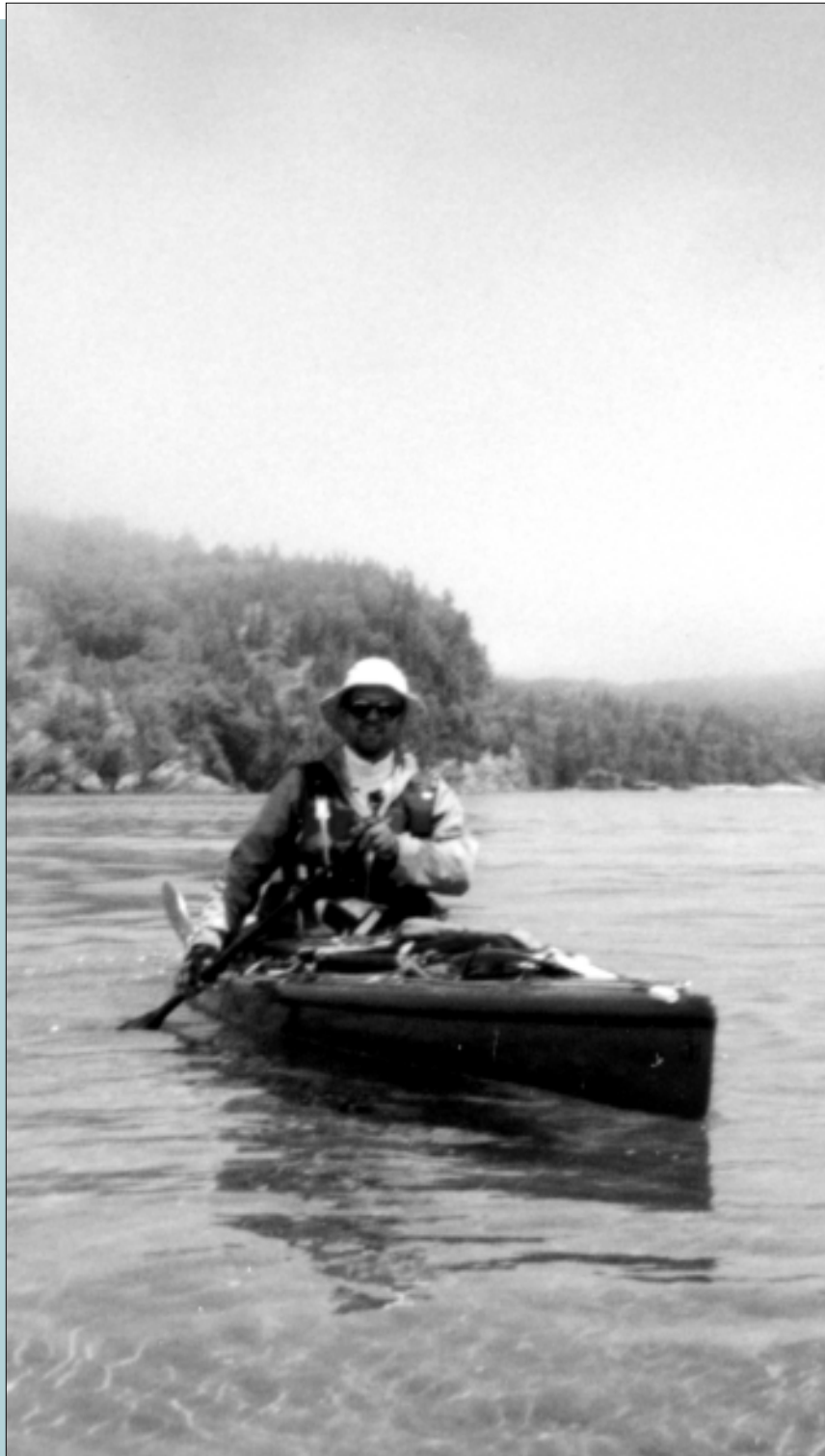


THE MACKINAC

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF MICHIGAN'S SIERRA CLUB • MICHIGAN.SIERRACLUB.ORG • MAY-JULY 2001



EARTH DAY FESTIVITIES IN LANSING

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A sea kayaker enjoys a day of calm water along the north shore of Lake Superior.

PHOTO COURTESY MICHAEL NEIGER, CENTRAL UPPER PENINSULA GROUP

EARTH DAY WITH AN ATTITUDE

BY KENDRA KIMBIRASKAS
Environmental Public Education Campaign Intern



On April 19 over 150 people from all over Michigan descended upon Lansing to tell lawmakers about environmental problems in their communities. Issues ranged from toxic wells in Romulus and high concentrations of incinerators in Detroit to factory farms in rural Michigan and concerns over the weakening of clean water laws. While citizens brought a variety of concerns to Lansing, one common denominator united them all — mismanagement at the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. Visit www.mecprotects.org for detailed information.

Speakers included a variety of state lawmakers and gubernatorial candidates, including Michigan Senators Gary Peters and Alma Wheeler Smith and Congressman David Bonior. Local bands *Steppin' in It*, *the James in Flames* and *Carmen Electra Paradise* jammed on the Capitol steps. Fun was had by all!

Contact Dan Farough at the Chapter office, 517-484-2372, if you'd like to get involved.

< *Michigan Congressman David Bonior addresses the Earth Day 2001 crowd in Lansing on April 19.*

THE MACKINAC QUARTERLY

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PHOTOS: DANIEL FAROUGH



A Governor Engler puppet receives the First Place ribbon in the "Race to the Bottom in Environmental Laws" Award.

I-94 "REHABILITATION": A BIGGER CORRIDOR OF CANCER?

BY ANNA HOLDEN
SEMG Conservation Committee



In spite of a growing body of research documenting heavily traveled roadways as "corridors of cancer," the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) wants to "improve" seven miles of I-94 in Detroit by widening it to carry at least 205,875 cars and trucks per day. This project, priced at \$1.3 billion, would expand I-94 in the Wayne State University/New Center area to at least 20 lanes. The estimated cost — already dubbed "highway robbery" by opponents — is equal to MDOT's entire annual Michigan budget. It is 10 times the state's funding for local bus service. Can this "rehabilitation" project be justified?

A CORRIDOR OF CANCER?

According to the Environmental Defense Scorecard, residents of Wayne County already face a cancer risk from hazardous air pollutants of more than 100 times the goal set by the Clean Air Act. Fifty-one percent of this risk is caused by pollution from mobile sources such as cars and trucks. While all are at risk, children are especially vulnerable to air toxins. A recent study of children living near heavily traveled roads in Denver, Colorado found that their chances of developing cancer, including leukemia, are increased six-fold by proximity to roadways carrying 20,000 or more vehicles per day. The Journal of the American Medical Association reported February 21, 2001 that children's asthma episodes requiring emergency care visits and hospitalizations dropped 42-44% during the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta. This reduction was attributed to a massive public transportation/traffic control system that cut back peak morning traffic counts by 23% and daily ozone readings by 28%.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE "TRADE OFF"

MDOT's Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) failed to link elevated traffic emissions with the growing body of studies showing a correlation with adverse health impacts. There was no detailed analysis of the effects of high levels of air toxins on human health or the Great Lakes ecosystem. Nor did it consider ability to meet new EPA standards for particulate matter. Instead, MDOT stressed I-94's importance as a commercial trade corridor linking the US with Canada and Europe. Now 165,500 automobiles and trucks per day use this segment of I-94. Vehicular traffic is expected to increase more than 25% by 2020 with the widening. But even this projection "does not account for future heavy-truck demand." Space reserved in the median for light rail trains will more likely be used for additional truck lanes.

ENVIRONMENTAL INJUSTICE

Environmental justice is an overriding concern. The DEIS recognizes an obligation under federal law and policy to "avoid disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority and low-income

populations." The impacted community is 87% African American and 40% of the population is at the federal poverty level. But the proposal does not offer a reasonable plan to meet federal mandates for environmental justice, which require considering the overburdening of existing cumulative emissions. Industry and incinerators already heavily pollute the area. General Motors' Hamtramck Assembly Plant, located on I-94 in this area, is the fourth greatest source of toxic releases in Wayne County, discharging over 1.1 million pounds of pollutants annually. A study of childhood asthma conducted by the Michigan Department of Community Public Health found rates of hospitalization for asthma of children living in the vicinity to be three times the rate for children the same ages in Wayne County outside Detroit.

SUPPORT FOR MASS TRANSIT GROWING

The I-94 widening debate is taking place against a backdrop of growing support for mass transit. Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer recently said lack of public transportation in Detroit is one of the barriers to achieving world status again. A March 25 Detroit Free

Press editorial noted "a consensus on the need to improve mass transit might finally be emerging." The Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) and Detroit's Metropolitan Affairs Coalition are currently examining two potential mass transit options — commuter rail service between downtown Detroit and the Detroit Metropolitan Airport and a train-like rapid bus system. A January 2001 SEMCOG survey shows solid support (59%) for tax funding for a new public transit system and increased metropolitan-wide interest in using a well-run system. Coalitions are organizing around the need for mass transit in Southeast Michigan. These initiatives should not be derailed by a massive highway project whose costs max out all other transportation alternatives.

SIERRA SAYS NO!

Sierra Club opposes MDOT's I-94 "rehabilitation" plan. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement attempts to justify a project that will increase air and noise pollution, harm public health, and have other negative consequences for the African American community, including loss of housing. MDOT must develop a reasonable transportation plan combining freeway repairs with measures to reduce automobile use, reduce pollution and foster the design and promotion of a viable, integrated rapid transit bus/rail system. I-94 "rehabilitation" should be suspended until current studies of new transit alternatives are completed. Then a proposal dedicated to minimizing health risks and meeting area transportation needs should be developed.



BY ANNE WOIWODE
Program Director

EPA ADMINISTRATOR CONSIDERS MICHIGAN PETITION

One and one-half years after filing a petition with US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to withdraw Michigan's delegated authority under the Clean Water Act, the Sierra Club has learned that the matter has been elevated to the office of EPA Administrator Christine Todd Whitman. As reported in the last *Mackinac*, EPA Region 5 and Michigan officials were slated to meet in January to discuss the EPA's interim report, which found the state's program to be "severely lacking." After initially encouraging discussions, the state reiterated in late January their refusal to require National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) as required under federal law.

As *The Mackinac* goes to press, Administrator Whitman is reportedly considering whether to send a letter to the state to formally initiate withdrawal proceedings under the Clean Water Act. If the state's Clean Water Act delegation is withdrawn, all aspects of the state's program will revert to the USEPA for implementation, including issuing and renewing all NPDES permits. If the USEPA fails to proceed with withdrawal, Sierra Club will consider additional options for forcing withdrawal.



CAFOS CONTAMINATING GRAND RIVER TARGET OF SECOND SIERRA CLUB CITIZEN SUIT

The River Ridge Dairy, a CAFO with 1,800 milking cows that sits above the Grand River across from Eastmanville, has been repeatedly discharging manure, silage liquid and other wastes into waters running into the Grand River for at least 15 years. The River Ridge Farms beef facility, less than five miles north in Coopersville, has also periodically contaminated Deer Creek with manure and other wastes that then flow into the Grand River just upstream from the dairy. Pollution from these factory farms has severely degraded Michigan waterways, putting them off limits to anglers and swimmers, reducing their attractiveness to boaters and threatening public health and well being.

On April 16 the Sierra Club filed suit against River Ridge Farms and their owner, Edward Hanenburg, for repeated violations of the Clean Water Act. Despite multiple enforcement actions by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), including a consent judgment signed by the state and Mr. Hanenburg in September 2000 and some remediation efforts by Hanenburg, both facilities were again cited by the EPA and MDEQ staff for illegal discharges in January and February 2001.

The citizen suit brought by the Sierra Club seeks to force River Ridge Farms to come into compliance with the Clean Water Act. In February, in response to pressure from the Sierra Club and EPA, Hanenburg submitted applications to the MDEQ for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits (water quality permits required by federal

law). However, the state refuses to process permit applications for CAFOs, arguing that these facilities are prohibited from discharging any pollutants into the state's waters, so they should not be given permits (see story on EPA Petition above).

WALNUTDALE FARMS DEFAULTS IN SIERRA CLUB CITIZEN SUIT

In an extreme example of what is wrong with Michigan's voluntary compliance strategy for CAFOs and water quality protection, the Walnutdale Farms in Allegan County is simply ignoring both lawsuits and administrative actions designed to bring them into compliance with the Clean Water Act.

