you bring a headlamp or other light source, and basic gear for the weather. Our meeting place is the parking lot east of Hogle Zoo at Sunnyside Ave. and Crestview Dr., where there are recycling bins (bring your glass). A large statue with an eagle on top marks the spot.

### Saturday, December 21, 2013, 9:00 AM

(Time Tentative)  
Norway Flats Ski Outing  
Kenneth C Evans  
801-414-6067; [kjazz5751@yahoo.com](mailto:kjazz5751@yahoo.com)  
The Norway Flats trail follows old logging road leading to a couple of lakes about 6 miles from the Mirror Lake Highway where

the trail begins. Although trekkers will probably not make it that far, this is a beautiful route through a forest of pine and quaking aspen trees. The planned destination is an open area overlooking nearby drainage's and spectacular views of majestic mountain peaks. This will be an all day outing and intermediate back-country ski skills are recommended.

### Sunday, January 12, 2014, 9:30 AM

Mountain Dell - Affleck Park 'Bottoms'  
Colleen Mahaffey  
801-484-4105; [colleen.mahaffey@gmail.com](mailto:colleen.mahaffey@gmail.com)  
Meet at 9:30am at Parley's Way Walmart in front of Bombay House Restaurant. We will explore the rolling hills of Mountain Dell and possibly make it to Affleck Park campground. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Plan to spend 3-4 hours snowshoeing and exploring the area.

### Saturday, January 18, 2014, 9:00 AM

(Time Tentative)  
Ski on Beaver Creek Trail  
Fred Swanson  
801-588-0361; [fbswan32@msn.com](mailto:fbswan32@msn.com)  
This tracked ski trail leads several miles through rolling terrain to a sunny meadow south of the Mirror Lake Highway east of Kamas.

### Friday, February 14, 2014 9:00 AM to

Monday, February 17, 2014 (Time Tentative)  
Bryce Canyon Winter Festival  
Rebecca Wallace  
801-557-5261; [rebeccawallace38@msn.com](mailto:rebeccawallace38@msn.com)  
Join your Sierra Club friends in beautiful Bryce Canyon over Presidents Day weekend. While at the Winter Festival (organized by The Utah Nordic Alliance), you will have the option to participate in the many clinics and events, such as archery, photography, snowshoe and XC ski races, etc. Please note that these events are not sponsored by the Sierra Club. For our Sierra Club outing will organize several XC ski and/or snow shoe hikes in and around spectacular Bryce Canyon, as well as informal evening potluck dinners. We will stay at the Best Western Bryce Canyon Grand Hotel (across from Ruby's Inn.) Please make your own reservations for the hotel at 435 834-5700. For information on the Winter Festival, go to the following link: <http://www.rubysinn.com/winterfestival.html>

## Ogden Group

### Saturday, October 5, 2013, 9:00 AM

(Time Tentative)  
Hidden Valley Hike  
Joanie Aponte  
801-399-0034; [aponte\\_83@hotmail.com](mailto:aponte_83@hotmail.com)  
Meet at trail head, top of 22nd street, Ogden. In places fairly strenuous but fall colors will reward us once in Hidden Canyon. Bring your lunch. Hiking sticks recommended. Jock Glidden 801 394 0457

### Sunday, October 20, 2013, 9:00 AM

Ben Lomond Peak VIA Cutler Basin trail  
Joanie Aponte  
801-399-0034; [aponte\\_83@hotmail.com](mailto:aponte_83@hotmail.com)  
The Cutler Basin Trail begins in Weber County North Fork Park at the end of the road on the north end of campground. It climbs steep for 5 miles and ends at Cutler Springs. We will continue for another 3 miles to the top of Ben Lomond This trail provides outstanding scenery and geologic features. The flora and fauna are outstanding and makes for a pleasant hike. Ben Lomond and Willard Peaks are viewed from this area. Call joanie at 801-399-0034 for more information

### Saturday, October 26, 2013, 9:00 AM

(Time Tentative)  
Elephant Head at Antelope Island  
Larry Woolsey  
801-690-4335; [landcrun@hotmail.com](mailto:landcrun@hotmail.com)  
Moderate, 9 miles round trip, approx. 900 ft. elevation gain, and about 4 hrs. This offers great views of the Elephant Head and Split Rock Bay. Bison are often seen. Call Larry at 801-690-4335 for details.

