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The Mackinac

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF MICHIGAN'S SIERRA CLUB • NOVEMBER 2001 - JANUARY 2002



Ice formations on cliffs in Trout Bay, Grand Island, Lake Superior

PHOTO BY JOHN REBERS

PRESIDENT OF THE SIERRA CLUB URGES AMERICANS TO STAND FOR THEIR VALUES

PHOTO COURTESY SIERRACLUB.ORG



Jennifer Ferenstein

Our public lands, waters, air and wildlife must not be sacrificed by those who would choose to exploit the recent tragedies for short-term gain.

Dear Sierra Club Family,

Along with much of the world, Sierra Club volunteers and staff have struggled to come to terms with the tragic events of September 11th. I am proud of how our members have reached out to comfort one another and to regain a sense of meaning and hope.

As individuals and as an organization, we share in an awareness of the pain and suffering that directly touches many, and indirectly touches all.

Recently, the Board of Directors met by phone to discuss how these events might affect the Sierra Club, and I'd like to share some of that conversation with you because it reflects our common vision for how to proceed in these times of uncertainty.

September 11th is being called "the day that changed the world." Even if much is different today, the core values that define us as Americans — tolerance, generosity, freedom and love of country — have not changed. Nor has the mission of the Sierra Club changed.

Now is the time for these values to emerge stronger than ever as we pull together to heal the wounds and ensure that appreciation for community and our living planet endure. As our nation makes plans for the future, environmental issues will continue to arise. The Sierra Club will engage in these discussions; we believe that protecting our air, land and water is a critical part of protecting our homeland.

As policy-makers take up the nation's environmental agenda, we will continue to be vigorous, forceful and effective advocates for environmental protection. And we will conduct our advocacy in a fashion and tone that helps Americans unite around our common environmental values.

We can, and will, disagree without being disagreeable, but our public lands, waters, air and wildlife must not be sacrificed by those who would choose to exploit the recent tragedies for short-term gain. Now is the time to put aside our narrow differences and work to create a legacy for the world's children that is safe, healthy and just.

Preserving and protecting the quality of our natural and human environments have been the Sierra Club's mission for 110 years. Today we re-affirm our commitment to this mission.

Now, more than ever, we are dedicated to the defense of "America the Beautiful" our communities, our forests, wetlands and wilderness — and to the values infusing our international work and human rights campaigns.

As we redouble our commitment, I ask you to share our resolve and to join us in our vigilance as we stand watch to protect the environment for our families, for our future.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Ferenstein
President, Sierra Club
jen@wildrockies.org ✱

SENATE KEEPS ARCTIC DRILLING OUT OF DEFENSE BILL

Washington, DC — The Sierra Club thanks the Senate for voting to keep inappropriate and untimely amendments out of the Defense Authorization Bill.

"We're thankful that the Senate is acknowledging that this fall is not the time to debate controversial energy policies, including drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge," said Carl Pope, Executive Director of the Sierra Club.

"In a unanimous vote, the Senate said that it would be inappropriate to exploit the tragedy our nation faces for personal political agendas or divisive issues. Our country must focus our attention now on issues of national security, personal safety and healing."

The Senate on Oct. 2 defeated attempts to attach controversial and inappropriate energy amendments to the Defense Authorization bill. Defeated were attempts to add provisions to drill in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and to give subsidies to

polluting energy industries.

Drilling the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge would not promote national security or develop stable and environmentally acceptable energy supplies because it would take a least 10 years to produce even a drop of oil.

The U.S. Geological Survey says the Arctic Refuge would provide less than a 180-day supply of oil for the United States.

The safest and fastest way to increase America's energy security is to increase the energy efficiency of our cars, SUV's, homes, factories, offices and appliances, and to increase reliance on renewable energy sources such as wind and solar power.

"We hope that the Senate will continue to support protecting the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and oppose those who would try to take advantage of our national crisis to push their controversial and irresponsible policies," Pope said. ✱

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PHOTO BY M. SHAW, GENESIS PHOTOGRAPHY, SHAWGENESISPHOTO@NETSCAPE.NET

JUST LIKE NATURE, WE'RE ALWAYS CHANGING

The Mackinac has made many noticeable changes in the past year, and this issue is no exception. We continue to improve upon our new look and content. Many members commented on the last issue's wonderful cover photo of Pictured Rocks by Gary De Kock of Fruitport.

We continue to use the highest post-consumer recycled content paper, even with the glossy cover, and inside is still 100% recycled fiber. We use only soy-based inks.

With respect to the uncertainty in the country, the Club's fundraising efforts have been modified, and this affects the look of *The Mackinac*. The volunteers who bring you the magazine will continue to present the news in a way that makes you proud to be a member of the world's largest environmental organization.

You can find past issues on our web page, donated by designwrench information arts, at michigan.sierraclub.org. Check the Take Action Box on page 23 for other ways you can keep updated in between issues of *The Mackinac*. ❄



PHOTOS BY ANNE WOIWODE



Top left: Mackinac Chapter volunteers mapping aspen with GPS units. Top right: Marvin Roberson demonstrates use of GPS units. Bottom left: Mackinac Chapter volunteer Tim Flynn shows computer mapping capabilities which allow GPS input to map aspen.

HELP MAKE A NEW MAP OF MICHIGAN!

by Marvin Roberson, Forest Policy Specialist

The Mackinac Chapter has received a grant from the national Sierra Club to assist the Chapter Forest Biodiversity Project in mapping older aspen stands on the Huron-Manistee National Forest. The grant will pay for staff time, Global Positioning System (gps) units, and mapmaking activities.

In Michigan, the overabundance of aspen presents a serious problem in forest management. Aspen makes up about 3 percent of the naturally occurring forest. At this time, we have 10 times that amount in some areas. This means there is less forest of other types, especially older, later occurring species. It means fewer sensitive species, which need deep interior forest.

The reason for this is the way Michigan forests grow. Often, after a disturbance, such as fire, wind, or clearcutting, aspen will grow first and outcompete other species. Aspen grows quickly from root suckers. Aspen will live 60-70 years, and after it dies, longer-lived species, such as white pine, come up underneath.

The problem is that timber companies in Michigan want huge amounts of aspen for pulp and fiberboard. Often the aspen is cut at about 40 years of age. Rather than older species filling in, the site regenerates aspen over and over.

To determine where the older stands of aspen are, and what is coming in underneath, the Mackinac Chapter will be mapping the forest. Volunteers will walk certain areas of the forest, holding GPS units. The units will record volunteers' paths as they walk around aspen, noting what grows underneath. This information will be transferred to a Geographic Information System of computer mapping, which will allow us to more effectively advocate for the protection of these stands.

If you are interested in participating, contact Marvin Roberson, Michigan Forest Biodiversity Project Policy Specialist, at (810) 424-3575, or e-mail him at gassho@softhome.net. *

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO STUDY PINE RIVER

by Rita Jack, Water Sentinels Project Director

The Pine River is the focus of a new study funded by the national Sierra Club. Members in mid-Michigan are invited to participate in the study of the river where it flows through Alma and St. Louis in Gratiot County.

The study will be conducted by the Mackinac Chapter's Water Sentinels Project, a Map, Monitor, and Guard Water Quality Enforcement Program. It combines science, in hands-on stream monitoring work, with Freedom of Information Act information-gathering to bring about restoration of water quality in our nation's watersheds. The Mackinac Chapter is partnering with faculty members at Alma College, who have been documenting the devastating pollution left by two oil refineries that discharged into the Pine River for many decades.

River sections will be studied for ways they have been impacted by the petroleum hydrocarbon discharges. Once the extent of the degradation is known, further steps may be taken to restore the Pine River ecosystem and reduce pollution impacts to wildlife and humans.

The Pine River is included in Michigan's impaired waters list from the city of Alma downstream to the confluence with the Chippewa River. Its watershed contains two DDT Superfund sites in St. Louis, which are being cleaned up by Environmental Protection Agency and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). The Pine River is listed as a source of DDT (insecticide) and PBB (flame retardant) to Lake Huron. A no-consumption fishing ban has been in effect in the Pine River since the 1970s.

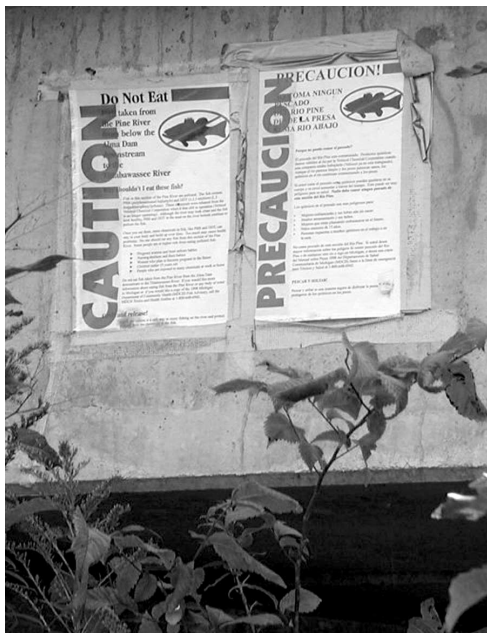
During a boat tour of the river, Alma College Geology Professor Murray Borrello discussed the degradation of the Pine River. "We were having a difficult time convincing the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and MDEQ that the black, sludgy material in the river sediment was a result of refinery discharge," he said. "We conducted several studies that included forensic chemical analysis. We knew there was petroleum hydrocarbons in the river sediment, but we needed to identify, with as much certainty as possible, that they were the result of refinery operations vs. another type of industrial pro-

cessing or even 'people dumping their lawnmower oil' as was proposed by the MDEQ."

