Activist Profile
George Grossman

George Grossman has been actively involved in environmental issues in New Mexico since 1969, a few years after George, his wife, and their two sons moved to Santa Fe where George took a job as Bridge Design Engineer with the State Highway Department. George has mostly focused on wilderness issues and political campaigns. He has been affiliated with the Wilderness Study Committee and the Wilderness Coalition and has worked on RARE II (Forest Service wilderness), including conducting lobbying in Washington. George worked on designating the Buta wilderness area in 1985, getting El Milpais designated as BLM wilderness and a national monument in 1989 and 1990, and on BLM wilderness issues. George is currently trying to persuade Congressman Bill Richardson to sponsor wilderness designation of the Angora area in the Carson National Forest. This is one of the RARE II areas which was not designated wilderness but is now threatened by a timber sale. George could use some help on this one.

George was involved in the Bennett and Clinton campaigns in 1992, the Mondale campaign in 1984, the Carter campaign in 1980, the Dukakis campaign in 1988, the Baca and King campaigns in 1990, and the Baca and Powell campaigns this year.

Since joining the Sierra Club in 1978, George has been Chair of the Chapter Conservation Committee (1989-1991) and Chair of the Chapter Political Committee (1990), has served on the Timber Task Force organized by the New Mexico Congressional Delegation in 1991, and was designated one of the Environmental Heroes in the Sierra Club Centennial Presentation of 1991. He is currently Vice Chair of the Chapter Executive Committee.

Says Gwen Wardwell, Chair of the Chapter Executive Committee, “I first got to know George when we stood outside the Pirl Otis almost every Saturday to get signatures for Brian Calkin for State Land Commissioner in 1982. George has not left the political campaign scene and is an active Sierra Club member that I know of. And he doesn’t spend his time sitting in the office. He’s out doing political campaigns and now chairing the Sierra Club. And there’s the Sierra Club Chair, George Grossman. He does a whole lot of talking and then putting up a whole lot of literature, and holding a sign at a polling place on election day.

“He gets a little grumpy about the lack of participation by other club members and threats to quit the Sierra Club, but, within a few weeks, he gets over this and starts on the next project. This year it’s the sticky question of who to endorse. Here George’s down-to-earth opinions and experience in the New Mexico political arena are invaluable.”

Five Alternatives
The Draft EIS’s five alternatives are (1) Current Management, (2) Proposed Action, (3) Livestock Production, (4) Environmental Enhancement, and (5) No Grazing. Simply to opt for (4) or (5) is hardly a constructive comment: at most it could count as a vote, and that’s not what’s called for. We need thoughtfull, substantive input. Table 2-6 in the DEIS contains alternatives and provides an efficient route toward understanding: for the seven grazing-feee alternatives Table 2-7 must also be considered. The Summary’s tables are not as good as the EIS but can be used for the same purpose.

At a minimum, comments in line with Sierra Club positions should (1) support the general thrust of Rangeland Reform ‘94 but point out advantages of Alternative 4 over the Proposed Action, and particularly the philosophial basis of Alternative 4: “livestock grazing will be authorized only where such data show resource condition standards and goals are being met” (as opposed to Alternative 1’s “livestock grazing will continue to be permitted under conditions determined through monitoring”); (2) request “suitability criteria” by which all lands would be evaluated as to whether grazing by livestock is in the public interest; (3) request standards and guidelines that would ensure environmentally sound grazing practices nationwide, including cessation of grazing within three years in riparian areas that are not functioning properly or have not been reviewed for functionality; and (4) ask that grazing fees be brought to fair market value. The elimination of grazing advisory boards in Alternatives 2 and 4 should be praised; if multiple-resource advisory councils are to be set up by BLM, this should be on an experimental basis and then the councils should be eliminated where they don’t work. (Some fear that multi-resource councils, which include veto power for interest groups, will be used to slow reform. The Forest Service does not use boards or councils.)

Grazing Fees
None of the seven grazing-fee proposals seems satisfactory, until you favor competitive bidding for leases (Proposal 7), which might require statutory changes. Rather than entering this complex arena in fearful detail, we may do better to support movement toward market rates in general terms. Use of a base fee of $4.28 per cow per month (or adjusted to private lease rate changes), as proposed in the August 1973 version of Rangeland Reform, seems more realistic than the Proposed Action’s base of $3.96. An incentive discount of 30% is proposed for ranchers who make progress toward or achieve good vegetative conditions, with the fee rise to stop in $3.30 in 1997 if criteria for the discount are not adopted by then. The Sierra Club opposes such a monetary reduction for “good management” when in fact all permissions should be managed as a condition of their permit; we particularly oppose discounts for (continued on page 22)

Inside...
For More Information, please contact:
From the Chair p. 2
Chair’s Establish a quota for each position p. 3
Volunteer Opportunities p. 3
Meet the New Members p. 7
New Members p. 7
Chapter News p. 8
Albuquerque News p. 8
El Paso News p. 9
Santa Fe News p. 10
So. New Mexico News p. 10
Back Page p. 15
Activist Profile p. 2

From the Chair...

There has been a lot of criticism of the Sierra Club's Executive Committee in these pages recently. And we hear more in letters and phone calls and in other publications. These range from complaints that the candidates we have endorsed have not been endorsed, positions we have taken, not to personal criticism of individuals. Although I do not believe we should take our internal disagreements to other media, we welcome the internal dialogue. We believe, in fact, that it is a direct expression of our confidence in the Sierra Club's strength and effectiveness. We elect our leaders, and it is not an empty gesture. Partisan candidates at the local and national levels have won places on the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. There is a continuing dialogue about what issues we should pursue and how we should pursue them both at the local and national levels. Everyone who wants to contribute to this dialogue can do so. When a new issue surfaces, it is often the Sierra Club that starts working on it. Many activities of smaller environmental groups were initiated by the Sierra Club. Some also draw back to our type of organization. Elective officials and government agencies have trouble dealing with us because we cannot respond as rapidly as an organization that does not require input from its members before proceeding. We find ourselves underreported in the news media in our efforts to achieve our goals. I cannot make a bold, provocative statement at the ring of a telephone. I must consult if I must interview with the approval of the other members of the Executive Committee and as much of our general membership as possible. As volunteer leaders, many with full-time jobs, we are not always available for meetings or phone calls. This, and the fact that one of may speak on one issue and someone else is also, is also a problem in dealing with the press. The yearlong change in the Executive Committee and their officers further confuses officials and the press.

Some of the problems could be solved by having staff and offices for our groups and the Chapter, but others need to accept in a trade-off for the advantage of an organization like ours. I ask that we all devote some of our time and energy to maintaining an organization that gives every member a voice, is capable of responding to many problems, and is a force at local, national, and international levels. And I ask that we cherish our diversity.

