

# Chesapeake

Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club

Maryland Chapter and Group Election Issue

## In Chapter Elections, Every Candidate Is an Environmentalist

The Sierra Club is a grassroots environmental organization that elects its own volunteer leadership from among its members. Every member is entitled to vote and to run for leadership positions in the club. The Maryland Chapter Executive Committee (excom) runs the chapter and determines the chapter's policies and responses to the many environmental challenges we face in Maryland. This elected board develops and supports our legislative agenda, sets priorities for conservation campaigns, and facilitates communication between the chapter and the groups. In addition, the excom assumes responsibility for meeting the challenge of achieving fiscal stability.

Six at-large members elected by the Maryland membership, and one delegate from each of our eight groups comprise the chapter excom. At-large members are elected for two-year terms. Three of the six at-large positions are up for election each year. The executive committee elects the chapter chair and other officers from its own ranks. The excom meets in person six times a year on the third Saturday of every odd month, and by scheduled teleconference in the even months. Those elected will take their position at the January 18, 2014, meeting.

This annual election is your opportunity to choose the people who will lead the chapter through the next year. Please read the candidates' statements,

(continued on page 2)

## Occupy the Sierra Club!

By Michael Brune—Are you worried about the future? Do you feel like our politicians and institutions are failing to respond to the world's urgent problems?

Here's some good news: You don't have to wait for them. You can have at your command one of the largest, most powerful social-change engines in the world: the Sierra Club. But to put it to work, you need to make it your own. You need to occupy the Sierra Club.

Amy Meyer occupied the Club and used it to create a national park.

In 1970, Meyer, a San Francisco mom, went to a meeting of her local Sierra Club chapter. She didn't know a single person there. One of many items to be discussed that night was a plan by the U.S. General Services Administration to build a gigantic archives building on the magnificent, federally owned headlands overlooking San Francisco's Golden Gate. Meyer had already heard about the plan at a neighborhood meeting. None

of her neighbors liked the idea, but no one seemed to know what could be done.

As the Club meeting was ending, someone said, almost as an afterthought, "What about the archive building?" At first, there was silence. Then Meyer heard herself say, "I'll look into it."

Meyer's only prior experience in activism had been stuffing envelopes for political candidates, but the chapter was happy to help her get started. Within days she learned that the coastal site in question was also part of a proposal for a new park, and soon found herself at the center of the drive to create what became the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Now 80, Meyer is still raising hell to defend the park from development threats.

Meyer's story is exceptional but far from unique. Throughout the history of the Sierra Club, successive generations of young activists have occupied it, reinvented it, and used it to do great things. Kim Richards in New Hampshire got the Club to convince the EPA to investigate pollution from nearby coal plants, while Kathy Lacey in New Jersey used it to save locally endangered terrapin. In Puerto Rico, after hearing about a proposal for an incinerator that would burn thousands of tons of trash per day in her town, Jessica Seiglie Quinones took a 14-week Sierra Club grassroots-organizing course and started what is now an island-wide zero-waste campaign.

Meyer, Richards, Lacey, and Quinones understood that the Club isn't just another nonprofit. It's an engine of change. And it's at your disposal.

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Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

## Letter from the Chair



David O'Leary, Maryland Chapter Chair

### The Sierra Club Makes a Difference, Because YOU Make a Difference

As you can see, we have many members throughout the state who agreed to serve as a leader in the Maryland Chapter or in a local group for the upcoming year (or even two). We should honor all of them for their willingness to commit by voting in the annual leadership elections, using the ballots included in this issue, or by responding to the email that you received if we have your email address.

If you aren't able to serve on one of the executive committees, you can still make a big difference in helping the Maryland Sierra Club protect our environment, our families, and our communities.

This is *your* Sierra Club. As you can read in our National Executive Director Michael Brune's essay on page 1, there are "a thousand ways" to get involved. The Sierra Club works not because one person tells everyone else what to do, but because many people come together, each pitching in with their ideas, energy, time, and expertise to set goals and achieve results that none of us could accomplish alone. Whether it is cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay or cleaning up our energy supply, we all need to play a part, and the Sierra Club provides these opportunities. Some jobs are pretty easy and even lots of fun! Will you make a New Year's Resolution to make a difference?

Here are some suggestions:

- ♦ Ask someone—a friend, a family member, a neighbor—to join the Sierra Club. Additional members increase our influence with decision-makers, and part of each member's dues are shared for our use in Maryland.
- ♦ Enjoy a Sierra Club hike, and bring your family or a friend. You can visit, learn more about natural places, and meet others who are interested in the outdoors and the environment. A wide range of options are available from easy, local events to more strenuous trips in different parts of the country or around the world!
- ♦ Contact your elected officials about the environmental issues you care about. Do some research on the Sierra Club national web site or our Maryland Chapter web site for information about our current campaigns and issues. A list of chapter contacts for various conservation issues appears on pages 9 and 10.
- ♦ Contact the group leaders for the place where you live and find out how you can help; the group leaders are listed on page 9. Every group can use help with conservation work, with developing and conducting informational programs, and with administering the work of the group.
- ♦ Come to Annapolis on January 21<sup>st</sup> for the annual Environmental Legislative Summit. More information is in the notice on page 8.
- ♦ Remove invasive plants from a local or state park. Experienced Sierra Club members lead trips each month to parks throughout the state to protect wildlife habitat and ecosystems. This is a great way to learn about Maryland's native plants and get some fresh air and exercise.
- ♦ Volunteer for a role that uses your special talents and expertise. We need someone who is organized and detail-oriented to serve as chapter secretary. We need people to help with various committees, including communications, finances, legislative, and fundraising. I'm sure we can find a place for you! More information about these opportunities is available by contacting the lead-

ers listed in this newsletter, by checking the Chapter web site, or by calling our office at 301-277-7111.

Thanks for your contributions to

our many successes in 2013. Let's all resolve to get involved and make a difference for an even better 2014. ■

### In Maryland Chapter Elections, Every Candidate Is an Environmentalist

(continued from page 1)

which appear in this newsletter, complete the ballot, and mail it to the chapter office at this address:

Elections Committee  
Maryland Chapter/Sierra Club  
7338 Baltimore Ave, Suite 102  
College Park, MD 20740

All ballots must be received by January 16, 2014. The ballot appears on page 11 of this issue of Chesapeake.

