

TheMackinac

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE SIERRA CLUB'S MICHIGAN CHAPTER • AUTUMN 2007



RITA JACK

For 40 years, Sierra Club's Michigan Chapter has been exploring, enjoying, and protecting the Michigan you love, such as Castle Rock in the Upper Peninsula.

Test Your Knowledge about Sierra Club—40 Years in the Making

- A. What year was the Michigan Chapter founded?
- B. How many members are now in the Michigan Chapter?
- C. How much money will the Michigan Chapter need to raise in 2007 to meet its programmatic objectives in the state?
- D. Who chooses Michigan Chapter Executive Committee (our board) members?
- E. What are the Michigan Chapter's current priority issues?
- F. Where and when is the Michigan Chapter's annual member retreat?
- G. When did the Sierra Club begin endorsing electoral candidates in Michigan?
- H. When are the Michigan Chapter's Lobby Days?
- I. How much of your donation to Sierra Club goes to program work?
- J. What is Sierra Club's Michigan Legacy Council?
- K. How many Sierra Club members identify themselves as hunters and anglers?
- L. What are the most popular ways members can volunteer and get more involved in Sierra Club?



Look for answers throughout the issue.



**SIERRA
CLUB**
FOUNDED 1892

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Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

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From the Chair

A Cause for Celebration

by Jean Gramlich

As I write this piece, I have just returned from our 18th annual retreat full of enthusiasm for our work and our great membership. First, I would like to thank Lisa Wickman and Wanda Bloomquist for planning the retreat for the last several years. Together, they have planned an event where policy wonks can attend informative workshops on conservation issues, and people who just want to relax and enjoy the great outdoors, good music and fun can mix and have a great time. The kids who attended learned about nature while making birdhouses, seeing live raptors and other activities.

One of the aspects of the retreat that I enjoy is meeting people from all over the state who are engaged in local Sierra Club activities and issues. Each person brings a unique perspective to the group, the Chapter and to the National Sierra Club. The Sierra Club is a grassroots democratic organization, and like any democracy, it functions best when all its members are engaged on every level with information flowing through the organization in both directions. We need all our 20,000 Michigan Chapter members to unite in our effort to preserve, protect and enjoy our

CALLING RETREAT PLANNERS!

The Michigan Chapter owes Lisa and Wanda a debt of gratitude for their hard work. After many years of organizing the retreat, they have asked that others take on this important task. A committee met after the retreat to start planning. I hope others will step up and help, so if you are interested in planning next year's Annual Retreat, let me know at jeangramlich@msn.com.

state and national environment.

Our 40th anniversary as a Chapter will be commemorated at a gala event on October 5. This is a time to look back our efforts of the past 40 years, celebrate our victories, learn from our defeats and look forward to the coming decades with hope and determination. Members must take the responsibility for living our values in our personal lives and in our contributions to the greater community in our localities, Michigan and the nation. Next year is a key political milestone, and the environment needs every voter and activist. I hope you will join me at the 40th Anniversary Celebration (see page 4 to register).

Retreat participants enjoy the silent auction, with music by Tommy Foster and Bob Motycka.



PHOTO COURTESY WANDA BLOOMQUIST

In the Spotlight

Leaders Past and Present Share Sierra Club Memories

by Sue Kelly

One person can make a difference. But how much of a difference can many people working toward a common goal make? Over the past few months I spoke with dozens of current and past volunteer Sierra Club leaders to gather fond memories from their time with the Michigan Chapter. As I look back through the Chapter's 40-year history, it's easy to see that, together, the difference we've made is huge. The issues Sierra Club fought—and continues to fight—are wide-ranging, yet there's one common thread: they all speak with a genuine fondness for their fellow volunteers and the community of activists they've worked with.

A few of the victories and activities that came up during my conversations with fellow volunteers:

- passing the bottle bill
- maintaining trails and campsites
- fighting new coal-fired power plants
- passage of federal wilderness protection
- shutting down medical waste incinerators
- opposing the land swap on South Fox island
- ongoing work to get animal factories regulated
- preventing oil and gas drilling in the Mason Tract
- wearing haz-mat suits during a bird-dogging event
- working to pass the Ann Arbor Greenbelt Initiative
- advocating for legal protection of old growth forest
- stopping a shooting range on Genesee County park land
- electing Debbie Stabenow in Congress, then the U.S. Senate
- drawing attention to Spencer Abraham's poor environmental "batting average" by handing out mock baseball cards

Richard Celarius, Chapter Chair, 1971, recalls preventing the first toll-paying car on the Mackinac Bridge from being ceremonially dropped into the Straights of the Mackinac.

