



**SIERRA  
CLUB**

FOUNDED 1892

**Special points of interest:**

- Join us at the Sierra Club Energy FilmFest to learn more about energy choices and about global warming
- You can host your own Energy FilmFest with these or other films in your own locality! Contact Kristina Goodman at [Kristina.Goodman@sierraclub.org](mailto:Kristina.Goodman@sierraclub.org) to learn how.



Dr. Steven R. Brechin, Professor of Sociology at Syracuse University

**Inside this issue:**

Voting Integrity	2
Contact Us	2
Healing Waters	2
FilmFest films	3
Ballot	3
Winter Schedule	4

# Iroquois Messenger

Atlantic Chapter—Iroquois Group

Winter 2006-2007

## Warm Up With the Sierra Club FilmFest

Anyone who saw *An Inconvenient Truth* last summer understands the power of film. Sierra Club Iroquois Chapter is continuing this public education throughout the winter by screening a series of films on energy and global warming.

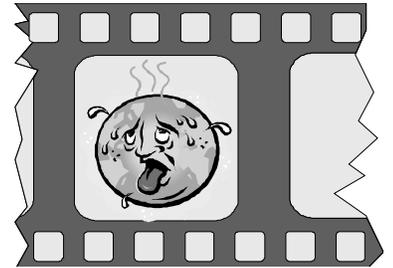
Our co-sponsors are:

- Global Warming Action Network of Greater Syracuse (GWAN)
- Citizen's Campaign for the Environment (CCE)

- New York League of Conservation Voters (NYLCV)
- We invite you to attend. And bring a friend or two (or more!) They're all free and open to the public.

They'll be shown at Liverpool Public Library (LPL), LeMoyne College (LM), and University United Methodist Church (UUMC). Directions on p. 3.

**Earth to America**  
**Sat Nov 18 2:00 pm LPL**  
This hilarious special celebrates



life on Earth by taking aim at one of our planet's most serious problems: global warming, and features comedians such as Steve Martin, Robin Williams, and Ben Stiller, as well as Tom Hanks, Robert Kennedy, Jr., and nearly a dozen others.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Understanding the Public's Misunderstanding of Global Climate Change *By Tasha Cooper*

Steven Brechin's presentation to the Iroquois Group on September 27, 2006, was wonderfully informative. Dr. Brechin addressed the question of why the general public does not have a good understanding of global warming.

Dr. Brechin noted that many citizens are familiar with a pollution model that allows for "fixing" an environmental problem by filtering or removing the pollutants. This model does not apply to global warming, which cannot be fixed in the same way, but needs to be addressed through reduction in our use of fossil fuels, and changes in the way we live.

It is important for citizens to have a good understanding of

this different model, in order for appropriate policies and legislation to be developed. Since the mid-90s, the fossil fuel industry and its supporters have presented the view that global warming is something about which we are uncertain. This uncertainty about the science of global warming has made U.S. citizens unsure about the need to address the issue.

Dr. Brechin reported on research indicating that citizens of some countries, such as Mexico, have a better understanding of the causes of global warming than that of U.S. citizens, with Brazil ranking close to the U.S. and Cuba slightly ahead. Citizens with a better understanding of the science of global warming are more likely to

adopt the Kyoto Protocol, and support similar policies and legislation.

At this point, scientists are largely in agreement that global warming exists and is not a subject for debate. Informed discussion is clearly necessary for the implementation of policies and legislation to address global warming.

Dr. Brechin ended with a note of hope. Congress is starting to host hearings on the topic, skeptics are changing their minds, and scientific evidence is being shared, thanks to Al Gore and many concerned citizens.

The question for all of us is whether we can stop global warming before it is too late.

**Sierra Club Iroquois Group Contacts**  
 PO Box 182  
 Jamesville, NY 13078

Chair	Martha Loew <a href="mailto:mloew@twcny.rr.com">mloew@twcny.rr.com</a>	492-4745
Vice-Chair	Linda DeStefano <a href="mailto:linpar@twotabbies.org">linpar@twotabbies.org</a>	488-2140
Secretary	Tasha Cooper	446-3750
Treasurer	Lynn Senke <a href="mailto:lynn@syracusebanana.com">lynn@syracusebanana.com</a>	676-5560
Newsletter	Debby Shanahan <a href="mailto:debby@verizon.net">debby@verizon.net</a>	446-1273
Conservation Member	REBECCA PAUL <a href="mailto:rebepa333@yahoo.com">rebepa333@yahoo.com</a>	436-4103
Outings	OPEN	
Political	Rhea Jezer <a href="mailto:jezer@ix.netcom.com">jezer@ix.netcom.com</a>	727-0123
	Martin Sage <a href="mailto:mlsage@syr.edu">mlsage@syr.edu</a>	472-4977
Program	OPEN	
Publicity	Rocki Malamud <a href="mailto:rowenamalamud@mac.com">rowenamalamud@mac.com</a>	446-7823
Special Projects	Lisa Daly <a href="mailto:ldaly@yahoo.com">ldaly@yahoo.com</a>	428-1384
	Debra DeSocio <a href="mailto:ddesocio@twcny.rr.com">ddesocio@twcny.rr.com</a>	329-0196
	David Kapell <a href="mailto:david.kapell@windstream.net">david.kapell@windstream.net</a>	
	Adina Mulliken <a href="mailto:pepperballmeow@yahoo.com">pepperballmeow@yahoo.com</a>	428-1905
	Rich Slingerland	298-3130
Webmaster	Scott Webster <a href="mailto:sigmaun@netscape.net">sigmaun@netscape.net</a>	446-3640

