



The Rainier Review

Fall 2014

Volume 13, Issue 2

SERVING THE PIERCE COUNTY COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

“Explore, enjoy
and protect
the planet”

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Sierra Club Endorsements— Be Sure to Vote



Tami Green - State Senate 28th District

The Sierra Club has endorsed Rep. Tami Green over the past several legislative sessions because she has been such a vital ally of ours in the House. Over her many years in the State House, she co-sponsored the legislative referendum for energy efficiency jobs in public buildings, the safe baby bottle bill, the storm water fee bill, and the phasing out of toxic copper in brake pads. She serves on the Labor and Workforce Development committee, Healthcare and Wellness committee, Health and Human Services appropriations committee, and the Rules Committee. A nurse, Tami will continue to address the vital issues of health care, public safety, education, and creating family wage jobs. In 2014 she co-sponsored HB 2347, enhancing oil transportation safety, a bill strongly supported by the Sierra Club. This bill passed the House but not the Senate. Tami Green’s win would help take away control of the Senate from the ultra-conservatives. She has a lifetime Washington Conservation Voters (WCV) score of 90. Her opponent, Steven O’Ban, was temporarily appointed to fill this Senate seat last year after the death of the incumbent Sen. Mike Carrell (R). His WCV score for 2013-2014 Session is a low 10. Tami Green has our strong continued support to help her win this open Senate seat race in this evenly split 28th district.



Nathan Schlicher State House, 26th District Pos.1

The Sierra Club enthusiastically endorses Nathan Schlicher for the State House. Nathan, who was appointed in the 2013 State Legislative Session to fill the seat vacated by Congressman Derek Kilmer, is a very bright young rising star in local and state politics. He is a practicing ER physician, is also an attorney, and an expert on health care policy. He is well-informed on issues of the environment and while in the State Senate, voted consistent with the agendas of the environmental community and the Sierra Club. Examples of his environmental commitment were his votes to defend I-937, to reduce climate changing pollution, to protect our limited water resources, to protect the gray wolf, to fund public transportation adequately, to create jobs for a clean economy, and to promote environmental justice. Nathan narrowly lost a hard fought special election for the 26th District Senate seat last Nov. to Sen. Jan Angel. Now running for the House, he is committed to ensuring access to affordable health care, creating opportunities through education and rebuilding the middle class. Nathan’s 2013 campaign efforts to engage the electorate in the 26th District and his outstanding qualifications will give him the edge to win this race.

General Election, November 4, 2014

PLEASE BE SURE TO VOTE

For a complete list of local and chapter endorsements visit:

<http://washington.sierraclub.org/tatoosh/PoliticalEndorsements/>

<http://cascade.sierraclub.org/endorsements/2014>



Derek Young - Pierce County Council District 7

Derek has served as a four-term Gig Harbor City Council member, member of the Pierce County and Puget Sound Regional Councils, and commissioner on the Pierce Transit Board. In his 16 years on the City Council, he has supported policy changes to strengthen the local economy, helped cities and the county plan for growth, and protected the natural environment. He is running because he wants those same positive results for the whole region. He wants to improve long-term planning to promote local economic development, stabilize the budget, make communities safer, and provide adequate transportation options for the citizens of his district and the county as a whole. While on the City Council, his advocacy helped triple the size of Gig Harbor's parks and open space inventory and add miles of trails. He plans to continue looking for ways to preserve the region's natural beauty and expand recreation opportunities for our families. Pierce County needs a progressive to help provide more political diversity on this conservative-dominated county council. Derek has endorsements from high-level elected officials in Pierce Co., such as Rep. Norm Dicks, Rep. Derek Kilmer, County Executive Pat McCarthy and most of the State Legislative delegation from District 7.



