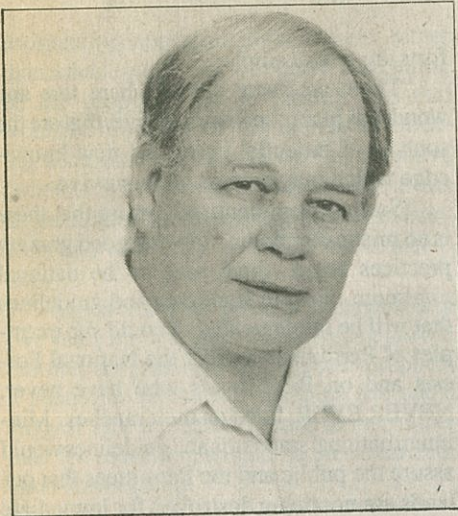


Activist Profile George Grossman



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 focussed on wilderness issues and political campaigns.

He has been affiliated with the Wilderness Study Committee and the Wilderness Coalition and he has worked on RARE II (Forest Service wilderness), including conducting lobbying in Washington. George worked on designating the Bisti a wilderness area in 1985, getting El Malpais 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 Angostura 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 Bingham and Clinton campaigns in 1992, the Mondale campaign in 1984, the Calkin campaign in 1986, 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 Publication 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 Post Office almost every Saturday to get signatures for Brant Calkin for State Land Commissioner in 1982. George has put more time into political campaigns than any other Sierra Club member that I know of. And he doesn't spend his time sitting in the office. He's out there putting up signs, handing out 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

threatens 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."

☐ Yes, I want to help safeguard our nation's precious natural heritage. My check is enclosed.

Name _____

Address _____

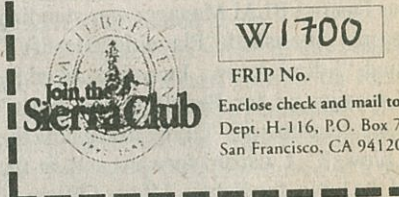
City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

| | INDIVIDUAL | JOINT |
|----------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| REGULAR | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$43 |
| SUPPORTING | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$58 |
| CONTRIBUTING | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$108 |
| LIFE | <input type="checkbox"/> \$750 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 |
| SENIOR | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$23 |
| STUDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$23 |
| LIMITED INCOME | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$23 |

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RIO GRANDE SIERRAN

News of the Rio Grande Chapter
Sierra Club • July/August 1994

Right Rangeland Wrongs: Write!

by Roger Peterson

July 28 is the postmark-deadline for input to Secretary Bruce Babbitt's Rangeland Reform '94, a major proposal for better management of the public range. Both strong support of the Bureau of Land Management effort and strong suggestions for improvements to the proposal seem right. Comments go to:

Rangeland Reform '94

Bureau of Land Management

P. O. Box 66300

Washington, D. C. 20035-6300

or by E-mail to fswa/s=fsrangland/oul=w01a@mhs.attmail.com. The documents (proposed BLM and Forest Service regulations from the Federal Register and Rangeland Reform '94 Draft EIS or its much thinner summary) may be obtained at BLM and Forest Service offices.

Special Interests Active

Comments opposing reform are pouring in from special interests—those who stand to lose control of the range if the proposal goes through. June 8's hearings on Reform '94 in Farmington, Roswell, Las Cruces, and Albuquerque were dominated by organized People for the West groups that tried, with some success, to make these federal hearings appear to be their own meetings. In Las Cruces, Bureau of Land Management personnel refused to eject "People's" dominantly placed table and literature from the hearing room at a Best Western, although the motel manager did have the outdoor poster advertising the "People of the West" meeting removed. (See story on page 23.) In Albuquerque, two of the 56 people who spoke by 5 p.m. represented the public interest and the rest were ranchers, some of whom spoke at length and more than once. Roswell and Farmington are unlikely to have done better.

That negative deluge should be balanced by constructive comments on range reform. But how to address such a complex proposal?

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 thoughtful, substantive input. Table 2-6 in the DEIS compares alternatives and provides an efficient route toward understanding; for the seven grazing-fee alternatives Table 2-7 must also be considered. The Summary's tables are not as good as the EIS's 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 philosophical basis of Alternative 4: "livestock grazing will be authorized only where enough data show resource condition standards and goals are being met" (as opposed to Alternative 1's "livestock grazing will continue unless problems are documented 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, unless you favor competitive bidding for leases (Proposal #7), which might require statutory changes. Rather than entering this complex arena in forceful 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 (to be adjusted as private lease rates change), as proposed in the August 1993 version of Rangeland Reform, seems more realistic that 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 condition, with the fee rise to stop at \$3.50 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* permittees should be good managers as a condition of their permit; we particularly oppose discounts for

(continued on page 22)

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 George Grossman, Vice Chair (505) 982-1024
 Blair Brown, Alb. Rep. (505) 265-3231
 Susan Gorman, Sec., Council Del. (505) 265-3231
 Sue McIntosh, Santa Fe Rep. (505) 982-4146
 Ted Mertig (915) 852-3011
 Jana Oyler, Treas. (505) 984-2020
 Van Perkins (505) 983-8801
 Susan Schock (505) 388-2854
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 Wyona Turner, El Paso Rep. (915) 585-0251
 Pat Wolff (505) 989-1663
 Ben Zerbey (505) 526-6207

Conservation Chair--Tom Brasfield (915) 584-8739

Conservation Issue Chairs
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 Energy & Trans.--Ken Hughes (505) 988-9297
 Federal Facilities, Toxics, & Land Use--
 Jay Sorenson (505) 884-4314
 Marianne Thaeler (505) 522-3421
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Rio Grande Sierran
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| | |
|--|---|
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| El Paso Group 800 S. Piedras P.O. Box 9191 El Paso, TX 79983 (915) 532-9645 | Southwest Regional Office 516 E. Portland St. Phoenix, AZ 85004 (602) 254-9330 FAX: 258-6533 |
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Contributions are welcomed from members and non-members. Send to *Rio Grande Sierran*, c/o B. Johnson, 1 Encantado Loop, Santa Fe, NM 87505. Articles should be submitted by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Preferred format is on Macintosh disc as Microsoft Word file. Other formats may be compatible--check with the Production Manager. Letters and articles are subject to abridgement.

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From the Chair...

There has been a lot of criticism of the Sierra Club and its Executive Committee in these pages recently. And we hear more in letters and phone calls and in other publications. These range from complaints about candidates we have/haven't endorsed, positions we have/haven't taken, to personal criticism of individuals.

Although I do not believe we should take our internal disagreements to other media, I welcome the internal dialogue. I believe, in fact, that it is a direct consequence of some of our strengths. The Sierra Club, at every level, is a democratic organization. We elect our leaders, and this is not an empty gesture. Petition candidates at the local and national level 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 the 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 work on it. Many activities of smaller environmental groups were initiated by the Sierra Club.