### Saturday, October 26, 2013, 10:00 AM

(Time Tentative)  
Elephant Head at Antelope Island  
Larry Woolsey  
801-690-4335; [landcrun@hotmail.com](mailto:landcrun@hotmail.com)  
Moderate, 9 miles round trip, approx. 900 ft. elevation gain, and about 4 hrs. This offers great views of the Elephant Head and Split Rock Bay. Bison are often seen. Call Larry at 801-690-4335 for details.

### Saturday, November 16, 2013, 9:00 AM

(Time Tentative)  
Tour De Ogden  
Larry Woolsey  
801-690-4335; [landcrun@hotmail.com](mailto:landcrun@hotmail.com)  
iTour De Ogden. Nine miles of level, paved urban trail, and about 3-4 hrs. Goes from Rainbow Gardens at the mouth of Ogden

Canyon to Parker Drive in Riverdale along the Ogden and Weber Rivers. It goes past the confluence of the two rivers, urban areas, the Twenty-first Pond, the Kingfisher wetlands area, and Fort Buenaventura. Call Larry at 801-690-4335 for details.

**Saturday, November 16, 2013, 9:00 AM**  
(Time Tentative)  
Tour De Ogden  
Larry Woolsey  
801-690-4335; landcrun@hotmail.com  
Nine miles of level, paved urban trail, and about 3-4 hrs. Goes from Rainbow Gardens at the mouth of Ogden Canyon to Parker Drive in Riverdale along the Ogden and Weber Rivers. It goes past the confluence of the two rivers, urban areas, the Twenty-first Pond, the Kingfisher wetlands area, and Fort Buenaventura. Call Larry at 801-690-4335 for details.

**Saturday, November 30, 2013, 10:00 AM**  
(Time Tentative)  
Turkey Burn Hike at Antelope Island  
Joanie Aponte  
801-399-0034; aponte\_83@hotmail.com  
Mountain View Trail Easy trail that follows the East Side Road from Fielding Garr Ranch. Wetlands and wildlife are abundant on the trail. We will stop at the Frary Peak road and turn back, aprox 6 miles round trip Call joanie at 801-399-0034 for more information

**Saturday, December 7, 2013, 2:00 PM**  
Explore Weber River paved path  
Joanie Aponte  
801-399-0034; aponte\_83@hotmail.com  
Explore Weber River paved path We'll start at the trailhead near Riverdale police dept. Walk north for about 3 miles and look at the birdland refuge, near Fort Buenaventura. (weather permitting) Call joanie at 801-399-0034 for more details

**Thursday, December 26, 2013, 9:00 AM**  
(Time Tentative)  
Snowshoe to Ogden Overview in the Snow-basin area  
Larry Woolsey  
801-690-4335; landcrun@hotmail.com  
Snowshoe to Ogden Overview in the Snow-basin area. Six miles round trip, 3.5 hours, moderate. This route is a favorite of the local snow enthusiasts. We will have great views of Sardine Peak, Ogden City, The Great Salt Lake, and Cold Water Canyon. We, will also pass an alpine meadow as we make our way towards the maples area. Call Larry at 801-690-4335 for more information

**Saturday, January 18, 2014, 10:00 AM**  
(Time Tentative)  
Snowshoe into the Mill Creek Canyon area  
Larry Woolsey  
801-690-4335; landcrun@hotmail.com  
Snowshoe into the Mill Creek Canyon area. This is a must do adventure for those who like winter activities. Five to six miles round trip, 3 to 4 hours, moderate. We will pick a route that offers the most snow and provides the best views of the snowcapped mountains. Perhaps we will see a moose, for they winter in this area. Call Larry at 801-690-4335 for information.

