

# Congaree



# Chronicle

March/April, 2006

Volume 29, Number 2

## Bush's Nuclear Plan Ignores Costs

*Press release from National Sierra, 1/26/06:*

Sources in the Bush administration have recently stated that they are preparing an initiative that would promote nuclear power technology around the world while taking spent fuel from foreign countries for reprocessing. The plan, called the Global Nuclear Energy Initiative (GNEI) poses a serious threat to the health and security of all American communities and families.

"At a time when we are trying to keep countries such as Iran from expanding their nuclear programs, it is irresponsible for the Bush administration to push this dangerous technology worldwide," said David Hamilton, Director of the Sierra Club's Global Warming and Energy Program. "We have better, cleaner, and cheaper energy solutions that can be used to meet our energy needs and protect the environment."

The Bush administration and its allies in Generating electricity from nuclear sources poses at least five insurmountable problems:

--The production of highly dangerous radioactive waste: Every nuclear reactor generates about 20 tons of highly radioactive spent nuclear fuel and additional low-level radioactive waste per year. Radioactive waste is one of the most dangerous materials known to humankind--it can kill at high doses and cause cancer and birth defects at low doses. Nuclear waste remains dangerous to humans for 200 thousand years. Worse, we don't know what to do with this waste once it is generated. The nuclear industry and some in Congress propose dumping nuclear waste in Yucca Mountain, NV. However, it has not been scientifically proven to safely store atomic waste. In fact, earlier this year, the Department of Energy released emails written by several U.S. Geological Survey

scientists working on the Yucca Mountain Project revealing that they may have made up information for computer programs designed to track desert water movement. Additionally, there are

serious concerns about the exposure risks in transporting the waste from all over the country into Nevada--waste that will pass through thousands of America's cities and towns.

--A prohibitively high cost: Nuclear power is the most expensive way ever devised to generate electricity. The method is not anywhere near cost effective; nuclear plants in the states of Oregon, New York, Maine, Illinois, and Connecticut have been shut down before the end of their planned lives because the owners found it was too expensive to keep them going. Even the Bush administration's own U.S. Energy Information Administration stated that "new [nuclear] plants are not expected to be economical."

--The potential for accidents: The danger with nuclear power is that the stakes in accidents are extremely high. Anyone exposed to radiation leaks or accidents will likely sicken or die from that exposure. Cleanup costs will be in the billions. Just three years ago, a nuclear reactor in Ohio came with in one-fifth of an inch of stainless steel from a rupture that could have led to a meltdown.

--The risk of terrorist activity: Nuclear power is a dangerous target. Pre-911, Al-Qaeda operatives surveyed nuclear power plants as potential terrorist targets. Additionally, there is the risk that nuclear material will fall into the wrong hands. The government has elaborate plants to prevent rogue nations and terrorists from stealing the nuclear fuel or waste to make nuclear bombs. However, the more nuclear reactors, the more risk of radioactive material being stolen to make bombs.

--Its inability to curb global warming: Nuclear power would do little to curb global warming, and is a bad investment in reducing global warming emissions. A study by MIT stated that in order for nuclear power to have any real affect on global warming, it would require the construction of at least 1,000 new reactors worldwide. This would result in unbelievable costs--almost in the trillions of dollars--the need for a new Yucca Mountain-sized waste site every four or 5 years, a greater proliferation on nuclear materials and technologies, and thousands of more terrorist targets.

Nuclear power is not a responsible choice. America can meet its energy needs through energy efficiency, renewable energy like solar and wind power, and responsible additions to supply. Every dollar invested in renewables and efficiency makes America more secure without making our families less safe or saddling future generations with debt. "We can meet our energy needs and have a clean and healthy world without nuclear power," continued Hamilton. "America deserves a safer, cleaner, and cheaper energy future."



Chapter leaders gather in Columbia. In the front row are Jim Majors, Joe Zdenek, Bob Guild, Allyn Schneider, John Bracken, Malcolm Kudra and Ollie Johnson. In back are Alonzo Frazier, Chris Kempton, Starr Hazard, Eric Thompson, Anne Neely, Steve Valder, Jake Hardison, Erika Hartwig, Cary Chamblee, and Frank Crowder. (ExCom members not pictured are Susan Corbett and Norm Shea.) See page 2 for a wrap-up on the February ExCom meeting.

## Let's Start Our Discussion

*By Eric Carol, Chapter Conservation Committee*

All of us have seen the reports about global climate change, air pollution, and our over-dependence on oil from the Mideast. All of this is related to our "addiction to oil". More accurately than President Bush's quote, it is our addiction to all forms of fossil fuels.

In our new national priorities, the Sierra Club recognizes these major issues facing us, our children and the rest of humankind. Two of the three major Initiatives relate to this problem:

"The Clean Energy Conservation Initiative Committee will take the lead on issues involving reducing oil demand, promoting clean electricity, stopping the coal rush, and preventing energy development on sensitive lands and waters."

"The Healthy Communities Conservation Initiative Committee... will also work on the non-energy components of air pollution..."

It is time for us in South Carolina to begin to look at what we should do. Is it time for every major South Carolina city to sign on as a part of the Sierra Club's "Cool Cities" effort, a plan to reduce greenhouse gases? Is it time for state tax incentives for clean fuel vehicles? Is it time for incentives to allow solar power to begin to power our homes in South Carolina? Is it time to begin a training program for solar technicians? How can we have effective energy conservation in South Carolina? (Continues on page 6.)

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## Congaree Chronicle

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Views expressed in the *Chronicle* reflect the opinions of the individual authors and may not necessarily be official Sierra Club views and positions. The *Chronicle* welcomes articles, letters to the editor, photographs, and illustrations. The editors reserve the right to edit any material for clarity, style and length.

The *Congaree Chronicle* (ISSN #0164-5676) is published bimonthly for the South Carolina Chapter of the Sierra Club, 1314 Lincoln St., Site 211, Columbia, SC 29201. One dollar of annual dues pays for a subscription to this newsletter. Periodicals postage is paid at Columbia, SC.

Send address changes to: Postmaster, P.O. Box 2388, Columbia, SC 29202. Include your membership number.

SUBMIT ARTICLES TO:  
Chapter Office—address and phone above.  
**NEXT DEADLINE: APRIL 10**

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## Club News...

### Chapter Endorses McMasters, Barber: Pee Dee Group wins Fundraising Award

Attorney General Henry McMaster (R) was endorsed for re-election and Robert Barber (D) was endorsed for election to Lt. Governor at the most recent meeting of the Chapter Executive Committee (ExCom).

