



DATED MATERIAL DO NOT DELAY

Nonprofit Organization-Sierra Club
U.S. Postage PAID

The Jersey..... SIERRAN

Vol. 47, No. 2 More than 22,000 Members in New Jersey April-June 2018

Option to save paper and postage by receiving *The Jersey Sierran* electronically

Sierra Club members, and others who receive the "Jersey Sierran," now are able to receive our quarterly newsletter as an e-mail attachment in PDF format. Your computer would need (free) software called Adobe Acrobat Reader. The electronic version is in color, sometimes has extra (supplementary) pages, and will arrive several weeks before the paper version. You can also chose to receive BOTH versions. To make the change, send an e-mail message with your name, membership number (on your mailing address label), and your choice for either both versions or just the electronic version to the Editor: Dick.Colby@Stockton.edu - with "Electronic JS" in the Subject line.

Women's March on Morristown

By Ken Johanson, of our Loantaka Group
Photos Supplied by Ken Johanson and Laura Silker



On January 20 I joined ten to twenty thousand women and men of various cultures and backgrounds in Morristown to express our dissatisfaction with President Trump's policies and outrageous comments regarding women. The goal of the march was to encourage women to take a more active role in promoting causes they believe in by making their voices heard, by running for federal, state and local offices and by exercising their right to vote.

The marchers were exuberant and happy to be spending the day with so many other women and men who share their concern for the future of this coun-

try. Marchers had created so many creative, funny and, yes, poignant signs. And the speakers spoke about so many important issues, including sexual harassment, employment discrimination, reproductive rights, universal health care, immigration policies, gun control, environmental protection and global climate change.

So it was a great day, an inspiring day

and an energizing day. But in the words of Gary Frederick, one of our activists, "This was more than a march. It was a movement in its second year that hopefully will yield dramatic results in November." Let's hope that Gary is correct. The country is ripe for change but we all need to do our part to make this happen.

Catherine McCabe, Excellent Choice for DEP Commissioner

From a Press Release issued by our Trenton staff on Dec 21, and edited by Irene Gnarra

Governor Phil Murphy has appointed Catherine McCabe Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). McCabe is an excellent choice, for she is well educated and has had extensive professional experience in promoting environmental issues. She served as Acting Administrator of the US Environmental Protection Agency from January to February 2017, Acting Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) from January to May 2009, and Acting Regional Administrator of EPA's Region 2, based in New York City, from February to October 2017. She has also worked as an Assistant Attorney General in New York State, and she spent 22 years working in the US Department of Justice, specializing in environmental issues.

Jeff Tittel, Senior Director of the New Jersey Sierra Club, believes that McCabe is exactly what we need after the setbacks of the Christie Administration. Besides her environmental experience, her legal background will be an impor-

tant asset. Her first task will be to hire intelligent and well-qualified staff who will inspire confidence in the DEP. Her team must restore its function: producing and enforcing strong regulations that protect our air, water, and open spaces, maintaining both human health and that of our terrestrial and aquatic wildlife.



(Photo: US EPA)

We hope McCabe's national experience will help defend New Jersey from the environmental depredations of the Trump Administration, which include ocean drilling and reversals of wilderness designations, as well as ending important climate protections. It is deplorable that Trump's gutted EPA now sides with promoters of fossil fuels and pollution over renewable energy and protection of our air

and water. Hopefully, a strong NJ-DEP will build a green wall around New Jersey, not only to protect us from federal rollbacks, but also to strengthen our unique environmental protections. We look forward to working with Catherine McCabe to make New Jersey a leader once again in environmental protection.

Introducing Taylor McFarland, Our New Administrative Assistant

By means of the usual interview:

What's your environmental background? My college degrees include a BS in Business Administration, concentrating in Environmental Studies, and Philosophy, from the University of Scranton, and an MS in Sustainability Science, concentrating in Applied Sustainability, from Montclair State University. I was Senator Raymond J. Lesniak's Legislative Aide, working with organizations, businesses and citizens to create and promote legislation on many topics. Much legislation originates as lobbying efforts by organizations; thus I worked with staff of the Sierra Club, US and international Humane Societies, the ASPCA, Elephants DC, Food and Water Watch and others. As a graduate student I interned with a private waste management company, TerraCycle, Inc., producing specialty Zero Waste Boxes.

What environmental issues concern you most? My family summered at the beach in Sea Bright, NJ. There I experienced the impact of 2012 Hurricane Sandy, and became interested in sustainable flood management for coastal communities. I was fortunate to grow up in Monmouth County, which has New Jersey's best county park system. So it was natural for me to want to protect them and promote access to them. During my childhood, I spent several summers at my grandfather's cabin in Sierra City, California. It was an easy



place to love. Towering over the town are the breathtaking Sierra Buttes, which feed the crystal-clear North Yuba River, with the best swimming ever. I felt truly that I followed in John Muir's footsteps and career. If visiting the Sierras doesn't turn you on to environmentalism, there's something wrong with you!

Why NJ-SC; what does your job consist of? The Club's motto is to explore, enjoy and protect the planet. That is basically how I go about my day, every day. The Sierra Club is what I like to call my kind of peeps. It's difficult to know exactly what we want to do with our lives but for me it's important that I make a positive impact on the planet. So I create media and outreach materials, coordinate events, and lobby for environmental legislation at the Statehouse. I enjoy photography, so I hope to bring my skills into the mix.

Might you have a personal success story to tell? As Legislative Aide to Senator Lesniak I worked with the Humane Society of the U.S., Humane Society International and Elephants DC to write and pass the first Ivory Ban bill in the country. It was superbly gratifying to participate in the entire process from start to finish.

TWO CRITICAL CONGRESSIONAL ENDORSEMENTS FOR THE JUNE 5TH PRIMARY ELECTION
7th District: Tom Malinowski • 11th District: Mikie Sherrill

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

Thank you donors!.....	2	Congressional Endorsements, BPU and Offshore Wind.....	5
Conservation Report: Divestment.....	2	Group and Section News.....	6-10
Environmental Justice Report.....	2	On the Trail to Moab.....	10
Climate Change.....	2	Spring Outings.....	10-12
Chapter Chair: More New Officers	3	Leaders, Meetings, Membership Form..	12
Editorial: Reader Survey	3	*****	
ExCom's Winter Resolutions	3	More Articles in the Electronic Edition:	
Conservn Report: 100% Clean Energy ...	4	Elcon Update, Highlands Rule, Nuclear Subsidies, Appreciation Honors, Air Pollution Update, and Jeff Tittel's Advice to Gov. Murphy	13-15
Obituary: George Schindler.....	4		
Land Use: Millington, Trees in Camden...	4		
European Recycling, More Millington,			

Thank You for Your Support!

Supplied by Ken Johanson

The New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club wishes to thank all those who provided the Chapter with financial support during 2017. As in prior years, our members and supporters were there when we needed them most. Listed below are the names of those who contributed \$100 or more during the calendar year. But please be assured that all contributions are very much appreciated, regardless of the amount.

Benefactors

(\$1,000 and Above)

Dennis & Carol Anderson
Richard Colby
Dan Higgins Wood Flooring Warehouse
William De Camp, Jr.
George & Joan Denzer
Donald F. Donahue & Dr. Jeanmarie Anderer
Dr. Paul Ehrlich
Environmental Endowment Fund
Maia Ginsburg
Harold Jossen
Ken & Wynn Johanson
Jeffrey & Anita Liebman
Dr. Donald & Barbara Louria
Lynne O'Carroll
Michael Protzel
Anonymous (2)

Patrons

(\$500 to \$999)

Mrs. Karen Cole
Linda Delap
George & Leona Fluck
Michael & Phoebe Gistrak
Rudy & Melonic Marano
Christine Newman
Glen M. Skar
Sunil & Dorothy Somalwar

Partners

(\$250 to \$499)

Joseph Brazilian
Robert E. Cannon
Wilma Frey
Joseph W. Fritch
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Horner
Dr. & Mrs. Richard L. Klein
Stephen Lax
Joyce Login
M & B Waterjet Creations
Lisa Padula
Dr. & Mrs. Tom Rakowski
Paul Sanderson
Kirsten Schulz
Anthony Tedesco
Joseph Testa
Dr. Joanna Vanderberg
Harry Vetter
Johnathan Wall & John Kashwick

Supporters

(\$100 to \$249)

Estelle Anderson
James Andreano
Margaret H. Babcock
Stephen Baginsky
Candace Bassat
Jane Bellisfield
Vaclav E. Benes
Roger W. Bennett
Karl Billerts
Patrick B. Blake
Michael D. Blasenheim
Patricia I. Blinn
Thomas F. Boghosian
Nancy Brandenburg
Kathleen Brough
Mrs. Joyce Bryson

Frederick Buono
Stephen Burch
Mary R. Byrne
Dr. Mesut B. Cakir
Richard S. Cantor
Regina M. Carola
Raymond H. Cassetta
Ann Cavanaugh
Jeff Chanin
Dr. John P. Cleary
Margaret Cohen
Susan Cohen
Mrs. Nancy Cole
Edward N. Collier
Brian F. Collins & Michelle Tuorto-Collins
Glenn Collins
David & Catherine Copeland
Margaret Cushing
Jeff Davies
Richard Dearborn
Stephen DeMico & Jeanne Fox
Dr. Mihaela Dinu
Michael Doherty
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Dolsky
Anna Drago
Dr. Catherine Duckett
Aaron Dunkel
William Einreinhofter, Jr.
Doreen Ellinwood
Ridley M. Enslow III
William Feeney
Mrs. Joan Fleming
Steven J. Fortune
Paul Fowlie
Deborah S. Freedman
Laura H. Fuhro
Mrs. Barbara Gaffney
Jon Gallant
A Griscom
Robert K. Gross, Jr.
Dr. William Hagmann
Alice Harrison
Kimberly Haren
Elizabeth B. Heald
Mrs. Ray Anita Hemphill
Sharon Herson & Daniel Fleckles
Mrs. Heidi Hesselein
Janet Hubbard
Sandy Jackson, Esq.
Mr. & Mrs. Edward B. Jenkins
Skip Jonas & Tricia Deering
Lloyd Kass
Frank Keegan
Lisanne Kenner & Adam Grace
Michael King
Laura Knopf
Kristin Knowles
Stephen and Regina Knowlton
Sybil Kramer
Judy Kroll
Carol A. Kurtz
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph LaCavera III
Susan Largman-Slotnick
Robert E. Leamer
John & Lydia Lenaghan
Linesider Electric Co.
Lawrence Lipkin
Loantaka Group
Nancy Saxton-Lopez
John F. Luard
John F. Lucas

Laura Lynch
Dr. Leonard Lyon
Dan Mackey & Carb Kelley-Mackey
Luke Magliaro
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Malanga
Antoinette & Frank Manfredi
Katherine Martin
Gregory E. Matarazzo
Joy Mattson
Thomas G. McBride
Mary Beth McDonough
Mrs. Geridwen J. McGovern
Joe McKenzie
Evangelos Megariotis
Marilyn L. Miller
Dr. Alan C. Monheit
Paul Nick
James Northrop
Scott Norwell
Kevin & Sally O'Brien
Mrs. Mary O'Mealia
Edith Oxfield
Douglas Paige
Sindhu Pasricha
Henry Pfeiffer
Johnathan Plehn
Thomas & Margaret Powell
Dr. & Mrs. Raymond Prata
Jeff Rapaport
John Reichman
Lisanne Renner & Adam Grace
Jacob Ribicoff
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph M. Rigolio
Susan Ritchie
Dr. Arthur Ritter
Shelia Rizzo
Dr. Fred Roberts
Jan Robbins
Charles Rosen
Michael & Kathleen Ruth
Ronald J. & Emily M. Sawyer
Jill Schwartz
Jean E. Schwarzbauer
Karen Scott
Kathryn Serebrakian
Philip S. Showell
Sohail Sikora
Anne Singer
Thomas P. Smith
Dr. Claus Speth
Dr. Bonita Stanton
Alana Steib
Dorothea K. Stillinger
Verena Stocker
Douglas Stolarz
David Sturgeon & Alyssa Denzer
Surfrider Foundation
Carl E. Thune
Bonnie L. Tillery
Suzanne Trimel
Lynn Uhrig
Stephen J. Urbanik
Chester Van-Wert
Albert J. Vetrini & Cecelia J. Hunter
Chester Wagnmuth
Dr. Mark Waltzer
Brian Weeks
Alvin M. Willis
Gail Wojciechowski
Mary K. Ziegler
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene O. Zyblikewycz
Anonymous (22)

Issue Coordinator's Report

NJ Cities Increasingly Honor the Paris Climate Agreement

By Steve Miller, Climate Issues Chair of our Jersey Shore Group (SteveMiller@Comcast.net)

The Feb 3 "NJ Mayors' Climate Summit" was a rousing success! It was sold-out: packed with 175 attendees, hosted by Rutgers Bloustein School of Planning & Public Policy, sponsored by many environmental organizations, and attended by mayors and town leaders. Robert Kopp, one of Rutgers' leading climate scientists, began with data on the continuing exponential rise of greenhouse gas levels, earth temperatures and sea levels, and more severe storms and droughts.

Jeanne Herb, Rutgers' Associate Director of Environmental Analysis and Communications, explained our two options: adapt our surroundings to reduce our vulnerability, or mitigate by reducing greenhouse gas emissions (or some of both). Jeanne authored the 2017 Rutgers publication, "An Examination of Policy Options for Achieving Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions in New Jersey" - a vital input to New Jersey's new Administration.

Many of the mayors and state leaders offered examples of projects underway. New Jersey's new First Lady, Tammy Murphy, was met with great enthusiasm during a surprise visit and presentation.

Randy Solomon, Executive Director of Sustainable Jersey, noted that cities are increasingly addressing climate change. At least 49 NJ municipalities have committed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, through the current Sierra Club campaign as well as campaigns from at least five other environmental organizations. Details: <http://climate.smiller.org/clean-energy-city.xls>.

Sustainable Jersey offered a collection

of "Actions" under the title "Gold Star Standard in Energy." So far, 12 mayors have committed to that program. Their goals include switching the entire municipality to 100% renewable electricity and electrifying all vehicles.

Judging by the Summit's enthusiasm, many more NJ cities will soon be joining thousands of other U.S. cities, counties, states, & businesses that are fulfilling the "Paris" commitment made by former President Obama and reneged on by President Trump.

SIERRA CLUB MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO HELP:

ASK YOUR MAYOR to sign the Club's "Ready for 100" pledge for 100% renewable energy (<https://www.sierraclub.org/ready-for-100/mayors-for-clean-energy>), and also to sign Sustainable Jersey's pledge for the "Gold Star Standard in Energy" (http://www.sustainablejersey.com/fileadmin/media/Events_and_Trainings/Mayors_Climate_Summit/NJ_Mayors_Pledge.pdf)

CONTACT YOUR MUNICIPALITY'S GREEN TEAM & ask them to pursue adoption of Sustainable Jersey Gold Star Energy Actions in your town.

ENCOURAGE EVERYONE IN YOUR TOWN (residents, businesses, leaders), individually and collectively, to switch to 100% renewable electricity. (See <http://electric.smiller.org>.)

Don't know your Green Team leader or mayor? Open: <http://SustainableJersey.com>, find your town, and "view profile"; look up your mayor on your town's website.

Need further information or help? Please contact me!

Committee Report

Some Activities of our Environmental Justice Committee

By Hugh Evans (HLEvans.Sierra@gmail.com), summarizing a meeting held on Feb 3

Renee Pollard reported that Camden County has been trying to address issues caused by a significant rise in homelessness, including the opioid crisis and the environmental issues associated with those problems. Camden County College hopes to develop a women's center but hasn't yet secured funding for that. Renee continues to focus on the Sierra Student Coalition/Climate Justice League. She is advocating for EJ and women's issues as a part of the Garden State Leaders Program 2017 offered by the Anti-Poverty Network. You may communicate directly with Renee at rpollard16@comcast.net.

Maria Santiago is working on three projects. (1) The founding of a green sustainable vo-tech charter school in Central Jersey. (2) Helping to organize the Youth's Climate March for people 15-25 years old. Adults are needed to coach and to consult. Christine Clark from Action Together NJ and Renee Pollard joined our mini-committee of adults. Maria may have found two young men interested in leading the Youth's Climate March. Maria has scheduled a meeting with a green charter high school to have those high school kids on board.

(3) Recruiting volunteers for the March of Science in the Spring sponsored by the SCNJ. You may communicate directly with Maria at msant860@aol.com.

I reported that the Hudson County Group is supporting Jersey City Together (jerseycity@njtogether.org) in their efforts to get commitments for affordable housing in the redevelopment of brownfields that were remediated after many years of advocacy by the SCNJ along with other organizations. The Hudson Group also is supporting Friends of Liberty State Park (pesinliberty@earthlink.net) to prevent a picnic area, nature preserve and small boat ramp from being converted to a private yacht club which would limit access by ordinary people to this beautiful waterfront park. Jermaine Spence has left NJ and is no longer working on our projects.

The Chapter EJ Committee meets monthly as part of our statewide Executive Committee meetings (Noon on Second Saturdays). Those interested in becoming more active in the Northern, Central or Southern sectors of NJ may contact our EJ Committee Chairman, Howard Steinberg at howz1648@hotmail.com.

Conservation Chair's Report

Divest Now!

By Greg Gorman (ggorman07419@embarqmail.com)

The New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club has joined with 350NJ and other organizations to promote legislation that would divest NJ pension funds from fossil fuel companies.

In 2012, 350.org launched a "Go Fossil Free: Divest from Fossil Fuels Campaign" - primarily focusing on colleges and universities, but also cities, religious institutions, and other employers with pension funds. Our Fossil Free Finance campaign aims to restructure government and institutional portfolios that currently subsidize fossil fuel projects, including oil and gas exploration and fossil-fueled power generation.

We are also withdrawing our funds from banks (e.g. Wells Fargo, CitiBank, and TD) that finance fossil fuel infrastructure projects such as DAPL and Keystone XL.

According to Jerome Wagner, President of 350NJ-Rockland, "The NJ

state-employees' pension fund currently holds a significant stake in Exxon-Mobil, a big-league climate killer. By divesting such investments, and shunning them in the future, we tarnish and de-legitimize those companies.

NJ's Division of Investment manages the investments of the seven funds that comprise the New Jersey Pension Fund and the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund. It is one of the largest pension fund managers in the US, with \$78 billion. Approximately 1.58% or \$1.2 billion is invested in Exxon-Mobil.

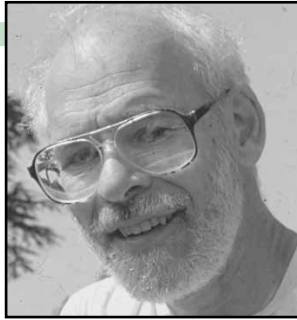
The divestment would slash company cash flows, stopping offshore oil exploration, Pilgrim and Penn East Pipelines, and other fossil fuel infrastructure.