Borello continued, "The forensic chemical analyses showed the presence of heat-sensitive compounds making up part of the petroleum hydrocarbons. These chemical signatures are present in crude oil and have been used to study degradation of crude oil in Valdez Alaska, so the refinery appears a likely culprit as only they would use oil in its crude form. From these analyses and from other studies we have done showing where the material is in the river relative to the refiner(ies), it is fairly certain that at least a good portion of the petroleum hydrocarbons came from the refinery. We have shared this data with the MDEQ and the Department of Justice. The DOJ basically ignored it and allowed the refinery to disavow liability in the Consent Decree. The MDEQ is now taking this more seriously and has begun some of their own studies through Surface Water Quality Division."

Benthic macroinvertebrates will be used in the study as indicator organisms of the effects of the pollution on the river ecosystem. The term 'benthic' means bottom-dwelling and refers to organisms that live on the stream bottom. The term "macroinvertebrate" refers to those creatures without backbones that can be seen with the unaided eye. Invertebrates are valuable subjects for water quality studies because they cannot move to avoid pollution. The concept is based on the fact that every species has a range of conditions in which it can survive and reproduce. If only pollution-tolerant organisms or very few or no organisms are found alive in a stream, then severely degraded conditions exist. Additional studies will likely include further substrate composition analysis, as well as selected water chemistry.

Sierra Club volunteers are needed to collect and identify benthic macroinvertebrates and to perform habitat assessments. While training and equipment will be provided, donations will be gratefully accepted, as this will preserve financial resources for laboratory analysis. Members who wish to know more about the Water Sentinels project should contact Rita Jack at rita.jack@sierraclub.org or 810-629-1107. ✽



Top: A posting on the Pine River warning against consumption of fish from Alma all the way downstream to the Tittabawassee River.

Bottom: The Pine River in Alma, MI.

PHOTOS BY RITA JACK

DNR GOES AGAINST PUBLIC'S WISHES TO DRILL UNDER GREAT LAKES

By Rita Jack , Water Sentinels Project Director

This fall the Michigan Natural Resources Commission (NRC) voted to support directional drilling for oil and gas in the Great Lakes. About 30 citizens, including State Senator Gary Peters and State Representative Julie Dennis, gave public comment at the Sept. 13 and 14 hearings. Michigan citizens have made it clear in poll after poll that they do not want drilling near the Great Lakes, including directional drilling.

Nevertheless, the NRC voted 6-1 to recommend Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Director K. L. Cool should resume leasing Great Lakes bottomlands to companies for directional drilling for oil and gas. According to media reports, Director Cool had indicated he would have approved even if the NRC had not supported it.

Every gubernatorial candidate, including both parties, has declared their position against resuming leasing of bottomlands. Citizens who testified at the public meeting were overwhelmingly in favor of leaving the drilling ban in place. Yet the NRC and the DNR chose to go against the public's wishes for the use of the public's resources.

The NRC decision was not surprising. I attended the meeting held in Chelsea at the Waterloo Recreation Area with Susan Kelly, who is Mackinac Chapter Conservation Committee Chair. While the location was beautiful, navigation was difficult, which made it seem the meeting was designed to intimidate people from testifying.

As we walked to the DNR building, I kept thinking that my 67-year-old mother would have found it very tough to walk on the uneven twisting gravel path. If she'd stayed for the whole meeting, walking on that path in the dark would have proven treacherous. I had received a call the previous day from 79-year-old Patricia, of West Bloomfield, who was afraid to attend the meeting because of its location.

The room where the meeting was held was not large enough to hold us all — it was standing room only for the 20 or so people in the back. The men and woman on the commission knew the turnout would be large for the meeting, and Commission Chair Keith Charters said so at the beginning. He also said it would be a long night, and indeed it was.

From the beginning of the meeting it was clear the NRC had already made their decision. Those who spoke out against drilling for oil and gas under the Great Lakes were subjected to long comments about why their reasoning was flawed. NRC members, appointed by the governor, seemed to forget that the purpose of the meeting was to hear testimony from the public, not to subject the public to their own personal views. Citizens who testified were dismissed offhand and were told that their reasoning was based on emotion. In response, Michigan Environmental Council President Lana Pollack said, "There's nothing wrong with emotion and there is nothing wrong with an emotional connection to the Great Lakes." Indeed, an emotional connection to them may be the strongest reason that a person chooses to work to protect them.

What the NRC and the DNR don't seem to understand is that even with some margin of safety, we still don't have to choose to drill under the lakes. There is nothing that says we need to exploit every resource. We can choose to conserve some resources for future

Michigan citizens have made it clear in poll after poll that they do not want drilling near the Great Lakes, including directional drilling.

generations. Then, in the future, when clean fresh water's real value is known, they can decide if they should open up the drilling discussion.

The Great Lakes are subjected to so many pollution sources now. To add one more is not upholding the public trust, it is simply avoiding the tough decision that should be made. We should clean up the pollution that already threatens our waters and we should protect the integrity of the waters that we who live in the Great Lakes State are lucky enough to have around us. *



Lake Superior

PHOTO BY MICHAEL SHAW, GENESIS PHOTOGRAPHY

TAKE ACTION: COMMENT ON GREAT LAKES ISSUES

by Sue Kelly

Mackinac Chapter Conservation Committee Chair

A bi-partisan state Senate task force has begun to study impacts on the Great Lakes and recommend ways to protect them. The task force has been holding public hearings around the state throughout the fall. Some of the issues they will be studying will be drilling, sewage overflows, and invasive species (such as zebra mussels). Other items they will be considering are requesting Canada to remove the oil and gas wells from their side of the lakes and how effective the DEQ has been in enforcing clean water standards at operating oil and gas wells. The Senate likely will start work in January on legislation proposed by the task force.

It is vital that all interested Michigan citizens make every effort to go to the last hearing to express your opinion on appropriate uses and protections of our Great Lakes and their shorelines. The hearing will be held November 26, 2001 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at Saginaw Valley State University.

DETROIT HOSPITALS CHANGE WASTE DISPOSAL PRACTICES

Anna Holden, SEMG Conservation Co-Chair

Thanks to a coalition of environmental activists, important changes in Detroit hospitals' waste disposal practices are scheduled for fall 2001. The Detroit Medical Center (DMC), the largest health care provider in southeast Michigan, will begin sending its medical waste to a commercial autoclave in Toledo. Henry Ford Hospital will begin sterilizing its medical waste on site with a new autoclave. The net result will be cleaner air for a cluster of highly polluted African American and low-income neighborhoods in the center of Detroit.

Henry Ford Hospital closed its medical waste incinerator June 15, 2001, two weeks ahead of schedule. Regulated infectious waste was trucked to Stericycle's commercial autoclave in Toledo after June 15 and recycling of paper products was improved to include office paper, confidential documents, newspapers, magazines, junk mail and telephone books. Cardboard containers already were being recycled. The on-site autoclave, expected to be on-line by early November, will sterilize the hospital's infectious waste using a high temperature steam process to destroy bacteria.

Autoclaving is a safer alternative than burning waste and is an effective method of treating waste so that it can be sent to a landfill. Henry Ford Hospital's new autoclave will initially process roughly one million pounds of regulated, infectious medical waste annually. With better separation and segregation of waste, the hospital's goal is to reduce the amount of regulated waste treated by one-half.

In 1998, when the Coalition to Shut Down the Henry Ford Hospital Incinerator first met with hospital officials, Henry Ford Hospital generated six million pounds of medical and solid waste a year. Much of

this waste was burned. By early 2001, cardboard recycling and initiatives to reduce the waste stream had limited the amount of medical and solid waste incinerated to 2.5 million pounds a year.

After months of reviewing medical waste disposal options, officials of the Detroit Medical Center decided to terminate DMC's waste contract with the City Medical Waste Services incinerator in Hamtramck. According to William Mullins, a DMC contracting officer, the health system was to begin sending its medical waste to the Stericycle autoclave facility in Toledo in October. DMC is a major area health provider, with seven hospitals in its system. DMC hospitals in Detroit include Harper, Hutzel, Children's, Detroit Receiving and University Health Center, and the Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan. DMC also is affiliated with Karmanos Cancer Institute and Kresge Eye Institute and is a teaching and clinical research site for Wayne State University School of Medicine.

The Coalition to Close the Hamtramck Medical Waste Incinerator began discussing the adverse effects of incineration and use of alternative disposal technology with DMC in January 2001. DMC hospitals are adjacent to a "toxic triangle" in mid-Detroit that is anchored by the Hamtramck medical waste incinerator, the Detroit Municipal Waste Incinerator and the General Motors "Poletown" assembly plant, all highly polluting facilities.

The population impacted by these polluters is predominantly African American and low income. Three out of five persons (61 percent) living under the two mile "pollution shadow" of the Hamtramck incinerator are people of color and nearly two out of five (39 percent) are low income.

NEW HELP FOR ACTIVISTS

The national Health Care Without Harm coalition, which has provided support and technical expertise to the incinerator fights discussed here, has two new excellent publications for activists opposing incineration:

- **"How to Shut Down an Incinerator. A Toolkit."** The Toolkit outlines step-by-step actions for incinerator campaigns and includes sample materials, e.g., two fact sheets used in the Henry Ford Hospital campaign.
- **"Non-Incineration Medical Waste Treatment Technologies. A Resource for Hospital Administrators, Facility Managers, Health Care Professionals, Environmental Advocates and Community Members."** This new source book, recently released by Health Care Without Harm, is the most comprehensive compilation and evaluation of alternatives to medical waste incineration available. Copies of the Executive Summary and the full report are available online at www.noharm.org.

For print copies contact Ms. Jolie Paterson at HCWH (202-234-0091) or hcwh@hcwh.org. *

Donele Wilkins, at right, executive director of Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice, congratulates Anna Holden at the celebration of Henry Ford Hospital's announcement to shut down its incinerator.