There are also drawbacks to our type of organization. Elected 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 under-reported in the news media in relationship to our achievements. I cannot make

a bold, provocative statement at the ring of a telephone. I must consider if my statement will meet 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 fulltime jobs, we are not always available for meetings or phone calls. This, and the fact that one of us may speak on one issue and someone else on another, is also a problem in dealing with the press. The yearly changes in the Executive Committees 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 we need to accept as a trade-off for the advantages 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 Rio Grande Chapter wishes to thank the 24 members who have contributed \$1954 to date to our 1994 fund appeal but who have asked that their gifts remain anonymous. We also want to express public thanks to the following members who have contributed since the last newsletter was published:

All & Everything Theater - Tijeras
 Dr. Mercedes Agogino - Portales
 Ed Barengo - Albuquerque
 Blair Brown - Albuquerque
 Helen B. Cahn - Tesuque
 Richard Cherian - Albuquerque
 Diane Christman - El Paso
 Mary Jo Clark - Farmington
 Hope A. Curtis - Santa Fe
 Alexandra C. Dilworth - Silver City
 Eleanor Evaskovich - Albuquerque
 Luis R. Fernandez - El Paso
 Doug Fraser - Los Alamos
 Kathy Fraser - Los Alamos
 Susan Gorman - Albuquerque
 Barbara Graham - Albuquerque
 Ron Grotbeck - Albuquerque
 Jeanene C. Hafen - Anthony
 Joan Harden - Albuquerque
 Curtis B. Hawley - Santa Fe
 Lyda Hawley - Santa Fe
 Elizabeth S. Janeczek - Sandia Park
 E. Andrew Janeczek - Sandia Park
 Arnold Keskulla - Santa Fe
 Carolyn Keskulla - Santa Fe
 Roy McCloud - Alamogordo
 Michael McKay - Los Alamos
 Patricia McKay - Los Alamos
 Barbara Mertig - El Paso

Ted Mertig - El Paso
 Kathy Perkins - Santa Fe
 Van L. Perkins - Santa Fe
 Edith Pierpont - Santa Fe
 John Pierpont - Santa Fe
 Bill Reeves - Santa Fe
 Melissa Richmond - Santa Fe
 William H. Rogers - El Paso
 Rebeca Shankland - Los Alamos
 T.J. Shankland - Los Alamos
 Julianne Jones Sherman - Los Alamos
 Jack A. Smith - Las Cruces
 Jewell M. Solberg - Las Cruces
 Harry Treafis - Las Cruces
 Sammie Treafis - Las Cruces
 Spike Venable - Santa Fe
 Gwen Wardwell - Santa Fe
 Joan Watts - Galisteo
 Miriam White - Santa Fe
 Robert Wickham - Santa Fe

Contributions through mid-June total \$6564.29, \$435.71 shy of our \$7000 goal. The Chapter will gratefully accept contributions at anytime. Please send a check payable to "Rio Grande Chapter of the Sierra Club" to Jana Oyler, Treasurer, Route 19, Box 120-KO, Santa Fe, NM 87505. Note that contributions to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible. All monies you contributed to the Chapter are put to work locally.

(Please do not send your dues renewal or other Club business items to the above address. These matters are handled through the national office and will be delayed substantially if they are sent to a local address.)

Primary Results in New Mexico

by Van Perkins

Two of three candidates endorsed by the Rio Grande Chapter in the New Mexico Democratic Primary won their respective races. Patricia Madrid won the nomination for Lieutenant Governor, Ray Powell, the nomination for State Land Commissioner. Jim Baca finished with a respectable 25% of the vote in a three-way race for the nomination for Governor, but was seriously handicapped by inadequate funding in a race in which his two opponents had almost bottomless war chests.

Sierra Club members played a substantial role in the primary. All three campaigns did statewide mailings, done cooperatively with

Sierra Club members and using Sierra Club mailing lists. Sierra Club volunteers walked precincts, manned telephones, put up signs, and did 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 unheeded.

A heartfelt thank you to all who responded to the call for help. Enjoy the victories. Take a breather, then get ready for the even bigger contest coming in November.

Nominations Needed

by Jana Oyler

This fall, the general membership of the Rio Grande Chapter will elect three people to the Executive Committee. These three, who will serve for three years, will be among the 13 activists who apportion 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 a sense of humor.

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 candidates for the Executive Committee. Any Chapter member in good standing who wishes to run for the Executive Committee but 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 50 Chapter members in good standing is presented to the Nominating Committee by the later 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 its slate of candidates. Those candidates, along with petition candidates, will be on the ballot in November.

To nominate yourself or any other member, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee as soon as possible. The members of the Nominating Committee and their telephone numbers are:

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Susan Gorman | 505-265-3231 |
| Ted Mertig | 915-852-3011 |
| Jana Oyler | 505-984-2020 |
| | (weekdays) |
| Gwen Wardwell | 505-438-3060 |
| Ben Zerbey | 505-526-6207 |

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 Tryens, director of the Center's Sustainable De-

velopment Program. "This is also the third time we have selected officials in New Mexico—Governor Alvino Lucero of the Pueblo of Isleta won in 1993 and State Senator Roman Maes 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 honors 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.



David M. Vackar, Special Assistant, Office of Governor Bruce King, George Grossman, Vice Chair of the Chapter Executive Committee, Jeff Tryens of the Center for Policy Alternatives, Rep. Gary King, Gwen Wardwell, Chair of the Chapter Executive Committee, and Doug Fraser at the award ceremony

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 25-30 young people 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 issue is protection and preservation of our nation's wetlands. For us, this means the areas along the Rio Grande and the other rivers, as well as those special areas like Bosque del Apache.

Beginning in Albuquerque in May, the canvassers will be moving north to 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 about 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 to make them welcome and involved so that they will become permanent, active members.



Opportunities for Action: Volunteer Now

by Susan Gorman

The Chapter Executive and Conservation Committees met June 4 and 5 for a mid-year progress review. The attendees made a sincere effort to step back and really evaluate the quality of the work the Club is doing to preserve the remaining wild places and natural beauty of New Mexico and West Texas and to improve the quality of our water and our air. It was a time of soul searching and all of the discussions brought us to one conclusion: WE NEED MORE ACTIVISTS AND VOLUNTEERS!

The opportunities to be involved are many and varied. Here is a short list:

New Member Welcome Project

The National Sierra Club is sending folks door-to-door to invite people to join the Sierra Club and to Save America's Wetlands (see article on page 4). They have started in Albuquerque and will move out across New Mexico and West Texas through the summer. The hundreds of new members they sign up will need to be welcomed and urged to participate in our wide variety of activities and programs. This is a great way to meet new people and to make Sierra friends. To volunteer, call Susan Gorman (265-3231) or Ford Robbins (466-7665).

Writers

The *Sierran's* new production manager, Barbara Johnson, needs home-grown articles about what's happening in your area. This is your chance to become a published author!

Office Support

The Group offices always need office help to open and distribute mail, take phone messages, send out Club information, and answer questions. There are also opportunities for fixing, cleaning, and organizing. Each Group has specific needs, so check with your local office.

Bulletin Board Manager

The Chapter's 4500 members are spread across a geographic area larger than many countries. Communication is a continuing challenge. We currently have an opportunity to establish a Computer Bulletin Board to link Chapter members and other environmental organizations. We need a volunteer (or two or three) who can watch over the system and keep it running smoothly. If you

want to know more, call Blair Brown (265-3231).

Conservation Activists and Apprentices

The needs for activists who want to provide support on conservation issues are many and varied. Pick the issue you are most interested in, check the *Sierran* for the Issue Chair's 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.

The Chapter Retreat will be September 9, 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.

Fourth Annual Chapter Retreat

The Fourth Annual Chapter Retreat will be held at the Black Range Lodge in Kingston September 9 through 11. Ben Zerby will lead a hike on Friday afternoon, September 9, followed by dinner and practice for the pool tournament. Discussion will begin on Saturday at about 8:30 a.m. and will continue throughout the day, with appropriate breaks for food and rest, until dinner and the pool tournament. Discussion will resume on Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and continue until adjournment at noon.

Our three previous Retreats have been quite productive. The First Chapter Retreat was held at Ghost Ranch in October 1991, when we began the process of determining a mission statement, goals, and objectives for those goals. One of the goals for 1991 was to work toward a hardrock mining bill for New Mexico. The 1992 Retreat in Kingston made passage of a mining bill a major goal of the Chapter. In 1993, we designated water quality and quantity issues as our major focus, with a minor emphasis on developing good

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 speed the process if you have your membership number available for reference.

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.

regulations for the Mining Bill which passed the State Legislature in 1993. Other goals were to get State tire and oil recycling bills passed, begin reform of the Game and Fish Department, and get a good New Mexico Wilderness bill introduced.