The ExCom meet at Sesquicentennial State Park in Richland County for two days of business, training, skill building, and hiking, February 4-5. Ollie Johnson was elected to fill a vacancy on the ExCom and Erika Hartwig was elected as an Alternate National Delegate. McMaster was endorsed for this work at protecting the environment, particularly his successful advocacy for Environmental Crimes Legislation over stiff opposition. He has begun to establish a section within the Justice Department to investigate environmental lawbreakers. Barber, a lifelong environmental activist, was a lobbyist for the Sierra Club for the last 10 years until he became a candidate on September 15. The Lt. Governor presides over the Senate and administers senior citizen programs.

The Spirit of Congaree Award was presented to Ann Neely, representing the Pee Dee Group (Florence). The award goes to the group each year that has the highest percentage of their membership participating in fundraising for the chapter. The Pee Dee Group had 18.8 percent of their membership make contributions to the chapter.



Last year's winner, the Swamp Fox Group (Sumter) was second with 17.6 percent. The chapter average participation rate was 9.8 percent, a big increase from the previous year.

The ExCom passed a resolution to keep the McCormick County shoreline of Lake Thurmond in public ownership. A Florida developer is proposing to acquire property important to fisheries and wildlife habitat for a housing development. The chapter urges the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the S.C. Congressional Delegation to preserve the shoreline of Lake Thurmond.

Other Sierra Club business included the following:

- The chapter concluded the 2005 fiscal year with over \$12,000 in the bank.
- Chair Bob Guild made appointments to fill 18 chapter committees.
- The annual event calendar was adopted, with September 22 as the date for nominations to be announced for at-large ExCom candidates
- It was announced that the National Sierra Club Board of Directors will meet in Charleston March 1-4 with Guild and Chapter Director Dell Isham as featured speakers.
- Fundraising in 2005 increased by 6.0 percent over the previous year
- The deadline for annual awards nomination is April 30.
- Members attending the ExCom meeting received training in outings, membership development, group finance, conservation and political issues, and how to navigate information on the club's websites.

The next meeting of the South Carolina Chapter of the Sierra Club is April 8. All members are welcome. For more information contact Blanche McBride in the afternoon at (803)256-8487.

## National Club Election is Underway

You will soon receive your national Club ballot for the Board of Directors election. This will include information on the candidates and where you can find additional information about them.

We are a democratically structured organization at all levels. The Club requires the regular flow of views on policy and priorities from its grassroots membership to function well. Your Board of Directors stands for election by the membership. This Board sets Club policy and budgets at the national level and works closely with the staff to operate the Club. Voting for candidates who express your views on how the Club should grow and change is both a privilege and responsibility.

Members frequently state that they don't know the candidates and find it difficult to vote without learning more. You can learn more by asking questions of your group and chapter leadership and other experienced members you know. Visit the Club's election website: <http://info.sierraclub.org/ct.html?rtr=on&s=arz,hq3v,qq4,bdkw,irxv,bsn,a5u2>. The site provides links to additional information about candidates and their views on a variety of issues facing the Club and the environment.

You should use your own judgment by taking time to read the ballot statement of each candidate. Then make your choices and cast your votes. You will find the ballot is quite straightforward and easy to mark. A growing number of members find the user-friendly Internet voting option to be very convenient as well as saving postage.

## Legislative Tracker in Place

The Legislative Tracker is up and running. You can now keep up-to-date on all legislation that is a priority for the South Carolina Chapter of the Sierra Club by going to the chapter website at <http://southcarolina.sierraclub.org/> and clicking on "Legislative Tracker."

Thank you to Malcolm Kudra and Cary Chamblee for making this new service to Sierra Club members possible.

# Record Number Contribute to Chapter

Fund-raising Committee Chair Ed Fitzgerald is happy to report that a record number of members contributed to the South Carolina Chapter in 2005. A total of 484 contributors made 540 donations; this is 9.8% of our memberships, compared to 6.4% in 2004.

The average size of contributions was down, however. According to Chapter Director Dell Isham, South Carolinians continue to be generous but they were also making charitable donations in response to natural disasters around the world. Fund-raising for non-profit organizations was more competitive in 2005 than ever before. Nevertheless, the Chapter increased direct fund-raising income by over 7% from 2004. The average contributor donated \$175.93 in 2005.

The Spirit of Congaree Award went to the Pee Dee Group (Florence) for having the greatest participation in fund-raising; 18.8 percent of their membership contributed. In second place was the Swamp Fox Group (Sumter) with 17.6% participation. The group with the highest dollar amount in donations was the Henry's Knob Group (Rock Hill) and the group with the largest number of contributors was the Bachman Group (Columbia).

The following people made the many activities of the chapter possible; their participation is gratefully acknowledged.

