



Delta Sierran

Inside The Sierran
Coal Campaign
Earl's Pearls

Delta Chapter Newsletter www.louisiana.sierraclub.org Summer 2008

Time to get this Blueprint



Off the drawing board





Delta Sierran

Published four times a year by the Delta Chapter of the Sierra Club. Layout, articles and editing by local volunteers. Text of articles may be reprinted duly acknowledged. Artwork and photos may not be reproduced

Copyright 2008 Delta Chapter of the Sierra Club

Editor and Design: Leslie March

Contributors: Heywood Martin, Earl Higgins, Jeffrey Dubinsky

The Delta Chapter is 3,000 of your neighbors supporting the work of the Sierra Club in Louisiana. We advance the cause of protecting Louisiana's environment in a variety of ways, including lobbying the state legislature in Baton Rouge, sponsoring a Mercury Public Education Campaign, raising public awareness about climate change, and working to keep the Atchafalaya Basin, America's greatest river swamp, wet and wild. In addition, we encourage our members to get outside and enjoy our beautiful planet.

The Sierra Club's members and supporters are more than 1.3 million of your friends and neighbors. Inspired by nature, we work together to protect our communities and the planet. The Club is America's oldest, largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization.

Delta Chapter Executive Committee

Chair	
Heywood Martin	337-232-7953
chair@louisiana.sierraclub.org	
Vice Chair	
Nancy Grush	225-381-9440
nancygrush@bellsouth.net	
Secretary	
Aaron Viles	504-891-9642
secretary@louisiana.sierraclub.org	
Treasurer	
Warren Zimmermann	985-8 71-6695
wzcarnival@yahoo.com	
At Large	
Charlie Fryling	225-766-3120
cfryling@cox.net	
At Large	
Leslie March	985-871-6695
lesliemarch@hotmail.com	
At Large	
Dean Wilson	225-659-2499
Enapay3@aol.com	
At Large	
Leigh Haynie	337-866-9145
envirolah@earthlink.net	
Group Rep (BR)	
Nancy Grush	225-381-9440
nancygrush@aol.com	
Group Rep (HI)	
Warren Zimmermann	985-871-6695
wzcarnival@yahoo.com	
Group Rep (K)	
Jeff Wellborn	318-868-5243
jwellborn@sport.rr.com	
Group Rep (NO)	
Barry Kohl	504-861-8465
bkohl40@cs.com	
Conservation Chair	
Leslie March	985-871-6695
lesliemarch@hotmail.com	
Webpage Editor	
Rene Maggio	504-251-8944
info@985computing.com	
Newsletter	
Leslie March	985-871-6695
lesliemarch@hotmail.com	

Mail to PO Box 19469, New Orleans, LA 70179-0469
Sierra Club Regional Staff
Sr. Regional Manager for Northern Gulf
Jill Mastrataro 504-729-8800
jillmastratarosc@cox.net
Environmental Justice
Darryl Malek-Wiley 504-865-8708
darryl.malek-wiley@sierraclub.org

Contents

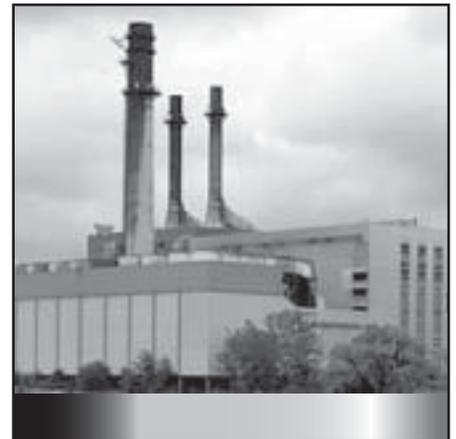
- 3 View From the Chair
- 4 Earl's Pearls
- 9 News and Events
around the Chapter
- Chapter news
- Acadiana
- Baton Rouge
- Honey Island
- Kisatchie
- New Orleans
- 5 Louisiana Briefing Book: Environmental Voter day
- 6 Coal Campaign heats up:
- 7 Citizens Guide to the Public Service Commission
- 8 CWIP
A dirty secret that your utility doesn't want you to know about.



4



7



6

The Delta Sierran is a bi-monthly publication of the Delta Chapter of the Sierra Club. Members of the Delta Chapter receive the publication as a membership benefit. Non-members may subscribe by sending a check for \$12.00 for one annual membership to the Delta Chapter at P. O. Box 19469, New Orleans, LA 70179-0469. Back issues of the Delta Sierran can be viewed on our website at <http://louisiana.sierraclub.org>.

