

Nominee for the Oliver Kehrlein Award

Nominee:

Marjorie Richman

Group: Montgomery County Group

Chapter: Maryland Chapter

Chapter Chair: Ron Henry

ExComm support: yes

The nominee deserves this award because:

I met Marjorie Richman in 1972 when I moved to Gaithersburg, MD. She and I became active in the local outings program about that time and quickly became active in National Outings as well. She has continued to participate in both National Outings and the local outings program to the present. Her accomplishments in National Outings are covered in Section A and her accomplishments in local outings are covered in Section B.

Section A: Marjorie Richman accomplishments in National Outing Program:

In 1980 Marjorie became a member of the SE Subcommittee of the National Outings Program. She and I were doing a lot of white water canoeing together and I asked her to be my assistant leader on a two week canoe trip on the Yukon River from Whitehorse to Dawson City in the Yukon Territory in 1981. Since that time Marjorie has led a total of 55 National Outings. She will be a leader/mentor to new leaders on 3 trips in 2011 and as an assistant to allow a second section of another 2011 trip.

Marjorie has led canoe trips, backpacking trips, sea kayaking trips, cross country ski trips, leadership training trips, service trips, and sailing trips. Most of her trips have been in the US but also include trips to Canada, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, and Ireland

The National Outing Committee is composed of many subcommittees leading trips in different areas of the US or leading different types of trips. Marjorie is a member of and has led trips for the following subcommittees: Southeast, Northeast, International, Lodge, Northwest, Rocky Mountain, and Basecamp/Highlight. She is also a member of the Training and California/Nevada Sub Committees but has not led trips for them.

Marjorie was the Outing Committee Finance Officer from 1991 through 1997. This involves setting policies and financial management practices for the Outing Committee, tracking the Outing Committee budget and preparing reports, oversight of all subcommittee finances and answering financial complaints.

Marjorie was the Finance Officer for the Lodge Sub Committee from 1996 through 2006 and the Finance Officer for the SE Sub Committee from 2000 through 2006.

Marjorie became the SE Subcommittee Chair in 2006 and continues to this time.

The supporting documentation package includes messages from a number of Outing Committee people including:

Roger Grissette, Chair of the Outing Committee.

Otto and Vivian Spielbichler, who have led for the Outing Committee for many years and received the Kehrlein Award in 1985.

Rebecca Dameron who recently joined the SE Outing Subcommittee and recently led her first national outing.

Suzanne Valencia who is a long time leader for a number of different subcommittees and is the Conservation Chair of the SE Subcommittee.

Kevin Breen, Chair of the Midwest Outing Subcommittee (a fellow Subcommittee Chair).

Richard Williams, another Outing Committee Leader

Sarah Stout, another Outing Committee Leader and Quality Control person for the SE Outing Subcommittee.

Peggy Hepburn, another Outing Committee Leader and assistant leader for 6 of Marjorie Richman's Shenandoah National Park outings.

Section B. Marjorie Richman accomplishments in the Potomac Chapter which became the Metropolitan Washington Regional Outings Program (MWROP). This is now known as Sierra Club Potomac Regional Outings Program (SCPRO). <http://www.sierrapotomac.org/>

The MWROP, now the SCPRO, offers outings which serve portions of Maryland, Virginia, and the Washington, DC Chapters.

Marjorie has led an estimated 250+ trips over the past 30 years. She has led quite a variety of trips including day hikes, backpacking trips, white-water and flat-water canoeing, cross-country ski trips and bicycling trips. She has mentored and developed many new leaders and has brought many new participants into the outings program.

I lived in Montgomery County Maryland and led many local outings for the Potomac Chapter and the MWROP. Marjorie was on many of my trips and I went on many of the trips she led. I was very impressed with her planning and canoeing skills and asked her to be my assistant leader on a 1981 National Outings on the Yukon River from Whitehorse to Dawson City.

Marjorie has twice served as Chair of the local outings program 1982 - 1984 and again in 1996 - 1998. She did an outstanding job both times; she is well-organized, patient, flexible, tactful, encouraging energetic, and enthusiastic and all those qualities were tested at various times. She helped train many new local outings leaders, sometimes while serving as Chair and at least one term as new leader coordinator. She has repeatedly served as Chair of the Nominating Committee for officers in the MWROP and now SCPRO.

The supporting documentation package includes messages from:

Pat Hopson who has worked with Marjorie from the Potomac Chapter days through the SCPRO and is also a SCPRO leader,

Larry Broadwell who has known Marjorie for 15 years and is another SCPRO leader. Otto and Vivian Spielbichler have known Marjorie since the Potomac Chapter days and worked with her for many years while they lived in Silver Spring, MD
Alvin Carlos, Chair of the Montgomery County Group, Maryland Chapter supports her nomination for the Kehrlein Award.
Michael Darzi, Chair of the SCPRO reports that the SCPRO General Spring Meeting unanimously supported Marjorie's nomination.
Michael Darzi attended the VA Chapter EXCOMM meeting the weekend of Mar. 12 - 13 and reports that they support Marjorie's nomination.
Ron Henry, Chair of the Maryland Chapter reports that the Maryland Chapter supports Marjorie's nomination.
Richard Williams also led MWROP Programs and knows Marjorie well. He asked her to work with him on a number of Outing Committee trips which he led.

I believe that Marjorie's record of long time commitment and contribution to the Sierra Club Outings Program qualifies her for the Oliver Kehrlein award. Her significant activities to both local and national outings are somewhat unusual among outings leaders. In addition to leading 55 national outings and at least 250 local outings, Marjorie has used her administrative skills to benefit many subcommittees and has mentored and continues to mentor new leaders. Marjorie is an exemplary Sierra Club leader who should be recognized for her many contributions and accomplishments.

Previous recognition

yesNational Outing Committee and SE Subcommittee 10 year pin in 1990. In 2010 Marjorie recieved a 25 year award from the National Outing Committee.

Local newspapers to notify:

The Washington Post, 1150 15th St. NW, Washington, DC 20071. Send materials to Metro Desk 202-334-7300 or metro@washpost.com

Gazette (Maryland Community News Online) Bethesda/Chevy Chase/Kensington/Potomac/North Potomac news. Melissa A. Chadwick, editor 3301-280-3006, Fax 301-670-718, 9030 Comprint Court, Gaithersburg, MD 20877, mchadwick@gazette.net

Audubon Naturalist Society: (Marjorie has been active in this organization and if the nominee wins, it would be nice to send them a press release.) WWW.ANShome.org

Chapter Newsletter:

Chesapeake
Chesapeake, maryland.chapter@sierraclub.org

Nominator:

Peter Y. Bengtson
Member Political Committe of Rincon Group, Grand Canyon Chapter