After firing their attorney and sending bizarre documents to all parties involved in enforcement actions against them, on March 23 Walnutdale Farms defaulted in the citizen lawsuit brought against them by the Sierra Club in November 2000 under the Clean Water Act. Default resulted when the Lettingas, owners of Walnutdale Farms, failed to respond substantively to the complaint filed by the Sierra Club regarding their contamination of Little Rabbit River tributaries with manure and other wastes from their dairy CAFO near Dorr. As *The*

see *YEAR OF THE COW* page 9

FACTORY FARM POLLUTION

On May 19 the Kalamazoo Valley Group will be kicking off a major effort on industrial factory farm pollution. If you are interested in learning more or in being involved, please contact Cindy Mills, 616-344-4279 or Dan Farough, 517-484-2372.



MICHIGAN'S GREAT FORESTS: THEY DESERVE A SECOND CHANCE

.....
A N N E W O I W O D E
Program Director

M A R V I N R O B E R S O N
Project Consultant

DNR OLD GROWTH PROCESS GOES PUBLIC!

Ten years after the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) first held public meetings regarding old growth protection on state forest lands, the Michigan DNR has begun the next, crucial step toward identification and protection of native forest biodiversity. A report from the DNR Old Growth Committee was issued February 8, and the DNR is currently seeking public comments on its proposal. The report is available on the DNR website or in hard copy (see below).

The DNR has set a two-year time frame for refining and adopting criteria for old growth and biodiversity protection. The report establishes interim identification and protection measures, and lays out a public input process. In addition, a Public Advisory Team made up of interest groups will provide guidance to the DNR during the two-year consideration process.

Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director, said the Sierra Club is encouraged by the content of the report and the DNR's proposed public input process. Both DNR staff and representatives of public and private agencies participated in drafting the report. These groups brought expertise in managing lands for biodiversity protection and enhancement to the process. As a result, the proposed criteria include definitions and concepts that are increasingly recognized in the scientific community as essential for the protection and restoration of biological diversity. Among the elements stressed are representation of the full range of ecological types, connectivity among blocks of intact habitat, and design and amount based on "old growth system functionality" rather than arbitrary percentage goals.

Although specific dates for most steps in the public input process have not been assigned at this time, a flow chart lays out the anticipated steps. Public comments can be directed to the Forest Management Division, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, PO Box 30452, Lansing, MI 48909-7952. "Proposed Old Growth and Biodiversity Stewardship Planning Process and Draft Criteria for Michigan's State Forests and Other State Owned Lands" can be found at www.dnr.state.mi.us/pdfs/dnr/oldgrowth/oldgrow.pdf or can be requested from the DNR at the address above.

PUBLIC OUTCRY CURBS TIMBER MANDATE IN HOUSE

This winter, members of one House Appropriations Subcommittee heard loud and clear that many of their constituents oppose legislatively mandated minimum levels for timber sales on State Forests. Business people, tourism bureaus and local government officials added their voices to those of conservationists opposing the timber mandate in the FY2002 Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Budget.

In March, the Mead Paper Company, one of the largest

wood users in the state, told legislators that it is time to eliminate the mandate from the budget, even though they think the mandated sales levels can be met by the DNR. One legislator privately observed that the Michigan Association of Timbermen, a timber industry trade group, seems to be the only group that still wants the mandate.

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural Resources responded to public concerns by dramatically improving the language in HB 4259, the Governor's DNR Budget bill.

***Business people,
tourism bureaus and
local government officials
added their voices to
those of conservationists
opposing the timber
mandate in the
FY2002 DNR Budget.***

Amendments authored by Rep. Scott Shackleton (R-Sault Ste. Marie) a) reduced the mandated minimum acreage to be prepared for timber sales to the amount the DNR is actually planning to prepare for sale (from 69,000 acres plus or minus 10% to 63,000 acres plus or minus 10%); b) added language that the impact of logging on wildlife and recreation shall be taken into consideration; and c) encouraged the DNR to continue

its working group efforts to develop an old growth forest stewardship strategy.

Rep. Charles LaSata commented during one meeting that his research convinced him that the mandate should be eliminated. Other legislators, including Subcommittee Chairman Dave Mead, left open the possibility that the language could be eliminated entirely next year. However, the bill now moves to the Senate, where there is concern that the progress could be reversed. Hearings in the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee are expected in late April, with a vote in early May.

ACTION:

Contact your State Senator and ask him or her to protect Michigan's State Forests from overcutting by either eliminating the timber mandate language entirely, or assuring that the House language stays intact.

ACTIVIST HINT:

Find your State Senator and contact information on the web at www.senate.state.mi.us.

THANK YOU CROSSROADS GROUP!

The Crossroads Group has generously donated \$1,000 to support the Mackinac Chapter's Michigan Forest Biodiversity Program. Chairman David Wright expressed the Crossroads Group's strong support for the MFBP work to protect and restore Michigan's great forests, and urged other Mackinac Chapter Groups and members to join them in their show of support. Thanks, Crossroads Group!

YES! WE CAN SAVE THE CARIBOU...

BY MICHAEL JOHNSON
Chapter Executive Committee



... and the musk oxen, polar bears, wolves, wolverines, grizzlies, arctic foxes, more than 200 other species of wildlife and one of the most spectacular places to be found on Earth.

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, the last intact arctic and subarctic ecosystem remaining in America, is found in Alaska's northeast corner. Its Coastal Plain makes up 5% of Alaska's oil-containing North Slope. The other 95% has already been opened up to oil and natural gas drilling, including the Prudhoe Bay oil complex. The oil industry, President, and some members of Congress want to make that 100%.

The Refuge, home to 130,000 Porcupine River caribou, is very fragile. Oil exploration vehicle tracks left 15 years ago appear to have been made yesterday. Most of the Refuge's 19 million acres are made up of the Brooks Range, which has permanent wilderness status and cannot be drilled. Although also a part of the Refuge, the Coastal Plain — a strip of wetland 30 to 50 miles wide between the mountains and sea — does not have this protection. The US Department of the Interior calls the Coastal Plain the "biological heart" of the Refuge. It is here that the caribou have their calves, polar bears have dens and over 100 species of migratory birds raise their young.

It is also where oil is found. US Geological Survey statistics say there is a 95% chance of 6 billion barrels and a 5% chance of 16 billion barrels being found. How much of this would be extracted depends on the world price of oil — because of its remoteness and extreme conditions, its oil is among the most expensive in the world to extract. The Survey estimates the amount of economically recoverable oil to be between 3 and 4 billion barrels — about a 200-day supply of US usage. If the fuel economy of cars, vans and SUVs was increased by just 3 mpg, it would save more oil than would be extracted.

The oil industry claims it can explore, drill and extract oil without damaging surrounding wilderness. However, the Prudhoe Bay complex produces more air pollution than Vermont and averages over 400 toxic spills a year. Two consecutive spills in February dumped some 10,000 gallons of oil onto the tundra. Extracting oil from the Coastal Plain would require construction of hundreds of square miles of roads (using gravel strip mined from river beds), pipelines, drill pads, processing facilities, landing strips, living quarters, waste treatment plants and more.

The President, some members of Congress and the oil industry say Refuge oil would stabilize gasoline and heating oil prices, provide for national security and prevent California-type electrical energy crises — all false claims. Refuge oil, extracted over several decades, would never amount to more than 2% of our annual usage, having no impact on gasoline or heating oil prices. It would add nothing to our national security. And, California gets less than 1% of its electricity from oil (the US as a whole gets about 3%), so additional oil would have no effect on electricity supplies.

Drilling the Refuge is a human rights issue as well — the lives of Alaska and Canada's Gwitch'in people are inextricably interwoven with the Porcupine River caribou migrations. Calling themselves "Caribou People," they rely on caribou for food, clothing, shelter, medicines and more. Studies have shown that oil industry activity disrupts caribou calving. A decline in caribou calving on the Coastal Plain would irreparably impact the Gwitch'in, as it would the entire natural web of life of the Refuge.

Polls repeatedly show that the majority of Americans support protecting the Refuge

***The oil industry claims
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rather than drilling it, even in the face of recent gasoline price increases. Write your representative, senators, and the President to express your views on protecting this spectacular, biologically diverse, fragile and rare piece of America's natural heritage. Even more effective is a visit to your members of congress when they are in their district. When you write or visit, explain your personal reasons for wanting this land saved.

Our country would never again consider damming the Grand Canyon for hydroelectric potential (thank you David Brower and the Sierra Club!). We wouldn't think of tapping Old Faithful for geothermal power or selling Isle Royale to timber companies or real estate developers. We must save the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as previous generations have saved these other special lands.

TAKE ACTION

Ask your representative to cosponsor the Morris K Udall Arctic Wilderness Act (HR770). Ask Senator Levin to cosponsor the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Wilderness Act (S 411) (Senator Stabenow already has!). Tell President Bush that drilling in the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is not acceptable. The following representatives have already cosponsored as of 2/28/01: Bonior, Kilpatrick, Kildee, Rivers, Conyers, Levin. Send them and Senator Stabenow a note of thanks! If you have any questions regarding the Refuge, I would be pleased to hear from you at 616-948-8840.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE UPDATE FROM DETROIT

BY RHONDA ANDERSON

Environmental Justice Coordinator

Greetings from Detroit! The daffodils are blooming and the residents are out cleaning up after a long winter. I've worked on many issues since starting with the Sierra Club in August 2000, but one that becomes unavoidable in the spring is illegal dumping. This problem is so vast that it's hard to describe with words. Try to imagine hundreds of vacant lots with mounds of dirt and debris scattered throughout the community like droppings from some alien monster. They appear in the middle of the night, and no one knows or remembers how they came to be. It gets worse — now there are trees growing from the mounds, so it's more difficult to keep the area clean and to cut the grass around them. These deplorable lumps of dirt seem to multiply and to attract other types of dumping — tires and old mattresses are added to the heaps. You name it, it has been dumped.

The mayor of Detroit has declared a state of clean-up for the entire city. There are about 15 environmental officers working to ticket dumpers on the east side. In a recent week, one officer alone gave out over 300 tickets. The problem with the tickets is that they don't affect the major problem of illegal dumping or improve old sites where trees are sprouting up. Most tickets were given to residents for putting gar-

bage out before bulk day.

The Riverbend Association on Detroit's east side is trying to help the situation. One resident, who is also president of her block club, discovered a truck driver dumping his load on her block. She went to inquire, and after receiving an unsatisfactory answer from the driver she tried to stop him by standing in front of his truck. The driver called the police and gave the police a letter. He was allowed to continue dumping. Residents followed the truck driver and reported that he was dumping contaminated sludge from a site off of Belle Isle. They complained about the stench. They organized and held demonstrations every Saturday. That's when the Sierra Club became involved. We filed complaints with the city in November, but since that date there has been no clean up. There is a new dumping taskforce head, but the problem only grows.

There are so many environmental issues in the city of Detroit

that they have become just like the mounds of dirt. Residents become numb to the problems and suffer, not knowing how to confront them. The Sierra Club continues to work with communities and other groups around environmental justice. The goal is simple — assist the community when invited so they can improve their quality of life.



SIERRA STUDENT COALITION

3 DAYS TO MOTIVATION

BY JASON GRUBB

Students Against Violating the Environment, Michigan Technological University

In early November, four Michigan Technological University students traveled to Ann Arbor to join other Michigan students at a Sierra Student Coalition meeting covering leadership and current environmental issues.

I originally planned to write about all the great things we did during our three-day trip to Ann Arbor — we attended thought-provoking presentations by guest speakers and our two wonderful instructors, Dave and Tom. I was going to talk about how wonderful our hosts in Ann Arbor were.

However, I would rather talk about what we learned instead of what we did. After two days of classes, what did four college students walk away with? **MOTIVATION.** We finally knew that we were not alone — we belonged to more than just



a couple of small groups in the Upper Peninsula. We were able to meet people from other areas of the nation who wanted to do the same things we did, and it made us feel like we could conquer anything. The classes helped by giving us the ability to put our thoughts into action. We learned to put things together a little differently and to think about things from a fresh perspective.

Now that we are back at school, we have hit the ground running. We are helping to make inroads into starting a paper-recycling program at Michigan Technological University, and are working to become involved in local land preservation issues.

I would like to thank the Mackinac Chapter for the kind donation that made this trip possible.