Marty Fluharty, Chapter Chair, late 1970s, became involved in Sierra Club as a result of development threats to the Pine River Park in Alma.

Mark Miller, Chapter Chair, 1980s, joined to take advantage of the outings offered in the West Michigan Group.

Helen LeBlanc, Chapter Treasurer, 1991–present, was drawn into the Sierra Club at a picnic in a local park. She became active in fighting a dam project.

Nancy Shiffler, Chapter Chair, 1993–1997 and 2006, attended outings in the Huron Valley Group and was soon asked to help out on conservation issues.

Dave Llewellyn, Chapter Secretary, 2007, joined the Sierra Club years ago in order to save money on outings. His first involvement with the Club was a National Service trip to Santa Rosa Island, off of the California coast.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL RETREAT

by Wanda Bloomquist

Lisa Wickman and I have worked together on the Annual Retreat for five years now, and the diverse group of people who come together to share their knowledge and expertise of ways to protect and enjoy the planet never ceases to amaze us. This year was no exception to

the amount of fun and learning that took place with members from around the state.

Camp Miniwanca is a beautiful spot and has become a perennial favorite for attendees. Whether you want to learn more about issues important to the Michigan Chapter, enjoy the

wonderful outdoors or spend some quality time with your family, there is something for everyone of all ages.

If you've never been, come next year! Enjoy yourself and get bitten by the bug that gets Sierra Club members involved in a more active way.

In the Spotlight

Will You Be There?

SIERRA CLUB MICHIGAN CHAPTER'S
40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

We hope you will join your fellow Sierra Club members for a fantastic evening filled with great food and drinks, memories of your favorite outings adventures, interactive timeline of environmental achievements, and, of course, dancing with jubilant friends.

Friday, October 5, 2007

Register by October 1, 2007

6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

The Lansing Center

333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing

food & drinks

**Downtown Lansing
on the Grand River**

with inspiring words

**Sierra Club
President Robbie Cox**

and live musical

entertainment

**Billy Mack & the
Juke Joint Johnnies**

CELEBRATION SPONSORS

Sierra Club Michigan Chapter gratefully acknowledges the financial support of our 40th Anniversary Celebration Sponsors:

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Raymond Zbacnik

40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION REGISTRATION FORM

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: () _____

Make your check (**\$40 per person**) payable to Sierra Club Michigan Chapter.

To become a **Celebration Sponsor**, you can make a special gift of \$440 or more to Sierra Club Michigan Chapter.

To make your gift of \$ _____ by credit card, please list your:

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

You can register by calling 517-484-2372, or by mailing your gift and registration form to:

Sierra Club Michigan Chapter
Attn: Wendi Tilden, Development Director
109 E. Michigan Ave.
Lansing, MI 48906

Your gift will support Sierra Club's effective citizen-based advocacy, which is not tax-deductible. If you prefer to make a tax-deductible gift, please call 517-484-2372 or email wendi.tilden@sierraclub.org.

