

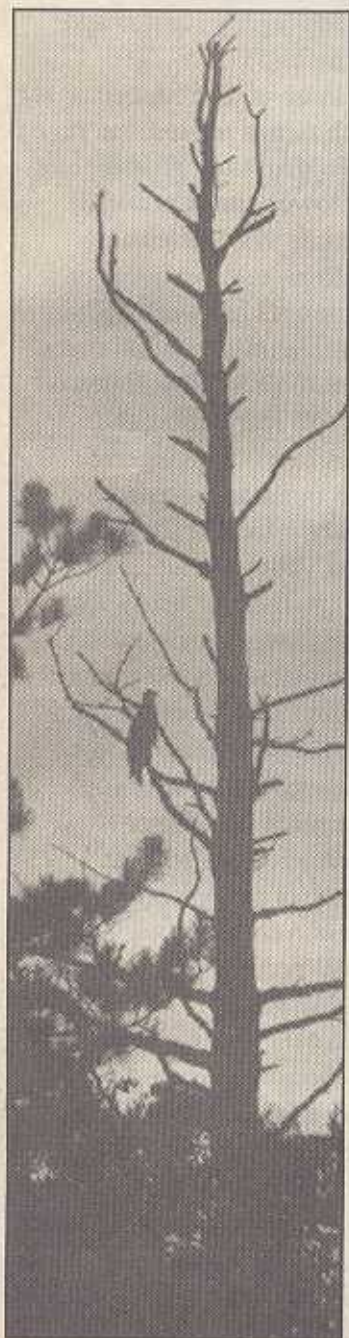


# THE MACKINAC

THE QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF MICHIGAN'S SIERRA CLUB

WINTER SOLSTICE 1997

## WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE... 10 YEARS OF PROTECTED WILDERNESS



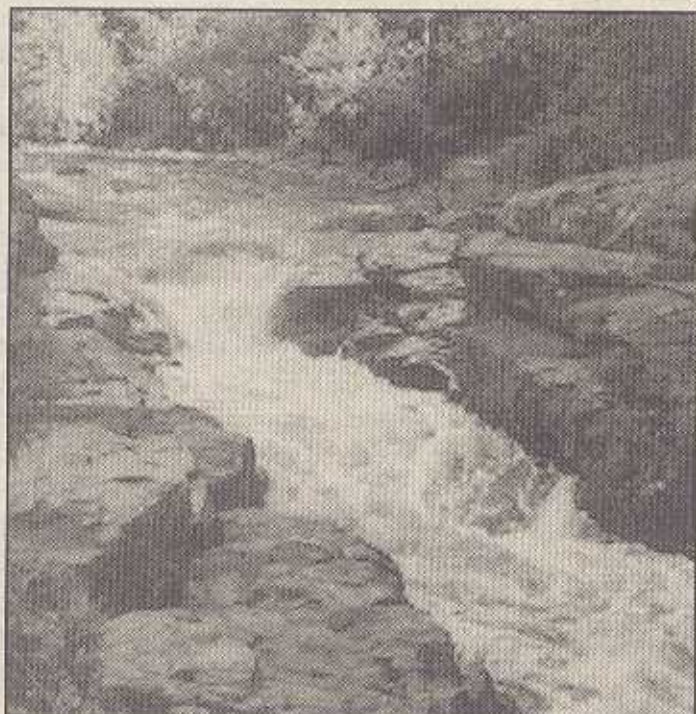
Michigan's Wilderness Heritage Act: What we won and how it was done. *page 3*

Just when it looked like endangered species didn't have a prayer... *page 4*

It's time to vote for your statewide Sierra Club representatives. *page 6-7*

Speak out now on wetlands, before your power goes -- literally -- down the drain! *page 13*

State & local outings. *pages 20-23*



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### GLIMPSES OF MICHIGAN WILDERNESS

By Ralph Powell

**Far left:** A raptor surveys the wilderness at Horseshoe Bay.

**Top:** Friends hike the shore at Nordhouse Dunes.

**Bottom:** The spectacular Sturgeon River Falls cut a deep gorge through the Upper Peninsula.

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## "Preserve the land for all children..."

"... If we sell you our land, you must keep it apart and sacred as a place where man can go to taste the wind that is sweetened by the meadow flowers. Will you teach your children what we have taught our children, that the Earth is our mother? What befalls the Earth befalls all the sons of the Earth."

— Chief Seattle, 1851



When our "civilized" forefathers first plundered wild lands of the indigenous people, I'll bet neither groups guessed to what extent the lands would be exploited, especially during the latter half of this century.

Nor might they have guessed that lands might be bought to deliberately return them to the wilds. For the past 40 years, groups such as the Nature Conservancy and the Michigan Nature Association have been quietly buying up tracts of land to preserve. While they aren't as widespread as the wild lands of Chief Seattle's time, these sanctuaries break the sprawl that threatens to carve up our state into neat little sterile packages.

I have more than academic interest in this process. This summer, within three weeks of each other, activist Mike Keeler and I said our final goodbyes to our Moms. Our local Sierra Club, the Nepessing Group, gave a gift to the Michigan Nature Association to honor Ann Keeler and Mary Hayden. Land for a nature sanctuary is being purchased near sprawl-ridden Fenton. It's not too far from where my Mom, as a fearless tomboy adventurer, would lead other Flint kids on long bike rides, to go fishing and swimming.

When I received the letter about the gift, I saw my little niece, Mom's namesake, running through those fields and woods, hearing Mom's song in the wind. I cried tears of gratitude for those who act on their vision to conserve our natural heritage. Our families are

honored to be a part of this preservation legacy for this and future generations.

This issue of The Mackinac is filled with things related, but far less idyllic than little girls running through flower-sprinkled fields.

For while visionaries are working to protect biodiversity, special interests are working harder than ever to exploit our resources for corporate and personal power and gain. We learn about the precarious fate of endangered species in our state on page 4.

We take a look at the efforts of the Huron Valley Group, who have taken up the issue of urban sprawl. The group is working to raise awareness statewide. (See page 9.)

Articles throughout the issue celebrate the wild places a few visionaries saw fit to save for future generations. We are commemorating the 10-year anniversary of the Michigan Wilderness Act that protects, forever, 10 very special places in our amazing state.

Thanks for joining hands with us, with those who have gone before us, and with those who are not yet born.

Caretakers of the Earth, with courage and vision, we hold sacred space in this circle of life.

*For the Earth,*  
Sherry Hayden, Editor

### THE MACKINAC QUARTERLY

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Photo by Ralph Powell

On a 1991 outing, Sierrans explore Big Island Lake Wilderness.

## Words that won the wilds

BY ANNE WOIWODE

*Michigan Forest Biodiversity Program Director*

In June 1985, 19 people testified in Washington, D.C. before a Congressional Committee in favor of designating 11 areas as wilderness in Michigan's three National Forests. Two and a half years later, the Michigan Wilderness Heritage Act was enacted, designating 10 of these areas a "forever wild." The thoughts of these diverse wilderness advocates, as recorded in the Congressional Hearing Record, are a stirring tribute to the wonder of these magnificent places.

"I have seen the state forests become honey-combed with ORV trails so that it's a rare hour that a peaceful walk isn't disturbed by trailriders. I have watched hilly woodlot after woodlot razed and the hills used as fill to remove a pond or traversing stream so some developer could reap the benefits... I have seen all of these and other mistakes made in the name of progress in the Lower Peninsula. ...I want my children and grandchildren guaranteed the same opportunity to see Michigan much the way God created it, that I did." — Steve Uptegraft

"I hunt, fish, hike, and canoe. The opportunity to pursue these sports in an area free from the noise and odor of motorized vehicles is valuable to me. Some would criticize me as trying to exclude the multitude and of being elitist. But wilderness is open to all who are willing to leave their motorized vehicles behind. It provides recreation for the masses rather than for the elite. No special equipment is required, only an eagerness to see what wonders an area holds." — John Mitchell

"The wilder a place is, the more the kids enjoy it. There's quite a difference between driving down a road and following the signs to a waterfall, where visitors are provided with the usual amenities, pointed down a path, and protected by fences... and hiking off into unmarked woods with no trail, using map and compass, trying to find an unnamed and uncharted waterfall, and left to your own common sense and outdoor skills to get you there and back. Without exception, the kids have chosen the latter type of experience as preferable. A principle reason for this is the difference between being handed something and having to earn it. They find much greater satisfaction in their own accomplishment. This is enhanced by the excitement of exploring the unknown on their own, as though they were the first to ever see it. ... The wilderness experience frees them up from the constraints and artificialities of their usual world, lets them search for what's missing, and essentially goes a long way toward making them whole persons." — Lawrence Lemanski

## Our wilderness areas

BY ANNE WOIWODE

*Program Director, Michigan Forest Biodiversity Program.*

On December 8, 1987, President Ronald Reagan signed the Michigan Wilderness Heritage Act into law. Congressman Dale Kildee (D-Flint), the prime sponsor of the bill who shepherded this effort through four sessions of Congress, declared:

I have always believed that my home state of Michigan contains some of the most beautiful land areas in the country, and by approving this bill, Congress will permanently preserve these lands for our children. Not only will these areas be protected from man-made disturbances, but they will also be free from changes in the bureaucratic whims of each new administration here in Washington."

About 91,530 acres entered the National Wilderness Preservation System that day. (Note: There are different numbers given for the size of some areas). The areas follow, but only a personal visit, a quiet canoe ride or a peaceful hike into each area can capture the essence of these astounding places!

- Sylvania Wilderness, Ottawa National Forest, 18,327 acres
  - Sturgeon River Gorge Wilderness, Ottawa National Forest, 14,139 acres
  - McCormick Wilderness, Ottawa National Forest, 16,850 acres
  - Rock River Canyon Wilderness, Hiawatha National Forest, 4,640 acres
  - Big Island Lake Wilderness, Hiawatha National Forest, 5,856 acres
  - Mackinac Wilderness, Hiawatha National Forest, 12,230 acres
  - Horseshoe Bay Wilderness, Hiawatha National Forest, 3,790 acres
  - Delirium Wilderness, Hiawatha National Forest, 11,870 acres
  - Round Island Wilderness, Hiawatha National Forest, 378 acres
  - Nordhouse Dunes Wilderness, Huron Manistee National Forest, 3,450 acres
- Federal wilderness areas also are found in Isle Royale National Park, and in the following Fish and Wildlife Service refuges: Seney National Wildlife Refuge, the Huron Islands and the Michigan Islands. Proposed wilderness areas still are found in the state's two national lakeshores.





Photo by Ralph Powell

On a 1991 outing, Sierrans explore Big Island Lake Wilderness.

