Thank you, Gov. Codey, for extending the Fast Track moratorium

By Kelly McNicholas, Conservation Program Director
(Kelly.McNicholas@SierraClub.org)

Almost a year to the day after Governor McGreevey signed into law the anti-sprawl environmental law in New Jersey’s history... Acting Governor Codey issued an Executive Order on July 12, 2005, implementing the law. Today, the Sierra Club is pleased to announce that Governor Codey has extended the Fast Track law, until further notice.

This new order follows a previous executive order signed by former Governor McGreevey the week before his resignation.

The Sierra Club-New Jersey Chapter recently completed its endorsement process, a lengthy procedure beginning with questionnaires from major party candidates, then rigorous interviews, and finally voting by both the Chapter Political Committee and Executive Committee. In particular, we looked at the candidates’ positions on the following environmental issues and pending legislation:

The Issues

(1) Repeal the Fast-Track Act law, currently on hold by exec- utive order. This is the only way to end Fast Track
(2) Restoration of the Department of the Public Advocate in the Executive Branch, including the Office of Environmental Advocate. Good news since the questionnaire was sent out, a bill has been passed and signed into law!
(3) Reduction of diesel emissions by requiring the state-wide retirement of diesel vehicles that are upgrading diesel vehicles, with the installation of cleaner filters and exhaust equipment. A bill accomplishing this objective has also since been passed and signed into law! More good news.

(4) Requiring health insurances that provide prescription drugs to cover chemotherapeutic female cancer treatments.
(5) Amending the Municipal Land Use Law to require that every municipality conduct a build-out analysis within its six-year reexamination of its master plan, offering citizens a better opportunity to prevent sprawl.
(6) Establishing the New Jersey Clean Water, Drought Mitigation, and Water Resources Trust Fund, and imposing user fees on water, thereby establishing a mechanism, but with the major party candidates, and which would require them to implement a program for financing the environmentally-sound management of discarded and obsolete electronic equipment.

We also asked candidates for their positions on pending legisla- tion regarding land use at the shore, and the stewardship of already protected lands.

Endorsed Candidates

It would be impossible in this space to provide particulars for each endorsed candidate. Club members (and other read- ers) are invited to direct questions to the Group Political Chair in your area. The Jersey Chapter Group News section of this newsletter. Please review the table listing the endorsed can- didates by district, as well as take particular notice of the races in Districts 4, 5, 7, 11, 12, 13, 16, and 56, which are most like- ly to be close for Club-endorsed candidates.

Remember, YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT! If you want to know your election district, more about the race in your dis- trict, or help us campaign for a candidate, please call Richard Isaac at (H) 973-716-4297.
GROUP BALLOTS

Please vote for Chapter and Group officers, using the ballot on this page.

Candidates for Northeast Group Executive Committee: Vote for seven, maximum.
- Karl Jensen
- Dennis Miranda
- Bob Prince
- Leah Malon
- Ruth Rotter
- Bonnie Tillery
- Lynn Forrest

Candidates for Northwest Group Executive Committee: Vote for five, maximum.
- Chris Weiss
- Lori Tousman
- Jeff Clarke
- Tom Boghosian
- Linda M. Stiles
- Walter Goldenbaum
- Janine Schaefter

Candidates for New Jersey Group Executive Committee: Vote for five, maximum.
- Tricia Aplinwall
- Dick Kopp
- Betsy Kohn
- John Mikonis
- Mary Ellen Shaw

Candidates for Loon Lake Group Executive Committee: Vote for five, maximum.
- Paul Samsom
- Jeff Huppert
- Bob Johnson
- Eric Hauser
- Melting Chin
- Sonya Kalyanides
- Don McBride

Candidates for Central Jersey Group Executive Committee: Vote for four, maximum.
- Nancy Carringer
- Laura Lytch
- Bonnie Tillery
- Bill Week
- Wendy Eicholz
- Judy Polm
- John Tousman

Candidate for Sunset Valley Group Executive Committee: Vote for three, maximum.
- Randy Gill
- Sam Solowar
- Jane Tousman
- John Mikonis
- Bob Johnson
- John Tousman

Candidates for San Juan Group Executive Committee: Vote for three, maximum.
- Tom Boghosian
- Dick Colby
- Ned Sherry
- Val Forrest

Candidates for Nantucket Group Executive Committee: Vote for five, maximum.
- Adriana Alberg
- Bob Johnson
- Lynn Forrest
- Dave Ogan
- Mary Walsh
- John Mikonis
- Joyce Hadlow
- Joyce White

Rules: Please vote for all officers using the box provided.

Voting Hours: Monday afternoon through Saturday afternoon.

Early Voting: October 17-22

Instructions: Please use a pen or pencil to write your choices in the boxes provided.
I was actually on a train heading for central London on the morning of November 10, 2001, when a neighbor informed me that London had been subjected to my worst nightmare. We had to decide whether I am correct in inferring that, in the Third World countries of Asia, Africa and South America (at least), poverty and government funds will not result in the instabilities that provoke massive movements of people from country to country, and inci- dients of terror in all countries. The only thing that spared New York from the kind of tourism that has never lived here. But our main problem is central to his analysis: too many people, consuming too many resources, and producing too much waste, for sustainable maintenance of our woodlands, farms, fisheries, water supply and breathable air.

