



# THE MACKINAC

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF MICHIGAN'S SIERRA CLUB

❄ NOVEMBER 1999 - JANUARY 2000



## HEY! THE PITTMAN-ROBERTSON ACT IS MEANT TO *IMPROVE* HABITAT, NOT DESTROY IT!

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*A Michigan forest wears its finest for the holiday season.*

PHOTO BY RALPH POWELL

# ABRAHAM GREENWASHES ENVIRONMENTAL RECORD

BY ALISON HORTON  
 Director, Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club

During the Congressional recess last August, US Senator Spencer Abraham returned to Michigan for a bus tour around the state to talk about the congressional agenda. The Sierra Club took that opportunity to challenge Abraham to stop greenwashing his voting record on the environment. With a press conference in Lansing and ads on metro Detroit radio stations, the Sierra Club publicized Senator Abraham's anti-environmental votes and urged people to let him know they want him to vote pro-environment.

Voting is one of the most significant ways our Washington, DC representatives influence policy. And Abraham's US Senate voting record is one of repeated votes against environmental protection, with a 7% score from the League of Conservation Voters (LCV) for the time he has served—giving him one of the ten worst Senate environmental records. That score reflects dozens of votes affecting clean water and air, parks and forests and other public lands, protection of wildlife habitat,



Chapter staff member Dan Farough (left) and Chapter Director Alison Horton (center) paint a clear picture of Abraham's greenwashing habits

and polluter responsibilities—identified by the LCV with advice from 24 national environmental and conservation organizations.

Senator Abraham's office responded quickly to media attention to his failing environmental voting record. His spokesperson criticized the Sierra Club for publicizing, just before the Congressional recess, Abraham's vote for an Interior budget bill rider to allow dumping of cyanide and other mining waste on unlimited public land acreage adjacent to hardrock mining sites. Saying that there is no hardrock mining in Michigan and that the issue has nothing to do with protecting Michigan's environment, Abraham's spokesman told the Detroit Free Press, "I challenge the Sierra Club to explain the relevance of this."

In fact, there is currently hardrock min-

ing activity in the Upper Peninsula, and Michigan has a long history of significant hardrock mining. But more importantly, the Abraham challenge suggests that people living in Michigan do not care what happens to public lands in other parts of the country, and do not care about hazardous pollution that has killed fish and polluted water on many miles of western rivers. The Sierra Club takes issue with such an analysis.

Again, in September, the manager for Senator Abraham's political campaign lashed out at the Sierra Club in the press, saying that it "has done Debbie Stabenow's dirty work for some time." The Mackinac Chapter's director, Alison Horton, noted in a letter to the Detroit Free Press, "Actually, it's not anybody's dirty work when the

Sierra Club calls public attention to what a public official does for or against the environment...Michigan citizens are entitled to know where [Abraham] stands when it come to protecting our air, rivers, lakes and natural places."

While continuing to vote against the environment most of the time, Senator Abraham is making a concerted effort to paint himself as environmentally friendly, according to Michigan Sierra Club leaders. This strategy has been used by many who realize there is widespread public concern for protecting the environment, and has come to be known as greenwashing. (In fact, the term "greenwashing" has now made it into the latest edition of the Oxford English Dictionary.)

Last year, however, Senator Abraham took greenwashing to new heights when he accepted Governor John Engler's appointment as chair of the Clean Michigan Initiative, which put him at the helm of a nearly \$3.5 million statewide media campaign. As the television ad spokesperson for that ballot measure, which had widespread public support, Abraham was a voice for a clean Michigan environment. However, from the time he took office in 1995 through 1998 he actually voted for the environment only 3 out of 42 times. \*

**Take Action: If you want people to know what Senator Abraham's voting record is on the environment, take a few minutes to write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper and pass the information along.**

## THE MACKINAC QUARTERLY

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## Abraham Votes on the Environment

- **7/13/98:** To weaken land use protections by giving developers more power in the courts
- **4/2/98:** For \$298 million in tax breaks for corporations mining our public lands
- **5/7/97:** For a "rider" to give states the right to put more roads across national parks
- **3/14/96:** For a budget bill "salvage rider" to allow cutting healthy old growth trees in national forests
- **11/29/95:** Against the public's right to know what is in our drinking water
- **7/13/95:** To make it easier for polluters to avoid listing hazardous wastes they dump in our communities

# CLUB PREPARES TO SUE OVER WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT FUNDING BY US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

BY ANNE WOIWODE

*Mackinac Chapter Project Director*

Under the leadership of the Mackinac Chapter, the Sierra Club is preparing to sue the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to halt systematic abuses of federal laws intended to restore wildlife habitat. The lawsuit, which could be filed by late October, would protect America's forests, wetlands, and other wildlife habitat from illegal clearcutting and manipulation by bringing the nation's largest habitat management program into compliance with the Endangered Species Act and other environmental laws. Tim Flynn, Marvin Roberson, and Anne Woiwode, leaders in the Mackinac Chapter's forest biodiversity program, join the Club as individual plaintiffs on the suit. Tom Buchele, an attorney with the Environmental Law and Policy Center of the Midwest, is representing the Club in the litigation.

At issue is how federal funds provided under the Pittman-Robertson Act (the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937) are spent by states under grants from the USFWS. The Pittman-Robertson Act was created to distribute federal funds to states for improvement and restoration of habitat for wild birds and mammals. These funds are derived from taxes collected on guns, ammunition, and archery equipment.

The Sierra Club alleges that the Pittman-Robertson-funded activities in Michigan have had and are having devastating effects on forests and wetlands, including clear cutting of large swaths of state-owned land.



*Sierra Club's lawsuit will challenge federal funding of logging and wildlife management in Michigan*

belief that the reforms sought would lead to nationwide improvements in wildlife management activities. The Sierra Club claims USFWS, which administers the program, has turned a blind eye to the abuse, refusing to enforce the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970 (NEPA) or the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA).

"Since September 1995, the Sierra Club has demanded the abuses of the Pittman-Robertson program in Michigan be addressed, but the USFWS has steadfastly refused to enforce the applicable laws," said Anne Woiwode, director of the Sierra Club's Michigan Forest Biodiversity Project. "The USFWS claims large-scale clearcutting and wetland manipulation paid for with federal wildlife habitat improvement funding has no environmental effects. This perverts the intention of the program," Woiwode said.

***The USFWS has permitted the Michigan DNR to use Pittman-Robertson funds to pay for unsustainable and environmentally damaging activities, immune from public scrutiny and in violation of federal laws.***

annual grants to states. An offer by Sierra Club to negotiate has been pursued by the USFWS—however, as *The Mackinac* goes to press, the Club is preparing its case in the event these talks fail.

If successful, the challenge will set a national precedent. It is the first suit of its kind ever brought. "The USFWS acts as if the ESA and NEPA don't apply to Pittman-Robertson," said Marvin Roberson, forestry consultant to the

see *PITTMAN-ROBERTSON* page 9

The USFWS has permitted the Michigan DNR to use Pittman-Robertson funds to pay for unsustainable and environmentally damaging activities, immune from public scrutiny and in violation of federal laws. Since the Club's filing of a 60-day Notice of Intent to Sue with the USFWS on August 3, wildlife organizations in three other states have provided documentation of similar abuses, supporting the Mackinac Chapter's be-



# JUST WHAT ARE WE DOING TO OUR FORESTS?

BY MARVIN ROBERSON

*Mackinac Chapter Forest Biodiversity Program Consultant*

Just what are we doing to our forests, wetlands, and wildlife habitat? This is the question the Sierra Club seeks to have answered in our lawsuit against the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS). It is our contention that this agency is allowing, and in fact funding, terribly damaging and irresponsible management of Michigan State Forests and Wildlife Areas. We assert that these activities are likely to have long-lasting and potentially irreversible detrimental effects, and that further, the USFWS is failing in their legally mandated responsibility to determine what those effects are.

The USFWS is the Federal agency charged with the care and protection of our nation's wildlife. As part of this responsibility, the agency provides grant moneys to states under the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act—a law giving the USFWS authority to give states grants for restoration of habitat for wild birds and mammals. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), for example, receives between \$6 and 7 million per year.

With this money, Michigan plans and carries out manipulations of over 100,000 acres of wetlands. It also draws up plans for management of wildlife habitat on our 4,000,000 acres of State Forests and Wildlife Areas, including over 40,000 acres of clearcutting per year. In addition, many other programs—such as hunter education, rental of private lands to allow public hunting, and ecological planning—are paid for out of these grants.

Some of these programs, such as education of hunters on safe hunting

practices, are non-controversial. Others, such as planning for 40,000 acres of clearcutting annually and manipulation of over 150 square miles of wetlands, are not management activities upon which the citizens of the state have agreed, and are activities of which the long-term effects are far from clear. For instance, the clearcutting will greatly increase the chances of larger deer herds, even though we already have so many that over 65,000 cars hit deer last year in the state. In addition, the DNR's own experts concluded that this same clearcutting may very well harm wildlife such as the red-shouldered hawk, a state threatened bird.

The National Environmental Policy Act says very clearly that when the Federal Government takes an action which will likely have large consequences to the environment, that the agency taking the action—in this case the USFWS—must assess what those effects are likely to be; and to allow the public, who are funding these actions, to know what the results of that assessment are. In addition, the

***This sounds like a pretty simple set of instructions to our public employees: Try to determine the effects of your actions, tell the public what those effects are, and don't drive any species closer to extinction. Unfortunately, the USFWS has chosen to ignore these instructions.***

Endangered Species Act says the Federal Government shall not undertake actions, such as planning massive clearcutting in Michigan, which are likely to harm endangered species.

This sounds like a pretty simple set of instructions to our public employees: Try to determine the effects of your actions, tell the public what those effects are, and don't drive any species closer to extinction. Unfortunately, the USFWS has chosen to ignore these instructions. Even after years of discussions and internal admissions that awarding this money to Michigan will likely have large effects on the natural environment, they have chosen to claim that 150 square miles of wetlands manipulation and planning 40,000 acres of annual clearcutting will have virtually no effect on the environment.

If this is true, and the actions won't really do anything at all, then the \$6 to 7 million spent annually is a waste of money. Spending that much money to accomplish nothing surely can't be what the federal government has in mind. But if they claim the effects will all be positive, then they still need to tell the public what those effects are—because perhaps not everyone will agree that the results are wanted. It is a virtual certainty that Michigan's farmers and freeway drivers are not going to see creating more deer habitat as a positive result.

