

Austin Chapter Celebrating 10 years  
of outdoor fun!

*“Our mission is to provide all women the opportunity to learn and experience outdoor activities in natural surroundings through a safe, non-threatening, and supportive environment.”*

**TOWN LEADERSHIP TEAM**

**Club President/Publicity Chair -**  
RoxAnn Donahoo

257-3460 roxann4tx@aol.com

**Membership Chair –** Sandy Thompson  
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**Club Treasurer -** Joy Emshoff  
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**Webmaster –** Hilary Dyer  
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**Club Newsletter –** Dawn Goodall  
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**Outings Coordinator -** Amelia Greene  
282-5507 ameliatx@hotmail.com.

**Club Secretary –** Helen Sabin  
577-1758 hsabin@sbcglobal.net

**Club Historian –** Sue Arcy  
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**Austin TOWN P.O. Box 300494 Austin, TX  
78703**

From RoxAnn Donahoo,  
Club President



Hello Outdoor Women!

Let the good times roll....without being cold!

Cooler weather is coming but that does not slow down all the outdoor fun we can have! There is always something we could get out and do, whether it be hiking or going on a fishing trip. The possibilities are endless and we have the best group of women to get out and enjoy it all with. The key is knowing how to dress in layers for the cooler Texas weather so you can be comfortable outside whether it cools down or warms up during the outing. Wool and some synthetics still retain some insulating capability when wet. Remember cotton is worthless. Rain gear is essential. Footwear is the most important outdoor equipment. Make sure it is sturdy and comfortable. Now, let's go have fun!



**What are YOU thankful for this Thanksgiving?**

Many TOWN members have mentioned in conversation why they are thankful for TOWN in their lives. Share your thoughts to be published in the November newsletter, by emailing lita45@aol.com **no later than Nov. 10**; please limit to 60 words, and end the thought with how you want your name listed after the statement...whether it be initials, first and last name, just first name etc.

September Monthly meeting was  
**Tim Cole, Austin Reptile Service**  
(see page 4 for details!)

**October 25 meeting featured speaker: Dr. David Cross - Wilderness First Aid** - will cover injuries, illnesses, broken bones, lightning strikes, snake bites, diabetes. There will be a slide show and handout. Lots of helpful and interesting information to be shared. (David is the husband of one of our Austin TOWN members, Marcia Cross).



After his presentation, **we will have the annual TOWN swap meet.** Bring new or slightly used outdoor gear, equipment, clothes, etc relating only to the outdoors and sell, swap, and buy with each other. This is great opportunity to clean out your closets and help new people in TOWN to get started with their outdoor adventures. Please clean, price, and label all items with your name before coming to the meeting. Please arrive a little early to set up your items. Lots of fun and lots of bargains!!!

At the meeting, we will have a **special table for TOWN Officer election** questions and nominations. Please help us to elect a new club president, webmaster, publicity chair, and club historian!!

**Monthly meeting - NOV 15th - LAST MEETING OF THE YEAR -- MOVED UP A WEEK DUE TO THE HOLIDAYS.**

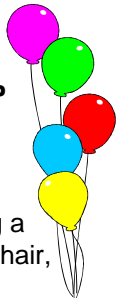
Please join us for officer elections.

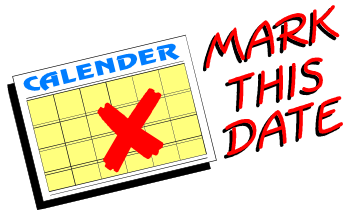
Nominations can be made

at the meeting upon arrival. We will be electing a new club president, club webmaster, publicity chair, and club historian.



(See page 3 for duty descriptions )

After the election, we will have a community potluck and party. Please bring your favorite potluck item to share. Austin TOWN will provide paper plates, napkins, cups and plastic ware. This is super fun time to visit about the fun we had this year and all the fun stuff we want to do next year. Please join us for a super fun evening!!! We will also be giving the YMCA a special gift that night to thank them for their hospitality in giving us a place to meet all year long. **NO MEETING IN DECEMBER – SEE YOU IN 2006 ON JAN. 24<sup>TH</sup> FOR MONTHLY MEETING.**





Check our website  
 for updated info  
[www.townaustin.org](http://www.townaustin.org)