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## Congregations answer call of stewardship

BY ALISON HORTON  
Director, Mackinac Chapter

Places of worship across Michigan joined in the Mackinac Chapter's "Wildlife Need Wild Places" campaign this fall. Those who are committed to stewardship of the Earth shared the Sierra Club's chronicle of the alarming and unprecedented pace at which we are losing wildlife. Sierra Club volunteers, who are active in their churches, asked their congregations to help protect endangered species for our families and for our future. They sent postcards to Governor Engler and President Clinton urging stronger action to protect species and habitats.

This effort, cosponsored by a group under the auspices of the Michigan Ecumenical Forum known as MECCE (Michigan Ecumenical Consultation on Christianity and Ecology) is continuing throughout the fall. Ministers speak about stewardship while volunteers distribute postcards and host education tables at social hours.

Participants are Roman Catholic, United Methodist, African Methodist Episcopal, Evangelical Lutheran, Baptist, Christian Reformed, United Church of Christ, Presbyterian, Buddhist, Unitarian Universalist, Religious Society of Friends and non-denominational.

At a press conference announcing this campaign from a Lansing church, United Methodist Reverend David Kidd personalized the impacts of habitat loss by speaking of his summer home in northern Michigan.

The Lansing State Journal characterized the joint effort between Sierra Club and MECCE as a "first of its kind" undertaking.

Governor Engler's press secretary, however, chose to dismiss the cooperation between the environmental and faith communities with a claim only a politician could devise: "It's an election year and the Sierra Club is part of the Democratic Party." The Engler Administration has lost sight that stewardship of habitat and disappearing species is the issue. Besides, it's an empty claim — the Club endorses candidates based on their environmental records, not their party affiliations.

If you are interested in this project, please call the Chapter Office at (517) 484-2372 and talk with Alison Horton or Melanie Nance.

## Endangered Species Act under siege in Washington

The U.S. Congress is moving quickly to undermine protection for endangered and threatened species.

Proposed legislation would put wildlife and plant species and their habitats, in the Great Lakes region and nationwide, at even greater risk than they are today.

In late September, Senators Dirk Kempthorne (R-ID), Max Baucus (D-MT), John Chafee (R-RI), and Harry Reid (D-NV) introduced S.1180 to reauthorize the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

Rather than making needed improvements in the law, S.1180 actually weakens the protection the law has provided for species and habitats for decades.

• S.1180 weakens agency responsibility and reduces species protection on federally-owned public lands.

• S.1180 lacks funding provisions for agencies to implement the ESA.

• S.1180

allows private and non-federal landowners exemptions

from conservation obligations for up to 100 years.

• S.1180 further delays the listing and recovery of endangered species by creating additional bureaucratic burdens and unnecessary procedural additions

• S.1180 fails to correct many problems with the current law that hinder species recovery.

Senators Carl Levin and Spencer Abraham need to hear about Michigan citizens' opposition to S. 1180.

You can reach them at (202) 225-3121.



## How endangered ones are doing here

The Michigan endangered species story is bittersweet, with dramatic successes and disturbing neglect.

While Michigan was among the first states to enact an endangered species law, for a decade the Michigan program has suffered inadequate funding and political dereliction.

A few success stories exist: The return of the Wolf, increasing Bald Eagle and Kirtland Warbler populations.

However, these species are not secure. More than 450 species are on the Michigan List of Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern and Extirpated Species.

Key problems facing Michigan:

- Michigan stopped, six years ago, identifying species that are endangered or threatened — despite public and scientific

support for action.

- The Engler Administration fails to fully enforce protection for vulnerable species when habitat destruction occurs. However, they fund activities, such as overlogging, that destroy.

- Special interests, such as the timber, oil and gas industries, unduly influence state agency decisions affecting wildlife and habitat management.

The Sierra Club recommends four steps for 1998:

- Complete the update of the species list.

- Fund ecosystem plans for our 4 million acres of state land.

- Fund the Natural Heritage Program to protect sensitive habitat and species before destructive activities are permitted.

- Strongly enforce Michigan's natural resource laws.



## Open letter to Carl Levin

Dear Senator Levin,

What's happening down there in Washington, anyway? We're very concerned.

Earlier this fall, the U.S. Senate had a chance to use some common sense, save taxpayers millions of dollars and protect one of America's greatest treasures — our National Forests.

**But by just ONE vote**, the Senate acted to give the timber industry more of our tax money for roads in our forests — subsidies for the industry's timber cutting.

**And you voted for this industry subsidy.**

You know, of course, that irresponsibly built logging roads in our national forests cause erosion and mudslides, pollute our rivers, streams and water supplies, and destroy fish and wildlife habitat. And we lost the chance to stop funding this irresponsibility by just one vote!

Also, this fall, the Senate Government Affairs Committee, where you serve as ranking member, has been holding hearings on a bill that you co-authored.

That bill, which you call a "regulatory reform bill," undermines our ability to carry out this country's environmental, health and safety laws and puts up roadblocks to establishing future safeguards. You criticize environmentalists and health and safety advocates, calling us unreasonable, and that your bill is a reasonable one.

**But just saying it's so, doesn't make it so, Senator.**

Your bill, S. 981, creates its own new red tape of cost analysis, risk assessment and a peer review process where the door is wide open to conflict-of-interest. Your bill would make vulnerable children and the elderly even more vulnerable when standards are set for what is healthy.

Your bill would conflict with the public's right-to-know about harmful pollution, limiting agencies' abilities to put out notices and information. The problems with your proposal don't end there. But when the Senate committee held its first hearing on your bill, nearly everyone invited to testify supported S. 981.

**What about the other voices?**

In the interest of fairness and good government, there needs to be a full airing of the many complicated impacts of this proposal. Where will this all end?

We've admired the integrity and commitment to good government you've brought to public service through the years. And we know you won't always agree with us on every issues. But common sense and the public interest seem to be getting lost in the shuffle.

**What's happening down there in Washington, anyway?**



## We take DEQ to court

BY ALISON HORTON

*Director, Mackinac Chapter*

In the most recent development of the Sierra Club's challenge to determine who is in charge of state lands, the Ingham County Circuit Court ruled in favor of the environmentalists.

In an October court hearing, Judge William Collette denied a request by the Engler Administration to dismiss a Sierra Club lawsuit. The way is now paved for the court to hear arguments after the first of the year. Sierra Club seeks to force a resolution of whether the Department of Natural Resources or the Department of Environmental Quality is in charge of protecting the state's 4 million acres of public land from damaging impacts of oil and gas development.

The Sierra Club filed this lawsuit against the Michigan DEQ and DNR last May after both agencies refused to issue rulings in this matter. The Sierra Club is seeking to reverse a move by DEQ Director Russell Harding. Harding's actions seem calculated to severely weaken, if not totally undermine, the independent authority of the DNR over state lands.

The DNR is responsible, under its mandate, for managing precious state-owned lands appropriately, and with full consideration of the unique importance of sensitive public natural resources.

Director Harding's order, issued one year ago, related to proposals to drill for gas in the state-owned Jordan River Valley. Harding, acting in his capacity as Supervisor of Wells, declared, without legal basis, that he has no authority over state lands. He said DNR land management authority is subservient to the DEQ in all matters relating to the development of oil and gas. Although the permit application by Walter Zaremba, which prompted the Harding order, has now been denied by the DEQ, the initial order regarding DEQ's authority over DNR lands still stands.

Sierra Club's attorney, Jeff Haynes, made clear in the hearing before Judge Collette that the Sierra Club's concern reaches well beyond this single holding in the Jordan Valley. Due to the powers asserted by the Supervisor of Wells, Sierra Club is seeking to overturn Harding's interpretation before another threat to sensitive state-owned lands arises.

Zaremba continues to seek permission to drill for gas and to run pipelines across sensitive state forest land in the Jordan Valley. Threats to wildlife, habitat, sensitive forest lands, wetlands and waters, and to recreational enjoyment continue to mount from the pressures of oil and gas development in northern lower Michigan.



## Choose your chapter executive committee members

BY NANCY SHIFFLER  
*Mackinac Chapter Elections Committee*

The following candidates have been nominated to run for four at-large positions on the Mackinac Chapter Executive Committee for terms beginning in January, 1998, and ending January, 2000.

The Executive Committee is comprised of nine members elected at-large by the Chapter's membership, plus one representative from each of the Chapter's 10 groups. The committee meets four times a year and is responsi-

ble to the more than 12,000 Sierra Club members in Michigan. The committee administers the Chapter's budget, carries out fundraising, sets conservation priorities and policies, and hires and oversees the Chapter staff. Executive Committee members are expected to serve on some committees and attend Chapter functions.

Your vote is critical in helping to select the individuals who will best represent the interests of Club members on important Chapter issues. Please use accompanying ballot and vote for no more than four candidates. The ballot

includes two sets of boxes; the second set is provided for the second member of a joint membership only. Order of candidate listing was determined by a random drawing. After you have completed your ballot, print your membership number (the 8-digit number on your mailing label) on the outside of your envelope to validate your vote.

Your ballot must be received on or before December 10, 1997. Mail to: Mackinac Chapter Elections Committee, Sierra Club, 300 N. Washington Square, Suite 411, Lansing, MI 48933.

### GARY SEMER, SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN GROUP

Primary challenges of the Mackinac Chapter in the coming year continue to be building leadership, stabilizing our financial base and promoting an active public awareness of environmental issues. As the Chapter Chair this past year and as a leader on the Chapter's Executive Committee the past seven years, I have worked with these ends in mind. In the coming year we will add a significantly new approach to our fundraising, develop more effective communications with the public and begin an outreach to outdoor user groups. The Sierra Club must continue its traditional leadership in forging public awareness of environmental issues. We will continue to use tried and true methods, but we must also foster innovative approaches as seen during in the 1996 election and in our 1997 EPEC campaign. Likewise, our chapter must find a way to foster personally gratifying activist experiences at all levels of club involvement through success and teamwork. This coming year I hope to work towards these organizational goals.

### SUE KELLY, CROSSROADS GROUP

Being an active environmentalist working at both the local and state levels has been a rewarding experience for me. I have served on the Executive Committee of the Crossroads Group for six years in a variety of capacities, currently serving my third year as Group Chair. At the Chapter level I have enjoyed sitting on the Executive Committee as an At-Large Member for two years. During the 1996 Election I worked on the very successful Sierra Club Independent Expenditure Campaign in the 8th district. As leaders in the environmental community, the Mackinac Chapter has the opportunity to change the course of lax environmental protection in Michigan next year. We must put much of our energy into exposing the flawed environmental policies of the existing administration and work to elect leaders who would protect Michigan and her citizens. I will work towards that end and encourage all Sierra Club members to get out and be serious participants. I would appreciate your vote to return me to the Mackinac Chapter as an At-Large-Member.

