

# DELTA SIERRAN

LOUISIANA CHAPTER OF THE SIERRA CLUB

MAR/APR 2004

Please see our website for more information on Chapter and Group activities, outings, and events at <http://www.louisiana.sierraclub.org>.

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE: HELP LEAD DELTA CHAPTER'S POLITICAL CAMPAIGN TO VICTORY

By Jeffrey Thomas

Eliminating coastal erosion, conserving the Atchafalaya Basin, protecting fisheries and public lands, safeguarding against air pollutants, enforcing environmental laws.

Accomplishing these Louisiana conservation goals will depend largely on the political leaders chosen in this year's Presidential, Congressional, and State Legislative elections. For this reason, your involvement as a voter and volunteer is essential.

Over the coming months, the Delta Chapter will engage in a statewide campaign to educate Sierra Club members and all Louisiana voters on the importance of this year's federal and state elections to Louisiana conservation issues.

With your support we will be successful. We will need leaders and active participants in each of our committees to help develop our campaign locally. However, even by donating a few hours every other week to make calls,

INSIDE	
Contact & Getting Active Information	2
The Perfect Graduation Gift	2
Earl's Pearls	3
Online Nomination Forms Make National Award Nominations Easier Than Ever	4
New Beginnings	5
National Club Election Coming This Spring	5
Events	6

rally, or register voters, you will make a difference in the coming election.

Below are the committees in which we hope you will offer your talents, time, and efforts. Select the committee(s) you will assist by completing the "Membership Survey" recently sent to you or email or mail your interests and contact information to: Barbara Coman, [bcv23@aol.com](mailto:bcv23@aol.com); 1600 Green Street, Metairie, LA 70001-3441 (504-450-1953).

Join as many committees as you like. Also, however you respond, please indicate the extent to which you would like to assist.

In the coming weeks you will be contacted about upcoming planning meetings and events involving your committee(s) of interest.

Working together, we can and will ensure this election is a positive one for Louisiana's conservation needs.

### **DELTA CHAPTER POLITICAL COMMITTEES**

#### ***Conservationist's Voter Guide Committee:***

This committee will develop a voter guide outlining specific Louisiana conservation issues and offer questions for voters to use in evaluating candidates on those issues.

#### ***Campaign Fundraising Committee:***

This committee will develop and conduct fundraising activities that raise money for all campaign activities.

*Continued on page 2*



**DELTA CHAPTER  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- Chair: Maurice Coman**  
mfcoman@aol.com 504-885-0693
- Vice Chair:**  
**Harold Schoeffler** 337-234-4042
- Secretary: Barbara Coman**  
bcv23@aol.com 504-885-0693
- Treasurer: Lydia Guillot**  
504-837-7632
- Co-Conservation Chair:**  
**Darryl Malek-Wiley**  
dmw@bellsouth.net 504-865-8708
- Co-Conservation Chair:**  
**Barbara Coman**  
bcv23@aol.com 504-885-0693
- At-Large: Open**
- Finance Committee Chair:**  
**John Sevenair**  
jsevenair@aol.com 504-486-9321
- Membership Chair:**  
**Leslie March**  
lesliemarch@hotmail.com 985-871-6695
- Newsletter Editor:**  
**Wendy King**  
wking@tulane.edu 504-865-7914
- ACADIAN GROUP CHAIR**  
**Harold Schoeffler**  
cadistyle@aol.com 337-234-4042
- BATON ROUGE GROUP CHAIR**  
**Nancy Grush**  
ngrush@doa.state.la.us 225-381-9440
- HONEY ISLAND GROUP CHAIR**  
**Caryn Schoeffler**  
delphi@I-55.com 985-386-7678
- KISATCHIE GROUP CHAIR**  
**Jeff Wellborn**  
jwellbrn@seaber.com 318-868-5243
- NEW ORLEANS GROUP CHAIR**  
**Darryl Malek-Wiley**  
dmw@bellsouth.net 504-865-8708

The **Delta Sierran** is the bi-monthly newsletter for the Delta Chapter of the Sierra Club. This newsletter is published to inform state-wide members and interested non-members of the activities of the Chapter and pending local, state, and national environmental issues.

Members of the Sierra Club can subscribe to the **Delta Sierran** through annual dues.