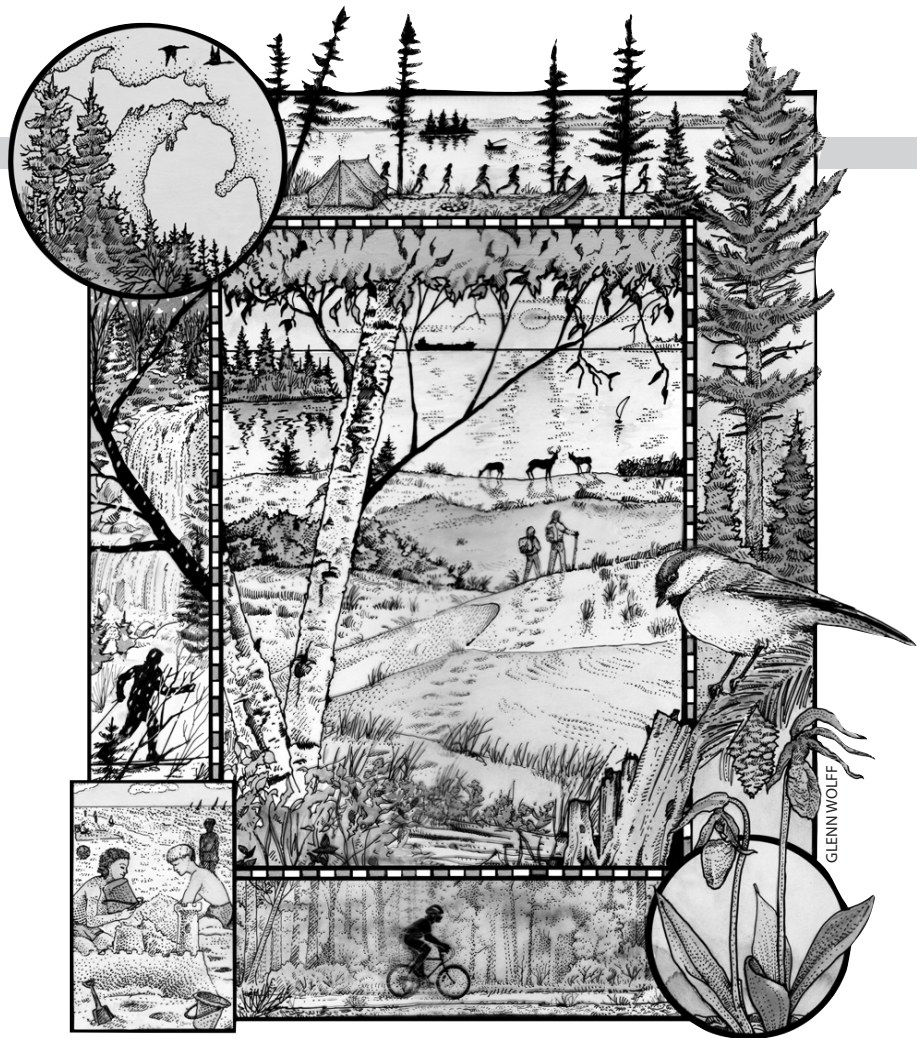
Michigan Chapter of Sierra Club Celebrates 40 Years

by Anne Woiwode

My son Pete came home from a camping trip one day talking with wonder about the beautiful wild place he and his friends had found near Ludington, how serene and peaceful it was. Had I ever heard of Nordhouse Dunes Wilderness? Not only had I heard of it, I told him with pride how Sierra Club Michigan Chapter was central to Congressional designation of the Nordhouse Dunes and ten other wildernesses in 1987. Sierra Club members also worked hard to stop proposed oil and gas development there, and spend time there on outings and hikes whenever they can.

Our 40th Anniversary is celebrated with more than just snapshots. This issue of *The Mackinac* kicks off a year of celebration of the Michigan Chapter's 40th Anniversary with a look back at remarkable accomplishments and experiences we have shared in Michigan. As a Sierra Club member you can take pride in the victories of the last few decades. Even when we haven't seen victories, you can take pride in the fight we have put up. Many of you will be able to add your own stories to this history, telling not just the political and conservation triumphs, but the joys of Sierra Club Outings, wonderful Autumn Retreats and time spent with the remarkable people who make up this organization. There are many stories like mine to be shared.

Not all the fights are won, and in the environmental arena unfortunately often the same challenges emerge again and again. Contaminated rivers and lakes are still not cleaned up, and wastes from animal factories, sulfide mining and other sources still threaten our waters. More children are suffering from asthma today, but air pollution from waste incinerators,



refineries and other polluters continue to threaten our health. Fish in every Michigan lake may be contaminated with mercury and Climate Change threatens our existence on the planet, and at least four new coal-fired power plants are proposed in Michigan while the legislature has yet to enact smart energy solutions for our state. Management of our state and federal forests has improved in some ways, but restoration of our state's diverse habitats is still far from complete. And sprawl

continues to eat up our countryside while public transportation alternatives are rare.

Our job is not done, but at 40 it is important to look back and see what we are capable of when the Michigan Chapter members take on a challenge. I hope you will join us at the kick-off event, the **Michigan Chapter's 40th Anniversary Celebration in Lansing on October 5**. Come celebrate with us, and come back for the fights we have yet to win and the fun that is yet to come!

CALL FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Are you ready to make history with the Michigan Chapter? Please consider running for the Chapter Executive Committee and helping shape the Sierra Club's future in Michigan. Four of the nine at-large representatives will be elected for two-year terms starting in January. If you or anyone you know would like to run for one of the at-large seats, please contact Lydia Fischer, lydfisch@mindspring.com, by October 15, 2007.

CleanEnergySolutions

Coal-Fired and Nuclear Power Plants Proposed for Michigan

by Anne Woiwode

Sierra Club announced its National Coal Campaign in August. Designed to stop a rush to build more than 150 proposed new coal-powered plants around the nation, the campaign tries to meet scientists' urgent call for reduction of global warming gas emissions by 80% by 2050.