Derek Kilmer—US Representative 6th Congressional District

The Sierra Club endorses Derek Kilmer for re-election to Congress representing District 6. During his first term, Congressman Kilmer has earned a distinguished 93% score on the League of Conservation Voters Scorecard that tallies how often a member votes favorably on key environmental legislation. Additionally, Congressman Kilmer co-introduced, with Senator Murray, legislation to add additional protections to the Olympic wilderness, including the first Scenic and Wild designation of the Peninsula's pristine salmon rivers. Congressman Kilmer has made an exceptional effort to listen to his constituents' concerns, sponsoring many town meetings throughout District 6. He knows how important jobs are to his district and how critical strong environmental protections are to economic prosperity today and for future generations.



Dawn Morrell - State House, 25th District Pos. 1

Rep. Morrell has held this position for several terms and has steadfastly voted with the Sierra Club and environmental community. Her lifetime Washington Conservation Voters score is 100. Rep. Morrell is a nurse with a strong interest in environmental health, particularly around the potential adverse effects on human health of toxins in our food, water, air, child toys, and baby bottles. She has also pushed for legislation to keep unused medications out of our landfills and water bodies. She understands the clear connections of between human health and the health of the environment and is currently the Chair of the House Appropriations Sub-committee for Health and Human Services.

She is an invaluable environmental incumbent whom we must re-elect in this split district.



Jake Fey - State House, 27th District Pos. 2

We are pleased to support Jake Fey for reelection to the State House. Rep. Fey has been effective in his first term in House. As Vice-Chair of the Transportation Committee, he has focused much of his efforts negotiating a transportation revenue package that will fund the future of our state's transportation while upholding our core values of environmental and worker protections. Unfortunately, the Senate ultimately killed any agreement for such a package preventing the extension of the Hwy 167 corridor to expedite moving goods to and from the Port of Tacoma. A bipartisan supplemental transportation budget was passed with Rep. Fey's help. This budget continues construction of projects that were promised in the 2003 and 2005 transportation packages and protects over 47,000 jobs tied to those projects over the biennium. He also worked to include in the supplemental transportation budget a proviso that will improve our oil spill monitoring and prevention systems. He mediated an energy conservation amendment to I-537 between the environmental community and the utilities which easily passed both the House and Senate. His Washington Conservation Voters score of 88 further demonstrates his commitment to the environment. We need an environmentalist like Jake in the House.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE! - November 4, 2014 General Election

Ballots will be mailed to you around October 17th. Mark, sign, and seal your ballot and either 1) mail your ballot in time for the USPS to postmark it by **NO LATER THAN Nov. 4, 2014**, or 2) Drop your ballot into a designated Pierce County Voting Drop Box by **NO LATER THAN 8 PM on November 4, 2014**. Voter Turnout will decide a number of these critically important races!!!

SIERRA CLUB ENDORSED CANDIDATES FOR PIERCE COUNTY ARE LISTED BELOW:

[Note: For more specific information on each of the candidates please visit the WA Sierra Club Chapter endorsed candidates website and click on 2014 election and on the candidate at: <http://>

cascade.sierraclub.org/endorsements/2014]

