



DATED MATERIAL DO NOT DELAY

Nonprofit Organization-Sierra Club
U.S.Postage PAID

The Jersey..... SIERRAN

Vol. 35, No. 2

More than 23,000 Members in New Jersey

April-June 2006

Issue Coordinator's Report

Extreme Makeover for NJ: Time for a Bottle Bill

By David Yennior, our Solid Waste and Recycling Issues Coordinator



An extreme makeover is needed for New Jersey. We must address our litter problem, half of which is recyclable. Our sadly polluted roadsides, parks, beaches, and waterways cannot be good for the state's public image. The time has come for a container deposit bill, which in New York State was called the Returnable Container Act (RCA).

Littering is illegal. Litterbugs create an atmosphere of lawlessness which breeds contempt for all our laws. Having inmates in orange vests removing the trash along our highways does not make sense. These prisoners should be learning marketable skills, rather than picking up after lawless citizens.

Better enforcement of existing litter laws, and higher fines, would help. But, given the higher priorities of other tasks, it is unlikely that we can rely on the police to be effective. We have to address the "point source" of the problem. An RCA, by mandating a 5¢ or 10¢ refundable deposit on each beverage container, has worked well in eleven other states.

Litter affects all of us. Broken glass is dangerous to people and wildlife. Since NJ is a coastal state, the plastic goes into our rivers, bays, and the ocean—killing marine life such as turtles. The problem of plastics is expected to get worse as more people drink bottled water. The US consumes more bottled water than any other nation. Deposits make consumers

responsible for their purchases and manufacturers responsible for their products.

Government should not have to collect private sector recyclable products. In states with an RCA, glass producers and aluminum industries get back a raw material for reuse that is far cheaper and more energy-conserving than the primary raw materials of sand and ore, respectively. A container deposit would also help conserve raw materials and energy resources used in manufacturing alu-



Guess where this goes after a rainstorm!

minum and plastic, which is a global warming issue.

Recycling rates in New Jersey have dropped from 45% to 33% since 1995. Up to 25% of containers collected are trashed at recycling centers. The system is ineffective and wastes our tax dollars. There is a proposed Recycling Enhancement Act that may help, but an RCA would be more effective.

New Jersey is far dirtier than the 11 States which have deposits: New York, Delaware, Massachusetts, Connecticut, (continued on page 6)

Meet Michel Cuillerier, new member of the Chapter Executive Committee

(Michel lives in West Orange and has been Chair of our Essex County Group.)



1. How/why (and when) did you get involved in the Sierra Club?

I was at a Town Council meeting, several years ago, which considered a certain development proposal, where I met people who shared my viewpoint. They invited me to a meeting of the town's Planning Board where we fought an unnecessary parking lot proposed in a conservation overlay area. Shortly afterwards, I was invited to a back-yard barbeque and asked if I wanted to join the Sierra Club. I had already heard about the Club but had not met any of its volunteers. It was their level of commitment and sincerity that helped me decide to join.

2. What Club activities are most memorable?

The on-going fight to preserve the Alaska Wildlife Refuge from oil exploration. Our Essex Group sponsored a

presentation at the Montclair Library which was a big success.

3. What Sierra Club "projects" are you engaged in currently?

(1) Preserve another Ancient Forest Tract in New Jersey: the one Seton Hall Prep of West Orange plans to turn into an expanded practice field and parking lots. (2) Preserve the last forested area of the Second Watchung Mountain. (3) Prepare an exhibit about the Passaic River in the new Essex County Environmental Center in Roseland.

4. How has the Sierra Club changed your life?

For many years I have been engaged in the environmental movement, both as a leader and a supporter. What the Sierra Club has brought me is stability and history. Stability because I now stand with other committed leaders and can build on the Club's past accomplishments.

5. Describe your particular role in the Chapter.

In addition to my new role as an (continued on page 6)

Chapter Reorganizes

By Ken Johanson, Chapter Chair

The Executive Committee (ExCom) of the New Jersey Chapter held its annual reorganization meeting on January 14. Ken Johanson, Chair, and Ruth Prince, Vice Chair, were each re-elected for one-year terms. ExCom also approved

the appointment of many other officers, delegates and committee members, and Laura Lynch, the Chapter's Conservation Chair, announced the appointment of more than a dozen issue coordinators. All are listed on the last page of this issue of the *Jersey Sierran*.

