



# SIERRA CLUB

FOUNDED 1892

## CAHABA GROUP

GREATER BIRMINGHAM AREA

**November General Interest Meeting**  
 Birmingham Zoo Auditorium  
 6:30 PM – November 15th, 2005

*Alabama Power Company – talk about the company's projects relating to air quality, water quality and land preservation.*

### Cahaba Group Executive Committee And Other Contacts

Acting Chair \*  
Margo Rebar  
205-970-6500

Acting Co-Chair  
John Valin \*  
205-982-0209

Conservation Chair  
John Latham \*  
205-870-8974

Programs  
Lisa Harris

Treasurer  
Danny Dorroh\*  
205-413-4783  
DD60@charter.net

Membership  
John Walker\*  
205-786-0622

Newsletter  
Del Kelso  
205-481-0004  
delkelso@fastmail.fm

Outings Scheduling/  
Publicity  
Joe Copeland  
256-287-1652 or  
Joec@powernet.org

ICO Chair  
Margo Rebar  
205-970-6500

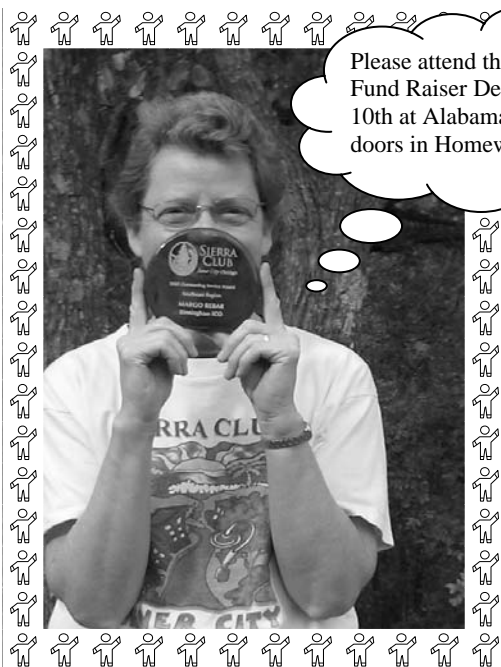
Education Coordinator  
Andy Freeland \*

Webmaster  
Joe Watts

\*Voting members

### Margo Rebar receives the "Outstanding Service Award for Inner City Outings" from Southeast Region of the Sierra Club

**That's right!** Our own Chair, Margo Rebar, has received recognition from the National Sierra Club for her outstanding work leading the Inner City Outings efforts of the Cahaba Group. Margo has led the group's ICO program for 5 years and has been the Chair of the Cahaba Group since earlier this year. We are all excited about this very well deserved award and very proud of "our" Chair. Congratulations, Margo on a job very well done!!!



**December General Interest Meeting**  
 Birmingham Zoo Auditorium  
 6:30 PM – December 20th

**"On September 8 through 11, 2005 the largest gathering ever of Sierra Club leaders, members, and supporters filled the Moscone Convention Center in San Francisco. At least 1,500 people attended the Summit."**

Virginia Cain attended the Sierra Summit as the delegate for the Alabama Chapter and will share her experience with us.

This is also the holiday gathering / pot luck. Bring a covered dish and join with your Cahaba Group friends one more time before the New Year.

## Local Information

### General Interest Meeting

**TUE 11/15 @ 6:30 PM**

#### BIRMINGHAM ZOO AUDITORIUM

Willard Bowers and Steve Jones from Alabama Power Company will be our speakers on Nov. 15. Mr. Bowers is Vice President for Environmental Affairs and Mr. Jones is Environmental Issues Coordinator; he is also chair of the Black Warrior Cahaba River Land Trust. They'll talk about the company's projects relating to air quality, water quality and land preservation. One item of interest is that APCO is being credited for helping the area achieve ozone attainment due to the equipment they installed on their coal-fired plants.

### Day Hike Bankhead National Forest

**Sat. 11/26 Call 205-221-6196**

This will be an off trail hike along the north fork of Caney Creek. Expect spectacular canyon scenery that resembles and maybe even surpasses the Sipsey Wilderness. Rated moderate; limited to ten people; optional dinner afterwards. To sign up or obtain more info, contact Carroll Wilson at 205-221-6196 or e-mail

[mountain-man@mindspring.com](mailto:mountain-man@mindspring.com)

### Day Hike Oak Mountain State Park

**SAT 12/3 \* Call 205-746-3266**

Hike the yellow trail at Oak Mtn. We will pass thru Maggie's Glen where there is a nice creek lined on both sides with beech trees. From there on to Old Lake where we will pass the old CCC cabins up on a hill and a waterfall created by Old lake dam. After that we will enjoy a good walk in the woods for several miles enjoying some good company and some good trail time. Meet at the parking lot of the south end of the yellow trail at 10:00AM. Bring water and lunch. Afterwards for those interested we will have dinner at 2 Pesos Mexican restaurant on Hwy 119. Hike rated moderate for distance of 8 + miles and a few steep hills. Jim Binnings

[jbinnings@bellsouth.net](mailto:jbinnings@bellsouth.net)

### Inner City Outings Fund Raiser

**SAT 12/10 from 10 am till 4 pm**

ICO will be having a fund-raiser at Alabama Outdoors in Homewood on Saturday, December 10, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Your support of the Inner City Outings program would be greatly appreciated. Please stop by to get some home-made goodies, spice mixes suitable which make excellent teacher and neighbor gifts, or hand painted ornaments - painted by our inner city youth participants.