We ask all NJ Sierra Club members and their friends to support the campaign by contacting your State legislators. There's also an Action Alert on the Chapter website.

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

Editorial Communicating with Members

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



Have you ever sent an environmental lobby letter (or e-mail, or phone call) to a politician, or written a letter to the editor of a newspaper? If so, this editorial is meant for you! If not, this editorial is meant for you also!

The Jersey Sierran newsletter is our primary informational conduit between our Chapter and Group officers and staff, and our 22,000 members in New Jersey. (180 of you have now opted for the electronic version, saving us a few dollars per year for each of those 180 members, not to mention a few tree limbs and some vegetable ink.) The "JS" is also mailed to our elected state and federal legislators, and to most public libraries in New Jersey, and extra copies are left by some of our officers in such public places as supermarkets, and are distributed at tabling events such as Earth Day affairs and other environmental festivals.

But it appears only quarterly. In order to campaign for our various environmental issues, e.g. by lobbying legislators, DEP officials, Pinelands Commissioners, Highlands Council-members, county freeholders, members of municipal planning boards, NJ Transit, etc, we also use a system of Action Alerts: e-mails targeted geographically, or by other criteria contained in a national Sierra Club database called Helen. Action Alerts describe an issue and make it easy for you to send a message to the Governor or some other official(s).

As a third avenue of communication, many of our conservation campaigns communicate internally via electronic list-serves. For examples, there's one for our Transportation Committee and one for our Campaign for Environmental Justice.

I have two ulterior motives in writing this editorial: (1) to conduct a survey of member environmental interests, and (2) to enable the many previously "silent" members to accept more Club environmental involvement by agreeing to receive e-mail messages on the subjects that are of most interest to them. We (officers and staff) would agree to send not more than one per month on any one topic. We would promise to remove you from our database on request. The list of current campaign topics is in the table below.

The most efficient way for you to complete the survey is by clicking www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/survey2018 (if you are reading this electronically) or by entering that URL into your internet-connected computer. Alternatively, please clip and mark-up the survey below (with your interests), and mail it to the Chapter office in Trenton: **Sierra Club Survey, 145 W Hanover St, Trenton NJ 08618.**

Please be reminded that the Sierra Club is a member-driven organization, serving the interests of its volunteer members: preserving and protecting wilderness by political involvement such as lobbying, and enjoying wilderness by participating in outings and related social gatherings. Please join the action! And if there's an environmental campaign that isn't on our list below, then add it, and know that we have a place for you to start your own issue campaign!

Please be assured that neither your choices nor your contact information will ever be knowingly shared with any other organization.

Here's the clipable list, starting with your choice of the uses to which your response may be put. Please choose:

(1) your selections below are for our informational use only, i.e. NOT for communications, or

(2) we can also enter your selections into a database from which e-mails will be directed, in which case we'll need your name and e-mail address:

Name: _____

E-mail address: _____

E-mail address (again, please): _____

- Now here's our list of issues:**
- Affordable Housing: an Environmental Justice issue (see below)
 - Clean Air (atmospheric pollution; asthma-related pollution)
 - Alaska Wilderness (North Slope oil production; pipelines; wildlife and habitat protection)
 - Asbestos, other Toxic Dust (remediation of old homes and other buildings)
 - Solar Energy: photovoltaic panels on home rooftops, COMMUNITY solar farms, and Solar Thermal: rooftop production of domestic hot water
 - Delaware River issues (dredging of ship channels; allocation of municipal withdrawals; pollutant discharges; deposit of dredge spoils)
 - Delaware Water Gap: a campaign to raise the status of the National Recreation Area to that of a National Park
 - Environmental Health Advocacy: (for credentialed experts to confer, lobby and offer advice)
 - Environmental Justice: members offended by negative environmental impacts on communities of ethnic minorities - which tend to be impoverished
 - Faith-based Outreach (whereby environmental issues are considered from a religious perspective)
 - Genetically Modified Organisms: (the campaign for food-labeling and perhaps restriction)
 - Land Use Panel: (our informal advice service for members seeking help with zoning and planning board testimony)
 - Marine Issues (quotas for fish harvesting, reefs, ocean floor, drilling, dredging, coral bleaching, pollutants, appropriate controls on offshore wind turbines)
 - Natural Gas & Fracking (exploration, pipeline permitting, waste disposal)
 - Passaic River (pollution, treatment, remediation, recreation, dredging)
 - Pinelands (curbing recreational misuse, development, pipelines)
 - Gender Equity (promoting family planning for its environmental benefit of limiting population growth)
 - Recycling (encouraging more people to recycle and to shop environmentally, beverage container deposit legislation, limiting plastic (especially bags), coping with electronic waste)
 - Tiger Conservation (supporting campaigns in South and Southeast Asia)
 - Toxicology: (for credentialed experts to confer, lobby and offer advice)
 - Transportation (promoting mass transit and other alternatives to cars, supporting land-use policy that enables mass transit, electric vehicles, restructuring freight distribution at marine terminals and railheads, reducing exhaust CO2, particles, and other harmful wastes)
 - Trails (incl. bikepath): Development, Maintenance and Promotion
 - Utah Wilderness (support for protectionist designations and policies)
 - Water Quality (lobbying for drinking water standards, water supply planning)
 - Watershed and Wetlands Issues
 - NJ Wildlands Issues
 - Add your additional interest(s) here: _____

Chair's Message Chapter Welcomes More New Volunteers!



By Richard Isaac (risaacx@aol.com)

Our Chapter is glad to welcome the following new volunteers:

Steve Lax, Transportation Committee, Transportation Advisor: Steve's interest in transportation dates from his first solo train ride at age seven. In 1969 he became a citizen activist when his bus route was threatened with discontinuance. This led to service as New Jersey Coordinator for the Committee for Better Transit, joining the New Jersey Environmental Lobby's Board of Directors, contributions to the NJ League of Women Voters' Transportation Committee, original membership of its North Jersey Citizen Advisory Committee - where he chaired the Bus Subcommittee and served on the Fare Subcommittee. In 1984 Steve was hired by NJ Transit, retiring in 2009 as Director, Bus Service Planning. He is a Life Member of our Club.

Karuna Jobanputra, Transportation Committee, Public Transit & Environmental Justice: Karuna has a 2012 Bachelor of Arts degree in Sustainable Development from the University of Vermont. She has conducted needs assessments, drafted the natural resources component of a town plan, and facilitated many workshops. After college she created evaluation metrics based on city adaptation plans - in the US and internationally. She is familiar with innovative models in public transportation both through policy and community-based strategies, and hopes to explore best practices to garner more public support.

As a Referendum Coordinator for PIRG, she managed an 1800-student vote, and as a Communities for Healthy Food Advocate, she supervised a food justice program for NEBHDCO.

Bill Beren, Transportation Committee, Transportation Legislation Analysis, Transit Fares: Bill recently retired after 33 years with New York City Transit, where he was responsible for budget, systems development, network infrastructure and communications. Previously (1973-1977) he had been the Trenton Legislative Agent for the NJ League for Conservation Legislation (now the NJ Environmental Lobby).

He lives in Montclair, and was a NJ

Transit and PATH commuter for his entire working career. Bill also serves on the Montclair Public Transportation Advisory Committee.

Tim Sevenser, Transportation Committee, Public Transit Issues, Especially Rail: Long a Club member promoting Green Transit, Tim is also a member of the Tristate Transportation Campaign, the New Jersey and National Associations of Rail Passengers, and the Lackawanna Coalition. He regularly attends meetings of the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, where he contributed to its "Plan 2045," and public meetings of New Jersey Transit and other transit agencies.

Rohan Bhargava, Transportation Committee, Pedestrian, Bike, and Auto Issues, including Autonomous Vehicles: A resident of Oakland, Rohan has performed internships with both the Chapter and our national Club office - on a range of energy issues. He is currently finishing a Masters' Degree in Environmental Policy, with long-standing interests that include autonomous vehicles.

Ray Adams, Transportation Committee, Freight Issues: An air traffic controller at Newark Liberty Airport, Ray has experience and a wide knowledge of aviation operations in the New York City region including Hudson River operations. His experience extends to legislative and political activism - including engagement with professional staff of various House and Senate committees.

Andrea Rodriguez, Advertising Editor of The Jersey Sierran: With a BS in Business Management and Marketing, and professional experience with Conversant Media, TouchTunes, and JCDecaux North America, Andrea is well-positioned to build new client relationships and create advertising revenue for our newsletter.

Joe Raich, Affordable Housing Issues: Once a candidate for the New Jersey State Assembly, Joe's concerns range from cleaning up toxic sites and air pollution, to recycling, to ensuring access to reproductive health care. He is also passionate about providing access to affordable housing, responsible land use, and connecting affordable housing with the control of sprawl development.

Resolutions: Approved by the Chapter Executive Committee (ExCom) in January and February, 2018

At our reorganization meeting on January 6:

Rich Isaac was elected for a third 1-year term as our Chapter Chair.

John Kashwick was elected for a third 1-year term as Chapter Vice-Chair.

Greg Gorman was elected for a third 1-year term as Chapter Conservation Chair.

Other volunteer officers including Issue Coordinators (see p. 12) were approved.

We approved co-sponsorship of the Jan. 20 Women's March on New Jersey, in Morristown, celebrating the anniversary of *Roe vs. Wade*. (See article/photos on p. 1.)

We endorsed the establishment of a rail-trail called the Essex-Hudson Greenway.

A resolution opposed a development near the Great Swamp, Morris Co, called Millington Quarry. The site is polluted and lacks a cleanup plan. See p. 5.

We supported a campaign led by NJ350.org asking for legislation to divest NJ pension funds from the top 200 oil, gas and coal companies, and perhaps also "dirty banks." See p. 2.

At the ExCom meeting on Feb 3: we passed a resolution commending the efforts of the Warren Twp. (Somerset Co.) Planning Board and Mayor in establishing restrictions to a subdivision development on a peak in the Watchung Mountains.

We also took a position urging caution in a zoning controversy regarding the Millington Village Asbestos Dump (Morris Co) involving high-density housing on a brownfields site. See p. 4.

Andrea Rodriguez was appointed Advertising Director for this newsletter, with cost-recovery in mind.

All our resolutions are now at: <https://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/chapter-resolutions>.

Conservation Chair's Report

100% Committed

By Greg Gorman (ggorman07419@embarqmail.com)

Wanna make a smart decision? Have your community, business, condo, or factory commit to 100-percent renewable electricity. Generate your own power or enter into a power purchase agreement with a reliable renewable energy supplier. It's easy!

We know reliance on fossil fuels results in serious physical and socio-economic harm. From extraction (fracking, offshore drilling and mining) to distribution (pipelines, bomb trains and tankers) to consumption (smokestacks and tailpipes) - fossil fuels account for massive pollution of our planet. The release of carbon dioxide and methane from fossil fuel burning is the number one cause of global warming. This massive threat is the motivation behind the Sierra Club's Beyond Coal, Beyond Oil, and Beyond Natural Gas Campaigns. But this isn't enough!

A recent report by the US Energy Information Agency observed, "After declining by 1.0% in 2017, energy-related carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions are forecast to increase by 1.7% in 2018 and by another 0.2% in 2019." Since 2000, the electric power sector accounted for 80% of the reduction in energy-related CO₂ emissions in the United States, according to the Rhodium Group's "Preliminary US Emission Estimates." The replacement of less-efficient coal power plants by new natural gas plants, renewables, and energy efficiency accounts for this steep decline.

In the past two years, carbon emissions from the power sector were less than in the transportation sector - which is now the largest source of carbon emissions in the US. It is expected that, as fuel economy flattens and miles traveled increase, transportation emissions will increase. (New Jersey's ground-level ozone concentrations from automobiles and natural gas power plants rank as one of the worst in the US. Over 50% of the State's carbon emissions come from the transportation sector.) Even slight increases in toxins and carbon are unacceptable.

Now we have another reason to succeed: MONEY! Renewable power is now competitive with fossil fuel-fired electrici-

ty. And the International Renewable Energy Agency reports that by 2020 it will undercut fossil fuels. A technical report from the University of Michigan found that the initial cost of an electric car, compared to a comparable gas-powered car, is recovered after 50,000 miles due to lower maintenance costs. The renewable energy market provides excellent jobs.

New Jersey has stepped forward! Elizabeth and Highland Park have joined six other communities with "Sierra Club Mayors for 100% Clean Energy." More than 50 NJ municipalities now embrace clean energy objectives as "Climate Mayors," "We Are Still In," and similar pledges to support the Paris Climate Agreement. PSE&G is closing its coal-burning Mercer and Hudson generation stations. Residents across the state are resisting intrusive pipelines, oil trains and offshore drilling. Sustainable Jersey has designated a special collection of Actions that earn a "Gold Star in Energy." Hopefully the new Governor will stabilize the solar market, support offshore wind, reenter the Northeast Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, and electrify our transportation system.

Our Chapter is stepping up also. Our "Mayors for 100% Clean Energy" recently partnered with Climate Reality's "100% Committed" Campaign to help communities, businesses and universities to transition. (<https://www.climateRealityProject.org/initiative/100-committed>). Our participation in the ChargeEV Coalition (<http://www.chargevc.org/>) seeks to realize the Club's AchiEVe Campaign goal of 503,732 zero-emission vehicles statewide by 2025. (This can be accomplished by fleet purchases of buses and trucks as well as individual passenger vehicles.) Finally, the Chapter is partnering with NJ350.org to advocate legislation requiring NJ pension funds to divest from the top 200 fossil fuel companies (<https://gofossilfree.org/the-new-top-200/>) and financial institutions (aka Dirty Banks). (<http://priceofoil.org/2016/06/15/shorting-the-climate/>). Join us in protecting the planet by building a clean energy future.

Report from our West Jersey Group

Tree News from our West Jersey Group

Submitted by Group Chair Gina Carola (ginaceee@verizon.net)

The West Jersey Group has been helping the NJ Tree Foundation a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to planting trees in New Jersey's most urban neighborhoods, where the need is greatest. Through tree planting, volunteerism, and partnerships, we assist numerous communities in improving their environment and quality of life.

Since 1998, the NJ Tree Foundation has planted 204,360 trees across the state - with the hands of volunteers! Beginning small by planting whips, the Tree Foundation now plants large shade trees in some of NJ's toughest neighborhoods. Undaunted by crime statistics, the Foundation staff believe that planting a tree can bring hope even to our roughest communities. It has worked! They involve the residents by inviting them to care for the trees; the result is a 95% survival rate.

Community-based tree plantings bring outside volunteers into inner cities, changing their perceptions about the city and its residents. The Tree Foundation has become a leader in the tree planting field. Instead of working for the people, it trains them to take charge and com-

plete the project themselves. That empowers folks who face some of life's most difficult circumstances.

What's more, the Tree Foundation employs ex-offenders, providing the first stepping-stone of reintegration into society for men who have been imprisoned for years. **In eleven years, 94 parolees have graduated from its Green Streets Program.** Finally, the Tree Foundation supplements its annual budget with in-kind support and volunteer labor. Last year alone, 1,718 volunteers contributed 4,797 hours to planting and maintaining trees in NJ. Residents and volunteers help motivate donations of food and water, tools, heavy equipment and plant materials.

In short, the Tree Foundation is one of the best run, most efficient nonprofits in the field because it believes in people and they believe in it.

If you would like to join the West Jersey Group in planting, the next two opportunities will be April 7th, at Cooper's Point Park in Camden, and April 21st, at Washington Park in Gloucester City. Both events are from 9am-12pm. Please contact Frank Zinni at 856-596-1086.

Remembering George Schindler

Edited from an obituary supplied by his daughter, Sarah Schindler

One of the 1971 founders of our New Jersey Chapter was George E. Schindler Jr., a passionate hiker, backpacker, and environmentalist who died on Feb 9 in Princeton. He was 94.

His environmentalism began perhaps with his service in the U.S. Army Air Corps, at the tail end of World War II, as a meteorologist. He had previously studied chemical engineering at Carnegie Tech; after the war his studies continued at the University of North Carolina, then the University of Chicago, and finally the University of Pittsburgh, where his interests moved toward literature, all leading to thirty-one years with AT&T Bell Laboratories at Murray Hill, where he edited a technical journal during the glory years of that company. In the four years preceding his retirement, he was department head in charge of a multivolume history project as well as of the Bell Laboratory archives.

Schindler was never happier than when outdoors, whether camping, backpacking, or canoeing. He mapped trails and led hikes all over the country. His love of hiking grew into a deep commitment to preserving the natural



Photo supplied by Sarah Schindler

landscape. Thus he led the NJ Sierra Club's first triumphal campaign: blocking a proposed dam at Tocks Island on the Delaware River, which led to today's most visited National Recreation Area. As our Forestry Coordinator, and as a Director of the NJ Audubon Society, his efforts contributed to the passage of the New Jersey Natural Areas Systems Act in 1975. Other environmental causes were the preservation of the Pine Barrens and the protection of the Great Swamp from the incursion of a proposed jetport.

We are honored by the request, in his published obituary, that, "the family would appreciate donations to the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club (www.sierra-club.org/new-jersey) or the Environmental Defense Fund (www.edf.org)."

Member's Report

Land Use Issue at the Millington Asbestos Superfund Site

By Kathy O'Leary of our Loantaka Group (kolearypcnj@gmail.com)

This past December, Prism Capital Partners completed the purchase of approximately 12 acres of land adjacent to the Passaic River, just south of the Millington Gorge in Long Hill Township (Morris Co). Prism paid approximately \$3 million, hoping to redevelop the delisted Superfund site into a "live-work-play" community. The plans, as spelled out under an agreement between the Township and Fair Share Housing, call for 138 rental units, of which 20 will be affordable, with the balance marketed as "luxury rentals". The planner's report provided to the Township Committee in May, 2016, and the developer's website, indicate that additional retail space will occupy the site.

Since Fall, 2016, local residents have been organizing and voicing their opposition. Their chief concern is the site's contamination. But local elected officials and land-use board members seem determined to move forward, re-zoning the property from "limited industrial" to "mixed-use." They view the property as an eyesore, and hope that redevelopment will generate rateables and help meet the Township's third round affordable housing requirement.

The EPA refers to the property as the Millington Asbestos Dump, but locally it is known as Tifa, after the pesticide manufacturer that once occupied the property in 147,000 square feet of industrial buildings. Several different companies operated an asbestos plant from about 1927 until 1973, producing both fibrous asbestos and asbestos roofing and siding material. Waste materials, including phenyl mercuric acetate, were dumped on site. National Gypsum was the last asbestos manufacturer to own the property.

After National Gypsum closed the plant, it was sold to Mr. Arnold Livingston, who had also owned the Chemical Insecticide Corporation respon-

sible for the contamination at another Superfund site located at 30 Whitman Ave in Edison. Mr. Livingston consolidated his DDT sprayer and pesticide manufacture and distribution business in Millington, operating for roughly another two decades. From the 1990's through the present, the buildings have been divided up and rented to multiple tenants such as a bakery, a soft drink manufacturer, a sign company, as well as chemical storage and electroplating companies.