<b>White Oak (\$2500+)</b>	Mr. and Mrs. H.F. Gallivan III	Floy Bowers	Jan and Sara Lynn Postma	Richard and Linda Clapp	Valerie Marcil
Elliot Close	George and Cynthia Glentzes	Gail Brownlee	James Potter	Kendrick and Linda Clements	Pamela Marsh
Will Close	Eugene Goodwyn	Eleanor Clark	John and Susan Rae	Alexandra Cole	Diane De Lucia Mascara
Harry and Becca Dalton	Patricia H. Grant	Donald Coleman	Marilyn Raines	Frances Cone	Dr. W.H. Davis McGregor
Rufus Dalton	Mike and Lari Greeley	Adam Cooper	Neal and Mary Jane Reynolds	Bradford & Virginia Connett	Harry K. McMillan
Ed and Patricia FitzGerald	Dr. John and Rhonda Grego	William and Audrey Cutler	Lawrence and Karen Rhu	John and Wanda Cottongim	Eric Miller
<b>Magnolia (\$1000-2499)</b>	William and Eleanor Hare	Kari Daus	Nena Powell Rice	Peter and Lisa Cram	L. David Miller
Wade Crow	Samuel Harmon	Thomas Davis	Frances & Arthur Rickenbaker	David H. Crum	Leslie Ann Minernd
Don and Bettina George	Page Harris & Bob Pavlechko	Evaline Delson	William Robinson	Margaret V. Cubine	Walter and Jeri Muller
Allyn and Ann Schneider	Grady and Honor Hartzog	Margaret DeSousa	Gail Royal	Ian and Nancy Davidson	Robert Murchison
Alice Wald	Susan Hilfer & William Campbell	David Dexter	Charles Samz	Deborah Davis	Elizabeth Newman
<b>Long Leaf Pine (\$500-999)</b>	Frank and Anne Holleman	Beverly Diamond & Edwin Hettinger	Sara Schechter-Schoeman	Douglas and Deborah Deaton	Joe North
Susan Corbett	JWF Holliday	Andrew and Nell Dickert	Emily Schultz	Candice Dorsey	John and Beverly O'Brien
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Dr. David and Martha Cowan	LeRoy Hutchinson	Walter V. Duane	Michael & Rebecca Shettleroe	Paul and Nancy Edinger	William and Janet Patton
Bob Guild	Benjamin & Cynthia Johnson	Robert & Elizabeth Edgerton	Harry Smithson	Leon Ember	Donald and Jody Pearce
Rev. Alanson Houghton	Steve and Maria Johnson	Campbell Eldwad	Mary Jane Sturwold	Susan Fedor	James and Deborah Pearson
Dell Isham	Joffre and Marjorie Kaminer	George & Barbara Ermentrout	Robert Swanson	Jo S. Fetzter	Robin Pepper
Malcolm Kudra	Chris Kempton	Mary Evans	James G. Thomas	Nora Rooche Field	Melvin and Joyce Peters
Joseph and Joy Pinson	Harriet Keyserling	John and Angela Everett	Thomas L. Tiller, Jr.	Susan J. Freas	Raymond Phillips
Barbara Jean Postles	Graydon Kingsland	Mr. and Mrs. Fabrick	Earl and Sharon Troglin	Stanford Gamm	Kimberly E. Poindexter
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Gerald and Barbara Schapiro	James and Ann Lau	David Finger	Carolyn Tutwiler	Barbara Gawler	Adam & Elizabeth Puzerewski
Eric Thompson	Wood Lay	Isabelle Flanigan	Stephen and Sue Valder	Susan Goldstein	Bonnie R. Ramey
<b>Spruce (\$250-499)</b>	William and Joanne Lehman	William Fox	Roger Van Horsen	Ismario and Dana Gonzalez	James Remley
Blackwater, LLC	Carl and Sandra Lehner	Clara Wood Golay	Edward and Patricia Veasey	Virginia Gourdin	David and Robin Ritland
Ethel Brody	Joseph Lyles	Alan and Amy Goldkin	Ann Whiddon	Maurice and Rachel Gray	James and Cynthia Rodgers
Jimmy, Rebecca & Leigh Chandler	Frances MacIlwain	Donald and Connie Gray	John and Mary Wilson, Jr.	Patricia Green	Bruce Rowland
Scott and Danna Crater	Kennerly McLendon	Phillip Grose, Jr.	W.F. Wingard	Debby Hames	Boyd and Stephanie Saunders
Dr. Jerry & Natalina Ferlauto	Ralph and Pamela Melbourne	Julia Hall	Mitlon and Patricia Wolman	Barbara Hammerli	Alpha Schrader
Alonzo and Elizabeth Frazier	Jack and Martha Meyer	Jake Hardison, Jr.	H.P. Worrell, D.D.S.	Alice Handline	Carol Meyers Scotton
Don and Bettina George	Patrick and Linda Morgan	Erika Hartwig	Jamie Young-McCulloch	Merridee Harper	Roger Secreast
Henry's Knob Group	Robert and Barbara Moxon	James Herbert	<b>Trillium (\$25-49)</b>	Ronnie and Alice Harrelson	Herman Senter
Dr. Charles W. McRae	James and Melinda O'Leary	Jane Hinton-Smith	Daniel and Mary Abel	Maureen Harris	Norman and Linda Sharp
Robert & Catherine Murphy	Dorothy Payne	Elizabeth Hoefler	Robert & Dorothy Alexander	Harlan and Thelma Hawkins	Donna and Lloyd Slyce
Leon Boyd Newman	Donald and Jane Pilzer	John Holman	Mary White Anderson	Max Heller	David Ronald Smith
Dr. Mark Salley	Donald and Frances Plotnik	Amy Horwitz	Rho Anderson	Donald and Alice Henderson	Shirley Smith
Dr. and Mrs. Daniel and Cynthia Tufford	Cynthia Powell	Jack Hutchins, Jr.	Dennis and Jeanne Andrews	Robert Hester	Leona Sobel
John and Patricia Wagner	Maryrose Randall	Lisabeth Isom	Loyd and Barbara Ardrey	Ruth Hook	Timothy & Lisa Wagner Spira
Bob Wislinski	Philip and Ann Reed	Ollie and Barbara Johnson	Myra Armistead	Victor Hurst	John and Debra Staples
Joe and Connie Zdenek	David and Virginia Rice	Decie Jones	Robert Ashcraft	Mario S. Inglese	Kimberly C. Streett
<b>Dogwood (\$100-249)</b>	David & Emma Jane Riddle	E.W. Keller	Joe Ashley	Herbert and Jane Jervey	William Wood Struthers
William & Barbara Anderson	Jim and Jacquelyn Robey	Joan R. Kerrigan	Thomas Babb	Mark Johnson	James and Janet Swigler
Stuart and Arlene Andrews	Elizabeth Russell	Harold Koenig	Charles and Elizabeth Baker	David and Emily Jones	Merike Tamm
Paul Baldrige	Robert and Patricia Shufeldt	Kurt Krucke	Patricia Baker	Harvey and Susan Kayman	Mary S. Taylor
Leslie Bateson	Ron and Kathleen Kempe	J.W. Lawther	Polly Barbare	M.G. Keeney	Joel H. Thayer
Mark Berg	Sobczak	Martha Lever	Thomas Barnes, Jr.	F. Keisler	Alice Thurstin
Sam Booher	Mark and Patricia Stamey	Saundra Liebman	M.E. Barron	Dean Keith	Barbara Tobolowsky
John and Nancy Bracken	Loring Stone	Patricia Luck	Steven and Kristine Barry	Jenny Hagan Kelly	James L. Townsend
Allan Bruner	Janet Wedlock	Madge Major	Jennifer Bausman	Mary T. Kelly	Frank & Mary Traficante
Donna and Peter Cantrell	Preston Whetstone	James and Barbara Majors	Edward and Janis Bernard	Larry Knight	Melanie Trimble
James Canup	Susan S. White	Roy and Francie Markham	Cynthia Blount	Travis Knowles	Robert Tucker
Janet Ciegler	Betty Wiggins	Tony McCason	Ellen Blundy	Klaus and Ann Koch	Betty Turner
T. John Claggett	Mark and Leslie Wilson	Keith McCook	Jean Boler	John and Carol Kososki	United Way of the Midlands
Malcolm Clay	Linda Winecoff	Charlotte McCreary	John Risher & Kathleen Brabham	Robert and Frances Kuzinski	Jerry and Carolyn Voight
Samuel Daniel	June Yanick	Wallace McIntyre	Ute Brady	Ernest and Sarah Lander	Mary Voulgaris
Robert and Sarah Davis	<b>Redbud (\$50-99)</b>	Richard Migliore	Myrtle Brown	Joe and Gayle Lanford	Kurt Wagner
Patrick Dennis	Jane Anker	Donald and Linda Miller	Boyd and Donna Browne	Andy Langston	William & Mary Alice Walker
Robert Dodson	Arlene Arellano	Hayes Mizell	Douglas Burnette	Eugenia Lawton	Samuel Wang
Kathryn Eichelberger	Reed and Patti Armstrong	Tommie Moody	Michael and Sheryllynn Byrd	William and Donna Liddell	Rebecca Weest
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Corinne S. Yasinsac	Paul Lewis
Richard and Mary Yost	John N. Lind
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George and Janice Kelly	Wendy Ann Wicke
Frank & Priscilla Kimball	Robert E. Williams
Joe and Mary King	Ken and Ellen Williams
Keith & Louise Klingensmith	Steve and Carrie Worrell
Kevin and Terry Kudra	

