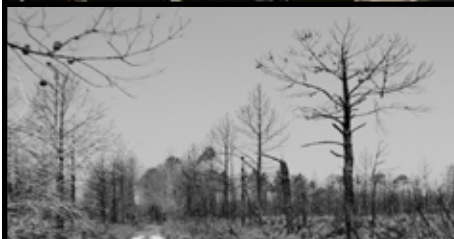
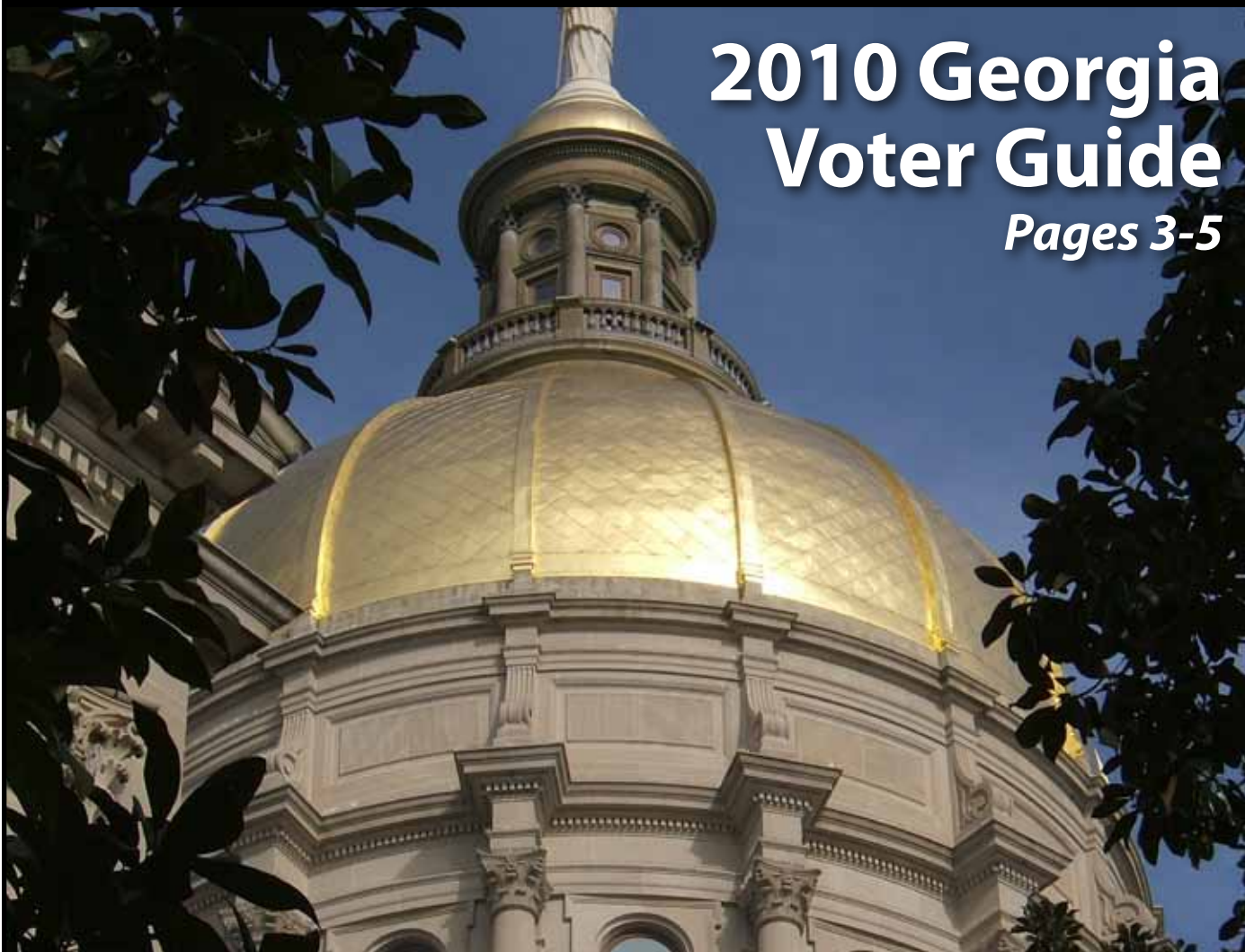




# Sierran

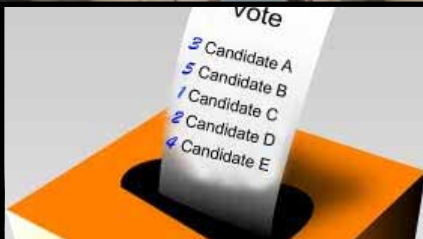
To Explore, Enjoy and Protect the Planet

## 2010 Georgia Voter Guide *Pages 3-5*



### Cumberland Island Update

*Page 6*



### Chapter & Group Elections

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# It's Good to Be Back

**By Colleen Kiernan**

For those of you who saw the byline and thought, “that name looks familiar,” you have a good memory. I worked for the national Sierra Club as a field organizer in the Atlanta office from 2001 to 2006, when I left the Club to get my Masters in City & Regional Planning at Georgia Tech. I am excited to be back now in the role of Chapter Director and ready to lead the Club to new heights.

After just a month, I am realizing how much has changed during the last few years to help the Club become even stronger and more effective. I'm also aware of how much has stayed the same—how the threats to environmental protection in Georgia remain grave and persistent, requiring our constant attention.

I'll start with what has changed. First, we are in Decatur! We moved into a great new office space last year, made possible by a very generous donor. It is easy to get here by bike, rail or auto. We have some wonderful outdoor space overlooking a community garden, and we are taunted daily by the smell of fresh baked cookies from our neighbors at the Cookie Studio. Although we miss the nice folks at Vespucci's, our new office space is better in every way.

HUGE strides have been made in the ways we use technology to communicate with our members, supporters, the media, and the general public. The tools we have now - our HELEN database and Convio online organizing software - allow us to quickly provide information to those who have expressed an interest and willingness to take action. No more spreadsheets and folders crammed with notes! I believe these new tools allow us to do our work more effectively and efficiently, and I am excited to use them! If you haven't already, sign up for it at [www.georgia.sierraclub.org/signup](http://www.georgia.sierraclub.org/signup)

We also now have tools like Facebook and Twitter, which allow you, our members, to engage with us in a timely manner, and to add your own thoughts and content to our platform. These tools are especially important in this era of media downsizing, which has made it much harder to get newspaper coverage of our issues. Although technology helps us in reaching out to traditional media - Georgians for Smart Energy coalition recently held a press conference by webinar! It is encouraging to consider how much the technological innovations of recent years can help us in accomplishing our mission.

Now for some things that have stayed the same. Despite the economic downturn, some continue to exploit our natural resources to help their own bottom line at the expense of future generations. A notable example is Dean Alford, President and CEO of Allied Energy Services, who continues to spearhead Power4Georgians' efforts to build two new coal-fired power plants. The deal is good for Dean but bad for everyone else, es-



*Colleen Kiernan, Chapter Director*

pecially the EMC members who will have to foot the \$4 billion price tag and the citizens of Washington and Ben Hill Counties who will bear the brunt of the pollution from this dirty and outdated form of energy production.

But another more hopeful constant is our ability to effect change by gathering enough voices saying the same thing at the same time, making the same demands. We have that opportunity again this November, when we can help re-elect Roy Barnes, who is the greenest governor this state has ever had. I believe Governor Barnes will provide leadership on progressive transportation policies that has been lacking over the last eight years while repopulating the Board of the Department

of Natural Resources with scientists and policy experts. We can also help elect Carol Porter as our Lt. Governor. Carol is an ardent environmentalist who has spoken out against the proposed power plants being pushed by Power4Georgians. We can also summon our voices in support of Amendment 4, which allows state agencies to enter into multi-year contracts for energy efficiency upgrades, which will have not only environmental benefits, but also will free up state funding for many other urgent needs.

I became both an environmentalist and a believer in the power of the people when I was 10 at basketball camp. My friends and I drank so much soda during that week away from our parents that by week's end there were cans everywhere. I had learned that recycling one aluminum can would save enough energy to power a television for three hours. There, on the floor of dormitory, was an enormous source of energy potential, if only we would do the right thing. The power of people to come together and effect positive change is something that will never change, except for the better.

### **About Georgia Sierran**

Advertising is welcomed! See our new, downloadable rate card at [http://georgia.sierraclub.org/news/ga\\_sierran\\_rate\\_card.pdf](http://georgia.sierraclub.org/news/ga_sierran_rate_card.pdf).

Articles: Send materials to: [gasierran@gmail.com](mailto:gasierran@gmail.com). Maximum word length: 750 words with one photo. Please include high-resolution digital photos (200 dpi) with your story. Moving? Send address changes to: Sierra Club, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968. Send changes by email: [address.changes@sierraclub.org](mailto:address.changes@sierraclub.org)

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## "Yes" to Amendment Four

**By Jason Rooks, Campaign Manager, Taxpayers for Energy Efficiency**

Georgia's voters have a unique opportunity to cut government spending, create green jobs and support energy efficiency in our state with a YES vote to Amendment 4 on November's Ballot. And I need your help today to make sure this commonsense initiative passes.

Amendment 4 is a simple solution to a complex problem in Georgia. Our state uses tax payer dollars to pay hundreds of millions of dollars in utility bills for over 15,000 buildings. And the buildings' infrastructures are failing. Aging HVAC units, water systems and lighting fixtures are costing us unnecessary millions—and wasted energy. And the state simply does not have the money in the budget to retrofit the buildings with new technology.

Other states and private business have faced these same problems. However, they were able to achieve success with a simple solution: performance contracting. Performance contracting allows energy companies to first provide an inspection and guarantee how much money the state will save with their new installations. Then, the state contracts with these companies to retrofit the buildings. The companies are paid back over a series of years—only from the savings from the utility bills. The state never has to appropriate a single dollar of new taxpayer money to this project. The savings to the state are immediate as the maintenance costs associated with running decades old equipment are no longer needed. And after the corporation is paid through the savings, the state enjoys what will be a 25% decrease in overall utility costs and will boast a

greener more efficient infrastructure.

Once passed, Amendment 4 will allow our state to enter into these specific energy contracts—at no cost to taxpayers. Over 11,000 green jobs will be created and millions of dollars in government waste will be cut from the budget.

I am asking you to please distribute this message to your email lists and to talk about Amendment 4 to your friends and colleagues. Ask your friends to visit [www.yestoamendment4.com](http://www.yestoamendment4.com) and sign-up for email updates. A full campaign, staffed by Taxpayers for Energy Efficiency, is working overtime to allow our state to move forward towards greater, greener energy efficiency and we need your help to get our message out.