### FRED TOWNSEND, NEPESSING GROUP

Although a member since 1970, I only recently became active in the Sierra Club. Since becoming "activated," I have been Vice Chair of the Nepeessing Group for two years, Group Representative for two years, and Chapter Secretary for the last year. As Chapter Secretary, I have documented the actions of the Mackinac Chapter Executive Committee in achieving our environmental goals. With the alarming actions of the 104th Congress and the corresponding political activities of the Sierra Club in the 1996 elections, I became impressed with the critical role the Sierra Club has in promoting environmental values. That impression was reinforced by my trip to Washington last spring to lobby Congress to release the funding for international family planning programs. Our current struggles for clean air and water, wilderness, open-spaces, and biodiversity are really just "holding actions" in the battle for the future. All we cherish will be lost if we do not achieve the ultimate victory — a sustainable existence. As an At-large Member of the Executive Committee, I will work to achieve that ultimate victory.

### JUDY THOMPSON, HURON VALLEY GROUP

Inspired by HVG leaders, I have been very active in conservation over my four year Club membership. I have contributed to protecting a small old growth parcel in a southeast Michigan Metropark, planning a conference on Politics and the Environment, supporting endorsed candidates in 1996, recruiting volunteers for EPEC events, advocating for improved forest practices on the Huron Manistee NF, and organizing the Tour de Sprawl in Ann Arbor. I have also attended numerous activist training and lobbying events. My leadership positions have included co-chair of the HVG conservation committee, MRCC representative, and currently, chapter conservation committee chair and lead volunteer for this year's EPEC campaign. I have consistently emphasized maximizing the effectiveness of groups through coordination with state and national campaigns. I have enjoyed a sense of community with our dedicated staff and volunteers. As an ExCom member, I



would bring to oversight of the Mackinac Chapter broad conservation experience, good organizational skills, a functional knowledge of multiple levels of the Club, and a genuine desire to see the Chapter continue to thrive.

**JOHN REBERS,  
CENTRAL UPPER PENINSULA GROUP**

I have been a Sierra Club member since 1976, and have been an active member of the Central Upper Peninsula Group since it was founded in 1992. I served as conservation chair for two years, and have been group chair since 1994. Some of the issues I have been involved with are forestry, commenting upon the Grand Island and Beaver Basin Rim Road Environmental Impact Statements, and Lake Superior water quality. I enjoy getting out in the woods to hike and cross-country ski. Some of the important issues the chapter needs to work on in the coming year are getting our elected representatives to understand how important protecting the environment is to protecting our overall quality of life in Michigan, educating the public about the environmental impact of John Engler's tenure as governor, and finding ways to convert more members to activists.

**RICK PEARSALL, CROSSROADS GROUP**

Hello. I've been active in the Sierra Club for 5 years, serving in various positions in the Crossroads group. This year I am programs chair, webmaster and vice-chair. At the chapter level, I've been group representative for two years and this year I am chapter webmaster. I grew up in the country, and have always enjoyed nature. Walking my dogs, birdwatching, and hunting mushrooms are some of my favorite reasons for getting into the woods. Gardening and writing are some of my other interests. To pay bills, I work as manager of Support Service (documentation, training and support) for a computer company in Ann Arbor. I want to be elected to make a difference in this world. I have made a difference at the local level, and feel that can do more. I think once people learn more about nature and think about what we are doing to it, then we will all change, we will evolve. The Sierra Club needs to inform people, get them to think. Help me get people to think. Thank you.



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BALLOT

Vote for no more than 4 candidates.  
(Second column of boxes for joint membership votes).

JOHN REBERS	___	___
RICK PEARSALL	___	___
JUDY THOMPSON	___	___
FRED TOWNSEND	___	___
GARY SEMER	___	___
SUE KELLY	___	___

Ballots must be received no later than December 10, 1997.

Return envelope must include membership number (from your Mackinac mailing label) to validate ballot.

**Mail to:**

Mackinac Chapter Elections Committee  
Sierra Club  
300 N. Washington Square, Suite 411  
Lansing, MI 48933

## Resources For Sierra Club Activists



**FREE!**

- ✓ ENVIRO-MICH is the Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter-sponsored Internet list and forum for Michigan environmental and conservation issues and Michigan-based citizen action. We are proud to have Alex Sagady as our list owner. Archives at: <http://www.great-lakes.net/lists/enviro-mich/> For a free subscription, send email to: [majordomo@great-lakes.net](mailto:majordomo@great-lakes.net) with a one-line message body of "info enviro-mich"
- ✓ Sierra Club's National Web Page is at <http://www.sierraclub.org>. Check out the well-written daily War On the Environment postings for action alerts.
- ✓ Find our Mackinac Chapter Web Page by Rick Pearsall at: <http://www.sierraclub.org/chapters/mi/>
- ✓ Get a free subscription to the newspaper "The Planet" by promising to write at least three letters a year to your elected officials in support of the environment. Send your name and address to Sierra Club Planet Subscription Request, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968.



## Engler vetoes Right to Know money

In the last edition of *The Mackinac*, we reported several victories in the approved 1998 Department of Environmental Quality budget. Among them was \$250,000 to expand community right-to-know reporting on toxic chemical uses and releases by business and industry. However, Gov. Engler has now vetoed that funding. The Governor is allowing businesses to use and release more than 200 toxic materials without informing the public for yet another year. The Michigan Environmental Council worked with State Senators Alma Wheeler Smith and George McManus in a bipartisan move to secure this funding, only to see it eliminated unilaterally by Engler.

## Changes to Pollution Secrecy Law

The Michigan Legislature has been proceeding with revisions of the Environmental Audit Privilege law that was adopted in 1996.

That law gave polluters unprecedented ability to keep their pollution secret from the public, and to receive immunity for illegal pollution.

Rep. Greg Kaza (R-Rochester Hills) introduced a bill (H.B. 4521) to repeal the law earlier this year. Following that, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency stepped in, at the urging of environmentalists, to review elements of the state law that conflict with federal law.

Negotiations included the EPA, the state Department of Environmental Quality, business representatives and the MEC.

As a result, the Engler Administration agreed to amendments that make it more possible for the state to take legal action against polluters who break pollution laws.

However, the changes still fail to safeguard citizens' right to know about pollution that may affect them or their right to take legal action themselves against polluters. Bills introduced by Senators Ken DeBeaussiaert and Loren Bennett have been moving through the state Senate.

The initial discussion of the changes bogged down in the House over procedural questions. Unfortunately, the legislative changes on the table fail to erase the fundamental damage done by having a pollution secrecy law on the books in Michigan.

## Electric Utility Deregulation

The Michigan Environmental Council has been negotiating all summer to inject provisions into proposed legislation to deregulate the electric utility industry. The provisions would make energy production and use cleaner and more efficient. Only two proposals have survived negotiations — and they have been watered down by aggressive industry opposition. The environmental provisions are:

- A three-year charge to be levied on all customers would raise \$270 million to provide cost-effective energy efficiency services.

- A "renewable portfolio standard" would require all providers to derive 5 percent of their energy from renewable sources within five years.

Major businesses are against even these meager steps and are pushing for no restrictions whatsoever.

Indications are that MEC may pull out of negotiations and seek to work, instead, with a legislator who is willing to press for environmental protection as part of utility deregulation.

## Engler flip-flops for healthy fish advisories

Earlier this year Gov. Engler engaged in a high-profile fight with the U.S. EPA. He blocked Michigan from issuing the same health warnings about eating Great Lakes fish that other Great Lakes states are providing to anglers.

The Engler administration has fought use of adequate fish advisories for two years, making Michigan a lone holdout.

Last spring, the U.S. EPA finally asked fishing license vendors to voluntarily distribute more complete information about toxics in Great Lakes fish.

Recently (perhaps in conjunction with "election year") Gov. Engler has announced a change of heart. He now proposes, starting next year, to offer detailed advice on the amount of PCBs in sportfish that women of child-bearing age can safely consume.

A report released in July by the Sierra Club Great Lakes Program found that, regionwide, 2 out of 3 women in fishing households are unaware of the health warnings.

And 4 out of 5 minority anglers are still unaware of the health concerns associated with eating contaminated Great Lakes fish.

*Great Lakes State Update is prepared by Melanie Nance and Alison Horton of the Mackinac Chapter Office.*







**costs  
us all**



Cyclists listen as Brett Hulsey, Midwest Regional Representative, discusses the costs of urban sprawl in a large lot subdivision. Photo: Judy Thompson

BY KAREN GLENNEMEIER

*Huron Valley Group Conservation Chair*

In an event that blended outings with activism, 100 cyclists and 40 bus riders took an early fall tour around the Ann Arbor area October 4. "Tour de Sprawl" revealed the need for land use planning and open space preservation. The event was organized by the Huron Valley Group and other land use organizations. Cyclists rode a 25-mile loop through high-density neighborhoods, clustered housing, sprawling developments, and threatened farmland.

The first stop showcased a beautiful historical neighborhood that could not be built today because building ordinances prohibit it. City planner Jeff Kahan said we have learned the consequences of using land inefficiently. Kahan described ordinances that could be changed to preserve natural features, provide pedestrian access, and increase housing options.

The next stop was amid vast expanses of lawn and two-acre housing lots. Brett Hulsey, Midwest Regional Sierra Club representative, detailed fiscal irresponsibility of low-density developments. Taxpayers subsidize these developments, as they require new septic systems, roads, and public services, rather than using existing infrastructure. Residential developments cost more in services and maintenance than they return in property taxes.

Next, cyclists rested at a farm nominated for the state's Purchase of Development Rights program. This program would establish the land as permanently agricultural and protect it from development. Barry Lonik of the Potowatomie Land Trust urged support of the Washtenaw County PDR program, likely to appear on the 1998 ballot.

Other speakers explained issues that often are confusing, and suggested steps people can take to affect land use decisions in their communities. Participants received more than a T-shirt, refreshments and entertainment at the event — they gained a sense of community among environmental activists, and a resolve to work for land use policy change.

The event was featured on the Front Page of the Ann Arbor News. Interviews with Tour speakers were to be aired on public radio the last week in October. If you missed this year's tour, watch for next year's event. No matter where you live, there are things you can do to improve land use policies. You can call your city planner or local township, and ask to see a copy of the master plan and ordinances. Find out where your community is headed and tell your elected officials the type of future you'd like to see for your community.