## Chapter Adds New

### Fund-raising Category

For the last 20 years donors to the South Carolina Chapter have been listed in the *Congaree Chronicle* by giving category. The most generous contributors, those giving \$2,500 or more, have been listed at the "White Oak" level of giving. Other categories, in descending order, are Long Leaf Pine, Spruce, Dogwood, Redbud, Trillium, and Red Clover.

Increased generosity, and possibly inflation, has created a need for a new top category. It was decided that those contributing \$5,000 or more in a year should be designated "American Holly."

The American Holly, native to South Carolina, is one of the most recognizable species in the United States. The light-colored finely grained wood is often used for woodworking. It is most popular during the Christmas season for decorative purposes, and this is the time of year when we received gifts from our most generous donors. Therefore, the American Holly is most appropriate for our top given category, which will start with contributions received in 2006.

# Columns...

## Building a Sierra Club with the Skills to Win

by Bob Guild, Chapter Chair

Last year some 25 volunteer Club leaders from across the state gathered for the weekend to develop a strategic plan for the



South Carolina Chapter aimed at building effectiveness in our work "to explore, enjoy and protect" our natural heritage. Guided by national Club Board member Greg Casini from Colorado and Organizational Effectiveness committee member Debbie Heaton from Delaware we assessed our strengths and needs and identified a series of objectives for inclusion in a proposed strategic plan. Among the ideas drawing the strongest support were proposals to:

- use technology to improve member communication and mobilization;
- develop volunteers' skills through increased training resources;
- build membership diversity through active and broadened new member recruitment, and
- celebrate, bond and have more fun as we do our work.

With the leadership of Strategic Planning Committee Chair (and Chapter Vice Chair) Eric Thompson the planning retreat lessons were embodied in a "Five Year Vision: Strategic Plan for 2005-2009" adopted by the Chapter Executive Committee in April 2005. Such a plan might be mere words on paper absent the will to implement and apply its commitments. Again, with Eric's valued direction, I am pleased to report that the Chapter is progressing well toward implementing our strategic objectives.

Last month a hardy and enthusiastic group of Club leaders- again from across the state- gathered for a weekend in the Midlands at Sesquicentennial State Park to do the work of the Chapter ExCom, to build our skills through leader training and discussions and to enjoy each other's company and the piney woods in the winter time.

We implemented a few of our Strategic Plan's objectives by offering our first- in recent memory- overnight Chapter Ex Com meeting to incorporate with our regular business meeting an organized skills training, an opportunity for specialized discussions by outings, conservation, membership and treasurer volunteers and some social time as well for fun and relationship building.

We were reminded or, for some, introduced to on line Club resources at the leaders' "Clubhouse" website where regional organizer Dave Muhly showed us how to access such tools as Sierra Club business cards and conservation campaign literature. Dave

also provided a preview of the powerful new Club membership database program currently under development. Tech guru and Swamp Fox representative Malcolm Kudra reviewed ongoing upgrades to the Chapter website GOTOBUTTON BM\_1\_ <http://southcarolina.sierraclub.org> including links to the 'young and restless' Membership Committee site. (Check out the pics of the latest "Sierra and Beer" new member event; and let Malcolm hear from you on your web page design preferences by picking your favorite from samples provided.) Our Chapter's able new lobbyist (Robert Barber left us to run for Lieutenant Governor) Cary Chamblee reviewed the arcane but critical legislative process and pending conservation issues. Cary introduced us to the new and exciting "Legislative Tracker" tool linked on our Chapter website which provides briefs, status and action steps on key bills of interest to conservationists.

Thanks to Outings Chair Starr Hazard, Membership Chair Erika Hartwig, Conservation/Political Chair Frank Crowder and Treasurer Jim Robey for leading group work sessions with Chapter leaders. The full and fruitful day ended with a 'wine down' social hour and a fine dinner on the town.

After an overnight in the Sesqui dorms a number of intrepid Sierrans ventured out Sunday morning for an outing to explore the beaver-engineered wetlands and lodge on the creek which feeds the park's lake. We investigated a bit of natural history of castor canadensis: the largest North American rodent which is the only animal- except us humans- to create its own habitat by the building of dams (much to the chagrin at time of the humans). When all was said and done, we did our business, learned some new and refined skills and shared some fun and outdoor experiences. One measure of the success of this new meeting format was the eagerness of leaders from both the upstate and the lowcountry to host future overnight Sierra events in their respective communities. Look for future such meetings in the mountains and on the coast as we continue to build our Club, get to know each other and learn to better protect each other's special places.

## Legislative Report

by Cary Chamblee, Chapter Lobbyist

There are two new, informative and easy to use tools available to members and others who are



interested in environmental legislation. These are the new South Carolina Chapter "Legislation Tracker" and the South Carolina Legislature's website [www.sc-statehouse.net](http://www.sc-statehouse.net).

Legislation Tracker can be accessed from

the Sierra Club - SC Chapter homepage or via the web at <http://southcarolina.sierraclub.org/legislation/tracker/>. It provides a listing of the major legislative measures affecting our state's resources and links to bills, their legislative history, analysis, recent status and suggestions about ways that Sierra Club members can help influence the legislation. The Tracker is regularly updated during the legislative session (January-June), usually each Thursday afternoon.

