

TheMackinac

PUBLICATION OF THE SIERRA CLUB'S MICHIGAN CHAPTER • SPRING 2010

Lynn Henning wins Goldman Prize

by Anne Woiwode

Lynn Henning is a family farmer who has marshaled extraordinary personal resources, organizing skill, creativity, and determination to fight devastating pollution from concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) around the United States.

Lynn, who joined the Michigan Chapter staff five years ago, is the 2010 Goldman Prize winner for North America, the highest honor bestowed on grassroots environmental activists worldwide. She joins five other 2010 honorees, one each from the inhabited continents of the world, in being honored on Earth Day at events in San Francisco and Washington, D.C. Lynn Henning's work now is honored along with Lois Gibbs, who led the fight at Love Canal, and Wangari Maathai, who founded the Green Revolution in Kenya, and who both have won the Goldman Prize previously.

The fight against CAFO pollution started a decade ago for Lynn as her family and neighbors were overrun with pollution from 12 CAFOs within a 10 mile radius of her home. Lynn and her family have paid a personal price in threats and harassment along with serious health impacts, but she has refused to give up.

"Our future depends on healthy food, clean water, clean air, and productive soil, but industrial livestock operations put all of that at risk," Lynn says about her efforts. "We must change to a sustainable system that supports farmers who produce food with integrity and pride, that protects our children's health, and ends the nightmare of concentrated animal feeding operations."



TOM DUSENBERG



GOLDMAN ENVIRONMENTAL PRIZE

Top: Lynn Henning on her farm. Above: The 2010 Goldman Prize recipients.

As the Sierra Club Michigan Chapter CAFO Water Sentinel since 2005, Lynn's efforts expanded to helping to build effective grassroots CAFO activism all over the country, either in person or on the internet and phone. Lynn has developed and taught highly effective techniques for tracking and predicting the sources of pollution from CAFOs, using satellite and aerial photography, that are now being used by federal and state environmental agencies and other non-profits to hold polluting CAFOs accountable for the pollution they cause.

Quite simply, Lynn Henning is a unique force in the effort to protect human and ecological communities downstream and downwind from CAFO pollution. Congratulations to Lynn for her well-deserved recognition!



SIERRA
CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

PLUG IN TO THE LATEST NEWS

Michigan Sierra Club engages thousand in exploring, enjoying, and protecting our state every day.

To keep up with the exciting work and fun of the Michigan Chapter, we are changing. *The Mackinac* newsletter will be published twice annually, tracking the work and people of Sierra Club statewide. The Michigan Chapter Update will be sent to our online members giving you current information twice each month. And Chapter and Group websites will carry updated information on priority issues, outings, events, and membership.

To get plugged in to online Michigan Chapter and Group activities, please go to <http://tiny.cc/SCMCemail> and sign up today!

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Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

THE MACKINAC

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TheMackinac

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BEVERLY WOLF, WWW.BBWOOLFFNEARPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

In the Spotlight

From the Chair

by Jean Gramlich

Local activists, thoughtful and committed citizens all, are an essential part of the lifeblood of the Sierra Club. John Muir's passionate advocacy for land he loved in California was the impetus for a movement that spawned our national park system. Dr. Edgar Wayburn gazed across San Francisco Bay in the 1940's and saw the potential to save wilderness that might otherwise be turned into post-war housing developments. After victories in California, the five-term president of the Sierra Club continued his crusade into Alaska where he is credited with preserving 80,000,000 acres.

Closer to home, you can read the story of the fight for the Michigan National Forest Wilderness in Anne Woiwode's blog at our website. The final victory took years and years of effort on the part of local activists, the chapter, and politicians.

Now we have the statewide campaign

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” — *Margaret Mead*

to stop the building of new coal plants. Citizens in the surrounding communities of each of the proposed facilities are mobilized to oppose the plants in ways that fit the local circumstances.

Each of our groups has its own conservation priorities: Three Lakes Group is opposing a ethanol plant that would consume huge amounts of wood from the surrounding forest; people from farther west in the Upper Peninsula are allied with other conservationists to oppose the Kennecott mine; groups close to the proposed Fermi 3 plant in Monroe also have formed a coalition with other anti-nuclear folks; Huron Valley Group won a huge victory in promoting green lands around Ann Arbor; the Detroit incinerator fight goes on. Activists around the state are

participating in projects like land banks, trail maintenance, energy education, storm drain stenciling, and water testing. Neighbors are raising their voices against the pollution caused by CAFOs.

The value of activism is especially clear in the political arena: ultimately most of our issues will be settled there and/or in the courts. We must strengthen our hand by vetting and endorsing candidates, and then helping them get elected. Advocating for good environmental legislation and following through with in-district meetings with legislators and lobbying are at the core of our work.

From the UP to Monroe and in communities in between Sierra Club activists are soldiering on.

A QUARTER CENTURY WITH THE SIERRA CLUB MICHIGAN CHAPTER

by Anne Woiwode

In January 1985 I was privileged to begin working for the Sierra Club Michigan (Mackinac) Chapter. During these 25 years I've learned that what makes a great organization work is dedicated people who do extraordinary things.

Michigan Sierra Club volunteers and staff are awe-inspiring, innovative, smart, hardworking, and fun — you can't ask any thing more of a “small group of committed people.” Many thanks to the scores of Sierra Club people who shared the work, the heartache and the joy with me during this quarter century. Let's keep up the good fight to explore, enjoy and protect our beautiful planet!

Anne Woiwode's blog, “A Quarter Century with the Sierra Club Michigan Chapter” can be found at annewoiwode.wordpress.com.



Anne Woiwode with sons Pete, left, and Nate, right, at Porcupine Mountains State Park in 1985.

Sierra Club Recognizes Environmental Champions in the Michigan House

by Gayle Miller

During each legislative session, a handful of Environmental Champions emerges from the ranks of the legislature. These lawmakers are leading the fight to protect our environment, charging forward without prompting, and engaging themselves in a wide variety of environmental issues. Champions go far beyond following the environmental community's lead – they make us work to keep up! They are the quarterback when we're on the offense and our defensive tackle when we're on defense. The environment is their passion and a key reason they became lawmakers.

There are three undisputed environmental champions in the House this session. On issue after issue, these lawmakers are on the front lines, working with the Sierra Club and the entire environmental community to protect what they love. The Sierra Club owes a huge debt of gratitude for the dedication of these Representatives who work so hard to protect what makes Michigan special. They are an inspiration and our hope for the future.

REP. REBEKAH WARREN



As Chair of the House Great Lakes and Environment Committee, Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor) is keenly aware of the valuable natural treasures right in our own back yard. She is driven by her belief that we have an obligation to protect the clean water which defines our state, and her conviction that economic development and environmental protection can work together to enrich Michigan and create jobs.

This session, Rebekah has been instrumental in bi-partisan efforts to pass two critical packages of bills. Working with her Senate colleague Patty Birkholz, Rebekah skillfully negotiated a new funding mechanism to support Michigan's fabulous State Parks. She also worked closely with Sen. Birkholz to save Michigan's wetland protection program, preserving a million acres of wetlands while facilitating a new cranberry production industry.

In her committee, Rebekah has also passed or worked on legislation to protect children from toxic chemicals, increase Michigan's recycling rate, protect our water resources, promote clean energy production by communities, and much more.

REP. SARAH ROBERTS



Sarah Roberts (D-St. Clair Shores) rose from the ranks of the environmental community, working for Clean Water Action before serving as Macomb County Commissioner. Sarah knows that preserving Michigan's natural resources is important economically, and that a clean environment is critical to public health and our tourism industry.

