

Crossroads Group Sierra Club



WINTER 2017

Elections 2017- Crossroads Group Executive Committee Officers

This year there are four vacancies to be filled on the Executive Committee of the Crossroads Group. Please read the following candidate statements and use the enclosed ballot to vote for up to four of the candidates. The second column is for use by those with joint membership. Ballots must be returned by January 31st, 2017.

Sierra Club Crossroads Group Executive Committee 2017 Official Ballot

	Member	Joint Member
Lee Burton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
John Wilson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Terry Gannon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mary Novrocki	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please:

1. Vote for up to four people (their statements are on the following page).
2. Cut off the ballot.
3. Place the ballot in an envelope.
4. Write your membership number (from address label) on the outside of the envelope.
5. Mail the ballot to: Sierra Club Crossroads Group
P.O. Box 306
Brighton MI 48116

Thank you to our sponsors!



Executive Committee Chairs

Chairperson: Lee Burton
Lee.Burton@michigan.sierraclub.org

Vice Chairperson: Sue Kelly
cg.vicechair@michigan.sierraclub.org

Treasurer: Julie Greiss
cg.treasurer@michigan.sierraclub.org

Secretary: Laurie Mercure
cg.secretary@michigan.sierraclub.org

Chapter Group Rep.: Mary Andersson
cg.grouprep@michigan.sierraclub.org

Fundraising:
Paul Thielking, Paula Gruszka
Paul.Thielking@michigan.sierraclub.org

Media: Nancy Schneider,
cg.media@michigan.sierraclub.org

Membership: Pam Medelis
cg.membership@michigan.sierraclub.org

Newsletter: Terry Gannon
cg.pubs@michigan.sierraclub.org

Outings: John Wilson
crossroadsoutings@michigan.sierraclub.org

Political: Julie Greiss
cg.political@michigan.sierraclub.org

Programs:
Mary Novrocki, Andrea McKenzie
cg.programs@michigan.sierraclub.org

Webmaster: Laurie Mercure
cg.webmaster@michigan.sierraclub.org

Conservation: Sue Kelly, Ron Kardos
cg.conservation@michigan.sierraclub.org

VISIT US AT:
www.sierraclub.org/michigan/crossroads



Crossroads Group Executive Committee Candidate Statements

Lee Burton

I have been an environmentalist and outdoor lover for most of my life. Presently I am active in the Huron River Watershed Council, Camp Fire USA and I volunteer time for other environmental groups. Currently I am the group chair for the Crossroads Group and serve on the executive committee. I would like to continue serving in this capacity so I can contribute to a better environment in our area through this organization.

Mary Novrocki

I have been passionate about protecting the environment since I was a child. This passion has guided my life and my actions since. I believe that all species, their habitats, and their supporting environments must be protected – at any cost. As an adult, I am an avid natural habitat gardener, a birdwatcher, and a longtime supporting member of the Sierra Club. As a lawyer, I have a strong interest in environmental justice. Furthermore, I often use my legal skills to research environmental issues and inform other environmental activists. Currently, I am an active member of the Crossroads Group of the Michigan Chapter of the Sierra Club where I am its Program Co-Chairperson and where I am also a member of the Crossroads Group Conservation Committee. My hope and my goal is that someday our country, this United States of America, will become unified within itself and with the world in order to protect our earth and all of its ecosystems.

John Wilson

With global warming and the current political climate, our environment is under attack as never before. A love of the environment starts with a love of the outdoors. As the outings leader for the Crossroads Group for the past 5 years, I have had the pleasure of encouraging this appreciation for nature in many of our members. I would like the opportunity to continue to develop a strong outings program. My vision for the local Sierra Club is to have a larger, broader, environmentally aware group of members, willing to share their values with the community. I believe that outings provide an important means of achieving that goal.

Terry Gannon

I have an interest in the environment, outdoor activities, and a fascination and wonder at the complexities of nature. I also bring a deep concern about the ongoing environmental degradation this locality, this country and our world faces, and a determination to do my part to decrease that degradation. I have been active in my neighborhood association where I have played an active role in maintaining and restoring the quality of our lake and woodland. I am a member of the Crossroads Group and the Detroit Audubon Society. I maintain membership in the national Nature Conservancy and the Livingston Nature Conservancy. I am a current editor of the Crossroads Group newsletter.

Crossroads Group- Your Pathway to Action

It is a new year and we are facing challenges we would never have predicted just a few short months ago. Our recently elected president has called climate change a hoax, favors greater use of fossil fuels through the expansion of pipelines and drilling, has disdain for the Environmental Protection Agency, and shown little inclination to protect sensitive lands and species.

