



THE MACKINAC

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF MICHIGAN'S SIERRA CLUB

❄ NOVEMBER 2000 - JANUARY 2001



VOTE!

WHERE DO THE CANDIDATES STAND ON CRUCIAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES?

Mackinac Chapter Voter Education Campaign highlights.....	2
VOTER GUIDE: Michigan Senate.....	3
VOTER GUIDE: Presidential Election.....	4
PLUS: MACKINAC CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER-AT-LARGE ELECTIONS.....	11

Is Governor Engler up to the challenge of telling the truth?.....	5
Year of the Hog Fall Update.....	6
Michigan Forest Biodiversity update: Sierra Club sues USFWS & DNR.....	7
To drill or not to drill: Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.....	8
Great Lakes Report: Great Lakes water for sale?.....	9
Environmental Justice in Detroit: Rhonda Anderson joins the fight.....	10
2000 Autumn Retreat a success!.....	14
2000 Awards: Celebrating volunteers and friends of the environment.....	15
Environmental Litigation: A victory on the Crystal River.....	16
Wilderness Skills: Topographic Maps.....	17
Group meetings and programs.....	18
State & local outings.....	20
Web Watch: Weather info & storm-chasing.....	22
Robbie Cox visits Mackinac Chapter.....	24

An ice climber along the south shore of Lake Superior on the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore escarpment.

PHOTO COURTESY MICHAEL NEIGER, CENTRAL UPPER PENINSULA GROUP

VOTER EDUCATION CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS



BY DANIEL FAROUGH
Voter Education Campaign

In the final days of the Voter Education Campaign, Sierra Club activists not only helped galvanize media attention on the environmental positions of US Senate, 8th district US House, and Presidential candidates, but also helped raise the profile of the environment in general (see voter guide, page 3, for details on where the candidates stand). Here are some of the highlights:

US SENATE RACE

In August, Sierra Club activists — dressed in toxic suits and waving mock \$10,000 bills — helped deliver the message that Senator Abraham had received more money from polluting interests than any other candidate running for Congress. At the time we struck, Abraham had received just over \$425,000 from polluters. By October, this amount had soared to well over \$600,000. The message got out in major papers around the state and was picked up in national publications such as the National Journal. Abraham first responded by saying he did not receive contributions from polluters. After realizing this position was not tenable, he accused his opponent, Debbie Stabenow, of taking polluter money. For the record, Stabenow received \$19,500 at the time of the event. That number inched up to \$29,500 by October, putting her near the bottom of candidates receiving polluter money.

In October, the Sierra Club returned to the airwaves in Metro Detroit, Lansing, and Grand Rapids. Ads focused heavily on Abraham's anti-Great Lakes and clean water votes in congress. In a new effort, the Sierra Club linked up with the NAACP to run radio ads on the appallingly

high rates of asthma in Detroit due to air pollution. Senator Abraham has been a consistent opponent of clean air standards and has worked to roll back clean air laws in the Senate.

PRESIDENTIAL RACE

Energy policy made headlines in the Presidential campaign from September through October. Presidential hopeful George W. Bush made drilling the Alaskan National Wildlife Refuge the centerpiece of his energy policy, while running mate Dick Cheney, in a visit to Traverse City, could not disavow the idea of slant drilling for oil under the Great Lakes — the world's largest reservoir of fresh water. In fact, there does not appear to be a single element of the Bush/Cheney energy plan that diverges one bit from Big Oil's policy wish list.

In visits to Saginaw, Royal Oak, Grand Rapids, and beyond, Sierra Club activists dressed in oil drums and followed Bush around the state to call atten-



tion to his incredibly shortsighted energy plan, which would maintain our energy dependence on foreign oil and contribute to global warming. Media picked up on the theatrics to deliver the somber warning that Big Oil's energy policy does not meet our immediate need to break dependence on fossil fuels.

In a finale, activists converged on the MSU and UofM homecoming games to welcome fans with printed voter guides and succeeded in getting important information on the candidates' records into the hands of tens of thousands of fans. Thank you to all the volunteers that helped to make our effort to raise the profile of the environment a great success! *

THE MACKINAC QUARTERLY

The Mackinac (USPS 396610) (ISBN 0744-5288) is published quarterly (February, May, August, November) by the Sierra Club's Mackinac Chapter, 300 N. Washington Square, Suite 411, Lansing, MI 48933. Periodical postage is paid at Lansing, MI.

Postmaster: Send address changes to The Mackinac, Sierra Club, 109 East Grand River Ave., Lansing, MI 48906.

Annual dues for the Sierra Club are \$35, of which \$1 is for a subscription to The Mackinac. Non-member subscriptions are available for \$10 per year from the Mackinac Chapter office.

The Mackinac reaches more than 15,000 members and friends of the Sierra Club in Michigan. Both display and classified advertising is accepted. For a current ad rate card, contact: Gary Semer, Business Manager, 449 Pacific, Plymouth, MI-48170; 734-453-4443; e-mail: semer@tir.com.

We reserve the right to refuse advertising which we feel conflicts with the goals and purposes of the Club.

Bylined articles represent the research and opinions of the author and not necessarily those of the Sierra Club or the Mackinac Chapter.

Mackinac Chapter Office:

Phone: 517-484-2372

Fax: 517-484-3108

E-mail: mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org

Website: michigan.sierraclub.org

Mackinac Editor: Davina Pallone

Contributing Editors: Alison Horton

Anne M. Woiwode

Business Manager: Gary Semer

Calendar Editor: Bob Volz

Editorial Board: Lydia Fischer

Mike Johnson

Sue Kelly

Helen LeBlanc

Fred Townsend



**VOTER GUIDE:
MICHIGAN SENATE**
Where do they stand?

ABRAHAM



STABENOW



**GREAT LAKES
PROTECTION**

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Voted against an amendment to clean up the Great Lakes by providing funding for environmental programs such as the Clean Water Action Plan and toxic waste cleanups at Superfund sites. (AMENDMENT TO S.C.R. 86, 04/02/98)

Supported legislation that sought to cripple EPA's ability enforce environmental laws. (H.R. 2099, 09/27/95)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Supported restoring funding levels for environmental programs that protect our clean water and parks. (AMENDMENT TO H.C.R. 290, 03/23/00)

**DRINKING WATER
PROTECTION**

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Voted for a bill to rollback clean water protections, and to prevent the EPA from reducing arsenic in drinking water. (H.R. 2099, 09/27/95)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Voted to remove anti-Clean Water Riders from an Environmental Protection Agency Funding Bill. One rider would prohibit EPA from enforcing drinking water standards for arsenic. (H.R. 4635 6/21/00)

CLEAN ELECTIONS

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Voted against the McCain-Feingold bill for a complete ban on soft money contributions to political parties. (MCCAIN-FEINGOLD CAMPAIGN REFORM ACT, S. 1593 10/19/99)

Took over \$490,000 from polluting industries in 2000, the most of any U.S. Senator or Representative. (ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING GROUP)

This cycle alone, received more than \$1 million from the manufacturers, oil and gas companies and chemical corporations. (SUNDAY OAKLAND PRESS, 7/16/00)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Voted for a complete ban on soft money contributions to political parties. (H.R. 417, 9/15/99)

TROPICAL FORESTS

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Voted for the Tropical Forest Conservation Act, a bill that helped facilitate protection of tropical forests. (H.R. 2870, 06/14/98)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Voted for the Tropical Forest Conservation Act, a bill that helped facilitate protection of tropical forests. (H.R. 2870, 03/19/98)

**COMMUNITY
RIGHT TO KNOW**

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Voted to allow chemical manufacturers to avoid reporting some of their toxic pollution under existing "community right-to-know laws." (MOTION TO TABLE AN AMENDMENT TO S. 343, 7/13/95)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Cosponsored the Children's Environmental Protection and Right to Know Act of 1999, which would disclose environmental risks to children's health and expand the public's right to know about toxic chemical use and release. (H.R. 1657, 5/03/99)

**ANTI-ENVIRONMENTAL
RIDERS**

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Voted in favor of anti-environmental riders on unrelated spending bills, including provisions to drill the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and to undermine the President's authority to protect spectacular American landscapes. (AMDT. 2295 TO S.C.R. 101, 4/6/00; NICKLES' AMENDMENT TO INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS BILL H.R. 4578, 7/18/00)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Voted to require a full and open debate and a vote on any legislation that would undercut environmental safeguards and public health protections. (WAXMAN AMENDMENT TO H.R. 350, 2/10/99)

**CLEAN UP TOXIC
WASTE**

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Voted to oppose increased funding to clean up toxic waste sites. (LAUTENBERG AMENDMENT TO S.C.R. 86, 04/02/98)

Voted to allow mining companies to dump cyanide and other mining waste on an unlimited amount of public lands next to mining sites. (VOTE TO TABLE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2466, 07/29/00)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Voted for increased funding levels for environmental programs, including toxic waste cleanup. (SPRATT AMENDMENT TO H.C.R. 290, 3/24/00)

Voted against allowing mining companies to dump their toxic waste on wider areas of public lands. (H.R. 2466, 7/14/99)

CONTROL SPRAWL

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Voted to make it easier for developers to overturn local zoning laws in federal courts. (S. 2271, 07/13/98)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Voted against making it easier for developers to overturn zoning and growth-management plans in federal court. (H.R. 2372, 3/16/00)

**ENVIRONMENTAL
SCORES**

6%

Lifetime average for pro-environmental voting 1995-1999. (LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS' SCORECARD)

82%

Lifetime average for pro-environmental voting 1997-1999. (LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS' SCORECARD)

**VOTER GUIDE:
PRESIDENTIAL
ELECTION**
Where do they stand?

**TEXAS
GOVERNOR
BUSH**



**VICE
PRESIDENT
GORE**



**PROTECT
NATIONAL FORESTS**

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Bush opposes wild forest protection. Supports increased logging in national forests. (SEATTLE TIMES, 5-22-00; NEW YORK TIMES, 5-17-00; SEATTLE P-I, 6-26-00)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Gore supports proposal to protect 40 million acres of wild forests, including the Tongass National Forest in Alaska. (SPEECH, 5-30-00 TO WISCONSIN ENVIRONMENTALISTS, MILWAUKEE, WI)

**CREATE NATIONAL
MONUMENTS**

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Bush opposed the creation of new national monuments. (ASSOCIATED PRESS, 6-1-00; SEATTLE P-I, 6-26-00)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Gore supported the creation of national monuments, including the Grand Canyon Parashant, Giant Sequoia, Grand Staircase-Escalante, and others. (GORE WEBSITE 6-28-00)

**PROTECT
ARCTIC NATIONAL
WILDLIFE REFUGE**

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Bush supports oil drilling in the Refuge. (SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER 6-26-00)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Gore supports wilderness protection for the Refuge. (SPEECH, 5-30-00 TO WISCONSIN ENVIRONMENTALISTS, MILWAUKEE, WI)

**CURB GLOBAL
WARMING**

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Bush believes global warming is real, but opposes Kyoto Accords. No plan to address the issue. (CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, 4-21-00)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Gore helped negotiate the Kyoto Accords. Supports curbing the emissions that cause global warming. (GORE WEBSITE, 6-28-00)

CLEAN AIR

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Bush opposed stricter clean air health standards. Favors weakening Clean Air Act enforcement provisions, while Houston has become the "smog capital" of the U.S." (TEXAS NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION COMMISSION LETTER, 3-10-97); (BOSTON GLOBE, 12-16-99; DALLAS MORNING NEWS, 11-7-99)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Gore supported stricter clean air health standards to protect children, seniors and others from soot and smog. Opposes weakening the Clean Air Act. (GORE WEBSITE, 6-28-00)

**PROTECT
CLEAN WATER**

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Weakened water quality standards for Lake Sam Rayburn, the Nueces River Tidal area, and Pease River, among other weakening changes, while Texas has the most violators of Clean Water Act discharge limits, and the third highest amount of industrial toxics discharged into surface waters. (BEAUMONT ENTERPRISE, 7-27-00; ASSOCIATED PRESS, 2-22-00; NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION, ET AL PRESS RELEASE, 3-20-00; "POISONING OUR WATER: HOW THE GOVERNMENT PERMITS POLLUTION," US PIRG, FEBRUARY 2000; 1998 TRI DATA, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, 5-11-00)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Gore created "Clean Water Action Plan" to increase funding for clean up of polluted run off, protect drinking water, and other purposes. (GORE WEBSITE 6-28-00)

**LITIGATION AND
LEGISLATION
TO PROTECT
THE ENVIRONMENT**

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Bush has said: "I don't think you can litigate clean air and clean water. I don't think you can legislate clean air and clean water." Developed a voluntary program to reduce air pollution from aging industrial facilities, which has reduced pollution by only 2.4% according to state records. (SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER, 8-12-00); (DALLAS MORNING NEWS, 5-26-00)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Gore proposed new standards to reduce smog and soot from power plants and other sources. Proposed Clean Water Action Plan to reduce water pollution. These proposals would require legislation. Advocates federal court review of judicial decisions to block clean air health standards and programs, which may require litigation. (GORE WEBSITE 8-21-00)

**REDUCE POLLUTION
FROM FACTORY FARMS**

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Bush does not support federal action to reduce pollution from large animal feedlots, while Texas has more factory farms and manure than any other state, and they are essentially unregulated. (WORLD REPORTER, 5-19-00)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Gore supports federal action to reduce pollution from large animal feedlots. (OMAHA WORLD HERALD, 1-14-00)

**LAND AND WATER
CONSERVATION FUND**

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Bush supports full funding of the LWCF. (SPEECH, 6-1-00, SAND HARBOR STATE PARK, LAKE TAHOE, NEVADA)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Gore advocated "Lands Legacy Initiative" to significantly increase funds for land acquisition under LWCF. (GORE WEBSITE, 6-28-00)

continued on next page

GROUPS CHALLENGE ENGLER ADMINISTRATION TO TELL THE ENVIRONMENTAL TRUTH

NEW REPORT SHOWS STATE FAILS TO PROTECT WATER, AIR, AND PUBLIC HEALTH

tell the

BY ALISON HORTON
Director, Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club

Last month, a statewide coalition of environmental groups released a joint report, "Dereliction of Duty: How the Department of Environmental Quality Endangers Michigan's Environment and Public Health." In the report, they announce that state environmental regulators fail to protect Michigan's water and air, thereby endangering public health. The groups say that it is time for state lawmakers to demand the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) do its job and work for, not against, the public.