BUSHWATCH

BY DANIEL FAROUGH
Environmental Public Education Campaign



Less than 100 days in office and George W. Bush has wasted no time in pushing a radical anti-environmental agenda. In the first few days of his administration, the President called for drilling for oil in sensitive lands like the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and possibly the Great Lakes, despite analysis after analysis showing that drilling the Refuge will not help our energy situation or break our dependency foreign oil or fossil fuels. On March 13, Bush went a step further and reneged on a campaign promise — made right here in Saginaw, Michigan — to curb greenhouse gas pollution from dirty power plants. A week later, the President withdrew new drinking water standards that would have protected 12 million Americans from deadly cancer-causing arsenic pollution. Arsenic is a naturally occurring pollutant but is also a byproduct of heavy industry and mining. All this says nothing about the anti-environmentalists Bush has appointed to key cabinet positions.

If drilling the Arctic won't put a dent in our dependence on foreign oil, if breaking campaign promises to fight global warming will only increase climate changing CO₂ emissions, and if canceling protections on our drinking water will increase cancer fatalities, why did President Bush do these things? The answer is simple and obvious — because industry, big mining and energy interests asked him to. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, oil, gas, mining and energy interests paid a high price for access during the recent presidential campaign by giving Bush over \$4,500,000. In March, both Newsweek and Time magazine reported that the President's reversals on global warming and arsenic pollution in drinking water came after weeks of intense lobbying by mining interests.

Since the President is listening to special interests and not the public who support laws that protect our air and water, the Sierra Club began running radio ads in key areas urging people to contact their Representatives and Senators to carry the message to the President that clean air and water is about public health and not about political party. The first of these contacts was Representative Mike Rogers in the 8th Congressional District. Rogers narrowly won his race in which the environment figured prominently — the district has thousands of people who are drinking water with high levels of arsenic and are directly impacted by the Bush reversal. Sierra Club volunteers presented Representative Rogers with jugs of arsenic laden water from his district and with a formal letter asking him to intervene on behalf of his constituents and tell Bush not to reverse protections on drinking water. The Sierra Club has yet to receive a reply.

Before the President goes further in putting special interests before public interests, Mike Rogers needs to hear from people in the 8th district and all over Michigan. **Please call Mike Rogers at 517-702-8000** and tell him the President needs to focus on our needs, not the demands of industry, and to do a better job protecting our air and water.



PHOTOS: ANNE WOIWODE

Sierra Club volunteers present Representative Mike Rogers with jugs of arsenic laden water from his district.

Top left: Concerned citizens protest President Bush's withdrawal of new drinking water standards. Top right: Jugs of arsenic laden water from Michigan's 8th Congressional District.

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Contributions, gifts, or dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible—they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

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|----------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| REGULAR | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$43 |
| SUPPORTING | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$58 |
| CONTRIBUTING | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$108 |
| LIFE | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1250 |
| SENIOR | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$23 |
| STUDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$23 |
| LIMITED INCOME | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$23 |

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RETREAT TO KETTUNEN CENTER, TUSTIN! SEPTEMBER 14-16

The Mackinac Chapter's 12th Annual Autumn Retreat is at the Kettunen Center in Tustin, just south of Cadillac. The Kettunen Center is a 4-H Camp on a private lake in the middle of 160 wooded acres.

Join us to meet old and new friends, learn something new, hike or just relax and get away for a fun-filled weekend. The Kettunen Center is the perfect place to renew your spirit and connect with other like-minded people.

Choose from camping, dorm/bunk rooms, or treat yourself to a "premium room" with double beds and private bath.

As a special treat, towels, linens and housekeeping service are included with all rooms. No clean up for anyone this year! Price also includes five meals and all events.

Watch for exciting new events as well as your favorites to return. Start cleaning out your closets in search of lost treasure for the SILENT AND LIVE AUCTIONS! Watch for more details in The Mackinac August issue.

If you have questions or have an idea for a workshop, please contact Julie Janeczko at 989-539-1676 or ravenhillacres@i2k.com.

2001 AUTUMN RETREAT REGISTRATION FORM

NAME(S): PLEASE INCLUDE ALL NAMES IN YOUR GROUP, INCLUDING AGES FOR CHILDREN.

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

VEGETARIAN MEALS? (CIRCLE ONE): YES NO

| AGE CATEGORY | FEE | TOTAL |
|--------------------|-------|----------|
| 0-4 YEARS OLD | FREE | |
| 5-17 YEARS OLD | \$45 | \$ _____ |
| ADULT TENT | \$65 | \$ _____ |
| ADULT REGULAR DORM | \$105 | \$ _____ |
| ADULT PREMIUM ROOM | \$145 | \$ _____ |

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Send Registration Form with payment
BY AUGUST 25 and get a \$5 discount per person!
Make checks payable to: Sierra Club.



SEND TO:
Sierra Club Autumn Retreat
c/o Julie Janeczko
6420 N Rodgers Ave
Harrison, MI 48625

YEAR OF THE COW

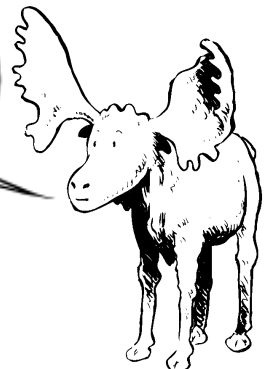
continued from page 4

Mackinac goes to press, the Sierra Club is preparing a default judgment motion, which will be considered by Federal District Court Judge David McKeague.

Meanwhile, on March 14 the MDEQ notified the Lettingas that they intend "to pursue escalated enforcement action against Walnutdale Farms, Inc. for failure to comply with provisions of its Administrative Consent Order (ACO)" signed in October 1998. The three-page MDEQ letter details extensive violations of the ACO and notes that with continuous violations over the course of 844 days Walnutdale Farms now owed the state \$422,000 in stipulated penalties. In addition, the MDEQ noted that unless Walnutdale paid those penalties within 30 days the matter would be referred to the Attorney General for "appropriate legal action." In addition, the MDEQ directed Walnutdale to develop an acceptable plan for waste handling within 90 days.

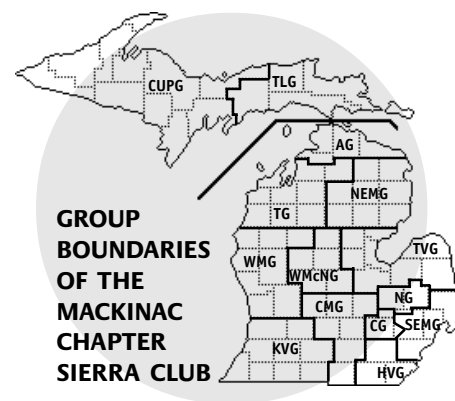


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ANOTHER LOCAL SIERRA CLUB SPRINGS TO LIFE!

BY DANIEL FAROUGH
Membership Involvement Director



What is going on? Is there something in the air? In the water? Where are all these activists coming from?

March 10 witnessed the rebirth of the Wakelin McNeel Group, as nearly two dozen members descended upon Harrison to begin organizing an effective local Sierra Club in the region. Among the many environmental issues discussed, the Sierrans expressed the need to challenge sprawl, tire burning incinerators and massive industrial livestock operations that are poisoning ground and surface waters in Michigan. The group covers Isabella, Gratiot, Montcalm, Clare, Mecosta and Midland Counties. Members have already formed executive, conservation and political committees and have laid the groundwork for an Outings program. Expect great things from this bunch. Special thanks to Julie Janeczko for organizing this event!

Do you want to become part of a local volunteer-driven Sierra Club? Please feel free to call your contact below to find out how — see the Map at right to find your group.



The first Wakelin McNeel Group organizational meeting, on March 10 in Harrison, was a success!

Local Sierra Club Group Contacts:

- AG Algonquin Group: Daniel Farough, 517-484-2372
- CG Crossroads Group: Sue Kelly, 810-227-9563
- CMG Central Michigan Group: Jerry Schuur, 517-351-7796
- CUPG Central Upper Peninsula Group: Richard Posey, 906-225-0016
- HVG Huron Valley Group: Ruth Graves, 734-483-0058
- KVG Kalamazoo Valley Group: Karen Briggs, 616-948-8840
- NEMG Northeast Michigan Group: Daniel Farough, 517-484-2372
- NG Nepessing Group: Bill Sommers, 810-653-0867
- SEMG Southeast Michigan Group: Bob Duda, 734-464-0076
- TLG Three Lakes Group: Floyd Byerly, 906-632-0218
- TG Traverse Group: Monica Evans, 231-325-6812
- TVG Thumb Valley Group: Daniel Farough, 517-484-2372
- WMG West Michigan Group: Martha Lore, 616-682-1316
- WMcNG Wakelin McNeel Group: Julie Janeczko, 989-539-1676

ONE CLUB RISES TO CHALLENGE!

BY JULIE JANECKO
Wakelin McNeel Group

Unfortunately, our One Club Grant Program — awarded by the national Sierra Club to plan new outings that have conservation goals in mind — lost its facilitator, and the requirements of the grant have not yet been met. But fortunately for me, I get to be the new facilitator. I cannot imagine anything better than being paid to work with all of you to restore John Muir's legacy.

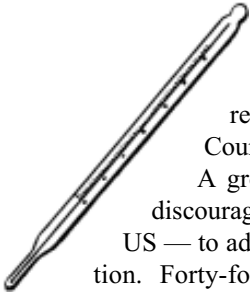
As an activist, it is easy to get caught up in the “drama” of the work that we do. Let's face it — we are dealing with serious issues. But on the other hand, we are members of a club that is about the love of the outdoors. As I pondered how to bring together outings and conservation efforts, a friend reminded me that there are people who join the club only for the fun of the outings. So I wondered how to get more “outings people” to become serious activists while they were having fun. While talking about One Club during the last Executive Committee meeting, our fearless leader Anne Woiwode reminded us that it is the activists that need to get out, participate in outings and have some fun.

What a concept! Have fun while working to save the environment. So, as facilitator, I am rising to the challenge. Everyone is going to have fun, even when they are working. Instead of just looking at water testing results, you will wade out to collect the water. You will go out to actually look at the trees you are trying so hard to keep from being logged. We will shake things up and mix environmental business with pleasure.

Keep your eyes open for the August issue of the Mackinac for more upcoming One Club activities. You had better be watching over your shoulder, because you never know when I might be around to see who is having fun and who is not. Let me know if you have an idea for an activity or if you know of someone who needs help having some fun. You can reach me at 989-539-1676 or ravenhillacres@i2k.com.

WAYNE COUNTY MERCURY RESOLUTION ADOPTED

BY ANNA HOLDEN
SEMG Conservation Committee



The Wayne County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution on April 5 urging owners and operators of businesses, hospitals and health care facilities to stop purchasing, selling, distributing or manufacturing mercury thermometers. Wayne County Commissioner Jewel Ware introduced the resolution, which also encourages the County to sign a mercury-free medicine pledge and directs Wayne County health clinics to work toward the elimination of mercury thermometers.

A growing number of cities, including Ann Arbor, Duluth, and Boston, have adopted similar ordinances discouraging or banning mercury thermometers. Wayne County is the first county in Michigan — possibly in the US — to adopt such a resolution. Forty-four hospitals and 100 clinics in Michigan, including those affiliated with the Henry Ford Health System and the Detroit Medical Center, have pledged to remove mercury products from their treatment systems.

Mercury is a persistent, toxic substance. In addition to its use in thermometers, it is frequently released into the atmosphere by waste incinerators and coal-fired electric power plants. It bioaccumulates in the food chain and has adverse effects on the central nervous system. Mercury is particularly harmful to children, causing developmental deficits in the fetus and early childhood. The Coalition to Shut Down the Henry Ford Hospital Incinerator asked Commissioner Ware to introduce the resolution.

Mackinac Photo Contest

It's time to get out the camera and start shooting!

The Mackinac Chapter office is accepting entries through June 15 for the following categories:

Michigan Landscapes
Sierra Club Activists in Action ■ Sierra Club Outings
Black and White Photos ■ Miscellaneous



Winners in each category will receive a Sierra Club T-Shirt and publication in the Mackinac.

Send your photo and a description of the shot, along with your name, phone, address or email to:

**Photo Contest, Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter,
109 East Grand River Ave., Lansing, MI 48906**

Please let us know if you'd like your photo returned.

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EXCITING CHANGES IN STORE FOR *THE MACKINAC*

BY BARBARA YARROW
Mackinac Committee



Spring isn't the only time we seek out new beginnings. At the *Mackinac* we think August is a good time to set a new course, a time to refresh our perspectives and renew our learnings. Let me tell you our story about a plan for evolutionary growth of the *Mackinac* newsletter.

