

The Jersey..... SIERRAN

Vol. 33, No. 3

Roughly 20,000 Members in New Jersey

July-September 2004

SIERRA CLUB ENDORSES KERRY FOR PRESIDENT

Says Kerry Will Protect America's Health and Heritage

On May 11, the Sierra Club's national leadership endorsed Senator John Kerry for President of the United States, citing his outstanding leadership in safe-guarding America's air, water and public lands.

Said Club President Larry Fahn, "His commitment to environmental progress stands in stark contrast to the Bush administration's all-out assault on the environment and its record of putting polluting corporations before the American public's health and safety."

"John Kerry has spent his entire career promoting real solutions aimed at ensuring that America's air, water, and natural resources are protected for future generations."

Kerry has demonstrated environmental leadership throughout his career in public service, from helping to organize Massachusetts' first Earth Day in 1970 to opposing the Bush administration's efforts to dismantle environmental gains made over the last century.

Highlights of Kerry's environmental record include:

Advocated strict enforcement of the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act, and opposed Bush administration efforts to weaken the laws in order to let polluters put more dangerous toxics into our air and water;

Advocated restoration of Superfund's "polluter pays" trust fund to ensure that polluters, not ordinary taxpayers, pay to clean up abandoned toxic waste sites;

Led the charge against the Bush administration's attempts to allow oil drilling in the pristine Arctic National Wildlife Refuge;

Championed an energy plan that increases fuel economy to reduce the nation's dependence on oil and supports

the development of clean, energy-saving technologies and renewable energy to reduce our dependence on other polluting sources of energy;

And, advocated for the United States to take the lead in international efforts to cut global warming pollution, reverse ozone depletion, protect tropical rain forests, preserve biological diversity and press for sustainable development.

"John Kerry's record on the environment is impressive by any measure and reveals a sincere personal passion for the issue," Club Executive Director Carl Pope said. "He understands that there is a better way than the Bush administration's alliance with corporate polluters. With Kerry as President, we could be sure that America's health and heritage are protected."

The endorsement was decided by volunteer members who serve on the Club's Political Committee and Board of Directors. "One of our biggest challenges is to educate the American public about the Bush administration's dismal environmental record," Fahn said. "Now, thousands of Sierra Club members in every state will be volunteering their efforts to tell voters about the clear choice in this election. They will be encouraging all Americans who care about the environment to vote for John Kerry in November."

To learn more about why the Sierra Club endorsed John Kerry, please visit our website at: http://www.sierraclub.org/pressroom/presidential_endorsement/. There is also a Kerry for President website here in New Jersey for Club members who'd like to help the Kerry campaign: <http://www.johnkerry.com/states/nj/>. ☺

Chapter Endorses Nine Incumbent Congressmen for Re-election

In April, the Club's Political and Executive Committees considered all 13 members of New Jersey's Congressional Delegation, and decided to honor nine of them with early endorsement for re-election in November. Our recommendations were quickly ratified by the Club's National Political Committee.

Endorsed were:

Robert Andrews (D, 1st District: most of Camden and Gloucester Counties)

Frank LoBiondo (R, 2nd District: Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, Salem Cos.)

Jim Saxton (R, 3rd District: most of Burlington and Ocean Counties)

Frank Pallone (D, 6th District: most of Middlesex and Monmouth Counties)

William Pascrell (D, 8th District: parts of Essex and Passaic Counties)

Steven Rothman (D, 9th District: most of Bergen, part of Hudson Counties)

Donald Payne (D, 10th District: parts of Essex, Hudson and Union Counties)

Rush Holt (D, 12th District: parts of Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth and Somerset Counties)

Robert Menendez (D, 13th District: parts of Essex, Hudson, Middlesex and Union Counties)

Endorsement entitles candidates to our support at press conferences and in press releases, to publicity in Club media such as this newsletter, to in-kind volunteer support organized by members of our Political Committee, and sometimes to financial support and even independent expenditure campaigns.

All nine endorsees have accumulated impressive voting records on environmental legislation, and many have worked behind the scenes to endorse legislation, to support it in committees, and to motivate other Members of Congress to vote "correctly." Along with their direct experiences, Club officers used voting charts supplied by the national League of Conservation Voters (LCV) in deciding whom to endorse. The nine endorsees achieved an average 92% score for votes in 2003, compared to an average 45% received by the four incumbents who were NOT early-endorsed. In generating its scores, the LCV used votes on energy policy (including drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge), protection of Wilderness Areas, Clean Air and Clean Water legislation, the proposal to deepen the shipping channel of the Delaware River, and funding international family planning programs.

As we move into "election season," Club volunteers will conduct interviews with the remaining four incumbents, as well as their opponents, to decide on possible additional endorsements. We may also participate in many local races that will be decided on November 2nd, as well as urge positions on public questions (referenda) that will be on the November ballot.

Club members wishing involvement are more than welcome to contact Group members of the Chapter Political Committee, and/or to contact endorsed candidates directly to offer support. ☺

Highlands Bill Receiving Priority Concern

By Brenda C. Sanabria

A crucial environmental bill designed to protect the Highlands region of Northern New Jersey will undergo a series of votes by the New Jersey Legislature, beginning this May. The passage of Bill S-1/A-2635, originally drafted with substantial input from Sierra Club staff and volunteers, is considered to be the most vital issue the Chapter is presently handling, according to Director Jeff Tittel. If passed into law, the Bill promises to conserve these sensitive watershed lands by limiting development and establishing a preservation area of up to 400,000 acres. The cost of delaying action to preserve these water resources could be billions of dollars for improved water purification systems, according to Tittel. Currently, four million residents in 16 counties draw water from reservoirs in the Highlands. Additionally, the three largest industries in New Jersey (pharmaceuticals, food processing and tourism) are dependent on clean water supplied by the Highlands.

On May 17th, the Assembly and Senate Environment committees were to meet to consider amendments to the

Bill. If the Bill was approved, it would then be reported to the respective Legislative chambers for additional rounds of voting as early as June.

According to Tittel, the strongest opposition to the Bill's passage has come from the "sprawl machine," or developers and workers in the building and construction trades, such as the New Jersey Builder's Association. Opponents have been "spreading lies about sprawl" and its threat to the Highlands. Despite opposition, Tittel thinks, "There is a good chance it will be passed. [The opposition] will spend mil-

Continued on page 2)

Sierra Club on the March!

By Bonnie Tillery, our Population Issues Coordinator

Recognizing that "Supporting Family Planning Supports the Environment," the Sierra Club was a co-sponsor of the March for Women's Lives in Washington, D.C. on April 25th. Why did the Sierra Club co-sponsor the March? Women everywhere want to voluntarily decide how many children to have and when to have them. When women can choose the size and spacing of their families, they choose smaller families. This is not only healthier for the families, but healthier for the environment. Smaller families in developing countries, in conjunction with reduced consumption in developed countries like our own, reduces demands on our environmental resources.

Sierra Club President, Larry Fahn, noted that the Club was well represented with over a hundred activists from around the country. We had great signs, a huge banner, T-shirts and buttons reading, "Pro-Choice, Pro-Family Planning, Pro-Environment," all in our traditional dark green, making us a small but significant presence among the huge crowd.



NJ Sierra Club Members ready to march!
From left; Ed Pfeiffer, Carol Pfeiffer, Bonnie Tillery, Joe Leist

The photos (in the national press are) testament to the numbers gathered, estimated at 1.15 million. There were about twenty huge 100-foot Jumbotron video screens set up every quarter mile spanning the entire Mall, from the Monument to the Capitol. Over 1000 organizations took part.

Here is Larry's message delivered at the kickoff rally before the March:

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DEP Hotline

By Steve Knowlton, Conservation Chair of our Jersey Shore Group

You may not know that the Department of Environmental Protection has a toll-free telephone hotline number you can use to report environmental incidents, abuses, and complaints pertaining to New Jersey or impacting it. The 1-877-WARNDEP (877-927-6337) number can be used in the New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Delaware calling areas. It is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

I am pleased to report that it works. Here is a recent story.

On Monday, March 1, Mimi Cross from Atlantic Highlands observed a machine digging a large trench in a berm below her home along Sandy Hook Bay. The machine was putting the soil onto the marsh grass on either side of the trench, to the bay side and on the landward side. She thought that this must be illegal. She complained to the town, but was told that the trench was for storing material to be dredged this fall from the harbor. On Saturday she asked the Club for help.

I found the DEP hotline number and tried to report what was going on - thinking that this would be simple since DEP must be aware of the project. I called on a Saturday afternoon, but did not have enough information. So I phoned and emailed Mimi, suggesting that she call the hotline.

She called on Monday. The recorded message said to push "1" for an emergency, "2" for a non-emergency. At my suggestion, she pushed "2". The response she got indicated that the

responsible person was not in that day. She didn't give up. She called back, this time pushing the button for "emergency," and got a supervisor in the Toms River enforcement office. The next day, March 8, Tammy DiGiacomo, a DEP field inspector, put the site on her schedule and visited.

Up to this point, Mimi did not know that the town was doing anything illegal, and neither did I. I assumed that the town must have a permit.

But the inspector could tell that there was a violation. At the end of her visit, she wrote a field notice, telling the town that it had gone beyond the limits of what is legal, and forced a halt to the work. Since then, the town has installed silt skirts and straw bales and work has halted. The town will have to restore the berm to the original size.

There may be more developments as DEP has time to look for any permits and find out the history. We hope that they will find out how berm got there and whether it is legal. Mimi plans to work with Clean Ocean Action and the town to find a better place for the dredge spoils.

Here is the lesson learned. You don't have to be an environmental expert if you see something going on that is bad for environment. You can take action. If you see someone dumping toxics in a stream, filling in a wetland, destroying wildlife habitat, you can call the DEP hotline. You may have to be persistent in your call, and patient, but you can make a difference. ☺

HIGHLANDS BILL

(Continued from page 1)

lions in attempts to defeat it, but many mayors and residents have spoken up and publicly supported this Bill." Five ex-governors of NJ have also voiced their support.

The Highlands is severely threatened by sprawl development. About 25,000 acres have been lost to development in the last five years, mostly forests and farmlands. A key component of the Highlands Preservation Bill includes the setting-up of a regional planning council, composed of local and state officials, which would have the power to veto major development in the area, and require permanent preservation zones.

While the Bill is pending in legislation, the Club's New Jersey Chapter has remained active in its campaign of support. Tittel says the Chapter has held public hearings, placed calls to legisla-

tors, and distributed petitions. In anticipation of the May 17th vote, the club organized a "Fax-a-Thon," where supporters faxed letters to legislators, urging swift passage.

According to Tittel, "the Bill represents what the Sierra Club is all about. The important issues that we defend are included: protecting resources, clean air, open space, etc."

The Highlands is a beautiful area of about 800,000 acres that extends from Bergen County across to Hunterdon County. Fourteen million visitors are drawn to it every year, surpassing even the yearly visitor turnout at Yellowstone National Park. It is an area rich in biodiversity, and home to 125 endangered species.

Brenda is a freelance editor in Northern NJ. She loves nature and fiction, and hopes to move to San Francisco one day (soon). ☺

MEMORIAL GIFT

The New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club wishes to acknowledge receipt of a gift in memory of Robert Webster. Mr. Webster, a resident of Cape Cod, had a love of the outdoors and a deep appreciation for all living things.

YOU HAVE MORE TO GIVE THAN YOU KNOW

Maybe you can't make a gift to protect the environment during your lifetime, but you can become a financial hero by remembering the Sierra Club in your will. You can even direct your gift to a special Club program or to the New Jersey Chapter.