Washington State Federal Offices

U.S. Senate WA – Sen. Maria Cantwell

U.S. Congressional Districts WA

6 – Rep. Derek Kilmer

9 – Rep. Adam Smith

10 – Rep. Denny Heck

Washington State Legislative District Candidates in Pierce County

2, Position 1 – Greg Hartman

25, Position 1 – Rep. Dawn Morrell

26, Position 1 – Nathan Schlicher

26, Position 2 – Rep. Larry Seaquist

26, Senate – Judy Arbogast

27, Position 1 – Rep. Laurie Jenkins

27, Position 2 – Rep. Jake Fey

28, Senate – Tami Green

29, Position 1 – Rep. David Sawyer

29, Position 2 – Rep. Steve Kirby

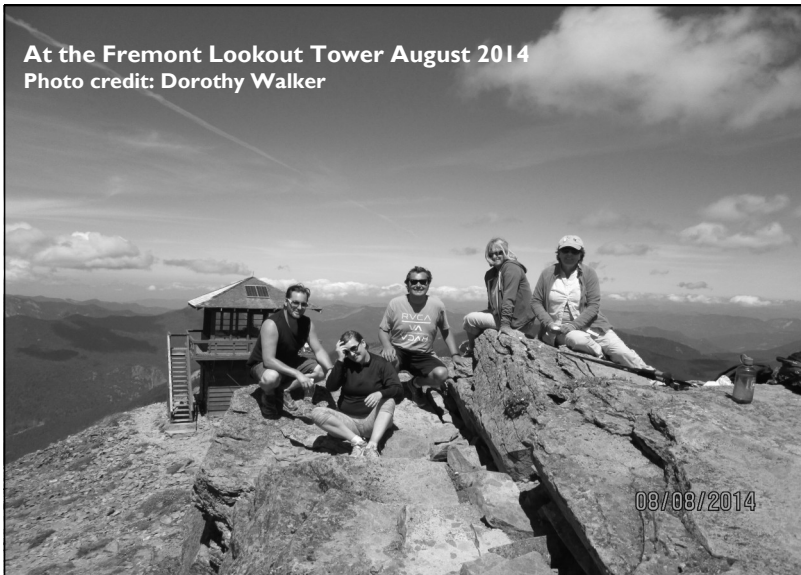
29, Senate – Sen. Steve Conway

Pierce County Council Candidate

District 7 – Derek Young

All the above candidates best represent Sierra Club's values and views on how to protect our environment locally and worldwide. **AGAIN, PLEASE MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT!**

At the Fremont Lookout Tower August 2014
Photo credit: Dorothy Walker



Go paperless! The Tatoosh group is joining the Sierra Club nationally in its effort to limit paper use by providing electronic copies of this newsletter to those who would prefer that to a paper copy. If you would prefer to receive an email link to future newsletters, please send an email to dorothyw@centurylink.net. Please send your complete name and address so that we can be sure to eliminate your paper copy. Also, if you do not indicate otherwise, we will assume you would like your email address updated in the Sierra Club national database. This will allow you to receive email news and updates on national conservation initiatives from the National Sierra Club. **You can also find us on the web at <http://washington.sierraclub.org/tatoosh/>**

Bag This—Plastic Bag Ban by Ken Campbell

Plastic bags account for a small percentage of the overall waste stream but the damage they do can be devastating, especially in the marine environment. Although they can be recycled, the fact is that fewer than 5% of plastic bags ever make it that far. Most end up in landfills and out into the wider ecosystem. Recycling rates have continued to fall with China no longer accepting US bags for processing and locations around the country looking for other solutions.

Bag bans have emerged as a popular and effective way to work on eliminating the problem at the source. California recently enacted a state-wide ban that will begin to go into effect next year, and the fact that our most populous state has made this move tips the balance significantly when the discussion turns to the possibility of future bans in other places. In Washington State, 12 communities have already enacted bag bans and more are poised to follow soon.

Tacoma is the one big city along the I-5 corridor that still insists on single-use plastic bags. Bellingham, Seattle, Olympia, Portland: all of these (and other smaller towns in between), have already put bans into place. There is work underway to support similar legislation in Tacoma... the struggle continues and there are many ways to get involved.