PHOTO BY MOLLY CHIDSEY/ECOLOGY CENTER ANN ARBOR

CAFO ACTIVISTS WORK TO PROTECT THEIR COMMUNITIES

By Kendra Kimbirauskas, CAFO Campaign Organizer

The Sierra Club is fortunate to work with an outstanding network of activists on the Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs)/ Clean Water campaign throughout Michigan. We would like to thank every one of them for their hard work and dedication and share with you four stories of individuals fighting to protect their communities from factory farm pollution.

IRENE GIBBONS

One would never expect that soft-spoken Irene Gibbons would be a leader in the fight against CAFOs in Mecosta County, Michigan. However, Irene makes it a point to educate everyone she meets about the threat factory farms pose to public health, the environment and the general quality of life in Michigan.

Irene, along with husband Mitch, became concerned about the negative impacts of animal factories in 1998 when a hog facility was built 1.5 miles from their property.

“I knew it wasn’t a proper way to raise animals,” says Irene. Irene was fundamental in organizing a group of concerned citizens called the Saginaw Bay Watershed Protecting Land Air Streams and Headwaters (SPLASH), which set the basis for the current statewide campaign. Today, Irene serves as treasurer of SPLASH and spends her retirement actively fighting CAFOs.

The hog facilities surrounding Irene and her neighbors — housing five thousand sows — prevent them from enjoying rural life. SPLASH is working to develop an air quality testing program to monitor the air surrounding large-scale, confined, hog operations. SPLASH continues to follow Irene’s personal philosophy — educate, educate, educate.

LYNN HENNING

“Real farmers don’t need to pollute” is why Lynn Henning, farm wife and mother of two from Clayton, Michigan says she became involved in fighting mega-farms. The Henning’s farm backs up to two over-sized dairies that have been repeatedly cited for discharging animal waste directly into Michigan waterways. In May 2000, Lynn helped organize a group of activists called Environmentally Concerned Citizens of South Central Michigan (ECCSCM).

Today, Lynn, who is Vice President and Director of ECCSCM, works to prevent CAFOs from further contaminating the ground water in Michigan. ECCSCM is pushing for local ordinances that would require mandatory permits for factory farms within the township in addition to conducting water tests to monitor existing CAFOs within the region.

Although Lynn finds “CAFO-Fighting” to be time consuming, she has no intention of easing up on her efforts. “People once again have hope,” says Lynn, “People who can’t fight for themselves, call me to thank me for what it is that I am doing. I can’t stop now.”



PHOTO BY ANNE WOIWODE

Dave Maturen speaks at the CAFO workshop held at the 2001 Autumn Retreat in September

DAVE MATUREN

Dave Maturen is a 16-year veteran of the CAFO fight in Michigan. Dave, a real estate appraiser, husband, and father of three from Vicksburg, Michigan became active in fighting animal factories when a factory farmer built a million-gallon slurry lagoon across the street from his subdivision. When asked how the cesspool would affect the lives of the citizens in the neighborhood, the farmer replied, “It doesn’t matter. I have the right to farm.”

Consequently, Dave became active in local government and continues to hold seats on the township board and the Kalamazoo County Environmental Health Advisory Council. Because of a local zoning ordinance that prohibited the spray irrigation of waste in close proximity of residential neighborhoods, Dave was able to lead a community effort that put an end to that particular lagoon.

Dave also serves as President of the Indian Lake Association, which strives to protect Michigan waterways from animal factory pollution. 1999 legislation which preempts local control over animal factories makes it difficult for local groups to keep their waters clean.

DR. LELAND WOLF

In December 1999, Dr. Leland Wolf of Hudson, Michigan learned that a dairy facility capable of housing 3,000 cattle was moving in next door. Dr. Wolf, a family practitioner, husband and father of four became concerned as to how the animal factory would affect the health and well-being of his family. Dr. Wolf’s worst fears were true. He was forced to leave his seventh generation family farm and move to a new home because the toxins from the facility were irritating his child’s asthma.

Today, Dr. Wolf serves as a director of the Environmentally Concerned Citizens of South Central Michigan (ECCSCM) and is active in educating his patients of how factory farms negatively impact public health. He currently is treating patients that have contracted illnesses from drinking well water. Five local wells tested positive for Coliform bacteria, which is believed to be caused by animal waste runoff.

Dr. Wolf has set his goal to making the Michigan Department of Agriculture’s guidelines entitled Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practice for Manure Management and Utilization (GAAMPs) mandatory rather than voluntary in Michigan. He also hopes to involve the Michigan State University Medical Society in health issues pertaining to animal factories. ✱

ANIMAL FACTORIES RESIST ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS

By Anne Woiwode
Mackinac Chapter Staff Director

*Michigan's refusal to
comply with federal
requirements to
properly regulate water
pollution from livestock
factories does not take
individual operations
off the hook.*



Aaron Isherwood and Anne Woiwode

PHOTO BY KENDRA KIMBIRAKUSKAS

This fall promises to be a critical juncture in the effort to bring Michigan's growing crop of large-scale animal factories under proper environmental controls. Check the Mackinac Chapter's website at michigan.sierraclub.org for current updates.

POLLUTION SECRECY IN LEGISLATURE

The Michigan legislature will debate legislation that has been labeled the Livestock Factory Pollution Secrecy Bill. The Michigan Department of Agriculture asked Rep. Gene DeRossett to add language to a conservation easement bill, HB 5013, which would exempt information about individual livestock factories and other agricultural operations from the Freedom of Information Act. Sierra Club and neighbors of livestock factories have used information gained from state files to document the state's blatant defiance of federal law, as well as to pursue litigation against individual facilities. The Secrecy provision was added to a measure that must pass for the state to qualify for federal funding for conservation easements on agricultural lands, so opponents are seeking to strip the Secrecy provision from HB 5013.

IT'S THE LAW

Michigan's refusal to comply with federal requirements to properly regulate water pollution from livestock factories does not take individual operations off the hook. That was the message in a letter sent to 65 hog factory and 27 large-scale dairy operators in August by Sierra Club attorney Aaron Isherwood and Mackinac Chapter Director Anne Woiwode. This "hortatory" letter informed them that if their facility meets the legal definition of a "concentrated animal feeding operation" (CAFO), they are required by law to seek and obtain water quality permits from the state. The 92 facilities represents only a portion of the total number of potential CAFOs in state, and Sierra Club will send additional letters as information about other facilities is developed.

EPA PETITION UPDATE

This fall the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 expects to release its final report in response to the petition submitted by Sierra Club, Michigan Land Use Institute, the Michigan Environmental Council and Neva and Larry Bailey in November 1999. There are strong indications that the final report will reinforce the agency's earlier findings that Michigan's program is "seriously lacking" and recommend that the EPA Administrator move forward with steps to withdraw Michigan's delegation. In addition, if the report is issued as expected, at least one hearing to gather more information from Michigan citizens will be scheduled after the release of the report.

LITIGATION UPDATE

SIERRA CLUB vs. WALNUTDALE FARMS

In a hearing held in late September, the owners of Walnutdale Farms in Allegan County were given a 30 day continuance to allow them to obtain competent legal representation. Walnutdale Farms' owners, Kevin and Ralph Lettinga, fired the attorney they had hired to represent them before responding to the Sierra Club's complaint, and then submitted several irrelevant documents to the court.

Federal District Court Judge David McKeague accordingly found them to be in default in the early summer. At the hearing, which was scheduled so the judge could hear arguments on the Sierra Club motion for default judgment and decide the relief to be granted, Judge McKeague made it clear that Sierra Club had presented a very strong case and that if Walnutdale Farms is polluting they will be ordered to stop. However Judge McKeague, concerned that anti-government activists in western Michigan may be manipulating the Lettingas, ordered the 30 day continuance after extracting commitments from both Ralph and Kevin Lettinga that they will pursue hiring competent counsel to represent them.

SIERRA CLUB vs. RIVER RIDGE FARMS

In the Sierra Club's case against this large dairy and beef operations in Ottawa County, the state of Michigan has made a motion to be dropped as a defendant in the case, and a hearing on this motion is expected in early November. The state is arguing that under the 11th Amendment to the US Constitution it cannot be sued in Federal Court. However, the Sierra Club moved to bring the state into the case under Federal Court rules that allow for the addition of any party to a case that is needed to allow for the resolution of the case. Sierra Club is seeking for River Ridge Farms to be required to obtain a water quality permit from the state as part of the relief sought, and on that basis has added the state as a defendant in their lawsuit against these facilities. *

MACKINAC CHAPTER STAFF GROWS TO IMPROVE OUR EFFECTIVENESS

By Anne Woiwode, Staff Director

The Mackinac Chapter is comprised of volunteers and staff working together to make a difference. This year we doubled our staff to eight. I am very proud to introduce these exceptional people:

DAN FAROUGH, POLITICAL DIRECTOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ORGANIZER

Dan has worked for the chapter 2-1/2 years. A tireless organizer, Dan dramatically increases Sierra Club's effectiveness and visibility on issues ranging from sprawl to animal factories to energy. As Membership Director for two years, Dan helped develop groups. This year he became staff liaison to the Political Committee.

JOYCE MCINTOSH, GROUP AND VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR AND OFFICE MANAGER

Joyce provides the glue that holds the chapter together. For the past two years she has run our office in Lansing smoothly and provided behind-the-scenes support for many chapter functions. As our new Group and Volunteer Development Coordinator, Joyce will work with Group and Chapter leaders to improve our effectiveness.

