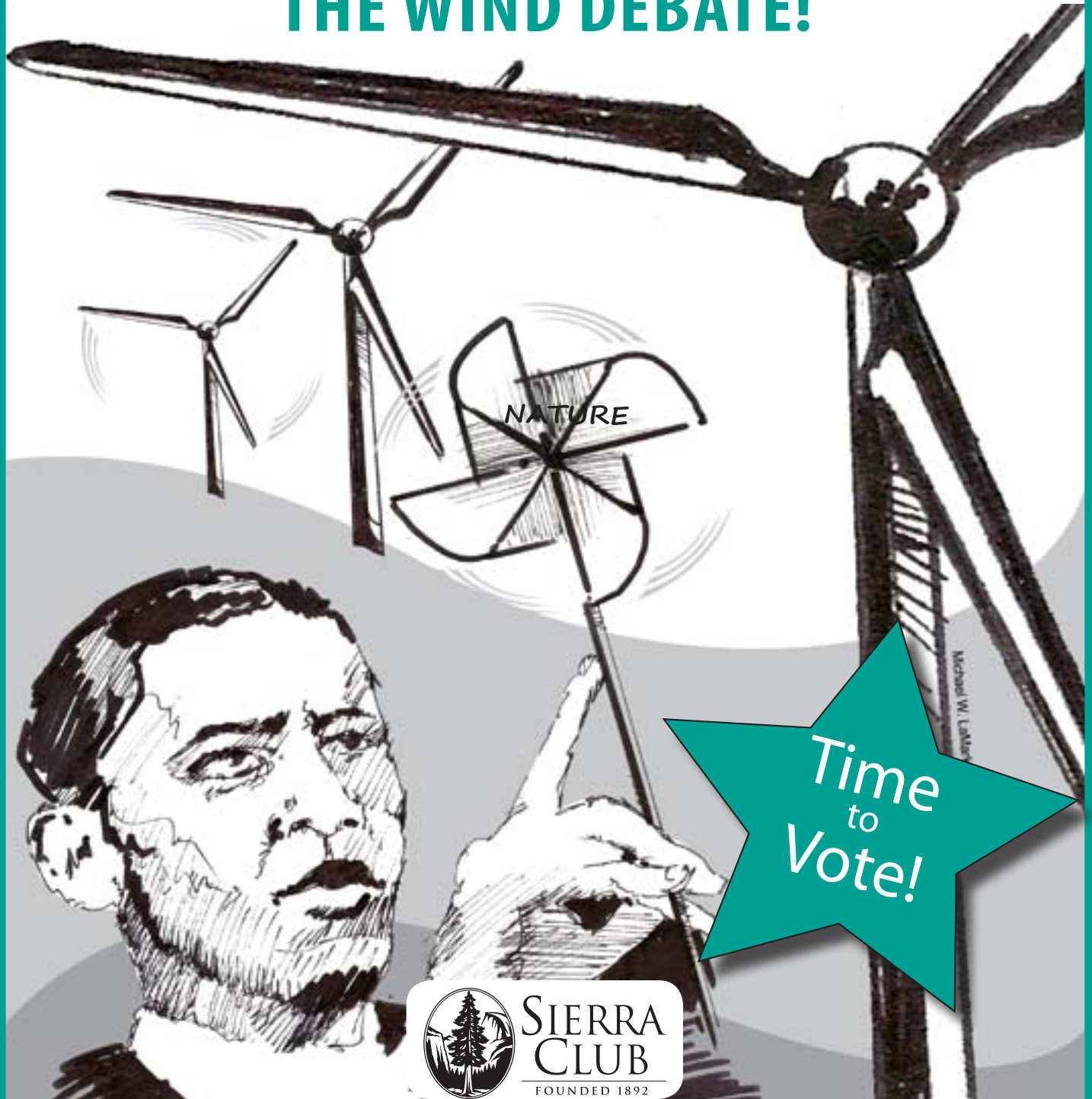


TheSylvanian

Fall 2012

Pennsylvania Chapter Sierra Club • pennsylvania.sierraclub.org

THE WIND DEBATE!



VOTE FOR YOUR CHAPTER DELEGATES, PAGES 30-31

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

From The Editors

Use Your Power

This issue of *The Sylvanian* is all about power: different kinds of power but power just the same. For the first time, we are exploring wind power. To some, wind power is a method to grind up our wildlife and expedite the extinction of many species of bats and birds that we have spent a lifetime to protect. To others, it is one of the few ways to save the planet from the effects of global warming – a free and infinite source of power.

We are also looking at political power as we face another election on November 6th. The Sierra Club is listing the candidates that we have vetted. Their election offers our best hope to further the Club's environmental agenda. Since the 2010 election, we have faced the most anti-environmental group of lawmakers we have seen in decades, both in the Pennsylvania General Assembly and in the U.S. Congress. We have some people in power who go out of their way to rail against science, discount common sense and dismiss reason. People like this cannot be swayed by the facts. They have to go.

On November 6th, we can use our power to replace them with one of the many candidates who have shown that they are willing to roll up their sleeves and make some decisions that will address the problems we are facing.

Finally, we offer a list of people who have stepped forward to run for At-Large Delegates to serve the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Sierra Club. While the delegate ballot is last in *The Sylvanian*, it is not because the selection is less important. The delegates to the Executive Committee help chart the course of the Sierra Club. They elect the officers and set the agenda for the Club. As members, you power the organization.

Use your power.



Wendi Taylor



Phil Coleman

WENDI TAYLOR AND PHIL COLEMAN
Co-editors of *The Sylvanian*

Editor's Note: Due to space restrictions in this month's issue, the Chapter Directory is not included. For directory information, you can visit our chapter website at http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/PA_Chapter_2008/chapter-directory.html



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VOTE FOR YOUR CHAPTER DELEGATES, PAGES 30-31

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This publication is dedicated to serving the Sierra Club Pennsylvania membership, and is a forum for internal policy discussion and debate among those truly concerned with protecting the environment. Opinions expressed herein are the personal opinions of their authors and may or may not reflect Sierra Club policy.

Contributor deadlines are December 15 (Winter issue), March 15 (Spring issue), June 15 (Summer issue), September 15 (Fall issue). Anonymous contributions are not accepted.

SIERRA CLUB MISSION STATEMENT: 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.

Sierra Club's sexual harassment policy can be found online at <http://mitchell.sierraclub.org/leaders/policies/sexual-harassment.asp> or by contacting the Harrisburg office.



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The Sylvania

VOTING FOR NATURE

Special Report

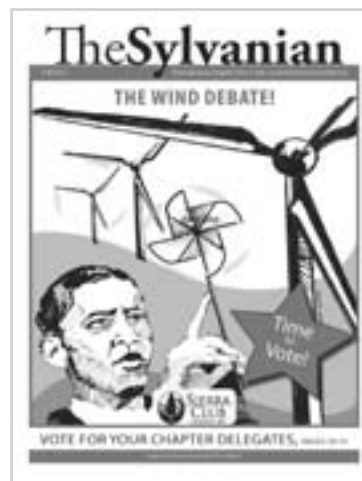
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On The Cover

Once again, we have drawn on the talent of Michael W. LaMark to depict the theme of this issue of The Sylvania, It's All About Power. Once again, the Sierra Club has endorsed Barack Obama to hold the most powerful office. President Obama's environmental accomplishments are listed in our endorsement on page 8. The President is pictured amid wind power, ranging from the simplest to industrial-strength wind turbines. We encourage our readers to exercise their power wisely.

To send photos by email:
Sylvanian@pennsylvania.sierraclub.org

To mail photos: Sylvania, Sierra Club
- PA Chapter, PO Box 606, Harrisburg,
PA 17108

Next Deadline: December 15

Send articles & photographs
to: sylvanian@pennsylvania.sierraclub.org

ELECT OBAMA FOR PRESIDENT AND CASEY FOR SENATE!

The View From Harrisburg



JOAN WILSON

COMMONWEALTH COURT STRIKES DOWN LOCAL PRE-EMPTION PROVISION OF ACT 13

CORBETT ADMINISTRATION APPEALS DECISION

Following the passage of Act 13, which was a total rewrite of the PA Oil and Gas Act, a number of local governments filed suit to overturn Act 13's provisions, which pre-empted local governments' authority to adopt land use zoning to restrict oil and gas drilling activities. Municipalities from both southeastern and southwestern Pennsylvania litigated this before Commonwealth Court. In a huge victory for local control, Commonwealth Court sided with the local governments and struck down the local pre-emption sections of ACT 13, finding them unconstitutional. In their 4-3 decision, the court ruled that local governments did not have to change their local ordinances to come into compliance with Act 13, pending outcome of any appeals. They also struck down a provision in Act 13 that gave the PA Department of Environmental Protection complete discretion to waive set back requirements. Other provisions of Act 13, such as the impact fee, set-back distances, bonding amounts, etc., were not struck down, and currently remain in effect.

The Corbett administration immediately filed an appeal with the PA Supreme Court, which is scheduled to hear arguments on this case in October. The Supreme Court currently has only six justices, since Justice Orié had to step down as a result of charges she is facing related to improper election activities. This is significant, since a 3 - 3 decision would allow the Commonwealth Court ruling to stand. The Corbett appeal would need four justices to overturn the lower court. The makeup of the current justices is three Democrats and three Republicans.

Meanwhile, problems associated with drilling continue to occur throughout the Marcellus Shale gas region. A massive plume of methane gas has been documented in Bradford County, seeping from the soil and surface waters and floating downwind. Water wells continue to experience methane pollution. Streams are also being contaminated by accidents during pipeline construction.

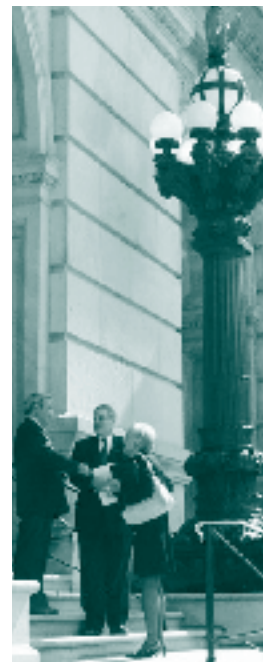
GENERAL ASSEMBLY SCHEDULES SHORT LEGISLATIVE SESSION PRIOR TO ELECTION, VOWS NO LAME DUCK SESSION IN 2012

THE ELECTION IS CRITICAL TO BLOCKING THE CORBETT AGENDA

The PA House and Senate returned from their summer recess on September 24. They only plan to stay in Harrisburg for three weeks and then recess for final campaigning leading up to the November 6 General Election. The PA Senate has announced there will be no lame duck voting session following the election.

All 203 House seats and 25 of the 50 Senate seats are up for election. Due to some unexpected retirements (or legal problems), a number of normally safe seats have opened up and present an opportunity to improve the environmental make-up of the House and Senate. A likely scenario is to narrow the Republican margin in both the House and Senate, which will make it harder for the right-wing Republican leadership to ram through the Corbett anti-environmental agenda. It also sets the stage for a major battle during the 2014 gubernatorial election. Corbett's extremely low favorability rating now makes him more vulnerable in two years. If Democrats are elected in 2012 to state-wide row offices such as Auditor General (DePasquale) and Attorney General (Kane), it will provide a badly-needed check and balance on an otherwise Republican-dominated state government. If elected, Eugene DePasquale could audit and Kathleen Kane could investigate the various Corbett administration agencies, including Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Department of Community and Economic Development, etc.

Jeff Schmidt is the Chapter Legislative Director



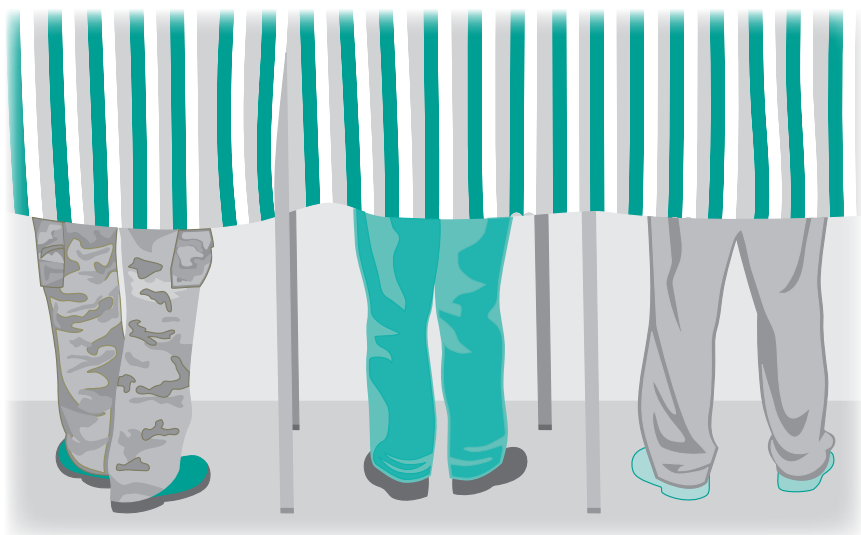
VOTE FOR YOUR CHAPTER DELEGATES, PAGES 30-31

No Photo ID Required on Nov. 6th

by Wendi Taylor

On October 2, the Commonwealth Court ruled that people can vote in the November 6th Election **WITHOUT** an official, government-issued photo identification card. However, the law will be valid in subsequent elections. Voters will be required to show one of these forms of photo identification (ID):

- A PA Drivers License: currently valid or expired less than 12 months.
- An ID issued by Penn DOT: currently valid or expired less than 12 months.
- A currently valid U.S. Passport. Expired passports will not be accepted.
- An active duty or retired U.S. Military ID, including the PA National Guard: an indefinite expiration date will be accepted.
- A currently valid military dependent's ID. Expired IDs will not be accepted.
- A currently valid Employee ID issued by Federal, PA, PA county or PA municipal government. Expired IDs will not be accepted.
- A currently valid ID issued by a PA university, college, seminary, community college, or two-year college to students, faculty, employees and alumni. Expired IDs will not be accepted.
- A currently valid ID issued by a PA care facility (such as a long-term care nursing facility, assisted living residence or a personal care home). Expired IDs will not be accepted.