Gwen Wardwell, Chair
Chapter Executive Committee

1994 Chapter Fund Appeal -- Second Report

The Sierra Club wishes to thank the 24 members who have contributed $1954 to date for our Fund appeal but who have asked that their gifts remain anonymous. We also wish to express public thanks to the following individuals who have contributed since the last newsletter was published:


Nominations Needed by Jana Oyler

This fall, the general membership of the Sierra Club will elect three people to the Executive Committee. These three, who will serve two years, will be among the 3 activists who appoint the Chapter’s funds and set its policy. Obviously, if you care about where the Chapter is going, you should care just as much about who determines the course heading.

Who would make a good Executive Committee member? Someone who:

• is committed to the Sierra Club’s vision and work
• can listen to and work with other activists and non-members; and
• has some time to volunteer.

Previous experience on Club executive committees is not required. If you would like to be a candidate for the Executive Committee, or if you would like to nominate any member, now is your chance.

The Nominating Committee will carefully consider all names submitted to it and will select at least five members whom it deems suitable for the Sierra Club’s Executive Committee. Any member who is good standing and wishes to run for the Executive Committee who is not selected by the Nominating Committee may have his or her name placed on the ballot if a petition signed by at least 30 Club members is submitted to the Nominating Committee by the deadline of October 1, 1994 or 28 days before the date of the election.

In September, the Nominating Committee will present to the current Executive Committee in state of candidates. Those candidates, along with any petitions, will be on the ballot in November.

Primary Results in New Mexico

by Van Perkins

Two of three candidates endorsed by the Sierra Club for the 1994 New Mexico Board of Directors received a majority of the votes, and all the races were won by Sierra Club members and using Sierra Club mailing lists. Sierra Club volunteers walked precincts, manned telephones, and distributed literature, and all the things which make for successful campaigns. There is no way of measuring the financial support members provided, since contributions are not readily tracked, but, presumably, response to our request for financial aid did not go unnoticed. A heartfelt thank you to all who responded to the call for help. Enjoy the victories. Take a break, then get ready for the even bigger contest coming in November.

Printed on 100% post-consumer waste newsprint in El Paso, TX.
Center Lauds Rep. King for Environmental Leadership

The non-profit Center for Policy Alternatives has honored State Representative Gary King with a Best Bet award for environmental leadership for his sponsorship of the New Mexico Mining Act of 1993.

"This model mining law brings the state into the modern era of land reclamation and highlights the public-private environmental partnerships that are featured in six of the seven awards made this year," said Jeff Tryon, director of the Center’s Sustainable Development Program. "This is also the third time we have selected officials in New Mexico—Governor Almendra Lacerzo of the Pueblo of Isleta won in 1993 and State Senator Ron Mann was recognized in 1991."

The New Mexico law borrows and improves on ideas from several other states and was achieved through compromise between industry and environmental advocates. It requires reclamation of both new and old mines to a self-sustaining ecosystem and encourages citizen involvement.

The Washington-based Center for Policy Alternatives has been developing policy models, direct technical assistance, and publications since 1975. Each year, it conducts a nationwide search to find the best state environmental actions and highlights them with Best Bet awards. Best Bet honors actual state laws, regulations, and other actions that serve as models for other states and the federal government.

Opportunities for Action: Volunteer Now

by Susan Gorman

The Chapter Executive and Conservation Committee met June 4 and 5 for a mid-year program review. The attendees made a sincere effort to step back and really evaluate the quality of the work the Club is doing to provide support on conservation issues is many and varied. Pick the issue you are most interested in, check the Sierra for the area Chapter name and phone number, and call to volunteer.

Outings Leaders

Pick your favorite hike and offer to lead a group on an outing. Call your Group Outings person for details.

New Member Welcome Project

The National Sierra Club is sending postcards to Joe Biden, the President-elect, inviting Joe to join the Sierra Club and to Save America’s Wetlands (see article on page 4). The Sierra Club will send postcards to Joe Biden and all 50 states to promote the conservation of wetlands and other ecosystems. The postcards will be sent in early 2022.

Writers

The Sierra Club’s new production manager, Bobbi Johnson, needs some of your best articles on what’s happening in your area. This is your chance to become a published author!

Office Support

The Chapter office always needs volunteers to help with mailing, take phone messages, send out Club information and answer questions. There are also opportunities for fixing, cleaning, and organizing.

Bullion Board Manager

The Chapter’s 450 members are spread across a geographic area larger than many countries. Communication is a continuing challenge. We currently have an opportunity for one Bullion Board to link Chapter members and other environmental organizations. We need a volunteer for one or two three months to watch the system and keep it running smoothly.

Club Canvasses for New Members in Chapter Area

by Blair Brown

In a move to increase membership, the national Sierra Club has chosen the Rio Grande Chapter area for its new member canvass program. Throughout the summer, the canvass team of 25 volunteers will be knocking on doors, talking to people about the Club and our mission, and asking them to support us by becoming members.

The focus is protection and preservation of our nation’s wetlands. For us, this means the areas along the Rio Grande and the Pecos River, as well as those special areas like Bosque del Apache.

Beginning in Albuquerque in May, the canvassers will be moving north in Taos, Los Alamos, and Santa Fe by July; and south to Las Cruces, Roswell, and El Paso by August. So far, the program has been quite successful.

In a month, they have signed up over 400 new members and received contributions from over 200 more. They tell us that the response from most people has been quite positive.

Each Group will be contacted about the specific schedule and should do what they can to assist the canvassers and make them feel welcome. Invite them to your outings and events and try to set up meetings to brief them on the issues that are important in your area.

The objectives of this program are to educate people and to increase Sierra Club membership. Each Group is urged to contact the new members signed up by the canvassers and to make them welcome and involved so that they will become permanent, active members.

Fourth Annual Chapter Retreat

The Fourth Annual Chapter Retreat will be held at Black Range Lodge in Kingston on September 10 and 11 at the Black Range Lodge in Kingston. (See article below.) Everyone is urged to come and help us define the Chapter’s mission and set goals. It feels good to gather together with folks who care about this place where we live and make decisions about what we can do to preserve it for the future.

To make a change of address or telephone number, or to remove your name from a list, call:

SIERRA CLUB MEMBERSHIP SERVICES
(415) 923-5653

You will find your membership number on the back of Sierra Magazine, the Rio Grande Sierran, and the membership card you received upon joining or renewing.

You will find your membership number on the label of Sierra Magazine, the Rio Grande Sierran, and the membership card you received upon joining or renewing.
Sierra Club Endorsement Process

by Van Perkins

The Executive Committee of the Rio Grande Chapter of the Sierra Club will consider endorsements in the following races for the New Mexico General Election in November: United States Senator, Governor, and a state Senate and House race (a single ticket in the General Election). Land Commissioner, and Attorney General. The Executive Committee, on recommendation of the respective Groups, will also consider endorsements in races for U.S. Congress, the State Legislature, and other local races, if any. Endorsement decisions will be made in time for publication in the September issue of the Rio Grande Sierra Environmental Group newsletter should be made to the Chapter by early August to ensure timely action by the Executive Committee.