About 4.5 acres of the site are taken up by a capped landfill which the EPA estimates contains 90,000 cubic yards of asbestos and other contaminants associated with the production of asbestos roofing and siding materials. This mound will remain after redevelopment, according to an administrative consent order signed by Prism Capital Partners and the NJ DEP late last summer. The EPA's seven monitoring wells will also remain.

Restrictions have been placed on the deed, but we think it unlikely that any of the future tenants of the planned apartment complex will be informed of the contaminants in the soil and groundwater. A preliminary assessment and site investigation (PA/SI) report, which is 528 pages in length, identifies 20 areas of concern on the property. The report also notes that the groundwater is "impacted with chlorinated solvent concentrations" and "associated degradation products" including Trichloroethylene and other Volatile Organic Carbons. The soil borings contain asbestos as well as Benzo(a) anthracene, aluminum, beryllium, manganese, nickel, mercury, lead and arsenic.

According to the agreement with Fair Share, the Township has until the beginning of June to re-zone the property and re-write the ordinances to allow its redevelopment. It remains to be seen if the concerns of the residents will be heard.

Report from our Recycling Issues Coordinator

Europe Pulls Ahead on Recycling

By David Yennior (dyennior@gmail.com)

According to an article in the Jan 17 Fortune Magazine, by Laignee Barron, European Union countries have agreed on a 2030 goal of making all plastic packaging recyclable or reusable.

The impetus is a decision by China to no longer accept imports of “foreign garbage.”

Presumably, that also applies to the mixed American garbage that for years has been loaded into shipping containers for the sea-voyage to Chinese ports. It will be interesting to see how New Jersey’s municipal waste purveyors, such as the Atlantic County Utilities Authority, cope with this problem.

The European solution is worthy of our attention: regulations that limit the kinds of plastic packaging to those that can be recycled, and dynamically educating the public on how to process that plastic waste.

All plastics are polymers of small hydrocarbon molecules such as methane (natural gas: CH₄) and its organic chemical relatives ethylene: C₂H₄, propylene: C₃H₆, butylene: C₄H₈, styrene: C₈H₈, etc, all obtained from petroleum. Cellophane is an exception; it is made from cellulose, the indigestible carbohydrate that is manufactured by all living plants, familiar to us as the primary component of wood! It can only be land-filled, so its use needs to be reduced.

Another exception is polystyrene: Styrofoam, which is physically and chemically “difficult.” Its manufacture and use also needs to be terminated. Some take-

out restaurants are moving away from Styrofoam to paper cups (and other containers) that are biodegradable.

Chemical recycling is practical for most other plastic container materials. That’s what is currently done with the used polyethylene supermarket bags that some supermarkets collect from their patrons.

The new European program starts with the problem of single-use plastics: straws, drink cups and their lids, stirring sticks, plastic silverware, takeaway containers and single-use water bottles.

NJ Sierra has encountered resistance to the imposition of a deposit on plastic supermarket bags and beverage containers. We hope that impasse can be overcome with dynamic leadership, starting with our new Governor, and the Legislature.

Assemblywomen Mila Jasey and Valerie Vanieri-Huttle are Prime Sponsors of the Smart Container Act, A1710, which would establish a deposit and recycling program on single use beverage containers.

Assemblyman John McKeon and Assemblywoman Vanieri-Huttle are Prime Sponsors of A1482, the Plastic Container Recycling Enhancement Act, which would require recycled content in plastic containers.

Other sensible legislation for NJ includes a ban on plastic straws, a plastic bag ban, a Styrofoam ban, and a ban of any plastic containers not recyclable. Please contact me if you want to work to promote such legislation.

Political Chair’s Report

Early Endorsements for Congressional Races

By John Kashwick (jkashwick@gmail.com)

The Sierra Club’s New Jersey Chapter is pleased to announce the re-election endorsements of six environmental champions in the US House of Representatives:

Donald Norcross (D, NJ-1)
Frank Pallone, Jr. (D, NJ-6)
Albio Sires (D, NJ-8)
William Pascrell, Jr. (D, NJ-9)
Donald M. Payne Jr. (D, NJ-10)
Bonnie Watson Coleman (D, NJ-12)

These six members of Congress have stood up as a wall against the efforts of the Trump administration and the Republicans in Congress that are trying to undo the progress we’ve made over the past half century in protecting the

environment. While all six are deserving of Sierra Club endorsement, special mention goes to Frank Pallone, who has served since 1989, and taken a leadership role in such issues as preventing offshore drilling, superfund site clean-ups and clean water.

Several other congressional races will be more competitive than usual this year because of retirements and the hot political climate. We will report further on these races in the next issue.

Please remember to vote – in both the primary election on June 5 and the general election on Nov 6. If you are not registered to vote, you can do so here: <http://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/voting-information.html>.

Report from Trenton

BPU Gets Offshore Wind Moving

From a Press Release issued by our staff on Feb 28

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) has directed its staff to begin implementing Governor Murphy’s Executive Order on offshore wind. This includes a strategic plan to work with surrounding states. The Executive Order also creates a stakeholder roundtable, solicits bids for the 1100 MW of wind that have already been approved, and sets up an Interagency Wind Taskforce. Seven years ago, Christie signed the Offshore Wind Economic Development Act, but his Administration failed to make offshore wind a reality. Now we can begin in earnest.

Wind is the most reliable and cost-effective form of offshore power. It is renewable and clean. It will help us create thousands of jobs in a variety of fields including

(continued on page 6)

Group Chair’s Report

Millington Quarry Plan Killed, but Site Contamination Still Troubles

By Gary Frederick, Chair of our Raritan Valley Group (gfredsierra@gmail.com)

As you drive around New Jersey, chances are you’ll pass a quarry or two. Or three or four. According to the NJ-DEP’s most recent (2007) survey of quarry sites, there are 167 active and 864 inactive and abandoned mining operations. Mining is a significant industry, worth \$100 million in annual production of up to 20 million tons of rocks, sand and gravel.

Once a quarry is exhausted, what’s left is often an open and unsafe pit of rocks and debris. It’s often contaminated, too. The Millington Quarry in Bernards Township (Somerset Co) is a case in point. In operation on 183 acres for 100 years, it closed in 2010 after it was no longer profitable. Under the Township’s master plan, the site was zoned for two-acre houses.

But in October, 2017, the Township Council unveiled a massive redevelopment plan with Shopoff Realty Investments, which had contracted with Millington Quarry Inc.: rezoning for 235 housing units, 200,000 square feet of retail and commercial space, a hotel, a restaurant and a 50-acre lake.

Residents were stunned. There was no public discussion, and the plan threatened to turn a quiet residential community into a congested nightmare of new car traffic exceeding 5,600 trips a day, by Sierra Club estimates. Of course there were no plans for public transportation, and the impact on area infrastructure, schools and services would be crushing.

Nor was there an environmental cleanup plan, even though early testing showed elevated levels of arsenic, metals and other contaminants in the surface water. The former owner might also have dumped fertilizer over a portion of the quarry to remediate the barren soil. A local opposition group, Stop the Quarry Plan, has petitioned the NJ-DEP to investigate contamination in the soil and ground water. The Passaic River is adjacent to the site, so any runoff could be catastrophic. Adding to the threat, a 50-acre lake from rain runoff is filling on the site, and will soon overflow onto contaminated soil.

Local opposition has been fierce; the



Sierra Club became involved in late 2017, quickly issuing a resolution opposing any redevelopment plan without a proper cleanup. We also called for a more limited development plan, with public transportation alternatives and open space once the cleanup is complete.

In response to the public outcry, the town council voted 4-1 on Jan 24 to reject the redevelopment plan in its entirety, reverting to the master plan zoning of two-acre family lots. But the battle is not over. The site still needs a safe cleanup through a transparent and properly vetted plan.

Jeff Tittel, Senior Director of the New Jersey Sierra Club, declared the vote “a victory for the environment and planning. The size and scope of the Shopoff proposal was too large for the site and would result in increased storm water runoff, waste water, water pollution, contamination and increased flooding.”

Area residents agreed, and their thoughts were summed up by Laurie Albee, an opposition organizer: “Now that the plan to carelessly overdevelop the quarry has been killed, we can focus on remediation. We’re thrilled the New Jersey Sierra Club will continue to partner with us as we shift our efforts to cleaning the contamination before any new plans are proposed.”

Advertisement

UNLOCK YOUR RIDE CREDIT WITH CODE

SIERRALYFT

New users get \$15 in free ride credits with code.

SUBJECT TO LYFT'S TERMS OF SERVICE.

BPU

(Continued from page 5)

construction and operation. It will provide electricity and jobs to places where it is needed most. The Sierra Club has been advocating offshore wind in New Jersey for fifteen years.

The East Coast, with its large metropolitan areas and dense suburbs, is hungry for jobs, investment and energy. Offshore wind can drive economic growth for decades to come. Its jobs include not only the installation, operation and maintenance of the turbines, but also investment in their manufacture. This would include rebuilding Paulsboro Port, and factories for assembly. Then we will need facilities for delivering the power to the PJM Grid.

The Sierra Club has set a goal of 3500 MW of offshore wind by 2030. Six years ago we commissioned studies to find the best sites, i.e. those with the fewest environmental impacts. In 2016, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management auctioned parcels in federal waters off the New Jersey coast. Two of them, near Atlantic City, received final bids. RES Americas Developments Inc. won the 160,480-acre south lease area for \$880,715, and U.S. Wind Inc. got the 183,353-acre north lease area for \$1,006,240. Their power would be sufficient for 1.2 million homes: about a third of all the homes in the State.

water and land public trust resources; and other local, national and global environmental issues as they arise.

We table annually at Luscroft Farm's Medicine Wheel Festival in May, host a summer picnic in July, conduct a Drive Electric Event in September at the GreenLife Market in Andover Township, and celebrate winter holidays in December. All our events are free of charge and open to the public.

CURRENT CAMPAIGNS: The Skylands Group advocates the protection of the Sparta Mountain Wildlife Management Area from logging done under the guise of creating 'healthy forests.'

Forests throughout NJ have been and will be logged. Many of these forests are High Conservation Forests with closed canopies. They provide water to millions of New Jerseyans. Clear cutting can adversely impact water quality, biodiversity and threaten rare and endangered species' habitat.

The Skylands Group also opposes the Munsonhurst Planned Residential Development, which will adversely affect the ecology of a Natural Heritage Priority Site in Franklin NJ.

South Highlands Group

(Hunterdon and southern Warren Counties)

WEBSITE: <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/south-highlands/>

MEETUP: <http://www.meetup.com/NJSierraClub/>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/53817136187/>

OFFICERS:

Chair:	Jonathan Wall *	jonwall@jonwall.com
Vice Chair:	Celeste Martin *	onecentral@mac.com
Secretary:	Amy Weeder *	aweeder@comcast.net
Treasurer:	John Kashwick	jkashwick@gmail.com
Political Chair:	Karen Becker*	karbecker@gmail.com
Conservation Chair:	Debbie Young*	debyoung31@comcast.net
Children's Program Coor:	Kimberly Borin*	storiesofourown@mac.com
Native Plant Issues Coor:	Cinny MacGonagle	cmacgonagle@yahoo.com
Natural Resource Coor:	Angela De Sapio*	angela.desapio@gmail.com
Outings Coordinator:	Jonathan Wall *	jonwall@jonwall.com
Webmaster/Listmaster:	John Kashwick	jkashwick@gmail.com

Unless otherwise noted, meetings and outings are free and open to general public, but donations are accepted. Please check our web site, Meetup page, or Facebook page (see above for URLs) as these as topics, dates, times, and venues are subject to change. (* Group Executive Committee Member)

GENERAL MEETINGS: All our general meetings are held at the North County Library, 65 Halstead St, Clinton, 08809, on the first Wednesday of each month. Meet and Greet at 7pm followed by program at 7:15 pm. Meetings are free but donations are gladly accepted. There are no programs in July and August.

April 4 (Wed): Adventures on the Highlands Trail with Michael Hebling. To hike the Highlands Trail is to journey along the spine of Northwest New Jersey, on a path that showcases the best outdoor, ecological, historical points of interest the area has to offer. "I absolutely love this trail," Helbing remarks. "It highlights the diversity of our area. It really promotes it." That diversity includes deep forests, spectacular vistas, waterfalls, small rural communities, and remnants of historic features such as the 19th Century Morris Canal and iron industry areas that date to colonial days, now reclaimed by forest.

May 2 (Wed): To Be Announced. Please check our Meetup page or web site.

June 6 (Wed): Tips for Summer Hiking, Camping and Adventures: Angela De Sapio - Learn how to bring the dog, the kids, or pick the perfect trail (from ages 1 - 101). Review easy ways to make sure your outings are fun, memorable, and safe. Angela is available to answer questions about multi-day and overnight backpacking and wildlife photography.

OTHER EVENTS:

April 11 (Wed): Executive Committee/Planning Meeting. 7:30 pm, At the offices of Dr. Jonathan D. Wall, 21 Water Street, Clinton. The meeting is casual and informative. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend to learn more about the Club, hear about and discuss issues, plan future events, and become more active. (Please contact: jonwall@jonwall.com or sign-up on Meetup)

May 19 (Sat): Yoga for Spreading Your Wings: 12 Noon. Join Kimberly Borin, Ed.D. at the Clinton Conservancy Butterfly Garden for an hour of yoga among nature. Please meet at the Water Street Parking Lot (corner of Halstead Street) in Clinton, NJ. Please bring yourself, friends and family. RSVP required by emailing Kimberly at storiesofourown@mac.com.

ISSUES:

For too long developers have been using the so-called "builder's remedy" as an excuse to bulldoze farms and woodlands in the name of affordable housing. While the Sierra Club supports affordable housing, there is a right way to do it that does not strain our infrastructure and transportation systems and contribute to sprawl. The issue is particularly relevant in Hunterdon and Warren Counties where there is still extensive open space. If interested in getting more involved in this issue, please contact John Kashwick at jkashwick@gmail.com.

North Jersey Group

(Bergen and Passaic Counties)

WEBSITE: <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/north-jersey>

MEETUP: <http://www.meetup.com/NJSierraClub/>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/northjersseysierraclub>

Officers:

Chair & Treasurer:	Buddy Jenssen *	buddy.jenssen@gmail.com
Vice Chair:	Open position!	
Secretary:	Open position!	



Group News

FROM AROUND THE STATE

HOW TO IDENTIFY YOUR GROUP (BY COUNTY)

Skylands Group: Sussex & northern Warren
South Highlands Group: Hunterdon & southern Warren
North Jersey Group: Bergen & Passaic
Gateway Group: Essex
Hudson County Group: Hudson
Loantaka Group: Morris & Union
Central Jersey Group: Mercer
Raritan Valley Group: Somerset & Middlesex
Jersey Shore Group: Monmouth
Ocean County Group: Ocean
West Jersey Group: Burlington, Camden & Gloucester
South Jersey Group: Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland & Salem

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

(Groups are arranged in rough geographical sequence: North to South)

Skylands Group

(Sussex and northern Warren Counties)

Web-site: <http://SkylandsGroup.org>

Or click from the NJ Chapter's web-site.

FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/SkylandsNJSC>

E-mail: ggorman07419@embarqmail.com; **Phone:** 973-886-7950

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE and other **OFFICERS:** (ExCom Members are elected to serve 2-year terms; term-expire date in parentheses):

Chair: (12/31/18)	Greg Gorman	ggorman07419@embarqmail.com
Vice Chair: (12/31/19)	Susan Williams	SkylandsGroup@gmail.com
Secretary: (12/31/18)	Norene Haberski	habersn@yahoo.com
Treasurer: (12/31/19)	Jeri Doherty	bjd8974@gmail.com
ExCom at large: (12/31/19)	Dave Alcock	dwhoob@hotmail.com
	(12/31/18) Nicole Guerrieri	sosaysnicole@gmail.com
	(12/31/19) Mindy Geary	mwillimas@yahoo.com
	(12/31/19) Joanne Mogan	jojommorgan@yahoo.com
	(12/31/19) Anthony Riccardi	anthony.j.riccardi@gmail.com
Conservation Chair:	Greg Gorman	ggorman07419@embarqmail.com
Outings Chair:	Dave Alcock	dwhoob@hotmail.com
Outreach Chair:	Joanne Mogan	jojommorgan@yahoo.com
Political Co-Chairs:	Nicole Guerrieri	sosaysnicole@gmail.com
and:	Susan Williams	SkylandsGroup@gmail.com
Programs Chair:	Mindy Geary	mwillimas@yahoo.com
Co-Publicity Chairs:	Jeri Doherty	bjd8974@gmail.com
and:	Joanne Mogan	jojommorgan@yahoo.com
Webmaster:	Nicole Guerrieri	sosaysnicole@gmail.com
Open position available:	Membership Chair - please contact Greg!	

GENERAL MEETINGS: SECOND TUESDAY of each month and open to the public. We meet from 7-9pm at the Unitarian Fellowship, 1 West Nelson St, Newton.

The Skylands Group of the NJ Sierra Club serves the environmentally sensitive region of Sussex and Northern Warren Counties in Northwestern NJ.

We offer a variety of opportunities for the public to learn about and connect with their natural environment, including informative films and speakers at our monthly general meetings; exploration of the great outdoors on hikes, edible plant tours and picnics; public outreach via town tabling; and visits to schools to teach students about the environment. Our hope is to foster a love of and deep respect for our great outdoors.

As advocates, The Skylands Group works with other grassroots organizations to protect open spaces and water quality; promote clean energy; oppose privatization of our

There's an electronic bi-weekly Chapter Alert Service. Sign up at www.scnj.convio.net.

Conservation Co-Chair: Mary Walsh * blehlwalsh@hotmail.com
Conservation Co-Chair: Laura Tracey Coll * lauratraceycoll@hotmail.com
Political Chair: Jermaine Spence * spencejermaine@hotmail.com
Political Associate: Phoebe Gistrak * p-mg@att.net
Air Quality Issues: Laura Tracey-Coll * lauratraceycoll@hotmail.com
Climate Issues: Jeff Rapaport jefrap@optonline.net
Fundraising Chair: Francie Goldstein * franciegoldstein@gmail.com
Membership Chair: Buddy Jenssen * buddy.jenssen@gmail.com
Outings Co-Chair: Ellen Blumenkrantz eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com
Outings Co-Chair: Mary Walsh * blehlwalsh@hotmail.com
Programs Chair: Buddy Jenssen * buddy.jenssen@gmail.com
Publicity Chair: Marty Cohen martincohen@verizon.net
Social Media Coor: Ariana Schanzer arianaschanzer@gmail.com
Trail Maintenance: Marty Cohen martincohen@verizon.net
Webmaster/Listmaster: *Open position!*
 (* Group Executive Committee Member)

The North Jersey Group continues its concerted efforts of political engagement, raising environmental awareness, and activism.