Address Changes: To change your address, send your name, old and new addresses and member number to:

Sierra Club Member Services
PO Box 52968

Boulder, Colorado 80322-2968

or email the information to:

address.changes@sierraclub.org

Submissions: Article and photograph submissions

are always welcome. Please send submissions to the newsletter editor at lesliemarch@hotmail.com or mail to Leslie March, 67017 Dolan St., Mandeville, LA 70471



View From The Chair

The Sierra Club Delta Chapter Executive Committee got together recently for a planning meeting to identify priorities and actions to be taken. We identified priority issues for Delta Chapter and voted on them. The top two vote getters were Cypress and Coal/Nuclear. Other priority issues identified were Climate change, Coastal restoration and US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mercury, Atchafalaya, and Public lands/endangered species. Some current highlights are as follows:

Cypress - The Save Our Cypress coalition has been quite effective under Dean Wilson's leadership. You know that the logging industry has noticed the pressure when they talk the entire Louisiana legislative delegation into signing a letter to Walmart asking the retailer to rescind its ban on selling of cypress mulch.

Coal/Nuclear – We are very active with the national No New Coal campaign through the efforts of Leslie March our conservation chair, and with other Louisiana environmental groups fighting any new coal plant construction or conversion from gas fired power plants. We are also working against the transport of nuclear waste through the port of New Orleans.

Mercury – Club member Barry Kohl has been leading the charge to limit the discharge of mercury into the environment through his work on last year's mercury bill in the legislature and also the lawsuit to hold Enervest accountable for leakage of mercury from oilfield monitoring devices.

Climate change – We are working with municipalities and universities on Cool Cities commitments, writing letters to newspapers, and representing advocacy on this issue in many different ways at the group level.

Coastal - Permitting problems are ongoing, public information isn't



We are already halfway through the year.
We are actively working on our priorities for 2008,
but
we need your
help and support to
reach our goals.

forthcoming, the Corps continues to hide behind FOIA to keep information from the public, and could be eying wetlands for 'borrow' material under an expedited alternative NEPA. Barry Kohl and Aaron Viles will continue to bird dog the Corps on these issues.

Public lands/endangered species – We have been successful in forcing Department of Interior to designate habitat for the Louisiana Black Bear. We are currently writing comments on their plan. We are looking at other opportunities for protecting endangered species. Louisiana is under represented relative to other states in the number of species placed on the threatened and endangered list.

Atchafalaya – We have been commenting on plans put forward by USACE for development in the Atchafalaya Basin. We are following with great interest bills in the legislature to revamp the Atchafalaya Basin program. We continue to fight oil industry destruction without remediation of natural areas in the Basin.

Delta Chapter History Project
We figured out that the Delta Chapter is approaching its 40th anniversary. We have many accomplishments over the years including shell dredging, protection of the Atchafalaya, Gulf Islands National Seashore, and more recently the exposure of the problems with FEMA trailers. We know there are more accomplishments but we can't remember them all at once so we are starting a chapter history project to interview persons who have been active in Sierra Club efforts in the past. We will write things up as we get them and post them on our chapter web site so we can have a historical reference. Any Delta Chapter members who have stories about environmental success stories can submit them to the chapter chair at hrmartin2sc@cox.net.

Volunteers- Always needed and appreciated. Take the lead in your own group or community. Follow your passion whether it is leading a canoe trip or doing research on clean air requirements, or making phone calls to elected officials. It all helps and I thank you personally.

-----Woody Martin

Delta Chapter Chair
Cool Cities Advocate

PS. If you haven't sent your March Appeal envelope in there is still time.

Ray Nagin Placed on Endangered Species List

Serious conservationists who spend quiet evenings reading through title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the Endangered Species List, are aware of such species as the Louisiana Quillwort, the Alabama Heelsplitter Mussel, and the Furbish Lousewort. (No wonder they're endangered; with names like those people will try to get rid of them.) Alert readers of the Federal Register know that the U. S. Fish and Game Service has added a new species to the list of endangered plants and animals. The scientific name is *Praefectus Novae Aurlienis Naginsis*, and the common, colloquial names are "Ray Nagin," "C. Ray," and "Da Mayor."