Sarah has been instrumental in the fight to prevent funds for environmental protection

from being slashed from the state budget. She has worked hard to help spearhead the Sierra Club's top priority of clean energy because she knows that our economy will benefit far more from renewable energy and energy efficiency than from increasing our dependence on dirty, imported fuels.

Sarah is devoted to developing a comprehensive recycling plan for the state, making it easier for residents and businesses to recycle while creating new jobs. She's also working hard to lay the groundwork to stop septic pollution and sewage overflows in order to protect our famous beaches, our tourism industry, and public health.

REP. DAN SCRIPPS



Representative Dan Scripps (D-Leland) is an environmental attorney who has worked on land preservation issues in his northwest corner of the state. Dan's passion for the environment comes from his lifelong love of Michigan's forests, and its spectacular shorelines, farms, and inland waterways. As a hunter and fisherman, Dan is a champion for protecting our natural resources, combining the goals of conservation and economic growth.

Dan is a sponsor and leader on the ReEnergize Michigan

Sausage Machine Appears Broken

by Gayle Miller

It's hard to believe, but for all practical purposes, the 2009-2010 legislative session is almost over. By the end of June, lawmakers will head back to their districts to campaign for re-election, or look for new jobs.

There will likely be some rushed session days in the fall, but all eyes will be focused on the November election which, due to the extraordinary number of open seats in the Senate, will result in one of the biggest political shake-ups in years.

Normally at this time the Sierra Club publishes a Legislative Scorecard, which lets you know how your lawmakers stack up based upon their support or opposition to environmental legislation. Scorecards also help Sierra Club make endorsement decisions. These are not normal times, however.

“Laws are like sausages, it is better not to see them being made.” –

Otto von Bismarck

In these days of contentious partisan politics, only two significant environmental issues made it all the way through the sausage machine: legislation to fund our state parks, and a new law that, at least for now, saves Michigan's wetlands protection program. A no-brainer package of children's environmental health bills passed the House, but apparently died on arrival in the Senate. The sausage machine appears broken, and without some sausage, scorecards are hard to produce.



Champions, cont. from p4

package, including bills that strengthen our state's energy efficiency standard, increase the amount of energy Michigan gets from renewable sources, and make it possible for anyone to generate and sell clean energy to the electric grid.

Dan is also actively pushing legislation to protect Michigan's water resources for the use and benefit of present and future

generations by ensuring that all Michigan's waters – from the Great Lakes to groundwater – receive public trust protections. The plan will strengthen private property rights by ensuring that a large-scale water withdrawal by one water user cannot make another's well run dry. Dan is determined to guarantee that Michigan's defining natural resource – and a major competitive advantage in the global economy – is protected for the long-term.

Unless there is some kind of miraculous flood of environmental legislation taken up in the next few weeks, there will likely be no scorecard. However, join the Sierra Club on line to get our perspective on term limits, find out why our legislature is sitting on its hands on our priority issues, read plans for moving our issues forward, and more!

POLITICAL COMMITTEES IN FULL SWING

Members of the Michigan Chapter Political Committee and six Group Political Committees are in full swing.

Our dedicated committees are working hard in many corners of the state to endorse and elect pro-environment candidates in the August primary and November general election. Volunteers will be meeting with and getting to know the candidates who are seeking Sierra Club's endorsement.

If you are interested in participating in meetings with candidates, please contact gayle.miller@sierraclub.org or (517) 484-2372. You must be a member to participate in Sierra Club political activities.

Great Forests, Wild Places

Protecting and Restoring Michigan's Wild Places

by Anne Woiwode

The Michigan Chapter has long had goals for protecting and restoring Michigan's forests and native ecosystems. We are committed to ensuring protection and restoration of Michigan's native biodiversity and natural resources by advocating for management based on ecological sustainability. We advocate for wise and ecologically sustainable management practices for the many uses of Michigan's public lands. And we seek to educate Michiganders, both Sierra Club members and not, about the importance and value of Michigan's native biodiversity and resources.

The agenda for this work is shaped by both opportunity and necessity. Michigan Chapter Forest Ecologist Marvin Roberson works with diverse organizations, from community groups, to Michigan's tribes, to hunting and fishing organizations to assure Michigan's public forest management reflects current science and the long-term interests of all Michiganders. One exciting outcome is proposed designation of Biodiversity Stewardship Areas on state forest lands. Another is identification of state owned minerals that should not be leased for oil and gas development because of potential harm to waterways. Sierra Club's partnerships are writing a new chapter in the history of Michigan's natural resources management.

But the challenge of fighting to protect our resources from ill-advised plans continues to demand substantial time and ef-

fort as well. Our successful collaboration with the Anglers of the Au Sable to stop a Forest Service drilling pad next to the Mason Tract is up for a sequel. Now the Forest Service has agreed to do the environmental review they had fought before, but that doesn't mean the plan makes any more sense. Similarly, the fight to protect the Coaster brook trout's habitat is continuing, as the threat of a proposed sulfide mine under the Salmon Trout River continues to grow.

A growing issue of concern is the state sanctioned push to build wood-fired biomass or biofuel plants across northern Michigan. Towns, utilities and other companies are jumping on board the State of Michigan's wood biomass train, even though there has been no effort to assess the environmental impact on Michigan's forests or the impact on other wood products industries employing hundreds of workers that may be driven out of business. As Marvin Roberson points out, there no use of whole green trees that produces fewer jobs or economic benefit than burning them.

Find out more about the Michigan Chapter's efforts to protect and restore Michigan's native ecosystems by going to www.michigan.sierraclub.org or contacting Marvin Roberson at marvin.roberson@sierraclub.org.

IN MEMORIAM: RUSTY GATES

Michigan lost one her greatest conservation heroes last December. Rusty Gates was a visionary giant who loved the Au Sable River and all it stood for so much that he learned how to move mountains to protect it.

In recent years, the Anglers of the Au Sable, which Rusty founded and headed until his untimely death at 54, has become one of the Sierra Club's closest partners in the fight to protect the habitat and water of this great state. Rusty's legacy is found both in the protection he won for wild waters and land in Michigan, and in the hearts of the thousands who pledge to keep his work alive.

We miss Rusty, but we will stay close to him by keeping up the fight for the Michigan he loved.



Burt Barnes: Rethinking Forest Ecology and Management

by Marvin Roberson

Burton V. Barnes, Professor Emeritus of Forest Ecology at the School of Natural Resources and Environment at the University of Michigan has been an inspiration for the work I do.

Burt began his academic career at UM over 60 years ago as an undergraduate in the Forestry Department. He went on to get his MS, Ph.D, and finally, professorship at UM. He still teaches Forest Ecology Mini-Courses for the general public at the UM Biological Station in Pellston (see sidebar), which I highly recommend.

Burt's academic output includes primary authorship of the most recognized textbook in the field, *Forest Ecology*,

and the best Michigan field guide out there, *Michigan Trees*. He was a beloved fixture while teaching at UM, and won the Society of American Foresters national award for both teaching and research.

Burt is a major reason that I look at forest management and policy the way I do. My concern is less about how we manage particular stands of trees. I am more concerned about how, at a landscape level, our forest species, types, and ages are distributed.

As our forests attempt to recover from the Paul Bunyan era logging, they are skewed heavily toward younger, earlier successional species. This is because our forests simply have not had time to recover, and because many of our forest management practices are designed to

keep our forests young.

For example, white pine, our state tree, can easily grow to 350 years of age. Management on most public lands, however, calls for cutting these trees at about 100-120 years of age, thus keeping us from ever achieving the last 200 years of age classes.