Unfortunately, electricity providers around Michigan are gearing up for at least four coal-fired power plants and one nuclear power plant to be proposed for environmental permitting soon. In Rogers City and Midland, possible power plant sites have made their way through local land-use hurdles despite growing opposition; an "energy park" is being proposed in Alma with tax dollars to subsidize planning; and Consumers Power is discussing a new plant near one of its existing plants. What's more, DTE has requested approval for an increase in electric bills to subsidize planning for a possible new nuclear power plant near one of their existing facilities.

Sierra Club is partnering with diverse local, state and national groups to try to stop the Michigan rush for additional new power plants when alternatives and energy efficiency have yet to be tried (see Capitol Watch, p. 9). Demand for state regulation of carbon dioxide emissions is a first step in this effort. Sierra Club members across Michigan should join this urgent effort to protect the planet, starting here at home. For more information, contact Anne Woiwode at anne.woiwode@sierraclub.org with "coal plants" in your subject line, or call 517-484-2372.

READ MORE ONLINE! MICHIGAN.SIERRACLUB.ORG

RESTRUCTURING MICHIGAN'S VOLUNTARY GREEN POWER PROGRAMS

Go online to read David Wright's article about voluntary green power programs. Here's a sample of what you'll find on our website:

Electric utility voluntary green power programs provide an opportunity for customers to support the development of cleaner energy options. By paying a premium ranging up to 2.5 cents cents/kilowatt-hour, the utility will purchase either energy from a cleaner generating source or renewable energy credits (RECs) or both....

Seventh Generation Committee

NEW COMMITTEE WORKS TO PROTECT FUTURE

by Joel Welty

Sierra Club members in central Michigan organized the Seventh Generation Committee to conserve energy and fight pollution. They are promoting ways to reduce energy usage without reducing our standard of living and also are fighting sources of pollution, such as concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs).

Joel Welty, who convened the committee, built a home that emits no

greenhouse gases whatsoever and uses far less electricity than conventional homes.

Interested Sierra Club members can meet at 7 p.m., Thursday, September 27, in Community Room B, Veterans Memorial Library, Mt. Pleasant. All Club members are welcome to participate in selecting committee officers and develop plans for conserving energy and fighting pollution.

VETERAN SIERRA CLUB VOLUNTEER JOINS STAFF

by Gayle Miller

Jan O'Connell began her volunteer career with the Sierra Club in 1975 while in college. Through the years, she has served at every level of volunteer leadership. Most recently, Jan finished her final term as vice president of the National Sierra Club and chair of the National Conservation Governance Committee. The Michigan Chapter is fortunate to be able to put Jan's vast experience to work fighting for clean and renewable energy policies (while she continues to volunteer at the group and national level). Expect to hear from her as she energizes Sierra Club members and keeps you informed of energy issues in Michigan. Welcome, Jan!



PAGE 1
QUIZ
ANSWERS

- A. 1967
- B. 20,000 members
- C. \$705,500



Clean & Healthy Great Lakes

Lansing Citizens Clean Up Grand River

WATER SENTINELS SOON TO CLEAN UP PINE,
MONITOR SALMON TROUT, YELLOW DOG,
SHAKEY & PINNEBOG RIVERS

by Rita Jack

Sierra Club Water Sentinels were proud sponsors and helpers at the successful clean-up of Lansing's Grand River on August 18. Over 200 Lansing-area residents helped remove 30 tons of trash from the Grand River when water levels were lowered to allow dam inspection. The lowered water exposed junk not normally visible—and volunteers worked for close to ten hours to remove as much as they could. Huge thanks to Yvonne LeFave and Julann Vittone, who provided the vision to get the work done, and who organized the whole event in less than six weeks. See their terrific website at www.drawdowncleanup.org.

YOU CAN HELP, TOO

Contact Rita Jack for more information and to RSVP for the following events at 517-484-2372, rita.jack@sierraclub.org. All Water Sentinel volunteers receive free T-shirts. Water Monitoring equipment and cleanup bags and gloves are provided. Hope to see you this fall!

Saturday September 22 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Volunteers will remove trash from the Pine River in Gratiot County, working either on foot or from canoes. Meet in Alma in the morning, helpers will enjoy a great hotdog lunch sponsored by Pine River Outfitters!

CAFO Watch

FIRST SHOW US HOW YOUR
ANIMAL FACTORY WON'T POLLUTE

by Anne Woiwode

If you plan to operate a concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO) in Michigan, the public and government officials have a right to see whether your proposed plans could pollute Michigan's waters before a water quality permit is issued. That is the point Sierra Club's attorney Scott Jerger made in the August 8 Michigan Court of Appeals hearing challenging the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's (MDEQ) refusal to require those comprehensive plans to be submitted with permit applications. The decision of the Appeals Court to hear Sierra Club's appeal was viewed as an encouraging sign, and the three-



BRITA JACK

Volunteers removed this pile of tires and traffic barrels in the Grand River Drawdown Cleanup in the city of Lansing on August 18, 2007.