Thank you for your support. Together we can champion cutting government waste, saving tax payer dollars, creating jobs and creating a cleaner, more efficient state.

### Exercise Your Options: The Green Thing To Do

The Georgia Chapter of the Sierra Club is offering our members another opportunity to be more "green." You now have the opportunity to "opt-out" of the hardcopy paper Sierran and receive the newsletter by e-mail.\*

Would you rather receive an electronic version of the Sierran? If so, please contact Genie Strickland at [genie.strickland@sierraclub.org](mailto:genie.strickland@sierraclub.org) or (404) 607-1262 ext. 221. Not only will this cut back on the amount of paper in your recycling bin - you will also help the Georgia Chapter reduce costs and paper use. You may also opt out using the election ballot on p. 23.

Also, we encourage you to sign up for e-mail alerts in areas where you're interested. Go to Georgia Chapter home page, [www.georgia.sierraclub.org](http://www.georgia.sierraclub.org), and click on "mailing lists" on the upper right corner under Quick Links. Particularly active (but still generally no more than one e-mail a month) right now are Energy, Legislature, Outings, and RAIL. For more up-to-date information than is available in the Sierran, check the web site for meeting dates and times, etc.

\* Members who opt out may continue to receive the annual chapter & group elections issue in print.



**Don't Get Left Out In The Cold... Join Us!**

Sierra Club Outings are a terrific way to meet new people and enjoy the great outdoors. Whatever your interests - hiking, canoeing or birdwatching - there is an outing for everyone. If you are new to the area, let your local Chapter or Group show you around. Join today and become part of America's largest environmental organization with the most enjoyable outings.



**Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!**



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

☐ YES! I would like to give a Mother's Day gift membership to \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check enclosed. Please make payable to Sierra Club.  
 Please charge my: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ AMEX  
 Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
Special Offer	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Student/Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

Contributions, gifts and dues to 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 for your Chapter newsletter.

Enclose a check and mail to Sierra Club, P.O. Box 421041, Palm Court, FL 32142-1041 or visit our website [www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org)

3400 



# Roy Barnes for Governor

**By Mark Woodall, Chapter Chair**

*"It is our pleasure today to announce that the Georgia Chapter of the Sierra Club has endorsed Rep. Roy Barnes for election as Governor of Georgia. We believe that Roy has demonstrated a solid commitment to environmental protection during his many years of service to our state, and will continue to fight for Georgia as Governor. Roy Barnes has committed to fight sprawl, create a 20 year transportation plan for Georgia, protect the Okefenokee Swamp from mining, and develop a regional plan to protect our water and air. We believe that Roy will serve as an effective leader to help improve the environment in the state of Georgia for our families and our future..." (excerpt from June 17, 1998 Sierra Club press release)*

Roy Barnes kept his promises after he was elected Governor in November of 1998. Facing the opposition of Gov. Barnes as well as the Sierra Club, GA Wildlife Federation and other groups, DuPont abandoned its proposal to mine titanium dioxide from Trail Ridge along the eastern boundary of the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge. Roy Barnes promised to appoint environmentalists to the Board of the Department of Natural Resources. He made several outstanding appointments including Sally Bethea and Pierre Howard. Roy Barnes promised to support regulation of giant hog factory operations such as those in North Carolina where 10 million hogs have turned eastern North Carolina into a hog hell. Regulations which protected family farms from such giant agribusiness were adopted by the DNR Board.

Some of the reforms proposed by Roy Barnes were not fulfilled in his four year term. Creation of an independent environmental protection department with adequate funding to make the GA EPD into an effective regulatory agency was stymied by the need for a constitutional amendment.

Gov. Barnes began to address Metro Atlanta's terrible traffic congestion and air quality problem with the creation of the GA Regional Transportation Authority. Gov. Barnes, opponent of the proposed Outer Loop, planned to start light rail to Cobb County through rail connections at Atlantic Station. Barnes also planned to find funding for commuter rail such as the 4th penny of the state sales tax on motor vehicle fuel which currently goes to the general fund. Such funding would have allowed Georgia to enjoy the benefit of the hundreds of millions of dollars flowing to places like Florida and North Carolina who have their mass transit and rail connections moving forward.

After passing clean lakes legislation and the Metropolitan River Protection Act (MRPA) as a state legislator, Roy Barnes promised to protect water quality. As Governor, Barnes took

# Carol Porter for Lieutenant Governor

**By Mark Woodall, Chapter Chair**

The Georgia Chapter is lucky to be able to endorse a candidate as appealing and strong as Carol Porter for Lt. Governor in 2010. Carol has raised four Eagle Scouts. Each has gone on to attend the University of Georgia. Carol has been the managing editor of a daily newspaper, the Dublin Courier, for several years and has been a close student of Georgia Public Policy as the chief advisor to her husband, GA House Minority Leader, Rep. Dubose Porter.

Carol was born in Wrightsville, GA, and understands the strengths and the needs of rural Georgia. She also has a very sophisticated grasp on the array of issues that confront Metro Atlanta, from securing its water supply to meeting its huge public transportation needs. She supports doing both of those in ways that protect both the natural environment and the taxpayers. She is also an ardent advocate of strengthening public education, often remarking on how much less it costs to educate a student than it does to house a convict.

Carol is running against Casey Cagle, a man who was installed as Lt. Governor by developers, and who has dedicated his entire legislative career to reducing environmental protections for the benefit of the men who put him in office. Cagle was a major force in the attempt to sell Jekyll Island to wealthy developers and was singularly responsible for the failure of transportation funding reform in 2008. Replacing Casey Cagle with Carol Porter would be like exchanging muddy sand for pure gold.

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action on several water quality initiatives including a greenspace program focused on floodplain protection. Unfortunately, Gov. Sonny Perdue repealed the Barnes greenspace program and turned the water war into a disaster with his scorched earth negotiations with Alabama and Florida. Speaking of scorched earth, many significant land conservation opportunities were missed. The most significant failure came when Gov. Perdue refused to sign a letter stating the state would like to acquire Oaky Woods, almost 20,000 acres of prime black bear habitat on the Ocmulgee River and home to many rare and endangered species.

The critical importance of this gubernatorial election is evident from the eight years of failure by the Perdue administration to successfully address Georgia's pressing water, air, traffic congestion, energy policy and land protection. We can't afford to waste any more time. The Sierra Club is proud to again endorse Roy Barnes for Governor of Georgia. I urge you to get out and vote for Roy Barnes.

# Elena Parent for Georgia State House District 81

By **Eddie Ehlert**, *Political Chair*

It is my honor to announce the endorsement of Elena Parent for the 81st District of the Georgia House of Representatives.

As Chief of Staff to Senator David Adelman (now the Ambassador to Singapore), Elena has been directly involved in development of many bills addressing our issues. For instance she helped draft SB-147, a Renewable Portfolio Standard bill for energy generation. Her involvement provides a clear understanding why it is necessary to 'decouple' utility profits from energy generation.

Elena understands the need for greater mass transit including a stronger Marta and inter-city rail to connect existing transit systems such as those in Athens, Macon, Augusta and Savannah. She supports not only allowing the '4th penny' of motor fuel tax to be used for mass transit but goes further to support making it exclusively for mass transit.

As a new parent and a Sierra Club member, Elena understands the need for improved air quality, proper management of water resources and protection of green space. She understands how appropriate, effective management of our water resources through real regulation rather than mere suggestion would have prevented our current 'water wars'. It is refreshing to speak with an individual seeking a legislative position with a clear grasp of what measures are available now to solve our water problem without massive new expenditures.

The need for change in the 81st District has been clear for some time. We have suffered under a legislator intent on dismantling MARTA and willing to put the interests of the Citizens at the back of the line. As an attorney, Elena knows the responsibilities of being an advocate for our district.

If you live in the 81st House District, I strongly encourage you to vote for and support Elena Parent as our Representative.

To find out more about Elena or to get involved in her campaign, visit her website at <http://www.elenaparent.com>.



## SIERRA CLUB 2010 ELECTION CYCLE ENDORSEMENTS

### STATEWIDE

Governor Roy Barnes (D-Marietta)  
Lt. Governor Carol Porter (D-Dublin)  
Amendment #4 YES

### FEDERAL

Congress Dist 2 Sanford Bishop (D-Columbus)  
Congress Dist. 4 Hank Johnson (D-DeKalb)  
Congress Dist. 5 John Lewis (D-Atlanta)  
Congress Dist. 7 Doug Heckman (D-Norcross)  
Congress Dist. 13 David Scott (D-Atlanta)

### GEORGIA STATE SENATE

SD 2 Lester Jackson (D-Savannah)  
SD 5 Curt Thompson (D-Gwinnett)  
SD 6 Doug Stoner (D-Cobb)  
SD 33 Steve Thompson (D-Cobb)  
SD 34 Valencia Seay (D-Riverdale)  
SD 38 Horacena Tate (D-Atlanta)  
SD 39 Vincent Fort (D-Atlanta)  
SD 40 Eric Christ (D-Norcross)  
SD 41 Steve Henson (D-DeKalb)  
SD 42 Jason Carter (D-DeKalb)  
SD 43 Ron Ramsey (D-DeKalb)  
SD 50 Jim Butterworth (R-Cornelia)

### GEORGIA STATE HOUSE

HD 34 Rich Golick (R-Cobb)  
HD 37 Terry Johnson (D-Cobb)  
HD 38 Pat Dooley (D-Marietta)  
HD 40 Stacey Evans (D-Smyrna)  
HD 44 Shelia Jones (D-Atlanta)  
HD 55 Rashad Taylor (D-Atlanta)  
HD 77 Darryl Jordan (D-Riverdale)  
HD 78 Glenn Baker (D-Jonesboro)  
HD 80 Sandy Murray (D-Brookhaven)  
HD 81 Elena Parent (D-Chamblee-Doraville)  
HD 85 Stephanie Stuckey Benfield (D-DeKalb)  
HD 89 Coach Williams (D-Avoncove Estates)  
HD 104 Lee Thompson (D-Gwinnett)  
HD 124 Sistie Hudson (D-Sparta)  
HD 140 Bubber Epps (D-Macon)  
HD 150 Winfred Dukes (D-Albany)  
HD 151 Carl Fullerton (D-Albany)  
HD 160 Bob Bryant (D-Savannah)  
HD 163 Jeremy Sheinbart (D-Savannah)  
HD 177 Mark Hatfield (R-Waycross)

# Keep the Cumberland Promise

By Steve Willis

Forty years of hard work to restore natural Cumberland Island is now jeopardized by Congressman Jack Kingston's mandated tours act. Cumberland Island National Park Superintendent Fred Boyles recently reported that his request to begin tourist van trips to the North End of Cumberland has been forwarded from the Park Regional Offices in Atlanta to the Washington D.C. Headquarters for final approval. Boyles estimates that the van tours through the designated Wilderness area of Cumberland will begin within a month after final approval.