Sierra Club members may be interested in the process used in making decisions regarding endorsements. The process is both exacting and demanding. First, questionnaires are sent to all candidates under consideration to ascertain their positions on environmental issues of concern to the Club. For the Primary Election, for example, candidates for Governor were asked to describe their positions on water quality, wildlife, riparian areas, mining, grazing, recreation, and other relevant issues. Candidates who indicate an interest in doing so are then interviewed to further probe their responses and to assess the sincerity of their views.

Following extensive discussion of the questionnaire responses and the performance of the candidates in the interviews, votes are taken to determine whether or not an endorsement will be made. Sierra Club policy requires that all endorsements be approved by two-thirds of the entire membership (not simply two-thirds of those present and voting). Consequently, endorsements are subject to some variation from race to race, in part because the Sierra Club cannot endorse the same candidates for both a state Senate and House seat (the same county in the Senate and House). They are the Chapter Executive Committee and the national Sierra Club National Political Committee.

Endorsement decisions are based entirely on the candidates take on environmental issues. The only other criterion is accessibility. Club policy discourages endorsements in cases where the candidate stands little chance of being elected.

There is one major exception to the process described above. If an incumbent has a serious challenge for re-election, or if the opponent is willing to support the environmental priorities of the Club, the endorsement committee is given a special recommendation by the national Sierra Club National Political Committee.

We need your Letters commenting on Rangeland Reform '94.

Please Write to BLM by July 28.

Sierra Club Resolves to Restructure

by Robbye Cox, President, Sierra Club Board of Directors.

On May 7, the Board of Directors met in open session with the Council, RVP Finlay, and the chapter chairs and volunteers leaders at our Juneau headquarters and unanimously adopted a Resolution to restructure the Sierra Club.

The Resolution on Restructuring says: "(1) Reorganizing the Sierra Club while maintaining its democratic, scientific national identify, heritage, and financial security. Our mission is to protect the environment and public health. We promote a sustainable relationship.

(2) To send a clear message that we can be efficient and effective in the long term.

(3) To enhance the conservation priorities of the Sierra Club.

(4) To make the Sierra Club a more democratic organization.

(5) To reduce the financial burden of the Sierra Club.

(6) To improve the financial viability of the Sierra Club.

(7) To develop a plan for the future of the Sierra Club.

(8) To develop a plan for the future of the Sierra Club.

We welcome your comments on this resolution.

Mining Commission Closes Hearings on Mining Act Regulations

by Sue McManus

Finally, the fourth quarter for New Mexico’s coal-fired utility seems to be drawing to a close. On Friday, June 17, the New Mexico Mining Commission closed the public hearings on what it will adopt and file as the regulatory package to implement the New Mexico Mining Act, passed by the State Legislature in 1993.

The Mining Commission is not expected to offer a complete compilation of its regulations until after July 1. The final version of the Mining Act, which the Commission had before it, was significantly improved from earlier drafts which the Mining and Mineral Division of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (MMD) had released. Since September, the commission, in the summer of 1993, the Sierra Club, with the Environmental Law Center, met with MMD and advocated several modifications to its proposed mining regulations. Many of these improvements were reflected in the final MMD draft submitted to the Mining Commission.

The 13 days of hearings were designed to review and test testimony on the draft regulations and the amendments which were offered. The Sierra Club offered extensive regulatory amendments which touched on all aspects of the mining regulations. It was also submitted by several parties within the mining industry, other public citizens, and various state agencies. The Sierra Club, the Department of Energy, and the Department of Game and Fish.

We view this as a result of a productive and thorough regulatory package was much improved, it still contained serious flaws when it was presented to the Mining Commission. Many concerns were raised and issues of concern were identified in favor of stronger regulations. The Sierra Club, Doug Meiklejohn (New Mexico Environmental Law Center), and Colorado Attorney and Mining Commissioner Luke Danielson offered testimony directly ad

We welcome your comments on this resolution.

Please write to BLM by July 28.

Welcome, New Members

Please give a big welcome to our new members:

Lorianne & Margaret Ambrum of El Paso, TX
Matthew & Deborah Kohn of El Paso, TX
Robert Meadow of El Paso, TX
Christine Kelso of El Paso, TX
Kay Trapp of El Paso, TX
Carme Galano of El Paso, TX
Greg Garcia of El Paso, TX
Andrea Schmidt of El Paso, TX
Roy Luef of El Paso, TX
Perry Buck of El Paso, TX
Garcia Koch of El Paso, TX
Jehnny Thompson of El Paso, TX
Jennifer Riggs of El Paso, TX
Roger Lamott of El Paso, TX
Dr. Jeffrey Meeker of El Paso, TX
Lee Ward of El Paso, TX
David Adams of El Paso, TX
Bill Sanders of El Paso, TX
Ethel Stamper of El Paso, TX
Gregory Conner of El Paso, TX
Margaret Gillum of El Paso, TX
Frans Thomas of El Paso, TX
Richard Southam of El Paso, TX
Fernando Roob of El Paso, TX
Peter Moore of El Paso, TX
Daniel & Ethlyn Vallis of El Paso, TX
Luis Fernandez of El Paso, TX
Russell Carleton of El Paso, TX
Warren Watson of El Paso, TX
Sua Muhammad of El Paso, TX
Jorge Ramirez of El Paso, TX
Bro Collier of El Paso, TX
Frank Scaia of El Paso, TX
Teresa Vittoria of El Paso, TX
Ms. Andrea Davis of El Paso, TX
Patty Huskinson of El Paso, TX
N. Rodman of El Paso, TX
Ms. Gilbert Conners of El Paso, TX
Jane Green of El Paso, TX
Diana George Conners of El Paso, TX
Margie Greenhaw Conners of El Paso, TX

Part of the Environment Department, Surface Water Quality Bureau, is owed at least two or three extra words. Following Dr. Pitkin’s description of the processes, it became obvious that he could not longer, with good conscience, participate in the popular discussions of the processes that he had helped develop. Mr. Kingsley offered important testimony at the hearings as a private biologist, and his efforts are appreciated.

Also, those representatives of the various state agencies who offered testimony at the hearings are due a word of thanks. Dr. Jim
ALBUQUERQUE

ALBUQUERQUE GROUP

JULY GENERAL MEETING: MOVIE NIGHT!

By Suzan Gorman

We’re taking a Summer Movie Break! This program will feature a series of videos which focus on issues and topics which we’re all interested in as environmentalists and folks who appreciate the beauty of New Mexico. The Outings Committee will tell stories about the outings so far this year and what’s coming up next. We may have some surprise guests as well so come and enjoy movies and popcorn with us. The meeting will be on Monday, July 10th, at 7:30PM, UNM Law School, Room 2402 (NOTE CHANGE), on the northwest corner of Mountain and Stanford NE. Please bring a cup and enjoy goodies provided by the Albuquerque Group. Please come!