For information about making a bequest to the New Jersey Chapter call George Denzer at 609-799-5839.

ISSUE COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Is Poison Gas Coming to South Jersey?

By Gina Carola, our Delaware River Issues Coordinator

South Jersey residents should be concerned about the Army's plan to deactivate Midwestern stores of the toxic nerve gas VX. The army has asked for proposals from various bidders to deactivate four million gallons of this deadly gas that are currently stockpiled in Newport, Indiana. The DuPont Corporation has submitted a bid to treat the nerve gas at their Deepwater facility in Salem County, NJ. This process would include releasing liquid effluent into the Delaware River. In addition, the equivalent of two tanker truckloads of this deadly poison will be on the highways between Indiana and NJ every day for two years. Governor McGreevey and Governor Minner of Delaware have stated their opposition. In addition, Congressman Andrews has pledged to protect the Delaware River and South Jersey by fight-

ing the award of the contract to DuPont. NJ Assemblymen Jack Connors and Herb Conaway have introduced an Assembly Resolution opposing the plan. While the Army has not yet decided what company will be awarded the contract, The Sierra Club and other local environmental and citizens groups will monitor the situation closely. To express opposition, send comments to:

Claude Bolton
Assistant Secretary of the Army
103 Army, Pentagon Rm 2E 614
Washington, DC 20310

Tell him that, if the deactivation residue is really as safe as water, as claimed, then it should be released in Indiana, following treatment there. ☺

ISSUE COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Hiking the Batona Trail

By Lee Snyder, our Pinelands Issues Coordinator

The Batona Trail winds through Bass River, Wharton, and Brendan T Byrne (formerly Lebanon) State Forests in the Pinelands of New Jersey. It stretches for 50 miles, all in Burlington County, between Ong's Hat on Buddtown Road to the intersection of Coal Road and Stage Road in Bass River State Park. There is talk of lengthening the trail with recent acquisitions of natural areas.

Hikers travel through scenic Pinelands wilderness areas while crossing several streams and rivers, usually on wooden bridges. The terrain is mostly flat with a few small hills. Underfoot is the white sand that is typical of the area, although often covered by several layers of pine needles. Along the trail, marked by pink blazes, many common as well as threatened and endangered plants and animals may be viewed. Though the trail is mainly sited in wilderness areas, it occasionally crosses a road. Observe caution at these crossings.

There are several good entry/exit points along the trail for those opting for

hiking just a portion. Camping areas are on the trail at Lower Forge and Batona Camp. Get the required camping permit, along with a map, at one of several park ranger stations if planning to stay overnight on the trail. The Batona Trail map shows roads, streams and other water, camping areas, and points of interest. Excellent starting points for a day hike are Batsto and Four Mile. Both locations provide parking, restrooms, water, and a park ranger office.

Protection of the Batona and surrounding areas is critical to the future of the Pinelands. This trail traverses pristine and sensitive habitat. It is for hiking only. No horses, mountain bikes, or motorized vehicles are allowed - per New Jersey State law.

Several Pinelands hikes are listed in the back of this Sierran Newsletter, and are generally free of charge. Some are on trails other than the Batona. Plan a day to hit the trail and happy hiking! ☺

SIERRA on MARCH

(Continued from page 1)

"The Sierra Club is 760,000 of your friends, neighbors and supporters, from every community in the nation.

"We have been working hard for more than 112 years, in rural communities and big cities, domestically and internationally, to explore, enjoy and protect the planet!

"We know that protecting the planet means more than cleaning up our air and water; more than protecting wetlands, wilderness, wildlife and nature. Those are truly important goals, but, protecting the planet must include protecting and improving women's lives, here at home and around the globe!

"Protecting the planet means increasing, not slashing, funds for family planning assistance, here in the U.S. and all around the world!

"Protecting the planet means curbing, then reversing, the global population explosion that threatens us all! (CHEERS HEARD)

"Protecting the planet means preserving and protecting human rights...which include reproductive rights!! (CHEERS) To tackle the problem of over-population, we must ensure that all women and girls around the world have access to birth control services, birth control education, neo-natal health care and reproductive choice!! (HUGE CHEER)

"Protecting the planet means reversing the Bush Administration's Global Gag Rule, which harms women all

across the globe, deprives them of critical health care and increases the incidence of abortion!

"Protecting the planet means electing more women to the House of Representatives...and the United States Senate...from all political parties!!! (TREMENDOUS CHEER)

"So, I have a question for you all...

"Will we demand full federal funding for family planning assistance here at home and around the globe? (CHEERS)

"Will we tell the Bush Administration that standing up for family planning and reproductive choice means standing up for the global environment? (CHEERS)

"Will our nation - the richest in the history of the world - live up to its leadership responsibility to invest in the lives of women and in a healthier planet? (HUGE CHEER)

"Will we bring about the change that will reverse the Bush Administration's Global Gag Rule? (BIGGER CHEER)

"Will we? (HUMONGOUS CHEER)

"You're damn right we will!!!

"Thanks so much for being here. We love you all! Have a great march!"

(To all who marched - with the "official" Sierra Club delegation or with others - a special thanks to all New Jersey Sierra Club members who took part in this exhilarating experience. More than a million people spoke out for the rights of women. Everyone who marched understood the link between population and the environment. Why doesn't George W. Bush?) ☺

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Is there an environmental issue that we're MISSING? If so, please call or write to Club officers.

Editorial

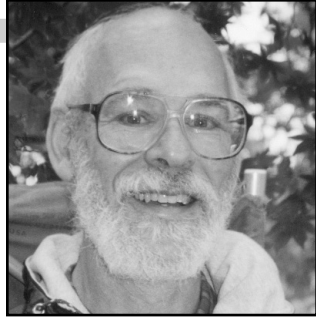
Immigration may not be a Sierra Club issue, but Population is!

by Dick Colby (dick.colby@stockton.edu)

The petition candidates for the Sierra Club's national election of Directors, campaigning for the Club to oppose immigration, were thoroughly TRUNCED in the results announced on 21 April: by a margin of 10:1, in the largest percentage voter turnout in many years. As Editor of this Newsletter, I had the interesting chore of fielding calls from angry members on both sides of the issue, some threatening to resign from the Club if we FAILED to oppose immigration, and some (more!) threatening to resign if we took a stand AGAINST immigration. I tried to remind such members that "politics is the art of the possible" (not to mention the sausage! — or the bottom line!): we can probably protect more wilderness by remaining neutral on immigration policy. It's a PRACTICAL argument: we gain more than we lose. We're keeping our "eyes on the prize."

Yet we in New Jersey are probably closest to the point where population and wilderness come into direct conflict. As we fight for Highlands protection, and more Pinelands protection, we will find that our opponents aren't just the builders and their financiers. We will be fighting the American Dream — the Frontier Ethic! For the first time, at least in our hemisphere and at quarter acre (suburban) density, there will be no place else to go!

South Jersey faces a "sooner" calamity: several hydrological studies are finding that the supply of fresh water will run out even before the supply of buildable land does. No New Jersey politician has ever been forced to admit to a human carrying capacity, but now there will be numbers, scientifically defensible, for each county in Southern New Jersey. What will happen when all 100,000 people-slots, say, for Cape May County, are "occupied"?



I'm reminded of a solution to the population problem that was proposed in the year 1515, when Sir Thomas More invented his literary Utopia. Each town, when it reached its full capacity, founded a new town — nearby or distant — to handle the overflow of people. Some of the American Colonies were originally overflow sites for British exiles or economic migrants. But that option is no longer available.

A second recourse would be TECHNOLOGY. By capturing rainwater, or piping water from the Delaware River, or "recharging" sewage effluent back into underground aquifers (hoping that the remaining nutrient, metal and organic pollutants won't some day come back to haunt us), or RATIONING water to households, we could increase carrying capacity for humans. But only to a new (higher) limit — postponing the day of political reckoning!

The great hope, of course, is that the population "bubble" will some day "burst" — as it has in other developed countries — and that population will start to decline naturally. The Sierra Club, especially our population activists like Bonnie Tillery, is doing its best to convince Americans (both native-born and immigrant) that educated and empowered women, with access to birth control, will voluntarily have a responsible number of children. As we fight to save open space, that effort surely must be part of the campaign.

Special thanks to the 70 members who returned the questionnaire in the last issue of this Newsletter. We learned that only a handful of members are ready to substitute electronic publication for paper, and that virtually all sections of it are interesting. The Chapter will have to find other ways to reduce its expenditures, or (preferably, I suspect) find ways to increase its income. ☺

Chapter Leaders to be Elected

Later this year members will have the opportunity to elect FOUR members to the New Jersey Chapter Executive Committee (ExCom). A nominating committee, chaired by Sunil Somalwar, has been appointed to prepare a list of nominees. All Chapter members are invited to submit names of candidates for consideration by the nominating committee. Members also may submit candidate petitions. The name of any Chapter member proposed in writing by at least 15 Chapter members prior to the deadline for submission of candidate petitions will be included on the ballot, provided that the candidate has given his or her written consent. Names for consideration by the nominating committee, together with names of petition candidates (and petitioners), should be sent to Sunil Somalwar, Chair, 2004 Nominating Committee, c/o Sierra Club, 139 W Hanover St, Trenton, NJ 08618.

In order for a candidate to be considered by the nominating committee, his or her name must be received by the committee chair no later than July 21. The nominating committee will report the names of nominees to the ExCom on July 28. Candidate petitions must be received by the committee chair no later than August 11. It is anticipated that ballots will be mailed on or about September 13. All Chapter members of record as of the date mailing lists are prepared by Sierra Club headquarters in San Francisco will be entitled to vote. Ballots must be received at the address indicated in the notice of election no later than December 1. Ballots will be counted at a time and place yet to be determined. Members will be provided with this information in the next issue of the Jersey Sierran. ☺

Chair's Message

Global Warming and Professorial Rambling

by Sunil Somalwar, Chapter Chair



For the last few years I have been teaching an undergraduate course at Rutgers on Energy, Society and Global Warming. Typically, the first year of teaching a course requires the most preparations because I have to come up with the syllabus, lecture material, website, reading list, interesting homework (example: Can you show that if all the energy consumed in the US were dumped (as heat!) into Lake Erie, this Great Lake would come to a boil in a couple of years?), and so on. Subsequent years are easier because I get to recycle most of the material (including bad jokes). After another year or so, the class gets too routine and you move on to a different class to torture a different set of students.

Unfortunately, my global warming class has not been a typical one because of the amazing pace at which the subject matter has been changing lately. While it is a long established fact that the greenhouse gases (CO₂ being the main one) have been increasing dramatically in the atmosphere, an understanding of the Earth's climate has firmed up only over the last few years. It is NOT controversial that the Earth has been warming in this century (more than ten of the warmest years on record have occurred since the 1980's!). The scientific consensus has rapidly evolved from a tentative "balance of evidence" suggestion that humans are causing global warming to a scientific consensus (except for the Exxon/Mobil-funded pseudo-scientists) that human activity is responsible. It has been frightening to see that the warming predictions from only a few years ago are coming true at the warmest end of the uncertainty range. Even more important has been the realization that Earth's climate does not change gradually, but when a trigger is provided, it changes radically, and fast. A scary scenario I mentioned to my students a few years ago was how global warming can suddenly send us to a devastating ice age by shutting down the "great conveyor" in the oceans which moves warmth from the tropics to us in NJ and to northern Europe. Now I am seeing reports that the great conveyor is indeed slowing as the North Atlantic Ocean becomes less and less salty due to continued Arctic ice melt. The Arctic icecap is shrinking, glaciers are receding all across the world and the famous snows of Kilimanjaro will be gone in front of our eyes.