**Sunday, January 26, 2014, 10:00 AM**  
(Time Tentative)  
Pioneer Trail Snow Shoe  
Joanie Aponte  
801-399-0034; aponte\_83@hotmail.com  
The trailhead parking lot is about 4800 feet elevation. The first 2/3 of the 2.25-mile trail is on a gravel road used to maintain the power lines we will be hiking under. The last 1/3 of the trail leaves the power lines and turns into a dirt single-track trail that ends in the parking lot at the top of North Ogden divide at an elevation of 6150 feet. Call joanie qt 801 399 0034 for more information.

## Glen Canyon Group

**October 4-6, 2013**  
Hovenweep camping and day hiking  
Jock Hovey  
435-260-0239; jockhovey@gmail.com  
Two nights of camping at the first come-first served campground near the visitor center. 30 sites available with tent pads, fire grills, picnic tables, & bathrooms with running water. Short hikes at the Square Tower & four outlier units that contain ancestral Puebloan structures. Also adjacent to Canyons of the Ancients National Monument. High clearance vehicles needed to reach outlier unit trailheads. Meet at: MIC, Main and Center Sts, Moab, at 8:00 AM.

**Saturday, October 19, 2013, 8:00 AM**  
Canyon Rims Descent  
Albey M Reiner 435-260-8708  
We will hike above the beautiful tributaries of the Hart's Draw canyon system, and then descend almost into Hart's Draw, ending at a highly desirable natural feature. (Some people may be glad to have a swimsuit along.) Trailhead is reached by driving 10 miles south of La Sal Junction on Highway 191 and then 8 miles west. The last mile is unpaved and requires high clearance. Moderate 4 hour hike of about 5 miles round trip with about 800 ft descent and minimal exposure. Meet at: MIC, Main and Center Sts, at 8:00 AM or Bridger Jack Rd. at Highway 191 at 8:20 AM.

**Saturday, November 2, 2013, 9:00 AM**  
Professor Valley to Castle Valley  
Thomas J Messenger  
435-259-1756; messengertj@citlink.net  
Approximately 5 mile hike that crosses the gap between Castle Rock and Adobe Mesa with an elevation gain of about 850'. Excellent views of both valleys, Castle Rock, Fisher Towers and Round Mountain. We will walk most of the way on seldom-used trails. Start at the trailhead for the Professor Creek fall with a car shuttle or, splitting the group, both there and at the trailhead for Castle Rock climbers with a key exchange. Meet at: MIC, Main and Center Sts, Moab, at 9:00 AM.

**Saturday, November 16, 2013, 9:00 AM**  
Cordova Canyon, Arches NP  
Thomas J Messenger  
435-259-1756; messengertj@citlink.net  
Explore an old dwelling at the spring at head of box canyon branching off Salt Canyon. Follow pipeline from Broken Arch parking turn-out down dip slope past Clover Canyon into Salt. Head left up Salt then left up Cordova to box head. Spring is right against cliff behind ruined dwellings in brush. About 8 miles with a 700' climb on the return. Meet at: MIC, Main and Center Sts, Moab, at 9:00 AM. 56 messengertj@citlink.net.

**Saturday, December 7, 2013, 9:00 AM**  
Jeep Arch Loop  
Jock Hovey  
435-260-0239; jockhovey@gmail.com  
Go up Culvert/Dragonfly Canyon to Jeep Arch and return down Gold Bar Canyon. Four miles and about 900' of climbing on the most direct route. More exploration of eastern branches of Culvert will add to this. Meet at: MIC, Main and Center Sts, Moab, at 9:00 AM.

**Saturday, December 21, 2013, 9:00 AM**  
Sand Flats  
Jock Hovey  
435-260-0239; jockhovey@gmail.com  
Destination to depend on conditions/inclinations on the day. Perhaps Pocket Bridge and the rim of the North Fork. Perhaps part of the bike trail. Perhaps the left rim of Negro Bill Canyon. Meet at: MIC, Main and Center Sts, Moab, at 9:00 AM.