- Voters born in PA can fill out a form asking PennDOT to certify their birth records. This process is FREE, but takes ten days. Voters who receive a letter confirming their certification can use this letter in place of an official birth certificate, along with the other documents listed above, to obtain a photo ID for voting. Voters who receive a letter saying their birth certificates cannot be certified should call the PA Division of Vital Records at 1-724-656-3100.
- Voters with PA driver's licenses expired for over a year may not need to bring any of the documents listed above if their information is still in PennDOT's database. To determine this, call 1-800-932-4600.
- Voters can locate PennDOT driver's license centers by calling 1-800-932-4600, or by visiting www.dot.state.pa.us.

FREE PHOTO IDs

Free photo IDs are available at PennDOT driver's license centers if you sign an affidavit that you need the ID in order to vote.

- Your Social Security card, AND
- Your official birth certificate (with a raised seal), certificate of U.S. citizenship, certificate of naturalization, or a valid U.S. Passport, AND
- TWO proofs of residency, (for example: a lease agreement, mortgage documents, W-2 form, tax records, or current utility bill – cell phone records are not acceptable).

NEW DEPARTMENT OF STATE VOTER ID

Since the Pennsylvania Voter ID law was enacted in March, the Department of State has developed a State Voter ID card for voters who lack verification documents necessary to secure a Pennsylvania Photo ID (non-driver's license ID card). To obtain a new Department of State voter identification card for free, one must visit a Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Driver License Center.

This information is provided by the Pennsylvania Voter ID Coalition and the PA Department of State.

ELECT OBAMA FOR PRESIDENT AND CASEY FOR SENATE!

Explore Enjoy Pennsylvania

Slippery Rock Gorge and Hell's Hollow

by Gary Thornbloom

Slippery Rock Gorge Trail is a rugged, beautiful, and enchanting hike. The trail is in McConnells Mill State Park, Lawrence County. The terrain was shaped by glaciation. As glacial lakes drained and ice dams formed and broke, the landscape was carved into its present form. The trail will lead you from the bottom to the top of the gorge, several times!

The forest canopy of large deciduous trees, includes basswood, cherry, oak, cucumber magnolia, tulip popular, and numerous beech trees. There are towering hemlocks and thick stands of small hemlocks. Wild flowers would be worth seeing in the Spring, particularly along Hell's Run. The trail is wide enough to avoid the short sections with stinging nettle and poison ivy.

Begin with an easy, half-mile walk on Hell's Hollow Trail. Despite its name - one account is that a lost military officer was hiking upstream in the dark and observed the glow of limestone kilns - this a trail for persons of all ages and skills. Along the way we observed frogs sitting on boulders in the stream, minnows darting under small stones in the stream, depressions from sink holes formed as limestone eroded away, and



multiple exposures of fractured bedrock in the stream bed. This was prior to the three most notable features: the stream flows through a narrow flume that was formed underground, and was exposed once the roof collapsed; a limekiln, cut into the rock and brick lined, from the 1800's can be viewed from the top and entered from the bottom; and finally Hell's Hollow Falls, a beautiful cascade that first drops over a vertical rock face and then over a larger drop spreading out in a bridal veil spray.

Return to where the Slippery Rock Gorge Trail is visible to the right and follow it for either a retrace from wherever suits you, or to Eckert Bridge if you set up a shuttle. This is a well-worn trail, but it has some steep sections, notably the switchbacks in the final miles.

As you cross the first tributary of Hell Run notice the orange stained stream that joins the clear stream. The orange stain is caused by acid mine drainage from an abandoned coal mine. As Hell Run, an exceptional value stream, flows over Vanport Limestone the mine acid from numerous abandoned mines is neutralized.

After the trail has dropped into and then out of a second tributary, you can see the first of three natural limestone bridges. The first is best viewed from an overlook to the right of the trail and looking back up the hollow. A short distance beyond this the trail goes over the most dramatic of the bridges. This one is easily explored from both above and below. You can hear the sound of running water as you approach the third bridge. The water flows from a cave you can drop down and look into. The



water flows under the limestone bridge, and then over a small waterfall. The trail goes over the bridge.

These limestone outcroppings are a good place to look for walking fern. When the tips touch a moist spot they can attach and form a new plant. Thus, the fern "walks". The fronds do not look like most ferns, and that should help you to identify them.

The confluence of Hell Run and Slippery Rock Creek makes a nice lunch stop.

Climbs become frequent and steeper as the trail is at times along the creek and at times on the rim above. The trail parallels Slippery Rock Creek and eventually descends to the alluvial flood plain and the trail sign at Walnut Flats: 4.1 miles from Hell's Run parking, 2.1 miles to Eckert Bridge.

Climbing again the trail is even steeper, uses switchbacks, and passes several small waterfalls and rock outcroppings. There are views of the gorge and of Slippery Rock Creek.

This is a pleasant hike. Lots of flowing water. Nice shade from tall trees. Whether you are interested in historical sites, natural history, or in simply getting out for the day, you will enjoy exploring Hell's Run and the Slippery Rock Gorge Trail.

VOTE FOR YOUR CHAPTER DELEGATES, PAGES 30-31

Coleman's Lantern

Farewell My Lovely

by Phil Coleman

E. B. White wrote an essay long ago celebrating the Model T, Henry Ford's first mass-production car. He titled it "Farewell, My Lovely!" Never mind that Raymond Chandler later stole the title for a mystery movie. My thinking is more in line with White than Chandler.

When I moved to Pennsylvania in 1967, I brought with me a 30 year old Old Town canoe, a perfect vehicle for the lakes and quiet streams I had paddled in the Midwest. But western Pennsylvania had more than flat water. It had wonderful white water streams. I paddled on the Monongahela a few times. With locks every ten or so miles, the "Mon" was a lake – a dirty lake. I wanted something other.

I strapped my Old Town to the roof of my station wagon and drove to Ohiopyle to see the Youghiogeny. I looked at the falls and drove twelve miles upstream to the section of river we call the Middle Yough.

I can't count the number of times I have paddled the Middle Yough. There was a period of thirty years when I must have run it at least once a year. There were a few years when I ran it five or six times. I have run it many times, but until September 14th, I had not run it for three years. Then I ran it for the last time.

The Youghiogeny starts in Maryland, among the ridges and flows a circuitous route north. In Maryland, a 12-mile stretch called the Upper Yough is one of the most difficult whitewater streams around. In Pennsylvania it calms down. There is a reservoir and then downstream the Yough is joined by two other streams, Laurel Hill Creek and the Casselman. It flows from Confluence to Ohiopyle as a Class I whitewater stream – Class I being the gentlest of white water, (Class VI being life threatening).

I paddled the Middle Yough that first time and survived easily enough, but I realized that a canvas canoe could get destroyed by one mistake that landed it on the rocks. In fact, just scraping over shallows was hard enough on it. That was when I stripped the canvas from the canoe and replaced canvas with fiberglass. I then didn't worry about damage. When I did knock a rare hole in it, I just patched with more glass.

Starting at a put-in just below Confluence, the river has three nice mild rapids. The first offers hydraulics and waves that you can play on. For some years in the '80s and '90s, a whitewater school hung gates at strategic points so students could practice slalom

maneuvers. I could eddy out on river left and then glide across the channel on a wave or hydraulic. There, I could hide behind a rock, gather myself and with a few strokes shoot up stream, cut back across the current and run the same pattern again.

Two more rapids provided chances to surf waves and hydraulics. Then I came to an island where I usually stopped for a snack or at least a drink of water. After the island, there were four miles of quiet water. Frequently, as my sons well remember, there would be a head wind, sometimes strong enough to blow an unpaddled canoe upstream. Having started as a flat water canoeist, I was proud of my strong, efficient paddling stroke, so I enjoyed working through this part of the river.

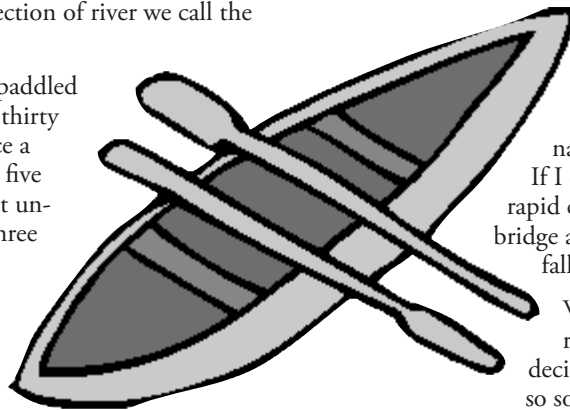
After the flat stretch there were more riffles, some rocky enough to be hard to get through without getting stuck. Then there was another nice rapid and a bend in the river. At that point we could see elephant rock, a huge boulder in the middle of the river. Here was another chance to negotiate some waves and maneuver through narrow channels. Then, a choice of take outs. If I chose, I could continue through a final rapid called Double Z, float beneath the Rt. 381 bridge and take out just a quarter mile above the falls.

When my daughter Sydney chose to go rafting for her birthday this September, I decided to go rafting with her but to go early so son Phil and I could canoe the Middle Yough. He and I had a great time on the river. Though he has spent lots of time in the area, he hadn't paddled this section for 30 years. He had forgotten how beautiful this river valley is. This is the point where the river begins its cut through Chestnut ridge before plunging down the western side. Tree lined banks rise to tree lined hills. It is a beautiful sight. We enjoyed the trip, but I have to admit that my body no longer fits in a canoe comfortably. Not for hours at a stretch.

Since I live a long distance from the Yough and since I am no longer spry, I have declared this my final trip down my favorite stretch of river. So I say, "Farewell my lovely!"

Next issue, unless I get distracted, I will write about my canoe and C-1's, another part of the river life I have enjoyed.

Phil Coleman is the founding editor of The Sylvanian and is a member of the Allegheny Group.



ELECT OBAMA FOR PRESIDENT AND CASEY FOR SENATE!

Chapter Endorsements

Barack Obama for President

In April, long before the Republican party had chosen a nominee, four environmental groups, Sierra Club among them, announced their endorsement of Barack Obama for reelection as president.

Michael Brune, speaking for the Club, said, "The Sierra Club and our 1.4 million members and supporters share the same vision for America as the President for a prosperous and innovative economy that protects the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the health of our families. Together, we can build upon the historic successes of the last four years, including landmark fuel efficiency standards and the first-ever protections against toxic mercury pollution, to build a clean energy economy that creates thousands of new jobs and works for every American."

Brune's statement puts energy to the forefront among environmental issues. It recognizes, as Obama has, that the pollution caused by fossil fuels, impending global warming, and developing shortages of petroleum worldwide threaten our health and economic well-being. Further, wind and solar systems provide not only clean energy but also economic –jobs –opportunity.

As though that weren't enough, consider additional accomplishments of the Obama administration:

- New fuel efficiency standards: most significant action taken by any president in history to move our country forward,
- The Recovery Act (aka Stimulus), the single largest investment in clean and renewable energy in our nation's history,
- Doubling of wind and solar installations since the President took office,

- Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, the most important lands protection legislation in decades,
- Designation of Ft. Monroe and Ft. Ord as National Monuments,
- Protection of one million acres around Grand Canyon from uranium mining,
- New Environmental Protection Agency's protections from power plant toxic mercury, and
- New safeguards under the Clean Air Act to protect Americans from dangerous carbon pollution.

We can only guess what Mitt Romney's environmental policies would be. However, we do know that he has promised to hamstring EPA, to fund Alaskan oil development, to fast track the shale oil pipe line without regard to pollution problems along the way. We know that the big energy companies have poured millions into his campaign. We know that one energy corporate leader was among those applauding when Romney said 47 percent of voting Americans were whining deadbeats.

The contrast is clear. We must support Barack Obama for a second term.



VOTE FOR YOUR CHAPTER DELEGATES, PAGES 30-31

Eugene DePasquale for Auditor General



The Sierra Club enthusiastically endorses Eugene DePasquale of York County as he seeks the office of Auditor General. DePasquale is well-known to the Club because

of his support of the environment while serving three terms in the state House.

Since 2006, he has been repeatedly endorsed by Sierra Club as one of our environmental heroes. He got a 100-percent score in the Marcellus Shale Scorecard, which was released earlier this year.

Having a pro-environmental Auditor General would help to establish some check and balance in Harrisburg. The Auditor General has authority to audit various agencies, including the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. As Auditor General, DePasquale could determine if the administration is properly managing those agencies'

budgets. DePasquale indicated that he would be aggressive in these audits to make sure that the law is followed, especially on energy issues.

Prior to serving in the Legislature, DePasquale served as deputy secretary for Community Revitalization and Local Government Support in the Department of Environmental Protection and served as economic development director for the city of York.

DePasquale proposed the creation of a \$650 million alternative energy fund, which was approved with a bipartisan majority. The measure was designed to reduce our dependence on foreign oil, and promote cleaner energy.

Senator Casey Deserves Re-election



The Sierra Club has endorsed Senator Bob Casey for re-election in 2012. While there weren't a lot of good things to vote for in this last session, Casey voted for closing

tax loopholes for oil companies, which clearly don't need taxpayer handouts.

Just as importantly in this last session, when there was so much anti-environmental legislation to fight against, Casey voted against:

- Massive funding cuts and policy assaults on our air, water, and wildlife.
- Permanently blocking the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from reducing greenhouse gases under the

Clean Air Act and repealing the scientific finding by the EPA that greenhouse gases endanger human health and the environment.

- Endangering coastal and marine ecosystems by expanding offshore drilling while weakening regulatory safeguards
- Defunding the Transportation Enhancements program, a proven program that has been the largest source of federal funding for trails, walking, and biking for the last twenty years.
- Weakening our government's ability to protect the public from a wide range of threats, ranging from pollution to workplace safety, preventing the EPA from cleaning up harmful pollution such as mercury, soot, smog, arsenic, lead, and carbon dioxide from some of our nation's biggest polluters.
- Voiding the Cross-State rule, which reduces dangerous smog and soot-

forming pollution that is emitted from power plants and travels across state lines.

- Preventing the EPA from cleaning up harmful pollution from some of the nation's biggest polluters, reducing oversight for drilling, and opening our precious public lands to harmful tar sands development by private companies.

With so much bad legislation to be stopped and the Senate in the balance, it is vital that Sen. Bob Casey be re-elected. Contact Casey's campaign office at: <http://bobcasey.com/>

ELECT OBAMA FOR PRESIDENT AND CASEY FOR SENATE!