The disturbing truth behind frequent Engler administration claims of a clean Michigan are clear in the report, which brings together case studies and statistics from across the state to show:

- Top DEQ management regularly intervenes on behalf of businesses that are in violation of current environmental laws.
- Beach closings, dirty air, and toxic wastes are increasing under this administration.
- The agency fights federal efforts to improve the environment and ensure environmental justice.
- Taxpayers pay the cleanup price for the DEQ's failure to do its job.

"This report demonstrates that Governor Engler's decision to forego a citizen oversight board for DEQ when he created the agency in 1995 has been a mistake," said James Clift of the Michigan Environmental Council. "The time has come to end this bad experiment and put the concerns of Michigan's citizens back at the top DEQ's list of priorities."

The report documents decline in some important environmental indicators in Michigan. Great Lakes fish contaminants, including mercury, PCB's and DDT, are increasing in some locations according to the DEQ's measurements. Pollution of rivers and lakes is up from 1998

according to the state's monitoring data. The total amount of toxic waste generated in Michigan is climbing as the transfer of toxic waste to sewage plants and other disposal facilities increases. Air emissions of some key pollutants are creeping upwards. Between 1995 and 1998, records show increases in the emissions of particulates, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, and hydrocarbons.

CALL FOR INVESTIGATION

The groups authoring the report also called on the Legislature to follow up on the report's findings by holding public hearings on the DEQ's performance. "The responsibility rests with lawmakers to exercise proper oversight and demand that the DEQ enforce environmental laws and work with the public," said Alison Horton of the Michigan Sierra Club.

If the Legislature fails to act, however, see **DERELICTION OF DUTY page 7**

VOTER GUIDE
continued from page 4

BUSH



GORE



CONTROL URBAN SPRAWL

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Bush opposes federal action to curb sprawl, while Texas leads the nation in loss of prime and unique farmland to sprawl. (*CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR*, 4-21-00; *AUSTIN AMERICAN STATESMAN*, 7-10-99)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Gore developed Better America Bonds to help communities protect open space and farmland. (*REMARKS BY AL GORE TO THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS, WASHINGTON, DC, 1-11-99*)

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Bush opposes McCain-Feingold bill to ban soft money donations to political parties. Opposes public financing of elections. (*BUSH WEBSITE 6-28-00; AUSTIN AMERICAN STATESMAN*, 2-16-2000)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Gore supports McCain-Feingold bill to ban soft money donations to political parties. Supports "Democracy Endowment" to finance future campaigns. (*SPEECH, MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY, MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN, 3-27-00*)

DRINKING WATER

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Texas is 46th in the nation in spending to protect drinking water. (*COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS*)

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Favors more funds for drinking water. (*GORE WEBSITE 6/28/00*)

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

OPPOSES SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Has not addressed environmental justice issues.

SUPPORTS SIERRA CLUB POSITION

Sponsored with Rep. John Lewis The Environmental Justice Act to establish protective health standards for low-income communities. Helped write Executive Order requiring that environmental justice become a goal of federal agencies. (S. 2806; EXECUTIVE ORDER 12898, 2-11-94) ❄



FALL UPDATE

BY ANNE WOIWODE

Program Director

The debate over pollution controls for large concentrated animal feeding operations in Michigan has reached an extraordinary level of volume and shrillness this fall. In a troubling game of brinkmanship, the Engler Administration has drawn a line in the manure, putting at risk not only the state's Clean Water Act delegation, but also the health and welfare of Michigan citizens. The Sierra Club, in concert with other environmental organizations, and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are respectively taking determined steps to require state officials to protect the people and environment of Michigan, or to give that job to an agency that will.

In this, the fourth quarter of the Mackinac's Year of the Hog, we report how the fight over Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) and water pollution is coming to a head in Michigan.

EPA INTERIM REPORT: MICHIGAN PROGRAM "SERIOUSLY LACKING"

In November 1999, the Sierra Club, the Michigan Environmental Council, the Michigan Land Use Institute, and Neva and Larry Bailey filed petitions with the EPA asking them to take away the State of Michigan's delegated authority to administer the Clean Water Act as a result of the state's failure to properly regulate and take enforcement actions against CAFOs. On September 15, the EPA issued its interim report in response to the petition, and the document is a virtual indictment of the Michigan program. The cover letter from EPA Region 5 Administrator Francis X. Lyons to the petitioners noted that the Michigan program was found to be "seriously lacking in several respects."

"Today we are advising MDEQ [Michigan Department of Environmental Quality] Director [Russell] Harding in writing that our findings raise serious concerns that require his personal attention to resolve," Lyons went on to say. "We have asked the MDEQ to provide, within 30 days, a written description of the actions it has taken or will take to fix these problems." The report was issued as an interim report because the EPA is seeking additional information; however, the information provided makes clear that the EPA had confirmed virtually all the concerns raised by the environmental organizations' petition, and had added to the list of concerns.

In the course of investigating 48 animal feeding operations on which the state had received complaints, the EPA discovered a number of serious — and in at least one case potentially criminal — violations of the Clean Water Act. The week prior to issuing the report, EPA officials took enforcement actions against a Lenawee County dairy operation that the DEQ had inspected the previous spring. DEQ staff had overlooked a storm drain the operators had connected to drainage tiles under the farm fields, allowing a flow of manure and other wastes directly into a stream.

One finding from the report confirmed the petitioners' claim that the state was violating its own water quality rules, which require CAFOs to apply for and obtain water quality permits prior to beginning operations. The Engler Administration is refusing to require permits for even the largest facilities, despite both federal and state requirements,

and for more than a year has refused to process the one permit application it has received. The EPA has increased its inspection presence at CAFOs in Michigan as a result of its finding severe deficiencies in Michigan's program.

The full interim report, entitled "Results of an Informal Investigation of The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations in the State of Michigan, Interim Report" is available at the EPA's website at www.epa.gov/r5water/npdestek/npdcafohome.htm.

DEQ AND CAFO OPERATORS MAKE A DEAL

Even as the EPA was stepping up its inspection and enforcement efforts, the DEQ was taking steps to thwart the Sierra Club's efforts to bring citizen suits against five CAFOs. As reported in the August issue of the Mackinac, the Sierra Club has given notice of intent to sue to five separate operations in Michigan for violations of the Clean Water Act. The law requires such citizen suits to be filed in federal court at least 60 days after notice is given, in order to allow facilities and agencies a chance to fix problems prior to litigation.

The DEQ and two of the operators filed "consent judgments" in state court on the last day of the 60-day notice period, the first ever filed by the Engler Administration on these types of facilities. The consent judgments, however, failed to require permits and fall short of other requirements of the law, in what Sierra Club officials believe is a blatant attempt to derail their citizen suits. However, the DEQ's refusal to require the CAFOs to seek or obtain water quality permits means that the facilities remain vulnerable to citizen suits brought in federal courts.

"It is our belief that the DEQ has misled these operators, making them vulnerable to double jeopardy as a result of the state's failure to properly enforce the law," says Anne Woiwode, Program Director for the Mackinac Chapter. "State fines and sanctions were levied as part of inadequate enforcement actions agreed to in the consent judgments with the DEQ. However, these facilities are still at risk for additional legal actions and sanctions as a result of citizen suits filed in federal courts. The DEQ's overtly political agenda on CAFO issues will ultimately hurt these facilities more than if the state just did its job." One of the two CAFOs that struck a deal with the state has, on its own, decided to apply for a water quality permit from the state.

WAR OF WORDS HEATING UP

As more attention has focused on the state's arrogant defiance of federal law regarding CAFOs, the DEQ's rhetoric has begun to flow in increasingly vitriolic tones. While correspondence between the EPA and the DEQ over the past several years has shown a growing hostility on the part of the state, the fight went public in October as DEQ Director Russell Harding lashed out at the EPA and the environmental community in inflammatory tones.

In a Michigan Farm Bureau publication, Harding was quoted as



see *YEAR OF THE HOG* page 10

MICHIGAN FOREST BIODIVERSITY PROGRAM

ANNE WOIWODE

Program Director

MARVIN ROBERSON

Project Consultant

SIERRA CLUB SUES FEDS AND DNR OVER FEDERAL WILDLIFE FUNDING IN MICHIGAN: \$7 MILLION ANNUAL DNR GRANTS AT RISK BECAUSE ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS IGNORED

The Sierra Club, along with three individual plaintiffs, has filed suit against the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), claiming that the agencies have illegally spent approximately \$7 million annually for manipulation of public lands in Michigan. The lawsuit is intended to force the DNR and USFWS to account for and disclose environmental impacts caused by wildlife habitat management paid for with federal grants.

"It comes down to a question of whether or not these agencies are obeying federal environmental laws," said Tim Flynn, plaintiff and Sierra volunteer. "We believe their lack of accountability is hurting wildlife and habitat throughout our state." The Sierra Club is asking the court to require the USFWS to comply with federal environmental laws in carrying out the provisions of the Federal Aid in Wildlife Habitat Restoration Act of 1937, also known as the Pittman Robertson Act. The DNR is being sued as a recipient of these grants, and the Sierra Club's complaint cites collusion by the agencies to evade compliance with environmental laws.

"Our lawsuit argues the agencies cannot spend these tax dollars until the fundamental questions raised by federal laws have been answered and the public has a say," according to Marvin Roberson, plaintiff and consultant for the Sierra Club's Michigan Forest Biodiversity Program. "The questions are: How are you proposing to spend these funds? What kind of results can we expect from these management activities you propose to fund? and, Are these manage-

ment activities a good idea? All federally funded projects that have potential to cause significant environmental effects are required to follow these rules, whether they are highway construction projects or management of our national public lands."

The Sierra Club's lawsuit contends that wildlife habitat management projects in Michigan funded by the Pittman Robertson Act have been "approved, funded, and monitored illegally and improperly" by the USFWS in violation of the federal Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Administrative Procedures Act, and the Pittman Robertson Act itself. According to grant applications submitted by DNR to the USFWS, Michigan uses Pittman Robertson funds to plan and carry out manipulation of over 100,000 acres of wetlands and to draw up plans for wildlife habitat management on more than 4,000,000 acres of state lands, including over 40,000 acres of clearcutting per year. In addition, other programs, such as hunter education, rental of private lands to allow public hunting, and ecosystem planning are paid for out of these grants.

Notice of intent to sue the USFWS was given by Sierra Club in August 1999, but since the USFWS Director promised the Sierra Club that the agency would correct problems with the program, the organization held back on filing suit. The Sierra Club says actions by the DNR and USFWS this fall make it clear they do not intend to fully address the concerns raised in the Notice of Intent to Sue. Tom Buchele of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Environmental Law Clinic, is representing the Sierra Club in the litigation. In addition to Tim Flynn and Marvin Roberson, Anne Woiwode, Program Director for the Sierra Club Michigan Forest Biodiversity Program is also a plaintiff in the lawsuit. ❁

The Sierra Club is asking the court to require the USFWS to comply with federal environmental laws in carrying out the provisions of the Federal Aid in Wildlife Habitat Restoration Act of 1937, also known as the Pittman Robertson Act.

