

SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

GREATER FORT WORTH GROUP • 817/588-1167

ONE EARTH, ONE CHANCE

DECEMBER 2001

Long-time SC leader, activist John Parker dies

The Sierra Club has lost a good friend and leader. John Parker died Nov. 10, 2001. He had been admitted to the hospital on Monday, Nov. 5 with breathing problems and was diagnosed with pneumonia.

John had been a very active member of the Sierra Club for 30 years. He filled many leadership roles such as Program Chair and Outings Chair.

Parker had served as Executive Committee member for both the GFWSC (the local group) and for the Lone Star Chapter (the state organization).

"John was a very dedicated member of the Chapter ExCom, and I enjoyed knowing him," commented Lone Star Chapter Director Ken Kramer upon hearing of Parker's death.

The GFWSC recently honored Parker with a lifetime achievement award for his long and distinguished career in defense of the environment.

John was a veteran hiker and backpacker. He loved, and was very dedicated to, the outdoors. His favorite leadership role for the Sierra Club was leading trips. He taught many of us how to enjoy the outdoors, how to prepare for it, and to how take care of it. He

documented most of the trips with photo slides and presented great programs for us, including a recent one promoting the Big Bend Thanksgiving bus trip.

Memorial contributions

Memorial contributions for John Parker may be sent to the Greater Fort Worth Sierra Club at P.O. Box 1925, Fort Worth, Texas 76101.

Contributions honoring Parker may also be sent to the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club at P.O. Box 1931, Austin, Texas 78767.

Only donations to the Sierra Club Foundation are tax deductible.

One of John's favorite trips was to the Big Bend. He lead many trips there over the years. Most of us were aware that John had been fighting a hard, but seemingly winning, battle with cancer. He was very optimistic and had recovered such that he planned to lead another trip to Big Bend in February. He never gave up. Another Sierra leader, Claudia Blalock, intends to lead that trip in John's honor. Many Sierrans

were certainly thinking of, and missing, John while they were on the Annual GFWSC Thanksgiving bus trip to Big Bend.

John was very concerned about the effects of the expanding population growth on the environment. He chaired committees, both at the local and state level, addressing this concern. He had many Letters to the Editor regarding population growth and the environmental effects published in the *Fort Worth Star Telegram*.

John had served his country in the military service. During World War II he was a fighter-bomber officer in the North African theater. He was taken prisoner in Sicily in July, 1943 and was a POW until April, 1945.

He had received the Purple Heart and the American Theater Ribbon. John also served in the Korean War. His military service was not discussed much by John and many were not aware of it.

John was survived by his wife Kathryn (Kitty) and three sons and their families. Kitty told Claudia that she knew John would appreciate donations to the Sierra Club in his memory.

Great, green gift ideas for the Holiday season

The Sierra Club has great stocking stuffers available on its website (www.sierraclubs.org/store/) and they're all environmentally responsible gift ideas for the holiday season.

Here are some top ideas for gifts that are eco-friendly and help shoppers enjoy, explore and protect the planet.

A Sierra Club Gift Membership: The Sierra Club has been devoted to preserving nature's miracles for over 100 years. When you join the Sierra Club, you give something to the environment, and get something in return.

Members learn ways to protect the environment globally and in their com-

munities. For \$25, new members receive a free Expedition Pack, a subscription to the award winning Sierra Magazine, Chapter Newsletters, and discounts on Sierra Club calendars and books. For more information visit <https://ww2.sierraclub.org/membership/>

See *HAVE*, Pg. 2



**Don't be left out!
Check out the details
on Page 3!!!**



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P.O. Box 1925, Fort Worth, TX 76101
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All the following numbers are Area Code 817 unless otherwise noted

Executive Committee

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	Jim Walling	444-4416
	Dan Smith	410-2955

Campaign Coordinators

Conservation	Bob Scott	282-1372
Clean Air	Earl Burnam	244-2328
Clean Water	Bob Scott	282-1372

Outings Contacts

Chair	Claudia Blalock	924-6242
Canoeing	Gary Kriedeman	429-3346
Bicycle	Don Bowles	571-9778
Backpacking	Claudia Blalock	626-6063

Administrative Contacts

Membership	Claudia Blalock	626-6063
Assistant	Gary Kriedeman	429-3346
Programs	Susan Robinson	582-8228

Newsletter Staff

Editor	James Moody	295-1623
Ad director	Wendy Lambert	251-0016
Circulation dir.	Steve Turner	457-7131



SIERRA CLUB
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Sierra Club National Hotline 202-675-2394

Web Pages

Fort Worth Group <http://sierraclub.org/chapters/tw/fortworth/index.html>

National, Lone Star www.sierraclub.org

Lone Star Chapter www.texas.sierraclub.org

The Planet www.sierraclub.org/planet

Political page www.sierraclub.org/politics

Action Alert

To subscribe, send message to: majordomo@igc.apc.org with the following command in the body of your e-mail message: subscribe sc-action

Have a Green Christmas stocking

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gift/.