To many who attended the meeting the most interesting and most important matter on the agenda was the adoption of **Chapter priorities for 2006**. After a spirited discussion, during which it was noted that much of the Chapter's work is reactive - in essence reacting to unforeseen crises - and that we need to remain flexible so that we can adapt where appropriate to the environmental agenda of incoming Governor Corzine, ExCom approved the adoption of the following priorities for 2006:

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Top Priorities:

- Repeal of the Fast Track Law
- Eminent domain - tighten the definition of blight in existing law in order to address current abuses
- Green Acres reauthorization and reform

Other Priorities:

- Alternative energy - Require the use of wind, solar and hybrid vehicle technology by governmental bodies and provide incentives for private use.
- Energy efficiency - Require the adoption of programs for buildings, appliances, lighting and vehicles by governmental bodies and provide incentives for private measures.
- Solid waste and recycling - Support three bills introduced in the 2004-2005 legislative session to promote

recycling of electronic equipment, require recycled content in plastic packaging containers and impose a recycling tax on solid waste generation to support recycling programs. Support the adoption of a bottle bill.

[See David Yennior's article on this page.]

• Diesel retrofit bill - Extend the scope of the 2005 law to cover private commercial entities and vehicles.

• Parks funding.

- Comprehensive all-terrain-vehicle legislation.
- Water tax.
- Closing Coastal Area Facility Review Act loophole.

• Amendment of Municipal Land Use Law to require buildout analysis in master plans and allow municipalities to consider traffic generation in acting on applications for development.

Election Results

Supplied by Lee Snyder, Elections Committee Chair

The Oct-Dec, 2005, issue of this Newsletter included a Chapter ballot for the election of five (of nine total) at-large ExCom members. From more than 160 ballots cast, the following five (in alphabetical order) were elected for two-year terms:

Michel Cuillerier
Mike Herson
Rich Isaac
Bob Johnson
Jane Tousman

REGULATORY ISSUES

- Water regulations
- Threatened and endangered species rules
- Highlands Act implementation
- Environmental justice
- Toxic cleanups

ACTIVISM

- Continue to oppose environmentally harmful development proposals throughout the State, with emphasis on Group involvement.
- Collaborate with faith-based organizations in addressing environmental justice issues.

2006 promises to be a very busy year. The Chapter ExCom, our dedicated corps of volunteers and our extremely effective staff will be working hard to promote our environmental agenda and to protect us all from harmful legislative, regulatory and local initiatives. Members and friends who have expertise or an interest in any of the issues in which we are involved are encouraged to contact me at kjohan@comcast.net. The Chapter is always looking for new activists, so please contact us if you feel that you may be able to help out. ☺

Volunteer Opportunities

Want to help the environment? Maybe you're a student interested in learning how to change the world while gaining internship credit. Or perhaps you are retired or in between jobs or your children have grown up and left you with a few free hours per week? We could use some reliable help in our Trenton office. Tasks include answering phones, compiling mailings and reports, investigating issues, planning events, helping our members, etc. Our work is exciting and important and you will surely come away with a rewarding experience. If interested, please contact Kelly McNicholas (609-656-7612 or Kelly.McNicholas@SierraClub.org). (Reasonable travel expenses reimbursed.)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

| | |
|--|-------|
| Population Issues: Madagascar | 2 |
| Redevelopment in Edison? | 2 |
| Forestry Report: Costa Rica Adventure | 2 |
| Confronting the Car Culture | 2 |
| Editorial: Membership Growth | 3 |
| Chair's Message: Reaching Out to Urban Communities | 3 |
| Workshop Announcement: Environmental Economics | 4 |
| Pinelands Issues: Development Loophole! .. | 4 |
| Chapter ExCom Resolutions, Jan.-Feb. '06 | 4 |
| Confronting ATV "Parks" | 4 |
| Let There Be Compact Fluorescents | 5 |
| Group and Section News | 6-10 |
| Outings | 10-12 |
| Leadership List and Membership Form 12 | |

ISSUE COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Madagascar, The Wonder and The Worry

By Bonnie Tillery, our Population Issues Coordinator
(blt44blt@verizon.net)

Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine I'd ever be on a plane to Madagascar, home of lemurs, chameleons and other exotic plants and animals. In fact, 80% of the flora and fauna there are found nowhere else in the world. Yet, there I was, embarked on an incredible ten-day journey with nine other Sierra Club members from around the U.S.