For several years there had been discussion among Executive Committee members about ways to enliven and make the *Mackinac* newsletter more effective. In January 2001 the Executive Committee set the wheels in motion with the formation of a *Mackinac* committee. Members of this newly-formed editorial board are: Lydia Fischer, Sherry Hayden, Julie Janeczko, Joyce McIntosh, Davina Pallone, Anne Woiwode and Barbara Yarrow. Advisors to

the planning process include Helen LeBlanc, Cathy Semer, Sue Kelly and Mike Keeler. By e-mail and by telephone conference calls (this is indeed a virtual editorial board), this group of dedicated volunteers and staff brainstormed, sparked enthusiasm and came up with new ideas that will be implemented in the August issue.

The dream is to completely revamp the newsletter, from content to format. But we found we needed a focus: the mission. The board drafted it and gained approval from the Executive Committee:

The mission of the Mackinac is to educate Chapter members about Environmental issues at the state, local and national levels and inspire them to act on behalf of Sierra Club policies; to promote the Club's policies and positions among legislators and government officials; to provide a calendar of Outings and other activities scheduled by Groups or Chapter; to serve as a link among the various Chapter Groups; to provide a forum for information and exchange about topics of interest to environmentalists and discussion of matters affecting the environment.

The "look" of the magazine kept popping up in discussions, and we brainstormed ideas to make it more lively and interactive. We decided it was time for a facelift to present the creative and informative ideas the board will put in place in the August issue. The new and fresh

design will be modeled on the Club's guidelines while reflecting the unique design touches Davina Pallone will continue to create. We'll be adding full color to two issues a year. You won't want to miss a single issue because we're planning special events from time to time. The first one is a photo contest (see page 11 for details). We'll also debut a classified ad section and plan to bring in more advertising from supporting businesses. E-mail Julie Janeczko at ravenhillacres@i2k.com for information and advertising rates.

The dream is to completely revamp the newsletter, from content to format.

Led by Sherry Hayden and Joyce McIntosh, the editorial responsibilities will be distributed statewide. You will hear more news from local groups, and we will feature an activity or activist from the groups throughout the year. The Conservation and Political Committees will have standing columns to report on their activities. For those of you who only have a few minutes to stay tuned in to the most current environmental issues, we'll add briefs that will include legislative activity, latest events, political news, etc. We'll also provide more opportunities to take action and provide website URLs for you to seek information online. You'll read interviews with state activists and book

reviews, including a review of Dave Dempsey's newly-published book, *Ruin and Recovery: Michigan's Rise as a Conservation Leader*.

Some things never change (and we would not want them to), so you will continue to stay up-to-date with articles written by the Lansing staff on Forest Biodiversity, CAFOs, EPEC and environmental justice matters. Outings and group meetings will continue to have a prominent spot in the newsletter.

We're excited about the new look and the wealth of information we will be able to share with you. We are equally excited about the new roles we play in helping shape it. While we have eagerly begun to work on the August issue even before this one is out the door, your work is just beginning. Please share your comments and reactions and help us make this a newsletter that is meaningful to you, our Michigan reader. Drop us a line with your ideas to semgyarrow@aol.com.

See you in August!

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ALISON HORTON LEAVES MACKINAC CHAPTER

Mackinac Chapter Staff Director Alison Horton has been named the Sierra Club's Midwest Regional Staff Director, overseeing the work of national staff in the nine-state Midwest Region of the Sierra Club. She succeeds Carl Zichella, who has become Regional Staff Director of the Sierra Club's California/Nevada Region.

Alison, who moved to Michigan in 1990, was hired for a ten-week stint with the Mackinac Chapter that stretched to eleven years. After five years as Conservation Director, Alison became the Chapter Staff Director, where her exceptional skills made the Chapter one of the most respected in the nation. Alison's talents have also helped build the coordination and effectiveness of Michigan's environmental community, particularly in her role as Chair of the Michigan Environmental Council.

The Mackinac Chapter will sorely miss Alison, as much for her wry sense of humor as for her exceptional leadership. However, we are delighted that Alison will be staying in Michigan, opening an office in the Lansing's Old Town district near the Chapter office. We wish her the best and congratulate the national Sierra Club for having brought on one of the finest environmental professionals in the nation.

OTHER STAFFING CHANGES

To fill the void left by Alison's move, the Mackinac Chapter Executive Committee has recycled Anne Woiwode as Chapter Staff Director. From 1985-95 Anne served as Chapter Director, and then became Program Director of the Chapter's Michigan Forest Biodiversity Program, a hat she will continue to wear. Anne is also part of the Environmental Public Education Campaign (EPEC) on factory farms.

Dan Farough, Membership Director for the Chapter, has taken on the new role of Political Director/Public Education Coordinator while continuing his exceptional work with the EPEC program as well. Marvin Roberson, who has consulted with the Michigan Forest Biodiversity Program since 1995, has been brought on board as the Mackinac Chapter Forest Policy Specialist, and is also devoting time to development efforts during this transitional period. Alex Sagady, a long time Sierra Club volun-

teer and talented environmental consultant, will be supporting the Chapter's EPEC program this year. Kendra Kimbirauskas, a graduating senior at Michigan State University, will be working with the Chapter EPEC program as an Intern through the summer.

The Mackinac Chapter is accepting applications for two new staff positions: Development Associate, located in the Lansing office; and Media Coordinator, who will work out of Detroit on a new cooperative effort with multiple environmental organizations. Please check our website at michigan.sierraclub.org for more details.

PHOTO: ANNE WOIWODE



Alison Horton, longtime Mackinac Chapter Staff Director, has been named the Sierra Club's Midwest Regional Staff Director.

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As Global Positioning System (GPS) units become commonplace among wilderness trippers, so does the potential for trouble when one of them malfunctions. Like any essential electronic device, it's not a question of "if" your global positioning system device will fail. It's only a question of "when" it will fail, and if you'll know what to do.

If your safety depends on a GPS unit, you should be prepared to navigate without it when it malfunctions deep in the wilderness. Carrying your GPS unit in a padded case and knowing how to use the device are not enough. You must also have a working knowledge of land navigation by map and compass. Your rucksack should contain a GPS instruction manual, map, compass, spare batteries, writing instrument, notepad and UTM grid plotter.

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

Deep in a swamp with darkness setting in is no place to find out you forgot how to enable your unit's backtracking function. Since foul weather can ruin an owner's manual in short order, photocopy and waterproof pertinent sections with a commercial map sealer or by brushing on a thin coat of Thompson's Water Seal®. Carry your manual in a see-through, zip-lock plastic bag.

SPARE BATTERIES

Batteries are GPS units' weakest link, so carry spare ones. If your unit is on for long periods, it'll require more batteries than if it's just used occasionally. In cold weather, alkaline batteries and liquid crystal displays (LCDs) can fail to function, so keep them inside your jacket where they'll remain warm and operational. Lithium batteries are another option as they're unaffected by deep cold.

TOPOGRAPHIC MAP

When your GPS unit goes bad, you'll need a detailed topographic map to figure out where you are, where you need to go, and how to get there. The best maps for this purpose are the standard 7.5-minute, 1:24,000 United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps, which cover a 6- by 8.5-mile area. Experienced land navigators never enter the wilderness without these detailed, multi-colored quads. Carry your waterproofed maps in clear plastic zip-lock bags.

COMPASS

Detailed maps are of little value without a compass, so always carry an orienteering-style compass. The large, see-through, plastic-based ones from Silva, Suunto or Brunton are the most useful and reliable.

WILDERNESS SKILLS: WHAT TO DO WHEN YOUR GPS MALFUNCTIONS

.....
BY MICHAEL A. NEIGER
Central Upper Peninsula Group
Copyright ©2000

UTM GRID PLOTTING

The cumbersome process of calculating and plotting latitudinal and longitudinal coordinates in the field can be simplified by switching your unit's coordinate system from lat/lon to the UTM coordinate system. The UTM system is the hands-down favorite of experienced land navigators; it's also nearly identical to the military's MGRS coordinate system. After switching coordinate systems, make sure you select the appropriate horizontal map datum in your unit's setup menu. Check the margin of your map for the correct datum setting. Here in Michigan, it's most likely going to be the 1927 North American Datum, which is frequently abbreviated as "NAD 27 CONUS." With a simple commercial or homemade UTM map plotter, you'll be able to quickly and easily move UTM coordinates from your GPS unit to a topographic map and vice versa. For example, you'll be able to take a UTM coordinate generated by your GPS unit and plot it on your map in a matter of seconds. Likewise, you'll be able to rapidly calculate the UTM coordinates of an interesting spot, like a waterfall, and then plug the coordinates into your GPS unit.

IN THE FIELD

Once in the field, get in the habit of regularly comparing and contrasting your map and the surrounding terrain so you have a general idea of where you are, where you've been, and where you're going. Periodically, make notations in your notebook or on the map of the times you pass known landmarks such as trails, intersections, creek crossings, cabins, peaks, etc. Jot down your direction of approach and departure from each of these locations. It's also important to record any critical waypoints in your notes or plot them on your map.

By taking regular notes, knowing how to use your GPS unit's UTM grid coordinate system, and understanding the basics of map and compass land navigation, you'll be able to quickly formulate an alternative plan when your GPS unit malfunctions. You'll be able to approximate where you are relative to your last known position and then determine which direction you need to proceed to return to your vehicle or campsite. As with any outdoor adventure, your last line of defense is always the survival kit tucked deep in your rucksack and an approximate itinerary left with a trusted person. See you in the bush.

TO LEARN MORE about GPS units and the UTM grid coordinate system, read "Using GPS — GPS Simplified for Outdoor Adventures" by Bruce Grubbs (1999, \$6.95, Falcon Publishing Co., ISBN 1560448210) and "GPS Made Easy — Using Global Positioning Systems in the Outdoors, 3rd ed., by Lawrence Letham (2001, \$14.95, Mountaineers Books, ISBN 0898868025). On the Internet visit www.usgs.gov (select Fact Sheets, then UTM Fact Sheet no. 157-99), www.maptools.com, and www.joe.mehaffey.com.

RESOURCES

Michigan 1:24000 topographic maps and indexes can be ordered from the Michigan United Conservation Clubs at 1-800-777-6720; the Department of Natural Resources at 1-517-334-6943; and the USGS at 1-888-275-8747. Canadian 1:50000 topographic maps (color) and indexes can be ordered from 1-888-545-8111, www.fedmaps.com. Ontario 1:20000 topographic base maps (b&w) and indexes can be ordered from the Natural Resources Information Center, Room M1-73, Macdonald Block, 900 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario M7A 2C1. Learn how to make your own UTM coordinate plotter, or order one, at www.maptools.com. Compasses, UTM plotters, waterproof notepads, and write-in-the-rain pens are available from Forestry Suppliers, Inc., 1-800-647.5368, www.forestry-suppliers.com.

Michael Neiger of Marquette is an avid wilderness tripper and Central Upper Peninsula Group trip leader who welcomes your comments and opinions via e-mail at mneiger@hotmail.com or at his Web site www.geocities.com/sierraclub2.

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For more information, please contact Michael Sklar by phone at 248-354-3842 or by e-mail at tigers3@mediaone.net. You can also visit our website at www.mirror.org/groups/mi-enviro.

Sierra Club/Huron Valley Group Shopping for the Earth Order Form

Please indicate the number of EarthCash vouchers of each denomination you want for each store in the table below, and list the total value of your order (\$500 maximum) here: \$ _____. Please be sure to enclose your check, made payable to "Huron Valley Group — Sierra Club."

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| Busch's | _____ @ \$5 | _____ @ \$10 | _____ @ \$20 | |
| Farmer Jack and affiliated stores | | _____ @ \$10 | _____ @ \$20 | _____ @ \$50 |
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| Leopold Brothers Eco-Brewery | | _____ @ \$10 | _____ @ \$25 | |
| Meijer (store and gas station) | | _____ @ \$10 | _____ @ \$20 | _____ @ \$50 |
| Whole Foods and affiliated stores | | _____ @ \$10 | _____ @ \$20 | |

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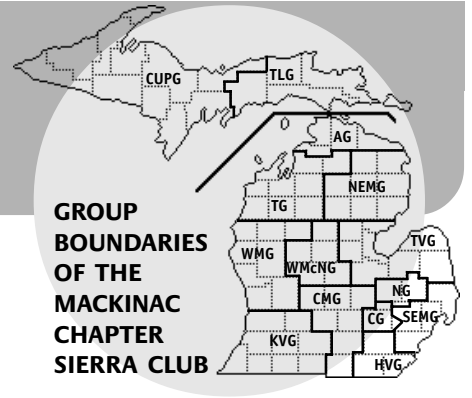
Michael Sklar

26080 W 12 Mile Rd, #C17

Southfield, MI 48034

&

GROUP MEETINGS & PROGRAMS



GROUP BOUNDARIES OF THE MACKINAC CHAPTER SIERRA CLUB

AG Algonquin Group

If you are interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Dan Farough at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372.