Chapter Endorsements

Chapter Endorsements

ALLEGHENY GROUP

MIKE DOYLE, (C-14)



Democrat Mike Doyle of Allegheny County is currently running for his 10th term representing the 14th district. In recent years, Doyle has become an increasingly strong environmental supporter, earning a 91 percent rating from

the League of Conservation Voters for 2011, and 92 percent for the 2009-2010 session. Doyle is also a strong supporter of our labor friends, and sees the importance of a green economy in creating good jobs. During his term, Doyle has supported climate legislation and several local green jobs initiatives. He has repeatedly voted against attempts to weaken the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts and against gutting the Endangered Species Act. Doyle has been a friend to the Sierra Club over the years, and we are proud to offer our full endorsement.

MATT SMITH, (SS-37)



In response to climate change and energy independence, state representative Matt Smith has been a vigorous proponent of the expanded use of renewable energy and green building programs. His efforts resulted in the

passage of the High Performance Building Grant program. Smith's election to the state Senate will provide a strong voice in favor of a green economy.

ERIN MOLCHANY, (H-22)



After several years as a progressive community leader, serving on a number of non-profit organizations, Erin Molchaney is running to represent this urban-south suburban district for the House of Representatives.

She deserves our support. Erin supports a Smart Growth strategy that develops brownfield sites and fosters use of renewable energy. If elected, Molchaney would seek a seat on the Transportation Committee, for she understands that transportation is the number one issue in her district.

DAVE LEVDANSKY, (H-39)



The Sierra Club considers David Levdansky a true and established friend of the environment. During his previous tenure on the Environmental Resources and Energy Committee and later as chair of the Finance Committee, Dave was

a forceful advocate for the environment, earning Environmental Hero status from the Pennsylvania Chapter. His narrow loss to Rick Saccone in 2010 was a keen disappointment to the environmental community, and his return to the House as a reformer and advocate will fill a real need.

GOVERNOR PINCHOT

ROB TEPLITZ, (SS-15)



Rob is currently the Chief Counsel and Policy Director at the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General. He has spent most of his career fighting alongside Bob Casey and Jack Wagner to protect the hard-earned tax dol-

lars of citizens, make government programs work better, and bring transparency, accountability, and reform to the Capitol. Among Teplitz's proudest accomplishments are strengthening Megan's Law, exposing the risky financial schemes that government uses to gamble away tax dollars on Wall Street, and dealing with Marcellus Shale in a way that protects the environment. The Sierra Club is putting its support behind Teplitz with an endorsement.

CHRIS DIETZ, (H-104)



Chris Dietz is running on a platform that promotes economic growth, job creation, legislative reform, quality public education, and conservation. He is new to state politics but definitely has

the experience, connections and motivation we need in politics. Dietz currently serves on Millersburg Borough Council. His accomplishments include creating the borough website to foster greater transparency, negotiating contracts with the borough police union, and developing a direct marketing plan through the borough to coordinate local businesses and attractions with the Hershey Harrisburg Visitors Bureau. Perhaps his greatest success has been in securing over half a million dollars of funding from state, county, and local sources to build the Millersburg Riverfront Park: Gateway to the Lykens Valley Rail Trail project. Because of his commitment to

VOTE FOR YOUR CHAPTER DELEGATES, PAGES 30-31

conservation and parks, the Sierra Club supports the election of Dietz to the state House.

KITTATINNY GROUP

MARK ROZZI, (H-126)



Mark Rozzi (D) is running for an open house seat in the 126th House district currently held by State Representative Dante Santoni, Jr. A Reading area small businessman, Rozzi said he aspires to be a Sierra Club “environmental hero.”

As a father, Rozzi understands the importance of preserving clean air and water for future generations. He speaks against shale gas drilling methods that are harmful to the environment, and supports clean, renewable alternatives to carbon-based fuels. He has regular contact with Berks Gas Truth, where he has learned about the abuses related to gas industry abuses. Mark is critical of the Corbett administration’s assault on our natural environment, and if elected, promises to be a strong voice for environmental protection. He would like to help repeal Act 13.

LAKE ERIE GROUP

MISSA EATON, (C-3)



Missa Eaton is our endorsed candidate in the 3rd Congressional District. Eaton is a staunch advocate for reducing air and water pollutants. She knows the importance of our environment, not just for the wellbeing of

our children and future generations, but also to our economy. The fifth of her Five Point Plan is American energy sustainability. For details of this plan, see: (www.missaeatonforcongress.com/Issues.html)

Eaton is a member of the Shenango River Watchers, a local environmental group dedicated to cleaning up the Shenango River.

Eaton worked for the last eight as an assistant professor of psychology at Penn State Shenango. Earlier in her career, Eaton worked in a wide range of roles including as an administrative associate to a leading research engineer in flue gas desulfurization, slurry scrubbing, and nitrous oxide removals, efforts to reduce acid rain in coal-burning areas.

Eaton is challenging the first-term Republican incumbent, Mike Kelly. In his initial term in Congress, he voted lockstep with the Republican Party; his score on the LCV scorecard for 2011 was 9 percent.

SEAN D. WILEY, (SS- 49)



Sean D. Wiley is our endorsed candidate for the state Senate’s 49th District’s open seat. As Wiley says on his website (VoteWiley.com), He “will work in the Pennsylvania Senate to assure our land, water and air are protected for future generations.” Regarding Marcellus Shale drilling, he adds: “I strongly support a fair and responsible severance fee on natural gas drilling.”

Wiley said he would become actively involved, once elected, in finding and funding alternative forms of energy; and in the environmental protection of Lake Erie and Presque Isle State Park.

Wiley supports a strict ban on discharging gas drilling wastewater to Pennsylvania rivers and streams. “We must protect our water from pollution. I fully support any initiative that protects Pennsylvania’s drinking water from being tainted by this process,” he said. He also supports a moratorium on drilling new injection wells for the disposal of such wastewater. He wants to “ensure that public health and wellbeing come before corporate interests.”

He supports efforts to reduce, reuse and recycle.

Wiley would oppose future cuts to the Department of Environmental Protection budget. He supports “initiatives that aim to decrease pollution by funding public transportation....”

PATRICK HARKINS, (H-1)



Lake Erie Group endorses incumbent Representative Pat Harkins for re-election to the state house. Harkins has a proven track record of supporting pro-environment legislation in Harrisburg. He has a 100 percent score on the Marcellus

Shale Voting Scorecard (including voting NO on SB 367 on June 26). We endorsed Harkins in 2010 and prior election cycles and he continues to vote the right way on environmental legislation.

FLORINDO FABRIZIO, (H-2)



The Lake Erie Group once again endorses Flo Fabrizio for re-election to the State House. The group previously supported Fabrizio and his actions have shown that the club’s support was justified. He has a 100

percent on the Marcellus Shale Voting Scorecard and can always be counted on to vote to protect the environment.

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Chapter Endorsements

LEHIGH VALLEY GROUP

KEVIN DEELY, (H-131)



Kevin Deely earned high marks for his interview with Sierrans in this hotly contested House race. Deely's top three environmental issues are to: (1) establish an excise tax on any and all Marcellus shale gas

production and a moratorium on future Marcellus shale drilling; (2) increase funding and staffing for Department of Environmental Protection to meet increasing demands; and, (3) create opportunities for sustainable and renewable energy resources while reducing our reliance on coal power. He is an advocate for stream protection, opposing efforts which would remove existing stream buffer requirements for Exceptional Value and High Quality streams.

While Deely provided strong responses to the Club's environmental questionnaire, his opponent did not respond. Deely is running against a tea party stalwart, who upset a pro-environment Republican legislator in the 2010 primary. Since then, the district has been represented by someone who has been a pillar of support for Governor Corbett's anti-environmental agenda.

STEVE SAMUELSON, (SS-135)



Representative Steve Samuelson is a designated Environmental Hero by the Sierra Club. During his 14 years of legislative service he has been a strong and dependable supporter of good environmental legisla-

tion. He currently serves as the Democratic Chair of the Ethics Committee. He has been a leader against fracking and its worst excesses and supports Pennsylvania taxing shale gas production (as almost every other American state does!). He has

always welcomed our Sierra Club leaders for discussions of our issues.

ROBERT FREEMAN, (H-136)



Representative Robert Freeman is one of the Sierra Club's Environmental Heroes. During his 22 years of legislative service he has been a strong and dependable supporter of good environmental legislation. He

currently serves as the Democratic Chair of the House Local Government Committee, and was the leader of a successful effort to protect the Appalachian Trail. A well-known new urbanist, he is one of the Assembly's leading advocates of smart growth and comprehensive planning to help prevent urban sprawl, protect open space, and promote livable cities. Freeman has always been open to the Club's input on legislation and is glad to meet with local Sierrans.

MOSHANNON GROUP

MICHAEL HANNA, (H-76)



Rep. Hanna has been a strong environmental supporter, receiving between 92 and 100 percent voting scores on important environmental legislation.

He has consistently worked to strengthen regulation of the

Marcellus Shale industry and would support a moratorium on issuing new drilling permits until the state has implemented adequate safeguards to protect our health and environment. Hanna understands that municipal governments should have the right to determine the location of oil and gas operations in their locale. Concurrently, he supports incentives for production of solar power generation. Hanna supports restoring funding for environmental programs and opposes future budget cuts

for Department of Environmental Protection while emphasizing the need to enforce existing regulations.

His help in the transfer of much of Spring Creek Canyon to the PA Game Commission was extremely helpful, as is his support of People Protecting Communities in their efforts to prevent a huge waste facility from being built in their community. Hanna deserves our support

NORTHEAST GROUP

MATTHEW CARTWRIGHT, (C-17)



Matthew Cartwright the Democratic nominee for Pennsylvania's 17th congressional district has worked for the past 24 years as an attorney representing victims and consumers in personal litigation. Matt's Republican opponent is a leader of the Scranton Tea Party.

Cartwright believes a strong economy and a protected environment are not mutually exclusive. For instance, he believes that the Halliburton Loophole, which allows fluids used in the natural gas extraction process of hydraulic fracturing be exempt from protections under the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act, should be repealed, and that the rights to drill and mine on public lands should not be given away to private, international corporations for pennies on the dollar.

An active environmentalist, Cartwright will work to promote green energy, to eliminate tax breaks for oil and gas companies and to fight for higher environmental standards and funding. He will oppose any measure that weakens or compromises the Environmental Protection Agency's ability to update and enforce the Clean Air Act. He favors restoring protection of headwaters streams, wetlands, and prairie potholes under the Clean Water Act. If elected, Cartwright would strongly support a national Renewable Electricity

VOTE FOR YOUR CHAPTER DELEGATES, PAGES 30-31

Vote!

Standard of 25 percent by 2025, support legislation to protect our streams and waterways in Appalachia from mountain-top removal mining and support federally enforceable safeguards on coal ash.

LUANA CLEVELAND, (SS-23)



Luana Cleveland is the Democratic challenger for the seat presently held by Republican Eugene Yaw. She will work to restore funding and local zoning rights to ensure clean air, land, and water and return zoning control

to local government. She is a member of the Responsible Drilling Alliance and will fight to protect and improve air quality, water quality and for the proper plugging of abandoned oil and gas wells.

In contrast to Senator Yaw, Cleveland would support the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) requirement of a 150-foot buffer for Exceptional and High Quality streams, a ban on further leasing of state forest land for gas development, and a 3,000-foot setback from Marcellus Shale gas drilling for private and public water supplies. She is in favor of a conditional gas drilling moratorium until environmentally protective safeguards are in place. Cleveland would support increased funding for DEP and would bring back funding levels to those not seen since the 1990s.

JEFFREY DAHLANDER, (H-111)



Taking a leave from his career assisting those victimized by financial fraud, Jeffrey Dahlander is the Democratic challenger to the incumbent Republican Sandra Major. As an environmentalist, Dahlander

is particularly concerned about the environmental effects of the rapidly expanding natural gas industry in Pennsylvania.

If he is elected this November, Dahlander pledges to work to pass a bill which will require full disclosure of the chemicals used in the drilling process. Further he would work to make sure that all available technology is used to prevent harmful emissions and eliminate migration of natural gas from drilling sites into fresh water supplies. He will push to improve Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regulations so that violations are met with strict fines and restitution payments to the people affected, requiring natural gas companies to pay for permanent filtering and cleanup of the water supply if they contaminated it. Dahlander will repower conservation boards through funding and return oversight of the permitting process that has since been transferred to the DEP.

FRANK FARINA, (H-115)



Democrat Frank Farina is challenging Republican Theresa Kane for the open seat in the 115th State House District. Farina is a member of the National Wild Turkey Federation and the Lone Pine Hunting Club and is

committed to environmental protection and the preservation of Pennsylvania's game lands, waterways and state forests.

Farina would oppose legislation that would remove the existing stream buffer requirement for Exceptional Value and High Quality streams and supports revoking the provisions in Act 13, which restrict the rights of municipal government to use their zoning ordinances to determine the location of oil and gas operations. He supports the policy of halting further leasing of state forests and a moratorium on issuing new drilling permits until the state has fully updated and implemented safeguards that will protect our health and environment. Farina supports restoring funding to Department of Environmental Protection to the higher levels of the 1990s and keeping the Oil and Gas Lease Fund monies for public conservation assets.

Farina graduated from Penn State University with a degree in Criminal Justice and is the owner of a landscaping company.

RANSOM YOUNG, (H -116)



With a deep love for our environment, Ransom Young is a 4th generation farmer. He enrolled his farm in the Luzerne County Agricultural Preservation program, which will prevent his property from ever being

developed and will keep it as green space in perpetuity. He was deeply disturbed by the passage of Act 13, which has removed the discretionary authority of local officials with regard to the establishment of Marcellus Shale industrial sites. As such, Young supports a moratorium on drilling new injection wells for the disposal of gas drilling waste water. He supports expanding the stream buffer requirement to include a minimum 100 forested buffer along all streams when there is new development and halting further leasing of our state forest land for natural gas drilling. He also supports a moratorium on issuing new gas drilling permits until the state has fully updated and implemented safeguards that will protect our health and environment. Mr. Young is the Democratic challenger for the seat presently held by Republican Tarah Toohil who has a score of less than 30 percent on the Environmental Scorecard and voted to open state university lands to gas drilling.

PHYLLIS MUNDY, (H-120)



Democratic incumbent Phyllis Mundy has been an environmental champion throughout her 22-year career as state representative from Luzerne County. The Sierra Club has been able to depend on Mundy to consistently support the right environmental positions.

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Mundy scored a 100 percent on the last Environmental Scorecard.