After forty years of protection, the Cumberland Wilderness is well on its way to restoring itself. The island's unrivaled maritime live oak forest, which was harvested for ship construction by the English, striped away for sea island cotton production by the antebellum planters, and almost bull-dozed by titanium strip miners in the 1970s, is slowly becoming more and more like it was when the first Spanish priests set foot there in the 1600s. Still, the bewitching oak forest has a way to go. These massive live oaks require a quarter of a millennium, 250 years, to approach their full stature. In another 50 years a few of the oaks on Cumberland will reach maturity. Within 100 years most of them will.

On September 9, 1982, Ronald Reagan signed a law designating the northern half of Cumberland to be set aside and pre-

served as Wilderness for this and all future generations. This was a fulfillment of promises made to the previous owners who sold this land, and the Citizens of America who paid well over thirty million dollars for it.

All this has been placed in jeopardy by coastal Georgia Congressman Jack Kingston. On the night of November 20, 2004, after years of failing to gain any significant support for his Cumberland ideas, Kingston slipped the Cumberland Island National Seashore Wilderness Boundary Act into an emergency Omnibus Bill intended to provide funds to keep the government running, P.L. 108-447. The bill, of course, was passed that very night by the House and Senate. It is doubtful that a single elected official read a word of Kingston's addition, but nonetheless, it is now a key force in Cumberland's destiny.

The bill requires that a 25 foot corridor be cut out of the Wilderness area to enable the passage of automotive traffic for daily tours to the north end of the island. It also requires that at least five (and up to eight) tours be offered every day. Each "tour" may include up to three vehicles. The real wonder of Cumberland is its serenity and solitude, in a majestic setting where the broad beaches and timeless oak forests border the sea. As many as twenty-four busloads of tourists driving up and down this narrow barrier island daily will fill it with visual pollution, and the noise and smells of the urban world. Tourists in air-conditioned buses won't be there to commune with the wonder of the place, but merely to see it. And those who travel to the island to back-pack into the Wilderness will lose a special experience.

The sad thing is that, while there is truly nothing significant for tourists to see on the north end of Cumberland, the south end has, besides all the natural beauties of the north end, numerous historically interesting and meaningful sites. If Jack Kingston and the Park Service had



*The 1937 Church John F. Kennedy, Jr. and Carolyn Bessette were married in. Is it really worth disrupting the tranquility of the Wilderness to transport busloads of tourists to see this?*

put their energy into developing tourism in the south end rather than undermining the Wilderness, Cumberland would now be in a much more favorable state of affairs.

If the reclamation of Cumberland is to proceed, the Department of the Interior, which oversees the National Park Service, must reconcile the spirit and the letter of the Wilderness Act with Jack Kingston's efforts to undermine it.

## Additional Information

1. The Kingston Bill is clearly in conflict with the letter and the spirit of the Wilderness Act. The Park Service's position that they must enact Kingston's policies scrupulously while ignoring the Wilderness Act and Wilderness designation is merely a reflection of the Park Service's mission, to provide public parks and encourage visitation, and not any genuine attempt to equitably implement the law. Park Service officials must be redirected from their ingrained notions that more visitors equal more promotions and bigger budgets.

2. Other than walking, horse or mule access is the only mode of transportation permitted in Wilderness Areas. (Note that the Kingston Act specifies that it shall be implemented in full compliance with the Wilderness Act. Also, Kingston's Bill does NOT specify that the "tours" will be motorized).

*continued on next page*



*This is where tourists will debark the bus. It is a 1/2 mile walk in soft sand from here to reach the beach.*

### *Cumberland, continued from previous page*

3. Kingston's Bill says nothing about handicapped access. This is a red-herring meant to confuse and delude. No environmentalist I have met has ever had any problem with providing handicapped persons with transportation on the south end, outside of the Wilderness Area. Access to the north end could be provided on the already permitted daily administrative trip by Park officials.

4. Access to Plum Orchard is also a red-herring. There are now two ferry-loads of tourists taken to Plum Orchard every month. If there were more demand, more boat trips could easily be accommodated.

5. There is nothing of interest to see on the north end of the island which cannot be seen on the south end. There is no visible settlement, slave quarters, or anything but a small, primitive, frame church built in 1937. This church could easily be moved to the south end of the island where it could be observed more expeditiously by tourists, or even to St. Mary's, where even more tourists could have the pleasure of observing it. The idea that the entire Wilderness reclamation should be abandoned so that tourists can see this 1937 church in situ is sad and absurd.

6. Secretary Salazar should be urged to have Interior's Office of General Counsel scrutinize the Wilderness Act, Cumberland Seashore plans, and the Kingston Bill to determine legislative consistency (since the tour plan was dropped into the omnibus bill at the last moment, it was not scrutinized before hand or debated on the floor).

7. Between Charleston and Jacksonville, there are only two designated Wilderness Areas on the coast besides Cumberland. Fox Island is entirely closed to visitors, and Blackbeard Island is accessible only by private boat, and does not allow overnight stays. Both of these Wilderness areas are administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service, not the Part Service.

8. Decades of work during the 1970s and 80s, and more than thirty million dollars (over 100 million in current dollars) has been expended to acquire the Cumberland Seashore and Wilderness areas. This will be negated if the Kingston tour act is implemented as the Park Service proposes. All the dreams of a pristine barrier island wilderness, accessible to the common American, and preserved for future generations, will come to naught.



*Much of the north end is burned out, like this.*

## Hemlock Fest 2010 Is Fast Approaching

*By Larry Winslett*

The Georgia Sierra Club Wildlands Committee urges you to help save our native Hemlock trees... and have a great time in the process. Hemlock Fest 2010 will be held at the beautiful Starbridge retreat just outside historic Dahlonega (about one hour north of Atlanta) on November 5th, 6th, and 7th. Come hear great folk/rock/blues/Celtic music and entertainment by Col. Bruce Hampton & The Quark Alliance, Emerald Rose, Unifire Dance Theatre, Michelle Malone, Buzzard Mountain Boys, Blue Mother Tupelo and many others. There will also be arts, crafts, and lots of hands-on family fun and activities. Overnight camping is available. Experts on the Hemlock issue will also be at the event, speaking and answering questions about efforts to save the trees and what you can do. All donations and ticket purchases are tax deductible and the proceeds go to help fund the efforts to protect the Hemlocks. For full details, directions, online ticket purchases, and more information on the Hemlock issue visit the web site of the Lumpkin Coalition (event organizers) at [www.lumpkincoalition.org](http://www.lumpkincoalition.org). Hope to see you there!!!

The Georgia Sierra Club is proud to be a sponsor of this great event again in 2010. We would like to have a very visible presence there this year to help with membership and getting the word out on all our issues. To do this we need lots of volunteers to man the Sierra Club table this year. Our focus issue for the event will be our "No New Coal" campaign and gathering comments to the U.S. EPA on proposed regulations for disposing of combustion ash from coal-burning power plants. Please contact the Georgia Sierra Club Wildlands Committee or Erin Glynn, Regional Conservation Recruiter, to get involved (see contact page).

If you can't make the event, please consider making a donation to help save the Hemlocks. Donations in the forms of check or money order may be made out to: Lumpkin Coalition and mailed to 3865 Dawsonville Hwy, Dahlonega, Ga. 30533. Donations by credit card may be made through a pay-pal service at the following website: [www.lumpkincoalition.org](http://www.lumpkincoalition.org). The Lumpkin Coalition has no paid staff members, 100% of the money they raise goes to further the hemlock cause, the majority of which helps support predator beetle (good) rearing labs at North Ga. College, Young Harris College, and UGA. Volunteers are also needed to help set-up, run, and clean-up for the event.





## Atlanta Awarded Funding for Streetcar Project



*The route of the proposed streetcar in Downtown Atlanta will connect the Centennial Olympic Park area with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Historic District.*

Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed announced on October 15 that the City of Atlanta, MARTA and the downtown improvement districts will receive \$47.6 million in TIGER II funding for a 2.62-track-mile modern streetcar system in Atlanta. The grant will cover capital costs associated with construction and vehicle procurement. The Chapter's Regional Action to Improve Livability (RAIL) Committee had written a letter of support for the project.

"I would like to express my deep appreciation to the Obama administration, Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood and Congressman John Lewis for their support of this project," said Reed. "In a highly competitive national field, the Atlanta Streetcar project will couple regional connectivity with urban mobility while also creating a corridor that will catalyze economic growth in the heart of the city. This will truly transform Atlanta and we are ready to begin construction once the funds are received."

In the short term, the streetcar project will produce an estimated 1,500 construction jobs. Long term, economic development in the corridor is expected to generate more than 3,000 jobs.

Located in the heart of Downtown Atlanta, the Streetcar Project, which will run a span of approximately 2.62 miles, will connect Peachtree Street with Sweet Auburn Avenue shuttling more than 4.7 million tourists each year and a large mass of local residents through the area.

The Atlanta Streetcar route for the TIGER II funding is the first phase of a comprehensive, regional streetcar and light rail transit system. The plan calls for 12 stations, four streetcars and direct transfer to MARTA rail service at the Peachtree Center rail station. The one-way running time will approximately take 10 minutes and is expected to have service every 15 minutes.

## Plant Washington Closing Argument November 18th

*By Colleen Kiernan*

GreenLaw and the Southern Environmental Law Center will present the closing arguments in the air permit challenge for Power4Georgians's proposed Plant Washington near Sandersville. The 850 MW coal plant would emit thousands of tons of soot and smog-forming pollutants, 63 pounds of mercury and 6.9 million tons of carbon dioxide a year while using up 16 million gallons per day of water from the Oconee, 85% of which will evaporate. If constructed, Plant Washington will be the largest new source of pollution built in Georgia in decades.

During the three weeks of testimony in September, it was apparent that Georgia EPD set a low limit for nitrogen oxide (NOx) but paid little attention and did little review, research, and fact checking for other harmful pollutants including sulfuric acid mist and carbon monoxide. The state Attorney General and King & Spalding (representing Power4Georgians) will present the other side's closing arguments. The challenge is in the Office of State Administrative Hearings.