CMG Central Michigan Group

General meetings are held the 3rd Monday each month at the Harris Nature Center, off Van Atta Road in Meridian Township. Come at 5:30pm for supper (small donation requested) or at 6:15 for the meeting. Call Pete Pasterz, 517-676-3339.

The Conservation Committee usually meets 5:30pm the 2nd Monday of each month. Call Maria Lapinski-Lafaive at 517-374-4444.

The Executive Committee meets the 1st Monday of the month. Call Jerry Schuur, 517-351-7796.

CUP Central Upper Peninsula Group

Sierra Club members in the central and western counties in the Upper Peninsula are invited to participate in CUP group activities. General membership and executive committee meetings are held 7pm in West Science, Room 270, on the Northern Michigan University campus. Call John Rebers, 906-228-3617.

To receive news about outings or other Club activities in the Central UP, send \$5 for a CUP newsletter subscription to Sierra Club, 338 West Crescent, Marquette, MI 49855.

CG Crossroads Group

Sierra Club members of Livingston, southern Genesee, and western Oakland Counties meet monthly at the Brighton District Library, 200 Orndorff Dr, Brighton, for informative and entertaining programs. These meetings begin 7pm and are open to the public.

The Conservation Committee meets monthly to discuss and address local issues. Call Emily Gobright, 517-548-0595 or David Wright, 810-229-1685.

The Executive Committee meets the last Wednesday of each month. Call Rick Pearsall, 810-227-6298.

HVG

Huron Valley Group

General Meetings are held 7:30pm the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the UM Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor. Non-members welcome. Call 734-480-7751 or visit our website at www.mirror.org/groups/mi-enviro.

The HVG Book Club meets every 2nd Tuesday, 7:30pm at Nicola's Books in Westgate Shopping Center, Ann Arbor. Read a selected book about nature or the environment on your own and then discuss it in a small group. Call 734-332-0207 for information.

5/15 General Meeting: Russ Taichman will speak on "Ten Cool Years of Arctic Adventures."

6/19 General Meeting: Ralph Powell presents "I've Been Working on the Railroad: Building the 4,000 mile North Country Trail."

7/17 General Meeting: Naturalist-guided walk on the trails of the Matthaei Botanical Gardens.

KVG Kalamazoo Valley Group

General membership meetings are usually held 7:30pm the 3rd Thursday of each month at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Texas Twp Campus, Room 4370. Call Mike Johnson, 616-948-8840.

The Executive Committee meets 7:30pm the 2nd Wednesday of each month. All members are welcome. Contact Verne and Cindy Mills, 616-344-4279.

5/17 General Meeting: "We need the caribou; we don't need the oil." The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is unique in America. Spectacular and fragile, it's our last intact arctic and sub-arctic ecosystem. Its diversity of wildlife is stunning, and there is oil beneath its surface. Get a glimpse of the Refuge and its creatures, learn facts about its oil, and find out what can be done to protect this incredible piece of America's natural heritage.

NG Nepessing Group

Meetings are held 7pm the 2nd Wednesday each month at Mott Community College in the "New Students" Prah Building, Genesee Room, 1401 E Court St, Flint. These meetings are free and refreshments are available. Non-members are welcome and parking is free. Find out what local volunteers are doing and hear our fea-

tured speakers. Call Carol Graham, 810-659-4965.

Our current projects include working to get curbside recycling in Flint, water testing in the Flint River watershed, fundraising, trail repairs and great outings. Come help us and meet some fun and interesting people! Check the Nepessing web page at www.gfn.org/sierrang.

The Nepessing Group weekly hiking schedule is available at 810-743-0335 or on our web page.

NEMG Northeast Michigan Group

If you are interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Dan Farough at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372.

SEMG Southeast Michigan Group

General meetings are held 7pm the 1st Thursday of each month, Sept-June, at Northwest Unitarian-Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Hwy (southbound M-10 service drive) between Southfield and Evergreen roads and Nine and Ten Mile roads in Southfield. Social time: 7-7:30pm; Business meeting: 7:30-8pm; Program: 8-9pm. Contact Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984. There will be no general meeting in July.

The Executive Committee meets 7:30pm the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Royal Oak Senior Citizens' Center, 3500 Marais, Royal Oak. Contact Bob Duda, Chair, 734-464-0076, Conservation Committee meetings are scheduled for 7:30pm May 14, June 18 and July 16 at the Royal Oak Senior Citizens' Center, 3500 Marais, Royal Oak. Call Anna Holden, 313-331-0932; Ed McArdle, 313-388-6645; or Bob Duda, 734-464-0076.

The Outings Committee holds quarterly planning meetings. If you're interested in planning or leading outings, contact coordinators

continued on next page

GROUP MEETINGS & PROGRAMS
continued from page 16

Joanne Spatz, 248-932-5370 or Philip Crookshank, wanderphil3@netzero.net, 313-562-1873.

Political Committee meetings are held 6:30pm the last Thursday of each month (no meeting in October) at Jimi's Restaurant on Washington, one block north of Lincoln (10-1/2 Mile) in Royal Oak. All are welcome! Contact Tim Killeen, Political Chair, 313-526-4052.

5/3 General Meeting: "Restoring Our American Heritage River." John Hartig, River Navigator for the Greater Detroit American Heritage River Initiative, will discuss the many programs planned and launched since the American Heritage River designation.

6/7 Barbeque/General Meeting at Nankin Mills. 6:30pm. Bring the family. Carol Clements, Department Manager/Naturalist for Nankin Mills in the Wayne County Park system, will speak on a nature-related topic. Barbeque available for purchase; bring a dish to pass. Meet at the shelter at Hines Drive and Merriman Road, Westland, MI. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

TLG
Three Lakes Group

Sierra Club members in the Upper Peninsula counties of Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac and Schoolcraft are welcome to attend meetings of the Three Lakes Group.

Business meetings are held monthly at various locations in Sault Ste Marie.

Programs are held the 1st Wednesday of each month from Sept-May at the Walker Cisler Center on the Lake Superior State University campus. Call Floyd Byerly, 906-632-0218.

TVG
Thumb Valley Group

No group meetings planned at this time. Call group chairs Craig and Janis Kendzioriski, 517-631-5170, for updated information or if interested in participating on the leadership team or leading an outing.

TG
Traverse Group

General Meetings of the revitalized Traverse Group are held at the Traverse City Public Library. For dates and topics call Monica, 231-325-6812 or Pam, 231-275-3322, or check michigan.sierraclub.org/traverse.

Executive Committee meetings are held at Horizon Books, downstairs café, Traverse City. May 20, June 10, July 8: 1-3pm. A GMM picnic is planned for July. For details call Monica, 231-325-6812 or Pam, 231-275-3322.

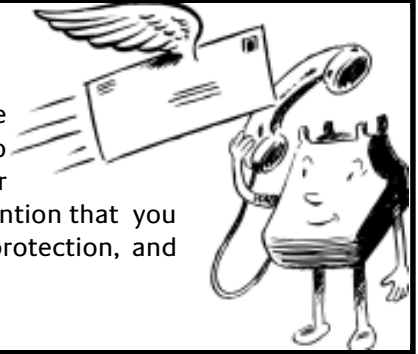
The Conservation Committee meets 1-3pm on May 6, June 3 and July 1 at Horizon

see MEETINGS page 21

TAKING ACTION:

YOUR WORDS COUNT!

Get your free copy of "A Citizen's Guide To State Government" to find out who your legislators are. Call House Speaker Chuck Perricone at **(517) 373-1774**, mention that you are concerned about environmental protection, and ask him to send you a copy!



THE WHITE HOUSE

President George W. Bush
 The White House
 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
 Washington, DC 20500
 202-456-1414

White House Fax Line: 202-456-2461
White House Comment Line:
 (202) 456-1111
White House E-Mail:
 president@whitehouse.gov

US CONGRESS

US Capitol Switchboard: 202-224-3121

The Honorable _____
US House of Representatives
 Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable _____
US Senate
 Washington, DC 20510

MICHIGAN

Governor John Engler
 State Capitol
 Lansing, Michigan 48909
 517-373-3400

The Honorable _____
Michigan Senate
 State Capitol
 Lansing, Michigan 48909

The Honorable _____
Michigan House
 State Capitol
 Lansing, Michigan 48909

RESOURCES FOR ACTIVISTS

Sierra Club National Legislative Hotline: 202-675-2394

- **ENVIRO-MICH** is the Mackinac Chapter-sponsored Internet list and forum for Michigan environmental and conservation Issues. For a free subscription, send e-mail to: majordomo@great-lakes.net with a one-line message body of "subscribe enviro-mich" (leave your signature file off).
- **Sierra Club's National Web Page** is at: www.sierraclub.org. Check out the daily *War On the Environment* postings.
- Find our **Mackinac Chapter Web Page**, by designwrench information arts, at: michigan.sierraclub.org
- Get a free subscription to **The Planet** by promising to write at least 3 letters a year to your elected officials in support of the environment. Send your name and address to **Sierra Club Planet Subscription Request**, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968.



MACKINAC CHAPTER SIERRA CLUB

OUTINGS

TO EXPLORE, ENJOY AND PROTECT

Abbreviations in capital letters signify the group that is planning the outing. Refer to the Group Meetings map on page 16 to determine a group's location. Trips begin at the trailhead. Outings are open to everyone.

MAY

5/5 SEMG (Sat) Year 2001 Earth Day Service Event. 10:30am. Celebrate the 31st Earth Day at Kensington Metropark by weeding Nature's Gardens. Bring the family, wear sturdy boots & gloves to remove some invasive weeds. I-96 to exit 151 (Kensington Rd) to park entrance. Meet at Nature Center. Potluck lunch after (bring a dish to pass) at East Boat Launch. Bob Duda, 734-464-0076.

5/5 HVG Adopt-A-Highway Clean-Up. 9:15am. Help keep M-14 beautiful. Meet at Big Boy on north side of Plymouth Rd between US-23 & Green Rd in Ann Arbor. Finish around noon. 734-994-7030.

5/5 TG (Sat) Alligator Hill Hike. 10am. 4-5 easy miles. Meet at trailhead in Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore on Stockton Rd. Turn south on Stockton Rd across from DH Day campground on Hwy 109, west of Glen Arbor. Bring water & binoculars. Optional Glen Arbor restaurant stop. Lynn Livingston, 248-541-6830 after 5pm, redwingnut@sprintmail.com.

5/6 SEMG Sharon Hollow Wildflower Walk. 9am. See this jewel of the Nature Conservancy's preserves SW of Ann Arbor. Bring flower guidebooks & mud shoes. Meet in Livonia between Walmart & Jiffy Lube (near Jeffries); SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96 (Jeffries Fwy). Restaurant stop. Max Nemazi, 734-421-4397.

5/11-13 SEMG (Fri-Sun) Manistee River Trail/ North Country Trail Backpack Trip. 5pm. 23 demanding miles. Hike the Manistee River trail on 1st day & parallel North Country Trail segment on the opposite (west) side on 2nd day. Trip starts Fri at the north trailhead, 25 miles east of Manistee; camp at Seaton Creek. Bring backpack, cooking gear, water filter & food for 3 meals & munchies. Limit 6; \$5 fee; ride sharing; call by 4/28 to reserve spot & get details. John Calandra, 248-391-8973 or

johnndcal@go.com.

5/12 NG Richfield Park Service Hike. 10am-2pm. We'll be developing new trails as part of Genesee county Park's new adopt-a-park program. Park entrance at 6550 N Irish Rd, Davison. Go east to end of road, left over bridge, right to parking area. Meet at bridge. Bring boots, gloves, insect repellent, drinking water & branch cutters. No chain saws. Lunch provided by Genesee County Parks. Cindy Engelman, 810-743-0335.

5/12 SEMG (Sat) Raisin River Wilderness Canoe. 8:30am. 4-5 hours. The headwaters of the Raisin are the most wild & "crookedest" river in MI. A tricky, twisty float to downtown Manchester. Some canoe experience necessary. Bring river lunch; meet behind Dearborn Centennial Library, south side of Michigan Ave, east of Southfield Fwy, west end of parking lot. \$18 fee must be received by 5/6. Philip Crookshank, 17916 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, MI 48125, 313-562-1873.