If you have an issue that you care about, don't let fear or uncertainty stop you. There's no better way to learn than to do it yourself! For more information, contact Karen Glennemeier at (313) 741-9719 ([glen@umich.edu](mailto:glen@umich.edu)) or Judy Thompson at (313) 677-2517

**"Suburban Sprawl Costs Us All In The Midwest,"** a publication of Sierra Club's Midwest Office, was released in Michigan at the Washtenaw County event. It details how suburban sprawl threatens our families, our communities, and our quality of life.

Copies are available for \$10.00 (make check payable to The Sierra Club Foundation) from the Mackinac Chapter, 300 N. Washington Square, Suite 411, Lansing, MI 48933.



## Diverted wildlife funds under review, thanks to activists

BY ANNE WOIWODE

*Michigan Forest Biodiversity Program Director*

Wildlife conservation didn't begin in the 1970s, as many commonly think.

In the 1920's and 1930s, the country began to realize the devastation caused by thoughtless market hunting, reckless logging activities and conversion of wildlands to farm fields and towns. Conservationists began to work to restore and sustain habitat critical to the recovery of native wildlife.

The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, better known as the Pittman Robertson Program, was one of the most far-sighted efforts introduced. Now celebrating its 60th anniversary, P-R extends the philosophy of early conservationists such as Aldo Leopold.

P-R grew from the idea that restoration of wildlife habitat is critical to stop the decimation of wildlife. Establishing and funding state wildlife agencies was the first step. Those who take advantage of wildlife habitat, in particular hunters, would be taxed to provide funds to restore habitat. P-R is funded by the sale of guns, ammunition, archery and associated equipment. It is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The P-R Act reads like a conservationist's manifesto, recognizing conservation and restoration of wildlife habitat for all species as its goal. The act speaks to the generosity of spirit of these early hunters and conservationists.

In fact, many of the species hunted today in Michigan were extirpated, or so thoroughly depleted when P-R began, that there was no expectation they would ever be hunted again.

The success stories under P-R are many, such as reintroduction of elk, moose and pine martens, and restoration of turkey and waterfowl. In some cases it has worked too well, increasing populations of deer and some geese to levels well beyond what nature intended. This imbalance harms human assets and depletes habitat for many native species of birds and wildlife.

By the 1970s, conservationists recognized habitat restoration efforts were not solving the problem. Some wildlife continued to decline and even go extinct as a result of habitat loss, chemical contamination, and other threats.

Congress enacted the Endangered Species Act, which has contributed significantly to bringing species back from the edge. Ironically, although P-R and ESA focus on habitat restoration and protection, the agencies vested with administration have treated them as unrelated. However, restoration of habitat for native birds and

mammals is the goal of each.

In Michigan, this contradiction caught the attention of Sierra Club members two years ago. Sierra Club's Michigan Forest Biodiversity Program team researched the law and saw how it applied in Michigan. They discovered that despite the clear language of P-R, too often funds were used to create habitat for already plentiful, if not overabundant, animals and birds. This hurt habitat of rare, threatened and endangered birds and mammals.

Federal law requires environmental effects, either positive or negative, of programs funded by the federal government, be disclosed. The information is to be used in the decision-making process for dispensing those funds.

Until 2 years ago, no one had ever requested that the Fish and Wildlife Service abide by the law on environmental review, known as the National Environmental Policy Act. Sierra Club activists became concerned about this failure to comply with the law when they learned that a 5 year, \$35 million grant to Michigan was about to be approved under P-R.

Proposed projects included activities intentionally designed to stop the recovery of Michigan's original habitat, even though these older, more complex forests

*Please see FORESTS, Page 11*



Join  
the  
F.A.N.  
Club!

If you would like information about the Michigan Forest Activist Network, fill in and send this form to F.A.N., Sierra Club, 300 N. Washington, Suite 411, Lansing, 48933, or email [anne.woiwode@sierraclub.org](mailto:anne.woiwode@sierraclub.org) with the same information:

Name .....

Address .....

Phone .....

Email .....

I'd like to receive:

- Forest Activist Network Newsletter
- Notice of upcoming Trainings
- Background Forest Activist Network Information
- Other things? Let us know!



**FORESTS****Continued from page 10**

are among the most endangered ecosystems in the nation!

Yet the 1995 P-R application called for 40,000 acres per year of industrial clear-cutting on State Forest lands in Michigan. It would artificially maintain habitat for deer and other game species that use early successional habitat.

Other disturbing aspects of the proposals were that 1/7th of this federal wildlife habitat fund paid for leave time for DNR staff. Also it proposed the manipulation of 105,000 acres of wetlands, with no review of the environmental impact.

After two years of pushing the Michigan DNR and the USFWS, progress was made this summer. The DNR voluntarily terminated its 1995 P-R grant in favor of new applications, supposedly to address the concerns.

As we go to press, the applications are being redrafted. Unanswered are questions as to whether the environmental review will be completed.

The new round of applications are expected to be submitted over the next few months. The Fish and Wildlife Service will decide whether these projects will require more review prior to completing the grants.

The Sierra Club is pleased with the progress, but concerned that efforts may fall short of addressing the fundamental concerns. Mackinac Chapter's forest activists work to ensure the continued flow of P-R funds into Michigan. They are watching that those funds are spent to provide habitat for all wild birds and mammals.

The Sierra Club is looking at the next 60 years of P-R funding, and asking the DNR to move from the successes of the past, to the new challenges of today.

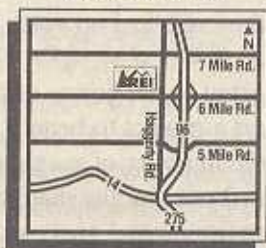
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# Drain code would destroy wetlands, pollute with impunity

BY SUE JULIAN

*Nepessing Group & Michigan Nature Association Volunteer*

The Michigan House Agriculture Committee just held five public hearings on proposed changes to the Drain Code, long the bane of environmentalists.

Sierra Club members and others showed up to reveal that little has changed in the published versions of the "new" drain code, even after revisions by the Department of Agriculture, Michigan Department of Transportation, Farmers Bureau, Home Builders Association and the drain commissioners themselves.

The revision process began when Gov. Engler convened the Environmental Code Commission in 1992. Participants decided either the Drain Code had to be amended to satisfy environmental law, or the Inland Lakes and Streams Act and the Goemere-Anderson Wetlands Act had to be amended to close the exemption for drains.

This conclusion was not unanimous, so the drain commissioners and the Department of Agriculture began the process of revising the code without directly including environmental language. Earlier this year, three identical bills were introduced simultaneously in the House and Senate, perhaps as trial balloons. At House Agriculture Committee meetings, the objections quickly came out:

- Urbanites complained they still had no voice in drainage assessments.
- Rural homeowners objected to the power of drain commissioners, who can start a project to benefit only a few over the objections of the majority of neighbors.
- Environmentalists pointed out that the main body of the code did not mandate environmental analyses.
- Farmers objected to having no power to vote on specific projects of dubious benefit.
- Conservationists deplored the inclusion of undeveloped state lands and nature sanctuaries in tax assessments for unwanted drainage.

The Drain Code is very complex, and many more damaging provisions are imbedded in its language. Some would say objections from all groups indicate a "balanced" bill. Nonsense — it's just a bad bill.

Other states, notably Wisconsin and Minnesota, have passed reforms answering most of these criticisms,



Photo by William B. Bishop

Destruction of wetlands, such as this "protected" tributary of the St. Joseph River in Hillsdale County, threatens the survival of federally endangered Clubshell Mussel, Copperbelly Watersnake and Indiana Bat. The drain code makes such "improvements" legal.

although they haven't ended environmental damage overnight.

The current versions contain a deceptive Chapter 22, which creates a mechanism for separate advisory watershed management. However, this laudable concept cannot be invoked without a separate tax on all landholders in the watershed. Also, the tax is assessed without any vote. Lawyers say this violates the Headlee amendment and so it will be thrown out.

What will be left? Drain commissioners will continue with absolute authority, able to destroy wetlands, channel streams, send pollutants downstream and into the Great Lakes. All this happens without oversight from DEQ. And citizens have been stripped of their power to appeal through the courts.

## What you can do:

A strong response from Sierra Club members is needed now. One of the bills is to come to a vote soon and it may be another 40 years before it can be significantly amended. By that time, many of our wild places will be drained and paved over. Call your state representative in Lansing; they can be reached through the State Capitol Switchboard at (517) 373-1837. Urge a pro-environmental vote. For more information call Sue Julian (248) 634-3513.



## MACKINAC VIEWPOINTS

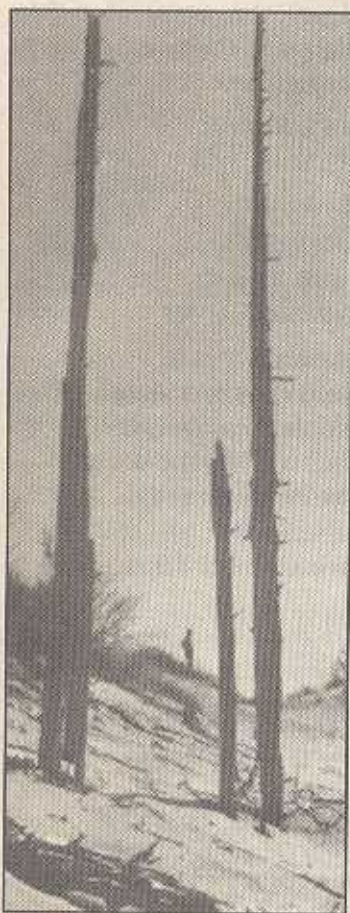
**Thanks to dedicated activists 20 years ago,  
Michigan wilderness areas are protected forever**

Photo by Ralph Powell

It wasn't easy.

The fight to designate the 10 Forest Service Wilderness areas in Michigan was a difficult, lengthy battle.

But was it worth it? YES!

Just ask the hiker reveling in solitude among enormous white pines in the McCormick Wilderness. He is interrupted only by the sound of wolves howling in the distance.

Ask the canoeist who discovers Glimmerglass Lake in Sylvania, after paddling down Clark Lake and making a long portage. She'll camp in a place that has never suffered the searing smell of motorboats or been harassed by jetskis.

Ask the family emerging from the lush hardwoods covering the rolling Nordhouse Dunes. They are glimpsing Lake Michigan from the longest stretch of undeveloped Lake Michigan coastline in the lower peninsula.

Ask the botanist studying the fragile walls of the Rock River Canyon. He is

finding fascinating species in a cradle of genetic diversity.

Ask today's toddler in 60 years to tell you what he thinks of these wild places. He'll take his own grandchildren there to experience the same joy and wonder that his parents in the 1980s and '90s.