DERELICTION OF DUTY

continued from page 5

the broad-based coalition plans to hold its own hearings in the next year. "We cannot afford to let the DEQ continue on its present path," said Tanya Cabala of the Lake Michigan Federation. "Its time to break through the rhetoric and show how citizens from all corners of the state share a deep concern and frustration with the DEQ's failure to protect their health and natural resources."

Donele Wilkins, executive director of Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice, welcomes a statewide coalition effort to clean up Michigan and the administration's practices. "Compromises made on behalf of factories have resulted in turning Detroit into a public health sacrifice zone."

The DEQ has successfully avoided much media attention while breaking down environmental enforcement across the state because it does so one permit, one river at a time. "But the agency's anti-environmental actions have reached the point that communities are now coming together to challenge their common DEQ problem," said Keith Schneider of the Michigan Land Use Institute.

Michigan was once a national leader in environmental protection because of its landmark laws and solid enforcement. "The Engler administration dismantled those protections and now endangers Michigan's public health, recreation economy, and precious natural resources," said Tom Leonard of the West Michigan Environmental Action Council.

The groups which authored and released "Dereliction of Duty" were Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice, Ecology Center, Friends of the Detroit River, Groundwork for a Just World, Guild Law Center (NLG/Sugar Law Center), Hamtramck Environmental Action Team, Lake Michigan Federation, Lone Tree Council, Michigan Environmental Council, Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition, Michigan Land Use Institute, Northern Michigan Environmental Action Council, Preserve the Dunes, West Michigan Environmental Action Council, and the Mackinac Chapter of the Sierra Club. ❁

You can read "Dereliction of Duty" on the web at www.mecprotects.org.

ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

BY CRAIG RESSLER

West Michigan Group

There are bills now being proposed in the US Congress that are diametrically opposed to each other. The dispute is over what to do with the "1002 Area" of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. This 1002 Area is currently part of the refuge but may be legally opened to oil and gas exploration by an act of Congress. As you can imagine, oil and gas interests are trying to open it up while environmentalists are trying to preserve it untouched.

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is located in the northeastern corner of Alaska, right on the coast next to Canada. Beaufort Sea is to the north; Brooks Range lies to the south. Prudhoe Bay, to the west, has been extensively developed for oil and has been very productive. The 1002 Area is a 10-40 mile wide strip of coastal plain — it has about 110 miles of coastline (a little less than the coastline distance from Holland, Michigan to Chicago) and covers about 2437 square miles.

Created in 1980, the refuge is under control of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The US Congress has granted "wilderness" status to over a third of the refuge, which means it cannot be developed — roads may not be built, forests may not be harvested, no mining, no oil. The 1002 Area does not have this status. In fact, it was intentionally not given this status because of its possible economic value in terms of oil and gas. Opening this area would certainly be an economic boon to British Petroleum and Alaskans looking for work. Unfortunately, there are also ecological, human, and political dimensions to this dispute.

ECOLOGICALLY UNIQUE AREA IS IMPORTANT AND SENSITIVE

The 1002 Area is unique in that it has the full range of arctic and sub-arctic ecosystems. These systems are integrated together and are self-supporting. One example is that this area is the northern terminus for countless migratory birds that nest or rest there. These birds migrate to Asia, South America, Africa, and the South Pacific during our winter — several of these birds even fly through Michigan in the spring and fall. The concern is over the ecological impact in Alaska and elsewhere that will result from an oil-related accident or merely from oil production itself.

Although the area is in balance, it is also fragile. Above the Arctic Circle, land heals slowly — scars left by early human activity still remain decades later. An accident does not have to be another Exxon Valdez to have impact. Since 1996, the oil industry has reported an average of 427 oil spills each year in Prudhoe Bay and along the Trans Alaskan pipeline. In one three-year period (1996-98), a total of 1.2 million gallons were spilled. Oil production is inherently not a clean business.

A NATIVE CULTURE'S SUSTENANCE RELIES ON MIGRATING CARIBOU THAT CALVE IN THIS AREA

The Gwich'in Indians reside primarily in Canada in two communities totaling about 7,000 people. A non-monetary based people similar to the Lapps in Europe, they rely on the spring and fall migration of the eastern herd of Porcupine Caribou for their sustenance. The caribou spend their winters inland and their summers on the 1002 Area coastal plain to calve and fatten for the winter. An accident which impacts the caribou will certainly impact the Gwich'in. It is argued that even the presence of the oil extraction infrastructure will adversely affect the caribou.

This concern is complicated by the existence of a western herd of Porcupine Caribou who live in the Prudhoe Bay area. The western herd's population has increased, while the eastern herd's population has decreased. The western herd has also become fragmented due to the web of pipelines needed to extract oil, and the long-term effects of this are not known.

WHAT IS THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF THE OIL?

The root of this question seems to be "How much oil is there?" Oil interests claim 5.9 -16 billion barrels (one barrel is 42 gallons). Using the same data, environmentalists claim only 3.2 billion barrels are actually recoverable. Next door, Prudhoe Bay has yielded over 12 billion barrels to date, and is North America's largest oil field. In 1997, the US consumed about 6.4 billion barrels of oil — meaning 3.2 billion barrels is a six-month supply for us — so 5.9 billion barrels would last us less than a year. However,



the real issue here may not be the amount of oil, but rather the oil production rate.

The expected oil production rate from the 1002 Area is approximately 130 million barrels/year, or 2% of our annual consumption. This implies three things: One, there will be a relatively small impact on the price of gasoline based upon the law of supply and demand. When the supply increases 2%, how much will the price drop? Two, it will have an almost irrelevant impact on our "oil independence" from foreign oil-producing nations. We currently import 56% of our oil, and dropping this to 54% is not a big deal. Three, the newly-opened oil field will provide jobs for Alaskans for many years. If the low estimate of 3.2 billion barrels is correct, a production rate of 130 million barrels/year will supply jobs for 25 years. If there is more oil, the jobs will last longer.

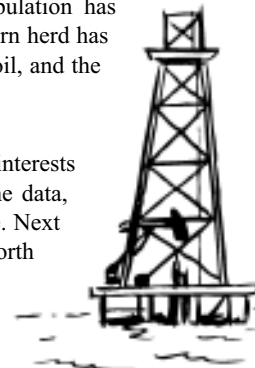
WHAT ARE THE NATIONAL INTERESTS HERE?

The 1002 Area being public land, we must weigh the strength of each argument and decide what to do. Does it serve someone living in Michigan to protect a place he or she may never visit? To have places like Yellowstone or Mesa Verde or the Grand Canyon? To protect a different and far away culture? To protect Haitians or Bosnians or South Koreans? To give job security to people living in Alaska? To provide jobs for people living in Chicago or New Orleans or San Diego?

One thing is clear: If the 1002 Area is opened to development, there will be change — this is evidenced by Prudhoe Bay. It is the extent of this change that is uncertain. If you would like more information, you can visit the following websites: arctic.fws.gov, www.anwr.org, www.alaskawild.org, and www.wilderness.net. Or, I would be happy to share with you what I have learned to date.

If you wish to express an opinion, please contact Senator Carl Levin, Senator Spence Abraham, and/or Representative Vern Ehlers.

They all have offices in Michigan and are in the phone book. ❄️



GREAT LAKES REPORT: GREAT LAKES WATER FOR SALE?



BY MICHAEL JOHNSON
Chapter Executive Committee

Anyone who has visited a Great Lakes shore in the past couple of years has an understanding that these waters are finite. Lake levels over the past year are lower than they have been in the past forty years. The cause of this is climatic — warmer than usual temperatures have increased evaporation while precipitation has been less than average. Climatic projections indicate that the Great Lakes' levels will continue to decline.

Given this understanding, most people would agree that further decreasing lake levels by selling Great Lakes water is not a good idea. Some reasons for this are:

- Many sediments in the Lakes contain persistent toxic chemicals. Dropping lake levels means these sediments are nearer the water surface and are therefore more easily disturbed by storms, boat traffic, and the increased dredging which occurs as the Lakes drop. This releases toxins into the water that some 24,000,000 Americans and Canadians drink.
- These stirred-up toxins also enter the food chain of the Lakes, eventually concentrating in fish and the animals that eat the fish, including humans.
- As the populations of certain aquatic creatures are diminished by the chemicals, the animals that feed upon these creatures will have their populations affected. This will in turn affect the populations of creatures that eat or were fed upon by these animals, and so on — impacting the entire food chain of the Great Lakes.
- In the same manner, migratory bird species that stop along the Great Lakes will be affected, as will the habitats they then travel to.
- As lake levels go down, coastal wetlands (the breeding grounds of many lake animals and the permanent homes of others) will be affected, again impacting creatures throughout the Great Lakes.
- As lake levels drop, boaters demand dredging in order to protect their recreation or livelihood. Michigan's government has already allowed dredging of environmentally sensitive areas previously off-limits to dredging.
- The Great Lakes are an enormously important source of income through recreation, tourism, and — through taxes — for the government. The harmful effects discussed above will impact livelihoods and government revenues.
- These changes in habitats and in all the creatures within them will affect those people who find beauty, peace, and inspiration in the natural world.

Could the sale of Great Lakes water actually reduce the levels of bodies of water as vast as the Great Lakes? Yes. The use of supertankers or pipelines could significantly lower the Lakes. And increased tanker use would inevitably accelerate the introduction of exotic species such as zebra mussels to the Lakes.

To date, there has been one attempt by a company to provide Great Lakes water for sale. Fortunately, this was prevented by the voices of supporters of the environment, but further attempts will

certainly be made. Without regulations preventing it, Great Lakes water will be sold eventually. It is believed that once a sale is made, trade agreements and organizations such as NAFTA, GATT, and the WTO could prevent any future restrictions or prohibitions of Great Lakes water sales. At present, US, Canadian, and international law do not enable state, province, US, or Canadian governments to protect our water resources from the authority of these trade agreements. Trade agreements, not governments, now often determine the regulation of our environment.

This need not be so. Laws and trade agreements can be written to protect our waters and other physical and living components of the environment. Representative Bart Stupak of northern Michigan has proposed legislation which would place a moratorium on the bulk export of Great Lakes Basin water from the US until Congress approves standards in accord with the Boundary Waters Treaty (see the Great Lakes Report in the Aug-Oct 2000 issue of "The Mackinac," available online at michigan.sierraclub.org, for information on this treaty). In addition, the governors and premiers of the Great Lakes states and provinces are drafting proposals that could change Great Lakes Basin water laws to require that water use proposals be judged by their effects on the Great Lakes ecosystem. If properly written, regulations could protect water levels and many other aspects of the Great Lakes.

WHAT TO DO

- Write your US representatives and senators asking them to support Congressman Stupak's legislation.
- Write Governor Engler to ask that the regulations which the governors and premiers propose include (1) an overall strategy for protecting the Great Lakes Basin ecosystem, (2) strong water conservation provisions, and (3) extensive public involvement in Great Lakes Basin environmental policy making.
- If you do not believe it is right for trade organizations and agreements to have authority over our elected governments' abilities to protect and regulate our environment, write your representatives and senators and tell them so.
- When writing, include reasons why protection of our Great Lakes is important to you.
- Work to lessen your impact on global warming: drive the most fuel efficient vehicle you can (ask me about my Honda Insight!), keep your furnace setting low, use air conditioning only when necessary.

Our Great Lakes are unique in the world. Technology has given us the ability to profoundly alter them. The quality of the habitats of the Great Lakes ecosystem and all the living things within them — including humans — can be similarly altered. Please work to protect the Great Lakes. ❄️

The Mackinac Chapter has a Great Lakes Subcommittee. We invite you to get involved with it! If you wish to, or if you have questions about Great Lakes environmental issues, please contact Mike Johnson at 616-948-8840.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ORGANIZER GOES TO WORK FOR SIERRA CLUB IN DETROIT

WELCOMING RHONDA ANDERSON

Rhonda Anderson joined the Sierra Club staff at the beginning of September to expand and build upon the environmental justice work we have been doing in Michigan. Rhonda will be working as part of the Sierra Club's national environmental justice organizing project, providing organizing assistance to and helping build supportive partnerships with communities facing environmental injustices and disproportionate impacts of pollution and environmental damage. Rhonda will be working closely with our Southeast Michigan Group and other Sierra Club volunteers and staff in the Midwest and nationally to strengthen and build links between Sierra Club activists and the communities we work with in this project.

Rhonda brings with her a passion and commitment to organizing and revitalizing the urban heart of Detroit. Her experience goes back 20 years to labor organizing with the Service Employees International Union. More recently, she has been a community organizer on environmental justice and neighborhood restoration fights with a Detroit neighborhood coalition and with Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice. Rhonda also has lengthy experience working with children at risk in the city. More than anything, she says her concern for environmental justice issues grows from her concern for the future of children living in the urban center.