### Executive Committee Meeting

**MON 12/12 \* CALL 205-795-2043**

Executive Committee meeting at the Sierra Club SE Office at 6:30 pm. All members welcome and encouraged to attend and participate.

### ICO Team Meeting

**TUE 12/13 \* CALL 205-970-6500**

The ICO team will meet at 6:30 p.m. at Alabama Outdoors. Anyone who is interested in working in natural areas with young people is welcome to attend. We are also (*always*) looking for people interested in helping raise funds for our program, even if they do not wish to go on outings. Please join us at our meeting or contact Margo Rebar (call or e-mail)

[mrebar@earthlink.net](mailto:mrebar@earthlink.net)

### Day Hike Augusta Mine Ridge, Pinhoti Trail

**SAT 12/10 \* Call 205-873-0569**

This will be a moderate to strenuous 7- to 8 mile hike on the Pinhoti Trail, just north of Piedmont. This is one of the real scenic sections of the Pinhoti, and we have not hiked this section in several years. There will be an optional dinner in Anniston following the hike. Meet at the Kmart Parking Lot in Irondale at the corner of Crestwood Blvd and Montclair Rd (just off exit 132B of I-20 East) at 8:30am or at 10:00 am McDonalds on Highway 278 in Piedmont. Trip Leader, Dick Echols

### General Interest Mtg—Annual Holiday Gathering / Pot Luck

**TUE 12/20 @ 6:30 PM**

#### BIRMINGHAM ZOO AUDITORIUM

December's Annual Potluck and Social Time, Tuesday, Dec. 20 at 6:30 p.m. at Zoo Auditorium. Club will provide service ware and soft drinks (soda, tea, water). Bring a dish to share (appetizer, salad, casserole, dessert, other). BYOB. Dress is, as befitting most Sierra Club events, casual! Contact

Lisa Harris at

[harrislisa@charter.net](mailto:harrislisa@charter.net)

or Margo Rebar at

[mrebar@earthlink.net](mailto:mrebar@earthlink.net)

### Thirteenth Annual Day After Christmas

#### Little River Canyon Day Hike

**MON 12/26 \* Call 205 221-6196**

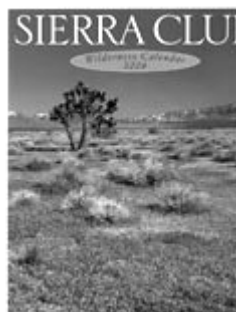
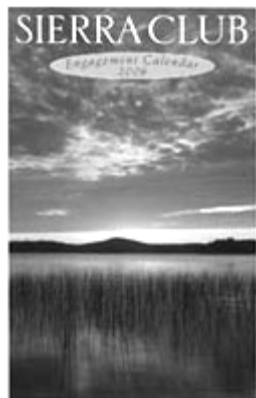
This is a hike in the Little River Canyon National Preserve, and is rated strenuous. It will be a three-mile hike down Bear Creek Canyon from the canyon rim road to Eberhart Point, the deepest part of the main canyon. It is not a hike for the weak-hearted or the unsteady. It requires climbing and scrambling over logs and boulders as well as several creek crossings (which usually can be done by rock hopping). Wet rocks (from rain that morning or the night before) or icy rocks or a very high creek level could require the hike to be relocated. I can probably announce any change in the hike plan at the meeting place in Trussville, but marginal weather conditions at the preserve could mean a late minute change in plans. Prepare to be flexible. And expect to experience some of eastern North America's most spectacular wilderness. Meet 8:00 am at the Cracker Barrel in Trussville. Optional dinner afterwards. Contact Carroll Wilson

[mountain-man@mindspring.com](mailto:mountain-man@mindspring.com)

### Day Hike Big Tree, Sipsey Wilderness

**SAT 12/31 \* Call 647-6961** Hike via White Oak Hollow to the East Fork of Bee Branch in the Sipsey Wilderness

of the Bankhead National Forest. Bee Branch is the home of a huge Tulip Poplar, often referred to as "The Big Tree". Along the way we will visit some interesting rock formations and some nice water falls. This is a 6-mile hike and rated moderate. Meet at the Hayden/Corner Park and Ride at 8:00am. Optional dinner after hike. Hike Leader Vicky Wilson



Looking for the perfect "stocking stuffer" holiday gift for that special someone who loves beautiful nature scenes?