5/12 HVG Lost Nations State Game Area Hike. 8:30am. Explore & hike this potential route for the North Country Trail. Meet at Maple Village Shopping Center in front of Village Theater. 734-971-9013 or 477-2837.

5/13 HVG Annual Freedom High Potluck & Wildflower Hike. 11am. Explore ravines & marshes for trillium & trout lilies on privately-owned parcel in Freedom Township. Wear long pants & boots. Bring a dish to pass. Meet at City Hall parking lot. 734-428-0887.

5/13 SEMG Mothers Day Wildflower Walk. 9am. 3-hour stroll in Holliday Nature Preserve. Flower lists provided; bring field guides, magnifiers, cameras. Meet in Westland at north end of Service Merchandise parking lot (facing the preserve), 1/4 mile west of Wayne Rd, 1/4 mile north of Warren Ave. Philip Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

5/19 SEMG (Sat) Birding by Sight & Sound at Maybury State Park. 10am. Bring binoculars for slow walk. We'll look for bluebirds, meadowlarks & others. Dress in layers, rain or shine. Meet at park concession bldg, 8 Mile Rd entrance, west of Beck Rd & Northville; 5 miles west of I-275. Restaurant stop. Tom Griebel, 248-349-8782.

5/19 NG Seven Ponds Nature Center Hike. 10am. 5 miles. Nature displays in interpretive building. \$2 fee. M-24 to Dryden Rd, east 6 miles. South on Calkins to 3854 Crawford. Restaurant stop. Christina Withrow, 810-614-0201 (cell), 517-795-2650 (home).

5/19 (Sat) Treat Trail Hike. Easy. Meet 10am at Sleeping Bear Visitor Center in Empire. Enjoy the beauty of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, one of the jewels of Michigan. John Lewis, 231-947-9104 or johnBetty@bignetnorth.net.

5/19-28 SEMG Algonquin Canoeing. We're going to Algonquin Provincial Park, 150 miles north of Toronto. One week of lake-to-lake canoeing; casual schedule. Interior can only be reached by canoe. Portaging canoes & gear required to experience this remote, regulated wilderness. Somewhat strenuous trip — canoes & packs are 48 lbs each. Canoeing experience & humor a must! Requires average strength, large sense of adventure. Group of 8; \$405 each; \$100 deposit by 5/1 to cover transportation, canoe & equipment rentals, park fees, camp fees & food. Philip Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

5/20 NG Bird Hike. 8am. 1 easy mile. Leisurely walk to identify birds by sight & sound during nesting season. Limit 10. No dogs. Bring binoculars & bird field guides. Restaurant stop optional. Reservations & directions: Fred Townsend, 248-627-3587 or fhtownsend@aol.com.

5/20 SEMG Trillium Trail, Bald Mountain South. 10am. 5 slow-moderate miles. Enjoy beautiful trilliums at State Rec area north of Lake Orion. Dress for weather; bring trail snacks & camera. Meet in Troy behind Michigan Nat'l Bank on 14 Mile east of I-75 (south edge of Oakland Mall). Restaurant stop. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

5/20 NG Chippewa Nature Center, Midland. Badour Street. Hike & bike. 10am. I-75N to US-10W to Bus 10 to Poseyville Rd; left over bridge to St. Charles St. Turn right, follow signs 3 miles to CNC. Hike in the morning. Lunch in Midland. Bike the Pere Marquette Rail Trail in the after-

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OUTINGS

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noon (start at Tridge in downtown Midland). Up to 40 miles available. Colette Mendel, 810-233-4239.

5/20 HVG Waterloo Recreation Area Hike. 1pm. We'll hike about 3 miles. Wear boots. Meet at City Hall parking lot. 734-665-2419.

5/23-28 CUP Remote Backpacking via Canadian Bush Train: Agawa Canyon area (Ontario). We'll explore this canyon area of old growth, waterfalls & Kawagama Mountain. Non-smoking, challenging, partially off-trail trip is suitable for experienced, hardcore, foul-weather backpacker who is very physically fit, adventurous, a swimmer & fully equipped, including rations & stove. Wilderness bivouacs, no campgrounds. Trip starts 9am Wed, ends 3pm Mon. \$10 Club Donation. Michael Neiger, 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W or www.geocities.com/sierraclub2, mneiger@hotmail.com.

5/25-28 NG (Fri) Nordhouse Dunes Car Camping. 2pm. On Lake Michigan north of Ludington. Camp in group site behind dunes. Bring own food. 30 person limit. Fee TBD. No dogs. Reservations: Jean Gaffney, 810-695-6529.

5/26-28 NG Manistee River Trail Backpacking. 9:30am. Sat 8 miles; Sun 12 miles; Mon 3 miles. Hike along Manistee River & part of North Country Trail. Start at Seaton Creek Campground/trailhead. M-55 to M-37. North 9 miles. West 1.7 miles on 26 Rd near Yuma. Right 1.3 miles on O'Rourke Dr, right 0.4 miles on Forest Service Road 5993 to Seaton Creek Campground. Reservations: Don Persson, 810-695-0516 or donald.persson@delphiauto.com.

5/26 SEMG (Sat) Lower Huron Metropark Biking. 9:30am. 27-mile round trip. Bike through 3 Lower Huron Metroparks, from Lower Huron through Willow to Oakwoods & back. Bring bike, lunch & beverage for all or part of trail. Meet at Tulip Tree picnic area in Lower Huron Metropark. I-94 west to first exit past I-275 (Haggerty Rd). Left on Haggerty to park entrance. Tulip tree is 2nd parking area after you enter North end of park. Mary Stoolmiller, 248-879-6004.

5/26 SEMG (Sat) Kensington Metropark Wetland Symposium. 10am. Wetlands are disappearing at an alarming rate, causing flooding & water pollution. We'll listen to experts describe wetlands & their issues. Then we'll walk Kensington's diverse wetlands. Meet at Nature Center for 4-hour program. Fee \$5. Lunch provided. Metropark entrance fee. Bob Duda, 734-464-0076.

5/27 SEMG Heron Rookery Hike. 9:30am. Hike

2-mile rails-to-trails in West Bloomfield Preserve, stopping at Heron Rookery overlook. Bring binoculars. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd, or 10am at rookery parking lot. From Orchard Lake Rd go west 1.5 miles on Pontiac Trail; south on Arrowhead; 1/4 mile to lot. Restaurant stop. June Cox, 248-435-9522.

JUNE

6/2 NG Hadley Hills Jasmond Rd Hike. 10am. 6 difficult miles. Ortonville Rec Area. Meet at end of Jesmond Rd. South off Hegel Rd. 4.5 miles east of M-15 near Goodrich. Restaurant stop. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

6/2 SEMG (Sat) Howell Nature Center Hike. Noon. 4 easy miles. Take trails through animal compound to view resident nonreleasable animals. Leaders will collect \$2 (1 for Sierra Club, 1 for Nature Center Rehab program). Meet at Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd. Restaurant stop. Tom & Pat Skinner, 517-552-9121.

6/2 (Sat) The Dunes Trail and Tour of the Maritime Museum. Easy. Meet 11am at the Maritime Museum in Glen Haven. The Glen Haven entrance is at the 90-degree turn of hwy 109, north of Empire, west of Glen Arbor. Bring a sack lunch to enjoy on the trail. See a part of our history at the museum, & enjoy one of the most beautiful dune trails in Michigan. John Lewis, 231-947-9104 or johnBetty@bignetnorth.net.

6/3 HVG National Trails Day Hike. 8:30am. Dress for weather. Bring sack lunch. Meet at Maple Village Shopping Center in front of Village Theater. 734-971-9013 or 477-2837.

6/3 SEMG Jonathon Woods Nature Preserve. Noon. 5 moderate miles. Trip goes rain or shine. Optional restaurant stop. Meet in Bloomfield Township Costco parking lot near McDonald's on Telegraph (east side), north of Square Lake Rd. John Kalam, 248-681-9160.

6/8 HVG Friday Night Bike Ride. Join us for a ride through north Ann Arbor's less populated areas. Helmets required. Meet at Bandemeer Park just off Whitmore Lake Rd & M-14. 734-477-2837 or 484-4906.

6/8-10 NG/TG Carp River Overnight Canoe. 5pm. Moderate. Canoe gentle river in UP through wilderness preserve. Limit 10. No dogs. Provide own canoe/kayak, safety equipment, gear & food. Reserve by 6/1. Lynn Livingston, 248-541-6830 or redwingnut@sprintmail.com.

6/9 SEMG (Sat) Kensington Hike. 9:30am. 5 moderate miles. A late spring hike on nature

trails & around Wildwing Lake. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd, or 10am at park's Nature Center. Call if rainy. Restaurant stop. Jeanne Mercier, 313-581-6648.

6/9-10 (Sat-Sun) Barn Workshop Service Outing at Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore. Join the group as we make repairs to an old Barn in the Sleeping Bear. No skills required. You may learn the art of masonry as we will be led by one of the rangers. This will be a rewarding 2 days. Wear old clothes & bring water. Andrea Dean, 231-947-9104 or Kim Mann, 231-326-5134.

6/10 SEMG Addison Oaks. 12:30pm. 5 easy miles. Look for wildflowers, birds & animals. Meet in Rochester Hills, NW corner of Avon & Rochester Rd in Kmart lot near gas station. Restaurant stop. Lee Becker, 810-294-7789.

6/15-18 NG Awenda Provincial Park Car Camping on Georgian Bay, Ontario. Hiking & kayaking. Limit 15. Fees TBD. BYO food. No dogs. Call for directions. Jean Gaffney, 810-659-6529.

6/15-17 SEMG (Fri-Sun) High Country Pathway Backpack Trip. Demanding 3-day, 2-night backpack along east & north segments of High Country Pathway. Begins at Clear Lake State Park (MI-33, north of Atlanta) at 9am. Each day we'll trek about 10 miles through hilly, near-wilderness terrain. If lucky, we'll view elk. Bring backpack, cooking gear, water filter & food for 3 days. Limit 6; \$5 fee; ride sharing; call by 6/1 to reserve a spot. John Calandra, 248-391-8973 or johndcal@go.com.

6/16-17 NG Shingle Mill Pathway Beginners' Backpacking. 9:30am. Sat 7 miles; Sun 4 miles. Easy, flat trail. I-75 to exit 290 (Vanderbilt). Left at blinking light on Sturgeon Valley Rd; 10 miles to trailhead at Pigeon Bridge. Reservations: Don Persson, 810-695-0516 or donald.persson@delphiauto.com.

6/16 SEMG (Sat) Outings Scheduling Meeting & Potluck. 5:30pm. Quarterly planning meeting is open to anyone interested in talking about or doing outings. Non-committee members welcome; bring dish to pass. Meet at June Cox's house for potluck, then plan fall & early winter outings. 1525 W Windemere, Royal Oak, east of Crooks Rd & 1 block north of 13 Mile. 248-435-9522.

6/16 HVG The Bluffs Conservation Hike. 1pm. Leisurely hike to take in some new perspectives. Meet at City Hall parking lot. 734-484-4906.

6/17 SEMG White Lake Hike. 11am. 5 moder-

see OUTINGS page 20

OUTINGS

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ate miles. Begin with a visit to a thoroughbred farm; continue through gently rolling countryside, meadows, ponds & woodland trails. Meet in Bloomfield Township Costco parking lot near McDonalds on Telegraph (east side), north of Square Lake Rd. Restaurant stop. Glory Havlin, 248-851-9324; Philip Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

6/21 NG Solstice Celebration atop Mt Holly. 8pm. Meet at Mt Holly ski area parking lot. 13536 Dixie Hwy, Holly. Climb mountain & enjoy lingering sunset. BYO blanket, snacks, beverage & bug spray. Event is pending permission from Mt Holly. Call to be sure it's on. Cindy Engelmann, 810-743-0335.

6/23 SEMG (Sat) Indian Springs Hike. 8am. 5 moderate miles. See June flowers on this fairly level hike. Meet at IHOP restaurant north of Square Lake Rd on east side of Telegraph. Or skip breakfast & meet 9:30 at Indian Springs Metropark Nature Center. Restaurant stop. June Cox, 248-435-9522.