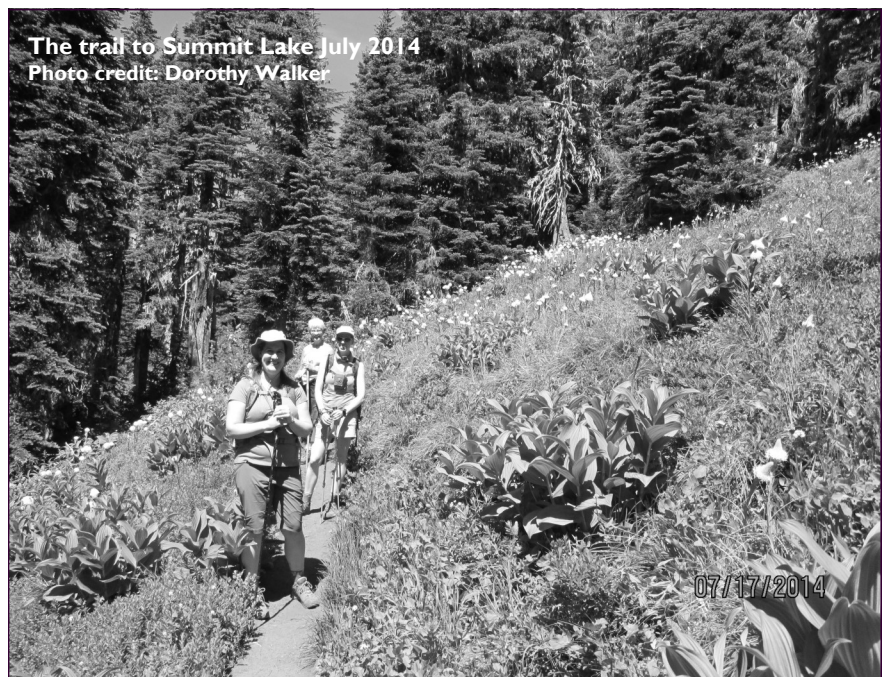
Tacoma uses about 90 million single-use plastic bags every year. The argument for continuing to do so is beginning to sound hollow, especially as so many other communities have taken the positive step of removing them from their towns. There is a sense of inevitability about the ultimate demise of plastic bags, but there is also the feeling that it would say something about this community's commitment to the environment if we were more proactive on the issue. There is still hope that the council will proceed at some point, and soon.

Regardless of the immediate political and practical portions of the plastic bag issue, reusable bags will go a long way to a solution. Cotton bags are great and can be washed and used for years; other poly bags are made with recycled plastic and – when they reach the end of their runs – can be recycled again. Keep them clean and accessible and get in the habit of having them with you when you shop. A letter to the editor of The News Tribune or other local newspapers or to a member of the city council making the case for a bag ban is also helpful. Beach cleanups organized by local environmental and access groups offer another good opportunity to get involved.

Every piece of plastic ever made is still in existence. Polyethylene and the rest will break down into smaller and smaller pieces but they will never really go away. Plastic bags represent the worst side of our throw-away society and are rightly being identified as unnecessary and wasteful by more and more people and communities. Something that lasts forever should never be considered disposable.

Want to Join Us on one of our upcoming outings?

Contact Dorothy Walker
at dorothyw@centurylink.net
for more information.



Meet the Candidates for Tatoosh Group Executive Committee

Brett Johnson

I am interested in contributing to the Tatoosh Chapter Executive Committee because I care deeply about protecting our local environment, and I have extensive experience in both habitat restoration projects and political campaigns. I have a strong record of study and action that demonstrates I am firmly committed to improving the health of our watersheds. I am also a father of a toddler, which has cemented this commitment even more. Past recognition and involvement includes:

- Eagle Scout, Edgewood Troop 525, 1990
- Led efforts to remove Scotch broom & English ivy from Camp Parsons, 1997-98
- Bachelor degree in Environmental Policy, University of Puget Sound, 1998
- Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, Soil & Water Conservation, Nepal, 1999-2001
- Pierce Stream Team Volunteer of the Year, 2002
- Pesticide Education & IPM Associate, WSU-Puyallup, 2001-03
- Canvassing Volunteer for several candidates and issue campaigns in Washington and Colorado, 1996-present
- Poudre Wilderness Volunteers Weed Crew Member, Larimer County CO, 2009-13 (over 250 total hours)
- Author of Tahoma Treebeard, a website that encourages proactive land stewardship: www.tahomatreebeard.com
- Over 8 years experience teaching elementary and middle school music (general and band)