MARVIN ROBERSON, FOREST POLICY SPECIALIST

Marvin has worked with the chapter as a consultant on forest issues for seven years. He says he loves forests, and loves to argue. In the Sierra Club's Michigan Forest Biodiversity Project, he can do both. Marvin's insights, knowledge and skills help change forest management in Michigan. Marvin writes about his Map Monitor and Guard forest project in this issue.

KENDRA KIMBIRAUSKAS, CAFO CAMPAIGN ORGANIZER

Kendra has brought boundless energy and commitment to our efforts to regulate pollution from livestock factories in Michigan. We will miss Kendra both as a colleague and friend as she moves in November to take on animal factories with the Illinois Stewardship Alliance in Springfield.

DAVID HOLTZ, ENVIRONMENTAL MEDIA COORDINATOR

Rarely has the chapter had a chance to hire someone with as much experience and as diverse a set of skills. His experience ranges from reporter to Congressional aide to environmental program director in Florida.

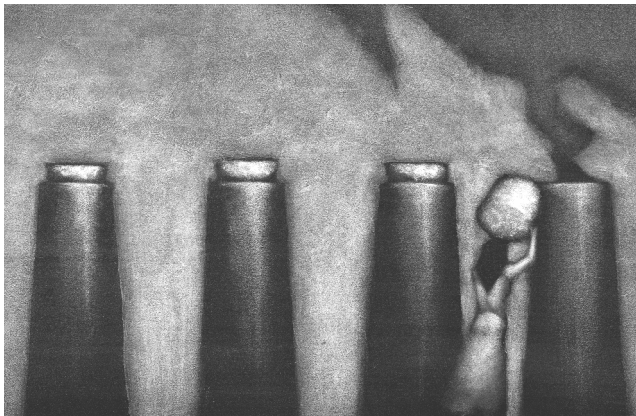
RITA JACK, WATER SENTINEL PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Rita worked for the chapter previously as membership program director and administrative assistant. After she earned a degree in Resource Planning at the University of Michigan-Flint, she worked with the Flint River Watershed Council on water quality testing. We are thrilled to bring Rita back to head up the Map Monitor and Guard Water Sentinels project for the Chapter.

SARAH BAKER, DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE

Sarah, the newest member of the Mackinac Chapter staff, joined us October 1 as the Chapter's first Development Associate. The Chapter is very fortunate to have an experienced professional to expand the success of our Chapter's fundraising efforts. *

There is something you can do...



When you hear that a local land developer wants to pave over an important wetlands area or start construction in a wildlife habitat.

When you want to find out about the effects of a city-wide pesticide spraying on your children's health.

When you suspect that a local factory pollutes the water you drink or threatens the quality of the air you breathe.



Sierra Club's **ENVIRONMENTAL 911 PROGRAM** provides you with a convenient, accessible, personal resource for obtaining information about actions you can take to address local environmental issues.

By calling the Sierra Club's **ENVIRONMENTAL 911 PROGRAM** at **415.977.5520** or e-mailing **environmental911@sierraclub.org**, you will have available to you the wealth of experience and depth of knowledge that over 100 years of grassroots activism can bring.

Sierra Club Environmental 911 Program - 85 Second Street., 2nd Fl - San Francisco, CA 94105
Funding made possible through a generous grant by The Sierra Club Foundation.

SIERRA CLUB MACKINAC CHAPTER AWARDS

Each year, the Mackinac Chapter recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the environmental work of the Sierra Club. Here is a comprehensive list of award winners for 2001:



PHOTOS BY ANNE WOIWODE

Nancy Schiffler, one of this year's awards presenters



Julie Murphy receives the Sylvania Award



Rita Jack receives the Life of the Party Award

BARBARA YARROW, SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN GROUP Chairman's Award

This award is presented by the Chapter Chair to honor a Mackinac Chapter Executive Committee member for long-term service.

JULIE MURPHY, WAKELIN MCNEEL GROUP Sylvania Award

This award is given to recognize a Sierra Club activist who has served on the state level with great enthusiasm, hard work, and dedication.

MONICA EVANS AND LYNN LIVINGSTON, TRAVERSE GROUP Virginia Prentice Award

This award is given to an individual who has made significant contributions to the preservation of wilderness and/or the protection of public lands in Michigan.

MIKE JOHNSON, KALAMAZOO VALLEY GROUP Marlene Fluharty Award

This award is given to a Sierra Club member who has served on at least two levels and has made significant contributions to significantly benefit the Mackinac Chapter of the Sierra Club.

CHRISTINE BATTISTE, TRACIE REXER, MONICA EVANS, MARY LAFRANCE AND PETER PASTERZ Service Awards

This award is given to recognize volunteer leaders who have contributed significant time and effort to the Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club.

RITA JACK Life of the Party Award

This award is given to gratefully acknowledge those volunteers who take seriously the Sierra Club's credo "to enjoy the wild places of the Earth."

METRO TIMES, DETROIT Environmental Journalism: Print

This award is given to a writer who has raised public awareness by in-depth reporting on environmental issues in Michigan and the nation. As of 2000, we have both a broadcast award and a print journalism award in this category.

RICK PLUTA WITH MICHIGAN PUBLIC RADIO Environmental Journalism: Broadcast

This award is given to a writer who has raised public awareness by in-depth reporting on environmental issues in Michigan and the nation. As of 2000, we have both a broadcast award and a print journalism award in this category.

ALMA WHEELER SMITH Jane Elder Environmentalist of the Year Award

This award is given to a political leader who has demonstrated a commitment to protecting the environmental heritage of Michigan and the nation.

NANCY C. SCHLICHTING OF HENRY FORD HOSPITAL White Pine Award

This award is given to an organization that has shown dedication to protection of Michigan's environment.

CALEB KLINE AND ANDREW LAYCOCK Cougar Award

This award is given to recognize outstanding efforts to educate students about Michigan's environment. *

COUGAR AWARD GOES TO YOUNG INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISTS

Caleb Kline and Andrew Laycock, two elementary school students, noticed a sealed oil drum on their school property. At the suggestion of the teacher sponsoring their school newspaper, they wrote an article asking various people to guess what was in the drum.

Then as a follow-up to the article, they asked someone from the district buildings and grounds office to inspect the drum and find out what it contained. It did, in fact, contain a hazardous material (some sort of cleaning solution or solvent), which was then carefully removed and disposed of.

The Cougar Award is intended for students or educators who are engaged in environmental work and environmental education. These two budding investigative journalists, Caleb Kline and Andrew Laycock, certainly qualify for the Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter Cougar award. *



MACKINAC CHAPTER 2002 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTION

by Anna Holden, Nominations Committee Chair

The five Sierra Club activists listed below have accepted nomination to the Mackinac Chapter Executive Committee for a two-year term beginning January 2002.

All currently are participating in Sierra Club activities, and several are already involved in furthering the organization's goals at the Chapter level.

Please read their statements carefully and vote for the four you think will best serve the Chapter and your concerns over the next two years. Winning candidates will govern the state organization along with five other members of the Executive Committee and representatives appointed by each group in Michigan.

Voting is important! Executive Committee members set Chapter policies and priorities, approve and monitor the Chapter's budget, oversee Chapter staff, and represent member concerns. Executive Committee members are expected to participate in quarterly meetings of the Executive Committee, assume responsibility for Chapter committees and events, and attend other Chapter functions.

Use the ballot in this newsletter to vote. Mark the four (4) candidates of your choice and write your Sierra Club membership number on the outside of the envelope so that your ballot can be validated. Your membership number is on the mailing label of this newsletter. The second column of boxes on the ballot is for the second member of a joint membership only. Place a 34-cent stamp on the envelope and mail it by December 14, 2001. Election results will be announced at the January 2002 Executive Committee meeting.

If a replacement ballot is needed, contact the Chapter office at 517-484-2372.

The Nominations Committee thanks all the candidates for their willingness to run and serve. We have found prospective members of the Executive Committee offering a variety of interests and experience. Now it's your turn — please vote!

JOE HOISINGTON

Nepessing Group

810-724-4266; jdhoisington@yahoo.com

Recent Sierra Club environmental adventures

Critical review of wetland permit applications; helped stop clearcutting of old growth in Flint parks; scientifically determined heavy metals concentration of fish in local reservoir.

Experience in Environmental Field

I have been performing environmental scientific analyses professionally since 1974. Have diverse practice with private and public sector in environmental, health and safety management and problem resolution.

Areas of knowledge

Air quality; contaminated site evaluations; environmental research and planning; groundwater management; health and safety management; hazardous and solid waste management; water resources management; and wetlands.

Vision

Increase education and outreach of future stewards of our earth. Get them involved with ecological/environmental projects. Increase oversight of those rascals in elected office trying to greenwash every environmentally detrimental project. Increase communication between members and Chapter for more active participation. Increase credibility of the Sierra Club. Politically aid regulators who feel the frustration of contending with anti-regulation advocates.

JULIE JANEZKO-MURPHY

Wakelin McNeel Group

989-722-7939; soaringbuteos@msn.com

Experience

In the past 2 years I have taken on a couple major projects for the Chapter. I am Business Manager of The Mackinac and have been on the retreat committee for two years. I am also the acting chair of the Wakelin-McNeel Group, and the Coordinator of the Chapter "One Club" project, which combines outings with conservation.

Interests

Protecting the environment no matter what that encompasses is my primary interest in life. I am very connected to our Earth and I hate seeing any part of it being hurt.

Chapter Vision

With the recent events in our country, it is going to be even more important for us to be a voice for the environment, that takes dedicated and hard working volunteers and staff. I am glad to say that we have both that I enjoy working with. We need to offer alternative solutions to things such as slant drilling the Great Lakes or drilling in the Arctic. I am not blindly opposed to progress, but am opposed to blind progress.