Please join us in court on November 18th at 9:30am – noonish at 230 Peachtree Street NW Suite 850. To get more background on the issues in the case, visit <http://vimeo.com/14863531>. Contact [colleen.kiernan@sierraclub.org](mailto:colleen.kiernan@sierraclub.org) for more information.

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"The success of this initiative is due to the disciplined and thorough approach of all partners involved – the City of Atlanta, the downtown CID and MARTA," said Deputy Chief Operating Officer Luz Borrero. "This is a generational and transformative project that will change the look and feel of the city. I am proud and honored to have served as chair of the steering committee of this collaborative effort."

MARTA, the largest provider of transit services in Georgia, is acting as the official recipient of grant funds for the project. Acting as the technical lead, MARTA will manage the streetcar design, construction and related start-up activities.

The streetcar is projected to meet current and future travel demand, enhance existing neighborhood character, and improve access and connectivity to disconnected destinations and activity centers in the urban core. As part of a comprehensive transportation plan for the city, the streetcar is expected to complement the Atlanta BeltLine with increased connectivity to most areas of the city. Electrically powered, the streetcar will help improve the air quality in Atlanta and reduce congestion by replacing car and bus trips along the corridor for more than 20,000 passengers daily.

Additional information about the project and funding is available at <http://georgiatrainsconnector.com/>.



## Membership

# Georgia Giving Society Honored at Reception



On September 30th the chapter's Georgia Giving Society, made up of donors who gave \$100 or more in the past year, was honored at a reception at the offices of Seyfarth Shaw, 25 floors above Peachtree Street in Midtown Atlanta.

In addition to homemade hors d'oeuvres and organic wine, attendees were treated to a insightful keynote address by Dr. Marlyn Brown, professor of public policy at Georgia Tech and co-founder and former chair of the Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance. The crowd also heard from chapter chair Mark Woodall and our new chapter director, Colleen Kiernan.

Special thanks go to Dr. Brown for her inspiring remarks, to Fundraising Committee chair Erin McPhail Wetty for providing the space, and David Wetty for the wonderful photos!



## Social Corner

### Annual Chapter Holiday Gathering

Another year has passed us by and we have a lot to celebrate, our first year in the new office, having a new director, Colleen, on board, and all of the great events and accomplishments that you've helped us with, be it in the court rooms at coal hearings or down in the river at an Adopt-A-Stream site. Join us for our annual chapter holiday gathering on Saturday, December 4th, 7:00 PM, to revel in our accomplishments.

Bring a dish to share as well as your own plate and utensils and your beverage of choice. The location has yet to be finalized, so keep an eye out for e-mails and an announcement on the Chapter website. For more information, or to RSVP, please contact Ashley at [ashley.robbs@georgia.sierraclub.org](mailto:ashley.robbs@georgia.sierraclub.org).

The EarthShare Georgia logo is centered at the top, with the text "EarthShare Georgia" in white. Below it, the tagline "One environment. One simple way to care for it." is written in white. A large, stylized green tree graphic frames the text. The main message "Working for the day when our Air, Land and Water are clean, abundant and healthy." is written in white. Below this, the text "Start an EarthShare of Georgia employee giving campaign today!" is written in white. At the bottom, the phone number "404.873.3173" and the website "www.earthsharega.org" are listed in white.

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when our Air, Land  
and Water are clean,  
abundant and healthy.**

Start an EarthShare of Georgia employee  
giving campaign today!

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# Inner City Outings Ramps Up for New School Year

*With school back in session and the leaves turning color, the Atlanta division of Inner City Outings is ramping up for a season of hiking and camping in the crisp Georgia weather. The group's four current agencies are well under way in exploring the natural wonders of the state. One of the agencies, Warren Boys & Girls Club, started off their ICO season for 2010-11 with a trip to the Chattahoochee Nature Center. Volunteer Gwen Bergen, provided this account of the trip.*

**- Karla Zientowski**

Not only was it the Warren Boys and Girls Club's first trip of the year; it was also part of a national day of service on September 11 called Serve Outdoors. On the Obama Administration's National Day of Service, varying entities and programs within the Sierra Club offered service opportunities in the community, and this Atlanta ICO trip was a part of that effort. We had eight girls, two of whom were returning from the past year, and three that were ICO volunteers.

Upon unloading from the van at the center, we were greeted by a nature center volunteer with a red-shouldered hawk on her arm. She told us all about hawks and explained that this hawk along with all birds kept at the Chattahoochee Nature Center were ones who couldn't survive in the wilderness for various reasons. We then started off our visit with lunch as it was noon. Naomi Bock, an ICO volunteer, provided a wonderful lunch full of interesting new foods for everyone to try. While eating the nature center volunteer came by with a barred owl that she also introduced us to. After lunch we went to the butterfly garden; it was in full bloom, full of flowers, butterflies, and bees. The girls all enjoyed looking for different types of butterflies. Next, we hiked the trail around Beaver Dam Lake. This gave us all a chance to split into smaller groups, talk, and get to know each other.

We then headed for the amphitheater for the 2:00 program. On the way we passed an aviary where in addition to our hawk and owl friends, we saw turkey vultures and bald eagles. It was hard to go on to the program, and leave the eagles, but it turned out to be a very informative program about snakes; our girls were able to answer many of the questions about reptiles and amphibians.

After the program we walked on the boardwalk trail that runs along the Chattahoochee River. Fall wildflowers had started blooming and there was a lot to see. After a snack, we went into the nature center and checked out the giant microscope. While looking at rocks and insects through the microscope was interesting, it turned out the high point was looking at everyone's skin through it. Then we got to watch the nature

center staff feed the opossum and two screech owls. After a closing circle, where everyone talked about their favorite part of the day, we loaded into the van just in time for a thunderstorm. We got back to the club safely and only a few minutes late. It was a great start for Warren for the year!

*However, Gwen wasn't the only one that enjoyed the trip. Check out the submissions by students that went on the trip!*

I liked how we went Age: 10  
on a nature walk in the wilderness also I love how we went to see the different animals and plants. And also I got to touch a snake that was very awesome! Now its time to go and we had a hot day!

Jordan Giles 9/11/10  
age: 11

Today was the first day I seen a lot of animals. It was the most interesting when I saw a magpie. It was very impressive.

## Upcoming ICO News

*Want to be part of the next ICO adventure? We've got several trips coming up this fall, and would love for you to join us! If you are interested in volunteering, please visit <http://atlantaico.org/-volunteer/> or contact us at [atlantaico@gmail.com](mailto:atlantaico@gmail.com) for more information.*



# Look What The Cat Dragged In!

**By Melanie Furr, AWARE Volunteer**

I first learned of AWARE (Atlanta Wild Animal Rescue Effort) while searching online for a wildlife rehabilitator to treat a baby chipmunk I had rescued from a neighbor's cat the evening before. Although the chipmunk didn't seem badly hurt when I rescued it, I decided to keep it overnight to monitor it and keep it safe. The next morning, however, the chipmunk was having trouble staying upright, and I knew it needed immediate attention. I called AWARE, and its founder and director, Michael Ellis, told me I should bring the chipmunk in as soon as possible.

When I arrived, Michael immediately gave the tiny animal an antibiotic injection and put it in a soft, warm container to minimize its stress. When I asked Michael what I should have done differently, he informed me that in spite of my good intentions, I should have brought the chipmunk in right away, when the antibiotic would have done the most good. Injured wild animals need the care of a trained rehabilitator, and cat bites, however small, are often lethal. The next thing I should have done, he said, was to tell my neighbors to keep their cat indoors.

Wildlife rehabilitation centers like AWARE treat hundreds of animals annually that have been injured by cats. While humans are the biggest threat to wildlife (with our cars, traps, poisons, weapons, pollution, and habitat destruction), invasive species, including domestic cats, are the second most serious threat to wildlife worldwide. Free-roaming domestic cats kill hundreds of millions of small mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians every year. Some of these cats kill as many as four hundred animals each year, often just for sport. Cat predation causes significant stress to wildlife populations that are already struggling against numerous human impacts, and cats do not distinguish common species from endangered ones. Furthermore, the cats' impact is not only on the animals that they kill, but also on untold numbers of animals that are orphaned as a result of their hunting. Even outside cats that aren't

actively hunting can cause stress to adult animals protecting their offspring. The energy they expend watching and avoiding the cat rather than feeding their young can mean the difference between life and death for those in the nest. In addition, cats compete with native predators like owls, hawks, foxes, and coyotes that rely on small prey



for survival. Because cats often receive protection from disease, starvation, and predation, they have a huge advantage over these other predators.

Even animals that are "rescued" after being caught by a cat often don't survive. Cat saliva contains toxic bacteria. An animal that is released seemingly unharmed will most likely die later from severe infection, if not from internal hemorrhaging or injury to vital organs. If you come upon an animal caught by a cat, find a licensed rehabilitator in your area. You can find one on the AWARE website at [www.awareone.org](http://www.awareone.org). Cat bites require prompt attention. Do not release the animal back into the wild to suffer a slow, painful death.

As a cat lover, I understand the desire to let cats explore the outdoors. However, preventing them from roaming protects their health and safety and can more than double their lifespan, in addition to protecting wildlife. Outdoor life subjects cats to harm from cars, diseases, parasites, poisons, and other animals. Numerous types of outdoor enclosures allow cats to experience wildlife and enjoy the outdoors while protecting both the cat and wildlife from harm. We don't allow other domesticated animals to roam freely; in fact, laws prevent it. If we

won't allow our dogs to roam freely around our neighborhoods, why do we allow our cats to do so?

A friend who is also a cat lover laughs at the seriousness with which I take this issue. She wonders why we should care about a cat killing one little chipmunk. (Chipmunks are pests anyway, she adds). I asked

Michael Ellis how he would answer this question. He told me to ask my friend if she likes owls and eagles, bobcats and foxes. The survival of predators like these depends on small animals, and every animal plays an important role in its native habitat. Chipmunks and other small animals are essential to maintaining the ecosystem's health and biological diversity. Domestic cats, however, are not a natural part of any ecosystem. Even forgetting the importance of each animal, big or small, in the natural world, don't we as compassionate human beings have a responsibility to care for and minimize the suffering of creatures that need our protection?

I don't know if my little chipmunk was saved. When I came back to AWARE a couple weeks later to begin volunteer training, it wasn't there. Michael offered to check the records to see if it survived, but I preferred not to have my suspicions confirmed. I like to think that even if the chipmunk didn't survive, its death was not in vain. It led me to AWARE and gave me a chance to become a part of the important work that AWARE does. I am thankful for AWARE and organizations like it that protect wildlife and teach others to do the same. If we are to maintain healthy and biologically diverse ecosystems for future generations to enjoy, we owe it to all wildlife to protect them from unnecessary harm.