Besides meetings with USAID (United States Agency for International Development) officials and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs), we visited three villages, a zoo, a national park, and three forest preserves. Our trip took us from the capitol, Antananarivo, and the central plateau region filled with terraced rice paddies, to the dry region at the southern tip of the island, around Ft. Dauphin on the Indian Ocean.

What a wondrous place Madagascar is. Most of the world's chameleons are found here. These exotic creatures move in slow-motion until they see dinner, then their tongues are out and back so fast, snapping up their insect prey, that you barely see them. The huge yellow comet moth with long feathery tail and copper markings is a marvel to behold. The tenrec, a type of hedgehog, holds the mammalian record for fecundity, having 25 to 30 young at a time.

Except for zoos (and movies), lemurs are found only in Madagascar. I fondly remember the haunting call of the indri-indri lemur; the soft coats of the cocoa and vanilla colored sifaka lemurs; and the gangs of ringtailed lemurs, many with little ones clinging to the mothers' backs as they leapt from tree to tree.

Madagascar is a birder's paradise where my untrained eyes saw the Giant Coua with its large fluorescent-blue eye patch; the Madagascar Hoopoe with its brown punk-rock head feathers and black and white striped wings; and the



Madagascar Red Fody, a bright stand-out sitting in the middle of a trail. The serious birders we saw attest to the wonders that can be found here.

Ninety-percent of the plants found at the Andohahela National Park in the south are medicinal, including the Madagascar periwinkle which has been used in medicines to cure childhood leukemia and to treat Hodgkin's disease. This is the spiny forest area, home to baobab trees (pictured below) — behemoths that appear to be upside down with their roots in the air, looking like a drawing by Dr. Seuss.

Then there was the morning we awoke at Berenty Reserve and found the air suffused with the scent of frangipani. Madagascar is also home to thousands of orchid species — more than in all the rest of Africa.

With all these wonders, what could be troubling this magical island nation?

It is estimated that people have lived in Madagascar for only the past 2,000 years. When they came, the island was covered with forests. Now, slash-and-burn practices have destroyed 90% of the forests so that people can farm, graze zebu (cattle), and make charcoal for cooking. Of the mere 10% of the forest cover remaining, only 3% is protected. Feeding a poor and growing human population — currently at 18.4 million and estimated to reach 41.8 million by 2050 — is a priority. [In land area, Madagascar is somewhat larger than California.]

The good news is that the Malagasy people are taking steps to protect this precious resource. The President of Madagascar is committed to improving the health of his people and the health of the country's ecosystem. We saw programs run by local NGO's, funded through USAID, that teach alternatives to slash-and-burn agriculture such as fish farming and fruit tree planting; that teach health care to include purifying water and using mosquito netting; and that provide much sought after voluntary family planning.

Never again will I take clean water for granted, or easy availability of drug stores. And, I saw first hand the good our tax dollars are doing through USAID family planning programs, helping protect our shared environmental future.

In upcoming articles I'll describe how the women of Madagascar are making a difference in their communities and how healthy families lead to a healthy environment.

Thanks to everyone who responded to our requests over the years to contact members of the NJ Senate and Assembly to advocate for the contraceptive equity bill. With the help of your support, this bill was signed into law on January 5, 2006, and will take effect in July. ☺

Carpooling Advice

By Sunil Somalwar, Chapter Chair Emeritus

If you commute to work, consider checking out Carpoolworld.com and erideshare.com websites. There are plenty of New Jersey / NYC metro area entries on these websites that will help you find someone to ride with and share the burden. Another website, Nuride.com, is a bit different in that it recruits employers and gives frequent-flyer style rewards for carpooling. However, it is not clear how much presence Nuride has in the NYC metro area. In related news, a federal proposal passed by the House and passed to the Senate directs the Dept of Energy to encourage carpooling.



Redevelopment in Edison: for better or for worse?

By Jane Tousman, our Sprawl Issues Coordinator

In January, 2006, the Edison Town Council held a hearing on redevelopment of the 100-acre Ford site on US Route 1. Hartz Mountain, the current owner of the property, is proposing two 130,000 sq. ft. big box stores, retail space, a multi-screen movie theater, several restaurants, a 150-room hotel, a 100,000 sq. ft. office building and 275 units of age-restricted housing. Just under three acres will be donated to Edison for open space use. This, and other hearings are being held because Hartz needs to RE-ZONE the site from industrial to mixed use.