The situation sounds dire, especially if you feel there is nothing that you can do. And that's where Crossroads Group Sierra Club comes in. Yes, we are a local group and only a small part of the picture, but we are essential, too. We are one of countless local groups around the nation taking action and we will make a difference together.

Crossroads Group is your pathway to action. Our leaders are your friends and neighbors, folks living in this area who want to make a difference. Some of us give a lot of time and effort; others give what they can. And that's all we ever ask of those who join our leadership team: contribute what you can.

We ask you to consider being a part of our team. Help us bring good programs to the general public; to arrange outings that bring people out of doors and enjoy our beautiful parks; to take a stand when a conservation issue arises; to play a role in the political arena. We do all these things and more.

But none of this is possible without the dedicated leaders who make it all happen. We invite you to come to a meeting and get to know us. You will undoubtedly make new friends among kindred spirits. You will find that we will welcome you with open arms. We will offer you opportunities that fit your schedule, an opportunity to play a role without any pressure, a role that will help make our community a better place to live.

To learn more, send an email to crossroads@michigan.sierraclub.org or call our chairperson, Lee Burton, at 810-231-9045. We look forward to hearing from you.

Websites to visit:

Crossroads Website: www.sierraclub.org/michigan/crossroads

Meetup: www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Crossroads-Group

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Crossroads.Group.Sierra.Club

Crossroads Group Outings

Outings are subject to conditions. To check for cancellations or changes, or to find out more information about any outing, see our website (www.sierraclub.org/michigan/crossroads) or contact John Wilson at 734-355-3822 or crossroadsoutings@michigan.sierraclub.org. All outings are open to Sierra Club members and non-members. For winter outings, dress in layers, and avoid cotton if possible. Bring water and snacks.

Huron Meadows Metropark Cross Country Ski Outing/Hike If No Snow - Sunday January 22nd, 1 PM

Location: Huron Meadows Metropark, 8765 Hammel Rd, Brighton; meet at the Ski Center

Skill Level: novices to advanced; Difficulty: easy to moderate; Cost: free, but requires Metropark entry fee

Join us for an afternoon cross country ski outing. Ski and boot rental available. Enjoy miles of groomed trails both on the golf course and through the woods. Heated warming shelter and indoor bathrooms available. We will ski on shorter and longer distance trails depending on experience levels.

Peabody Ice Climbing Adventure - Saturday January 28th, 2PM

Location: Peabody Ice Climbing, 12326 Foley Rd, Fenton

Skill Level: beginner to advanced; Difficulty: moderate to strenuous; Cost: \$35 -\$40

Looking for an out of the ordinary winter adventure? Join us for an introduction to ice climbing at this venue that contains two outdoor ice towers, a mixed climbing wall, an altitude-controlled workout gym, a large sauna, and a warming shack. Cost includes instruction and rental equipment: harness, boots, crampons, ice axes, and helmet. Limited availability; must RSVP by January 18th. Reserve by contacting John Wilson (contact info above) or RSVP on our Meetup site (www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Crossroads-Group). Come to watch and sit by the fire for free!

Island Lake Recreation Area Hike/Ski Outing - Sunday February 12th, 1 PM

Location: Island Lake Recreation Area, 6301 Kensington Rd, Brighton

Meet in the Kent Lake parking lot (go straight past toll booth, 1st lot on left) near the boat launch area (west side)

Skill Level: beginner to advanced; Difficulty: moderate; Cost: free, but requires state park entry fee or passport

Join us for a 5 mile hike (shorter options available) on the brand-new Hickory Ridge trail.

If there is snow and you want more winter adventure, bring your cross-country skis and ski the trail! Rental not available.

Highland State Recreation Area Hike - Saturday February 25th, 1 PM

Location: 5200 Highland Rd, White Lake; meet at the trailhead parking area in front of the historic barn (follow main road from park entrance 1.4 miles).

Skill Level: beginner; Difficulty: moderate; Cost: free, but requires state park entry fee or passport

Join us for a 5 mile hike through hardwoods and wetlands in a beautiful park that is one of Michigan's best kept secrets.

Kensington Metropark Nature Hike - Saturday March 11th, 1 PM

Location: Kensington Metropark, entrance is off Kensington Rd just north of I-96, Brighton; meet at the Nature Center

Skill Level: beginner; Difficulty: easy to moderate; Cost: free, but requires Metropark entry fee

Choose from a 5 mile faster hike or a slower-paced 2 mile nature identification hike around Wildwing Lake.

Island Lake Recreation Area Hike - Sunday March 26th, 1 PM

Location: Island Lake Recreation Area, 6301 Kensington Rd, Brighton

Meet in the Kent Lake parking lot (go straight past toll booth, 1st lot on left) near the boat launch area (west side).

