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**Shawnee Group Contact Information:**

Shawnee Group Sierra Club  
PO Box 117, Carbondale, IL 62903-0117  
<http://www.sierraclub.org/illinois/shawnee>  
also <http://shawneegroup.blogspot.com>

**Chair, Membership/Political Chair:** Jane Cogie 618-549-4673 [jane.cogie@gmail.com](mailto:jane.cogie@gmail.com)

**Vice Chair:** Carla Womack, [crusso1957@yahoo.com](mailto:crusso1957@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer:** Patty Weyhrich [pweyhrich711@hotmail.com](mailto:pweyhrich711@hotmail.com)

**Secretary:** John Magney 618-529-3194 [jmagney@siu.edu](mailto:jmagney@siu.edu)

**Program Committee:** Jane Cogie, John Magney, Elizabeth Donohue, [glendagreenhouse@gmail.com](mailto:glendagreenhouse@gmail.com)

**Lobbying Chair, Conservation Co-Chair:** Jean Sellar 618-893-1379 [biojean@peoplepc.com](mailto:biojean@peoplepc.com)

**Conservation Co-Chair, Shawnee National Forest Committee, Cool Cities Initiative:** Barb McKasson 618-529-4824 [babitaji@aol.com](mailto:babitaji@aol.com)

**Outings Chair:** Steve Eberhart, [eberpsy@icloud.com](mailto:eberpsy@icloud.com) 618-687-2998

**Fundraising Committee:** Carla Womack (native plant sale) Barb McKasson (calendars)

**Hospitality:** (vacant, please volunteer!)

**Newsletter Editor, Webmaster:** Sabrina Hardenbergh [sabrina@midwest.net](mailto:sabrina@midwest.net)

**Publicity:** Mike Covell [emike@siu.edu](mailto:emike@siu.edu)

**Monarch Team, Spring 2018**

-- [Kathy Belletire](#)

The first migrating Monarch Butterflies in April are always a welcome sight. Spring plans for the Monarch Team include completing the planting of the Pollinator Habitat at “The Ditch”, our first project partnering with the Carbondale Park District at the Splash Park. Last summer’s drought followed by fall’s heavy rain kept us from getting everything in the soil, but Patty Weyhrich planted some hardy Common Milkweeds and we’re hoping to see sprouts when temperatures warm.

Patience goes along way with plants as with plans for the future. A long swath of native wild flowers running adjacent to The Ditch’s borders is in the planning stage. Last summer, several team members met with Eric Stalhber and toured Southernwood Gardens. We were inspired by his wild flower prairie and will rely on his advice as we plan in conjunction with Park District horticulturalist, Randy Montgomery.

Our Monarch Team stays connected to the state [Sierra Club](#) and other [Monarch Teams](#) throughout Illinois by participating in monthly conference calls. State goals include asking local mayors to take the [National Wildlife Federation’s “Mayors’ Monarch Pledge.”](#) creating Monarch Waystations and pollinator gardens within park districts, and writing articles for local news media. For info on Waystations, see [www.monarchjointventure.org](http://www.monarchjointventure.org).

When spring arrives, there’ll be plenty of opportunities to help Monarchs and other pollinators. Check out our info table at the Shawnee Sierra Club’s spring native plant sale. In addition to our projects, the [Friends of Crab Orchard Wildlife Refuge](#) welcomes volunteers at their Pollinator Habitat Project at Harmony Trail.



K. B. - Linoleum Block Print 2017

## Challenges Facing the Great Lakes – book review by John Magney

I have great affection for the Big Lakes. I grew up in Michigan and have spent many happy hours hiking, berry picking, canoeing, skiing and camping near their shores. I have also long worried about the environmental challenges facing these awesome bodies of water.

Over the years, I've read dozens of troubling news stories -- about sea lamprey killing off native lake fish, massive alewife die-offs, fast-growing populations of zebra and quagga mussels, overflows of raw sewage from the Detroit wastewater plant, dangerous discharges from pulp and paper mills and toxic algae blooms in Lake Erie. In some cases, the news media have done good follow-up stories on how these problems have been handled (or mishandled). In other cases, they've done very little follow-up reporting.

With Dan Egan's [\*The Death and Life of the Great Lakes\*](#) (recently published by W.W. Norton), we now have a well-researched (and very readable) report on environmental challenges facing the Big Lakes. Mr. Egan works as a reporter for the [\*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel\*](#), where his beat is "covering the Great Lakes full time."