Mundy has gained the status of legislative environmental hero for her efforts to improve streams, enhance flood protection, support regulations on water and air pollution, and, most recently, for her decisive leadership in calling for a one year moratorium on new Marcellus Shale drilling. Mundy is a graduate of Bloomsburg State College and was first elected to the state House in 1991.

ELIZABETH FORREST, (H-189)



Democrat Elizabeth Forrest is challenging one-term Republican incumbent Rosemary Brown for the 189th Pennsylvania House District seat.

As an environmentalist, Forrest is particularly concerned about the negative effects of the rapidly expanding natural gas industry on our pristine rivers and creeks, forests and game lands, which serve as critical recreational and economic assets. Forrest will fight hard to protect the tourism industry in the Poconos from the irresponsible actions of gas drillers that could destroy the local hospitality and leisure economy overnight. She feels that the industry should pay a fair extraction tax. Forrest supports halting further leasing of our state forests and a conditional drilling moratorium. She will oppose further cutting of the budget of the Department of Environmental Protection.

For more than 20 years, Forrest has provided legal technology consultation, business process analysis and training, and services for national and international law firms and corporations. From 2005 to 2010, Forrest served as legislative aide to former State Rep. John J. Siptroth. She is the Pike County Committeewoman for the Pennsylvania State Democratic Committee.

SOUTHEASTERN GROUP

MANAN TRIVEDI, (C- 6)



Sierra Club endorses Manan Trivedi, candidate for the 6th Congressional District, challenging Republican incumbent Jim Gerlach, who has an environmental score of a lowly 38 percent.

This is a rematch. Gerlach beat Trivedi 62 - 38 percent in 2010. Trivedi's parents are from India, but he was born in Berks County. A primary care physician at Reading Hospital, Trivedi was a Marine Corps doctor in Iraq 2001-03. He understands the need for efficiency and points out that new energy infrastructure will create jobs that can't be sent overseas. Global warming is a public health issue because it causes famine, drought and emigration. He said climate change deniers stand in the way of transition away from coal.

BOB BRADY, (C-1)



Bob Brady was first elected in 1998, a Democrat in a largely Democratic district. His environmental score is 81 percent. He has co-sponsored bills to install electric car charging stations in parking lots owned

by the federal government and to repeal an exemption for hydraulic fracturing in the Safe Drinking Water Act. Brady would require gas drillers to disclose the identity and volume of fracking chemicals to the state, which would post the information on the worldwide Web. He co-sponsored a bill that encourages donation of farm or ranch easements by letting the donor deduct 100 percent of her/his income for 16 years, instead of 50 percent for six years. He voted against a bill to require time-consuming and unhelpful cost-benefit analysis of federal regulations.

Brady's opponent is Republican John Featherman.

CHAKA FATTAH, (C-2)



Chaka Fattah was first elected in 1995 in a largely Democratic district. He has a long and excellent environmental record. His environmental score is 89 percent. He faces two opponents in November: Republican John Mansfield Jr. and Independent James Foster.

In response to U.S. Supreme Court decisions excluding up to 20 million acres from Clean Water Act protections, Fattah co-sponsored the Clean Water Protection Act, which extends coverage of the Clean Water Act to all waters of the United States. He has also co-sponsored a bill to create the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program, which would make grants for the improvement of water quality, protect wildlife habitat and control flooding. In 2011 he voted against a bill that would have required the House and Senate to approve any new federal regulation within 70 days, which would have allowed either chamber to nullify new rules. He voted against exempting the federal government from having to pay attorney's fees when it loses in court.

ALLYSON SCHWARTZ, (C-13)



Allyson Schwartz was first elected 2004. She represents a largely Democratic district and has an environmental score of 97 percent.

Her Republican opponent is Joseph Rooney. Schwartz has co-sponsored the Clean Water Protection Act and bills to create new wilderness areas in Utah, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. She has worked to protect wilderness areas the coastal plain of

VOTE FOR YOUR CHAPTER DELEGATES, PAGES 30-31

the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and roadless areas of our national forests from constructing roads. She voted for another bill would stimulate donation of farm and ranch easements by allowing the owner to deduct 100 percent of his/her income for 16 years instead of half their income for six years. In 2011, she voted against repeal of the Antiquities Act, which permits the President create national monuments without Congressional approval.

LAWRENCE FARNESE, JR., (SS-1)



Lawrence Farnese, Jr., a Democrat first elected in 2008, is running for re-election to the State Senate, in a largely Democratic district. Farnese has an environmental score of 100 percent.

Farnese upset a well-known union leader to win the seat formerly occupied by Vince Fumo.

In the debate over Marcellus shale he consistently voted not to divert revenue from environmental programs to the General Fund. He voted for a moratorium on new leases of state land for drilling, higher cleanup bonds, increased setbacks between homes and water wells, and continued local zoning control over the siting of gas wells.

ERIC SCHOTT, (SS-13)



Eric Schott, is running in a largely Republican district against Republican incumbent John Lawrence. Schott has taught social studies for 38 years in the Avon Grove School District. He was on the London Grove

Parks and Rec Committee 14 years, helping create a large forested park. His knowledge about farmland easements has helped to save Chester County's rich soil and to preserve the land as open space. He supports Act 319 Clean and Green easements, which can be revoked by the landowner.

DAYLIN LEACH, (SS-17)



Daylin Leach is running for a second term in the state Senate in a largely Democratic district. Since being elected four years ago, Leach has earned a perfect score on the environment -- 100 percent.

Before being elected to the Senate, Leach represented the 149th House district for six years, introducing more pro-environmental legislation than any other representative. In the Senate he's introduced bills to give physicians more freedom to disclose fracking chemicals to patients and to require more frequent Department of Environmental Protection inspection of gas wells, increase water source setbacks, and restore local zoning authority over the siting of gas wells.

Leach taught constitutional law at Cedar Crest and Muhlenberg Colleges. His opponent is Republican Charles Gehret.

ANDREW DINNIMAN, (SS-19)



In the six years serving in the state Senate, Andrew Dinniman has compiled environmental score of 100 percent. In a 2006 special election, he won his Senate seat by upsetting Republican Carol Aichele, now Secretary

of State.

He sponsored SB 352, which would enact a moratorium on new leases of state land for gas drilling. He supports taxing drillers that withdraw more than 750,000 gallons of water from a single source. While he knows new gas pipelines can't be kept out of the county, he wants to regulate them. Counties should be able to tax gas reserves as they do tax coal reserves now. He would repeal the part of Act 13, which deprives local governments of the power to zone out drilling.

In three terms on County Council Dinniman played a major role in writing Landscapes, the County's pioneering open space plan. His November opponent is Republican Christopher Amentas.

MIKE HAYS, (H-26)



Mike Hays is challenging long-time incumbent Tim Hennessey for his seat in the state House. The district has about equal Democratic and Republican registration.

Hays is a Spring City Borough council member. As chair of its sewer committee he's aware of the problems with the borough's treatment plant and many other plants across the Commonwealth, which were built in the 1920's. Because of the combined stormwater and sewer outfalls, untreated sewage is released into the Schuylkill in all but the smallest storms.

Hays says that states must lead on global warming because Congress is paralyzed. Further, he says, "There is no need for a Marcellus shale gas drilling moratorium to revise regulations because we know enough now to revise them." Hays is campaigning door-to-door many hours a week to win election.

STEVE SANTARSIERO, (H-31)



The Sierra Club endorses Steve Santarsiero, an incumbent with a 100 percent on the environmental report card. He has introduced HB 2414, which would amend the recently passed Act

13, Marcellus shale legislation, to increase the bond a drilling company's cleanup bond, and to increase setbacks from water supplies. It restores to localities some zoning control over well siting. As a Lower Makefield supervisor, he persuaded colleagues to inventory the township GHG

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emissions, set a target for their reduction, and prepare an action plan. Santarsiero is on the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee.

In a district with essentially even registration between Democrats and Republicans (with a large contingent of independents), he is running against Republican Anne Chapman.

MATT BRADFORD, (H-70)



Sierra Club endorses Matt Bradford, a legislator since 2008, whose environmental scores are 100 percent. Before running for the House, Bradford was solicitor for the Norristown Solid Waste Authority. He had

the good fortune to be named to the Appropriations Committee his first term in the House. His HB 2415 would end criminal penalties for doctors who disclose to patients what frackwater chemicals are making them sick. The bill is part of the Marcellus Compact of five amendments to Act 13, Marcellus shale legislation, sponsored by Democrats. In 2010 he voted for moratorium on new leases of state land for gas drilling and for a severance tax.

TINA DAVIS, (H-141)



Sierra Club endorses Tina Davis, incumbent representative first elected in 2010, in the 141st District. Davis's environmental score is 100 percent. Davis is heir to the seat long held by environmental hero Tony Melio. She was member and chair for five years of the Bristol Township Council when she helped stop an ethanol plant on 114 undeveloped acres along the Delaware River, despite high unemployment in the Township.

She has introduced a bill encouraging gov-

ernments and citizens to adopt zero waste policies, to reduce landfill volumes, incineration, and tipping fees.

MARY JO DALEY, (H-148)



Sierra Club endorses Mary Jo Daley for State House in the 148th District. Daley is running for an open seat against Republican Mike Ludwig.

The district has a majority Democrat registration. Daley entered the race late because Mike Gerber announced his decision to retire after the primary. Daley was chair of the Narberth Borough Council for 20 straight years. Narberth, population 4,200, is an island of green with a big recreation area at its center. She has good command of local government issues like recycling and stormwater management. When the Sierra Club Building Environmental Communities campaign had an office in Narberth, 1993-4, Daley was active, volunteering for a leadership position.

BRET BINDER, (H-156)



Sierra Club endorses Bret Binder for representative in the 156th District. Binder, a Democrat, is challenging first term incumbent Republican Dan Truitt, in a district that has a slight Republican majority. Binder is a lawyer who likes to

restore old houses and cars. He knows Marcellus shale gas drilling can both help and hurt an economy by discouraging tourism and straining infrastructure. Much of the wealth does not flow to Pennsylvanians. He's knowledgeable about leasing or buying solar power with government help. Binder says global warming deniers might be convinced to change their ways by economic arguments. His undergraduate thesis at Penn was a study of the financial benefits of using less gas in California.

PAUL DRUCKER, (H-157)



Sierra Club endorses Paul Drucker for the 157th State House District. Drucker was elected to the seat in 2008, but lost by a narrow margin in 2010 to Republican incumbent Warren Kampf.

Drucker had an environmental score of 80 percent. Drucker is a lawyer who while in office commuted to Harrisburg daily by train, refusing a state car. He was the first Democrat ever elected to Tredyffrin Council and to the state House from District 157. His bill to exempt school districts from their state-imposed spending cap for green amenities to school buildings passed the House unanimously. He received \$1 million from Governor Rendell for a solar array atop the Paoli superfund site. He is a vocal supporter of a severance tax on natural gas.

TIM BRIGGS, (H-149)



Sierra Club endorses 149th District incumbent Tim Briggs. Environmental score was 100 percent. Briggs is a Green Dog, outspoken on the issue of Marcellus shale. He favors drilling and leasing moratoria, a

severance tax, disclosure of frackwater chemicals, stricter regulations on frackwater disposal, and requiring an air quality permit for drill pads. He voted against the last two state budgets for their funding cuts to the Department of Environmental Protection, among other reasons. He sponsors a bill to require the state to buy Energy Star appliances for its buildings and set energy efficiency standards for small appliances like a furnace fan, TV, DVD player, hot food holding cabinet, and fluorescent lighting.

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MARGO DAVIDSON, (H-164)



Sierra Club endorses 164th District Incumbent Margo Davidson. Davidson surprised many by taking this seat when powerful Republican Mario Civera retired. Her principal interest is helping black women entrepreneurs, but she organized a community cleanup and she voted to increase the share of the impact fee designated for Growing Greener and four times for an adequate severance tax. She voted not to divert conservation funding to natural gas projects. Her environmental score was 100 percent

organized a community cleanup and she voted to increase the share of the impact fee designated for Growing Greener and four times for an adequate severance tax. She voted not to divert conservation funding to natural gas projects. Her environmental score was 100 percent

GREG VITALI, (H-166)



There cannot be enough said for long time state house veteran Greg Vitali. Vitali is an environmental hero who consistently votes for and speaks out for what is right. On environmental issues he has no peer in the House. He was the first to introduce a global warming bill in the House or Senate. The bill became law, and he sat on the panel to implement it. He had the idea, later adopted by Department of Environmental Protection, to offer townships money to prepare Green House Gas action plans. Two years ago his bill for a moratorium on leasing of state land for gas drilling passed the House. He led the fight against SB 367, which encourages state colleges to lease their land for gas drilling. He advocated against HB 1659, which sets impossible deadlines for the processing of applications for drilling permits and lets Department of Environmental Protection hire private contractors to do the processing. He leads on HB 2113 to require air quality permits on drilling well pads.

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STEVE MCCARTER, (H-154)



Sierra Club endorses Steve McCarter, candidate for the open seat in the 154th District.

McCarter seeks the seat being vacated by environmental hero Larry Curry. McCarter retired in 2006 after teaching social studies at Lower Merion High School for 34 years. During those years he often took students on summer fieldtrips, and he taught a Saturday class. He's a lifelong liberal active on committees of the Democratic Party, PA State Education Association, Township Library, Historical Society and Sustainability Issues. Curry always voted for the environment, and McCarter knows constituents will expect him to do the same.

McCarter retired in 2006 after teaching social studies at Lower Merion High School for 34 years. During those years he often took students on summer fieldtrips, and he taught a Saturday class. He's a lifelong liberal active on committees of the Democratic Party, PA State Education Association, Township Library, Historical Society and Sustainability Issues. Curry always voted for the environment, and McCarter knows constituents will expect him to do the same.

KEVIN BOYLE, (H-172)



Sierra Club endorses Kevin Boyle, Democratic representative first elected 2010. Boyle's environmental score is 100 percent. Boyle defeated former House Speaker John Perzel, damaged by scandal, in 2010. The district is as gerrymandered as any in the state. Perzel almost lost in 1990 and was determined to represent every Republican neighborhood from Fox Chase to beyond the NE Airport. Boyle voted not to divert environmental funding to gas drilling, for a severance tax, for a gas drilling.

Boyle defeated former House Speaker John Perzel, damaged by scandal, in 2010. The district is as gerrymandered as any in the state. Perzel almost lost in 1990 and was determined to represent every Republican neighborhood from Fox Chase to beyond the NE Airport. Boyle voted not to divert environmental funding to gas drilling, for a severance tax, for a gas drilling.