Skill Level: beginner to advanced; Difficulty: moderate; Cost: free, but requires state park entry fee or passport

Join us for a 5 mile hike (shorter options available) on the brand-new hikers-only Hickory Ridge trail.

Brighton Recreation Area Hike - Sunday April 9th, 1 PM

Location: Penosha Trail, Bishop Lake parking lot, Howell

From the intersection of Bishop Lake Rd and Chilson Rd in Howell, go east on Bishop Lake Rd 1.4 miles, turn right at Bishop Lake Complex sign then quick right after toll booth into trailhead parking lot. See our website for map and GPS coordinates.

Skill Level: beginner; Difficulty: moderate; Cost: free, but requires state park entry fee or passport

Join us for an afternoon hike on the Penosha Trail. The trail is 5 miles through woods and meadows. A great hike near our own backyard!

Island Lake Recreation Area Earth Day Trail Service Outing - Saturday April 22nd, 1 PM

Location: Island Lake Recreation Area, 6301 Kensington Rd, Brighton

Meet in the Kent Lake parking lot (go straight past toll booth, 1st lot on left) near the boat launch area (west side).

Skill Level: beginner to advanced; Difficulty: moderate; Cost: free, but requires state park entry fee or passport

An Earth Day volunteer work day for the new Island Lake Recreation Area Hickory Ridge trail. Help us keep up the trail we helped build last year - doing spring maintenance, signage, and other necessary work on the trail. Tools will be provided.

Check our website this spring for upcoming outings in late spring and summer.

We are planning bird and wildflower outings, nature center tours, paddle events, bike rides, hikes, and more!

Crossroads Group Programs

**Crossroads Group Sierra Club presents these 3 programs at the Brighton District Library
Free Admission**

Haven Hill: A Story to Tell - A Legacy of Honor
Wednesday January 18th, 7:00 PM

By Larry Felardeau, Artist and Landscape Architect

Come hear the story of The People – The Place – The Significance of Haven Hill & Highland State Recreation Area in the origins of Michigan State Parks & Natural Area System in Southeast Michigan and beyond. You will hear about Glacial Landforms & Native Americans, the Edsel & Eleanor Ford Family, the Dodge Brothers, PJ Hoffmaster (First Director of our State Parks), Genevieve Gillette (First Lady of our State Parks), Jens Jensen (noted Prairie Style Landscape Architect), and even the Girl Scouts of America’s National Roundup.



This is Not Cool

Wednesday March 15th, 7:00 PM

By Peter Sinclair, Videographer, creator of the YouTube series “This is not Cool” and “Climate Denial Crock of the Week”

Our March program is a rich, multimedia and video presentation with up-to-the-minute details backed by leading scientists. Mr. Sinclair will include recent video from trips to the Greenland Ice Sheet, as well as climate impact areas like Miami Beach.

It all adds up to the most compelling, credible, understandable and stunning presentation of the facts of Climate Change available.

The program also includes eye opening details about solutions to climate change, which are cheap, effective, and happening now.



Livingston County’s Transportation Vision

Wednesday May 17th, 7:00 PM

By Dr. Leo E. Hanifin, Chairperson – Livingston County Transportation Coalition

Dr. Leo Hanifin, chairperson of the Livingston County Transportation Coalition, will present the county’s transportation vision, information on the status and needs for transportation in the county, and the progress that the Coalition has made to advance transportation improvement here.





Sierra Club—Crossroads Group
P.O. Box 306
Brighton, MI 48116

Thanks to our friends at Big PDQ printing for their support. 810-229-2989 <http://www.bigpdq.com/>



Please attend the Livingston Transportation Summit

Crossroads Group is a member of The Livingston County Transportation Coalition. Its goal is to create a Livingston County Transportation Authority, which would lead the development and implementation of a Comprehensive Transportation Plan for the county.

The coalition chair, Dr. Leo Hanifin, has recently been making presentations to encourage local governments and other groups to support the concept of this transportation authority. He says “Public transportation isn't just for the poor. It's not just for the elderly or people with disabilities. Urban city centers aren't the only areas that need public transportation options. It's for students, employees, commuters, environmentally conscious travelers, businesses, health care providers and patients, and all citizens who want options”.

They are holding a Transportation Summit:

Tuesday January 17th, 2017

8 AM – noon

Johnson Center, Cleary University, 3750 Cleary Drive, Howell, MI 48843



This is an opportunity for you to participate in shaping the future of public transportation in Livingston County. This free event will feature a continental breakfast, keynote speaker Paul Childs (COO M-1 Rail of Detroit), stakeholder panels, breakout sessions, and discussion of next steps. **Our very own Lee Burton** will be a participant on the Voices of the Stakeholders panel, representing the environmental community. All Livingston County residents are invited. Please RSVP – email arennie@cmhliv.org . Say that you are attending as a Sierra Club member!