SUE KELLY

Crossroads Group

A Sierra Club member 11 years, I served at both the local group (Crossroads Group) and state levels. Issues I am most familiar with are sprawl and asphalt issues. This past year I served as the Chapter Conservation Chair and Chapter Vice-chair.

Pollution, habitat protection and Great Lakes protection interest me. All of the threats encountered in these issues are caused directly by lifestyle choices and the sheer number of human beings.

The 2002 election will present an opportunity to change our state government to one that promotes environmental protection and enforcement. The limiting factor on our ability to address fully this election, and all of the issues that confront us, are the number of activists that commit to working on them. My vision for the Chapter is helping to elect an environmentally friendly state government and to see 20 new people come forward and participate at the Chapter level.

KIM WALDO

Huron Valley Group

734-971-1914; hvgnews@yahoo.com

It is my pleasure to be a candidate for Mackinac chapter Executive Committee. As a Life member of the Sierra Club, its future, both locally and nationally are important to me. In the last ten to fifteen years I have seen action as a Group Co-chair, co-developer of a chapter Forest Biodiversity seminar and am currently editor of the HVG newsletter.

My concern for natural places led to six years on the Ann Arbor Parks Advisory Commission, during which time money was raised, parcels bought and a Natural Areas Preservation division established. As that city work continues, there are similar needs in our state.

I believe the Mackinac Chapter must continue to play an influential role in Michigan environmental stewardship and politics. I am interested in promoting a sound decision making process, as we seek to inform the public about preserving, enjoying and protecting our natural heritage and biodiversity.

BARBARA YARROW

Southeast Michigan Group

You've heard it said, and probably voiced it yourself. "My life will never be the same after the events of September 11." That statement colors my personal vision for the Chapter. It means I will work to find ways the Club can communicate the necessity of viewing the earth holistically and with hope for the future. It means I will seek out ways to preserve and conserve and protect while keeping the larger world community in mind.

I can't change the events of that day, but I can dedicate myself to the work of making the voice of the Sierra Club heard. I will use my experience publishing group and chapter newsletters in Texas and Michigan since the late '80s. As chair of The Mackinac board I hope to focus the newly energized team to communicate clear messages — messages that share information and inspire our members to involvement in solving key environmental issues. *

MACKINAC CHAPTER SIERRA CLUB 2002 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTION BALLOT

Please vote for no more than four (4) candidates.

The second column of boxes is for the second member of a joint membership only.

The last row of boxes is for a write-in candidate.

Write your Sierra Club membership number on the return address section of your envelope to validate your ballot. Your membership number is on the mailing label of this newsletter.

JOE HOISINGTON



JULIE JANECKO-MURPHY



SUE KELLY



KIM WALDO



BARBARA YARROW



Place a 34-cent stamp on the envelope and mail it by December 14, 2001 to:

**Mackinac Chapter Election Committee
109 East Grand River Avenue
Lansing, MI 48906**

Winning candidates will govern the state organization along with five other members of the Executive Committee and representatives appointed by each group in Michigan.

Group Meetings & Programs

AG: Algonquin Group

If you are interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Joyce McIntosh at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372.

CMG: Central Michigan Group

General meetings are held the third Monday each month at the Harris Nature Center, off Van Atta Road in Meridian Township. Come at 5:30pm for supper (small donation requested) or at 6:15 for the meeting. Call Pete Pasterz, 517-676-3339.

The Conservation Committee usually meets the second Monday each month in Wells Hall on the MSU campus. Call Maria Lapinski, 517-569-3302.

The Executive Committee meets the first Monday of the month. Call Jerry Schuur, 517-351-7796.

CUP: Central Upper Peninsula Group

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

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

CG: Crossroads Group

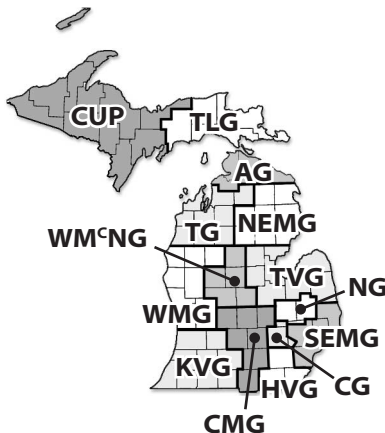
The Sierra Club members of Livingston, southern Genesee, and western Oakland Counties meet monthly at the Brighton District Library, 200 Orndorff Dr, Brighton, for informative and entertaining programs. These meetings begin at 7pm and are open to the public.

The Conservation Committee also meets monthly to discuss and address local issues. Call Emily Gobright, 517-548-0595 or David Wright, 810-229-1685.

The Executive Committee meets the last Wednesday of the month. Call Rick Pearsall, 810-227-6298.

HVG: Huron Valley Group

The General Meetings of the Huron Valley Group of the Sierra Club are held 7:30pm the third Tues-



Group boundaries of the Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club

day of the month at the UM Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor. Non-members welcome. Call 734-480-7751 or visit our website at www.mirror.org/groups/mi-enviro.

The HVG Sierra Club Book Club meets every second Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. at Nicola's Books in Westgate Shopping Center, Ann Arbor. Read a selected book about nature or the environment on your own and then discuss it in a small group. Call 734-332-0207 for information.

KVG: Kalamazoo Valley Group

General membership meetings are usually held 7:30pm the third Thursday of each month at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Texas Twp Campus, Room 4370. Call Mike Johnson, 616-948-8840.

The Executive Committee meets 7:30pm the second Wednesday of each month. All members are welcome. Contact Verne and Cindy Mills, 616-344-4279.

11/15 Remembering Ed: A Tribute to Edward Abbey. Ed Abbey is no longer with us, but his books and essays live on. Thousands of today's environmental activists owe their inspiration to Desert Solitaire and Abbey's other classic non-fictional works and novels. Sierra Club members Verne & Cindy Mills will read their favorite passages from Abbey's works and illustrate his words with slides of America's natural beauty.

1/17 Rainforest: Cut it or let it be? Millions of acres of land, towering trees, a marvelous diversity of creatures, and rain – seemingly endless and eternal. But chainsaws are turning this place into a clearcut. Is this the Amazon rainforest? No, it's America's Tongass National Forest, the world's largest (though rapidly diminishing) temperate rainforest. Learn what's going on there & find out what you can do to protect it & its neighbor, the Chugach National Forest.

NG: Nepessing Group

Meetings are held 7pm the second Wednesday each month at Mott Community College in the "New Students" Prah Building, Genesee Room, 1401 E Court St in Flint. Meetings are free and refreshments are available. Non-members are welcome, parking is free of charge. Learn about local conservation issues, local watershed monitoring and great outings. Call Ann Crane at 248-634-8641. Check the Nepessing web page, with our weekly hiking schedule, at www.gfn.org/sierrang.

11/10 Help plan our hikes for the year. We meet at the Flint Public Library at 10am. Call Jean, our Outings Chair, at 810-695-6529.

11/14 General Membership Meeting will feature an environmental program.

12/15 Annual Sierra Club Holiday Potluck at Ligon Outdoor Center, 5213 E-Farrand Rd., Clio. Noon-6pm. Denny Crispell, 517-624-5038.

NEMG: Northeast Michigan Group

If you are interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Joyce McIntosh at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372.

SEMG: Southeast Michigan Group

The Executive Committee meets 7:30pm the second Thursday of each month at the Royal Oak Senior Citizens' Center, 3500 Marais, in Royal Oak. Contact Bob Duda, Chair, 734-464-0076,

Conservation Committee meetings are held the third Monday of each month at 7:30pm at the Royal Oak Senior Citizens' Center, 3500 Marais, in Royal Oak. Anna Holden, 313-331-0932; Ed McArdle, 313-388-6645; Bob Duda, 734-464-0076.

Outings Committee holds quarterly planning meetings. If you're interested in planning or leading outings, contact coordinators Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370 or Philip Crookshank, wanderphil3@netzero.net, 313-562-1873.

Political Committee meetings are held 6:30pm the last Thursday of each month at Jimi's Restaurant on Washington, one block north of Lincoln (10-1/2 Mile) in Royal Oak. All are welcome! Contact Tim Killeen, Political Chair, 313-526-4052.

General meetings are held 7pm the first Thursday of each month, Sept-June, at Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Hwy (southbound M-10 service drive) between Southfield and Evergreen roads and Nine and Ten Mile roads in Southfield. Social time: 7-7:30pm; Business meeting: 7:30-8pm; Program: 8-9pm. Contact Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

11/1 General Meeting: Meet the gubernatorial candidates for an open conversation sponsored by SEMG Political Committee. Come early at 6:30 for a delicious pasta supper. \$15 buys pasta and sauces, salad, bread & a drink. Desserts available.

12/6 Holiday party with potluck fare. Join us for great food, good companionship and the chance to bid on a variety of gift wares at the Silent Auction. Sierra Club calendars will be available for purchase.

No general meeting scheduled for January.

TG: Traverse Group

The General Meetings of the revitalized Traverse Group are held at the Traverse City Public Library. Call for dates and topics. Monica, 231-325-6812 or Pam, 231-275-3322.

www.michigan.sierraclub.org/traverse.

Executive Committee meetings are held at Horizon Books, downstairs café, Traverse City. For details call Monica, 231-325-6812 or Pam, 231-275-3322.

The Conservation Committee meets at Horizon Books, downstairs café, downtown Traverse City. Call Monica, 231-325-6812.

For information on Political Committee meetings call Monica, 231-325-6812.

The Outings Committee has several outings

planned for the fall. Call Andrea Dean, 231-947-9344, for information and dates.

TLG: Three Lakes Group

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

TVG: Thumb Valley Group

No group meetings planned at this time. Call group chairs Craig and Janis Kendziorski, 517-631-5170 for updated information or if interested in participating on the leadership team or leading an outing.