While I have been teaching this class, the world took tentative steps towards adopting the Kyoto Protocol, only to have Cheney and Bush snatch the presidency and actively sabotage the treaty. On the global warming front, this

Administration shows the same hubris it showed in Iraq. I used to think that our grandchildren would pay for our fossil fuel follies, but the timetable has seriously advanced in the last few years and I would not be surprised by major global warming-related disruptions during my lifetime. If you are having a hard time believing an ivory tower enviro, just read the article on the Pentagon's nightmare global warming scenarios in, of all places, Fortune magazine (February 9, 2004 issue).

Leaving the global worries aside for a moment, teaching my "Energy" class has been very gratifying despite the extra work. Teaching students to overcome their math phobias is the major educational goal of this class (what else do you expect from a physicist?), and it is fun to see a student who is convinced that she is "no good at math" calculate the amount she would save by switching from a regular incandescent bulb to a compact fluorescent one. (About \$100 over the bulb's life!) I also get to do some SUV-bashing ("When you drive an SUV that gets 14 miles per gallon, you might as well roll down your window every mile and toss out a one pound bag of carbon dioxide, the gas primarily responsible for global warming") and make students calculate that a \$1 per gallon increase in gasoline tax would raise the cost of owning and operating a vehicle by only 10-15% (but give us a mass transit system that would get the cars off the backs of the poor and the seniors and get our highways moving again). I get to show them that despite much higher gasoline taxes in Europe and Japan, their living standards are the same as ours, they live longer and spend less on healthcare, and their fossil fuel consumption is about half of ours.

Being a professor, I can't end this piece without assigning you some homework — it has nothing to do with global warming, but it shows how far off perceptions on "main street USA" can be from reality. It turns out that the total direct aid given by the US to foreign countries amounts to 0.1% of our Gross Domestic Product. Work out what 0.1% of \$100,000 is, then round up ten of your closest relatives and friends and ask them the following question: "If the US were like a family with an annual income of \$100,000, how much does this family donate to the poor every year?" If you happen to have a Rush Limbaugh listener amongst your "quizzies", be sure to also ask him what the tithe fraction (10%) would be.

Submit your assigned homework, and/or engage Sunil in constructive debate, at svsomalwar@sierraactivist.org. ☺

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SIERRA CLUB FUNDRAISER SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

DINNER AT CASA VASCA • GARRISON KEILLOR & ORCHESTRA

Join us for a great Spanish dinner at Casa Vasca in the ironbound district of Newark at 4:30 pm, followed by a 7 pm performance by Garrison Keillor & NJ Symphony Orchestra. Garrison Keillor author, storyteller, poet, humorist and Grammy winning host of public radio's Prairie Home Companion will provide his original, quirky narration to the William Tell Overture and A Midsummers Night's Dream and offer his unique Minnesota take on life, lakes and love.

Cost: \$95 per person

includes dinner, performance and donation to the club.

Make check payable to The Sierra Club and mail to:
Ellen Blumenkrantz, 43 Carlson Court, Closter, NJ 07624

Have questions? Contact Ellen at 201-784-8417 or eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com



Group News

FROM AROUND THE STATE

HOW TO IDENTIFY YOUR GROUP (BY COUNTY)

Northwest Jersey Group: Sussex & Warren
Hunterdon County Group: Hunterdon
North Jersey Group: Passaic & most of Bergen
Essex County Group: Essex
Hudson-Meadowlands Group: Hudson & SE Bergen
Loantaka Group: Morris & Union
Central Jersey Group: Mercer
Raritan Valley Group: Somerset & Middlesex
Jersey Shore Group: Monmouth & Ocean
West Jersey Group: Gloucester, Camden & Burlington
South Jersey Group: Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland & Salem

These designations are approximate; members are welcome to participate in whichever Group(s) they find convenient

Northwest Jersey Group

(Sussex and Warren Counties, approximately)

Web site: We are accessible from the NJ Chapter Web site.

OFFICERS:

Chair: Dennis Miranda 973-209-1814
 dmmg@earthlink.net

Active Person: Pat Mangino 862-432-7552
 pmangino@aol.com

Vice Chair: Open position!

Treasurer: Open position!

Secretary: Open position!

Political Chair: Open position!

Publicity Chair: Open position!

Outings Chair: Open position!

ACTIVITIES: Working to preserve open space and clean water in the NJ Highlands within Sussex and Warren Counties.

****OPENINGS**** The Group has **many** openings. Free training provided. Please contact Dennis at 973-209-1814, or at: dmmg@earthlink.net for details. Thanks!

GENERAL MEETINGS: Please contact Dennis Miranda for information regarding future meetings, and a discussion of plans for preserving the NJ Highlands.

Hunterdon County Group

OFFICERS:

Chair: Ruth Prince 908-284-9103
 ruthp2@patmedia.net

Political Chair and Treasurer: Arnold Kushnick
 apkushn@eclipse.net

For meeting times and locations, please contact Ruth.

ACTIVITIES:

Planning: We are involved with the development of the Hunterdon County Growth Management Plan, an effort that has been funded by the state DCA. The first draft of the plan is now available. We continue to attend county meetings and workshops. Draft environmental ordinances will be available for Hunterdon municipalities to adopt this year.

Development: We have opposed several proposed DEP permits for groundwater allocation and stream encroachment, based on technical and regulatory arguments. We continue to help in the Friends of Holland Highlands opposition to the proposed Shire Rd (Musconetcong Mountain) development, and have commented on the permit applications regarding wetlands and stream encroachment for the C1 Spring Mills Brook on the property. Our Hunterdon Coalition friends keep us informed on other county situations.

Please let us know of any other county situations that need some attention!!

North Jersey Group

(Passaic and Bergen Counties, approximately)

OFFICERS:

Group Chair: Betsy Kohn 201-461-4534
 BetsyKohn@aol.com

Vice Chair: Hugh Carola 201-968-0808
 HCarola@optonline.net

Conservation Co-Chairs: Mike Herson 201-262-9472
 mikeherson@hotmail.com

Membership Chair: Tom Thompson 201-848-1080
 Etrans743@aol.com
 Ellen Friedman
 efrie2003@yahoo.com

Outings Chair: Ellen Blumenkrantz
 eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

Political Chair: John Kashwick 201-660-8820
 jkashwick@optonline.net

Publications Chair: Emily Stoecker 201-265-5889
 MommieEmily2000@aol.com

Secretary: Open position

Treasurer: Mary Ellen Shaw 201-489-1588
 MaryEllenShaw@msn.com

Highlands Committee: Open position!
 (see below)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/CONSERVATION MEETINGS: Held at least four times a year (once every quarter). For next date and location, please contact Betsy, Mike or Tom (see above).

GENERAL MEETINGS:

No General Meetings in July and August.

Sept 9: at Flat Rock Brook Nature Center, 443 Van Nostrand Avenue, Englewood, NJ: Slide presentation by Robert Cowin of Conserve Our Ocean Legacy (a national campaign to build support for ocean and fish protection) about the imperiled health of our oceans and fisheries. Recent studies have found that the populations of large fish, including tuna, swordfish and marlin, have declined by over 90 per cent as a result of pollution, habitat destruction, mismanagement and over-fishing.

BECOME A TOWN WATCHDOG: Help protect open space by regularly monitoring your town's planning board meetings. Please let Mike or Betsy (see above) know if you hear of proposed development that threatens watersheds, wetlands, forests, fields and slopes.

STERLING FOREST: Sterling Forest LLC still plans to develop the 571 acres it owns in the middle of Sterling Forest State Park. However, Sterling Forest has been found to be one of the most species-rich herpetological areas in NY State, providing essential habitat for the threatened Timber Rattlesnake. In March, the NYS DEC concluded that the high density of rattlesnake dens precludes construction of a golf course on the site. In its stead, the corporation now plans more luxury homes. Stay tuned! Want to help? Please contact Betsy or Tom (see above).

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS: Work on conservation issues. Join the Highlands Committee. Help elect pro-environment candidates to public office. Join the legislative committee. Help with public education programs, publicity, tabling, or petition drives. Focus on an issue such as air or water quality, brownfields, energy, environmental justice, global warming, overpopulation, recycling, superfund sites, or another of your own choosing. To find out more, contact Betsy (see above).

FOR E-MAIL NOTICES OF MEETINGS, EVENTS AND ISSUES: Send a message with your e-mail address (to be kept confidential) to BetsyKohn@aol.com

Hudson-Meadowlands Group

(Hudson County and southern Bergen County: Lyndhurst, Rutherford, East Rutherford, Carlstadt, Ridgefield, Edgewater, Cliffside Park and Fairview)

OFFICERS:

Chair: Louise Taylor 201-224-3754
 l.g.taylor@erols.com

Treasurer: *Open position!*

Secretary: Connie Ptera 201-869-7950

Programs Chair: *Open position!*

Publicity: *Open position!*

Political Chair: *Open position!*

Membership: Louise Taylor 201-224-3754
 l.g.taylor@erols.com

NEWS: As you can guess, the Hudson-Meadowlands Group is suffering "growth pains." It takes active volunteers to operate the Sierra Club, people interested both in local issues (environmentally responsible development of the Hoboken waterfront area, oversight of Liberty State Park, motivations for using public transport, local parks, Meadowlands issues, etc.), and people interested in the larger regional and statewide issues discussed at monthly Chapter ExCom meetings and pursued by our Issue Coordinators. Hudson (and southern Bergen) County always presents interesting political election endorsement issues.

Essex County Group

web site: NJSierra.org/NJS_Groups/Essex. We are also accessible from the NJ Chapter web site.

OFFICERS:

Chair: Michel Cuillerier 973-736-0913
 schatzidog@earthlink.net

Conservation: Jon-Eric Dentz 201-819-9308
 j_dentz@yahoo.com

Political: Janice Desir 973-678-4580
 jtd03@lycos.com

Media: Camille Gutmore 973-667-2203
 cgutmore@hotmail.com

Outings/Parks: Dave Ogens 973-226-0748
 bandit29@aol.com

Open Space: Michel Cuillerier 973-736-0913
 schatzidog@earthlink.net

Treasurer: Lori Tanner 973-857-0519
 Ljensen@montclairlaw.com

Secretary: Janine Schaeffer 973-736-0898
 janinesch@prodigy.net

Fundraising: Kim McGuire 973-275-1030
 mackim@aol.com

Programs: Maria K. de Wakefield 973-736-0913
 schatzidog@earthlink.net

Membership: *Open position!*

Energy Conservation: Mike Minaides 973-470-0793
 msminaides@hotmail.com

West Orange: Sally Malanga 973-736-7397
 sally@eccobella.com

GIS/Maps: Billi Schloss 973-467-8154
 billi_s@yahoo.com

Rahway River: Kirk Barrett 973-313-1218
 kbarrett@cimic.rutgers.edu

ACTIVITIES: Preserving wetlands in the Hatfield Swamp (Passaic River Basin) and remaining forested areas in Essex County; Ensuring that the Essex County Park and Open Space Trust Fund is implemented fairly and consistently; addressing environmental justice issues. Working to bring an energy audit to Essex County through the DOE's ReBuild America Program and to establish a commission to study the feasibility of expanding the current light-rail system in Newark.

****OPENINGS**** Volunteers needed for our Environmental Justice Campaign and Wetlands Campaigns. Please contact Michel at mcuillerier@njpac.org. Thanks!!

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Held at 7pm the FIRST TUESDAY of every month. Please contact Michel for locations.