And, you can vote electronically! If you did not receive or cannot find an electronic ballot in your email (dated Saturday, December 21st), and would like to vote using our web site, please contact the

chapter office at 301-277-7111.

#### Group Elections

The following groups are also conducting elections for their executive committees: Anne Arundel, Catocin, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, and Western Maryland. Just as those elected to the Maryland Chapter Executive Committee lead the chapter and set its priorities, so the group executive committees lead our local groups, setting their goals and steering the responses to local environmental challenges. Group members are asked to vote for candidates for both group and chapter executive committees.

Candidates' statements appear on pages 4 through 8. ■

### Occupy the Sierra Club

(continued from page 1)

There are a thousand ways for you to engage it. You can attend public hearings, cleanups, or rallies. You can take a bunch of kids on their very first hike. You can fight for clean energy in your hometown. If you want more parks and wilderness, find some like-minded folks and put yourselves in charge.

I challenge you to go even further, though. This is a bottom-up organization. We were grassroots before the word was coined—it's in our DNA. But like any organism, the Club needs to keep evolving and adapting. Do you want to see new tactics, new faces, new languages, new goals? You can make it happen.

So whether you're a student or a

grandparent, a fifth-generation native or a newcomer to this country, this is your Club. It's the largest democratically run grassroots environmental organization on the planet. Become a member, and you have a say in electing our board of directors. Become an activist, and use the Sierra Club brand to fight for clean energy and a healthy democracy and to protect the land and wildlife in your backyard. Volunteer, run for a Club office, or just go on an outing to explore our wild America. Come occupy the Sierra Club—and make it your own. ■

*Michael Brune is the executive director of the Sierra Club. This essay appears in the Jan-Feb 2014 issue of Sierra magazine.*



# Maryland Chapter Elections

## Chapter Excom Delegate Election

Candidates for at-large delegate positions have submitted the following statements. Please vote for up to three candidates using the ballot on page 11. To cast your ballot electronically, respond to the chapter's election e-mail message, or call the chapter office at 301-277-7111.

### David O'Leary

Since moving to Maryland in the fall of 2005, when I attended my first Maryland Chapter Jamboree, my involvement in the Sierra Club has increased steadily. I have served in various leadership roles, including chapter conservation chair, legislative chair, vice-chair, and most recently, chapter chair for the past two years. I am active in many aspects of chapter operations, from fundraising to lobbying to leading paddling trips. Our chapter conservation programs are of particular im-

portance to me, so I've helped with a variety of campaigns, from stopping "coal by wire" transmission lines, working to protect Mattawoman Creek, and promoting energy efficiency and conservation programs. In 2014 I would like to help the Maryland Chapter play an important role in establishing and expanding new Wildlands, and to protect our forests, wetlands, and communities from the impacts of fossil fuel extraction and use. I appreciate your vote so I can continue to serve and support the growth and effectiveness of the Maryland Sierra Club.

### Robert (Bob) Posner

I am a very long-term member of the Sierra Club, joining the Club when arriving in Berkeley in 1963 and remaining active until joining the U.S. Agency for International Development in 1987. I retired from the Foreign Service in May, 2012, returning to our home on Chestnut Street in Bethesda.

I witnessed the effectiveness of well organized community-based coalitions and the power of Sierra Club volunteers working to preserve our environment and build for our future. I worked with other dedicated staff and volunteers to create the Redwood National Park and successfully fought to save the Grand Canyon. I was an early advocate for the Club to take on the challenge of the 4 Corners fossil fuel burning plant. Using Navajo reservation coal reserves, the Bureau of Reclamation plant spewed noxious gases throughout the Southwest, blocking views of the Grand Canyon and Zion National Parks. We were successful in forcing the plant to adopt clean burning measures.

Since returning, I traveled to Wisconsin to help President Obama become re-elected. I became active in the Rock Creek Conservancy, 10 Mile Creek preservation, Montgomery County tree canopy legislation, Save the Trail, East Bethesda Community Association and others, and reviewed small grants propos-

als for Montgomery County.

I also led many national backpack and climbing trips to the Grand Canyon, Yosemite and Glacier National Parks, rafting on the Green and Colorado Rivers in Monument Valley, and pioneered the Lost Coast trip as well as leading backpack trips to Sierra Nevada wilderness areas.

I have substantial management experience. In addition to the challenges of leading development efforts in Czech Republic, Albania, Bosnia and Ukraine, I was the Deputy City Manager for the City of Berkeley, Deputy Director for the National Economic Development and Law Center and Oakland Economic Development Council.

My education: B.S. Economics, New York University; University of California, Berkeley graduate degrees in City and Regional Planning, Public Administration and Business Administration.

Our club is our dedicated staff and volunteers who actively participate in public hearings, are visible evidence of our concern for the environment before commissions, councils, legislators and in concert with other coalition members. I want to join with other active Sierra Club volunteers who represent the prestige and political strength of the Club on issues facing Maryland such as climate change and restoring the Chesapeake Bay.

I hope to bring my experience and long-term conservation commitment to deepen and broaden our involvement in state and national environmental issues.

### Mike Pretl

Mike Pretl has been a Maryland lawyer for 45 years, and a community activist for nearly as long. As a resident of Baltimore City, and then Severna Park, he was involved in efforts for neighborhood stabilization and community empowerment, health care reform and legal reform, and countering gun violence. In the 1970s he served five years as president of the Herring Run Club, the City's first political/environmental organization based in NE

Baltimore. He also served as president of NECO, the Community Law Center, the Kidney Foundation of MD, and other civic organizations.

He has been active in numerous political campaigns, including managing campaigns for Baltimore City Council in 1975, AA County Council in 2002, helping coordinate a Congressional race in 1976, and running for Wicomico County Council (unsuccessfully) in 2006. He served as Treasurer for Delegate Ken Montague from 1996 to 2002, and for the Sierra Club MD Chapter PAC from 2008 to date.