WMcNG: Wakelin McNeel Group

If you are interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Julie Murphy, 517-539-1676.

WMG: West Michigan Group

Meetings are held 7pm the second Thursday each month in Rm 125 at the Calkins Science Center, Grand Rapids Community College, corner of Crescent and Bostwick, Grand Rapids. Everyone welcome! Call Marty Lore, 517-682-1316.

CHAPTER EVENTS

11/2-11/4 National Outings Leadership Training at Camp Potawatomi, South Milford, IN (35 miles north of Ft. Wayne). \$35. Workshops begin 8pm on Fri through Sun at 2:30pm. For info visit the website: mitchell.sierraclub.org/outings/Training/index.asp or contact steven.shewach@sierraclub.org, 415-977-5711.

11/9-11/11 Sierra Club Training Academy is at the Kettunen Center in Tustin. Limited number. If interested, contact Dan Farough at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372, for openings.

1/11-1/13 Executive Committee meeting. U of M Biostation in Pellston. Call Joyce McIntosh at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372, for more details. *

MACKINAC CHAPTER RAFFLE WIN \$1000

1st prize: \$1,000 • 2nd prize: \$500 • 5 3rd prizes: \$100

HELP THE MACKINAC CHAPTER and your group by selling raffle tickets to your co-workers, friends and family. Not only will they help Michigan's environment, they may win a large cash prize!

TICKETS ARE \$2 EACH OR 3 FOR \$5. TO REQUEST TICKETS TO SELL:

- Call the Chapter office before mid-December at 517-484-2372, or e-mail mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org
- Provide your name, address, zip code and phone number
- Tell us how many tickets you think you can sell

You will need to return the sold ticket stubs in the envelope provided, with a check made out to Sierra Club, by January 2, 2002.

DRAWING DATE:

January 12, 2002, at the Chapter winter board meeting in Pellston.

THANKS FOR VOLUNTEERING TO HELP CONSERVATION IN MICHIGAN!

A RETREAT IN STRENGTH

While the world was still in shock from the terrorism of only four days earlier, Sierra Club members gathered quietly in Tustin for the Mackinac Chapter's 12th Annual Autumn Retreat. Gorgeous blue skies and crisp autumn nights seemed to contradict the dark emotions that lingered.

Over the course of the weekend, it became easier to relax. We took a conscious break from the media onslaught, and sought comfort in being with our dear friends. The new facilities and the fabulous food at the Kettunen Center really gave "retreat" a new meaning, and the Kettunen staff were the very best.

Nature has a way of helping people heal. We hiked, sat in the Sun and under the stars, tried out kayaks and canoes on the placid lake. The yoga instructor graciously accommodated our request for mid-day classes. We were pleased to hear the activism stories of Dave Dempsey, and listen to the wisdom of Rainbow Eagle. Happy homes were constructed for wrens and bluebirds. Late into the night, the crowd at the firepit sang songs of freedom — laced with much-needed silliness to lighten heavy hearts.

The highlight of the weekend was the live auction with our beloved and entertaining Mike Keeler. Thanks to the donors and bidders, we raised more than \$1000 to offset costs of the retreat, and to fund conservation.

Next year it's back to Miniwanca! Miniwanca has been updating facilities and we have been promised the cooks are taking cooking classes.

A huge thank-you goes to Julie Janeczko-Murphy for her countless volunteer hours in building our retreats. If you have any ideas for future events, please contact Julie at 989-772-7939 or soaringbuteos@msn.com. *

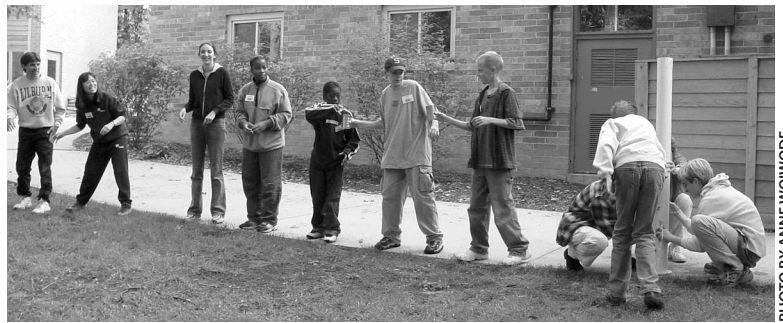


PHOTO BY ANNE WOIWODE

Ropes course on cooperation



PHOTO BY RITA JACK

Taking a kayak for a spin



PHOTO BY ANNE WOIWODE

Mike Keeler auctions a talking fish



PHOTO BY DAVID HOLTZ

Anne Woiwode begins the Biodiversity Hike

Many thanks to our live auction donors:

VERTICAL VENTURES, East Lansing
517-336-520

GUYS & DOLLS PHOTOGRAPHY, Clare
989-386-9361

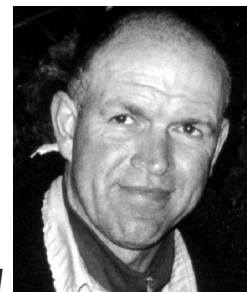
RAUPP CAMFITTERS, Royal Oak
248-399-9545

WHOLE FOODS, Ann Arbor
734-971-3366

DAVE DEMPSEY, Ruin & Recovery Author
734-764-4392

PLAYMAKERS ATHLETIC APPAREL, Okemos
517-349-3803

Advertise in *The Mackinac* & reach 19,000 households in Michigan!
Call 989-772-7939 for our rate card, or e-mail soaringbuteos@msn.com.



WILDERNESS SKILLS: LAYER LIKE AN ONION TO STAY WARM

by Michael A. Neiger, Central Upper Peninsula Group

The key to enjoying a winter outing in Michigan is staying warm. The easiest way is to imitate an onion, or dress in layers. The ability to add or remove layers will allow you to remain comfortable whether you're stargazing on a 20-below night or pulling a 100-pound sledge with snowshoes. An effective layering system consists of three layers: an inner wicking layer, several middle insulating layers, and an outer wind shell.

WEAR POLYPRO UNDERWEAR

The innermost layer must wick perspiration from the skin and transport it to an adjacent, outer layer. For this to occur, the wicking layer must be very thin and in direct contact with the skin. Synthetic fibers work best since natural fibers, such as cotton, wool, and silk, tend to absorb or hold on to moisture instead of transporting or moving it. Look for underwear tops and bottoms, face masks, liner socks, and liner gloves made from polypropylene, Capilene, Coolmax, Dryskin, Powerdry, Thermastat, and Thermax.

USE SEVERAL INSULATING LAYERS

The middle, insulating layer traps air and restricts its circulation. This layer keeps you warm. Remember, several thin garments are warmer and more flexible than a single thick layer. Each garment should be large enough so, in the worst of conditions, they can all be worn together. Pants with full-length, separating leg zippers can be easily added or removed while wearing boots, snowshoes, or skis.

Since cotton and down are very poor insulators when wet, look for pants, shirts, sweaters, jackets, vests, socks, hats, and mittens made from wool; piles and fleeces such as Berber Pile, Borg Pile, Synchronilla, and Polartec; and fiber fills such as Hollofil, Lamalite, Lite Loft, Microloft, Polarguard, Primaloft, Quallofil, Thermoloft, Thermolite, and Thinsulate.

DON AN OUTER SHELL

The outer shell layer protects you from the wind, rain, and snow. For the upper body, a parka with a hood as well as wrist and waist closures is best. Pants with waist and ankle closures work well to protect the lower body. Both of these garments should be sufficiently oversized so they'll fit over all of the insulating layers when they're worn at once in extremely cold weather. Breathable, windproof shell garments are often constructed of Ripstop, Supplex, Taslan, Versatech, etc. Waterproof and breathable shells are typically made from Gore-Tex, the industry standard, or Avalite, Entrant, Extreme, Hely-Tech, Ultrex.

ALWAYS CARRY A HAT

Always carry a thin polypropylene balaclava (or face mask) as well as two warm hats. You can lose from 50 to 70 percent of your body heat through an uncovered head. While the head is the body's regulator, the arms and legs are the body's radiators. When your core temperature heats up, the body increases circulation to the arms and legs (read: warm hands and feet). Similarly, when your core temperature cools down, the body conserves vital heat by reducing

circulation to the arms and legs (read: cold hands and feet). So, if you want warm hands and feet, keep your torso and head warm.

DON'T FORGET THE EXTREMITIES

To keep from losing what little heat reaches your hands, use a layered mitten system consisting of polypro glove liners, one or two insulating mittens, and mitten shells. To keep your feet warm, wear one or two pairs of thick insulating socks over a pair of polypro liner socks. Boots with thick, removable felt liners and one or two insoles are a good choice in cold weather. No matter what type of footwear you use, make sure they don't fit too tight. If your feet lack wiggle room, remove a pair of socks. Adequate circulation is essential as tight footwear means cold feet.

MAKING THE SYSTEM WORK

For this system to work, it's imperative that each item of clothing be sufficiently large so everything can be worn at once in the worst of conditions. When you're active, wear only those layers needed to stay comfortable. As you cool down, add a layer. If you feel yourself heating up, simply remove a layer before you start to sweat. Regularly drinking water and snacking on high-energy foods will also help keep you warm as well as stave off dehydration and hypothermia.

An oversized rucksack lined with a large plastic bag is handy for stowing unused layers of clothing as well as a survival kit, first-aid kit, high-energy snacks, and a water bottle. By carefully assembling a layering system and learning how to use it properly, your next cold-weather outing will be much more enjoyable, not to mention safer.