GENERAL MEETINGS: Held periodically at 7:30 pm on the SECOND THURSDAY of the month at the Verona Park Boathouse, corner of Lakeside and Bloomfield Ave., Verona (unless otherwise specified). For directions, please call Maria at 973-736-0913.

June-Sept: For meeting information, please call our officers and/or check the Group's web site.

In June, we will be participating with the Newark Museum in a Bio-Blitz in the South Mountain Reservation where several biologists and scientists will be inventorying natural resources for a day and a half. We need volunteers to work with us.

Loantaka Group

(Morris and Union Counties, approximately)

WEBSITE: <http://Loantaka.NJSierra.org>

OFFICERS:

Group Co-Chairs: Paul Sanderson 908-233-2414
 paulmsanderson@aol.com

And Chris Mills 973-377-1742
 ChrisMills@sierraactivist.org

Treasurer: Joyce White 908-272-4478
 joyce00201@yahoo.com

Secretary: Lisa Melanie
 lisamelanie@comcast.net

Conservation Chairs:

Morris County: Chris Mills 973-377-1742
 ChrisMills@sierraactivist.org

Union County: Eric Hausker 732-669-0719
 hauskerr@aol.com

Legislative Chair: Ken Johanson 908-464-0442
 kjohan@comcast.net

Political Chair: Meiling Chin 908-490-1054 (8-10pm)
 chinmeiling@yahoo.com

Programs: *Open Position!*

Outreach & Events Chair: Bob Johnson 908-771-9676
 robert.johnson@comcast.net

Publicity Chair: Wynn Johanson 908-464-0442
 johansons@comcast.net

Membership: Doug Williams
 doog@optonline.net

Air Quality Coordinator: Bob Campbell 908-273-5720
 wrobc@intac.com

Webmaster: Melissa Goss

Greenbrook: Bob Muska 908-665-2296
 rmuska@erols.com

To join our emailing list, send a blank email to: <http://lists.njsierra.org/listinfo.cgi/loantaka-group-announcements-njsierra.org>.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

We meet the FIRST TUESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at Library of the Chathams, 214 Main St., Chatham, NJ

This is your club and there is always an open invitation to attend an Executive Committee meeting.

GENERAL MEETINGS: Held on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at the Library of the Chathams, 214 Main St., Chatham

Come learn something new, and make some new friends! We'd welcome the chance to meet you and to introduce ourselves. See the schedule below:

DIRECTIONS: Directions are posted on our website.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

July and August: No meetings.

Sept 8: Julia Somers, Executive Director of the Great Swamp Watershed Association, will give an update on **major regional development issues**. She will be accompanied by Blaine Rothaus, a naturalist and photographer, who will present a **slide show of the Great Swamp and its inhabitants**.

ACTIVITIES:

The Loantaka Group is working with concerned citizens and local environmental organizations to protect open space and wildlife habitat in Morris and Union Counties, and to safeguard the water resources on which we all depend. We are also organizing volunteers to help maintain and improve trails in the Morris and Union County Park Systems. In addition, the Group is actively involved in State-wide initiatives involving air quality, transportation, and environmental legislation. Volunteers are always welcome. Call Paul (908-233-2414), Chris (973-377-1742) or Bob Johnson (908-771-9676) for more information.

Central Jersey Group

(Mercer County, parts of Somerset and Middlesex)

OFFICERS:

- Chair:** Laura Lynch 609-882-4642
llynch@mail.med.upenn.edu
- Vice Chair:** Lisa Ridge 609-371-1357
lisaridge@comcast.net
- Treasurer:** Bill Wowk 609-587-0502
bwowk@aol.com
- Conservation Chair:** Ed Pfeiffer 609-581-1660
ECPfeiffer@aol.com
- Membership Chair:** Corinne Egner
conskayakr@aol.com
- Programs Committee:** Ken Mayberg 609-443-9138
kjmayerg@aol.com
and Lisa Ridge 609-371-1357
lisaridge@comcast.net
- Publicity Coordinator:** Janet Black
jblack8084@aol.com
- Political Committee:** Tom Zolandz 908-874-4194
earthsounds@yahoo.com
- Outings Chair:** Ken Mayberg 609-443-9138
kjmayerg@aol.com
- Outreach Coordinator:** Harold Rapp 609-671-0435
HalRapp@aol.com
- Forest Issues:** Nancy Carringer
ncarringer@yahoo.com
- Parks & Biodiversity Issues:** Pat Sayles
plsayles@aol.com

WEBSITES: To get the most up-to-date information and news on our issues and activities, visit www.sierraactivist.org/getbusy.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Meetings are generally held on the FIRST THURSDAY of the month at 7:30 pm. Please contact Laura Lynch (above) for the location. Open to all Club members.

GENERAL MEETINGS:

We meet on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of each month at 7:30 pm at the Lawrence Branch of the Mercer County Library, 2751 Brunswick Pike, Lawrenceville 08648. Check our website for a map.

We welcome everyone at our meetings and hope you can participate in some way. We are involved in many conservation issues at the local, state and national levels.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

No general meetings scheduled for July and August, but we do offer some walks:

July 31 (Sat): Assunkpink Wildlife Area Hike: Meet at conservation center, 9:30 am. 5 mile moderate pace. Ken Mayberg 609-443-9138. kjmayerg@aol.com

Aug 28 (Sat): Evening Walk New Hope/ Lambertville. Easy pace 3-4 miles. Meet at bridge in Lambertville 5:30 pm. Dinner after walk. Ken Mayberg 609-443-9138. kjmayerg@aol.com

Sept 12 (Sun) 10am: Senior walk. Institute Woods, Princeton Battlefield. Easy pace. 55+ years. 3 miles. Ken Mayberg 609-443-9138. kjmayerg@aol.com

Sept 8: We will visit Peru this evening as Central Jersey Group Outings Chair Ken Mayberg shares slides of this past summer's trek through the Andes. Ken is a fifth grade teacher at the Washington School in Trenton who has bicycled and hiked extensively around the world, and his talent as a photographer rivals that of any professional. You don't want to miss this!

SOCIAL ACTIVITY:

Aug 14: Annual Picnic and Outdoor Theatre Show, Washington Crossing State Park. Picnic begins at 5pm, box office line forms at 7:15 pm, curtain time is 8pm. Please bring your own picnic food and supplies and a dish to share, and a cushion for the show. The Open Air Theatre show is "South Pacific" performed by the Pennington Players. Theatre ticket prices are \$10 for adults, \$9.50 for seniors over 64, and \$5 for children under 12. Group rate for 15 or more is \$9. Please contact Harold Rapp (above) by Aug. 7 to guarantee your reservation to obtain the group rate, and arrange for payment. The park entrance is on Pennington-Washington Crossing Road slightly east of Rte. 29. Upon entering the park, watch for the Sierra Club signs to the picnic area. Check our website for additional details and a map.

E-MAIL NOTICES: If you'd like to receive those last minute reminders of meetings or outings, please send your e-mail address to Corinne Egner (above). If you'd like to receive issue alerts, please send your e-mail address to Laura Lynch (above).

Raritan Valley Group

(Middlesex and Somerset Counties, approximately)

WEBSITE: www.njsierra.org/~njrar/

OFFICERS AND CONTACTS:

- Chair:** *Open position!*
- Vice-Chair:** *Open position!*
- Conservation Co-Chairs:** *Open position!*
- Membership Chair (acting):** Don McBride
dtmcbride@yahoo.com
- Political Chair:** Rosemary Grace
rosemary.grace@verizon.net
- Programs, Publicity:** Sandi Lowich
abstract46@aol.com
- Secretary:** *Open position!*
- Treasurer, Webmaster:** Don McBride
dtmcbride@yahoo.com

ISSUES:

We are fighting development along streams, wetlands, flood plains and steep slopes. Group members are involved in local issues, answering questions for concerned citizens regarding development and stewarding local master plan initiatives. This includes working to protect threatened and endangered species in these areas. Help us stop developers from buying sub-standard lots and obtaining permits and variances to construct new homes.

We want to stop the Green Brook Flood Control Project. Besides wasting enormous amounts of taxpayer funds, this project will eliminate 100 acres of wetlands, build miles of tall unsightly levees, and increase development pressure in the area where people are now hesitant to build.

We have discussed various wildlife matters at our general meetings. The Black Bear issue has been prominent, but we are open to discuss and become involved with other wildlife issues. So far, we have been able to include various points of view and encourage other members to join in our dialogue.

GENERAL MEETINGS: Held at 7:30 pm on the SECOND TUESDAY of the month except for July and August. Currently, meetings are being held at the Bound Brook Presbyterian Church at 409 Mountain Avenue in Bound Brook. Take the Mountain Avenue exit off Route 22 towards Bound Brook. The church is on the right hand side at the first stop light (Union Avenue - Rte 28). The public is invited and refreshments are served.

Executive Committee Meetings: Held at 7pm on the FIRST TUESDAY of the month except for July and August. Currently, meetings are usually held at the Somerset County Library on 1 Vogt Drive in Bridgewater. All Sierra Club members are invited to attend. Please contact us first in case there is a change of plans.

Jersey Shore Group

(Monmouth and Ocean Counties, approximately)

Web Site: <http://njsierra.org/~njshore/>

OFFICERS:

- Group Chair:** Dennis Anderson 732-888-3158
dennisaza@aol.com
612 Second St., Union Beach, NJ 07735
- Vice-Chair:** *Open position!*
- Secretary:** Joe DeLuca 732-389-1835
joe-deluca@att.net
- Conservation:**
- Monmouth Co:** Steve Knowlton 732-747-7011
knowlton@worldnet.att.net
- Ocean County:** *Open position!*
- Ocean County Section Chair:** *Open position!*
- Webmaster:** George Newsome 732-308-1518
newsome1@pobox.com
- Treasurer:** Judy Maxcy 732-458-5074
- Political Chair:** Laura Bagwell 732-741-8678
l.bagwell3@verizon.net
- Outings Chair:** Mike Verange 908-902-0718
mjverange@aol.com
- Membership:** Alan Roseman 732-780-1308
aroseman@monmouth.com
- Program Chair:** Regina Maurer 732-335-1183
rmaurer@sprintmail.com

GENERAL MEETINGS: Held at 8pm on the FOURTH MONDAY of each month - except in July, August, and December - at the Old Wharf House, Old Wharf Park, Main Street and Oceanport Avenue, Oceanport, NJ. Come early to socialize and enjoy refreshments. For directions and information, please call Regina Maurer at 732-335-1183, or visit our web site.

Sunday, July 25: Annual Summer Picnic: Noon, Turkey Swamp County Park. Join the Jersey Shore Group for our annual picnic at Turkey Swamp Park, Georgia Road, Freehold Township. Please bring a dish to share. And bring along the kids and grandkids for bocce, kites, light horseshoes, & board games. To coordinate food, and for more information and directions, contact Joellen Lundy at 732-741-4756, or jfutey@comcast.net.

Sept 27: 6:30 - 7:15 pm, Wolf Hill Walk: Break in those hiking shoes or sneakers by taking a sunset 40 minute stroll along the well marked trails of the Wolf Hill Recreation Area. Meet 6:30 p.m. sharp near the southern end of the Eatontown Blvd (Rt. 537). Just a few hundred yards north of Rt. 36, go right (east) on Crescent Place. Meet in the parking lot enclosed by a split rail fence, across from the first entrance to St. Barnabas Health Care. (canceled if overcast or rainy weather) After walk, drive 3 minutes to the general meeting.

Sept 27: Wind Energy, Part II: As a follow-up to our spring meeting at which we learned about the proposed wind farm project off the New Jersey coast near Asbury Park, Eric Stiles of New Jersey Audubon Society will share with us his organization's perspective on this form of renewable energy.