The 2002 Sierra Club Calendars Give the gift people will appreciate even after they've broken their New Year's Resolution. This gift can be purchased directly from the Fort Worth Group. Pick them up at a general meeting or contact a member of the excom.

Inspire them every month or every week with stunning nature photos. For small change, you can own the most popular nature calendar ever published.

Design your own Sierra Club Watch

At <http://www.ewatchfactory.com/ewd/inter/sierra1/en/welcome.htm> you can design your very own, personalized Sierra Club watch. Options for your watch include hand color, strap color, dial type and face color. Also, when designing your personalized watch try one of the nature photos for your watch-face. The watches are \$35-\$45.

Sierra Club Books

There is no better way to spread the knowledge of nature than through the Sierra Club's expansive book collection. The Sierra Club sells many different genres of books, including, guidebooks, children's books, picture books, and books relevant to current issues. You can find them at: <http://www.sierraclub.org/books/>.

One recent release, *My Story As Told By Water*, by David James Duncan, has been nominated as a 2001 finalist in the Nonfiction category for the prestigious National Book Awards.

These items and more are available at the online Sierra Club store: www.sierraclub.org/store/. Proceeds from giving any of the Sierra Club gifts go towards work to protect clean water, clean air and America's national wilderness treasures.

How to order your Sierra Club calendars

Can't ever find the time to do things you want to do? Well, the Fort Worth Group of the Sierra Club is selling time – time as in the 12 months represented in the beautiful new editions of Sierra Club calendars.

A Wilderness wall calendar is just \$12; an Engagement calendar, just \$13.

Deliveries provided in the Metroplex or we can mail for added postage. These calendars make great gifts for friends and business associates. To order, call Gary or Eddie Jean Kriedeman, 429-3346, or mail a check made out to Ft. Worth Sierra Club to 3819 Rochelle Dr. Arlington Texas 76016

The calendar proceeds help pay for your newsletter.

December-January Fort Worth Sierra Club

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
10	11	12	13 ExCom meeting 6:30 p.m.	14	15	16
17	18	19 General Meeting 7 p.m. Newsletter deadline	20	21	22	23
24	25 Merry Christmas!	26	27	28	29	30
31	Jan. 1 Happy New year!	2	3	4	5	6
7 Newsletter folding/labeling party 6 p.m.	8	9	10	11	12 Lake Ray Roberts Day Hike	13

Greater Fort Worth Group Sierra Club Outings

Fort Worth Sierra Club outings are open to members and nonmembers. Trip leaders serve in a volunteer capacity and assume no responsibility above that of organizing the trip. If you have special needs or medical requirements, notify the leader prior to the trip. All outings officially begin at the trailhead. Leaders cannot assign carpools, but may help coordinate ride sharing. Many outings require advance reservations at the trip designation as well as from the participant. Notify the trip leader promptly if you must cancel. Donations of \$3 per person and \$5/family are requested for overnight trips to be used for conservation efforts of the club. Any park and/or camping fees are the responsibility of the participant. In order to participate on one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms> or call 415-977-5630.

December 7-9, Friday-Sunday

Car Camp at Chickasaw National Recreation Area near Sulphur, OK. Camp at Chickasaw National Recreation Area, near Sulphur, Oklahoma. (two hour drive from Ft Worth area). Camp Friday and Saturday night (Dec 7-9), but those preferring could meet us on Saturday morning for the hikes. Saturday hike 6-10 miles along the Rock Creek Trail. Sunday, take some short hikes to Antelope and Buffalo Springs and visit the Travertine Nature Center. If we have 10 or more people we can reserve a group campsite. Otherwise camp in the Cold Springs Campground (no reservations taken). Leader: Dan Smith, phone 817-410-2955 or e-mail RiverDogDan@aol.com.

December 9, Sunday

Dayhike at Fort Worth Nature Center Meet at Hardwicke Interpretative Center at the Fort Worth Nature Center at 1:45 p.m. We will hike a leisurely hike of approximately 3 miles on an easy trail through a pretty forested area. Hike will be rescheduled in case of rain or mud. We will make final decision by 9 p.m. the night before in case of questionable weather. Call Pat Leach at 817-295-5009 or e-mail pakale@att.net for other information or in doubt of weather.