In 1993, we also began to talk about how to achieve our goals in addition to determining what they would be. There will be even more emphasis on how to reach our goals this year. The discussion will be loosely structured, but it is open to everyone. Everyone who attends will have a vote, if, in fact, there is anything to be voted on. If you have ideas about what the Chapter's goals should be or about how we should reach our goals, please come to the Retreat and share your views.

Specific details about food and lodging will be sent to all members of group ExComs and Conservation Committees and to other activists. If you are not presently on our activist list, please call Gwen Wardwell at 984-8860 (work) or 438-3060 (home) to get this information. We look forward to seeing you at the Retreat.

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 Senate, Governor/Lt. Governor (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 Sierran*. Group recommendations 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 related to water quality and quantity, wildlife, riparian areas, mining, grazing, recycling, "takings," 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 answers.

Following extensive discussion of the questionnaire responses and the performance in the interview, 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) of two separate "entities." For State legislative and local races, those two entities are the Group and Chapter Executive Committees. For State-wide races such as Governor, the two entities are the Chapter Political Committee and the Chapter Executive Committee. For national races (House and Senate), they are the Chapter Executive Committee and the national Sierra Club Political Committee.

Endorsement decisions are based entirely on the positions candidates take on environmental issues. The only other criterion is "electability." Club policy discourages en-

dorsements 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 strong record of voting for, or otherwise supporting, environmental issues of concern to the Club, that person is generally given an endorsement based on that record, without either being asked to complete a questionnaire or submit to an interview. This exception will apply to only a few races in the

Sierra Club Resolves to Restructure

by Robbie Cox, President, Sierra Club Board of Directors

On May 7, the Board of Directors met in open session with the Council, RVP Forum, Chapter chairs and volunteer leaders at the "Circus" in San Francisco and unanimously adopted a Resolution to restructure the Sierra Club.

The "Resolution on Restructuring" says: "1. Restructuring Goal:

"To simplify the Sierra Club while maintaining its democratic character and financial health, enabling us to achieve our Conservation Purposes better; entities that are renewed or proposed as a result of a restructuring process must be necessary to achieve this goal.

"2. Criteria:

"(1) Inclusive and democratic in character

"(2) Capable of moving our conservation priorities swiftly

"(3) Maximum financial and human resources devoted to our priorities and programs, and minimum devoted to internal process, governance, and administration

"(4) A structure that builds upon and encourages trust and a sense of community—

One Sierra Club

"(5) Enhances our activist base

"(6) Financially viable in the short and long term

"3. The Board of Directors directs the President, working with the Executive Director:

*We need your Letters
commenting on
Rangeland Reform
'94.*

*Please Write to BLM
by July 28.*

"(1) to identify and develop appropriate proposals that reflect the above criteria

"(2) to involve appropriate volunteer leaders and staff, and

"(3) to have available a set of initial proposals for the Board's July retreat."

We invite a far-reaching vision of a simplified, lean, inclusive, and powerful Sierra Club. There are rare moments in an organization's history which allow it to re-shape itself. I believe this is such a moment and that we can collectively imagine and bring into being a Sierra Club in which we feel included and of which we are wondrously proud.

We will shortly set up PROJECT RE-NEWAL, a public mail list for comments on the restructuring process. I and members of the Task Force will be on the list. We encourage you to share your ideas and proposals for the "new" Sierra Club with us and others.



Mining Commission Closes Hearings on Mining Act Regulations

by Sue McIntosh

Finally, the fourth quarter for New Mexico non-coal mine reclamation seems to be drawing to a close. On Friday, June 17, the New Mexico Mining Commission closed deliberations 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 compendium of its regulations until after press time. The base draft which the Commission had before it was significantly improved from earlier drafts which the Mining and Minerals Division of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (MMD) had released. Since extensive public meetings in the summer of 1993, the Sierra Club, with the Environmental Law Center, met with MMD and advocated several modifications to interim MMD drafts. 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 take testimony on the draft regulations and any amendments which were offered. The Sierra Club offered extensive amendatory language which touched on almost every rule. Amendments were also offered by several parties within the mining industry, other public citizens, and various state agencies, including the Environment Department, the Attorney General, and the Department of Game and Fish.

While the final MMD draft regulatory package was much improved, it still contained serious flaws when it was presented to the Mining Commission. Many citizens testified in favor of strong regulations. The Sierra Club, Doug Meiklejohn (New Mexico Environmental Law Center), and Colorado Attorney and Mining Commissioner Luke Danielson provided testimony directly advocating proposed strengthening amendments.

The Sierra Club, along with Concerned Citizens del Norte and the New Mexico Wilderness Study Committee, were represented by Doug Meiklejohn during the recent hearings. The Sierra Club is indebted to the Center not only for its consistent and persistent good work on a complex matter, but for Mr. Meiklejohn, the only individual who always laughs at my jokes. I guess that is the essence of the attorney-client relationship.

Finally, a debt of gratitude is owed to Mr. Jon Klinge, formerly of the Department of Game and Fish, now enjoying the Rocky

Mountains firsthand in the woods of Northern New Mexico. Mr. Klinge had represented Game and Fish during the early phases of regulatory promulgation, and, when he resigned from the Department before the hearings began, he did not walk away from the process to which he had contributed so much. Mr. Klinge 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

Piatt of the Environment Department, Surface Water Quality Bureau, is owed at least two or three extra words. Following Dr. Piatt's clear and concise cross-examinations, it became obvious that he could no longer, with good conscience, partake in the popular "lawyer-bashing" which became rampant during the hearings. He was one of the best "lawyers" in the room, and surely the only one with a highly focussed understanding of ecological systems and the impacts of mining.

Welcome, New Members

Please give a big welcome to our new members:

Lonnie & Margaret Abernethy El Paso, TX
Matthew & Debra Koch El Paso, TX
Dolores McMahan El Paso, TX
Christine Kelso El Paso, TX
Kay Trapp El Paso, TX
Connie Gamboa El Paso, TX
Greg Garcia El Paso, TX
Andrea Schmidt El Paso, TX
Roy Levi El Paso, TX
Parry Buck El Paso, TX
Gerda Krefft El Paso, TX
Johnny Thompson El Paso, TX
Jennifer Riggan El Paso, TX
Roger Lamaster El Paso, TX
Dr. Jeffrey Maxcy El Paso, TX
Lee Ward El Paso, TX
David Aldana El Paso, TX
Bill Sanders El Paso, TX
Ethel Stamnitz El Paso, TX
Gregory Conteras El Paso, TX
William Gutierrez El Paso, TX
Flavia Thomas El Paso, TX
Rafael Porres MD El Paso, TX
James Philpot El Paso, TX
Ruth Napolske El Paso, TX
Richard Southern El Paso, TX
Fernando Racelis El Paso, TX
Constance Harris El Paso, TX
Daniel & Emlyn Valles El Paso, TX
Luis Fernandez El Paso, TX
Russell Carleton El Paso, TX
Warren Watson & Susan Stone El Paso, TX
Susan Wagner El Paso, TX
Jorge Ramirez El Paso, TX
Bob Cutler Boulder, CO
Frank Baca Belen, NM
Teresa Tibbets Los Lunas, NM
Ms. Andra Davis Placitas, NM
Peter Hutchinson Corrales, NM
N. Rutland / M. Harbour Corrales, NM
Jane Green Corrales, NM
Diana George Corrales, NM
Maggie Greenberg Corrales, NM