Visit AWARE's website at [www.awareone.org](http://www.awareone.org) for more information about the impact of cats on wildlife and for ideas on outdoor

cat enclosures. Additional information, as well as suggestions for transitioning an outdoor cat to an inside one, is available at [www.abcbirds.org](http://www.abcbirds.org).





# Outings

Sierra Club Outings provide a variety of opportunities for people to enjoy the beautiful outdoors. To find out more about what outings are being offered, please visit our website at <http://georgia.sierraclub.org/outings>.

**Saturday, October 30**

## **Amicolola Falls and Burts Pumpkin Farm**

**Location:** Amicalola Falls State Park

**Rated:** { 3 miles / 2 to 3 mph / 600 ft elev gain }

**Description:** Halloween Weekend: Fall colors, waterfalls, pumpkins and hayrides. What better way to celebrate the season! Children and first-time hikers welcome. Contact ArthurRatliff@bellsouth.net or (404)-284-0055. Ask for Arthur. Easy day hike.

**Saturday, October 30**

## **Blood Mountain from Lake Winfield Scott**

**Location:** Lumpkin County, GA

**Rated:** { 8 miles / 2 to 3 mph / 1568 ft elev gain }

**Description:** From Lake Winfield Scott, we'll hike to Jarrard Gap and intersect with the Appalachian Trail, then take the A.T. up to Blood Mtn to the historic CCC shelter where we'll have lunch, then return via the Slaughter Creek Trail. This Blood Mountain Wilderness hike is a moderate loop plus a steep 0.7 mile climb up Blood Mountain. At 4458 feet, Blood Mountain is the highest peak on the AT in Georgia and has excellent views in several directions. Limit 8. Contact Lee Graham, lga@mindspring.com or 678-384-0171.

**Saturday, November 13**

## **Two for One Hike - Sittons Gulch Trail**

**Location:** Cloudland Canyon State Park

**Rated:** { 6.5 miles / 2 to 3 mph / 1000 ft elev gain }

**Description:** Two for One Hike - sign up for one or both! Rated strenuous due to 600 Steps at the beginning and end of the hike. The trail "officially" begins at the Daniel Creek Bridge at the bottom of the Waterfalls Trail staircase. Following Daniel Creek through open, green hemlock groves, it highlights small waterfalls cascading through limestone crevices. Going down is optional, coming up is mandatory! Back at the top we will have lunch, then for those who want more trail time, the second hike should start about 2pm. Limit 8 - contact Linda Sealey at bimmy@bellsouth.net (Please include a contact number).

**Saturday, November 13**

## **Two for One Hike - West Rim Loop Trail**

**Location:** Cloudland Canyon State Park

**Rated:** { 4.8 miles / 2 to 3 mph / 200 ft elev gain }

**Description:** Two for One Hike - sign up for one or both! 4.8-mile loop. Rated moderate. The trail provides magnificent views of Cloudland Canyon and neighboring area. Varied terrain, mostly flat with several short strenuous sections. Limit 8 - contact Linda Sealey at bimmy@bellsouth.net (Please include a contact number).

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## Upcoming Meetings & Programs

We meet the 2nd Tuesday each month.

### November 9

Colleen Kiernan, Chapter Director, will give an overview of electricity in Georgia which will cover, who the players are, how they generate electricity, what laws they must abide by, what resources have been built or changed in the last 10 years, and what the barriers are to renewables and efficiency and what you can do about it!

*Speaker: Colleen Kiernan worked for the Sierra Club in Georgia on air pollution and energy issues from 2001-2006 and then got her Masters in City & Regional Planning at Georgia Tech. She worked at a local architecture firm doing LEED and sustainability consulting and also Chaired the Chapter Smart Energy Committee in a volunteer capacity. She became the Georgia Chapter Director in August.*

### December 14:

Annual Holiday Party. Pot luck - bring a dish to share, Atlanta Group will provide drinks, a meat dish (turkey or ham or etc), and plates and utensils if you forget yours. The traditional program of "outings" will continue.

Jerome Walker, a retired physician, has lived in Atlanta for most of his life, is a life member of the

**Meeting Location:** Metro Atlanta Group General membership meetings are held at the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, 2089 Ponce de Leon Ave. at the intersection of with East Lake Drive; the entrance to the church is off of East Lake Drive. From MARTA's East Lake station, it's a 10-15 minute walk north along East Lake Drive.

Sierra Club, and an avid photographer. Those interested in his photographs can view [www.jeromewalkerphotography.com](http://www.jeromewalkerphotography.com). He'll be talking about a 10 day backpack in Gates of the Arctic National Park and this will be illustrated by a slide show. There will be time for questions about backpacking in the Arctic, and about Alaska in general, where he's spent a good bit of time.

### January 11, 2011

To be Determined: Check [www.Georgia.Sierraclub.org/Atlanta](http://www.Georgia.Sierraclub.org/Atlanta)

### February 8, 2011

Mark Woodall and Neill Herring

*Doors open at 7:00 p.m., program begins at 7:30. Church of the Epiphany, 2089 Ponce de Leon Ave.*

## ATLANTA GROUP DIRECTORY

*Chair	Nancy Wylie, 404-256-1172 <a href="mailto:nancywylie@mindspring.com">nancywylie@mindspring.com</a>
*Vice Chair	Gordon Draves, 404-766-3456 <a href="mailto:nonsmoke4ga@hotmail.com">nonsmoke4ga@hotmail.com</a>
*Secretary	Larry Kloet, 404-636-7226 <a href="mailto:larrypkloet@aol.com">larrypkloet@aol.com</a>
*Programs	Jeanne McCarthy, 404-873-3985 cell 678-595-4882 <a href="mailto:jeanne_mccarthy@bellsouth.net">jeanne_mccarthy@bellsouth.net</a>
*Political	Eddie Ehler, 770-455-4849 <a href="mailto:edeherlert@bellsouth.net">edeherlert@bellsouth.net</a>
Store Manager	Blount Ferrell
Outings	Martin McConaughay, <a href="mailto:mmcconoughay08@gmail.com">mmcconoughay08@gmail.com</a>
Membership	Lissa Jackson
* Denotes a member of the Metro Atlanta Group Executive Committee.	

## Milton Fields: A Natural Burial Ground



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# Centennial Group Rivers Alive



**By Todd Daniel**

Tires, a shopping cart, and dozens of plastic bottles were among the items collected during the Centennial Group's Rivers Alive! cleanup on Sept. 25.

On a beautiful Saturday morning 16 hearty volunteers gathered in the "old village" at Life University for a morning stream cleaning. The group put on their gloves, grabbed their plastic bags, and began the morning cleanup. Some of the largest trash deposits were near Cobb Parkway, just east of the campus. Some of the day's more interesting findings included orange cones and a variety of sports balls. While some volunteers pulled items out of the water, additional helpers pushed wheelbarrows down a path and collected piles of collected items.

Around noon, the weary river Samaritans returned to base camp and were thrilled to see tables of food and a smoking grill. Longtime volunteer Mark Banks grilled a selection of meat and veggie hamburgers and hotdogs, and everyone enjoyed a fantastic lunch.

Rivers Alive! is a statewide education event that is sponsored by the Georgia Dept. of Natural Resource. It works in conjunction the state Adopt-a-Stream program, Keep Georgia Beautiful, and Help the Hooch. Local jurisdictions also support Rivers Alive! and we were thrilled to have Jennifer McCoy of the Cobb County Water System join us for the day. Jennifer provided each volunteer with a beautiful Rivers Alive! t-shirt.

A thanks to all volunteers, to Mark Banks for serving as honorary chef, and for the support of the Cobb County Water System. For info on Rivers Alive!, visit: <http://aesl.ces.uga.edu/aascd/riversalive/>.

## Sierra Club License Plates

We have the Sierra Club front auto plates now for sale. They identify you as a committed environmental activist, they serve as effective advertising for the club, they make a nice, thoughtful gift to friends who care about the cause, and not least, help sustain your Centennial Group. See the auto plates on page 19. Your Centennial Group ExCom appreciates your support.



Plates can be purchased in two ways: 1) purchase at our monthly meetings for \$12.50 each; or, 2) purchase by mail for \$16.50 each, including postage and handling.

Make check out to Centennial Group and mail together with your order to: Wolfgang Tiedtke, 750 Bayliss Dr., Marietta, GA 30068.

## Upcoming Meetings & Programs

**November 4th:** Part II: Recycle Mom Shery Workman presents Videos by Annie Leonard: The Story of Bottled Water, The Story of Cosmetics, and Realistic Steps to Sustainable Living. Sheri will talk about topics such as zero waste, recycling, local living communities, environmentally friendly products as well as political activism on these subjects.

**December 2nd:** Join us for our annual holiday gathering. Please bring a side item or dessert to share along with your own plate and utensils to our usual meeting location. Don't forget your checkbook for silent auction! Items can be donated by contacting Ashley at [Ashley.Robbins@Georgia.SierraClub.org](mailto:Ashley.Robbins@Georgia.SierraClub.org).

**Meetings:** The Centennial Group meets at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of every month (except this July) at: Life University, Room 311 in the Upper Gymnasium, 1269 Barclay Cir. SE, Marietta, GA 30060. For detailed directions contact [wtiedtke@bellsouth.net](mailto:wtiedtke@bellsouth.net) or check our website [www.georgia.sierraclub.org/centennial](http://www.georgia.sierraclub.org/centennial). Executive Committee meetings are the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7 p.m., usually at La Madeleine Restaurant, 4101 Upper Roswell Road, Marietta.




## Centennial Group

### Centennial Group Hosts Political Forum


For the October monthly meeting, the Centennial Group hosted a political forum. Candidates running for various positions in the Cobb, Cherokee, and North Fulton County area came to speak with members and answer candidates regarding their environmental policies.





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### Sierra Club 2011 Calendars



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## LaGrange Group

### LaGrange Group Summer Field Trips



On June 19 birder Stephen Johnson led a group on a bird walk at West Point Lake. The most notable birds observed were a colony of cliff swallows nesting under a bridge near Earl Cook Park.

On June 26 Laura and Sam Breyfogle hosted a Lake Martin Bash party. Coinciding with the international Hands Across the Sand campaign to protest new offshore drilling, participants held their own Hands Across the Grass campaign. Everyone was encouraged to contact politicians to voice opposition to new offshore drilling.