Friday October 12 and Saturday October 13

Water Sentinels will again monitor small rivers around the Shakey Lakes in Menominee County in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Late September or early October

Help Bad Axe High School students monitor water quality in the Pinnebog River in Michigan's Thumb! We also are planning a fly fishing outing the same afternoon—if you want to help teach kids to fly fish, please call me.

judge panel could issue a decision at any time.

Sierra Club applauds MDEQ, however, on requiring all large CAFOs to obtain water quality permits despite efforts by the Michigan Farm Bureau and livestock associations to try to weaken Michigan law. After failed legislative efforts to increase in size five-fold those CAFOs exempt from permitting, the pro-CAFO groups have petitioned MDEQ to rule whether permits are required for CAFOs that have not been caught discharging pollutants into waterways. Still, most of the 193 identified CAFOs in Michigan have now obtained permits or filed permit applications, including at least eight MDEQ did not know existed.

All the talk in Lansing unfortunately has not ended the devastating air pollution and water contamination from a number of CAFOs in Michigan. MDEQ is stretched thin; its inadequate staff size, funding and enforcement authority leave many rural families and communities in a constant state of fear for their health, property and future.

GreatForests, WildPlaces

Aircraft Carrier in Grayling?

AMUSEMENT PARK PLANS ARE BAD FOR MICHIGAN PUBLIC LANDS AND TAX DOLLARS

by Marvin Roberson

Downstate businessman Patrick Crossen has announced plans to build an 1800-acre amusement park just south of Grayling, along I-75. The park he's calling 'Main Street America' is raising concerns both environmental and economic.

In 2000, Governor Engler's Department of Natural Resources (DNR) signed an agreement with Grayling Township in Crawford County that would allow small industrial development in an 1800-acre parcel at the 4-Mile Road exit of I-75. The parcel is owned by the state, and there was no public announcement or input into the agreement.

The current proposal, which goes far beyond anything contemplated in the agreement, is to sell the 1800-acre state forest to Axion Entertainment, which plans to build an amusement park five times the size of Cedar Point. According to the developer, the park would contain roller coasters, the world's largest ferris wheel, the world's largest evergreen tree, a combination snowmobile/NASCAR racing track, and would be centered around a WWII aircraft carrier.

The plan also includes roller coasters open all year, people coming from as far away as Pittsburgh (driving past Cedar Point to get there), and staying for up to nine days.

The developer also promises economically strapped Crawford County 700 year-round jobs and up to 2,000 jobs in the summer. However, according to the developers' own figures (obtained from the DNR through a Freedom of Information Act request), the payroll would be mostly low-paying food service jobs, and the payroll would stay constant for the first five years. *This means no raises for five years.*

The developer not only wants public

In addition to its dubious chances for success and its low-paying jobs, there are serious environmental concerns.

land but public money to do this project. He is asking for millions from each of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Crawford County, and the Michigan Department of Transportation. If his projections about visitors and revenue are accurate (which is doubtful), then he should need no public money to make this fly.

In addition to its dubious chances for success and its low-paying jobs, there are serious environmental concerns. First, the park would use about as much water as a 55,000-person city. Crawford County currently has about 15,000 residents. Second, treating the solid waste from a park the size of a small city will cause serious waste disposal problems. Third, the park puts Crawford County's most pristine asset, the Au Sable River, in jeopardy from water withdrawal and waste disposal problems.

And finally, it is simply outrageous to sell our publicly owned state forest lands for private development of any kind, much less a ludicrous, pie-in-the-sky amusement park plan.

Make your opposition to selling public land to develop an amusement park known. Call or write DNR director Becky Humphries and tell her not to sell our natural heritage for roller coasters. Contact her at:

517-335-4873 (phone)
Mason Building, Sixth Floor,
P.O. Box 30028, Lansing MI 48909

MDEQ POISED TO ALLOW DISASTROUS MINE IN UPPER PENINSULA

by Marvin Roberson

As has been reported in previous issues of *The Mackinac*, the Kennecott Minerals Corporation has been seeking approval from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) to open a nickel mine in the wilds of Marquette County in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. This mine would very likely cause acid drainage into the Salmon Trout and Yellow Dog rivers, and according to Kennecott's own figures, has a substantial chance of caving in.