The reason for the listing is that Mayor Nagin has nearly disappeared from his natural habitat, the City of New Orleans. The prospect of term limits following his reelection may have been a factor, but some studies indicate that he simply has, as expressed in nonscientific terms, skipped town.

Upon reelection he publicly proclaimed a "100-Day Plan" to restore New Orleans to thriving good health in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, but by the expiration of those 100 days, little was done and C. Ray was a gone pecan (to use a scientific phrase). He was spotted far from his natural habitat, sprouting as an exotic species in Dallas and China and Washington, leading some ecologists to speculate that climate change and global warming may have affected his migration and habitat patterns. There was evidence that he was responding to global warming and the threat of rising sea level inundating New Orleans by going "out in the cold," but a search pursuant to an F.B.I. warrant of Congressman William Jefferson's freezer revealed only cold cash. Da Mayor was not in the icebox. If he not out in the cold or

simply out cold, what happened to him?

More significant evidence, which was relied on by the U.S. Fish and Game Service in classifying C. Ray as an endangered species, was that he was never seen at the polls on election days. The registrar of voters for Orleans Parish was interviewed as part of the investigation, and he reported that the reason the mayor does not vote in Orleans Parish is because, as a non-resident, he cannot vote in city and parochial elections there.

"Ya gotta live here to vote here," the registrar told the investigators, as he opened the books of the voter rolls to show that Da Mayor's name had been crossed



out with the legalese notation, "Ain't dere no more."

Some further investigation turned up evidence that C. Ray has met clandestinely with candy mogul Willie Wonka. The reports are that they are quietly seeking investors to construct a candy factory to make chocolate king cakes, chocolate bars that are full of nuts (like many bars in New Orleans), and chocolate likenesses of Da Mayor himself. This facility will be constructed on a site familiar to many Delta Sierrans. It is near the intersection of U.S. Highways 90 and 190 adjacent to the Pearl River south of Slidell. Many years ago The Nature Conservancy acquired land nearby as protected habitat for endangered bald eagles. It is fitting, if not ironic, that the Nagin-Wonka chocolate factory, which will be called "Chocolate City," is to be built to encourage the return of another endangered species, C. Ray, on the site of a long-gone restaurant

famous for its bad food in the 1960s, The White Kitchen. When The Nature Conservancy purchased the swampland to perpetuate the eagles' nesting area, they named it for the dreadful eatery, "The White Kitchen Preserve."

Speaking of dreadful, the natural habitat of the newest endangered species is a wild and dysfunctional location known as "City Hall." Rife with toxic attitudes and impossible dead ends, the habitat is so bad that the habitat itself may have been the cause of the disappearance of Da Mayor. This is one instance in which the destruction of habitat may actually help the environment and lead to the return of C. Ray to the City of New Orleans. Investigators have looked for him among the inhabitants of the homeless village under the elevated I-10 on Claiborne Avenue, but inquiries in that location were met with chortles, guffaws, and expressions that cannot be printed here.

There are rumors in the city that Ray Nagin may reappear in the late summer, reestablish residency, take himself off the endangered species list, ceremoniously open "Chocolate City" at the White Kitchen," and run for Congress against Representative William "Dollar Bill" Jefferson. It is reported that Nagin has been searching through hundreds of Katrina-destroyed freezers for some campaign cash to compete with the incumbent congressman and his chilly caches of cash, but he has had no success.

The swallows return every year to the Mission at San Juan Capistrano in Southern California; maybe C. Ray Nagin will return to New Orleans some day.

– Earl Higgins

Environmental Voter Day

Protecting Louisiana: An Environmental Briefing Book

The Delta Chapter participated in the 4th annual lobby day in Baton Rouge on May 12, 2008. We had participants from all over the state from Lafayette to Slidell. There were around 65 people who came for lobby training. A majority came from the Delta Chapter of the Sierra Club. LEAN, GRN, Holy Cross Neighborhood Association, the Alliance for Affordable Energy were among the other groups that came.

The participants went over to the capitol and met with their members after the introductory session held at the Hollywood Casino.

We would like to thank the participants for coming to lobby day. We have set up a list serve just to talk about legislation, the group is called LA Environmental Voters. It is on google groups. If you didn't attend but would like to be notified about upcoming legislation or events, please email lesliemarch@hotmail.com.