On July 10 Judy Collins and Jim Allen hosted a Wild Edibles Walk/Talk on their farm, Vine and Fig Tree, in Chambers County, Alabama. Herbalist Janice Key-Walzing identified and explained uses for many wild edibles on a ramble about the farm. After our walk, samples of wild edibles were shared and herbal concoctions such as lavender stress relief sprays and herbal salves made by Janice were available for purchase.



### “Beyond Coal” at October Meeting

Erin Glynn, national Sierra Club employee headquartered in Atlanta, presented an excellent slideshow about the Beyond Coal Campaign in Georgia at the LaGrange Group’s October meeting. Information was provided concerning the inefficiency of coal powered electrical generation, as well as pollution resulting from mountain top removal of coal, coal ash storage and spills, and coal fired power plant emissions. Erin also shared especially relevant information concerning the 10 existing Georgia coal fired power plants, as well as the 3 proposed coal fired plants in Georgia that the Sierra Club Beyond Coal Campaign is working hard to stop. For anyone interested in activist opportunities, Erin presented several very specific ways to get involved. I would recommend Erin’s Beyond Coal presentation to all other Sierra Club groups in Georgia. Erin can be contacted at (770)598-6814 or [erin.glynn@sierraclub.org](mailto:erin.glynn@sierraclub.org).

## Summer in Gwinnett

The dog days of summer. Those days that traditionally fall between Independence Day and Labor Day are the hottest of the year and the part of the year where much of our energy is spent staying cool and comfortable. In Gwinnett, our stream monitoring program keeps us cool and comfortable in the heat. There is nothing like being in a cool stream on a hot summer day. Like icing on the cake the chemical and biological information we are getting from the stream are going into the State of Georgia's database. Our meetings (always held with air conditioning during the warm months) include Carol Hassel presenting a program on native plant species. Our August meeting presented alternatives for the 285 corridor. Our September meeting was a presentation on what the water wars among Georgia, Alabama and Florida mean for Gwinnett. Come to a meeting and see what all the excitement is about.

- Dan Friedman

## Gwinnett Group Greens Lilburn Daze



Tom Morrissey (L), Robert Lee Byars, candidate for Gwinnett Board of Commissioners (center), and Dan Friedman (R) talking green politics with visitors to the booth at Lilburn Daze.

On October 9th, solar and wind energy were in abundant supply on another picture perfect autumn day in Georgia. To celebrate, the Greater Gwinnett Group spread the good green word at the Lilburn Daze fall festival. Gwinnett Sierra Club volunteers enjoyed the beautiful weather promoting the environment with scores of visitors to our booth. It was easy to generate excitement about the possibilities of renewable energy with the bright sunshine and steady breeze providing an excellent live demonstration. Funds were also generated through sales of Sierra Club calendars, caps, t-shirts, and gardening tote bags. As a bonus, CFLs were handed out to purchasers and new members. Thanks go out to all the volunteers who helped out and shared the Sierra Club's message at this very successful festival.

- Tom Morrissey

## Upcoming Meetings & Programs

**November 18** - Exciting Program (To Be Determined). Contact Tom Morrissey at 404-513-4069 for more info.

**November 20** - Adopt-a-Stream Monitoring, Suwanee Creek Greenway. Contact Lynn Beach (lyn-michaelbeach@gmail.com) or Michael Hallen (michael\_hallen@hotmail.com)

**December 9** - Annual Holiday Potluck Dinner Party, everyone is invited to celebrate with us at Art Sheldon's home in Duluth. Contact Tom Morrissey at 404-513-4069 for more info.

**December 18** - Monthly Adopt-a-Stream Monitoring Suwanee Creek Greenway. Contact Lynn Beach or Micheal Hallen

**Meetings:** 3rd Thursday at Berkmar High School, 405 Pleasant Hill Road, Lilburn, GA 30047, in the Media Center. Doors open at 7 p.m. with light refreshments. Meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. For questions, contact Tom Morrissey at 404-513-4069.



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## News From the Savannah River Group

**By Judy Gordon**

**“The Greening of Ireland:”** After our summer break, the Savannah River Group (SRG) kicked off the fall monthly meeting schedule with a PowerPoint about Ireland presented by Judy Gordon who joined an international Sierra Club trip in May to do some light hiking and visiting of ancient Irish archeological sites. In addition to stunning photos of sites older than the Egyptian pyramids, Judy also discussed how Ireland is working to restore its native forests and to lessen its environmental “foot-print.” Folks in both Ireland and the USA have a few conservation tips they can teach each other. Judy also encouraged the standing room only audience to think about participating in future Sierra Club international outings.

**“Tis the Season, Political of course....”**

In October, Political Chair Liz Johnson and interested members explained the procedure followed by the Sierra Club before it approves possible endorsement of candidates for local, state, and national offices. We also looked at various Internet sites that rate candidates on their environmental positions and voting record when available.

As has been true for over five years, SRG members once again participated in the Georgia DNR annual state-wide “Rivers Alive” clean-up of local streams and lakes on October 23.

**Our future monthly meetings** will include a presentation on the Galapagos Islands and a slide show featuring local hiking trails. December will find us congratulating newly elected EXCOM members at our traditional holiday celebration in December, courtesy of Laurie and Sam Booher. If you are visiting in the Augusta area, join us at our monthly meetings, the third Tuesday of the month.



*Tour leader at Aran Island ancient fort*



*Irish blue bells in Burren Natural Heritage Area, Ireland*



*Sierra Club tour at Mauve's Cairn (tomb) near Sligo, Ireland*



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### *Preserve the Future*

Not everyone can make a large gift to protect the environment during their lifetime, but you can preserve the environment for generations to come by remembering Sierra Club in your will. There are many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

For more information and confidential assistance, contact:

**Sierra Club Gift Planning Program**

85 Second St, Second Floor

San Francisco, CA 94105

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# Contacts

## Executive Committee

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**Vice Chair - Policy:** Steve Willis, 912-341-0718  
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*At-Large Elected Member*

Stacey Kronquest, 912-691-0769,  
stacey@kronquest.com  
*At-Large Elected Member*

Dean Rogers, 706-837-0037,  
dean@mediamindz.com  
*LaGrange Group Delegate*

Nancy Wylie, 404-256-1172,  
nancywylie@mindspring.com  
*Metro Atlanta Group Delegate*

## Appointed Officers & Chairs

**Secretary:** *vacant*

**Treasurer:** Tom Neff, tsneff2003@yahoo.com

**Assistant Treasurer:** Jennifer Leach,  
jleach@mstillier.com

**Conservation Chair:** Alan Toney,  
mudflat@comcast.net

**Conservation Vice Chair:** Sam Booher,  
sbooher@aol.com

**Conservation Vice Chair:** Larry Winslett,  
winfog@windstream.net

**Finance Chair:** Sam Booher, sbooher@aol.com

**Fundraising Chair:** Erin McPhail Wetty,  
ewetty@seyfarth.com

**Inner City Outings:** Allison Williams,  
adwilliams8@yahoo.com

**Legislative:** Mark Woodall,  
markwoodall@windstream.net

**Litigation:** Mary Drake, mdrake126@charter.net

**Membership Engagement Chair:** Ashley Robbins,  
ashley.robbs@georgia.sierraclub.org

**Newsletter Co-Editors:** David Emory & Ashley Robbins,  
gasierran@gmail.com

**Outings:** Scott Sanders,  
thebrittinggroup@gmail.com

**Personnel:** Ashley Robbins, ashley.robbs@georgia.sierraclub.org

**Political Chair:** Eddie Ehler,  
edeherlert@bellsouth.net

**Sierra Student Coordinator:** Kelsea Norris,  
kelseanorris@gmail.com

**Training Team Coordinator:** Terry Jones,  
wolpers4@aol.com

**Webmaster:** Charlotte Gardner,  
ga\_sierra\_webmaster@yahoo.com

## Conservation Campaigns

### RAIL Committee:

Jim Dexter, jimdex@aol.com  
*Meeting: 4th Mon., 6:45 p.m., chapter office*

### Smart Energy Solutions:

Colleen Kiernan, colleenkiernan@mindspring.com  
*Meeting: 1st Monday, 7 p.m. chapter office*

**Cool Cities:** *vacant*

### Wildlands and Wildlife:

Phil Zinsmeister, pzinsmeister@oglethorpe.edu  
*Meeting: 3rd Tues., 7:00 p.m., Location TBA*  
*Committee sometimes skip months. E-mail first.*

## Volunteer Issue Leaders

The Conservation Committee is organized by issues. To get involved in Conservation issues, please contact the Issue Leader of your choice below.

**Chattahoochee National Recreation Area:**  
Alan Toney, mudflat@comcast.com

**Clean Air:** Curt Smith, chsmith@speakeasy.net

**Coastal:** Judy Jennings,  
judyjennings@comcast.net

**Coastal Marsh:** Mark Mosely, msmosely@aol.com

**Cumberland:** Annette Gelbrich,  
apgelbrich@yahoo.com

**Factory Farms:** Thomas Black,  
tblack9@yahoo.com

**Federal Endangered Species:** Larry Winslett,  
winfog@windstream.net

**Federal Public Lands:** Shirl Parsons,  
kparsons@mindspring.com

**Historic Places/ Arch. Sites:** Brian Thomas,  
bthomas@trcsolutions.com

**Marine Species/Habitat:** Karen Grainey,  
karengrainey@bellsouth.net

**National Forest Issues:** *vacant*

**Nuclear Waste:** Stacey Kronquest,  
stacey@kronquest.com

**Okefenokee Swamp:** Sam Collier,  
scollier@mindspring.com

**Organic and Locally Grown Foods:** Bryan Hager,  
bhager@mindspring.com

**Population:** Todd Daniel, todddan@mac.com

**Rivers and Wetlands:** Keith Parsons,  
kparsons@mindspring.com

**Savannah Harbor:** Judy Jennings,  
judyjennings@comcast.net

**State Lands/Georgia DNR:** Phil Zinsmeister,  
pzinsmeister@oglethorpe.edu

**State Lands/Stone Mountain:** Larry Winslett,  
winfog@windstream.net

**Stop I-3:** Sam Booher, sbooher@aol.com

**Transportation:** Bryan Hager,  
bhager@mindspring.com

**Waste/Recycling:** Larry Winslett,  
winfog@windstream.net

**Water Sentinels / Adopt-a-Stream:**  
Sam Booher, sbooher@aol.com

## Georgia Chapter Staff

### Chapter Director:

Colleen Kiernan, 404-607-1262 x.224  
colleen.kiernan@sierraclub.org

### Administrative Coordinator:

Genie Strickland, 404-607-1262 x.221  
genie.strickland@sierraclub.org

## National Staff

### Regional Conservation Recruiter:

Erin Glynn, 404-607-1262 x.223  
erin.glynn@sierraclub.org

## Standing Meetings

### Inner City Outings

Meetings: 4th Tuesday, 7 p.m., Chapter Office

### Fundraising Committee

Third Wednesday of the month. Contact Erin Wetty  
at ewetty@seyfarth.com for more info

## Local Groups

A great way to get involved in your Chapter is by joining and participating in a local group. Some groups take certain months off, so it's a good idea to email first. Each group has a website. For maps and additional information on each group, visit the website: <http://georgia.sierraclub.org/local/>

### Centennial Group

*Serving Cobb, Cherokee & North Fulton*

**Chair:** Wolfgang Tiedtke,  
[gacentexcom@gmail.com](mailto:gacentexcom@gmail.com)

**Conservation Chair:** Joe Sutherland,  
[suth1e@comcast.net](mailto:suth1e@comcast.net)

**Outings Chair:** Bob Springfield,  
[bob@bobspringfield.com](mailto:bob@bobspringfield.com)

**Meetings:** 1st Thursday, welcome/refreshments 7:00 p.m., program 7:30 p.m.; Life College, 1269 Barclay Cir. SE, Marietta. For directions call Wolfgang Tiedtke at 770-973-7820.

