

## PAST MEETINGS IN 2023

1/17/23 - April Ambrose with the Arkansas Advanced Energy Association will speak on her new role working on sustainability. April will also discuss The Inflation Reduction Act's environmental benefits and the tax credits. We meet at Hibernia Irish Pub at 6:30.

Jan/Feb Meeting Location: Hibernia Irish Tavern, 9700 N Rodney Parham Rd # K, Little Rock, (501) 246-4340, <https://www.hiberniairishtavern.com> ) Arrive early to eat before the meeting.

2/21/23 - Tom McClure will speak on expanding Arkansas Wilderness.

3/21/23 - We will meet at Fletcher Library, 823 N. Buchanan St. Little Rock. Stephanie Spencer will speak on the environmental benefits of a plant based diet.

Stephanie Spencer is a former cardiac RN of 27 years turned Plant-Based Nutrition Educator. She discovered Plant Based Nutrition after her husband developed diabetes. After reversing his diabetes with a Plant Based diet and both losing twenty pounds, Stephanie was hooked! She went on to obtain a Board Certification in Lifestyle Medicine through the American College of Lifestyle Medicine. After witnessing the devastating effects of the Standard American Diet on her patients' health and life expectancy for decades, Stephanie developed a research-based online course to teach individuals how to prevent, treat, and frequently even REVERSE their chronic disease with Plant Based Nutrition. Stephanie also owns Natural State Microgreens and sells this superfood at local Farmers' Markets and restaurants. Stephanie serves on the Board of Arkansas Local Food Network and is very invested in promoting the health and resilience of our agricultural system. Stephanie will be discussing the Environmental Aspects of Animal Agriculture with Q & A afterwards.

4/18/23 - Please join us on April 18, 2023 for our monthly meeting. We have a new meeting location: Whole Hog Cafe – West, 12111 W. Markham St. Rock Creek Plaza, Little Rock AR, 72211, Phone: 501-907-6124

Chris from Home Energy Rx will speak on their services and tax credits for energy improvement under the Inflation Reduction Act. Home Energy Rx is a green company specializing in home energy assessments, certifications and energy efficient construction services for new and existing homes. Locally owned and operated, HERx is passionate about providing outstanding customer experiences through the education of energy conservation and the explanation of how consumers play an important role in reducing the demand of energy while benefiting from services that reduce utility cost as well as increase comfort.

5/16/23 - Tu - 6:30 pm - Please join us for our Central Arkansas Group (CAG) Monthly meeting. David Peterson will give a presentation on the Arkansas Phosphorus Index and the effects of climate change in the Ozarks and Buffalo River watershed. For location, please refer to the e-mail message Chair George Wise sent out on May 12. If you did not receive the message, please contact George at [bgcdwise@swbell.net](mailto:bgcdwise@swbell.net)

6/20/23 - Tu - 6:30 pm - Please Join us for our June Central Arkansas Group (CAG) meeting. Chris Ham, Recreation, Planning, Heritage & Wilderness Staff Officer of the Forest Service will speak on recreational opportunities in the Ouachita National Forest and plans for forest management. We meet this month at the John Gould Fletcher Library, 823 N. Buchanan St., Little Rock, AR 72205.

7/18/23 - Tu - 6:30 pm - Please join us for our July Central Arkansas Group (CAG) meeting. Master Naturalist and Sierra Club member Lynn Foster will be our speaker. The Sierra Club has done an outstanding job of protecting public lands, but they aren't enough to preserve enough habitat for wildlife. Enter Doug Tallamy, who promotes creating "homegrown national parks." What does he mean? Why should we do this? And how do we do it? Lynn Foster, Sierra Club life member, Vice President of the Arkansas Audubon Society, and Arkansas Master Naturalist, will talk about how you can bring nature into your yard with an emphasis on doing it in central Arkansas.

9/19/23 – Tu - Please Join us on at 6:30 pm for our September Arkansas Sierra Club, Central Arkansas Group meeting. Gary Kahanak will speak on nuclear

power and its role in combating climate change. We meet this month at the John Gould Fletcher Library, 823 N. Buchanan St., Little Rock, AR 72205

10/17/23 - Tu - Please Join us on at 6:30 pm for our October Arkansas Sierra Club, Central Arkansas Group meeting. Program: A special showing of the documentary, Atomic Bamboozle. Location: The [John Gould Fletcher Library](#).

The False Promise of a Nuclear Renaissance: ATOMIC BAMBOOZLE follows anti-nuclear activists, tribal leaders, scientists and attorneys as they draw lessons from the decades-long campaign to shut down the Trojan Nuclear Power plant in Oregon and extend those lessons into a new struggle to stop small modular nuclear reactors (SMRs) that are being aggressively promoted by the the Department of Energy and nuclear industry in response to the climate crisis.

As political pressure mounts in the US to meet net zero carbon goals, the nuclear power industry makes its case for a nuclear "renaissance." In place of the highly costly nuclear towers that have been shut down across many regions of the country, investors began in the early 21st century to promote small modular nuclear reactors (SMRs). ATOMIC BAMBOOZLE follows anti-nuclear activists and attorneys from the Columbia River region as they draw lessons from the decades-long fight to shut down the Trojan Nuclear Power plant in Oregon and reflect on current promotional campaigns by the nuclear industry and US Department of Energy. As the industry mounts its "renaissance" with small reactors, these anti-nuclear activists forge alliances with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and climate activist Cathy Sampson-Kruse (Wallulupum member of the Umatilla) who calls out the nuclear industry and politicians who are using the climate crisis to push for loosening laws restricting nuclear power generation. The arc of the film is anchored by physicist and professor M. V. Ramana, a global leader and recognized scholar on nuclear power. He traces the history of nuclear power generation from the 1950s to the present and takes up the four main areas of concern and controversy: costs, accidents, waste and proliferation.

11/19/23 - Tu - Program: Rebecca Peak, a biologist with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Agency will discuss her study of the Golden Eagle.

The eastern North American population of Golden Eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*) is genetically distinct from the western population. During winter, the eastern population favors forested areas with relatively high topographic relief and low human disturbance. In cooperation with partners, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service-Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office is conducting a study to capture and fit GPS transmitters to Golden Eagles in the Ozarks of Arkansas. The purpose of the study is to assess risk of conflict between Golden Eagles and wind turbines proposed in the region. We are providing the information to wind companies and have used the results to inform a wildlife and habitat risk map for renewable energy in the state. The information also is being used to spatially map migration routes, distribution, and habitat use, to analyze lead levels, and to estimate abundance.

Rebecca grew up in a rural farming community in Illinois where she started watching birds at a young age and developed her interest in how human land use practices affect avian populations and the habitats upon which they depend. Currently, she is a Fish and Wildlife Biologist with USFWS-Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office where she works with partners to coordinate and facilitate activities pursuant to sections 4, 6, 7, and 10 of the ESA. Prior to this position she worked with USDA Forest Service as a District Wildlife Biologist on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest where she worked as part of an interdisciplinary team to implement habitat management activities to benefit fish and wildlife species. She spent most of her career working on Fort Cavazos (formerly Hood) Military Installation first with TNC as an applied scientist and then with Department of the Army as a natural resources specialist where she implemented a research and monitoring program for the federally endangered Golden-cheeked Warbler.