The legislature's homepage, [www.sc-statehouse.net](http://www.sc-statehouse.net) is also a very useful which provides up-to-date information on almost anything regarding the legislature, individual legislators, bills, committee meetings, email addresses, calendars, journals and much more. Used in combination with the Sierra Club Legislation Tracker the user has access to powerful tools and technology to influence legislation and enhance the ability to promote grassroots action.

There are a number of bills affecting our state's resources that are being considered by the legislature this year.

**Regulatory Takings:** Possibly the most troubling natural resource related measure proposed this year is Chapter 4 of H4503, the eminent domain bill that is the legislature's response to the June, 2005 US Supreme Court decision in the now famous Kelo case, which was rendered in response to a law suit regarding a local eminent domain proceeding that occurred in New London, Connecticut. The House has attached a totally unrelated and far reaching component to this bill regarding "regulatory takings".

Under this portion of the bill a city, county or other government entity must provide "just compensation" if the value of a particular parcel of property is diminished by the enforcement of a land use or zoning regulation no matter how much the regulation benefits the community as a whole. According to an editorial in *The State* on February 26, "That means if the county rezones a piece of property to keep a landfill out of your neighborhood, it would have to pay the property owner for his lost income. But if it rezones another piece of property to allow a landfill in the middle of your neighborhood, you and your neighbors get nothing — except houses that you don't want to live in and that nobody else wants to buy." There are a number of bills affecting our state's resources that are being considered by the legislature this year. This regulatory takings provision should be removed from the eminent domain bill.

**Billboards:** Governor Sanford recently vetoed the billboard bill that compensates both billboard owners for a sign's speculative earnings. Because of the costs to local governments it would essentially prevent communities from adopting appearance standards. Moreover, the effective date of the bill is retroactive to April 13, 2005, essentially making ordinances recently enacted in 12 cities unenforceable. The veto was overridden by both the House and Senate and the legislation is now law.

To see details on these and other bills under consideration in the South Carolina Legislature visit the Legislation Tracker.

If you have questions or suggestions regarding legislation or any other governmental issue, please send me an email at [chambleec@gmail.com](mailto:chambleec@gmail.com)

## Oil Addiction Cure

by Dell Isham, Chapter Director

"I know I'm addicted. Just give me another fix while I think what to do about it."

Those could have been the words of President George W. Bush when he spoke to Congress and the American people on our oil addiction during his State of the Union Address.



The first step in breaking an addiction is to admit you have a problem. That's good.

Telling yourself you have 10 to 20 years to address the problem is denial. That's bad.

### CON-job

You could call it a "CON-job." That stands for Coal, Oil, and Nukes. That is our "energy policy." It is a policy that is dirty, insecure, and costly.

We need a policy that is better, cleaner and cheaper. Such a policy is possible with proper leadership. Our corporate-bound political system is unlikely to produce the leadership we need to meet our energy crisis. But it is so important, that we cannot give up trying.

Whether the present spat of political reform will reduce corporate influence in government or not, we as citizens need to continue to press for real energy reform. The future of our country and the health of the world are at stake.

### Watershed Moment

This could be a watershed moment in American history. It may take someone like a Teddy Roosevelt to appeal directly to the citizenry and to lead the way. As we are reaching the peak of oil production in the world, someone

on the national stage needs to come forward to advocate for an energy policy that will provide environmental protection, national security, and job creation.

Coal that puts mercury into our air and water, soot into our lungs, destroys our mountaintops, and kills our workers is not the way. Oil that depends on a multi-billion dollar military establishment to protect it and causes global warming is not the way. Atomic power that requires huge subsidies and endangers all future generations is not the way either.

Throughout U.S. history Americans have skillfully met challenges with new technology, and we can do so again. We have the know-how to use and improve renewable energy, increase energy efficiency, to grow our own energy, and to lower energy costs. So, let's do it.

### Energy Efficiency

Raising energy efficiency requirements for vehicles and appliances are something we can do now. Taking personal responsibility to conserve energy in our daily lives is available to us now. We can switch to ethanol, and wind power, and solar power if we want, and we should.

Our future is bleak if we think we can simply call coal "clean" and not have to suffer from the consequences of breathing its pollution. We deceive ourselves if we think we can continue to use 25 percent of the world's oil found in the most politically unstable parts of the planet. We are misguided if we think that we do not have to address the financial, security, and moral costs of radioactive waste from nuclear power plants.

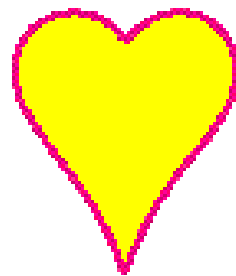
The wind and the sun and our agricultural might are easily available to us. Energy conservation is also at hand. We should opt for the convenient, healthier, secure, and a less costly course of action when it comes to establishing a new energy policy.

Why not?

## Sierra Club Love

By Erika Hartwig, Chapter Membership Chair

February was designated by the Chapter Membership Committee as "Fall in Love with Sierra Club" month, not just because it's the month we all celebrate Valentine's Day, but to also remember why so many of us got involved in the first place and fell in love with this organization. Sierra Club shares a common goal with our own personal beliefs—to do our part to protect the environment we love so well.



Many times we get caught up in our daily lives and forget to step back and look at the bigger picture. I challenge every member who reads this article to remember why you joined the Sierra Club in the first place. Perhaps because you wanted to donate your time, your money, share your passions with other like-minded people, explore nature, advocate for change... there could be many reasons for each of you.

The Membership Committee has mobilized and created a means for you to follow through with those earlier commitments. With the newly launched membership corner website, [www.myscierra.org](http://www.myscierra.org), the Chapter has a place for everyone! The website has a photo gallery, a blog, a calendar of events, and, most importantly, opportunities to volunteer! It is the hope of the Membership Committee that you will take the time to visit this website, add your input, forward the information to your friends, and make a commitment of your time and/or money to help with our outreach efforts across the state.

Our members are the lifeblood of this organization and without you the organization and its mission will die. We need your help to continue to make the Sierra Club a tremendous force in South Carolina and we'll give you every tool you need to make it happen! I look forward to seeing you at future events and meetings!

Remember why you fell in love with the Sierra Club!

# Conservation. . .

## For the record . . . . .

The following letter was sent to the Army Corps of Engineers and the South Carolina Department of Transportation on February 7, 2006:

"The South Carolina Chapter of the Sierra Club (SC Sierra Club) has opposed the building of a bridge between Lonestar and Rimini (Clarendon and Calhoun Counties) since October 2000, (see attached) and the basic environmental concerns have not changed.