Toni Peterson / Larry Evans Tijeras, NM
Ms. Karen Everett Bosque Farms, NM
Ms. Patricia Carpenter Albuquerque, NM
Margaret Moquin Albuquerque, NM
N. Tremaine Albuquerque, NM
Patricia Sanchez Albuquerque, NM
Sean McMullen Albuquerque, NM
Martin & Virginia Facey Albuquerque, NM
Nancy Loper Albuquerque, NM
Mr. George Couch Albuquerque, NM
Patricia Madrid / L. Messina Albuquerque, NM
Lori Coate Albuquerque, NM
A. Price Albuquerque, NM
Erika King Albuquerque, NM
Doug Weintraub Albuquerque, NM
Yvonne Chavin Albuquerque, NM
David Lorber Albuquerque, NM
Elinore Barrett Albuquerque, NM
Elisabeth Anderson Albuquerque, NM
Mr. Laurence Hoess Albuquerque, NM
Villy Newton Albuquerque, NM
Deidre Kitchen Albuquerque, NM
Ms. Ann Beyke Albuquerque, NM
I. Martinez Albuquerque, NM
Cindy Johnson / Richard Gibula Albuquerque, NM
Mrs. E. Phinney Albuquerque, NM
Don Tennent Albuquerque, NM
Elsbeth & Hans Quack Albuquerque, NM
Steve Ritzay Albuquerque, NM
Dr. Marsha Fox Albuquerque, NM
Kevin McCormack Albuquerque, NM
Carolyn Flynn Albuquerque, NM
Dr. George Hozier Jr. Albuquerque, NM
Kathy Karnaze Albuquerque, NM
Andrew Black Albuquerque, NM
Steven Hermele Albuquerque, NM
Michael Silbert Albuquerque, NM
Shirley Nicolao Albuquerque, NM
John & Suzanne Christensen Albuquerque, NM
Ms. Ann Kirk Albuquerque, NM
Stuart Klein Albuquerque, NM
Allen Roth Albuquerque, NM
Andrew & Janet Montano Albuquerque, NM
Richard Coatney Albuquerque, NM
T. Humphrey Sr. Albuquerque, NM

ALBUQUERQUE GROUP

JULY GENERAL MEETING: MOVIE NIGHT !

By Susan 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 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 18th, 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 Kibbey Butte in mid-June 1989. You will also hear about the challenging Redwall descent through the Wormhole 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 CAMPOUT

When: Saturday and Sunday, August 6-7, 1994

Where: Cedro Peak Camp Ground, 4 miles south of I40 on Route 14, 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 Cedro 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 6-8 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 7:30 at the Sierra Club office.

Potluck Schedule

See outings pages for July or call the Sierra Club HOTLINE - 265-5506
If you want to host a Potluck, 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 setting up Speakers Bureau and an education/information line as part of the new Sierra Club hotline. In September, we will be providing training for APS teachers using the T.E.A.M. (Teachers Environmental Action Manual) which was written by Joan Rosner of the Albuquerque Group. If you have other ideas or would like to work with us, please contact Teresa Adams 880-0737 or Ann Beyke 265-3087.

Water Action Group

Good news for Albuquerque! The Albuquerque Group has formed a Water Committee which we're calling the Water Action Group. We're having regular meetings, so call Jack Pinney 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 waste water hotline and let them know the location and other details. Call early and often!

Water and Wal-Mart by Anne Beyke 265-3087

Wal-Mart will soon be breaking ground for a huge new store at Zuni/San Mateo in Albuquerque. Despite the fact that Wal-Mart does have a model "green" store, there is no indication that this store will implement any kind of conservation measures. In light of Mayor Chavez's support of voluntary residential/commercial water conservation, Wal-Mart could make a statement to residents 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 #831.

1994 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Office Telephone: 265-5506

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------|----------|
| Group Chair | Jay Sorenson | 884-4314 |
| Vice Chair | Ron Grotbeck | 296-0944 |
| Secretary | Blair Brown | 265-3231 |
| Treasurer | Richard Barish | 247-8079 |
| | Stefan Verchinski | 888-1370 |
| | Nick Nicolaus | 865-4428 |
| | Nick Persampieri | 281-7845 |
| | Will Richardson | 299-6257 |

The Albuquerque Group of the Sierra Club depends entirely on the efforts of volunteers. To help our efforts, call the following issue coordinators:

ADMINISTRATION

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Activities/ | vacant | |
| Special Planning | | |
| Books/ | vacant | |
| Calendars | | |
| Newsletter | Dorothy Brethauer | 275-6113 |
| | Larry Compton | 899-0679 |
| Outings | David Morrison | 344-8693 |
| | Stan Kauchak | 839-4301 |
| Programs | Susan Gorman | 265-3231 |
| | Ralph Wrons | 275-0856 |

CONSERVATION

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Conservation | Susan Gorman | 265-3231 |
| Chair | | |
| Air Quality | Heidi Fleischmann | 260-1217 |
| Bosque | Richard Barish | 247-8079 |
| Energy | Ralph Wrons | 275-0856 |
| Las Huertas | Marion Davidson | 867-5178 |
| Mining Reform | Blair Brown | 265-3231 |
| Petroglyphs/ | | |
| Westside | Ike Eastvold | 255-7679 |
| | Nick Persampieri | 281-7845 |
| Population | Michelle Meaders | 266-8823 |
| Public Lands | Barbara Stone | 265-5304 |
| Waste/ | David Bouquin | 265-7853 |
| Recycling | | |
| Water | Jack Pinney | 293-3450 |
| Wildlife/ | Barbara Bates | 888-0388 |
| Endangered Species | | |
| Wildlife/ | Susan Larsen | 897-2527 |
| Mexican Wolf | | |

CALENDAR

Unless otherwise noted, meetings take place at the Club office at 207 San Pedro NE.

July 5: Activities & Special Planning Meeting, 7PM Sierra Club Office.

July 7: Mexican Wolf Coalition, 7:30 PM.

July 11: Executive Committee Meeting, 7PM.

July 18: Sierra Club General Meeting, UNM Law School, Rm 2402, 7:30 PM.

July 25: Conservation Working Session, 7:30 PM.

Aug 2: Activities & Special Planning Meeting, 7PM Sierra

Club Office.

Aug 4: Mexican Wolf Coalition, 7:30 PM.

Aug 6-7 Group Campout. See article on previous page.

Aug 8: Executive Committee Meeting, 7PM.

Aug 13: 12 noon. Deadline for articles for Sept-Oct group newsletter. Macintosh preferred. Call Larry if supplying hardcopy only.

Aug 15: Sierra Club General Meeting, UNM Law School, Rm 2402, 7:30 PM.

Aug 22: Conservation Working Session, 7:30 PM.

Sept 1: Mexican Wolf Coalition, 7:30 PM.

Sept 6: Activities & Special Planning Meeting, 7PM

OUTINGS

Abbreviations: WSA-Wilderness Study Area SW-Sandia Wilderness NM-National Monument SC-Sierra Club NRA-National Recreation Area

July Hikes in the Petroglyph National Monument
Leisure Miles: 3 Car: 3-4
Call for details of the hikes in July. Bring sturdy shoes, camera, binoculars.
Leader: Ike Eastvold 255-7679

Sat- Mon July 2-4 Leisure to Strenuous Car: 250 Miles: ?
Trails Development Work Weekend, Cruces Basin Wilderness Service Project
To be conducted jointly between the Sierra Club, Volunteers for the Outdoors, and Tres Piedras Ranger District. Chapter wide invitation. We will be doing trail reconnaissance, marking, some brush clearing, and building of rock cairns. Tentatively planned is building a trail into the Cruces Basin Wilderness. This trail starts east of Chama, goes up into Colorado, and back into New Mexico. Also, stabilization of a historical building near San Antonio Mountain, and scouting of a possible ski trail in that area. Camping out at Hopewell Lake, with a semi-pot-luck evening feast and program Saturday evening. Possible motel accommodations in Ojo Caliente. A serious work weekend in spectacular scenery. Contact John at 466-9329 or Stan for details. (See Santa Fe Group Outings July 2,3,4)
Leader: Stan Kauchak 839-4301

Sat- Sun Jul 9-10 Moderate-Strenuous Miles: 14 Car: 260
Backpack in the Wheeler Peak Wilderness Area
Wildflowers should be out in abundance. Leave town Friday night to start walking early Saturday morning. Backpack in about 7 miles to a nice lake setting. Do not forget the raingear. Call for details.
Leader: Craig Dill 224-9795

Sat Jul 16 Moderately-Strenuous (NO BEGINNERS) Miles: ~20 Car: 50
Manzano Mountain Bike Ride
A mountain bike ride through the Manzano Mountains. Single/double track riding (Some on road). We will ride up a canyon, follow a ridge, and come down Day Canyon. Pack lunch, water, sunscreen, helmets mandatory. Call for more information.
Leader: Val 265-5947.