### Coastal Group

*Serving Savannah & surrounding counties*

**Chair:** Steve Willis, [snwillis@yahoo.com](mailto:snwillis@yahoo.com)

**Conservation Chair:** Judy Jennings,  
[judyjennings@comcast.net](mailto:judyjennings@comcast.net)

**Outings Chair:** Steve Wagner,  
[sjwgnr@hotmail.com](mailto:sjwgnr@hotmail.com)

**Meetings:** 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 520 E. Washington Ave, Savannah

### Greater Gwinnett Group

*Serving Gwinnett Co.*

**Chair:** Tom Morrissey, [thmorrissey@bellsouth.net](mailto:thmorrissey@bellsouth.net)

**Conservation Chair:** Art Sheldon,  
[a.sheldon@charter.net](mailto:a.sheldon@charter.net)

**Outings Chair:** Mirza Balic,  
[mirza.balic@georgia.sierraclub.org](mailto:mirza.balic@georgia.sierraclub.org)

**Meetings:** 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Berkmar High School, 405 Pleasant Hill Rd, Lilburn 30047

### LaGrange Group

*Serving the LaGrange area*

**Chair:** Dean Rogers, [dean@mediamindz.com](mailto:dean@mediamindz.com)

**Conservation Chair:** David Wappler,  
[david.wappler@gmail.com](mailto:david.wappler@gmail.com)

**Outings Chair:** Elizabeth Appleby,  
[ecappleby@yahoo.com](mailto:ecappleby@yahoo.com)

**Meetings:** 1st Thursday, 6:30 p.m. St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Parish Hall, 207 North Greenwood St.

### Metro Atlanta Group

*Serving Atlanta, Dekalb, & South Fulton*

**Chair:** Nancy Wylie,  
[nancywylie@mindspring.com](mailto:nancywylie@mindspring.com)

**Outings Chair:** Martin McConaughy  
[mcmarty@bellsouth.net](mailto:mcmarty@bellsouth.net)

**Conservation Chair:** Nancy Wylie,  
[nancywylie@mindspring.com](mailto:nancywylie@mindspring.com)

**Meetings:** 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Epiphany • 2089 Ponce de Leon Ave. (between Atlanta and Decatur).

### Savannah River Group

*Serving Augusta & surrounding areas*

**Co-Chair:** Judy Gordon, Ph.D.,  
[gordonjudith@att.net](mailto:gordonjudith@att.net)

**Co-Chair:** Sam Booher, [sbooher@aol.com](mailto:sbooher@aol.com)

**Conservation Chair:** Denice Traina,  
[yboty@aol.com](mailto:yboty@aol.com)

**Outings Chair:** Cindy Annis, [ctreehuggr@aol.com](mailto:ctreehuggr@aol.com)

**Meetings:** 3rd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Unitarian Church on Walton Way, Augusta at 7:30 pm.

### Regional Contacts

#### LeConte Group/Athens & NE Ga.

Terry Jones, [wolpers4@aol.com](mailto:wolpers4@aol.com)

#### Forsyth County

Jim Callison, [jimcallison@juno.com](mailto:jimcallison@juno.com)

#### Macon

Fletcher Winston, [winston\\_f@mercer.edu](mailto:winston_f@mercer.edu)

#### North Ga. Conservation Group

Larry Winslett, [winfog@windstream.net](mailto:winfog@windstream.net)

#### Valdosta

Brian Day, [bjday@valdosta.edu](mailto:bjday@valdosta.edu)

### Looking for a Group near your home?

The Georgia Chapter website (<http://georgia.sierraclub.org/>) contains a map showing the locations of all Groups. Or, call the Chapter office at (404) 607-1262.

CLIMATE  
RECOVERY  
PARTNERSHIP



### Georgia Chapter Office

743 East College Avenue, Suite B  
Decatur, Georgia 30030  
404-607-1262 • FAX: 404-876-5260  
[georgia.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:georgia.chapter@sierraclub.org)

### Directions to take MARTA to the Sierra Club

**office:** Our office is an easy 1-2-minute walk from the MARTA Avondale station (E7). We encourage you to take MARTA when possible. Exit the MARTA station towards the SOUTH PARKING LOT, located on the East College Ave side. Once outside, proceed to the right towards Sams Street. Cross over Sams St. and the office is the building located right behind the convenience store. The office is the second door from Sams St. — Suite B.

### Stay Informed!

#### SIERRA CLUB WEB SITES

GA Chapter Web Site:

<http://georgia.sierraclub.org/>

GA Chapter Outings:

<http://georgia.sierraclub.org/outings/>

GA Chapter Email Lists Site:

<http://georgia.sierraclub.org/lists/>

#### EMAIL LISTS

Subscribe to a Georgia Chapter e-mail list. Just send an e-mail to:

[LISTSERV@LISTS.SIERRACLUB.ORG](mailto:LISTSERV@LISTS.SIERRACLUB.ORG)

Your message should read:

SUBSCRIBE LISTNAME FIRSTNAME LASTNAME

LIST NAMES:

GA-OUTINGS (chapter outings list)

GA-NEWSLETTER-ANNOUNCE (online newsletter updates)

GA-ENERGY-FORUM (Smart Energy Solutions Committee)

GA-RAIL-NEWS (RAIL/Transit Advocacy Committee)

Subscribe to Georgia Chapter Online E-Newsletter at:

[http://action.sierraclub.org/CHP\\_GA\\_Signup](http://action.sierraclub.org/CHP_GA_Signup)

Visit the Ga. Chapter web page and click on "Local Groups" for info on local groups e-mail lists.

### Chapter ExCom Meeting

The next meeting is Saturday, Nov. 13th from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Chapter office. Meetings are open to the membership. For more information, call the Chapter office at 404-607-1262 x. 221.

### Georgia Chapter Executive Committee

#### **SYBIL CYPRESS** **Hapeville**

*"For that which is boundless in you abides in the mansion of the sky, whose door is the morning mist, and whose windows are the songs and the silences of night." --Gibran, Kahlil (1883-1931), The Prophet, 1923.*

My father was a chemist, a lover of that which could be proven. But his favorite author was Kahlil Gibran, a fact unknown to me until after he died in 1996. Since I, like any good daughter, sought my father's validation on most things, including of my essential being, this revelation suddenly gave me the "permission" to be both a lover of logic and of natural order.

While I am not a scientist like my Dad, I thoroughly appreciate the disciple of all sciences. However, I AM nature incarnate...as is my favorite tree, the massive ocean, and the rich soil on which we walk. As evolved humans, we must use logic along with a strong sense of a higher-good to steward our earth in harmony with natural order.

I would like to be a member of the Georgia Sierra Club's Executive Committee to:

- Apply my innate passion for our Earth and nature towards the initiatives chosen by the Georgia Sierra Club.
- Help support the mission of the Sierra Club in any way possible.
- Apply any marketing and communication skills obtained to successfully promote the Georgia Sierra Club's agenda.
- Work with like-minded individuals to preserve the natural integrity of Georgia's environment.

I welcome the opportunity to work with you as an Executive Committee member. However, my support for your mission is 100% unconditional.

Please feel free to contact me directly to discuss this opportunity further.

#### **TODD DANIEL** **Powder Springs**

I have been a Sierra Club volunteer for many years and consider it a great honor. On the local level, I am past chair and newsletter editor of the Centennial Group. At the state level, I am past vice chair and was newsletter editor for six years. Currently, I am on my second stint as chapter secretary and am also Population Issue leader. Nationally, I am a corresponding member on the population committee. I have been passionate about the environment since childhood. After taking time off for family and career, I returned to environmental work in the

late 1990s. My dream is to see our civilization become truly sustainable, to the point where we can all live together in harmony with wildlife and nature, and in such a way that we don't harm the planet for future generations. During my years with the Sierra Club we have enjoyed great victories and suffered painful defeats. Throughout the ups and downs, I have always had peace knowing that what we are doing is moral, just, and right.

#### **KELLY JORDAN** **Atlanta**

My environmental career began in 1976 as a committee chair on Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson's Committee for the Great Park (which evolved into Freedom Park). In the early 1990's I was a Trustee of The Big Trees Nature Preserve in Sandy Springs, and I purchased the remnants of the historic Mathis Dairy in south DeKalb, which is now home to Wonderland Gardens.

In 1998, I founded the Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance and serve as its Chair. The Alliance, with the help of its many public and private partners, has so far preserved over 2,500 acres in fast developing DeKalb and Rockdale counties between Arabia Mountain and Panola Mountain State Park and along the South River down to the Monastery of the Holy Spirit to form the heart of a world class greenway system. Congress designated the entire project area as a National Heritage Area in 2006.

I have served on the boards of The Georgia Conservancy, Historic Oakland Cemetery, Historic 4th Ward Conservancy, Park Pride, Wonderland Gardens, Atlanta Wild Animal Rescue Effort, and I am a 2006 graduate of the Institute for Georgia Environmental Leadership program (IGEL).

I received the DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District's 1997 Conservation Service Award, the DeKalb CEO's 2000 award for Preservation of Natural Treasures, the 2002 Excellence in Conservation Award from DeKalb County





## Candidate Statements

Soil and Water, the 2002 Outstanding Educators Award from Georgia Urban Forest Council, The Conservation Fund's 2004 Award for Outstanding Leadership, a 2007 PEDS Golden Shoe Award, and the 2009 Individual Excellence Award from The Civic League for Regional Atlanta.