So in order to force the USFWS to comply with the instructions given to them by law, the Sierra Club has notified the agency of our intent to sue. We are not asking to stop the money coming to the under-funded DNR in Michigan. We are not asking to stop management. We are simply asking the US Fish & Wildlife Service to tell us what they're doing, what the results are likely to be, and to assure us that they aren't going to cause any extinctions. This doesn't seem like too much to ask of a public agency using public money to manage public lands and resources. ❄

# CAFOS: "ALL ANIMALS ARE EQUAL BUT SOME ANIMALS ARE MORE EQUAL THAN OTHERS."

- NAPOLEON THE PIG FROM GEORGE ORWELL'S ANIMAL FARM

BY ANNE WOIWODE

*Mackinac Chapter Project Director*

In early October, newspaper pictures of North Carolina's Pamlico Sound "dead zone," caused when Hurricane Floyd flooded more than 50 hog manure waste lagoons into the state's rivers, shared space with news that the Michigan Senate had voted to exterminate local government controls over the construction and operation of confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs). As the *Mackinac* goes to press, the chairman of the House Agriculture and Resource Management Committee has scheduled fast action on SB 205 in late October, and the bill is expected to be pushed through the full House without a pause.

The startling message here is that the Republican juggernaut in Lansing has decided that the Great Lakes State should become the next place where "Big Pig" comes to roost. As massive livestock facilities are driven out of many other states for destroying family farms, wrecking the environment, and threatening public health and quality of life in communities nationwide, Michigan's legislators are throwing the door open to invite CAFOs into the only state that borders on four of the five Great Lakes. The Engler Administration has made it clear that they fully support this extraordinary override of local control, and have strong-armed many normally pro-local control Republicans to vote for this bill.

SB 205 amends the Michigan Right to Farm (RTF) Act, which in the last decade has exempted virtually all agricultural operations, regardless of size or impact, from any state-level regulations. Weak voluntary standards called "Generally Accepted Agricultural Management Practices" (GAAMPs) must be followed by "farm operations" in order to be exempt from nuisance lawsuits. GAAMPs are based on non-point source water pollution, so issues such as odor control aren't addressed by them at all. Likewise, because common law already protects existing operations from nuisance claims, the real effect of RTF has been to exempt expansion and intensification of operations from controls.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) is vested with assuring that GAAMPs are followed, but by law the agency operates on a complaint basis, with a record of rarely finding that any violations exists. Even when a complaint is verified, it has sometimes taken years for the state to begin to correct it, as was documented in a report by the Michigan Land Use Institute this year. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is prohibited under an interagency Memorandum of Understanding from intervening unless the MDA refers the problem to them.



Currently, the RTF Act allows local units of government to pass zoning ordinances that place controls on agricultural activities, including CAFOs. Faced with abdication by the state of any control over CAFOs, increasing numbers of communities have begun to regulate siting, building codes, and odor problems from these facilities. SB 205 would effectively strike down all local control over these facilities by setting an unachievable standard for local ordinances.

SB 205 is tied to the report of the Senate Task Force on the Preservation of Agriculture, headed by Senator George McManus and released this fall. This bill is the first piece, and will likely be the most controversial bill associated with the McManus report. The legislature's quick action and brutal tactics on SB 205 have undermined carefully fostered working relationships among diverse interests supporting efforts to help ailing family farms statewide.

At the same time, the state is also fighting federal efforts to begin to bring Michigan's largest CAFOs (over 1000 Animal Units) under standards and regulations consistent with the rest of the country. Michigan is the only state in Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region V that currently has not brought any CAFOs under water quality (NPDES) permits. Responding to concerns raised by a coalition of environmental organizations, the EPA sent a letter in mid-September to the head of the DEQ Surface Water Quality Program, directing the state to bring a particularly egregious water quality violator, the Bruinsma Farm operation in southwestern Michigan, under an NPDES permit. The letter explicitly directs the DEQ to inform and involve the public in their permitting process.

In addition, a recent strategy adopted by the EPA and the US Department of Agriculture to bring greater consistency to CAFO dealings has reportedly been agreed to by most other states in this region. However, Michigan DEQ Director Russell Harding is reportedly leading resistance to the strategy, aggressively lobbying other state administrators to call on the EPA to find existing state programs for CAFO regulation "functionally equivalent" to the proposed standards. Evidently, Harding's efforts have had limited success, but they point out the Engler administration's continuing efforts to thwart reasonable CAFO controls.

For the current status of this legislation, check out the Chapter's web page at [www.sierraclub.org/chapters/mi](http://www.sierraclub.org/chapters/mi) or contact the Mackinac Chapter office (see p23 for the Directory). \*



# TOURS DE SPRAWL

## THIRD ANNUAL TOUR DE SPRAWL IN WASHTENAW COUNTY

by Kevin Bell, Huron Valley Group Tour de Sprawl Organizer

A warm, sunny fall day greeted over 40 cyclists and about 20 bus riders on the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Washtenaw County Tour de Sprawl on Saturday, September 18. Co-sponsored by the Sierra Club and local land preservation group Forever Green, this year's Tour highlighted Pittsfield Township, which is losing farmland, natural areas, and historic sites to high-end, low-density residential development. The Tour started at Burns Park and meandered 23 miles through the south side of Ann Arbor and the central part of Pittsfield Township.

State Senator Alma Wheeler Smith, State Representatives Liz Brater and John Hansen, and Ann Arbor City Council members Chris Kolb and Heidi Herrell were among the public officials showing support for regional land use planning, smart growth initiatives, and local grassroots action.

Tour stops highlighted the state's Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) program for farmers, impacts of poorly planned development on watersheds, and transportation policy issues. Speakers included Jeff Kahan of the Huron Land Use Alliance; Harry Sheehan of the Huron Watershed Council; Jeannine Palms, founder of the Buhr Park Children's Wet Meadow Project; Christina Lirones, Pittsfield community activist and founder of Forever Green; Bruce Manny, PDR program farmer; and Larry Deck of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) Transportation Advisory Committee.

Along the Tour, golden soybean fields, small forest parcels, an historic cemetery, and numerous economically viable farms reminded Tour participants of the importance of citizen involvement in land use decisions. At the end of the Tour, entertainment and food were provided to participants. This year's entertainment was provided by the Chelsea House Orchestra, conducted by Jed Fritzmeier. A special thanks goes out to all organizations providing food and drink and to the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority for providing a bus.

Huron Valley Group Chair Doug Cowherd said, "I've followed environmental issues around here for almost 20 years, but I learned quite a few things on the Tour."

Perhaps the best compliment to the hard work of Tour organizers Jeffrey Marine (Forever Green) and Kevin Bell (Sierra Club) was given by an unidentified participant new to environmental issues. He commented, "The

Tour was not at all what I expected." When asked why, he said, "I expected to be preached to, but instead, I was educated." Mission accomplished!

Plans are already in the works for Tour de Sprawl 4.



*A tour bus stops at a new low-density Pittsfield Township development outside Ann Arbor*

participants who wanted to show support but preferred not to cycle shuttled a school bus for the tour. "Bikes and buses are an integral part of a livable community, and that's why we're riding them today," said Sierra Club member Anne-Marie Rachman.

State representatives Lynne Martinez and Laura Baird kicked the event off at 10:00 am at Ann Street Plaza in East Lansing, speaking before the riders set off on an 18-mile course. "Michigan loses thousands of acres of farmland every year to urban sprawl. We are

learning that maintaining strong, viable urban centers is directly connected to preserving farmland and greenspace," Martinez explained.

The event, sponsored by the Central Michigan Sierra Club, provided an educational opportunity for participants to learn about smart growth, farmland preservation, water quality, wildlife habitat, and urban redevelopment. The course featured several stops, including Okemos High School, Potter Park Zoo, and the Lansing Farmers Market. At each of the stops, environmental and community planning experts spoke about different issues affecting the current state of urban sprawl and the importance of community planning in the Greater Lansing area. "Besides offering people a chance to have a fun, family day, we also want people to learn about urban sprawl and how it directly impacts their lives," said the event coordinator Maria Lapinski-Lafaive.

Michigan State education senior Lisa Mazzola reflected on the tour, "It was good because I learned a lot from the speakers about the politics involved with development. I



*Glenn Swier (Director of GR Heartside) talking to media at the 1<sup>st</sup> foggy West Michigan Group stop*

*continued on next page*

# SPRAWL WARS II: SIERRA CLUB STRIKES BACK

TOURS DE SPRAWL AND REPORT RELEASE LIGHT UP MICHIGAN MEDIA;  
SECOND ANTI-SPRAWL WORKSHOP TRAINS CITIZENS

BY DAN FAROUGH

Mackinac Chapter Membership Involvement Director

This fall saw the Sierra Club Chapter and local Groups work in combination and to powerful effect on the sprawl campaign.

The coordinated campaign was highlighted by a series of Tour de Sprawls between September 18 and October 23 in the Lansing, Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids, and Macomb County areas (see articles on page 6). The Tours took community members, leaders, and the media by bike and bus to see effects of suburban sprawl, examples of smart growth, and to hear first hand from experts. "The impact of the tour on the multitude of participants was first rate," said one participant of the September 25 Central Michigan Group Tour in the Lansing area. "We made the connection between the impact of sprawl on farmland and on our urban centers, and that steps can be taken to stop sprawl."

The Tours received excellent media attention and helped bring home the message that Sprawl is not inevitable and communities do have a choice over how they grow.

***The Tours received excellent media attention and helped bring home the message that Sprawl is not inevitable and communities do have a choice over how they grow.***

Alongside the tours, the Chapter and local Groups have been holding Anti-sprawl workshops to help train citizens on how to build campaigns and have an impact in local land use decisions. Following up an initial Lansing workshop in July, the second workshop—held September 25 in Mt. Clemens—drew dozens of citizens from Macomb, Wayne, Oakland, and St. Clair Counties. A final workshop was held October 16 in Dexter for Washtenaw County. In each training, participants expressed strong interest in being part of a broader regional effort to promote smart growth.

On October 7, the Sierra Club released its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual National Sprawl Report, *Solving Sprawl*, which ranks the 50 states in efforts to stop sprawl and promote smart

growth. The report indicates that Michigan falls way behind other states in taking steps in critical areas of land use planning (49<sup>th</sup>) and community revitalization (47<sup>th</sup>). States leading in these areas help local governments deal with sprawl by developing comprehensive growth management plans and providing tools such as urban growth boundaries, which empower communities to coordinate growth and protect farmland and open space. In addition, leaders encourage housing trust funds to ensure affordable housing is made available, that historic areas are preserved, and that impact fees and assessments are established to reveal the true cost of developing in green fields. The release was well covered by the media, where it ran in most major print, radio, and TV outlets.