Local residents at the hearing expressed many concerns. These included the following:

- **Traffic** - Big box stores and residential units will exacerbate traffic problems along the busy Route 1 corridor.
- **Toxics** - The site contains 12 pits full of oil, paints and other automotive fluids. The DEP has yet to certify that the site has been remediated.
- **Open Space** - Less than 3% of the site will be retained as open space. This is inadequate.

I think there should be more space set aside for parkland, libraries, schools and community centers. In addition, road improvements to handle traffic increases must be included in the proposal.

We cannot be confident the applicant will adequately address our concerns. At

the hearing, when traffic came up, Hartz said NJDOT would handle it. When toxics arose, we were referred to NJ DEP.

To its credit, the Township is requiring a traffic study, an environmental impact statement and a fiscal impact statement. We urge the Township to await the results of these studies before committing to a redevelopment plan which, as currently constituted, appears to have several serious flaws.

Finally, when the application reaches the Edison Planning Board (and its expert consultants), we urge that the public be given the opportunity to participate BEFORE any decisions are made.

This is a major project with significant financial and quality of life implications for Edison and its residents. Lets get it right.

Jane lives in Edison. Contact her at jdtous@aol.com. Note: Her campaign to bring about televising of Edison Planning Board meetings, described in the July-Sept, 2005, issue of this newsletter, was ultimately successful, and resulted in the resignations of several Board members, as well as a favorable write-up in the Feb. 16 issue of the Newark Star-Ledger. Congratulations, Jane! ☺



ISSUE COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Costa Rican Thanksgiving

By Nancy Carringer, our Forestry Issues Coordinator (ncarringer@yahoo.com)

On the Friday before Thanksgiving, eleven hardy New Jersey Sierrans joined Ellen Blumenkrantz for a 12-day adventure, hiking in and learning about the marvels of some well-known Costa Rican havens of natural beauty. We visited rainforests in Rincon de La Vieja National Park, Heliconias Biological Reserve, Curu Nature Preserve, and Cabo Blanco Preserve. Our hikes provided the sights and sounds of thermal fissures, waterfalls, volcanoes, howler monkeys, hot springs, deserted beaches, numerous birds — toucans, herons, ospreys, kingfishers, and the gorgeous blue crowned motmot — and wonderful insects: the blue morpho butterfly and leaf cutter ants among them. Many creatures entertained us—monkeys, lizards, iguanas, and the coatimundi who joined us at dinner.

On Thanksgiving Day we hiked in the Karen Mogensen Preserve. (Go to <http://www.keytocostarica.com/guanacaste.htm> for photographs of this preserve and Heliconias Reserve.)

We followed and crossed (many times!) a beautiful stream which took us to the foot of an enormous waterfall—at least 100 feet high, with a wonderful pool at the base where we swam and frolicked. Then the group climbed 500 steps to the Albergue Cerro Escondido Lodge at the top of the falls and enjoyed a home cooked meal of Costa Rican dishes. After lunch there was a ceremonial tree planting to commemorate our visit.

The trails varied in length and difficulty. Those in areas hard hit by hurricanes were severely eroded. Indeed, our last hike, at Cabo Preserve, was so challenging that only "the magnificent seven" completed the grueling 2-hour, 2-mile trek.

To this forest-minded person the most



L to R: Front—Jesse, our guide, Yehuda Cohen, Crystal (guide), Nancy Carringer; 2nd Row: Gasine Reinken, Jerry Scher, Jeanne O'Donnell, Janice Anderson; 3rd Row: Shelley Cohen, Judy Weiner, Sheree Bennett; Top Row: Trudy Davis, Ellen Blumenkrantz, Fred Bennett.

wondrous part of the trip was seeing the magnificent trees of the rainforest. We traveled past them on the ground, we viewed their canopy from hanging bridges, and we passed among and over them on a night hike. The national tree is the Guanacaste, an inspiring species that soars into the air for 60 to 70 feet, and lives to a ripe old age. The palm heart tree in Heliconias, and every other tree in that forest, supported a host of symbiotic plants—bromeliads, ferns, Philodendron.

There was an "espabel" which the guide thought was 200 years old, and a "seiba" which appeared to be 300 years old. Such grandeur! These trees were at an altitude of about 3300 feet. We learned about the "strangler fig," which weaves its branches parasitically around a "victim" tree, eventually killing the larger, older host.