In three reflective chapters at the end of his book, Diamond offers "practical lessons" to help us understand how dis- astrous economic and political decisions get made, especially by large corpora- tions, and to convince me (at least) that even the complex sequence of efforts to achieve global population sta- bilization will not be enough to prevent many "collapses" in the next fifty years. One poignant section of Diamond's book contains rebukeds for common "one- liner" criticisms of common environmen- talists such as those of Bjorn Lomborg, who has written that "the environment has to be balanced against the economic." Here's a fragment of Diamond's reply: "This one-liner puts the environment and the economy exactly backwards. Environmental messes cost us huge sums of money in both the short run and in the long run; solving them by preventing, cleaning up or cutting back on water pollution saves us huge sums in the long run, and often in the short run as well. In caring for the health of our surroundings, and of our bodies, it is cheaper and preferable to avoid getting sick than to try to cure ill- ness after they have developed." And a spiritually uplifting outcome. Its true key to sustainability is elusive.

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

**Editorial**

Sustainability in the Presence of Terror

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

We supported open space preservation of the Hackensack River, Hackensack Reservoir, 1,400 acres, Bergen County, New Jersey. This former railroad route separates two national historic districts, has developed natural upland vegetation, and has been proposed for the development of transit line into inter-state (East Coast) Greenway. (June)

Strongly opposed the expansion of the New Jersey Turnpike (in Union County), since it would result in the destruction of a State Environmental Unit.

Air Pollution Control: The Chapter endorsed public question #2 on the November 8 ballot. The question was, "Shall the State Constitutional Amendment to use expanded of dedicated tax revenue to fund pollution control and adminis- trative costs of the underground storage tank program. This measure would authorize the Department of Environmental Protection to retrodict required under the recently enacted diesel bill. (August)

We opposed residential development in New York State’s Forest Preserve, to include the Adirondacks, and the Highlands Region, with specific reference to several massive sprawl developments currently under consideration. A Reserve on 2,000 acres in Tuxedo, 400 units on the 1,000-acre Wrightsman Reserve in Ramapo and 292-unit
don’t mean that we can’t change our old environmental habits. Remember the sixties - the era of drugs (I never inhaled) and free love (which somehow I managed to miss) by having us look at the sixties as a low point in our nation’s history. I couldn’t disagree more. The sixties movement was charac- terized by hope and enthusiasm, by dis- obedience and by a commitment to caring for our fellow men. Are these such bad ideals? Is the American presidency an incredibly powerful position. President Kennedy reached out to the American people by asking us to consider not what our country could do for us but rather what we could do for our country. President Johnson, for all of his faults, managed to carry out much of Kennedy’s agenda. But there is no hope while George Bush remains our president.

Development Threat to Liberty State Park

by Michel Culliver, Conservation Vice-Chair

We approved political endorsements for two candidates running for election, presented on p. 1. (August)

Notes: (1) Not all lawsuits actually opposed the “right of eminent domain” must first be granted by the Club’s legal staff in San Francisco, and other circum- stances may obviate a suit. For current status, contact the Chair of the Litigation Oversight Committee (p. 12). (2) But volunteer legal services are urgently needed! It should be obvious to the members that Sierra Club members with legal credentials would be enthusi- astically welcomed by the members of our Litigation Oversight Committee. Please contact them via Kelly McNicholas, Conservation Program Coordinator, in our Trenton office: 609-696-7612 or kelly.mcnic@sierracolleg.org

YOU HAVE MORE TO GIVE THAN YOU KNOW

Maybe you can’t make a gift to protect the natural environment that’s your home, but you can become a financial hero by remembering the Sierra Club in your will. And you can even direct your gift through our planned giving program. This Club program or to the New Jersey Chapter.

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

Members of our Essex and Hudson County Groups have put forth an effort to oppose the permitting (by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection – Bostick, a second-rate marine conservation organization) for a new development plan for Liberty State Park, right behind the Morris County Sikh temple. The new (Residential Universal Renewal Co.) has not yet submitted an official application but, according to the NJ Baykeeper, a group of homeowners opposing the leasing of 42 acres of public water (including 2 beaches) for $1 million, must be honored.”

You can even direct your gift to a special cause in the Sierra Club or to the New Jersey Chapter.

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Want to make an additional gift? You can support the Sierra Club with a gift to your favorite cause, or any one of the Sierra Club programs or chapters.

Earth Wise Singles

We Are People Like You

...eco passionate and green-living

...politically active

...enjoy the great outdoors

...eat natural and organic foods

...use Earth-friendly products

Please Join Us

www.EWISingles.com

But that doesn’t mean that we can’t change our old environmental habits. Remember the sixties - the era of drugs (I never inhaled) and free love (which somehow I managed to miss) by having us look at the sixties as a low point in our nation’s history. I couldn’t disagree more. The sixties movement was charac- terized by hope and enthusiasm, by dis- obedience and by a commitment to caring for our fellow men. Are these such bad ideals? Is the American presidency an incredibly powerful position. President Kennedy reached out to the American people by asking us to consider not what our country could do for us but rather what we could do for our country. President Johnson, for all of his faults, managed to carry out much of Kennedy’s agenda. But there is no hope while George Bush remains our president.

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Selfishness and the Diminished Quality of Life

by Brian Bookooof, the West Jersey Group's new Anti-Sprawl Chair

I recently drove past a plot of land near the corner of Church Street and Church Road in the spring of 2004, near New Jersey. This plot was probably no more than the length and width of a football field. Yet, they were cutting down trees to make room for new housing. As has become the norm, the developers will probably plant a few trees on the shoulder of each to maximize their profit by building as many homes as possible on a small plot of land, all on the basis of increased population densities. As a result of this increased pollution or traffic that inevitably arises from development.

The fact that these houses will sit so close to each other with barely a yard of no vegetation between the "all about me's". They simply want to live in a house 10 times too big for their needs and display it as a trophy to illustrate how utterly important they are to the world.