Since moving to the Eastern Shore in 2004 his primary focus has been on environmental concerns. He served two terms as president of the Wicomico Environmental Trust, and continues today as an officer of both the Nanticoke Watershed Alliance and the Lower Shore Land Trust. He has served as pro bono counsel for community interests in several zoning and land use cases, helping to block the two largest subdivisions planned in ag-zoned areas of Wicomico County (1000+ units in rural Whiton and 4000+ units in Hebron).

Participating as partner of several private law firms, he has been employed for the last 16 years as part-time general counsel of the American Urological Assn (HQ in Linthicum), a position from which he will retire in June, 2014. At the same time, as pro bono counsel, he is responsible for creating more than 50 MD tax-exempt organizations (including more than a dozen local environmental groups), many of which he continues to represent. He is involved on a continuous basis with securing political support for environmental efforts on the Lower Eastern Shore.

He resides with his wife Michele Hughes—executive director of a non-profit social organization serving the Lower Shore—in Riverton, on the banks of the Nanticoke River in Wicomico County. ■

## Create an Environmental Legacy.



Bequests have played a key role in Sierra Club's environmental successes over the years.

Planning now may make your gift more meaningful and reduce taxes on your estate. We have many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

For more info and confidential assistance, contact:  
**Sierra Club**  
**Gift Planning Program**  
85 Second Street, Second Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
gift.planning@sierraclub.org • (800) 932-4270

## Group Elections: Anne Arundel, Catoctin

# Maryland Chapter Groups Hold Excom Elections

Democracy begins here. Check out your group, and vote to elect Maryland's environmental leaders.

Much of the work of the Maryland Chapter is done at the group level. Please consider the importance of that work, and participate in this year's group and chapter excom elections. The candidates' statements appear below; the ballots appear on page 11 of this newsletter.

### Anne Arundel County Group



Anne Arundel County Group members: Please read our candidates' statements, and vote for up to five candidates.

#### Richelle Brown

I became involved in the Sierra Club after going on an outing to Cove Point last fall. Since then, I have been named the chapter's first natural gas committee chair and have worked to create a campaign that addresses hydraulic fracturing, energy infrastructure, and natural gas exports. I served as the community outreach committee chair for the Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy in northern Virginia from 2009 to 2010 and hope to put that experience to use in recruiting new members to the group and chapter. I received my Master of Library Science degree from the University of Maryland at College Park last year and enjoy learning with people and helping them ask questions and find answers. I live in Anne Arundel County and very much want to become involved in local issues.

#### Jan Hoffmaster

As a member of the Sierra Club I welcome the opportunity to be considered for a continued position on the Execu-

tive Committee of the Anne Arundel Group. I have been a Sierra Club member since 1984 because of my personal enjoyment of the outdoors and the need to protect our environment. I presently serve as the chair of the outings committees for both the Anne Arundel Group and the Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club. Anne Arundel County's unique geographical location affords our group the opportunity to further the mission of the Sierra Club to "explore, enjoy and protect the planet."

#### Gene Milgram

Sierra Club member since 1972, past treasurer of Hudson Mohawk Group (Albany, NY), and treasurer of our group for last ten years. Retired city planner (did NOT work for this county or Annapolis), with a Master of City Planning degree from MIT and BA in Economics from Antioch College. When I was at the Chapter's October weekend Jamboree, many of my primary interests were discussed, including land use, energy, water/sewage, and transportation. My bias in these things is towards safety and prevention/mitigation, as my career also involved fire protection and emergency management. Regarding the role as treasurer: Financial management in the Sierra Club, which has both 501(c)3 and 501(c)4 entities, is an evolving topic, becoming more complex over the years at all levels (group, chapter, and national). I take pride in trying to keep our Group on a sound financial basis for our social/environmental goals.

#### David Prosten

I have been a Sierra Club member since the early 1980s and active in the Anne Arundel Group since 1998. I have served on the executive committee in a variety of positions over the years, most recently as chair. I want to continue working with

the group in our efforts to control development—specifically the Crystal Spring mega-development on Forest Drive in Annapolis—bring our waterways back to full health, and encourage all citizens to get more involved with enjoying and protecting the outdoors. I want to increase membership involvement, recruit new leadership, and strengthen our ability to influence government's environmental decision-making.

#### Liz Vanden Heuvel

I have been a member of the Sierra Club since around 1982, when James Watt, the absolutely awful Secretary of the Interior, inspired me to join. It was also around the time that the Anne Arundel Group was formed. Over these many years I have been chair of the Anne Arundel Group, an outings leader, and am still a member of the executive committee. I would like to stay on the executive committee for a while longer. I am particularly concerned about the development proposals which would destroy some of the last remaining forest in the area. Crystal Spring is clearly a development that should never have come about. Since it is likely to happen, we must find a way to minimize its impact. There are likely to be more such proposals. The whole process used by the city to annex land needs examination. Another concern I have is to see more diversity in our group. How to accomplish this is something I need help with.

### Catoctin Group (Carroll, Frederick, and Washington Counties)



Catoctin Group members: Please read our candidates' statements, and vote for up to seven candidates.

#### Dan Andrews

Dan Andrews is currently the chairman of the Catoctin Group and also serves on the board of directors of Sustainable Living Maryland, Waste Not Carroll/Green Business Network, the Carroll County Forestry Conservation Board and his local community association. For seven years he and many others have studied solid waste issues in central Maryland, especially centered around opposition to a proposed 1,500 tons per day incinerator there. He assists with zero-waste coordination at two major community events and helps teach classes in near zero-waste living. He tries to live a simplified life and takes pleasure helping teach others to do the same.

#### Ken Eidel

Ken currently serves the Catoctin Group as treasurer, and in the areas of membership and health.

#### Amy Andrews

Amy currently serves as secretary of the Catoctin Group.

#### Laurie Wilmot

Laurie currently focuses on politics and energy for the Catoctin Group.

#### Anthony Iacovelli

Anthony currently is engaged in health issues for the Catoctin Group.

#### Carolyn Puckett

Carolyn currently leads Catoctin Group efforts in removing invasive plant species and restoring native flora and fauna.