Rhonda's experience as a community activist and volunteer with Alternatives for Girls, on political campaigns, and with the National Black Rank and File Exchange further reflect her energy and vision for creating a better urban core environment. Rhonda's organizing work has not gone unnoticed. Most recently, the Detroit News ran a profile article last March on her work to combat a Detroit hospital closing. While we are in the process of setting up a permanent office in Detroit, Rhonda can be reached at 313-821-1064 (although this number may change soon) and via e-mail at rhonda.anderson@sierraclub.org. Or, feel free to contact the Mackinac Chapter office in Lansing. *



continued from page 6

saying: "[The] EPA realizes that they do not currently have the legal authority to force Michigan to issue NPDES permits for facilities that are not designed to discharge. So the federal government has chosen to come into this state in a Waco-like manner to trample

over the state's rights ... That's simply unacceptable." Environmental organizations have demanded that Governor John Engler reprimand Harding. In a letter sent to the Governor on October 18, six environmental groups said, "This statement can only breed disrespect for law enforcement at the federal and state level. Harding's language is clearly inflammatory and invokes a tragic episode that has been used by extremists as a rallying cry for acts of domestic terrorism. At the very least, it is hard not to interpret Harding's statement as an incitement to resist the lawful activities of federal agencies, which in turn exposes the personnel of these agencies to potential physical danger. We are writing to request you confirm or deny that Director Harding was quoted accurately in the article. If he was quoted accurately, we ask that you demand he retract and apologize for this comment immediately. It is one thing to disagree with the EPA's interpretation of law, although we believe it is a sound one in light of several serious instances of contamination of our waterways by CAFOs which the DEQ has refused to regulate. It is quite another thing to undermine respect for the law that you are charged with enforcing." *

A WILL IS A WAY... To make a substantial gift to protect the environment. Continue your involvement by including the Sierra Club in your will. There are several ways to include the environment in your long-range plans — we can even help you plan a gift to support your local Chapter. For information and confidential assistance, contact:

Sage Kuhn
Sierra Club Planned Giving Program
85 Second Street, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

JOIN YOUR LOCAL-STATE-NATIONAL-GLOBAL SIERRA CLUB!

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Phone (optional) () _____

Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club
 Mastercard Visa

Cardholder Name _____
Card Number _____
Expiration Date _____ / _____

Contributions, gifts, or dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible—they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35	<input type="checkbox"/> \$43
SUPPORTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$58
CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$108
LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$23
STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$23
LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$23

F97QW1_
F97QW1G
2100



**SIERRA
CLUB**
FOUNDED 1892

P. O. BOX 52968, BOULDER, CO 80321-2968

VOTE!
VOTE!

MACKINAC CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2000 MEMBER-AT-LARGE ELECTIONS

BY SUE KELLY
Nominations Committee

The following candidates have agreed to accept nominations to run for five At-Large member positions on the Mackinac Chapter Executive Committee (Ex-Com). The terms run from January 2001 through December 2002. Their willingness to run exemplifies what makes the Sierra Club the most effective environmental group in the country — serious grassroots activism. All of these candidates have great gifts to share and we are proud to have them as part of the environmental effort in Michigan.

The Mackinac Chapter Ex-Com consists of 9 At-Large Members representing all the Sierra Club members in Michigan and 10 representatives from the regional Michigan groups. Their responsibility is to establish and manage the Chapter's budget, set and implement conservation priorities and policies, fundraise to support our programs, oversee Chapter staff, and address member concerns. These Ex-Com members are expected to participate on other committees and attend Chapter functions. The Executive Committee meets quarterly and meetings are open to all members.

Please use the pre-addressed envelope stapled to the center of this newsletter to submit your vote. The ballot is located on the envelope flap—simply tear off, mark your votes, and insert into the envelope. You will need

to affix a 33-cent stamp to insure delivery. If the envelope is missing from this newsletter, please contact the Mackinac Chapter office at 517-484-2372 and ask for a replacement ballot and envelope.

Vote for the five (5) candidates you feel will best represent the interests and concerns of Michigan Sierra Club members. The second column of boxes on the ballot is for the second member of a joint membership only. Write your Sierra Club membership number on the outside of the envelope to validate your ballot. Your membership number can be found on the mailing label of this newsletter. Ballots must be returned by December 10, 2000. Election results will be announced at the January 2001 Ex-Com Meeting.

ANNA HOLDEN

Experience

- early 1990s-Present: SEMG /Chapter Political and Conservation Committees
- 1992-Present: SEMG Ex-Com
- 1995-99: activist in coalitions to close the Central Wayne incinerator
- 1996-Present: member, Wayne County Air Quality Advisory Committee
- 1997-Present: SEMG Chair and Representative to Chapter Ex-Com
- 2000: Washington Sierra Club lobbying
- Present: SEMG Liaison, Detroit Environmental Justice Project
- Present: Chair, Coalition to Stop Incineration at Henry Ford Hospital
- Present: activist in coalitions to close the Hamtramck medical waste incinerator

Interests

Clean air and strict regulation of waste disposal are major commitments. Forming broad-based coalitions to stop incineration does more than reduce pollution; it helps build community across economic, racial, and political boundaries. Environmental justice advocacy is attracting new allies and strengthening the environmental movement. Other interests/activities: protecting wetlands and woodlands, including national forests; revitalizing older cities as a means of limiting sprawl.

Chapter Vision

Chapter focus on building Group capacity to organize effective action campaigns. Chapter/Group collaboration to mobilize members to achieve common goals. Additional financial support to Groups and targeted fundraising to hire specialized Chapter staff, e.g. scientific/technical consultants and a Michigan lobbyist.

BOB DUDA

Experience

I joined the Sierra Club in 1988. The relevant positions that I have held over the years are:

Group:

- Ex-Com
- Membership Chair
- Conservation Chair
- Fundraising Chair
- Secretary
- Outings Leader

Mackinac Chapter:

- Membership Chair

Holliday Nature Preserve Association:

- Board Member
- Newsletter Publisher/Editor

Interests

Wetlands:

The diversity of life in Michigan's wetlands is amazing and their beauty is spectacular. Over the past several years, I have joined many fights to save our vanishing wetlands — Humbug Marsh, MaiKai in Livonia, Chesterfield Twp, Ray Twp, Gladwin ... I have also worked with the MDEQ to rewrite the new wetland protection rules. For good wet fun, I have participated in Rouge Rescue for many years.

Sprawl:

I have been working on sprawl issues for several years now. I helped organize our 1999 Tour-de-sprawl and have worked with other groups fighting against sprawl and fighting for the revitalization of our older metropolitan areas.

EX-COM ELECTIONS*continued from page 11*

Forests:

I have also worked on a number of forest issues, such as the DNR's efforts to define and identify old growth forests.

Chapter Vision

So many people out there have no knowledge of environmental issues, so we have to try harder to reach them. We don't want to use scare tactics — we want to gently show them the natural beauty we have and what's being lost. One great technique for this kind of education is conservation outings. I will organize, lead, and promote chapter-wide conservation outings.

JULIE JANECZKO

I am very honored to have been nominated for the Ex-Com. The opportunity to work with other dedicated and passionate volunteers is an exciting prospect for me.

Experience

I have been a Sierra Club member for five years, and in that time I have worked on three major service projects as well as on the Retreat Committee for 2000. I have also served on the Executive Committee of Recycle Livingston for over two years.

Chapter Vision

I would like to see the Chapter continue its focus on increasing membership and increasing the involvement of current members. More people need to know who we are and what we believe. The public needs to know that we are the people next door. We are not radicals but people who want to live in an environment with clean air, clean water, and protected public lands. I am not blindly opposed to progress, but am opposed to blind progress.

Please consider me when casting your vote.

LYDIA FISCHER**Experience**

I was first elected to the Chapter Ex-Com in 1996, and have been its Chair for the last two years. I'm also SEMG's Vice-Chair, and serve on the National Environmental Justice Committee of the Club. I'm seeking reelection because I believe in Sierra's mission to preserve the environment and am convinced that its grassroots structure provides the best chance to achieve our goals.

Interests

I'm eager to continue working with fellow Sierrans at the Ex-Com and elsewhere to strengthen the regional Groups, entice more members into activism, bring more diversity into our Chapter, and promote coalition-building with like-minded organizations, particularly at the Group level.

Chapter Vision

Our state offers a wide range of opportunities for committed Sierrans. In my ideal vision, protection of the environment commands a majority of Michigan's elected politicians and once again becomes the duty of state agencies. Medical waste incineration is phased out, and city residents stop being targets of environmental degradation. Sprawl is harnessed so that wetlands and farmlands are not routinely overrun. Old growth in our precious forests remains untouched. Confined animal operations are made to stop fouling air and land. As we work to achieve that vision, the greatest assets in our Chapter lie with the

commitment and creativity of our activists in every Group across the state, a dedicated, extremely competent staff, and the ease with which activists and staff work together to fulfill the Club's goals. I'll continue working to strengthen those assets even further.

RITA JACK**Interests**

My interest in the environment stems from my deep awareness of our utter dependence on clean water and clean air. I have always lived in Michigan, surrounded by the awesome and awe-inspiring Great Lakes. Several years ago, I made it my goal to work on protecting them. My education (I was an "non-traditional" student) focused on fresh water, and now my work focuses on restoring and protecting fresh water in streams. In school, I learned that watersheds are 95% land, so whatever happens on the land has a profound effect on the quality of the water in our streams and lakes. I believe that our use of land — and how much of it we pave over — will determine the future of our Great Lakes. I wish to work on this and other issues as a member of the Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter Ex-Com.

Experience

My caring for environmental issues goes back many, many years. Yet, while I have been a member of many different environmental organizations over the past 20 years, I never had the opportunity to actually help, to actually work on issues, until I joined the Sierra Club. Then, from 1995 until 1999, I had the great fortune of working as a Mackinac Chapter staff member. It was a difficult decision when I left to focus on finishing my education. My work as a staff member focused on helping members become activists. I would like to help with these efforts again, this time from the volunteer activist side! We have more members now than ever before, and when we work together, we are a force to be reckoned with!

NANCY SHIFFLER**Experience**

Sierra Club offices held:

- 1990-93: Chapter Conservation Chair
- 1991-97: Chapter Ex-Com at large member
- 1993-96: Chapter Chair

Currently:

- Huron Valley Group Representative to Chapter Ex-Com
- Huron Valley Group Ex-Com vice-chair
- Huron Valley Group Conservation Co-Chair

Issues/Activities Experience:

- Forest planning
- Land use
- Group Outings Leader

Chapter Vision

The uniqueness of the Sierra Club flows from participation at the grassroots:

- Volunteers are the heart of the club. The club provides a place for members to grow and be effective as activists.
- The enjoyment and sense of renewal we get from our

continued on next page

EX-COM ELECTIONS*continued from page 12*

outings help to energize our conservation activism.

- The Sierra Club is a democratic organization; it is both the right and the responsibility of its members to become involved in its governance.

The Executive Committee provides leadership and support for the membership through: policy-making; financial management; training; and communication between groups, members, staff, and the regional and national levels of the club. If elected, I will work to keep the Ex-Com as effective as possible.

MIKE KEELER**Experience**

What I bring to the Club is background, preparation, dedication, and enthusiasm. I joined the Club in 1990, and since 1992 have served on the Ex-Com. It provides a great outlet for my energy and passion, and I love working with committed activists from all over the state.

Ex-Com members usually take on projects, and mine have been a balance between administrative, fundraising, conservation, and political activism. For four years I have represented the Chapter as our National Delegate, which gives me a perspective to share regarding Club activities across the country.

My love of politics has carried me through 6 years on the chapter's political committee, working to endorse pro-environmental candidates. The need to fund our activities resulted in four years as Chapter Raffle Coordinator, a non-glamorous but necessary job. I am happy to take on these projects because I really enjoy working with the Ex-Com members on behalf of the environment. My affiliation with Sierra Club and my science degree from MSU gives me the credibility to educate others and get things done.

Interests

My other interests reflect my philosophy of living lightly on the Earth. I am an urban organic gardener, cross-country skier, and a hiker. Since 1982, I've been a vegetarian and have had only 4-cylinder engines in my autos!

I'd like the chance to continue doing what I do best for the Mackinac Chapter, and I greatly appreciate your vote.

MIKE JOHNSON**Experience**

I have been involved in group, chapter, and national activities since becoming active in the Sierra Club four years ago. My group work has included public presentations, programs and outings planning, and contributions to the KVG newsletter. At the chapter level, I have attended forest issues training, written articles for the *Mackinac*, and am presently serving on the Ex-Com and Steering Committee. Nationally, I have received activist training and have been to Washington three times to lobby on behalf of the Sierra Club for the protection of Utah and Alaska wilderness, meeting with the staffs of Michigan's representatives and senators.