January 12, Saturday

Dayhike at Lake Ray Roberts State Park Join Jim and Jane Nelson on Saturday, January 12, for an invigorating winter hike along the Greenbelt at Ray Roberts Lake State Park near Denton, TX. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. at the parking lot of the south trailhead off U.S. Hwy 380, and shuttle to the mid-

point of the Greenbelt Trail at FM 428. From there we will hike 6.5 miles back to Hwy 380. Bring water and snacks for the trail. To see a map of the Greenbelt, go to the Ray Roberts Lake State Park website and click on Greenbelt Corridor Map. Please register an interest by emailing us at jfnelson@home.com.

January 25-27, Friday-Sunday

Cabin Weekend at Beavers Bend State Park. Shake of those winter blues. Beavers Bend State Park is a 5,135-acre park situated along the Mountain Fork River just South of Broken Bow Reservoir in Southeast Oklahoma. Total drive is about 200 miles. The park has cabins of various size accommodating 2 to 6 persons. All cabins have kitchens and some are available with fireplaces. We plan to spend Friday and Saturday nights in the cabins and day hike part of the David Boren Trail. The winter rates are \$58 - \$115 per night. For cabin information and registration call: 580 494-6300. Please make your own cabin reservations. This is a beautiful park and should be quiet this time of year. You might get to see a bald eagle. Leader: Wendy Lambert 817-251-0016 (H) or wlambert@concrete-pipe.org.

February 9, Saturday

Beginner Backpacking Seminar at Fort Worth Nature Center 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Learn how to set up a tent, plan a trip, select the right clothing and the equipment, pack, and enjoy the outdoors in a low impact camping or backpacking style. The Sierra Club Outings Com-

mittee, which has a combined experience of over 60 years of camping and hiking, teaches the class. Bring a bag lunch, but beverages are provided. Cost: \$15 per person for Sierra Club members and \$20 for nonmembers. Contact person: Claudia Blalock, 817-924-6242. Email cpblalock@msn.com and claudia.blalock@alconlabs.com.

February 22-25, Friday-Monday

Easy car camp in the Chisos Basin Campground of Big Bend National Park. February is the perfect time to see this grand park. Day hikes may include Santa Elena Canyon, Boquillas Canyon, Cattail Falls, Grapevine Hills, Hot Springs, and Ernst Tinaja. On Sunday, we will hike Devil's Den on our way to the Gage Hotel in Marathon where we will stay. To reserve a room at the Gage, call 915-386-4205. For more details, contact Claudia Blalock, 817-924-6242. Email cpblalock@msn.com and claudia.blalock@alconlabs.com. This trip was originally planned by John Parker and will serve as a memorial to the long-time Group leader, who loved the Big Bend area and visited it many times.

March 16, Saturday

Trail maintenance at the Fort Worth Nature Center. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Hardwicke Interpretative Center for light brush clearing and trail maintenance. Wear sturdy shoes and old clothing suitable for working outdoors. Bring work gloves, small handtools, and water. We will work about four hours and then go to lunch afterwards.

We're gonna have a (Christmas) party

Date: Dec. 19. Time: 7-8:30 p.m. Location: Annual Christmas Party Miller Brewing Company Hospitality Center and Brewkettle Museum, 7001 S. Freeway Drive, Fort Worth.

We will have a social meeting for our annual Christmas party. Beer and soft drinks will be provided by Miller at no charge. Please bring a dessert or snack to share with other Sierrans. No official program is planned, but come to exchange stories and meet our wonderful members! Miller Brewkettle

Museum is located on the east access road of I-35 (South Freeway) just south of the I-20 intersection. From downtown Fort Worth heading south on I-

35, take the Sycamore School Exit and turn left heading east toward Mrs. Baird's Bakery. Stay on the east side of I-35 access road heading north for about 1/2 block til you see the parking lot for the Brewkettle Museum. You will park in a lot just north of the brewkettle museum, but south of the main brewery. The brewkettle museum is a separate building from the brewery and lies between Mrs. Baird's Bakery and the main brewery.



Coming Events

December 13, Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

Fort Worth Sierra Club ExCom Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at LaMadeleine's Restaurant, 305 Main St. For more information, contact Tolbert Greenwood, 346-3140.

December 19, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Fort Worth Sierra Club General Meeting. See box at right for details.