The present political push is a continuation of the effort to elect people with an environmental consciousness. Last fall Chairperson Buddy Jenssen, Political Chair Jermaine Spence and several other Sierra Club members went from door to door soliciting votes for representatives Gordon, Eustace, and Lagana. This year the effort will be on voter registration for the mid-term elections.

In early December the Passaic County Board of Freeholders announced at their meeting that there will be no disk golf at Rifle Camp Park. The director announced that “they have listened to the people.” It seems that the consistent representation at every meeting and our 2500 signatures against the disk golf had an effect. The director also praised the passion and perseverance of all involved.

On January 15th, the Group showed the movie “Up From the Ashes” at the Ethical Culture Society in Teaneck. Some 50 people attended and stayed for a discussion afterwards. The event was well-publicized on our Facebook page, where 47 people had indicated their interest.

The Long Swamp issue is in limbo, as the neighboring buildings have hired a lawyer to prevent construction of a 14-story building (down from 17) between them. According to Laura Tracey-Coll, the developer imagines he is going to get a permit to do it. Finally, the Group continues to reach out to new and present members with social events. In early December we had an event at Brix City Brewery, where we introduced our new beer mug with the Sierra Club logo (free to newly signed up members). A severe snow storm kept the attendance down, but we will continue the outreach on February 25th, at Veggie Heaven in Teaneck, from 5 to 7pm.

There will also be more showings of two movies this winter, and a panel discussion on solar panels in May. In June we will have a picnic most likely at Rifle Camp.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

Unless otherwise noted, meetings and outings are free and open to general public. Please check our Meetup page, Facebook page, or web site for meeting dates, times, and topics (see above for URLs). You can also email us at northjerseysierraclub@gmail.com.

Gateway Group

Serving Hillside, Elizabeth, and Essex County (except for Livingston, Millburn and Roseland)

The Gateway Group was organized in January 2011. Please contact any of the leaders below if you are interested in joining our campaigns to protect the environment. There are several Gateway Group positions open.

Our website: <http://sierraclub.org/new-jersey/Gateway/>. (also accessible from the NJ Chapter website)

Please also join the Gateway Group on **Facebook** at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Gateway-Group-NJ-Sierra-Club/128998363842782>.

OFFICERS:
Chair: Suzanne Trimel 973-509-8335 suzanne.trimel@gmail.com
Vice-Chair: David Yennior 973-844-1384 dyennior@gmail.com
Secretary: *Open Position!*
Treasurer: Anne Hirs 973-844-1121 annchirs83@gmail.com
Program Co-Chairs: Suzanne Trimel 973-509-8335 suzanne.trimel@gmail.com
 ZaSah Khademi 201-618-8572 zasah@aol.com
 and Steven Yafet 908-354-2537 syafet@gmail.com

Publicity Chair: *Open Position!*
Conservation Co-Chairs: ZaSah Khademi 201-618-8572 zasah@aol.com
 and David Korfhage 973-932-0742 drkorfhage@gmail.com
Political Chair: *Open Position!*
Fundraising Chair: *Open Position!*
Membership Chair: Steven Yafet 908-354-2537 syafet@gmail.com
Water, Newark Issues Chr: Bill Chappel 973-623-6490 chappel.bill@gmail.com
Recycling Issues Chair: Lyle Landon 201-247-0288 lylelandon@aol.com
Passaic River Co-Chairs: Brenda Toyloy 973-856-7056 brendatoyloy@yahoo.com
 and Jeff Weiss 973-650-1030 bonefish5000@gmail.com
Elizabeth Issues Chair: Paula Borenstein 908-289-3584 brdandmkt@aol.com
Outings Chair: *Open Position!*
Group Executive Committee: David Yennior, Bill Chappel, and ZaSah Khademi

Please contact Suzanne Trimel, Gateway’s Chair, if you have any ideas or suggestions for a program in the future. The Gateway Group is very grateful for the contributions of Anna Whitley, John Beadle, Barbara Conover, ZaSah Khademi, Bill Chappel, Steven Yafet, Anne Hirs, Paula Borenstein, and Brenda Toyloy.

The Gateway Group invites YOU to join in the activism and asks your support as we strive to address the many issues facing the urban as well as suburban communities.

Gateway has been involved in the recent **Massive Climate March in NYC**, stopping more surface parking lots in Newark, banning Fracking Fluids in Elizabeth, cosponsoring a GMO documentary, a proposed development in Verona, a church expansion in Cedar Grove, the Pilgrim Pipeline, Keystone XL Pipeline, Fracking, Newark’s Covanta Incinerator, Passaic River Restoration Community Advisory Group, Maplewood Green Day, formerly the West Orange Seton Hall project, the Newark Water Wars, advocating for NJ Sierra endorsed candidates for State and National Offices, and supporting other environmental groups.

There are several vacant positions listed, along with a full list of officers. For further information about upcoming activities, volunteer opportunities, or to discuss any concerns please contact Suzanne Trimel: 201-247-5057.

LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS: There are no events currently on the calendar. For up to date information about programs please check the website.

Hudson County Group

Website: <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/hudson-county>.
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HudsonCountySierraClub>
E-mail: hudsonsierraclub@gmail.com

OFFICERS: (*=ExCom)

Chair: David ‘Ace’ Case* acecase88@gmail.com
Vice-Chair: *Open position! Email Ace to volunteer!*
Secretary: Patricia Hilliard* hilliard_patricia@hotmail.com
Treasurer: *Open position! Email Ace to volunteer!*
Political Chair: Seth Lubin* sthlubin@gmail.com
Conservation Chair: Jon Perrelle* jonperelle@gmail.com
Delegate to ExCom: Hugh Evans* HLEvans.Sierra@gmail.com
Publicity Chair: John Ottomanelli* otto.pittsburgh@gmail.com
Membership Chair: Patricia Hilliard* hilliard_patricia@hotmail.com
Programs/Events Chair: Steve Krinsky stevekrinsky@comcast.net
ExCom-at-Large: Nancy Booth* boothnancy2011@hotmail.com
Webmaster: John Ottomanelli* otto.pittsburgh@gmail.com
Art Design: Ann Marshall ann.marshall@gmail.com

MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

Hudson County Book Group. Thurs, Mar 29; 6:30-8pm. WORD Bookstore, 123 Newark Ave, Jersey City. The Book Group will meet to read and discuss literature about environmental justice, conservation policy, climate change, sustainable development, etc. We have voted to read ‘The End of Nature’ by Bill McKibben; Book Group members will receive a 10% discount when they purchase the book at WORD Bookstore – just mention the Sierra Club Book Group!

Liberty State Park Nature Walk: Sun, May 20, 10am-Noon. Liberty State Park Station, Hudson-Bergen Light Rail. We will walk the trail along Zapp Drive to learn about the variety of trees and the bird migration at Liberty State Park. Walk ends at the Terminal Building in the park.

Group Executive Committee Meeting: Sun, June 17, 12:30-2pm. Zeppelin Hall Beer Garden, 88 Liberty View Dr, Jersey City. The public may attend; only committee members may vote.

Loantaka Group

(Morris and Union Counties (except for Elizabeth and Hillside), plus Livingston, Millburn and Roseland, approximately)

WEBSITE: <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/loantaka/>
 Loantaka now has a FaceBook page. Please check it out and like it:
<https://www.facebook.com/LoantakaGroupNJSC>

OFFICERS:

Group Chair (Acting): Paul Sanderson 908-233-2414 paulmsanderson@aol.com
Treasurer: Paul Sanderson 908-233-2414 paulmsanderson@aol.com
Secretary: Scott McCarthy 813-767-5593 hi_risescott@earthlink.net
Conservation Chairs:
Morris County: Len Fariello len@wildlifepreserves.org
Union County: *Open Position!*
Political Chair: Clea Carchia 908-892-7229 info@cleacarchia.com
Programs: Ahlia Bethea ahlia.bethea@gmail.com
Fundraising Chair: Eric Hausker 732-669-0719 ericbiomass@gmail.com
Outings Chair: *Open Position!*
Publicity Chair: Wynn Johanson 908-464-0442 johansons@comcast.net
Membership: Bruce Ostrow 973-625-0792 ostrowb@gmail.com
Webmaster: Wynn Johanson 908-464-0442 johansons@comcast.net
Upper Passaic River Coor: Kathy O’Leary 908-647-2870 kolearypcnj@gmail.com
Energy Issue Coor: Chris Fleischman 908-956-4855 chris.fleischman@gmail.com

If you might be interested in getting involved, come to one of our Executive Committee Meetings on the first Tuesday of the month and get to know us. Or come to one of our General Meetings on the second Wednesday of the month. There are no obligations and there will be no pressure.

To find out our activities, go to: <http://sierraclub.org/new-jersey/loantaka/>

To join our e-mailing list, go to: <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/nj-loantaka-news.html>

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: are held on the FIRST TUESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at Library of the Chathams, 214 Main St, Chatham. All members are welcome at Executive Committee meetings. Right now, we have open positions on it! If you would like to find out more, please contact Paul Sanderson.

GENERAL MEETINGS: are held on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at the Library of the Chathams, 214 Main St, Chatham. Come learn something new

(Continued on page 8)

GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 7)

and make some new friends. We'd welcome the chance to meet you and to introduce ourselves. Please see the schedule, below, and join us! DIRECTIONS: posted on our website: <http://sierraclub.org/new-jersey/loantaka/>.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

Apr 11: To be announced. Please check our website for the most current information regarding General Meetings.

May 9: Sandra Lavigne, water quality expert at the Great Swamp Watershed, will discuss **current water quality issues** and the testing done in the Great Swamp Watershed.

June 13: To be announced. Please check our website for the most current information regarding General Meetings.

ACTIVITIES:

The Loantaka Group is working with concerned citizens and local environmental organizations to protect open space and wildlife habitat in Morris and Union Counties, and to safeguard the water resources on which we all depend. In addition, the Group is actively involved in State-wide initiatives involving air quality, transportation, and environmental legislation. Volunteers are always welcome. Call Paul at 908-233-2414. Consult our website (<http://sierraclub.org/new-jersey/loantaka/>) for more information.

Central Jersey Group

(Mercer County and neighboring towns in adjoining counties)

Web-site: <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/central-jersey>. Or click from the NJ Chapter's web-site. Please see the Outings List in this newsletter - or on Pineypaddlers.com.

OFFICERS:

Group Chair:	Joanne Pannone	609-443-6992	jpatmeadowbrook@gmail.com
Group Vice Chair:	Xiaoping Du		xiaping_du@yahoo.com
Secretary:	Leona Fluck		leona@pineypaddlers.com
Outings Coord:	George and Leona Fluck		leona@pineypaddlers.com
Treasurer:	Steve Eisenberg		steveis@optimum.net
Programs:	Joanne Pannone		jpatmeadowbrook@gmail.com
Conservation Chair:	Kip Cherry		KipAtTheSierraClub@gmail.com
Recycling:	Scott Fulmer		Swfulmer@icloud.com
Trails:	Dave Mattek		MattekDC@aol.com
Webmaster:	Ken Lyle		KenLyle@gmail.com
Education:	Jamie Witsen		JamieWitsen@gmail.com

Please join the Central Jersey Group of the NJ Sierra Club on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of each month, at 6pm, at Mercer County Community College. Pizza and snacks are provided before each presentation.

MCCC is located at 1200 Old Trenton Rd, West Windsor, 08550. Plenty of parking will be available in the normally-closed lot at the entrance to the Student Center. Just drive around to the entrance and you should find the entrance-arm in the up-position.

We have much to talk about - current events, environmental policies, Climate Change, work with other community-based organizations to discuss our strategies - all to keep the momentum going to stop pipelines, polluting sources such as incinerators, generating plants, factories, LNG plants, landfills, power plants, airports, over-development, and pollution causing degradation to our air and water quality. We lobby for legislative changes to protect Mother Earth. We welcome your ideas and participation. Please RSVP to Kipatthesierraclub@gmail.com.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

Our schedule of meetings is posted on the website and the Central Group's Facebook Page.

Raritan Valley Group

(Middlesex and Somerset Counties and surrounding areas)

WEBSITE: <http://sierraclub.org/new-jersey/Raritan-Valley/>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/RaritanGroupNJSC/>

For current outings, please see the Outings List in this newsletter - or on Pineypaddlers.com.

OFFICERS:

Chair and Conservation

Chair:	Gary Frederick	609-203-3382	gfredsierra@gmail.com
Membership:	Gurdon Hornor	678-920-8620	ghornor@yahoo.com
Political Chair:	Daphne Speck-Barynski	732-390-5311	speckbartyn@comcast.net
Publicity Chair:	Dani Levis		
Secretary:	Patti Amor		
Treasurer:	S.Pasricha		
Webmaster:	Paul Ehrlich		p.w.ehrlich@gmail.com
Outings/Events			
Chair:	<i>Open position!</i>		
College Liaison:	<i>Open position!</i>		
Bee affairs:	Brenda Bradley		

Our **monthly committee meetings** are held on FOURTH WEDNESDAY of each month, from 7pm to 8:30, in New Brunswick. Meetings are free and open to the public. We discuss the environmental news important to New Jersey and the Raritan Valley, plus discuss upcoming events, speakers, volunteer efforts, etc. To confirm the location of the meeting, please contact Gary Frederick at gfredsierra@gmail.com.

The issues of interest to our communities include but are not limited to:

1. **Opposition to gas and oil pipelines** that threaten our communities' air and water.
2. Conservation and protection of the **Raritan River basin** area.
3. Passage of and responsible enforcement of environmentally friendly **zoning and**

development ordinances.

4. **Prevention of conserved land** from commercial or other development. We are for preservation of open space and preventing diversion of land from the state's Green Acres program to commercial development.

We encourage you to attend your town's planning/zoning board or land use board meetings. If you are aware of development proposals in your town that may have a negative environmental impact, please let us know by attending our meetings and by contacting Gary Frederick at gfredsierra@gmail.com. We are also interested in any environmental news or events affecting Middlesex and Somerset counties and invite you to submit those items, as well.

Jersey Shore Group

(Monmouth County, approximately)

WEBSITE: <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/Jersey-Shore/>

OFFICERS:

Group Chair:	Dennis Anderson	732-970-4327	dennisaza@aol.com
	6 Maple Ave, Matawan NJ	07747	
Vice-Chair & Secretary:	Bob Grize	732-892-0684	nyucwnyppb@aol.com
Conservation Co-Chairs:	Faith Teitelbaum	732-513-5445	faithtei@aol.com
and:	Bob Sandberg	732-241-7757	Sandberg00@gmail.com
Social Media Chair:	Yazmin Sourias		yazming915@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Pat Fuschetto	732-308-4588	fusche40@yahoo.com
Political Chair:	Lara Zillow		lzulow@optimum.net
Outings Chair:	John Luard	732-708-9221	John.Luard@gmail.com
Outings Leaders:	<i>Needed!</i>		
Membership Chair:	Bob Grize	732-892-0684	nyucwnyppb@aol.com
Program Chair:	George Moffatt	732-544-1726	gmoffattgt@aol.com
Climate Chair:	<i>Open position!</i>		
Fund-raising Co-Chairs:	Lois Blake	732-863-5917	lqblake@optonline.net
and:	Faith Teitelbaum	732-513-5445	faithtei@aol.com
Publicity Chair	Lara Zillow		lzulow@optimum.net
High School Coor:	Lara Zulow		lzulow@optimum.net

Jersey Shore Group Happenings:

Progress at Whale Pond Greenway - The Jersey Shore Sierra Club is a partner of the Whale Pond Brook Watershed Association, whose goal is to restore the banks and water quality of Whale Pond Brook and create a greenway from the Long Branch shoreline to the uplands in Tinton Falls.

Ross Island Park, with its beautiful Sierra Club-funded butterfly garden, gets so many compliments we were asked to be part of the Long Branch Historical Tour this past summer. We've also developed a pictorial guide to the watershed, which we will soon post on our Sierra web page and other social media.

Help Needed for Cleanups: If you would like to participate in cleanups of our local waterways, please contact Laura Bagwell at l.bagwell3@verizon.net. Laura focuses on the Red Bank area watersheds. In this effort, we work with the Navesink Swimming River Group which, since 2002, has removed more than 20 tons of debris from our local banks and streams. Alas, pollution never ends; we are in constant need of volunteers.


GENERAL MEETINGS: Our general membership meetings take place at 6pm on the FOURTH MONDAY of the month at Brookdale Community College's Lincroft Campus (BCC). We are delighted that the college has invited us to continue the joint meetings of Sierra members, BCC students and the public through 2018. Our meetings, billed by BCC as "Science Monday," average 75 attendees a month, with some talks peaking at 120 to 150 people. The cooperative effort between Sierra and BCC extends the "reach" of both organizations into the Monmouth community. Our BCC liaison is Dr. Patricia Dillon, biology professor in the college's Science Department.

We meet at BCC to share our speakers with environmentally-concerned BCC college students, the general public, and other environmental organizations. A buffet is available for the students and adults at 6pm. The programs start at 6:30pm.

To get to Brookdale, take GSP Exit 109 to Rte 520 West (Newman Springs Rd, which becomes E Main St at the Lincroft campus). Exit the traffic circle into the campus and follow the signs to the Warner Student Life Center (SLC), where the meeting usually is in the Twin Lights Rooms I and II. Use parking lot 7. As you walk towards the building complex, Warner will be down the slope on your left. If lot 7 is full, use parking lots 5 or 6. A campus map is at http://www.brookdalecc.edu/PDFFiles/MAPS/MAP_04_08.pdf.

Please see our website for a complete schedule of our meetings.

Apr 23: Pollution and Social Bias. Dr. Nicky Sheats, Director of the Center for the Urban Environment in the John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy at Thomas Edison State University, Trenton, is an advocate for improving air quality and reducing PM-2.5 air particles, and has worked with high school students on a monitoring system that helped to identify urban hot spots of pollution that deserve more attention.

May 12: Special Fund Raiser. The Long Branch Elks and Boy Scout Troop 148 of Long Branch are hosting a fund raiser to benefit the Whale Pond Brook Watershed Association and the Jersey Shore Group with a night of interpretative music of the "The Big Three B's," the Beatles, Bruce, and Bob D. The Association and Sierra are supporting a multi-community effort to create a nature path along Whale Pond Brook linking Long Branch with Tinton Falls. A mere \$18 at the door or a mere-er \$14 in advance entitles you to a delicious  at 6:30, the music at 7:30, and the warm feeling of supporting a community-based open space program. To register, please, go to <http://beatles-bruce-bob.eventbrite.com> or call 1-908-938-5518. See 'ya there!

May 28: Speaker to be announced.

June 25: Yes, You Can - Several members of the Jersey Shore Group will give us updates on their community conservation efforts for the past 12 months.