JIM ROEBUCK, (H-188)



Sierra Club endorses Jim Roebuck, long-time representative from the 188th District.

Roebuck has an environmental score of 92 percent. He has a PhD in history from the University of Virginia and taught at Drexel for 14 years before being elected. As minority chair of the Higher Education Committee his chief interests lie elsewhere, but he almost always votes for the environment. In the Marcellus shale debate he voted against diversion of conservation funding to balance the budget and an end to floor debate. He voted for an end to expedited permit reviews, and for a severance tax or, failing that, an impact fee.

Roebuck has an environmental score of 92 percent. He has a PhD in history from the University of Virginia and taught at Drexel for 14 years before being elected. As minority chair of the Higher Education Committee his chief interests lie elsewhere, but he almost always votes for the environment. In the Marcellus shale debate he voted against diversion of conservation funding to balance the budget and an end to floor debate. He voted for an end to expedited permit reviews, and for a severance tax or, failing that, an impact fee.

VANESSA LOWERY BROWN, (H-190)



Sierra Club endorses Vanessa Lowery Brown, incumbent representative from the 190th District. Brown's environmental score is 91 percent. She is running unopposed. Before being elected to the legislature in 2008 she was a full-time community activist living on little money with no steady job. She's still much involved in meeting the needs of the people of her district, especially the poor. Her only child has asthma, proof to her and many poor people of the importance of a clean environment. She wants a farmer's market in her district, and when she could not find any local farmers to set up shop she imported black farmers and their produce from South Carolina for a day.

Before being elected to the legislature in 2008 she was a full-time community activist living on little money with no steady job. She's still much involved in meeting the needs of the people of her district, especially the poor. Her only child has asthma, proof to her and many poor people of the importance of a clean environment. She wants a farmer's market in her district, and when she could not find any local farmers to set up shop she imported black farmers and their produce from South Carolina for a day.

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PAMELA DELISSIO, (H-194)



Sierra Club endorses incumbent Pamela Delissio for representative from the 194th District.

Delissio's environmental score is 92 percent. She was

CEO of several retirement homes for 30 years. She doubts that a tax on natural gas would drive drillers out of the state. In addition to a cleanup bond, drillers should have to post a bond for damage done while the well is in use in case they go bankrupt. She opposes transfer of control over drilling from the municipality to the state. She supports recycling which saves the City money because the materials collected can sometimes be sold and there is less trash to be disposed of, hence less tipping fee to be paid.

ROSITA YOUNGBLOOD (H-198)



Sierra Club endorses incumbent Rosita Youngblood for representative from the 198th District.

Youngblood's environmental score is 90 percent. In the Marcellus shale discussion she

voted for a severance tax and a fair impact fee. She voted for increased setbacks of well pads from water sources. She voted not to raid conservation funds for well construction, and she voted for a moratorium on leasing of state land for Marcellus drilling. In 2010 she voted to require makers of computers and TVs to fund recycling programs. In 2008 she voted to require electric utilities to install smart meters which report the cost of electricity at any moment.

MARK COHEN, (H-202)



Sierra Club endorses veteran representative Mark Cohen. Cohen's environmental score is 89 percent.

In the past he has supported home weatherization and hybrid cars for energy efficiency and renewable sources

like solar. This session he sponsored a bill to give a tax credit for half the cost of an electric car charging station. He has co-sponsored Representative Vitali's bill for a severance tax on natural gas and Representative Dermody's bill to increase setbacks for gas wells in residential areas. Cohen is running unopposed.

BRENDAN BOYLE, (H-170)



As a member of the Green Dogs, Brendan Boyle merits Sierra Club endorsement in his bid for re-election in the state House. Boyle was first elected to the House in 2008 and since then has earned a score of 95

percent on the environmental score card. He voted against Act 13, the Marcellus shale bill, which deprived municipalities of control over the siting of gas wells. He believes the impact fee was too small and was especially upset that Growing Green was allocated so little. He also supports implementing stable mass transit funding. He supports the recommendations of the Governor's Commission on Transportation to raise the Oil Company Franchise Tax and vehicle registration fees. Boyle is a proven pro-environmental representative who deserves our support.

SPECIAL NOTE

For the most complete list of endorsed federal candidates, please visit the Sierra Club's 2012 Web Voter Guide. This online resource features an interactive map of key congressional races, searchable by state. Visit: www.sierraclub.org/voterguide

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The Wind Debate

ONE THING IS CLEAR: THERE ARE NO EASY SOLUTIONS.

We have grown accustomed over two centuries to think that invention and technology can solve our problems. The cotton gin made cotton cheap and plentiful. The steam engine powered everything from factories to trains. The telegraph, then the telephone, then the radio made it easy for us to stay in touch. Coal burning could make electricity. The electric light brightened our lives. Automobiles gave us freedom to travel almost anywhere. Airplanes could fly and then fly fast enough and high enough to take us places fast.

Lo and behold! Each one of these inventions brought with it problems as well as progress. Now, with a world seven times as populated

as it was two hundred years ago, (and a nation 20 times as populated), we find that every demand for fossil fuel energy adds to natural degradation and health problems.

Non-fossil solutions seem to be the answer. But hydro power affects aquatic life. Wind power kills birds and bats. Solar power works only when the sun shines. Hydro, wind and solar cannot expand to produce the amount of power we now get from coal, oil and gas. There are no easy solutions.

In this issue, we examine wind energy from a Pennsylvania perspective. We try to present a balanced debate. We do not pronounce a solution. Read and consider.

But don't expect an easy solution.

Tax Credit is Blowing in the Wind

For the last two decades, wind power (and other renewable) energy generators received a small Production Tax Credit (PTC) of 2.2 cents per Kilowatt Hour to encourage green energy production. The result is that since 1980 the cost of wind power is down almost 90 percent and wind production is growing as much as 50 percent a year. The industry is growing robustly and creating tens of thousands of jobs all over the country. The production tax credits are set to expire this year, unless Congress votes in favor of HR 3307.

The jobs and technological developments that the renewable energy sector has produced are now in grave danger. This has happened in the past with dire consequences. In 1999 and 2001 and 2003, years when this tax credit expired, wind energy jobs declined by an average of 80 percent. Though the tax credit has been renewed since 2004, there is doubt about whether this current

Congress will vote for renewal without some pressure.

There's a big fight going on in Washington about the direction of domestic energy policy. Almost everyone agrees we need to wean ourselves from foreign energy sources; the debate is how to get to that goal. Some in Congress want to drill and mine our way to energy independence, without regard to the effect that will have on the environment and without a thought of what happens when those finite resources are gone.

A better plan is to develop new technology that will lower energy costs, strengthen national security and foster

American innovation while at the same time lowering carbon pollution and building the economy.

Pennsylvania is one the largest hubs for wind energy manufacturing in the nation with 15 facilities already producing components for the wind energy industry. The state's skilled workforce has attracted international investment, particularly from Gamesa, a world leader in wind manufacturing. Unfortunately, the company just announced 165 layoffs in Pennsylvania due to uncertainty about the future of the



PTC credit for wind power.

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ELECT OBAMA FOR PRESIDENT AND CASEY FOR SENATE!

 **TheWindDebate**

Industrial Windplants often are not Green

by Dr. Stan Kotala

Thousands of industrial-scale wind turbines are planned for Pennsylvania's forested ridges to meet renewable energy goals mandated by our state legislature. Conservationists should be aware of the threat that huge numbers of these 400+ foot-tall turbines and their associated heavy-duty roads, transmission-line corridors, and substations pose to the Keystone State's forested ridges.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service describes three broad impacts of industrial windplants: direct mortality to birds and bats, forest fragmentation, and the inducement of avoidance behavior.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission writes:

"Wind farms have emerged as a new threat to species associated with higher elevation forests — particularly bats and birds. Studies at the Mountaineer wind-power site in West Virginia have yielded numerous dead bats of several species within a span of a few weeks. Given that many of these bats likely are migrants from the Pennsylvania region or from farther north, and that the number of

wind-power sites in West Virginia and in Pennsylvania is increasing rapidly, the long-term impact on population levels may be quite severe.

"The installation of wind turbines at various ridgetop locations across the Commonwealth also is a cause of current concern for golden eagles and other migratory raptors. It has been demonstrated at Altamont Pass, California that such facilities can cause direct mortality of golden eagles. Golden eagles migrate during periods of low thermal lift, which makes them dependent on ridge updrafts."

According to the Pennsylvania Biological Survey:

"Another important — and often overlooked — impact of wind development is habitat fragmentation and its associated effects. These effects include reduced habitat area; habitat isolation and loss of species from an area; disruption of dispersal; increased edge effects and loss of core habitat; and facilitation of invasive species.

"Due to their linearity, roads and transmission lines — both of which accompany wind energy development — have particularly pronounced fragmentation effects.

"The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recommends that wind energy development 'avoid fragmenting large, contiguous tracts of wildlife habitat' and advises that wind turbines be placed 'on lands already altered or cultivated, and away from areas of intact and healthy native habitats.'"

To protect our most critical ridge habitats from this new form of development, Sierra Club chapters should work with municipalities to craft ordinances protecting Important Bird Areas, Important Mammal Areas, and County Natural Heritage Areas from the extensive forest fragmentation that industrial windplants require for their construction and maintenance.

Dr. Stan Kotala is the Endangered Species and Wildlife Chair for the Moshannon Group of the Sierra Club

Tax Credit, continued from page 19

Wind power means a lot to Pennsylvania:

- There are over 20 wind manufacturing facilities.
- These facilities generated over \$1.4 million in property taxes to benefit local communities.
- Wind power production and installation supports 4,000 jobs in Pennsylvania.
- Over 180,000 homes are powered by wind.

- PA farmers earned over \$2.2 million per year in land lease payments from windmills.

Wind power has quickly become one of the most important energy sources for the country. Wind power already supplies 25 percent more electricity to Americans than it did a year ago. States like Iowa and South Dakota generate 20 percent of their electricity from wind power, and the wind industry is on track to produce 20 percent of America's electricity by 2030. More than 400 American manufacturing plants build

wind components, and over 60 percent of a U.S.-installed turbine's value is produced right here in America.

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Wind Power Development on Public Lands – It Isn't Worth It

by the Pennsylvania Biological Survey

The Pennsylvania Biological Survey is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to increase the knowledge of and foster the perpetuation of the natural biological diversity of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Our membership includes scientists, representatives of state and federal agencies concerned with natural resource management, and representatives of non-profit conservation organizations.

PABS technical committees serve as official advisory committees to several natural resource agencies in the state, including the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Game Commission, and Fish and Boat Commission.

After reviewing evidence on the environmental costs and benefits of wind energy, PABS is opposed to wind energy development on Pennsylvania natural resource agency lands.

We are aware of the serious environmental costs of fossil fuel energy sources, including the threats of global climate change to Pennsylvania's natural biological diversity. We therefore support the responsible development of alternative energy sources, including properly sited wind energy development.

However, because wind energy development has associated environmental costs, wind energy development should only be instituted on state lands if the environmental benefits can be demonstrated to exceed the environmental costs.

Based on the available evidence, it is our conclusion that wind energy development is not suitable on state-owned lands where natural resource conservation is a major goal (i.e., primarily lands owned and managed by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Pennsylvania Game Commission).

The reason for our opposition is outlined below but can be summarized as follows:

The environmental benefits of wind energy development, in the mid-Atlantic area in general and on Pennsylvania state lands in particular, are small relative to the negative consequences, which

include habitat fragmentation and mortality to birds and bats.

The primary environmental benefit of wind energy production is that it offsets the use of fossil fuels, thereby reducing emissions of carbon dioxide, a potent greenhouse gas.

The Department of Energy projects that by 2020, wind power will meet 1.2 to 4.5 percent of the country's electricity generation, and will thus offset emissions of carbon dioxide from electricity generation by 1.2 to 4.5 percent. Since electricity generation accounts for 39 percent of carbon dioxide emissions in the United States, wind power will offset between 0.5 and 1.8 percent of total carbon dioxide emissions (National Research Council 2007).

The National Research Council (2007) concludes "Wind energy will contribute proportionately less to electricity generation in the mid-Atlantic region than in the United States as a whole, because a smaller portion of the region has high-quality wind resources than the portion of high-quality wind resources in the United States as a whole."

Thus, it is apparent that wind energy development in the mid-Atlantic will offset a very minor portion of future carbon dioxide emissions.

Because Commonwealth Natural Resource Agency Lands make up only a fraction of land in Pennsylvania, the contribution of wind energy development on these lands to future energy needs, as well as any offset of carbon dioxide emissions, will be negligible.

Energy conservation, on the other hand, could considerably reduce the demand for energy and thus reduce carbon dioxide emissions. For example, residential home energy consumption in 2020 could be feasibly reduced by over 1/3 using existing technologies (Bressand et al. 2007).

The environmental impacts of wind energy are considerable. Mortality to birds and bats has been of particular concern. Bat mortality from wind turbines has been particularly high, especially along forested ridge tops in the eastern United States.

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ELECT OBAMA FOR PRESIDENT AND CASEY FOR SENATE!

The Wind Debate

Because bats generally have low reproductive rates, cumulative negative impacts of wind energy development on bat populations are likely (Kunz et al. 2007). Based on projections of installed wind capacity, it is estimated that by 2020 annual mortality in the mid-Atlantic highlands could be as high as 45,000 birds (National Research Council 2007) and 111,000 bats (Kunz et al. 2007).

With wind energy development expanding on private lands in Pennsylvania, the forested ridge tops of state-owned lands will become even more critical for birds, bats, and other species that utilize these habitats.

Another important, and often overlooked, impact of wind development is habitat fragmentation and its associated effects. These effects include reduced habitat area, habitat isolation and loss of species from an area, disruption of dispersal, increased edge effects and loss of core habitat, and facilitation of invasive species (Groom et al. 2006).

Due to their linearity, roads and transmission lines, both of which accompany wind energy development, have particularly pronounced fragmentation effects (Groom et al. 2006, Willyard et al. 2004).

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (2003) recommends that wind energy development “avoid fragmenting large, contiguous tracts of wildlife habitat” and advises that wind turbines be placed “on lands already altered or cultivated, and away from areas of intact and healthy native habitats.”

Because natural resource agency lands are among the last remaining large blocks of unfragmented land in Pennsylvania, these lands are particularly in need of protection. A publication produced by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (Moyer 2003) emphasizes the importance of preserving these last remaining large blocks of unfragmented habitat in the state.

