VOTE IN GROUP ELECTIONS
In this newsletter are four Candidate Statements and a Ballot to elect three members to the Glen Canyon Group Exec. Committee (ExCom) for two-year terms beginning in January, 2012. Results of the election will be posted on the Group’s website: http://utah.sierraclub.org/glencanyon/, along with information on the time and place of the ExCom’s first meeting in 2012 (all Sierra Club members are welcome to attend ExCom meetings).
Continuing members of the Glen Canyon Group ExCom are Tom Messenger and Marc Thomas. Two current members, Ed Brandstetter and Albey Reiner, are running for re-election. A total of four members are seeking your support for the three openings. The ballots you return will be counted by an Elections Committee chaired by Marc Thomas (check website for time and place of ballot count. All members are welcome to attend).
At its first meeting in 2012, the new ExCom will elect three officers from among its five members: Chair, Vice-Chair, and Delegate to the Utah Chapter ExCom. ExCom members or ex-officio members will also be chosen for Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chair, Outings Chair, Conservation Chair, Newsletter Editor, Highway Cleanup Coordinator, Nuclear Issues Chair, Webmaster/List Serve Manager and other possible positions.
Thanks to Johnna Tipton who is retiring as a member of the ExCom. In 2010-11, Johnna served as our Secretary.

ANNUAL REPORT 2011 GCG
Again this year we held two highway clean-ups (April 2 and October 22) mile 117-120 on US-191. We had great participation from members and others. We have developed a reputation with the local UDOT maintenance crew. They told Mike Stringham that “your group is the one that picks everything up”. We are doing a great job of keeping our assigned part of highway 191 looking trash free.
We held group executive committee meetings in February and September.
Many participated in our extensive outings program including car camping and day hiking in the Needles, and Cedar Mesa areas. Official hikes are well attended. Everyone are invited to come along and enjoy the scenery and camaraderie.
Issues in 2012 will include: Protection of the Greater Canyonlands Region from mining and oil exploration to provide an environmental buffer for the National Park; Tar Sands exploratory mining in the Book Cliffs, Grand County; and Proposal for a nuclear power plant near Green River.

TREASURER’S REPORT 2011
Balance 1/1/2010 $389.84
Income $150.00
Expenditures
Spring Newsletter copying $40.80
Newsletter mailing $66.00
Fall newsletter copying $33.85
Newsletter mailing $57.20
Balance 1/1/2011 $341.99
Expenditures
PO Box Rental $44.00
Balance 10/15/2011 $297.99
Glen Canyon Group ExCom Elections

There are three seats on the ExCom that are up for election. We have four outstanding candidates for these seats. Please vote for three candidates and mail your ballot to Glen Canyon Group, Sierra Club, PO Box 622, Moab, UT 84532.

V. KAY MCLEAN
Email: mclean777@gmail.com

I am a retired junior high school science teacher who spent most of my life in Central Missouri. As a Sierra Club member since 1969, I worked primarily on river and wilderness issues and held various and numerous positions with the Ozark Chapter and the Osage Group.

My husband and I purchased a home in Moab in 2002 but have been traveling extensively. While in Moab during the last decade, I have served as a volunteer at the Canyonlands Community Recycle Center and at WabiSabi functions.

We settled here permanently two years ago, and I transferred my chapter membership to the Glen Canyon Group. I enjoy retirement by volunteering, hiking, rock hounding, traveling, and working in my yard. I would be pleased to be involved more with the GCG.

RITA RUMRILL
Email: erv2000@hotmail.com

I've enjoyed Sierra Club hikes for the past five years and believe it's my turn to pitch in. Please accept my application for Executive Committee member.

A sustainable environment is the overall reason for my involvement with the Sierra Club. Maintaining open spaces that enable plant and animal life to coexist with limited human activity seems a very worthy goal. There are many organizations in Moab working toward achieving this, and I would encourage the Sierra Club to join forces with all local organizations sharing these views. I am a registered dietitian, bicycle commuter, hiker, cook, fiber craftsman, and most importantly, a wife to Steve and mom to Kasey.