We need to say thank you to Jon Zimmerman at the Hollywood Casino on River Road in Baton Rouge, Darrell Hunt, Kathy Wascom and David Brown for legislative highlights, Marylee Orr and Ann Shaneyfelt for taking care of the last minute details. Casey Roberts, Dean Wilson and Jill Mastrototaro for speaking at the lunch.

We are already planning for next year's event. We want to give better notice, arrange for transportation and possible overnight stays for folks that are far



Leslie March
Delta Chapter Conservation Chair

away, and give everyone more time at the capitol. Feel free to send me any other comments you have or volunteer to be an organizer for next year.

Kickoff Lunch

The lunch marked the kickoff of Protecting Louisiana: An environmental briefing book. This book is a tool for citizens to take to their members to talk about passing progressive legislation to



Casey Roberts
GRN Climate Campaign

protect people and the environment. If you want to download a copy go to www.labriefingbook.org. The briefing book is authored by environmentalists from all over the state. The Delta Chapter took the lead and recruited 12 additional groups to participate. A copy of the book has been delivered by LEAN to each legislator, however don't let that stop you from giving another copy to your state legislator. Copies have been disbursed to local groups, Contact your chair to receive one.

Green Caucus

Ask your legislator to support a fully funded and staffed Green Caucus. There are many such caucuses at the capitol, including the Black Caucus, the Women's Caucus, the River Parishes Caucus and others. If we had a Green Caucus, we would have an inside chance of getting more Green bills proposed and passed.



Ann Shaneyfelt (BR), Harold Schoeffler,(Acadian Group Chair)

Coal Campaign Continues to Burn



The permits were granted right after the storm and we missed this one. This is also a conversion from natural gas to pet coke and coal. Recently they filed for an amended air permit because they changed their fuel mix which resulted in higher air pollutants. Lawyers from the national coal team are looking into a strategy on this plant.

Big Cajun is an existing coal burning plant owned by NRG. They have several applications in that include building an additional unit and changing the fuel mix to a dirtier process. The Delta Chapter is in litigation regarding air permits for this plant. The power is sold to local Louisiana Electricity Cooperatives. Because it is a “merchant plant,” the PSC doesn’t have jurisdiction in this case.

Integrated Resource Plan

A docket has been opened at the PSC to require the regulated utilities to do a plan that would include energy conservation and the development of renewable resources. Our hope is that these plans will show that we do not need new power plants and maybe even that we could phase out existing coal plants. The New Orleans City Council is also considering this issue. They act as their own PSC. The National Sierra Club Coal Campaign hired a local attorney experienced in utility matters to work on the IRPs for the state and the city.

Big News

The Sierra Club is hiring a full time coal organizer to work with our Louisiana groups on this issue. The person will also be promoting energy efficiency and new renewable sources of energy. If you are interested email Jillmastrototarosc@cox.net for details.

Follow the plants

<http://www.sierraclub.org/environmentallaw/coal/>

Download information

<http://clubhouse.sierraclub.org/conservation/energy/coal/>
Clubhouse-user explore-password

By Leslie March
The Delta Chapter is working with the Say Yes to Clean Energy, Say No to Coal and Energy Coalition. Our goals are to prevent new coal plants from being built in Louisiana while promoting energy efficiency, conservation and the development of new renewable sources of energy. Here is an overview of what we have been doing and what we plan to do in the future.

Preventing new coal plants

The Delta Chapter in alliance with LEAN (the Louisiana Environmental Action Network), GRN (the Gulf Restoration Network), and the Alliance for Affordable Energy filed to intervene with the PSC (Public Service Commission) last fall regarding the conversion of Little Gypsy owned by Entergy LA, a peak hour natural gas plant (only turned on when demand is high) to a baseline (runs all the time) petroleum coke and coal plant. The PSC voted for the conversion despite the efforts of

national lawyers from the Sierra Club, the Tulane Environmental law clinic and citizens, who called and wrote to them. We have legal grounds to appeal this decision and we filed an appeal. We also notified Entergy LA that the plant design violates the Clean Air act due to a recent court case, State of NJ et al vs EPA that struck down a recent EPA decision to exclude Power Plants from a list of sources of hazardous air pollutants. Entergy LA backed down and has withdrawn their permit application until they can redesign the plant. Entergy LA had also filed for a request to be allowed to charge ratepayers upfront for construction. This is called CWIP. See article about CWIP for explanation. At this time the request for CWIP has been postponed.