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# Group Elections: Catoctin, Greater Balto, Howard, Montgomery

## Maryland Chapter Groups Hold Excom Elections

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### Lew Sherman

Lew is currently the Catoctin Group Conservation Chair.

### Greater Baltimore Group (Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Harford County)



No election at this time. We are seeking members to help with re-organization of the Greater Baltimore Group.

Contact Ron Henry at 443-474-7449 or [ronlhenry@msn.com](mailto:ronlhenry@msn.com).

### Howard County Group



Howard County Group members: Please read our candidates' statements and vote for up to three candidates.

### Joanne Heckman

Joanne Heckman has been a resident of Howard County for many years and has been active in several environmental organizations. For our group she has served on the excom, helped with political and conservation campaigns, and volunteered at GreenFest, giving away 600 potted native plants (so far). She is currently the group's chapter rep and is organizing the opposition to the proposed "Patapsco Heritage Greenway" commercial development in Patapsco Valley StatePark.

### Sue Muller

Sue Muller is currently our group's conservation chair. She uses her BS in Wildlife Management at her job at Howard County Recreation and Parks, where she has served a variety of leadership roles in many efforts, including the Howard County Greenfest, Frogwatch USA, and Project Clean Stream. She currently spends a lot of time managing the Herp Atlas, a five-year effort to record the location of all of the species of reptiles and amphibians found in the state. Part of that effort involves organizing herp search outings, which are often coordinated with our Sierra Club Group's outings, since Sue is also one of our outings leaders.

### Kathleen Sheedy

Kathleen Sheedy has served a variety of roles, including representing our group

as our delegate to the Sierra Club Maryland Chapter for many years. She has represented Sierra Club at various environmental fairs including the Howard County Greenfest and No Child Left Inside and volunteered at the Howard County Nature Conservancy. Kathleen has been a lifelong outdoor enthusiast, has been active with numerous conservation efforts, and she occasionally leads outings.

### Montgomery County Group



Montgomery County Group members: Please read our candidates' statements and vote for up to four candidates.

### Gerald Ehrenstein

I am a physicist who has been interested in the issue of sustainable energy for many years. Since retiring from NIH my volunteer work has focused on the environment. I have taken courses on environmental economics at the University of Maryland and on the physics of sustainable energy at UC Berkeley. I also taught an undergraduate physics course at the University of Maryland, and included in that course the physics and economics of climate change.

My work as a member of the Montgomery County Sierra Club Executive Committee has focused on energy conservation and sustainability. Fortunately, energy conservation and renewable energy installation, in addition to reducing greenhouse gases, often save money for a homeowner because of the combination of reduced energy costs and significant government subsidies. In order to publicize this, I wrote an article for the Mont-

gomery County Sierra Club newsletter summarizing available subsidies at the Federal, State, and County levels. This information was incorporated into the Sierra Club web site.

I worked with the Montgomery County Sustainability Working Group (SWG) and its Renewable Energy Subcommittee. One of my proposals that was incorporated into the SWG report is for a revolving fund to provide low-interest county loans to homeowners for installation of solar panels or other sources of renewable energy.

I have been a member of the Montgomery County Sierra Club Executive Committee for five years, and was its treasurer for three years. I would like to continue on the executive committee and continue to work on issues relating to climate change, including keeping the relevant part of the Sierra Club web site up-to-date.

### Michal Freedman

I volunteer with the Sierra Club because it is one of the few national environmental organizations that engages citizens and issues at all levels—locally, at the state level, and nationally—to confront climate change and create a sustainable world.

As a member of the executive committee I have focused primarily on the issue of energy efficiency, which is a priority for our county group, and offers tremendous potential for reducing fossil fuel consumption. I have met with leaders in Montgomery County government and with national energy efficiency specialists to encourage an accountability program for Montgomery County and other counties that would help us know where we stand on reaching energy efficiency goals and encourage us to do better. I also lead the project to develop a questionnaire on climate change, smart growth, transportation, and other issues for candidates for the Montgomery County Council, which

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### SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SIERRA CLUB

We send out an appeal in March to each of our members, asking for contributions directly to our Chapter. These contributions really do make a difference to us, and are an important part of our Chapter's budget.

When you make a donation to the Chapter, you support the Sierra Club's work in your own backyard. You allow us to continue our work to protect wilderness and wildlife, to improve the quality of life in our cities, and to promote the enjoyment of nature.

Please be as generous as you are able - and remember, these funds directly affect your way of life in your neighborhood.

Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax-deductible.

Please mail contributions to	Sierra Club, Maryland Chapter, 7338 Baltimore Avenue, #102 College Park, MD 20740
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## Group Elections: Montgomery

# Maryland Chapter Groups Hold Excom Elections

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will help serve as the basis for Sierra Club endorsements in the upcoming primary. In addition, I am representing Montgomery County on the Maryland Chapter Executive Committee.

My other related activities include participating in the Affordable Community Energy Legislation Committee to help develop legislation to make renewable energy (solar, wind, etc.) more available, enlisting community support for the Montgomery County divestment from fossil fuels campaign, and hosting meetings to encourage community solar projects.

Currently I work as an epidemiologist doing population-based research on environmental causes of disease. Previously, I worked as a lawyer in a number of positions, including with Common Cause, the Maryland Attorney General's Office, and while in law school, with the Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. In the next two years I plan to continue to work on campaigns to increase energy efficiency and other projects to encourage our transition from dirty energy to clean energy and to becoming a sustainable, environmentally aware society. I will work for greater volunteer participation in the Sierra Club's campaigns to help make our county and state policies reflect our true values.

I welcome your support.

### Robert Posner

POWER TO THE PEOPLE!! Yes it is reminiscent of the 1960's. Yet it is relevant today, perhaps more so. We are a membership organization, a gathering of people that share environmental values and are determined to "protect and preserve our Earth". Our strength is in our ability to inform, organize, and assist people to speak out for their communities and guarantee that our children and their children shall inherit a planet with clean air, clean water and a rich diversity

of life. This challenge must be met at Montgomery County and national and international arenas.