As *The Mackinac* goes to press, hearings are being held in Marquette and Lansing on this proposed permit to mine. The hearings will be over by the time this issue reaches your hands, but the public comment period will still be open for written comments until October 17.

We urge all Michigan citizens to make their opposition to this permit heard.

For more information on the flaws in the permit application, and where to comment, please visit our website's mining page at michigan.sierraclub.org/mining.shtml.

PAGE 1
QUIZ ANSWERS

D. You do! Michigan members elect 9 at-large reps via an annual ballot in *The Mackinac* newsletter. Local groups select Chapter representatives from their ExComms, who are elected by members in each group.



Democracy in Action

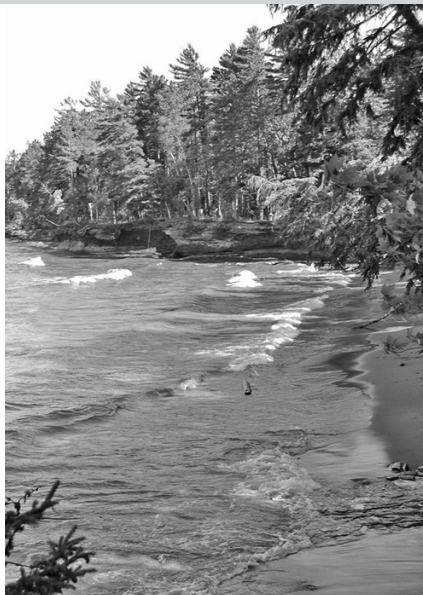
Capitol Watch

While Michigan's legislative leaders have been paralyzed for months by partisan squabbling over the budget, a logjam of environmental legislation is building at the Capitol. When (and if) the budget crisis finally ends, Sierra Club expects a flood of environmental legislation to break loose in Lansing.

Three packages of bills on animal factories are currently the subject of intensive work groups in the House Agriculture Committee. Sierra Club's Anne Woiwode and Gayle Miller are at the table as the primary stakeholders for the environmental community.

The House Energy Committee is wrapping up work groups covering three components of energy legislation, including a statewide energy efficiency program, renewable energy standards and the re-regulation of Michigan's utilities. Gayle Miller and Jan O'Connell, the Sierra Club's new Energy Issues Legislative Organizer, have participated in two of these work groups.

Finally, House Democrats have introduced a comprehensive package of bills to protect Michigan's ground and surface waters from unregulated withdrawals.



RITA JACK

Newly introduced legislation will protect Michigan's ground and surface water.

This legislation strengthens modest protections that passed into law in early 2006.

Sierra Club expects hearings to take place on all of these issues, squeezed in between the October 1 drop-dead deadline for fixing the budget and the start of the 2008 election season. Learn more about these three campaigns and how to get involved at the Sierra Club's legislative website at michigan.sierraclub.org/mining.shtml.

PAGE 1 QUIZ ANSWERS

E. Ensuring Clean Great Lakes Water, Protecting Forests and Wild Places, Building a Clean Energy Future, and Environmental Justice.



F. Usually scheduled over a weekend in late August or early September, this family-style retreat is held at Camp Miniwanca (nestled between Stony Lake and Lake Michigan) and is filled with outdoor fun, activist seminars and more.

G. In 1984 the Sierra Club endorsed candidates for Congressional office in Michigan. Sierra Club's first endorsements were made in 1982 in California.

H. Twice a year, generally held in April and October, Sierra Club Lobby Days are a great way to share your environmental values with your lawmakers and encourage them to stand up for what's right.

I. 83.3 cents of every dollar you donate goes directly to the implementation of conservation programs—and each dollar of your support is “multiplied” by the effective work of the Club's tens of thousands of dedicated volunteers.

J. Sierra Club established its Michigan Legacy Council to honor individuals making significant gifts (\$500 or more) to the Michigan Chapter—their partnership and commitment to our work leaves a lasting legacy for our environment.

K. Nationwide over 118,000 and in the Michigan Chapter more than 4,200.

L. Lobbying lawmakers, monitoring water quality, leading outings, engaging in local Sierra Club activities, hosting fundraising parties, and writing letters to the editor.



THANK YOU, BEV WOLF!

Sierra Club would like to thank award-winning photographer, Sierra Club member and experienced citizen lobbyist Beverly Wolf of Waterford for graciously spending our spring Lobby Day photographing citizen lobbyists at work. Bev's contribution provided a great collection of photos showing citizen lobbying in action. Visit Bev's website and see some of her photographic art at www.bbwolffineartphotography.com. Thank you, Bev!