Sat- Sun Jul 16-17 Strenuous

Miles: 14 Car: ~800
Mt. Evans and Mt Bierstadt, Colorado 14teeners and Rollerblade in Denver
Drive up Friday night. Climb a peak or both. Stay overnight. You can drive up Mt. Evans if you do not feel like walking. Sunday afternoon we will spend a few hours rollerblading around Denver before returning home. Call for more details.
Leader: Stefan Verchinski 888-1370

Sun Jul 17 Leisure- Moderate Miles: 3-5 Car: 45
Wildflower Identification in the Sandias Hike
We will head to a higher elevation in the Sandias for learning the process for identifying wildflowers. Sense of wonder is required. Bring field guides, magnifying glasses, and binoculars if you have them. Bring water, lunch, and rain gear. Meet at 10:00 AM at the Sierra Club office, 207 San Pedro NE.
Leader: Richard Barrish 247-8079

Sun Jul 17
July Potluck
Everyone welcome. Meet at 6:00PM. Bring a dish for 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 Kauchak will be our host for July. Take I-40 West to Unser. Exit north onto Unser and turn west onto 98th Street (2nd stoplight after you exit I-40). Go to the end of the street and turn left onto Calle Azulejo. The house is the 2nd to the last one on the right. The address is: 2119 Calle Azulejo. Telephone no.: 839-4301

Sat Jul 23 Moderate Miles: 6 Car: 180
Jack's Creek to the Mesa Hike, Pecos Wilderness
We start with a mile of switchbacks on the trail to Pecos Baldy lake. We reach the mesa for some further hiking, explore the mesa for wild irises, eat lunch, and return. Do not forget raingear, water, and lunch. Meet at the Sierra Club office, 207 San Pedro NE at 9:00AM.
Leader: Bob Cornish 255-6037

Sun Jul 24 Leisure- Moderate Miles: 0 Car: 110
Kayak Instruction, Cochiti

Lake
Learn balance, paddle strokes, and the eskimo roll. Kayaks provided, but bring your own if you have one. You will get wet, so bring swimming suits, and wading shoes. Instruction provided by Dennis Morrison. Meet at 8:00AM.
Leader: David Morrison 344-8693

Wed Jul 27 Leisure Miles: 3 Car: 0
Oxbow Hike
Although pulse flows (such as arroyo thunderstorm events) are the single most critical factor to the function of a wetland, pulse flows were left out of the Environmental Assessment of the San Antonio Arroyo impacts on the Oxbow. Although biofilters have been designed across the nation which do not need a constant water source, the Environmental Assessment only considers constant water flow biofilters. Meet at 6:00PM at Coors and St Josephs.
Leader: David Morrison 344-8693

Sat- Sun Jul 30-31 Leisure to Moderate Miles: 12 Car: 240
Astronomy Car Camp, Magdalena Mountains
Out high in the mountains where the stars blaze, far away from the glare of the city, we set up chairs and a telescope and watch the night float by. During the day we will take a couple of hikes into the surrounding area. Call for details.
Leader: Tom Leck 256-7217

Sun Jul 31 Leisure Miles: 4 Car: 160
Wildflowers of the Higher Elevations Identification, Pecos or Jemez Mountains Hike
Required is a sense of wonder, but bring field guides, magnifying glass, and binoculars. Richard will teach us the process for identifying wildflowers. We will head for the cooler altitudes and green meadows. Call for meeting details.
Leader: Richard Barish 247-8079

August Hikes in the Petroglyph National Monument
Leisure Miles: 3 Car: 3-4
Call for details of the hikes in August. Bring sturdy shoes, camera, binoculars.
Leader: Ike Eastvold 255-7679

Sat- Sun Aug 6-7
Group Campout, Cedro Peak
We will have a hike up to Cedro Peak. Play volleyball and toss horseshoes. Vegetarian and meat-eaters main course, and continental breakfast is provided. You bring a side dish to share with 6 to

8 people and a five dollar donation. Evenig program consists of bluegrass music and campfire activities. **You can stay for the day or campout if you like.** If you are camping bring sleeping bag, tent, water, and other camping items. We will have a shelter and tarps for the usual thunderburst. Starts at 1:30PM. From I-40, take south 14 heading south 4 miles and follow signs to Cedro Peak. For information call 344-8693.

Sat- Sun Aug 13-14 Strenuous Miles: 14+ Car: ~600
Colorado 14teener, Leader's Choice of Pikes Peak or Mt. San Luis
The Mountain Goat finally returned (you might want to read further dates if you are a groupie). This one should be fun. Might be leaving Friday evening. Call for details.
Leader: Stefan Verchinski 888-1370

Sat Aug 13 Moderate Miles: 10-12 Car: 170
Spirit or Stewart Lake Hike, Pecos Wilderness
Drive up the Pecos river valley to the trail head. We may take an old route, that has many windfall trees, or the longer new trail which initially climbs and then follows a ridge. Be sure to bring raingear. Meet at Sierra Club office, 207 San Pedro NE at 9:00AM.
Leader: Bob Cornish 255-6037

Sun Aug 14 Moderate Miles: 8 Car: 160
Rio Puerco River, San Pedro Parks Wilderness, Jemez Hike
We drive just north of Cuba to our trailhead. We climb steadily until we cross over the rim of the Jemez caldera and into the forested valley of the Rio Puerco (Pig River). Plenty of water, meadows, aspens, fir, and spruce. Be sure to bring raingear. Call for meeting details.
Leader: Tom Leck 256-7217

Fri- Sun Aug 19-21 Moderate Miles: 14 Car: 470
Latir Mountain Wilderness Backpack
Join us for a 2 1/2 day backpack to Cabresto Lake in the Latir Mountain Wilderness. Plan on leaving Friday night and car camping at the trailhead. We will hike to and set up base camp at Cabresto Lake. We will dayhike to Cabresto Peak. Call for details. Be sure to bring raingear.

Leader: Val 265-5947

Fri Aug 26 Moderate Miles: 4 Car: 120
Tent Rocks and Slot Canyon by Moonlight
Bring flashlight. Meet at Far North Shopping Center behind Der Weinerschintzel at San Mateo and Academy at 6:30PM. Bring a snack to share with friends.
Leader: David Morrison 344-8693

Sun Aug 28 Moderate-Strenuous Miles: 12 Car: :240
Slot Canyons at Ghost Ranch and Abiqui
We will climb a colorful mesa in the Ghost Ranch area and enter a slot canyon. Afterwards we will head toward the Monastery to another slot canyon. If time permits we may attempt to wade the Chama and climb a 1500 ft mesa in search of cliff dwellings. All off trail.
Leader: David Morrison 344-8693

Sometime Late August
10.? Rock Climbing Miles: ?
Plane: ?
Mt. Ranier, Washington
Hip, Hip Hooray! The Sierra Club has recently reintroduced rock climbing. If Muir could climb it in 1888, you can climb it in 1994. This trip is conditional on the ability of Stefan to climb the mountain of red tape involved. Participants are subject to leader approval.
Leader: Stefan Verchinski 888-1370

Fri- Mon Sept 2-5 Moderately Strenuous Miles: 12-25 Car: 200
Pecos Wilderness Backpack
Plan on joining the Dallas Sierra Club over Labor Day weekend on their annual Pecos Wilderness backpack. Several options on locations. Call for details.
Leader Stan: 839-4301

Sometime September
Strenuous Miles: ? Car: Plenty
Mt. Rushmore, South Dakota
This is the one with some of the president's faces carved in the mountain.
Leader: Stefan Verchinski 888-1370

Sat- Mon Oct 8-10 Strenuous Miles: 14? Car: ~600
Mt. UnCompaghe and Mt. Wetterhorn, Colorado 14teeners
Take these 3 days of Columbus Day weekend to do some climb-

ing.
Leader: Stefan Verchinski 888-1370

Trip Reports

River Cleanup-We removed about 20 bags of garbage, saw a coyote, and found a mallard nest on a island. David lost his glasses while docking, we cheered when he found them in waist deep water.

