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## Mississippi Chapter Sierra Club

### Golden Triangle Group

# CROSSROADS

Feb 2006 – July 2006

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## EVENTS

### FEBRUARY

Sat., Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. **Work Outing #1. Sierra Club Wilderness Trail.** Volunteers are needed to clear brush and fallen trees from the Sierra Club Wilderness Trail in the Noxubee Wildlife Refuge. This trail suffered much damage after the hurricane season. Bring gloves, lunch, water, handsaws and light chain saws. This trail goes through low areas so wear boots if there has been recent rain. From Starkville, take Highway 25 S for about 10 miles. After the sign for Craig Springs, turn left onto Keeton Tower Rd. We will meet at the end of Keeton Tower Road where the trail begins. For latecomers, we will take the trail in the clockwise direction so stay left after crossing the metal bridge. This will be the first of two work outings. For more information, call Juliet Tang at 662-338-5426.

Sat., Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. **Work Outing #2. Sierra Club Wilderness Trail.** Same as above except we will leave a note at the trailhead indicating in which direction we'll work the trail. For more information, call Juliet Tang at 662-338-5426.

### MARCH

Wed., March 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. **Program. Larry Jarrett, Chair of Natural Resources Initiative.** Natural Resources Initiative is a cooperative alliance among interested stakeholders to protect and sustain our natural resources while promoting business development opportunities. Dr. Jarrett will speak on sustainability of our natural resources and green certification on public and private lands. For more information, Dr. Jarrett's email address is: trees@direcway.com. Clay Lyle Building, rm 117, MSU Campus, Starkville.

### APRIL

Earth Day, Sat., April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 3:00 p.m. **Awards Presentation for Sierra Club Essay Contest** at the Cotton District Arts Festival in Starkville. The Golden Triangle Group is sponsoring a conservation essay contest for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in the Starkville area. Awards for Grand Prize, and 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place for each grade level will be presented at the Arts Festival.

See our *featured article* inside.



Sat., April 29<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Plant and Bake Sale** at Frances and Harold Thompson's home, 608 Lakeview Dr., Starkville. We will have potted flowers, vegetables, herbs, and baked goods for sale at this fun fund-raising event. We need donations and volunteers to help for this sale. Please call Frances at 662-323-7379 to sign up. From Highway 82, go north on Montgomery St., turn right on Critz St., take 1st left on Overstreet Dr., and left again on Lakeview Dr. *See featured article* inside to find out how you can volunteer and/or make donations.



### MAY

Sat., May 6<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 p.m. **Seis de Mayo Potluck** at Diana and Duane Lyon's home, 111 Grand Ridge Rd., Starkville. This Mexican potluck is a delicious way to start the summer holidays. From Highway 12, turn onto South Montgomery St., turn right on Grand Ridge Rd. Diana's house is on the left. It has white brick and blue trim. They can be reached at 662-324-1426.

Sat., May 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 a.m. **Tentative date for the Cahaba Lilies Trip.** Canoe, kayak, and/or walk along the Cahaba River, east of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and see these spectacular aquatic spider lilies in the Amaryllis family. If water levels are low,

we may have to walk boats through shoals so wear sturdy wading shoes. Bring your lunch and drinking water. We will meet at the Clay Lyle Bldg, MSU Campus, Starkville. Call Juliet Tang ahead of time to check trip date, make arrangements for canoes, kayaks, life jackets, paddles, etc. 662-338-5426.

## JULY

Sat., July 1<sup>st</sup>, 6:00 p.m. **Summer Potluck Sizzle** at Adrienne and Rob Minerick's home, 1891 Chapel Hill Rd. Leave the bright lights at home and head out to the country to get the best views possible of the starry night sky. From Oktoc Rd., take left at cemetery onto Artesia Rd., take 2<sup>nd</sup> right, then at the next intersection, bear right onto the paved road, then take the 1<sup>st</sup> left at the fire station onto Sessums Rd. (gravel). When Sessums Rd. ends, take a left onto Chapel Hill Rd. The Minerick's home is the 2<sup>nd</sup> driveway on the right. For more information, call Adrienne at 662-722-1244.

## AUGUST

Wed., Aug 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6:00 p.m. **Potluck and Planning** at David Cross and Juliet Tang's home, 211 Edgewood Dr., Starkville. Bring suggestions for fall programs, outings, and newsletter articles. From Highway 82, go north on Old West Point Rd. Take the 3<sup>rd</sup> left onto Critz St., then the 1<sup>st</sup> right onto Edgewood Dr. For more information, call Juliet Tang at 662-338-5426.

## ESSAY CONTEST TO ENCOURAGE APPRECIATION OF LOCAL ENVIRONMENT AMONG YOUTHS

After our successful art competition held in the Fall of 2003 for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders, our group has decided that our next contest will be an essay on conservation for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders in the Starkville area. The theme of the contest is "Explore, Enjoy and Protect the Planet." The "planet" in this case is the student's own personal environment. The student should "explore" their own natural environment and identify a problem in which their natural surrounding is being damaged or wasted. They should describe this problem in their essay and then devise a solution that will "protect" and bring their environment back to a healthy and sustainable state. The student should convey a personal involvement in the problem and the solution. The solution, however, may also involve conservation

groups, churches, businesses, government, civic leaders, and/or community youth groups, etc. working together. The essay may deal with a small or large change.

The length of the essay is not to exceed 2 pages, double-spaced, typed in size 12 font. Essays will be judged on originality and creativity especially in terms of personal involvement, and on presentation, clarity, and length.

The awards for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes, and Grand Prize will be presented on Earth Day, Sat., April 22<sup>nd</sup>, at the Cotton District Arts Festival in Starkville. We also hope that the students will be able to read their essays aloud at the Arts Festival and that winning essays will be published in the Starkville Daily Newspaper.

We look forward to the participation of many 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders in the Starkville area. I know I can't wait to read these essays and hear what conservation problems face young Mississippians in their daily lives and how they propose to preserve and protect the natural surroundings they live in.

## ANNUAL FUND-RAISER PLANT AND BAKED GOODS SALE

Buy some beautiful flowering perennials, annual, vegetable, and herb seedlings, or delicious baked goods to help raise funds for the Golden Triangle Group of the Sierra Club. This year's plant sale will be held on Sat., April 29<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at the Thompson's home, 608 Lakeview Dr., Starkville. If you want to donate any plants, here are some suggestions. Root cuttings now; plant annual, herb, and vegetable seeds in early March; and divide and pot crowded perennials just before the sale date.

Plants donations can be brought to the Thompson's after Thurs. April 27<sup>th</sup>. Baked goods should be brought by 8:00 a.m. on the day of the sale. Volunteers are needed to bring baked goods, donate plants, and help on the day of the sale. Call Frances at 662-323-7379 to arrange to drop off plants or to volunteer Saturday morning.



## **GOLDEN TRIANGLE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

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Harold Thompson\*\* Starkville  
Ex Comm

\* Ex Comm, two year term, ends Dec. 2007

\*\*Ex Comm, two year term, ends Dec. 2006

## **NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**



Newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

The next newsletter will be published and circulated in September. Send any suggestions, articles, or announcements to Juliet Tang (662-338-5426).

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*Crossroads*

