



SIERRA
CLUB
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Peak & Prairie

Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Sierra Club

Volume XXXX No. 2 - Summer 2006

Annual Hike-a-thon

By Steve Welter



When was the last time someone told you to take a hike?

Well, here is your chance to do just that while supporting a good cause. The Sierra Club is sponsoring a hike-a-thon on Sunday, October 8, 2006 at Alderfer/Three Sisters Open Space Park in Evergreen. The proceeds will be used to support the Rocky Mountain Chapter's conservation work in Colorado. Our goal is to have 50 hikers collect pledges from friends and family and come hike on October 8th. If you prefer not to collect pledges, just pay the \$25 participant donation and join the fun - kids 12 and under are free!

Hike-a-thon participants will have their choice of designated routes ranging in length from 1 to 5 miles. One route will be designated for hikers with dogs. Hikers will start and finish at Old Barn adjacent to Alderfer. The hike routes meander through a mixture of pine, spruce, and fir forest with grassy meadows and wonderful views along the way. There will be yummy refreshments and fun prizes for participants. This is a fun event and a great way to raise money for a worthwhile cause - all while enjoying the great Colorado outdoors.

Would you like to be one of the hikers? Or would you like to pledge a hiker? Visit the RMC website www.rmc.sierraclub.org for further information. If you would like to volunteer to help at the event, call the Chapter office at 303/861-8819. Join us!

A Bright Idea for Cool Cities:

Solving global warming one city at a time.

By Roger Singer

How many light bulbs does it take to turn on a new Club energy activist? One. How about a whole city? Then it's 1000.

That's what Sierra Club volunteers proved recently at the Bear Creek Greenbelt in Lakewood when they gathered up this spring to canvass their community, give away free low energy light bulbs and build support at the city level to reduce greenhouse gas emission that cause global warming.

The Cool City grassroots energy education program is off to an excellent start in the Lakewood and Golden, Colorado communities with Club volunteers showing their strength at the door to discuss local solutions to reducing

global warming.

Solutions include increased municipal fleets of hybrid cars using less gasoline, national support for better gas mileage standards, construction of "green" energy efficient buildings and increased investment in wind and solar power, especially now that Amendment 37 has passed requiring Xcel and other power companies to buy 10% of their energy from renewable energy sources.

Sierra Club is asking mayors across the nation to join the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, a commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 7% from 1990 baseline levels by the year 2012. An effort that was started by Seattle Mayor Greg

Nickels, 238 mayors in 40 states have now joined the pledge. With four cities in Colorado already on board - Denver, Boulder, Aspen and Telluride - we are now seeking support from effective, progressive mayors like Steve Burkholder in Lakewood to make their city become a Cool City too.

Hundreds of citizens readily agreed with our message, and they appreciated the free light bulbs. The volunteers who joined the canvass operation came back with positive experiences to share as we met two weeks later over a pint at a local pub to talk about the campaign's next steps, including Ward meetings with City Council members, letter writing campaigns and

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October, November, December
2006

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**Rocky Mountain Chapter
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SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE

for

October/November/December 2006
issue is

Wednesday,

AUGUST 23, 2006

For submission guidelines contact:
editor@rmc.sierraclub.org

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Chapter ExCom to Vote on Dissolution of High Plains Group

The Executive Committee of the Rocky Mountain will vote on whether to dissolve the High Plains Group (HPG) at its October 14 meeting in Evergreen. The High Plains Group has been inactive for a number of years despite several attempts by Chapter staff and volunteers to reactivate members in the group area. Currently there are no elected HPG officers and no scheduled meetings for HPG. The High Plains Group area includes Commerce City, Agate, Strasburg, Brighton, Henderson, and major portions of Aurora. Zip codes of affected areas are provided below.

The Sierra Club's Bylaws give chapters the authority to dissolve groups, if, in the judgment of the ExCom, such action is in the best interest of the Sierra Club. Dissolution of the group requires a majority vote of the Chapter's Executive Committee. Any chapter member wishing to comment on the proposed action may do so at the meeting at which the vote takes place.

Dissolution of the group does not affect the standing of the individual members as members of the Sierra Club or Chapter. Once a group is dissolved any members within the affected area may still take on leadership positions within the Chapter.

Please contact the Chapter office at 303 861-8819 if you live in one of the following zip codes and wish to learn more about the High Plains Group dissolution process: 80010 - 80014, 80017, 80018, 80022, 80041, 80042, 80044, 80045, 80047, 80101, 80136, 80601 - 80603, 80640.

Call for at-large ExComm Nominations

Can you contribute to the Sierra Club in a leadership role? We are currently seeking nominations for three at-large positions. ExComm meetings occur quarterly on Saturday (and sometimes Sunday) at locations around the state. The Chapter reimburses transportation expenses to the meetings. Members serve a two-year term. If interested, please send your contact information and a 150-word-or-less statement describing your relevant experience and environmental goals to:

Nominations Committee
Rocky Mountain Chapter
1536 Wynkoop St., 4th Floor
Denver, CO 80202

Deadline for nominations is August 18.

