

# M Mountain State Sierran

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January/February 2018

## Clean Power Plan on Chopping Block in Charleston

### Club Stages Alternative to EPA's Paltry Public Hearing

April Keating

On Nov. 28 and 29, in Charleston, WV, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) held exactly one hearing in the entire country to discuss EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt's proposed repeal of the Clean Power Plan (CPP), a plan that aims to curb carbon emissions, chiefly from coal-fired power sources.

At the same time, on Nov. 28, Sierra Club held its own hearing across the river, at the University of Charleston (UC). About 130 people were registered, and 50 spoke there. Some 300 had signed up for the EPA hearing at the capitol. People came from as far away as Illinois and Florida. A free bus with dinner was provided by Sierra Club and picked up people in Pittsburgh and in Morgantown and Weston, WV, before heading into downtown Charleston and across the river. The gold-leafed capitol building, where three rooms were set aside for EPA staff to take testimony, was clearly visible from the university.

Back at UC, the day started with registrations and lunch, then onto a press conference, held in the Erma Byrd Gallery. After introductions from Bill Price, of Sierra Club, and Karan Ireland, of Charleston City Council and WVSUN, three experts made comments: the Reverend Tony Pierce from Peoria, IL, spoke of the moral imperative to build healthy communities; Mona Sarfaty, a physician who heads up the Program for Climate and Health at the Center for Climate Change Communication, spoke of the serious health effects of climate change; and Allan Tweddle, an engineer and businessman spoke of the economic and social costs of ignoring climate change. He talked about how his own business was doing better for having invested in energy efficiency measures, and how this had created a healthier working atmosphere with less absenteeism.

A panel of experts from around the region and members of frontline communities opened the discussion and took questions from the audience. The panel included Stanley Sturgill, a retired coal miner from Eastern Kentucky, who called for the CPP to be strengthened, not repealed; Joey James from Downstream Strategies (a WV economic and water analysis organization), who talked about the effects of fossil fuels on water and the need to build a sustainable



Bill Price (at podium) speaks to the crowd at Sierra Club's Citizen Hearing for Healthy Communities in Charleston.

economy; Jeremy Richardson, of the Union for Concerned Scientists; Mark Magana, with Green Latinos, who spoke of the inequities endured by people of color or in poverty and by others living in or near areas with environmental degradation caused by extractive industries; Mike Myers, from the New York Attorney General's Office; April Keating, an organizer with Sierra Club and Mountain Lakes Preservation Alliance; and Dr. Laura Anderko, Ph.D., RN, scholar and educator in epidemiology and public and environmental health, who spoke of the health effects on patients she has seen over the years in communities exposed to heavy metals and micro fine particulates.

Shuttles ran all day between UC and the capitol for those who wanted to attend the "official" hearing to testify. And many, from young mothers to retired coal

miners, did testify. Keating, who was present at both the Sierra Club hearing and one of the hearings in the capitol, heard no one speaking in favor of the repeal. Many spoke about the serious health ramifications of climate change, methane being one of the strongest offenders, with 86 times the warming potential of CO<sub>2</sub>. Carbon pollution itself is the cause of many health problems, lost productivity, and hospital costs every year. For example, the prevalence of asthma in the United States has quadrupled over the past 20 years, in part due to climate-related factors. The general tenor of the gathering made one feel as if science is real, and good sense may win the day after all.

A few prominent activists attended the hearings, including Lois Gibbs. People may remember her from her work on Love Canal, where she led a three-year struggle to protect the rights of people in her town of Niagara Falls, NY, from a toxic dump containing 20,000 tons of chemicals. In 1981, she formed the Center for Health, Environment and Justice, which promotes and supports grassroots organizers like herself to help them continue the important work of stewarding the Earth and protecting human lives.

Keating took the shuttle to the capitol to make her case, impressing on the judges that they have a moral imperative to protect the lives of all people, even poor folk in West Virginia.

Kevin Campbell, of Sierra Club (Upshur County), was present at both hearings and gave his testimony to the EPA as well. At the capitol, he heard eight opponents of the repeal and two advocates speak. "The opponents were eloquent and had prepared notes or statements,"

*continued on p. 2 — Clean Power Plan Hearing*



"Fossil Fuels are so yesterday," said April Keating (left) at the Sierra Club's Citizen Hearing for Healthy Communities, Nov. 28, in Charleston.