AUGUST GENERAL MEETING: OFF THE BEATEN PATH IN THE GRAND CANYON

As reservations for familiar destinations in the Grand Canyon become harder and harder to get, it helps to know alternative fun places to go. George Steck has been exploring the Outback of Grand Canyon for almost thirty years and will share some of his off-trail experiences with us. Particular attention will be paid to loop hikes in Marble Canyon. You will see the scary “iron rod” Redwall descent just upstream of Redwall Cavern and see the snow field still existing at the bottom of the Redwall below Elbow Butte in mid-June 1999. You will also hear about the challenging Redwall descent through the Wambulee and under the Bridge of Sighs at mile 35.7. George has written two books on off-trail hikes in the Grand Canyon, has walked the canyon’s length, and has spent up to 80 days exploring the canyon on his backpack trips.

The August meeting will be on Monday, August 15th, at 7:30 PM, UNM Law School, Room 2402, on the northwest corner of Mountain and Stanford, NE. Please bring a cup and enjoy goodies provided by the Albuquerque Group. Please come!

ALBUQUERQUE GROUP CAMPUIT

When: Saturday and Sunday, August 6-7, 1994
Where: Cedar Peak Campground, 4 miles south of 140 on Route 34, turn east and follow Forest Service signs.

What time: At 1:00PM we will start activities. Around 5:00PM we will eat, followed by music and a campfire program.

Activities: Bluegrass music from a live band! Hiking to the top of Cedar Peak, frisbee, volleyball, horseshoes, etc.

What you should bring: A five dollar donation and a side dish such as salad, or dessert that will feed 4-8 people. Please bring your own cups (no glass, please), plates, and utensils. We’re trying to keep the use of disposable items to a minimum. Bring folding chairs.

The Club will provide: soft drinks, ice, charcoal, condiments (ketchup, mustard, pickles, salsa, etc.)

Can you help and bring the following? Let us know! Coolers, Coleman stoves to keep food warm.

Any questions? Call Rhoda, 271-4932

Conservation Working Sessions

Focus issues: July 25 - Population. World population growth affects all of the rest of the work we do to protect the earth. Let’s put our heads together and develop an action plan to implement the Sierra Club Policy on Population.

August 22 - Public Lands. Meet Barb Stone and other folks who are working to preserve and restore New Mexico’s Public Lands. Anyone who enjoys a hike in the Sandias or a night camping under the stars should care about this! The CWS meetings are the 4th Monday each month at 7:30 PM at the Sierra Club office.

ALBUQUERQUE

Pothole Schedule
See outing page for July or call the Sierra Club HOTLINE - 265-5506
If you want to host a Pothole, call Rhoda at 271-4932

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Education Committee
The Albuquerque Group Education Committee is looking for members who are interested in becoming involved in environmental education in the community. We will be writing Speakers Bureau and an education/information line as part of the new Sierra Club hotline. In September, we will be providing training for APS interns using the T.E.A.M. (Teachers Environmental Action Manual) which was written by Joan Rozier of the Albuquerque Group. If you have other ideas or would like to work with us, please contact Teresa Adams 890-0571 or Ann Boyce 265-3607.

Water Action Group
Good news for Albuquerque! The Albuquerque Group has formed a Water Action Committee which we’re calling the Water Action Group. We’re having regular meetings, so call Jack Finney at 293-3450 for information and meeting times.

WET PAVEMENT HOTLINE - 857-8234
If you see wet pavement, excessive watering, wasteful sprinklers, or other water waste, call the City’s water waste hotline and let them know the location and other details. Call early and often!

Water and Wal-Mart by Anne Boyce 265-3807
Wal-Mart will soon be breaking ground for a huge new store on Zuni/San Mateo in Albuquerque. Despite the fact that Wal-Mart does not have a “green” store, there is no indication that this store will implement any kind of conservation measures. In light of Mayor Chavez’s support of volunteer residential/ commercial water conservation, Wal-Mart could make a statement to the community and other businesses that they really do have a stake in the community, by using drought-tolerant landscaping.

Please let them know that you are concerned about the new store implementing water conservation measures. Write to David Glass, CEO Wal-Mart Stores Inc.

Corporate Offices, Bentonville, AR 72716-8071 Refer to store #813.

CALANDAR

Unless otherwise noted, meetings take place at the Club office at 267 San Pedro NE.

Aug 4: Executive Committee Meeting, 7PM
Aug 6: 7 Group Campout. See article on previous page.
Aug 8: Executive Committee Meeting, 7PM
Aug 15: Sierra Club General Meeting, UNM Law School, Rm 2402, 7:30 PM.
Aug 22: Conservation Working Session, 7:30 PM.
Aug 2: Activities & Special Planning Meeting, 7PM
Aug 27: Conservation Working Session, 7:30 PM.
Abbreviations: WSA—Wilderness Study Area; NM—National Monument; ST—Scenic Byway; TR—Trail
July Hikes in the Petroglyph National Monument Call for details of the hikes in July. Bring sturdy shoes, camera, binoculars.

July 6-7 Leisure—Moderate Hike in the Sandia Mountains Call for details. On Saturday, hike to the summit of manzanita basin, then see the petroglyphs on the east side of Chicama, go up into colorado, and back to New Mexico. Also, stabilization of a historical building near San Antonio Mountain, and scouting of a possible site for a historic trailhead. On Sunday, hiking at 10:00 AM at the Sierra Club of New Mexico. Leader: Richard Barrish 247-8263.

July 10 Potluck Everyone welcome. Meet at 6:00 PM. Bring a dish to feed 6 to 8 people. New and nonmembers welcome. For those of you who haven't come to one, why don't you join us? Stan Kajak will be the host for July. July 10-14 West to Ojo. Exit north onto Ojo and turn west onto 140. Turn north at the street sign. The address is: 11917 Colfax Avenue. Leader: Richard Barrish 247-8079.

July 23 Moderate Hike: The Creek and the Mesa Hike, Pecos Wilderness We start on the long climb up the trail to Pecos Baldy Lake. We reach the mesa for some further hiking, explore the zone for wild iris, eat lunch, and return. Do not forget rain gear and water, and lunch. Meet at the Sierra Club of New Mexico meeting, 10 AM. Leader: Bob Cornish 255-6037.

Aug 6 Leisure—Moderate Hike: kayak Instruction, Cochiti Lake Learn balance, paddle strokes, and eskimo roll. Kayaks provided, but bring your own if you have it. We will get wet, so bring swimming suits and wading shoes. Bring a lunch, provided by Donna Morris. Meet at 10:30 AM. Leader: David Morrisson 344-8693.