A copy of the report can be obtained from the Sierra Club website at [www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org). Those wishing to learn more about the sprawl campaign and ways to get involved should contact the Mackinac Chapter at 517-484-2372. \*

## TOURS DE SPRAWL

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didn't realize how much state and local communities interacted."

This was the first year for this event, which organizers hope will gain momentum in following years. The event was modeled after similar ones in St. Paul, Minnesota and Ann Arbor.



## WEST MICHIGAN TOUR DE SPRAWL IN THE FALL

by Jan O'Connell

Come One! Come All! to the West Michigan Tour de Sprawl! After months of meetings, driving and re-driving tour routes, making videos, hanging posters, and rousting up speakers, it finally arrived. We woke up the morning of October 9 to something we had talked about but never really expected—a very dense fog. So dense that two hours later, after our Tour breakfast and keynote speakers, we missed our first tour stop when we couldn't find it in the thick pea soup. As we circled around—the media following our lost entourage—spotters practically jumped out into the road to catch us before we drove by a second time.

Our route took us through downtown Grand Rapids' Heartside with its director Glenn Swier, and then through Eastown, a turn-of-the-

century "suburb" built at the end of the trolley line from downtown. Eastown is now a central village area with a wonderful mix of shops, restaurants, entertainment, and services, where much is accessible by foot. Then it was off to Bailey's Grove, an innovative development project with an emphasis on a mixture of housing—condos, apartments, and single family. In a pedestrian-oriented neighborhood preserving and integrating open space areas, Bailey's Grove sits immediately adjacent to a 600-student elementary school students can walk to. From there we toiled over to Kent County's newest proposed park, to meet both the County Commissioner who proposed it and the Kent County Parks Department Supervisor. This park was just added to the park system through a Kent County established land acquisition program. It was here that the Parks Supervisor took us on a nice stroll, where we finally saw the beautiful sights of the Thornapple river as the fog lifted. The Supervisor then took the entire Tour group through an immense patch of poison ivy, where the media caught both a fabulous photo moment and possibly a nice rash or two.

From the park lands we moved to the commuter-traffic canyon of Alpine Avenue—one of Grand Rapids' most poorly-planned commercial developments—and then to the threatened farmland of the Fruit

see TOURS DE SPRAWL page 14

# MICHIGAN FOREST BIODIVERSITY PROGRAM

ANNE WOIWODE

Program Director

MARVIN ROBERSON

Project Consultant

## SIERRA CLUB APPEALS HIAWATHA NATIONAL FOREST PROJECT

The Interior Wetlands Land Type Association (LTA) Project on the east side of Hiawatha National Forest has been appealed by the Sierra Club after extensive efforts to convince the Forest Service to address law violations in the project. Interior Wetlands is one of a series of very large projects on Hiawatha's east side that are planned based on ecological classification units (LTAs). Mackinac Chapter leaders have expressed support for the Forest Service decision to design projects on an LTA basis, but have also argued that the scale of some projects requires that an environmental impact study be prepared, rather than the less comprehensive environmental assessment. This appeal is prompted by the precedent-setting nature of the Interior Wetland LTA Project decision.

The Sierra Club submitted extensive comments on the project calling for the Forest Service to do an adequate job of review, but the agency issued its decision in the summer without addressing those concerns. Michigan Forest Biodiversity Project (MFBP) consultant Marvin Roberson, Club volunteers Carol Ward and Tim Flynn, and MFBP director Anne Woiwode enumerated the extensive flaws during an August meeting with District Ranger Stevan Christiansen, asking the agency to withdraw their decision. The Forest Service declined to withdraw the decision, leading to the Sierra Club's appeal. A decision on the appeal by the Regional Forester is expected within the next few months.

## UPDATE ON HURON-MANISTEE NATIONAL FOREST OLD GROWTH PROPOSAL

The Huron-Manistee National Forest (HMNF) is proceeding with its Old Growth designation proposal and has announced they expect



*Chapter leaders discuss Huron-Manistee National Forest Old Growth Plan*

to have completed development of alternatives by mid-November, with the Environmental Assessment document to be produced in March 2000.

The past few months have seen a lot of Sierra Club action on the proposal. Sierra Club members Nancy Shiffler, Bill Minard, and Tim Flynn were among the participants in an unusual meeting on the HMNF on August 27. As part of the scoping process, members of the public were invited to give input into potential alternatives for old growth protection. The Forest Service invited participants to work with scores of maps—including pre-settlement forest cover, age of stands, ecological classification, and management area maps—to produce their own tentative recommendations for where old growth on the forest should be designated. Participants started to flesh out a range of potential alternatives (larger blocks of old growth, aspen, age, etc.) or were encouraged to create their own alternatives. In addition, participants could choose to comment on draft standards and guidelines for managing old growth, and make recommendations on these as well. At the end of the day, groups working together were asked to explain their rationale for the designs they were pursuing. Evidently, the process used was the first of its kind on any National Forest for scoping public input into a controversial issue.

In September, the Huron Valley Group got a sense of the old growth designation process at their New Members meeting. Nancy Shiffler displayed the maps used in the alternatives development meeting, giving members an idea of some of the work done by forest activists in Michigan.

*continued on next page*

## Join the Forest Activist Network

If you would like information about the **Michigan Forest Activist Network**, fill in and send this form to F.A.N., Sierra Club, 300 N. Washington, Suite 411, Lansing, 48933, or email <anne.woiwode@sierraclub.org> with the same information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

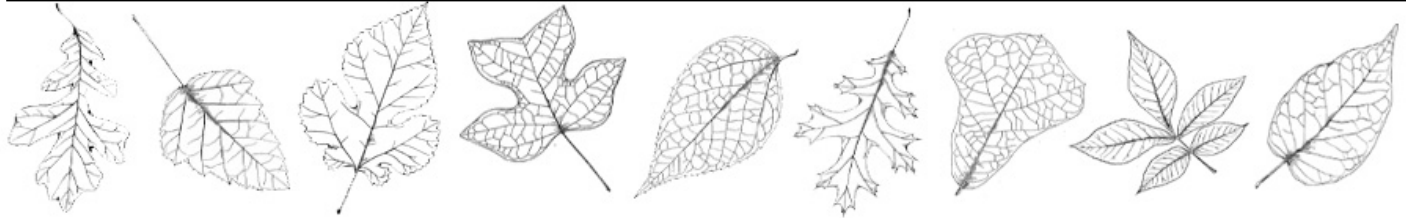
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone &/or Email \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to receive:

- Forest Activist Network Newsletter
- Notice of upcoming Trainings
- Background Forest Activist Network Information
- Other things? Let us know!





**BIODIVERSITY PROGRAM**  
*continued from page 8*

On October 23, about a dozen forest activists took to the field in the HMNF (east side of the northern lower peninsula) to do reconnaissance on proposed old growth areas. The Day in the Woods, organized by volunteer Tim Flynn and MFBP director Anne Woiwode, sought to look at areas proposed by the HMNF for inclusion in the plan as well as areas Sierra Club members think should be considered for inclusion.

Club members who would like to try their hand at old growth reconnaissance can obtain a brochure and check sheet from the Chapter office that gives guidance on what to look for in old growth areas. Your comments can be submitted to the Forest Service to help shape the designation process, and the MFBP would like to receive any information and feedback members have about the old growth proposal under consideration on the Huron-Manistee National Forest. Contact Anne Woiwode at the Chapter Office for more details. \*

**PITTMAN-ROBERTSON**  
*continued from page 3*

Mackinac Chapter. "They don't get to decide which laws they can enforce or ignore."

In 1995 Chapter activist Tim Flynn learned the USFWS was considering a five-year grant worth \$35 million to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources under the Pittman-Robertson Act. Club leaders were dismayed to learn the grant proposed massive management actions, including clearcutting 40,000 acres of Michigan State Forest land each year, while claiming the environmental consequence of these actions were so insignificant as to warrant no environmental review. Federal law requires Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) be prepared for federally-funded projects that "significantly effect" the environment. Joined by the Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition and the Michigan Biodiversity Project, the Chapter petitioned the USFWS to prepare an EIS to disclose potential environmental effects of the activities proposed prior to approving the grant.

After almost four years of virtually fruitless negotiations with the USFWS, the Sierra Club decided litigation was the only way to force the agency to comply with the laws. The Sierra Club is seeking a swift resolution to this case in order to assure the flow of funds for legitimate wildlife management activities is not interrupted while the federal government is brought into compliance with its own laws.

"The USFWS thinks using grants from federal habitat protection programs for massive habitat manipulation, including clearcutting 40,000 acres of forest land per year, is exempt from environmental review. This is clearly wrong and clearly illegal. We think any reasonable federal court will agree," Woiwode said. \*

**VOTE!**

*For your Executive Committee. See page 12!*

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# MACKINAC CHAPTER RECOGNIZES 1999 AWARDS RECIPIENTS

BY SUE KELLY

*Chair, Mackinac Chapter Awards Committee*

At the annual Autumn Retreat at Camp Miniwanca, the Mackinac Chapter honored 15 people who have been instrumental in furthering efforts to protect, preserve, and enjoy Michigan's natural heritage.

Service Awards were given to **Sherry Hayden**, **Mike Keeler**, **Sue McMahon**, **Doug Cowherd**, **Cindy Mills**, and **Barbara Yarrow**. Sherry and Mike successfully launched a recycling initiative affecting the Flint mayoral race and raising local awareness. Sue, as Crossroads Group Outings Chair, is expanding their program in frequency and uniqueness. Doug, Huron Valley Group Chair, works tirelessly on several conservation projects, including the Gelman Sciences well contamination and the Proposal 1 ballot initiative, and promotes fund-raising within the group to further these ends. Cindy is always cheerfully helping the Kalamazoo Valley Group with whatever needs done, including the editing, printing, and mailing of their newsletter. Barbara, as Southeast Michigan Group's newsletter editor, has brought a highly professional touch to the publication—and, as an SEMG ex-comm officer, has pitched in on other group activities as well.

**Mike Johnson** received the Virginia Prentice Award, given to an individual who has made significant contributions to the preservation of wilderness and the protection of public lands. Mike has led efforts in Michigan to protect The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and Utah wilderness.

**Gary Semer** was given our Marlene Fluharty Award, which recognizes a Sierra Club member who has served on at least two levels and has made significant contributions to benefit the Mackinac Chapter. Gary has served on the Chapter Executive Committee for many years, part of that time as Chapter Chair. He has been a leader in fundraising and a model of leadership and efficiency.