Chapter Vision

When running in the 1998 Ex-Com election, I said I would work toward greater chapter financial assistance to groups and greater

chapter involvement in Great Lakes issues. Since then, I have assisted the chapter Conservation Committee chairperson in formulating the grants-to-groups policy, which is now in place. I have attended International Joint Commission meetings, which determine US-Canadian Great Lakes policy. I am serving on the chapter's newly formed Great Lakes Subcommittee, and have written the "Great Lakes Report" articles which have appeared in the *Mackinac*.

Interests

Environmental issues of greatest interest to me are the Great Lakes, forests and wetlands, and wilderness protection.

HELEN LEBLANC**Experience**

I have been involved with the Sierra Club for many years on both the Group and Chapter levels. I have served as Chair of the Central Michigan Group and as Secretary for the Chapter. I am currently treasurer for both the Chapter and CMG. I have been appointed to many Ingham County Committees, including the Groundwater Protection Committee and the Solid Waste Planning Committee. I currently serve on the Ingham County Emergency Planning and Right to Know Committees, which deal with chemical hazards in our communities, and the Williamston Township Environment Committee.

Interests

I feel the most important environmental issue is urban sprawl and urban revitalization, which is an important solution to sprawl. We must make our cities be places where people want to live again! I am also interested in groundwater and wetland protection.

Chapter Vision

As treasurer, I have authored several proposals to increase funding to our groups, and my vision for the Chapter is to have a sound financial base so the Chapter and our Groups can accomplish our conservation goals.

DAVID WRIGHT

The strength of the Sierra Club is found in our actions to connect with our natural heritage and to preserve and protect the environment. The challenge of the Mackinac Chapter Ex-Com is to promote and support these activities for our Michigan members.

Experience

It is an honor to be a candidate for the Ex-Com. I have been an active Sierra Club member with both my local group and the Mackinac Chapter. Currently, I chair the Energy Subcommittee for the Mackinac chapter, which will be working on electric utility deregulation and Corporate Average Fuel Economy. At the local level, I co-chair the Conservation Committee for the Crossroads Group and am the CG representative to the Chapter. Also I represent the Michigan Environmental Council at meetings of the DEQ's Air Quality Division Advisory Committee.

Chapter Vision

As an Ex-Com member, I would support the Club's current focus on highlighting and reversing the lack of public participation and accountability at both the DEQ and DNR. Should I be elected, I look forward to working with the Mackinac Chapter staff and leadership. ❄



Mark Janeczko as auctioneer.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL RETREAT

BY JULIE JANE CZKO
Retreat Committee Member

The 11th Annual Autumn Retreat has come and gone, and a great time was had by all. There were new events, old events, resurrected events, extraordinary events, and some missed events.

Some of the new events this year included palm reading, kayaking, and a live auction. Many thought the best new event was professional photographer Bob Guiliani's presentation, with beautiful slides and lots of photo tips. As someone said on the survey, "Bob Guiliani was excellent!" Many people expressed an interest in having him return next year to give his Isle Royale presentation.

Another new event this year was game night. It started out as a euchre tournament with only eight people — the smallest tournament I have ever been in! This inspired others to bring out games of dominoes and cribbage. Many remarked that they enjoyed this very much because they learned new games and met new people.

Next year we will expand on this theme and have a family game night. By the way, it turns out the photographer, Bob Guiliani, is a pretty mean euchre player — he tied for first place! Next year we all know whom to get as a partner.

The old events included canoeing, a Miniwanca history tour, campfires, and the forest biodiversity hike. Orienteering turned out to be the most missed event. It was on the schedule, but unfortunately our fearless leader Dave had a last-minute emergency and was unable to attend. Many expressed how much it was missed. Needless to say, it shall return!

Yoga was resurrected this year because it was an event that was greatly missed in 1999. The early birds enjoyed yoga workouts Saturday and Sunday mornings. Some of us are not early birds and missed it — many people requested yoga later in the day. The yoga gurus have told me that it is not advisable to do yoga after you have eaten, thus the early time. Next year we will work on getting an instructor to accommodate our request for a workout later in the day.

Some lucky souls experienced a moon rainbow — for a few precious minutes, the moon was reflecting off the water just right. I am sorry to say I missed it. I am sure this was an extraordinary event.

The 2001 retreat will be held at The Kettunen Center in Tustin, which sits on 160 acres with a lake and lots of forest. This

change of location will provide opportunities for some new activities, such as a side trip to the nearby North Country Trail for a day hike. There is a ropes course on site, so look for that to be a resurrected event. People who have stayed there have told me that the food is excellent. As a special treat, we will not even have to clean up after ourselves. Even towels and linens are provided!

The best event by far was the opportunity to connect with other

people who feel so passionately about protecting the environment. After the weekend, I felt renewed, excited, and ready to take on new challenges. Thank you all for sharing that passion. I look forward to seeing you all again next year. ❁

If you have any thoughts or ideas for future events, please contact me at 517-539-1676 or ravenhillacres@i2k.com.



Young Mr. Piehl makes off with a door prize.

ALL PHOTOS: SUE KELLY



Mike Keeler digs for a raffle winner.



MACKINAC CHAPTER AWARDS

CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS AND OTHER FRIENDS OF THE ENVIRONMENT

BY LYDIA FISCHER

Mackinac Chapter Chair

Following a happy Sierra Club tradition, each year Group and Chapter members are asked to submit names of individuals or institutions that have made outstanding contributions to the work of the Club. Here are the 2000 awards winners, announced by Awards Committee chair Mike Keeler at the recent Autumn Retreat.

MARLENE FLUHARTY AWARD

To recognize a Chapter member who has served Sierra on at least two levels (Group, Chapter and/or National) over an extended period, has made significant contributions and/or is responsible for a major project that has greatly benefited the Club.

ANNA HOLDEN

We honor Anna for her outstanding work and leadership in the coalition that accomplished the closing down of the Detroit Henry Ford Hospital Medical Waste incinerator. Anna is current Chair of SEMG, and has served as Group rep to the Chapter Ex-Com for several years.

VIRGINIA PRENTICE AWARD

To recognize an individual who has made significant contributions to the preservation of wilderness and/or the protection of public lands in Michigan.

DAVE ALLEN

Dave, Conservation Co-Chair of the CUPG, has been active in the protection of forests in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Dave has also helped organize CUPG's monthly trash clean-ups in the Little Presque Isle tract of the Escanaba River State Forest.

CHAIR'S AWARD

Presented by the Chapter Chair to honor a Mackinac Ex-Com member for her/his service to the Chapter.

JUDY THOMPSON

Judy, on the Ex-Com since 1998, has done an excellent job in leading the Conservation work for the Chapter as its Conservation Chair. Among other accomplishments, she has encouraged the Chapter's renewed involvement in Great Lakes conservation work, obtained a One Sierra Club grant for joint conservation/outings Chapter activities from National, and promoted anti-sprawl activities in the state.

SYLVANIA AWARD

To recognize a Sierra Club volunteer who is new on the scene, but who has already

demonstrated great enthusiasm, hard work, and dedication.

TIM KILLEEN

Tim has contributed his considerable energy and shrewd strategic thinking to the Chapter's Political Committee and, as Chair of the SEMG Political Committee, has been instrumental in taking it to a higher level of effective political action.

JANE ELDER ENVIRONMENTALIST-OF-THE-YEAR AWARD

To recognize a political leader inside or outside the Club.

SENATOR GARY PETERS

A long-time friend of the environment, the Chapter salutes Senator Peters this year as the author of two important pro-environment bills — to regulate the incineration of medical waste and to expand the scope of protection for Michigan wetlands — currently before the Michigan Legislature.

WHITE PINE AWARD

To recognize a non-member individual, organization, or group showing extraordinary dedication to protection of the environment.

WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSIONER JEWEL WARE

Jewel is recognized for her vigor and commitment in the fight to close down Detroit's Henry Ford Hospital medical waste incinerator. She participated in the organizing of town meetings, placed newspaper ads in community media featuring support from Detroit ministers, helped distribute thousands of leaflets throughout the community, and spearheaded the approval of a resolution calling for the closing of the incinerator by the Wayne County Board of Commissioners.

ENVIRO JOURNALISM AWARD

For environmental reporting or editorials.

PRINT: MICHIGAN CITIZEN

For its comprehensive coverage of the Henry Ford Hospital campaign and its overall reporting of environmental issues.

BROADCAST: WEMU OF YPSILANTI

For their "Issues of the Environment" program hosted by David Fair and Donna Southwell.

VINCE SMITH AWARD

To recognize outstanding contributions to the Chapter outings program.

ELIZABETH ALLINGHAM

Liz is an Outings leader "extraordinaire",

having led scores of outings in the Southeast corner of our state and also in Ohio and always kept her eyes open to new hiking and canoeing spots. Liz has also sat on SEMG's Ex-Com, where she served as Treasurer for several years.

ALEX SAGADY CYBER-PUNK AWARD

To recognize outstanding efforts by a volunteer activist to raise awareness and disseminate information about Michigan's environment by the use of electronic media.

LYNN LIVINGSTON

Lynn has worked as a Sierra Club activist for 25 years in a range of local, state, and national initiatives to save the environment, from heading up campaigns to editing local newsletters, and even kick-starting a group in the Everglades. However, this year he is being recognized for his superb Nepessing Group web site. See his work for yourself at www.gfn.org/sierrang.

COUGAR AWARD

To recognize outstanding efforts to educate students about Michigan's environment.

MOOSEWOOD NATURE CENTER, MARQUETTE, MI

The Moosewood Nature Center was formed in 1997 by a group of volunteers, including several Sierra members, in Marquette County. Its programs offer a wide range of activities to educate young students and teenagers about the environment. The Center publishes a quarterly newsletter and has received a grant towards its work from the Marquette Community Foundation.

LIFE OF THE PARTY AWARD

To recognize those volunteers who take seriously the Sierra Club's credo "to enjoy the wild places of the Earth."

GARY AND CATHY SEMER

Gary and Cathy are recognized for the good time had by all at the Chapter Autumn Retreat, which they enthusiastically and ably organized and shepherded in the last several years. As they pass on the baton to a new committee, the Chapter thanks them for a great job.

SERVICE AWARDS

These are given to Chapter and Group volunteers and/or leaders who have contributed a

see CHAPTER AWARDS page 23

ENVIRONMENTAL LITIGATION: A VICTORY ON THE CRYSTAL RIVER

BY CHRIS BZDOK

Summer brought good news to the mossy banks of the Crystal River. This July, the US Army Corps of Engineers denied the Homestead Resort's application to build a golf course and housing complex on the river, next to the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in Leelanau County. The Army Corps' decision is the most anticipated and important step in a 13-year battle to protect this unique natural treasure.

Anyone who visits the Crystal River remembers it forever. The water's striking transparency and slow, meandering pace give it the polished appearance of clear glass. Shaded in cedar and spruce, the river winds through a rolling series of dune ridges and wetland swales from Glen Lake to Lake Michigan. Along the way, the Crystal is home to many kinds of wildlife and a destination for thousands of park visitors, who canoe its surface and splash in its warm current.

This delicate relationship between the river and its human visitors has been in danger since 1987. That was the year the Homestead Resort announced plans to build a golf course and luxury housing development on the river, next to the national park. To build the project, the Homestead planned to fill or clear over ten acres of the wetlands that give cover to the river's wildlife, moderate its floods and droughts, and filter out contaminants before they reach its clean, clear water. The Homestead also planned to build three of the course's fairways and two bridges over the river, turning it into a golf course water hazard.

Building a golf course in such a sensitive site would be environmentally devastating. Scientists predicted that pesticides and fertilizers could ruin the river's extraordinary water quality and even harm local drinking water. The filling and clearcutting would destroy important wildlife habitat, both in the river and on land. The use of the river as a golf course water hazard would drive national park visitors off the river for the exclusive benefit of the Homestead's customers.

Led by a local group called Friends of the Crystal River, environmentalists fought the Homestead proposal right from the start. Joined by groups including the Sierra Club, MUCC, and the National Wildlife Federation, Friends of the Crystal River filed lawsuits in state and federal court — challenging the Homestead, Department of Natural Resources, Governor of Michigan, and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator in Washington DC. A federal judge blocked the project from going forward in the early 1990s, and the state case is currently before the Michigan Supreme Court.

The Army Corps, who was placed in charge of the Homestead's application by the federal judge, reviewed the golf course plan for over a year. The Corps took hundreds of comments from the public



WWW.KENSCOTTPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

and from three federal agencies — the EPA, Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Park Service — all of whom now oppose the plan.

In the end, the Corps ruled that the two golf course proposals offered by the Homestead — one with the course over the river, and one with the course moved south and housing on the river — were both unacceptable. Citing the harm to water quality, the threat to members of the public who canoe and kayak the river, and the destruction of the unique dune-and-swale ecological community, the Corps ruled that the project could not go forward.