Wed Jul 27 Leisure: Hike 0 Miles: Car: 0

Wed Jul 26 Moderate Hike: Varied Terrain Call for details. 12:00 PM at the Sierra Club of New Mexico. Leader: Doug Verheiski 888-1370.

Sun Jul 30 Leisure to Moderate Hikes: 12:00 PM at the Sierra Club of New Mexico. Leader: Richard Barrish 247-8263.

Sun Jul 30 Potluck Everyone welcome. Meet at 6:00 PM. Bring a dish to feed 6 to 8 people. New and nonmembers welcome. For those of you who haven't come to one, why don't you join us? Stan Kajak will be the host for July. July 10-14 West to Ojo. Exit north onto Ojo and turn west onto 140. Turn north at the street sign. The address is: 11917 Colfax Avenue. Leader: Richard Barrish 247-8079.

Aug 6 Leisure—Moderate Hike: kayak Instruction, Cochiti Lake Learn balance, paddle strokes, and eskimo roll. Kayaks provided, but bring your own if you have it. We will get wet, so bring swimming suits and wading shoes. Bring a lunch, provided by Donna Morris. Meet at 10:30 AM. Leader: David Morrisson 344-8693.

Wed Jul 27 Leisure: Hike 0 Miles: Car: 0

Wed Jul 26 Moderate Hike: Varied Terrain Call for details. 12:00 PM at the Sierra Club of New Mexico. Leader: Doug Verheiski 888-1370.

Sun Jul 30 Leisure to Moderate Hikes: 12:00 PM at the Sierra Club of New Mexico. Leader: Richard Barrish 247-8263.

Sun Jul 30 Potluck Everyone welcome. Meet at 6:00 PM. Bring a dish to feed 6 to 8 people. New and nonmembers welcome. For those of you who haven't come to one, why don't you join us? Stan Kajak will be the host for July. July 10-14 West to Ojo. Exit north onto Ojo and turn west onto 140. Turn north at the street sign. The address is: 11917 Colfax Avenue. Leader: Richard Barrish 247-8079.

Aug 6 Leisure—Moderate Hike: kayak Instruction, Cochiti Lake Learn balance, paddle strokes, and eskimo roll. Kayaks provided, but bring your own if you have it. We will get wet, so bring swimming suits and wading shoes. Bring a lunch, provided by Donna Morris. Meet at 10:30 AM. Leader: David Morrisson 344-8693.

Wed Jul 27 Leisure: Hike 0 Miles: Car: 0

Wed Jul 26 Moderate Hike: Varied Terrain Call for details. 12:00 PM at the Sierra Club of New Mexico. Leader: Doug Verheiski 888-1370.

Sun Jul 30 Leisure to Moderate Hikes: 12:00 PM at the Sierra Club of New Mexico. Leader: Richard Barrish 247-8263.

Sun Jul 30 Potluck Everyone welcome. Meet at 6:00 PM. Bring a dish to feed 6 to 8 people. New and nonmembers welcome. For those of you who haven't come to one, why don't you join us? Stan Kajak will be the host for July. July 10-14 West to Ojo. Exit north onto Ojo and turn west onto 140. Turn north at the street sign. The address is: 11917 Colfax Avenue. Leader: Richard Barrish 247-8079.
EL PASO

the LORAX

JULY MEETING
Our July speaker will be Tracy Williams of the Texas Natural Resource and Conservation Commission, which oversees energy security and education concerning air and water quality. June will speak on "Outlines for the Future."

The program will start at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 27, at St. Paul's Methodist Church, 7000 Edgemere (two blocks east of Airway.) For more information, call Ted Metrig, 832-3011.

AUGUST MEETING
Our August speaker will be Mike Cormier of the Solar Energy Center at UTEP. Mike will speak on "Advantages of Living in a Sunny Climate." He'll tell us about passive solar energy. If you shun sunshine on Mother Nature, he'll help you heat and cool your house without a big utility bill. Join us for this illuminating presentation.

The program will start at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 31, at St. Paul's Methodist Church. For more information, call Ted Metrig.

GREAT JOB, WYONA!

After two years of excellent editing, Wyona Turner is putting the LORAX to Michael Bromski. We praise Wyona for her diligent high-quality work. Thank you so much.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

Volunteer to Help our Environments... The Center continues to need volunteers. Please contact the Center (532-9615) and Ted Metrig (832-3011) if you can volunteer one or more days per month.

LORAX Flier HOPED FOR

As usual, this month's LORAX is buried in the SIERRAN, which now comes out every other month. Starting next month, we hope to have a flier for a monthly FLIER, which will list two month's worth of upcoming outings. Due to constraints of space, that flier will most likely list ONLY upcoming outings. For write-ups of past outings, please continue to consult the SIERRAN.

LORAX DEADLINE

The LORAX deadline will be the same as always, the tenth of each month. For the "Future," please contact Michael Bromski. He promises you'll receive it efficiently and promptly. PHONE him the names, times, and details for your upcoming or past outing. It's easier to write what you get than enter what I don't.

CLUB NEWS

Conservation Concerns... A reminder that the El Paso Group is holding regular monthly conservation meetings. All members are welcome to attend. The meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month in the Environmental Center at 7 p.m. Set aside July 13 and August 10 to learn about important local conservation issues.

GROUP DIRECTORY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Chairman: Ted Metrig
Executive Director: Mike Cormier
Secretary: Joe Rodriguez
Treasurer: Kathy Snydel
Member: Betty Julian
Member: Rhonda Grace
Debbie Tomacelli
CONSERVATION
Bonnie Terrell
John Sproat
Ron Bell
OPEN

ADMINISTRATION
Judy Schueler
Jim Brown
OPEN

Sierra Club Environmental Center
800 S. Padre
532-9645, 532-4876
Please send any changes or corrections in membership to
Carol Morison, Membership Roll
728 Kemper Drive
Send LORAX information to
Michael Bromski 500 W. Schuster #5

OUTING REPORTS

Sapilo Creek Backpack, 12-13 March 1994

As we drove to the trailhead on Saturday morning, radio stations forecast heavy snow for the mountains of New Mexico. Nobody wanted to get snowed in at the Cow Creek Trailhead, so we renounced bike hikes, looping from the Sapilo Creek trailhead.

Snow flurries and freezing rain greeted us, hiking in along Sapilo Creek. The weather cleared a bit as we hiked in and out of the rain bands. The trail dropped into the box canyon of Sapilo Creek. There, we made camp among the white snows. On Sunday morning, some of us hiked to the confluence of Sapilo Creek and the Gila River. Hiking back out, we relished this fine winter outing and gave thanks for the chipper confectionary of Eva Pezopp, Roy McCollum, Rafaelita Schuler, Alice Anderson, Peter Shasten, and leader Rollin Wickenend.