The opening chapters of *Death & Life* deal with the struggles over invasive species: sea lampreys, alewives (aka "river herring") and zebra and quagga mussels. Here we get a detailed picture of the problems caused by these aliens after they got into the lakes as a result of navigational projects built for shipping interests (Erie and Welland Canals and the St. Lawrence Seaway). We also learn of the various efforts made to control these aquatic interlopers. After much trial and error, fish biologists hit on a selectively lethal "chemical treatment" for sea lamprey. The alewife population explosion came to an end after the Michigan Department of Conservation began stocking the Great Lakes with coho and chinook salmon (who just love to feast on little fish like alewives). Researchers have yet to come up with a cost-effective solution for the mussel problem, but Mr. Egan reports that commercial fisherman on Lake Michigan have found evidence that whitefish are now regularly consuming mussels, shells and all.

Subsequent chapters in *Death & Life* focus on what Mr. Egan sees as the big future challenges for the Great Lakes: a threatened invasion of Asian carp from Illinois rivers; toxic algae blooms in Lake Erie; political pressure to divert Great Lakes water to dry areas of the country; and possible major shifts in lake levels due to climate change. Mr. Egan covers a lot of ground in these chapters. The one on algae blooms in Lake Erie begins with a fascinating account of the Great Black Swamp, which used to cover a huge swath of northwestern Ohio, and ends with an examination of the current political difficulties of cutting back polluting runoff from Ohio farmland. It's a somewhat meandering discussion, but readers are given clear explanations of all the relevant issues. The same is true in the other chapters on future challenges.

Curiously, *Death & Life* includes no discussion of the problem of industrial pollution in the Great Lakes. While it's true that industrial pollutants have been reduced in recent decades, they certainly haven't been eliminated. If you visit the website of any major newspaper around the Great Lakes, including Mr. Egan's own [\*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel\*](#), you will find lots of reporting about continuing problems with industrial water pollution. However, though *Death & Life* may not give a full accounting of the environmental health of the Big Lakes, it is still a very useful report -- and should be read by anyone concerned about the future of these national treasures.



**SPRING 2018 SIERRA CLUB PROGRAMS NOTE: Start time at 7 pm!**

Access Carbondale Township Hall (217 E. Main) via REAR entrance, a green door in the alley, across from Rock Hill Baptist Church (at Monroe and Marion Streets). The front door is locked! These programs are FREE and open to the public. Join us for refreshments and socializing before and after meeting.

**Thursday, March 8, 2018, 7 pm**

**Presentation:** Natural History of Patagonia & Falkland Islands

**Presenter:** John Schwegman, Author, *The Natural Heritage of Illinois* & long-time conservationist

**Location:** Carbondale Township Hall

**Dinner, 5 pm:** Long Branch Café, 100 E Jackson St, Carbondale, IL

**Thursday, April 12, 2018, 7 pm**

**Presentation Title:** Human Recreation Improves Water Quality: Bike-powered Fountains and Wetlands

**Presenters:** Dr. Marjorie Brooks, SIU Zoology Professor; Rachel Steiger, Zoology Teaching Asst., & SIU Eco-Recreation Grant Project Students, including Molly Barnes, Ashley Booth, Nick Faust, Anthony Bux, Adam Spencer, and Bobby Caswelch

**Location:** Carbondale Township Hall

**Dinner, 5 pm:** TBA

**Thursday, May 10, 2018, 7 pm**

**Presentation:** Engineering Human Recreation Improves Water Quality

**Presenters:** SIU Eco-Recreation Grant Engineering Students: James Cooper, other Engineering Team Members, and Zoology Prof. Marjorie Brooks

**Location:** Carbondale Township Hall

**Dinner, 5 pm:** TBA

Shawnee Group Sierrans tabled with other local environmental groups this winter 2018 both at the January Carbondale [Women's March](#) and during our February [Before the Flood film event](#) at SIU-Carbondale.



## **SPRING 2018 SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS**

### **Weekday Invasive Pulls at LaRue-Pine Hills Snake Road**

We will be holding some invasive pulls at the Snake Road on weekdays during March. Dates TBA. Call Barb if interested at 618-529-4824 or text 618-534-7440.