Writing to the Homestead, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Davis said that each of the resort's plans "is contrary to the overall public interest and does not comply with the...guidelines" used to evaluate wetlands applications under the Federal Clean Water Act. The Corps stated it would permit a golf course that was built away from the river and that preserved all the acreage near the river and wetlands in a permanent conservation easement.

It is hard to know whether the long battle over the Crystal River's fate is done. The Homestead could theoretically appeal the Corps' decision or file a lawsuit against the federal government. The EPA could "elevate" the Corps' decision to permit a course with conservation easements to Washington DC for further review. Or the Homestead could renew a deal first struck in 1998 with land conservancies to sell the property for inclusion into the national park.

Whatever happens in the future, the Corps' decision means that the Crystal River is safe for now. The challenge will be taking the victory — so many years in the making — and turning it into permanent protection for this fragile and priceless place. *

Chris Bzdok is an attorney with Olson, Noonan & Bzdok, P.C., a Traverse City firm with a statewide practice in environmental law. His office represents the Friends of the Crystal River. The Army Corps' decision can be found at www.lre.usace.army.mil/functions/rf/dtwhome.html.



Advertise in
The Mackinac
and reach 16,000
households in Michigan!
Call 734-453-4443 for our
rate card, or email:
semer@tir.com.

WILDERNESS SKILLS:

EXPLORE THE BUSH WITH TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS

BY MICHAEL A. NEIGER

Central Upper Peninsula Group

Copyright ©2000

Half the fun of a wilderness trip is the preparation, the anticipation. For weeks or even months before a trip, I pour over my topographic maps. As my index finger traces a meandering river, I contemplate whether it's canoeable or not. In many ways, a good map is like having a seasoned guide along. Topo maps identify lookouts, peaks, waterfalls, old cabin sites, and other interesting places to explore. They'll also help you steer clear of difficult areas like steep hills, cliffs, ravines, and wet, swampy areas.

In the field, you'll want to protect your maps from the elements or they'll turn to mush in short order. Coat them with a commercial waterproofer such as Map Seal. I've also had excellent success waterproofing my maps with Thompson's Water Seal, which is available in most hardware stores. To further protect your maps against wear and tear, cover one or both sides with clear contact paper or shelf paper. This wide, sticky laminate will prevent your maps from tearing along the edge and where they're folded repeatedly. For additional protection, carry your maps in one-gallon-size, heavy-duty, clear plastic ziplock bags. Since ziplocks trap air, your maps will float if they end up in the river or lake. Folded properly, you'll be able to view your area of travel on the map through the ziplock.

While maps can be powerful tools, they're of little value without a compass. The best compasses for map and field use are the orienteering-style compasses which are distinguished by their clear plastic, see-through base plates. Since your life may depend on it one day, stick with a high-quality compass from a well known manufacturer such as Silva, Suunto, or Brunton. A 24-inch-long white lanyard on your compass can double as a map-measuring tool if you mark it at one mile (or one kilometer) intervals with a permanent marker. For greater precision, my favorite map-measuring tool is waxy dental floss. Easy to shape and somewhat tacky, it's one of the most accurate ways to measure a winding two-track or a meandering river.

While a discussion of how to use a map and compass is beyond the scope of this article, one of the most important things you can do to improve your navigation skills is to get in the habit of always orienting your map to the terrain around you. In other

words, rotate your map until the north edge of the map (generally the top edge) points northward, as indicated by your compass. Held this way, features on the map will line up with the corresponding terrain features around you. Avoid the tendency to position a map simply so the place names are easy to read. Believe me, it'll make map reading much simpler.

Since a map and compass can be critical to your survival, always carry a backup photocopy of your map and a spare, key-chain-type compass. To learn more about maps, compasses, and land navigation techniques, visit your local library or bookstore. An excellent book on the subject is the profusely illustrated *Essential Wilderness Navigator* by David Seidman (1995, Ragged Mountain Press, ISBN 0070563233). Whether you're planning a trip to the headwaters of the Black River or to Grand Island, a topographic map can be the key to a successful trip.

An excellent one-stop source for Michigan topographic maps, marine charts, and hydrographic maps is the Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC). Order their free Michigan Map Catalog at 1-800-777-6720 to figure out exactly what maps you'll need for your wilderness trip. You can also order an individual state map index from the USGS at 1-888-275-8747. For a Canadian map index and ordering information contact the Canada Map Office at 1-800-465-6277. To view topographic maps, nautical charts, and aerial photographs online, point your Internet browser to www.terraserver.com (superb aerial photos), www.maptech.com (sharpest topos), or www.topozone.com.*

Editor's note: Michael Neiger of Marquette is an avid wilderness tripper and Central Upper Peninsula (CUP) Group trip leader who welcomes your comments and opinions via e-mail at mneiger@hotmail.com.

BEGINNING KAYAKING LESSONS

AT BLACK PARROT PADDLING, L.L.C.



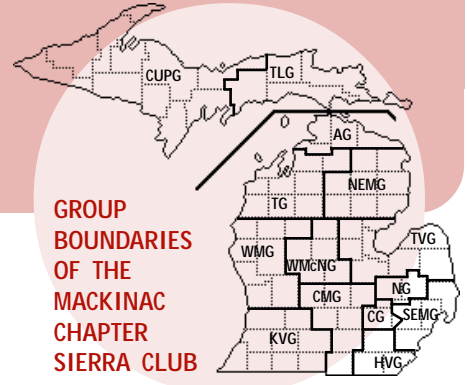
Learn to quickly
master strokes &
bracing techniques

Also covered:
Safety, Equipment,
Rescues & Rolling

CALL NOW!
RON SMITH

734-878-3689 or rsmith9999@aol.com

GROUP MEETINGS & PROGRAMS



AG Algonquin Group

If you are interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Dan Farough at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372.

CMG Central Michigan Group

General meetings are held the 3rd Monday each month at the Harris Nature Center, off Van Atta Road in Meridian Township. Come at 5:30pm for supper (small donation requested) or at 6:15 for the meeting. Call Pete Pasterz, 517-676-3339.

The Conservation Committee usually meets the 2nd Monday each month in Wells Hall on the MSU campus. Call Maria Lapinski, 517-569-3302.

The Executive Committee meets the 1st Monday of the month. Call Jerry Schuur, 517-351-7796.

CUP Central Upper Peninsula Group

Sierra Club members in the central and western counties in the Upper Peninsula are invited to participate in CUP group activities. General membership and executive committee meetings are held 7pm in West Science, Room 270, on the Northern Michigan University campus. Call John Rebers, 906-228-3617.

To receive news about outings or other Club activities in the Central UP, send \$5 for a subscription to the CUP newsletter to Sierra Club, 338 West Crescent, Marquette, MI, 49855.

CG Crossroads Group

The Sierra Club members of Livingston, southern Genesee, and western Oakland Counties meet monthly at the Brighton District Library, 200 Orndorff Dr, Brighton, for informative and entertaining programs. These meetings begin at 7pm and are open to the public.

The Conservation Committee also meets monthly to discuss and address local issues. Call Emily Gobright, 517-548-0595 or David Wright, 810-229-1685.

The Executive Committee meets the last Wednesday of the month. Call Rick Pearsall, 810-227-6298.

HVG Huron Valley Group

The General Meetings of the Huron Valley Group of the Sierra Club are held 7:30pm the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the UM Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor. Non-members welcome. Call 734-480-7751 or visit our website at www.mirror.org/groups/mi-enviro.

11/21 General Meeting. Ralph Powell will speak on "An Alaskan Adventure."

11/19 General Meeting. This is our annual Members Slide Show and Potluck. The 7:30pm slide show will be preceded by a 6:30pm potluck. Bring a dish to pass and utensils.

1/15 General Meeting. Speaker to be announced.

KVG Kalamazoo Valley Group

General membership meetings are usually held 7:30pm the 3rd Thursday of each month at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Texas Twp Campus, Room 4370.

The Executive Committee meets 7:30pm the 2nd Wednesday of each month. All members are welcome. Contact Verne and Cindy Mills, 616-344-4279.

11/16 General Meeting. Anne Woiwode will talk with our group about the environmental impacts of Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs), otherwise known as "factory farms." Call Mike Johnson, 948-8840.

1/18 General Meeting. "Botswana and Environs." Enjoy a slide presentation of Karen & Mike's summer camping adventures in Botswana and surrounding countries. Call Mike Johnson, 616-948-8840.

NG Nepessing Group

Meetings are held 6:30pm the 2nd Wednesday each month at Mott Community College in the "New Students" Prael Building, Genesee Room, 1401 E Court St in Flint. These meetings are free and refreshments are available. Non-members are welcome, and parking is free of charge. Find out what local volunteers are doing and hear our featured speakers. Call Carol Graham, 810-659-4965.

Our current projects include working to get curbside recycling in Flint, water testing in the Flint River watershed, fundraising, trail

repairs, and great outings. Come help us and meet some fun and interesting people! Check the Nepessing web page at www.gfn.org/sierrang.

The Nepessing Group weekly hiking schedule is available at 810-743-0335 or on our web page.

NEMG Northeast Michigan Group

If you are interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Dan Farough at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372.

SEMG Southeast Michigan Group

General meetings are held 7pm the 1st Thursday of each month, Sept - June, at Northwest Unitarian-Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Hwy (southbound M-10 service drive) between Southfield and Evergreen roads and Nine and Ten Mile roads in Southfield. Social time: 7-7:30pm; Business meeting: 7:30-8pm; Program: 8-9pm. Contact Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

The Executive Committee meets 7:30pm the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Royal Oak Senior Citizens' Center, 3500 Marais, in Royal Oak. Contact Anna Holden, Chairperson, 313-331-0932.

Conservation Committee meetings for the remainder of 2000 will be held 7:30pm on Oct 16, Nov 13, and Dec 18 at the Royal Oak Senior Citizens' Center, 3500 Marais, in Royal Oak. Call Bob Duda, 734-464-0076 or Ed McArdle, 313-388-6645.

The Outings Committee holds quarterly planning meetings. If you're interested in planning or leading outings, contact coordinators Joanne Spatz, 248-932-5370 or Philip Crookshank, wanderphil3@netzero.net / 313-562-1873.

Political Committee meetings to support pro-environment candidates and legislation at the state and local levels are held 6:30pm

continued on next page

GROUP MEETINGS & PROGRAMS

continued from page 18

the last Thursday of each month (no meeting in October) at Jimi's Restaurant on Washington, one block north of Lincoln (10-1/2 Mile) in Royal Oak. All are welcome! Contact Tim Killeen, Political Chair, 313-526-4052.

11/2 General Meeting: Ecology Center Auto Project Director Charles Griffith will speak about the national "clean car" campaign.

12/7 General Meeting: Annual Christmas Silent Auction/Member Slide Show. Bring a dish to pass/silent auction item/ favorite vacation slides.

12/9 Quarterly Planning Meeting: Outings Holiday Potluck and Scheduling Meeting. Open to everyone interested in leading or learning about outings. See Outings, page 20, for more information.

TLG

Three Lakes Group

Sierra Club members in the Upper Peninsula counties of Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac and Schoolcraft are welcome to attend meetings of the Three Lakes Group. Business meetings are held monthly at various locations in Sault Ste Marie. Programs are held the 1st Wednesday each month from Sept-May at the Walker Cisler Center on the Lake Superior State University campus. Call Floyd Byerly, 906-632-0218.

TVG

Thumb Valley Group

No group meetings planned at this time, but see Outings, page 20, for group activities. Call group chairs Craig and Janis Kendziorski, 517-631-5170 for updated information or if interested in participating on the leadership team or leading an outing.

TG

Traverse Group

At this time, no general membership meetings or programs are scheduled. See Outings, page 20, for special Traverse Group activities.

WMCNG

Wakelin McNeel Group

If you are interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Dan Farough at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372.

WMG

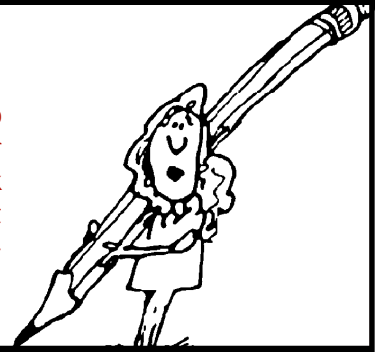
West Michigan Group

Meetings are held 7pm the 2nd Thursday each month at Kent Community Hospital meeting room. Everyone welcome! Call Marty Lore, 517-682-1316. ❄️

TAKING ACTION:

YOUR WORDS COUNT!

Get your free copy of "A Citizen's Guide To State Government" to find out who your legislators are. Call House Speaker Chuck Perricone at (517) 373-1774, mention that you are concerned about environmental protection, and ask him to send you a copy!