Additionally, they are unconcerned about the fact that trees provide twofold protection from the elements. First, they provide shade in the summer by reducing energy costs in the form of less air conditioning use. They also act as natural barriers in winter elements such as cold wind, to reduce energy costs and resource usage in the form of less heating requirements. This creates a market for new housing and increased pollution or traffic that inevitably arises from development.

Let's hear it for trees. High school science teachers should hardly shoulder all of the blame. It is the "all about me's" that have no idea what ramifications their selfish acts have on the world and our future.
Sierra Club Celebrates Anniversary of Highlands Act
Calls for Development Freeze in Region

On August 10 we celebrated the one anniversary of the signing of the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act. Passage of this law crowned 18 years of effort by the Sierra Club and other envi-
ronmental groups to protect this treasured region of New Jersey.

In the past, development pressure in the Highlands has gotten worse as many developers are trying to beat the adoption of both the Highlands rules and the Highlands plan. There are hundreds of property owners applying for exemp-
tions. We are deeply concerned that this rush to development will undermine our efforts to protect the Highlands and will lead to the loss of some of the region's most important properties as well as negative-
ly impact our water supplies. Right now the Highlands are at a crossroads, and unless we put a development freeze in place now, we will pay the price later on.

We need to put a freeze in place right now as Highlands water supplies are being threatened by the heavy demand for development in the region. If we do not put a freeze in place, we will lose our chance to protect the Highlands and our water supplies for future generations.

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The Controversy over Offshore Wind Turbines

The average lifetime cost of the power source divided by power expected to be paid for wind turbines. Wind power is not a realistic answer to our power problem. There are a number of factors to work against wind power, including:

- Intermittent resource reduces the amount of power or power may not correlate with times of high wind velocities (unless by good luck). Wind power is a "renewable resource" if the "annual average value" of the power produced by wind turbines is problematic. Second, because wind is intermittent, alternative sources of power must be available. Switching equipment must be in place to "tread" the variation from wind generators in order to provide uniform load balancing between power sources. The alternative power source needs to be easy and efficient to shut on and off, or scalable in an efficient manner. Large central station power plants (which are typically the least cost per kw of power source) don't meet these requirements, as they tend to work best when they can be scheduled and run continuously at fixed levels of output.

- Wind has negative siting aspects. There are many sites that are objectional, large land use requirements, and development of environmentally or cultural significance. For example, in the Lake District in the north of England. The controversy over the development of environmentally or cultural sensitive aspects is significant for the wind power is cost effective and the Lake District in the north of England. From Bill Klitgaard:

Exposing and changing ExxonMobil's irresponsible and deceptive behavior is the mission of a new campaign called ExposeExxon.com. "The company has been tooling up service stations nationwide on July 12 by a coalition of twelve of America's largest and most influential environmental groups with a combined membership of more than 6.4 million.

Exposing ExxonExxon.com is revealing the truth about the world's largest and most profitable oil company by actively lobbying Congress to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to drilling, trying to avoid paying all the damages due to those harmed by the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill, and funding organizations that work to discredit the science behind global warming.

For years, ExxonMobil has intentionally put its own profits above a clean environment and the health of America's families. ExxonMobil's record of results shows that Americans not to accept a new job at ExxonMobil, invest in the company, or to ExxonMobil's publicly and privately pro-posed the ExxonExxon coalition in a letter sent to ExxonMobil CEO Lee Raymond. ExxonMobil wants Americans to accept the energy that protect public health, reduce pollution, curb global warming, and save money. And they will do so if we make them work for it. That is what the coalition has continually worked to make the U.S. more dependent on oil and failed to collect significant progress. ExxonMobil has continuously worked to make us into clean power sources. The company is one of the campaign, the coalition of groups will reach out to Americans across the country to help "Expose Exxon" by refusing to work for ExxonMobil, refusing to invest in their hard-earned dollars in ExxonMobil, and refusing to buy ExxonMobil products. The ExxonExxon campaign has been working to hold ExxonMobil accountable. First, ExxonMobil can be a part of that solution.
Scandalous Federal Energy Bill Passed

(From a National Sierra Club Press Release)

On 28th July the Senate approved the energy bill conference report (H.R. 6) by a vote of 74-26. This followed on the heels of the House vote the previous day to approve the conference report 275-156. The energy bill next went to President Bush, who signed the bill into law.

Note: Both of New Jersey's senators, Corzine and Lautenberg, supported the Sierra Club position by voting against the bill. Our Congressmen were also mostly on "our" side, with only Ferguson, Fehrunghsen and Garrett voting for the bill. New Jersey supplied 3 of the 51 Republican Congressmen who bucked the Bush Administration's position supporting the bill.

Those were sad days for our environment. Here is part of a statement prepared by Carl Pope, the Sierra Club's Executive Director.

"America needs a safer, cleaner, and more secure energy future. Sadly, the energy bill that has emerged from the House and Senate conference committee fails on all counts. Instead of cutting America's oil dependence, boosting production of renewable energy, and lowering energy prices, this bill funnels billions of taxpayers dollars to supporting energy industries, and opens up our coasts and wildlands to destructive oil and gas activities. If Congress believes that this bill will lower gas prices or cut America's oil dependence, then the heat wave must be affecting their judgement.

"Americans don't want to give free rein to the energy industry to spend their tax dollars and evade environmental and consumer protections. What they want is for Congress to address high energy prices by putting real solutions to work. The energy bill conference failed on multiple occasions to demonstrate that kind of leadership and as a result produced a bill that continues America's downward spiral of increasing energy dependence and rising prices.