**POSTMASTER:** Address changes may be sent to: **Sierra Club Member Services, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80328-2968.** All correspondence to the Chapter may be sent to: **Delta Chapter Sierra Club, P.O. Box 19469, New Orleans, LA 70179-0469.**

**DELTA CHAPTER  
POLITICAL COMMITTEES**

(continued)

**Candidate Campaigning Committees:**

The following committees will conduct campaign work on behalf of Sierra Club endorsed candidates by emphasizing the candidates and Louisiana conservation issues at stake in this election:

**Public Events Committee:**

Organize and participate in events promoting Sierra Club-endorsed candidates and Louisiana conservation issues at stake in this election.

**Media & Advertising Committee:**

Develop advertising, interviews, and articles promoting Sierra Club-endorsed candidates and Louisiana conservation issues at stake in this election.

**Voter Outreach:**

Conduct phone calls, mailings, and other activities that reach out to Louisiana voters to promote Sierra Club-endorsed candidates and Louisiana conservation issues at stake in this election.

**Voter Registration Committee:**

Conduct voter registration activities among Louisiana citizens that use Louisiana conservation issues as an incentive for voting. Voter registration activities performed by volunteers of this committee will not endorse any particular candidate.

**THE PERFECT  
GRADUATION GIFT!!!**

Know any up coming high school or college graduate?

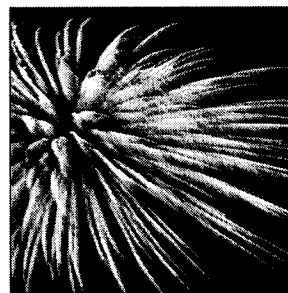
Looking for the PERFECT gift?

A Sierra Club gift student membership costs only \$24.

In addition to helping the planet, your membership will also earn you:

- A free Sierra Club Expedition Pack (limited time only).
- One-year subscription to Sierra magazine.
- Members-only eco-travel opportunities.
- Automatic membership in your local Chapter.
- Discounts on Sierra Club calendars, books, and other merchandise.

Visit the Sierra Club website or contact Vance Levesque at 504-897-0134 for more information.



Make the Sierra Club part of your New Year's Resolution—Give a Sierra Club Membership to protect the wild now and for the next generation.

**Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Member's Weekender Bag**



**Celebrate the New Year!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club

Mastercard  Visa  American Express

Exp Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions, gifts and 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

INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
INTRODUCTORY <input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$47
REGULAR <input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
SUPPORTING <input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
CONTRIBUTING <input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$320
LIFE <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
SENIOR <input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
STUDENT <input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
LIMITED INCOME <input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32

Enclose check and mail to:  
**Sierra Club,  
P.O. Box 52968,  
Boulder,  
CO 80322-2968**



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

F94Q **W** -1

## **EARL'S PEARLS CHECKING IN WITH BROWN PELICANS**

By Earl Higgins

Our state bird is the brown pelican. For those who do Latin, the bird is called *Pelicanus occidentalis*, which means "western pelican." ("Away with him! He speaks Latin!" Shakespeare, King Henry VI, Part II, act iv.) In the 1940s and 1950s, Louisiana auto license plates had the image of a brown pelican on them. In those days the state was called "The Pelican State." The New Orleans professional baseball team was The Pelicans. The team left town. Then all the pelicans (birds, not ball players) died off, poisoned. The Louisiana brown pelican was at the end of the food chain that absorbed persistent DDT that washed down the Mississippi River system into the Gulf of Mexico and into the fish the pelicans ate. In the 1970s and 1980s, after the ban on DDT, brown pelicans from Florida were introduced into Louisiana to restart colonies and rookeries of the state bird. They again thrive.

Scientific Latin notwithstanding, "pelican" is a Greek word, and pelicans were well known and written about in the ancient world. In the Book of Psalms, attributed to King David, one of his lamentations of loneliness is "I am become like a pelican in the wilderness." Ps. 102:6. The official crest of the State of Louisiana, a mother pelican protecting her three-chick brood, has ancient Mediterranean origins. The image is described in an anonymous early Christian writing in Egypt called the *Physiologus*, a compilation of allegorical stories about birds and animals. In one fable the pelican is described as

performing an act of self-mutilation by wounding its breast to nourish its young with its own blood. The tale is scientifically unsound, but systematic biology and ornithology were then, to say the least, poorly developed, so we must excuse the ancients' belief. Other early Christian writers picked up on the story and treated it as fact and used the story as a symbol for Jesus, who shed his blood to redeem the sins of others. The obscure Epiphanius of Salamis and the famous Augustine of Hippo (he for whom St. Augustine grass is named) wrote of the story and believed it to be true.