# WVPL Plans Action in Defense of Public Lands

David Lillard

WV Sierra Club met with other partners in the West Virginians for Public Lands alliance (WVPL), on Dec. 1 in Oak Hill, to select policy priorities for the coming months. Karen Yarnell represented the Sierra Club, a co-founder of the collaborative effort. Other WV conservation groups in attendance included WV Rivers Coalition, WV Highlands Conservancy, and the WV Wilderness Coalition. The Wilderness Society, National Wildlife Federation, and PEW Charitable Trusts were also represented.

WVPL is an alliance of organizations, businesses and individuals committed to protecting and enhancing the benefits of public lands to West Virginians. Members share information to mobilize actions that let decision-makers know a diverse base of West Virginians' positions on key public lands policies.

The group reached consensus on a policy agenda focused on national public lands, especially policies that would impact our public lands in West Virginia. The group also expressed continued support for defending against policies that seek to dismantle our national system of public lands. The agenda includes:

- **Defending against rollbacks** of critical bedrock public lands policies like the Antiquities Act and NEPA requirements on public lands permits.
- **Preventing Congressional attempts to sell** off national public lands or transfer them to the states.
- **Working for permanent reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund**, which has provided acquisition funds for most of the lands in the Monongahela National Forest, recreation access to the Gauley and New rivers, our state's two national wildlife refuges, and Harpers Ferry National Historical Park.
- **Special focus on policy threats** that could directly impact the Mon Forest.

Part of the effort relies on keeping the public and policymakers informed about how deeply we all care for

our public lands. Letters to the editor of local newspapers is a key element of this strategy. Sierra Club members have a special connection to public lands; stories of how public lands make our lives better — and how they change the lives of young people, veterans, and others — animate these values. If you would be willing to submit letters to the editor, contact Megan Hamilton, [MHamilton@WVRivers.org](mailto:MHamilton@WVRivers.org).



## WV Businesses Form Group to Support Public Lands

Thirty-three WV businesses have endorsed the policy agenda of the WVPL alliance. Members of the business community have attended meetings with Congressional staff in-district and in Washington, D.C., and given voice to opinion pieces for newspapers in state.

Now they've taken a critical step to formalize this support by forming a steering committee to inform and activate business voices. Choosing the name WVPL Business Alliance, the group will seek to raise awareness of the economic impact of our public lands. They also want to reach beyond traditional outdoor businesses to involve other WV businesses.

## News from the Capitol

The flurry of potentially damaging legislation and administrative actions that began in January will continue in 2018. The Senate version of the tax overhaul includes

a provision to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to drilling; the House version of a bill to fund fire suppression contains language to open national forests to unbridled timbering in the name of salvage; and a bill passed by the House would open the watershed of Minnesota's Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness to mining.

The Boundary Waters is a 1 million-acre forest that is a wildlife haven frequented by paddlers, birdwatchers, anglers, hunters and wildlife enthusiasts. The debate on the mine illustrates how Congress is willing to disregard science and public opinion in favor of shortsighted interests. Last December, the U.S. Forest Service and Interior Department rejected permits for the mine, citing its potential environmental impacts and public opposition, and placed a moratorium on future mine proposals in the area pending an environmental study. H.R. 3905 would revoke the moratorium and reinstate the leases for the mine, as well as prohibit future presidents from designating national monuments in Minnesota without Congressional approval.

A 2016 poll of Minnesotans showed a 67-percent opposition to sulfide mining in the area around the Boundary Waters wilderness.

As of this writing, the president is poised to announce an executive order downsizing Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments, counter to the wishes of the American public and the inter-tribal coalition that led the campaign to designate Bears Ears. The expected executive order would replace Bears Ears with two much smaller national monuments, more than 1 million acres smaller than the current 1.35 million-acre monument. Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument would be replaced by three smaller monuments, totaling about half the current size of the 1.9 million-acre monument.

## Clean Power Plan Hearing - continued from p. 1.

Campbell said. "Wayne Walker Caterpillar had several uniformed workers in the gallery. Their president read a passionate but ridiculous statement about how his sales and service revenues in coal are down 75 percent due to the oppressive CPP ... and Obama. He also went on about unfair subsidies to renewables. The second proponent, representing a Virginia-based non-profit, pro-coal group, insisted that the CPP was designed to pick winners and losers in the energy market.