### **MICHAEL WALLS** **Atlanta**

As a parent, I believe that working to protect and preserve the endangered Earth that nurtures us is perhaps the most important thing a person can spend their time doing. For that reason, it is an honor to be nominated the Sierra Club EXCOM.

I have been a member of the Club for ten plus years and served for several years as Litigation Chair. As a lawyer, I believe strongly in the effectiveness of court and administrative litigation as a way to address pollution issues relating to water, wetlands and power plants.

For the last seven years I have been intensely involved in local and regional transit, land-use and air quality issues as a member of the MARTA Board. For four of those years, I served Board Chairman.

In a more general way, I have had a lifetime history of activist involvement. I was a member of the original Executive Board of SANE / FREEZE (presently Peace Action), and a member of the Board of Freeze Voter (the national PAC for the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign). I have also been involved with more mainstream organizations such as bar associations and the advisory boards for Atlanta Legal Aid Society and the AFL-CIO Lawyer's Coordinating Committee.

I would consider it a privilege to serve as a member of the Club EXCOM.

Thank you for your consideration of me for this position. If you have questions, I would be happy to talk to you. You can reach me at (404) 643-5283 or mwalls@ellijay.com.

## **Centennial Group Executive Committee**

### **CARINA O'BARA**

I have been serving on the Centennial Group Excom for 2 years now. I currently serve as your vice-chair, secretary, and treasurer. I also coordinate one of the adopt-a-stream sites that are monitored monthly for chemical, biological, and bacterial parameters and organize the annual river cleanup held at Life University. I worked with Bob Springfield to organize an educational hike in Cloudland Canyon. I plan to do more of these. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know each one of you and would be honored to be able to continue to serve you.

### **ASHLEY ROBBINS**

I have been serving the Centennial Group on the ExCom for three years, serving as the group membership chair and the group representative to the chapter political committee. I have also been serving as the group delegate to Chapter ExCom and am currently the Administrative Vice Chair for the Chapter. I have also been to various National Club trainings as well as co-editing the Georgia Sierran. I am proud of my service to both the group and chapter and would be honored to continue to serve on the Centennial Group.

### **CHARLIE SMITH**

Although I have only been a member of the group for a short time, my interest in environmental issues is a lifelong. I grew up hiking, camping, and fishing. As an adult, I've been a backpacker, a former marathoner, and continue to spend a good deal of time outdoors. Consequently, the causes for clean air and water are close to my heart. I was trained as a professional writer while serving in the U.S.A.F., and I have managed to apply those skills throughout my working life. I have spent the last 15 years as a technical writer and instructional designer. Both of these fields required a high degree of technical acumen in addition to writing ability. I want to bring this skill set to the Excom with the hope that I can make intragroup communications more effective and to publicize the activities of the Centennial Group, while at the same time, attracting more support from members and the community in general. I currently maintain the Centennial web site after overhauling it a year ago. With more direct interaction with other members of the Excom, I intend to make it one of the first places that Centennial members and friends can look to find reliable, timely information. I'm certain that with the time spent with other Excom members, I will become more familiar with the other issues that the Group is addressing and will be able to add my skills and support to those challenges as well.

### **LYNN WALSTON**

I am a semi-retired school teacher, and I have been a member of Sierra Club for over 25 years. Several years ago, in the 1990's, I served on the Excom shortly after the Centennial Group was formed. The club has changed and grown quite a bit, but back then I enjoyed writing an occasional article for the newsletter and participating in local decisions, programs, outings, and retreats. I have continued to follow the club's activities over the years, and I regularly respond to Sierra Club and other environmental organizations' calls for action. It would be an honor to serve on the Centennial Ex-Com again.

### Greater Gwinnett Group Executive Committee

#### LYNN BEACH

I am long-time Sierra Club member who has been actively engaged with the Gwinnett Group for 2 years. Additionally, I have participated in our group's Adopt-A-Stream monitoring program, conducting monthly stream testing along Suwannee Creek for 18 months. To expand our AAS program, I have recruited several new participants. At the Chapter level, I am a member of both the RAIL (transit) and Political committees; in the future, I hope to serve as an conduit of information between these Chapter-level committees and our Gwinnett group. I would like to be a member our group's Excom; my major focus would be to increase consistent attendance at monthly meetings by reaching out to new attendees and non-active Gwinnett Sierra Club members.

#### BETH REMMES

I have been a member of the Sierra Club since 2003. I am Founder of Zola Goods a mother of two young children - who inspire me everyday to help protect the earth and their future. If I am selected to be a member of the ExCom for the Greater Gwinnett County Group of the Sierra Club, I will continue to help develop our outreach and education programs in the community, especially in the areas of water and energy conservation.

#### ART SHELTON

I have enjoyed serving on the Greater Gwinnett Group ExCom for these last few years and look forward to continuing to serve another term to continue our work in the growing of environmental awareness here in Gwinnett. As a Sierra Club member since 1992 and active at the state level here in Georgia since 2004 I bring a strong interest in environmental issues that started with my work towards and receiving a degree in Environmental Studies many years ago. I furthered that with a Masters Degree in City Planning from Georgia Tech where I did a thesis on revitalization of historic buildings and districts in Savannah before sustainability was a commonly used expression. Since then I have served on boards of various groups seeking to protect us from over building without a plan. This resulted in appointments to the 1997 Gwinnett SPLOST Citizens Project Selection Committee and the inaugural Gwinnett Transit Advisory Board where I served two 4 year terms and was elected Vice-Chairman and Chairman for two year terms. My key issues now are to push alternative forms of transporta-

tion to automobile projects such as Bus Rapid Transit and light rail here in Gwinnett as well as continuing to work at the state level on the R.A.I.L. committee supporting MARTA and light rail in the belt line.

### LaGrange Group Executive Committee

#### LAURA BREYFOGLE

I have served as the LaGrange Sierra Club group Recycling Committee Chair for 3 years, on the LaGrange Excom for the past 2 years as treasurer, and as Outings Chair for the past year. I am interested in increasing participation in our LaGrange Sierra Club group with a renewed interest in promoting curbside recycling not only in LaGrange but in Troup County as well. I hope to continue to offer quality outings as well as opportunities for environmental education and activism for our members.

#### DEAN ROGERS

I've been a member of the Sierra Club since 2002. I come from a family of Boy Scouts so, love for the land and conservation has been a part of my childhood. I own and operate a photography studio, (Stone-Rogers Photography) here in LaGrange that is partially powered by a 4.2 kilowatt solar system. I have three children and one granddaughter. I live with my wife Joanne, 2 cats and 2 dogs here in LaGrange.

#### RENEE WARRICK

My business Clean Green 4 West Georgia LLC, combines my financial background with my interest in Solar energy. I partner with an electrical engineer, who designs our systems, while I do the financial analysis and project management. I'm a member of the American Solar Energy Society, Georgia Solar Energy Association, and the United States Green Building Council. I would like to lend an economic viewpoint on energy issues for the LaGrange Sierra Club.

#### CLAIRE ZENS

I've been secretary of the LaGrange group for the past year. I have enjoyed working with the ExCom and hope to continue doing so. I've also participated in Adopt-a-Stream water testing and several local field trips.

# 2010 Georgia Chapter Election Ballot

## Voting Instructions

By voting in the Executive Committee elections you help to determine the future of the Sierra Club at the Chapter level and in your local group. Your voice matters!

**Please vote in the Georgia Chapter Executive Committee election and one group election.**

Votes for more than one group will be disqualified. If you do not belong to a group you may choose a group to vote for or abstain, but please remember to vote in the Chapter election.

## Georgia Sierran Print Edition Opt-Out

*Members have the option to switch to e-mail delivery of the Sierran to help the Chapter save paper and expense. See p. 3 for details.*

☐ Yes, I opt out; send via e-mail instead

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

☐ No; continue to send me the print edition

## Georgia Chapter Executive Committee

*(Vote for no more than **three**)*

- ☐ Kelly Jordan
- ☐ Sybil Cypress
- ☐ Michael Walls
- ☐ Todd Daniel

## Centennial Group Executive Committee

*(Vote for no more than **three**)*

- ☐ Lynn Walston
- ☐ Ashley Robbins
- ☐ Carina O'Bara
- ☐ Charlie Smith

## Greater Gwinnett Group Executive Committee

*(Vote for no more than **two**)*

- ☐ Art Sheldon
- ☐ Beth Remmes
- ☐ Lynn Beach

## LaGrange Group Executive Committee

*(Vote for no more than **four**)*

- ☐ Claire Zens
- ☐ Dean Rogers
- ☐ Laura Breyfogle
- ☐ Renee Warrick

## RETURN COMPLETED BALLOT TO:

Sierra Club, Georgia Chapter  
Attn: Genie Strickland  
743 East College Avenue, Suite B  
Decatur, Georgia 30030

***Please write "BALLOT" clearly on envelope!***

## Where Are the Other Groups?

*The Metro Atlanta, Coastal, and Savannah River groups chose to opt out of using the Sierran for their Executive Committee elections. Members of those groups should contact their group leadership for details (see directory*





PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID

## Support Your Chapter

**Yes!** I want to support the work of the Georgia Chapter of the Sierra Club for sustainable living, a healthy environment, improved transportation and a green Georgia future!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Sign me up to receive the Georgia Chapter E-Newsletter *Footnotes*.
- ☐ Please do not publish my name as a donor.
- ☐ Please send more info on how to give an environmental bequest!

*Make check payable to Georgia Chapter Sierra Club*

*Contributions and gifts to the Georgia Chapter of the Sierra Club are not tax-deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. For information concerning tax-deductible contributions to the Sierra Club Foundation to support grants for public education, research, and litigation programs necessary to further the Sierra Club's conservation goals, please contact [colleen.kiernan@sierraclub.org](mailto:colleen.kiernan@sierraclub.org) or 404-607-1262 ext. 224.*

### Donation Options

#### Monthly Giving Program

Gift Amount:

☐ \$25.00 ☐ \$10.00 ☐ Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

Gift Duration:

☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annually

Continuous: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Credit card #: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Not AMEX)

CVV Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Type: ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ Mastercard

#### One-Time Donation

Gift Amount:

☐ \$100 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

#### Donate Online Now!

Visit the Georgia Chapter donation webpage at  
[http://action.sierraclub.org/ga\\_donate](http://action.sierraclub.org/ga_donate)