The image was also popular in heraldry, with the bird described as "a pelican vulning her breast." There's a word for you; use it at your next Mensa meeting and see the reaction.

Is there anything that Shakespeare didn't write about? The pelican vulning her breast shows up in Hamlet wherein Laertes speaks thus: "To his good friends thus wide, I'll ope my arms, and like the kind, life-rendering pelican repast them with my blood." That's good for a Mensa meeting too. Aboard ship sailors use a device called a pelican hook in rigging and securing chain and tackle. It is easily opened and easily locked, and it resembles a pelican's elongated bill. No vulning at sea, however.

Meanwhile, back in Louisiana, the brown pelicans are increasing in number and range. They hang out around the Mississippi River at the foot of Canal Street. Maybe some ornithology graduate student should do a study to see if they're in that location because of interest in (a) The Aquarium of the Americas or (b) Harrah's casino. The pelicans all around Lake Pontchartrain are evidence that the lake is constantly improving, getting cleaner. They

loiter around the lake's gambling boats, possibly waiting for the vessels to sail, which they never do anymore. Are pelicans compulsive gamblers?

Cruising pelicans are masters at conserving energy. As they skim low over the surface of the water, they are taking advantage of a principle of physics known as the wing-in-ground effect. The air under and ahead of the pelican is pushed against the surface and creates additional lift. The vortex that appears under at the lateral tips of wings in full flight is eliminated by the ground effect, making the lift more efficient. And the birds do it without ever having to go through the tribulations and frustrations of a high school physics lab.

The pelican's unusual bill, with the expanding storage pouch on the underside, inspired a children's ditty:

*A grand old bird is the pelican.*

*His bill can hold more than his belly can.*

*He can hold in his beak enough for a week,*

*But I don't know how in the hell he can.*

Perhaps the ancient story about the pelican vulning its breast is not such a myth after all. In the 1950s agricultural experts and entomologists thought DDT was the greatest invention since the wheel. Soon, they said, the world would be rid of pests like the boll weevil and the corn borer. The bugs were smarter and developed immunity to the poison. The Louisiana pelicans, poisoned by consuming end-of-the-food-chain DDT, lost the ability to lay eggs that wouldn't break. They disappeared from the Pelican State. When it was determined that DDT was so long-lived and toxic, it was banned. One could say that the pelicans sacrificed themselves to make humans aware of their folly. In short, the pelicans died for our sins. Fortunately for us and them, they have resurrected. Sounds like the Christ story?

*Now go off to the Mensa meeting.*

## ONLINE NOMINATION FORMS MAKE NATIONAL AWARD NOMINATIONS EASIER THAN EVER

By John Barry, National Sierra Club

Do you know a Club member who deserves national recognition for his or her work?

If so, nominating them is easier than ever this year thanks to new web-based nomination forms.

June 1 is the deadline to nominate candidates for the Club's 2004 national awards. The online nomination forms may be found on the awards home page at [www.sierraclub.org/awards](http://www.sierraclub.org/awards).

The Club has 22 national awards:

- The Ansel Adams Award honors an individual who has made superlative use of still photography to further a conservation cause.
- The David Brower Award recognizes a professional journalist whose work has made a significant difference in the actions of government at the local, state or national level pertaining to the environment.
- The Denny and Ida Wilcher Award honors a Sierra Club chapter or group for outstanding work in membership development and/or fundraising, particularly for specific conservation projects. Judging criteria include creativity, originality and ratio of funds raised to expenses.
- The Distinguished Achievement Award honors persons in public service for a particular action of singular importance to conservation.
- The Distinguished Service Award honors persons in public service for strong and consistent commitment to conservation over a considerable period of time.
- The Edgar Wayburn Award honors outstanding service to the environmental cause by a person in government, either executive or legislative.
- The Electronic Communication Award honors the best web page or other use of electronic communications to further the Sierra Club's mission.
- The Environmental Alliance Award honors Club members or entities who have helped further environmental goals through collaboration with other, non-Sierra Club constituencies. Includes a \$1,000 award from the Joseph Barbosa Earth Fund to further the work of the recipient(s).
- The Francis P. Farquhar Mountaineering Award honors an individual's contribution to mountaineering and enhancement of the Club's prestige in this field. The Mountaineering Committee selects recipients.
- The John Muir Award honors a distinguished record of achievement in national or international conservation causes. Recipients receive life membership in the Sierra Club.
- The Joseph Barbosa Earth Fund Award recognizes Club members under the age of 30 who have a demonstrated record of service to the environment. Includes a \$1,000 award from the Joseph Barbosa Earth Fund to further the work of the recipient(s).
- The Chico Mendes Award recognizes individuals or non-governmental organizations, outside the U.S. who have exhibited extraordinary courage and leadership at the grassroots level in the universal struggle to protect the environment. The International Committee selects recipients.
- The Earthcare Award honors an individual, organization, or agency distinguished by making a unique contribution to international environmental protection and conservation. The International Committee selects recipients.
- The Raymond J. Sherwin Award honors extraordinary volunteer service toward international conservation. The International Committee selects recipients.
- The Madelyn Pyeatt Award honors Sierra Club members who have made outstanding contributions through working with youth.
- The Newsletter Award recognizes excellence in newsletter publishing by chapters, groups and other Sierra Club entities. Judging criteria include content, design and cost-efficiency. Because