In Case You're Wondering...

This edition of Peak and Prairie is shorter than usual because we have not yet found a volunteer editor and layout person. Rather than skip production, Chapter Coordinator Dan Disner, and Chapter Chair Steve Welter teamed up to produce a slimmed-down newsletter that provides essential details of upcoming Chapter events and contact information. Look for the Peak and Prairie to be back in its full glory in October. In the meantime visit our website at www.rmc.sierraclub.org for the most up-to-date information on Chapter events, outings, and other activities. If you are interested in newsletter editing or layout, please contact the Chapter office at 303 861-8819.

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another community walk in Golden.

Working with the RMC chapter staff, we tabled at 10 different Wild Oats food stores across Colorado's front range in April. We were in Denver and Lakewood for Earth Day festivals to talk about ways to stop the Bush administration dependence on oil and other carbon based fossil fuels that create the carbon load responsible for most of the greenhouse effect on our atmosphere.

Sierra Club participated in a table presentation on global warming issues at Denver University that focused on ways to communicate with the public, involving 60 well engaged students. We were also a part of a Lakewood

town hall meeting about addressing rising gas prices with cleaner cars and improved gas mileage.

In every venue, it's become apparent that global warming has become a mainstream issue. The science is clear. The public sentiment to stop the problem is clear. While we still have huge hurdles with the Bush administration and corporate oil companies making record profits off of their oil addiction, citizens are banding together to stop global warming, one city a time!

For more information on how to make your Colorado city a Cool City, contact Roger Singer at roger.singer@sierraclub.org or 303-449-5595.

CALENDAR

Please submit calendar items to the editor no later than August 23rd for the Oct/Nov/Dec 2006 issue of Peak & Prairie.

All outings must be submitted to the Chapter Outings Chair as well.

The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements, and assumes no liability for carpooling, ride sharing, or any similar private arrangement among the participants of Sierra Club activities.

Meetings and events are open to members and the public at no cost. They are a good way to meet activists and discuss Club issues.

Due to limited space, we are unable to provide details of activities. Please contact the person listed in the posting for details.

Visit www.rmc.sierraclub.org and click the calendar item in the left-hand menu on our home page for details and up-to-date listings.

Outings

THE "TEN ESSENTIALS" - The Sierra Club recommends the following be carried: map, compass, matches (waterproof), flashlight, extra food & water, extra clothes (no cotton), first aid supplies, pocket knife, rain gear (both jacket & pants), sun protection (sunglasses & UV protection), and whistle. If you're counting, that's a total of 11 items, but also consider insect repellent, a space blanket for emergencies, and also a camera.

July 8, Saturday - Old Ute Trail - Sunset Photo Hike in RMNP. Contact Mike Whiteley at 303-776-7396.

July 9, Sunday - South Arapahoe Peak Scramble. Indian Peaks Wilderness Area. Contact Bill Campbell at 720-873-0074.

cont. on back page - see *calendar*

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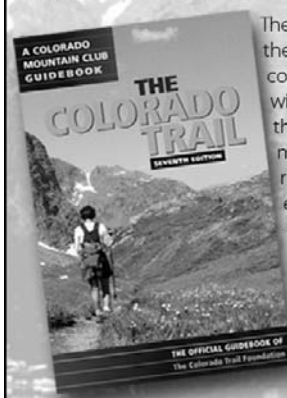
*Former Chair Indian Peaks Group &
Sierra Club Council Delegate*

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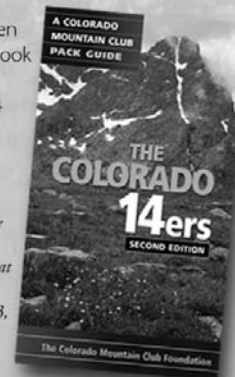
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Centennial Canoe Outfitters has teamed with the Rocky Mountain Chapter to support our efforts in Colorado. Book one of these 2 or 3-day adventures, tell them the Sierra Club sent you, and Centennial will make a donation to the Chapter:

Colorado River 8/2-4 - \$295
Gunnison River 8/19-20 - \$205
Gunnison River 8/25-27 - \$295

Contact the Chapter office at
303-861-8819

or
Centennial Canoe Outfitters
(720) 283-0553

www.centennialcanoe.com

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Gift Planning Program
85 Second St. 2nd Floor,
San Francisco, CA 94105
(800) 932-4270
planned.giving@sierraclub.org

Be a part of our chapter's success!

Help make a difference for the environment
in Colorado by joining one of these activist committees:

Election Action Committee

Encourage our members to register and vote.
Contact steve.welter@rmc.sierraclub.org

New Member Committee

Welcome and engage new Club members.
Contact susan.lefever@rmc.sierraclub.org

Fundraising Committee.