We proudly celebrate the 10th anniversary of the passage of the Michigan Wilderness Heritage Act. It proves our efforts to save the planet, the Great Lakes, our forests, and that tiny wetland behind your house, is worth it. And it shows us we can win.

Sometimes the setbacks are heartbreaking, the disdain of our opponents unbelievable, and the shortsightedness of our leaders unfathomable. But when we pick ourselves up and return, smarter, tougher and more determined than ever, we know that success will be ours.

**Happy 10th Anniversary,  
Michigan Wilderness!**

**Stewardship of the Earth and all species unites faiths**

When churches in Michigan opened their doors to aid in protecting endangered species and their habitats this fall, environmentalists and people of faith found new and exciting ways to work together on an issue of common concern.

It has been exhilarating for the Sierra Club, working to take the "Wildlife Need Wild Places" message to congregations. Leaders from the Michigan Ecumenical Forum joined with Sierra Club members who are active in their own churches, and with clergy who are advocates for a clean and healthy environment in their communities. For people in the faith community, Sierra Club materials detailing the plight of disappearing species and their habitats across America and in Michigan were a resource most enthusiastically embraced.

There is enormous common ground between the reli-

gious community and the environmental community when it comes to stewardship of the Earth, seeking environmental justice for all people, and working to assure healthy environments for our communities and our children. Working together to till this common ground can greatly strengthen our individual voices. When our voices come from many faiths, as they have in this effort — Catholic, African Methodist Episcopal, Buddhist, Christian Reformed, Quaker, Presbyterian, Evangelical Lutheran, Unitarian, to name a few — and all speak out for greater protection for wildlife and their habitats, it helps remind us just how universal our concern is.

As the Sierra Club in Michigan continues to reach out to the community of faith, there should be many more exciting opportunities to work together towards a secure and healthy environment.



## Retreat provides respite, awards for activists and friends

Sierra Club members and guests relaxed at Camp Miniwanca September 12-14 for the 8th Annual Autumn Retreat. With warm weather and beautiful surroundings, more than 160 outdoor enthusiasts gathered to share music, stories, friendship and nature at the rustic camp setting in west Michigan.

An important highlight of the event was the awarding of Sierra Club honors to a range of club volunteers. Award winners follow.

### Service Awards:

John Rebers, CUP  
 Dave Bos, CUP  
 Anna Holden, SEMG  
 Emily Gobright, CG  
 Julie Griess, HVG  
 Joan Paskewitz, HVG  
 Cathy Semer  
 Lynn Livingston, NG  
 Sue Lossing, NG  
 Lisa Wickman, CMG



Photo by Cathy Semer

Carol Graham is awarded the Chairman's Award by Gary Semer.

### Virginia Prentice Award:

Judy Allen, CUP

### Marlene Fluharty Award:

Helen LeBlanc, CMG

### Environmental Journalism Award:

Heather Morgan,  
 Lansing State Journal

### Jane Elder Environmentalist of the Year Award:

The Honorable Lynn Rivers

### White Pine Award:

Ann Hunt, Citizens for  
 Alternatives to Chemical  
 Contamination

### Chairman's Award:

Carol Graham, NG

### Sylvannia Award:

Fred Townsend

### Vince Smith Award:

Ron Killebrew, HVG

### Cougar Award:

Jeannine Palms and The Blossom  
 Home Preschool, HVG

### Life of the Party Awards:

Jim Turner, CG  
 Jerry Wickman, CMG

### Alex Sagady Cyber-Punk Award:

Alex Sagady

## 1998 SIERRA CLUB CALENDARS AVAILABLE NOW FROM THE MACKINAC CHAPTER!

Exquisite photography! 100% recycled. When you buy from us instead of a bookstore, half of the price of each stays in Michigan to support local conservation. Wall calendars measure 12" x 11 5/16". Complete this form and mail with your check (sorry, no credit card or

C.O.D. orders) to: Sierra Club Calendars, 300 N. Washington Sq., Suite 411, Lansing, MI 48993. Please include \$2.00 for postage for each wall calendar and engagement calendar, and \$1.00 for postage for each pocket-sized calendar.

### SIERRA CLUB CALENDARS MAKE GREAT HOLIDAY GIFTS!

	Quantity	Subtotal	Postage	Total
Wilderness Wall Calendar .....	\$9.95 X	=	+ =	=
Engagement Calendar, 6 5/16" x 9 1/4" .....	\$11.95 X	=	+ =	=
Wildlife Wall Calendar .....	\$9.95 X	=	+ =	=
Birds Wall Calendar .....	\$9.95 X	=	+ =	=
Pocket Calendar, Week-at-a-glance, 3 5/8" x 6" .....	\$5.00 X	=	+ =	=
Baby Animals Wall Calendar .....	\$9.95 X	=	+ =	=
New for 1998! Flowers Calendar .....	\$9.95 X	=	+ =	=
New for 1998! Oceans Calendar .....	\$9.95 X	=	+ =	=

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (for questions only) \_\_\_\_\_





# Thistle Journal makes for a good read

BY RICK PEARSALL

*Crossroads Group*

Dan Minock is a friend of mine who has just written his first book, "Thistle Journal." When he asked me to review it, my delight for him turned to surprise and panic for me. You see, Dan is a very good writer. His work has been published in magazines and he won the Sierra Club's national writing contest.

I hoped I'd do the book justice, and I knew I would like it. Well, I loved it. Through the beauty of his writing, you also will see more of the beauty of Life.

Of the 17 stories, my favorites were written in journal style: "Thistle Journal" (the title story) is about trying to have a more natural yard; "Building the Steps" is about building a unique house; "Wildwing Island" describes an island at Kensington Metropark where owls and great blue herons live; "Purslane" is about purslane. Each story is about much more; it is about Life.

In "Least Flycatcher," Dan writes, "The wind started up again, and a small dark-bellied cloud passed in front of the sun. I headed back towards the path, and my hands



**BOOK  
REVIEW**

were connected to my wrists, my wrists to my arms, my feet to the earth." Dan does have his feet connected to the Earth, and his senses carefully observe what is going on around him. He interprets what he sees and feels, which makes for a very good book. Get the book, read it, enjoy it, and enjoy Life.

The publisher is Mid-List Press, a small non-profit press based in Minneapolis.

"Thistle Journal" won Mid-List's 1996 First Series Award for Creative Nonfiction. Copies

will be available (in December) from Borders, Shaman Drum (in Ann Arbor), and the Book Nook and Wild Bird Marketplace in Brighton. It can be ordered through Amazon Bookstore on the WWW and also directly from Mid-List at 4324 12 Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55407-3218.

Dan will read from his book at the December 10 Crossroads Sierra Club meeting at the Brighton Library, at 7 pm. Books will be available for sale at the reading.

A portion of the profits will go to the Crossroads Group. Call Rick Pearsall at (810) 227-6298 for more information about the meeting.



*Winter Wonderland*



*Wolf Design*

## Holiday gifts that help the environment!

When you buy a Sierra Club T-shirt, you support conservation in Michigan. *Winter Wonderland* is printed on light grey, and *Wolf Design* is on natural. 100% pre-shrunk cotton and low-toxic inks, with short sleeves or mock-turtleneck long sleeves. Not pictured: Sierra Club canvas bags.

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Address .....

City ..... State ..... Zip .....

Specify size (S-M-L-XL-XXL), style (SS =short sleeve; LS =long sleeve), & quantity.

	SS	Size	Qty.	LS	Size	Qty.	Subtotal
Wolf Design T-Shirt	\$15	___	___	\$20	___	___	___
Winter Design T-Shirt	\$15	___	___	\$20	___	___	___
Sierra Club Tote Canvas Tote Bag				\$10	___	___	___

**Thanks for supporting  
environmental activism in Michigan!**

Add shipping \$3.00

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Please make check payable to **Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter.**  
Mail order to: Gary Semer, 449 Pacific, Plymouth, MI 48170



# Group Meetings & Programs

## AG

### Algonquin Group

This group is currently in reorganization. If you are interested in helping with meeting plans, please call Rita Jack at the chapter office at (517) 484-2372.

## CMG

### Central Michigan Group

Please call Group Chair Pete Pasterz at (517) 676-3339 for meeting information, outings or activity information.

## CUP

### Central Upper Peninsula Group

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

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

## CG

### Crossroads Group

Want to learn more about the Madagascar Rainforests? Or bats, snakes, or making your yard more wildlife friendly? These are all programs we plan to present at our monthly meetings held the second Wednesday of each month, at 7 p.m. in the Brighton District Library at 200 Charles Orndorff Drive. Programs are free and refreshments are provided. Conservation Committee meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month. For locations and information, call Eleanor Conaway at (810) 632-7776.

For membership information, contact Emily Gobright at (517) 548-0995. You do not have to be a member to participate in outings or meetings.

**11/12 Favorite Vacation Locations.** Bring in slides of your favorite location and enjoy watching others. Please limit slides to 5 (so all can show.) We hope to see slides of Puerto Rico and Hawaii! For more information call Rick Pearsall at (810) 227-6298 or e-mail: jrjrichard@h1online.com.

**12/10 Dan Minock**, local writer and



Sierra Club member, will read from "Thistle Journal," his just published award-winning book of nature writing and personal essays. Dan won the national Sierra Club writing contest. Copies of the book will be available for purchase (good Christmas gifts!) Net proceeds will go to the Crossroads Group.

**1/14 Beth Duman** will explain everything you wanted to know about Michigan snakes. She will bring some of her snakes and debunk untruths about them. Don't miss this program!

If you have any ideas for a speaker, topic, or would like to learn more information about a program, contact Rick Pearsall at (810) 227-6298.

## HVG

### Huron Valley Group

The General Meetings of the Huron Valley Group of the Sierra Club are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the UM Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor. For more information call (313) 665-7345.

**11/18 "Energy Conservation Efforts** at the University of Michigan" presented by Yosiko Hill.

**12/16 Our annual member's slide show.** It will be preceded by a potluck at 6:30 p.m.

**1/20 Meagan Levevre** will present information on the "Home-A-Syst" program which educates rural homeowners on ways to avoid groundwater contamination.

## KVG

### Kalamazoo Valley Group

General membership meetings are usually held on the third Thursday of the month at

7:30 p.m. at Kalamazoo Valley Community College. The Executive Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. and all members are welcome. Contact Verne and Cindy Mills at (616) 344-4279 for more information.

## NG

### Nepeessing Group

General membership meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Prah Center, Genesee Room of Mott Community College, 1401 E. Court St., Flint. We have special speakers at 6:30 followed by refreshments and our membership meeting. Non-members are welcome. Call Carol Graham at (810) 659-4965 for more information. The Nepeessing Group 1997 weekly hiking series schedule is now available at (810) 743-0335.