As we move forward toward ever better forest management, the influence of Burt Barnes will be with us, improving our forested landscapes for generations.

In Germany during his doctoral studies, Burt was exposed to a concept called "Ecosystem Classification and Mapping." This concept recognizes there are physical units which comprise the landscape, and are made up of land-forms, geology, slope, aspect, climate, soils, etc. When properly mapped and understood, these units can tell us what is most

appropriate for a particular site, what the potential is for that site, and how we might best distribute species composition across the landscape.

This concept is a huge change in how we look at our forests. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment "Biodiversity Stewardship Area" program, wherein the state is designating a system of areas where management for biodiversity is the prime objective, uses the concepts of Ecosystem Classification and Mapping to guide choices for location and distribution of these areas.

As we move forward toward ever better forest management, the influence of Burt Barnes, through himself and his students, will be with us, improving our forested landscapes for generations.

MINI-COURSE IN FOREST ECOLOGY

Burt Barnes has taught a 5-day mini-course in Forest Ecology at the UM Biological Station (Biostation) in Pellston for many years. The mini-course is geared toward the general public, and no academic prerequisites are required. In this course, you will learn why plants grow where they do, what is important about Old-Growth forests, how plant communities assemble, and much more. You'll also see some of the oldest trees in Michigan (sorry, you'll have to take the course to find out where!).

This year, the mini-course will be taught by Dan Kashian, a Forest Ecologist at Wayne State, and Burt Barnes. The course runs from June 16-20. The Biostation is in a gorgeous 10,000 acre rustic setting on Douglas Lake, just outside Pellston. Accommodations are in rustic but very nice cabins, and meals are available (and quite good). Family members are welcome to share quarters (for an additional fee), and there are many activities for families and children.

I have taken this mini-course (twice!) and highly recommend it for anyone interested in Michigan's wonderful forests. For more information, contact the UM Biostation at www.lsa.umich.edu/umbs/courses/minicrses or call (231) 539-8408.

Clean & Healthy Great Lakes

Sierra Club Michigan Chapter Clean Water Program

by Rita (Jack) Chapman

The Michigan Chapter's clean water goal is "Protect and restore the quality of Michigan's waters." We do that in several different ways, with lots of ways for volunteers to become involved. Please join us. See our website for more information on each of these project areas: <http://michigan.sierraclub.org>.

LIVESTOCK FACTORY POLLUTION

A concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO) produces as much animal sewage as a small city, but without any sanitary treatment. Instead, CAFO manure is usually disposed of by spreading it on fields. If too much is applied and it rains, the manure washes off into ditches and streams. In the early 2000s, Lynn Henning and a small group of neighbors began testing water quality downstream from CAFOs, finally getting state agency staff to pay attention and take action.

Early this summer, the Michigan Chapter will train volunteers how to test water for CAFO waste pollution. While the work isn't difficult, it is a time commitment. To keep it manageable, we ask that anyone who registers for the training commit at least 3 months to the project, or to team with someone else for 3 months. Try it and see if it works for you, while we gather infor-

mation about CAFOs and water around the state. If you choose to keep monitoring, that would be wonderful! We'll develop a report on all test sites for legislators, environmental agencies, and the media. To help, contact Rita at rita.jack@sierraclub.org.

OTHER WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROJECTS

Rita (Jack) Chapman works in several different areas, including water monitoring projects. In Bad Axe, the high school biology club monitors the Pinnebog River, that is subject to agricultural runoff. In Marquette and Menominee counties, two groups conduct baseline monitoring in streams threatened by sulfide mines that could harm their groundwater. One group's data have already been used for water permit comments that were submitted to the state. (See story on Dave Allen/Central U.P. Group on page 9.) We welcome your help on these or any projects.

WATER PERMITS

The Sierra Club works for strong regulation of CAFOs. Rita and Lynn participated in a year of stakeholder meetings that included the Michigan Farm Bureau and many other pro-CAFO or-

John and Peggy Zachel: Family Farmers, American Heroes

by Lynn Henning

I will never forget the first time I met John and Peggy Zachel. Peggy stood up at a township meeting with handkerchief in one hand, cane in the other, shaking and scolding the officials. Peggy, a retired teacher, and John, a lifetime family farmer, are both in their late 80's. Speaking with a strong moral belief Peggy and John began their fight to protect their Right to Farm at their turkey farm.

In the summer of 2003 a four thousand head hog Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) was built within 500 feet of their home and two others ignoring guidelines set by the Michigan Department of Agriculture

(MDA) to reduce exposure to odors. Despite many complaints about the stench as soon as the hogs were moved in, it took MDA until June 2005 to refer the matter to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for air quality violations. Almost immediately the DEQ began citing the hog operation for severe air pollution, continuing until May of 2008 with little success in getting the pollution stopped.

Peggy and their neighbors relentlessly called officials to stop the emissions from the hog CAFO, and we documented the stench and effect on their lives. John and Peggy never quit or gave up hope. Peggy

even made a trip to the Capital with me. She again scolded and shamed legislators for allowing this to happen.

It is very discouraging to see people suffer from something that could have been prevented. Finally, in November 2008, the DEQ was able to shut the four-thousand-head hog CAFO down. The hog barns still stand, but they are being disassembled slowly. For John and Peggy, it took five years and their incredible courage and will to win their fight.

John and Peggy are strong people who stand up for their rights, for our rights, and for the community, and who speak up for those who can't speak for themselves. It is the rural code to treat your neighbor like you want to be treated. John and Peggy still farm, and raise turkeys and their own garden. In fact, I've got a few 35-pound turkeys from their farm in my freezer right now!

ganizations. At Sierra Club's request, the state invited Trout Unlimited, the Michigan Farmers Union, and other knowledgeable parties. Trout Unlimited submitted excellent comments about stream protection, especially cold-water systems, and Sierra Club commented on the final draft. While we didn't get everything we asked for, we did win some. Over 2010-11, we'll work toward groundwater permits for CAFOs who land-apply waste.

TOXIC POLLUTION CLEANUPS

Over the past nine years the Michigan Chapter has pushed for cleanup of Velsicol Chemical's Superfund Site in St. Louis, Michigan. The old containment system failed, leaking almost pure DDT into the Pine River, resulting in fish with the highest DDT levels ever tested. While the DDT was removed from the river, the old chemical factory site is still undergoing investigation for a new cleanup. We'll push that they do it right this time!

For a small river, the Pine has had its troubles. Upstream from St. Louis, the former Total Petroleum refinery in Alma contaminated Horse Creek and the Pine River with petroleum hydrocarbons. This fall 2010, we hope to begin testing the river again, to help support the cleanup activities as they occur.

We're also continuing to pressure the environmental agencies to make Dow Chemical Company take responsibility and clean up their cancer-causing dioxin in the Tittabawassee and Saginaw rivers and Saginaw Bay.



Lynn Henning and Peggy Zachel at a Michigan Legislative hearing.



Dave Allen (right) cleans up Little Presque Isle in Marquette County with members of the Central U.P. Group.

DAVID ALLEN, CENTRAL U.P. GROUP CONSERVATION CHAIR AND YELLOW DOG WATER SENTINELS PROJECT LEADER

by Rita (Jack) Chapman

Dave and Judy Allen live in Marquette, a couple short blocks from Lake Superior. While they are U.P. transplants, they've been there plenty long enough to be "Yoopers." Dave is the Conservation Chair of the Central U.P. Group, and he doesn't wince from long-term commitments to protect the environment. He balances that work by hiking and skiing in places like the McCormick Wilderness, and enjoying the U.P.'s rich cultural heritage with Judy by participating in international dance.