Lower Painted Grotto Dayhike, Sat 2 April 1994

On this bright and balmy Saturday, we drove to Carlsbad Caverns National Park and parked at the trailhead for Slaughter Canyon. A three-hour trek and a quick scramble up the Mormon wall brought us to a rock shelter liberally decorated with the multi-colored markings of another time and culture. After a leisurely lunch, we retraced our steps through the steep walls of West Slaughter Canyon. Our hikers were Rafaelita Schuler, Sally Meeks, William Gutierrez, Bob Vaughan, Riss Slueter, Sari Suits, Rae Hamilton, Dale Harris, and leader Carl G. Horkowitz.

Alamo Mtn Dayhike / Backpack, Sat 23 April 1994

We met at St. Paul's and shuttle out Montana for a dusty ramble over dirt roads north to the looming flat-topped goal. A half-mile brought us to the peak's western slope, strewed with boulders. Petrified poplars peppered them: snakes, hares, goats, horned heads, and enough zigzag designs to fill a Santa Fe postcard. Some kazokiki hikers have been seen through bears to the sanctum of the green spring pool. Hikers included Ray & Annie Zimmerman, Betty Walls, Francois Turner, Susan Saenz, Risa Pomeroy, and the wanders Maria & Mike Episcope, Dobbs Darles, Yvonne Cardon, and Warren Cowles. Dayhikers droved back to city comfort while Backpackers shuttled to an eastern parking spot to start the upward trek. We relished the named "marauding" gravy groundcover, so pleasant to walk on. Our wide-open climb offered a splendid view while steady breeze and clouds kept us cool. Rocky barriers demanded some huffy toil. We reached the summit to a general round of handshakes and goodbyes. On our next day's hike out, the sun lit a wide vista of desert.

In the group, were Alice Anderson, John Bouchard, Michael Bromski, Laurence Gibson, Carolina Greenfield, Shirley & Bill Phillips, leader.

Hillsboro Dayhike, Sun 22 May 1994

A herd of happy hikers (28 of us) rallied at dawn in El Paso, then
EL PASO

INNER CITY OUTINGS—LOOKS FORWARD

Hmm, the new LORAX editor goofed up and now has a column of blank space, with no skill at manipulating graphics to fill it. So please indulge me while I give a pinch for Inner City Outings. Over this last year and a half, Richard Rheder has carried this worthy program pretty much all alone. Yet, those of us who’ve joined him on ICO endeavors have enjoyed them immensely. Richard knows that we need to set up some leadership workshops to certify more ICO outfit leaders. When he does so, I hope folks’ll clamor upon the bandwagon.

Inner City Outings, (for those who don’t know) is a special subdivision of City Club which brings teenagers and preteen kids to the Great Outdoors. In particular, kids from socio-economically challenged neighborhoods feel it’s a rare privilege to hike or camp with such young people. You get to re-experience the wonder that comes from a person’s first potent encounter with Nature Undeified. The kids are great. They adopt ecological values with remarkable alacrity.

Often just the time and proximity together with comfortably situated, expansively educated, grown-up, working professionals can be enlightening for young persons. When they see we don’t have horns, hooves, tails, or forked tongues, they might suppose that staying in school is a worthy endeavor after all.

Using this summer are a series of ICO service trips to build backcountry campsites in the Guadalupe Mountains. Those are challenging trips. But ICO dahylies are less demanding. The most casual dahylers can offer and gain a lot on an ICO outing.

One Sierra Club buddy told me that he recently noticed lots of grey-haired people at a meeting along the Guadalupe. Then he went and looked in the mirror, and realized that he himself was one of them. So we can all expect the same—value of our efforts to catalyze, to sell the earth-light values we want to each other. But after the earth inherits us, who’ll inherit the earth? We would be wise to pass off even the most poorly attended, even the most poorly planned on our personal, political football team, while we’ve got the chance.

Inner City Outings provides such a chance. Please don’t pass it up.

M.B.

SANTA FE

SANTA FE GROUP NEWS

NOTES FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

Summertime, and the livin’ is easy . . . But your EXCOMM is busy thinking about programs for the fall general meetings and participation in Sierra Club activities. We have been discussing several ideas that we thought we would share with you.

One idea is to have a general meeting where we have an “open mike” forum discussion about the activities, policies, and direction of the group from new leaders. This would be an opportunity for anyone to voice his thoughts or concerns, positive or negative, about how they think we should involve, direct and manage our group and its resources. We could also discuss ideas from members on how to get people more involved in carrying out the activities. Members of the EXCOMM and committee chairs would be present to provide information and to respond to questions or concerns.

Another idea is to have a wine and cheese party featuring a slide show collage composed of slides submitted by individual members of the group, showing images from their favorite trip, outdoor adventure, or other subjects relating to nature, travel, or the environment. This could also serve as a welcome gathering for new members. But, please note that, due to our limited financial resources, we would have to rely on contributions from attendees to make this work. This event could also be a separate event instead of a general meeting.

Our last general meeting featured a program by Tony Meyne of the Metropolitan Water Board and was quite a success. Several members have already asked if we could do another program on the subject. Finally, as we have elections this fall in several local and state races, we would like to have a program, or a portion of a program, where candidates we have endorsed could come and answer your questions. (On this subject, see the announcement elsewhere in this newsletter of the next Political Committee meeting to begin the endorsement process.) It would be great to hear from those of you who have any preferences, or even any other ideas, for the meetings. We would like to know what you want us to do in our general meetings. Please call (or write) your co-chairs at the numbers shown in this newsletter.

We regretfully announce that EXCOMM member Vicki Gabriel has resigned due to the pressure of other duties. We thank Vicki for her many hours of commitment to the Group. and wish her well.

Please note: NO GENERAL MEETING IN JULY or AUGUST. The next General Membership Meeting will be held the 1st Thursday in September, at the Unitarian Church (on Barcelona between Don Gaspar and Galisteo) at 7:30 PM.

A Mind is a Terrible Thing to Waste

Where has your editor read that before? Please note the new dates and times of the EXCOMM and Conservation Committee meetings and forgive any confusion your editor might have caused you by giving you wrong information in the last issue.