## out&about



Stringing a rope above the drop-off to help ferry hikers across the cascading creek. Mill Creek Arch trail, September 2013.

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.

## UtahChapterDirectory

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### National Organizing Staff

Tim Wagner, Our Wild America ..... tim.wagner@sierraclub.org, (801) 467-9294

### Volunteers Serving on Sierra Club National Committees

Jeff Clay	Wilderness 50 Committee
Kim Crumbo	Our Wild America Local Delivery Team
Wayne Hoskisson	Grazing, National Utah Wilderness, Wild Lands and Wilderness, & Our Wild America Local Delivery Teams
Marion Klaus	Our Wild America leadership team, Liaison to the Greater Grand Canyon—Colorado Ecoregion
Dan Mayhew	National Utah Wilderness and Our Wild America Local Delivery Teams, and Wild Lands and Wilderness BLM Sub Team

# Out&About

## Lend a Hand



### CO-TREASURER

#### YOU CAN HELP SAVE THE EARTH WITH SPREADSHEETS AND QUICKBOOKS ONLINE!

Help the Utah Chapter of Sierra Club with budgeting and planning. We're a one-FTE non-profit with a budget under \$150,000 with both 501c3 and 501c4 funding. Our current Co-Treasurer handles the annual report that forms the basis of IRS 990 reporting. Please direct questions and CVs to [mark.clemens@sierraclub.org](mailto:mark.clemens@sierraclub.org). Thanks.

### SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR

#### THE 21ST CENTURY CALLS (CAN YOU HELP US ANSWER?)

The Utah Chapter Sierra Club needs volunteers to help bring our message to the social media masses. We have a Facebook page and manage a Flickr group, but we also need to set up and maintain Twitter and Instagram pages. Do you have ideas about how best to utilize social media? Are there other platforms we should consider? We need idea people and doers, hands and heads. Want to be part of the Sierra Club team focused on engaging and informing more Utahns? Sure you do. <https://utah.sierraclub.org/content/social-media-volunteer-form>

## Join Us!

### SIERRA CLUB BOOK CLUB

Keep current on environmental issues and meet new friends with the Sierra Club book club. Check out the forthcoming roster below. The location is the Barnes & Noble in Sugarhouse (1104 East 2100 South Salt Lake City, UT 84106) in the Starbucks on the first floor. *Everyone is welcome.*

#### Oct. 24, 2013 (Thu) 6:30pm

*Seven Summers: A Naturalist Homesteads in the Modern West* by Julia B Corbett  
Julia, a Professor of Communication at the University of Utah, will present her new book – “the story of a naturalist-turned-professor who flees city life each summer with her pets and power tools to pursue her lifelong dream– building a cabin in the Wyoming woods.”