GROUP ExCom ELECTIONS:

This fall the Jersey Shore Group will be holding an election to fill five (5) vacancies on its Executive Committee (ExCom). On August 1, the Nominating Committee composed of Stan Greberis, Steve Knowlton, and Rosemary Bagwell will present its nominations. Please contact any officer if you would like to run for the ExCom. The name of any Group member proposed in writing by at least fifteen Group members prior to August 5, 2004 and who gives consent will also be included on the ballot. Please submit petitions to the chairman of the Nominations Committee, Stan Greberis, 143 Ely Harmony Road, Freehold, NJ 07728.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: The Group's Executive Committee meets monthly at members' homes. All are welcome to attend. For more information, please call Dennis Anderson at 732-888-3158.

West Jersey Group

(Camden, Gloucester and Burlington Counties, approximately)

Web site: users.snip.net/~ginacee/home.htm

OFFICERS:

- Group Chair:** Gina Carola 856-848-8831
ginacee@snip.net
- Vice-Chair:** Wayne Zanni 856-728-4507
wzanni@earthlink.net
- Secretary:** Becky Payne 856-488-5510
beckyp@snip.net
- Treasurer:** Trish Clements 856-768-5639
psclcm@aol.com

(Continued on page 6)

GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 5)

Publicity Chair:	Bud Kaliss	856-428-8071
	budmilmilbud@yahoo.com	
Political Chair:	Marie Hageman	856-589-0606
	mdhageman@mail.com	
Pinelands Rep:	Lee Snyder	
	LSnyder@csc.com	
Greenways		
Coordinators:	Frank and Ellen Zinni	
Conservation Chair:	Stacey Ayala	
Membership Chair:	Mike Brown	856-547-9221
	eyebrown@snip.net	
Fundraising Chair:	Reiss Tiffany	856-829-6405
	r-stiffany@home.com	
Programs Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>	
Outings Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>	
Inner City Outings:	Jennifer Grenier	856-582-5512
	and Maxine Vogt	856-779-9156

GENERAL MEETINGS: are held at 7:30 pm on the SECOND TUESDAY of each month, at the Unitarian Church, 401 N. Kings Highway (Rte. 41), Cherry Hill (located between Rte. 70 and the convergence of Rtes. 38 and 73, just north of a traffic light at Chapel Avenue). Handicap accessible parking and entrance in rear of building.

We do not meet in July or August. Please join us on a hike or other outing.

Sept 14: How is the Sierra Club helping address population issues and the effects of 6.4 billion people on the planet? Visit the Ecuadorian Andes and learn about the integrated programs that help rural indigenous families. Bonnie Tillery, the New Jersey Chapter Population Issues Coordinator, will discuss her trip with a Sierra Club-sponsored study tour. You will also learn what New Jersey and Ecuador have in common, as well as see some beautifully exotic sights.

South Jersey Group

(Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland and Salem Counties, approximately)

OFFICERS:

Group and

Outings Chair:

Tom Boghosian 609-272-9005
boghosia@atlantic.edu

Vice-Chair:

Sally Nunn 609-704-1790
nunsal@comcast.net

Conservation Chair:

Fred Akers 856-697-3479
akers@gowebway.com

Political Chair,

Calendar Sales:

Dick Colby 609-965-4453
dick.colby@stockton.edu

Membership Chair:

Gary Roman 609-625-3438

Secretary/Treasurer:

Julie Akers 856-697-3479
akers@gowebway.com

The central conservation issue, for which the Group was founded in the 1970s, continues to be protection of the Great Egg Harbor Wild & Scenic River, and continues to consume the energies of those few officers who remain active—both within the Sierra Club and in two other organizations that have “spun off” from the South Jersey Group. If you have topics (and places) for meetings, please let the officers know about them. We welcome general comments from Club members in South Jersey.

Current Issues: We have been following the several studies seeking to determine **sustainable water supply levels** for southeastern New Jersey, with the hope that findings will be used by planners (such as those employed by the Pinelands Commission) to limit population growth. Another hot issue is a proposal to develop a large tract of environmentally sensitive land in Millville.

No meetings in July or August. For conservation action projects in the Great Egg Harbor and Maurice River watersheds, please contact Fred Akers.

Sept 28 (Tues): 7pm: Catch up on **conservation planning for the Great Egg Harbor Wild and Scenic River**, at a public (membership) session of the Watershed Association. Clay Sutton may present results of his **bird survey on the Great Egg Harbor River**. For information or to confirm, call the Akers. Warren Fox Nature Center.

Seniors Section

(A new chapter-wide special interest section offering hikes/cleanups, social gatherings, movies, meetings, etc.)

The Sierran Seniors held their 2nd meeting on Sat., May 8 at East Windsor Public Library. We discussed outings and topics for future meetings. We hope to awaken interest in letter writing campaigns, social outings, and increasing our membership as a dynamic component of

NJ Sierra Club. For further information, contact Nancy Carringer (ncarringer@yahoo.com) or Richard Isaac (risaacx@aol.com).

OUTINGS:

Sept 19 (Sun): Princeton Battlefield State Park easy hike. Meet in the parking lot, 1pm, for a 2-mile ramble on easy terrain. Sighting the nesting pair of bald eagles possible— but not guaranteed! Leader: Ken Mayberg.

Oct. 17 (Sun): Seniors will visit the **NJ Audubon Society's Plainsboro Preserve** for an easy hike around Lake McCormack to enjoy beautiful fall foliage. This will be followed by an organizational meeting, and a pot-luck supper. Leader: Nancy Carringer.

Singles Section

(A chapter-wide special interest activity including hikes/cleanups, social gatherings, cultural outings, meetings, etc.)

Please join our singles-oriented activities – we are not a local Group, but rather a statewide additional “layer” of Club involvement. Everyone is welcome to attend our events. We can only offer as many activities as we have volunteers to run them— so if you have the slightest urge to get involved, please give in to it!

Webpage address: <http://singles.njsierra.org>

email: singles@njsierra.org (mention “Sierra Club” in your subject line)

Phone announcements: (973) 364-7573

Press 1 for: Final Friday Film Fest (last Friday of each month)

Press 2 for: Ron Pate's upcoming hike

Press 3 for: 2nd Monday monthly meeting

Press 4 for: 3rd Tuesday of the month dinner in Montclair

Press 7 for: Joyce Haddad's outings

Press 8 for: Singles Dance-and-a-Movie or Volleyball

The **BEST** way to be notified of upcoming events is to join our listserv by visiting <http://lists.njsierra.org/listinfo.cgi/nj-sierra-singles-announcements-njsierra.org> (long, isn't it). All events, including those planned after publication, will be sent to your email mailbox. If you prefer not to receive email, you may view all messages which have been sent to the listserv by going to <http://lists.njsierra.org/pipermail/nj-sierra-singles-announcements-njsierra.org/>.

OFFICERS:

Chair:

Bob Johnson
robert.johnson@comcast.net

Outings Chair:

Joyce Haddad
jkhaddad@juno.com

Conservation Chair: *Open Position!*

Contact us! We need you!

Treasurer:

Joyce White
joyce00201@yahoo.com

Webpage designer:

David Szalay
dszalay@comcast.net.

Social Chair:

Kathy Holusha
Kathleen.Holusha@sierraactivist.org
Diana Eichholz
MistyAngel2003@yahoo.com

Programs:

Lynn Forrest
abc77@msn.com

Publicity:

Dave Ogens
Bandit29@aol.com

Membership:

Volunteer Opportunities: We need hike leaders, a Conservation Chair, Fundraising Chair/Co-Chairs, and members of all committees, including social event planners for Plaza Grille. Please attend an executive committee meeting or email any of the officers if you are interested. You may co-chair any position with a friend, if desired. We'll help you learn the ropes.

GENERAL MEETINGS:

Casual pizza gathering, introduction to club issues and activities, and letter writing. **SECOND MONDAY** of each month starting at 6:30 pm with optional pizza. Usual location: the Chatham Library — call 973-364-7573, ext. 3 or join our listserv to confirm. Guest speakers at each meeting at 7pm. \$5 donation at door and RSVP (required for pizza only) to joycemwhite@att.net or 973-364-7573, ext. 3, by noon the day before. (Please leave name and specify plain or veggie-topping pizza.) Free (and no RSVP required) if you're not having pizza.

No Meetings in July or August.

Sept 13: Fabulous speaker TBA. (Details on listserv.)

Directions to the Chatham Library: See <http://Loan-taka.NJSierra.org>, or call the library at 973-635-0603.

PLANNING/EXCOM MEETINGS each month at various locations. All welcome. Contact any officer for date and location.

SOCIAL DINNER: FIRST WEDNESDAY of each month at 6:30 pm. Join us for dinner in Morristown at the Famished Frog. RSVP required; details on listserv.

SOCIAL DINNER: THIRD TUESDAY of each month at 7pm. Join us for dinner in a Montclair restaurant. Location TBA 2 weeks in advance. RSVP to jkhaddad@juno.com or 973-364-7573 option # 4.

SOCIAL DINNER: LAST THURSDAY of each month at 6:30 pm. Join us for dinner in a Hunterdon County restaurant. Location TBA 2 weeks in advance. RSVP is required to soupys@att.net or 908-797-6725.

SINGLES DINNER-AND-A-MOVIE:

Sat, Sept 18: Join us at 6pm at The Plaza Grille, 3 Headquarters Plaza, in Morristown, NJ. Approximate cost \$27, (\$3 extra for non-members; bring membership card!); full buffet dinner including soft drinks, coffee, dessert, tax, tip, and a movie ticket valid for one year at all Clearview Cinemas. Include full name in e-mail and include the subject “Sierra Dinner and a Movie”. If you must cancel, do so by e-mail ASAP. We will decide at dinner which movie to attend based on interest, and may split up to attend different movies. RSVP required by Sept. 17th to: MistyAngel2003@yahoo.com.

FINAL FRIDAY FILM FEST! Last Friday of the month — come see a great movie on the big (well, pretty big) screen. Donation: \$5 (\$6 for non-members). At the Shillelagh Club, 648 Prospect Ave., in West Orange. Please CONFIRM film times/locations via our listserv; or 973-364-7573, ext. 1; or e-mailing abc77@msn.com.

July 30 — “BLUE VINYL” OUTDOOR MOVIE! Bring a lawn chair — 9 pm (or when dark) in the Shillelagh Club side-yard. Rain or shine (indoors if it rains). This Emmy award-winning documentary is a detective story searching for truth about vinyl — our most popular plastic.

August 27 — “THE SEVENTH VOYAGE OF SINBAD” — OUTDOOR MOVIE! Bring lawn chair. 9pm or when dark, rain or shine. This 1958 movie is one of the greatest examples of pre-computer-age stop-motion, special-effects work. Includes a cyclops, skeletons, and a miniature princess. Not heavy on plot, but who cares!

September 24 — “I WANT TO LIVE!” The electrifying Oscar-winning performance by Susan Hayward propels this gripping, tense 1958 melodrama, based on the true story of the first woman to be executed in the state of California. Starts 8pm.

To get to the Shillelagh Club, take I-280 to Exit 8A (Prospect Ave South). Go through 3 lights. Look for the white sign for the Club on the left about ¾ mile after the 3rd light. Beverages and pizza are available in the Club.

HIKES: Please see the Outings section of this newsletter for our hikes. Many of Paul Serdiuk's South Jersey hikes/events are also oriented toward singles.

Sierra Student Coalition

(a semi-autonomous organization of college and high school students)

Website: www.ssc.org/nj

For current information, please contact: danrosen85@hotmail.com or 201-873-7023.