Rhodemacher, a Cleco owned plant is under construction south of Alexandria.

LPSC EXPOSED: Citizen's Guide



Jack A. "Jay" Blossman, Jr.
Chair Public Service Commission

By Leslie March

Please read the mission of the Louisiana Public Service Commission carefully. As I have traveled around the state talking to groups about the new coal plants, I am surprised how few of us know what they do??? that included me. The five people on this commission have decision making powers that effect our daily lives. Unfortunately it isn't us that they are serving. In looking at the past 4 years campaign contributions to chair Jay Blossman, there is a reoccurring cycle of contributions from utility companies and people connected to utility companies. I think this is a subject overlooked by the Ethics frenzy going on in Baton Rouge right now. A law should have been passed to prevent utilities from contributing to seated members of the Public Service Commission.

The public process of the public service commission is very convoluted. First an application is filed with the PSC, Then there is a time period open when interested parties can intervene on the application. This generally requires having a lawyer file documents representing parties like the club who want to comment for or against. After this there are a series of legal deadlines that include depositions of witnesses, briefs need to be filed and arguments prepared. Basically in order to object to a coal plant or having your water, power, cable or gas rates increased,

"The Louisiana Public Service Commission (LPSC) is an independent regulatory agency dedicated to serving the public interest by assuring safe, reliable, and reasonably priced services for the public utilities and motor carriers. The LPSC consists of five elected Commissioners who serve overlapping terms of six years and a staff of 122, created by Article IV, Section 21 of the 1921 Constitution of the State of Louisiana. It succeeded the Railroad Commission of Louisiana that was created by the 1898 Constitution. The overall goals of the Commission are to ensure a regulatory balance that enables utilities to provide customers with safe, adequate and reliable service, at rates that are just and reasonable, equitable and economically efficient, and that allow utilities an opportunity to earn a fair rate of return on their investment.

The Commission provides a thorough but efficient regulatory process that is fair, open, encourages public participation, and anticipates the demands of an evolving regulatory environment." This is verbatim from the official LPSC website

you have to go through a trial. All of this is very expensive and not within the grasp of the average citizen.

What happens next is a hearing in which both sides give their testimony. The hearing is held in the chambers of the PSC, however only a hearing judge is present. The staff of the PSC prepares a report and gives it to each commissioner. Hmmm and they are asking for a \$35,000 a year raise??? The only time the PSC is present during the process is on the day of the business meeting. Final arguments are produced and then they vote. This is why we have been asking you to call your PSC Commissioner or even go to see them in person to discuss the issues.

My first experience with the PSC was Little Gypsy. I was shocked that the commissioners were cutting up and having side conversations during the final arguments. I also felt disrespected when the chair of the commission was very condescending toward the Tulane Student Lawyers. This was not a hearing room where the needs of everyday people were being considered, Coincidentally despite the fact that the commission has a responsibility to stay neutral on issues until they are brought before them, Jay Blossman had already endorsed the Entergy LA plan several weeks before the testimony was heard.

Despite the overwhelming evidence that Little Gypsy would produce an increase in toxic pollutants that would result in higher health costs in the area, that Little Gypsy's carbon emissions would require purchasing carbon tax

credits in the future and that Entergy is pleading that they can't do this project without the rate payers paying up front, our commissioners voted unanimously in November 2007 to allow the plant to be converted.

If you have been following coal plants in the news, then you know that other states including Kansas, Illinois, Florida have opted out of building new coal plants. Our PSC appears to be ignoring the market forces that are reducing the number of coal plants. Wall street has put the industry on notice that they won't be financing coal plants. Our PSC continues to push us down the path of risky business.

In March, the PSC voted unanimously to approve a new coal plant in Arkansas that will provide some power to Shreveport,

Not only are they gung ho about our coal plants but they want to encourage our neighbors to be polluting as well. This vote was despite the fact that ratepayers are trying to stop the SWEPCO plant in the courts in Arkansas.

We have mentioned Jay Blossman because he is the chair and should be providing leadership to bring Louisiana to the front of the pack not move us back into the Victorian age. Blossman has questionable ethics, he recently sent a letter out on PSC letterhead to utilities urging them to use the services of a friend and couldn't see that his action was inappropriate. He is up for re-election in 2008 and we will be watching his contributors.

