

General Meeting

Shawnee Group, Sierra Club March 2000

The March General Meeting of the Shawnee Group will take place at the Unitarian Fellowship building, at 7:30 PM, on March 9, 2000.

The Unitarian Fellowship is located at the corner of University Avenue and Elm Street, in Carbondale, Illinois.

This month's program will be presented by **Dr Alan Woolf** (Wildlife, SIU) on **Southern Illinois Bobcats**.

Hope to see you there!

Dinner Before Meeting

Join some of the Executive Committee, the speaker for the evening's program, and other members for dinner at **Quatro's Pizza**, 218 W. Freeman, at **5:45 p.m.** on March 9, before the meeting.

"Can we really expect a street vendor in Brazil to make sacrifices when he is bombarded with images of Americans in obscene SUVs burning some of the cheapest gas in the world at the rate of 13 miles a gallon?" ..**Homero Aridjis** (author and founder of Mexico's leading environmental organization, the Group of 100)

Contests in the Illinois Primary on March 21, 2000

by Clara McClure

Sierra Club has not endorsed any candidates for State or Federal offices in the Illinois Primary to be held on Tuesday, March 21. We did send out questionnaires on environmental issues of concern to the Sierra Club to candidates in the contested races. To help you decide on candidates we are summarizing the information we have on the following races. There are no contests in the Republican primary for State offices.

Illinois Senate, 59th District, has 3 Democratic candidates filing. This district includes all or parts of 13 counties including Alexander, Franklin, Gallatin, Hardin, Johnson, Massac, Pope, Pulaski, Saline, Union and Williamson.

Larry D. Woolard, Carterville, is currently serving as state representative of the 117th district, a position he has held for a number of years. He sent a letter stating that it was crucial for members of the Sierra Club who are his constituents to "share a full understanding of my beliefs on various issues. As a result, I encourage you to examine my voting record and relay your analysis to your members." He did not answer the questionnaire.

Mark Donham, Brookport, did answer the questionnaire. He supports establishing a water pollution permit fee to help fund the state's clean water programs. He would support legislation to prevent forest preserve districts and state holdings such as state parks, conservation areas and wildlife management areas from selling, leasing, swapping or otherwise converting existing holdings to uses that are inconsistent with habitat protection and public enjoyment. He supports tougher controls on coal burning power plants and incentives for alternative energies such as solar, wind and fuel cells. He generally opposes "takings" or "private property rights" legislation. He would repeal authorizations for tollway extensions until they are shown to be needed and an environmental impact statement is completed. He also wants increased authority to protect natural areas which he sees as "a key initiative for investing in the future." His complete responses to the questionnaire are available from Barb McKasson or Clara McClure.

Illinois House, 117th District, has 3 Democrat candidates for this position currently held by Larry Woolard. This district includes all parts of 6 counties including, Franklin, Gallatin, Saline and Williamson. The candidates are Bill Wilson, West Frankfort, Gary F. Forby, Benton and Carl F. Ortale, Carterville. Only Bill Wilson responded to the questionnaire. He

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supports establishing a water pollution permit fee to help fund the state's clean water programs. He also supports protecting public open space by preventing forest preserve districts from selling, leasing, swapping or otherwise converting existing holdings to uses that are inconsistent with habitat protection and public enjoyment. He supports requiring tougher pollution controls on coal-burning power plants "but we need our jobs; government can help, keep all working." He opposes efforts to weaken Illinois EPA's ability to enforce environmental laws and regulations and also opposes "takings" or "private property rights" legislation. He accompanied his questionnaire with a letter describing his primary concerns in running for the Illinois House. The letter and questionnaire are available from Barb McKasson or Clara McClure.

U. S. House, 12th District which includes all or parts of 9 counties including Randolph, Jackson, Williamson, Union and Alexander has two Democratic candidates. They are Jerry Costello, Belleville, the incumbent Representative, and Kenneth Charles "Bud" Wiezer, Granite City. Questionnaires were not received from these candidates.

The Primary ballots will also include candidates for County offices with some contests.

Watch your newspaper for information on the Primary candidates and please vote on Tuesday, March 21.

SIERRA - The Green Millennium

Jan/Feb 2000 issue of the Magazine of the Sierra Club

This issue of the Sierra Club Magazine is an especially good magazine for getting inspired and energized to meet the new Millennium head on with our environmental advocacy. From the dismissal of Muir, Le Conte and other founders of the Sierra club in 1892 by the *San Francisco Chronicle* as "hoggish and mushy esthetes" to governmental types such as James Watt with their anti-environmental attitudes our mission is well defined. Unfortunately at this time our tasks can seem overwhelming. This issue of the Sierra Club magazine points up the Club's history of many accomplishments which sometimes are forgotten. These are well summarized on p. 109 in 'A Hike Through History' from the causing of Congress to create Mount Rainier National Park in 1899 to blocking the building of a series of dams in Yellowstone National Park in the 20's to defeating efforts to open the Arctic Refuge to oil drilling in the 90's.

In addition to this discussion of the club's history there is a good article on the Asian long-horned beetle and its potential of decimating our maple tree population (just think no more maple syrup). This of course highlights Hong Kong's challenging of the United States' packing material restrictions as an illegal barrier to trade.

Furthermore there is an article (page 40) on 'How to ensure a better future?' featuring discussions by an eclectic group of environmental visionaries including Paul and Anne Ehrlich and others with our Sierra Club Executive Director Carl Pope acting as the moderator.