<p><b>Backpacking at Lost Maples State Park -</b>          Currently, the maximum number of participants is 6. If I get more ladies interested, I'll try to reserve additional space, but Fall is a pretty busy time at Lost Maples. Plan is to get to the park on Friday evening, stay the first night in the campground, breakfast the next morning, then pack up and backpack to primitive campsite to spend Saturday night. Then pack up and hike out and return home on Sunday. I have a limited quantity of camping gear available for loan, first-come, first-served. Or I think Austin Outdoor Gear and Guidance may have rental equipment.</p>	<p>October          28 &amp; 29th</p>	<p>RSVP to Sue          at ArcyS@aol.com.</p> 
<p><b>BOW Workshop near Brenham -</b>  <u>B</u>ecoming an <u>O</u>utdoors <u>W</u>oman workshops offer women a chance to learn outdoor skills in a fun and supportive atmosphere. There are usually over 30 introductory classes to pick from and each location has specialty classes that pertain specifically to that area of Texas. If you enjoy a class at BOW, you can go further in their advanced classes offered separately after taking BOW. All BOW workshops are \$185/person and include all classes, equipment, lodging, and food for the weekend. Scholarships are available for those with hardships. Workshops are limited to the first 100 women in Texas who register. It is fun, informative, interesting, and you make lots of new friends. Forms can be downloaded from TOWN website or <a href="http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/edu/baow">http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/edu/baow</a></p>	<p>October 28-30</p>	<p>Please contact Ashley Mathews at TX Parks &amp; Wildlife 389-8198 or <a href="mailto:baow@tpwd.state.tx.us">baow@tpwd.state.tx.us</a>.</p>
<p><b>REI Service Project, at Balcones Canyon lands –</b> Doeskin Ranch (between Lago Vista and Marble Falls). Austin TOWN is assembling a group of volunteers to go out and represent our club among many other outdoor clubs in Austin area. We kindly ask that everyone from Austin TOWN wear their TOWN t-shirt. We want to show our gratitude for the REI store discount. <b>And we want to help build the first National Recreation Trail in Texas.</b> Some hiking involved to get to work site. There are all kinds of chores to pick from so please come help us out. Afterwards, an appreciation party with lunch and yummy treats. The first 100 volunteers at the project will receive a free REI Service Project t-shirt and 15% off coupon to REI, plus entry into a raffle to win fabulous prizes!</p>	<p>Saturday          October 29          9 am - 2pm</p>	<p>RSVP to RoxAnn at <a href="mailto:roxann4tx@aol.com">roxann4tx@aol.com</a></p>
<p><b>Cypress Valley Canopy Tour –</b>          Soar thru the treetops, some up to 100 feet tall, just 20 miles outside of Austin.          A new world unfolds as you ride on steel zip lines from platform to platform.          \$60 per person, (for 20+, the price will go down to \$55.)</p>	 <p>Saturday,          October 29th,          late afternoon</p>	<p>Please contact          Marcia Cross          254-217-0321 cell          254-933-1611 home</p>
<p><b>Pedernales State Park Campout</b>          Well- behaved obedient dogs are welcome.          I have one regular site w/ electric and water for maximum of 8 people. These sites are \$20/night so we can divvy up fees and there is \$3/day for park users (unless you have a Conservation pass).</p>	<p>Friday,          November 11          - Sunday          November 13</p>	<p>Please RSVP          to Shari  <a href="mailto:skforbes@yahoo.com">skforbes@yahoo.com</a></p>

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## OFFICER DUTIES (*following positions voted on Nov. 15*)

**Club Coordinator/President:** 2 YEAR TERM Jan 1, 2006 - Nov 30, 2007

1. Coordinate guest speakers for monthly meetings.
2. Do write up on current and upcoming guest speakers for newsletter.
3. Host and direct monthly TOWN meeting.
4. Host and direct TOWN Officer Meeting every other month.
5. Write a column for the monthly newsletter and helps with overall layout and content.
6. Coordinate and host the annual Holiday Party in January.
7. Attend the annual TOWN Coordinator's Conference in January.
8. Coordinate TOWN booth at March B.O.W. (Sat. night only) with weekend campout for volunteers at nearby Inks Lake.
9. Help with layout and design of annual membership directory - distributed in May.
10. Coordinate annual leadership dinner or trip for all outings leaders and club officers.
11. Work with other TOWN chapters across Texas whenever possible.
12. Read website regularly and makes useful suggestions on presentation and content.
13. Lead outings whenever possible.