Location of the proposed Lonestar to Rimini Bridge. Photo by Dell Isham.

The above referenced permit application would authorize the fill or removal of 15.411 acres of wetlands and another 10.18 acres of vegetative clearing. These will have negative impacts to the environment, but more concerning, they would be done on a speculative basis. Final bridge approval and design have not been completed, so it is premature to give such authorization.

The SC Sierra Club asks that issuance of such permits not be granted because of the speculative nature of the bridge project and because of the ultimate cumulative impacts.

The proposed project, including the damage to wetlands, will irreparably harm the environ-

ment and aesthetics, as well as be a disappointment for those who hope to benefit from localized economic development. This foolish waste of taxpayer dollars will not compensate for the loss of wildlife habitat and irrational land-use planning.

The SC Sierra Club asks that you deny the wetland permits because the project is contrary to the public interest."

## Call to Action:

### U. S. Supreme Court Hears Major Clean Water Act Cases

On February 22, the U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments in two cases that could undermine federal protection of the vast majority of our nation's streams, wetlands, ponds and other waters. The petitioners in the two cases (Rapanos v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Carabell v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) maintain that the 1972 Clean Water Act protects only "traditional navigable" waters (those suitable for use by commercial vessels) and those wetlands and streams that are directly adjacent to those waterways. This radical position--which the Bush Administration's Justice Department is opposing--contradicts how the act has been applied for more than 30 years.

It is clear from the oral arguments yesterday that the parties who wish to narrow the scope of the Clean Water Act are not going away. This is an important time for highlighting those waters in your state that are at risk of losing protections if the Supreme Court sides with the petitioners in these cases. Please take a moment to write an letter to the editor to your local paper. I have provided a sample LTE below, as well as some state specific information that may be helpful in tailoring the LTE to your state. Also, please feel free to contact me at Navis.Bermudez@sierraclub.org if you need additional information or assistance.

The State of South Carolina signed the brief in support of the Clean Water Act. What's at risk in our state: South Carolina\* EPA estimates that more than 5,000 miles of streams in South Carolina -- nearly 20 percent -- are either non-perennial or run through canals or ditches, the types of streams at greatest risk for elimination from Clean Water Act protection. In addition, such wetlands as pocosins, wet pine flatwoods and Carolina bays are particularly threatened. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, "South Carolina wetlands serve as wintering areas for migrating waterfowl, supporting greater than 30 percent each of American green-winged teal, northern shovelers, mallards, northern pintails, American wigeon, and gadwall that traverse the Atlantic Flyway." These wetlands also enhance water quality by intercepting upland runoff and filtering out nutrients, wastes and sediment.

### "Rustle the Leaf"

You may have noticed our first cartoon in the last issue. Thanks to Go Natur'L Studios, LLC, we are able to carry Rustle the Leaf. My oversight resulted in not adding the following: "Rustle the Leaf" Comic characters courtesy of Go Natur'L Studios, LLC, 2005. The "Rustle the Leaf Comics" properties copyright and trademark of Go Natur'L Studios, LLC. All Rights Reserved." My sincere apologies.

Now they send Earth Day news: "'Rustle the Leaf's Earth Day Book' is a 12-page book that features comics, mazes, word puzzles and information about Earth Day, environmental issues and more. The inside cover of the book converts into a full-color poster containing 'Rustle the Leaf's Earth Day Pledge.' You can download page samples at [http://www.rustletheleaf.com/06Earth\\_Day\\_Book.html](http://www.rustletheleaf.com/06Earth_Day_Book.html). Anyone planning to celebrate Earth Day this year should log on to the Rustle the Leaf web site and order a supply of Earth Day Books. They're being sent--shipping included--at no cost or obligation. Order deadline is March 20 to ensure delivery the week before Earth Day; however, supplies are limited."

## Call to Action: Smoky Mountains North Shore Road

Ted Snyder writes: "The National Park Service has just released a Draft EIS on building the North Shore Road inside the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The Smokies Coalition has made a Summary of it and a Call to Action."

"This is a major national issue.

"We need all the help you can give us in getting word out to members in SC and asking them to write letters. The deadline is March 20th. All the details of where and why to respond are given on pages 5 and 6 of the attachment."

The summary and call to action is too long to publish here. If you would like a copy, please contact Barb Postles at [bpostles@aol.com](mailto:bpostles@aol.com) or the Chapter office.

## Bottled water is taxing the world's ecosystems

According to a report by the Earth Policy Institute, bottled water consumption is "heavily taking the world's ecosystem."

The bottling and distribution produces unnecessary garbage and consumes vast quantities of water. It's very expensive, costing 10,000 times more than tap water. Demand is heavy around the world. Only 14% of plastic water bottles get recycled.

Bottom line--tap water can be just as healthy and subject to more stringent regulations than bottled water from many regions.

## Discussion

(Continued from page 1.)

We need to begin to talk about and actively plan Our Clean Energy Future. As Bartram Conservation Chair and member of the Chapter Conservation Committee, I would like to invite you to join me in this discussion. I would like anyone who has an interest to contact me either by phone or by e-mail. My e-mail is [ericarol66@yahoo.com](mailto:ericarol66@yahoo.com). My phone number is (864)297-6015. I hope to organize discussion groups to find out what your ideas are. I would like to begin this process in the next few weeks.

And in closing, I saw an e-mail response to the President's "addiction to oil" comments in the State of the Union speech. It said, "There is a 12 step process to recovering from addiction; the first step is recognizing you have a problem...the rest of us know we have a problem". We know it...now it is time for ACTION.

## Okay.....

"To imply that we're flattening Appalachia is so untrue. We're creating level land for Appalachia." ... Bill Caylor, president of the Kentucky Coal Association, claiming that mountaintop removal mining--blowing the tops off mountains to get at the coal beneath--performs the "necessary" function of creating flat land for development.

## Nomination for Chapter Award

To make a nomination, please describe the accomplishments of this person or group. Provide sufficient detail in order to allow the Awards Committee to evaluate the nominee. If more space is needed, use additional pages. If appropriate, include additional supporting materials such as newspaper clippings. Mail this form to Joe Zdenek, 752 Harrell St., Rock Hill, SC 29730 no later than April 30.