The CPP, by the current administration's own estimates, could prevent up to 4,500 premature deaths; 1,700 heart attacks; 90,000 asthma attacks and 300,000 missed days of work or school per year.

And it's a job-creator. Analysis from E2, a non-partisan energy group that promotes smart policies good for the economy and the environment, shows it would create 560,000 jobs and boost GDP by more than \$50 billion in 2030.

### What You Can Do

Testimony taken at the Sierra Club hearing at UC will be submitted to the EPA as part of the official record. The comment period is open until January 16, and we encourage you to make comments through the deadline. For details on how to send your comment, go to: <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/clean-power-plan-proposed-repeal-how-comment>.



Ahlia Bethea, apprentice w/ @BeyondCoal and @VASierraClub speaking to #ProtectCPP, said, "As a woman of color, my community is disproportionately impacted by environmental hazards ... studies have found that race is the biggest indicator of whether or not you will live near toxic waste."

Please contact the Editor for submission guidelines or advertising rates. Contributions to the newsletter may be sent to the Editor at:

[celliot2@comcast.net](mailto:celliot2@comcast.net)

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Deadline for  
March/April issue  
**February 3**



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Aftermath of the Parkersburg chemical fire in South Parkersburg taken Dec. 2nd at the Ames Plant

# Parkersburg Plastics Fire Who Will Pay for Damages?

Laura Yokochi

On Saturday morning, Oct. 21, Parkersburg resident Eric Engle stepped outside with his dog and wondered if a bomb had gone off. A massive plume of black smoke rose into the sky, ash covered his car and yard, and the stench “would knock you dead.” A few miles away, on the corner of Camden and Broadway, firefighters were already at work trying to put out a fire at Intercontinental Export-Import Plastics (the former Ames Tool Plant), an 11-acre warehouse complex next to a residential neighborhood. The smoke spread across the Ohio valley. In St. Mary’s, 25 miles north, Andrew Clovis thought it smelled like “burning polyester.” What was in that warehouse? Material Safety Data sheets submitted to the DEP show more than 10,000 tons of used plastics.

The warehouse is owned by SirNaik, LLC, which bills itself as a sustainable recycling company on Twitter: “#Recycling plastic since 1987. Committed to helping businesses meet #sustainability and zero-waste goals. Going GREEN is more than just a COLOR.” SirNaik promises a closed-loop recycling service, taking used plastics from manufacturers such as DuPont and Kraton, processing into feedstock, then selling them for use in other products and keeping them out of the landfill. It owns other properties in Wood County and employs 300-400 workers. Engle had worked for a similar, but better managed, SirNaik warehouse, Polymer Alliance Services in Washington, WV, where workers are paid \$8-11 per hour.

Recycling is a good thing; however, the facility on Broadway had become an above-ground landfill, with lots of plastic coming in, but little going out. In 2008, the DEP and area fire departments had issued warnings to SirNaik that safety and environmental regulations were being violated. Record keeping was poor and a list of materials was not made available until nearly a month after the fire. John Standish, technical director for The Association of Plastics Recyclers, said, “This sounds like junk storage, just crazy, irresponsible.” (Parkersburg News and Sentinel, Nov. 26).

With the help of multiple fire departments and water from the Ohio River, the fire was finally extinguished on Oct. 29. As recently as Nov. 27, however, residents still reported smoke coming from the site. On Dec. 4, officials from Wood County gathered in the Governor’s office to receive a \$1.4 million check to reimburse them for the costs of fighting the fire. The state will seek reimbursement from the owners and the insurance company, but that is only a fraction of the true costs. What about the first responders who wore no masks or respirators? What about the children who missed a week of school, but still breathed the toxic air at their homes? What about the employees who lost wages because their workplaces were closed during the fire?

Several class action lawsuits have been filed against, IEI, SirNaik LLC, and DuPont. Some of them may be successful, but how long will we allow toxic businesses to take advantage of West Virginia?