Inner City Outings Section

(another Chapter-wide special interest activity)

OFFICERS:

Chair

(North/Center Jersey): Anne Dyjak 732-560-0953
Njicoutings@aol.com

Volunteer Coordinator:

Patti Lynch
Njicoutings@aol.com

Co-Chairs

(South Jersey): Jennifer Grenier 856-582-5512
Jennig1@yahoo.com

and Maxine Vogt 856-779-9156 Mvogt1@juno.com

Volunteer Coordinator:

Joy Booth 856-486-1574
joyeboo@hotmail.com

Inner City Outings is a community outreach program which provides wilderness adventures for inner city youth of NJ. Volunteer certified outings leaders conduct outings on weekends, generally day trips on Saturdays.

NJ is currently served by two ICO groups, one in the northern/central region and one in the southern region/Camden area. If you would like to experience the rewards of introducing NJ inner city youth to the wonders of nature, your involvement is encouraged and you are requested to contact us at the above email addresses. To learn more, visit our webpage at <http://www.sierraclub.org/ico/newjersey/>



Outings

Learn more about your environment... take a Sierra Club educational hike!

GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS

- Central Jersey:** Ken Mayberg
kjmberg@aol.com
- Essex County:** David Ogens 973-226-0748 (H)
29 Hatfield Street, Caldwell, NJ 07003
- Hudson-Meadowlands:** Vacant
- Hunterdon:** Susan Schirmer 908-996-7722 (H)
- Sierra Shore:** Mike Verange 908-732-8364 (H)
1497 W Front St, Lincroft, NJ 07738
- Loantaka:** Bob Muska 908-665-2296 (H)
95 Delmore Ave, Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922
- North Jersey:** Ellen Blumenkrantz 201-784-8417
eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com
- Northwest Jersey:** Vacant
- Raritan Valley:** Steve Ember, sehiker@yahoo.com
- South Jersey:** Tom Boghosian 609-272-9005 (H)
3722 Lehigh Ct., Mays Landing, NJ 08330
- West Jersey:** Dan Procida 609-767-2149 (H)
813 Old White Horse Pike, Waterford Works, NJ 08089
- River Touring:** Fred Tocce 908-453-2205 (H)
Rd 1 Box 277, Washington, NJ 07882
- Inner City Outings:** Anne Dyjak 732-560-0953 (H)
NJ-ICO, 17 Mt. Horeb Rd. Warren, NJ 07059
- Chapter Outings:** Ellen Blumenkrantz 201-784-8417
eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

If you have any allergies, please remember to bring your medication. The leader has the final word in the conduct of the trip. Your cooperation will help assure a safe and pleasant outing.

Please arrive early at the meeting place so that the outing can start on time. For day hikes, lunch, water (at least a liter), extra clothing, rain gear, and emergency equipment should be carried in a small daypack. For all except easy hikes, sturdy over-the-ankle shoes or boots should be worn. For most trips, you are expected to have your own equipment. In some cases, it may be rented from outdoor/camping suppliers -check the yellow pages or call the trip leader. If the weather is questionable on the date of the outing, you may assume that it will take place, unless the schedule indicates otherwise.

Unless registration is required, such as for weekend trips or river tours, or if you have a question about the outing, it is not necessary to contact the leader before the trip. Do not call to join a trip after the posted deadline date. When phoning a leader, please honor his or her requested calling times and call 3 to 5 days before the outing. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) when writing to a leader. On popular trips, Sierra Club members will be given preference.

Watercraft trips let you experience the unspoiled parts of our region, but water safety does impose special requirements. The size and skill of each party must be appropriate to each river, so participation in each trip must be at the discretion of the leader. We ask you to register at least one week in advance. Unless a phone number is provided, please send a SASE with an honest assessment of your paddling experience, whether you need or can offer a ride, your phone number, and any questions you may have. You will receive a description of the trip, with directions, where you can rent a canoe, and what you will need to bring. Almost all trip leaders can arrange for partners to share a canoe if you will be coming by yourself. Unless stated otherwise: rental canoes are available, trips do not require advanced paddling skill or exceptional physical conditioning, public transportation is not available, non-members may participate, and responsible smokers are welcome.

If you are a Sierra Club member interested in becoming an Outing Leader or have suggestions for new outings, contact your Group Outings Chair or the Chapter Outings Chair for assistance and further information. The Sierra Club contributing each outing is given at the end of the write-up, as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| (C) Central Jersey | (JS) - Jersey Shore |
| (L) - Loantaka | (N) - North Jersey |
| (NW) - Northwest Jersey | (S) - South Jersey |
| (W) - West Jersey | (NJ) - NJ Chapter |
| (H) - Hudson | (RV) - Raritan Valley |
| (IC) - Inner City Outings | (RT) - River Touring |
| (E) - Essex County | (ACOC) - Atlantic Chapter Outings Comm. |

Outing Leaders: Please send October-December write-ups to your Group Outings Coordinator before July 30. If you are planning to lead an outing close to the beginning of one of our quarterly publication periods, please submit it for the previous Sierran, due to the occasional lag in mailing. Also, please send outing rosters or sign-up sheets to the Chapter Office as soon as possible after each outing.

Note: If possible, leaders should send their trip descriptions to the Group Outings Coordinator instead of directly to the Chapter Outings Coordinator. This is particularly important for occasional leaders.

Group Outings Coordinators: Please submit your Oct.-December trip write-ups by August 5.

NOTES ON OUTINGS: All Outings are open to Club members, guests and anyone interested in outings. Unless otherwise specified, the events are free and open to the public. ALL participants must sign liability waivers on ALL outings sponsored by Sierra Club. This is a new policy. Please check with the leader before bringing small children on an outing. A parent or other responsible adult must accompany persons under 18. At their discretion, leaders may permit pets on outings if the event description specifically includes bringing pets.

Sierra Club outings are arranged by volunteer leaders who are in charge of the trip and responsible for the safety, welfare and enjoyment of all participants. Leaders determine qualifications to participate, adequacy of equipment, routes to be followed, and special precautions to be taken. Please arrive adequately prepared and equipped.

JULY

JUL 3, (Sat) Singles Moonlight Hike. 7:45 PM 6 miles. Moderate pace. Enjoy a moonlight hike on sand roads as we listen to the sounds of the summer serenade. Meet in field behind Atsion Office on Rte. 206/between Red Lion circle and Hammonton, Burl. Co. Bring snack type food to share at tailgate social after hike as well as chair or blanket. NC. Pets must be leashed at all times. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 eve. pis1@cccnj.net (W)

JUL 4 (Sun) Manasquan River Reservoir, Monmouth County,(Special Interest: birds) Enjoy an easy 5 mile circular hike on one of the largest reservoirs in the area. We may enjoy water fowl. Bring snacks, drinks, bird books or binoculars. Hiking shoes are not required. This is a great family hike. Meet at 9 AM at the main entrance to the reservoir on Windeller Rd. Take the GSP to exit 98. Head west on I-195 to exit 28 (Rt. 9). Go north on Rt. 9. Make first right onto Windeller Rd. The main entrance is 1.5 miles on your left. Meet in the parking area at the far left toward the back. Bad weather, including high heat index cancels. Confirmation/questions please call. Leader Mike Verange, 908-902-0718 or mjverange@aol.com (JS)

JUL 10 (Sat) Recycle a House - Volunteer Activity. We will help Habitat for Humanity rebuild a row home. This is a way to give back to the community and create a positive image for the club. Bring lunch, water and boots. Meet 8 AM at the rear parking lot at the Hilton Hotel, Rt. 70, Cherry Hill. Leader: Tom J., 856-234-9369. Call in advance if possible so we know how many to expect.

JUL 10 (Sat) Singles Bike Ride. 9:00AM Class D ride. We will do the three bridges ride through the heart of the Pine Barrens. Easy pace, with frequent stops as needed. Meet at Batsto Village parking lot, near the picnic grove, on Rt. 542, 10 miles east of Hammonton, Atl. Co.,. Bring picnic type food to share after ride. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-463-3593 eve. pis1@cccnj.net (W)

JUL 17, (Sat) SinglesBike Ride. 9:00AM Class D ride. Cover Bridges Tour. Join us as we bicycle Saturday on quiet tree lined country roads through several historic covered bridges in Bucks County. Meet at Tinicum Park, parking lot, Erwinna Pa. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 eve. Pis1@cccnj.net (W)

JUL 17 (Sat.) Minnewaska State Park. 12 miles, moderate paced. Walk along Mossy Brook Trail to waterfall, out to Lake Awosting and back along Hamilton Carriage way with beautiful views. Optional dinner stop in New Paltz. Wear hiking boots, bring lunch, snacks and plenty of water. This is an all day outing. Hikers must preregister. Group limited to 12 people. Heavy rain cancels. Joint with AMC Contact Ellen Blumenkrantz at eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com or 201-784-8417. May be combined with June 18 hike for weekend trip. (N)

July 18 (Sun) Tulip Springs Singles Hike. 6 miles at a moderate pace. Hike the South Mountain Reservation and see some of the many highlights this 2000-acre track has to offer including a 25-foot waterfall and a spectacular view of New York City and South Jersey. Bring water and Lunch. Meet 10 AM in the Tulip Springs parking lot just off Cherry lane that run between Northfield Avenue and South Orange Avenue in South Orange. There is a \$3.00 fee for non members. Rain cancels Leader Ron Pate 973 364-7573 Option #2 (E)

JUL 18 (Sun) Mohonk Rock Rift Crevices and the labyrinth will challenge us with some rock scrambling. We'll also hike along some carriage ways to Eagle Cliff for some great views, and walk through the formal gardens. 10-12 miles at moderate pace. This is a full day outing, with optional dinner stop in New Paltz. Wear hiking boots, bring lunch, snacks and plenty of water. \$7-10 entrance fee. Hikers must preregister. Group limited to 12 people. Heavy rain cancels. Contact Ellen Blumenkrantz at eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com or 201-784-8417. May be combined with June 17 Minnewaska hike for weekend trip. (N)

JUL18, (Sun) Singles Kayak Trip. 9:00AM We do the Egg Harbor River. We will have a pizza party after trip with volleyball game. Call leader to reserve kayak, space is limited. Meet at Palace Restaurant, Rt 322, Weymouth, Atl. Co., Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-463-3593 pis1@cccnj.net (W)

JUL 24 (Sat) Harriman State Park 9:15AM 16 mile moderate paced hike. Take advantage of the long daylight hours for this all day hike. The pace will be moderate, but steady with lunch and snack breaks. Optional swim, so bring your suit & towel. Optional stop at Kinchleys for great thin crust pizza/beer. Wear hiking boots, bring lunch, snacks and plenty of water. Hikers must preregister. Group limited to 12 people. Heavy rain cancels. Trans. 1B. Contact Ellen Blumenkrantz at eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com or 201-784-8417 (N)

JUL 25, (Sun) SinglesHike. Lum's Pond 9:30AM Bear, Del. 7 miles mod. pace. New hike for the club. We will hike flat roads around the pond and marsh area, wildlife observation possible, bring binoculars. Meet by

phone booths on right side just past the Delaware Memorial Bridge toll gate at 9:30 am . or meet 10:00 am at park visitors office. Call leader for carpool/caravan info. Bring picnic type food to share at tailgate social, swim wear for possible swim after hike. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 eve. Pis1@cccnj.net (W)