**Voting Integrity Activists Estimate \$6 Million More For Hackable Voting System**

By Linda DeStefano

Oct. 4 was an exciting day for voting integrity activists as we made our presence felt at the public hearing on the budget for Onondaga County. We presented a cost comparison of the two voting systems which county election commissioners must choose between: paper ballots marked by hand (or ballot marking device for voters with disabilities) and counted by precinct-based optical scanners OR computer voting machines (DREs).

Our main concern is that the DREs (direct recording electronic devices) are subject to programming error and hacking, and we oppose that system. However, we also are concerned that the DRE system is more expensive than the paper ballot/ballot marking device/optical scan system. Sierrans and others spoke, and the Raging Grannies sang for paper ballots, eliciting applause even from the county legislators.

As of this writing, we are waiting

for a response from the county election commissioners to our refutation of their faulty analysis of the costs. For more information, contact Linda A. DeStefano, Chair, Election Reform Task Force, Atlantic Chapter of the Sierra Club, at 488-2140 (9 a.m. - 10:45 p.m.) or e-mail [linpar@twotabbies.org](mailto:linpar@twotabbies.org)

**Healing our Waters**

Want to get plugged in, learn about initiatives in our Great Lakes area, and give feedback? The Healing our Waters Coalition Conference will take place on Saturday, December 2 at the Seneca Park Zoo in Rochester.

It's **free** and not that far away. The all-day session includes lunch.

To register, get more information or to get directions contact:

Wayne D. Howard  
 Great Lakes Committee Chair  
 Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter &  
 Rochester Regional Group  
**E-mail** [wdhoward@rochester.rr.com](mailto:wdhoward@rochester.rr.com)  
**Phone:** (585) 359-0782

**Sierra Club 2007 Calendars**



*Mail Order — Make checks payable to Sierra Club*

*Calendars c/o Betsey Keck  
 405 Brookford Road, Syracuse, NY 13224  
[ekeck@twcny.rr.com](mailto:ekeck@twcny.rr.com)*

**Discount Prices! No Tax! No Shipping Charge!**

Item	Price	Quantity	Total
Engagement Calendar	\$13	_____	_____
Wall Calendar	\$12	_____	_____
<b>TOTAL</b>			_____

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Save More — Sierra Club Calendars will be available at Sierra Club events for \$11 each**

**Energy FilmFest**

*(Continued from page 1)*

**Out of Balance**

**Mon Nov 27 7:00 pm LM  
& Sat Jan 27 2:30 pm LPL**

This film shows the influence the largest company in the world has on governments, the media and citizens and what can be done about global warming. It doesn't just critique ExxonMobil, it also offers challenging, large-scale ideas for the global social changes that must take place if there's any chance of having a livable planet for future generations.

**Kilowatt Ours**

**Wed Jan 31 7:30 pm UUMC**

Takes viewers on a journey from the coal mines of West Virginia to the solar panel fields of Florida and shows solutions to America's energy related problems.

**French Fries to Go**

**Wed Jan 31 7:30 pm UUMC**

A funny and hopeful short film that documents the origins of Telluride's Biodiesel project. Cameos by Daryl Hannah, Dennis Weaver and Dr. Andrew Weil.

**Oil on Ice**

**Mon Feb 5 7:00 pm LM**

An intimate portrayal of the native Gwich'in Indians taking on powerful global energy interests to prevent invasive oil operations in the ANWR's caribou calving grounds.

**Too Hot Not to Handle**

**Sat Feb 17 2:00 pm LPL**

A primer on global warming, this HBO documentary features leading scientists and shows how businesses, local governments, and citizens are taking positive actions to reduce global warming emissions.

**Vineyard Energy Project**

**Wed Feb 28 7:30pm UUMC**

Portrays Martha's Vineyard's successful effort to implement sustainable energy solutions by using solar power.

**Wind Over Water**

**Wed Feb 28 7:30pm UUMC**

In 2001, Cape Wind Associates announced plans for America's first offshore windfarm. Almost immediately, a battle between environmentalists and residents on the Cape was born. This documentary chronicles the fight about land and the

future of renewable energy.