**12/6 Christmas Potluck** at Ligon Outdoor Center. 1 p.m. 5 miles of trails to hike and/or ski. Bring a dish to pass and enjoy the rustic ambiance of the lodge overlooking Lake Ligon. Cindy Engelmann (810) 743-0335.

## NEMG

### Northeast Michigan Group

This group is currently inactive. Please call Rita Jack at the chapter office at (517) 484-2372 for information or if you are interested in helping with reorganization.

## SEMG

### Southeast Michigan Group

General membership meetings are held 7:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month, Sept. through June, at Northwestern Unitarian-Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Hwy (southbound M-10 service drive) between Southfield and Evergreen roads, and Nine and Ten Mile roads in Southfield. The SEMG general information number is (313) 928-3423.

The Executive Committee meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, Woodward and 11-mile Rd, Royal Oak. Contact Lydia Fischer, Chairperson, for information at (313) 863-8392.

Conservation Committee meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church. Parking in back of the church, south of 11 Mile Road. Call Ed



McArdle, (313) 388-6645.

**Outings Committee.** Contact Phil Crookshank if you are interested in planning or leading outings. (313) 562-1873.

**Political Action** to support pro-environment legislation, state and national. Contact Tim Killeen, Chair, Political Action Committee. (313) 526-4052.

**11/6 Orienteering** — or How to Keep from Losing It. Bring a compass and improve your "navigational skills" with help from Dave Bailey, Southern Michigan Orienteering Club. Practical instruction in map-reading and use of compass.

**12/4 Annual Holiday Party.** Always the first and the best December holiday celebration! Enjoy gourmet goodies, shop at Sierra's Silent Auction, see exceptional slides, and buy your 1998 calendars.

**1/8 Exploring Public Lands** of the Southwest. Visit Canyonlands, Escalante and other public lands in Utah, Arizona and New Mexico; a slide presentation by recent Sierra travelers.

**2/5 Following the Peregrine Falcon.** Judy Yerkey will chronicle the ups and downs of the colony of Peregrine Falcons established in Detroit in 1987 by

Michigan Department of Natural Resources releases. They're still here!

#### TLG

##### Three Lakes Group

Sierra Club members in the Upper Peninsula counties of Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac and Schoolcraft are welcome to attend meetings of the Three Lakes Group. Business meetings are held monthly at various locations in Sault Ste. Marie. Programs are held on the first Wednesday of the month from September through May at the Walker Cislser Center on the campus of Lake Superior State University. For information call Floyd Byerly at (906) 632-0218.

#### TVG

##### Thumb Valley Group

Members, non-members, and guests are most welcome to attend TVG General Membership and Leadership meetings! Simply show up, or contact Craig and Janis Kendzierski at (517) 631-5170 for more information.

**11/13 7 pm.** General Membership Meeting. DNR representative to discuss the "Wildlife Fund" on your State tax form. Come find out what the fund is used for and how successful it has been.

Meet at Delta College, ABC Rooms (just off the Commons).

**12/10 7 pm.** Leadership Meeting.

Time to start to work on the next newsletter! We need people to write articles, help with the mailing, lead some winter outings.... so please come on out! 4209 Linden Drive, Midland. Contact Craig and Janis (517) 631-5170 for details.

#### TG

##### Traverse Group

This group is currently in reorganization. Please call Rita Jack at the chapter office at 517-484-2372 if you are interested in helping with future meeting plans.

#### WMcNG

##### Wakelin McNeel Group

This group is currently in reorganization. Please call Rita Jack at the chapter office at (517) 484-2372 if you are interested in helping with future meeting plans.

#### WMG

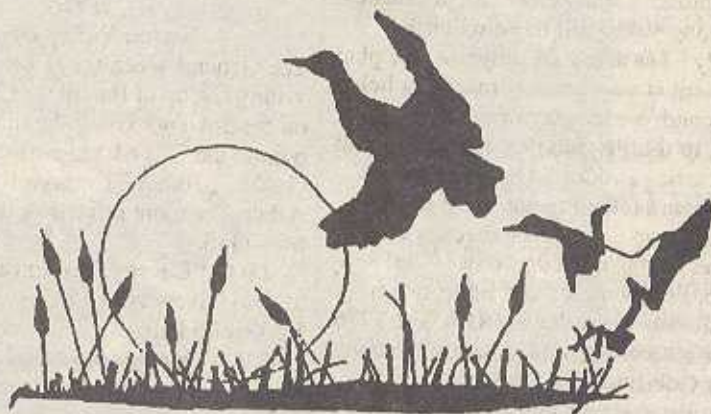
##### West Michigan Group

Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in the East Grand Rapids Administration Building board room, beginning at 7 p.m. Contact Elaine Goodspeed at (616) 364-4704.

## *A weekend to make your spirit soar!*

**Imagine this:** As the Sun rises, the bog comes to life in song. More than 100 bird species! Climb the elevated tree platforms, see Loons nesting on Lake Nettie, and Bald Eagles fishing the shallows. Hike the upland meadows and forests, home to a vast array of plants, animals and birds, including coyotes and snowshoe hares. Hear the shorebirds scream at Lake Huron, and go birding by boat. You can take guided tours or just explore 2,000 acres of private, undeveloped wildness on your own. Evenings, retire to your own comfortable cottage or lodge room.

**Future workshop weekends:** Enroll in the *NettieBay School of Bird Identification Weekend* and *The Outdoor Woman Workshop*. Your hosts serve full-course meals, and even cater to special diets. Facilities are available to groups for private workshops as well. Call for availability.



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SUPPORTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$58
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LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$23
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LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$23

F97QW1

F97QW1G

# SIERRA CLUB



300 N. Washington Sq., Suite 411  
Lansing, MI 48933

## For our families, and their future...

If you do not have a will, the state decides how your property and other affairs are handled. Decisions made now can later provide financial security for your family, friends, and the Sierra Club. You can even direct your bequest to a specific Club program or your home chapter. For more information and confidential assistance, contact:

John Calaway  
Sierra Club Planned Giving  
85 Second St., Second Floor,  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
415-977-5538

## Now that you are a member...

BY RITA JACK

Member Programs Director

You might wonder what kinds of people become environmental volunteers. Where do they come from? Why do they care so much? How do they know so much about the environment?

They must be very outgoing to give their opinions, right? And how do they find the time to volunteer?

As it turns out, we have all kinds of people in the Sierra Club — shy ones, outgoing types, urban dwellers, country folks, professionals and blue collar, students and older people. What we share is caring. We are everyday people who feel strongly enough about the Earth to say "I'll help!" You don't have to know anything about conservation, specific issues, or organizing. You only need to care enough to want to learn.

No one will tell you it is easy, and that it doesn't take time. And while the rewards are not always tangible, the work is as satisfying as anything you will ever know. Environmental activism matters. It matters to you, to your family, to your community, and to the future of the planet. If you want to become involved in environmental issues, the easiest way is to attend your local Sierra Club group meeting.

One group in southeast lower Michigan, the Huron Valley Group, has recently gained many new members. If you are a member of the HVG, call Doug Cowherd at (313) 662-5205 or Mike Sklar at (313) 995-1831 for more information. Members throughout Michigan can call Rita Jack at the chapter office at (517) 484-2372. The Earth, and the Club, needs you.

## Canada's Stokely Creek ski outing planned

A winter wonderland beckons you to a special Club outing at Canada's Stokely Creek the weekend of Feb. 27 - March 1. The home of wolves, beaver, otter and other wildlife, Stokely Creek's many miles of groomed and back-country trails draw cross country skiers from November through April.

The Crossroads Group has planned a special event this year. It reserved lodging and meals for up to 20 for the three-day weekend. For a cost of \$250 per individual (U.S.), participants will enjoy

Stokely's delightful cooking from Friday evening through Sunday afternoon, including lodging, skiing and other activities. Stokely's ski runs are rated among the best in North America, and will delight everyone from advanced beginners through experienced skiers.

Interested participants should send a deposit of \$100 no later than November 24 to trip organizer Lorne Beatty at 573 N. Maxfield Rd., Brighton, MI 48816. Contact Lorne at (810) 632-7766 for more information.

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## MACKINAC CHAPTER—SIERRA CLUB

# Outings

TO EXPLORE, ENJOY AND PROTECT

**Abbreviations in capital letters signify the group that is planning the outing. Refer to the Group Meetings map on page 16 to determine a group's location. Trips begin at the trailhead. Regardless of location, outings are open to all, members and non-members.**

## NOVEMBER

**11/2 HVG Haenele Bird Watch.** Come watch the Sandhill cranes fly in to roost at sunset. Meet at Ann Arbor City Hall parking lot 3:30 p.m. Call Jean Grae at (313) 665-2419 for information.

**11/2 SEMG Leaf Crunch** at Island Lake State Rec. Area. Autumn's lush foliage is gone, and now we can easily see the river as we do a 5-mile hike. Meet 9:30 a.m. at Telegraph and Twelve Mile Rd. (Tel-Twelve Mall) in Southfield, or 10:30 a.m. at the park hdqtrs. on Kensington and Grand River. Bring trail lunch and water. Phil Crookshank (313) 562-1873, and Brenda Bartok (313) 421-5826.

**11/9 CG Wildlife Center Tour** and Migratory Waterfowl Watch. Join the Crossroads Group for a visit to the Bengel Wildlife Center near Lansing for a tour and to watch the waterfowl on their migration south via Prigoois Lake. The Center has been established through the efforts of the Michigan Wildlife Habitat Foundation to serve as a model for land owners who want to restore or improve habitat for wildlife. Members and nonmembers are welcome. Meet at the I-96, Brighton/Spencer Rd. exit, west MDOT parking lot at noon. Contact Lorne Beatty at (810) 632-7766 or Dan Minocek at (248) 685-2411.

**11/9 HVG Don Botsford Recreational Preserve Hike.** We will follow natural trails on Don's 20 acres. Meet at Don Botsford Preserve, 3015 Miller Road, Ann Arbor, near N. Maple Road, at 1 p.m. in the front parking lot. Call Kathy Guerreso at (313) 994-7183 for further information.

**11/9 SEMG Matthaei Botanical Gardens.** A three hour stroll led by our docent will provide a unique look at the gardens. See the results of the beetles that were released to defoliate the purple loosertrife in this

area. Meet 1 p.m. in the lot behind 'Oil Dispatch', S.W. corner of Middlebelt and I-96 (Jeffries Fwy.) in Livonia, or 1:45 at the gardens. Restaurant stop afterwards. Max Nemazi (313) 421-4397.