Newsletter deadline. Submit articles, ads, letters, or other information in writing. Articles may be submitted by mail, email, or on Iomega Zip disks accompanied by hard copy. B&W or color nature photos and electronic images (150dpi or greater) will be accepted (prints returned if submitted with SASE). Photographs of outings or other club activities are particularly encouraged. Identify subject of photo and state photographer's name. Please do

General Meeting Wednesday, December 19

7:00 This month only, to accommodate the annual Christmas Party, the meeting is at the Miller Brewery. See Page 6 for complete details.

Program: There's no program this month. Instead, it's a Christmas Party. Bring along a dessert or snack to share and the drinks are provided by Miller Brewery.

not write on the back of photos. Mail submissions to Newsletter Editor, P.O. Box 1925, Fort Worth 76101, bring to the ExCom meeting, the general meeting, or email jmoody166@aol.com.

Sierra Singles Events

See Page 5 for a description of "The Perfect Trip" to East Texas by the combined Fort Worth/Dallas Sierra Singles Group.

January 7, Monday

Newsletter folding party, Smoky's Ribs, 6 p.m., 5300 E. Lancaster. Eat, or have the beverage of your choice, while working with other Sierrans to prepare the newsletter for mailing. Call Steve Turner, 457-7131.

Don't forget to hang out with all the gang at our annual Christmas party. Details at left



US on the outside looking in on Kyoto Treaty

The U.S. was again on the sidelines while our Western allies joined the rest of world to tackle the problem of global warming. At a meeting in Morocco in November, nearly 180 nations finalized details of the Kyoto treaty on climate change, which could become international law by next year.

Defying critics who say the treaty will be ineffective, negotiators have agreed to give the agreement teeth: a country that fails to meet its obligations to reduce pollution will face binding consequences. Ironically, such penalties are likely to involve restrictions on the use of the treaty's flexible market mechanisms, which were developed by the U.S. and written into the agreement in 1997, before the current administration balked.

The Kyoto treaty that the Bush administration disavows could well carry the label "Made in the U.S.A." It will be implemented through low-cost mechanisms like emissions trading that grew out of American ingenuity. The U.S. has used these market-based approaches with considerable success to help deal with problems like acid rain and urban smog. Against strong resistance, the U.S. pressed other countries to accept market mechanisms as the basis of the Kyoto treaty. Today these countries have embraced the approach, particularly because it gives industry

ample flexibility and minimizes costs.

It's an unfortunate irony that the U.S. is absent from its own victory party; but more than that, America's lack of participation could hurt U.S. businesses. Because it dropped out of the negotiations, the U.S. has abdicated its right to help shape the final terms of the treaty.

Also, when the treaty comes into force, the U.S. will be locked out of a huge new market in environmental commodities. American companies will have no incentive to develop innovative pollution-reducing technologies and sell them abroad. Our lack of participation also cuts the U.S. multinational corporations out of some of the cheapest options for cutting global warming pollutants.

Many in Congress recognize that the U.S. should lead on climate change. Bipartisan leaders, including Senators John McCain (R-AZ) and Joe Lieberman (D-CT), have proposed a comprehensive program for limiting U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. Many in industry also recognize the need to respond to global warming. Big companies like DuPont, BP, Shell and many others are already cutting greenhouse gas emissions voluntarily, and finding that it can be done affordably. Developing the expertise and technology to reduce global warming pollutants now will put these companies

ahead of the game and cut their costs when global warming gases eventually are regulated -- a certainty in many industrialized countries.

The U.S. has rightfully focused international diplomacy efforts on the fight against terrorism in recent months. But there is still time for the U.S. to develop a meaningful policy on global warming, consistent with the Kyoto treaty and integrated with our national energy needs.

With measures such as improved automobile fuel efficiency and controls on power plant pollutants, the U.S. can show leadership on climate change, and an enlightened approach to long-term energy independence. If we insist on standing against the rest of the world, America will lose on diplomatic, economic and environmental fronts, while the fight against global warming continues to miss the world's largest greenhouse gas polluter.