## View from the Chair

— Jim Koton, Chapter Chair

# One Last ‘View from the Chair’

Thanks to recent amendments in the Chapter Bylaws to establish term limits, this will be my last column for the newsletter as Chapter Chair. I will rotate off the Chapter Executive Committee in January, and new leadership will have to emerge.

This is a great opportunity to look back on past accomplishments and look forward to developing new volunteers and new leaders. In fact, the WV Chapter has been doing a lot of that lately. The turnover in Chapter leaders has been a major challenge over the past year and a half.

Here are some highlights:

### 2016

- **July:** Jim Kotcon is elected Chapter Chair, following the resignation of Liz Wiles.
- **August-October:** The Chapter seeks an Independent Contractor to assist with the Chapter’s Energy Efficiency Campaign. With many excellent candidates, the committee selects Dr. Pamela Ellis to coordinate our activities in opposing the transfer of the Pleasants power plant. Autumn Long agrees to serve as webmaster and begins a long-overdue overhaul of the Chapter webpage.
- **November:** Chapter ExCom elections. A full slate of candidates fills out the ballot, with several new names volunteering to run. Donald Trump wins the White House and Jim Justice is elected Governor. Membership and contributions surge nationwide and in West Virginia. Using these new activists effectively has been a rare opportunity.
- **December:** Long-time Chapter Chair and current Political Committee Chair Jim Sconyers passes away.

### 2017

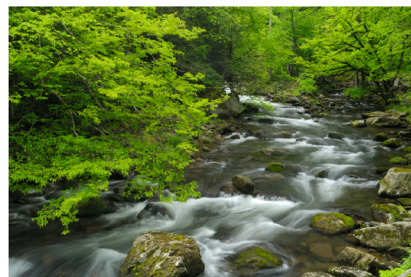
- **January:** New ExCom member Chris Hale joins the Chapter. Emily MacDougal and Emily Bushman are elected to the Monongahela Group ExCom.
- **February:** Chapter ExCom and Outings leader Mike Price passes away. Pam Peitz volunteers to serve in both positions.

- **June:** Chris Hale passes away, and Pam Peitz resigns due to health issues. The WVU Sierra Student Coalition (SSC) keeps meeting and planning and organizing for activities on the WVU campus.
- **July:** Justin Raines and David Buch agree to serve on the Chapter ExCom, and Ann Devine-King steps up to coordinate the Chapter Outings program.
- **August:** Chapter Retreat provides an opportunity to orient, re-organize and get to know the new leadership. Great plans are made, and Ann trains several new Outings leaders for the Chapter. Various Conservation Committees develop campaign plans and action agendas.
- **September:** Ann dies tragically in an accident at home, leaving us once again without an Outings Chair.
- **November:** John Bird agrees to serve as Chapter Conservation Chair. The Pleasants Campaign winds down as we await a decision by the WV Public Service Commission. And the Nominations Committee again generates a full slate of new candidates for 2017.

As you can see, we have had a lot of turnover, with many new volunteers stepping up to move the Chapter in new directions. As the past year has seen many of our concerns about the Trump and Justice administrations proven to be well justified, our need for active volunteers continues to grow.

Thank you to all those new volunteers who came forward; you are making a difference. And for those who are thinking about what they can do, the WV Chapter Needs You. Many of our Chapter leadership positions and committee chairs need new volunteers. New issues will continue to arise and will need activists to get involved.

While I will no longer serve as Chapter Chair, I will be around to mentor new activists and volunteers who need help knowing where to start. Contact me to find out how you can help make a difference for West Virginia.



## With your help we can clean up our water

Sierra Club Water Sentinels are the first line of defense of America’s waters. We live on the water planet. However, water is a finite resource with only about 1% of the world’s water actually being available for human consumption. Water pollution & over-use are threatening both the quality & quantity of our water resources at an alarming rate.

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Homegrown Resistance

— Justin Raines

The Journey of an Insider Activist

For decades, special interest groups and the extraction industry have tried to paint those who are fighting to defend West Virginia's people and the land we live in as outsiders coming in to cause trouble. Nothing could be further from the truth, and ironically, the companies pushing that message are usually the ones who come from beyond our borders.