Name of nominee:

Address:

Telephone:

E-mail address:

Group:

Award category:

Name of nominator:

Address:

Telephone:

E-mail address:

Details of reason for nomination (Use additional pages and attachments, if needed):

## Living Lightly. . .

### Greener Ts

Our Tshirts are made with solvents and PVC plastic. And conventional cotton is grown with pesticides, defoliant and fertilizer. Try, instead, organic clothing from T.S. Designs and Maggie's Functional Organics. You can order bulk quantities of ecofriendly shirts with your own artwork from Rehance.com.

### Better cosmetics

Sierra Magazine reports that Revlon and L'Oreal have announced they will eliminate suspected carcinogens and other harmful chemicals from beauty products sold in the U.S.

### A little reminder...

How long does your trash last in the environment? Here's a little refresher:

Plastic soda bottles, forever

Glass bottles, 1 million years

Batteries, 100 years

Aluminum and tin cans, 50-100 years

Plastic bags, 10-20 years

Plastic coated milk cartons, 5 years

Orange peels, 6 months

Paper, 2-5 months

Source: United National Environment Programme, reported in *Discover* magazine

### Checking that heavy foot

For about \$30 at any auto parts store, you can buy an mpg meter that mounts on your dashboard. Experience has shown that constant feedback on mileage teaches drivers to be lighter on the gas pedal. Experts say you can expect a 20 percent reduction in your gas consumption.

### Phantom load

You may be able to cut six percent of your energy consumption by unplugging your computer and other appliances or by using a power strip. Devices that use power even when they are turned off -- including digital clocks, instant on TV and other appliances -- constitute your "phantom load." To calculate your phantom load, go to [www.kouba-cavallo.com](http://www.kouba-cavallo.com).

### Helping kids be healthier

A recent study concluded that switching to organic foods provides kids with 'dramatic and immediate' protection from toxic pesticides. -- from "The Green Life" section of Sierra magazine

## Daily Ray of Hope...

The best of the Club's Daily Ray of Hope:

"Algae may be a key factor in the fight against global warming. Inventor Isaac Berzin has discovered that pumping smokestack emissions through a "bioreactor" filled with algae removes nearly all the harmful gases."

**"It's not too late at all. You just do not yet know what you are capable of." -- Mahatma Gandhi**

"Earlier this month, Coyote Gulch, a toxic waste dump turned wildlife habitat in the San Francisco Presidio of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, officially opened to the public. The National Park Service, using funds from the Presidio's former occupant, the U.S. Army, restored the gulch, which has become a new home for metallic green hummingbirds, red-tailed hawks, white-crowned sparrows, and bright yellow meadowlarks. Humans seem equally thrilled with the change. "[Coyote Gulch is now] a beautiful ravine with a creek running through it and open views down to the crashing waves along Baker Beach. It's a fantastic addition to the Presidio rather than a waste dump," says Doug Kern, a resident of a nearby neighborhood and coordinator of the advisory board that served as the community's watchdog over the cleanup."

**"The Olympic Games in Italy are expected to generate "just over 100,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide with the main sources of emissions coming from transport and the operation of the Olympic venues," according to the United Nations Environment Programme. The good news is that the International Olympics Committee worked with the EU's Eco Management and Audit Scheme to employ ways to offset the CO2-producing activities including: a waste-materials plan that combines recycling with an efficient system of energy retrieval; an extensive sustainable transport plan for athletes and spectators; an eco-friendly Olympic Village built using pollution-free materials; and state-of-the-art soda machines at the event that use carbon dioxide as a refrigerant instead of ozone-damaging substances."**

"Last week, a group of scientists announced the discovery of a "Lost World" of wildlife in Indonesia. The 2 million isolated acres of tropical forests on the Foja Mountains of Papua province are home to several dozen new species of frogs, butterflies, flowers, and birds. "It's as close to the Garden of Eden as you're going to find on Earth," said Bruce Beehler, a Conservation International scientist who led the expedition."

**"Do burgers taste better when they're cooked on a wind-powered grill? Perhaps not, but for fast food you can feel good about eating, it's hard to top Burgerville. The Pacific Northwest chain -- which dishes up all-natural, hormone- and antibiotic-free local beef -- recently announced that it would use wind-generated energy to provide 100 percent of the electricity at its 39 franchises and Vancouver, Washington, headquarters."**

"Hybrid cars may get all the attention, but hybrid locomotives are also making inroads. The Green Goat is a hybrid switcher--a locomotive used to shunt rail cars to different tracks in the freight yard--made by Canadian company RailPower. Coupling a small diesel engine with a large battery bank, the locomotives are both quiet and efficient, reducing fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions by as much as 70% while cutting nitrogen oxide and particulate emissions by as much as 90%. The deep cuts in emissions reflect not only increased fuel efficiency but also the fact that Green Goats do not idle between tasks."

**"After a slow start, the U.S. auto industry seems to be warming up to hybrid technology. Ford Motor CEO Bill Ford is now promising that by 2010 half of its models will be available as hybrids (compared to two at present) and that the company will sell a quarter million of them a year. Even so, it will still be languishing far behind Toyota, which aims to sell 600,000 hybrids a year by that time."**

"Hope is on the horizon for thousands of night-migrating birds that pass through New York City along the Atlantic flyway each year. Last fall, city officials and the local Audubon chapter announced the "Lights Out NY" initiative, which asks owners of tall buildings to turn off upper-story lights by midnight during the spring and fall migrations. Artificial lighting can dangerously disrupt birds' innate navigation systems. Audubon estimates that since 1997 more than 4,000 have been killed or injured by colliding with buildings. Business owners will trim thousands of dollars off their energy bills annually."

**"The reward for work well done is the opportunity to do more. Our greatest responsibility is to be good ancestors." -- Jonas Salk**

To subscribe, go to <http://www.sierraclub.org/dailyrayofhope/subscribe.asp>.

# Outings...

## Outing Leader

### Training Reminders

by **Starr Hazard, State Outings Committee**  
The National Sierra Club has been revising their requirements for outings leaders over the past few years.

Basically there are two types of training. 101 training is for leaders who wish to lead day-hikes that involve small numbers of people and no overnight stays. 201 training is designed to be a minimal training for any one wishing to lead trips that extend to overnight stays.

101 training is now on the web as a self-test module that takes several hours to complete. 201 training is a three-day affair. Even experienced leaders need to attend 201 training every three years.

In addition, new leaders have to participate in a minimum of two trips with experienced leaders. Finally there is a requirement for some first aid training. Details of the first aid course requirements are listed below. I have collected some listings for regional courses where first aid course are taught. Due to space limitations here, however, you will need to contact me for the list.