Sierra Club awards recognize volunteer efforts, this award is available only to newspapers produced by volunteer efforts. Separate awards are given for newsletters produced by large and small entities.

- The Oliver Kehrlein Award honors service to the Sierra Club Outings Program either at the local or national level over an extended period of time.
- The One Club Award honors Club members at any level who have used outings as a way to protect or improve public lands, instill an interest in conservation, increase membership in the Sierra Club, or increase awareness of the Club.
- The Special Achievement Award honors an individual Sierra Club member, committee, group or chapter for a single act of particular importance dedicated to conservation or to the Club.
- The Special Service Award honors a Sierra Club member, committee or group for strong and consistent commitment to conservation or the Club over an extended period of time.
- The Susan E. Miller Award honors individual Sierra Club members for exceptional contributions to chapters. Up to three Susan E. Miller awards are given annually.
- The Walter A. Starr Award honors the continuing active work and support of the Club by a former director.
- The William E. Colby Award honors an individual for outstanding leadership, dedication and service to the Sierra Club. Acknowledges service within the Sierra Club's organizational structure but may include conservation achievements.
- The William O. Douglas Award recognizes those who have made outstanding use of the legal/judicial process to achieve environmental goals, particularly those of national significance.

This year's awards will be presented at the annual dinner to be held Saturday, Sept. 11, at the Holiday Inn Select on Kearny Street in San Francisco. For ticket information, please contact Gene Coan at the national office ([genecoan@sierraclub.org](mailto:genecoan@sierraclub.org)).

For more information on Sierra Club awards, contact Awards Committee Chair Ellen Davis at [mayou@flash.net](mailto:mayou@flash.net).

## NEW BEGINNINGS

By Wendy King, *Delta Sierran* Editor

With Governor Kathleen Blanco's inauguration in January, it's refreshing to see the signs of new beginnings in the Governor's office and in the Louisiana Legislature, which has just sworn in new members of the legislature.

There are new leaders, such as Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu, who has pledged to make his office into more than the office of state culture and tourism. Under his leadership, the Lt. Governor's office will expand in responsibility and scope, so that, in the absence of a sitting governor, the Lt. Governor will be able to step in and run the state's highest office. The new Senate President, Don Hines, may very well take the Senate in a different direction than did former Senate President John Hainkel. Whether Senator Hines is sympathetic to our state's environmental concerns isn't known.

There will, hopefully, be a new DEQ Secretary and DNR Secretary,

who will pay much-needed attention to Louisiana's environmental problems, such as coastal erosion, wetlands loss, lack of real transportation options and opportunities for realizing those new transit methods, urban and suburban sprawl, loss of green space, development-friendly regulations and lax permit enforcement, and an over-reliance on the oil, gas, and petrochemical industries for both energy and revenue (and the 10-year tax exemption for industries). These, and other environmental problems, have long histories, and resolving them will take years of persistence and intense work from our Delta Chapter and Group members, friends, and fellow environmentalists.

While Governor Blanco as Lt. Governor may not have been as environmentally friendly as we'd like (remember her statewide Golf Course proposal which, if enacted 3 years ago, would have put golf courses in Fountainebleau and Sam Houston State Parks?), we're hopeful that she will consider a

clean environment, and all that means, as an important quality-of-life indicator for any business she and Lt. Governor Landrieu hope to bring to Louisiana.