THE WHITE HOUSE

President Bill Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20500
202-456-1414

White House Fax Line: 202-456-2461
White House Comment Line:
(202) 456-1111
White House E-Mail:
president@whitehouse.gov

U S C O N G R E S S

US Capitol Switchboard: 202-224-3121

The Honorable _____
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable _____
US Senate
Washington, DC 20510

M I C H I G A N

Governor John Engler
State Capitol
Lansing, Michigan 48909
517-373-3400

The Honorable _____
Michigan Senate
State Capitol
Lansing, Michigan 48909

The Honorable _____
Michigan House
State Capitol
Lansing, Michigan 48909

R E S O U R C E S F O R A C T I V I S T S

Sierra Club National Legislative Hotline: 202-675-2394

- **ENVIRO-MICH** is the Mackinac Chapter-sponsored Internet list and forum for Michigan environmental and conservation Issues. For a free subscription, send e-mail to: majordomo@great-lakes.net with a one-line message body of "subscribe enviro-mich" (leave your signature file off).
- **Sierra Club's National Web Page** is at: www.sierraclub.org. Check out the daily *War On the Environment* postings.
- Find our **New, Improved Mackinac Chapter Web Page**, by designwrench information arts, at: michigan.sierraclub.org
- Get a free subscription to **The Planet** by promising to write at least 3 letters a year to your elected officials in support of the environment. Send your name and address to **Sierra Club Planet Subscription Request**, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968.



MACKINAC CHAPTER SIERRA CLUB

OUTINGS

TO EXPLORE, ENJOY AND PROTECT

Abbreviations in capital letters signify the group that is planning the outing. Refer to the Group Meetings map on page 18 to determine a group's location. Trips begin at the trailhead. Outings are open to everyone.

NOVEMBER

11/4 NG (Sat) Davison Lake Hike. 10am. 4-5 miles. Ortonville Rec Area. Go 4.1 miles south of Hadley on Hadley Rd. Left on Fox Lake Rd. 1/4 mile to trailhead on corner of Big Fish Lake Rd. State Park Vehicle Permit required. Restaurant stop. Karen Witek, 810-667-9633.

11/4 HVG Lake Hudson Bushwack. Come explore the Lake Hudson Rec Area. Wear boots, dress for weather. Meet 9am at Maple Village shopping Center by the former Fox Village Theater. 734-971-9013.

11/5 SEMG Metamora State Rec Area Hike. We'll hike around this scenic lake & enjoy the last of the fall colors. This 5-6 mile hike covers fairly easy terrain at a medium pace. Meet 11am in Bloomfield Township in the Costco parking lot near McDonald's on Telegraph (east side), north of Square Lake Rd. Optional restaurant stop after. Liz Allingham, 313-581-7579 & Lee Becker, 810-294-7789.

11/11 NG (Sat) Michigan Nature Association Property Full Moon Hike. 6:30pm. 2 easy miles. Meet at Farmer Jack's parking lot (north side) on Leroy St in Fenton. No dogs. Bring Flashlight. Restaurant stop. Tim Gundlach, 810-232-0917.

11/11 HVG Historic Homes Hike. Come enjoy a leisurely paced hike observing historic homes in Ypsilanti. Bring your copy of "Foot-loose in Washtenaw County" if you have one. Meet 1pm at the Farmers Market in Depot Town at the north entrance. Optional restaurant stop after. 734-483-0058.

11/12 SEMG Highland Rec Area Hike. We'll enjoy a colorful 6-mile hike through this hilly, heavily wooded area, rain or shine. Meet 12:15 in Bloomfield Township at the Costco parking lot near McDonald's on Telegraph (east side), north of Square Lake Rd. Restaurant stop after. Don Dahlin, 248-644-2746.

11/12 KVG (Sun) Saugatuck Dunes Hike & Visit to Crane Orchard. We'll have an invigorating fall hike in the dunes, then stop at Crane Orchard in Fennville for cider, lunch, & apple dumplings. Meet 12 noon at the D Ave/US-131 carpool lot. Rus & Ann Hollister, 616-685-2301.

11/18 NG Hike Schedule Meeting & Hike. 10am sharp. Flint Public Library, 1026 E Kearsley, Flint. Bring complete details of hikes & outings you want to lead in 2001. Hike the recently extended Mott Lake Bike Trail at 1pm. Bring lunch or grab something between meeting & hike. For hike, meet at Mikatam Hall parking lot, 4571 E Stanley Rd, Genesee (corner of Genesee Rd). 4 easy miles. Cindy Engelmann, 810-743-0335.

11/19 SEMG Maybury State Park Hike. We'll walk about 3 miles to enjoy late fall scenery. Enjoy the rolling hills through old beech/maple forest on the grounds of the former Maybury State Hospital. Dress in layers; trip goes rain or shine. Optional restaurant stop after. Meet 12 noon at the park concession building, Eight Mile entrance, west of Beck Road & Northville; 5 miles west of I-275. Tom Griebel, 248-349-8782.

11/24 SEMG (Fri) Turkey Trot at Proud Lake Rec Area. We'll walk off all that turkey in this explorer hike, going west from Wixom Rd. Be prepared for contingencies: snacks, water, layered clothing, suitable footwear. Optional restaurant stop after. Meet 11am in Southfield behind the Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & Twelve Mile Rd. Liz Allingham, 313-581-7579.

11/25 NG For-Mar Nature Preserve Hike. 10am. 2142 N Genesee Rd, Burton (just north of Davison Rd). Restaurant stop. Holly Lubowicki, 810-767-4004 & Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

11/26 SEMG Jonathon Woods Nature Preserve. We'll hike 5 moderately-paced miles in an area SEMG has never visited. We'll see lakes, hills, woods, & meadows. Trip goes rain or shine. Optional restaurant stop after. Meet 12 noon in Bloomfield Township in the Costco parking lot near McDonald's on Telegraph (east side), north of Square Lake Rd. John Kalam, 248-681-9160.

11/26 HVG Geology Center Hike. We'll hike within the Waterloo Recreation Area with a visit to the Geology Center. Meet 1pm at City Hall Parking Lot on the corner of 5th & Huron to carpool. 734-665-2419.

DECEMBER

12/2 SEMG (Sat) Waterloo Wanderings. You might think we're going in circles as I lead a series of loops from the Geology Center in Waterloo State Rec Area. With a 4" snow cover, we should see lots of animal tracks on this 6-mile hike. Wear lug-soled boots for traction; restaurant stop after. Meet 9am in the Wal Mart parking lot (near Jeffries) on the SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96 (Jeffries Fwy) in Livonia, or 10:45 there. Philip Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

12/2 NG Huron River Hike Trail Hike. Ann Arbor. 2 p.m. 7-8 easy miles. Nature area along trail. Hike then go to a restaurant before visiting Domino Farms for Christmas light show. Misc fee: donation. Carpool from Fenton K-Mart parking lot, SE corner, at 1 p.m. Sue Morris 810-233-6569 or 810-232-3532.

12/3 SEMG Fairlane Estate Walk & Contra Dance. Come & hike in this hidden Dearborn wilderness then kick up your heels at Lovett Hall for a contra dance. Dress for the weather as trails may be wet. Bring comfortable dancing shoes. Dance admission: \$6. Bring a bag lunch. Meet 10am near the Henry Ford Museum (Imax theatre entrance) at Greenfield Village, then carpool to the Ford Estate. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

12/9 NG Murphy Lake Hike. 10am. 6.5 strenuous miles. Restaurant stop. Sue Morris, 810-233-6569 or 232-3532.

12/9 SEMG (Sat) Outings Holiday Potluck & Scheduling Meeting. Open to everyone interested in leading or learning about outings. Join us for a fun-filled, casual, holiday dinner at 4pm (bring a dish to pass). Quarterly planning meeting for spring & summer at 5:30. From downtown Northville, proceed west on Main for about a half mile after it turns to gravel, turn left on Westhill, then right, to 47103 Timberlane. Tom Griebel, 248-349-8782.

continued on next page

OUTINGS*continued from page 20*

12/10 SEMG Indian Springs Metro Park Hike. Enjoy our mild winter with a 5-6 mile hike over meadow & woods; moderate pace with stops for flora, fauna, & curiosities. Call if weather is doubtful. Optional restaurant stop after. Meet 12 noon in Bloomfield Township in the Costco parking lot near McDonald's on Telegraph (east side), north of Square Lake Rd. Joanne Spatz, 248-932-5370.

12/16 SEMG (Sat) Holly Holiday Hike. We'll hike the town — gift hunting the old fashioned way. Medieval street plays, unique shops, gifts, & a model railroad club to visit, followed with dining at the historic Holly Hotel. Meet 12 noon in Bloomfield Hills behind the CVS pharmacy on the SE corner of Woodward & Square Lake Rd (NE end of lot). Dress for outdoors, return to carpool location approx. 6pm. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313.

12/17 SEMG Stoney Creek Nature Center Stroll. Avoid the mall crowds, save money! Enjoy a slow to moderate walk renewing your spirit while looking for nature's creatures on the wooded trails. Call if weather is doubtful. Optional restaurant stop after. Meet 12 noon in Sterling Heights at Metro Parkway (16 Mile Rd) & Van Dyke, SE corner in the SMART parking lot between the banks. Lee Becker, 810-294-7789.

12/23 NG Mott Lake to Richfield Park Hike. 10am. 7 moderate miles. Meet at Genesee County Parks & Rec office at 5045 E Stanley Rd (corner of Genesee Rd). Restaurant stop. Cindy Engelmann, 810-743-0335.

12/30 NG Seven Lakes Hike. 10am. 5 moderate miles. State Park Vehicle Permit required. Restaurant stop. Sue Morris, 810-233-6569 or 810-232-3532.

12/31 SEMG First Night Celebration. Meet 4:30pm at Cindy Gunnip's in Berkley for a New Year's Eve potluck. About 6pm, carpool to Birmingham for alcohol-free First Night activities & midnight celebration. \$10 fee covers tickets for activities, must be sent by 12/20 to Cindy Gunnip, 3992 Kenmore, Berkley, MI 48072. 248-336-2984.

JANUARY

1/1 SEMG (Mon) New Year's Day Potluck & Hike. Greet the new year with SEMG members & friends at the leaders' house. Meet 10:30am in Southfield behind the Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & Twelve Mile Road, for carpooling to the Howell area (maps will be provided). Bring a dish to share at the noon potluck; our hosts

will provide turkey & soft drinks. After dinner, we will head to Kensington MetroPark for the first 4-mile hike of the year & then return to Tel-Twelve. Philip Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

1/7 SEMG Addison Oaks Cross Country Ski. Enjoy 12 miles of groomed trails for beginner-to-intermediate level at this Oakland County park. Rental equipment is available. Dress in layers; bring lunch for the warming house, or snack bar. Meet 11am in Troy on the west side of the Meijer parking lot (near Rochester Rd & Auburn), just north of M-59. No snow, we don't go! Mary Stoolmiller, 248-879-6004.

1/14 SEMG Independence Oaks Ski. Hope for snow to enjoy beginner-to-advanced trails in this lovely park, enjoying its somewhat hilly terrain. Meet 12:00 noon in Bloomfield Hills behind the CVS pharmacy on the SE corner of Woodward & Square Lake Rd (NE end of lot). Call if weather is bad. If skiing isn't available, we will hike nearby. Restaurant stop after. Joanne Spatz, 248-932-5370 & Inge Bricio, 248-338-0906.

1/19-21 HVG Ski Weekend at Sleeping Bear Dunes. All levels welcome. Call Joan Paskewitz, 734-28-0887.

1/21 SEMG Seven Lakes, Seven Miles. A brisk winter warm-up hike traversing fields, skirting frozen lakes, & through the woods. The lengthening days of January will raise our spirits in anticipation of the coming Spring. Dress in layers, bring trail snacks, trip goes in any weather. Meet 11am in Troy behind the Michigan Nat'l Bank on 14 Mile Rd just east of I-75 (south edge of Oakland Mall). John Herrgott, 810-735-9313.

1/26-28 HVG Ski Weekend at McMullen. All levels welcome. Barb Schumacher, 734-994-5456.

1/27 KVG (Sat) Cross-Country Ski at Allegan State Game Area. Paul Haas, 616-664-5417.

1/28 SEMG Belle Isle Hike. Let's visit Detroit's Crown Jewel park in winter. See the Detroit skyline & Canadian parks. Stop to rest while watching lingering waterfowl at the north end. Meet 12 noon at the island casino building for a brisk tour around the island (6 miles) using the main park road. This hike often has high wind so dress accordingly. Restaurant stop after. June Cox, 248-435-9522.