Energy 101

Outings

Adventure to Tunica

CWIP

CWIP - Construction work in progress; those utility facilities which are under construction but not yet completed to the point they supply service. This has come into play in the past when projects were running a little over budget and were almost completed. The new use for CWIP, according to Entergy and Cleco is for rate payers to pay upfront for plants without having any guarantee that the plant will be completed.

This means of financing is crucial to cover cost overruns in the Cleco plant at Rhodemacher because they are not able to go back to their lenders for more money. The lending banks have recently decided not to fund Coal plants anymore. The banks say that there is too much risk with the unknown carbon taxes looming on the horizon and they are concerned about the effects of global warming. Cleco is applying to the PSC for CWIP.

The Little Gypsy conversion is intended to be completely financed by CWIP. There are no institutional lenders that are willing to finance this project. The project is on hold at the moment until the plant is redesigned. This gives us an opportunity to let our PSC commissioners know that we do not want to pay for this plant... approximately 1.55 billion and counting. The PSC is being asked to have the ratepayers pay for this plant upfront with a no interest loan to Entergy LA. The plant won't begin to pay for itself until 2028 according to Entergy's own experts. Our rough estimate is that each person in Entergy LA's service area will give them a loan for \$750 each for the construction. This doesn't factor in an increased cost of fuel or carbon taxes.

New Nuclear Plants are being proposed across the country including Florida and Mississippi. In each case CWIP is being requested. With the projects costing at least 8 billion, the rate payers will be paying for a long time. Entergy Nuclear is applying for a license to build a new reactor at the Riverbend location so be prepared that they will ask for CWIP for that project too,



Sierrans hiking at Tunica

On Saturday, April 18, 2008 thirteen participants from the New Orleans Group enjoyed the wonders of Clark Creek Natural Area in Tunica Hills. Within only 2 1/2 hours of New Orleans, our group was able to view tall waterfalls, boulders, high ridges, steep ravines and a lovely creek that meanders through the unique habitat. The trail began high on a ridge with fascinating views into the steep valleys. Our group then descended into the creek bed, where we slowly made our way over the many boulders, along the slippery clay banks and under and over fallen trees. At the start of the adventure many of us walked carefully so as to avoid wet feet and shoes. Very quickly we gave up on that idea and enjoyed the feel of the creek water. I personally gave up trying to stay dry when I stepped on some wet clay and slid into the shallow water. Refreshing! Some of our many rewards were standing at the bottom of the six different 20-to 30-foot tall waterfalls, which happened to be rather slender on this day.

We were fortunate that Barry Kohl, geologist, was with us. He helped us appreciate the geology of these loess hills that were formed by wind-blown silt from the Mississippi River.

The trees were dressed in new spring green, shading us from the hot sun, keeping us cool. Boulders and banks were also adorned with green, including lush ferns and moss.

Members were very pleased with the experience and the beautiful day we were able to enjoy. After 4 1/2 hours of maneuvering marvelous Clark Creek, we were grateful for the man-made steps that took us to the ridge which led us back to the parking lot. Everyone commented on the perfect weather and delightful people who experienced this unique work of Nature. Darlene Reaves spent the whole day with us. She and Jerry moved to St. Francisville from N.O./Metairie after Katrina and love to have visitors. They love their new home and town.

-Susan Egnew
New Orleans Group

Delta Chapter News

Next

Delta Chapter Excom Meeting

7/18-7/20 /2008 n Lafayette

We are planning to camp out.

Everyone welcome, contact

Woody Martin at hmartin2sc@cox.net

or call him at 337-232-7953



Acadian Group

www.louisiana.sierraclub.org/acadian

ACADIAN GROUP BOARD &

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

MEETINGS

The Acadian Group of the Sierra Club holds its' Board and Conservation Committee meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at the Acadiana Symphony Building (412 Travis St., Lafayette, LA) at 6:30 PM.

ACADIAN GROUP GENERAL

MEETING & LECTURE

SERIES

Acadian Group of the Sierra Club has a general meeting and hosts a guest lecture on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at the Acadiana Symphony Building at 6:30 PM.

The Acadian Group of the Sierra Club is always looking for speakers.

Past speakers have talked about wildlife, native plants, invasive species, reforestation, environmental education, the news media, and environmental concerns of local or global nature. If you would like to volunteer or suggest a speaker for the general meeting please contact Harold Schoeffler, Acadian Group Chairman at 337-234-4042.

