

Outdoor Club Digest

Volume 1, Issue 2



T-shirts:

If you are interested in a club t-shirt, they are \$10.00 each. They are long-sleeved and very snazzy, everyone who is anyone will be wearing them! To reserve a shirt, contact Erin Clardy, erc02a@acu.edu

Bicycle Donations:

Jim Riley from one of the Environmental Classes is looking for bicycles to give to low-income families. The bikes don't need to be in perfect condition; they can be repaired, etc. The deadline for the project is on December 1st (which means he needs the bikes at least a few days before then). The goal is to get 10 bikes to people in need. For more information or to donate your old bicycle, contact Jim, jtr02d@acu.edu

Spring Break Volunteer Vacation:

We need a Crew Leader to head up our Spring Break Project! We have two proposals already planned out. The Crew Leader would be responsible for recruiting around 15 people to participate. The Crew Leader will represent the Crew and work with the Host Site on making sure the participants are ready. The cost of the project will be around \$100.00. If you would be interested in being the Crew Leader or being a part of the Crew, please contact Dusty Vaughn, gdv02a@acu.edu.

Survey:

Your input is important to us! Please help us continue to grow and become better by filling out our survey which is available online (www.acu.edu/outdoorclub)

Palo Duro Canyon Trip Summary pictures and summary by Shannon

PALO DURO, NM - Friday, after reaching the state park, we stopped at the visitors center and scenic lookout that looks out over the majority of the canyon. We then drove down into the canyon to our campsite and set up camp. We camped in the Hackberry site which is at the base of Sorenson Peak that has an altitude of 3,218 feet. In the late afternoon we took an easy scenic two mile hike on the Paseo Del Rio Trail near the camp, which along the way had a re-created dugout house that a military officer used years ago. The evening was spent having dinner, playing card games, talking around the campfire and (of course) eating s'mores. Saturday morning we had breakfast and drove to the trailhead for the Lighthouse Trail, a 6



The hard-workin' trail crew - Saturday, November 12th at the Abilene Bike Trail

Intercollegiate Community Celebration a Success

ABILENE, TX. - Thanks to everybody who came and helped out for the Intercollegiate Community Celebration on Saturday, Sept. 12. The 12-person team, (Dusty, Marcus, Brett, Jessica, Sarah, Melanie, Andrea, Phillip, Allie, Joey, and Dani) worked under the supervision of Richard Valdez, the trail maintenance guy for the Abilene Bike Club.

We cleaned up several twists and turns on the trail, making it safer and easier to ride. We saw a lot of improvement on the trail and Mr. Valdez was very impressed with our work and grateful for our help.

I had never been out to the trail before, and I would encourage anyone who is interested to get a membership and go out there, even if you don't have a mountain bike.

It's a really beautiful trail.

Dry streambeds and small hills run together and are met by mesquite and cactus. It's rugged, but very beautiful.

Anyone interested in a membership should visit Bike Town at 1433 South 1st in Abilene.

Story by Dani, Picture by Dusty.

More on the website! Visit it! Every day! Yeah!



mile round-trip hike. We stopped several times to take pictures as the trail gave several scenic opportunities; from here we could see the Fortress Cliff, Capitol Peak and of course far off in the distance, the Lighthouse Formation. The trail was good, mostly red dirt and sand, as the Palo Duro Canyons were carved from a fork in the Red River. Several times we would cross a dry river bed. During the rainy season this area can flood and even spill into the campsite areas. The last .20 miles of the first half of the trip are several dozen steep stairs that lead up to the base of the Lighthouse formation. After the stairs, we followed a narrow trail to the base and began climbing up the base of the Lighthouse formation and besides a small ledge to

master, it proved to not be too difficult. Once atop the Lighthouse formation, the wind picked up. We could see for miles and ate lunch up there in the shade.

Sunday morning we were greeted with a deer in our camp, chomping down on a nearly empty roll of paper towels that had somehow been overlooked the night before. Outside the bathrooms, there was a flock of a dozen or so pheasants, and, on the way out of the park we saw a doe and two fawns munching on the grass and they seemed not to care about the people taking pictures and gawking. All in all, it was a great trip.

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Tired of trying to ski in Abilene?
Listen up!

My name is Dustin Sanderson from HSU. We have planned a ski trip for the end of this semester and have a few open spots remaining which we would like to offer to you and your club members. If you have any questions feel free to call 670-1472 (office) or 201-3441 (cell).

Ski trip to Breckenridge, CO
Register Today to reserve your spot!

First come basis

Trip Dates are Dec 10th - 16th

***Departure is at 10:30 pm and we arrive back in Abilene at 8:00 am

Cost is \$375 and includes:

Transportation (Charter Bus)

4 Nights Lodging

3 Days Lift Ticket

3 Days Ski Rental

Most Meals

THIS IS THE WEBBY FOR YOU!!! (just what you've always wanted, right?) A webcast presentation about rattlesnake research will be given by Dr. Travis LaDuc of the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. LaDuc will discuss different types of snakes targeting rattlesnakes as his focus. This lecture will dispel some of the myths surrounding rattlesnakes by sharing insights into their natural history gained through the use of high-speed videography, thermal imaging cameras, and radio transmitters.

View a FREE web broadcast of the lecture live this Friday, November 18, 2005 at 7 pm CST.

The link to our Lecture Series website is:

<http://www.esi.utexas.edu/outreach/ols/lectures/LaDuc/>



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