**Dave Dempsey** received the Jane Elder Environmentalist of the Year Award. Dave has devoted 18 years to the protection of Michigan's environment, starting as a Sierra Club volunteer. He served as environmental advisor to former Governor Blanchard after serving as the second director for the Michigan Environmental Council (MEC). In 1990 Dave went to work for Clean Water Action, later moving back to the MEC as Policy Director. Currently, Dave is writing a book on the history of Michigan's environmental movement and policies. Addressing the Chapter Retreat this year, Dave described the backpacking trip to Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore with Jane Elder—former



*Helen LeBlanc presents Gary Semer with the Marlene Fluharty Award*



*Sherry Hayden and Mike Keeler high-five it after receiving their Service Awards*



*Nancy Shiffler presents Mike Johnson with the Virginia Prentice Award*



*Sue Kelly presents Mike Keeler with the Life of the Party Award*

Mackinac Chapter Director and Midwest Regional Director of the Sierra Club—that inspired him to devote his career to protecting the environment. Over his many years of service, Dave has played crucial roles in the designation of National Forest Wilderness areas in Michigan, the passage of the Polluters Pay bill, and dozens of other issues.

**Barry Lonik and the Potawatomic Land Trust** were presented with the White Pine Award, given to an organization or individual that has shown outstanding dedication to protection of Michigan's environment. Barry is a long-time activist for land preservation and against the abuses of sprawl. He worked throughout the planning process that led to the Proposal 1 ballot initiative and played a leadership role in the campaign, working enthusiastically to educate the public about sprawl issues.

**Davina Pallone** was given the Alex Sagady Cyber-Punk Award, which recognizes outstanding efforts to raise awareness and disseminate information about Michigan's environment through the use of electronic media. Davina has been the *Mackinac* editor for the last 1½ years, and has greatly improved the Mackinac Chapter's web page.

**Mike Keeler** received the Life of the Party Award, an award given to gratefully acknowledge those volunteers who take seriously the Sierra Club's credo "to enjoy the wild places of the Earth." Mike is a vivacious and enthusiastic leader. His great sense of humor combined with his serious dedication to environmental protection make working on any project with him fun.

**Tim Flynn** received the Chairman's Award, given by the Chapter Chair to honor a Mackinac Chapter member for long-term service. Growing up in the Gladwin area, Tim wondered what happened to the huge trees whose trunks were still around many decades after the lumber barons had cleared away the "King Pine." As an adult, Tim concluded that he needed to take action to bring those woods back. He has worked tirelessly to restore the native forests that once covered the state—attending hundreds of meetings, reading libraries full of scientific and administrative documents, submitting reams of comments and testimony, and training scores of people on how to do what he does. Tim's efforts are directly responsible for the discovery that the US Fish and Wildlife Service is violating the law in dispensing wildlife management funds in Michigan (see *Pittman*, p3). Like

*continued on next page*

**AWARDS**

*continued from page 10*

wise, his persistence has led to the Huron Mansitee National Forest's old growth designation process moving forward, and to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources finally adopting public input processes this year. Tim has worked to develop both voluntary and regulatory standards for private forest management, again emphasizing protection and restoration of biological diversity. As president of a lumber yard founded by his father, Tim has taken flak from both the timber industry, which considers him a defector, and a few self-styled environmental purists, who ignore his enormous effectiveness and just criticize him for selling wood. There is no doubt, however, that Michigan citizens today and for generations owe an enormous debt to Tim Flynn for ceaselessly fighting to restore and protect Michigan's remarkable forest heritage.

**Joanne Spatz** was given the Vince Smith Award, recognizing her outstanding contributions to the Sierra Club Outings Program. As SEMG's Outings Coordinator, she has worked cheerfully and diligently in the recruitment of outings leaders and scheduling and publicizing of outings events.

**John Pulver** and **Paula Ballast** received the Cougar Award, given to recognize outstanding efforts to educate students about Michigan's environment. John and Paula have worked tirelessly on the Western Michigan Group's Inner City Outings Program. Their program takes students from the ages of 8-17 on many types of outdoor activities, from day hikes and local river clean-ups to extended backpacking trips in the Upper Peninsula. \*

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SEE THE GROUPS MAP, PAGE 18, FOR MORE INFORMATION ON YOUR LOCAL GROUP.

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# MACKINAC CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## 1999 MEMBER-AT-LARGE ELECTIONS

### VOTE!

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.

Please vote for no more than four (4) candidates. 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. All ballots are due by December 10, 1999.

### SUE KELLY

#### Occupation

Gainfully unemployed as environmental activist, leader in local United Methodist Church, and homemaker.

#### Sierra Club committees, activities, & awards

- Current Mackinac Awards Chair and on Mackinac Membership, Conservation, and Political Committees
- Recently attended National SC Political Training and assisted with Chapter Autumn Retreat duties
- 1998 Mackinac Chapter Sylvania Award, 1994 Service Award

#### Offices held

- Mackinac Chapter Vice-Chair, Fifth Officer
- Mackinac Chapter At-large Member
- Crossroads Group Chair
- Crossroads Group Vice-Chair

#### Other Club-related activities

- Very active at the local level for the last 9 years
- Crossroads Group Chair, past 3 years
- Preservation of a local park threatened by developers
- Tightening up emissions from a local asphalt plant
- Planning and implementing Wild Corner, a new local initiative that seeks to encourage native landscapes on privately owned land

#### Hobbies and interests

My favorite pastime is spending time outdoors with my family and dogs. I love hiking, canoeing, music, antiques, reading, nature, and spirituality literature.

#### Goals the chapter should set for the next two years

We must help elect pro-environment candidates for President, Senator, and locally. We must do everything in our power to convince voters—the vast majority of who consider themselves environmentalists—that becoming politically active and informed is the greatest tool we have to insure the protections we seek. We should also focus on activating Sierra Club members who are waiting for an invitation to help further the environmental cause in Michigan.

#### How the chapter can achieve its purposes

Our Political Committee should be supported and fully represent all local Groups, and we should continue to build alliances with other like-minded organizations to share strengths. The Chapter should ensure access to the broad range of resources offered to local groups by the national Sierra Club for both political activity and membership. We need to recruit activists to the state level to expand current programs, and to have leadership/membership training available for new group officers after the first of the year.

### BARBARA YARROW

#### Occupation

Manager of Imaging and Multimedia Content at The Gale Group, an online and print reference publisher

#### Sierra Club committees, activities, & awards

- Publisher, SEMG Activist newsletter, 1997 to date
- Photography Editor, Sierra Club's Houston, Texas chapter Bayou Banner, 1991-92

#### Offices held

- Member, SEMG Executive Committee since 1998

#### Other Club-related activities

- Photographer for many local group events and conservation activities of the club

#### Hobbies and interests

I love hiking, camping, kayaking, backpacking, and gardening. I have also been a Utah Canyon Rock Art Expedition Earthwatch volunteer for the past two years (1998-99).

#### Goals the chapter should set for the next two years

We must continue to develop a more visible and respected presence in representing environmental issues on a statewide level. We should increase involvement at the group level—issues should escalate as necessary to the state level for funding and expertise support, but the point of contact should remain at a local level, managed by those who live with the issues at hand. We need to preserve wetlands, not exchange them. Even the pockets are disappearing, and man-made wetlands are not a solution. The same goes for undeveloped forests and open areas.

#### How the chapter can achieve its purposes

It is important for the chapter to develop a relationship with the media and to identify new avenues for informing citizens and political bodies of environmental issues. Does the state have a speaker's program? More interaction is needed between state and group levels and at all levels of local organization.

### JUDY THOMPSON

#### Occupation

Forensic Psychologist

#### Sierra Club committees, activities, & awards

- HVG Conservation Committee, 1994 to date
- Mackinac Chapter Conservation Committee, 1995 to date
- Volunteer leader and participant, multiple
- Chapter public and voter education campaigns

*continued on next page*



# VOTE!

- HVG Newcomer of the Year Award, 1994
- Conservation Accomplishment Award, 1995 and 1996
- Ken Langton Activist Development Award, 1996
- HVG Democracy in Action Award, 1996
- Mackinac Chapter Service Award, 1995
- Sylvania Award, 1996
- Ecology Center Certificate of Environmental Achievement, 1999

## Other Club-related activities

- Volunteer Coordinator for Washtenaw County Save our Land, Save our Future Campaign, 1998
- Lead Planner, Washtenaw County Tour de Sprawl, 1997

## Offices held

- HVG Conservation Chair, 1995-1996
- Mackinac Chapter Midwest Regional Conservation Committee Representative, 1996
- Conservation Committee Chair, July 1997 to date
- Mackinac Chapter Executive Committee, 1998 to date

## Hobbies and interests

Photography

## Goals the chapter should set for the next two years

I believe the chapter should have 3 main goals. First, we should work to maintain the fiscal integrity of the chapter. Our healthy financial status has permitted the chapter to maintain a high level of quality staff, continuity and success in our conservation priority activities, as well as greater service and support for group level activists. We should increase our efforts to raise funds specifically for litigation, an unfortunate necessity in assuring appropriate governmental oversight of our natural resources. Second, the chapter should focus its conservation efforts on political work during 2000. During key election years, conservation activity IS political activity. Next year, we have many opportunities to increase the number of environmentally conscious national and state elected officials. Finally, we should continue to nurture the grassroots nature of our organization—by expanding services, support, and communication with group-level activists and campaigns.

## How the chapter can achieve its purposes

To achieve the above goals, I would recommend the following: Plans for a large donor fundraising campaign have been in the works and should be moved forward. We should apply for voter education campaign funds from National and coordinate/prioritize our conservation and political activist energies for the fall 2000 elections. We should implement and critique our new conservation grants to group programs. We should continue to seek out both Club and outside funding sources for group-level campaigns. We should continue to offer training opportunities for group activists on priority campaigns, and assist groups in membership and activist recruitment.

## CAROL WARD

### Occupation

Retired Teacher

### Sierra Club committees, activities, & awards

- Three Lakes Group Executive Committee
- Active in monitoring and commenting on planning and decision making in Eastern Hiawatha National Forest
- Virginia Prentice Award, 1998

### Other Club-related activities

- Attended Sierra Club Training Academy
- Attended Michigan Forest Activist Workshop, 1998

## Hobbies and Interests

Gardening, cycling, beginning kayaking, and camping in State and National Parks in the southern United States in the winter. I have also been a participant in the Michigan Frog and Toad Survey.

## Goals the chapter should set for the next two years

We should increase each member's awareness of the importance of active participation—of what a difference one person can make—in group outings, projects, and meetings.