Dave Allen started in 2004 leading the Water Sentinels to the Yellow Dog Plains every month from April to October to conduct baseline testing of the Salmon Trout River, the Yellow Dog, and Cedar Creek. The rivers are at risk from acid rock drainage from Kennecott's proposed nickel and copper mine. The Sentinels test the water for dissolved oxygen, water temperature, and conductivity, and survey for benthic macroinvertebrates, some of which require very clean water. The proportions of the various organisms indicate stream health. The Water Sentinels almost always find very clean water, and indicated this in their official comments on the proposed mine.

The monitoring project is long term, and Dave has assured me that he and his dedicated cohorts will keep on as long as they are able. I'm really glad to know the Yellow Dog Plains has such a dedicated Water Sentinel and steward.

ANNE WOIWODE

R. CHAPMAN

CleanEnergySolutions

Beyond Coal: Talya Tavor

by Lee Sprague

Talya Tavor is one of many student leaders working on the Michigan State University (MSU) Beyond Coal campaign, launched this spring to transition MSU away from coal to 100% clean and renewable energy sources.

Talya lives in the shadow of the T.B. Simon Power Plant, a 61 MW coal-fired power generator located on campus near student housing. T.B. Simon is amongst the largest 500 coal plants in the U.S. with over 600,000 tons of CO₂ emissions per year. MSU has failed to meet its own goal of reducing CO₂ on campus, and T.B. Simon is the reason.

MSU Beyond Coal is part of a national campaign sponsored by the Sierra Student Coalition and Sierra Club on over 30 university campuses nationwide to end the schools' dependence on the coal-generated electricity.

MSU Beyond Coal coalition partner, the Michigan Student Sustainability Coalition, raised the issue of nitrous oxide (NO_x) and sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emissions violations at T.B. Simon with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (MDNRE) and asked for a public hearing.

Student leaders from MSU Beyond Coal have been working with Sierra Club/Greencorp organizer Monica Embrey to collect over 2,500 signatures to end burning coal on campus. They have also organized and participated on several campus rallies including the Clean Air Olympics and Fossil Fools Day.

With student leaders like Talya Tavor working hard to stop burning coal at MSU, we can all look forward to breathing easier. To find out more visit <http://msubeyondcoal.wordpress.com/media/> or on Facebook search: "MSU Beyond Coal!"



Beyond Coal: Jill Henke

By Jan O'Connell

Jill joined the Sierra Club back in 1982 when she lived in Cleveland, Ohio. She moved to Holland, Michigan a couple of years back. I had the privilege of meeting Jill Henke and her husband Jim in the Fall of 2008 at the Sierra Club workshop held in Holland to recruit and educate activists and Sierran's in the Holland area about the proposed expansion of the James DeYoung Coal Plant. The Sierra Club is the leading entity trying to stop the coal rush across the nation, and as of today 127 coal plants have been stopped or cancelled across the U.S.

In the past year and a half Jill has immersed herself in getting Holland Beyond Coal. She has hosted house parties and film showings, and attended numerous sessions of the Holland City Council, Holland Board of Public Works, and related meetings. She has also taken copious notes at energy/coal-related meetings, written Letters to the Editor, and clipped and forwarded hundreds of articles containing pertinent information from periodicals, papers, and Holland publications, all to assist the Michigan Chapter to get Holland Beyond Coal. Jill attended the Midwest Coal Conference last summer and met and heard Dr. James Hansen, a noted climatologist who also heads the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies in New York City.

Community volunteers like Jill are great assets to the Sierra Club Michigan Chapter. They are often on the front lines moving our campaigns forward to preserve Michigan for the years to come. If you're not involved now in one of the many environmental issues our state is facing, TODAY is the time to make a commitment to Michigan. To make a environmental difference in our state, get involved today in an issue close to your heart.

Jill Henke with her dog, Jack, in Munising.



Below: The MSU Coal Plant. Above: Talya Tavor.



ANNE WOJWODE

COURTESY JAN O'CONNELL

Sierra Club's "Silver Buckshot" Strategy for Clean Energy and Global Warming

by Anne Woiwode

Our success at stopping global warming will depend on a strategy of "silver buckshot" rather than a silver bullet. Protecting our state from climate change while building a clean energy future requires we pursue a wide array of options while minimizing environmental harm. Many of the opportunities bring prospects of a cleaner, healthier and economically beneficial future.

The Sierra Club pursues the "silver buckshot" strategy aggressively, both in Michigan and nationwide. Our energy policy calls for driving our nation towards energy efficiency and clean, sustainable renewable energy sources, while moving the nation off fossil fuels and nuclear energy. We work to assure that the transition from the fossil fuel economy to the clean energy economy is on track, even if we cannot immediately reach our goals. Sierra Club pushes for Clean Energy Solutions because leadership means supporting efforts to take our nation forward.

We urge Congress to pass strong climate and energy legislation, ask the Obama Administration to move ahead with regulation of greenhouse gases, and fight federal support for rural electric coal plants and drilling off-shore. We ask federal, state and local officials to publicly disclose and assess the environmental impacts of coal and nuclear power and outdated transportation planning. We also urge review of habitat impacts from wood biomass and biofuel plants and wind turbine siting because alternatives to fossil fuels must not harm the environment. We ask shareholders and ratepayers to hold electric utilities responsible for their business decisions that could increase pollution and global warming. Michigan Sierra Club Groups work to promote sound land use and transporta-



WWW.LUNEEC.ORG

tion alternatives, and we support locally raised foods as a way to reduce energy waste.

Sierra Club's silver buckshot approach isn't the easiest course, but we understand that protecting the future of our children means doing everything we can to succeed.

Please join us! Throughout this issue of *The Mackinac* you'll see opportunities for getting involved in the fight to get Beyond Coal and pursue Clean Energy Solutions.

Check out the Michigan Chapter webpage at www.michigan.sierraclub.org for more details.

Regional Programs

Cool Cities: Detroit

by Anne Woiwode

Sierra Club's Clean Energy Solutions campaign is working to create the energy future our country needs. Fixing our economy, transforming our energy future, and slowing and ultimately reversing climate change and its consequences will require a clear agenda and aggressive timetable that will allow us to repower and rebuild America.

In Southeastern Michigan, Michelle Martinez is the Clean Energy Solutions organizer, working with Sierra Club volunteers in Detroit and surrounding communities to advocate for energy efficiency programs at all levels. One part of the program is Sierra Club's Cool Cities efforts. Cool Cities is a collaboration between community members, organizations, businesses, and local leaders to implement clean energy solutions that save money, create jobs, and help curb global warming. Since 2005, over 1000 city and county leaders have made a commitment to cut their community's carbon footprint. With these commitments comes a challenge and opportunity.



WWW.US-PICTURES.COM

The opportunity to encourage communities to use state and federal support for training workers in new jobs with a future, along with helping families save money by not wasting energy, is a current example of opportunities to promote solutions in Michigan.

Find out more about the Clean Energy Solutions Program in Michigan by contacting Michelle Martinez at michelle.martinez@sierraclub.org. Sierra Club's Clean Energy Solutions program can be found at www.sierraclub.org/energy.

Environmental Justice in the 48217

by Anne Woiwode

If you ask Rhonda Anderson why she works on environmental issues in Detroit, she'll explain the connections she sees between the health of the community and the environment. Whether it is lead contamination affecting children's development, air pollutants causing asthma, or factories and toxic contamination sites causing sickness and driving away clean development, Rhonda understands that environmental justice is critical for the city her family has lived in for generations to thrive.