Andrew Aulisi, is an Environmental Defense policy analyst. Environmental Defense is a New York-based leading national nonprofit organization representing more than 300,000 members. Since 1967, Environmental Defense has linked science, economics, and law to create innovative, equitable, and cost-effective solutions to the most urgent environmental problems.

www.environmentaldefense.org

In all aspects, it was the perfect camping trip

The Sierra Singles camping trip to Daingerfield State Park officially started around noon at the camp site on Nov. 17, but even before that we knew it would be a good trip. The scenery on Hwy. 49, the main road to the park, was what you would expect on a country road in east Texas – lined with tall trees and few houses or other signs of civilization. It was quiet and peaceful. We were greeted at the check-in station by a friendly ranger, who recognized our names immediately and had already arranged (with some help from Dan Smith) for our three camp sites to be right next to each other. We had a view of Lake Daingerfield from our camp sites. Dan arrived Friday night and had already ventured out for a 30-mile bike ride along the country roads before anyone else arrived Saturday morning. He kindly helped others set up tents, then the six trip participants had lunch at one of the picnic tables at our site. We were surrounded by trees and we could see the lake. Everyone arrived on time and the group camaraderie was instant.

After lunch, we anxiously began a hike along the park trails. The scenery

was as breathtaking as we had anticipated. The trees were almost too tall to see the tops, and there seemed to be endless numbers of them, many 60 and 70 years old. The lake was clear and you could see the reflections of the trees. As we hiked the trails and viewed the trees and the lake, autumn colored leaves were falling right in front of us, and we could hear the crunching sound of the leaves already on the ground. I couldn't help but realize that

I usually wake up one morning to notice that all the leaves that were on my trees yesterday are now on the ground. Actually watching them fall was a treat.

The trails were not well marked, and we made several wrong turns along the way, even while viewing the somewhat sketchy trail map, but Larry Shindel eventually led us in the proper direction and was voted "mountain goat" award recipient. We knew we were nev-

Please see NOT Page 6

Membership

Yes, I want to join the Sierra Club! My check is enclosed.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (optional) _____

Individual (\$35) Joint (\$43)

Annual dues include subscription to Sierra (\$7.50) and chapter publications (\$1.00). Dues are not tax deductible.

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The purposes of the Sierra Club are: To explore, enjoy and protect the wild places of the earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.

Mission Statement

Return Service requested

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Fort Worth, Texas 76101

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Not lost, but temporarily disoriented

Continued from Page 1

er very lost, as we had passed the friendly park ranger several times, and the park is not large enough to get hopelessly lost in. All participants had a good sense of humor about the circles we seemed to walk in for a while. The consensus was that everything was so beautiful that we wanted to extend the time and distance of the hike, which culminated with a steep climb.

After hiking a few hours, with a couple of stops to gaze in awe at the beauty of this place, we found our way back to camp and prepared dinner. Trip participants shared their dinners, which included taco salad, jambalaya, black eyed peas, and bread, among other items. After dinner, Dan built an impressive camp fire in the fire ring. The timing was perfect, as the temperature was dropping from that day's high of 72 and nearing the low of 47.

After sitting around in our camping chairs and shooting the breeze, we decided to walk around and scope out the perfect spot to watch the Leonid meteor showers so we would know where to head at 3:30 a.m. After walking a

good bit of the park, but on the roads this time, we found the perfect spot, once the drink machine was unplugged. It was dark and there were picnic tables and a ledge to sit on, with no trees blocking our view of the sky. That was the spot to head for at 3:30.

Most of us turned in around 10:30 p.m. We truly did wake up at 3:30 a.m. and drag ourselves out of our warm sleeping bags to view the meteor shower. I could see them through the roof of my tent, so I knew it would be worth it. That capped off the already perfect camping trip. The sky was clear and we saw hundreds of meteors. In addition to the meteors, it was refreshing being able to see the different constellations that are not as visible in the city. After watching the meteors until about 5:15, we returned to our sleeping bags and slept in until around 8:30, with the exception of a couple of early risers.

The fun was still not over. We had breakfast, packed up, and drove to Lake Bob Sandlin State Park, roughly 30 minutes away from Daingerfield State Park. We found a nice trail to hike there,

which took us to a trout pond part way through. We stopped there for snacks, which included trail mix, smoked Gouda cheese and crackers, carrots, and bread. After the hike, we drove through the park to view the different campsites and the swimming area. The scenery was beautiful once again.

We all agreed we would like to camp at Lake Bob Sandlin some time, as well as return to Daingerfield.

At this point, all good things must end and we hit the road for home. Along the way we stopped at a Mexican restaurant for a late lunch (or early dinner), and it too was a positive experience.

Nice weather, breathtaking scenery, delicious food, fun exercise, the best meteor shower in 100 years, and, best of all, great people – one could not ask for more.

Thanks to Dan Smith, Steve Englander, Larry Shindel, Jeneanne Carson, Brenda Tindel, and Jenny Lehman for helping to make Nov. 17-18 the perfect weekend.

Written by Jenny Lehman