**Webmaster:** 2 YEAR TERM Jan 1, 2006 thru Nov 30, 2007

1. Maintain the website in a timely fashion.
2. Maintain the e-group sign-up process, etiquette, and overall operation.
3. Attend officer meeting every other month.
4. Collects pictures from outings to post in photo gallery.
5. Acts as a greeter at the monthly meetings.
6. Lead outings whenever possible.

**Publicity Chair:** 2 YEAR TERM Jan 1, 2006 thru Nov 30, 2007

1. Set up greeting table and room at all monthly meetings. Work with YMCA for room reservations. Act as greeter at the monthly meetings.
2. Send out monthly notice to all area publications/media, other outdoor or female resources to promote our monthly TOWN meeting to the public.
3. Distribute flyers in sporting goods stores and female friendly locations & events.
4. Attend officer meeting every other month.
5. Coordinates TOWN booth at the TX Parks & Wildlife Expo in October.
6. Get annual thank you gifts for meeting location provider, special retail vendors as needed.
7. Responds to information requests about TOWN.
8. Lead outings whenever possible.

**Historian:** 1 YEAR TERM Jan 1, 2006 thru Nov 30, 2006

1. Collect pictures from outings with names and dates and puts in club scrapbook
2. Bring scrapbook to each TOWN monthly meeting and make available for special events.
3. Act as a greeter at the monthly meetings.
4. Lead outings whenever possible.

# Trip Reports



Four TOWNies got together on **Friday, October 7, 2005**, at Buescher State Park near Smithville for an **impromptu hike**. The weather was wonderful - the high that day was about 56 degrees and a little overcast. Perfect hiking weather. We strolled our way through the beautiful piney woods with our GPS's in hand and located the Fondue Fun geo-cache. All-in-all, a great day to be out in the woods. And, Mother Nature cooperated by holding off on the rain until we had completed our hike. Thank you Mother Nature. Submitted by Sue Arcy

## Sunday, October 16, 9am – Biking at the Veloway

Two TOWN members joined Janet and me at the Veloway to bike this morning. The temperature was mild and the surface dry for our outing. The Veloway was not crowded.

Janet and I made minor adjustments on two bicycles (adding air to tires and untangling a brake cable that was hampering a front tire.)

Both members expressed appreciation for a ride organized specifically for those who:

Are new cyclists

Need minimal bike adjustments

Benefited from a little extra encouragement

The four of us enjoyed the outing.

Submitted by Jacque Austin and Janet Fitzsimon-Barr



(September meeting speaker from page 1 cont.)

## Tim Cole, Austin Reptile Service

shared some of his knowledge gained from keeping reptiles for over 3 decades and professional experience working with zoos and scientific field studies.

He discussed the fact that there are 4 venomous snakes in Texas.

The Western Diamondback is the most common venomous snake in Central Texas.

He mentioned how Spring and Fall are more active than Summer for snake activity.

He walked around to each person attending the meeting

to allow them to get an up close and personal view of several snakes.

He shared how the Texas Rat Snake (black and yellow) vibrates its tail like a rattler, hoping you will leave it alone.

He also talked about how the hognose snake will play dead to encourage its enemies to leave it alone.

Cole even mentioned a snake that can be pink, which is the Coach Whip in West Texas.

Another snake, the milk snake, looks similar to the coral snake.

He assured many of those present that the water moccasin is NOT found in Travis or Williamson County.

So if you see a snake in water in those areas, it is a water snake.

He also mentioned that you can immunize dogs against snake bites.

Cole offers Conservation Through Education, birthday parties, educational programs and snake removal.

For more info [www.austinreptileservice.net](http://www.austinreptileservice.net)



## Monthly Meeting Schedule

### Guest Speakers List:

**January 24th – Bicycling** – Joy Emshoff will talk about how to change a tire and basic bicycle info.

    Jacque Austin might share info on biking tours, if time permits.

**February 28th – Austin Parks Foundation** – Charlie McCabe to discuss Adopt a Park program,

    It's My Park Day in April 2006, and the Shoal Creek Greenbelt Revitalization effort.

    Presentation with slides, time for Q & A. [www.austinparks.org](http://www.austinparks.org)

2006