## How the chapter can achieve its purposes

We need to discover why members are passive, and find out what other Club chapters are doing to develop active, participating members. We should then generate strategies to encourage active participation, and provide outlines of these strategies to each group for increasing member participation. We could possibly develop a workshop for this purpose.

## FRED TOWNSEND

### Occupation

Retired telephone company engineer

### Sierra Club committees, activities, & awards

- Member of Chapter Conservation and Political Committees
- Collected Mackinac Chapter Raffle returns for two years
- Represented Chapter in Washington during Population Lobby Week, 1996
- Chapter Sylvania Award, 1997
- Certificate of Appreciation for more than 15 years of membership (Member since 1970)

### Other Club-related activities

- Stream monitoring
- Manning street festival booths
- Political campaigning
- Newsletter distribution
- 3 Pictured Rocks Service Outings

### Offices held

- Nepeessing Group Vice Chair for more than five years
- Group Representative for two years
- Chapter Member-at-Large for two years
- Chapter Secretary for past three years

### Hobbies and interests

I enjoy the study of ecology and natural history, especially ornithology and botany. I have taken six related college courses since retirement. Flying is a hobby—especially using the plane to observe suburban sprawl and the state of the environment. Birding, backpacking, hiking, skiing, and traveling are wonderful to appreciate the natural world.

## Goals the chapter should set for the next two years

We should work to restore an environmentally-inclined government in Michigan. We need to teach every citizen how utterly detrimental continued human population growth and over-consumption is to clean air, clean water, biodiversity, suburban sprawl, and quality of life "for our families, for our future".

## How the chapter can achieve its purposes

We need to get every Sierra Club member activate in the political process. In spite of the cynicism surrounding politics these days, the way to get things done is through the ballot box. The way to get Sierrans involved is by person-to-person influence. If every person were encouraged to do something for environmentally friendly candidates in upcoming political campaigns and to get out the vote, we would not only have a state at the top of the environmental quality listing but have representation in DC that would initiate and support the Sierra Club mission "to explore, enjoy, and protect the planet." \*

# ENVIRONMENTAL LITIGATION: STATE AND INDUSTRY SUE TO BLOCK CLEAN AIR REGULATIONS

BY CHRIS BZDOK

Whether you're an environmentalist or a captain of industry, we all breathe the same air. Because keeping that air safe to breathe is such an important job, the Supreme Court has said the Clean Air Act makes the federal government and the states "partners in the struggle against air pollution."

That partnership appears to have broken down, however. Last October, Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality teamed up with other states and dozens of industry groups to try and block the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from implementing new regulations meant to reduce the wind-blown transport of harmful ozone-causing pollutants across state lines. The Washington DC Circuit Court of Appeals will hear the case in November, and the court's ruling, good or bad, will affect all of us in a way we simply can't avoid.

The states and industry challenged an EPA rule calling on states to come up with a plan for reducing emissions of nitrogen oxides, sometimes referred to as "NOx." On warm summer days, NOx compounds combine with chemicals called volatile organic compounds, or "VOCs," to form ozone. Besides creating ugly smog, ozone causes breathing difficulties and harms the immune system. Ozone's effects are particularly bad for the elderly, children, and people with asthma, but more recent studies have shown that ozone actually damages lung tissue, harming everyone who breathes it in to some extent.

The EPA regulates ozone, like other Clean Air Act pollutants, by setting health-

based standards for its concentration in ambient air. The EPA then requires states to develop implementation plans, describing how they are going to attain those concentrations.

The problem was, many eastern states could not develop plans that would meet the EPA's ozone standard because of the

*Whose interest does our state government think it is representing when it sues the EPA to protect industries from reducing emissions of pollutants into the air we all have to breathe?*

amounts of NOx that were blowing into their borders from states upwind of them. This kind of interstate airborne transport is addressed by a provision of the Clean Air Act, which says that one state cannot "contribute significantly" to another state's inability to attain an ambient air quality standard for a pollutant such as ozone.

The EPA and the states created a task force to study the problem in 1995, and in 1998 the EPA issued a rule calling on 23 "upwind" states, including Michigan, to develop a plan to reduce their NOx emissions by certain amounts by the year 2007. The way the EPA determined the amount of NOx reduction required by each state was fairly complex. They grouped the states into regions, calculated amounts of NOx by which the region needed to reduce its emissions, and then created a "NOx budget" for

each state in the region. To determine a state's NOx budget within the region, the EPA relied largely on the costs of compliance. A state's NOx budget was the level of emissions left after the state reduced any emissions it could reduce by instituting controls costing \$2,000 or less per ton of NOx reduced.

After the rule calling for state plans was issued, Michigan led the other states and industry to the courthouse, filing a petition to overturn the rule. One of their main arguments was that the EPA's use of compliance costs was not a rational way to determine what was a "significant contribution" under the Clean Air Act. The EPA responded that it did not use cost to determine what was a significant contribution; instead, they determined significant contributions on a region-wide basis and used cost to mitigate the burden of compliance on each individual state.

The states and industry have asked the court to prevent the EPA from enforcing the deadline for the states to submit their plans until the case is decided. The court's ultimate ruling on the NOx rule is hard to predict. For now, however, the more pressing question is whose interest our state government thinks it is representing when it sues the EPA to protect industries from reducing emissions of pollutants into the air we all have to breathe. ❄

*Club member Chris Bzdok is an attorney with Olson, Noonan & Bzdok, P.C., a Traverse City firm with a statewide practice in environmental law.*

## TOURS DE SPRAWL continued from page 7



Ridge. From this one area Kent County produces 25% of Michigan's apples and contributes \$500 million annually to the local economy. We then proceeded "back to the city" to see some downtown revitalization, which has its own specific concerns—the revitalization is displacing low-income residents of the previously existing neighborhood. We wrapped up our 2 1/2-hour tour by dividing 100 white pine seedlings (the state tree) among all the participants, so we could all add a little green to our own communities.

The Grand Rapids Press, the Paper Publication, Fox 17, Channel

13-ABC, and Public Television partook in the tour with most of the other local media doing interviews prior to the event. Even with a nice sampling of media, we had to compete with the "big game"—we knew MSU & Michigan were squaring off that afternoon, but we had no idea they would both be coming to the game undefeated 5-0! So instead of the game being only in the sports section, it opened the news, then showed up halfway through the news, and then ended the news. Yet despite competing forces of fog, poison ivy, and the "big game," our participants loved the Tour and it was a wonderful success. ❄



# WILDERNESS SKILLS: A FIELD GUIDE CAN ENHANCE YOUR NEXT TRIP

BY MICHAEL A. NEIGER, P.H.D.

Central Upper Peninsula Group

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Think back to your last wilderness trip. Did you wonder if that old-growth tree you stumbled across was a white pine or a hemlock? When you stopped for lunch, did your partner ask if you were sitting on poison ivy? Was that weasel-like animal you saw at dusk a pine marten or a fisher? If you've ever wanted to know more about the flora and fauna you see in the field, it's probably time to start carrying a comprehensive field guide. I know what you're thinking: You're not going to lug all your nature guides into the woods since they're too heavy. If you're like me, you've probably got separate field guides for insects, mammals, trees, shrubs, wetlands, wildflowers, reptiles, amphibians, birds, etc. There is a solution though, if you're willing to make do with a little less information. Simply carry one of the single-volume field guides that are currently available.

My favorite is the National Audubon Society Nature Guide entitled "Eastern Forests," by Ann Sutton and Myron Sutton (\$19.95; 638 pp.; ISBN 0-394-73126-3; Knopf, 1-800-733-3000). Of all the single-volume guides I've come across, this one seems to have the most color plates—618—which is vital for identification purposes. It does a good job of detailing trees, wildflowers, birds, mammals, and insects in the eastern forests and woodlands from Hudson Bay to Florida. And it has separate discussions of the different forest types. The information about boreal forests, transition forests, and mixed deciduous forests will be of particular interest to Michigan-area trippers.

Another excellent all-in-one guide is the Peterson Field Guide entitled "Eastern Forests," by John Kricher (\$19.00; 488 pp.; ISBN 0-395-92895-8; Houghton Mifflin, 1-800-225-3362). This ecology-based guide focuses on helping you interpret the complex web of nature around you. Instead of focusing simply on identification alone, this guide examines how plants and animals

***I know what you're thinking: You're not going to lug all your nature guides into the woods since they're too heavy. There is a solution though, if you're willing to make do with a little less information.***



interact. To this end, it has sections on various eastern forest communities, ecological succession, and adaptation. For me, though, the most unique and informative part of this guide is its seasonal approach to examining the environment around us. Chapters six, seven, and eight discuss how nature changes throughout the year, how it evolves from season to season. You'll learn what's happening (or not happening) during the spring, summer, fall, and winter.

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Once you've purchased your field guide, protect it from the elements by carrying it in a heavy-duty, gallon-size, zip-lock bag. While both of these books are too big and heavy to comfortably carry in a pocket, both will fit nicely in a belt pack or backpack. Place a few of those "self-sticking" notes in your guidebook too—they'll come in handy as bookmarks in the field. \*

*Michael Neiger is Central Upper Peninsula Group trip leader and an avid wilderness tripper who welcomes your comments and opinions. Write to him at 309 South 3rd Street, Suite 202, Marquette, Michigan, 49855, or via e-mail at [mneiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mneiger@hotmail.com).*

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## REPUBLICANS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (REP) SEEKS TO RESTORE BIPARTISAN SUPPORT FOR CONSERVATION

BY JUDY THOMPSON

*Chair, Chapter Conservation Committee*

Earlier this year, Mackinac Chapter staff and volunteers met representatives of a new organization, Republicans for Environmental Protection (REP), at the annual Michigan Environmental Council's (MEC) legislative breakfast.

REP was founded in 1995 in response to the anti-environmental zeal of the 104th Congress. REP is a national organization with a growing number of active state chapters. The mission of REP is to ensure that Republican leaders, elected officials in Congress, and state legislatures know that Republican voters want conservation to be restored as a bipartisan issue.

Polls have repeatedly shown that most Americans consider themselves to be environmentalists. It is no surprise, then, that a

grassroots organization such as REP would emerge in the face of Republican-lead attacks on the quality of our air, water, and wild places.

A visit to the REP website at [www.rep.org](http://www.rep.org) reveals that this group is serious in their mission. They are proud of the role of Republican leaders such as Teddy Roosevelt, Barry Goldwater, and Richard Nixon in establishing our National Park system, the Clean Water and Air Acts, the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and the Environmental Protection Agency. One of the papers currently posted on the website is "The Great 'Environment Versus Economy' Myth," by John R. E. Bliese, Ph.D.