6/23 TG (Sat) Solstice Celebration. 5pm. Easy. Meet at Good Harbor for potluck picnic on the beach. Bring dish to pass & blanket. We'll eat, hike the beach & enjoy good camaraderie. Watch sunset from this beautiful bay on Lake Michigan. Lynn Livingston, 248-541-6830 or redwingnut@sprintmail.com.

6/24 HVG Lakeland Rails-to-Trails Bike Ride. 9am. Bike converted rails to trails through Pinckney-Stockbridge area. Trail bikes recommended. Bike helmet required. Bring snack. Meet at City Hall parking lot to coordinate destination. 734-662-8007.

6/24 NG Holly Rec Area Hike. Wildwood & Valley Lakes. 1pm. 5 miles. I-75 to Grange Hall Rd (exit 101). East across Dixie Hwy to McGinnis Rd; right fork at park entrance. Go to end of pavement & turn right. Meet at Wildwood Beach parking lot. State Park vehicle permit required. Kathy Dockter, 810-767-6405 or k.l.doctor@att.net

6/24 SEMG Newburgh Lake Circled. 9am. Level 2.5-hour walk. Shaded glens, pathways & urban streets. This is a "naturalists walk" to identify plants, animals & birds. Lake was drained, excavated & contoured for fish & plant habitat in 1999 & is now showing results. Meet at Newburgh Pointe parking lot in Livonia on Hines Dr between Newburgh & Haggerty. Restaurant stop. Max Nemazi, 734-421-4397.

6/30-7/8 CUP Remote Wilderness River Canoeing: Sand River, Lake Superior Provincial Park (Ontario). 55-km lake & river route with 30 portages, including two rugged 1-mile. Beautiful waterfalls; unique island-bound log

lodge. Non-smoking; challenging canoe trip suitable for experienced wilderness river canoeist who is very physically fit, adventurous, a swimmer, & fully equipped including rations, stove & a solo or tandem canoe with padded portage yoke. Trip starts 8am Sat; ends mid-day Sun. \$15 Club donation. Michael Neiger, 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W or www.geocities.com/sierraclub2, mneiger@hotmail.com.

6/30 SEMG (Sat) Hamtramck City Tour. 11am. Explore this growing city & experience its diversity. Visit ethnic churches & markets, sample ethnic foods. Meet community leaders, including Hamtramck Environmental Action Team (HEAT). Meet downtown at People's Community Services Center, 8625 Joseph Campau. Wear comfortable shoes. Moderate fee for ethnic lunch. Anna Holden, 313-331-0932; Ed McArdle, 313-388-6645.

JULY

7/7 NG Holly North Hike. 10am. 7 moderate miles. Meet in parking lot behind Groveland Twp Hall at 4695 Grange Hall Rd between Mt Holly & Ortonville. Restaurant stop. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

7/8 SEMG Island Lake Canoe. 10am. Paddle 3-4 hours from dam down Huron River in Island Lake State Park. Some canoe experience & pre-registration necessary. Paddle 'til noon, stop for lunch, finish at Placeway bridge. Send \$15 fee by 7/1 to Lee Becker, 32856 Harmon Dr, Roseville, MI 48066. Meet at Tel-12 Mall. Lee Becker, 810-294-7789; Pat Watkins, 248-473-9197.

7/8-14 Mackinac Chapter North Country Trail Project in Upper Peninsula. Construct new trail & enjoy scenic attractions near Big Lake State Forest Campground. Choose 1 or more days or whole week. Many waterfalls & 3 national forest wilderness areas nearby. Ralph Powell, 734-971-9013 or hm_powell@online.emich.edu. More details at www.northcountrytrail.org — check Peter Wolfe chapter link.

7/14 HVG Adopt-A-Highway Clean-Up. 9am. Help keep M-14 beautiful. Meet at Big Boy on north side of Plymouth Rd between US-23 & Green Rd in Ann Arbor. Pick up trash from "our" M-14 2-mile portion of the MDOT program. Expect to finish around 12:30. 734-994-7030.

7/15-22 Mackinac Chapter North Country Trail Project. See announcement for 7/8-14.

7/15 SEMG Seven Lakes Hike, Picnic & Swim. 9:30am. 6 moderate miles. Hike varied habitat & terrain around beautiful lakes. Bring picnic lunch & swimsuit. Meet in Troy behind Michigan National Bank on 14 Mile just east of I-75

(south edge of Oakland Mall). Park entrance fee. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313.

7/15 NG Kensington Hike & Bike. 11am. Meet at Nature Center parking lot. Hike 6 miles. BYO lunch. Bike 8.2 paved miles around Kent Lake starting at 2pm. Optional: cross road to Island Lake State Rec Area (vehicle permit required) for paved & unpaved bike trails. Vehicle fee at Kensington. Take 23S to I-96E (Brighton exit); Kensington Rd exit (#151) north to park entrance. Follow signs to Nature Center. Cindy Engelmann, 810-743-0335.

7/21 NG Annual Sierra Club Picnic. Noon-5pm. Ligon Outdoor Center, 5213 E Farrand Rd, Clio. Takes place of July meeting. Denny Crispell, 517-624-5038.

7/21 SEMG (Sat) Tour de Trees. 10am. We'll visit Michigan & US champion trees, some the biggest of their species in our backyard! Call Joanne by 7/17 to reserve a spot & get details. \$4 trip fee includes handouts. Bring water & snacks. Optional restaurant stop. Joanne Spatz, 248-932-5370; Tom Griebe, 248-349-8782.

7/22 NG Flint River Kayak/Canoe. 1pm. From Holloway Dam Canoe Access & Fishing Site off Carr Rd (north of Stanley Rd, east of Oak Rd, Richfield Twp), to Mott Lake. About 4 hours. BYO boat. Easy; may be one portage. Restaurant stop. Cindy Engelmann, 810-743-0335.

7/23-27 CUP Pictured Rocks Service Outing. Build boardwalk on White Pine Trail along Little Beaver Creek. Camp at backcountry site with access via canoe or hiking. Canoes provided on Beaver Lakes for work & recreation. Beach nearby, trail to big white pines & sandstone caves. Group camp gear provided & some personal gear available on request. Crew breakfasts & dinners. Donations cover food costs. Bring lunch & snacks. Limit 10. Advance registration required. Dave Bos, 906-228-6744 or trailbos@chartermi.net.

7/27 NG Tahquamenon Falls State Park Hike, UP. 2pm. 8 moderate miles. Vehicle permit required. Hike from lower to upper falls & return. No dogs. Meet at concession area of lower falls. On M-123 about 10 miles west of Paradise. Bring water, trail food. Mike Ugorowski, 810-235-7365.

7/28 NG Vermillion Point to Crisp Point Hike. 10am. 10 moderate miles. Lake Superior shore, 10 miles west of Whitefish Point. No dogs. Hike starts at Vermillion Life Saving Station & goes to Crisp Point Lighthouse. From stop light in Paradise, MI, go north on M-123 5 miles to road to Vermillion. Turn left (west), 8 miles to Vermillion Point. Mike Ugorowski, 810-235-7365.

7/29 SEMG Maybury State Park Summer Wildflower Roundup. 9am. 2-3 hours. Meet in

continued on next page

OUTINGS

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Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd; or 9:30am at park concession bldg, 8 Mile Rd entrance, just west of Beck Rd & Northville; 5 miles west of I-275. Restaurant stop. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313; Joanne Spatz, 248-932-5370.

7/29 TG (Sun) Old Indian Trail Hike near Platte Lake. 11am. Join our revitalized group as we hike the beech-maple forest. Hike 3 miles on cedar chip trail, then 1/4 mile to Lake Michigan shore. Bathing suits & suntan lotion recommended. Bring water, trail snacks & camera. Meet at Sleeping Bear Dunes Visitor Center in Empire at junction of M-22 & M-72 or 11:30 at trailhead on M-22, just north of Sutter Road. Restaurant stop. Glory Havlin, 248-851-9324 or DaisyVax@aol.com; Lynn Livingston, 248-541-6830 or redwingnut@sprintmail.com.

AUGUST

8/3-5 CUP Wilderness Backpacking: Grand Island (Alger Co). Explore hidden beaches, caves, old growth & shipwrecks around the Island's Thumb. Non-smoking. Extended cross-country travel for experienced wilderness backpacker who is physically fit, adventurous, a swimmer & fully equipped, including rations & stove. Wilderness bivouacs; no campgrounds. Trip starts 8am Fri; ends mid-day Mon. \$5 Club donation. Michael Neiger, 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W or www.geocities.com/sierraclub2, mneiger@hotmail.com.

8/4 NG Hadley Hills Lookout Mt Hike & Campfire. 6pm. 6 difficult miles. Campfire & weiner roast at Old Bloomer after hike. Take M-15 1 mile south of Goodrich to Green Rd. East 2 miles to Washburn Rd. South 1 mile to Fox Lake Rd. East about 0.5 mile. Trailhead on north across from "ranch." BYO food, beverage, chair. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

8/5 SEMG International Day Trip. 9:30am. Hike, lunch & swim at Pinery Provincial Park in Ontario. Bring lunch, water, swimsuit, towel, sunscreen, mosquito repellent, border-crossing ID. Park & bridge fees. Meet at Macomb Mall in Roseville on Masonic (13-1/2 Mile) & Gratiot, NW corner under mall sign. Call before outing date. Lydia Fischer, 313-863-8392.

8/30-9/3 CUP Wilderness Backpacking & Caving: Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore (Alger Co). Hike the best of Pictured Rocks shoreline; travel cross-country to explore dozens of remote and unknown wilderness caves. Non-smoking; extended cross-country travel, river fording & wilderness bivouacs; no campgrounds. Experienced backpacker who is very

physically fit, adventurous, & fully equipped, including rations & stove. Trip starts 8am Thur; ends mid-day Mon. \$5 Club donation. Michael Neiger, 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W or www.geocities.com/sierraclub2, mneiger@hotmail.com.

SEPTEMBER

9/19-26 CUP Zion & Grand Canyon Backpack Outing. Hike the Grand Canyon from the North Rim. Hike the Narrows in Zion & up the West Rim Trail. Backcountry camping mixed with two nights at developed campsites (reserved), plus the first & last night at resort hotel. Transportation from/to Las Vegas airport on a ride-share basis, but not part of the outing. Costs: \$150 with shared hotel room or \$200 with private room, includes food, campsites, permits & hotel. Four or five restaurant meals not included. Limit 5. Early registration advised. Physically challenging outing; leader approval required. Dave Bos, 906-228-6744, trailbos@chartermi.net.

OCTOBER

10/5-7 CUP Wilderness River Canoeing: Fox River (Schoolcraft Co). We'll paddle a 20-mile section of the Fox River which Ernest Hemingway made famous in "Big Two Hearted

NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL OUTING

Join other trail enthusiasts in July to construct new trail in Michigan's wild and scenic Upper Peninsula.

Participants will camp and extend the North Country Trail near Big Lake State Forest Campground, located north of Watton on highway 28, west of US 141. There are several national forest wilderness areas within easy driving distance, as well as many unique waterfalls.

This is a cooperative project for the Sierra Club and the North Country Trail Association and involves new trail construction on state and private land. The project extends over two weeks and individuals may choose how many days they wish to work.

Time will be allowed to explore the area's many attractions. Doug Welker, President of the North Country Trail Association's Peter Wolfe Chapter, and Ralph Powell, Mackinac Chapter Outings Chair, have organized similar projects in the area and will coordinate work on this trip.

Contacts for either can be found in the Outings Calendar, page 20.

River." Paddlers will face numerous challenges including a seemingly impenetrable section of spreads, tight log-choked turns, and numerous short drags around logjams. Wilderness bivouacs; no campgrounds. This non-smoking, challenging canoe trip is suitable for the experienced swift-water river canoeist who is physically fit, adventurous, a swimmer, and fully equipped including rations, stove, and a solo or tandem canoe. Trip starts 8am Fri; ends mid-afternoon Sun. \$5 Club Donation. Michael Neiger at 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W or www.geocities.com/sierraclub2, mneiger@hotmail.com.

MEETINGS

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Books, downstairs café, downtown Traverse City. Call Monica, 231-325-6812.

For information on Political Committee meetings call Monica, 231-325-6812.

The Outings Committee has several service outings planned for the summer months including invasive plant eradication, native species seed gathering, historic structure restoration and Adopt-a-Trail at Sleeping Bear Dunes. Call Andrea Dean, 231-947-9344 for information and dates.

WMcNG

Wakelin McNeel Group

If you are interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Julie Janeczko at 517-539-1676.