Ocean County Group

WEBSITE: MEETUP.COM/SIERRA-CLUB-OCEAN-GROUP

OFFICERS:

Acting Chair & Conservation Chair: Margit Meissner-Jackson sylviaJ1910@yahoo.com
Vice-Chair & Treasurer: Laura Stone Laura36@yahoo.com
Outings & Envl Ed'n: Terrance Brown terrybrown@comcast.net
Fund-Raising Chair: Joyce M. Isaza realtymstr@aol.com
Recording Secretary: Margaret-Mary Piccolo gogreenp1@yahoo.com
Group ExCom Member: William Rodgers
Group ExCom Member: Laura Stone laura36@yahoo.com

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Held bi-monthly on the SECOND MONDAY of the month at CAPONE'S.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS: Held bi-monthly at the Skywalk Cafe in Toms River, except July and August. In July, we held our annual BBQ Fund-Raiser. August is an "outings month."

ACTIVITIES & ISSUES: With all of the environmental challenges we face at the local, state and national levels our group is focused on a number of critical issues. Locally and state-wide we're fighting a myriad of over-development issues and our Group with our allies is working hard to **save Barnegat Bay and the Pinelands**, two natural gems in Ocean County.

With Pres. Trump's seemingly limitless assault on our environment, we're also engaged in several national issues. Over 140 people from "Ocean" attended the **People's Climate March** in April. And we work closely with the Alaska Wilderness League, the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and Appalachian Voices to protect those respective sacred areas.

FOR MORE INFORMATION on our activities and upcoming events contact our group Chair or visit our web site.

West Jersey Group

(Camden, Gloucester and Burlington Counties, approximately)

JOIN US AT MOD PIZZA IN CHERRY HILL ON APRIL 22 FOR A FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT WEST JERSEY GROUP

Mod Pizza is located at 706 Haddonfield Rd #1, Cherry Hill 08002, 856-406-1476. Eat in or take out, all day long; 20% of your purchase will be refunded to the West Jersey Group for our conservation and monthly programs. Check out their great menu options at www.modpizza.com.

You will need a coupon to present at time of purchase. Watch our Facebook page for details in April: <https://www.facebook.com/WestJerseyGroupNJSC/>

Or contact Gina at ginaceee@verizon.net

WEBSITE: <http://sierraclub.org/new-jersey/West-Jersey/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WestJerseyGroupNJSC> Log on and Like Us
Follow us on Twitter @Wjsierraclub and Instagram @wjsierraclub

OFFICERS:

Group Chair: Gina Carola 856-848-8831 ginaceee@verizon.net
Vice-Chair: Frank Zinni efzin4@aol.com
Secretary: Ellen Zinni efzin4@aol.com
Treasurer: Trish Clements patri3210@gmail.com
Publicity Chair: Anne Caridi annecaridi@yahoo.com
Political Chair: Linda Rubiano Linda_Maritz@yahoo.com
Pinelands Rep: Lee Snyder pinelands1@hotmail.com
Greenways Coord's: Frank and Ellen Zinni efzin4@aol.com
Conservation Chair: Stacey Ayala thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com
Delegate at Large: Aida Ayala thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com
Membership Chair: Mike Brown 856-547-9221 eyebrown@verizon.net
Fundraising Chair: *Open position!* Call Gina to volunteer. 856-848-8831
Smart Growth Chair: *Open position!* Call Gina to volunteer. 856-848-8831
Programs Chair: *Open position!* Call Gina to volunteer. 856-848-8831
Outings Chair: *Open position!* Call Gina to volunteer. 856-848-8831
Social Media Coord's: Evan Kostka evan.kostka@gmail.com
 and Dayna Hovern dayna.hovern@gmail.com

GENERAL MEETINGS: are held at 7:30 pm on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of each month, September thru May, at the Quaker Meeting Hall on Friends Ave in Haddonfield. Inclement weather may cancel. Please call 856-848-8831 if unsure.

Directions: From I-295, take exit 34B onto Rte 70 West. Follow the signs for Rte 41 South, which is Kings Hwy (you will have to exit to the right into a jug handle and then turn left onto Rte 41 (Kings Hwy). Cross over Rte 70 and you will be briefly on Rte 154 (Brace Rd). Make the next right and then the next left onto Kings Hwy. After about 1 mile, you will cross Grove Rd (Indian King Tavern is on the right corner). After crossing Grove Rd, go two more blocks and turn right on to Friends Ave. Go one block to the Meeting House. Park in the lot next to the Meeting House and enter the auditorium through the doors on the right side of the building. Do not go into the Meeting House.

Apr 11: Camden County Parks - Jack Sworaski of the Camden County Parks office will update the club on the latest enhancements to the park system.

May 9: Solar for Your Home - Howie Stein, a West Group member will share his experience with installing solar panels on his home. He will discuss the pros and pitfalls of the project to help others make informed decisions before they take the plunge.

The West Jersey Group does not meet in June, July or August. Please join us on a hike or paddling trip. Meetings resume on Sept 12.

South Jersey Group

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

OFFICERS:

Group, Outings Chair: Tom Boghosian 609-625-0878 boghosian1@verizon.net
Vice-Chair: *Open Position!*
Conservation Chair: *Open Position!*
Pol. Chair, Calendars: Dick Colby 609-965-4453 dick.colby@stockton.edu
Membership Chair: *Open Position!*
Secretary/Treasurer: Julie Akers 609-432-3280 julieakers56@gmail.com

The central conservation issue, adopted just after the Group was founded in the 1970s, continues to be protection of the Great Egg Harbor Wild & Scenic River, and continues to consume the energies of those few officers who remain active both within the Sierra Club and in the Watershed Association (GEHWA) that spun off from the South Jersey Group. Very few of our local members seem interested in the meetings we once scheduled (monthly, from the early 1980s until 2005). For now, we'll continue to be listed in this Newsletter, and offer a point of contact for Club members in South Jersey who want help with local issues. We strongly recommend GEHWA's website for keeping up with local issues, and for links to many other local, regional, state and national environmental organizations: www.gehwa.org. If you have topics (and places) for meetings, please let the officers know about them. We welcome general comments from Club members in South Jersey. To be placed on a carefully guarded distribution list for local issues and meetings, please e-mail dick.colby@stockton.edu. Dick is also an Atlantic County Parks Commissioner; contact him if you might be interested in attending monthly meetings of the Commission, which are open to the public.

Tom Boghosian is an avid kayaker, both ocean-going and in fresh waters, possibly willing to lead trips.

Current Issues: (1) A land-use controversy in Millville - over what is known as the **Durand Tract**, seems to be back in controversy, with a court requiring reconsideration. Jeff Tittel is probably the most knowledgeable person in the Chapter. (2) Controversy continues over the construction of a large-diameter (24") **natural gas pipeline** to feed the BL England electric power plant in Marmora (Cape May Co), with a lawsuit pending by us and Environment New Jersey. (3) Veronica Van Hof has been hired as director of the **Unexpected Wildlife Refuge**, which straddles Atlantic and Gloucester Counties on Unexpected Road. She holds a degree in wildlife biology. You can reach her through the Refuge telephone: 856.697.3541 - or by e-mail: director@unexpectedwildliferefuge.org. (4) We're finalizing - clearing and blazing - the route, through Atlantic, Cumberland and Cape May Counties, of a **long-distance (state-length) footpath**. Help could be used! (5, etc.) Campaigns to prevent the use of **tropical rainforest wood** for rebuilding oceanfront boardwalks, in Ocean City and Wildwood, seem quiescent at present. Club officers and staff have been following several studies seeking to determine **sustainable water supply** levels for southeastern New Jersey, with the hope that findings will be used by planners (such as those employed by the Pinelands Commission) who permit development. On **damage being done to sand trails** by ORVs in Wharton State Forest, the DEP has sided with the vehicle enthusiasts by rejecting a Motorized Access Map prepared by the Park staff. The next move will be the DEP's. Also a campaign to promote **Community Solar** (photo-voltaic) installations (especially in each municipality in Atlantic County), support for legislation that would end the free distribution of **plastic bags** at supermarkets (as Longport in Atlantic County has done), and support for a New Jersey Bottle Bill, known as the Smart Container Act.

Some Possibly Relevant Activities of Allied Organizations:

Apr 4, May 2 and June 6: (first Wednesdays), 6:30pm: Atlantic County Friends of the Parks: Monthly meetings of Friends of the Parks, a group which works to improve and promote the Atlantic County Park System. All are welcome. Warren Fox Nature Center (WFNC*), Atlantic County Park in Estell Manor, Milepost 15 on NJ Rte 50, 3½ miles south of Mays Landing. Contact Julie Akers, 609-432-3280.

Apr 11 and June 13: (alternate second Wednesdays), 7pm: Bi-monthly meeting of Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River and its Tributaries (another "Partnership River" under federal protection): Meeting place: George Luciano Center, Cumberland County College. Cumberland County development issues are commonly discussed, including art, historical and recreational attributes of the area. Contact Karla Rossini (CU) at 609-774-5853 or karla.rossini@cumaauriceriver.org. Website: www.cumaauriceriver.org.

Apr 18 and June 20: (alternate third Wednesdays), 6:30pm: Great Egg Harbor Scenic and Recreational River Council: Representatives of the 12 municipalities discuss river management strategies. Open to the public. WFNC*. Contact Julie Akers, 609-432-3280.

Apr 22 (Sun): Earth Day! Meet some of our officers at the GEHWA table in the Big Tent at ACUA's annual festival: at the ACUA solid waste facility, 6700 Delilah Rd, Egg Harbor Twp.

Apr 25, May 23 and June 27: (fourth Wednesdays), 7pm: Atlantic Audubon Society is a lively member-organization with strong environmental programs and an excellent monthly on-line newsletter. Membership is free. Meetings are in the Galloway Twp Library, 306 E Jimmie Leeds Rd. www.AtlanticAudubon.org.

May 22: (alternate fourth Tuesdays) 6:30pm: Great Egg Harbor River Watershed Association: get yourself onto the electronic mailing list by contacting Lynn Maun, 856-649-2792 or email lynnkmaun@comcast.net.

350.org South Jersey is an organization that opposes Climate Change, and that tries to hold monthly meetings at the Unitarian Universalist Church on Pomona Rd (Rte 575) opposite the Stockton College campus in Galloway Twp, Atlantic Co. Contact Glenn Klotz: glennk1949@gmail.com, or Ron Hutchison: HutchisR@Stockton.edu.

Singles Section

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

Please join us! The NJ Singles Section was specifically created to offer a variety of singles-oriented activities to NJ Sierra Club members and those who would like to know more about us. We are not a local group; we are a statewide additional "layer" of Club involvement. Everyone is welcome to attend our events. Come out and meet fellow Club members and others who care about the environment. We can only offer as many activities as we have volunteers to run them - if you have the slightest urge to get involved, please contact one of our officers!

(continued on page 10)

Become active in one of your Group's conservation campaigns! Attend a Group meeting! Meetings offer interesting speakers and topics, nice fellow-members, and usually food!

GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 9)

WEBSITE: <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/sierra-singles>

The BEST way to be notified of upcoming events is to join our free listserv. Anyone may subscribe by going to: <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-SINGLES-NEWS.html> and clicking on "Join or leave the list." You may subscribe and unsubscribe at will; directions on how to unsubscribe are at the bottom of each announcement. We recommend joining the listserv to receive announcements for all of our events a few weeks before each event. Events are also listed on the online calendar on the Chapter's web site: sierraclub.org/new-jersey.

You can now also "like" us on Facebook: "Singles Group New Jersey Sierra Club".

OFFICERS:

Interim Chair:	Ron Pate	ronpate31@verizon.net
Outings Chair:	Joyce Haddad	jkhaddad@juno.com
Conservation Chair:	<i>Position Open - Contact us! We need you!</i>	
Treasurer:	Joyce White	joyce.white.exec@gmail.com
Social Chair:	Joe Prebish	Joe.Prebish@kraft.com
Vice Social Chair:	Jeff Sovelove	Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com
Programs:	<i>Position Open - Contact us! We need you!</i>	
Publicity:	<i>Position Open - Contact us! We need you!</i>	
Membership:	<i>Position Open - Contact us! We need you!</i>	
Nominations:	Nancy Sullivan	nancysullivan@comcast.net

2015 Executive Committee members: Rozanna Fanelli, Joyce Haddad, Ron Pate, Joe Prebish, Jeff Sovelove, Daphne Speck Bartynski, Joyce White.

Volunteer Opportunities: We need volunteers in all areas of the state to run events. Volunteers needed as hike leaders, Fundraising Chair/Co-Chairs, and members of all committees, including planning social events and conservation activities. Please attend an executive committee meeting or email any of the officers if you are interested. You may co-chair any position with a friend, if desired. We're happy to help you learn the ropes.

GENERAL MEETINGS: Casual pizza gathering, introduction to club issues and activities, speakers, and letter-writing at the Chatham Library. Dates and topics will be announced on our listserv; see above for subscription information.

ExCom meetings take place as needed at various locations. All welcome. Contact any officer for information.

SOCIAL GATHERINGS:

SOCIAL DINNER: THIRD TUESDAY of each month at 7pm. Join us for dinner at a variety of Montclair restaurants. Location will be announced 2 weeks before each social. RSVP is required as described in the announcement.

SOCIAL DINNERS with MOVIE SHOWINGS are scheduled approximately monthly in New Brunswick. Join us for thought-provoking films and conversation over casual dinners. Topics and locations will be announced on our listserv and on the Chapter's online calendar (see above).

HIKES AND OTHER OUTINGS:

The Singles Section sponsors many outings, ranging from beginners' level to advanced difficulty. Some of these are listed in this newsletter; others are announced only on our listserv and the Chapter's online calendar. See the Outings section of this Newsletter for singles outings led by Jimi Oleksiak and Jeff Sovelove. Please join the listserv to receive notification of all of our outings (see above for instructions on how to subscribe).

Sierra Silver Singles is a subgroup that organizes hikes and other social events to appeal to Singles over 50. Most events are scheduled followed by an optional meal at a location determined by the leader. See the Outings section of this Newsletter for Silver Singles outings. Check the Singles listserv for announcements of more Silver Singles outings.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Section

Our mission of this Section is to support Sierra Club goals, and to promote activism within the LGBT community through letter writing, phone calls, and other active support for environmental issues. Anyone is welcome to join our outings regardless of sexual orientation.

WEB SITE: <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/LGBT/>

MEETUP: <http://www.meetup.com/njsierraclub>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/njsierralgbt>

OFFICERS:

Co-Chair:	Robert Zitzman *	robertmz@att.net
Co-Chair:	John Kashwick *	jkashwick@gmail.com
Secretary:	Corbett Klein *	corbettklein@outlook.com
Outings Co-Chair:	Jonathan Wall *	dojdwall@gmail.com
Outings Co-Chair:	Robert Zitzman *	robertmz@att.net
Webmaster/Listmaster:	John Kashwick *	jkashwick@gmail.com
Ex-Com Member:	<i>OPEN POSITION--contact John or Robert if interested</i>	

(* Section Executive Committee Member)

MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

Check [Meetup.com/njsierraclub](http://www.meetup.com/njsierraclub) or www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/LGBT/ for outings listings. You can also receive updated information by joining our email list. Please contact John at jkashwick@gmail.com to be included in the list.

Volunteers Needed! We are continuing to recruit volunteers and outings leaders. For more information, please email John at jkashwick@gmail.com or Robert at robertmz@att.net.

THE NEW JERSEY MARCH FOR SCIENCE: APRIL 14, TRENTON

A satellite of the March being held in Washington D.C. on the same day
An informative, educational and uplifting program on the importance of science and evidence-based decision-making. Information and updates: <https://www.njmarchforscience.com/>; Facebook and twitter: @NJScienceMarch.

Senior Section/Fifty-Plus Section

(A chapter-wide special interest section which offers a weekly to monthly calendar of activities and events, including hikes, clean ups, social gatherings, dinner get-togethers and other functions intended for those members over fifty)

More New Jersey events are posted on a web site: <http://www.funtravels.com>. In addition, a monthly Buy & Sell newsletter is sent out to members free of charge, in which they can list items they are searching for or want to buy.

The mission of this section is to support Sierra Club goals, and to promote activism through letter writing, phone calls, and other active support for environmental issues.

We work through a "list-serve," by which members learn about current environmental issues, and how they can be supported.

Arline Zatz is the editor and Chair of the Senior Section/Fifty-Plus Section. She can be reached at azatz@funtravels.com, and invites members to check her web site at www.funtravels.com for trips, tips, and travel information regarding New Jersey and other states.

Paul Ehrlich is the Vice-Chair (p.w.ehrlich@gmail.com).

Sierra Student Coalition

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

National Website: <http://www.ssc.org/>

Introducing Children to the Outdoors Section

(another Chapter-wide special interest activity with the motto: No Child Left Inside!)

OFFICERS:

Chair: Marty Cohen pele4191@gmail.com

Once again we took 38 students from Paterson's Clemente Middle School on a hike in Harriman State Park. As we had enough leaders and assistants, we could break the group in two and do two separate hikes, a lot more enjoyable for all involved than an H. M. Stanley expedition. The weather cooperated so, despite the challenging trails and hills, there were smiles all around.

NJ-ICO is a public service program, one of 50 Sierra Club groups nationwide which provide about 1,000 nature outings per year, oriented towards children. About five such outings take place in New Jersey each year. That's right: only five - but they are great! We sure could use a couple of steering committee members to help expand this wonderful program.

If you would like information about volunteering or if you would just like to be placed on our email list for our sporadically issued e-newsletters, please send me an e-mail.

On the Trail Let's Visit Utah!



In the absence of something more substantial, here's a proposal for a CHAPTER OUTING - now in the early incubation stage: New Jersey visits Utah:

We are looking to see if there is interest in a one-week outing to Moab, in southeastern Utah, and its surrounding Colorado Plateau area, in the last week of 2018 or the first weeks of 2019. We would be guided by local Sierra Club outings people, and perhaps staff of the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance.

Evening flight to Denver from Newark or Philadelphia, overnight there, then the most spectacular mileage in the Amtrak System: the California Zephyr climbs the Rockies, passes through the Moffit Tunnel, then winds down the Colorado River Gorge to Green River,

Utah - where an evening bus takes us to Moab! It will be the off-season for Moab's old hotels, and the opportunity to hike in nearby Canyonlands and Arches National Parks, with options suitable for both top-form and age-limited hikers. Side trip, no doubt, to Bears Ears National Monument before it is possibly gutted by Trumpism. Return by a reversal of the out-bound route. Ballpark cost estimate \$1500 inclusive. An electronic show of interest is invited: please e-mail Dick.Colby@Stockton.edu, with Moab in the subject line, to be kept informed of developments, and to suggest a best timing for you. For incentive, you might google "Moab photos" or try www.jamesb.com/top-photo-spots-moab/.