**Rising Waters**

**Sat Mar 10 1:30 pm LPL & Wed Mar 28 7:30 pm UUMC**

Puts a human face on the climate change debate through personal stories of Pacific Islanders. Shows the physical and cultural impacts caused by global warming.

**Appalachians**

**Sat Mar 10 1:30 pm LPL & Wed Mar 28 7:30 pm UUMC**

From the compelling film about the past, present and future of Appalachia. This FilmFest selection features the powerful segment about mountain-top removal (MTR) in the Appalachian Mountains in West Virginia.

**Bringing Down the Mountains**

**Sat Mar 10 1:30 pm LPL**

Produced by three high school students, this short is a succinct introduction to mountaintop removal mining and its effects and personal stories of those most affected by this type of mining.

**Questions?** Call Martha Loew at 492-4745 or check our website for updated information..

**Directions to FilmFest Screenings**

**Liverpool Public Library**

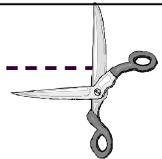
310 Tulip Street  
Liverpool, NY 13088  
Phone: 315.457.0310

**LeMoyne College**

Grewen Hall (the main building with the clock on it)  
Room 137  
1419 Salt Springs Rd  
Syracuse, NY 13214  
Phone: 315.445.4100

**University United Methodist Church**

1085 E. Genesee St.  
Syracuse, NY 13210  
**Park** on E. Genesee St, on University Ave, or in one of two church parking lots: one on University Ave directly across from the church's side entrance; enter the other from Ashworth Place on the corner of University Ave.



**BALLOT: Iroquois Executive Committee**

Two-year terms on the Iroquois Executive Committee

Vote for up to FIVE (5) people

Tasha Cooper

Rocki Malamud

Becky Paul

Martin Sage

Debby Shanahan

Write in:

Remaining on the committee for one year are:

Lisa Daly

Linda DeStefano

Rhea Jezer

Martha Loew

Adina Mulliken

Rich Slingerland

( Mail to: )

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Iroquois Group Sierra Club  
PO Box 182  
Jamesville, N.Y. 13078**



## Winter Schedule

Indoor and outdoor educational programs encourage us to **Explore, Enjoy and Protect the Planet.** All programs are free and open to the public.

ExCom meetings 2nd Wed of each month. Call 492-4745 for locations. For Sierra members only. All welcome.

### Indoor programs

Indoor programs are held the last Wednesday of the month at University United Methodist Church at 7:30 pm.

(Directions on p. 3.) No programs Dec., June, July, Aug.

### Nov. 29 Saving the Monarch Butterfly—Janet Allen

Will our grandchildren be able to enjoy Monarch butterflies? YOU can help save the Monarch butterfly right in your own backyard! Learn how—and why—to create a Monarch Waystation.

### Jan. 31 Sierra Club Energy FilmFest film: *Kilowatt Ours* and *French Fries to Go*

**Feb.28 FilmFest:** *The Vineyard Energy Project* and *Wind Over Water*

**March 28 FilmFest:** *Rising Waters* and *The Appalachians* (mountain top removal)

### April 25 The Truth About Biofuels

### May 30 Annual Environmental Forum

### Outdoor programs

Always on weekends at interesting locations in our Iroquois area.

**Sun. Dec. 9 at 1:00 pm Highland Forest:** Want to know your trees in winter? Then join us on a naturalist-guided walk. Meet in main parking lot.

**Jan. 27 at 1:30 pm Onondaga Lake Walk** before viewing film at Liverpool Library. Enjoy the West Shore Trail of Onondaga Lake. Meet at the John Haley Memorial Parking Lot off Longbranch Rd.

**Feb. 11 Sunday at 2:00 pm: Annual Chili Snow Fest** at the Jezers' lovely home on Song Lake.-Take Preble Exit off of Route 81. Turn right onto 281. Take first right turn onto Song Lake Road

(hairpin turn). After "Song Lake" sign, count eight garages on the right, 7426 Song Lake Road. Park on the side of the road and walk to the house on the lake. 727-0123.

Bring a vegetarian chili or dish to pass and your favorite footwear, skis, boots, or snowshoes. We will traverse across or around the lake, return to eat around 3:00 and watch *The True Cost of Food* film and/or *French Fries to Go*.

**March 10 at 12:30 Onondaga Lake Walk** before viewing film at Liverpool Library The place is the same as the Jan 27 walk, but not the weather or the company!

**Sun April 15 at 2:00 pm Save The County** Woodchuck Hill exotic weeding and walk.

**Sun May 20 at 2:00 pm Wildflowers** at Baltimore Woods or Clark Reservation

*Do you want more information about programs or events?*  
Check our website at [www.newyork.sierraclub.org/iroquois/index.htm](http://www.newyork.sierraclub.org/iroquois/index.htm)  
or phone (315) 492-4745.



Address Service Requested  
Sierra Club  
PO Box 52968  
Boulder, CO 80322-2968

Non-Profit Org.  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 29  
Jamesville, NY