**11/15 NG Ligon Outdoor Center Moonlight Hike.** 8 p.m. E. Farrand Road, Clio. Maybe we can figure out the Moon dial. Fireside gathering after hike. Bring weenies, marshmallows and beverages. Cindy Engelmann (810) 743-0335.

**11/15 SEMG Kensington Metro Park.** Leaves crunch underfoot as winter approaches. Bring trail snack and water for a 5-mile hike at a moderate pace on the forest trails. Meet at Noon at the Kensington Nature Center, (exit 151 off of I-96), then into the park. Restaurant stop after. Pat and Tom Skinner (313) 981-8031.

**11/15 HVG Lost Nation State Game Area Hike.** Explore a potential route for the North Country Trail in a very scenic area in southern Michigan. Carpool from Fox Village Theater parking lot at noon. Bring a snack, and plan on approximately one hour travel each way. Call Ralph Powell at (313) 971-9013 for information.

**11/16 SEMG Belle Isle 5-Mile Hike.** We will hike the north perimeter of the island, keeping on the lookout for the resident deer, and waterfowl. Meet at the Casino building on the South end of the park 10 a.m. Restaurant stop afterward. Leader: June Cox (248) 435-9522.

**11/19 HVG Stinchfield Woods Day Hike.** Hike the rolling contours and check out Peach Mountain. Meet at the Ann Arbor City Hall parking lot at 1 p.m. Call Payal Parekh at (313) 453-9102 for information.

**11/22 NG Mott Lake Bike Trail Hike** 1 p.m. Approximately 3 miles through woods and beside lake. Park at Bluegill Boat Ramp parking lot. Park entrance across from Buggy's Bar and Grill on Genesee Rd. between Coldwater and Stanley, just south of town of Genesee. Cindy Engelmann (810) 743-0335.

**11/23 SEMG Bald Mountain Hike.** We will hike about 5 miles in this moderately hilly park, but at an easy pace so we don't spook the Thanksgiving turkeys. Meet 11 a.m. in the shopping center lot behind

McDonalds on Telegraph just North of Square Lake Rd. Call if weather is questionable. Bring beverage and snack, restaurant stop afterwards. Leader: Joanne Spatz (248) 932-5370.

**11/23 HVG Tom's Terrific Bushwack.** A rugged off-trail hike for fitness mavens and exercise buffs. Wear sturdy shoes and bring a light snack. Wear bright colors. Meet at Ann Arbor City Hall parking lot at 1 p.m. to carpool. Call Tom at (313) 668-1514 for more information.

**11/29 NG For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum Hike.** 10 a.m. 2142 N Genesee Rd., Burton, just north of Davison Road. Leader needed. Call Cindy Engelmann to volunteer (810) 743-0335.

**11/29 HVG Turkey Trot Hike** and Potluck. Bring your Turkey Day leftovers (or another dish) to share for dinner. Hike to build up an appetite, and then relax and enjoy. Call Barb Schumacher at (313) 994-5456 for details.

## DECEMBER

**12/6 TVG Climb the Wall!** We'll climb the 25-foot wall at the Midland Gymnastics Club, 1111 E Wackerly. Meet there 1 pm. Unsuspecting beginners and survivors from the March climb are most welcome. Actually it wasn't that bad, other than cramming your feet into shoes 5 sizes too small. There is a \$10 fee (wall/shoes/harness). Craig Kendzioriski (517) 631-5170.

**12/6 HVG Hidden Lake Gardens Hike.** A leisurely hike, then enjoy the Christmas Bazaar and evening luminaries. Meet at City Hall parking lot at noon to carpool. Contact Ron Killebrew at (313) 429-0671.

**12/6 NG Sierra Club Christmas Potluck** at Ligon Outdoor Center, 1 p.m. 5 miles of trails to hike and/or ski. Bring a dish to pass and enjoy the rustic ambiance of the lodge overlooking Lake Ligon. Cindy Engelmann (810) 743-0335.

**12/7 SEMG Waterloo Wanderings.** This will be a 6-mile loop hike from the Geology Center in Waterloo Recreation Area. With snow cover, we'll track animals. Wear heavy lug soles for traction. Restaurant stop afterwards. Meet 9:30 a.m. in the lot behind 'Oil Dispatch', S.W. corner of Middlebelt and I-96 (Jeffries Fwy.) in Livonia, or 10:30



at the Geology Center. Leader: Phil Crookshank (313) 562-1873

**12/7 HVG Holiday Potluck & Party.**

Bring a dish to pass and share your holiday spirit. Party starts 6:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Sue Stickel at (313) 485-0948.

**12/12 SEMG (Friday) Outings Scheduling Meeting.** Open to everyone interested in doing or learning about outings. Join us in a fun-filled evening. Bring a dish to pass for this casual holiday dinner at 6:30 p.m.; planning meeting at 7:30. Meet at Cindy Gunnips house near 12 Mile and Greenfield Rd. in Southfield, 29708 Brentwood. (810) 557-7768 for directions.

**12/14 SEMG Stoney Creek Hike.** Get out of the malls and join us for a pre-holiday visit to the nature center and a 5-mile hike in the snow here. Meet 12:30 p.m. in the parking lot at 16 Mile (Metro Parkway) and Van Dyke near the Smart lot. Restaurant stop after. Leader: Lee Becker (810) 294-7789.

**12/14 HVG Parker Mill Hike.** Hike the boardwalk along Fleming Creek in this fairly new park, with an option to hike the Gallup pathway to Gallup Park. Meet at Parker Mill parking lot 1 p.m., off Geddes, just off US-23. Call Ruth Graves at (313) 483-0058.

**12/20 NG Holly Recreation Area North Hike.** 10 a.m. Put some holly in your holiday! Meet in the parking lot behind the Groveland Township Hall, 4696 Grange Hall Rd., Holly, east of I-75 between Mt. Holly and Ortonville (not to be confused with Fire and Police dept. bldgs. on corner of Dixie Hwy and Grange Hall). State park vehicle permits not required. This trail is well-marked with numbered signs thanks in part to NG's own Mike Keeler. Cindy Engelmann (810) 743-0335.

**12/21 SEMG Belle Isle Walkabout.** Meet near the center of the island in the parking lot between the Aquarium and the Conservatory at 10 a.m. We will do a 5-mile loop, then tour the great Christmas flower displays in the Conservatory. Admission fee. Bring trail snacks, dress for the weather. Dan Penchke (313) 365-6901.

**12/28 SEMG Indian Springs Hike.** Bring your holiday spirit to Indian Springs for a 5-mile tramp through the snow covered woods. Meet 11 a.m. in the shopping center parking lot behind McDonalds on Telegraph just North of Square Lake Rd. Restaurant stop afterwards. Your Seasons Greetings Leaders: Bev. and Marshall Fogelson (248) 280-4975.

## JANUARY

**1/1 CUP Harlow Lake Ski Outing.** This is a moderate 5-mile ski with beautiful views of Lake Superior on DNR trails near



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Marquette. Call Richard Posey at (906) 226-7934.

**1/3 HVG Mystery Bushwack.** Hike some on trails and off trails in Ann Arbor. Wear sturdy shoes. Be prepared for briars. Contact Ralph Powell at (313) 971-9013.

**1/3 CUP Addis Lakes Snowshoe or Ski Outing.** This is part of the Bay de Noc-Grand Island trail in Hiawatha N.F. west of Munising. The lakes are very pretty, and there are mature forests, meadows, and a nice stream. Moderate 4 miles with car shuttle. Call Richard Posey at (906) 226-7934.

**1/4 SEMG Proud Lake Hike.** Start your New Year on the right foot and join us on a brisk winter hike in Proud Lake Rec. area. Meet 11 a.m. behind the Marathon station at Telegraph and Twelve Mile Rd. (Tel-Twelve Mall) in Southfield. Restaurant stop afterwards. Leader: Liz Allingham (313) 581-7579.

**1/10 CUP McCormick Wilderness ski Outing.** We will explore the Camp 11 Lake drainage. Moderate 6 miles with off-trail skiing. Call Richard Posey at (906) 226-7934.

**1/11 SEMG Indian Springs Metropark-ski.** We will hike if no snow, but plan on skiing the Golf Course or the hilly trails, with a warm up after in the concession bldg. Bring skis or boots, & appropriate clothing. Restaurant stop afterwards. Meet 10 a.m. in the shopping center parking lot behind McDonalds on Telegraph just North of Square Lake Rd. Mary Stoolmiller (248) 879-6004.

**1/17 CUP Big Island Lake Wilderness Ski Outing.** This area south of Munising is full of small lakes. We'll ski canoe portage routes. Strenuous, off trail. Richard Posey at (906) 226-7934.

**1/18 HVG Everybody Skate & Hike.** Skate if ice is solid; otherwise hike. Be prepared for both. Meet at City Hall parking lot 1

p.m. or Silver Lake at 1:45p.m. Call Milton French at (313) 562-2679 for directions and more information.

**1/18 SEMG Maybury Ski or Hike.** We will do an easy/moderate, afternoon ski on the trails at Maybury State Park near Northville. Bring water and snack, meet at noon at the concession bldg. in the main lot off 8 mile Rd. Restaurant stop afterwards. Leader: Ed McArdle (313) 388-6645.

**1/23-25 HVG Annual Sleeping Bear Dunes Ski Trip.** Warm cabins, great lake-effect snow, and super trails combine to make this a terrific weekend. Sign up early! Call Joan Paskewitz at (313) 668-1514 to reserve.

**1/24 CUP Laughing Whitefish Lake Nature Conservatory Preserve Ski Outing.** Moderate 5 miles, east of Marquette. Call Richard Posey at (906) 226-7934.

**1/25 SEMG Independence Oaks Ski or Hike.** Chase the mid-winter blues with a stimulating day outside. Ski or hike 5 miles of this moderate terrain. Meet 11:30 a.m. behind the Marathon station at Telegraph and Twelve Mile Rd. (Tel-Twelve Mall) in Southfield or 12:30 at the park's Nature Center. Call if weather is ? Restaurant stop afterwards. Joanne Spatz (248) 932-5370.

**1/30-2/1 HVG McMullen Ski Weekend.** Spend two nights at McMullen Center on Higgins Lake near Roscommon and ski numerous trails in the area. Good food and accommodations in a beautiful setting. Trip limit is 12. Call Jeanne Grae at (313) 665-2419. Cost is approximately \$95 per person.

**1/31 CUP McCormick Wilderness Ski Outing.** Gordon-Dortay-Island Lakes loop. West of Marquette. Strenuous, off trail. Call Richard Posey at (906) 226-7934.