"It's unfortunate that, as Americans head to the beach for summer vacation, their representatives in Congress [are] opening up these very coasts to destructive oil and gas drilling. Approving an inventory of oil and gas reserves off America's coasts - a destructive process itself - is the first step toward dismantling decades of important coastal protections. BY THE NUMBERS: $2.52: Average retail price for regular gasoline, up 99 cents over the last year. (Energy Information Administration (EIA) - www.eia.doc.gov) $2.87$: Amount average family of four will spend on gasoline this year (Consumer Expenditure Survey from Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Energy Information Administration)."

The energy bill that has been passed is so bad that it will be a disaster for our energy security, our economy, our environment and our health. It is a scandalous piece of legislation that will hurt America, its people, and the planet. It is an insult to the American people who want to see real solutions to our energy problems.

North Jersey Group:

(Passaic and Bergen Counties, approximately)

CIPERBS:

Chair: Betsy Kohn 201-401-4574 betskyohn@aol.com
Vice Chair: Mike Herson 201-292-9474 mikeherson@hotmail.com
Conservation Chair: Tom Thompson 201-848-1080 mthompson@sierraclub.org
Membership Chair: Barbara Quigley bquigley@yahoo.com
Outings Chair: Ellen Blumenkranz eblumenkranz@sierraclub.org
Political Chair: John Kashwick jkashwick@optonline.net
Publications Alternate: Greg Tondi 201-935-1762 greg75@si.gov
Secretary: Emily Stoeger emily.stoeger@earthlink.net
Treasurer: Mike Herson 201-292-9474
Wildlife: John Mikalonis 201-956-7804 mikalonjs@earthlink.net

GROUP WEB SITE: http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/northjersey.asp

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

CONSERVATION COMMITTEES MEETINGS: Held 7:30 pm every THIRD THURSDAY of the month at Buchtel Cultural Center, 590 High Mountain Road, North Haledon, NJ. Help identify issues and goals, develop strategies and campaigns, and inspire and motivate the public. For more information, contact Mike (see above).

GENERAL MEETINGS: Held one month (except July, August and December), as follows:

Oct. 6: 7:30 pm at Flat Rock Brook Nature Center, 443 Van Norstrand Avenue, Englewood, NJ. "The Natural and Social History of the Palisades, with slides and film footage from the early 20th Century, by Eric Nelson of the Palisades Interstate Park.

Now 10: 7 pm at Clifton Public Library, 292 Piaget Avenue, Clifton, NJ. Program to be arranged. Check the group website or contact Betsy (see above).

ISSUES:

Across the border in New York State, the Ramapo River watershed (an important source of New Jersey's drinking water) is under intense development pressures, especially in the rural part. Lax zoning and Ramapo. Tidewater Reservoir now has 115,000 miles of streams and rivers, up to 1 million. The plan is for more than one million more to double the town's population. Other residential projects of concern include the 529 units on 249 acres on Sterling Mine Road and 400 units on Wrightsman Plateau. Meanwhile, Sterling Forest still faces the threat of 107 McMansions in the State Park. Back in NJ, vegetative riparian corridors along the Hackenack River and its tributaries need to be protected from encroachment to maintain habitat and aid in flood control. In West Milford, water supplies and quality of life are jeopardized by the massive Eagle Ridge development. To find out more contact Mike or Tom (see above).

MANY WAYS TO VOLUNTOER! Join us to protect open space, air and water, or choose candidates for office, or monitor legislation. Or help with public education programs, fundraising, tabling at events, or promotion. Or take on one issue that interests you, such as environmental justice, global warming, forests, oceans and marine life, population, recycling, transportation, or another of your own choosing. To discuss the possibilities, contact Betsy or Mike (see above).

RECYCLE YOUR PRINTER OR FAX CARTRIDGES! Bring them to Whole Foods Market, 905 River Road in Edgewater, NJ, open from 8am to 10pm, seven days a week. Please note, already recycled cartridges not accepted. Thanks for recycling!

Hudson-Meadowlands Group:

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

OFFICERS:

Chair: Louise Taylor 201-674-4949 ltaylor@tقرارлас.com
Vice Chair: Mike Selender 201-451-5411 mselender@mindspring.com
Treasurer: Charlotte Ermolino c.ermolino@att.net
Secretary: Connie Ietta ciera@email.net

Political Chair: Melissa McCarthy 201-230-4565 mc.ml@verizon.net
Publicity: Betty Leung 201-224-3542 leung-bet@msn.com
Parks: Rosemary Arena rosemaryarena@cs.com
ExCom Members: Gill Hawkins 201-944-5799 gil2d@earthlink.com
Donald Kopczynski 201-224-2641

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

Essex County Group:

(web site: http://go.sieraclub.org/NJ05_Groups/Essex. We are also accessible from the NJ Chapter web site. Valid phone numbers are shown below.