Working with local neighborhood organizations and leaders like Dolores Leonard of the "48217" group, Rhonda and Sierra Club's Environmental Justice program have worked to draw attention and get action for the unbelievably high levels of pollution in many Detroit neighborhoods. In the 48217 zip code, which the neighborhood group uses to identify itself,

This past April, a delegation from the US EPA came to tour the 48217 zip code area with Sierra Club and others. The seeds of hope were planted that this community's challenges will finally be recognized and addressed.

there is a strong sense of community and many families have lived in the same area for generations. But for many years they have felt under assault as polluting industries surrounded their well-kept homes, and sickness sky-rocketed. Dolores and other Sierra Club Environmental Justice activists have worked to draw attention to their plight. This past April, through Rhonda and Dolores' work, a delegation from the US EPA came to tour the area with Sierra Club and others. The seeds of hope were planted that this community's challenges will finally be recognized and addressed.

Rhonda also worked with colleagues

throughout the state to convince Governor Granholm to sign an Executive Order in 2007 stating that "state government has an obligation to advance policies that foster environmental justice, social well-being, and economic progress." Today, she is working to ensure that these words mean something by working to get the state to implement this order through its own practices.

Find out more about Sierra Club's Detroit Environmental Justice work by going to www.sierraclub.org/ej/programs/mi.aspx or contact Rhonda Anderson at Rhonda.anderson@sierraclub.org.

Our Great Lakes Need Your Help

by Anne Woiwode

The Great Lakes hold one fifth of the world's fresh surface water supply and provide drinking water to over 42 million people. The Sierra Club's Great Lakes Program is leading efforts to protect and restore this marvelous ecosystem.

Our lakes are damaged economically and ecologically by untreated sewage, industrial pollutants, habitat loss and invasive species. Climate change will only make these problems worse. Unless we invest in a solution today, the price we pay tomorrow will be much higher and future generations may never experience the lakes as we know them.

Fortunately, there are solutions to these problems. At a local level, Sierra Club members like Italia Milan are taking action in Rochester, Rochester Hills, and Auburn Hills to protect the health of our water. They are partnering with their City

Department of Public Works, County Drain Commissioner's Office, and local watershed groups, and stenciled almost a thousand storm drains with the words "Dump No Waste, Drains to River."

At a larger scale, Sierra Club Great Lakes activists work to stop the Asian Carp invasion and to advocate in Congress for critical resources to protect water quality and quantity.

The Michigan Chapter and the Great Lakes Program are partnering to launch a new Great Lakes Committee in Michigan. See the notice at right, and check out the Great Lakes Program webpage at www.sierraclub.org/greatlakes for details about getting involved!

Contact Sierra Club Great Lakes Representative Melissa Damaschke at melissa.damaschke@sierraclub.org or 313-965-0055 for more information.

JOIN THE NEW GREAT LAKES COMMITTEE!

Love your Great Lakes? So do we!

Whether fighting to keep Asian Carp out of Lake Michigan, or for funding to clean up pollution hot spots, or to deal with other invasive species, the Sierra Club Great Lakes Program is at the forefront.

Now, the Michigan Chapter is joining forces with the Club's Great Lakes Program to form a new committee to work to restore and protect our state's greatest treasure — our Great Lakes.

Please join. We've tentatively set a first meeting for June 12, location to be announced at a later date. Read more about this new committee on the Sierra Club website at <http://tiny.cc/greatlakesprotection>.



BEVERLY WOLF, WWW.BEWOLFFNEARTPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

Annual Retreat

21st Annual Sierra Club Michigan Chapter Retreat

JOIN US! AUGUST 27- 29 ON LAKE MICHIGAN AT CAMP MINIWANCA

by Amanda Hightree, Annual Retreat Committee

Come join us! For what, you ask? For the Sierra Club Michigan Chapter Annual Retreat, of course!

Join other citizens (like yourself) that deserve a weekend of recreation, rest and relaxation. The retreat is located at camp Miniwanca in Shelby Michigan, right on Lake Michigan. You will learn about key environmental issues, develop grassroots organizing skills, and be outdoors where our hearts truly are.

LOTS OF FUN ACTIVITIES

Don't forget our fun and exciting double live events on Saturday night, with our live auction and live music. Bring your new, used, made, and unusual items to be bid on. Don't forget to bid on some yourself. And don't think all of the fun is just on Saturday — we will have games, movies, and other group activities on

Friday after registration.

OUTDOOR FUN FOR KIDS, TOO!

This weekend is not just for adults. There will be plenty of kids crafts, nature activities, and a family friendly Reptiles and Amphibians presentation (with live animals) done by Nature Discovery.

REGISTER NOW

The modest fee for attending the retreat covers all workshops and activities, five meals, two nights lodging and one heck of a good time! For more information on the schedule, camp location, registration, please visit www.sierraretreat.org. You can also contact me at amanda.hightree@sierraclub.org or 517-484-2372.

Below: Inner City Outings youth navigates the ropes course. Next page, clockwise from left: Retreat participants attend an outdoor lecture; A hike on the sand dunes; A youth gets the opportunity to hold a snake.



RALPH POWELL



2010 ANNUAL RETREAT REGISTRATION FORM

All workshops, activities, five meals and two nights lodging are included in each of the rates listed below.
(Some crafts may require a small materials fee.)

Names (include age if under 18): _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Email Address: _____

(Saves resources—your address will not be shared.)

Special needs, comments, questions, suggestions:

Age	Lodging	Fee/Person	Total
< 3	All	Free	Free
3-12	Cabin or Tent	\$65	_____
3-12	Lakeside or Inland Dorm	\$80	_____
Adult	Cabin or Tent	\$120	_____
Adult	Inland Dorm Room	\$150	_____
Adult	Lakeside Dorm Room, no roommate(s)	\$170	_____
Adult	Lakeside Dorm Room, with roommate(s)	\$160	_____
	Donation to ICO (\$5 suggested)*		_____
	Add \$5 for registration after August 8		_____
	TOTAL ENCLOSED		_____

* See description of Sierra Club's Inner City Outings (ICO) program at www.sierraretreat.org.

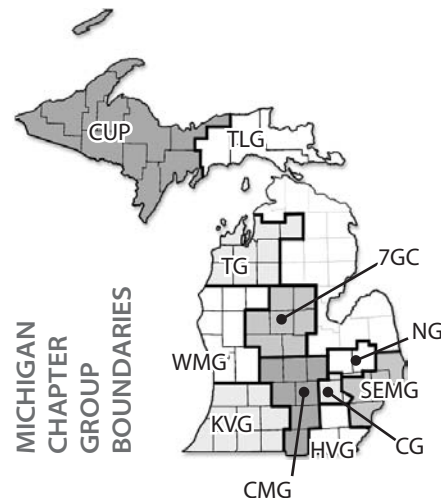
> Is this your first MI Chapter SC Retreat? Yes No
 If no, how many times have you attended? _____

Register on line at www.sierraretreat.org or cut out this form and send with your check to Sierra Club Michigan Chapter, ATTN: MI CHAPTER RETREAT, 109 E Grand River Avenue, Lansing, MI 48906. Make check payable to Sierra Club. If you have any questions about registration, contact Amanda Hightree at amanda.hightree@sierraclub.org or call 517-484-2372. Check-in begins Friday at 5pm.

Group Info & Outings

Think Globally, and Get Active with Your Local Sierra Club Group!