**1/31 TVG NOAH/Potluck.** Learn about the NOAH Program from Todd Tarrant while sharing a Potluck dinner. Meet at Todd and Laura Tarrant's house 393 North 7 Mile Road, Midland. Call (517) 835-4560.

## FEBRUARY

**2/1 SEMG Kensington Metropark Walk.** Dress for the weather, let's hope for a beautiful snowy winter day to enjoy the trails and wildlife of this Michigan jewel! A moderately paced, hilly hike, followed by a restaurant stop. Meet 12:30 p.m. behind the Marathon station at Telegraph and Twelve Mile Rd. (Tel-Twelve Mall) in Southfield. Leader: Cindy Gunnip (248) 557-7768.

**2/7 CUP Echo Lake Ski Outing.** Bring a lunch to eat in a warm trailer. Easy skiing with one optional steep hill. North of Marquette. Call Richard Posey at (906) 226-7934.

**2/8 SEMG Riverbend Oops.** We will be hiking the riverbend loops without any slippery oops! at Island Lake State Rec. area. Meet at noon behind the Marathon station at Telegraph and Twelve Mile Rd. (Tel-Twelve Mall) in Southfield, or at Riverbend 1 p.m. for a 5-mile moderate hike. Restaurant stop afterwards. Leader: Max Nemazi (313) 421-4397.

## MAKE PLANS NOW...

**2/13-15 HVG Tawas Cross Country Ski Trip.** Ski the scenic Corsair Trails near Tawas City, or on the high bluffs overlooking the AuSable River. Housekeeping cabins, common commissary. All ages welcome! Call Ruth Graves at (313) 483-0058.

**2/14-16 CUP President's Day X-Country Ski Weekend in the Porkies.** We will stay in a primitive, ski-in only cabin in the interior of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park. During the days, we will explore 42 km of groomed x-c ski trails (plus ungroomed exploration). \$40 fee includes all meals. There will be additional trail and trail fees Limit 8. Call Richard Posey at (906) 226-7934.

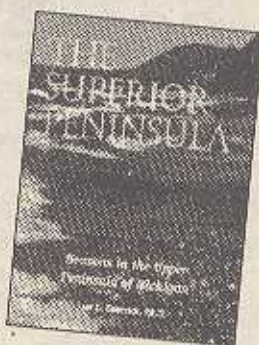
## The Superior Peninsula

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**3/6-8 Chapter Annual Munising Ski Trip.** Lots of snow for skiing on trails in Pictured Rocks and the Hiawatha National Forest. The annual Taste and Glide event includes skiing and snacking on Saturday afternoon and a banquet in the evening. Perhaps we'll see the famous ice formations on Grand Island. Contact Ralph Powell at 313-971-9013 to reserve motel rooms near Pictured Rocks.

**4/15-23 CUP Zion, Bryce, Grand Canyons sampler.** Day hikes in Zion and Bryce Canyons, plus backpacking in Grand Canyon. Some camping and lodging in resort/hotels. Great desert and canyon scenery, short but challenging hikes, good food, lots of fun. Limit: 10 people. Sign-up deadline: Feb. 1. Outing fee: \$300 includes all lodging, meals, camping, entry fees and permits. For info send address and 64 cents in postage to: Dave Bos, 337 E. Crescent, Marquette, MI 49855.

**Outings meeting planned**

In the past, the chapter has offered an outing for outings leaders and training for new leaders. How can the chapter can help you and your outings program? What activities would interest your group? Group outings chairs or stand-ins are invited to a meeting on December 14 or 15 to plan activities for 1998. Contact Ralph Powell (313) 971-9013 for time and location.

**RAINBOW EXPEDITIONS II**

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**WINTER 1998**

**COPPER CANYON BURRO TREK**

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*Moderate.* (10 days, from El Paso, Texas)

**SONORAN DESERT BACKPACK**

Feb 7 - 14 *Superstition Wilderness* \$445  
Led by renowned international guide Susan Thiele, this outing in the wild eastern Superstitions traverses a variety of desert scenery, ranging from cacti in the canyons to Ponderosa pine at 5,000-feet.  
*Moderately Strenuous.* About 40 miles in rough country.

**COPPER CANYON BACKPACK**

Feb 17 - Feb 28 *Batopilas to Urique* Backpack \$950  
From the subtropical backcountry mining town of Batopilas, in one of the deepest canyons in North America, we backpack across the forested heights of the Sierra Madre and descend into Copper Canyon upstream from Urique.  
*Strenuous.* Equivalent to hiking in the Grand Canyon on steep unmaintained trails. (12 days - from El Paso, Texas)

**BACKCOUNTRY SKIING**

Feb 9 - 14 *Hut to Hut in the Colorado Rockies* \$480  
We'll spend our nights in comfortable, heated cabins, while skiing through legendary Colorado powder by day, in some of the most beautiful country in the Colorado Rockies.  
*Moderately Strenuous.* Open to novice backcountry skiers who are fit. Alpine touring equipment can be rented in ski shops; we'll provide information and prices.

**WILD ESCALANTE CANYONS BACKPACK**

Mar 22 - 28 *Canyons of the Waterpocket Fold* \$500  
Intrepid canyoneer Bruce Chasler leads through seldom seen terrain: from Middle Moody Creek up onto the Waterpocket Fold, into Stevens Canyon, through a pass and several Escalante canyons, along a ledge route with superb vistas of the sandstone and shale walls of the Moody Canyons.  
*Strenuous.* A challenge for experienced backpackers.

**SIERRA CLUB MACKINAC CHAPTER DIRECTORY**

**MACKINAC CHAPTER OFFICE**

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214 N. Henry St., Suite 203, Madison,  
WI 53703 .....(608) 257-4994  
Carl Zichella, Midwest Regional Staff Director  
Brett Hulse, Great Lakes Program Director  
Bill Redding, Associate Representative

**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**

Sierra Club 85 Second Street,  
San Francisco, CA 94105.....(415) 977-5500

**CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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Ron Smith, Vice Chair .....313-878-3689  
Fred Townsend, Secretary.....810-627-3587  
Helen LeBlanc, Treasurer .....517-655-6454  
Lydia Fischer, 5th Officer.....313-863-8392

**At-Large Representatives**

**Terms expire January 1998**  
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Sue Kelly .....810-227-9563  
Paul Haas .....616-664-5419  
Gary Semer .....313-453-4443  
**Terms expire January 1999**  
Helen LeBlanc .....517-321-8140  
Lydia Fischer .....313-863-8392  
Nancy Shiffler .....313-971-1157  
Ron Smith .....313-878-3689  
Mike Keeler .....810-732-7385

**Group Representatives**

CMG Pete Pasterz .....517-676-3339  
CUPG Dave Bos .....906-228-6744  
CG Rick Pearsall .....810-227-6298  
HVG Ralph Powell .....313-971-9013  
KVG Paul Haas .....616-664-5419  
NG Fred Townsend .....810-627-3587  
SEMG Lydia Fischer .....313-863-8392  
TLG Floyd Byerly .....906-632-0218  
TVG Janis/Craig Kendzioriski .....517-631-5170  
WVG Jan O'Connell .....616-956-6621

**REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRS**

CMG Peter Pasterz .....517-676-3339  
CUPG John Rebers .....906-228-3617  
CG Sue Kelly .....810-227-9563  
HVG Doug Cowherd (co-chair)313-662-5205  
HVG Michael Sklar (co-chair) ..313-995-1831  
KVG Jan McLain.....616-327-2256  
NG Linda Berker .....810-664-5009  
SEMG Lydia Fischer .....313-863-8392  
TLG Floyd Byerly .....906-632-0218  
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WVG Elaine Goodspeed .....616-364-4704

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**Inner City Outings**  
John Pulver (WVG) .....616-453-2480  
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**ADDRESS CHANGES:**

Please include old mailing label and send to:  
Sierra Club - Membership, P.O. Box 52968,  
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**Next Deadline: Jan. 8**

Send your Group meeting updates and calendar items

**BY JANUARY 8 to:**

Bob Volz, Mackinac Calendar Editor  
414 Sleepy Hollow Dr.  
Flushing, MI 48433  
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Submit articles & photos for the SPRING EQUINOX issue of The Mackinac by JANUARY 8 to:  
Sherry Hayden, Editor  
716 S. Franklin Ave., Flint, MI 48503  
(810) 767-1353  
sherry.hayden@sfsierra.sierraclub.org

e-mail messages preferred! On disk: 3.5-inch, Mac format and MSWord 5.0 preferred. Please print your name on ALL materials to ensure proper credit! Please include a hard copy. Call (810) 767-1353 for more detailed submission info.



# How the wild places are kept wild

BY ANNE WOIWODE

*Michigan Forest Biodiversity Program Director*

Before the Michigan Wilderness Heritage Act was passed, the primary question about Michigan's three national forests was whether or not to designate them as wilderness. During the 10 years since, the focus has shifted to how to implement wilderness management in the 10 designated areas.

There is a lot more to managing Michigan's Forest Service wilderness areas than simply allowing nature to have her way. Below are some management issues that confronted by the Forest

Service during the last 10 years. Most have to do with the challenges of controlling human impact, while enhancing opportunities for people to enjoy the unique wilderness areas.

- How to effectively block illegal motorized uses in wilderness areas;
- Assuring accessibility under the Americans with Disabilities Act;
- Whether to allow mountain bikes or horses to be used;
- How to deal with a nude swimming beach in a remote area;
- Whether to require campers to use designated campsites, with fire rings and pit toilets, in heavily used, fragile areas;



- How to cope with trails degraded from overuse;
- Whether to allow the North Country Scenic Trail to cross wilderness areas;
- What to do with buildings now inside wilderness areas;
- Whether to allow the DNR to use motorized boats for stocking fish in lakes in wilderness areas;
- Resolving a conflict over access to areas traditionally used by Native Americans;
- Acquiring inholdings of land within the wilderness boundaries (about 1500 acres still to be acquired.)

Some management issues have led to the courts. The Sylvania Wilderness has been under siege by an aggressive group seeking to undermine the authority of the Forest Service, whose regulations protect wilderness values. A second lawsuit is currently in Federal District Court in Grand Rapids. The Nordhouse Dunes Wilderness is the site of the most outrageous takings settlement in Michigan history.

The challenges of turning the idea of Michigan wilderness into a reality will continue well into the next decade. It depends upon its owners, the public, to play an essential role in its protection.



Photo by Ralph Powell

A crew works on a trail in Huron National Forest, at the edge of Rock River Canyon in August 1992.

## WHAT DOES THE SIERRA CLUB WORK TO DO?

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

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to **SIERRA CLUB** 300 N. Washington Square, Lansing, MI 48933