In conclusion, the environmental benefits wind energy development on natural resource agency lands in Pennsylvania are negligible compared with the environmental consequences. These lands should remain closed to wind energy development.

For more information on the position of the Pennsylvania Biological Survey, contact Dr. Tim Maret, Department of Biology, Shippensburg University, by calling 717-477-1170 or sending email to: tjmare@ship.edu

On the Horizon for Wind: new ideas

compiled by Wendi Taylor

WILDSTALKS

One of the most innovative ideas on the horizon for wind power is being developed outside of Abu Dhabi, the capital and the second largest city of the United Arab Emirates: windstalks, a concept developed by the New York design firm Atelier DNA.

The windstalk project won second place in the Land Art Generator competition, sponsored by Madsar Institute of Science and Technology, located in Madsar in the United Arab Emirates. Madsar boasts that it is among the greenest cities in the world.

Windstalks trade in the concept of blades in favor of stalks. Electricity is generated when the wind sets the stalks waving like cattails in the wind. This design addresses the many drawbacks of wind turbines, which create noise and whose blades too often kill bats and birds.

The proposed design calls for 1,203 “stalks,” each 180-foot high with concrete bases. The carbon-fiber stalks, reinforced with resin, are about a foot wide at the base tapering to about 2 inches at the top. Each stalk will contain alternating layers of electrodes and ceramic discs made from piezoelectric material, which generates a current when put under pressure. In the case of the stalks, the discs will compress as they sway in the wind, creating a charge.

Each base is slightly different and is sloped so that rain will funnel



into the areas between the concrete to help plants grow wild. These bases form a sort of public park space and serve a technological purpose. Each one contains a torque generator that converts the kinetic energy from the stalk into electricity using shock absorber cylinders.

Because wind isn't constant, there will be two large chambers below the whole site, which will store the energy, based on existing hydroelectric pumped storage systems. Water in the upper chamber will flow through turbines to the lower chamber, releasing stored energy until the wind starts up again.

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NEW WAYS TO STORE RENEWABLE ENERGY

A recent patent issued to a New Hampshire company, SustainX, could reduce the cost of storing energy from wind and solar farms using compressed air energy storage (CAES) rather than hydroelectric pumped storage.

Compressed air is one of the preferred methods for storing excess energy from renewable sources during periods of peak production. When there is increased demand, it can then be readily harnessed to provide additional electricity, instead of relying on fossil fuel burning 'peaker plants' or other, less desirable alternatives.

In conventional compressed-air storage, electricity is used to compress air, which is stored in underground caverns or aquifers. That air is then released to drive a turbine-generator to produce electricity when needed. Such storage costs roughly a tenth of what battery storage costs, but it isn't used much in large part because it requires a location with underground storage space.

Using new methods, the air can be compressed and stored in special tanks that can be used anywhere. Further, according to SustainX, the company has found a way to overcome the thermodynamic effect from compressing air. As air is compressed, it generates heat, which resists further compression.

Using above-ground storage eliminates the siting constraints and eliminating concerns associated with classical underground storage.

RADAR ABSORBING TURBINES

Many gigawatts of wind projects are currently being blocked around the world because of concerns about radar interferences. To address this, Vestas Wind Systems – the largest manufacturer of wind turbines in the world, has developed "stealth turbines" which are made of radar-absorbing materials and can eliminate the reflection of radar waves.

A company spokesman says the technology could help make radar interference issues a thing of the past, and open up locations to wind farms that would not even have been considered before.

WIND MAP

Just for fun, you can see where the wind is blowing using this interactive wind map.

<http://hint.fm/wind/>

<http://www.treehugger.com/natural-sciences/beautiful-animated-interactive-wind-map-usa.html>

Lake Erie Wind Farms

by Dave Sublette

When the Apex Offshore Wind Company proposed constructing a large wind farm off the shores of Presque Isle State Park, members of the Lake Erie Group of the Sierra Club and the Presque Isle Audubon Society expressed concern that the turbines would adversely impact the major migratory route of songbirds and waterfowl from Canada to the shores of Presque Isle State Park.

Presque Isle is a breeding ground for rare shore birds and is the only hope for Common Terns and Piping Plovers in Pennsylvania. Park naturalist Ann DeSarro states that Presque Isle is one of the top ten birding areas in the United States, which in the annual count exceeds 300 species.

Gerald McWilliams, naturalist and co-author of *The Birds of Pennsylvania*, has published detailed counts of bird activity,

especially waterfowl, since 1987. He conducts the annual counts by documenting activity at Sunset Point, from first light until 10 a.m. most mornings, from September through early winter. He found that most bird movements are from east to west; from 100 yards from shore to several miles out; at heights up to several hundred feet above the water level. The Common Loon and Cormorant tend not to fly the shore line, but have been documented flying at any point on the lake from Canada to Pennsylvania, which puts them at greatest risk from turbines.

The Great Lakes Wind Collaborative states in their published document, "An Assessment of Research on the Ecological Impacts of Wind energy in the Great Lakes Region," reported that survey methods need to be improved, and specifically designed to study the Great Lakes. Special studies are needed to learn about the ef-

fects wind siting will have on bird and bat flight in this unique environment. Since no wind farms yet exist on the Great Lakes, there are no models for comparison, and salt water (oceanic) wind farms cannot be used to determine optimal siting of turbines on the Great Lakes, and specifically on Lake Erie, since migratory patterns and water depths are dissimilar.

Emily Green, Sierra Club leader for the Great Lakes wind energy proposals, states, "The Sierra Club supports off shore wind turbines when they can be sited and developed in a way that does not adversely affect avian, aquatic and other environmental systems. As off shore wind turbine in Pennsylvania waters poses potential significant risks, credible scientific research is required before consideration is given to constructing offshore turbines in the waters of Lake Erie."

ELECT OBAMA FOR PRESIDENT AND CASEY FOR SENATE!

The Wind Debate

If Not Wind, Then What?

by Tom Schuster

Few things cause as much discord among environmentalists as wind power. On one side are folks who support it as a non-polluting source of the power that we need; on the other are those who believe the downsides of habitat fragmentation and bird and bat collisions outweigh these benefits. This argument is more pronounced in Pennsylvania than in the Midwest, where you can stick a turbine on just about any farm. Here in Pennsylvania our windiest sites are ridge tops.

The Sierra Club has adopted a Wind Siting Advisory that generally supports wind energy development provided that appropriate siting criteria are met. It states that all regions of the country have locations suitable for wind. The advisory establishes a hierarchy of site preferences, wherein agricultural and other previously disturbed sites are preferred, along with sites where turbines can be tied to existing transmission lines. It holds that certain sites should be off-limits, such as state and national parks and wilderness areas. It also recognizes that specific sites may pose unacceptably high risks for wildlife. Therein lies the rub: what is unacceptably high? To some, any number of new access roads or bird kills is too many. After all, the Sierra Club was founded to protect wild places. Why would we encourage any development that would impact them?

To answer that, we need to take a hard look at electricity production as a system and evaluate the alternatives to wind. Pennsylvania's landscape is marred by 835 active and unreclaimed abandoned coal mines (mostly strip mines) and countless piles of waste coal, which leach acid and heavy metals that poison our rivers and streams. Coal combustion is the leading source of greenhouse gas emissions, which if unchecked can permanently disrupt even the most pristine habitats around the globe.

Coal is also responsible for enough air pollution to cause 2,300 heart attacks and kill over 1,300 people per year in Pennsylvania alone.

We used to believe natural gas was better than coal because its combustion emissions of toxic pollution and greenhouse gases were considerably less. That was until fracking came along. Fracking threatens our streams and drinking water with various petroleum distillates and radioactive residues, and fragments our forests with a

“Without a doubt, the cleanest energy is that which is not produced at all...”

spider web of pipelines. Now we suspect that fugitive methane from unconventional gas extraction and distribution may be having an even greater impact on climate than coal.

America has essentially tapped out hydropower. There are very few suitable remaining valleys and gorges, like Hetch Hetchy and Glen Canyon, to inundate for power generation. Then there is nuclear power, that other source of carbon-free generation (if you ignore the mining of uranium for fuel, of course). Nuclear power carries huge challenges. Apart from the famous disasters, and the danger of weapons proliferation, how does one design a sign that will communicate to a passerby in 10,000 years the nature of the danger contained in a nuclear waste repository?

Once we consider the alternatives, the impacts of most wind projects on our

environment, though real, seem minor in comparison.

There are plenty of renewable energy sources out there, but none is without negative impacts. Solar is probably the greenest, despite using some heavy metals in its fabrication, as it can be integrated into buildings. However, wind is the only clean energy source which is coming to the scale necessary to displace a significant amount of fossil fuels in the short timeframe necessary to avert the worst climate disruption. And in fact, the negative impacts of wind can be mitigated not only with proper site analysis, but also improved equipment design and operational adjustments. For example, a project in Altamont, CA, replaced small turbines with fewer larger ones and avoided ridge saddles. These steps reduced raptor deaths up to 75 percent. The Caselman Wind Project here in Pennsylvania reduced bat kills by 93 percent with only a 1 percent reduction in energy production simply by setting the turbines to start spinning at slightly higher wind speeds in which bats fly less.

Without a doubt, the cleanest energy is that which is not produced at all, so Sierra Club is actively fighting for strong energy efficiency and conservation policies at the federal, state and local level. But no matter how effective we are in this effort, we will always need some electricity. For good reason, we are already trying to move beyond coal, gas, oil, and nukes. So until solar energy comes down further in price and we develop a cost-effective way to store it for nighttime use, wind power looks like our best, cleanest bet for keeping the lights on.

The Wind Siting Advisory available at: http://www.sierraclub.org/policy/conservation/wind_siting.aspx

Tom Schuster directs the Beyond Coal campaign here in Pennsylvania.

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Great Lakes and Offshore Wind

by Emily Green

The Great Lakes region currently gets almost three-quarters of its electricity from coal-fired power plants. These outdated facilities pollute the Great Lakes with toxic mercury, kill billions of fish every year in their cooling systems, and contribute to climate change, which is exacerbating all of the environmental stressors impacting the lakes.

In order to move beyond coal, we must bring large quantities of clean, renewable energy online over the next decade, while reducing demand through energy conservation and efficiency. Offshore wind in the Great Lakes is a source of clean energy that deserves serious consideration, as it can deliver clean renewable energy at the scale we need, in close proximity to major load centers and, if carefully sited, with minimal environmental and social impacts.

A CLEAN ENERGY SOLUTION AT SCALE AND CLOSE TO LOAD

One offshore wind farm can provide a tremendous amount of clean energy (enough to replace a medium-sized coal plant) because the turbines are larger and more efficient and the wind is stronger and more consistent out over the water. The turbines being installed in European offshore wind farms today generate 350 percent more power than typical onshore turbines. In addition, offshore winds tend to be stronger during the day, when energy demand is greatest, enabling offshore wind farms to generate energy when the power is most needed.

The United States Department of Energy (DOE) estimates that the total gross offshore wind energy resource in U.S. waters is over 4,000 gigawatts (GW), or almost four times the capacity of the current US power system. The offshore wind resource in the Great Lakes exceeds the power demand of all of our states.

Offshore wind farms can be located relatively close to population centers in the Midwest and along the east coast, where we need the energy. This eliminates the need for new transmission corridors to bring energy from land-based wind farms hundreds of miles away.

DOING IT RIGHT FROM THE START

Wind farms must be sited carefully and should not be constructed in locations where they will have major environmental impacts. As the Great Lakes are the irreplaceable natural gems of our region, supporting recreation, tourism, drinking water supplies, threatened and endangered species, fishing, etc, we must be particularly vigilant to protect this amazing resource.

However, we should not categorically rule out offshore wind in the Great Lakes for environmental reasons. If sited appropriately, with careful consideration of migratory pathways, aquatic habitat, and other critical environmental issues, an offshore wind farm may have less environmental impact than a comparable land-based wind farm.

To help fill critical information gaps and inform future siting decisions, the Sierra Club is supporting research on bird and bat abundance in the offshore areas of the Great Lakes. We are also helping develop a regional mapping platform that will compile and make publicly available much of the existing information on critical environmental resources. This tool will help us determine what information gaps we still need to fill and will help us identify areas of the Great Lakes ecosystem that are not appropriate for offshore wind, along with areas where there may be fewer environmental and social conflicts. Regardless, all proposed offshore wind farms in the Great Lakes will have to go through a full Environmental Impact Statement evaluation, with site-specific studies and analysis,

under the National Environmental Protection Act.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Along with clean energy, the greatest benefit of offshore wind is local economic development. Because of the size and scale of offshore wind turbines, manufacturing centers across the region stand to benefit from every stage of offshore wind development, including manufacturing components, shipping and installing parts, assembling the turbines and maintaining the system. The Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) extrapolated data from Europe and estimates that offshore wind will create more than 20 direct jobs for every megawatt produced in the United States.

PATH FORWARD

Five Great Lakes states (Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, New York and Pennsylvania) recently joined with ten federal agencies to form the Great Lakes Offshore Wind Energy Consortium. The purpose is to support the efficient and environmentally responsible review of offshore wind proposals in the Great Lakes. Ultimately, the Consortium's goal is to bring this new clean energy option to market in a responsible way, protecting the Great Lakes while spurring economic development.

The Sierra Club should engage in this process and support the exploration of offshore wind in the Great Lakes as a large potential source of clean, renewable energy that will help us move beyond coal. At the same time, we should ensure that any future projects are sited appropriately, protecting the critical and irreplaceable natural treasures that are our Great Lakes.

Emily Green is Great Lakes Director for the Sierra Club.

ELECT OBAMA FOR PRESIDENT AND CASEY FOR SENATE!

The Wind Debate

Ethical Analysis of Wind Power Projects

by Donald A. Brown

Wind power is a hopeful solution to the threat of climate change because it consumes neither fuel nor water and emits no greenhouse emissions strictly related to electricity production. Yet, like all climate change solutions it has several potential adverse environmental impacts.

Recently opposition to wind projects has grown in the United States and several other countries as opponents have objected on the basis of potential adverse environmental and social impacts from proposed wind projects.

Specifically, wind power can harm the wildlife which comes in contact with wind turbines and the blades that turn them. Most notably, birds and bats have been killed by wind projects. Further, forests and virgin lands are disturbed by the construction of transmission lines built to move wind power from project sites to electrical grids. People living near wind projects lose the aesthetics of natural landscapes and can be irritated by the noise. However, care in locating wind power projects can minimize or sometimes eliminate these potential adverse environmental and social impacts.