Sierra Club is the largest grassroots environmental organization in the country, and the Michigan Chapter's ten regional Groups or committees are a vital link for getting active with Sierra Club! Groups host outings, political and conservation activities, and informational programs. Sierra Club members and supporters are invited to attend outings and meetings—everyone is welcome! The Michigan Chapter website has a comprehensive calendar with current and upcoming outings, programs and events listed for each Group (go to michigan.sierraclub.org/calendar). Below is a list Michigan's Sierra Club Regional Groups, the counties they cover, and where their meetings usually take place. Group Chairs, their contact information and links for Group websites are also listed below, or go to michigan.sierraclub.org/groups.



Note: If you live in an area that does not have a local group and you're interested in starting one, please contact Chapter Coordinator Amanda Hightree at Amanda.hightree@sierraclub.org or 517-484-2372.

Central Michigan Group / CMG

Ingham, Hillsdale, Jackson, Eaton, Ionia, Clinton and Shiawassee Counties / Meets in Lansing area

ONLINE: cmgsierraclub.yolasite.com

CMG CHAIR: Leigh Fifelski, 248-321-4579 or lfifelski@gmail.com

Nepessing Group - NG

Genesee, Lapeer and northwestern Oakland County / meets in Flint

ONLINE: michigan.sierraclub.org/nepessing

NG CHAIR: Dennis Crispell, 989-624-5038 or dmcispell@yahoo.com

Three Lakes Group / TLG

Chippewa, Mackinac, Luce and Schoolcraft Counties / meets in Sault Ste. Marie

ONLINE: www.michigan.sierraclub.org/groups/ThreeLakes.html

TLG CHAIR: Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316 or rblanchard@lssu.edu

Central Upper Peninsula Group / CUPG

Alger, Delta, Menominee, Marquette, Dickinson, Baraga, Iron, Keweenaw, Iron, Gogebic and Ontonagon Counties / meets in Marquette

GROUP CHAIR: John Rebers, 906-228-3617 or john.rebers@michigan.sierraclub.org

Southeast Michigan Group - SEMG

St. Clair, Macomb, Oakland, and Wayne Counties / meets in Southfield

ONLINE: michigan.sierraclub.org/semg

SEMG CHAIR: Hal Newnan, 586-758-6461 or hnewnan@sbcglobal.net

West Michigan Group / WMG

Kent, Ottawa, Muskegon, Oceana, Newaygo, Mason, Lake, and Osceola Counties / meets in Grand Rapids

ONLINE: www.michigan.sierraclub.org/westmichigan

WMG CHAIR: Craig Brainard, 616-451-4603 or boomerbob@netscape.com

Crossroads Group / CG

Livingston County and western Oakland County / meets in Brighton

ONLINE: sites.google.com/site/crossroadssierraclub

CG CHAIR: Rick Pearsall, 810-227-6298 or rick.pearsall@michigan.sierraclub.org

Southwest Michigan Group / SWMG

Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, Van Buren, Allegan and Barry Counties / meets in Kalamazoo

SWMG CONTACT: Brad Parsons, 269-492-4437 or bradparsons4@gmail.com

7th Generation Committee / 7GC

Montcalm, Gratiot, Mecosta, Isabella, Midland, Gladwin and Clare Counties / meets in Mt. Pleasant

7GC CONTACT: Joel Welty, 989-561-5037 or jwelty@power-net.net

Huron Valley Group / HVG

Washtenaw, Lenawee and Monroe Counties / meets in Ann Arbor

ONLINE: michigan.sierraclub.org/huron

HVG CHAIR: Doug Cowherd: 734-662-5205 or dcow2@yahoo.com

IN MEMORY OF BARBARA ROBINSON

Barb was a great lover of nature and the environment and a member and supporter of several organizations like the Sierra Club. The Michigan Chapter thanks Barbara Robinson's many friends and family who reflected her love of the earth through a memorial gift to support Sierra Club's work.



Behind the Scenes: Lynn Livingston

by Amanda Hightree

Coal here, action! Forest mismanagement there, action! Water pollution everywhere, action! Membership support to these programs, downer. Quite often the action, exciting and greatly needed conservation programs, get all of the help, all of the focus, and all of the funding while the behind the scenes programs, such as membership support, get left behind.

One person who has shown great dedication in making sure that our membership support program has been successful is Lynn Livingston. Lynn has been a member of the Sierra Club for the past 17 years and has been dedicated this entire time in making sure that the chapter and groups have the membership tools they need to help achieve our conservation victories. This not only includes tools but also includes skill building, communications, and growth.

Lynn worked with other volunteer leaders to develop two group training manuals titled “Reach Out and Involve- A Volunteer Guide for Engaging our Members” and “Everything a Vibrant Group Needs to Know- Ideas for Group Leaders to Increase Volunteer Involvement and Group Participation.” He has also held several training days for Sierra Club leaders, working with groups to improve their outreach and communications



Lynn Livingston at the Pick up and Paddle BEC.

skills. He has been a long-time Sierra Club Retreat participant and is currently in charge of electronic communications for the Nepeessing Group.

I personally have learned a great deal from Lynn. When I first took on the job of working on Leadership Support Lynn was there to help me. He was (and still is) a great source of information and insight. Having been involved with the groups for so long, he was able to provide me ideas on what worked well and what did not and he helped point me in the right direction to the appropriate people to talk with.

He has truly made a selfless contribution to the Sierra Club Michigan Chapter. I want to take this opportunity to say thank you.



The Michigan Chapter Sierra Club Executive Committee meeting, July 2009 at the National Forest Campground near Brimley.

Group Info & Outings

Our Motto is Explore, Enjoy and Protect!

Nothing conveys the importance of protecting Michigan's extraordinary wild places better than getting out and enjoying them. Ever since John Muir, Sierra Club's founder, helped lead outings into Yosemite Valley leading to its designation as a national park, Sierra Club Outings Leaders have been the leading edge for exploring and enjoying the wonderful places we work to protect.

Everyone is welcome to participate in Sierra Club Outings! The Michigan Chapter and Group volunteers lead outings year round. Current outings are updated continually on the Michigan Chapter calendar at www.michigan.sierraclub.org/calendar. Every outing, whether it is a stroll in the park or a weeklong backpack-

ing adventure on Isle Royale, starts at the trailhead, and fees are charged for some to cover expenses. All participants in Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver, which is linked to our website, or call the Sierra Club Outings department at 415-977-5528 to have a print version sent to you.

Below we introduce you to a small cross section of outings led by Group and Chapter leaders, and to Michigan Chapter Outings Chair Lorne Beatty. Details and contact information for signing up for upcoming outings are available at www.michigan.sierraclub.org/calendar.

Get out and enjoy the places we all work so hard to protect!

May 9

Maybury State Park Mothers Day Wildflower Walk. Can you imagine a better way to celebrate Mothers Day than getting out hiking in this beautiful state park at the height of spring? The Southeast Michigan Group hosts its annual Mothers Day outing. SEMG Outings Chair Phil Crookshank 248-797-2885 has the details.

May 14

Two years ago the Sierra Club and the Anglers of the Au Sable won a multi-year effort to stop the US Forest Service from approving an oil and gas well next to the Mason Tract and near the Au Sable River. Unfortunately the proposal is back and soon the federal agency will be seeking public input on an environmental review of the proposed drilling site. Now is the time to visit this beautiful area that is revered by anglers and hikers alike. Chapter Outings Chair Lorne Beatty is leading this trip lorne.beatty@michigan.sierraclub.org.

May 17

Many Sierra Club leaders trace their deep commitment to environmental protection to their childhood adventures out of doors, an experience that is often unknown to urban children. Building future environmental leaders depends on building that connection to the out of doors, and Sierra Club's Inner City Outings (ICO) program does that. In Michigan there are two ICO groups, one in Washtenaw County (HVG) and other in Grand Rapids (WMG). The Washtenaw County ICO program has its regular

meeting and invites you to join them to find out more about this program. Check out details at <http://michigan.sierraclub.org/ico/washtenaw/home.html>. In West Michigan find out more by contacting Craig Ressler at craig.ressler@michigan.sierraclub.org or 616-891-9055.