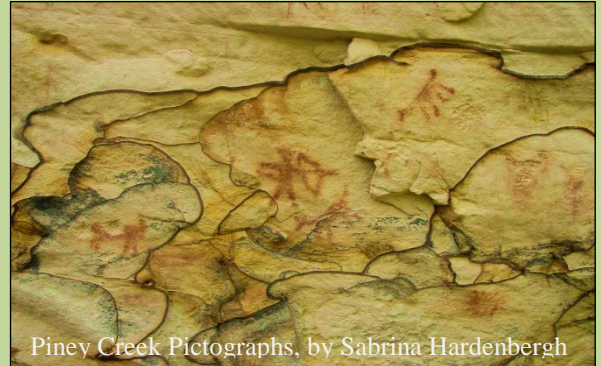
### **Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup> – 12:45 to 4:00 pm, Invasive Pulls at LaRue-Pine Hills**

Invasive pull at the “snake road” in LaRue-Pine Hills Ecological Area by Clear Springs Wilderness. Meet before 12:45 at Murdale Shopping Center sign (Rt. 13, Carbondale), or Murphysboro Ranger Station on Walnut St. on far west side of Murphysboro before 1:00 pm to carpool, or at the Winters Pond Parking lot by the snake road. Bring work gloves and water, and wear appropriate shoes. Contact Barb at 618-529-4824 or text 618-534-7440 to participate.

### **Saturday, March 31, 2018 – 10:00 am –**

#### **Hike at Piney Creek Ravine Nature Preserve**

Moderate hike of 2+ miles with ancient petroglyphs, canyon views, cliffs and a waterfall. Bring water, wear appropriate shoes, and bring a hiking staff as some portions of the trail may be slippery. Call leader Steve Eberhart before March 30<sup>th</sup> at 618-967-8690 to participate.



Piney Creek Pictographs, by Sabrina Hardenbergh

### **Sunday, April 8, 2018 – 10:00 am – Hike Cove Hollow Trail (West side of Cedar Lake)**

Meet at the trailhead before 10:00 am (West side of Cedar Lake). You can get to the trailhead by going south from Murphysboro on Rt. 127 and turning left on Boat Dock Road (across from Pomona Rd.), and then going approximately another mile. This will be a moderate hike of 4.4 miles. Wear appropriate hiking shoes, bring water and a walking staff. You must call the leader, Bob Mulcahy, at 618-942-6342 to sign up for the hike.

### **Sunday, May 6, 2018 – Jackson Falls Hike**

Difficult hike of 4 miles. Meet before 10:00 am at the Murdale Shopping Center sign to carpool to Ozark, or meet before 11:00 am at the Ozark General Store at Rt. 45 and Ozark Rd. Bring water and a hiking staff, and wear appropriate hiking shoes. You must call Bob at 618-942-6342 to go on the hike. If you plan to leave from Murdale, call Steve Eberhart at 618-967-8690 prior to the hike.

#### **Piasa Palisades Group Outings Chair:**

Carol Klinger, 618-288-5506, [ciklinger@yahoo.com](mailto:ciklinger@yahoo.com)  
<http://www.sierraclub.org/illinois/piasa-palisades>

#### **Eastern Missouri Group Outings Chair:**

Doug Melville, 636-288-1055  
[douglas.k.melville@gmail.com](mailto:douglas.k.melville@gmail.com)  
<http://sierraclub.org/missouri/eastern-missouri>

#### **Future Outings TBA:**

Updates listed on our or Illinois Chapter websites:

<http://www.sierraclub.org/illinois/shawnee>

<http://illinois.sierraclub.org/calendar>

Other short notice outings and events may be announced on our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/SierraClubShawnee>

### **Volunteers Needed to Help Protect Shawnee National Forest**

Protecting Shawnee National Forest involves frequent communication with the Forest Service, research on issues, and educating others about those issues. We especially need help in keeping oil and gas wells out of the forest - including fracking wells. Please contact Barb at [babitaji@aol.com](mailto:babitaji@aol.com) if you are interested in helping in any way.

## Scott Pruitt/EPA Proposed Clean Power Plan Repeal: Public Comments Needed

Because they were asked to provide more than one venue for oral public comments, the [EPA extended its public comment deadline on their proposed repeal of the Clean Power Plan until April 26<sup>th</sup>](#), as well as providing three more venues. We thought we finally had Illinois and the nation on board for renewable energy, including our Future Energy Jobs Act, and many foreign nations agreeing to the Paris Agreement during the last federal administration. However, the recent federal administration is attempting to repeal the Clean Power Plan, along with so many other environmental regulations and programs. The [EPA has taken down the earlier CPP website](#) that was useful for states and tribes to plan their transition, which makes it awkward for the public to reference specific parts of the program in their public comments. Were you to make oral comments, entrance to the hearing rooms now also requires [specific types of ID](#). Still, please provide written comments about clean air, water, climate change and many other related issues, and the EPA's procedures, as specifically as you can, to keep the Clean Power Plan.