JUL 30, (Fri.) Singles Moonlight Kayak Trip. 6:00PM Paddle the Mullica river with a dinner stop at a local restaurant. Some experience required. Limited space, call leader to reserve space. Meet at Bel Haven Canoe Rentals, on Rt. 543, 12 miles east of Hammonton, Atl. Co. Bring flashlight and whistle. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 pis1@cccnj.net (W)

JUL 31 (Sat) Harriman State Park - 10:00am. Moderate paced hike through Central Harriman. This 8 mile hike will pass through Time Square and the Lemon Squeezer. Hikers must pre-register. Group limited to 12 people. Bring hiking boots, lunch, snacks and plenty of water. Optional stop after hike at a local restaurant for food and drinks. There is a \$3.00 fee for non-members. All weather hike. Leader: David Thompson (201) 315-3530 or e-mail dthompson8@earthlink.net (N)

JUL 31 (Sat) Singles Moonlight Hike. 7:30PM 6 miles . Moderate pace. Hike dirt roads lit by moonlight in the Pines. Bring swim wear, chair or blanket. Bring snack type food to share at tailgate social after hike. NP/NC. Meet at Lake Oswego parking lot on Lake Oswego Road. Off Rt. 563, 8 milesS. of Chadsworth, Burl. Co. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 eve. pis1@cccnj.net (W)

AUGUST

AUG 7 (Sat) Tuxedo History Circular. Scenic hike of about 7 miles in Harriman State Park. Follow a variety of trails to Claudius Smith's Den where we will stop for lunch. This is a moderate hike with a lot of history thrown in. Meet at the Tuxedo Railroad station on Route 17 in Tuxedo, NY at 10:15. Leader John P. Jurasek 845-365-3618 (no calls past 10 PM) or Jurasek@optonline.net (ACOC)

Aug. 8 (Sun) Singles Tube Float Trip. 9:30AM Repeat of last year's great trip. 4 lazy hours floating down the Delaware River. Bring lunch with you in a small cooler, we will eat in picnic area after float trip. Bring snack to eat on river. NO alcohol on river! Bring change of clothes for optional tour of New Hope after trip. Call leader to reserve space. Meet at Bucks County River Country Outfitters, on Rt. 413, Point Pleasant, PA. Call leader for carpool info. NC/NP. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 eve. or pis1@cccnj.net (W)

Aug. 13 (Fri) Singles Hike and Meteor Shower. 7:30pm 5-6 miles moderate pace. Short hike and then watch the Perseid Meteor Shower, a solar system spectacular. Bring snack type food to share at tailgate social after hike, blanket or chair to sit on. NP/NC. Meet in field behind Atsion Office on Rt. 206, between Red Lion Circle and Hammonton, Burl. Co. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 pis1@cccnj.net (W)

Aug 14 (Sat) Recycle a House - Volunteer Activity We will help Habitat for Humanity rebuild a row home. This is a way to give back to the community and create a positive image for the club. Bring lunch, water and boots. Meet 8 AM at the rear parking lot at the Hilton Hotel, Rt. 70, Cherry Hill. Leader: Tom J., 856-234-9369. Call in advance if possible so we know how many to expect.

Aug. 14 (Sat) Harteshorne Woods, Monmouth County (Special interest: Recent History) Moderate 6 mile hike has elevation gains and a lot of scenery. Please bring drinks and snacks. Hiking shoes are suggested. Meet 9 AM at the Rocky Point parking area. Take GSP to exit 117. Take Rt. 36 toward Sandy Hook approx. 10 miles to the Miller St. Exit. Go to the top of the hill make a right. Parking area is straight ahead. Bad weather, including high heat index cancels. Confirmation/questions please call. Leader Mike Verange, 908-902-0718 or mjverange@aol.com (JS)

Aug. 15 (Sun.) Singles Hike at Eagle Rock Reservation. We will hike 4-5 miles at a moderate pace. Bring water and Lunch and wear hiking boots. Meet before 10:00 A.M. at the Highlawn Pavilion Parking lot off Eagle Rock Ave. in West Orange. Take rte. 280 to Prospect Ave (exit 8B) head north, right turn onto Eagle Rock Ave, left turn into reservation. A \$3 fee will be charged to nonmembers. All participants must sign a liability waiver. Rain cancels. Leader: Ron Pate (973) 364-7573 option #2 (E)

AUG 15 (Sun) Singles Kayak Trip. 9:00am River level determines what river we do. Bring picnic type food to share after trip. NP/NC. Call leader to reserve space. Meet at Bel Haven Canoes, Rt. 542 Green Bank Atl. Co. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 pis1@cccnj.net (W)

AUG 18-29 (12 days Wed.-Sun) Wells Gray Provincial Park, British Columbia. If you're into beautiful scenery, great hiking and some canoeing, this is the trip for you. Wells Gray is one of Canada's largest parks (1.4 million acres) with beautiful flower filled meadows, pristine lakes, and mountain peaks. We fly out Wednesday, August 18, our first day to Kamloops, Canada, and spend the night at a lovely bed & breakfast. The next day (Thursday, 8/19) we head out on a 2 night/3 day canoe camping trip to the lake district of the park. No canoe experience is necessary. All camping gear is provided except your sleeping bag - which could be rented for an extra \$25 charge. After 3 days of canoeing (there are also some hikes on these days), we return to our bed & breakfast for a hot shower, and a nice dinner out. The following day (Sunday, 8/22) we start a 6 night/7 day hiking trek. We hike in the alpine area from private chalet to private chalet, where beds and meals are provided for us, allowing us to carry just a large day pack (lunch, water, and change of clothes). More detailed descriptions and photos of the huts, hikes, scenery, can be found at www.skiihike.com - the website for the company who owns and operate the huts and will provide our local guides. Maximum group size 8. Cost for 11 nights, including all meals and lodging about \$1250 (depending on exchange rate). Airfare to Kamloops not included. Leader/Contact: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com, 201-784-8417 (N)

AUG 21 (Sat) Singles Sunset Hike and Swim. 4:30pm 5-6 miles moderate pace. Easy hike on sand roads as we hike to a picturesque part of the river and cool off as 4:30pm we watch the sun set. Bring swim wear and picnic type food to share at our tailgate social after hike. Meet in open field behind the Atsion Office on Rte 206, between Red Lion circle and Hammonton, Burl Co. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 pis1@cccnj.net (W)

AUG 27 (Fri) Singles Moonlight Kayak Trip. 6:00PM Paddle the Mullica river with a dinner stop at a local restaurant. Some experience required. Limited space, call leader to reserve space. Meet at Bel Haven Canoe Rentals, on Rt. 543, 12 miles east of Hammonton, Atl. Co. Bring flashlight and whistle. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 pis1@cccnj.net (W)

AUG 28 (Sat) Full Moon Hike & Swim at Blue Mountain Lakes. We will hike 6-8 miles at a moderate pace ending with a swim at Crater Lake. Hiking boots and water are recommended for the hike. Bring SWIMSUITs, beverages and picnic type foods to share at tailgate social. Meet by 3:30pm at the Blue Mountain Lakes parking area. Take Exit 12 on Rte. 80. Drive into Blairstown on Rte. 521 North. Turn left at the Rte. 94 junction. Then turn right at the traffic light (leave Routes 94 and 521). Take County Road 602 for about 7 miles to Millbrook (not Stillwater). Turn right at Millbrook Village and go about 1.5 miles to the Crater Lake Sign. Turn right and watch for the Blue Mountain Lakes parking area. There is a \$3.00 fee for non-members. Rain cancels. Well behaved dogs welcome. Leader: Joyce Haddad (973) 364-7573 option #7 or e-mail JKHADDAD@JUNO.COM (N)

AUG 28 (Sat) Singles Moonlight Hike. 7:30pm 6 miles . Moderate pace. Hike dirt roads lit by moonlight in the Pines. Bring swim wear, chair or blanket. Bring snack type food to share at tailgate social after hike. NP/NC. Meet at Lake Oswego parking lot on Lake Oswego Road. Off Rt. 563, 8 milesS. of Chadsworth, Burl. Co. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 eve. pis1@cccnj.net (W)

AUG 29 (Sun) Singles Kayak Trip. 9:00am We do Crosswicks Creek as we go out with the tide and return with the tide, easy paddle! Meet at Paint Island Canoe Rental 350 Farnsworth Ave. Bordentown, NJ. Call leader to reserve boat. NP/NC. Bring picnic type food to share at tailgate social after trip. Call leader for carpool info. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 eve. or pis1@cccnj.net (W)

SEPTEMBER

SEP 11 (Sat) Recycle a House - Volunteer Activity We will help Habitat for Humanity rebuild a row home. This is a way to give back to the community and create a positive image for the club. Bring lunch, water and boots. Meet 8 AM at the rear parking lot at the Hilton Hotel, Rt. 70, Cherry Hill. Leader: Tom J., 856-234-9369. Call in advance if possible so we know how many to expect (W)

SEP 11 (Sat) Clausland Mountain. 6 Miles. We will climb up Clausland Mountain (700' Climb) through historic Rockland Cemetery to an old Nike missile base. Bring hiking boots, lunch, 2 quarts of water. You can take the 9:15 Rockland Coaches 9A bus from the Port Authority terminal to meet Leader in Piermont, NY by 10:15. Drivers meet in front of 450 Piermont Ave. (building with mural). Leader: John P. Jurasek 845-365-3618 (no calls past 10 PM) or Jurasek@optonline.net (ACOC)

SEP 11 (Sat) Schunemunk - 10:00am. Moderate paced hike through the Schunemunk Mountains. This is a 10 mile hike across both ridges. We will see the Megaliths. There is some rock scrambling and hills. Experienced hikers only. Hikers must pre-register. Group limited to 12 people. Bring hiking boots, lunch, snacks and 2-3 quarts of water. Optional stop after hike at a local restaurant for food and drinks. There is a \$3.00 fee for non members. All weather hike. Leader: David Thompson (201) 315-3530 or e-mail dthompson8@earthlink.net (N)

Sept. 11 (Sat.) Hike In the South Mountain Reservation. We will hike 4-5 leisurely miles. Bring a picnic lunch and wear hiking boots. Highlights include a 25-foot waterfall and some very inviting wood and in the heart of Suburbia. Meet BEFORE 10:00 A. M. at the "Turtle Back Rock" entrance off of Walker Road in West Orange. Take Route 280 Exit 10. At light, turn left (west) onto Northfield Avenue. Stay on Northfield approx. 2 miles. Turn left on Walker Road (opposite Rock Springs Water Company). Turtle Rock Parking Area on the right. Rain cancels. Leader: Ron Pate (973) 364-7573 (option #2) (E)

SEP 12 (Sun.) Social Hike at Eagle Rock Reservation. We will hike 4-5 miles at a moderate pace. Bring water and snacks and wear hiking boots. Meet before 11:00 A.M. at the Highlawn Pavilion Parking lot off Eagle Rock Ave. in West Orange. Take rte. 280 to Prospect Ave (exit 8B) head north, right turn onto Eagle Rock Ave, left turn into reservation. A \$3 fee will be charged to nonmembers. Well - behaved kids and dogs are welcome. All participants must sign a liability waiver. Rain cancels. Leader: Joyce Haddad (973) 364-7573 option #7(E)

SEP 12 (Sun) Brookdale Community College/Thompson Park Moderate 6.5 mile hike that follows the Swimming River Reservoir. Please bring drinks and snacks. Hiking shoes are suggested. GSP Exit 109, head west on Monmouth County Rt. 520 approx. 2 miles to Brookdale Community College make first right proceed to parking lot #2 Meet in the right back corner at 9 AM. Bad weather, including high heat index cancels. Confirmation/questions please call. Leader Mike Verange, 908-902-0718 or mjverange@aol.com (JS)