OFFICERS:

Chair: Chris Weis 973-224-0474 CWeis11@cs.com
Vice chair: Donald Kopczynski 201-224-2641
donaldk@earthlink.net
Conservation Chair: Greg Tondi 201-935-1762 greg75@si.gov
Membership Chair: Barbara Quigley bquigley@yahoo.com
Outings Chair: Ellen Blumenkranz eblumenkranz@sierraclub.org
Political Chair: John Kashwick jkashwick@optonline.net
Media: Walter Clarke walterclarke@verizon.net
Publications/Parks: Dave Ovens dave@sierraclub.org
Open Space: Michel Cuillerier 201-756-0913 schatzidog@earthlink.net

HOW TO IDENTIFY YOUR GROUP (BY COUNTY)


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

FROM AROUND THE STATE

Hudson Meadowlands Group:

(As above)

Northwest Jersey Group:

(Sussex, Warren and Huntterdon Counties; note that the former Hunterdon County Group has merged into the Northwest Jersey Group)

CIPERBS:

Chair: Dennis Miranda 973-209-1814 dmimg@emaillink.net Special Events Chair: Pat Magno 862-432-7552 pmagno@aol.com Volunteer Coordinator: Susan Rotter 973-547-8849 rotterfs@springmond.com Weekly Coordinator: Charles Kopp 973-770-7718 ccgp@aol.com Political Chair: Arnold Kushnick 908-786-5637 amkushnick@aol.com Group Delegate to Chapter ExCom: Ruth Prince 908-284-9105 ruthb2@pamadnet.com

GENERAL MEETINGS:
The Northwest Group meets at 7pm on the LAST TUESDAY of each month at the Hackettstown Library, 302 Main St., Hackettstown. A pleasurable surprise is Susan Rotter, 973-547-8849. We feature guest speakers, fun hiking trips and address conservation issues.

ACTIVITY:
In Hopatcong Boro, the Northwest Group mobilized the residents to oppose a 200-acre development in the Highlands for 700 new adult housing units. Attending the Planning Board meetings, representatives of the Northwest Group managed to persuade the Borough Planning Board to reject the controversial project without the need to go to court.

The Northwest Group is helping to mobilize and support citizen groups in Andover Borough and Township to fight poorly planned development. In Wantage, Northwest helped a citizen group successfully oppose a large-scale development by identifying the correct COM requirements for the township's planning board and council.

7

The Jersey Sierran: October-December 2005

Become active in one of your Group’s conservation campaigns! Attend a Group meeting!
GROUP NEWS

SECRETARY/TOUR: Lori Tann | 973-857-0519 | Ljensen@monclairalumni.com

PRESIDENT: Linda M. Siles | 973-756-2224 | birdlady@709esmtn.msn.com

EVENT COORDINATOR: Maria K. de Wakefield | 973-756-0913 | schatzidog@earthlink.net

GEOGRAPHY/ENVIRON: Caroline Currano | 973-645-1225 | cuccaro@hotmail.com

GEOGRAPHY/ENVIRON: Mike Minnades | 973-407-0975 | minnadesmichael@gmail.com

DIRECTORS: Contact one of our Issue Coordinators (see the list on p. 12) if there’s a state-wide issue that interests you!

OFFICERS:

Group Co-Chairs: Chris Mills | 973-377-1742 | ChrisMills@sierraactivist.org
and Paul Sanderson | 908-235-2141 | paulsanderson@tci.net

Treasurer:

Secretary:

Constitution:

Education:

Outreach & Events:

Publications:

Membership:

Air Quality:

Webmaster:

Greenbrook:

To find out about our activities, go to: http://newjersey.sierrac.org/loantaka.aspx

MEETING SCHEDULE:

Oct: 12: DVD presentation of THE END OF SUBURBIA: Oil Depletion and the Collapse of the American Dream. As the nation approaches a possible energy crisis in the next 25 to 30 years, and the condition of our environment and economy becomes more critical, will we be able to live within our limits? Or will we continue to expand our way of life, until we reach a critical point and then face the consequences? Will we be able to live within the limits of our environment and the energy available to us? What will we do in the next 20 years to ensure a sustainable future?

Contact our Issue Coordinator (see the list on p. 12) if there’s a state-wide issue that interests you!
Raritan Valley Group
(Middlesex and Somerset Counties, approximately)

**WEBSITE:** www.njsierra.org/~njrar

**OFFICERS AND CONTACTS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chair:</th>
<th>Sandi Lowich</th>
<th>732-247-5760</th>
<th><a href="mailto:abstract46@aol.com">abstract46@aol.com</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership:</td>
<td>Sunil Somwar</td>
<td>732-572-7771</td>
<td><a href="http://www.rvsierraactivist.org">www.rvsierraactivist.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Chair:</td>
<td>Jane Tousman</td>
<td>908-561-5504</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jdtous@aol.com">jdtous@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Outings:</td>
<td>Open Positions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Political Chair:</td>
<td>Randy Gill</td>
<td>732-525-2612</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ragil@optonline.net">ragil@optonline.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program &amp; Publicity:</td>
<td>Sandi Lowich</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:abstract46@aol.com">abstract46@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary:</td>
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Treas./Webmaster: Don McBride 732-560-0369 dmcbride@yahoo.com

**ISSUES:**

We are fighting development along streams, wetlands, flood plains and steep slopes. We are pro-landmark preservation. Group members are involved in local issues, answering questions for concerned citizens regarding development; and monitoring/reviewing all township/regional land use master plans in our area. This includes working to protect threatened and endangered species. Help us stop developers from buying sub-standard lots and obtaining permits and variances for new homes.

**Calling All Volunteers:** The Raritan Valley Group welcomes you to our activities. Currently, the position of secretary is open. If you are interested, contact Sandi Lowich, the Group Chair.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Held at 7:30 pm on the THIRD WEDNESDAY of the month except for July and August. Meetings are held at the Unitarian Society of New Brunswick, 176 Tices Lane, East Brunswick. Take the Ryders Lane exit off Rte 1 towards East Brunswick. Make a left turn at the first four-way intersection onto Tices Lane, and the church is the second driveway on the right. The public is invited and refreshments are served. For further directions and information, visit our website.

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE:**

Oct 19: Delaware and Raritan Canal: Back by popular demand, Linda Barth has a new slide program based on her latest book: “The Delaware and Raritan Canal at Work.” See rarely-seen turn left turn left on dirt road. Do not drive down hill to parking lot. Contact Harold Rapp (above) for more information, or visit http://www.marsh-friends.org/.

