

Orange- Chatham Group

www.sierraclub-nc.org/ocg

Events

Chapel Hill Town Council Meeting on the new Development Ordinance

May 11— 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Chapel Hill Town Council Vote on Parking Lot #5

Monday, May 13th

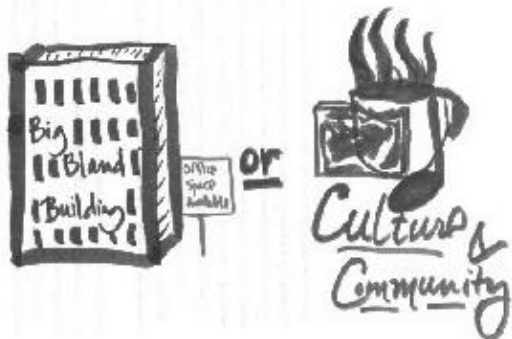
OCG Summer Picnic

Umstead Park, Saturday June 8 4-8 p.m.

MAY 2002



Parking Lot #5 Update



Although we have made some important progress on parking lot #5 we still have a lot of work to do. Cal

Horton, the Town Manager, will play an important role in determining whether or not this space is developed to include significant public space. In local government the power of the bureaucracy is enormous. His role in town government is like that of a CEO in a corporation and his views are seldom contradicted by the board of directors/members of the town council. Unfortunately, if past actions are any indications we cannot count on the support of the manager. This is why we are asking you to call the town and tell the manager that you want him to make a good faith effort to make sure that the town staff respects the outcome of the design workshop that was held in March and April. The work phone number for Cal Horton is 968-2743. If he hears from enough Chapel Hill citizens, he will be more likely to act like an impartial broker on this issue.

Recap

At the design competition that was held in March and April a consensus was reached by participants that the future development of the town owned parking lot on Franklin and Rosemary should include not only below ground parking but a courtyard—like structure with a mix of uses in the buildings and adequate space in the court yard for outdoor dining/cafes, outdoor entertainment like poetry and book readings, theater, music and art exhibits. The OCG group of Sierra Club has supported this project as its contribution to the ongoing smart growth effort in the Triangle. If you are interested helping us lobby members of the Town Council please contact Robert Porter or Greg Gangi.

OCG Meetings & News

Thursday, May 9, 7:30 p.m. in the Church of Reconciliation Preserving flora and fauna of Orange County and the Lands Legacy Program. Naturalists Haven Wiley and Bruce Sorrie will present their evaluation of the state of habitat and species diversity for plants and animals in Orange County. Rich Shaw will describe the Lands Legacy Program of Orange County, and potential impact of this important effort on preservation of remaining natural areas.

Wednesday, May 1, 7:30 p.m. ExCom meeting. At the Oriental Garden Restaurant on Rosemary Street. Submit agenda items to Robert Porter at robertporter@mindspring.com or 933-7613.

Saturday, June 8 at 4-8 p.m. Annual Picnic. Join other Sierra Club members at Umstead Park in Chapel Hill for a Pot Luck. Take this opportunity to meet Kevin Foy and other members of the Chapel Hill Town Council and celebrate the beginning of summer.

Check it Out!

The OCG web site, www.sierraclub-nc.org/ocg, includes information about meetings, conservation, outings, links to sites of interest, and much more. A full listing of regional outings is included.

OCG ExCom

Robert Porter	Chair	933-7613
robertporter@mindspring.com		2003
Vann Bennett	Programs	942-5862
benne012@mc.duke.edu		2003
Bill Bracey		967-4116
arbornet@mindspring.com		2002
Dan Coleman	Political	
dan-coleman@nc.rr.com		2002
Greg Gangi		932-7340
ggangi@mindspring.com		2002
Annette Jurgelski	Outings	644-0280
jurge001@mc.duke.edu		2003
Norman Miller		
nmiller285@aol.com		2003
Gustavo Ocoro	Conservation	918-7773
gusyanne@earthlink.net		2002
Dena Puco	Secretary	
Andrea Rohrbacher	Treasurer	
Peter Todd	Media	942-2581
hartodd@mindspring.com		2003

The Real Cost of Gasoline:

In 1998 the International Center for Technology Assessment attempted to tally the "hidden" costs of gasoline, which range from subsidies to oil companies to providing military protection in the Middle East. Their estimates are shown aside.

Tax subsidies, roads, pollution	\$01.01
Military and other protections	\$01.05
Environmental, health, and social costs	\$12.08
Total Hidden Costs to a gallon of gas	\$14.14

Outings

JUN 22 - Hillsborough ByPass Hike. Morning hike will follow the route of the proposed extension of Elizabeth Brady Road in Hillsborough. We will hike along the Eno River, fording it at the site which has been selected for a four-lane bridge, and continue on the grounds of historic Ayr Mount, which the road will also impact. A moderate hike in exceptionally beautiful surroundings. Tours of the mansion at Ayr Mount available at \$6.00 each. Contact Eric Block (OCG) (919) 489-4255 or Annette Jurgelski (OCG) (919) 644-0280.

This is a great opportunity to view the natural area that will be impacted by this DOT plan for the Hillsborough ByPass. Please let the Hillsborough Town and Orange County Officials know that you opposed this option.

1st and 3rd Saturdays of each Month - American Tobacco Trail Service Outing. Friends of the American Tobacco Trail and the Sierra Club are continuing their efforts to extend the American Tobacco Trail in southern Durham and surrounding counties. Generally, the group meets on the first and third Saturdays of every month starting at 9:00 AM. The workgroup meets at the Scott King Rd. crossing of the ATT. If you would like to know more about trails and greenways construction or maintenance and other service outings in the Triangle, contact Thad Howard (HWG) at 919-544-9126 or e-mail thad.howard@duke.edu.