To give you an idea of what environmental activists in West Virginia actually look like, I'll tell you about myself. My family first came to West Virginia and settled in Roane County in the 1840s. We've been farming the same land since 20 years before West Virginia was West Virginia. I grew up a few miles from the family farm, and my childhood years were spent roaming the hills of home, usually barefoot in the summer, with a dog and a BB gun for company.

A sixth-generation West Virginian, I've spent almost my entire life here. I have hunted in our woods since I was young, fished in our streams, and floated a boat down our rivers. I love this state deeply, and I have worked hard to build a life here. I know all too well the limited options we as West Virginians face when we're trying to put food on the table. I've walked that path, and seen just how few and hard the choices on it are.

For more than a decade, I worked in the oilfields on drilling rigs. I started a few years before the Marcellus Shale boom, when the drilling was mostly in the southern part of our state, Virginia, and Kentucky. I worked for medium-sized drilling companies based in our area ... companies that don't exist anymore. In 20

years, I watched the natural gas industry grow from a local affair that would clear just enough land on which to set a small rig and drill a well that would be just a pipe in the middle of the woods, to the behemoth it is today, where if a well is drilled on your farm, you d'on't have a farm anymore. I watched our local companies shrivel and die as out-of-state interests took over the industry.

I watched my friends and my community locked into the boom and bust cycle of that industry, getting their hopes, dreams, and houses built up a handful of times in those 12 years, only to have the industry fall out from under them, leaving them with no job, a hungry family, and the banks beating at the door. I watched the industry become just another foreign entity, gouging at our hills and hollers for resources which flowed out of our state, and took the money with them. I watched last year as the industry bought its own State Supreme Court justice, who immediately ruled that out-of-state companies could cut royalty payments to land owners down to nothing.

I tell you these things so that you know where I am coming from and why I am in this fight. I also tell you my story to push back against the lies told by companies here to rip off our people about outside agitators and out-of-state troublemakers. The people fighting for our people and our land are almost invariably residents here. If you want to find your real out-of-state enemies, look no further than Dominion, Antero, Southwestern, and the hordes of greedy companies trying to steal our state from us.

GROUPS AND WVU SSC



Eastern Panhandle Group

Maggie Louden

Lately, there has been a lot of activity in the Eastern Panhandle, including:

- holding a renewable energy jobs conference
- opposing the transfer of the Pleasants power plant to MonPower, including publicizing and encouraging citizens to attend the PSC meeting in Martinsburg
- educating citizens and opposing the TransCanada gas pipeline, including participating in the camp-ins at the C & O campgrounds this past summer
- joining with Sierrans and others from WV, Virginia and Maryland to lobby in D.C. and Charleston

On Nov. 25, a group of West Virginia Sierra Club members who live in the Eastern Panhandle met to gauge interest in adding an Eastern Panhandle Group to the West Virginia Sierra Club Chapter. With delicious food provided by Consuelo (Caroline Newman), the meeting began with a presentation by the Potomac Valley Audubon Society on the Christmas bird count. Following that, folks brainstormed about whether there is interest in creating a

Sierra Club Eastern Panhandle group and, if so, what topics would be addressed.

Attendees enthusiastically endorsed starting the group and stated many issues important to the participants, including:

- Water bills (the sewage part has increased, might get water company to adjust)
- Pipeline
- Defend national and state parks
- Information sharing
- Development that threatens environment
- Energy & environment
- Outings
- Lobbying
- Attracting younger folks (Look at local colleges & high schools)
- Find a venue for meetings (members' homes or local churches)
- Alternate monthly meetings with Programs/Speakers and Planning and Actions

The group will meet again in January. Contact Pam Ellis ([pamellis@gmail.com](mailto:pamellis@gmail.com), 443-207-8481) or Regina Hendricks, ([regina.hendrix@comcast.net](mailto:regina.hendrix@comcast.net), 304-725-0223) for more information.

WVU SSC: Bringing Solar to WVU

David Buch

The Sierra Student Coalition at West Virginia University (WVU) has been working diligently this fall, urging administration to take a stand for renewable energy. The goal of our campaign is to get a commitment from the University to the install a 50-kilowatt array on campus by the end of this academic year. The array would produce enough electricity to offset the energy needs of one major campus building, and we've targeted a few sites such as the student center and law school as particularly promising.