WMG

West Michigan Group

Meetings are held 7pm the 2nd Thursday of each month at Kent Community Hospital meeting room. Everyone welcome! Call Marty Lore, 989-682-1316.

Chapter Events

7/14-15 Mackinac Chapter Executive Committee Meeting in Grand Marais. Camp in the UP. Contact Joyce McIntosh at the Chapter office, 517-484-2372 or joyce.mcintosh@sierraclub.org.

9/14-16 Mackinac Chapter Fall Retreat. Check in 2pm Fri; depart after lunch on Sun. Kettunen Center in Tustin, south of Cadillac. See more information on page 9. Call Julie Janeczko, 989-539-1676.

10/20 Mackinac Chapter Executive Committee Meeting in Detroit. Call Joyce McIntosh, 517-484-2372 or joyce.mcintosh@sierraclub.org.

ONE CLUB WETLAND OUTING AT KENSINGTON METROPARK

Many members of the Sierra Club feel we have lost far too many Michigan wetlands. An estimated 50-70% of Michigan's inland wetlands are gone, and it's been estimated that 90% of our coastal wetlands have been destroyed. Wetlands serve many functions for our society, including purification of drinking water; spawning grounds for fish; habitat for game animals; flood control; recreation areas for hunters, anglers and nature enthusiasts; and habitat for endangered and threatened species.

Wetlands provide these functions free of charge. Duplication of lost wetland functionality is very expensive at best; impossible at worst. We in Michigan are slowly realizing that wetlands are an important, valuable and fragile resource. More people are attending hearings and demanding that wetlands near their homes be protected.

A while back, we noticed that there is a scarcity of good wetland information. To remedy this, we have decided to have a One-Club Wetlands outing, which will combine all the fun and camaraderie of a Sierra Club outing with a conservation event. So please join us Saturday, May 26 from 10:00am until 3:00pm at Kensington Metropark Nature Center (take I-96 to Kensington Road. Go to the park entrance and ask for directions). Kensington Metropark is just east of Brighton. There will be a \$5 fee to cover lunch and paper handouts, as well as a Metropark entrance fee.

We will learn what constitutes a wetland, laws that protect wetlands, how to protect a wetland, steps currently being taken to protect wetlands, and how to involve ourselves in wetland protection. We will also take a guided tour of Kensington's wetlands!

Call Bob Duda at 734-737-4166 (days) or 734-464-0076 (7-9pm evenings and weekends) for more information. Please RSVP to Wetlands Outing, 39202 Donald, Livonia, MI 48154. Don't miss this event and the chance to get your feet wet in wetlands issues. Hope to see you there!

ANTI-SPRAWL ACTIVISTS NEEDED

We are all sick of suburban sprawl. It's ugly. It destroys our neighborhoods. It worsens air pollution and is destroying our wetlands, causing water pollution and flooding. The list could go on and on, yet politicians hardly do anything but talk about it.

You can do something about it! The Mackinac Chapter is forming a Sprawl (or maybe anti-sprawl) Sub-Committee. Send me your name, address, telephone number and e-mail address if you would like to join.

Looking forward to hearing from you,
Bob Duda
39202 Donald
Livonia, MI 48154
Robert.Red.Pine@worldnet.att.net

A WILL IS A WAY... to make a substantial gift to protect the environment. Continue your involvement by including the Sierra Club in your will. There are several ways to include the environment in your long-range plans — we can even help you plan a gift to support your local Chapter. For information and confidential assistance, contact:

Sage Kuhn
Sierra Club Planned Giving Program
85 Second Street, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

Learn how to build with logs and stone!

The Michigan School of Log Building and Stone Masonry offers 5-day hands-on workshops in early June.

Call (517) 734-4688 for information now!

- Scandinavian Full Scribe Technique
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- Complete Stone Masonry Work; Tools Provided

Courses include the option of three excellent meals daily and comfortable lodging at NettieBay Lodge.

Other workshops at NettieBay Lodge:
School of Bird Identification Weekend
The Outdoor Woman Workshop
Facilities available to groups for private workshops.

Your hosts: Mark and Jackie Schuler
9011 West 638 Hwy., Hawks, MI 49743
(517) 734-4688
nettiebay@george.lhi.net

NettieBay Lodge



CLASSIFIED ADS

CREEKS RUNNING, ONTARIO: Quaint Log Chalet, daily or weekly. Ideal for groups of up to 6, couples welcome. From US \$60. Located in the Algoma Highlands, 1/2 hour north of Sault Ste. Marie, just south of Batchawana Bay. The area is a treat for outdoor enthusiasts. Explore the Voyageur Trail, Robertson Cliffs, the Goulais River and Lake Superior Provincial Park. In the evening enjoy a sauna or cup of tea by the fire in our Tipi Lodge. Welcoming our guests to join us in our outings. For more information call Detlef or Daniela at 705-649-2186 or FAX 705-649-1852.

SILENT AUCTION coming soon near you! Start collecting items now to bring to the FALL RETREAT. All proceeds go to Mackinac Chapter. Come join us for some great fun for all.

FOR SALE: Your old tent in the basement could be sold here. Clean out your closets and make some EXTRA CASH! Just \$3 a line. Contact Julie Janeczko at 989-539-1676 or ravenhillacres@i2k.com.

CANOE FOR SALE: Old Town Penobscot 17-foot. 65 lbs. 2 Carlisle paddles, Foam block kit. Nearly new. \$775. 810-767-9904.

PHOTOGRAPHERS needed for The Mackinac. Looking for nature shots, outings pictures, and activist photos. Please call 810-767-9904.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS needed to work in Lansing Sierra Club chapter office. Contact Joyce McIntosh at 517-484-2372.

PLACE YOUR AD HERE! Just \$3 a line! Reach 18,000 readers. Contact Julie Janeczko at 989-539-1676 or ravenhillacres@i2k.com.

DO YOU LIVE at the Top of the Mitt? Members from Petoskey to Rogers City are needed to help start a Sierra Club group in your area. Please contact Dan Farough at the Mackinac Chapter office at 517-484-2372.

ALPENA - GRAYLING - WEST BRANCH: Meet like-minded people who make a difference! Sierra Club members are needed to help start a local group in your area. Contact Dan Farough at the Mackinac Chapter office at 517-484-2372.

SIERRA CLUB MACKINAC CHAPTER DIRECTORY

MACKINAC CHAPTER OFFICE

109 East Grand River Avenue
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Anne Woiwode, Director
Dan Farough, Political Director/
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Joyce McIntosh, Office Manager
Rhonda Anderson, Environmental Justice
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(temporary number)

SIERRA CLUB MIDWEST OFFICE

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Alison Horton, Midwest Regional Staff Director
Emily Green, Great Lakes Program Director

SIERRA CLUB NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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San Francisco, CA 94105
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ADDRESS CHANGES

Please include old mailing label and send to:
PO Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80321-2968

CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

> Officers

Lydia Fischer, Chair.....313-863-8392
Sue Kelly, Vice Chair.....810-227-9563
Helen LeBlanc, Treasurer.....517-655-6454
Fred Townsend, Secretary.....248-627-3587
Mike Keeler, 5th Officer.....810-767-9904

> At-Large Representatives (Terms expire January 2003)

Lydia Fischer.....313-863-8392
Mike Keeler.....810-767-9904
Helen LeBlanc.....517-655-6454
Anna Holden.....313-331-0932
Bob Duda.....734-464-0076

(Terms expire January 2002)

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Judy Shazer.....734-487-5548
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Barbara Yarrow.....248-932-9164

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John Veenstra.....517-339-1427

Central Upper Peninsula

John Rebers.....906-228-3617

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David Wright.....810-229-1685

Huron Valley

Nancy Shiffler.....734-971-1157

Kalamazoo Valley

Mike Johnson.....616-948-8840

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Ann Crane.....248-620-7038

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Denise Harris.....810-606-3557

Three Lakes

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Thumb Valley

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West Michigan

Martha Lore.....616-682-1316

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Central Upper Peninsula

John Rebers.....906-228-3617

Crossroads

Rick Pearsall.....810-227-6298

Huron Valley

Doug Cowherd.....734-662-5205

Kalamazoo Valley

Paul Haas.....616-664-5417

Nepesing

Linda Berker.....810-653-8242

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Three Lakes

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Thumb Valley

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Traverse Group

Monica Eva.....231-325-6812

Wakelin McNeel Group

Julie Janeczko.....989-539-1676

West Michigan

Martha Lore.....616-682-1316

CHAPTER COMMITTEES

Awards

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Conservation

Sue Kelly.....810-227-9563

Elections: Open

Fall Retreat

Dave and Nancy Christiansen.....616-842-6019

Mark and Julie Janeczko.....989-539-1676

Finance

Julie Janeczko.....989-539-1676

Information Systems

Alex Sagady.....517-332-6971

Inner City Outings

West Michigan: John Pulver.....616-453-2480

Washtenaw: Megan Beardsley.....734-996-5615

Legal: Open

The Mackinac Newsletter + Website

Davina Pallone.....801-961-9939

Mackinac Chapter History

Gwen Nystuen.....734-665-7632

Member Programs

Bob Duda.....734-464-0076

Nominations

Anna Holden.....313-331-0932

Outings

Ralph Powell.....734-971-9013

Personnel

Lydia Fischer.....313-863-8392

Political

Tim Killeen.....313-526-4052

Raffle

Mike Keeler.....810-767-9904

Sexual Harassment Investigation

Lydia Fischer.....313-863-8392

Sierra Club Council Delegate

Judy Shazer.....734-487-5548

Sierra Club Delegate to MRCC

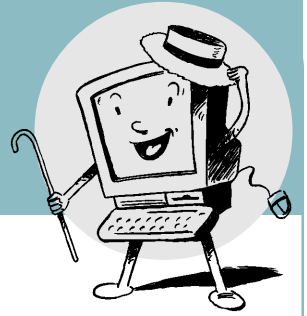
Sarah Houwerzyl.....616-361-5943

Next Deadline: July 1

SEND ARTICLES & PHOTOS TO:
Joyce McIntosh
109 East Grand River Avenue
Lansing, MI 48906
517-484-2372
joyce.mcintosh@sierraclub.org

SEND GROUP MEETINGS & OUTINGS TO:
Barbara Yarrow
248-932-9164
SEMGYarrow@aol.com

WEBWATCH: VIRTUAL BIRDING



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BY MICHAEL A. NEIGER
Central Upper Peninsula Group
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Whether you've just taken up birding or have been at it for years, the Internet is an excellent source for birding information.

For example, to find in-depth background information on Michigan birds, point your Web browser to Northern Michigan Birding (NMB) at www.northbirding.com. Its "a great resource for Michigan birders," according to Melinda Stamp of Marquette. In addition to "serving as a gateway to birding sites across the Internet," she says, it "includes an active message board where people can share bird sightings and request information on local birding topics." The site also offers educational features such as bird species profiles, bird identification training, and a question-and-answer column.



To enjoy interactive bird tours or chase rarities, Melinda recommends Virtual Birder at www.virtualbirder.com. If you're looking for bird identification tutorials based on the Peterson System, go to Peterson Online at www.petersononline.com.

To learn more about conservation and environmental protection as they apply to birding, Mary Powell of Flint recommends Birdsource — Birding with a Purpose. Managed by the National Audubon Society and the Cornell

Laboratory of Ornithology, birdsource.cornell.edu promotes conservation and environmental learning. This site is a favorite of Mary's due to its hands-on projects, many of which harness the power of individual birders and promote wide-scale data collection.

To see nesting and feeding birds — such as eagles, owls, and peregrine falcons — check out the real-time webcams at Yahoo. Simply go to www.yahoo.com and sequentially select the following: Science > Biology > Zoology > Animals, Insects, and Pets > Birds.

For additional information about birding in Michigan, point your Internet browser to Wings Over Michigan or Michigan Birder, located at www.geocities.com/Heartland/Cottage/8090 and www.personal.umich.edu/~auntyem/michigan.html respectively.

If you haven't put out a seed feeder yet, hang one today to help your local birds through this spring nesting season. Don't just hang the feeder and forget it, either — clean it regularly and discard seed that gets wet or moldy.

Editor's Note: If you've got an interesting, wilderness-related Web site, e-mail it to Michael Neiger of Marquette, Michigan at mneiger@hotmail.com.



POSTMASTER: Send address changes to SIERRA CLUB, 109 East Grand River Ave, Lansing, MI 48906

WHAT DOES THE SIERRA CLUB WORK TO DO?

To explore, enjoy and protect the wild places of the Earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the Earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.