May 28

The story of Sleeping Bear Dunes, as told in Ojibwa tradition, tells of a mother bear and her two cubs who swam across Lake Michigan from Wisconsin. The cubs didn't make it, and became North and South Manitou Islands and the mother lay down on shore to wait for them, becoming Sleeping Bear Dunes. North Manitou is managed as wilderness and provides a remote hiking and camping experience. Huron Valley Group Outings Leader Betsy Foote at gebfoote@att.net will be your guide on this wonderful adventure or call Kathy Guerroso at 734-677-0823, HVG Sierra Club outings leader chair.

August 9

Get out in the sun and sand with the West Michigan Group in their annual outing to Grand Haven Beach. Nothing spells summer like a trip to Lake Michigan's gorgeous white sand beaches with your family. You'll appreciate the importance of protecting our Great Lakes while having a good time! Find out more at www.michigan.sierraclub.org/westmichigan.

September 11

Did you know the important connection be-

tween trees and trout streams? Shade is critical to maintaining the healthy habitat of Michigan's cold water rivers, and sometimes people need to help restore damaged areas. Join us as we plant cedar trees on the banks of the Au Sable River, as Sierra Club's part of the annual Au Sable River Cleanup led by the Anglers of the Au Sable. After a few hours of work, you'll get to join a great picnic held at Gates' Au Sable Lodge. Lorne Beatty can tell you more about this great Michigan Chapter Service Outing at lorne.beatty@michigan.sierraclub.org.

November 20

Would you like to become a Sierra Club Outing Leader? Leaders are Sierra Club members who have received proper training, including basic first aid and CPR training. Lorne Beatty has arranged for training for Outings Leaders at the Ralph A. MacMullen Center of the DNRE on Higgins Lake. This one day training includes lunch and prepares you to create and lead your own Sierra Club Outings!

Winter 2011

(Date TBD) Imagine floating in the silence of a snow covered landscape with only the sounds of the paddlers intruding on the winter wonderland. For several years the Crossroads Group has led a Winter Paddle on the Huron River, starting at Island Lake State Recreation Area and ending with a bonfire and hot dog roast. This past February 21 the Michigan Chapter cosponsored the event and 20 Sierra Club members joined the fun. Keep an eye out for next year's Winter Paddle!



NELLIE EMERY (2); ANNE WOIWODE

Scenes of Michigan's outdoors: A snowy egret on Lake Erie, a traveling garter snake, and a Jack in the Pulpit.

LORNE BEATTY: WORK AND PLAY

Hiking in the north woods or casting flies on our beautiful trout streams are high priorities for Lorne Beatty (at right, below), the Michigan Chapter Outings Chair. Lorne is a perfect example of the Sierra Club leader who strives to balance the work of protecting the beautiful, wild places in our state with enjoying them.

As a leader in the Crossroads Group and a Chapter leader, Lorne also works to keep other Sierra Club mem-

bers and supporters connected by leading outings to some of his favorite places. As Outings Chair he works with the Chapter's Group Outings leaders to assure they have proper training. And if you are lucky enough to join him on an outing, you discover that Lorne is prepared for every situation, from duct tape to bandages to all the camping gear you could want!

Join Lorne on one of the up-coming Michigan Chapter Outings this year and find out more about enjoying and exploring Michigan's wonderful outdoors!



COURTESY OF CROSSROADS GROUP

2009 Annual Report

Highlights & Accomplishments

As you read through this issue of *The Mackinac*, please accept our thanks for making the work of the Sierra Club Michigan Chapter possible! More than 1,450 individual contributions were made to support the Michigan Chapter's work in 2009. Hundreds more gave time, expertise, and enthusiasm to strengthen and reinforce our hardworking staff in moving critical environmental issues forward.

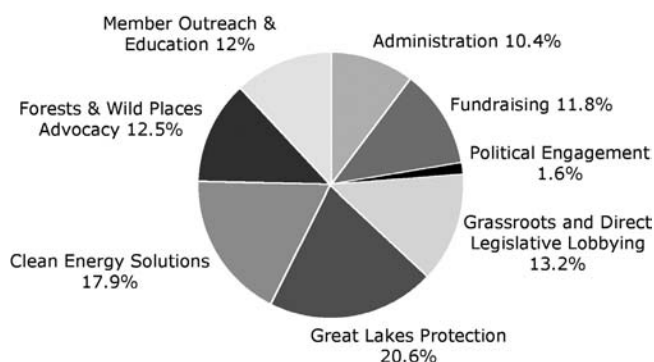
Many important issues would have gone unaddressed had it not been for volunteers stepping forward to initiate activism or support the staff. Your investment of time and money provided an important boost for our work last year to:

- Train 40 volunteers to identify and nominate wildlands for designation as "Biodiversity Stewardship Areas." Over 600,000 acres were nominated by DNRE Core Design Team with Sierra Club involvement.
- Prevent oil and gas drilling near the Mason Tract on the Au Sable River, a world renowned trout stream.
- Develop tools for documenting and bringing more effective enforcement against concentrated animal feeding operations pollution, and teach these tools to state and federal officials and clean water activists nationwide.
- Kick off the ReEnergize Michigan Campaign to move Michigan into a clean energy future with a coalition of environmental, faith, health, and other organizations.
- Defeat two unnecessary and costly proposed coal plants. Sierra Club has been a key leader in Michigan's Beyond Coal campaign using grassroots pressure, financial arguments, and legal tools to convince Northern Michigan University and L.S. Power to drop coal plant proposals.
- Convince Governor Granholm to issue no air permits to coal plants unless a thorough assessment and public input show a need and that no better alternatives exist.
- Initiate an in-district, citizen lobbying program to build strong grassroots relationships with legislators, helping them better understand Michigan's current environmental threats. Over 120 trained Sierra Club citizen lobbyists throughout the state are carrying Sierra Club's message to these decisionmakers in their home communities.

For 42 years, the Sierra Club Michigan Chapter has worked successfully to protect our Great Lakes water, air, forests, and wildlife. We are proud of what we accomplished in 2009, and thank you for the critical role you played in helping us improve and defend Michigan's environment. Your generosity and support make a tremendous difference. Thank you!

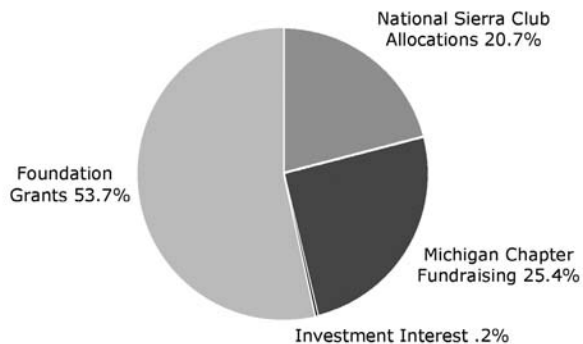
Expenses to Advance Conservation Priorities

In 2009, Sierra Club Michigan Chapter spent \$646,000 to advance our conservation priorities in our Great Lakes State. Of that, 77.8% went directly to the pro-environment actions that you care about in Michigan. The remaining 22.2% went to administrative aid for our programs and the activities necessary for securing the funds to ensure the Chapter's critical work can continue as long as necessary.