Outings

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

GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS

(roughly north to south)

Skylands: Dave Alcock: dwhoob@hotmail.com

South Highlands: Jonathan Wall

psychologist@jonwall.com

North Jersey: Co-Chairs: Ellen Blumenkrantz

ellenblumenkrantz@hotmail.com, 201-784-8417 and

Mary Walsh: blehlwalsh@hotmail.com

Gateway: Vacant

Hudson Co: Natalya DeRobertis-Theye

natalyadt@gmail.com

Loantaka: Vacant

Central Jersey: Leona & George Fluck

Leona@pineypaddlers.com

Raritan Valley: Vacant

Jersey Shore: John Luard: John.Luard@gmail.com

Ocean County: Terrance Brown: 848-333-7331

terrybrown@comcast.net

West Jersey: Vacant

South Jersey: Tom Boghosian, 609-625-0878 (H)

4794 Andorea Drive, Mays Landing, 08330

boghosian1@verizon.net

Singles Section: Joyce Haddad, jkhaddad@juno.com

LGBT Section: Jonathan Wall: dojdwall@gmail.com, and Robert Zitzman: robertmz@att.net
ICO: Anne Dyjak 732-560-0953 (H)
 NJ-ICO, 17 Mt. Horeb Rd, Warren, 07059
River Touring: Fred Tocce, 908-453-2205 (H)
 RD-1, Box 277, Washington, 07882
Chapter Outings Chair: Ellen Blumenkrantz
 ellenblumenkrantz@hotmail.com, 201-784-8417

Outing Leaders: Please send July-September 2018 write-ups to your Group Outings Coordinator (or, if you don't associate yourself with a single Group, directly to Ellen Blumenkrantz, the Chapter Outings Chair) before May 6. If you are planning to lead an outing close to the beginning of one of our quarterly publication periods, please submit it also for the previous Sierran, due to the occasional lag in mailing. Also, please send outing rosters or sign-up sheets to the Chapter Office as soon as possible after each outing.

Note: Group Outings Coordinators: Please submit your July-September 2018 trip write-ups by May 10.

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

Sierra Club outings are arranged by volunteer leaders who are in charge of the trip and responsible for the safety, welfare and enjoyment of all participants. Leaders determine qualifications to participate, adequacy of equipment, routes to be followed, and special precautions to be taken. Please arrive adequately prepared and equipped. If you have any allergies, please remember to bring your medication. The leader has the final word in the conduct of the trip. Your cooperation will help assure a safe and pleasant outing.

Please arrive early at the meeting place so that the outing can start on time. For day hikes, lunch, water (at least a liter), extra clothing, rain gear, and emergency equipment should be carried in a small daypack. For all except easy hikes, sturdy over-the-ankle shoes or boots should be worn. For most trips, you are expected to have your own equip-

ment. In some cases, it may be rented from outdoor/camping suppliers - check the yellow pages or call the trip leader. If the weather is questionable on the date of the outing, you may assume that it will take place, unless the schedule indicates otherwise.

Unless registration is required, or if you have a question about the outing, it is not necessary to contact the leader before the trip. However, as these outings are planned many months in advance, we do advise that you contact the trip leader 1-2 days before the outing to make sure it is not cancelled. Do not call to join a trip after the posted deadline date. When phoning a leader, please honor his or her requested calling times and call 3 to 5 days before the outing. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) when writing to a leader. On popular trips, Sierra Club members will be given preference.

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

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

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| (C) - Central Jersey | (JS) - Jersey Shore |
| (G) - Gateway | (L) - Loantaka |
| (N) - North Jersey | (Sk) - Skylands |
| (RV) - Raritan Valley | (S) - South Jersey |
| (W) - West Jersey | (NJ) - NJ Chapter |
| (RT) - River Touring | (ACOC) - Atlantic Chapter |

MAY

May 5 (Sat): Anthony Wayne/Harriman State Park hike (Rockland Co. NY) 10am. 6-hour, 8-9 mile strenuous hike includes a steep, rocky ascent to beautiful views of the Hudson River and surrounding areas. Nice pace - about 2 miles/hour on easier/flatter sections and a little slower on the steeper/rocky sections. Hiking boots, packed lunch and 2 liters of water required. Rain would cancel. Group limited to 12 people who must preregister with the leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: ellenblumenkrantz@hotmail.com. Directions to meeting location will then be provided. (N)

May 5 (Sat): Hike Huber Woods Park, Middletown (Monmouth Co). 9:30 am. We will walk the hickory and oak forest with occasional distant views of the Navesink River. About 4 miles at an easy pace, some ups and downs. Beginners welcome, supportive footwear recommended, bring plenty of water. Contact leader to register and learn meeting place: John.Luard@gmail.com. (JS)

May 6 (Sun): Hike the Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail in Washington Valley Park (Somerset Co). 10am. 5 miles, easy pace. Join us for the NJ Sierra Club's first hike on the Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail! Washington Valley Park consists of approximately 719 acres that lie along the First Watchung Ridge in Bridgewater Township. Many thanks to the Eagle Scout Project by Christopher Solan Troup 84 Somerville and W3R-US and the Partnership for the National Trails System intern grant. We can "March to Victory," hiking the lovely woods trails and cross Middle Brook, where in August, 1781, about 5,500 French Troops marched through Bridgewater on their way to defeat the British at the Battle of Yorktown. Christopher's link details their story and how Bridgewater played a part in the final major battle for America's fight for independence. Contact leaders to register for the hike and for meeting location: www.eagleprojecttrailofrochambeau.weebly.com. There is limited parking at the WRT trail head so we will car pool from the meeting location. Bring water and snacks. Option for late lunch at a local restaurant in Martinsville. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (RV)

May 7 (Mon): Pine Meadow Lake hike, Harriman State Park (Rockland Co, NY). 10am. An easy-moderate hike combining several scenic trails along streams and lakes in the southern section of Harriman State Park. Nice pace - about 2 miles/hour on easier/flatter sections and a little slower on the steeper/rocky sections. Hiking boots, packed lunch and 2 liters of water required. Rain would cancel. Group limited to 12 people who must preregister with the leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: ellenblumenkrantz@hotmail.com. Directions to meeting location will then be provided. (N)

May 9 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak the Rancocas Creek (Burlington Co). 9:30 am. The river section we'll paddle depends on river trail conditions. Option: early breakfast at the Vincentown Diner. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734. or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

May 12 (Sat): Lake Welch Hike, Harriman State Park, NY (Rockland Co). 10am. The hike will cover 8 miles in 5 hours, in hilly terrain. https://parks.ny.gov/parks/134/details.aspx. Features: Views of Lake Welch and beach, Views from the surrounding mountains. Facilities: The restrooms at the bathhouse should be open by our hike day. No pets. Requirements: hiking boots and a day-pack with water required. Bring a lunch. Registration required via Web: https://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/sierra-singles. Directions for the meeting place will be sent via email to members who register. Leader: Jimi Oleksiak: The_Hikist@mac.com.

May 13 (Sun): Hike at Cattus Island County Park (Ocean Co). 10am. 4-5 miles, easy pace. This is a great family hike as we walk flat trails through pinelands, around marshes, and along beaches while looking for returning Osprey in nesting platforms. There are vistas of Silver Bay. We'll meet at the Cooper Environmental Center which features exhibits in natural settings and live animals. Bring binoculars, water, snacks and lunch. Rain cancels. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

May 16 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak with your Pooch on the Wading River (Burlington Co). 10am. Join us for a 10-mile trip on the Wading River. Boats can be rented from Mick's Pine Barrens Canoe and Kayak Rental: 609-726-1380, or www.mickscanoerental.com. Contact leaders to confirm trip and river section we are paddling: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

May 26 (Sat): Turtleback Rock Hike, South Mountain Reservation (Essex Co). 10am. We will start at Turtleback Rock trailhead. See the Essex County Parks Commission website: https://www.essexcountyparks.org/parks/south-mountain-reservation, for directions. Bring water, and wear hiking boots. We will take the orange trail down to Hemlock Falls and also see the famous Turtleback Rock. Heavy/steady rain cancels. No pets please. Leader: Jeffrey Sovelove: Hiker_Dood@Yahoo.com. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike.

May 26 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak the Oswego River (Burlington Co). 10am. Enjoy an 8-mile spring paddle on "The Jewel of the Pinelands". Meet at Lake Oswego, Lake Oswego Rd. Bring lunch and water. Boats can be rented from Mick's Pine Barrens Rental: 609-726-1380, or www.mickscanoerental.com. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

May 27 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak with your Pooch on the Wading River (Burlington Co). 10am. Join us for a Memorial Day Weekend trip on the Wading River. Boats can be rented from Mick's Pine Barrens Canoe and Kayak Rental, 609-726-1380, or www.mickscanoerental.com. Contact leaders to confirm trip and river section we are paddling: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

May 28 (Mon): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River on Memorial Day (Hunterdon Co). 10am. The Hot Dog Man will be open Memorial Day weekend! We'll paddle 8 miles from Kingwood Access to Bulls Island. Paddling helmets required for all paddlers; spray skirts recommended for kayakers. Rentals are not available. Bring or buy lunch, snacks and beverage. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location. Current Sierra Club membership required. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

JUNE

Jun 2 (Sat): Hike Hartshorne Woods, Middletown and Highlands (Monmouth Co). 9am. Enjoy river views and mature woods. 4 or 5 miles, easy pace, some ups and downs, bring plenty of water, beginners welcome, supportive footwear recommended, a maximum of 12 adults. Contact leader to register and learn meeting place: John.Luard@gmail.com. (JS)

Jun 2 (Sat): Guided Hike at Cheesecake State Park on National Trails Day (Middlesex Co). 10am. 4 miles, on moderate trails, easy pace. The NJ Sierra Club's Raritan Valley Group is featuring Cheesecake State Park on National Trails Day! The Park is located in Old Bridge and its uniqueness lies in its geographical location. Not only is it situated in the middle of the urban north and the suburban south, it lies in a transitional zone between two different ecosystems. Open fields, saltwater and freshwater marshes, a white cedar swamp, Pine Barrens, and a northeastern hardwood forest are the main characteristics of the park. Jim Fazcak, the Park Naturalist, will be our guide. Pink Lady's Slippers may still be in bloom. Bring water, lunch, snacks. Rain cancels. Please RSVP with leaders for further details about the hike and for meeting location: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (RV)

Jun 3 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River (Hunterdon Co). 10am. Join us for an 8-mile trip on the Delaware River. The trip will be leisurely with opportunities to practice skills for paddling in moving water which include ferrying and eddy turns. Helmets required and spray skirts recommended. Current Sierra Club membership required. Contact leaders to confirm trip, participation and meeting location: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Jun 8 (Fri): Canoe/Kayak the Tidal Delaware River on World Oceans Day (Burlington/Bucks Cos). 10am. This is a 10-mile tidal trip - from one historic city to another! Bristol is the oldest town in Bucks County and the 3rd largest in PA. We can expect power boat traffic and boat wakes. Kayaks must be 12 ft or over; spray skirts recommended. Bring lunch and water. Current Sierra Club membership required. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Jun 9 (Sat): Ramapo Mountain hike from Back Beach Park, Wanaque (Passaic Co). 10am. http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/ramapo.html. The hike will cover 7 miles in 4 hours in hilly terrain. Features: The Wanaque Ridge Trail, Castle Point, Ramapo Lake. Facilities: The restrooms for the athletic fields should be open. No pets. Hiking boots and a day-pack with water and lunch required. Registration required via Web: https://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/sierra-singles. Directions for the meeting place will be sent via email to members who register. Leader: Jimi Oleksiak: The_Hikist@mac.com.

Jun 10 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak Cedar Creek (Ocean Co). 9am. Double Trouble State Park was established in 1964 to help protect the Cedar Creek watershed and now features over 8,000 acres of Pine Barrens habitats. We'll paddle 7 miles from Ore Pond to Dudley Park. Rental boats are available from Cedar Creek Campground http://www.cedarcreeknj.com/kayak-canoe Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Jun 14 (Thur): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River on Flag Day (Hunterdon Co). 10am. We'll paddle 8 miles from Kingwood to Bulls Island. Paddling helmets required for all paddlers; spray skirts recommended for kayakers. Rentals are not available. Bring lunch, snacks and beverage. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location. Current Sierra Club membership required. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Jun 16 (Sat): Lewis Morris Park Hike (Morris Co). 10am. We will start at Sunrise Lake, then hike to the parking upper lot and back down to the lake using a combination of the Yellow and Red trails. The pace will be a moderate one. For directions, see the Morris County Parks Commission website: http://

(continued on page 12)

MARCH

Mar 31 (Sat): Clean-up Day at the Battlefield with the Princeton Battlefield Society, NJ Sierra Club & Civil War Trust (Mercer Co). 1-4pm. (Heavy rainfall date April 7, 1-4pm). Participate in the Civil War Trust's Park Day, a nationwide clean-up day. Each participant will receive a free T-Shirt! This year we will have four teams - each with a team leader: Team 1 - Brush Removal from "Island" Between Clarke House & Institute Woods; Team 2 - Historic Back Road Pathway Removal of Small Brush & Bamboo; Team 3 - Removal of Invasive Porcelainberry from Dogwoods near Colonnade; and Team 4 - Stick Picking-up Around Shed for Young Kids. Must RSVP with the name of the team you want to join. To register: www.theprincetonbattlefieldsociety.org. For questions: Kipaththesierraclub@gmail.com (C)

APRIL

Apr 4 (Wed): Bicycle the Edgar Felix Bikeway (Monmouth Co). 10am. 10-12 miles, easy pace. The Edgar Felix Bikeway is on a rail-trail in New Jersey between Manasquan and Allaire State Park, constructed on the roadbeds of the Farmingdale & Squan Village, and Freehold & Jamesburg Agricultural Railroads. Bicycle helmets must be worn. Bring water and snacks. Lunch break at the Allenwood General Store - buy or bring lunch. Contact leaders to confirm the ride and meeting location. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

Apr 7 (Sat): Hike Thompson Park, Middletown (Monmouth Co). 9:30 am. Enjoy the nearly flat woods surrounding Swimming River Reservoir. 4 or 5 miles at an easy pace; beginners welcome, supportive footwear recommended, bring plenty of water, a maximum of 12 adults. Contact leader to register and learn meeting place: John.Luard@gmail.com. (JS)

Apr 8 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Rancocas Creek (Burlington Co). 8:30 am. The section we paddle will depend on weather conditions. Experienced cold weather/water paddlers only. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and details. Option for early breakfast at the Vincentown Diner. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Apr 14 (Sat): Highlands Preserve Hike, West Milford (Passaic Co). 10am. https://passaiccountynj.org/Facilities/Facility/Details/32. 8 miles in 5 hours, in hilly terrain. Features: Lake Surprise and an incredible vista of Greenwood Lake. Facilities: Restrooms at the baseball fields should be open. No pets. Requirement: hiking boots and a day-pack with water and lunch. Registration required via Web: https://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/sierra-singles. Directions for the meeting place will be sent via email to members who register. Leader: Jimi Oleksiak: The_Hikist@mac.com.

Apr 18 (Wed): Hike at Six Mile Run Reservoir (Somerset Co). 10am. About 4 miles, easy pace. We'll hike the Red Trail. Leashed dogs are welcome. Bring water, snacks and lunch. Inclement weather cancels. Please contact leaders for meeting location: Leona and George F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (RV)

Apr 21 (Sat): Earth Day Cleanup at Cadwalader Park and the D&R Canal (Mercer Co). 9am-12 noon. Cadwalader Park was designed in 1891 by Fredric Law Olmsted, who designed New York City's Central Park. Its 110 acres comprise the City of Trenton's most significant and historically important open space. Spend a few hours outdoors getting some exercise while helping the NJ Sierra Club's Earth Day cleanup with the Cadwalader Park Alliance and other environmental groups and civic organizations. After the cleanup we'll tour Ellarslie, the Trenton City Museum. Bring gloves. Limited tools and trash bags will be provided. Rain or shine!! Water and light snacks will be provided. Please feel free to bring additional water, snacks and if preferred, lunch. Please contact leaders to register and for meeting location: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, Leona@pineypaddlers.com, and Joanne P: 609-443-6992, jpatmeadowbrook@gmail.com. (C)

Apr 25 (Wed): Bicycle the Union Transportation Trail (UTT) (Monmouth Co). 10am. 9-10 miles, leisurely pace on a gravel trail. The UTT is the County's second rail-trail; ideal for hikers, equestrians, joggers, walkers and bicyclists. It was once the Pemberton & Hightstown Railroad, established in 1864 as a "short line" to provide dairies and farms with access to larger railroads. Meet at 70 Herbert Rd, Upper Freehold, 08514. Bicycle helmets must be worn. Bring water and snacks. Rain cancels. Leona and George F: 609-259-3734, or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

Apr 28 (Sat): Hetzel /George Page/Greg Grant Parks Cleanup along the Assumpink Creek in Trenton (Mercer Co). 10am-2pm. Join us at any time during the cleanup. The Assumpink Creek begins in rural Monmouth County and eventually flows 23 miles through Trenton, emptying into the Delaware River. The name is Lenape: Ahsēn'pinkk, meaning "stony, watery place". Plastics litter our cities, rivers and oceans, and growing evidence shows how they contribute to health problems in humans and animals. Our Central Jersey Group joins with Isles, Inc., a community development and environmental organization based in Trenton, to collect trash and litter. Please register with leaders for meeting locations. Bring water, snacks and lunch. Trash bags and gloves will be provided. Co-Leaders: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, Leona@pineypaddlers.com, and Joanne P: 609-443-6992, jpatmeadowbrook@gmail.com. (C)

Apr 29 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River and Tour Lambertville's 37th Annual Shad Festival (Hunterdon Co): 9:30 am. We'll paddle the Delaware River and then walk around town, check out the arts & crafts and have lunch at the Food Court. Paddling helmets required for all paddlers; spray skirts recommended for kayakers. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location. Current Sierra Club membership required. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)



Chair Chair

* Rich Isaac (973) 716-0297
risaacx@aol.com
47 Fellswood Dr., Livingston NJ 07039-2235

Vice-Chair and Political Chair

* John Kashwick (201) 660-8820
jkashwick@gmail.com

Conservation Chair

Greg Gorman
ggorman07419@embarqmail.com

Conservation Vice-Chair

Gina Carola (856) 848-8831
ginaceee@verizon.net
400 N. Haledon Ave. #201, Haddonfield 08033

Secretary and Council (CCL) Delegate

* Joe Testa
Testa-j@live.com

Treasurer

Paul Sanderson (908) 233-2414
paulmsanderson@aol.com

Co-Vice-Treasurers

* George Denzer (609) 799-5839
GDenzer73@gmail.com

Sunil Somalwar

sunil.somalwar@gmail.com
1015 S Park Av, Highland Park NJ 08904-2954

Outings Chair

Ellen Blumenkrantz (201) 784-8417
EllenBlu@specialistsms.com
43 Carlson Court, Closter NJ 07624

Newsletter Editor

Dick Colby (609) 965-4453
dick.colby@stockton.edu
217 Liverpool Av, Egg Harbor City NJ 08215-1319