**How to Comment on Proposed Repeal** (<https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0355>): EPA will accept comment on the proposed repeal of the Clean Power Plan until **April 26, 2018**. Comments should be identified by **Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0355** and may be submitted by one of the following methods.

- > **Online:** Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and follow the instructions for submitting comments to [EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0355](#).
- > **Email:** Comments may be sent to [a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov](mailto:a-and-r-Docket@epa.gov). Include Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0355 in the subject line of the message.
- > **Fax:** Fax comments to (202) 566-9744, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0355.
- > **Mail:** Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), Mail Code 28221T, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0355, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460.
- > **Hand/Courier Delivery:** EPA Docket Center, Room 3334, EPA WJC West Building, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0355. Such deliveries are only accepted during the Docket's normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

## INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN ENVIRONMENTAL LEADER?

Consider applying to Sierra Student Coalition one-week SPROG summer 2018 grassroots leadership training program. This program offers participants (usually aged 14 to 28) tools for environmental and social justice activism. No need for previous experience with environmental organizing! Applications will be accepted starting February 2018. Read more about this program at <https://www.sierraclub.org/youth/summer-sprog-training>. To connect with the local Shawnee Group of the Sierra Club about the possibility of Sierra Club sponsored applications, contact the group's chair, Jane Cogie, ([jane.cogie@gmail.com](mailto:jane.cogie@gmail.com)).

### 2018 Site Locations and Dates:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>
West	Harwood Lodge	Los Angeles, CA	July 7-15
South	Camp Wahi	Brandon, MS	July 15-22
Midwest	Camp Whitcomb/Mason	Hartland, WI	July 28-Aug 4
Puerto Rico	Casa Cristo Redentor	Aguas Buenas, PR	June 10-17

**Call for articles and photographs for Shawnee Trails!** The next issue will be published in June. Please send your Word, PDF or JPG files to [sabrina@midwest.net](mailto:sabrina@midwest.net) by **May 7th**.

## Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil & Gas Leasing Program: Public Comments Needed

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) requests comments on the Draft Proposed Program (DPP) for the 2019-2024 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program (2019-2024 Program or Program). The fossil fuel industry will impact ocean habitat in the Atlantic, Gulf, Pacific, and near Alaska. BOEM is also announcing its decision to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the 2019-2024 Program (Programmatic EIS) and the initiation of the formal scoping process. The deadline for comments is March 9, 2018. Already, a sale of offshore drilling leases is imminent on March 21, 2018 in New Orleans, so get comments in to try to slow down the amount of marine habitat that is being impacted.

### **Illinois Legislative Contacts: CALL YOUR LEGISLATORS TODAY!**

State Dist. 109 Rep. David Reis: 618-392-0108 or 217-782-2087; [www.davidreis.org](http://www.davidreis.org)  
State Dist. 115 - Rep. Terri Bryant: 618-242-8115; 217-782-0387; [staterepterribryant@gmail.com](mailto:staterepterribryant@gmail.com)  
State Dist. 116 - Rep. Jerry Costello II - 618-282-7284; 217-782-1018 [Staterepcastello@gmail.com](mailto:Staterepcastello@gmail.com)  
State Dist. 117 - Rep. Dave Severin - 618-440-5090; 217-782-1051; [www.ilhousegop.org/contactseverin](http://www.ilhousegop.org/contactseverin)  
State Rep. 118 - Rep. Natalie Phelps Finnie - 618-253-4189; 217-782-5131; [repphelpsfinnie@gmail.com](mailto:repphelpsfinnie@gmail.com)  
Senate Dist. 55 Senator Dale Righter: 217-235-6033 or 217-782-6674  
Senate Dist. 58 - Senator Paul Schimpf: 618-684-1100; [senshimpf58@gmail.com](mailto:senshimpf58@gmail.com)  
Senate Dist. 59 - Senator Dale Fowler: 618-294-8951; 217-782-5509; [senatorfowler59@gmail.com](mailto:senatorfowler59@gmail.com)  
Governor Bruce Rauner: 217-782-0244, <http://www2.illinois.gov/gov/Pages/ContacttheGovernor.aspx>  
Speaker of the House Madigan: 217-782-5350; 773-581-8000; <http://www.housedem.state.il.us>  
Senate President Cullerton: 217-782-2728; 773-883-0770; [jcullerton@senatedem.illinois.gov](mailto:jcullerton@senatedem.illinois.gov)