ETHICAL ISSUES THAT ARISE BECAUSE WIND POWER IS A POTENTIAL SOLUTION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change is a challenging threat to human health and ecological systems on which life depends – a threat to our civilization. Therefore, solutions to climate change, including wind power, must be evaluated in relation to the problem for which they are attempting to solve. Because climate change has devastating impacts on ecological systems on which life depends, any ethical analysis of solutions to human-induced warming including wind power must take into account the responsibilities of those who are contributing to climate change to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

Without doubt, wind projects have been

known to kill some birds and bats, interfere with the aesthetic enjoyment of some landscapes, and create some noise problems for people living very close to large wind projects. However, proponents of wind power argue that wind power's adverse environmental impacts are minor compared to other energy alternatives to wind power or that are currently the source of electrical generation. Thus they argue that wind power



er is very environmentally benign compared to available electricity generating alternatives. In addition they argue that any adverse impacts that could be caused by wind power can be avoided or greatly minimized through thoughtful project siting decisions.

To the extent that wind power projects can be implemented in ways that minimize or avoid adverse impacts to wildlife, aesthetic values, or harmful land uses, wind power projects should be located, designed, and constructed to minimize these adverse impacts. Global warming is likely to have much greater impacts than wind has on wildlife and birds, landscapes, water, human health, and ecological systems. Unwisely located wind power projects may kill some birds and bats, but climate change is likely to kill entire species of birds and bats

and other wildlife not threatened by wind power. In addition, energy generated by fossil fuels cause adverse impacts to human health and ecological systems that are not caused by wind power.

Climate change is not only a future catastrophic problem, it is already believed to be killing people around the world in increased vector borne disease, droughts, heat waves, floods, and intense storms. Wind power has not caused these problems at all.

Some regions of the world are already clearly affected by human-induced warming. For instance, according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), precipitation that can cause deadly floods is already increasing significantly in eastern parts of North and South America, northern Europe and northern and central Asia, while precipitation is declining in the Sahel, the Mediterranean, southern Africa and parts of southern Asia and contributing to diminished food supply and freshwater needed for agriculture and drinking (See: http://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/ar4/syr/en/contents.html)

IPCC has reported that harms caused by climate change are already being experienced by some people, including, but not limited to, death, disease, ecological harm, floods and droughts, rising seas, more intense storms, and increased heat waves. These harms will grow in the years ahead even if it is possible for the international community to stabilize atmospheric greenhouse gas emissions at current levels. That is, increased warming will continue even if atmospheric greenhouse gas levels are held constant because of thermal lags in the oceans and other delays in the climate system. It is simply too late to prevent additional climate change-caused suffering.

To stabilize atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases at current levels will require huge reductions from current emissions levels. Therefore, those who are op-

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posing wind power projects are very likely already contributing to environmental destruction and human suffering around the world. This fact, as a matter of ethics, should disenfranchise those opponents of wind power who object because of potential harms to themselves as long as they are contributing to much worse harms to others from climate change.

All major ethical systems hold that people have obligations not to harm others, regardless of where they are located around the world. That is, utilitarian, rights-based theories, and justice-based ethical theories hold that humans have duties to not harm others regardless of their location. Different ethical theories will reach different conclusions about how duties should be allocated among people who are causing great harm to others. However, almost all ethical theories agree that human beings have duties to not harm others without regard to where in the world they live.

Because individuals have duties to not harm others, governments have duties to not harm others outside their jurisdictions because these governments are the locus for creating policies that achieve the duties and responsibilities of their citizens. For this reason, both the governments themselves and their individual citizens have duties to reduce greenhouse gas emissions under their control to their fair share of safe global emissions. Individual citizens have duties to do all in their power to assure that their governments reduce greenhouse gas emissions to levels required by distributive justice because: (a) governments in a democracy can be understood to be a means of implementing the collective responsibilities of their citizens, and (b) individuals also have responsibilities to not harm others. For this reason, individuals that are emitting greenhouse gases in excess of their fair share of safe global emissions not only have duties to generate their power needs from more climate friendly technologies, such as wind power, they also have duties to support government policies to reduce the threat of climate change through greater reliance on renewable energy.

It is quite clear that the vast majority of regional and local governments, organizations, businesses, and individuals in developed countries may not reasonably argue that they are not far exceeding their fair share of safe global emissions because of the enormous reductions in current levels of greenhouse gas emissions that will be necessary to stabilize atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases at safe levels.

Climate change will put into jeopardy the very lives, health, and indispensable natural resources upon which lives of hundreds of millions of people around the world depend. The most gravely threatened are the poorest people who are usually the most vulnerable. And so, climate change is a threat to things

“Climate change is not only a future catastrophic problem, it is already believed to be killing people around the world...”

that are basic for human life and in turn, interferes with the dignity of human life that is usually the predicate for recognizing that human rights have been violated. In fact, climate change is currently threatening the very existence of nations like the Maldives and Kiribati. These facts demonstrate that excess greenhouse gas emissions violate basic human rights, a conclusion that strengthens the obligations of individuals and governments to replace fossil fuel energy with renewable energy. And so wind power projects not only satisfy the ethical obligations of individuals in regard to future energy consumption, they help individuals meet their obligations to reduce the harms that are coming from their existing energy consumption practices. From an ethical point of view, people should not be able to object to wind power projects unless they can demonstrate that they are not currently exceeding their fair share of safe global emissions.

This is particularly the case when the adverse impacts of wind are weighed against the great harms that global warming is caus-

ing to tens of millions of people around the world. Rather than objecting to wind projects, people in the United States should concentrate on assuring that any new wind power project minimizes avoidable adverse impacts.

Accepting this, there are other ethical issues that arise concerning wind power projects. These ethical issues include:

- The need to assure that the process of approving wind power projects with ethical norms are designed to prevent corruption and conflicts of interest in the approval process. (For a good discussion of these issues see, see a piece written by Victoria Sutton: <http://www.sjel.org/vol11/wind-energy-law-and-ethics.html>.)
- The need to assure that all potential adverse environmental and social impacts that could be caused by proposed wind power projects are adequately identified.
- Ethical issues that arise because of the deceptive practices of some corporations and free-market fundamentalist organizations that have created front groups and astroturf groups (fake grassroots groups) that disguise the real parties in interest. According to published reports written by Susan Goldenberg of the Guardian, this funded opposition is ethically troublesome because it uses deceptive tactics designed to give the false impression that opposition to wind power projects is a spontaneous “bottom-up” citizen opposition when it has sometimes been funded by those who have economic interests in maintaining or increasing fossil fuel consumption. (See: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2012/may/08/conservative-thinkpans-obama-energy-plans>)

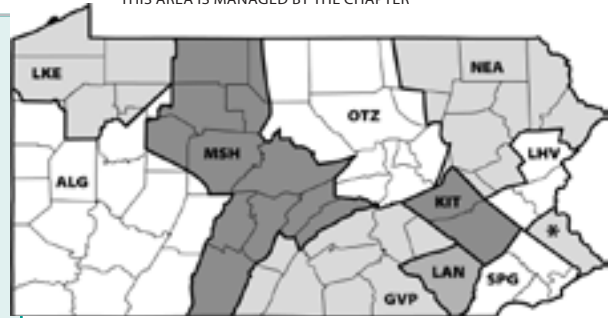
Donald A. Brown is a Scholar In Residence, at Widener University School of Law, Sustainability Ethics and Law. He is the author of Navigating the Perfect Moral Storm: Climate Ethics (2012, Routledge Earthscan, London, in press). He can be reached at: Dabrown@mail.widener.edu.

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Meetings & Outings

PENNSYLVANIA GROUPS MAP

* THIS AREA IS MANAGED BY THE CHAPTER



For up-to-date information, start times, meeting points, & directions, please see your Group's website or newsletter, or contact the Sierra Club members listed below.

The group events and outings may not be complete. Some events may be added after The Sylvania goes to press or some changes may be made to the events listed here. To be on the safe side, please confirm details.

Participants on outings must sign a liability waiver, available from www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms or from the Outings Department at 415-977-5528. Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling and assumes no liability.

Chapter Executive Committee

<http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/>

MEETINGS

The Chapter Executive Committee (ExCom) meets between four and six times a year in locations near the middle of the state. Our meeting schedule for 2013 is:

Saturday, January 12 - Chapter Office, Harrisburg

Saturday, April 13 - Bongiorno Center, Carlisle, followed by the Chapter's awards dinner banquet and training sessions on Sunday, April 14.

Saturday, July 13 - Susquehannock State Park in Lancaster County, part of our annual outing July 12-14.

Saturday, October 5 - Centre County Recycling Center in Bellfonte

Allegheny Group

www.alleghenysc.org

MEETINGS

The Allegheny Group meets the 2nd Monday of the month from 7-9 p.m. at the Sierra Club Office, 425 North Craig St., Pittsburgh, PA

For more information, see the Web site: www.alleghenysc.org

OUTINGS & PROGRAMS

Interested in leading outings? Contact Bruce Sundquist, 724-327-8737 or bsundquist1@windstream.net

Governor Pinchot Group

pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/pinchot

MEETINGS

The Governor Pinchot group meets the last Tuesday of the month at 6:30. For the meeting location, please check the Web site above.

OUTINGS & PROGRAMS

For information on Governor Pinchot Group activities, see pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/pinchot.

For more info contact John at 717-737-7675 or lenahan.john@mac.com

Kittatinny Group

pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/berks

MEETINGS

Kittatinny Executive Committee meets monthly. All members welcome. For more information, contact Kathy Stoica at 610-916-2928 or katstoica@yahoo.com

OUTINGS & PROGRAMS

For up-to-date listings of activities, see pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/berks/calendar.htm.

Lancaster Group

pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/lancaster

MEETINGS

Business meetings of the Lancaster Group of the Sierra Club are held on the third Wednesday of every month (except July and December) as follows:

October 17, and November 21 and January 16, 2013.

All meetings are open to the public and begin at 6:30 p.m. They are held in Lancaster Country Day School, 725 Hamilton Rd., Lancaster. Parking is available in the school's parking lot.

OUTINGS & PROGRAMS

Saturday, October 27: 10 a.m. - Fall Foliage Hike at Susquehannock State Park in southern Lancaster County.

Sunday, December 2: 2 p.m. - Book Discussion: Earth by Bill McKibben (at Aaron's Books, 35 E. Main St., Lititz).

Saturday, January 19, 2013: 10 a.m. - 3rd Annual Sierra Club Polar Bear 5K Trail Run/Hike in Lancaster County Central Park, starting and ending at Pavilion 22.

Visit the website www.lancastersierraclub.org for more details about these events, as well as others that are in the planning stages, or contact Jennifer Ericson at jericson@ezsolution.com or 717-892-2026.

Lake Erie Group

MEETINGS

Business meetings are held the second Thursday of every other month at the Asbury Wood Education Center, on Asbury Road in Erie, starting at 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

OUTINGS & PROGRAMS

For information on Lake Erie Group outings and activities, contact Chuck Benson at bensonville@aol.com

Lehigh Valley Group

pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/lv

MEETINGS

The Lehigh Valley Group Executive Committee meets at 7 p.m. on the first Monday of each month (except July) in Room 638, Fowler Family Center, Northampton Community College, Third and Buchanan Streets, (south) Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18015. All members are welcome. This meeting is where we do our organizational planning and discuss environmental issues.

For updated information, please visit our Website:

<http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/lv/>

For more information about Lehigh Valley Group, contact:

Donald Miles, Lehigh Valley Group chair, at donmiles@rcn.com or 610-730-2514 or Matt MacConnell, vice-chair, at mattmacconnell@gmail.com or 610-657-2707.

OUTINGS & PROGRAMS

If you'd like to join us for outdoor fun, consider joining our outings MeetUp: <http://www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Lehigh-Valley-Group/>

Moshannon Group

pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/moshannon

MEETINGS

Moshannon Group meetings are on the first Tuesday of month at 7 p.m.

VOTE FOR YOUR CHAPTER DELEGATES, PAGES 30-31

at Clear Water Conservancy, State College. All members & guests welcome. For more info, contact Gary Thornbloom at 814-353-3466 or by email at: bearknob@verizon.net.

OUTINGS

All outings open to general public & members. All levels of ability and interest are encouraged to participate.

Moshannon Group's outings are listed at: <http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/moshannon/outings.html>

Northeastern Group

pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/northeastern

MEETINGS

Members are always welcomed and encouraged to join us each month for our executive committee meetings, where we plan activities & group priorities. Meetings held on first Tuesday of each month, usually at 7 p.m. and meeting sites vary. For more information, contact Jen Lavery at JenLavery@aol.com.

OUTINGS

For more information, please visit the website above.

Otzinachson Group

pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/otzinachson

MEETINGS

Meetings are held the first Wednesday of every other month. For more information, please visit the website.

OUTINGS

For more information contact:

Paul Shaw, Outings Chair, 155 Mowery Lane, Sunbury PA 17801
717-215-8339 pshaw@ptd.net

Sunday, October 14: RB Winter State Park, Union County - 10 miles, moderate to strenuous. We'll hike a variety of trails to make a 10-mile loop. Meet at the parking lot at the breast of the dam along Route 192 at 8:30 a.m. Bring lunch and water. Leader:

Joe Rebar 570-259-0134.

Saturday, October 20: Rider Park & Loyalsock State Forest, Lycoming County - 10 miles, strenuous. Hikers looking for an easy to moderate hike can easily exit the hike after 2.5 or 3.5 miles. At Rider Park we will walk the Katy Jane, Francis X. Kennedy, and Cheryl's Trails onto adjoining trails on the Loyalsock State Forest before returning to Rider Park. Rider Park contains forests, fields and meadows and sports 4 breathtaking vistas and is a special piece of northcentral PA wilderness. Meet at the large pull out on Warrensville Road next to Loyalsock Creek just beyond the Interstate 180 overpass over Warrensville road at 8:30 a.m. or 8:45 a.m. at the Rider Park parking lot 1.6 miles up Calebs Creek Road. Bring water and a snack/lunch. The entire hike should take between 5 to 6 hours. Leader: Tom Schmick 570-435-5539.