(Continued on page 8)

"When Summer warms the hanging fruit and burns the berry brown; when straw is gold, and ear is white, and harvest comes to town . . ." -- JRR Tolkien



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

Chair

* Sunil Somalwar (732) 572-7721
svsomalwar@sierraactivist.org
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Vice-Chair

* Ken Johanson (908) 464-0442
kjohan@comcast.net
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Conservation Chair

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Conservation Vice-Chair

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Political Chair

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Webmaster

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newsome1@pobox.com

Membership Chair (vacant)

Council Delegate

* Jane Tousman (908) 561-5504
jdtous@aol.com
14 Butler Rd., Edison NJ 08820-1007
Alternate: Rich Isaac - (see above)

Other ExCom members at large

* Bob Johnson (908) 771-9676
Robert.Johnson@comcast.net
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* Tina Schvejda (973) 427-6863
tschvejda@mindspring.com
40 Marilyn St., North Haledon NJ 07508-2441

NERCC Representatives

* Joan Denzer (see George Denzer above)
and Bob Johnson (see below)
Alternate: George Denzer - (see above)

Atlantic Coast Ecoregion Delegate

Joan Denzer (see above)

Legal Chair

Bill Singer, Esq. (908) 359-7873

Fundraising & Events

Sunil Somalwar**, Jeff Tittel**, Joan & George Denzer, Tina Schvejda, Kelly McNicholas, Ed Pfeiffer, Rich Isaac, Carolyn Freeman

Personnel Committee

Ken Johanson**, Sunil Somalwar, Mary Penney, George & Joan Denzer

Honors & Awards

Jane Tousman**, Tina Schvejda, Bonnie Tillery, Bob Johnson, Lee Snyder, Sunil Somalwar

Legislative Committee

Ken Johanson**, Dave Mattek, Joe Leist, Kelly McNicholas, Carolyn Freeman, Jeff Tittel, Dennis Schvejda

Litigation Oversight Committee

Ken Johanson**, Sunil Somalwar, Ruth Prince, Carolyn Freeman

Group/Section Vitality

Rich Isaac**, Laura Lynch, Jane Tousman, Steve Ember

Facilities (office, meeting sites)

George Denzer**, Joan Denzer, Bob Johnson, Joyce White, Ed Pfeiffer, Bonnie Tillery, Kelly McNicholas

Inner City Outings Coordinator

Anne Dyjak**, Joy Booth
(see Group News pages)

* Indicates Chapter-wide elected ExCom members.

** Indicates committee chair or co-chair

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

Issue Coordinators

ATV Issues

Fred Akers (856) 697-3479
akers@gowebway.com
PO Box 395, Newtonville, NJ 08346-0395

Clean Air

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18 Shadyside Av, Summit NJ 07901-2111

Bill Green (908) 276-2357

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2 Roger Av, Cranford NJ 07016-2715

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Gina Carola (856) 848-8831
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534 Elberne Av, Westville NJ 08093-1715

Environmental Justice

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zoeks@verizon.net

Forestry Issues

Nancy Carringer (732) 438-8688
ncarringer@yahoo.com

Hackensack Meadows

Bill Sheehan (201) 968-0808
captain@waterkeeper.org
Hackensack Riverkeeper
231 Main St, Hackensack NJ 07601

Highlands Committee

To Be Announced

Marine Issues

Tina Schvejda (see main leader list)

Passaic River Basin

Rich Isaac (see main leader list)

Pinelands

Lee Snyder (856) 596-0621
pinelands1@hotmail.com
PPA Liaison: Mike Gallaway
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Population

Bonnie Tillery (see main leader list)

Recycling

To Be Announced

Sierra Student Coalition

Dan Rosen (201) 670-1980
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Sprawl

Jane Tousman (see main leader list)

Tiger Conservation

Sunil Somalwar (see main leader list)

Transportation (see main leader list)

Bob Johnson

Wildlands

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Chapter Administrator

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If no one is in the office to take your call, please leave a message on the answering machine. Please SPELL YOUR LAST NAME, and state whether the phone number you leave is for daytime or evening.

Upcoming ExCom Meetings:

All members are welcome to attend these monthly statewide policy deliberations, held on SECOND SATURDAYS. Details, including agendas, and driving instructions, are available in advance from Sunil Somalwar, the Chapter Chair.

July 10 • August 14 • September 11

We meet at the New Brunswick Public Library, 60 Livingston Avenue.

Conservation and Political Committee meetings start at 10am. Lunch is shared at noon. The main meeting starts at 1pm. We usually continue discussions informally over dinner at a nearby restaurant, at 5pm.

OUTINGS

(Continued from page 7)

SEP. 18 (SAT.) Minnewaska/Gerturdes Nose From the Trapps Bridge we'll take the Millbrook Ridge trail to Gertrudes Nose and return via the Coxing Trail & Trapps Carriageway, followed by an easy loop into Mohonk Preserve on the Overcliff and Undercliff trails. We'll go at an easy pace, with time to stop for the great views. Parking fee. Optional dinner stop in New Paltz after the hike. Heavy rain cancels. Group limited to 12. Hikers must preregister. Bring lunch, snacks and lots of water. Joint with AMC. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz H#201-784-8417 Email: eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com (N)

SEP 18 (Sat) Singles Tour of Italian Market and Society Hill Hike. 8:45am 4 miles easy pace. Tour the Italian Market with all its delectable treats from cannolies to cheese steaks. Then walk it all off with a tour of Historic Society Hill. Enjoy lunch at one of the many area eateries. Meet at Woodcrest Station PATCO Hi-Speed Line main entrance, exit 31 off I-295 at 8:45 am Or meet at 5th street entrance, Bourse Building at 9:00am. Limited space, call leader to reserve place. Leaders: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 eve. pis1@cccnj.net or Joe Russo sjoer@aol.com (W)

SEP 19 (Sun) Schunemunk Some strenuous climbs, great views, the monoliths, all at a moderate pace. Heavy rain cancels. Group limited to 12. Hikers must preregister. Bring lunch, snacks and lots of water. Joint with AMC. Meet at entrance to Black Rock Fish & Game Club on Route 32, about 6-8 miles north of Woodbury Commons. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz H#201-784-8417 Email: eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com (N)

SEP 19 (Sun) Singles Kayak Trip. 9:00am River level determines what river we do. Bring picnic type food to share after trip. NP/NC. Call leader to reserve space. Meet at Bel Haven Canoes, Rt. 542 Green Bank Atl. Co. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 (W)

SEP 19 (Sun) The Sierran Seniors will visit Princeton Battlefield State for an easy hike. Meet in the parking lot at 1:00 pm for a 2 mile ramble on easy terrain. Sighting of the nesting pair of bald eagles—possible, but not guaranteed! Leader Ken Mayberg.

SEP 24-26 (Fri-Sun) Singles Sunset and Moon Rise Hike. 7:30pm We start out early to watch the sun set over the Pinnacle Rock and enjoy the evening with snacks on the rocks and wait for the moon to rise. We hike back down the mountain and enjoy a fire. Camping is available Friday & Sat. nights. Possible Hawk Mt hike Sunday. Many attractions and activities to do in the Kutztown area from shopping to winery tours. Contact leader to reserve a camping space and carpool info. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 pis1@cccnj.net (W)

SEP 25 (Sat) Social Hike in Watchung Reservation We will hike about 6 miles of hills & level terrain at a moderate pace. Highlights include pine plantation & Deserted Village. Hiking boots are preferred and participants should be in good condition. Bring lunch or snack & 2 quarts of water. Meet before 10:30 AM at the Trailside Nature Center parking lot. Take Route 78 West to exit 43 (New Providence/Berkeley Heights). At light, turn right onto McMane Avenue. Then turn left onto Glenside Ave. Drive about 1 mile or so. Turn right onto Route 645 and pass Lake Surprise. At traffic circle, take first right and proceed 1/2 mile to Trailside. OR Take Route 78 East to exit 44, turn left at the light onto Glenside Avenue. Then follow directions above. Rain cancels. Leader: Joyce White at (908) 272-4478 or joyce@yahoo.com (L)

SEP 26 (Sun) Garrison Keillor at NJPAC Dinner/performance fundraiser. 4:30PM dinner at Casa Vasca in the ironbound district, followed by a 7:00PM performance by Garrison Keillor & NJ Symphony Orchestra. Garrison Keillor—author, storyteller, poet, humorist and Grammy winning host of public radio's Prairie Home Companion—will provide his original, quirky narration to the William Tell Overture and A Midsummers Night's Dream and offer his unique Minnesota take on life, lakes and love. (N). See box on page 3.

FUTURE OUTINGS – ADVANCE NOTICE

OCT 8-11 (Fri-Mon) Columbus Day Weekend, Finger Lakes, New York — the Gorges and wineries. We will spend our mornings hiking the various gorges near Ithaca, NY (Buttermilk Falls, Robert Treman State Park and possibly Watkins Glen), all of which will challenge us with hundred of steps, constructed by the CCC, and offer beautiful stream and waterfall views. In the afternoon we will visit some wineries — NY is 2nd to California in # of wineries, and most of them offer lovely lake views. Dinners out in Ithaca or nearby. Many great restaurants to choose from, including the famous Moosewoods. We will stay at local B&B/Inns. 3 nights lodging, breakfasts, park entrance fees \$200-300 per person based on double occupancy — depending on quality of accommodations you choose. Lunch/dinners extra. Must preregister. Group limited to 12 people. Joint with AMC. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz H#201-784-8417 Email: eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com (N)

OCT 16 (Sat) Nissequogue River (LD). Canoe the Greenbelt! We go thru salt, fresh, and intertidal wetlands with numerous waterfowl and other birds. Canoe and kayak rentals available. Easy trip. Suitable for beginners. Accessible by train. Leaders: Don & Lisa Scott, 322 River Road, St. James NY 11780. Call 631-265-2198 or email donaldscott3rd@hotmail.com (ACOC)

Oct. 17 (Sun) Seniors will visit the NJ Audubon Society's Plainsboro Preserve for an easy hike around Lake McCormack to enjoy beautiful fall foliage. This will be followed by an organizational meeting, and a pot-luck supper. Leader: Nancy Carringer. ncarringer@yahoo.com

Oct 29-31 (Fri-Sun) CATSKILL MOUNTAIN FALL HIKING WEEK END Alpine Inn, Catskill Mts.. Fall Hiking Weekend. Hikers can explore and photograph the scenic mountain beauty of the miles of spectacular state maintained trail system covering this mountain range. Our several hiking trips offered each day are rated from the easiest to more difficult. In the evening by fireside we plan a great mountaineering color slide program and/or a magic show. Excellent accommodations and gourmet food! Total cost for 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, 1 dinner and one trail lunch with all taxes & gratuities \$200 This is a joint trip of the AMC, Sierra Club and UCHC. Leader: Al Tatyrek (eve 973-763- 2303 - no calls after 10:00 PM please) Send transportation info, activities planned and other info with \$100 deposit and SASE envelope to our co-leader and registrar: Balance of payment is due on arrival at the Alpine Inn. Registrar & Co-leader: Peter Beck, H (201) 274-4471, P.O. Box 267, Wharton, New Jersey 07885

THE JERSEY SIERRAN

The Jersey Sierran is the newsletter of the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club. Readers are encouraged to submit articles, photographs, artwork, cartoons on environmental subjects, letters to the editor, poetry, press releases and expressions of opinion.

Articles and letters should be submitted typed and double spaced (or preferably by e-mail or on disk: call for format information). Send submissions to: Dick Colby. The deadline is the 10th of the month two months prior to the issue date.

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