Webmaster

Nicole Guerrieri
SierraClubNicole@gmail.com

Membership Chair

* Laura Tracey-Coll
LauraTraceyColl@hotmail.com

Programs Chair

George Moffat
gmoffatt@aol.com

GIS (Geog. Info. Systems) Chair

Denise Garner
jcreedst@msn.com

Chapter Environmental Impact Analyst

Laura Sliker
LauraL.Sliker@gmail.com

Environmental Education Chair

Heidi Klingbeil
klingbeilh@msn.com

Environmental Justice Committee

Howard Steinberg, Chair howz1648@hotmail.com
Jim Andreano, Paul Ehrlich, Hugh Evans, Gary Frederick, Barbara Greenfield, John Ottomanelli, Renee Pollard, Maria Santiago, Jermaine Spence, Suzanne Trimel, Ivan Jorge Wei and Kimi Wei

High School Coordinator

Lara Zullo • LZullo@optimum.net

Transportation Advisor

Steve Lax • zevson2004@verizon.net

Introducing Children to the Outdoors Coordinator

Marty Cohen • martincohen@verizon.net

Legal Chair (Compliance Officer)

Bill Singer, Esq. (908) 359-7873
wsinger@singerfedun.com

Other ExCom members at large

* Laura Lynch njsierraclub@gmail.com
* Lee Snyder (see right column)
* Ken Johanson (908) 464-0442
kjohan@comcast.net

Regional Issues Coordinator

* Joan Denzer • JDenzer73@yahoo.com

Fundraising Committee

Ken Johanson**, Joan and George Denzer, Paul Sanderson

Personnel Committee

Rich Isaac**, Joan & George Denzer, John Kashwick, Ken Johanson, Paul Sanderson

Legislative Coordinator

Ken Johanson (see above)

Litigation Oversight Committee

Ken Johanson

Finance Committee

George Denzer, Paul Sanderson**, Sunil Somalwar, Ken Johanson

Information Technology Committee

Joe Testa**, Sunil Somalwar, Nicole Guerrieri, Laura Sliker, Evangelina Pena, Abdel Alfahham & Dylan Frost

Facilities (office, meeting sites)

George Denzer, Joan Denzer, Paul Sanderson**, Sunil Somalwar, Laura Lynch, and Bonnie Tillery

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

Issue Coordinators

Air Quality & Clean Air Issues
Paul Ehrlich • p.w.ehrlich@gmail.com

Alaska Issues
Amy Weeder • aweeder@comcast.net

Asbestos and Toxic Dust Issues
Francie Goldstein, M.D.
franciegoldstein@mindspring.com

Community Solar
Dick Colby (see left column)

Delaware River
Gina Carola (see left column)

Delaware Water Gap
Ashley Baldwin • AshleyEBaldwin@gmail.com

Environmental Health Advisor
Howard Steinberg • howz1648@hotmail.com

Faith-Based Issues Outreach
Jim Andreano • JimAndreano@gmail.com

Genetically Modified Organisms
Joanne Pannone • Jpatmeadowbrook@gmail.com

Land Use Issues
Laura Lynch (see left column)

Marine Issues
Bob Sandberg • sandberg00@gmail.com

Natural Gas and Fracking
Greg Gorman (see left column)

Passaic River
David Yennior (973) 844-1384
dyennior@gmail.com

Pinelands Issues
Lee Snyder (609) 969-7909
pinelands1@hotmail.com

Liaison to Pinelands Preservation Alliance
Mike Gallaway • M.Gallaway@comcast.net

Gender, Equity & the Env't (Population) Issues
Christine Sadovy • ChristineGuhl@gmail.com

Recycling Issues
David Yennior (973) 844-1384 • dyennior@gmail.com

Renewable Energy
Chris Fleischman • chris.fleischman@gmail.com

Risk Assessment Analyst
Bill Murphy • RedBankBill@gmail.com

Tiger Conservation
Sunil Somalwar (see left column)

Toxicology Advisor
Hugh Evans • HLEvans.Sierra@gmail.com

Transportation Issues
Steve Lax • zevson2004@verizon.net

Trails
Dave Mattek (609) 737-1342
MattekDC@aol.com
4 1/2 Park Av, Pennington NJ 08534-2313

Utah Wilderness Issues
Debbie Young (908) 797-9661
debyoung31@comcast.net

Water Quality and Habitat Issues
Clea Carchia (908) 892-7229
info@CleaCarchia.com

Watershed Issues
Faith Teitelbaum (732) 513-5445
faithtei@aol.com

Wetlands Issues
Lenny Fariello • LFariello@aol.com

Wildlands Issues
John Kashwick (201) 660-8820
jkashwick@gmail.com

Political Interns
Hogan Dwyer • hjdwyer@gmail.com
Anna Esposito • anna.esposito@uconn.edu
Max Zwicker

Chapter Office 609-656-7612
145 West Hanover Street, Trenton 08618
fax: 609-656-7618

Senior Chapter Director: Jeff Tittel
Jeff.Tittel@SierraClub.org

Administrative Assistant: Taylor McFarland
taylor.mcfarland@SierraClub.org

Communications and Legislative Coordinator: Jamie Zaccaria
Jamie.Zaccaria@SierraClub.org

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

* Indicates Chapter-wide elected ExCom members.
** Indicates committee chair or co-chair

OUTINGS

(Continued from page 11)

m66.siteground.biz/~morrspa/index.php/parks/lewis-morris-county-park. Bring water, a snack, and wear hiking boots. Meet in parking lot. Inclement weather cancels. No pets please. Leader: Jeffrey Sovelove: Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike.

Jun 17 (Sun): Canoeing/Kayaking Skills Refresher on Lake Oswego (Burlington Co). 9am. It's Father's Day - bring your Dad - bring your children - bring your entire family to enjoy the day's kayaking skills refresher! American Canoe Association Certified Instructors from the Sierra Club will share information about paddling efficiencies, safety practices, rescue techniques and equipment. The refresher is held on Lake Oswego. Boats can be rented from Mick's Canoe and Kayak Rental: 609-726-1380, or www.mick-scanoerental.com/. Bring lunch, snacks and water. Contact leaders to confirm the event and your participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Jun 21 (Thur): Canoe/Kayak the Mullica River on the First Day of Summer (Burlington Co). 8:30 am. The aquatic flowering plants of the NJ Pinelands will still be in bloom. This is a 12-mile trip for experienced Pines paddlers; expect downfalls and portages. Pinelands Preservation Alliance has launched Pinelands Adventures and we'll use PinelandsAdventures for our shuttle http://www.pinelandsadventures.org. Contact leaders to confirm the trip, meeting location and your participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Jun 24 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River Water Gap (Warren Co.) 10am. The Delaware River is the longest undammed river in the East. Our trip will be 10 miles. Paddling helmets required for all paddlers; spray skirts recommended for kayakers. Rentals are not available. Current Sierra Club membership required. Contact leaders for further information: Leona & George F: 609-259-3734, or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Jun 29 (Fri): Canoe/Kayak the Great Egg Harbor River (Atlantic Co). 10am. This is a 9-mile trip on the "Egg" from Penny Pot to Weymouth Furnace. Palace Restaurant & Outfitters will provide our shuttle. Rentals are available: 609-625-8552, or www.thepalaceoutfitters.com. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

FUTURE OUTINGS

Please see the "On the Trail" feature, p. 10, if you might be interested in joining a week-long adventure in southeastern Utah, early in 2019.

Costa Rica: February 2019 An introduction to the wildlife and habitats of Costa Rica. Combining hiking and kayaking, from the mountains to the coastline of Costa Rica., in areas full of wildlife (400+ species of birds, 4 different variety of monkeys, sloths and other mammals). 14 days for \$2500 + airfare. Leader has lead over 100+ international trips, including 12 small group trips to Costa Rica. Inquire for detailed itinerary: ellenblumenkrantz@hotmail.com.

YOU HAVE MORE TO GIVE THAN YOU KNOW

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

For information about making a bequest to the New Jersey Chapter call Paul Sanderson at 908-233-2414

Upcoming ExCom Meetings:

All members are welcome to attend these monthly statewide policy deliberations, held on SECOND SATURDAYS. Details, including agendas and travel instructions, are available from Rich Isaac, the Chapter Chair. (Best confirm!)

Conservation and/or Political Committee meetings usually start at 10am; Environmental Justice Committee at noon. Lunch is otherwise shared at noon. The main meeting starts at 1pm.

April 14 at the Hamilton Township (Mercer Co.) Public Library, 1 Justice Samuel Alito Jr. Way
May 12 and June 9 at the Reformed Church of Highland Park, 19-21 S. 2nd Ave.



Dick Colby (dick.colby@stockton.edu).....Editor
Assisted by Irene Gnarra, Joe Testa and Maggie Yilmaz
Karen Brown (karonna@yahoo.com)Designer
Paul Sanderson (paulmsanderson@aol.com) Publisher

Editorial Board: George and Joan Denzer, Rich Isaac, Laura Lynch, Paul Sanderson, Sunil Somalwar, Joe Testa, Bonnie Tillery and Jeff Tittel.

The Jersey Sierran appears in January, April, July and October. The deadline for copy is on the 10th of the month, two months before appearance. Members are cordially invited to propose articles, essays, letters, poetry and artwork. (Group/Section News columns are prepared by Group/Section Chairs; Outings are vetted by the Chapter Outings Chair, Ellen Blumenkrantz.)

Opinions, unless otherwise attributed, are of the writer only. Advertised products and services carry no Club endorsement.

Thank you to all who contributed to this issue!
This newsletter is produced mostly by volunteers.

Members please send address changes:

To address.changes@sierraclub.org, or Sierra Club Membership
2101 Webster St.
Oakland, CA 94612
or 415-977-5653, and
NJ Sierra Club, 145 West Hanover St.
Trenton NJ 08618

Prospective advertisers: Contact Andrea Rodriguez (aarodriguez87@gmail.com) and see instructions:
<http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/jersey-sierran-information-advertisers>

Primary typeface: Garamond, 9.5 point
Printed by Witherspoon Media (Kingston)
Addressed by Digital Dog Direct, Princeton
Periodical postage paid at Princeton NJ.

The Jersey Sierran is published quarterly by the Sierra Club's New Jersey Chapter, 145 West Hanover St, Trenton NJ 08618

Copyright 2018
Permission to reprint (with source acknowledgement) is granted to other Sierra Club entities.

MEMBERSHIP COUPON

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club
 Mastercard Visa American Express

Exp Date ____/____

Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____

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

Enclose check and mail to:

**Sierra Club,
P.O. Box 421041,
Palm Coast,
FL 32142-1041**

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES	
INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
INTRODUCTORY	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39 <input type="checkbox"/> \$49
SUPPORTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100
CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150 <input type="checkbox"/> \$175
LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$35
STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$35
LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$35

F94Q **W 4000** -1



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Conservation Report

Elcon Update

By Kip Cherry, Conservation Chair of our Central Jersey Group (KipattheSierraClub@gmail.com)

Elcon is a proposed treatment facility for hazardous wastes, to be sited opposite Trenton on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware River, in a location (Falls Twp) prime for toxic spills to overflow into the river that supplies drinking water to thousands of people in NJ and PA, to say nothing of the commercial and recreational production of fish and shellfish, and of the airborne emissions. (See p.2 of our previous issue.)

On January 9, Pennsylvania's DEP (Dept. of Envl. Protection) issued a Letter of Deficiency, finding items missing from the Elcon Application. We are now on a 90-day clock that ends on April 9. If Elcon fails to respond to the letter by that deadline, then PA-DEP can deny the Phase II Application. It would seem that Elcon has too much at stake to walk away. But the issues raised by their application create questions regarding their competence and honesty, both concerns for a facility that would handle very toxic and dangerous waste materials on a major waterway, and produce smokestack emissions just upwind of a major population center. Elcon's original proposal was for liquid waste discharge; then they announced that there would be no liquid waste discharge, without explaining what they will do with their liquid waste.

Elcon's primary intention is to process fracking waste, and apparently a great deal of it. We note that the Delaware River Basin Commission is considering new rules that would prohibit fracking in the Basin - but would allow fracking waste to be transported in from elsewhere - to be processed within the Basin. (Much fracking is taking place in central and western Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale region, which is outside the Delaware River Basin.)

NJ's Governor Murphy has apparently said that, as a Commission member, he will vote against the project if fracking wastes aren't banned. A ban on all fracking wastes would probably scupper the economic feasibility of the Elcon facility. A previous vote to release the draft rules for public review had put New Jersey in the minority. At that time, Pennsylvania, Delaware and New York voted for release, the Federal Representative voted not to release, and New Jersey abstained. No hearing is being held in NJ. Two hearings were held elsewhere in January; written comments were due by February 28.

I've been in contact with Ruth Foster, PhD, PG, Acting Director of the New Jersey's DEP Office of Permit Coordination and Environmental Review. I know her from her previous coordination between citizen stakeholders and DEP staff on environmental issues related to the Transco Pipeline. I've requested a meeting for our Central Jersey Group to discuss how NJ-DEP can work with us and reach out to PA-DEP. We'll also ask whether NJ-DEP is prepared to take legal action if necessary. Gov. Murphy has previously committed to take legal action and coordinate with other states to protect New Jersey's interests.

How about Elcon's solid wastes? It's a principle of hazardous waste processing to concentrate the toxicity for disposal in secure landfills. This applies especially to metals and radioactive materials. (The other usual components of toxic wastes are organic compounds, which can be burned to CO₂ - except that organic wastes often include chlorine and related elements known as halogens.) Elcon proposes to use induction heating, at high temperatures, to breakdown the organic compounds to less toxic materials - but that will still leave the metals and elements related to chlorine. Our concern is that this residue will contain high concentrations of toxic heavy metals such as mercury, lead and cadmium, for shipping off to a hazardous waste landfill.

We ask whether there are public benefits to this treatment. It could be argued that the inability to treat the heavy metals is a major design flaw such that the project should not be approved. Is the Elcon plant a sham and a danger to the public? We have two talented volunteer chemists who are considering the untreatability of the heavy metal waste streams and how to handle their highly toxic salts. My understanding is that Elcon's application doesn't identify the hazardous waste landfills they will use.

Then there is the issue of air emissions, which will blow eastward into New Jersey. Elcon claims it will use a closed loop system, scrubbing toxic organic emissions such as benzene. Our Air Quality Issues Coordinator, Paul Ehrlich, has been looking at this. He thinks that much of the air emissions will flow into Burlington County, less into Mercer. We need to find a meteorologist who can model the flow of emissions. Paul also has noted that when the thermal oxidizer is shut down storage tanks will be vented to a carbon filter. There is no procedure for monitoring whether these filters maintain the capacity for absorbing toxic emissions. Elcon claims that their air emissions will be controlled by Best Available Technology, but Paul has noted that since the facility is in a nonattainment area, the facility needs Maximum Achievable Control Technology - a higher standard. We do not have information on the chemical makeup of the air emissions. All that has been provided is a list of chemicals being treated: volatile organics such as benzene, which could be emitted during the heating process.

Still Bottoms - Toxic and Explosive: Paul has brought up another issue that he refers to as "still bottoms": containing solvents and mixtures of solvents. (The residue in a distillation procedure is known as the "still bottom.") Solvent contaminants vary from batch to batch, and this brew is more toxic than the solvents themselves. He also is concerned that there is a serious potential for explosion if these materials aren't handled correctly. He recommends that someone with specialized expertise look at this. He is also concerned about the fact that the still bottoms are liquid and yet they claim that there will be zero liquid discharge. He was unable to find information in what will be done with the still bottoms.

Transportation Spills: Wastes will be delivered to the facility by trucks using I-95. After treatment, the more-hazardous sludge will be removed, again by truck, for disposal in a hazardous waste landfill. We do not know where this landfill is located.

On Site Spills & Flooding: The site is outside the 100-year flood plain, but within the 500-year flood plain. With flooding a constant concern along the Delaware and increasing concerns about violent storms, the floodplain issue should be a major concern. There is a suggestion that, in anticipation of getting a permit, Elcon may already be bringing in fill, which raises questions about who has given them a permit, as well as questions regarding whether this fill would be geotechnically suitable for withstanding expected major storms. There also is the question of how the environment could be protected from major spills with or without a storm.

Confidentiality: A final issue is confidentiality. Elcon wants to keep important process information confidential, including apparently material in Part D, as well as other information regarding contractual agreements. The stated reason is to prevent their competitors from getting it. A question I have now is - who ARE their competitors and, with the exception of fracking waste, much of which as I understand it is going into injection wells, where is this toxic waste currently going?

Reports from Trenton

Legislature Voids Highlands Rule; Christie DEP Doesn't Take "No" For an Answer

From a Press Release issued on Jan 4, with updates, edited by Joe Testa

In January, both the Senate and Assembly passed ACR255 (McKeon) that determined that DEP's updated Highlands Septic Rule was against legislative intent. The Highlands Forest Preservation Area is a major source of drinking water for up to 6 million people. The Area includes pristine trout streams, and reservoirs. The DEP's Rule would not only threaten our water supply, but is based on arbitrary science that targets open space and will increase flooding. Even though the original Rule was held up in court, DEP has continued using the same basic nitrate model to permit septic tanks, modified to allow more nitrates and four times more pollution in the Forest Preservation Area. This threatens New Jersey's drinking water.

In the Highlands Forest Preservation Area, which is the most environmentally sensitive area of the region, the Rule would increase development by allowing more septic systems. The Rule attacks the Forest Preservation Area by changing the nitrate standard from .21 g/L to 2 g/L. That will increase residential density from 88 acres per house to 22 acres per house in forested areas, and from 25 acres per house to 8 acres per house in farmland areas.

In addition, exempted lots that were grandfathered under the Highlands Act would be able to connect to new lots and even make it cost effective to build roads and subdivisions up the most environmental sensitive tops of forested mountains. The Rule change would allow developers to build McMansions in the sky and make it more cost-effective to build roads and subdivisions on top of the environmentally sensitive mountains.

In a final act of hubris, the Christie DEP refused to acknowledge the validity of ACR255. Commissioner Bob Martin sent a memo to the Senate President and Assembly Speaker stating that the DEP would not withdraw the updated Rule, claiming that the action taken by the Legislature was "not a valid exercise" of the authority granted to the Legislature by the state Constitution.

We expect that, under the new Murphy Administration, the DEP will reverse its decision, submit to the Legislature's authority, and toss out Christie's attempt to appease developers.

We welcome a new Administration that will actually work to protect the Highlands and clean water in New Jersey.

Nuclear Subsidies Bill Dead Again: Victory for Ratepayers and Renewables

From a Press Release issued on January 5

Legislation that would require the taxpayers to subsidize three nuclear power plants in Salem County, **S3560 (Sweeney/Smith)**, has been blocked in the State Senate. The Assembly will not be listing it at all. This means that the bill will not be voted on during this session. The proposal supports Chris Christie's negotiations to subsidize PSE&G's nuclear power plants, which are becoming more expensive to operate now that natural gas and fracked petroleum have become so cheap. The legislation also includes money to fix up the plants. Its obligations extend through 2030 and can be extended. The bill has been worked on behind-the-scenes with little opportunity for public examination and input.