Jemez River-About 12 people waded up the East Fork of the Jemez to the place where kids were cliff diving. When we returned to the trailhead we counted more than 50 cars at the parking lot. We caught one western garter snake to gander at for a little while.

Utah-Six of us hiked part of the San Juan snakes, drove to Lake Powell for a ferry crossing. We attempted a hike to Brimhall Arch, but were diverted from the goal by another of David's guesses. The juvenile crows trying to fly made the hike worth it. The next day we hiked Burro Wash in the Waterpocket Fold. This slot canyon turned so narrow we had to take off day packs and ended in a beautiful circular amphitheater. The next day we climber down Sulphur Creek past a series of waterfalls and semi-waterfalls. A large waterfall along side the highway made for some pleasurable, but were nothing compared to the minnow sized fish that were trying to scale a 40 foot waterfall on a migration.

Picnic-Estimates have ranged from 25 to 50 people that attended, depending on how close to the downpour the estimates were made. The music was great, and outings stomped the excom in volleyball. They said they were to chicken for a rematch on August 6-7. [You can write anything in these pages and excom will believe it]. The main question was are we being plagued by a thunderstorm curse. Bring a pancho for this next one.

the LORAX

JULY MEETING

Our July speaker will be Tracy Williams of the Texas Natural Resource and Conservation Commission, which oversees enforcement and education concerning air and water quality. Tracy will speak on "Outlines for the Future." Join us for this worthy presentation.

The program will start at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, July 27, at St. Paul's Methodist Church, 7000 Edgemere (two blocks east of Airway.) For more information, call Ted Mertig, 852-3011.

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 schmooze up to Mother Nature, she'll help you heat and cool your home without a big utility bill. Join us for this illuminating presentation.

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

GREAT JOB, WYONA!

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

THE ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

Volunteer to Help our Environment... The Center continues to need volunteers. Please contact the Center (532-9645), John Sproul (545-5157) or Ted Mertig (852-3011) 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 sponsor for a bimonthly FLIER, which will list two months' 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. Please post promptly. In fact, Michael Bromka urges you to be efficiently lazy and promptly PHONE him the names, times, and details for your upcoming or past outing. It's easier to write what I got than enter what I ain'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 pm. Set aside July 13 and August 10 to learn about important local conservation issues!

GROUP DIRECTORY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------|
| Chairman/Public Lands | Ted Mertig | 852-3011 |
| Vice Chair/Outings | Mike Episcopo | 833-3770 |
| Secretary | Joe Rodriguez | 833-9655 |
| Treasurer | Kathy Sunday | 584-9301 |
| Member | Betsy Julian | 544-5741 |
| Member/ICO | Richard Rheder | 544-5659 |
| Member | Debbie Tomacelli | 584-3929 |

CONSERVATION

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------|
| Environmental Quality | Tom Brasfield | 584-8739 |
| Franklin Mtns | John Sproul | 545-5157 |
| Political Action | Jim Bell | 581-8864 |
| Population | OPEN | |

ADMINISTRATION

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------|----------|
| Environmental Center | OPEN | |
| Group/LORAX Mail | Bill Phillips | 772-6503 |
| Hospitality | Barbara Mertig | 852-3011 |
| Membership | Carol Morrison | 545-1701 |
| Office Rep. | Neil O'Hara | 565-4735 |
| Publicity | OPEN | |
| LORAX Editor | Michael Bromka | 532-2652 |

Sierra Club Environmental Center

800 S. Piedras

532-9645, 532-4876

Please send any changes or corrections in membership to

Carol Morrison, Membership Roll

728 Kern Drive/79902

Send LORAX information to

Michael Bromka, 300 W. Schuster #5, 79902

UPCOMING OUTINGS

TOUR de La Luz BIKE RIDE / CARCAMP
Cloudcroft, NM

| | |
|---------|---|
| DATE: | Sat 9 July |
| CLASS: | Moderate |
| LIMIT: | 10, leader approval and reservations req. |
| LEADER: | Richard Rheder, 544-5659 |

Enjoy a scenic downhill mountain bike ride. Bike on FR 162 in Cloudcroft to La Luz, followed by a sag back up to Cloudcroft. Optional carcamp in secret hideaway near Wofford Lookout.

RABB PARK DAYHIKE

Gila Wilderness

| | |
|---------|---|
| DATE: | Sat 16 July |
| CLASS: | Moderate |
| LIMIT: | 12, leader approval & reservations req. |
| LEADER: | Carl Horkowitz 755-3968, 755-9344 |

Escape to the Gila. This six-mile hike traverses shaded piney woods and dry creek beds. 1000-foot elevation gain.

CONTINENTAL DIVIDE BACKPACK
Weminuche Wilderness, Colorado

| | |
|---------|---|
| DATE: | Sat 9 - Sun 17 July |
| CLASS: | Moderate / Difficult |
| LIMIT: | 12, leader approval & reservations req. |
| LEADER: | Laurence Gibson 594-7342 |

We'll hike 40 miles on the Continental Divide Trail westward from Wolf Creek Pass to Williams Creek Reservoir.

INNER CITY OUTINGS SERVICE TRIP

Carlsbad Caverns National Park

| | |
|---------|--------------------------|
| DATE: | Weekend in late July |
| CLASS: | Moderate |
| LIMIT: | Six Adults |
| LEADER: | Richard Rheder, 544-5659 |

Come clean up the Caverns. Phone mid-July for details.

LITTLE CREEK BEGINNERS' BACKPACK

The Gila Wilderness

| | |
|---------|---------------------------|
| DATE: | Sat/Sun 30/31 July |
| CLASS: | Moderately Easy |
| LIMIT: | 8, reservations required |
| LEADER: | Debbie Tomacelli 584-3929 |

The perfect jaunt for a beginner backpacker. A three-mile hike leads you to a refreshing iron-rich creek. Call early for details of carpooling, equipment, and foodlist. Plan on rain. Rendezvous will be at Albertson's at 7 a.m. sharp.

DESERT MOONLIGHT WALK

Near Las Cruces

| | |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| DATE: | Sat evening 20 Aug |
| CLASS: | Easy |
| LIMIT: | 25 |
| LEADER: | Alice Anderson 505-523-5179 |

Bring your aesthetic muse or significant other (or both) to enjoy the poetic and romantic splendors of the moonlit desert. Wear jeans in case of rattlesnakes.

WIND RIVER TREK

Bridger National Forest, Wyoming

| | |
|---------|---|
| DATE: | August: Call for possible date change |
| CLASS: | Moderate / Difficult |
| LIMIT: | 12, leader approval and reservations req. |
| LEADER: | Laurence Gibson 594-7342 |

We'll hike a five-day loop in the Bridger Wilderness, beginning east of Pinedale, WY. Hikers who fly into Jackson can be picked up at the airport.