Bliss Moore

After working for the State Department of Health for nearly 30 years, I have devoted most of my volunteer time to environmental causes primarily through the Sierra Club. I have been an active member of the Tatoosh (Pierce County) Group for the last 12 years and have been its Chair from 2002 - 2012. I'm currently serving as the Group's Vice Chair since 2012. I served as the Cascade (newly renamed Washington State) Chapter of the Sierra Club's Operations Management Committee (OMC), which had the duties and responsibilities to help manage Chapter business administration and staff supervision. I helped develop and served on this OMC from 2002-2005. For the last several years I have represented the Sierra Club Tatoosh Group on the Pierce County Sustainability Coalition made up of over a dozen different environmental and community groups and regularly meets with the County Executive. I have worked on community stakeholder groups commissioned by Pierce County and the City of Tacoma on the development of their Critical Areas Ordinances (CAO) over the last several years. In 2007-2008 I served 18 months as a Co-chair of the Transportation Subcommittee on the City of Tacoma's Green Ribbon Task Force on Climate Change (GRTF), commissioned by Mayor Baarsma and the City Council, to develop a Climate Action Plan (CAP) with goals and strategies for the City of Tacoma to significantly reduce its greenhouse gas emissions in the near and long term. After the City Council adopted the CAP with GRTF recommendations, it set up a new Sustainability Office and hired a Manager for the Office in early 2009. Also, the Sustainable Tacoma Commission (STC) was created at that time to be the CAP watchdog. I was one of the first 11 members chosen to sit on the STC and left after finishing my second term last April. I would love to again be re-elected to the Tatoosh Group's Executive Committee.

TATOOSH GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTION BALLOT

Vote for up to two candidates. If you have a dual membership (e.g., wife & husband), the second party of the dual membership should mark the ballot for up to two candidates under "2nd Member-Voter".

Member-Voter

- Brett Johnson
- Bliss Moore

**2nd Member-Voter
(dual membership households only)**

- Brett Johnson
- Bliss Moore

When complete, cut off the ballot and mail it to: Torun Parker at 4513 N 22nd St. Tacoma , WA 98406 by December 15, 2014. If you receive an e-newsletter, you can vote by printing and mailing the ballot or by attaching it to an email. Please email to tspark@aol.com. Thanks for your participation.



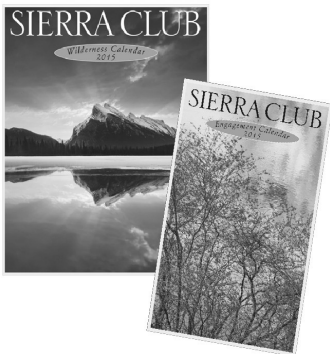
Sierra Club—Pacific NW
Chapter
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Seattle, WA 98109-1631

Like us on Facebook ~ Sierra Club
Tatoosh Group—Pierce County



Enjoy, explore and protect the planet

2015 Sierra Club Calendars



Buy from us and support
local conservation work!

2015 Sierra Club Calendars Are Here!

These calendars with their inspiring color photographs have been among the most popular nature calendars sold for the past 30 years. The annual calendar sale is the Tatoosh Group's major fundraiser, with proceeds helping to pay for our environmental and conservation activities.

These spiral-bound calendars now come in recyclable shrink wrap and make great holiday gifts.

Wilderness (Wall) Calendars are \$14 each, measure 13 1/2" by 11 15/16", with a large wilderness photo for each month and boxes below for writing.

Engagement (Desk) Calendars are \$15 each, measure 9 1/4" X 6 5/16", feature 57 color photos of wild animals, plants or scenes and week-at-a-glance spaces for writing.

Combinations of 3 or more calendars are \$13 each

To purchase calendars and arrange for pick up or delivery, please contact:

Shirley Moore at 253-752-6472 or shirleygmoore@yahoo.com

Torun Parker at 253-759-7830 or TSPARKE@AOL.COM

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