Phil Murphy, our new Governor, has expressed his concerns with this nuclear bill, helping to kill it this session. He sees a larger energy picture. We agree, and criticize Senator Sweeney for attempting to tie the hands of the new Administration. Phil Murphy has committed to a goal of 100% renewable energy by 2050 and blocking this bill helps us reach that goal.

Under energy deregulation the Salem nuclear plants received billions in subsidies as Stranded Assets, despite their being profitable. They received hundreds of millions more from the ratepayers via Nuclear Plant Closure funds. Salem 1 and 2, operate without cooling towers to prevent fish kills by hot water effluent. We have given them billions already that they've used to kill billions of fish a year.

During hearings on this legislation in the Senate Environment and Energy Committee, and the Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee, the public was cut off from speaking. Most environmental groups were not permitted to put their statements on the record. PSE&G spread misinformation by comparing this bill to ones in Illinois and New York, where subsidies are tied to renewable energy goals and replacing the plants with renewables when they close. New York's nuclear subsidy was tied to a goal of 50% renewable by 2030 as well as closing Indian Point and coal plants. In Illinois, the subsidy was attached to money for renewable energy.

(Editor's comment) How many of us remember what we learned in 11th grade civics class: that the way public utility monopolies are meant to work in this country is for there to be a Board of Public Utilities in each state, with the expertise and the independence from political favoritism to establish equitable rate-structures for each utility (electricity, gas, telephone, waste disposal, etc.) - so as to compensate the utilities, and their shareholders, FAIRLY, defined as 6% annual return on investment, cost of living adjustments, etc? Shouldn't we thus ask the Legislature to refuse to consider this bill, and ask PSE&G to instead make their case to the BPU, with rates to be adjusted (if at all) according to the BPU's principles?

Report from Trenton

McGlinchey Residency an Issue in Pinelands Pipelines Votes

From a Press Release issued on Dec 10 edited by Joe Testa

Are the Pinelands Commission's votes, approving the New Jersey Natural Gas (NJNG) Southern Reliability Link (SRL) Pipeline and the South Jersey Gas (SJG) Pipeline, valid?

A related question is: Where does Ed McGlinchey live? While serving as Camden County's representative on the Commission, he voted to approve both of these projects. But he recently resigned from the Commission, saying that he had moved to Atlantic County and could no longer represent Camden County. But recently discovered documents reveal that he has been living in Atlantic County for THREE YEARS - at a certified legal address. Might this invalidate his votes as a Pinelands Commissioner?

In those three years, McGlinchey voted four times for these two dangerous and unnecessary pipelines. The SRL Pipeline passed by a vote of 8 to 4; without him, the pipeline wouldn't have passed. The SRL would cut through the Forest Preservation Area, bringing gas from outside of the Pines to the shore. It violates the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) and would threaten the drinking water of the Pines. We are currently in court challenging this decision and believe that his vote was illegal.

During the vote on the SJG pipeline, McGlinchey actively contributed to the discussion. If his participation was illegal, this tainted the entire process. This is another pipeline that violates the CMP and should not have been approved. It is meant to keep the dirty BL England power plant, outside of the Pinelands, in service. No Pinelands communities would benefit from the gas, and the line itself would devastate the unique Pinelands habitat. The vote to approve SJG pipeline should also be remanded back to the Commission because of McGlinchey's deception.

It's outrageous that this was allowed to happen, and even more outrageous that then-Gov. Christie later tried to replace Commissioner Ed Lloyd with McGlinchey. This was another despicable move to side with pipeline companies over the people and the environment of the Pinelands. Thanks to a large public outcry including thousands of phone calls, we managed to delay the appointment vote by the Senate Judiciary Committee. This means Ed Lloyd stays on the Pinelands Commission. People don't want to see environmental champion Ed Lloyd replaced by someone who will vote to destroy the Pines.

Clean Air Issues Coordinator's Report

New Era in Air Pollution Control

By Paul Ehrlich (p.w.ehrlich@gmail.com)

A recent publication in the journal *Science** reported that urban emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOC) from volatile chemical products is now about equal to emissions of VOC by gasoline and diesel fuels, oil and gas extraction, and chemical manufacturing. Many products used in the home as well as commercial buildings are considered volatile chemical products, including cleaning agents, personal care products, paint, pesticides, inks, and adhesives. Some VOC are themselves toxic; many also contribute to the formation of particulate matter and ozone. Thus, they pollute the atmosphere and adversely affect health.

Although volatile chemical products are derived from the same sources as gasoline and diesel, detection and control of their emissions have lagged because of the significantly lower amount of them produced. Two factors have contributed to the new era: most transport-related VOCs are immediately turned into carbon dioxide, and emission control technologies in cars, buses and trucks have greatly improved over the years so that they now remove much of the VOCs not burned in the engine.

A disturbing characteristic of volatile chemical product emissions is that they are mostly released indoors. The difference between indoor and outdoor concentrations varies among the different VOCs, but on average the indoor concentrations are about seven-fold higher. The EPA website has a good guide to indoor VOC entitled "Volatile Organic Compounds" - Impact on Indoor Air Quality".

A good way to lower volatile chemical product emissions is to have less production and use. Substitution of less volatile compounds has already started with the use of low-VOC paints. All of the above is not at all meant to distract attention from the continuing efforts to lower emissions from gasoline and diesel engines. On the contrary, that work should increase as a result of recent discoveries. However, there is now an equally important source of emissions to tame.

*McDonald et al., *Science*, vol. 359, p. 760.

Report from Trenton

A Great Day for New Jersey's Environment

From a Press Release issued on Jan 16

On Jan 16, Phil Murphy was sworn in as New Jersey's new Governor. The Sierra Club had endorsed him early, along with the new Lt. Governor, Sheila Oliver. Under their leadership we think that New Jersey's environment will be protected from Trump rollbacks and that we can build a greener economy.

In his inaugural speech, Murphy laid out aggressive and optimistic goals: tackling the problem of lead in our water and homes, slowing climate change, and promoting renewable energy. He assured us that New Jersey will accept the standards of the Paris Accords (for reducing global warming) and that he will oppose Pres. Trump's desire to drill for oil and gas off our coast.

Governor Murphy knows that we can grow our economy while protecting our environment, and that we must protect our children from lead. Wind turbines making electricity are a better option off our coasts than Trump's oil wells. Protecting public health by reducing air pollution, and cleaning up our polluted Superfund Sites, are

Report from Trenton

Sierra Club Honors Environmental Leaders

From a Press Release, edited by Irene Gnarra

On Nov 19, 2017, members of the Club's New Jersey Chapter gathered at the Paca Club in New Providence for their annual "Appreciation Day" celebration of the work of our volunteers, lawmakers, and other activists who have shown commitment, courage, and dedication to protecting the environment and making our lives better.

Honoring Governor Richard Codey: Governor Codey, the longest serving member of the State Legislature, has been a leader on important environmental issues his entire career as Senator (D-27: Essex & Morris Cos), Senate President, and Governor. As Senate President, he helped to shepherd many bills that furthered the work of environmentalists. Today he is helping to craft one of our most important clean energy bills: calling for 100% renewable energy by 2050. As Acting Governor in 2005-6, Codey implemented The Highlands Act, expanded NJ's Renewable Portfolio Standard, and joined the Northeastern States' Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). (First photo clockwise from upper left with Joanne Pannone and Joe Testa)

Honoring Assemblyman Andrew Zwicker: Assemblyman Zwicker (D-16: Princeton, S Brunswick and parts of Hunterdon and Somerset Cos) has become an environmental champion in the Legislature. With his background in science and knowledge of environmental policy, he has been instrumental in advancing clean energy. He has helped move NJ forward with electric vehicles, clean energy, and environmental protections such as clean air, clean water, and open space. In the real world he is a physicist and Head of Science Education at Princeton University's Plasma Physics Laboratory. He would be an excellent choice to chair the Legislature's science committee. (Second photo with Jeff Tittel)

Honoring our Volunteers of the Year, Leona and George Fluck: We are pleased to recognize Leona and George Fluck for their promotion of many Sierra Club activities. A glance at back issues of this newsletter will show that, over many years, they have led hundreds of hikes, paddles, and other excursions across the state. They have also organized programs for our Central Jersey Group, not to mention taking over the administration of the Appreciation Day festivities. (Fifth photo with Rich Isaac and Jeff Tittel) (Third photo: Jonathan Wall and John Kaswick; Fourth photo: Victuals and partakers)



both compatible with creating green jobs and fighting climate change.

We anticipate that Murphy will reopen the NJ Office of Climate Change, create a Coastal Commission on Sea Level Rise, and rejoin RGGI: the Northeastern States' Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. We expect him to set a goal of 100% renewable energy by 2050 and to prevent nuclear subsidies that undermine that goal. (see p. 13.) We think he will commit to 3500 megawatts of offshore wind.

We look forward to helping the Murphy Administration find good appointments and staff members for the DEP, Pinelands Commission, Highlands Council and other environmental agencies. The DEP has suffered a morale crisis under former Gov. Christie. By hiring Catherine McCabe to replace Bob Martin, we hope that its enforcement mission can be restored. It needs professionals with integrity and competence. Perhaps now the Sierra Club's efforts to constitutionally dedicate environmental settlement

(continued on page 15)

GREAT DAY

(Continued from page 14)

funds to environmental protection, and to restore New Jersey's high ranking for installation of solar panels, will succeed.

Gov. Murphy has spoken out against some of the pipeline proposals threatening New Jersey, such as PennEast. Sheila Oliver co-leads The Resistance Coalition, which the Sierra Club is part of; it aims to protect New Jersey from Trump Administration rollbacks.

Our Club offers the following **Wish List of Environmental Goals** for the Murphy Administration

This is an ambitious agenda but after eight years of rollbacks and delays, the people of New Jersey are ready for it.

Regulatory Goals:

A. Governor's Office

Executive Orders:

1. Repeal Christie's Executive Orders 1 & 2 that limit the strictness of state regulations.

2. Sign an Executive Order for agencies to implement programs and policies on climate change, sea level rise, and adaptation and mitigation. This should include a task force to develop rules and programs.

3. Issue an executive order freezing all state permits or approvals on new oil and gas pipelines, compressor stations, and related infrastructure until they can be vetted by a new Energy Master Plan and updated rules.

Appointments:

Make appointments to fill Pinelands Commission, Highlands Council, and other environmental boards who will uphold and further support Acts for environmental protections.

Litigation:

1. Change the state's position on pending litigation concerning the Exxon NRD settlement, South Jersey Gas pipeline and the Southern Reliability Link pipelines

2. Withdraw state support for the federal litigation contesting the Clean Power Plan

3. Ending the Oakland Bi-County lawsuit

4. Attorney General that will sue the Trump Administration on issues such as off-shore drilling and rollbacks on climate, clean water, and clean air programs

B. Department of Environmental Protection

Good Governance:

1. Ethics Standard: Create a new Ethics Standard that applies to new employees, especially in upper management and political positions. There should be strict conflict-of-interest standards in place. New Jersey should hire those with the highest ethical standards and not those who own, work for, or are funded by regulated entities, or have contracts with DEP for work.

2. Anti-Privatization Efforts: The DEP should immediately cease contracts for outsourcing and privatization of DEP function and work. They should cancel those contracts and return the work currently outsourced to DEP staff.

3. Settlement Funds: Monies from environmental settlements (including VW) coming to DEP should first be used in communities where the environmental impacts occurred and immediate surrounding areas directly in the community. Funds can be also used to hire additional DEP staff to work on environmental justice issues, environmental clean-ups, and site remediation that benefit those communities.

4. NJDEP Reform. It will be important to build up morale in the department that's been disheartened over the last eight years. We should reach out to our colleges to educate the next generation of environmental regulators with internships, etc. It's also critical to upgrade IT. The new commissioner should have a listening session with DEP employees, as well as stakeholders, to get a sense of what's happening inside DEP and what changes need to be made. DEP needs to be allowed to do their jobs when it comes to enforcement. This will not only protect the environment, but bring in potential revenue.

Clean Water and Rules:

5. There are also some proposed weakened rules that have yet to be adopted but must be blocked to maintain environmental standards:

a) DEP's Freshwater Wetlands Rules: These rules roll back protections outlined in the comprehensive Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act. They're aligning the Wetlands Rules with the Flood Hazard and Stream Encroachment Rules and by doing so, they are substantially weakening them. These rules clearly violate the Freshwater Wetlands Act in many areas and will lead to the destruction of critical wetlands. These rules will remove important protections and allow construction of pipelines and other projects through environmentally sensitive wetlands.

b) Additional Proposed Changes to the CAFRA Rules: The current proposed changes to the Coastal Zone Management Rules threaten people, property, and the environment. The proposed amendments are related to shellfish aquaculture, filled water's edge, dune walkovers and other beach and dune development, CAFRA findings, V zones, scenic resources and high-rise structures, permits to apply herbicide, trails, building access in flood hazard areas, application requirements, and rule rationales. These rules will open-up high hazard areas for commercial development in flood-prone areas of the Hudson River and Atlantic City, while threatening environmentally sensitive dunes, wetlands, and coastal areas.

6. The Christie Administration pushed through many new versions of environmental rules that weakened them and allowed for more development, pollution, and flooding. It's important that these rollbacks be repealed immediately so that they may be replaced with stronger regulations, including increasing the minimum stream buffers from 50' to 100'. They can be replaced with their previous versions, at least temporarily, until new ones are created.

a) DEP's Highlands Septic Density Rule: The Highlands Forest Preservation Area is a major source of drinking water for up to 6 million people that includes pristine trout streams, and reservoirs. These rules will not only threaten our water supply, but are based on arbitrary science that target open space and will increase flooding. They will increase development by allowing more septic systems in these sensitive areas.

b) DEP's Flood Hazard Rules: These will add more development in environmentally sensitive areas, getting rid of stream buffers, and eliminating protections for headwaters. The problem with eliminating the buffers means that streams are no longer able to absorb water for recharge. Not only will DEP's rollbacks increase runoff and pollution, but there will be less recharge of our aquifers. The DEP has even giving out water allocation permits without environmental analysis.

c) Recently Adopted CAFRA Rules: allow for development without consideration of sea level rise or climate change and put more people in harm's way. The rules do not strengthen protections, encourage more regional planning, address climate change or sea level rise, and they do not include programs for adaptation or mitigation of sea level rise, resiliency, or natural systems restoration.

d) DEP's Water Quality Management Planning Rules: these rules determine where

sewers go, which determines land use policy. This version threatens clean water, violates EPA's grants requirements, and undermines protections of our waterways. They will cause more pollution by extending sewers in environmentally sensitive areas and adding more point and non-point pollution.

e) The Waiver Rule, which allows the DEP Commissioner to waive compliance with over 120 agency programs.

f) Water Supply Master Plan: Reopening and recalculating the WSMP with more current and expansive data and a longer time span.

g) Barnegat Bay: expedite development and implementation of TMDL.

h) Take a leadership role in securing a full ban on all aspects of fracking in the Delaware river basin, including withdrawals and wastewater discharge.

7. Adopt standards and Health-Based Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) for water quality recommended by the Drinking Water Quality Institute.

a) Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) at 13ppt

b) Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) at 14 ppt

c) Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) at 13 ppt

d) 1,2,3-trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP) of 0.030 µg/l

8. Upgrade more streams and waterways to the Category 1 status to give them more protection

Green Energy and Climate Change:

9. Rejoin the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). RGGI is a ten-state regional compact to reduce climate change, air pollution and fund clean energy projects. Governor Christie had removed New Jersey from the program without input of the public of the Legislature. Exiting the program has caused New Jersey to lose jobs, increase pollution, and fail to combat climate change.

10. Create and Reinstate Important Offices Office of Climate Change

a) Adaptation and Mitigation Program

b) Coastal Resiliency Program

11. Administrative Orders on Task Forces:

a) Task force within the DEP to update rules and regulations on climate change and sea level rise. This should include stakeholder process Resiliency and climate adaptation including reducing GG

b) Task force on Environmental Justice that includes targeting vulnerable populations and cumulative impacts. This would be a precursor to develop a series of orders and rules.

c) Task force on fossil fuel energy infrastructure that includes reviewing environmental impacts (including secondary and cumulative) of projects and strengthening protections.

12. Renewable Energy: create a system of developing permit coordination and an environmental review process that makes it a "one-stop-shop" for renewable energy.

C. Board of Public Utilities (BPU Reform):

1. The agency should put together a taskforce on how to meet our goals on electric vehicles (EV) as part of NJ's Clean Car requirements through the Zero Emissions Vehicle mandate that requires 330,000 EV on the road by 2025.

2. Join the Transportation and Climate Initiative MOU on EV, and outline investments in EV charging infrastructure that will allow more than 600 chargers in both high traffic driving corridors, and in dense downtown business districts.

3. End raids of the Clean Energy Fund immediately so all revenues are dedicated to energy efficiency & clean energy programs through the Office of Clean Energy.

4. Hire an independent auditor for the BPU's Office of Clean Energy's energy efficiency program to evaluate the effectiveness of the program.

5. Adopt an Energy Efficiency Resource Standard (EERS) that establishes annual enforceable benchmarks of annual 2% reduction in energy use with clear performance incentives and penalties for failing to meet the benchmarks.

6. Expand the Renewable Portfolio Standard to move towards a 100% clean, renewable energy future in 2050 by establishing a 30% renewable energy by 2025 and 50% renewable energy by 2035.

7. Update and adopt the off-shore wind regulations for an Off-Shore Wind Renewable Energy Credit program to allow off-shore wind to move forward and codify the strongest goal in the country of 3,500 MW of off-shore wind by 2030.

8. Adopt a requirement to include the social cost of carbon in all evaluations of Board of Public Utility projects, including proposed fossil free infrastructure projects.

9. Create an interagency action taskforce that works with other agencies on reducing greenhouse gasses and promoting clean energy that includes DCA, transportation, etc.

10. Establish New Jersey as a clean energy leader by making investments in energy storage, with a goal of 600 MW by 2021 and 2,000 MW of storage deployed by 2030.

11. Working to close nuclear facility Oyster Creek by 2019 and that it's replaced by renewable energy.

12. Transportation: restore "fix-it-first" language so that 96% of funding goes towards fixing existing substandard roads and bridges or for mass transit.

Legislative Goals: We hope to work on bills with the following goals:

Clean Energy:

- 100% renewable energy by 2050
- 3,500 megawatts of offshore wind by 2030
- Increasing energy storage capacity
- Advanced net metering
- Community solar

Transportation:

- Increase charging station network across New Jersey
- Package of bills including incentives for EVs
- Electrifying our ports
- Implementing electric bus system
- Stable force of funding for DOT and NJ Transit

Climate Change:

- Commit to Paris Accords standards
- Rejoin RGGI and making changes to make it stronger
- Closing CAFRA loopholes
- Creating a Coastal Commission to deal with sea level rise and implement regional planning
- Implement Global Warming Response Act

Environment:

- Prohibit smoking on beaches and in parks
- Bottle bill
- Plastic bag ban
- Strengthening Environmental Justice
- Fixing the LSRP program with more oversight
- Funding for parks capital
- Stable source of funding to fix water infrastructure