I joined the Sierra Club in 1963 and while living in Berkeley, became invested in helping to preserve San Francisco Bay and to save our ancient Coastal Redwoods. I traveled to Northern California to enlist and organize residents to face-off against the loggers and timber industries. We won! A Redwood NP was created that saved original growth Redwoods.

When dams were proposed to flood the Grand Canyon, I joined other Sierra Club members to walk the corridors of the U.S. Senate and House to fight to protect the Grand Canyon and to expand its boundaries. We weren't alone when facing legislators. Our membership stood behind us.

As Deputy Director of the National Economic Development Center I worked in barrios, ghettos and on Native American reservations to help people mobilize to determine their future and to have the support they needed to achieve their goals. Time and time again, I witnessed the energy of people, well organized, to convince legislators to accede to the power of people speaking out for themselves and for their communities.

This is why I hope to bring my energy and commitment to the executive committee. I wish to have the committee become more active in issues and concerns that affect our county. The executive committee should vigorously support our members and their communities.

### Brian Toll

I am very excited to be part of the Montgomery County Sierra Club. I recently moved into Montgomery County. I enjoy nature hikes and cycling, and am taking advantage of the plethora of well-maintained trails in this area. In terms of environmental issues I am most concerned about global warming, air pollu-

tion and clean water, and I applaud the work Sierra Club has done in these areas both locally and nationally. I grew up in South Florida, home of the Everglades, and since childhood environmental issues have been very meaningful to me.

Professionally I am co-founder and president of ecobeco, a Rockville-based residential energy-efficiency auditing company that opened in 2008. Previously I worked in marketing at Sprint Nextel. I also have an MBA from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. While I am knowledgeable about residential energy efficiency, my professional specialty is managing innovation and change. As a member of the excom, my first goal will be to help improve the organization's effectiveness. My experiences in information technology and marketing at larger firms prepared me to found ecobeco and I hope that they will help me become an effective member of the excom who can help improve member engagement and participation.

My second goal as a member of the excom is to focus on improving the effectiveness of our energy efficiency programs for both internal and external audiences. We can improve on the number of members who participate in our educational programs. We can collaborate with external organizations that are looking for educational opportunities for their members. Further, we can collaborate with other advocacy organizations to develop best practices for grassroots energy efficiency education. As technology changes and social networks proliferate, it is important that we continually challenge ourselves to evolve our practices to maintain and improve our effectiveness.

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## 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.

**Keep our water safe. Join Sierra Club.**

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
Special Offer	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 15	N/A
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 49
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35
Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35

Contributions, gifts & dues to Sierra Club are tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen based advocacy & lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$ 7.50 for a subscription to SIERRA magazine & \$ 1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

Enclose a check and mail to:  
Sierra Club, PO Box 421041  
Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

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or visit our website: [www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org)

# Group Elections: Prince George's Maryland Chapter Groups Hold Excom Elections

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## Prince George's County Group



Prince George's County Group members: Please read our candidates' statements and vote for up to six candidates.

### Mike Martin

I have been a Sierra Club activist for more than 16 years. I have served as Maryland Chapter Chair, Prince George's Political Chair, on state and local executive committees and on several national committees. I want to build the social fabric of the Prince George's Group so that we have a support network of close friends while fighting hard environmental fights. Social media is a valuable resource which could help us in sewing that fabric. I would also like us to build more of a dialog with nontraditional constituencies, other local issue organizations, and even our opponents so that we can find the easy, mutually beneficial wins for the environment and build more opportunities to find unconventional allies during conflicts.

### Tom Dernoga

I have been a member of the excom for the past two years, serving as co-chair of the political and legislative committee. I have 25 years experience serving as an attorney for civic and environmental groups in central Maryland, and I try to bring a legal perspective to excom discussions. When needed, I provide legal research for the excom and other environmental activists. I served over two terms on the Prince George's County Council,

during which time I advocated for stronger stormwater management, energy efficiency and green building, smart growth, and agricultural and historical preservation. I have a background in county development history and policies, and comprehensive planning and zoning.

### Janis Oppelt

As a member of the executive committee of the Prince George's group for the last two years, and the membership chair, I have learned many new things. Two old clichés come to mind to illustrate one of the primary lessons: Many hands make light work, and two heads are better than one. The point, of course, is that to improve our local environment requires, among other things, teamwork.

Here's where I think I fit and why I would like you to vote for me again. My personal goal is to help increase the number of members, but also the number of active members. There is no magic way to do this, but my hope is to work with others to improve communication among group members, such as increasing the number of outings and events that we offer (both educational and fun-based) and creating a monthly or quarterly newsletter. Luckily, I am an organized, task-oriented person who knows how to work with others to move forward and encourage positive actions with the hope of achieving some level of success.

### Susan Stewart

I have been a grassroots activist since I learned about the issue of climate change, volunteering for groups such as CCAN, 1Sky, and 350.org. To further my skills and knowledge, I have attended leadership and campaign management training from some of the same groups, as well as groups like Progressive Majority and Wellstone Action. Currently secretary for the chapter's executive committee, one of my goals is to further increase the group's visibility online using social media, so that

our activities can really be felt and seen widely to the public.

I currently live in Greenbelt, MD, with my husband and 10-year old son. Growing up here in Maryland has given me a great desire to pass on the beauty of green spaces and the connection with nature that I enjoyed as a child, to all of our children—and joining the local Sierra Club chapter has helped me do that.

While I love to do tasks, I also believe that good vision is important for good strategies to work, especially for all of us in Prince George's County. The idea that sacrificing the quality of our environment or the character of our communities, in order to address other important issues like poverty and social justice, is a false choice. Our local chapter can be instrumental in creating a vision for the county that doesn't just preserve the environment, but makes sense with all of our values.

### Martha Ainsworth

I'm a community activist, a native of Prince George's County, and live next to the Patuxent River wetlands. I've served on the Prince George's Executive Committee since 2010 and was elected Chair earlier this year. Over the past two years I co-chaired the Reusable Bag Committee, which conducted a baseline shopper survey of reusable bag use in grocery stores, sponsored screenings of "Bag It," collected petition signatures for a county "bag bill" that would adopt a 5-cent fee for disposable bags as an incentive to switch to reusable bags, and organized bag giveaways.