See you in the bush. ❄️

Michael Neiger of Marquette is an avid wilderness tripper and Central Upper Peninsula Group (CUP) trip leader who welcomes your comments and opinions via e-mail at mneiger@hotmail.com. His website is www.geocities.com/sierraclub2.

RESOURCES

To learn more about how to stay warm in the wilderness, read "The Outward Bound Staying Warm in the Outdoors Handbook," by Glenn Randall (The Lyons Press, ISBN 1585740896, 2000, \$14.95, 144 pages) or "Secrets of Warmth: for Comfort or Survival," by Hal Weiss (Mountaineers Books, ISBN 089886643X, 1999, \$11.95, 160 pages).

To assemble a good, functional layering system, visit your local sporting goods shop or check with Cabela's (1-800-237-4444, www.cabelas.com), Campmor (1-800-230-2153, www.campmor.com), REI (1-800-426-4840, www.rei.com), or L.L. Bean (1-800-229-9179, www.llbean.com).

Mackinac Chapter Outings

Abbreviations in capital letters signify the group that is planning the outing. Refer to the Group Meetings map on page 14 to determine a group's location. Trips begin at the trailhead. Outings are open to everyone.

NOVEMBER

11/2-11/4 CUP Backpacking: North Country Trail (Mackinac & Chippewa Cos.). Explore 25/30-km Ken-neth Rd to USFS 3139 section of foot trail and adjoining bush: East Lake, Bear Creek, Maple Hill Overlook, & Biscuit Creek. Must be: 18, non-smoker, experienced back-packer, very physically fit, foul-weather ready, adventurous, & fully equipped, including rations & stove. 8 am Fri to mid-day Sun. \$5. Read more: www.geocities.com/sierraclub2. Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com, 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W.

11/10 KVG Saugatuck Dunes Hike and Crane Orchards. Noon. We'll explore Saugatuck Dunes State Park in 1/2 hour trek over a forested dune & beach; perfect for families. Weather can be unpredictable: bring sweater or windbreaker as beach can be cool. After-ward we'll stop at Crane Orchards for a sit-down snack or meal and fantastic pies & apple dumplings. Meet at US131 - D Ave "Share-a-ride" lot. Rus & Ann Hollister, 616-685-2301, evenings.

11/10 NG 2002 Hike Schedule Planning. Bring your ideas & meet 10am at the Flint Public Library. Jean Gaffney, 810-695-6529.

11/10 TG Alligator Hill/Sleeping Bear Dunes Area Hike. 2 pm. 2.5-mile loop with hilly, beautiful views of Glen Lake & Lake Michigan. 1 mile west of Glen Arbor on M109, left on Stocking Road to trailhead, on left. John Lewis, 231-947-9104 or johnbetty@bignetnorth.net.

11/11 SEMG Howell Nature Center Hike. 1 pm. Slow 4-mile hike through the nature center. We'll tour the animal compound & view the non-releasable animals. Residents include owls, hawks & various mammals. No entrance fee, but our volunteer docent will collect \$2 at sign-up (\$1 for the Club, \$1 for the Nature Center). Meet in Southfield behind the Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd. Restaurant stop after. Tom & Pat Skinner, 517-552-9121.

11/17 SEMG (Sat) Under the Rookery. 2:30pm. Naturalist Jonathan Schechter leads a bushwhacking off-trail hike in the West Bloomfield Nature Preserve to explore the world of the heron rookery. We might find clean-picked heron bones, dens & tracks of wildlife that live in our suburban woodlands & wetlands. \$5 fee/ hiker covers program costs. Meet in Bloomfield Township in Costco parking lot near McDonalds on Telegraph (east side) north of Square Lake Rd. Restaurant stop after. Glory Havlin, 248-851-9324.

11/18 NG Richfield Park Hike. 1pm. 4 easy miles. 6550 Irish Rd., Davison, about 6 miles north of I-69. Park behind BMX buildings. Restaurant stop. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

11/18 SEMG Detroit Zoo Zoom. 1pm. See the zoo twice in one day. Zoom on a fast-paced hike around the perimeter to warm up, then stroll around again for the zoo inhabitants' afternoon feedings. Meet 12:30 at Cindy's, 12 Mile & Coolidge, or 1pm at zoo gates. Dress for weather; restaurant stop after. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

11/23 SEMG (Fri) Proud Lake. 10am. Walk off all the turkey & trimmings & enjoy a 5-mile hike in this scenic state park. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd. Bring trail lunch & water. Liz Allingham, 313-581-7579.

11/24 NG ForMar Hike. 10am. 5 easy miles. Visit the Nature Center after the hike. No dogs. 2142 N. Genesee Rd Burton (just north of Davison Rd). Terry Lemmer, 810-712-9902.

11/24 SEMG (Sat) W. Bloomfield Nature Preserve. 10am. 5-1/2 mile hike on the hilly trails of the Nature Preserve & continue down the Rails to Trails to Orchard Lake Rd for a restaurant stop. Hiking back, we'll stop to look for wildlife at the overlook. Meet in Bloomfield Township in Costco parking lot near McDonalds on Telegraph (east side) north of Square Lake Rd. Joy Lovio, 248-470-0229; Philip Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

11/25 SEMG Kensington Hike. 12:30pm. Slow/moderate 5-mile hike on the nature trails of the Metropark & around Wildwing Lake. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd, or 1:15 at the Nature Center in Kensington Metropark. Restaurant stop after. Jeanne Mercier, 313-581-6648.

DECEMBER

12/1 NG Bald Mt. Rec. Area Hike (North Unit) in Lake Orion. 10am. 6 moderate miles. No dogs. M-24 to Lake Orion. Left on Flint St to Orion Rd, left on Stoney Creek Rd, left on Harmon Rd. Trailhead parking lot at corner of Harmon & Predmore. Restaurant stop. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

12/1 TG Skegemog Lake Wildlife Area. 2 pm. 2700 acres of marshes, cedar swamps, streams & ponds. Entrances on M72 west of Kalkaska & on Rapid City Road. Staging area not yet set. Check with John Lewis week of hike. 231-947-9104 or johnbetty@bignetnorth.net.

12/1-12/3 CUP Backpacking: High Country Pathway (Otsego & Montmorency Cos.). Explore 26-km Sturgeon Valley Rd to E. Branch Black River section of foot trail & adjoining bush: Pigeon River Lookout Tower & a 1240' peak. Must be: 18, non-smoker, experienced back-packer, very physically fit, foul-weather ready, adventurous, & fully equipped, including rations & stove. 8 am Sat to mid-day Mon. \$5. More at: www.geocities.com/sierraclub2, Michael Neiger at mneiger@hotmail.com, 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W.

12/2 SEMG Hudson Mills. 11am. 5 mile walk along Huron River & through park. Bring trail snacks & meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd. Restaurant stop after. John Kalam, 248-681-9160.

12/8 SEMG Highland Recreation Area Hike. 10am. 1-1/2 to 2 hour moderate hike around Haven Hill Lake. Periodic stops to view nature. Meet at park entrance station just south of M-59 (East Highland Road), west of Alpine Valley ski area (14-15 miles west of US24, Pontiac). Call if weather is questionable. Optional restaurant stop after. Ken Jacobsen, 248-684-8844.

12/8 NG Murphy Lake Hike. 10am-1 pm. 6 difficult miles. M-15 to Millington, east 4 miles on Millington Rd (only stop light in Millington). Trailhead is across from Mt Kotarski sign. Restaurant stop. Mike Haley, 810-686-6354.

12/8 SEMG (Sat) Outings Committee Meeting. 6pm. Outings calendar planning meeting open to committee members & those interested in leading outings. Bring a dish to pass & ideas for March-July outings. Mary Stoolmiller, 6143 Walker, Troy, 1 block east of Rochester Rd, about 1/4 mile north of Square Lake, 248-879-6004.

12/9 SEMG Waterloo Wanderings. 9am. 6 miles. We'll walk a series of loops from the Geology Center in Waterloo State Rec. Area. With snow cover, we should see lots of animal tracks. Wear lug-soled boots for traction. Restaurant stop after. Meet in Livonia between Walmart & Jiffy Lube (near Jeffries) on the SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96 (Jeffries Fwy), or 10am there. Philip Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

12/16 SEMG Stony Creek Metro Park Hike. 12:30pm. Easy to moderate 4-5 miles. Come on a peaceful, winter walk in nature. Meet in Sterling Heights at Metro Parkway (16 Mile Rd) & Van Dyke (SE corner) in the SMART parking lot between the banks. Call if weather is doubtful. Optional restaurant stop after. Lee Becker, 810-294-7789.



TO EXPLORE, ENJOY AND PROTECT

12/30 SEMG Early New Year's Potluck & Hike.

10:30am. Get ready for the New Year with SEMG members & friends at the leaders' house. Meet in Southfield behind the Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd before traveling to the Howell area (maps provided). Bring a dish to share at the noon potluck; hosts will provide turkey & soft drinks. After dinner we'll head to a nearby park for the first 4-mile hike of the year.

JANUARY

1/6 SEMG Belle Isle Hike & Scripps Conservatory

Visit. Noon. Hike the island perimeter road & interior trails, then view the poinsettia extravaganza at the conservatory. The island can be windy & cold; dress accordingly. Call if weather is doubtful. Meet at the old Casino on the island near Scott Fountain. Optional restaurant stop after. Pat Watkins, 248-473-9197.

1/13 SEMG Indian Springs Metropark. 11am. 5 easy miles. Come & make angels in the snow, weather permitting. Bring trail water; restaurant stop after. Meet in Bloomfield Township in the Costco parking lot near McDonalds on Telegraph (east side) north of Square Lake Rd. Bev & Marshall Fogelson, 248-280-4975.