MAY 11 (Sat) 9 a.m American Tobacco Trail. Moderate 6-mile round trip hike on the American Tobacco Trail. We will meet behind Hillside High School (come in from Riddle Rd). Lunch at Foster's restaurant afterwards. If you have questions, contact Janet Burhans-Hitti (HWG) at 919-572-2407 or jhitti0326@cs.com.

MAY 17-19 Reddish Knob Base Camp. Sleep with your feet in West Virginia and your head in Virginia (or the other way round). Strenuous day hikes. Call Dick Udry (OCG) at 919-929-1779 between 8 and 10 p.m. or e-mail udry@unc.edu.

MAY 18-19 Little Pee Dee. Paddle this small South Carolina river (similar to the Lumber) and camp on Sat. night and Little Pee Dee State Park. More details to follow. Trip is rated easy/moderate. Contact Chandler Stewart (CG) at 910-739-4879 or 910-671-4486; e-mail is cstewart4@mindspring.com.

MAY 18-19 Appalachian Trail Service Outing. Here is your chance to give something back to the trail community with a few hours work on Saturday! If the weather co-operates we will be working on top of Chestnut Ridge, a bald in Southwest Virginia with spectacular panoramic views! No experience or tools are necessary...just a willingness to have fun, work, and enjoy the outdoors. On Sunday there will be an optional mountain biking excursion to the New River Trail before heading home. This is a joint outing with PATH. Rating: moderate. Contact Steve Lund (CG) at slund347@ieee.org or (919) 481-1300.

MAY 24-27 (Memorial Day Weekend) Ramsey's Draft Wilderness Area in the George Washington National Forest in northern Virginia. One of the largest tracts of virgin forest left in the eastern U.S. Three day backpack (moderate to strenuous). Drive up Friday evening and return Monday. Maximum group size is 10, with a \$10 refundable deposit/person. Call Chris or Odile Gould (HWG) at 919-493-1194 between 8 and 9 p.m., or e-mail chris_gould@mindspring.com.

MAY 25th 10am Hike and pot luck. This is a Sierra Seniors Outing. Check the web site for contact information.

MAY 26 Eno River State Park. Enjoy late Spring on a moderate day hike at the Eno River State Park (Fews Ford area). Call Margaret Anderson (OCG) before 10 p.m. at (919)-493-0397, or e-mail at andcamlib@hotmail.com.

JUNE 15-16 Mt. Rogers Backpack. Tired of seeing spring replaced by summer? Now you can experience spring all over again as we backpack across the rooftop of Virginia! Come see how Rhododendron Gap got its name as we catch it in bloom. We should also find lots of other spring wildflowers as well. Of course we'll get to see the wild ponies on Wilburn Ridge. Easy to moderate backpack. Contact Steve Lund (CG) at 919-481-1300.

JUN 16 Eno River State Park. Spend Father's Day hiking at the Eno River State Park. Call Margaret Anderson (OCG) before 10 p.m. at (919)-493-0397, or e-mail at andcamlib@hotmail.com.

JUN 22-23 Lumber River. Matthews Bluff Rd.-Lumber R. State Park. Paddle on a more remote and twisting stretch of the river, with Sat. overnight camping on the river-bank at Piney Island. Additional details to follow. Trip is rated moderate. Contact Chandler Stewart (CG) at 910-739-4879 (or 910-671-4486); e-mail is cstewart4@mindspring.com.

JUL 13-14 Canoe the Cape Fear River. Overnight at Raven Rock State Park. Enjoy a leisurely weekend as we paddle and hike in this natural gem close to the Triangle. Easy. Contact Larry Henson (CG) at e-mail mailto:lw@nc.rr.com or 919-661-8371.

JULY 20-21 South/Black River Paddle. These Southeastern NC flat blackwater rivers afford an excellent opportunity to view centuries-old cypress trees, plenty of wildlife and "The Narrows." Depending on summertime water level, paddle approximately 10 miles each day; car-camp on Sat. night at Henry's Landing. Trip is easy to moderate (depending on water level and downed trees & limbs.) Contact Chandler Stewart (CG) 910-739-4879 or 910-671-4486 or e-mail cstewart4@mindspring.com.

JUL 19-21 John Rock Base Camp. Moderate day hikes in the high mountains of Western North Carolina from an isolated campsite. Find pretty waterfalls. Call Dick Udry (OCG) at 919-929-1779 between 8 and 10 p.m. or e-mail udry@unc.edu.

Non Sierra Sponsored Hikes



Eno River Association—Spring Wildflower Hikes The Eno River Association is sponsoring a series of spring wildflower walks every Sunday at 2 p.m. through May 12, 2002. Hikes are free but limited to 20 participants. To register, please call

Margaret Wainwright at 919 489-2795 before 9:30 p.m. or e-mail her at mhwin@nc.rr.com.

The spring wildflower walks explore a different section of the Eno River valley each Sunday with expert leaders. Walks last about two and a half hours. Walkers see spring arrive with the first hepatica and trout lilies and progress through the spectacular display of mountain laurel in May. The purpose is to acquaint people with the beauty of the Eno River State Park and with the efforts of the Eno River Association to acquire land for the State Park and protect it from harm.

More outings information is available on-line at <http://www.sierraclub-nc.org/ocg>



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