We want to have a good working relationship with Governor Blanco, Lt. Governor Landrieu, their environmental officials, and the Louisiana Legislature. This doesn't mean turning a blind eye to environmental proposals not in our state's long-term best interests. It means being present in the legislative process, and working with the Louisiana Legislature, to help enact environmental legislation beneficial to our state, not just to those special interests who have had the Legislature's ear for so long.

We in the Delta Chapter look forward to working with Governor Kathleen Blanco, Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu, the Louisiana Legislature, and state, parish, and city officials, to help solve our state's, parishes', and cities' toughest environmental problems, and make Louisiana a state all of us are proud of and in which we can have the best possible quality of life.

## NATIONAL CLUB ELECTION COMING THIS SPRING

By Wendy King, *Delta Sierran* Editor

The annual election for the Club's Board of Directors is now underway. In March, you will receive in the mail your national Sierra Club ballot. This will include information on the candidates for the Board of Directors.

The Sierra Club is a democratically structured organization at all levels that requires the regular flow of views on policy and priorities from its grassroots membership to function well. Yearly participation in

elections at all Club levels is a major membership obligation. Your Board of Directors is required to stand for election by the membership. This Board sets Club policy and budgets at the national level and works closely with the staff to run the Club. Voting for candidates who express your views on how the Club should grow and change is both a privilege and responsibility of membership.

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 – [www.sierraclub.org/bod/2004election](http://www.sierraclub.org/bod/2004election) – which this year will include candidate responses to questions posted by various Club leaders.\*

You should use your own judgment by taking several minutes to read the ballot statement of each candidate, make your choices, and then cast your votes. You will find our ballot is quite straightforward and easy to mark. You can even cast your vote electronically!

(\*Note: The election pamphlet will not appear on this site until the first week in March, and the questions and answers from the candidates will appear at about the same time.)

## EVENTS

### DELTA CHAPTER EXCOM MEETINGS

Honey Island     April 17 & 18  
Acadian             July 17 & 18  
New Orleans        October 16 & 17

### MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

If you have not done so already, please respond to the Membership Survey you recently received. The Delta Chapter can only be as strong as the number of members who are actively working either on the issues or on the operation of the Chapter. If you have always wanted to get involved but were unsure how to get started, **THIS IS YOUR CHANCE!**

### MARCH FUND APPEAL

You will soon be receiving the annual Delta Chapter Fund Appeal Letter. This is the once-a-year opportunity for the Chapter to directly ask for your additional monetary support for the ongoing fight to protect our natural heritage and the right to clean air, water and soil. So please take time to read the letter before you decide and, if you can, make a donation that stays right here in Louisiana to be used only on Louisiana environmental issues.

### LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

The 2004 Louisiana Legislative Session begins on March 29. We need more members willing to receive alerts during the session that provide information for you to call your legislator to recommend our position. We promise you will receive alerts only during the session unless you indicate you are willing to receive other infrequent Louisiana-only alerts during the rest of the year. The alerts during the session will probably number less than two per week. Some weeks you may receive one more, but many weeks you may receive none. So if you can do just this for the entire year, you will be making a great contribution to the protection of our state's wild places and the health of our families. Please contact Chapter Chair Maurice Coman at [mfcoman@aol.com](mailto:mfcoman@aol.com) to sign up or for more information.

### Chapter Retreat

Come join the Delta Chapter at our third Chapter Retreat at Tickfaw State Park Friday, October 29-Sunday October 31, 2004. There will be plenty of fun outdoor activities and great food! Look for the registration form in the mail in the next couple of months. For more info, contact Barbara Coman at [bcp23@aol.com](mailto:bcp23@aol.com) or 504-885-0693.

### ACADIAN GROUP

#### General Meeting & Lecture Series:

Held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 6:30 pm at the Acadiana Symphony Building, 412 Travis St., Lafayette, LA. The Acadian Group is always looking for speakers. Past topics include native plants, wildlife, 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, please call Paul Fontenetot at 337-235-0011.