Sunday, October 21: 1000 Steps: Standing Stone Trail Hike, Huntingdon County - 9 miles, strenuous. A great scenic hike with views and much historical interest, ending with the descent down the 1000 Steps near Mt. Union. The steps were created for quarry workers who had to climb and descend Jack's Mountain every day. Meet at 9 a.m. at K-Mart parking lot on Route 15 in Shamokin Dam or 10:30 a.m. at the 1000 Steps parking area on Route 522 between Mt. Union and Mapleton. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Paul Shaw, 717-215-8339; pshaw@ptd.net.

Saturday, October 27: Golden Eagle Trail, Lycoming County - 9 miles, moderate to strenuous. One of the best hikes in PA with excellent views. Meet at a.m. at the Sovereign Bank parking lot, Southern Ave between Market and Hastings Streets (Route 15) in South Williamsport or at the trail parking lot along Route 414 at 9 a.m. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Roy Fontaine, 570-220-4707.

Saturday, November 3: The Hawkeye Trail, Lycoming County - 7.5 miles, moderate. North of the Ghost town of Masten and west of Shunk the Hawkeye Trail loop keeps its vigil.

See for yourself. Meet at 9 a.m. in the parking lot of Valley Pizza, on Route 487 at the north end of Benton. Bring lunch, water and appropriate clothing for the weather of the day. Leaders: Catherine McLaughlin and Ed Lawrence cathyed@nationi.net, 570-925-5285.

Saturday, November 10: Mid State Trail, Tioga County - 11 miles, strenuous. We will hike one of the newest sections of the MST, a scenic traverse between Hammond Lake and Hills Creek Lake east of Wellsboro in Tioga County. Meet at parking lot behind Lewisburg Post Office at 7:30 a.m. or along Hills Creek Road by Hills Creek State Park entrance at 9:30 a.m. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Duane Button 570-596-3454.

Sunday, November 11: RB Winter State Park, Union County - 10 miles, moderate to strenuous. We'll hike a variety of trails to make a 10-mile loop. Meet at the parking lot at the breast of the dam along Route 192 at 8:30 a.m. Bring lunch and water.

Leader: Joe Rebar 570-259-0134.

Saturday, November 17: Tiadaghton State Forest, Lycoming County - 12.3 miles, strenuous. This hike in the Tiadaghton State Forest incorporates parts of the Golden Eagle Trail and the Pine Creek Rail Trail and features two excellent vistas. Meet at 7:45 a.m. at the parking lot of the Comfort Inn in New Columbia, just off Route 15 south of I-80, or at 9 a.m. at the parking area along Route 414 off of Slate Run Road. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Tony Robbins, tony.robbins@excellservices.com.

Sunday, November 18: Boxcar Rocks, Lebanon and Schuylkill Counties - 11 miles, moderate-strenuous. Our loop hike begins near the impressive Boxcar Rocks (a.k.a. The Chinese Wall), and continues through old coal mining lands to the Lebanon Reservoir. Our hike concludes after passing through a portion of State Game Lands 211. Bring lunch and water. Meet at K-Mart parking lot off Route 15 in Shamokin Dam at 9 a.m. or McDonald's on Route 61 in Shamokin

at 9:30 a.m. Leader: Paul Shaw, 717-215-8339 or pshaw@ptd.net.

Sunday, November 25: RB Winter State Park, Union County - 10 miles, moderate to strenuous. We'll hike a variety of trails to make a 10-mile loop. Meet at the parking lot at the breast of the dam along Route 192 at 8:30 a.m. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Joe Rebar 570-259-0134.

Sunday, December 2: The Chili Hike, Luzerne County - 8 miles, moderate. This year's chili hike will take us back to North Mountain for a brisk walk followed by a bowl of hot chili and cold beverages at the leaders' home near Stillwater. Meet at 10 a.m. in the parking lot of the Ricketts Glen Hotel, one mile east of Red Rock on Route 118. Bring lunch, water and appropriate clothing for the weather. Leaders: Catherine McLaughlin and Ed Lawrence, cathyed@nationi.net 570-925-5285.

Sunday, December 9: Appalachian Trail, Perry County - 12 miles, strenuous. This hike begins at Route. 944 and climbs to the top of Cove Mountain, following the ridgeline to Hawk Rock with spectacular views of the Juniata and Susquehanna Rivers and Duncannon. Meet at K-Mart parking lot along Rt. 15 in Shamokin Dam at 8:30 a.m. or at Sheetz along Route 322 just north of Duncannon at 9:00 a.m. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Paul Shaw, 717-215-8339 or pshaw@ptd.net.

Sunday, December 16: RB Winter State Park, Union County - 10 miles, moderate to strenuous. We'll hike a variety of trails to make a 10-mile loop. Meet at the parking lot at the breast of the dam along Route 192 at 8:30 a.m. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Joe Rebar 570-259-0134.

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ELECT OBAMA FOR PRESIDENT AND CASEY FOR SENATE!

Chapter Elections — Vote for Three At Large Delegates

Each fall, the Pennsylvania Chapter membership elects three people as At-Large Delegates to represent their interests at the Chapter Executive Committee (Ex Com).

The PA Chapter is comprised of ten groups, each of which selects delegates to serve on the Chapter Ex Com. The Chapter Ex Com is composed of three delegates from the Southeastern Group, two from the Allegheny Group, and one from each of the other eight groups.

Additionally, six At-Large Delegates are elected by the general membership, three each year. The following candidates are running for the three At-Large Delegate positions on the Chapter Executive Committee for terms running from January 2013 to January 2015.

The delegates you elect will help the Chapter determine which candidates to endorse in elections, which environmental issues the Chapter will pursue, how staff time and financial resources are used, and other critical issues.

Vote to ensure that the Ex Com reflects your voice. Ballots (on facing page), including address label (on back page) must be received on or before December 15, 2012. The order of the candidate statements and the names were determined by a drawing of lots.

AT-LARGE DELEGATE STATEMENTS

DONALD W. MILES Lehigh Valley Group

I appreciate the opportunity to run for re-election to the Chapter Executive Committee. During the past two years I have endeavored to keep our focus on battling the devastation of Penns Woods caused by natural gas hydrofracturing drilling. I helped sponsor our Chapter's January 2011 call for a statewide moratorium on fracking and as chair of the Lehigh Valley Group helped present the Chapter's largest recent public forum on fracking, "Marcellus Shale Exposed," March 2012 in Bethlehem, which had over 350 attendees. This August I was chosen to represent the Pennsylvania Chapter at the national Sierra Club annual meetings in San Francisco. I want to work to better recruit our Pennsylvania members to become local environmental activists, which we can facilitate using the new online organizing tools that the national Sierra Club has introduced. As a three-decade environmental lawyer, backpacker, nature photographer, and father of two outdoors-loving sons, I bring a love of the woods as the energy driving my activism.

DENNIS R. WINTERS Southeastern Group

I have been a member of the Sierra Club since 1980, and a volunteer leader in the Club since 1992. I have served as chair of the Pennsylvania Chapter, and currently chair

the Chapter's Personnel and Political Committees. I am Conservation Chair and Treasurer of the Southeastern PA Group.

I serve on the Club's national political team and as the team's treasurer. I also serve as the team's liaison for Pennsylvania and five other states.

Last year I received a lifetime achievement award from the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Sierra Club for "a lifetime of dedicated volunteer service and outstanding work in pursuit of the conservation and protection of Pennsylvania's environment." I have also been named the Southeastern Group's "Conservationist of the Year."

I have also been a volunteer leader for a variety of non-profits. I served ten years as the president of the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia, two years as the president of the Green Woods Charter School board of trustees, and six years as the chair of the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's Regional Citizens Committee.

I am a retired engineer with three grown children and seven grandchildren. I have lived in Philadelphia for twenty-five years.

JUSTINA WASICEK Governor Pinchot Group

I am a long-time member of Sierra Club, starting in the Allegheny Group and moving to the Governor Pinchot (GVP) group. Right now, I am a co-chair of the Energy Issues Committee. In that role, I have worked hard on

analyzing proposed bills in the Legislature, drafting comments for the Club, helping to write email alerts, and meeting with legislators to discuss the Club's goals. Recently I wrote and submitted testimony to the PA House Consumer Affairs Committee, to help keep solar jobs in Pennsylvania. I think it is important to increase the amount of energy we get from clean, renewable sources. Locally, I lead bike outings for the GVP group, often along the rail trails. I like to hike, bike, and swim. As a member of my local GVP Executive Committee, I regularly contribute articles to our newsletter. On a statewide level, I really enjoyed working on the StarGazing Awards dinner last year, to honor some of our "star" volunteers who have been so dedicated and hard-working on a whole variety of issues. Everything we accomplish is through the enthusiasm and commitment of our individual members, working together.

NANCY FELICIA PARKS- Moshannon Group

A Sierra Club life member with a 38-year Pennsylvania Chapter commitment, serving as Clean Air Committee chair and committed to the reality of clean air for PA. Also serve as national Council of Club Leaders delegate through 2012 and on Reserve Fund committee, watch-dogging Chapter expenditures.

I have represented the interests of the Chapter's 24,000 plus members and the public interest before state government for 30 years and have been a member of the PA Department

PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER SIERRA CLUB 2010 EXCOM AT-LARGE DELEGATE ELECTION BALLOT

Vote for no more than three (3) candidates. The second set of boxes is for the second Sierra Club member of a joint membership only. The blank line is for write-in candidates.

DONALD W. MILES

S J

DENNIS R. WINTERS

S J

JUSTINA WASICEK

S J

NANCY FELICIA PARKS

S J

S J

Your ballot must be received by **December 13, 2012**. Your mailing label which appears on the reverse side of this page is used for validation. The label must be legible, including the indication S/SNGL or J/JNT. No facsimiles.

Please mail your completed ballot to:

Sierra Club PA Chapter
Election Committee
attn.: Roy Fontaine
503 Wilson Street
Williamsport, PA 17701-3521

of Environmental Protection Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee for 18 years. I would like to again represent the best interests of the entire chapter membership. I will also continue as Reserve Fund chair and Clean Air Committee chair, concentrating on air quality research, distributing information to Chapter activists.

Sierra Club service: Moshannon Group: (1980-1990) formation, chair, vice-chair, secretary, conservation chair, chapter delegate 1981-1997, 2000, alternate 2007-2008. Pennsylvania chapter: (1981-2012): delegate (1981-1998, 2000-2002, 2003-2012), 1st vice-chair, 2nd vice-chair, secretary (8 yrs.), Appalachian RCC delegate (10 yrs.), Clean Air Committee chair (1990-2012), Council delegate (4 years). National: (1974-2008)

Air Quality Issues Committee (member 1988-1997, national Chair 1995-1997, senior advisor 1998-2012), Environmental Quality Strategy Team (1994-1997), EQST/Trading task force chair (1997).

Meetings and Outings, continued from page 30

Southeastern Group
pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/southeastern

confirm the meeting date and location, contact 215-820-7872.

MEETINGS

Executive Committee meets the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at Whole Foods Community Room, 20th & Callowhill Sts, Philadelphia. To

OUTINGS & PROGRAMS

Please visit the website for updated outing information. For more information on any event, contact Bill Brainerd at 610-325-3127 or billbrainerd@gmail.com.



Attention food lovers!

Do you have a favorite vegetarian recipe you're willing to share for our first ever Pennsylvania Sierra Club Cookbook?

We're looking for all kinds of original recipes (main courses, soups, appetizers, sides, drinks/smoothies, and desserts)! We're also looking for "campfire" recipes or your favorite trail mix combinations!

Email the recipe to pennsylvania.chapter@sierraclub.org with your name, city, and zip code and your permission to use it with the subject heading "2012 Cookbook".

*** By submitting a recipe, your name will be entered in a drawing to win a free copy of our cookbook after it's published! Your name will be entered once for each recipe submitted.

Thank you!

ELECT OBAMA FOR PRESIDENT AND CASEY FOR SENATE!



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

A Checklist to Take to the Polls

National

- Barack Obama, President

Statewide

- Robert Casey, U.S. Senator
- Eugene DePasquale, Auditor General

Allegheny

- Mike Doyle, 14th Congressional District
- Matt Smith, State Senate 37th District
- Erin Molchany, State House 22nd District
- Dave Levdansky, State House 39th District

Governor Pinchot

- Rob Teplitz, State Senate 15th District
- Chris Dietz, State House 104th District

Kittattinny

- Mark Rozzi, State House 126th District

Lake Erie

- Missa Eaton, Congressional 3rd District
- Sean D. Wiley, State Senate 49th District
- Patrick Harkins, State House 1st District
- Florindo Fabrizio, State House 2nd District

Lehigh Valley

- Kevin Deely, State House 131st District
- Steve Samuelson, State House 135th District
- Robert Freeman, State House 136th District

Moshannon

- Michael Hanna, State House 76th District

Northeast

- Matthew Cartwright, Congressional 17th District
- Luana Cleveland, State Senate 23rd District
- Jeffrey Dahlander, State House 111th District

- Frank Farina, State House 115th District
- Ransom Young, State House 116th District
- Phyllis Mundy, State House 120th District
- Elizabeth Forrest, State House 189th District

Southeastern

- Bob Brady, incumbent for Congressional 1st District
- Chaka Fattah, incumbent for Congressional 2nd District
- Manan Trivedi, candidate for Congressional 6th District
- Allyson Schwartz, incumbent for Congressional 13th District
- Lawrence Farnese, Jr., incumbent for State Senate 1st District
- Eric Schott, candidate for State Senate 13th District
- Daylin Leach, incumbent for State Senate 17th District
- Andrew Dinniman, incumbent for State Senate 19th District
- Mike Hays, candidate for State House 26th District
- Steve Santarsiero, incumbent for State House 31st District
- Matt Bradford, incumbent for State House 70th District
- Tina Davis, incumbent for State House 141th District
- Mary Jo Daley, candidate for State House 148th District
- Tim Briggs, incumbent for State House 149th District
- Steve McCarter, candidate for State House 154th District
- Bret Binder, candidate for State House 156th District
- Paul Drucker, candidate for State House 157th District
- Margo Davidson, incumbent for State House 164th District
- Greg Vitali, incumbent for State House 166th District
- Brendan Boyle, State House 170th District
- Kevin Boyle, incumbent for State House 172nd District
- Jim Roebuck, incumbent for State House 188th District
- Vanessa Lowery Brown, incumbent for State House 190th District
- Pamela Delissio, State House 194th District
- Rosita Youngblood, incumbent for State House 198th District
- Mark Cohen, incumbent for State House 202nd District