REP's Michigan Chapter is a member of the MEC and supports "an aggressive ap-

proach to protecting endangered species," a requirement that "all coal-fired power plants...meet modern environmental standards while making investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy sources," and the "establishment of a Citizens Oversight Board, with the power to regulate the DEQ and offering full public participation."

The coordinator of REP's Michigan Chapter is Tamilyn Sanderson of Petoskey. She can be reached at 231-348-2685 or by e-mail at [sirdufus@freeway.net](mailto:sirdufus@freeway.net). The Southeast Michigan REP co-coordinator is Don Perkins of Mt. Clemens.

New Michigan members are needed! Mackinac Chapter Republicans are encouraged to investigate and consider joining this organization. \*

## NEPESSING GROUP ENDORSES SCOTT KINCAID FOR MAYOR

The Nepessing Group endorsed candidate Scott Kincaid in the November 2 mayoral race in Flint. The lengthy process involved candidate questionnaires and interviews; ratification by the Nepessing Group and its Political Committee; the Chapter Political Committee; and the Chapter Executive Committee.

Scott Kincaid has demonstrated his commitment to the environment. He served on the Flint City Council for 14 years and for the past four as Council President. In his campaign, he has solicited Sierra Club input. He recently announced his viable plan for curbside recycling. In public debates, he initiated discussion about other systemic environmental problems affecting Flint.

Kincaid, in a three-hour interview with the Nepessing Group Political Committee, discussed in depth the following issues concerning Flint: recycling, bicycling paths, Americlean, McKinley Park, and the Windiate Park toxic cleanup of several years ago. We also discussed the massive sewer spill into the Flint River and the pending Environmental Protection Agency fine. The current administration refuses to acknowledge its responsibility in the negligence that resulted in millions of gallons of raw sewage that polluted the Flint River and all the watershed leading to Lake Huron, the source of our drinking water. Considering his record and our specific questions, Kincaid demonstrated his depth of knowledge and understanding of local environmental issues to our satisfaction.

We are pleased to support this friend of the environment. \*

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## CHAPTER LAUNCHES GROUP CONSERVATION GRANT FUND

BY JUDY THOMPSON  
Chair, Chapter Conservation Committee

The Chapter Executive Committee is happy to announce the establishment of a Group Conservation Grant Fund. The purpose of the Fund is to strengthen the relationship between the Chapter and local groups by providing limited financial assistance for projects that encourage effective priority issues, campaign planning, and activist/member development.

Beginning December 1999 the chapter will accept applications, approved by group ExComs, for grants up to 40% of the total Fund. Details of the Fund policy, procedures, and applications are currently being sent to Group Chairs and Group Conservation Chairs.

Grant funds may be used for a range of campaign activities, including printing and development of public education materials; refreshments and postage for training events; public forums or other media events such as Tours de Sprawl; donations to local ballot initiatives; etc.

The Three Lakes Group used such a small grant (under \$500) from the Lake Superior Alliance to produce public education materials for and to conduct a hazardous waste collection event in October 1998. The event was such a success that other donors have come forward to fund the event in the future. \*



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# 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 email:**  
[president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)

## US CONGRESS

**US Capitol Switchboard:** (202) 224-3121

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
**US House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
**US Senate**  
Washington, DC 20510

## MICHIGAN

**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

## RESOURCES FOR ACTIVISTS

**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 email to: [majordomo@great-lakes.net](mailto: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](http://www.sierraclub.org). Check out the daily *War On the Environment* postings.
- Find our **New, Improved Mackinac Chapter Web Page**, by Davina Pallone + designwrench information arts, at: [www.sierraclub.org/chapters/mi](http://www.sierraclub.org/chapters/mi)
- 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.

# 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 at 517-484-2372.

## CMG Central Michigan Group

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

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

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

## CUP Central Upper Peninsula Group

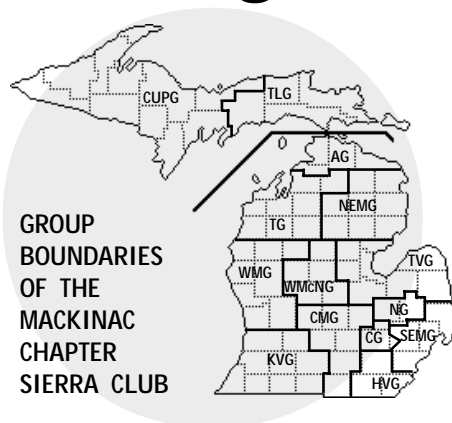
Sierra Club members in the central and western counties in the Upper Peninsula are invited to participate in CUP group activities. General membership and executive committee meetings are held in West Science, Room 270, on the Northern Michigan University campus at 7 pm. For information call John Rebers,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

To receive news about outings or other Sierra Club activities in the Central Upper Peninsula, 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 7 pm and are open to the public.

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



GROUP  
BOUNDARIES  
OF THE  
MACKINAC  
CHAPTER  
SIERRA CLUB

The Executive Committee meets on the last Wednesday of the month. Call Rick Pearsall at 810-227-6298 for details.

## HVG Huron Valley Group

The General Meetings of the Huron Valley Group of the Sierra Club are held 7:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the UM Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor. For more information call 313-665-7345.

**1/16** General Meeting: Keith Hafner of Keith Hafner's Karate and HVG outing leaders will give a presentation on "Protecting yourself from Cold, Creatures, and Creeps".

**12/21** General Meeting: This is our annual members slide show and potluck. Bring 10 slides from a recent trip or event to share with the group. The slide show will be preceded by a potluck at 6:30 pm. Bring a dish to pass and utensils.

**1/18** General Meeting: Susan Todd of the Washtenaw County Dept. of Solid Waste will present on "Recycling in Washtenaw County".

## KVG Kalamazoo Valley Group

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

The Executive Committee meets 7:30 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month and all members are welcome. Contact Verne and Cindy Mills at 610-344-4279 for more information.

**11/18** 7:30 pm at KVCC Texas Twp Campus, Room 2580. Do you like to read? Are you interested in books about wild places and animals, natural history, envi-

ronmentalism, etc.? Join the group! The Kalamazoo Valley Book Discussion Group, that is. Bring books or a list of books that you would like to read and share with others. We will discuss the setting-up of a regularly scheduled discussion group. Call Karen at 616-948-8840 for more details.

**1/21** (Fri) Potluck Dinner and Hawaii Slide Program at Rus & Ann Hollister's home, 10836 N 22nd St (between Plainwell & Parchment), 6:30 pm. Bring a dish to pass & pretend you're in the tropics instead of the winter cold. For more info call Rus & Ann at 616-685-2301.

## NG Nepessing Group

Meetings are held 6:30 pm the 2nd Wednesday each month at Mott Community College, in the "New Students" Prahl 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. For details, call Sherry Hayden at 810-767-9904.

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](http://www.gfn.org/sierrang).

The Nepessing Group weekly hiking schedule is available at 810-743-0335 or on the 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 at 517-484-2372.

## SEMG Southeast Michigan Group

General membership meetings are held 7:30 pm on the 1st Thursday of each month, Sept. through June, at North-west Unitarian-Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Hwy (southbound M-10 service drive) between Southfield and Evergreen roads and Nine and Ten Mile roads

*continued on next page*

**GROUP MEETINGS & PROGRAMS***continued from page 18*

in Southfield. Contact Cindy Gunnip at 248-336-2984 for meeting information.

The Executive Committee meets 7:30 pm the 2nd Tuesday of each month at St. John's Episcopal Church, Woodward and 11-mile Rd, Royal Oak. Contact Anna Holden, Chairperson, for information at 313-331-0932.

Conservation Committee meetings are held 7:30 pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month at St. John's Episcopal Church. Parking in back of the church, south of 11 Mile Road. For information call Ed McArdle, 313-388-6645.

Outings Committee: Contact Phil Crookshank if you are interested in planning or leading outings. 313-562-1873.

Political Action to support pro-environment legislation, state and national. Contact Tim Killeen, Political Action Committee Chair, at 313-526-4052.

**11/4** General Membership Meeting: Mr. Jerry Sadowski from Adary Appliance

will present a program on selecting optics.

**12/2** Annual Holiday Party/Potluck

**1/6** Laurie Schutt, a naturalist from The NaturePlace at Cranbrook Institute of Science, will present a program on bats.

**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 on the 1st Wednesday of the month from Sept-through May at the Walker Cisler Center on the campus of Lake Superior State University. For information call Floyd Byerly at 906-632-0218.

**TVG****Thumb Valley Group**

No group meetings planned at this time. Please call the group chairs Craig and Janis Kendziorski at 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 the Outings section on page 20 for some 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 at 517-484-2372.

**WMG****West Michigan Group**

Meetings are held 7 pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Kent Community Hospital meeting room. Everyone welcome! Call Marty Lore at 517-682-1316 for further details.\*

## Environmental Fund for Michigan: Your Workplace Can Participate

**Preserve the land, clean the lakes, and clear the air—all in a good day's work.**

The Environmental Fund for Michigan (EFM) is a non-profit federation of 20 environmental and conservation organizations, including the Mackinac Chapter of the Sierra Club. The Environmental Fund is an alternative workplace giving fund. Employers with employee payroll deduction campaigns can participate in EFM campaigns, and through EFM campaigns, workplace donations help support the important work of Michigan environmental groups.

**If you would like information about how your workplace can include the Environmental Fund for Michigan in your annual employee campaign, please call 1-800-386-3326.**

**THE MACKINAC CHAPTER WEB PAGE**

Your online information source about environmental issues, current action alerts, outings, and lots of ways to get involved.

Find links to your state legislators, important state environmental agencies, and other sources of environmental information.

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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

**11/2 NG (Tue) Holly Rec.** Jossman Rd. 10 am, 4 miles or more. Holly Rec. Jossman Rd. parking lot (Grange Hall Rd. to Jossman Rd. south to second parking lot on west side). Lunch maybe. Mike Keeler, 810-767-9904.

▲ **11/5-11/7 CUP Backpacking: Otsego & Montmorency Co.** (See sidebar, p21, for info)

**11/6 NG (Sat.) Hogback Hills Hike, Davison.** Maybe some new trails. 10 am, 8 miles. Can be both day & weekend outing. Contact Bill if interested in weekend outing (camping in woods?). Restaurant stop. Bill Somers, 810-653-0867.

**11/6 KVG (Sat) See thousands of Sandhill Cranes at our Outing to Jasper-Pulaski Game Area, Indiana.** Meet at 1 pm at the I-94/Oakland Dr commuter lot for carpooling. Dress Warm! We plan to get to the game area around 4 pm to have time to look around a bit before the cranes start coming in. Dinner stop on the way back if folks are interested. Verne & Cindy, 616-344-4279.