We've opened a dialogue with facilities management at WVU. With persistence and community support, we are pushing steadily to meet our goals. The position of the university seems to be that if the project can be made cost effective, whether through grant funding or other means, they would be willing to move forward.

I suspect that a strong public mandate — particularly from students, faculty, employees and alumni — would also help our cause. So, we are calling on student and faculty organizations, as well as individuals in the university network, to voice their support.

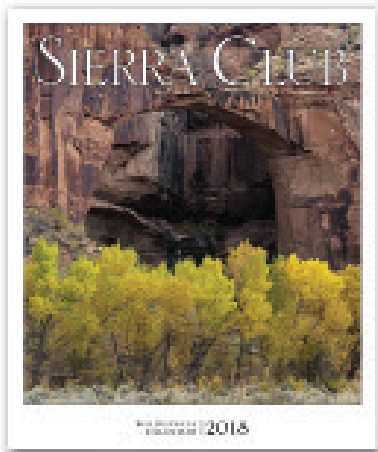
To learn more or sign our petition, please visit <https://sierrastudentcoalition.orgs.wvu.edu/solar-campaign> and pass the word along to WVU alumni and university employees.

Also, to learn more about how you can go solar, check out WV Solar United Neighbors, directed by the Mon Group's very own Autumn Long, at <https://www.solarunitedneighbors.org/westvirginia>.

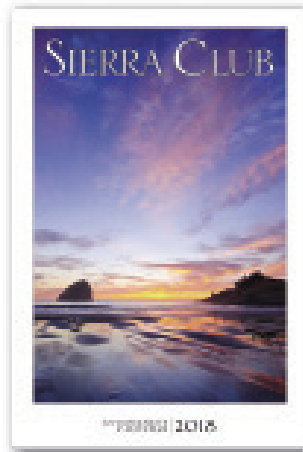
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2018 Sierra Club Calendars



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Upcoming ExCom Meeting

Sat, Jan. 13: Morgantown

All members are welcome.

Contact Jim Kotcon for details,

[jkotcon@gmail.com](mailto:jkotcon@gmail.com), 304-594-3322

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Linda Jones and Dan Pratt host a Solar Open House at their off-grid home in Gilmer Co., on Oct. 7. The house and their solar system were DIY projects.

## DIY Solar Success in Gilmer County

On Oct. 7, Linda Jones and Dan Pratt hosted an open house at their off-grid, solar-powered home in rural Gilmer County. Half a dozen attendees learned about Jones and Pratt's combination AC/DC electrical system powered by a 1.1-kilowatt solar array.

Jones originally moved to West Virginia in the 1970s and built a small cabin by hand. After living outside the Mountain State for about 15 years, Jones and Pratt decided to move back to her Gilmer County property in the 1990s.

Pratt had experience in plumbing, HVAC and electrical work, so the couple began making improvements and additions to their home. But when they approached the local utility company about connecting to the electric grid, Jones says they were quoted "an astronomical sum" to run electric poles and lines to the remote site. They decided to go solar instead.

In 1999, the couple installed a small solar array and eight deep-cycle lead-acid batteries to store the power created by the panels. In 2011, they tripled the output of their solar array by adding more panels. They were pleased to find that the cost of solar panels had decreased drastically in that 12-year period, reflecting a solar industry trend of increasing affordability.

Jones and Pratt's hybrid electrical system uses both direct current (DC) and alternating current (AC) electricity. The system powers lights, fans and a stereo with DC wiring. AC wiring is used in conjunction with an inverter to power their television, computer, well pump, and amenities such as a vacuum and power tools. They use natural gas for cooking and refrigeration.

Jones and Pratt also rely on a natural gas generator as a backup power source in winter months. According to Jones, they sometimes fall back on the generator to charge their batteries from November to March, when solar production is at a minimum. The couple have access to free gas on their property, which allows them to create a hybrid off-grid electrical system along with solar panels and battery storage.

Jones and Pratt advise prospective off-grid solar homeowners that even well-maintained lead-acid batteries will need to be replaced every eight or so years. In the nearly two decades since originally installing their solar system, they have replaced their batteries twice. But, says Jones, battery maintenance and replacement is the only ongoing expense and upkeep measure required of a solar PV system. Their original solar panels are still working fine after almost 20 years in operation. "We got a pretty top-of-the-line inverter," Jones added, "but it's a vital part of the system, so we decided not to skimp on that."