### **Congressional Contacts: CALL YOUR CONGRESSMEN TODAY!**

Senator Dick Durbin: 618-351-1122; 202-224-2152; <http://www.durbin.senate.gov/>  
Senator L. Tammy Duckworth: (202) 224-2854; <https://www.duckworth.senate.gov/>  
Representative Mike Bost: 618-457-5787; 202-225-5661; <https://bost.house.gov/>  
Representative John Shimkus: 618-252-8271; 202-225-5271; <https://shimkus.house.gov/>

The Illinois Chapter Sierra Club's Frack Fight Team is steered by Terri Treacy ([terri.treacy@sierraclub.org](mailto:terri.treacy@sierraclub.org)).

To receive periodic updates and communications from local and national Sierra Club, become a member of Illinois

Chapter's Frack Fight Team:

[http://action.sierraclub.org/site/Survey?ACTION\\_REQUIRED=URI\\_ACTION\\_USER\\_REQUESTS&SURVEY\\_ID=138181](http://action.sierraclub.org/site/Survey?ACTION_REQUIRED=URI_ACTION_USER_REQUESTS&SURVEY_ID=138181)

**FYI**, to receive more timely alerts from the Illinois Chapter of the Sierra Club, sign up online at their state website:

[https://secure.sierraclub.org/site/SPageNavigator/Chapter/il\\_newsletter\\_signup.html?jsessionid=84420F4C49A5A8CD264E1E3C3F131E25.app205a](https://secure.sierraclub.org/site/SPageNavigator/Chapter/il_newsletter_signup.html?jsessionid=84420F4C49A5A8CD264E1E3C3F131E25.app205a)



## Shawnee Group Sierra Club T-Shirts for Sale!

Show your support for our local group's activities. For sale during our monthly meetings.

Color: White logo on blue T-Shirt

**\$15** Medium Large or X-Large

## Sierra Club Native Plant Sale!

Saturday, May 5, 2018

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Carbondale Town Square Pavilion  
(corner of Routes 13 & 51)

Many varieties from Southernwood Gardens in Alto Pass and Missouri Wildflowers! Pre-orders will be welcome!

Southernwood Gardens' phone number (for pre orders) is 618-833-2769.  
Missouri Wildflowers' website is [mowildflowers.net](http://mowildflowers.net).

## Has Your Email Address Changed?

To receive notification when the latest Shawnee Group newsletter is posted online, be sure to inform the Group when you change your email address. Send email address updates to: [jane.cogie@gmail.com](mailto:jane.cogie@gmail.com)

Read current and past newsletters on our website: <http://www.sierraclub.org/illinois/shawnee>. The website also lists information on upcoming local programs and outings, plus state and national Sierra Club issues.

### Leadership Opportunities

**Run for the Board!** We need a few good women and men. Join the board of directors (the executive committee, also known as the ExCom) in overseeing the Shawnee Group's strategic direction and economic health. Board members meet monthly for about 2 hours. Board terms are for two years. We are always interested in potential candidates.

### **We need Hospitality team members**

Provide refreshments for one monthly meeting each year (2nd Thursday). Be the Hospitality Chair to organize refreshment providers and greeters OR Act as a greeter for a monthly meeting or welcome and assist our speaker OR Select and make reservations at a local restaurant for our monthly "Dinner Before the Meeting." Contact Jane Cogie, 618-549-4673 [jane.cogie@gmail.com](mailto:jane.cogie@gmail.com).

## Stan Harris' 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration! -- SAVE the DATE

Shawnee Group Sierra Club member, and SIU Geology Professor Emeritus, Stan Harris will be 100 years old on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018. A celebration will be held from **2:00 to 5:00 pm, Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018**, at the Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship, 105 N. Parrish Lane, Carbondale, IL. All his many friends,

colleagues, and acquaintances are invited to attend. Whether you can attend or not, if you have a favorite memory to share with him, please send it to Marion Adams-Sai, 95 Edgewood Lane, Carbondale, IL to be included in a memory book. Stan and Clara McClure often led wildflower walks, where Stan would also often inform us of southern Illinois geology. Some years ago, the Shawnee Group Sierra Club would have summer swimming and potluck events at Stan's house.