FEBRUARY

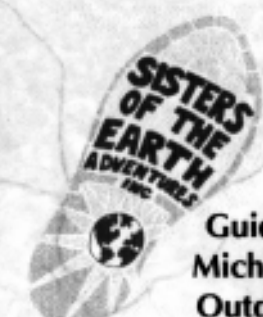
2/4 SEMG Heritage Park Hike. Let's take advantage of this rolling urban 211-acre park in nearby Farmington Hills. Hike 2-2.5 hours at a moderate pace, depending on conditions.

Meet 12 noon in the Heritage Park visitor center lot. Turn west off Farmington Rd (between 10 & 11 Mile) & left at 1st road. Restaurant stop after. Tom LaFromboise, 734-464-7899.

2/10 SEMG (Sat) Maybury State Park Moonlight Stroll. Wish for a clear sky so we can see the moon only 2 nights past full. Our easy pace will let us listen for the resident owls. Meet 7pm at the horse stable parking lot. Take Eight Mile Rd to Beck Road (2 miles west of Northville); go south 0.25 mile to gravel entrance on west side. Drive to the horse barns (another 1/8 mile) & park. Ed McArdle, 313-388-6645.

2/11 SEMG Lake Erie Metropark. Bring your binoculars, as we will be looking for shore birds, long eared owls, & possibly bald eagles as we hike this easy 5-mile trail. Dress for the weather, we go rain or shine. Meet 12:30pm at the Nature Center in Lake Erie Metropark; just south of Gibraltar, east off Jefferson Rd. Restaurant stop after. Tom Griebe, 248-349-8782.

2/25 SEMG Pointe Pelee Ice Hike. Join the 10th annual ice hike in Ontario. We are hoping for mounds of breaking-up ice pushed onto the Pointe by winter winds. If we get it, the vista will be spectacular! Dress warmly for 2-3 hours of outdoor fun. This all-day activity starts 9:30am at Ontario Tourist Info Center, just south of the Ambassador Bridge on Route 3 - Huron Church Rd (Windsor). Optional restaurant stop at The Dock in Leamington after. Bring border-crossing ID. Bridge fees, park admission fee @ \$12 per car. Liz Allingham, 313-581-7579. *

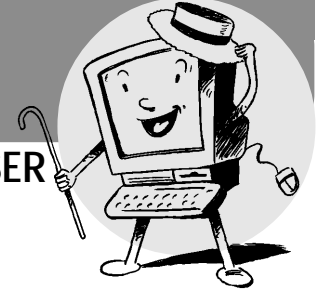


SISTERS OF THE EARTH ADVENTURES INC.

Guided Michigan Outdoor Adventures For Women

Jan Ferris
 P.O. Box 531
 Buchanan, MI 49107
 Phone And Fax: 616-695-1201
 E-mail: columbine48@qtm.net

WEBWATCH: WEATHER FOR THE TREKKER OR ARMCHAIR STORM CHASER



BY MICHAEL A. NEIGER
Central Upper Peninsula Group
Copyright ©2000

Before you head out on your next wilderness trip, check the internet for the latest, most up-to-date weather conditions. Long-range forecasts, marine weather advisories, severe weather alerts, radar images, and road reports are only a click away. Your first stop should be the National Weather Service at www.crh.noaa.gov. Other weather sites worth checking include: www.weather.com, www.weathersite.com, and www.weatherunderground.com.

For a look at the snow depths in Michigan and beyond, select the snow accumulation map link at www.weathersite.com. A radar image for the state is available at www.intellicast.com/LocalWeather/World/UnitedStates/Midwest/Michigan/Marquette/Radar.

If you're part storm-chaser, several Michigan-based, real-time webcams (web cameras) may be worth checking out. To see big breakers pounding the rugged Keweenaw Peninsula shoreline



www.weather.com

in Lake Superior, point your Internet browser to www.cableamerica.com/Michigan/Lakeview.shtml. Another perspective of Lake Superior is available at webb.net/sites/lakecam. You can check out the stormy waters of Lake Michigan by visiting www.glerl.noaa.gov/data/now/lmfs/met1. To see how the Mackinac Bridge is faring during a big blow, log on to home.freeway.net/web/webcam?webcam=2. To locate additional Michigan-based webcams, point your browser to Earth Cam's advanced search engine at www.earthcam.com/adsearch.htm.

During the gales of November, check for awesome wave heights and wind speeds at remote Great Lakes' buoys and lighthouses by going to www.nws.fsu.edu/buoy/gtlk.html. ❄

If you've got an interesting wilderness related Web site, e-mail it to Michael Neiger of Marquette, Michigan, at mneiger@hotmail.com.

Learn how to build with logs and stone!

The Michigan School of Log Building and Stone Masonry offers 5-day hands-on workshops in early June. Call (517) 734-4688 for information now!

- Scandinavian Full Scribe Technique
- Chink-style Building & Saddle Notching
- Complete Stone Masonry Work; Tools Provided

Courses include the option of three excellent meals daily and comfortable lodging at NettieBay Lodge.

Other workshops at NettieBay Lodge:
School of Bird Identification Weekend
The Outdoor Woman Workshop
Facilities available to groups for private workshops.

Your hosts: Mark and Jackie Schuler
9011 West 638 Hwy., Hawks, MI 49743
(517) 734-4688
nettiebay@george.lhi.net

NettieBay Lodge



CHAPTER AWARDS
continued from page 15

significant amount of time and effort to the Club.

KEVIN BELL

Huron Valley Group. Kevin, an HVG Ex-Com member and active Outings leader for several years, is honored for his efforts in helping to build the North Country Trail and organize the Tour d'Sprawl.

TERRY LEMMER

Nepessing Group. Terry was recognized for his Outings activities, notably establishing a mid-week hiking program for his Group. These hikes provide people in the community more opportunities to enjoy and learn about the environment and the Club.

RICHARD POSEY

Central Upper Peninsula Group. Richard has been Outings Chair for CUPG for over 5 years. He's organized a wide range of outings for the Group, including camping trips on Grand Island and Isle Royale, as well as a number of overnight canoe trips. He's done a great job in providing a range of outings for CUPGers at all times of year.

CRAIG RESSLER

West Michigan Group. As WMG's Secretary, Craig helped by arranging the meals for the Group's first and second Annual Silent Auction and Dinner. Working with several other local environmental groups, he organized an environmental show on Earth Day, and, after attending a Sierra workshop on the Arctic Wildlife Refuge, has begun to coordinate efforts with National Club people on the issue. Craig has also organized the Group's second environmental expo held earlier in the fall.

DAVID WRIGHT

Crossroads Group. Dave has been an activist member and Conservation Co-Chair as well as CG's Rep at the Chapter Ex-Com. He's recognized this time for spearheading a community forum that brought together a large group of people from different backgrounds — developers, builders, government officials, county planners and environmentalists — to discuss the sprawl issue and its impact on the region. ❄️

VOTE!

*Michigan Senate
and Presidential Voter Guides:
PAGE 3
Mackinac Chapter
Executive Committee Elections:
PAGE 11*

SIERRA CLUB MACKINAC CHAPTER DIRECTORY

MACKINAC CHAPTER OFFICE

109 East Grand River Avenue
Lansing, MI 48906
Phone: 517-484-2372
Fax: 517-484-3108
E-mail: mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org
Website: michigan.sierraclub.org
Allison Horton, Director
Anne Woiwode, Program Director
Dan Farough, Member Involvement/Organizer
Joyce McIntosh, Office Manager
Rhonda Anderson, Environmental Justice
Organizer: Detroit Office, 313-821-1064
(temporary number)

SIERRA CLUB MIDWEST OFFICE

214 N. Henry Street, Suite 203
Madison, WI 53703
Phone: 608-257-4994
Carl Zichella, Midwest Regional Staff Director
Emily Green, Great Lakes Program Director

SIERRA CLUB NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

85 Second Street, Second Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
Phone: 415-977-5500

ADDRESS CHANGES

Please include old mailing label and send to:
PO Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80321-2968

CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Officers

Lydia Fischer, Chair..... 313-863-8392
Sue Kelly, Vice Chair 810-227-9563
Helen LeBlanc, Treasurer..... 517-655-6454
Mike Johnson, 4th Officer..... 616-948-8840
Fred Townsend, 5th Officer..... 248-627-3587

At-Large Representatives

(Terms expire January 2001)

Lydia Fischer..... 313-863-8392
Mike Keeler..... 810-767-9904
Helen LeBlanc..... 517-655-6454
Gary Semer..... 734-453-4443
Mike Johnson..... 616-948-8840

(Terms expire January 2002)

Sue Kelly..... 810-227-9563
Judy Thompson..... 734-487-5548
Fred Townsend..... 248-627-3587
Barbara Yarrow..... 248-932-9164

Group Representatives

Central Michigan

Tom Nelson..... 517-336-9707

Central Upper Michigan

John Rebers..... 906-228-3617

Crossroads

David Wright..... 810-229-1685

Huron Valley

Nancy Shiffler..... 734-971-1157

Kalamazoo Valley

Paul Haas..... 616-664-5417

Nepessing

Holly Lubowicki..... 810-750-6838

Southeast Michigan

Anna Holden..... 313-331-0932

Three Lakes

Floyd Byerly..... 906-632-0218

Thumb Valley

Craig Kendziorski..... 517-631-5170

West Michigan

Martha Lore..... 616-682-1316

REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRS

Central Michigan

Pete Pasterz..... 517-676-3339

Central Upper Michigan

John Rebers..... 906-228-3617

Crossroads

Rick Pearsall..... 810-227-6298

Huron Valley

Doug Cowherd..... 734-662-5205

Kalamazoo Valley

Rus Hollister..... 616-685-2301

Nepessing

Linda Berker..... 810-653-8242

Southeast Michigan

Anna Holden..... 313-331-0932

Three Lakes

Floyd Byerly..... 906-632-0218

Thumb Valley

Janis and Craig Kendziorski..... 517-631-5170

West Michigan

Sarah Houwerzyl..... 616-361-5943

CHAPTER COMMITTEES

Awards

Mike Keeler..... 810-767-9904

Conservation

Judy Thompson..... 734-677-2517

Chapter Elections and Nominations

Linda Rosenthal..... 616-776-0817

Elections

Bonnie Maidak..... 517-381-8692

Environmental Education: Open

Fall Retreat

Dave and Nancy Christiansen..... 616-842-6019

Martie Hoadley..... 517-336-0335

Mark and Julie Janeczko..... 517-539-1676

Finance

Gary Semer..... 734-453-4443

Information Systems

Alex Sagady..... 517-332-6971

Inner City Outings

West Michigan: John Pulver..... 616-453-2480

Washtenaw: Megan Beardsley..... 734-996-5615

Legal: Open

The Mackinac Newsletter + Website

Davina Pallone..... 801-961-9939

Mackinac Chapter History

Gwen Nystuen..... 734-665-7632

Member Programs

Bob Duda..... 734-464-0076

Nominations

Sue Kelly..... 810-227-9563

Outings

Ralph Powell..... 734-971-9013

Personnel

Lydia Fischer..... 313-863-8392

Political

Gwen Nystuen..... 734-665-7632

Raffle

Mike Keeler..... 810-767-9904

Sexual Harassment Investigation

Lydia Fischer..... 313-863-8392

Sierra Club Council Delegate

Mike Keeler..... 810-767-9904

Sierra Club Delegate to MRCC

Sarah Houwerzyl..... 616-361-5943

**NEXT DEADLINE:
JANUARY 8**

Send your articles, photos,
Group meetings & outings to:
Joyce McIntosh
109 East Grand River Avenue
Lansing, MI 48906
517-484-2372
jmcintosh.sierra@juno.com



ROBBIE COX VISITS MACKINAC CHAPTER

National Sierra Club President Robbie Cox came to Michigan as this issue was going to press to stump for two Sierra Club candidates who are in a couple of the highest-profile political contests in the nation — US Senate candidate Debbie Stabenow (see page 2 for more information) and Michigan's 8th Congressional district candidate Dianne Byrum.

On a crisp fall morning with the Detroit skyline behind them, Robbie Cox and Sierra Club leaders and activists — including Lydia Fischer, chapter chair; Anna Holden, Southeast Michigan Group chair; Gwen Nystuen, chapter political chair; and Alison Horton, chapter director — were joined by several prominent Michigan environmental leaders to applaud Debbie Stabenow's record on clean air and water and to call attention to how important those issues are to the health and well-being of families in Detroit and across Southeast Michigan.



Robbie Cox highlights the importance of clean air and water in Michigan's election on November 7.

PHOTO: JOYCE MCINTOSH

Cox was joined at this press event by Donele Wilkins, executive director of Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice; Senator Gary Peters from Oakland County; and Bunyan Bryant, a professor at the University of Michigan and on the League of Conservation Voters board. ❄️

WHAT DOES THE SIERRA CLUB WORK TO DO?

To explore, enjoy and protect the wild places of the Earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the Earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to SIERRA CLUB, 109 East Grand River Ave, Lansing, MI 48906