Environmentalists Under Fire

"Environmentalist Under Fire" in both book & video has been made available by Barb McKasson. Twenty minutes of video focuses on the ten worst cases of governments persecuting environmentalists including unwarranted arrests and torture. Amnesty International & the Sierra Club have joined forces to focus on this alarming trend. Anyone who wants to join a small group to watch the video, discuss the issues and write letters call Barb McKasson at 529-4824. An 'action kit' is also available for people who want to hold their own group meeting with a group they belong to or just with friends.

Illinois Wilderness

A reminder to those who would like to have the **Illinois Wilderness Slide show program** that highlights present and proposed wilderness areas. It features very beautiful slides of scenery and wildlife in the Shawnee Forest with explanations of why wilderness is very important here in Southern Illinois. Contact Barb McKasson (529-4824) for details. Also see your last issue of Shawnee Trails for more information on this program.

ACTION ALERT - SOME IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES

U. S. Sen Dick Durbin, Springfield District office: 525 S. 8th St., Springfield 62703; (217) 492-4062. Washington office: 364 Russell Senate Office Bldg., Wash., D.C. 20510; (202) 224-2152

U.S. Sen. Peter G. Fitzgerald, Invernes District office: 230 S. Dearborn #3900, Chicago 60604; (312) 886-3506; 520 S. 8th St., Springfield 62703; (217) 492-5089; FAX (217) 492-5099.

U. S. Cong. Dist. 12, REP Jerry Costello, 2454 Rayburn Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515, (202) 225-5661, Federal Bldg., 250 W. Cherry St., Carbondale, IL 62901, (618) 529-3791.

U. S. Cong. Dist. 19, REP David D. Phelps, District Office: 901 State St., Eldorado 62930; (618) 273-8203; Washington Office: 1523 Longworth HOB, Washington, D. C. 10515; (202) 225-5201.

Illinois (Government)

Illinois Senatorial Dist. 59: Sen Jim Rea, State House Rm. M103F, Springfield, 62706, (217) 782-5509, 112 E. Market, Christopher, L 62822, (618) 724-9444.

Illinois Sen Dist. 19: Sen David Leuchtefeld, State House, Rm., Springfield, IL 62706, (217)782-8137, (618) 529-3866, 700 N. Front St., P.O. Box 517, Okawville 62271 (618) 243-9014.

Sen William L. O'Daniel, 103C Statehouse, Springfield; (217) 782-5304; 2929 Broadway; Mount Vernon 62864; (618) 242-7388.

Illinois Rep Dist. 115: Rep Mike Bost, William Stratton Office Bldg, Room 2002-G, Springfield, IL 62706, (217) 782-0387, 300 E. Main St., Carbondale, IL, 62901, (618) 457-5787.

Illinois Representative Dist. 117: Rep Larry Woolard, William Stratton Office Bldg., Room 2061-L, Springfield, IL 62706, (217) 782-1051, 10400 Terminal Dr, Marion, IL 62959, (618) 997-1171.

Rep Dan Reitz, L-Wing, Stratton Building: (217) 782-1018; 128A W. Main, Sparta 62286: (618) 443-5757, FAX (618) 443-3800.

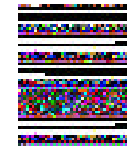
Rep James Fowler, 2080-M Stratton Bldg 62706; (217) 782-5131; 617E. Church St., Suite 8: Harrisburg 62946: (618) 253-4189.

Trinidad and Tobago Tropical Adventure...May 29 - June 5

There is still time to hop on board for this great adventure. Cost of the trip is \$1877 with ten people registered. The price includes airfare, lodging, all meals, and guided field trips. For more information, phone Nelda at 549-5588 or 457-7676 ext. 8323. To register, send \$150 deposit to Nelda Hinckley, Asst. Professor of Biology, John A. Logan College., Carterville, IL 62918. Students register for Biology 241, Introduction to Tropical Ecology, for 3 hours credit.



SHAWNEE OUTINGS



Hike to Ripple Hollow March 11. Meet under the Murdale Sign at Murdale Shopping Center, 9 am, Saturday, March 11. Dress for the weather, wear boots and bring lunch. Plan on returning around mid-afternoon. Call Sandy Anderson at 618-893-4545 for more information.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE & FOLDING

Every month we get together to fold the newsletter for the newsletter mailing. We **welcome all the help we can get**. The deadline for the April newsletter will be March 26 with folding on March 30 at Don Lawrence's house at 5:30 pm. To check on directions call Don at 457-8989.

EXCOM MEETING

Our March meeting will be held on March 16, 5:30 pm, McClure's house. All members are welcome to attend. For directions call Clara at 457-2025.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAVE PAPER AND RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL?

Simply send a signed letter by regular mail or an e-mail message to <<donaldlaw@aol.com>> indicating that you would like to receive it by e-mail and I will put you on the e-mail list and take you off the regular mail list. Please give your name and regular PO address in your request.



Shawnee Group
 SIERRA CLUB
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Shawnee Trails Newsletter Editor, Computer Committee, Marine Chair—Don Lawrence, 457-8989, donaldlaw@aol.com

Yes, I want to join! I want to help safeguard our precious natural heritage. My payment is enclosed.

My Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ ZIP _____

Check enclosed Phone (Optional) () _____

Please charge my Mastercard Visa E-Mail (Optional) _____

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Contributions, gifts or dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES		
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INTRODUCTORY	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
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For our Families... For our Future.