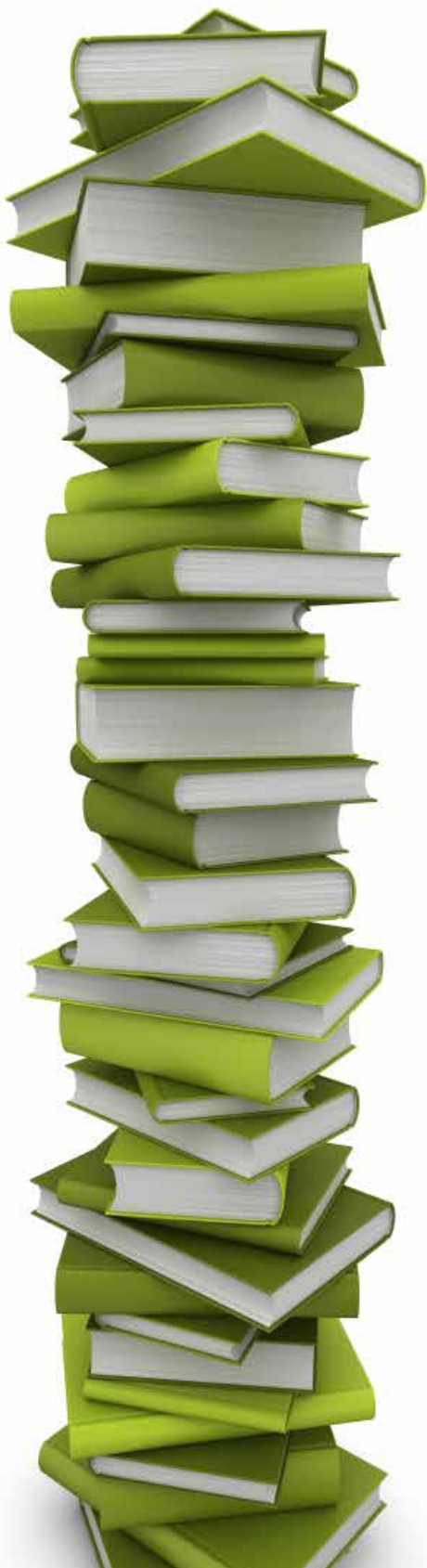
#### January 9, 2014 (Thu) 6:30pm

*Evolved: Chronicles of a Pleistocene Mind* by Maximilian Werner  
Max will talk about his new book examining “elements of everyday behavior through the eye-opening lens of evolutionary theory in this memoir-infused nonfiction.”

#### Date TBA – Spring 2014

(PART II) *No Magic Helicopter, An Aging Amazon's Climb of Everest* by Carol Masheter  
Carol will present her book focusing on preparation and nutrition for Mt. Everest and other high mountains.

For the most current information about the book club and other activities, check out the chapter's activity tool, <http://www.utah.sierraclub.org/activities.asp>.



## Volunteers Make an Outsized Impact at the Ballot Box

Some people might find a boiler room in Utah full of people making calls in the early evening a slightly sinister prospect. But we're not trying to sell vitamins, time shares or business start-up services. We're working to get Sierra Club members and supporters registered to vote.

The Sierra Club Political Committee is working to build support for pro-environmental candidates. But we can't have a decisive impact when up to a third of us are not registered to vote or are not considered active voters. We started with a phone list of over 2,300 names, and we expect to whittle that down to zero by the election registration deadline.

Thanks to **Jerry Lazar, Tom Luchs, Dan Mayhew, Eileen Mauerman** and **Carole Straughn** for helping make these calls. Special thanks to intern Hillary Pearce who helped organize the phone banks and makes calls from the list even outside phone bank hours!

If you're not registered, you can register on the lieutenant governor's website, <http://vote.utah.gov/>, fifteen or more days before the election on Tuesday, 5 November 2013, and still be eligible to vote in person on election day. One must register at least thirty days before the election to participate in early voting. Use the same website to find out your current elected officials and polling place.

## Super Jeff

### VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

We're frequently amazed by the hard work, ingenuity and passion of our volunteers. By selecting individual volunteers for praise and thanks one fears neglecting some prodigy of volunteer effort by someone too modest to toot her/his own horn.

We can afford to talk about Super Jeff, however, because we received a donation from Annie Traub on the condition that we thank him publicly. Super Jeff (Jeff Clay) finds time to take beautiful photos from the San Francisco Peaks to Iceland and make them available for many public uses, serve on the boards of the Utah Chapter and HEALUtah, build and maintain our new website, <http://utah.sierraclub.org/>, and administer our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/utahsierran>.

Annie alerted us to another of his public benefactions. We don't know if he was wearing his Social Media Avenger mask and cape when he did so, but Super Jeff discovered Annie's companion Bozzie (pictured) after he had spent a lonely night in the Mount Olivet Cemetery caught by his leash in the underbrush. Jeff called the number on a handbill announcing Bozzie's disappearance and reunited disoriented dog and grateful owner. Bravo Super Jeff!



### COMMUNITY SHARES/UTAH CAMPAIGN

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](http://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.

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](mailto:mark.clemens@sierraclub.org) or Lynne Brandley, the executive director of Community Shares at 801-486-9224 or [lbrandley@xmission.com](mailto:lbrandley@xmission.com).