Acadian Group Outings and Events Schedule, Jun- July

2008

Sun, Jun 22 @ 7:00 pm - Ecologic, Acadiana Open Channel 5, Live Call-In

Sun, Jun 29 - Field trip to Old River control structure, meet at 1:00 pm for carpool from Harold Schoeffler's 3502 E. Simcoe

Wed, Jul 9 @ 6:30 pm - Acadian Group Conservation Meeting at 412 Travis St., Lafayette

Wed, Jul 16 @ 6:30 pm - Acadian Group General Meeting at 412 Travis St., Lafayette

Sun, Jul 20 - Field trip to State Arboretum at Chico State Park and picnic, meet at 2:00 pm for carpool from Harold Schoeffler's 3502 E. Simcoe

Sun, Jul 27 @ 7:00 pm - Ecologic, Acadiana Open Channel 5, Live Call-In

For further information on any of these outings or events call Harold Schoeffler, Acadian Group Chair at 337-234-4042 check out other activities at <http://louisiana.sierraclub.org/acadian>

New Orleans

www.louisiana.sierraclub.org/new-orleans

New Orleans Group Meetings
July 13 - Pot luck Picnic at Audubon Park.

TBA – ExComm. Email neworleans-chair@louisiana.sierraclub.org for info.

August 2008 Nothing this month - The dog days of summer.

September 2008 Zack Lehman - Bug man - from the new Insectarium.

TBA – ExComm. Email neworleans-chair@louisiana.sierraclub.org.



Jazzfest 2008 brings back recycling with Sierra Club Help

Honey Island

www.louisiana.sierraclub.org/honeyisland

The Honey Island Group takes

it easy in the summer.

July 17th Honey Island Movie Night
7PM to 9PM
67017 Dolan St
Mandeville, LA
RSVP 985-871-6695
BYOB, Popcorn will be provided

No meetings in August

Honey Island Home Run

The Honey Island group and St. Tammany Parish hit another home run with the Household Hazardous Waste Collection in Oak Harbor. The residents in and around Slidell turned out to take advantage of a collection site in their "neck of the woods" on March 15. The St. Tammany Parish Department of Environmental Services and Honey Island Group volunteers were joined by volunteers solicited by Keep Slidell Beautiful and The City of Slidell, making fast work of it.

Sixty volunteers helped to unload cars in an orderly fashion. Brett Henry and his crew from St. Tammany Parish are now old hands at keeping the traffic under control and moving smoothly. Keep Slidell Beautiful did a great job publicizing the event. Other groups lending a

hand were the City of Slidell and Slidell Lion's Club, St. Tammany Parish Public Works, St. Luke's Men's Club, Pic Recycle, APA, Keep Covington Beautiful, the Slidell City Council, Northshore High, Madisonville Jr. High, LDEQ, and DOW Chemical. The prizes to the volunteers who came the farthest go to seven from Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio (they heard about us through The Green Project) and two from the YMCA in Columbus, Ohio! Ray Canada, president of the Slidell City Council came by to help and the council treated everyone to pizza. We need to also thank Winn Dixie, Daylite Donuts and Rouses for donating donuts, energy bars and lots of bottled water to keep our volunteers going.

Gloves and T shirts were donated by the Sierra Club's Water Sentinels program. Scott Dye, director of the Water Sentinel program is hoping to come and participate with us at the next collection day tentatively scheduled for the fall. Scott said that he

read about our event on the internet and wanted to support us because we were keeping hazardous chemicals out of Lake Pontchartrain. Scott would like to get a Water Sentinels program started in Louisiana. if you are curious check out this website www.sierraclub.org/watersentinels.

With all of the active volunteers and smooth operation by the vendors and the parish, no vehicles were turned away - in fact, one car made two trips to drop off materials! The number of vehicles was somewhat smaller than

continued on page 11



Piles of Tires

Baton Rouge

www.louisiana.sierraclub.org/batonrouge

Join us for a sunset cruise at
Alligator Bayou

Wednesday the 25th.

5:30pm - till 9pm

\$20/person (normally \$27 Just
show up and tell them you are

with the Sierra Club

Directions.