**New Ocean County Group**

**Now being formed**

**OFFICERS:** (All currently in acting capacity):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chair:</th>
<th>Greg Auriemma</th>
<th>732-451-9220</th>
<th><a href="mailto:hesiod1@aol.com">hesiod1@aol.com</a></th>
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<tr>
<td>Vice-Chair/Prop.:</td>
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<td>Membership Chair:</td>
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**FOUNDERING**

The Group has openings for Membership Chair (providing new members with information about the Club, our Chapter and our Group), and Political Chair (being involved in the Club’s political elections program). For those interested in helping on these or other issues, please contact Greg at 732-451-9220, or hesiod1@aol.com.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

The Group’s Executive Committee meets monthly at members’ homes (no meetings in July, August or December). All are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Greg at 732-888-1558.

**West Jersey Group**

(Camden and Burlington Counties, approximately)

**Web site:** users.snip.net/~giscce/home.htm

**GROUPS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chair:</th>
<th>Gina Carola</th>
<th>856-848-8881</th>
<th><a href="mailto:giscce@snip.net">giscce@snip.net</a></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vice-Chair:</td>
<td>Wayne Zanni</td>
<td>856-728-4507</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wzanni@earthlink.net">wzanni@earthlink.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary:</td>
<td>Becky Payne</td>
<td>856-488-5510</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Trish Clements</td>
<td>732-768-5659</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pan3@comcast.net">pan3@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Bud Kaliss</td>
<td>858-428-8071</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Chair:</td>
<td>Nancy Zinni</td>
<td>858-428-8567</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nancy@earthlink.net">nancy@earthlink.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Events Chair:</td>
<td>Lee Snyder</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:pineland1@hotmail.com">pineland1@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Greensway Coordinator:</td>
<td>Frank and Ellen Zinni</td>
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**NEW OCEAN COUNTY GROUP**

Held monthly at 7pm on the FOURTH MONDAY of the month at the Dover Community Room, Dover Township Municipal Building, 35 Washington Street, Toms River. For directions, please call Greg; 732-451-9220 or Howard; 609-242-5904. A Holiday Party is planned in lieu of a General Meeting in December.

**West Jersey Group**

**Web site:** users.snip.net/~giscce/home.htm

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**Group meetings offer interesting speakers, involvement, friendship, and usually food!**
**GROUP NEWS**

Ott 11: A speaker from PSE&G will describe their Resource Recovery Center.

**Now 8:** The "Turtle Lady", Cindy Pierson, will present the research and rehab efforts underway to save the snapping turtles of Pompeston Creek.

**Dec 13:** Year-end Wrapup and Holiday Party. Bring your favorite holiday treat to share as we review our successes for the past year and plan for the challenges that we will face in 2006 as we work to save the planet.

**South Jersey Group**

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

**GROUP OFFICERS**

- **Secretary/Treasurer:** Julie Akers 856-697-3479 akers@woodway.com
- **Program Chair:** Dick Colby 609-965-4453 dick.colby@stockton.edu
- **Conservation Chair:** Gary Roman 609-625-3438

The central conservation issue, for which the Group was founded in the 1970s, continues to be protection of the Great Egg Harbor Wild & Scenic River, and continues to consume the energies of those few officers who remain active — both within the Sierra Club and in other two organizations that have “spun off” from the South Jersey Group. Very few of our local members seem interested in the meetings we’ve scheduled in the past few years, and many of them have been cancelled for lack of interest. For the present, we’ll continue to be listed in this Newsletter, and offer a point of contact for Club members in South Jersey who wish to join the local Sierra Club. If you have questions (and places) for meetings, please let the officers know about them. Please contact the officer(s) specified in advance of each meeting, if you wish to attend; otherwise, the meetings may be cancelled. 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.

**Current Issues**

- Club officers and staff have been following closely the several studies seeking to determine sustainable water supply levels for southeastern New Jersey, with the hope that findings will be used by policy makers (such as those employed by the Pinelands Commission) to limit population growth. Another hot issue is proposals to develop several large tracts of environmentally sensitive land in Millville. We are seeking to determine sustainable water supply levels for southeastern New Jersey, with the hope that findings will be used by policy makers (such as those employed by the Pinelands Commission) to limit population growth.

**Wednesday:** Club members in South Jersey who want help with local issues. If you have any comments (and places) for meetings, please let the officers know about them. Please contact the officer(s) specified in advance of each meeting, if you wish to attend; otherwise, the meetings may be cancelled. 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.

**GREAT NEWS — On July 29, Julie Akers, our Group Secretary and Treasurer, received the NJ Governor’s Award for Volunteerism — for her many environmental accomplishments as a volunteer.**

Beyond service to the Sierra Club, Julie’s activities have included:

- Organizing Atlantic County Friends of the Park, which promotes the County Park System.
- Chairing the Buena Vista Township (BVT) Environmental Commission, and resisting the siting of a landfill.
- Spearheading the 20-year effort to achieve federal Wild & Scenic Status for the Great Egg Harbor River.
- Organizing the Watershed Association for the River.
- Leading an effort to provide environmental education in local schools.
- Serving in the DEP’s Wildlife Conservation Corps, monitoring locations of endangered frog species.
- Serving on the Atlantic County Parks and Environmental Advisory Commission.
- Managing BVT’s Clean Communities Program, which cleans roadides and reports illegal dumpers.