**11/7 HVG Parker Mill Hike.** Hike the boardwalk along Fleming Creek in this fairly new park and then continue on to Gallup Park. Meet at the Parker Mill parking lot off Geddes Road east of US23. Kathy Guerreso, 734-994-7183.

**11/7 SEMG Oakwoods Metropark Hike.** Come and visit the interesting Nature Center at this park, and walk through the Big Trees along the mighty Huron River. We will walk about 4 miles, with a short bushwhack off trail to view the mountains of incinerator ash at the landfill bordering the park. A short explanation of the results of incineration will follow. Meet at noon behind the Dearborn Civic Center, (SW corner of Michigan Ave. and Greenfield,

east end of parking lot) next to King Boring ball field in Dearborn. Restaurant stop afterwards. Ed McArdle, 313-388-6645.

▲ **11/8-12 NG Everglades Canoe & Camp.** 10 am. We'll meet in a state park near the Everglades and camp for 5 days via car and canoe. Limit 12. Carpooling encouraged. Cindy Engelmann, 810-743-0335.

**11/13 NG (Sat.) Murphy Lake Hike.** 10 am, 6 miles. 4 miles east of Millington on Millington Rd., across from Mt. Kotarski sign. (M-15 to only traffic light in Millington, turn east.) Restaurant stop. No carpooling. Sue Morris, 810-232-3532.

**11/14 HVG Tom's Terrific Bushwhack.** A rugged off-trail hike for fitness mavens and exercise buffs. Wear hiking boots and bring a snack. Wear bright colors. Meet at the Ann Arbor City Hall parking lot at 1 pm to carpool. Tom, 734-428-0887.

**11/14 SEMG Maybury State Park Hike.** Check out this nearby park with remarkable features for such an urbanized area: maple and beech woods, working farm, fishing lake, horse trails. Hike 2-3 hours at a moderate pace. Meet at 1 pm at the park concession bldg, entrance is on Eight Mile Rd. just west of Beck Rd. and Northville, 5 miles west of I-275. Optional restaurant stop after. Max Nemazi, 734-421-4397.

**11/17 NG (Sat.) Stony Creek Metro Park West Trails Hike.** 10 am, 4.5 miles. Take I-69 east to M-53 south to 26 Mile Rd., west to park entrance. Follow Park Rd. to West Branch Picnic Area. Park in Lot B. Metro Park vehicle permit or \$3 per vehicle. Restaurant stop. Dick Groomes, 810-724-7812.

**11/20 NG (Sat.) Hike Schedule Meeting.** 10 am. Flint Public Library, 1026 E. Kearsley, Flint. Hike the Flint River Trail at 1 pm. Bring lunch or grab something between meeting & hike. Meet at City Farmers Market parking lot at 420 East Boulevard Dr., Flint. Six miles round trip. Cindy Engelmann, 810-743-0335.

**11/21 SEMG Holly State Recreation Area Hike.** We will hike 5-6 miles over varied terrain, some quite hilly, stopping to ID items that catch the leader's fancy. Deer hunting

season will be on so wear your brightest togs. Meet at 11 am behind the Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph and Twelve Mile Rd. in Southfield, or at noon at the park overlook picnic area. (follow signs at entrance). Optional restaurant stop after. Joanne Spatz, 248-932-5370.

**11/28 SEMG Independence Oaks Hike.** This will be a moderate to brisk early winter hike. The colder it is, the brisker the pace. We will hike 3 miles of the hilly trails west of Crooked Lake. No hunting here in this Metro park so just dress for the weather. Meet at 10:45 am on the west side of the Meijer parking lot (near Rochester Road) and Auburn in Troy, just north of M-59, or at 11:30 am in the parking lot adjacent to the Park Nature Center. Optional restaurant stop after. Mary Stoolmiller, 248-738-5595.

## DECEMBER

▲ **12/3-12/5 CUP Winter-Camping: Otsego Co.** (See sidebar, p21, for info)

**12/4 NG (Sat.) Holly North.** Light to medium hike. 10 am, 6.5 miles. Groveland Township Hall, 4695 Grange Hall Rd., Holly, east of Mt. Holly. Restaurant stop. No carpooling. Sue Morris, 810-232-3532.

**12/4 HVG Hidden Lake Gardens Hike.** A leisurely hike and then enjoy the Christmas bazaar and evening luminaries. Meet at the Ann Arbor City Hall parking lot at 3 pm to carpool. Kathy Guerreso, 734-994-7183.

**12/5 SEMG Sleepy Hollow State Park Hike.** Located NE of Lansing, this park has varied terrain, woods, open fields, and a lake. It's a good spot for a fairly level but interesting 5-6 mile hike. Optional restaurant stop after. Meet at 10 am in the Costco parking lot near McDonald's on Telegraph north of Square Lake Rd. in West Bloomfield. John Kalam, 810-681-9160.

**12/11 NG (Sat.) Ligon Outdoor Center.** Annual Christmas Sierra Club potluck. 1-6 pm. 5213 E Farrand Rd. Clio. Christmas Party. Potluck Dinner. Takes place of December membership meeting. Denny Crispell, 517-624-5038.

*continued on next page*



**OUTINGS***continued from page 20*

**12/11 SEMG (Sat) Outings Holiday Potluck and Scheduling Meeting.** Open to everyone interested in doing or learning about outings. Join us for a fun filled, casual, holiday dinner at 6 pm. (Bring a dish to pass). Planning meeting at 7 pm. How to find us? You are on Square Lake Rd. at Rochester Rd. in Troy. Go east to 1st street on the left. (Walker Dr.) Turn north, 1.5 blks. on the left side, 6143 Walker Dr., Mary Stoolmiller's house. 248-879-6004.

**12/12 SEMG Waterloo Wanderings.** You might think we're going in circles as I lead a series of loops from the Geology Center in Waterloo State Recreation Area. With a 4" snow cover, we should see lots of animal tracks on this 6-mile hike. Wear lug-soled boots for traction; optional restaurant stop after. Meet at 9:30 am in the Wal Mart parking lot (near Jeffries) on the SW corner of Middlebelt and I-96 (Jeffries Fwy.) in Livonia, or 10:30 at the Center. Philip Crookshank, 313-562-1873; Tom and Alice Griebe, 248-349-8782.

**12/12 NG (Sun.) Otter Lake Hike, Murphy Lake State Game Area.** 1:30 pm, 4 miles. From the corner of M-57 and M-15 in Otisville go north on M-15 2.8 miles to Willard Road. Go east 2.6 miles. Left at fork 0.1 mile to

trailhead parking lot on left. Restaurant stop after hike. Cindy Engelmann, 810-743-0335.

**12/18 NG (Sat.) Silver Valley Trails Hike, Oscoda.** Meet at carpool lot in Clio across from Big Boy restaurant at 9 am. Restaurant stop. Denny Crispell, 517-624-5038.

**12/19 SEMG Stoney Creek Stroll.** Take a day off walking the malls and join us on the trails at Stoney Creek Metropark. Enjoy a day out in the fresh air, away from the crowds. We will be looking for winter birds near the Nature Center, and for deer prints along the trails. Meet at noon at 16 Mile Rd. (Metro Pkwy) and Van Dyke, (SE corner) in the SMART parking lot. Park entrance fee. Optional restaurant stop afterwards. Lee Becker, 810-294-7789.

**12/23 NG (Thurs.) Mott Lake Hike.** 11 am, 10 miles. Meet at Genesee County Parks & Recreation office at 5045 E Stanley Rd., Flint (corner of Genesee Rd.). Bring trail snacks. Restaurant stop. Cindy Engelmann, 810-743-0335.

**12/26 SEMG Indian Springs Metro Park Hike.** Avoid the mall crowds, alluring bargains, and work off some holiday feasting on this mid-winter, 4-5 mile hike. Meet at the park nature center at 1 pm. Entrance is on White Lake Rd, 3 miles north of M-59 and 7 miles west of M-24. Park entrance fee. Beverly

Fogelson, 248-280-4975.

**JANUARY**

**1/1 (Sat.) SEMG New Year Potluck and Hike.** Meet at 11 am behind the Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SW corner of 12 Mile and Telegraph in Southfield for carpooling to Tom and Pat Skinner's home near Howell. Bring a dish to share; our hosts will provide turkey and soft drinks. About 2 pm, after dinner, we will head to nearby Brighton State Rec Area for a 4-5 mile hilly hike. Maps to Skinners will be provided at carpooling location. 517-552-9121.

**1/9 SEMG Heritage Park Hike.** See a treasure in our own backyard. Spend 2-3 hours exploring this Farmington Hills park and be encompassed by gentle hills, streamside vistas, and wooded trails along a branch of the Rouge river. The park is on the west side of Farmington Road between 10 & 11 Mile. Meet at 12:30 pm in the visitor center parking lot (left at the first road). Optional restaurant stop afterwards. Tom LaFramboise, 734-464-7899.

▲ **1/14-1/17 CUP Snowshoe Winter-Camping: Otsego Co.** (See sidebar, below, for info)

**1/16 HVG Silver Lake Outing.** If there is snow be prepared for cross country skiing. If

*see OUTINGS page 22*

# LOOKING AHEAD:

**CUP WILDERNESS TRIPS WITH MICHAEL NEIGER**

**11/5-11/7 Backpacking: High Country Pathway, Otsego & Montmorency Counties.** 40 km moderate paced on-trail trek, easy terrain, elk country. Good trip for late-season 20° hiker.

**12/3-12/5 Winter-camping: Shingle Mill Pathway, Otsego County.** 26 km moderate paced on/off-trail snowshoe trek, varied terrain, elk country. Good trip for 10° hiker.

**1/14-1/17 Winter-camping: Green Timbers Tract, Otsego County.** 25 km moderate paced on/off-trail snowshoe trek, varied terrain, elk country. Good trip for minus 20° hiker.

**2/11-2/14 Winter-camping: Peat Mountain, Lake Superior Provincial Park, Ontario, Canada.** 20 km off-trail snowshoe trek. Moderate pace over potentially difficult terrain under extreme conditions. Good trip for adventurous, minus 40° hiker.

Unless otherwise noted, trips start at 8 am Friday, \$10 donation to CUP welcomed, limit 6. Camping is in the wilderness—no campgrounds or basecamps. Suitable for non-smoking intermediate-level hiker who's physically fit, adventurous, fully equipped (w/ food), & who likes to travel and camp in foul weather. For equipment list, registration form, & details, contact Michael Neiger at 906-226-9620 (nights), 906-228-2683 (days), or via e-mail at mneiger@hotmail.com.