[www. http://alligatorbayou.com](http://www.alligatorbayou.com)

Livable Louisiana: A Summit on
Smart Growth
NOT A SIERRA CLUB EVENT

Thursday, August 14 - Friday,
August 15, 2008
Manship Theatre at the Shaw
Center for the Arts
100 Lafayette St., Baton Rouge,
LA

Hear nationally renowned
speakers discuss such topics
as: innovative transportation
solutions, safe and pedestrian-
friendly communities,
and green construction and
sustainable landscapes.

Speakers include: U.S.
Senator Mary Landrieu; Nancy
McPherson, Senior State
Director for AARP Louisiana;
Frank S. Alexander, Professor
of Law at Emory University
School of Law and Director
of the Project on Affordable
Housing and Community
Development; Dr. Tim Church,
John S. McIlhenny Endowed Chair
of Health Wisdom and director
of the Laboratory of Preventive
Medicine at the Pennington
Biomedical Research Center in
Baton Rouge; Dr. William Ankner,
Secretary, Louisiana Department of
Transportation and Development;
and Baton Rouge Mayor-President
Melvin "Kip" Holden.

Thanks to a generous contribution
from Friends of Hilltop Arboretum
and other sponsors, the Summit
is free and open to the public.
However, seating is limited and
registration is required to attend.
Participants can register by emailing
summit@c-pex.org or calling CPEX
at 225-267-6300.



*Jason from Louisiana Solar Energy
Society addresses BR Group*

HHW continued from page 10

the previous events and we believe
that is due to our encouragement for
households to "carpool" the materials.
We can be proud that our support
for the March 2008 event prevented
23,000 # of paint, 16,460 # of comput-
ers and other electronics, and 4,783
of TVs from entering the waste
stream! For a full report, including
photos and all the statistics, please
see [http://louisiana.sierraclub.org/
honeyisland/hhwday3.html](http://louisiana.sierraclub.org/honeyisland/hhwday3.html) New Edi-
tion of the Recycling Directory



**SUPPORT
YOUR LOCAL
SIERRA CLUB**

Your financial contribution means a lot to us.
By supporting our Chapter, you support Sierra
Club's work in your own backyard. This makes
you an essential part of our work to protect
wilderness and wildlife, to improve the quality
of life in our cities, and to promote the
enjoyment of nature. **Thank you.**



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



Sierra Club in Louisiana
 PO Box 19469
 New Orleans, LA 70179-0469

Non Profit Org.
 US Postage
 PAID
 New Orleans, LA
 Permit No. 304

Volunteers Needed

Newsletter/Graphics
 Still looking for that special person who would like to layout the newspaper 3-4 times a year. Desktop publishing and web knowledge preferable. Articles, news etc will be provided by Sierra volunteers around the state. Newsletter publisher would be requested to attend at least one Delta Chapter Excom meeting per year. The National Club provides training and support.
 Contact Leslie March 985-871-6695
 Treasurer
 The Delta Chapter is looking for a volunteer treasurer who would be responsible for handling the following duties for the club; write checks, balance checking account monthly, apply for funding from our foundation account, prepare a quarterly balance sheet and budget report for the Excom, and prepare year end reports. The treasurer would have the assistance and guidance of the Chapter Finance Committee. Quickbooks experience would be helpful. National training in SF paid by the club available. Contact Warren Zimmermann 985-871-6695
 Chapter Outings Coordinator
 Avid outdoors person or persons (this could be shared) needed to help develop state-wide outings program. National training available online. Will be required to be Red Cross CPR and First Aid qualified. Free instruction available. Wilderness First Aid optional. Will be asked to recruit group level outings leaders and to organize at least one state-wide retreat or outing per year. Contact Woody Martin at 337-232-7953.
 Join a chapter committee
 Coal Campaign-contact Leslie March 985-871-6695
 Atchafalaya- contact Dean Wilson 225-659-2499
 Legislative-contact Aaron Viles 504-55-1528 or Leslie March 985-871-6695
 Membership/fundraising/events-contact Woody Martin at 337-232-7953
 Delta Chapter History contact Woody Martin at 337-232-7953
 Clean Energy/Coal/Nuclear Campaign
 Volunteer Community Voices
 Need designated point people in every chapter to set up phone trees, email lists and recruit volunteers to help fight new coal and nuclear plants. Need individuals willing to work with churches, PTA, business and women's groups in their own communities to set up coffees, potlucks and meetings where we can present our materials on coal plants and for clean energy. We don't have 30 lobbyists working full time on our behalf. This is a grassroots movement and we need your help
 contact Leslie March at 985-871-6695