Get experience planning events and more.
Contact greg.casini@rmc.sierraclub.org

Energy Committee

Educate the public about energy efficiency and renewables.
Contact rebecca.kahn@rmc.sierraclub.org

For more opportunities, call 303-861-8819 or visit
www.rmc.sierraclub.org



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Rocky Mountain Chapter
1536 Wynkoop Street #4C
Denver, CO 80202

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July 10, Monday, 8am to 4pm - Chicago Lakes. Mt. Evans Wilderness Area. Contact Mary Wiener at 720-304-3662.

July 15, Saturday - Arapahoe Pass Wildflower Hike. IPG. Maureen Lienau at 303-929-6134.

July 16, Sunday - Little Yellowstone Canyon. RMNP. Mike Whiteley 303-776-7396.

July 30, Sunday - Shoshoni Peak Scramble. All day. Contact Bill Campbell 720-873-0074.

July 23, Sunday - Mills Lake Hike. RMNP. Contact John Dowd at 303-442-2477.

Aug 12-14, Saturday - Monday - Tonahutu Loop Backpack. Mike Whiteley 303-776-7396

Aug 19, 2006, Saturday - Grays and Torreys. Contact Mike Whiteley 303-776-7396.

Sept 9, 2006, Saturday - Longs Peak. Contact Mike Whiteley 303-776-7396.

Events

Volunteer help wanted! Inner City Outings. Contact amymswanson@hotmail.com.

Sierra Singles - Contact the Chapter office at 303-861-8819 or chapter.coordinator@sierraclub.org. Sign up at <http://www.rmc.sierraclub.org/listserv.shtml>.

Singles tennis 5:00 at Morse Park 2nd & 3rd Sunday. Contact Tom at 303-300-3638.

July 22, Saturday, 6pm to 11pm - Singles Bash. IPG. Mary Wiener at 720-304-3662.

July 19, Wednesday - Final Public Hearing on Roadless Rule - Denver: TJ Brown at 303.405.6706; Matt Garrington at 303.573.3871 x310, or Lisa Smith at 303.405.6707 or visit www.roadless.net.

Chapter Meetings

Chapter Conservation Committee
Contact Kirk Cunningham at 303-939-8519 or kirk.cunningham@rmc.sierraclub.org.

Energy Comm. rebecca.kahn@sierraclub.org
Gay and Lesbian Sierrans (GLS)
Contact Lisa Lewis at 303-777-3664 or www.rmc.sierraclub.org/gls/act/html.

Genetic Engineering Committee. Contact Suzanne Wuerthele at 303-333-2519 or wuerthel@ecentral.com.

Inner City Outings. Carter at 303-444-1541 or jimmy.carter@rmc.sierraclub.org

Environmental Health. Joan Seeman at 303-738-8407 or joan.seeman@rmc.sierraclub.org.

Lifestyles Education Committee. Jolynn Jarboe 303-753-0470 or jolynn11@juno.com.

Outings Committee. jacob.morgan@rmc.sierraclub.org or visit www.rmc.sierraclub.org.

Pesticides Committee. Contact Angela Medbery at 303-433-2608.

Rocky Mountain Arsenal. Contact Sandy Horrocks at 303-470-1352.

Toxics Committee. Joan Seeman at joanseem@msn.com or 303-738-8407.

Group Activity Contacts

Blue River (Summit, Grand, & Eagle Co)
Karn Stiegelmeier at 970-468-9013 or BlueRiverGroup@comcast.net.

Enos Mills (Denver) 303-331-1120 or wende.reoch@rmc.sierraclub.org

Indian Peaks (Boulder County)
Rebecca Dickson at 303-449-7261 or rebecca.dickson@rmc.sierraclub.org

Mount Evans (Evergreen, Conifer)
betsy.kelson@rmc.sierraclub.org

Pikes Peak (El Paso and Teller Co)
Kirby Hughes at 719-685-3019.

Poudre Canyon (Larimer & Weld Co) 970-498-0376 or dan.bihn@rmc.sierraclub.org

Rachel Carson (East JeffCo) 303-969-2109 or judy.johnson@rmc.sierraclub.org or visit www.rmc.sierraclub.org/rcg

Sangre de Cristo (Arkansas River & San Luis Valley) sdcg-chair@rmc.sierraclub.org or visit <http://www.rmc.sierraclub.org/sdcg/>

South Platte (Littleton, Englewood, South Metro area) Gloria Shone at 303.798.9331.

Trappers Lake (Rio Blanco, Jackson, Routt, & Moffat) rich.levy@rmc.sierraclub.org.

Uncompaghre (Mesa, Delta, & Gunnison Co)
NJ Fulmer at 970-241-8036.

Weminuche Group (Durango and Surrounding Areas) 970-375-9632 or jim.sumrall@rmc.sierraclub.org.