This year, I worked with the excom to build the club through more events and outings, improved communications and stronger collaboration with local environmental groups. If re-elected, I will continue to work for broader participation and engagement of members and the public; effective actions in support of our conservation goals of "zero waste" and

clean water; and a development path that preserves open space and ensures sensible land-use patterns that result in less congestion, pollution, and environmental damage.

### Cary Coppock

I have a BS in Agriculture specializing in Soil Science, currently employed at the USDA Beltsville Agricultural Research Center as a Hydrology Research Technician.

I have volunteered in Prince George's County water advocacy since 2009 under the valued tutelage of many experienced professional advocates. I testified before state committees in support of the original intent of the Maryland Stormwater Management Act of 2007, and was active throughout the intensive effort in 2010-11 for a protective stormwater ordinance in Prince George's County.

I have kept my feet strongly rooted in my family's Greenbelt, MD watershed by supporting the Citizens to Conserve and Restore Indian Creek (CCRIC), serving on the founding Board of the Greenbelt Farmers Market and supporting other organizations that strengthen community through sustainable economic practices. As the Prince George's Chair of the Citizen's Advisory for the Anacostia Watershed Restoration Partnership (AWRP) I am a member of the Healthy Prince George's Coalition. The coalition seeks partnership with community advocates of all stripes by supporting the important component of clean water in healthy neighborhood development. Most recently I served on the task force to establish priorities for the 2014 Maryland Sierra Club water campaign and presented at the 2013 Sierra Club Jamboree. I am currently giving ad hoc support to the City of Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Sustainability on water infrastructure projects.

continued →



# Group Elections: So. MD, Western MD, Eastern Shore

## Maryland Chapter Groups Hold Excom Elections

←continued

### Southern Maryland Group (Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties)



The Southern Maryland Group had their election for excom members this fall.

### Western Maryland Group (Allegany and Garrett Counties)



Western Maryland Group members please read candidates' statements and vote for up to five candidates.

#### Desiree Bullard

Few things are more important to me than the preservation of the natural world. This is why I've decided to dedicate my life to living as sustainably as possible, and encouraging others to do the same, personally and professionally. Through activism with Sierra Club I hope to discourage/stop harmful practices and help encourage new practices that ensure a safe and healthy future for our planet.

#### Woody Getz

I have been a Sierra Club member since 1989, all with the Western Maryland Group. I have previously served as the group's chair and in several other excom positions. I have been the group's repre-

sentative on the Allegany County Solid Waste Management Board since it was established in December 1996 and currently serve as its chair. Currently I serve as excom-at-large and would like to continue in that capacity.

#### Tristan Apple

I am seeking the Secretary position for the Western Maryland Group Sierra Club.

I have been a member of the Western Maryland Group Sierra Club since March 2013 and became the Secretary for said group on or about April 2013. I have been a volunteer with Chesapeake Climate Action Network's anti-fracking campaign since approximately November 2012. I live in Frostburg, Maryland and am a full-time paralegal secretary at Kazary, Hare & Walsh, P.C., Cumberland, MD. I am happy to serve as the secretary for the Western Maryland Group Sierra Club for the term of 2014. I specifically would like to work on clean energy, fundraising, and member/public involvement. I think it would be very beneficial if our excom group could recruit an outings chair.

#### Jennifer Browne

As a lecturer in English at FSU and as a writer, I study written language, social media, and communication; I hope to be useful as the newsletter/communications chair.

Although I am new member of the Sierra Club, I've been involved with other environmental organizations for several years; I am particularly interested in the establishment and preservation of wildlands and in the role of natural spaces in artistic creation.

#### Sam White

I have been a member of the Sierra Club since 1996, and have served in a leadership capacity since, most recently as the chair of the Western Maryland Group.

Local food, energy efficiency, and climate change are my primary environmental issues. I am happy to see our Western Maryland Group back from a period of demise, and we need to continue down this path of growing stability. When I am not fighting the good fight, I work in IT during the day and moonlight as an organic farmer in Mount Savage, MD. I hope to see your name on this ballot in the future.

### Eastern Shore



The Eastern Shore Group is currently inactive. If you would like to help reorganize the group or if you would like to get involved in chapter campaigns, please contact David O'Leary at [dave.oleary@mdsierra.org](mailto:dave.oleary@mdsierra.org), or call the chapter office at 301-277-7111.

Tuesday, January 21, 2014

4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

## Environmental Legislative Summit

Miller Senate Office Building ▼11 Bladen St. ▼Annapolis

Meet senators, delegates, and Maryland's environmental leaders and learn about key legislation affecting environmental issues in Maryland.

Arrive early; bring photo ID

Carpooling available; call chapter office (301-277-7111) if you can provide a ride or if you need a ride.



# Chapter Leaders



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



## VOLUNTEER with US!

Sierra Club offers many different types of volunteer opportunities for anyone looking to become more involved in helping to protect the planet. By volunteering, you will be given the exciting opportunity to contribute to the betterment of our world and our future. So get active, meet new people, and have some fun!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please select the activities that interest you.

- ☐ Attend and/or Testify at a Hearing
- ☐ Door Hanger/Literature Delivery
- ☐ Fundraising
- ☐ Host Club Leaders Visiting My Area
- ☐ Lead an Outdoor Activity or Inner City Outing
- ☐ Perform Legal Services
- ☐ Phone Calling
- ☐ Media Relations
- ☐ Signature Gathering
- ☐ Work at Club Booths at Fairs and Events
- ☐ Use My Vehicle to Transport People and Supplies
- ☐ Work in the Club office
- ☐ Work at a Mailing Party
- ☐ Trail Maintenance, Tree Planting or Other Outdoor Activity
- ☐ Volunteer Coordination
- ☐ Work on the Web Site
- ☐ Write Letters

Please list your top three conservation issues:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

Sierra Club, Maryland Chapter  
7338 Baltimore Avenue, #102  
College Park, MD 20740

### CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**David O'Leary, Chapter Chair, At-Large Del. (2012)**

301-580-8673

dave.oleary@mdsierra.org

**Ron Henry, Vice Chair, At-Large Del. (2012)**

443-474-7449

ron.henry@mdsierra.org

**Rich Reis, At-Large Del. (2013)**

301-325-8001

rich.reis1@gmail.com

**Baird Straughan, At-Large Del. (2013)**

301-775-5944

baird.straughan@mdsierra.org

**David Hauck, At-Large Del. (2012)**

301-270-5826

david.hauck@Maryland.sierraclub.org

**Donna McDowell, At-Large Del. (2013)**

donna.mcdowell@mdsierra.org

**Steve Satzberg, Anne Arundel Del.**

steve.satzberg@mdsierra.org

**Dan Andrews, Catoctin Del.**

410-857-4129

dooze@qis.net

**Chris Yoder, Greater Baltimore Group Del.**

410-466-2462

cncyoder@comcast.net

**Joanne Heckman, Howard Del.**

joanne.heckman@mdsierra.org

**Michal Freedman, Montgomery Del.**

michal.freedman@mdsierra.org

**Martha Ainsworth, Prince George's Del.**

301-262-8389

Martha.Ainsworth@mdsierra.org

**Marc Imlay, Southern MD Del.**

301-283-0808

marc.imlay@maryland.sierraclub.org

**Sam White, Western MD Del.**

301-264-4162

sam.white@maryland.sierraclub.org

### GROUP CHAIRS

**Anne Arundel Group**

**David Prosten**

410-263-6341 or 410-703-0847

dprosten@yahoo.com

**Catoctin Group (Carroll, Frederick, Washington Counties.)**

**Dan Andrews**

410-857-4129

dooze@qis.net

**Greater Baltimore Group**

**Chris Yoder**

410-466-2462

cncyoder@comcast.net

**Howard County Group**

**Ken Clark**

301-725-3306

kenclark7@live.com

**Montgomery County Group**

**Alvin Carlos**

alvin.carlos@maryland.sierraclub.org

**Prince George's County Group**

**Martha Ainsworth**

301-262-8389

Martha.Ainsworth@mdsierra.org

**Southern Maryland Group (Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties)**

**Frank Fox**

301-884-8027

ff725@yahoo.com

**Western Maryland Group (Allegany and Garrett Counties)**

**Sam White**

301-264-4162

sam.white@Maryland.Sierraclub.org

### ISSUES CHAIRS

**Chapter Conservation Committee**

David O'Leary, Chair

301-580-8673

dave.oleary@mdsierra.org

Chris Yoder, Co-Chair

410-466-2462

Chris.Yoder@mdsierra.org

**Agriculture, CAFO, True Cost of Food**

Sam White, Chair

301-264-4162,

sam.white@maryland.sierraclub.org

### Air Quality

Charlie Garlow, Chair

301-593-9823

charlie.garlow@juno.com

**Biodiversity, ESA, Invasive Species, and Habitat Stewardship**

Marc Imlay, Chair

301-283-0808

marc.imlay@maryland.sierraclub.org

**Campaign Finance Reform**

Cliff Terry, Chair

410-944-9477

cliff.terry@maryland.sierraclub.org

### Energy

Rich Reis, Chair

301-325-8001

rich.reis1@gmail.com

**Environmental Justice**

Bonnie Bick, Chair

240-493-4919

bonnie.bick@maryland.sierraclub.org

**Global Warming, Cool Cities**

David O'Leary, Chair

301-580-8673

dave.oleary@mdsierra.org

**Mattawoman Campaign**

Bonnie Bick, Chair

240-493-4919

bonnie.bick@maryland.sierraclub.org

**National Wilderness/Refuges/Mining**

Chris Yoder, Chair

410-466-2462

Chris.Yoder@mdsierra.org

### Natural Gas

Richelle Brown, Chair

Richelle.Brown@mdsierra.org

### Pesticides

Kim Birnbaum, Chair

410-379-1075

Kim.Birnbaum@maryland.sierraclub.org

continued ➞

## Chapter Leaders

←continued

### Population

Cliff Terry, Chair  
410-944-9477  
cliff.terry@maryland.sierraclub.org  
Sam B. Hopkins, Vice Chair  
410-554-0006  
sbh@hopkinsandassociates.com

### Right Whale

Earl Bradley, Chair  
410-224-3236  
earlbradley@verizon.net

### Stormwater Management

Fred Tutman, Chair  
301-579-2073 ext 7  
fred@paxriverkeeper.org

### Wind Power (Offshore)

Larry Tierney, Chapter Liason  
larry.tierney1124@gmail.com

### ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACTS

#### Ron Henry, Council Del.

443-474-7449  
ron.henry@mdsierra.org

#### Rich Reis, Council Del. Alt.

301-325-8001  
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#### Meredith Sweet, Cove Pt. Natural Heritage Trust Rep.

301-848-0965  
meredith.sweet@verizon.net

#### Baird Straughan, Fundraising Chair

301-775-5944  
baird.straughan@mdsierra.org

#### Jan Hoffmaster, Outings Chair

jan.hoffmaster@mdsierra.org  
410-507-0801

#### Mike Pretl, PAC Treasurer

443-323-3060, 410-562-5292c  
mikepretl@aol.com

#### Betsy Johnson, Political Chair

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#### Charlie Garlow, Political Compliance Officer

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#### Steve Lonker, Postmaster

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#### Laura Glass, Assistant Treasurer