**CUP OUTINGS WITH DAVE BOS**

**9/9-17, 2000 Kings Canyon Service Outing.** Trail construction on the Bubbs Creek Trail high in the Sierras, building rock structures. Camp in an alpine meadow at 9,000 ft. Backpack 9 miles each way with 4,000 ft. elevation change. Five days of trail work, two days of backpacking, and one recreation day with optional hike. Group gear provided, personal gear available with advance request. Fee: \$50, group size: 8. An advanced outing with leader approval required. Contact: trailbos@bresnanlink.net or 906-228-6744.

**4/20-26, 2000 Zion/Bryce Canyons in Southwest Utah.** An informal outing in Southwest Utah with camping at drive-in campgrounds and day-hiking in the canyons. This will be a fun, easy-going outing with lots of options and a flexible itinerary. Contact: trailbos@bresnanlink.net or 906-228-6744. (*Editor's note: I'll be there! -d.*)\*

**OUTINGS**

*continued from page 21*

the ice is thick enough be prepared to skate. Otherwise, we will hike to Pickerel Lake and back. Meet at the Ann Arbor City Hall parking lot at 1 pm to carpool or at Silver Lake parking lot by 1:30 pm. Milton French, 313-295-6321.

**1/16 SEMG University of Michigan Arboretum.** SEMG hasn't hiked this lovely area in decades. The wooded hills and ravines above the Huron remind one of mountain hideaways. We'll do 5 miles of appetite-building and then off to an optional restaurant stop in Ann Arbor's Kerrytown. Meet at noon behind the Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SW corner of 12 Mile and Telegraph in Southfield. John Kalam, 248-681-9160.

**▲ 1/21-23 HVG Sleeping Bear Ski Weekend.** Ski the trails of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Seashore and enjoy lake effect snow and warm cabins at night. All experience levels welcome. Joan Paskewitz, 734-428-0887 for information and reservations.

**1/23 SEMG Kensington Metropark Hike.** Hike away your winter blahs. Dress warmly, wear boots, and whistle while you tromp through the woods for 4-5 miles. Optional restaurant stop after. Meet at 1 pm at the Kensington Park Nature Center. Beverly and Marshall Fogelson, 248-280-4975.

**▲ 1/28-30 HVG MacMullan Conference Center Ski Weekend.** Spend 2 nights at the conference center on Higgins Lake near Roscommon and ski the numerous trails in the area. Good food and accommodations in a beautiful setting. Trip limit of 12. Barb Schumacher, 734-994-5456 for reservations.

**1/30 SEMG Dodge Park Hike.** Enjoy a brisk 6-mile hike in a lovely, level metropolitan oasis. We will share the paved path with bikers, bladers, skiers, and buggies, depending on the weather! Laggards are welcome and can trail behind. Meet at 10 am at 16 Mile (Metro Parkway) and Van Dyke (SE corner) in the SMART parking lot between the two banks. Optional restaurant stop afterward. June Cox, 248-435-9522.

**FEBRUARY**

**2/6 SEMG Addison Oaks Cross-Country Skiing.** This 2-3 hour trip to northern Oakland County is designed for advanced beginners or intermediates. Ski rentals available. Bring lunch or buy one from the snack bar. If no snow, we will hike at another park—call if weather is doubtful. Meet at 11 am in the Meijer parking lot (Rochester Road and Auburn in Troy, just north of M-59) at the west end. Mary Stoolmiller, 248-879-6004. )

**▲ 2/11-2/14 CUP Snowshoe Winter-Camp-**

**ing: Canada** (See sidebar, p21, for info)

**2/13 SEMG Highland Rec. Area Cross-Country Ski.** We will ski the beautiful, rolling hills at Highland, which are for intermediate skiing ability. Call if ski conditions are doubtful, and we will hike the trails. Meet at 10 am behind the Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SW corner of 12 mile and Telegraph in Southfield. Restaurant stop after. Lydia Fischer, 313-863-8392.

**2/20 SEMG Heritage Park Hike.** We'll take advantage of this rolling urban gem in nearby Farmington Hills just in case the weather is nasty. Hike 2-3 hours depending on conditions. The park is on the west side of Farmington Rd. between 10 & 11 Mile Rd. Meet at 12:30 pm in the visitor center parking lot (left at the first road). Optional restaurant stop after. Don Dahlin, 248-644-2746.

**2/27 SEMG Pointe Pelee Ice Hike.** Join the 9th annual ice hike in Ontario. We are hoping for mounds of breaking-up Lake Erie 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 at 9:30 am at Ontario Tourist Info. Center 3/4 mile South of the Ambassador Bridge on Route 3, Huron Church Road. Optional restaurant stop at The Dock in

*continued on next page*

# 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



**OUTINGS**

*continued from page 22*

Leamington after. Bring border-crossing ID. Bridge fees \$4.50. Park admission fee @ \$8. Liz Allingham, 313-581-7579.

**MARCH**

**3/12 SEMG Brighton Recreation Area Hike.**

Join us on a medium-to quick-paced hilly hike in this moderately hilly locale. Be prepared for snowy or wet patches. Wear sturdy foot gear; bring water, trail snacks, dress for the weather. Meet at noon behind the Marathon station at Telegraph and 12 Mile Rd. (Tel-12 Mall) in Southfield. Optional restaurant stop after. Mike Scanlon, 313-884-2214.

**3/19 SEMG Belle Isle Hike.**

Greet Spring at our unique island park. Bring binoculars, if you have them, to check out the duck population. It will be windy but trip goes rain, snow, or shine. Bring a trail snack. Optional restaurant stop after. Meet 10 am behind the Michigan Nat'l Bank on 14 Mile Rd. just east of I-75 (south edge of Oakland Mall) in Troy, or 10:45 at the island nature center. John Hergott, 248-643-4767 evenings.

**3/26 SEMG Orion Oaks County Park Hike.**

Let's get ready for spring—maybe we'll find some early signs on this nice, slow-paced excursion in Oakland County. Bring trail snack, water. Optional restaurant stop after. Meet at 12:30 pm behind the Michigan Nat'l Bank on 14 Mile Rd. just east of I-75 (south edge of Oakland Mall) in Troy. Lee Becker, 810-294-7789.

**APRIL**

**4/9 SEMG Maumee River Towpath Hike.**

Come join us for a walk on the historical towpath along the lovely Maumee River south of Toledo. Bring a lunch. Meet at 1 pm behind the Dearborn Civic Center (SW corner of Michigan and Greenfield) at the east end of parking lot, next to King Boring ball field. John and Margaret Mellen, 313-563-5961.

**4/20-26 CUP Zion/Bryce Canyons.** (See sidebar, p21, for info)

**SEPTEMBER 2000**

**▲ 9/9-17 CUP Kings Canyon Service Outing.** Advanced reservations required. (See sidebar, p21, for info) \*

**VOTE!**

*For your Executive Committee.  
See page 12!*

**SIERRA CLUB MACKINAC CHAPTER DIRECTORY**

**MACKINAC CHAPTER OFFICE**

300 North Washington Square, Suite 411  
Lansing, MI 48933  
Phone: 517-484-2372  
Fax: 517-484-3108  
E-mail: mackinac.chapter@sierraclub.org  
Website: www.sierraclub.org/chapters/mi  
Alison Horton, Director  
Anne Woiwode, Program Director  
Dan Farough, Member Involvement/Organizer  
Joyce McIntosh, Administrative Assistant

**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  
Fred Townsend, Secretary ..... 248-627-3587  
Helen LeBlanc, Treasurer..... 517-655-6454  
Mike Johnson, 5th Officer..... 616-948-8840

**At-Large Representatives**

**(Terms expire January 2000)**  
Sue Kelly..... 810-227-9563  
John Rebers..... 906-228-3617  
Judy Thompson..... 734-677-2517  
Fred Townsend..... 248-627-3587

**(Terms expire 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

**Group Representatives**

**Central Michigan**  
Tom Nelson..... 517-336-9707

**Central Upper Michigan**  
Richard Posey..... 906-226-7934

**Crossroads**  
Emily Gobright..... 517-548-0595

**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..... 517-637-5170

**West Michigan**  
Linda Rosenthal..... 616-394-4513

**REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRS**

**Central Michigan**  
Pete Pasterz..... 517-676-3339

**Central Upper Michigan**

Richard Posey..... 906-226-7934

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

**Conservation**  
Judy Thompson..... 734-677-2517

**Chapter Elections and Nominations**  
Linda Rosenthal..... 616-776-0817

**Environmental Education: Open 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

**Outings**  
Ralph Powell..... 734-971-9013

**Personnel**  
Carol Graham..... 810-659-4965

**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


**NEXT DEADLINE:  
JANUARY 8**

**Send your Group Meetings and Outings to:**  
Bob Volz, Mackinac Calendar Editor  
414 Sleepy Hollow Dr.  
Flushing, MI 48433  
hvolz@gfn.org

**Submit articles & photos to:**  
Davina Pallone  
754 East 300 South <sup>no. 2</sup>  
Salt Lake City, UT 84102  
801-961-9939  
davina@designwrench.com

### 1999-2000 MACKINAC CHAPTER CALENDAR: MAJOR DATES

November 9.....	Chapter Steering Committee Meeting: Lansing
November 13.....	Mackinac Chapter Political Action Training: Ann Arbor
December 14.....	Chapter Steering Committee Meeting: Lansing
January 22-23.....	Chapter Executive Committee Meeting: Pellston



### THANKS TO RAFFLE VOLUNTEERS

The Mackinac Chapter thanks all volunteers who bought and sold raffle tickets in this year's "Sprawl Costs Us All" raffle. Because of your efforts, we were able to raise \$6,700 that will go to local groups and conservation work throughout Michigan.

Congratulations to the seven winners!

Very special thanks to Fred and Alyce Townsend of Ortonville for their generosity and patience while serving many long hours on the raffle committee.

You are making Michigan a greener place to live. Thanks!

## NEW CHAPTER OFFICE STAFF

Joyce McIntosh has joined the ranks of the Mackinac Chapter office staff. Although only here part time, Joyce is handling various administrative tasks, updating our web page, contributing her editing, graphics and computer skills to our work, coordinating logistics for many chapter activities, and is very likely to be the person who answers the phone when you call. It's great having her on board! \*

### 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
 San Francisco, CA 94105  
 (415) 977-5639  
[planned.giving@sierraclub.org](mailto:planned.giving@sierraclub.org)



**For your Executive Committee Members-at-Large. See page 12 for more information!**

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to SIERRA CLUB, 300 N. Washington Sq., Lansing, MI 48933

**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.*