Once again, the Cahaba Group is selling the **2006 Sierra Club Wilderness Calendar and Engagement Book**. Both the calendar and planner are being sold for \$10 each...less than the mail order pricing direct from National!

Order copies for all your friends and family today by contacting Danny Dorroh @ (205) 413-4783 or via e-mail... [dd60@charter.net](mailto:dd60@charter.net)



## Outings Notes

In the interest of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing, or anything similar, is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel. Anyone is welcome on outings, but if you make repeated trips, please join the Club. (See details in this newsletter.) Join us for optional dinner if you'd like. Check difficulty rating and children/age requirements. Questions? Contact trip leader.

### National Sierra Club Liability Waiver

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. **Canoe Trips:** All canoe outings are suitable for beginner/novice canoeists unless otherwise noted in the trip description. Life jackets are required and must be worn. You are responsible for finding your own canoe. Borrow one, paddle with a friend, or rent from Alabama Outdoors, 870-1919, or another outfitter. Bring your picnic lunch and something to drink while on the water. If you have further questions, please call the trip leader.

### Directions to Meeting Places

**Birmingham Zoo Auditorium**—2630 Cahaba Road, near Botanical Gardens.

**Golden Rule BBQ, Hwy 79**—Right side of Alabama Hwy. 79 (as you're driving away from Birmingham). Past Tarrant City, just past traffic light at intersection of AL Hwy 79 and Sunhill Road. Before Carson Road intersection, near Jefferson State Community College.

**Hayden/Corner Park and Ride**—Hayden/Corner exit 284 off I-65 North. Turn right off exit ramp, then first right, then enter parking lot on right.

**Jack's, Double Springs**—On U.S. Hwy. 278 in Double Springs just east of stoplight at intersection of Hwys 278 and AL 33 and AL 195.

**Cracker Barrel, Trussville**—I-59 North to exit # 141 (Chalkville Road exit). Turn right at end of exit ramp and look for Cracker Barrel Sign to left.

**Cracker Barrel, Pelham**—I-65 South, exit #248. (Cahaba Valley Rd) Turn right, Cracker Barrel on right.

**Oak Mountain State Park**—I-65 South from Birmingham to Hwy 119/Cahaba Valley Road exit.. Right off exit ramp, then left at first traffic light. Follow road 2 miles, then left at stop sign. Go 2 miles past the fee gate, then right onto Terrace Drive. Go to park office parking lot between boat parking and beach parking.

**Kmart Parking Lot**—corner of Crestwood Blvd and Montclair Road. From I-20 East exit 132B, cross Crestwood Blvd, see Kmart on right.

**Ruffner Mountain Nature Center**—I-20 to Oporto-Madrid exit. Head away from mall area. Go 1.5 miles, then turn right on Rugby Avenue. Go 1 mile, then turn right on 81st Street South Follow signs to the Center.

**Shoney's, Oxford**—I-20 East to Oxford exit 185. Left at end of ramp on AL 21. Go under interstate and see Shoney's on right.

**Sierra Club S.E. Office**—1330 21st Way South, near Five Points South, one block south of Highland Police Station.

## At a Glance — Sierra Club Events — November / December 2005

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
11/21	11/22	11/23	11/24 <b>Thanks-giving</b>	11/25	11/26 Day Hike Bank-head Natl. Forest	11/27
11/28	11/29	11/30	12/1	12/2	12/3 Day Hike Oak Mtn St. Park	12/4
12/5	12/6	12/7	12/8	12/9	12/10 Day Hike Pin-hoti Trail and ICO Fund Raiser	12/11
12/12 Executive Comm. Meeting	12/13 Inner City Outings Meeting	Don't forget, Inner City Outings Fund Raiser @ Alabama Outdoors, Homewood from 10 am till 4 pm. Support the Cahaba Group and the Kids!!!				12/17
12/19	12/20 General Interest Meeting and Holiday Gathering	12/21	12/22	12/23	<span style="font-size: 2em; font-family: cursive;">Happy Holidays</span>	12/25
12/26 Day Hike Little River Canyon	12/27	Holiday Gathering—Service Ware and Soft Drinks provided bring a covered dish and BYOB. Birmingham Zoo Auditorium—6:30 pm				12/31 Day Hike Sipsey Wilderness



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FOUNDED 1892

SIERRA CLUB/  
CAHABA GROUP  
1330 21ST WAY  
SOUTH, STE 110  
BIRMINGHAM, AL  
35205

Visit us online for newsletters, issues,  
contacts and more!!  
<http://alabama.sierraclub.org/cahaba.html>

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all for \$25 — Renewals Also Welcome**

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To join or renew your membership, send coupon with a check for \$25 made out to the Sierra Club. Mail to John Walker, 2833 21st Street, Ensley, Birmingham, AL 35208-2217 or call John at 786-0622.

(Dues include a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and newsletter and are **not** tax deduct.)

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