### HONEY ISLAND GROUP

<http://louisiana.sierraclub.org/honeyisland>

#### Please see our website for meeting info.

As a way of addressing the growing crisis of solid waste disposal, the group has introduced a new directory for the St. Tammany area entitled "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle", featuring listings for sites and charitable groups who will accept your cast-offs. Suggestions are welcome for

additions to the directory for future editions. We are also soliciting volunteers interested in working on editions specific for Tangipahoa and Washington Parishes. **Recycle Those Electronics!**

For a pilot project to foster our parishes' recycling efforts, the Honey Island Group will be collecting used PDAs, pagers, and cell phones. Dig into your electronics drawer and either bring the item(s) to the next meeting or call one of the ExCom members to arrange for pickup. Your efforts will aid the environment and help support your local Sierra Club.

#### **Actually, Recycle Everything!**

A recycling info fact sheet is being prepared to advise our membership of ways to recycle, reuse, or properly dispose of many items. From papers to autos, inkjet cartridges to shoes, the list will be a preliminary one and open to suggestions and contributions from our members. Watch your newsletter for info on availability.

### BATON ROUGE GROUP

<http://louisiana.sierraclub.org/batonrouge>

#### General Membership Meetings

Please see our website for information.

#### Executive Committee Meetings

Held the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month except holiday weekends, in which case it'll be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday. Location: Goodwood Library at 7 pm. Meetings are open to all members.

## Act Now and Save the Environment!

**Make a commitment  
to the next generation  
by remembering the  
Sierra Club in your will.  
Your support will help  
others preserve the  
intricate balance  
of nature.**

**For more information and confidential assistance,  
please complete the form and send to:  
John Calaway, Director, Gift Planning  
85 Second Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco,  
CA 94105 (415) 977-5639 •  
e-mail: [planned.giving@sierraclub.org](mailto:planned.giving@sierraclub.org)**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

## MORE EVENTS

### **Transportation Committee Meeting**

Held at 6:45 pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at Bluebonnet Library, 9200 Bluebonnet. For more info, call David Lindenfeld, 766-1983.

### **Conservation Committee Meeting**

Held each month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 7 pm at the "Community Room" of the Law Office of Moore, Walters, Thompson, et al. at 6513 Perkins Rd. across from the Pennington Center.

### **Group Vacancies**

The Baton Rouge Group needs a new membership chair and also needs someone to serve as member-at-large on the ExCom. If interested, call Nancy Grush, 225-381-9440.

The Baton Rouge Group is in dire need of a newsletter editor. Charlene Deroche, former editor for the past five years, has offered to train the new editor. Although the newsletter has been published monthly for some time, that requirement is not set in stone. If interested, contact Nancy Grush at (225) 381-9440.

Check out [www.sierraclub.org/wwatch](http://www.sierraclub.org/wwatch) and tell your friends about it! The "W" Watch is a great way to see the havoc the Bush administration is wreaking on the environment while using national park photos to green-wash his image.

### **NEW ORLEANS GROUP**

<http://louisiana.sierraclub.org/neworleans>

#### **Executive Committee Meeting**

March 9 at 7 p.m. ExCom meetings are open to all members. If you are interested in attending, please call New Orleans Group Chair, Darryl Malek-Wiley at 504-865-8708. Meetings are also scheduled for Apr. 13, May 4, and June 8.

#### **General Membership Meeting**

March 13 at 7:00 p.m. Please call Aaron Viles (work: 504-314-0773; cell: 504-259-7664) or check the website for meeting info. Meetings are also scheduled for Apr. 8, May 9, and June 13.

#### **New Volunteers Needed to Clean Up Bayou Sauvage NWR!**

Kimberly Burras, [kburras@charter.net](mailto:kburras@charter.net), and Tom Lipp, [lipsterman@yahoo.com](mailto:lipsterman@yahoo.com), have taken over the monthly cleanups at Bayou Sauvage, NWR, with Betty Brody, who began coordinating the cleanups, acting in a support role. They are already turning out a crowd of volunteers, which is the key to getting the Refuge's attention.

On February 1, 2004, they, with the help of Karel Sloane (whom Betty Brody met at a Sierra Club meeting) and her group of People to People volunteers, had a big crowd to clean the Boat Launch Parking Lot and Highway 11 as it runs through the Refuge. They removed a little more than 1000 pounds of trash and 400 pounds of recyclables.

Kimberly is asking again for volunteers for Saturday, March 6, 2004, from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m., to clean the Crabbing Bridge area, at the southern entrance to the Highway 11 Bridge. Volunteers should contact Kimberly at [kburras@charter.net](mailto:kburras@charter.net) for more information.