Income to Sustain Conservation Programs

In 2009, only 20.7% of the Michigan Chapter's income came from a portion of the membership dues you pay to the Sierra Club each year. So in order to adequately support the environmental work you care about here at home, the Michigan Chapter engages in diverse fundraising activities that include sending direct mail appeals to our members, throwing house parties hosted by volunteer leaders, and writing grant proposals to foundations. Our total income was \$662,000.



Supporting Your Chapter

A Gift That Will Last Generations

COMMEMORATIVE & MEMORIAL GIFTS TO THE MICHIGAN CHAPTER

A commemorative gift is a great way to celebrate a special event such as a birthday, graduation, anniversary, etc. We will send a note to the individual you are honoring to inform him or her of the gift and the identity of the donor. The amount can be kept confidential. What better way to celebrate an exciting and important occasion!

A memorial gift in memory of a family member or friend not only affirms your environmental values but also recognizes that these values were shared by the individual being honored. If you desire we will send a card in your name to someone close to the individual being remembered and honored, informing them of the gift. The amount of the gift will be kept confidential, unless you instruct otherwise.

These special gifts are most often unrestricted by the donor, providing support for the Michigan Chapter's conservation campaigns and applied where most urgently needed. If you prefer to earmark your gift, we will honor your wishes.

To find out more about these special gifts please contact Sierra Club Michigan Chapter Development Director Jan O'Connell at 616-956-6646 or jan.oconnell@sierraclub.org.



SIERRA CLUB
GIFT PLANNING

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Preserve the Future

Make a commitment to the next generation by remembering Sierra Club in your will. Your support will help others and preserve the intricate balance of nature.

Sierra Club
Gift Planning Program
85 Second St, Second Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105
(800) 932-4270 • gift.planning@sierraclub.org



THANK YOU, EARTH SHARE DONORS! We wish to thank all the individuals who support our work each year through payroll deduction via Earth Share of Michigan. If you have just completed your annual payroll deduction campaign at work, and Earth Share of Michigan was not listed as an option, please call 800-386-3326 to discuss how you and your fellow employees can support Sierra Club Foundation-Michigan Chapter and other earth-friendly organizations at work. For more information, visit www.earthsharemichigan.org.

SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE SIERRA CLUB MICHIGAN CHAPTER

Enclosed is my/our gift of:
_____ \$250 _____ \$100 _____ \$50 \$_____ Other

Give online at <http://tiny.cc/supportSCMC!>

Your donation helps provide the flexible funding Sierra Club needs to successfully advocate for Michigan's Great Lakes, wild heritage, and clean energy future.

Your contribution to Sierra Club is not tax-deductible; it supports our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. If you prefer to make a tax-deductible gift to support our work, call Development Director Jan O'Connell at 616-956-6646 to learn how.

**Please send your gift to Sierra Club Michigan Chapter,
109 E. Grand River Avenue, Lansing, MI 48906**

Instead of a check, please charge my credit card
(VISA or MC) \$_____.

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Email: _____

GetInvolved

A Quick Guide to Sierra Club Structure and How to Volunteer

A national Sierra Club Board member once described our organization chart as a mobile, and there is no question it can be a bit overwhelming on occasion! I hope that after reading below you will have a better understanding of the Sierra Club and your role in this great organization.

The Sierra Club was founded in 1892 by John Muir and a group of like-minded people concerned about saving the Yosemite Valley and other spectacular, pristine wildlands. Since that time, Muir's insight that "everything is connected to everything else" led Sierra Club to become the largest grassroots environmental organization around. The Sierra Club's main goal is to empower people — to give them the skills, knowledge and opportunities to make a difference within their communities.

The national Sierra Club Board is elected by members in competitive elections, and they set national policies and priorities with input from volunteer leaders in the 68 Chapters nationwide. Recently, the Board hired a new Executive Director, Michael Brune, who heads up the Club's national conservation campaigns, outings and administrative offices. As a Sierra Club member, you belong to the national, Chapter and local Group in your area automatically, receive SIERRA Magazine, and are able to hold office within the organization.

The statewide Michigan Chapter was founded in 1967, and today includes over 15,000 Sierra Club members and has eight professional staff. The Michigan Chapter is governed by an elected Executive Committee that determines policy, issues and strategies for the Sierra Club in Michigan consistent with national Sierra Club policies. Within Michigan there are also six Sierra Club staff members working for the national Sierra Club, on conservation campaigns.

Last, but certainly not least, are the local Sierra Club Groups. There are 10 official Groups in Michigan, 9 that have elected boards of their own. At this level is where some of the most important work gets done. These volunteers talk with local officials and work with other local groups and volunteers. These are your neighbors, co-workers and friends. Just like you, they want the best for their families, friends, themselves and the place that they live. The Group level is a great place to start volunteering for the Sierra Club and is the most important place for you to be.

Please contact Chapter Coordinator Amanda Hightree at 517-484-2372 or amanda.hightree@sierraclub.org if you have any questions about the Sierra Club structure or how to get involved. Also look in the Directory on page 23 to find contact information for your local group.

MAKE ANNE'S WISH LIST COME TRUE!

by Jan O'Connell

In celebration of Anne Woiwode's 25 years with the Sierra Club Michigan Chapter a Celebration was held in Lansing on April 14th.

It was a fun, successful evening and truly a celebration of Anne's work through the last 25 years where as part of the Michigan Chapter she helped stack up achievement upon achievement protecting and restoring Michigan's environment. Many Sierra Club members came from across the state along with individuals from many environmental organizations and state branches of government all turning out to honor Anne.

If you were unable to attend and would like to make Anne's wish list come true, you can make a gift contribution for protecting Michigan Forests (make check payable to Sierra Club Foundation) and/or supporting the Sierra Club's legislative work (make check payable to Sierra Club Michigan Chapter) and send to Sierra Club Michigan Chapter, 109 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing, MI 48906.

Become a Part of the Michigan Chapter Leadership!

You can become part of the team that helps guide the Sierra Club Michigan Chapter!

We invite Sierra Club members to nominate themselves and others who are interested in running for election to the Michigan Chapter Executive Committee.

There are lots of ways to get active with the Sierra Club, but

the Executive Committee helps to guide the Michigan Chapter's work, including setting priorities and assisting with raising the funds and recruiting volunteers critical to our success. If you would like to learn more about running for the Michigan Chapter Executive Committee, please contact Chapter Chair Jean Gramlich at jean.gramlich@michigan.sierraclub.org.

Chapter Directory

MICHIGAN CHAPTER OFFICE

109 E Grand River Avenue, Lansing, MI 48906

Phone: 517-484-2372

Website: www.michigan.sierraclub.org

Director

Anne Woiwode anne.woiwode@sierraclub.org

Chapter Coordinator

Amanda Hightree amanda.hightree@sierraclub.org

CAFO Water Sentinel

Lynn Henning 517-605-7740, lynn.henning@sierraclub.org

Development Director and Beyond Coal Organizer

Jan O'Connell 616-956-6646, jan.oconnell@sierraclub.org

Forest Ecologist

Marvin Roberson 906-360-0288, marvin.roberson@sierraclub.org

Legislative Director

Gayle Miller gayle.miller@sierraclub.org

Clean Water Program Director

Rita Jack rita.jack@sierraclub.org

SIERRA CLUB DETROIT OFFICE

2727 2nd Ave, Metropolitan Center for High Technology, Detroit, MI 48201

Phone: 313-965-0055

Environmental Justice Organizer

Rhonda Anderson rhonda.anderson@sierraclub.org

Great Lakes Regional Representative

Melissa Damaschke melissa.damaschke@sierraclub.org

SIERRA CLUB OAKLAND COUNTY FIELD OFFICE

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