Of the solar open house, Jones said, "It was not huge turnout, but if you get even one person who is new to [solar], that's a success."

To stay up to date on the latest developments in solar technology and policy, and to connect with other solar enthusiasts in the Mountain State, sign up for our e-newsletters and listserv at <http://www.solarunitedneighbors.org/stay-informed>.

## Help Wanted: Chapter Outings Chair Position Open

"People will not fight for lands they do not know."

"Leave No Child Inside!"

"Where Will 2017 Take You?"

"Do Something for Wildness, and Make the Mountains Glad." (John Muir)

Adventure awaits, the great outdoors beckon, and you have some ideas for a great outing. Many Chapter members want to join you, and many from the community do, too! The Chapter Outings Program offers these opportunities, with volunteer-led outings ranging from very gentle urban outings to much more challenging wilderness backpacks and whitewater or skiing adventures.

You can also help others participate in these outings. The Chapter is seeking an Outings coordinator (aka, Outings Chair). While outings leader experience is helpful, the only requirement is a willingness to help and an ability to communicate with the other leaders in the Chapter. The Chapter Outings Committee Chair solicits new outings, helps advertise these outings, helps coordinate training of new Outings leaders, and manages the Chapter Outings programs to maximize participation and enjoyment of the great outdoors.

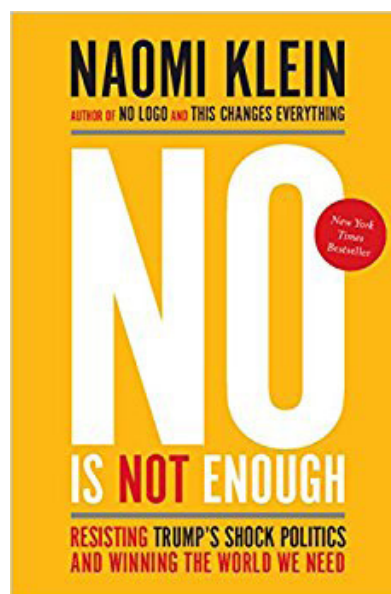
Even if you can't lead individual outings, you can help others who can and expand one of our core functions as Sierra Club. Contact Jim Kotcon, [jkotcon@gmail.com](mailto:jkotcon@gmail.com) or 304-594-3322, if you might be interested.

### Book Review

— Review by Sally Wilts

## No Is Not Enough: Resisting Trump's Shock Politics and Winning the World We Need,

by Naomi Klein



regulations or programs for the hungry. In their place will be unfettered power and freedom for corporations. It's a program so defiantly unjust and so manifestly corrupt that it can only be pulled off with the assistance of divide-and-conquer racial and sexual politics, as well as a nonstop spectacle of media distractions."

In order to fight back effectively, we "need a vision of the world compelling enough to compete head-to-head with theirs. This value-based mission must offer a different path ... one based on coming together across racial, ethnic, religious and gender divides, ... and one based on healing the planet rather than unleashing further destabilizing wars and pollution. Most of all, that vision needs to offer those that are hurting — lack of jobs, lack of health care, lack of peace, lack of hope — a tangibly better life."

Her life has been dedicated to researching and understanding global trends and their effects on people and the planet. All of her work is well researched, with exhaustive notes and bibliography, and she brings amazing insight to help us understand the realities of our world.

This book is a MUST READ for anyone concerned about the overwhelming influence of Big Money on our government. It is very readable and offers tremendous insight into our current crisis, precipitated by the takeover of our government by Trump and his supporters, with almost no resistance from Congress.

Naomi Klein is a Canadian/American author of *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate* (2014). In 2016, Klein was awarded the Sydney Peace Prize for her activism on climate justice. She is a member of the board of directors of the climate activist group 350.org.

Klein's fifth book, *No Is Not Enough: Resisting Trump's Shock Politics and Winning the World We Need*, was published in June 2017. From the introduction: "The goal is all-out war on the public sphere and the public interest, whether in the form of antipollution



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Member, WV Senate or  
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Bldg 1  
State Capitol Complex  
Charleston, WV 25305

website: [www.legis.state.wv.us](http://www.legis.state.wv.us)  
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