Left: Sen. Mark Schauer, Jim Heaton, Sierra Club Intern Jack Schmitt, Sandy Nordmark, and Alice Hammond

Group Outings

In order to accommodate a smaller print version of *The Mackinac*, we will no longer be able to run detailed descriptions of the outings. You can find descriptions of all outings listed here, as well as contact information and up-to-the-minute outings & activities on the Michigan Chapter website at michigan.sierraclub.org.

Outings, political & conservation activities & general meetings are hosted regularly by groups throughout the state. Meetings are open to the public & everyone is welcome. If you live in an area that does not have a local group & you would like to start one, please call 517-484-2372 for more information. In the Outings listings below, [E] = educational content, [C] = conservation focus, [T] = trail maintenance, [S] = service. Trips begin at the trailhead. Fees are a suggested donation. Outings are open to everyone. All participants on Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. To read the liability waiver before you participate in an outing, please visit www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms, or contact the Outings Department at 415-977-5528 for a printed version.

September

- 9/15 SEMG [E] Maybury State Park Hike
- 9/16 SEMG [E] Lake Erie Metropark Hawkfest
- 9/21 SEMG Outings Committee Meeting and Potluck
- 9/22 NG Hadley-Metamora State Park Hike
- 9/22 SEMG Bald Mountain South Hike
- 9/23 CG Mushroom Hunt
- 9/24 CG Beginning Backpacking Part I
- 9/29-30 NG Why Drive Up North Backpacking Weekend
- 9/30 HVG Gallup Park / Arboretum Hike
- 9/30 SEMG [E] General Custer Week Celebration

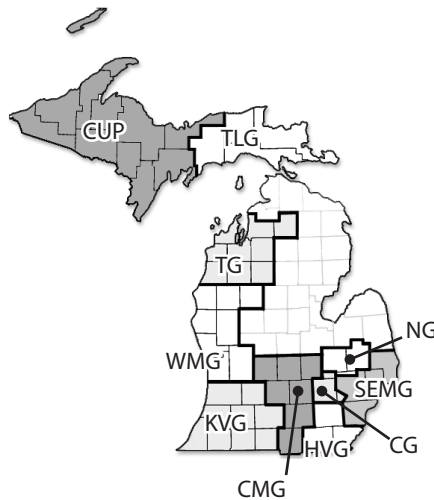
October

- 10/6-10/7 NG Jordan River Pathway Fall Backing
- 10/7 CG Zukey Lake Paddle
- 10/7 SEMG Bald Mt North Hike
- 10/7 HVG Waterloo Recreation Area Hike
- 10/13 NG For-Mar Nature Preserve Hike
- 10/13-10/14 SEMG [E] Hoist Lakes Backpack Trip
- 10/14 SEMG Belle Isle Hike
- 10/14 HVG Silver Lake Hike
- 10/16 HVG HVG Monthly Public Program
- 10/20 NG Sawdust Corners Hike
- 10/20 SEMG [E] Independence Oaks Hike
- 10/20-10/21 CG Beginning Backpacking Part II
- 10/21 SEMG [E] Potawatomi Trail Hike
- 10/21 HVG Waterloo Recreation Area Hike

- 10/26 NG Holly North Full Moon Hike
- 10/27 SEMG Huron Meadows Hike
- 10/27 NG Crim Hike
- 10/28 SEMG Highland Hike

November

- 11/3 SEMG Proud Lake Hike
- 11/3 NG Flushing Riverview Trail Hike



MICHIGAN CHAPTER GROUP BOUNDARY MAP

- CMG: Central Michigan Group
- CUPG: Central Upper Peninsula Group
- CG: Crossroads Group
- HVG: Huron Valley Group
- KVG: Kalamazoo Valley Group
- NG: Napeessing Group
- SEMG: Southeast Michigan Group
- TLG: Three Lakes Group
- TG: Traverse Group
- WMG: West Michigan Group



A storyteller holds his audience's attention at this year's Annual Retreat.