>> SANTA FE GROUP OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS <<

Co-Chairs — Mark Mortier* 983-5870 Political Committee — Ken Hughes* 471-3000 Bob McCall* 982-3926

Executive Editor — Kay Carlson 483-0697

Secretary/Treasurer — Lionel Sorocco* 471-3000 Phone Tree — Marthe Anna Freeman* 983-8001

Conservation — Van Perkins* 983-8001 Social Membership — Patty Bray 989-1924

Kids’ Sierra Club — Jimmie Gorman 982-1024

G ninivia Kula 982-9570

Reycling/OFFicer — Carolyn Kula 982-4146

Publicity — Fundraising — Education — Outings — Norbert Sterlich 981-1962

* Member of the SF Group Board of Directors

Committee Terms expire 12/94: Hughes/McIntosh/Freeman/Perkins 982-4146

Mortier/Sorocco/Gabriel/Gorman 1255: McCall/Mortier/Sorocco/Gabriel/Gorman
Sat Sun July
Saturday-Sunday-Monday, July 2-3-4 ★ ISSUE WEEKEND FOR JULY ★
John Turnbull (466-9329) Trails Development Work Weekend Conducted jointly between Sierra Club, NM Volunteers for the Outdoors and the Tres Piedras Ranger District, USFS. Chapterwide invitation – we hope folks from down south will join. Inexpensive motel accommodations in Ojo Caliente. Serious work weekend in spectacular scenery. Must be over age 18 (insurance reasons). Departures at different times. Important: Phone leader for info.
Saturday-Sunday-Monday, July 2-3-4
Steven Jaunes (988-4137) Moderate Hike to beautiful Zapita Basin (east of Alamosa, near the Great Sand Dunes Nat’l Monument, CO) and optional cliffs of the surrounding 13,000’ and 14,000’ peaks. Leave early Sat AM; call for details.
David Brown (662-2185) Moderate/Strenuous Hike to Lobo Peak (near Taos Ski Basin). Call for details of time and meeting place.
Art Judd (982-3212) Moderate Hike in the high country. Leave 8 AM.
Julie Montoya (468-1107)Exploratory Backpack 12 miles each way. To Truchas Peaks Basin via the West Fork of the Santa Barbara, with aim of climbing Truchas Peak (13,103’). Call for reservations.
Joe Whelan (984-0746) Strenuous Hike to Jicarita Peak, elevation gain from the Tres Ritos/Angustura side. Leave 8 AM.
Jeff Jones (984-2389) Easy Walk up the Big Tesuque River. Good for parents with small children. Leave 9:30 AM.
Saturday, July 16, to Saturday, July 23
Normal McCallan (471-0005) 8-day Exploratory Backpack on Continental Divide Trail, CO Hwy 82 South to Monarch Pass. 70 miles. Leave Fri noon, July 15. Experienced backpackers only. Call for details and reservations.
Caroline and Arnold Keskulla (982-9570) Easy Hike from Ski Basin down Winne Trail. Leave 9 AM.
Norbert Sperrlich (983-0652) Moderate/Strenuous Hike to Las Vegas overlook, off the Winne Trail. Call for reservations and time of departure.
Caroline Glick (984-3184) Car Camp/Strenuous Hike San Pedro Park Wilderness area. Call leader.
Elizabeth Altman (471-8490) Easy Hike Bear Wallow – Borrego Trail loop. 4½ miles RT. Leave 9 AM.
Sat Sun August
Lionel Sorace (983-6715) Strenuous Hike to Golotea Butte from the west. Leave at 7:30 AM.
Norbert Sperrlich (983-0662) Moderate Hike to Nambé Lake. High altitude, steep trail. 7 miles RT, 2,100’ elevation gain. Leave 8 AM.
Bob McKee (672-3426) Two-day Backpack in South Juan Wilderness near Pilarito (Colorado). Leave Friday PM. Call leader for information.
Norma McCallan (471-0005) 3-day Car Camp in Colorado Sangre de Cristo Mtns north of Crestone. Exploratory hikes (moderate in length, but steep). Leave Thurs after work, Call leader for information.
Joe Whelan (984-0746) Strenuous Hike to Trampas Lakes and possibly Hidden Lake. 11.5 miles RT, 2,400’ elevation gain to Trampas Lakes, 2 miles more to Hidden Lake. Leave 8:30 AM.
Norris Sanders (984-0386) Easy Hike on Borrego-Bear Wallow Loop. 4 miles RT. Leave 8 AM.
Carolyn and Arnold Keskulla (982-9570) Easy Hike on Aspen Vista. Leave at 8 AM.
Art Judd (982-3312) Moderate Hike in the high country. Leave at 8 AM.
John Jasper (982-2841 work, 466-8572 home) Strenuous Hike on Ski Basin, Penitente Peak, Lake Peak Loop. About 10 miles RT, about 2000’ elevation gain. Leave 8 AM.
Elizabeth Altman (471-8490) Easy Hike to Cachita Butte (near Los Alamos Ski area) 5 miles RT, highest point, 9,017’ Leave 9 AM.

SANTA FE GROUP OUTINGS

SANTA FE

Sat Sun September
3 Joe Whitehead (984-0746) Moderate Hike to Pedernal Peak (one steep scramble at end), followed by a swim at Abiquiu Lake on trip home. Leave 8:30 AM.
4 Norbert Sperrlich (983-1502) Moderate Hike in the Jemez. Leave 8 AM.
10 Carolyn and Arnold Keskulla (982-9570) Easy Hike in the Tesuque Basin (accessed from Aspen Vista Road) Leave 8:30 AM.
11 John Turnbull (466-9329) Fossil hunting trip in Permian & Pennsylvanian Age rocks in lower Jemez Valley. Short in miles, but moderate in difficulty (may have to scramble up cliffs). Small pick or hammer useful. Leave 8:15 AM, Albuquerque folks can meet group at San Ysidro.
12 Jeff Jones (468-2309) Strenuous Hike to Spirit Lake and Lake Katharine. Leave 7:30 AM.
17 Norris Sanders (984-0386) Easy Hike on Aspen Vista Road. Leave 8:30 AM.
17 Steven Mefford (988-4137) Strenuous Hike to Santa Fe Baldy, then traverse to Redondo Peak (Capulin). Considerable elevation gain. Leave 8 AM.
18 Bob McKee (672-3426) Moderate Hike to Nambe Lake. Leave 8 AM.
24 Caroline Glick (984-3184) Strenuous Hike in Pecos Wilderness. Call leader for reservations & info.
25 Lionel Sorace (983-0652) Moderate Hike to Cerro Pedernal via Randall Davyce Center. Off trail, up and down ridge for 4 miles. Leave 8 AM.
Friday-Saturday-Sunday, September 23-24-25
Norma McCallan (471-0005) Easy Backyard Marzano Mesa. I've after work Thurs. Base camp on the crest and Saturday day hike further along the crest Trail. Leave after work on Thurs. Call for details.

Outings Notes — Unless otherwise noted, all outings leave from the PERA parking lot at the corner of Paseo de Peralta and Old Santa Fe Trail across the street from the State Capitol and Court. Departing will be expected at the parking lot, and each hike should be prepared to pay $5 a mile to the driver of the car in which Hiker rides. Hikers should bring a lunch, water, sturdy hiking boots or shoes, and clothing suitable for the weather — leader reserves the right to turn away anyone whose equipment or experience appears unsuitable. Leader has rights to decline participation or cancel the trip due to weather, unfavorable conditions, or insufficient numbers of participants. Unaccompanied minors must have written permission from parents or guardians to participate; permission forms are available at the Sierra Club office. Dogs not permitted on hikes unless noted otherwise. Telephone leader for details of the individual hike.

POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING Thursday, July 14
The Political Committee will meet at noon at the Sierra Club office, 440 Cerillos Road, Thursday, July 14, 1994, to discuss endorsement of candidates in state legislative races. Ken Hughes 474-0550

SANTA FE CITY GENERAL PLAN
The City’s General Plan update is now underway. We urge you to attend open houses, learn what is proposed for Santa Fe’s physical, environmental and economic future over the next 20 years. Participate!!! 6 PM open house; 7-9 PM meetings: July 11 — Acquia Madre school July 12 — Pitson school July 13 — E. J. Martinez school July 14 — Gonzales School

YOUR FOREST SERVICE AT WORK
As many of you have discovered, access to parts of the Borrego, Rio en Medio, and Wilton trails were blocked off by Tesuque Pueblo last year. The U.S. Forest Service is in the process of rerouting those forest trails that are north of Santa Fe and should be finished by the fall of 1994. The USES plans to ask a public right of way for Pacheco Canyon Road, which also crosses pueblo land. Big Tesuque campground is closed to the end of summer while the Forest Service works on the parking lot.
SANTA FE

Ski Area Expansion?
THE PEOPLE STILL SAY NO!

The U.S. Forest Service's Draft Environmental Impact Statement has been released, and in response, the Santa Fe Ski Continuance Coalition has developed the Alternatives for the Ski Area's future development. The Eight Northern Indian Pueblos and the Santa Fe City Council have passed resolutions supporting the alternative. What can you do? Write to Alan Delcro, Forest Supervisor, Santa Fe National Forest, PO Box 1669, Santa Fe, NM 87504, with your comments, or tolling off your support of the Citizens' Alternative. Copies of the EIS are available from: Robert Krellman, Project Manager, 475-20th Street, Suite B, Los Alamos, NM 87544 (tel: 667-5120).

THE CITIZENS' ALTERNATIVE

- Permanent protection of the Big Tesuque - This means absolutely no future commercial development in the Big Tesuque.
- Protection of Native American and Hispanic cultural areas - Past and present Tesuque Pueblo Tribal Councils are adamantly opposed to any ski area expansion. Allow no lift or trail construction to the Tesuque, Deception Peak and in the culturally important Big Tesuque, Deception Peak and Raven's Ridge areas. Actively discourage out-of-bounds skiing into traditional use areas.
- Protection of water resources and traditional water users - Prohibit the Forest Service and the ski area from making further transfers of irrigation water rights from Tesuque, Chupadero, and Rio en Medio to the ski area. In order to protect the important wetlands and the headwaters of the Rio en Medio, no lift or trail construction in the Ravens Ridge and Deception Peak areas.
- Reduction of lift line length and slope crowding - Capacity limits are used to maintain quality skiing at many ski resorts in the West by limiting daily lift ticket sales. Maintain the current maximum capacity of 4,150 skiers-at-one-time.
- No more parking lots - There is only one rational solution to the traffic congestion and parking problem at the ski area: public transportation. A shuttle service from town would reduce congested and eliminate the need for more environmentally damaging parking lots and road widening.
- Preservation of the ski area as a "low-impact" summer recreation area - Preserve a tranquil, easily accessed setting for outings, day hiking and wildlife. Prohibit planned development of commercial mountain-biking trails and facilities in the ski basin.
- Sensible improvements - Permit additional trails within the protected lift-served area and construction of the new Spruce Bowl lift. Upgrade existing La Casa Lodge and allow additions to Totemoff's mid-mountain lodge.

SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO

SUMMER DIRECTORY

Marlane' Theater, Chair..........................522-3421
Ben Zerbe, Treasurer............................526-6207
David Pengelly.................................526-4277
NMSU Student Advisor .........................526-3091
Cheryl Bieven, Publicity..........................526-6270
Jim Winder, Education............................526-1870
Marian Nagy..................................522-4689

SUMMER SCHEDULE

Summertime is when Siesta Club members in southern New Mexico are vacationing to escape the 100+ degree days, are holding summer jobs, or are attending summer school. Soon we have no scheduled programs or outings.

As you may know, the Siesta Club in southern New Mexico operates on a semester basis in tune with the New Mexico State University calendar.

NEWS

(in case you haven't already heard!)

ITEM: For those of you who may have been away, there has been a major fire in the Organ Mountains. This blaze can be seen at night and the smoke can be seen during the day. The fire began as a burning stump on Ft. Bliss lands in the one place where Ft. Bliss lands come west beyond the crest of the Organ. Ft. Bliss said White Sands Missile Range was responsible for putting the fire out. WSMR and it was BLM and BLM said it was monitoring the situation. When the fire approached Aguirre Springs on the east side, and Dripping Springs on the west side of the Organ Mountains, fire suppression began. If you believe all military lands west of the Organ Mountain crest should be returned to BLM and public access, call, or better yet write, our Congressman Steve and our Senators Jeff Bingaman and Pete Domenici in Washington. If you need addresses or telephone numbers, call 522-3421.

ITEM: This summer, the BLM has been processing an application to reopen the open pit copper mine just north of the road to Hillsboro, New Mexico.

ITEM: Marlane' Theater met with personnel of the U.S. Army Space and Strategic Defense Command and White Sands Missile Range in June at Sen. Bingaman's office in Albuquerque. The battle to keep McGregor Range south of Alamogordo open to the public by Access Permit for hiking, hunting, grazing, and wildlife watching rages on with little success. McGregor Range is presently managed not too cooperatively by BLM and Ft. Bliss. Ft. Bliss plans a helicopter gunnery range, shooting range, and tank exercise area on this pristine grassland. Otero Mesa on McGregor Range is what New Mexico was like before over grazing at the turn of the century. We have not had a lot of cooperation from the military to keep this pristine area safe from destruction. Military planned expansions in New Mexico will take over one million acres out of public access, including Ft. Bliss and White Sands Missile Range.

HELP NEEDED!

If you would like to volunteer some time or talent, we always welcome new ideas, new faces, and new talent. The Siesta Club needs you.

Newsletter Editor? Have an article for the Newsletter? Wilderness Study Committee? Hike Leader? Got some slides, want to give a Program? Know someone who does? Field trips? Where would you like to go? Just want to pass along some ideas? Want to tackle a conservation issue? Give Marlane a call (522-3421). Make 1994-95 the year YOU do something for the environment of New Mexico, and meet new people and make new friends at the same time.

FALL SCHEDULE

The "New Member-Old Member Picnic" is scheduled for Saturday, August 27, 1994. We'll be making specific plans of time and place in late July or early August. If you would like to be part of the Picnic Organizing Committee, give Marlane a call at 522-3421. All members, new and old and prospective, are encouraged to help and get involved.

18

THE ORO GRANDE SERRAN

JULY/AUGUST 1994

THE ORO GRANDE SERRAN

JULY/AUGUST 1994

19