**Relevant Meetings:**

- **Sep 27 (Tues):** Opportunity to catch up on conservation planning for the Great Egg Harbor Wild and Scenic River, at a public (member) membership meeting of the Watershed Association (an organization that once got its start as our Group Executive Committee). More information will be posted on NJ Sierra Club website.
- **Aug 29:** Club officers and staff have been following closely the several studies seeking to determine sustainable water supply levels for southeastern New Jersey, with the hope that findings will be used by policy makers (such as those employed by the Pinelands Commission) to limit population growth. Another hot issue is proposals to develop several large tracts of environmentally sensitive land in Millville.

**Ott 15:** 7:00pm: Great Egg Harbor River Council: Comprehensive Management Plan implementation meeting. Contact Fred Akers, 856-697-6114. Warren Fox Nature Center, Atlantic County Park in Villainz Manor (milepost 15 on NJ Rte 50).

**Nov 9:** 6:00pm: Bi-monthly meeting of Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River and its Tributaries. Meeting place: Millville Public Library, 210 Buck Street, Cumberland County development issues are usually discussed, including updates on the Holly Farm and the Airport Race Track. Call Julie Akers, 856-697-6114.

**Seniors Section**

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

The Section hopes to promote Senior participation in letter writing campaigns, in social outings, and in increasing membership in a dynamic group component of the New Jersey Sierra Club. For further information, contact Nancy Carringer (nscarringer@yahoo.com) or Richard Isaac (risaac@aol.com).

**Singels Section**

(A new chapter-wide special interest section offering hikes/cleanup, social gatherings, movies, 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 give in to it!

**Webpage address:** http://njsierra.org

**Phone answers:** (973) 564-7573

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

**Press 2:** For: Ron Pate’s upcoming hike

**Press 3:** For: 2nd Sunday month meeting

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

**Press 5:** For: Joyce Haddad’s outings

Volunteer Opportunities: We need volunteers in all areas of the state to run events. Volunteers needed for the positions of: hike leaders, Fundraising Chair/Co-Chairs, and members of all committees, including social event planners. 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, and activist letter-writing. **SECOND MONDAY** of each month, starting at 7pm with pizza at the Krambeam Lagoon Grill, 791 Lagoon Dr., Montclair. (Please note the location on your calendar.)

**SSOOCCIIAALL DDIINNNNEERR::** FIRST WEDNESDAY of each month at 6:30 pm. Join us for dinner in Morristown at the Famished Frog. RSVP required; join our listserv for further details.

**SSOOCCIIAALL DDIINNNNEERR:** THIRD WEDNESDAY of each month at 6:30 pm. Join us for dinner in Montclair restaurant (a location to be announced). RSVP required by 11/1 to MistyAngel2003@yahoo.com or call 973-364-7573 push option # 8.

**Directions to the Chatham Library:** Take I-87 East to Rte 24 East to Exit 7A for Chatham. Take Rte 24 West. Take exit 7A for Chatham and follow above directions. For further directions, call the library at 973-638-5603.

**PUBLICITY:** Lynn Forrest lvf77@msn.com

**Volunteer Opportunities:** Please share this newsletter with a non-member friend, inviting use of the coupon on p. 12

**For the present, 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. If you have any comments (and places) for meetings, please let the officers know about them. Please contact the officer(s) specified in advance of each meeting, if you wish to attend; otherwise, the meetings may be cancelled. 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.

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Please share this newsletter with a non-member friend, inviting use of the coupon on p. 12.
Includes bringing pets. Check with the leader before bringing small children on an outing. This is a new policy. All participants must sign liability waivers on all outings. Unless registration is required, such as for weekend outings, non-members may participate, and responsibility for carpool/caravan information.

GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS
Central Jersey: Karin Cygler kincyler@aol.com
Essex County: David Ogens 973-276-1107 (H), 973-354-4421 (O), 732-761-1475 (E), 29 Half Street, Caldwell, NJ 07006
Hudson-Middlesex: Vacant
Jersey Shore: Mike Verange 908-732-8454 (H), mjavc@teal.net, 1437 W. Front St., Lebanon, NJ 08833
Loantaka: Joyce White 908-372-4478 (H), joyc000301@yahoo.com
North Jersey: Ellen Blumenkrantz 201-784-8417 eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com
Northern Jersey: Pat Mangino, Pmangino@aol.com
Raritan Valley: Vacant
Northwest Jersey: Tom Boghosian 609-625-0878 (H), vacanted@earthlink.net
Loantaka: Joyce White 908-372-4478 (H)
North Jersey: Ellen Blumenkrantz 201-784-8417 eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com
Northern Jersey: Pat Mangino, Pmangino@aol.com
Randall Valley: Vacant
South Jersey: Tom Boghosian 609-625-0878 (H) Sacramento State Park: 2 miles. Make sure to wear sunblock.

Inner City Outings Section
Co-Chairs: Betty Johnson and Joyce White 908-272-4478 (H)
Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz, 201-784-8417 eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

OUTING LEADERS:
Please bring lunch and rain gear as appropriate. Equipment needs vary with the outing. Always bring raincoats or at least a umbrella for rain gear. Equipment needed for some outings may include waders and fishing license. Some outings require you to rent a fishing boat. The leader will have the list of needed gear specified in advance of the outing.

INFORMATION:
Inner City Outings Section. This is a community outreach program which provides wilderness adventures for inner city youth of NJ. Volunteer-certified outings leaders conduct outings on weekends, generally days trip on Saturdays.

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Inner City Outings Section (another Chapter-wide special interest activity)

Newark: 2121 21st St, Newark, NJ 07108
Williamson: Terence Williams, tterence938@gmail.com, 201-743-4814, 134 Davis Ave.