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### Webmasters

#### Rick Andrews

andrews4art@yahoo.com

#### Eric McKenzie

Eric.McKenzie@mdsierra.org

#### Joanne McDowell

joanne.mcdowell@mdsierra.org

### ACTIVITIES SECTIONS CONTACTS

#### John Genakos, Baltimore Outdoor Sierrans

BaltimoreSierrans@gmail.com

#### Bob Burchard & Nicole Veltre

#### Baltimore Inner City Outings Chairs

baltimoreinnercityoutings@gmail.com

### CHAPTER STAFF

#### Josh Tulkin, Chapter Director

josh.tulkin@sierraclub.org  
301-277-7111o / 301-244-9405c

#### Laurel Imlay, Chapter Coordinator

laurel.imlay@sierraclub.org  
301-277-7111

#### Claudia Friedetzky, Chapter Conservation Representative (water issues)

claudia.friedetzky@sierraclub.org  
301-277-7111

#### Candice Frederick, Chapter Administrative Assistant

candice.frederick@sierraclub.org  
301-277-7111

#### Vidal Hines, Prince George's Conservation Project Coordinator

vidal.hines@sierraclub.org  
301-277-7111o / 301-247-5577c

#### Office: 7338 Baltimore Avenue, #102

College Park, MD 20740

Tel: 301-277-7111

<http://maryland.sierraclub.org>

## It's Time to Vote!



Please honor the work of the people who are seeking to represent you in the Sierra Club in the democratic tradition of the Club, and cast your ballots for Maryland Chapter Executive Committee delegates, and, if your group is also holding its election, for delegates to your group's executive committee.

Ballots are due by January 16.

If you wish to vote electronically, respond to the election e-mail you received from the chapter, or call the chapter office at 301-277-7111.



Chapter and Group Excom Ballots

Joint Member  
Only

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Anne Arundel County Group Ballot  
(vote for up to 5)  
***I am a member of the Anne Arundel Group***  
Richelle Brown (statement page 4)  
Jan Hoffmaster (statement page 4)  
Gene Milgram (statement page 4)  
David Prosten (statement page 4)  
Liz VandenHeuvel (statement page 4)

Joint Member  
Only

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Catoctin Group Ballot  
(vote for up to 7)  
***I am a member of the Catoctin Group***  
Dan Andrews (statement page 4)  
Ken Eidel (statement page 4)  
Amy Andrews (statement page 4)  
Laurie Wilmot (statement page 4)  
Anthony Iacovelli (statement page 4)  
Carolyn Puckett (statement page 4)  
Lew Sherman (statement page 5)

Joint Member  
Only

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Howard County Group Ballot  
(vote for up to 3)  
***I am a member of the Howard County Group***  
Joanne Heckman (statement page 5)  
Sue Muller (statement page 5)  
Kathleen Sheedy (statement page 5)

Joint Member  
Only

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Montgomery County Group Ballot  
(vote for up to 4)  
***I am a member of the Montgomery Co. Group***  
Gerald Ehrenstein (statement page 5)  
Michal Freedman (statement page 5)  
Robert Posner (statement page 6)  
Brian Toll (statement page 6)

Joint Member  
Only

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Western Maryland Group Ballot  
(vote for up to 5)  
***I am a member of the Western MD Group***  
Desiree Bullard (statement page 8)  
Woody Gertz (statement page 8)  
Tristan Apple (statement page 8)  
Jennifer Browne (statement page 8)  
Sam White (statement page 8)

Maryland Chapter  
Excom Ballot

Leaders of the Sierra Club are chosen democratically from candidates who  
volunteer their time and talent to protect our Earth.  
Please honor this democratic tradition and their willingness to serve by voting.

All Maryland Chapter members are eligible  
to vote.

Vote for up to three (3) candidates for  
Maryland Chapter Excom.

Clip this ballot page and return to:  
Election Committee  
Maryland Chapter/Sierra Club  
Suite 102  
7338 Baltimore Avenue  
College Park, MD 20740

Ballots must be received by January 16, 2014

Joint Member  
Only

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

David O'Leary (statement page 3)  
Robert Posner (statement page 3)  
Mike Pretl (statement page 3)

Joint Member  
Only

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Prince George's County Group Ballot  
(vote for up to 6)  
***I am a member of the Prince George's Group***  
Mike Martin (statement page 7)  
Tom Dernoga (statement page 7)  
Janis Oppelt (statement page 7)  
Susan Stewart (statement page 7)  
Martha Ainsworth (statement page 7)  
Cary Coppock (statement page 7)

The Chesapeake is published quarterly by the Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club. Annual Sierra Club membership dues pay for subscription to this publication. Non-members may subscribe for \$20.00 per year.

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are in general aligned with those of the environmental community in Maryland but are strictly those of the authors and not necessarily official policy of local, state or national Sierra Club entities. The Sierra Club prides itself on being a grassroots volunteer organization. The concerns and opinions of all its members are welcome in these pages.

Items for publication are best submitted by email to <maryland.chapter@sierraclub.org> or <laurel.imlay@sierraclub.org> with "For Chesapeake" and title in subject line. Items must include the author's address and telephone numbers. Material may be edited for length, content or clarity at the discretion of the editor. Photographs, illustrations and other works of art are welcome. Materials cannot be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Change of address: send address changes to the Sierra Club, 85 Second Street (2nd Floor), San Francisco, California 94705-3441. For fastest service, please include your old and new addresses along with your 8-digit membership number. For local membership information contact the Maryland Chapter Office 301-277-7111 or write: Maryland Chapter/Sierra Club, 7338 Baltimore Ave (Suite 101A), College Park, MD 20740.

Advertising: For display and classified advertising rates and information, contact:  
Editor, *Chesapeake*  
Sierra Club Maryland Chapter  
7338 Baltimore Ave, Suite 111  
College Park, MD 20740

This special Maryland Chapter election issue of *Chesapeake* was put together by Dave, Laurel, and Darla, a subset of the editorial team, with help from Fred.

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## Get the New Year Off to a Great Start

Take a few minutes and read this newsletter.

Cast your ballot for chapter and group excom delegates by January 16.

Attend the Maryland Environmental Legislative Summit on January 21.

Check the events calendar at the chapter website, <http://maryland.sierraclub.org>, and attend an outing or social event.

Check out the leaders list inside this newsletter, and contact the issue chair whose work most interests you. Or think local, and contact your group chair for ideas on what you can do close to home.

Have a happy new year!



### Inside this Maryland Chapter election issue

- \* Michael Brune on making the Sierra Club your own
- \* Dave O'Leary on finding a home in the Maryland Chapter
- \* 32 great people ask for your votes in chapter and group elections. Their interest, commitment, and passion will inspire you.
- \* Your very own chapter election ballot!