South Carolina needs to have a 2006 201 level session. I am planning to have a session on June 2,3,4 OR June 9,10,11. Please let me know whether leaders from your areas could attend either date.

Outdoor Leader Training (OLT) requirements:

<http://clubhouse.sierraclub.org/outings/policy/requirements.asp>

<http://clubhouse.sierraclub.org/outings/policy/FirstAid/>

National OLT training Sessions:

<http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/training/upcoming.asp>

2006 National SC First Aid Scholarships of \$50/person are open to all active outings leaders. See <http://clubhouse.sierraclub.org/outings/training/firstaid/application/scholarship.asp>

I personally think all Sierra Club Outings Leaders should be Wilderness First Responder Certified. The Club would like that also but it's too onerous a policy to foist off on volunteers. The Club actual and potential first aid requirement is met a number of 16 hour Wilderness First Aid (WFA) courses. WFA courses are taught around the country and regionally.

SOLO will have a basic WFA class in Columbia at Heathwood Hall School on April 29-30 for a cost of \$150.00. An additional fee of \$25 to cover the costs of CPR instruction will be added if you do not already have CPR. The contact person at Heathwood is Ms. Katherine Holloway at (803) 231-7724. <http://www.heathwood.org/>. <http://www.soloschools.com/schedule.html#wfa>.

### While camping...

**See more wildlife:** Sit in front of a tree, rock or bush. This disguises your body outline making it less likely animals will see you.

**Keep items dry:** Use a widemouthed plastic bottle for matches, lighters, bandages, etc.

## State Outings

### March

March 18: **Lake Issaqueena hike.** Foothills. Hiking the lake trail of Lake Issaqueena to see spring flowers. Bring notebook, water, and lunch. Meet at 10 a.m. at the gate to Lake Issaqueena off Lawrence Bridge Road. George Polk, (864)882-0006.

March 18: **Mountain Bridge Wilderness Trail Service.** Bartram. Please join our continuing service projects. The objective of this service project is to improve and preserve existing trails at Caesars Head State Park in order to assure that all trails are safe for use by future hikers. Trail workers will meet at 9:00 a.m. at Caesars Head Ranger Station. The morning work session will last until the noon lunch break. Each worker should bring their own lunch and water. Lunch break will last 30 - 45 minutes. The afternoon work session will end about 3:00 p.m. Jim Majors at (864)233-7576 or [jim\\_majors@bellsouth.net](mailto:jim_majors@bellsouth.net).

March 25: **Lake Moultrie passage of the Palmetto Trail fat tire bike trip.** Lunz. Starr Hazard, (843)881-8902 or [hazardes@bellsouth.net](mailto:hazardes@bellsouth.net).

March 26: **Steven's Creek Natural Area hike.** Savannah River. 2-mile day hike. Judy Gordon, (706)650-8314.

### April

April 1: **Heggie's Rock trip.** Savannah River. Judy Gordon, (706)650-8314.

April 8: **Wadmacon Creek canoe/kayak.** Lunz. Ten mile paddle on this quiet, remote and little-known tributary of the Santee River. Bill Turner, (843)571-3503.

April 8: **Canoe Turkey Run Creek.** Savannah River. Chuck Niemeyer, (706)650-0576.

April 10-14: **Backpack: Max Patch in the Pisgah National Forest to Cosby, TN camp.** Lunz. Outstanding views of the Smokies and abundant wildflower displays along the trails. This 26-mile hike will be moderate to strenuous with possibilities of cold weather. Rose Ganser-Schwartz, (843)563-6404, [ganserschwartz@hotmail.com](mailto:ganserschwartz@hotmail.com).

April 29: **Congaree National Park.** Savannah River. Richard Dillenback, (706)869-8770.

### May

May 6: **Mistletoe State Park.** Savannah River. Richard Dillenback, (706)869-8770.

May 6-7: **Eastatooe Gorge overnight hike.** Lunz. Dave Schwartz (843)607-1108.

### June

June 25: **Tour de Harbor kayak.** Lunz. A long days' journey into light beginning at 7 a.m. We will let the tide carry us all the way to Ft. Sumter and Morris Island than all the way back to Shem Creek. This is our solstice paddle and it's a new moon so the tide currents will be grand. Open water passages make this an intermediate level trip. Starr Hazard, (843)881-8902 or [hazardes@bellsouth.net](mailto:hazardes@bellsouth.net).

### July

July 8-10: **Joyce Kilmer Wilderness hike.** Lunz. Dave Schwartz (843)607-1108.

### September

September 8-10: **Panthertown Valley, North Carolina hike.** Lunz. Lots of waterfalls. Maureen Blair, (843)568-7134.

### October

October 7-9: **Manchester State Forest hike.** Lunz. Dave Schwartz, (843)607-1108.

## Central Reservation System Serves State Park Users

The beginning of a new year marks the second year of a new tradition for patrons of South Carolina's state parks--the hassle-free booking of cabins and campsites using the online and toll-free central reservation system from Reserve America.

People can book their stays anytime up to 11 months in advance of their park visit.

The S.C. State Park Service operates 233 cabins and other overnight lodging facilities and more than 3,000 campsites. Availability information and reservations can be made by calling (866)345-PARK (7275) or going online at [www.SouthCarolinaParks.com](http://www.SouthCarolinaParks.com).

The state parks offer a diverse selection of settings and accommodations, including beachfront cabins at Hunting Island, unique rondettes perched on piers at Santee State Park on Lake Marion, mountain villas at Devils Fork on Lake Jocassee and secluded getaways at such isolated, serene retreats as Poinsett State Park near Sumter.

## Wild legacy advocacy characterize activist trips

Sign up for a 2006 Sierra Club national activist outing and become part of the new Wild Legacy Conservation Initiative that the Club inaugurated as a result of the 2005 Sierra Summit. Our nation's Wild Legacy is at the heart of the Sierra Club mission, and our national activist outings inspire people to fight to preserve our wild legacy. They also educate participants about the values of wildlands preservation and how to spread the word about the special places they've seen once they return home.

In 2006, four Wild Legacy activist adventures await you: in wild Nevada, Utah, Idaho, or Vermont. Join one, for fun and advocacy training!

For details, contact Vicky Hoover at (415)977-5527 or [vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org](mailto:vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org). Ask about partial trip scholarships for applicants for whom cost is a deterrent. For a trip brochure and application form, call the Sierra Club Outing Department's 24-hour voicemail at (415)977-5522, or visit [www.sierraclub.org/outings/national](http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/national).