November 5 (20) 11am: Social Hike/Clean-up at Harriman State Park NY. Bring lunch or snack & 2 quarts of water. Meet at parking lot for Lake Skannantati and Lake Askoti on Seven Lakes Drive. Rain cancels. Park HQ on Rte 32, Alternate meeting park is Harriman NY. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz, 201-784-8417, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

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Inner City Outings Section (another Chapter-wide special interest activity)

Central Jersey: Karin Cygler kincyler@aol.com
Essex County: David Ogens 973-276-1107 (H), 973-354-4421 (O), 732-761-1475 (E), 29 Half Street, Caldwell, NJ 07006
Hudson-Middlesex: Vacant
Jersey Shore: Mike Verange 908-732-8454 (H), mjavc@teal.net, 1437 W. Front St., Lebanon, NJ 08833
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Inner City Outings Section (another Chapter-wide special interest activity)
OUTINGS
(Continued from page 17)
Dec 17 (Tues) 10-50 am: Social Hike in Hackensack New Park. We’ll hike about 1 mile at a moderate pace. High noon. As always, bring your own lunch. Contact: Bob Johnson, (973) 752-5987, bjohnson@nysenate.gov
Dec 17 (Thurs 7pm) Stallions Moonlight Hike and Campout, Wharton State, 6 miles at moderate pace. Hike the trails under the Beaver Moon and return to a campsite. Bring basic tent and sleeping bag. RSVP to Rick Good at 908-760-6893.

THE JERSEY SIERRAN
The Jersey Sierran is the newsletter of the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club. Readers are encouraged to submit articles, photographs, artwork, cartoons or other environmental subjects, letters to the editor, nature or conservation press releases and expressions of opinion. Articles and letters should be submitted typed and double spaced (or preferably by email or on disk: call for instructions available). The deadline is the 10th of the month two months prior to the issue date. Any publication of material in this newsletter or in publications of other entities of the Sierra Club does not necessarily represent the views of the New Jersey Chapter, the Sierra Club or the Sierra Club’s mission in publications of other entities of the Sierra Club. Contributions to this Issue: Rich Isaac, Julia Wood, Lee Snyder, Ken Johanson, Joan Denzer, Rich Isaac, Ken Johanson, Laura Lynch, Chris Mills, Paul Sanderson, Sunil Somalwar, Rae Bleuler and Jeff Tillett.

Advertisement:
The Jersey Sierran is produced mostly by volunteers.

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

Issue Coordinators
- Alaska Conservation Coordinator: Julie Karp (617-752-5987)
  - julie@alaskacoalition.org

Clean Air Issues
Bob Campbell (909) 273-5720
soite@verizon.net
18 Drakeway Ave, Sunnyside NY 11731

Bill Green (907) 276-2357
WG@green.org
184 Oldtown Rd, Flagstaff AZ 86001

Delaware River issues
Gina Carolis (856) 848-8831
grichards@nysenate.gov
574 Elm Ave, Westville NJ 08092-1715

Environmental Justice
Zoom Kelinon (201) 321-4578
zoea@nysenate.gov

Forestry Issues
Nancy Carman (973) 438-8688
ncarman5@nyci.com

Global Warming
Fred McKitrick (973-722-0553)
fredmc@nysenate.gov

Pinelands Issues
Lee Snyder (see left column)

Spiral Issues
Jane Toutman (see left column)

Tigert Conservation Issues
Sunny Somalwar (see above)

Transportation Issues
Bob Johnson (see above)

Wildlands Issues
Dave Mattus (716-737-1342)
DMattus@cael.com
4 1/2 Road, Pennington NJ 08534-2135

Utah Issues
John Klawock (see left column)

Chapter Office 609-656-7612
139 West Hanover Street, Trenton, NJ 08618
fax: 609-656-7616

Chapter Director: Jeff Tillett
jeff@nysenate.gov

Conservation Program Coordinator
Kelly McNicholas 609-656-7612
kelly.mcnicholas@sierraclub.org

If no one is in the office to take your call, please leave a message on the answering machine. P.S. PLEASE YOUR LAST NAME, and state leave a message on the answering machine. If no one is in the office to take your call, please leave a message on the answering machine.

Outings

Outings (Continued from page 11)
OUTINGS
Jan 1, 2006 (Sat) tours: Clayton Park Upper Piedmont Township, (Special Interest: History). Bring in the New Year with a moderate hike and tour of the Upper Piedmont Township. The trip includes a discussion of the area’s broadleaf forests. Moderate elevation gains. Hiking shoes not required. Bring lunch and drink. Meet at the Warren store near the intersection of County Route 557 and 5-79 in Upper Piedmont Township. (Including overflow or extra space. Confirmation? Questions call leader: Mike Verange, 908-759-2272 or mjverange@aol.com (JS)

NEW YEAR'S WEEKEND IN QUEBEC - (Dec - 27, 2005 - Jan 2, 2006) - 867 miles and six nights. Lodging at L’Ors de L’Arbre, Alpine & moose hunting at Mois St. Anne. Includes New Year's Eve party, lodging, buffet breakfast, four dinners, and transportation by minivan. 9800 deposit and large balance due in Dec. 1. Please register early. Call leader beyond this date for availability. Leader: Norman Adis, 212-688-8000. Join us for a memorable adventure. Costs: 7 nights, 2 transfers, 6 dinners, all local transfers and a local guide. Flights to Funchal, Madeira via Lisbon or London. Or you can change your own airfare and just pay US $400 for land-only portion of the trip. Contact leader: Rae Bleuler by email: rbreule@battom.net or call 201-786-4743 for a detailed itinerary.

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