#### **Red Creek Canoe Trip**

Once again, Earl Higgins is planning a Red Creek Canoe Trip on Memorial Day weekend, May 29-31, the 33<sup>rd</sup> year for this Sierra Club tradition. Anyone interested can call him at (504) 738-1361 or email [PietasHiggi@aol.com](mailto:PietasHiggi@aol.com).

#### **Jean Lafitte National Park**

The Barataria Unit of Jean Lafitte National Park is looking for volunteers for the spring iris season. A 3-hour training session, scheduled for Saturday, Mar. 6, or Sunday, Mar. 7, is required. The volunteer will be asked to give at least 12 hours total on the weekends of Mar. 27-28, Apr. 3-4, 10-11, 17-18. Call (504) 589-2330 ext. 10. **N.O. Group Sign Up For Group Notices!**

Please send email addresses to receive notices of upcoming outings, meetings, and events. Sign up by emailing: [SierraClub\\_NewOrleanssubscribe@yahoo.groups.com](mailto:SierraClub_NewOrleanssubscribe@yahoo.groups.com) or Betty Brody at [SierraClubNO@aol.com](mailto:SierraClubNO@aol.com). We promise you will not be bombarded with email but will get notices of the Club's interesting outings and lectures, and a few emails about environmental issues from Membership Chair Aaron Viles.

#### **Environmental Happy Hour**

Come one, come all for the happy hour that celebrates all things environmental. Meet activists, organizers, and interested others. Really though, it's just an excuse to hang out, get together, and share stories. If you work on environmental issues, lead canoe trips, or simply like the company of good-hearted folks, bring a friend and come on out. 6pm- until? on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. Contact Aaron Viles, 504-314-0773, for more info.

### **9th Annual Tulane Environmental Law Conference!**

April 2-3, 2004 (12-7 pm, on Friday, Apr. 2; 10-5 pm on Saturday, Apr. 3). Topics covered will include Gulf Coast issues, Smart Growth, Bush's Environmental Record, Climate Change and Energy Alternatives, Environmental Justice, and Toxic Torts across International Borders.

Registration: Before March 15

Regular \$35

Student (w/ID)/Senior (>64) \$15

After March 15

Regular \$50

Student (w/ID)/Senior (>64) \$25

For more information or to request registration forms, call (504) 862-8827 or check out [www.law.tulane.edu/enlaw](http://www.law.tulane.edu/enlaw).

### **KISATCHIE GROUP**

The Kisatchie Group is home to Sierra Club members throughout much of northwestern Louisiana, centered on Shreveport.

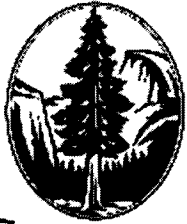
The Kisatchie Group is looking for an activist and/or volunteer to coordinate quarterly or more frequent meetings. Any members who want to become more active in any aspect of the Group will be welcomed and assisted.

The Kisatchie Group is currently involved in a number of local activities, including supporting efforts to form an advisory group to help develop a plan for Shreveport's Riverfront to preserve green spaces, the kick off of the Community Foundation of Shreveport/Bossier Environmental Field of Interest (FOI) to support and promote environmental education, and the responsible development of the Red River Education and Research Park at Bickham Dickson Park, as well as monitoring issues such as siltation at Cross Lake (the City's water supply) and underfunding of City water and sewerage infrastructure needs. If you are interested in assisting with these efforts or joining the Group, please call Jeff Wellborn, Kisatchie Group Chair, 318-222-1801, [jwellbrn@bellsouth.net](mailto:jwellbrn@bellsouth.net), or write to: Kisatchie Group, PO Box 2098, Shreveport, LA 71166-2098.

#### **NEXT ISSUE DEADLINES**

**Printed: April 1, 2004**

**Digital: April 5, 2004**



SIERRA  
CLUB

DELTA CHAPTER  
PO Box 19469  
New Orleans, LA 70179-0469

Non-profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
New Orleans, LA  
Permit No. 304

**Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag**

My Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club  
Please charge my  Mastercard  Visa Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number \_\_\_\_\_



MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
INTRODUCTORY	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$47
SUPPORTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32

Contributions, gifts and 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 \_\_\_\_\_ magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.



SIERRA  
CLUB  
FOUNDED 1892

F94Q | W \_\_\_\_\_ 1

Endose check and mail to:  
**Sierra Club**  
**P.O. Box 52968**  
**Boulder, CO 80322-2968**