CALENDAR

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Wed 6 July | EXCOM mtg 7p.m. Env Ctr |
| Sat 9 July | La Luz Bikeride |
| Sat 9-17 July | Continental Divide Backpack |
| Sun 10 July | LORAX Flier Deadline 532-2652 |
| Wed 13 July | Conservation Mtg 7 p.m. Env Ctr |
| Sat 16 July | Rabb Park Dayhike |
| late July | ICO Carlsbad Service Trip |
| Wed 27 July | Gen Mtg 7:30 p.m. 7000 Edgemere |
| Sat 30-31 July | Little Creek Beginners' Backpack |
| Wed 3 Aug | EXCOM mtg 7p.m. Env Ctr |
| Sat 6-14 (?) Aug | Wind River Trek, Wyoming (date may change) |
| Wed 10 Aug | LORAX Sierran Deadline 532-2652 |
| Wed 10 Aug | Conservation Mtg 7 p.m. Env Ctr |
| Sat 20 Aug | Desert Moonlight Walk |
| Wed 31 Aug | Gen Mtg 7:30 p.m. 7000 Edgemere |

OUTING REPORTS

Sapillo 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 rerouted the hike, looping from the Sapillo Creek trailhead. Snow flurries and freezing rain greeted us, hiking in along Sapillo Creek. The weather cleared a bit as we hiked in and out of the four side canyons. The trail dropped into the box canyon of Sapillo Creek. There, we made camp among the white sycamores. On Sunday morning, some of us hiked to the confluence of Sapillo Creek and the Gila River. Hiking back out, we relished this fine winter outing and gave thanks for the chipper comraderie of Eva Peppel, Roy McCloud, Rafaella Schuller, Alice Anderson, Peter Shaates, and leader Rollin Wickenden.

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 canyon 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 Rafaela Schuller, Sally Meeks, William Gutierrez, Bob Vaughan, Rita Slusser, Sari Suits, Rae Hamilton, Dale Harris, and leader Carl G. Horkowitz.

Alamo Mtn Dayhike / Backpack, Sat 23 Apr 1994

We met at St. Paul's and shuttled out Montana for a dusty rumble over dirt roads north to the looming flat-topped goal. A half-mile hike brought us to the peak's western slope, strewn with boulders. Petroglyphs peppered them: snakes, hunters, goats, horned heads, and enough zigzag designs to fill a Santa Fe boutique. Some komakazi hikers bushwacked through briars to the sanctum of a green spring pool. Hikers included Ray & Annie Zimmerman, Betty Walls, Françoise Turner, Susan Saenz, Rafael Porres, Phil Nabovic, Willie Gutierrez, Maria & Mike Episcopo, Dolores Dueñez, Yvonne Cardon, and Warren Cowles.

Dayhikers drove back to city comforts while Backpackers shuttled to an eastern parking spot to start the upward trek. We relished the matted "matrix" of grassy 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 scrambling. We reached top a couple hours before sundown. At one campsite, we met a slithering blacktailed local deity. He wore zigzag patterns we'd seen earlier on petroglyphs. Sensing our awe, he regally wended to his den with nary a rattle.

We camped leeward of junipers, safe from wind and brief rain. On our next day's hike out, the sun lit a wide vista of desert. Backpackers were Alice Anderson, John Bouchard, Michael Bromka, 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

again in Las Cruces, before trundling off to Hillsboro. Threats of rain rumbled round us all day as we hiked. Our sunny disposition beneath the cloudy canopy kept us unbesplattered. Atop the peak, we gratefully enjoyed cold water, hot coffee, and engaging conversation offered us by Jan & John Weir, keepers of the firewatch up there since April. Last winter's low snowfall has left the area dry enough to have several fires already. We sniffed the roughhewn interior of the historic cabin now being restored and lazed about its porch as we shared lunch. Enjoying this favorite springtime hike were Laurence & Chris Gibson, Susan Pratt, Barbara Nehring, Greg Contreras, Bonnie Jones, Ann De Florio, Rudy Provencio, Michael Bromka, Willie Gutierrez, Gus Piña, Mark Shause, Jeff, Sue, & Daniel Brandon, Warren Cowles, Annie & Ray Zimmer, Steve Englander, Pat & Sonny Farr, Rafaela Schuller, Jim Bell, Kay Hoffman, Peter Skaates, Alice Chorneski, Joan Faustini, and leader Carolina Greenfield.

Memorial Day Key Exchange Gila Backpack, 27-30 May

As usual, the weather was great. Rollin Wickenden led the northbound group comprising Alice Anderson, Peter Skaates, Dave Kofoed, Suzanne Boon, Jim & Chris Bell, and visitor Horatio Wildman of Wappinge Falls, NY. Friday night we camped at Sheridan Corral. Up early Saturday, we used boot-leather levitation to gain 3100' and reach the Holt campsite. Here we enjoyed a fine view of the western slope of the Gila. Holt Spring gushed mercifully cool water to slake our thirst. Sunday's long trek turned us out on the trail by 7:30 a.m. During a break at Camp Creek Saddle, Alice and Horatio heroically dragged a blowdown tree off the trail. Climbing toward Spider Saddle, we puzzled where could be our slowpoke counterparts with our getaway carkeys? Not to worry: glowing from ample rest and breakfast, Joe's group marched down the trail to meet us for the key swap. Our group went on to lunch at Spider Saddle. Half of us prudently rested while the rest climbed Grouse Mountain (10,135'), affording a view of the Mogollon range. That afternoon, we hiked down Wenn Canyon to an idyllic campsite along Whitewater Creek. Monday, we rose early for a short but steep climb out of Whitewater Canyon to the DeLoche Canyon trailhead.

Joe Rodriguez meanwhile led Arthur & John Walton, Kathy Sunday, Eva Peppal, Carol Morrison, Roy McCloud, and Michael Bromka over the same trek southward. We carcamped Friday night at Whitewater Mesa (at the trailhead to the Gold Dust Trail). Saturday we parked our cars along Bursum Road at trailmarker #179. This day's hike presented a 1000' gain and loss to Whitewater Canyon before the further 2600' climb topping out at Spider Saddle, where we camped. Voted most intriguing piece of gear at supper was John's battery-fanned wood stove. We enjoyed a morning hike up Grouse Mtn while Rollin fretted over our pokiness. Sunday evening afforded us individual splashy showers at Holt Spring and a mountaintop view of the sunset. Monday we struck camp, and (in the best sense of the expression) it was all downhill from there. Arthur dawdled at one point to relish wild strawberries. We judged the weekend to be thoroughly delicious.

Achenback Canyon Dayhike, Sat 14 June: Mockingbirds sang in the clear morn as Alice Anderson and Rudy Provencio set out. Blue butterflies flocked over a muddy stock tank. Dry falls offered a view. Fire had wiped out Apache Plumes, leaving Dali-esque black sticks sprouting green new growth. Verbena blooms spread a glorious pink carpet. Cliff dasies nodded, canyon wrens sang, and violet-green swallows loopy-looped. Lovely lunchspot!

INNER CITY OUTINGS-LOOKS FORWARD

Hmmm, 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 pitch 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 outings leaders. When he does so, I hope folks'll clamber up onto the bandwagon.

Inner City Outings, (for those who don't know) is a special subdivision of Sierra Club which brings teenage and preteen kids to the Great Outdoors. In particular, kids from socio-economically challenged neighborhoods. I 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 Undefined. The kids are great. They adopt ecological values with remarkable alacrity.

Often just the time and proximity together with comfortably situated, expensively 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.

Coming up this autumn are a series of ICO service trips to build backcountry campsites in the Guadalupe Mountains. Those are challenging trips. But ICO dayhikes are less demanding. The most casual dayhiker 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. Then he went home, looked in the mirror, and realized that he himself was one of them. We can espouse all the save-the-earth values we want to each other. But after the earth inherits us, who'll inherit the earth? We would be wise to pass off the ecological football personally, while we've got the chance.