- 11/3 HVG Lake Hudson Recreation Area Hike
- 11/4 SEMG Paint Creek Hike
- 11/9 HVG Learn how to become an outings leader!
- 11/10 NG Hadley Hills Hike
- 11/10 SEMG Stony Creek Hike
- 11/14 NG Sierra Club Monthly General Membership Meeting
- 11/17 CG Bird Count & Winter Migrating Ducks
- 11/17 SEMG Holly Dayhike
- 11/17 NG Fairgrounds Hike
- 11/18 SEMG Kensington Metropark Hike
- 11/23 SEMG Annual Post-Thanksgiving Turkey Trot
- 11/24 NG For-Mar Nature Preserve Hike

December

- 12/1 SEMG Addison Oaks Hike
- 12/1 NG Murphy Lake Hike
- 12/8 SEMG Maybury State Park Hike
- 12/8 NG Sierra Club Christmas Party At Ligon Outdoor Center
- 12/9 SEMG Mystery Hike
- 12/12 NG No Membership Meeting in December. Please See 12/8 Christmas Party
- 12/15 NG Bald Mt South
- 12/16 SEMG [E] Seven Lakes Hike
- 12/30 SEMG Wolcott Mill Hike

Supporting Critical Work

Sierra Club's Michigan Legacy Council

Sierra Club established its Michigan Legacy Council to honor individuals making significant gifts to the Michigan Chapter. Their partnership and commitment to our work leaves a lasting legacy. Please join us in thanking current members:

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Do you like what you've seen in this edition of The Mackinac? You can help! Support Sierra Club Michigan Chapter's critical work by sending a donation today. To learn more about your giving options, please contact Wendi Tilden (517-484-2372 or wendi.tilden@sierraclub.org). Your gifts and partnership makes our work possible—thank you!



THANK YOU, EARTH SHARE DONORS!
We wish to thank all the individuals who support our work each year via payroll deduction. To learn more, visit www.earthsharemichigan.org.

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Contributions and gifts to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts.

If you would prefer to make a tax-deductible gift, please make your check out to **The Sierra Club Foundation** and put "Michigan" in the memo.

_____ Please do not publish my name as a donor.

MemberActionOpportunities

Sierra Club's First Hunter Angler Conclave

JOIN GLEN SHEPPARD AND RUSTY GATES, NOVEMBER 3

by Rita Jack

If you read this newsletter, and if you hunt or fish, we'd like to meet you! Come join the first annual Michigan Sierra Club Hunter Angler Conclave. We'll gather at Gates Au Sable Lodge near Grayling on Saturday November 3 to find out what interests you, and to get to know each other.

Over the last several years, Sierra Club's Michigan Chapter has built new alliances with hunters and anglers to protect our outdoor heritage. Protecting the Mason Tract from a wrong-headed drilling proposal is just one recent example of our common goals. Let's find more ways to work together.

Veteran outdoorsman Glen Shep-

pard, editor of the widely read and appreciated North Woods Call, will speak during lunch. Rusty Gates, respected leader of Anglers of the Au Sable, will tell us what's next for the Anglers. Everyone who attends will receive a Sierra Club Camo T-shirt!

Join us from 10 until 3. Lunch is on us. Contact me to RSVP at 517-484-2372 or at rita.jack@sierraclub.org. Hope to see you there!

Visit our website for more information, www.michigan.sierraclub.org. Gates Au Sable Lodge is located at 471 Stephan Bridge Road, Grayling, MI 49738. Visit www.gateslodge.com for a map and directions.

JOIN US OCTOBER 10 FOR SIERRA CLUB LOBBY DAY

It won't be long before the leaves change, the air grows crisp and we'll be reaching for the thermostat. Our need for reliable energy will never go away, but Sierra Club believes that we do NOT need new, polluting coal or nuclear plants to keep us warm. Michigan needs clean, renewable energy sources and an aggressive energy efficiency program designed to make better use of the energy we already have.

This is what Sierra Club members and others will tell lawmakers during Lobby Day, Wednesday, Oct. 10, in Lansing. In addition to energy, we'll also lobby to protect Michigan's water resources.

Join scores of Sierra Club members and friends for an exhilarating day of citizen action and power! As one new citizen lobbyist put it, "The energy shared was exceptional and will propel me forward. I made new contacts and crossed the boundary...lobbying no long feels daunting, and neither does entering a Sierra Club gathering."

To register, send an email to gayle.miller@sierraclub.org or visit our website at www.michigan.sierraclub.org/lobbyday.

Volunteer Photo Editor Needed!

Have a good eye? Have good organizational skills? Does cataloging digital photographs from a wide range of photographers and keeping track of them appeal to you? If so, the Michigan Chapter needs you. We seek someone to manage the entries for our annual photo contest. If you're interested in learning more about this volunteer opportunity, please contact amanda.hightree@sierraclub.org.

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO SIERRA CLUB, 109 EAST GRAND RIVER AVE, LANSING, MI 48906.



The Sierra Club's members are 700,000 of your friends and neighbors. Inspired by nature, we work together

to protect our communities and the planet. The Club is America's oldest, largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization.

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.