1/18-1/21 CUP Winter-camping: Pigeon River State Forest area (Otsego & Cheboygan Cos.). Explore the non-motorized Green Timbers Tract by snowshoe with backpacks or sledges. Not a basecamp trip. Includes instruction in snow shelter building & fire laying. Must be: 18, non-smoker, experienced backpacker with cold weather (-20) experience & gear, very physically fit, adventurous, & fully equipped, including rations & stove. 8am Fri to mid-day Mon. \$10. More at: www.geocities.com/sierraclub2, Michael Neiger at mneiger@hotmail.com, 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W.

1/20 SEMG Maybury State Park Cross Country Ski.

Noon. Ski 2-3 hours at this wooded park on its many trails. Meet in Southfield behind the Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd. or at the park concession building at 12:30. No snow, we'll hike. Call if weather is doubtful. Optional restaurant stop after. Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

1/26 KVG Cross-Country Ski at Allegan Forest.

1pm. Ski along the south trails of Allegan Forest. The trails through areas of mature forest are generally flat; suitable for a family outing. If interested in longer, more challenging ski, we'll arrange that too. Meet at US131 - D Ave "Share-a-ride" lot. Paul Haas, 616-664-5417.

1/27 SEMG 7-Lakes State Park.

Noon. 5-mile hike over hilly, possibly slippery terrain as we circle the lakes. Dress in layers, hiking boots required for traction, gaiters optional. Bring trail snacks & meet in W. Bloomfield at the SE corner of Woodward & Square Lake Rd. in CVS rear parking lot. Or meet at the park entrance at 1pm.

Restaurant stop after. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313.

FEBRUARY

2/3 SEMG Independence Oaks. 1pm. 5-6 miles. We'll ski if there is enough snow or hike the hilly trails. Meet in Bloomfield Township in the Costco parking lot near McDonalds on Telegraph (east side) north of Square Lake Rd. Restaurant stop after. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

2/8-2/11 CUP Advanced Winter camping: 16th

Annual Canadian Snowshoe Tour. We're bound for Peat Mountain, Lake Superior Provincial Park, Ontario, Canada. Not a basecamp trip. If you're a hardcore winter-camper who's in peak physical condition & who has the equipment & proven experience to handle arctic cold (minus 40-50 temps with minus 100+ windchills) we want to hear from you. Must be: 18, non-smoker, adventurous, & fully equipped, including rations & stove. 8am Fri to mid-day Mon. \$10. More at: www.geocities.com/sierraclub2, Michael Neiger at mneiger@hotmail.com, 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W.

2/9 SEMG (Sat) Maybury Chilly Moonlight Stroll.

6:30pm. Wish for a clear sky to see the new moon. Easy pace & listen for the resident owls hooting. Meet at Maybury State Park, horse stable parking lot. Take 8 Mile Rd to Beck Rd (2 miles west of Northville); go south 1/4 mile to gravel entrance on west side. Park at the

horse barns (another 1/8 mile). Restaurant stop after. Ed McArdle, 313-388-6645.

2/10 SEMG Proud Lake. Noon. 5 moderate miles. Hike over scenic trails of Proud Lake State Park & tour the woody area, looking for animal tracks in the snow. Meet in Southfield behind the Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & 12 Mile Rd. Restaurant stop after. Don Dahlin, 248-644-2746.

2/17 SEMG Proud Lake State Park Winter Hike. Noon. Moderate 5-mile hike through several interesting habitats. Hike goes rain or shine; dress accordingly. Meet north of Wixom in the trailhead parking lot, 1/4 mile east of Wixom Road & 1/2 mile north of Glengary Road. Optional restaurant stop after. Tom Griebe, 248-349-8782.

MARCH

3/8-3/11 CUP Winter-camping: Pictured Rocks

National Lakeshore (Alger Co.). We'll explore a prime section of this area by snowshoe with either backpacks or sledges. Not a basecamp trip. Includes instruction in snow shelter building. Must be: 18, non-smoker, experienced backpacker with cold weather (-20) experience & gear, very physically fit, adventurous, & fully equipped, including rations & stove. 8 am Fri to mid-day Mon. \$10. More at: www.geocities.com/sierraclub2, Michael Neiger, mneiger@hotmail.com, 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W. ✨

TAKE A HIKE, SAVE A BLUFF

by Doug Cowherd and Nancy Shiffler

This summer, Annie Hannan of the Huron Valley Group organized the Bluffs Hike and Lookout that turned into a perfect example of a "One Club" event, where conservation, education, and outings intersect.

With "one little hike and some follow up" the group raised \$465 in contributions to defray the costs of the campaign to save the Bluffs. More than just a hike in the woods, this single initiative produced:

- an excellent outing attended by 20 people
- a membership-recruiting and involvement event
- a dozen new email addresses for our successful email outreach list
- a feature article for the group newsletter
- an educational conservation event
- and significant funds (substituting for money from our treasury) for a project that saved 17 acres of first-class nature.

The Bluffs hike is another example of how a little bit of imagination, can-do attitude, and cooperation between activists can produce excellent results on many fronts. The effort to save the Bluffs is what Carl Pope helped us out with a few years ago.

Much of our progress as an organization comes from our ability to pull off relatively "little things" like this to greatly leverage our limited volunteer time into multiple benefits. ✨

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GROUP FUNDRAISING: Raise funds for your group by selling raffle tickets in our Chapter Raffle. First prize is \$1,000, Second Prize is \$500 and 5 Third Prizes of \$100. Letters will be going out to groups soon, and the raffle will take place in January. Call the Chapter Office at 517-484-2372 if you can help us with fundraising for the environment.

EARN \$ FOR YOUR GROUP! For every advertiser that you refer, your group will receive 25% of the ad fee. Hurry! Only applies to the next two issues. Contact Julie at 989-772-7939 or soaringbuteos@msn.com.

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VOLUNTEERS in northern lower Michigan needed to help a local group. Call Dan Farough at 517-484-2372.

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- Gwen Nystuen

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RESOURCES FOR ACTIVISTS

Sierra Club National Legislative Hotline: 202-675-2394

• **ENVIRO-MICH** is the Mackinac Chapter-sponsored Internet list and forum for Michigan environmental and conservation issues. For a free subscription, send e-mail to: majordomo@great-lakes.net with a one-line message body of "subscribe enviro-mich" (leave your signature file off).

• **Sierra Club's National Website** is at: www.sierraclub.org. Check out the daily War On the Environment postings.

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Doug Cowherd.....734-662-5205
Kalamazoo Valley
Paul Haas.....616-664-5417
Nepesing
Linda Berker.....810-653-8242
Southeast Michigan
Bob Duda.....734-464-0076
Three Lakes
Floyd Byerly.....906-632-0218
Thumb Valley
Janis & Craig Kendziorski.....517-631-5170
Traverse Group
Monica Evans.....231-325-6812
Wakelin McNeel Group
Julie Janeczko-Murphy.....989-772-7939
West Michigan
Martha Lore.....616-682-1316

CHAPTER COMMITTEES

Awards
Bob Duda.....734-464-0076
Conservation
Sue Kelly.....810-227-9563
Elections: Open
Fall Retreat
Julie Janeczko-Murphy.....989-772-7939
Finance
Julie Janeczko-Murphy.....989-772-7939
Information Systems
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Inner City Outings
West Michigan: John Pulver.....616-453-2480
Washtenaw: Peter Bednekoff.....734-480-9285
Legal: Open
The Mackinac Newsletter
See "Editorial Board," masthead, page 3
The Mackinac Website
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Mackinac Chapter History
Gwen Nystuen.....734-665-7632
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Bob Duda.....734-464-0076
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Anna Holden.....313-331-0932
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Ralph Powell.....734-971-9013
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Lydia Fischer.....313-863-8392
Political
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Mike Keeler.....810-767-9904
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Lydia Fischer.....313-863-8392
Sierra Club Council Delegate
Judy Shazer.....734-487-5548
Sierra Club Delegate to MRCC
Sarah Houwerzyl.....616-361-5943

NEXT DEADLINE: JANUARY 1

SEND ARTICLES AND PHOTOS TO:

**Sherry Hayden, 813 Maxine St., Flint, MI 48503,
810-767-9904, hayden@tir.com**

SEND GROUP MEETINGS AND OUTINGS TO:

Barbara Yarrow, 248-932-9164, SEMGYarrow@aol.com

ONE CLUB 'HITCHES EVERYTHING' TOGETHER



PHOTO BY ANNE WOIWODE

Julie Janeczko-Murphy, second from right, leads the One Club activity at the Chapter Conservation Committee

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

Those three activities are not exclusive. Two years ago the Sierra Club created a program that, as John Muir would say, "hitches everything" together. One Club activities use outings to raise awareness of the need to protect public lands and to instill an interest in conservation.

The One Club project integrates conservation and outings to strengthen Chapter leadership, to make outings more relevant to the Club's objectives, and to support local conservation objectives.

Here in Michigan, the Chapter Conservation Committee held an information session in early October at the Chapter office in Lansing. After viewing the One Club slide show and sharing a vegetarian, organic lunch, we hiked to the Grand River where we completed a stream survey just to see how easy it is to get started on a water testing project. Soon the water testing forms will be available on-line for local group projects.

If your group would like to see the One Club slide show and talk about what activities you can do as One Club, contact Julie Janeczko-Murphy at 989-772-7939 or soaringbuteos@msn.com. *

THE SIERRA CLUB, FOUNDED IN 1892 BY JOHN MUIR, IS THE COUNTRY'S OLDEST AND LARGEST GRASSROOTS ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATION. IT CURRENTLY HAS 700,000 MEMBERS.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to SIERRA CLUB, 109 East Grand River Ave., Lansing, MI 48906

What does the Sierra Club work to do?

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