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

M.B.

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 our local group. This would be an opportunity for any members to voice their thoughts or concerns, positive or negative, about how they feel 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 environmental activism. 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 good welcoming party 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 Mayne of the Metropolitan Water Board and was quite a success. Several people 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 meeting, 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 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 Gabin* 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, which is free and open to the public, will be held **Tuesday, September 20,** 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.

Meetings at the Sierra Club Office:

Executive Committee:

August 2, September 6 at 7 PM

Conservation Committee:

July 26, August 23 at 7 PM

>> SANTA FE GROUP OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS <<

| | | | |
|---|----------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Co-Chairs — Mark Mortier* | 983-5870 | Political Committee — Ken Hughes* | 474-0550 |
| — Norma McCallan* | 471-0005 | Newsletter Editor — Kay Carlson | 982-3926 |
| Secretary/Treasurer — Lionel Soracco* | 983-6715 | Phone Tree — Martha Anne Freeman* | 438-0697 |
| Conservation — Van Perkins* | 983-8801 | Social/Membership — Patty Bray | 989-1924 |
| — George Grossman* | 982-1024 | Kids' Sierra Club — Justine Freeman | 988-9126 |
| Chapter Representatives - Sue McIntosh* | 982-4146 | Recycling/Office — Carolyn Keskulla | 982-9570 |
| — Norma McCallan* | 471-0005 | Outings — Norbert Sperlich | 983-1962 |
| Publicity — | | — Norma McCallan* | 471-0005 |
| Fundraising — | | | |
| Education — | | | |

* Member of the SF Group Executive Committee

Terms expire 12/94: Hughes/McIntosh/Freeman/Perkins

12/95: McCallan/Mortier/Soracco/Gabin/Grossman

>>>>>>>>> SANTA FE GROUP OUTINGS <<<<<<<<<<

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 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 Janus (988-4137) **Moderate Backpack** to beautiful Zapita Basin (east of Alamosa, near the Great Sand Dunes Nat'l Monument, CO) and optional climbs of the surrounding 13,000' and 14,000' peaks. Leave early Sat AM; call for details.

9 **David Brown** (662-2185) **Moderate/Strenuous Hike** to Lobo Peak (near Taos Ski Basin). Call for details of time and meeting place.

10 **Art Judd** (982-3212) **Moderate Hike** in the high country. Leave 8 AM.

9 10 **Julie Montoya King** (438-7197) **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.

16 **Joe Whelan** (984-0746) **Strenuous Hike** to Jicarita Peak, elevation gain from the Tres Ritos/Angostura side. Leave 8 AM.

17 **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. 70.5 miles. Leave Fri noon, July 15. Experienced backpackers only. Call for details and reservations.

23 **Caroline and Arnold Keskulla** (982-9570) **Easy Hike** from Ski Basin down Winsor Trail. Leave 9 AM.

24 **Norbert Sperlich** (983-1962) **Moderate/Strenuous Hike** to La Vega Overlook, off the Winsor Trail. Call for reservation and time of departure.

23 24 **Caroline Glick** (984-3184) **Car Camp/Strenuous Hike** San Pedro Parks Wilderness area. Call leader.

30 **John Jasper** (982-8572) **Strenuous Hike** Panchuela — Horsethief Meadows — Rico Perro Springs loop in the Pecos Wilderness. Leave 7:30 AM.

31 **Elizabeth Altman** (471-8490) **Easy Hike** Bear Wallow — Borrego Trail loop. 4½ miles RT. Leave 9 AM.

Sat Sun August

6 **Lionel Soracco** (983-6715) **Strenuous Hike** to Glorieta Baldy from the west. Leave at 7:30 AM.

7 **Norbert Sperlich** (983-1962) **Moderate Hike** to Nambe Lake. High altitude, steep trail. 7 miles RT, 2,100' elevation gain. Leave 8 AM.

6 7 **Bob McKee** (672-3426) **Two-day Backpack** in South San Juan Wilderness near Platoro (Colorado). Leave Friday PM. Call leader for information.

Friday-Saturday-Sunday, August 12-13-14

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.

13 **Joe Whelan** (984-0746) **Strenuous Hike** to Trampas Lakes and possibly Hidden Lake. 11.5 miles RT, 2440' elevation gain to Trampas Lakes, 2 miles more to Hidden Lake. Leave 8:30 AM.

14 **Norrine Sanders** (984-0386) **Easy Hike** on Borrego-Bear Wallow Loop. 4 miles RT. Leave 8 AM.

20 **Carolyn and Arnold Keskulla** (982-9570) **Easy Hike** on Aspen Vista. Leave at 8:30 AM.

21 **Art Judd** (982-3212) **Moderate Hike** in the high country. Leave at 8 AM.

27 **John Jasper** (982-2841 work, 466-8572 home) **Strenuous Hike** on Ski Basin, Penitente Peak, Lake Peak Loop. About 10 miles RT, about 2600' elevation gain. Leave 8 AM.

28 **Elizabeth Altman** (471-8490) **Easy Hike** to Cañada Bonita (near Los Alamos Ski area) 5 miles RT, highest point 9,651'. Leave 9 AM.

Sat Sun September

3 **Joe Whelan** (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 Sperlich** (983-1962) **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.

11 **Jeff Jones** (466-2389) **Strenuous Hike** to Spirit Lake and Lake Katherine. Leave 7:30 AM.

17 **Norrine Sanders** (984-0386) **Easy Hike** on Aspen Vista Road. Leave 8:30 AM.

17 **Steven Merdler** (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 Soracco** (983-6715) **Moderate Hike** to Cerro Pelada via Randall Davey Center. Off trail, up and down ridges. Leave from PERA at 8 AM.

Friday-Saturday-Sunday, September 23-24-25

Norma McCallan (471-0005) **3-day Backpack** Manzano Mtns. Lve after work Thurs. Base camp on 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 Corbae). Carpooling will be arranged at the parking lot, and each hiker should come 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 right to alter destination of hike 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 Cerrillos Road, on 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 — Acequia Madre school

July 12 — Piñon 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 Wilson trails were blocked off by Tesuque Pueblo last year. The U.S. Forest Service is in the process of rerouting these forest trails that are north of Santa Fe and should be finished by the fall of 1994.

The USFS plans to seek 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.



SIERRA CLUB -- Santa Fe Group · 440 Cerrillos Road · Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 · 505/983-2703

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 Containment Coalition has developed the Citizens' Alternative 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 Deffler, Forest Supervisor, Santa Fe National Forest, PO Box 1689, Santa Fe, NM 87504, with your comments, or telling of your support of the Citizens' Alternative. Copies of the EIS are available from: Robert Remillard, 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 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 road congestion 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 present 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.

SUMMER DIRECTORY

Marianne Thaeler, Chair 522-3421
Ben Zerbey, Treasurer 526-6207
David Pengelly,
NMSU Student Advisor 646-3901
Cheryll Blevins, Publicity 526-6220
Jim Winder, Education 267-4227
Marian Nygard 522-4689

SUMMER SCHEDULE

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

As you may know, the Sierra 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. The flames can be seen at night and the smoke can be seen during the day. The fire began as a smoldering snag on Ft. Bliss lands in the one place where Ft. Bliss lands come west beyond the crest of the Organs. Ft. Bliss said White Sands Missile Range was responsible for putting the fire out, WSMR said 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 Skeen 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: Marianne Thaeler 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.

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 Marianne a call at 522-3421. All members, new and old and prospective, are encouraged to help and get involved!

HELP NEEDED!

If you would like to volunteer some time or talent, we always welcome new ideas, new faces, and new talents. The Sierra 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 Marianne 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.