ED BRANDSTETTER
Phone: 435 259-9427

I moved to Moab from San Francisco nearly 20 years ago because I am a scenic photographer, and there is no place more scenic than this. I visited the area many times before I decided to stay. I built my own house on 2-1/2 acres of land under the Moab Rim.

My favorite activities are hiking and photography plus a little river boating. My major concern is wilderness designation. We have to be proactive and must do what we can to curtail ORV and ATV abuse of the public lands. If elected to the ExCom, I will continue to hike and camp with the Club on scheduled outings and will lead informal hikes and network with others who want to do non-strenuous hikes.

ALBEY REINER
Email: areiner@cns.umass.edu

Over twenty years ago, I made my first trip to these canyons, and my fate was sealed. A few years ago, when I retired as professor at U.Mass, my wife and I moved here. In between, we came here maybe twenty-five times, logged seventy or so days and nights canoeing on the Green River, visited lots of rock art, hiked and hiked, learned geology and archeology. I also worked with archeologists at BLM to help document and protect rock art sites in our area.

The Sierra Club does much good work and I would be glad to continue contributing my efforts via the Glen Canyon Group. I enjoy the company of the local Sierra Club members that I have met hiking, and would enjoy working with them and others. I am especially concerned with protecting our public lands from overgrazing and inappropriate uses by other special interests.
Recapture Canyon highlight
Last spring, Mike Stringham and Marc Thomas hiked in Recapture Canyon just east of Blanding. It was a sun-dappled day spent walking among ancient ruins lining canyon walls, winding through groves of juniper and pinion pine, bypassing pools built by beavers, and being serenaded by bird songs. Some of the time, we were hiking on a track illegally created as an ATV trail in the canyon bottom that has since been closed off to ORV use by the BLM. As with Salt Creek in Canyonlands National Park, a battle rages in San Juan County as to whether the illegal track should be reopened to vehicles. Right now, it makes a fine hiking trail and that's certainly how we believe it should remain. We don't think that ATV noise and dust pollution is compatible with the solitude and natural beauty found in the canyon today, nor with the peaceful contemplation of historical man-made remnants of ancient civilizations. As in Salt Creek, the damage created to the riparian environment of a perennially-flowing stream bed can be mitigated over time by keeping vehicles out. Not all of us in Utah want to "take back our roads" on public lands, as was the rallying cry of a demonstration outside the BLM office in Monticello shortly after our hike. We realize that as the stewards of public lands, we hope to preserve them in relatively pristine shape for future generations to appreciate (as we have) and for wildlife to continue to live in. If interested, the link to photos of our hike online is: https://picasaweb.google.com/moabitemarco/RelishingRecaptureCanyon

PROPOSED NUCLEAR REACTOR IN SE UTAH
Southeastern Utah citizens are expressing their concerns and organizing in response to the proposed Blue Castle Project, a 2-unit nuclear reactor near Green River, Utah. Citizens spoke at the October 4, 2011, Grand County Council meeting, when Aaron Tilton of Blue Castle Holdings, Inc. (BCH), spoke to the Council. BCH is moving forward with its plans to submit an Early Site Permit application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in early 2013. On October 27 BCH held its first meeting with the NRC to discuss pre-application activities and seismic issues. The State Engineer, Division of Water Rights, has not issued a decision on the provision of water from the Green River for the reactor project. The Sierra Club's Utah Chapter protested the applications to provide water for the reactor.
Anyone interested in understanding and responding to the prospect of a nuclear reactor in SE Utah, please contact Sarah Fields: sarah@uraniumwatch.org or 435-259-9450. A group of citizens are meeting. Involvement on any level is welcome.
We will be setting up Working Groups (for research, fundraising, media, etc.) and keeping the public informed. We need hands, hearts, and help to keep nuclear reactors out of Utah.

FILM: INTO ETERNITY
Free Screening: Thursday, November 17, Star Hall, 7 pm. INTO ETERNITY takes us to Finland and the world's first permanent high-level nuclear waste repository. The film looks at some of the issues around this huge system of underground tunnels hewn from solid rock, which must last 100,000 years. It is an excellent film both technically and artistically. The film is sponsored by the Grand County Library and Utah Film Center, with support from Uranium Watch.

PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITIES
The Utah Division of Radiation Control is accepting comments on the license renewal of the White Mesa Uranium Mill, near Blanding. Written comments on the draft license and Safety Evaluation Report are due November 14. On November 10 at 6 pm, the DRC will hold a meeting at the Arts and Events Center, USU-College of Eastern Utah, 715 West 200 South, Blanding, to receive comments on the license renewal.
The DRC is also accepting comments on a 2-year extension of the license of the Shootaring Canyon Mill, a non-operational mill near Ticaboo, Utah. Comments are due November 25.
For documents and information: http://www.radiationcontrol.utah.gov/ and http://www.uraniumwatch.org/. Also, contact Uranium Watch: info@uraniumwatch.org or 435-259-9450.

Moab UMTRA Project
One of the local issues of concern is the removal of the Uranium tailings from the banks of the Colorado River. This is the UMTRA project and as of September, 2011 4.4 million tons have been removed. This amounts to 28% of the tailings. As most of you know these tailings are being moved by train to just north of Crescent Junction, 30 miles north of Moab. Besides removing the tailings a collateral goal is to reduce ground water contaminants at the Moab tailings site. These are primarily ammonia and to a lesser extent uranium. When the removal is complete the Moab site will be rehabilitated to exceed regulatory standards for acceptable levels of radiation. The Crescent Junction site will also be prepared to exceed regulatory standards. Lee Shenton, the Grand County liaison with the project has provided this information. The following table is the time line for the project.
OUTINGS

**GCG Sat 10/29 Wilhite Trail, Island in the Sky.**
The trail starts from the Upheaval Dome road 2 miles from the junction with the Grandview Point road. After a mile on the mesa top, the trail drops into Holeman Spring Basin with views of the False Kiva alcove. Down on the Moss Back bench, the trail does a half circle around a point to find a way down the Moss Back. Those who wish may stop there with views of Candlestick Tower and the White Rim. About 6 miles round trip with 1100' of elevation change. (The trail continues down Moencopi washes to the White Rim, about another 6 miles round trip and 500' of elevation change.) Meet at the Leader: Tom Messenger 259-1756. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Main and Center Streets, 9 AM.

**GCG Sat 11/12 Rainbow Rim and Redwall Mesa (Lost World Butte).**
From the Dubinky Well road west on the Spring Canyon Point road past Tombstone Butte then north to the area between The Needles/Rainbow Rocks and Redwall Mesa. Colorful banded slickrock buttes and cliffs and a profusion of manganese nodules. High clearance recommended. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Main and Center Streets, 9 AM.

**GCG Sat 11/19 Upheaval Dome.**
Start from the Syncline Loop trailhead and go down the crater wall. (Not for those nervous on steep slickrock slopes.) Visit the chaotic jumble in the bottom and exit the crater on the trail through the gap to the junction with the Syncline Loop. About 4 miles and a 1500' descent to here. The hope from here is to continue down Upheaval Canyon to the White Rim Road (reopened 9/13/11) near the Labyrinth campground, another 3½ miles and 200' or so down. This requires finding some folks either willing to drive there and pick us up. Or some folks willing to park there and do the hike all uphill (1700' at least) with a key exchange. Otherwise return counterclockwise from the junction on the Syncline Loop, 3½ miles and 1500' climb. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Main and Center Streets, 9 AM.

**GCG Sat 12/3 Painted Wall.**
Explore the northwest end of the northeast wall of Salt Valley. It's just northwest of the northwest tip of Arches. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Main and Center Streets, 9 AM.

**GCG Sat 12/17 Steelbender.**
Walk the Steelbender jeep trail from Flat Pass to the golf course. Pass along the base of South Mesa and traverse the slickrock between the forks of Mill Creek. About 10 miles easy walking with a few hundred feet of up and down. Car shuttle. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Main and Center Streets, 9 AM.

**GCG. Get some exercise**
**G Sat 12/31**
Deadman's Ridge over the New Year's weekend. Follow a Bar M bike trail for good views of upper Moab Canyon and the Moab Fault. About 4½ miles and a 300' altitude range. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Main and Center Streets, 9 AM.