Our visit culminated with a rafting trip down the Pacuare River, an exciting and challenging day of class 3 and 4 rapids, an astounding climax to 12 days of amazing sights, sounds, and efforts with a now closely-knit group of Sierrans.

For information on joining an expedition such as this one, perhaps contact our Chapter Outings Chair, Ellen Blumenkrantz. (See the Leader List on the back page of this newsletter.) ☺

Editorial Membership Analysis

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

Chris Mills, our Membership Chair, produced the interesting data in the chart below (Table 1), showing how the Chapter has grown since its formation in 1971 from a previous "Atlantic" Chapter that at one time included all the Eastern states. The data assign each current member to an initial membership date, and to a geographical location in New Jersey that corresponds to one of our 10 current regional Groups. Sierra Club membership has always been concentrated in the Western states; although political action was always a major activity, a large portion of the traditional membership joined primarily to enjoy wilderness outings. New members had to be sponsored by existing members. After the mid-1960s the Club changed substantially to more of a political function, using professional staff, as we took on the battles to save Glen Canyon in Arizona, Redwoods in California, endangered species protections, and other conservation efforts. In order to afford the lobbying staff, membership was opened to all, without the need for sponsorship. It is national Club dogma that membership increases at times of environmental threat. National membership made its most dramatic jump (tripled!) during the Reagan Administration (1980-1988) when James Watt, as Secretary of the Interior, attempted to ignore endangered species protections and other environmental safeguards.

I don't mean to belittle or bemoan our lobbying function. Considering the lobbying forces arrayed against us, and the attitudes of many elected officials (once argued to us most emphatically by ex-Governor Whitman), and even the general population — that economic growth is more important than environmental protection, I welcome every dollar and every membership voice that sustains the Sierra Club's mission.

In New Jersey, membership skyrocketed in the 1970s when an attempt was made to dam the Delaware River at Tocks Island, above the Water Gap, and when there was a proposal to turn the Great Swamp into a jetport.

But, surprisingly to me, these extraordinary fluctuations aren't visible in the data shown more explicitly in Table 2:

the numbers in each row of the table increase exponentially. I suspect there are other effects which "mask" the dogma. One is the recent relative flow of New Jerseyans into the new suburbs located in the territories of our Loantaka, Shore and North Jersey Groups. Another is the tactic, adopted in the 90s, of **canvassing** for new members: contracting with an organization largely of Rutgers college students to knock on suburban doors, offering Club literature, making a sales pitch, and taking new memberships. These "canvass" members provide much of the income necessary to maintain our lobbying staff, but they tend to be short-termers. That's my guess as to why such a large percentage of our members joined so recently (64% of our current members joined since the year 2000!). Of course one could also take the optimistic view that more than 20% of our members have been with us for more than 10 years, and 6.6% of our members have been "involved" for more than 20 years. And of course the Sierra Club should not be singled out for its method of seeking new members: all big membership organizations devote substantial resources to recruitment. (It would be interesting to see the equivalent membership statistics for our two public broadcasting stations. I suspect that the Sierra Club scores well on a comparative basis.)

Perhaps the most important effect on membership dynamics is the pace and centrifugal fragmentation of modern life, which is incompatible for most people with long-term involvement in lobbying campaigns, and even social societies. I would just like to assure the vast majority of members who DON'T get involved in outings, meetings or lobbying that some of life's greatest satisfactions are "enabled" by the Sierra Club. In my own case, the achievement of federal Wild & Scenic status for the Great Egg Harbor River, a team effort that took about 15 years, and which continues to challenge my energies, ranks as one of my proudest accomplishments, and the friends I formed as some of my fondest. Hope to see you out there! ☺



Photo: James Membership

Chair's Message Reaching Out

by Ken Johanson, Chapter Chair
(KJohan@comcast.net)



The Sierra Club, like other members of the environmental movement, sometimes is accused of being elitist, of caring more about spotted owls and snail darters than people. Our critics fail to understand that we are all part of an integrated system, that if one species perishes other species will be impacted, and that if the rate of extinction reaches a certain critical point, we will all be in peril.

But in fairness to our critics, the environmental community has at times been remiss in failing to relate to the needs of ordinary people, and to the impact that environmental degradation has had and continues to have upon their lives. We all suffer from the effects of air-borne and water-borne pollutants, but lower income people who live in our inner-cities are disproportionately affected. These are the people who live in neighborhoods that historically have been the dumping grounds for a wide range of highly toxic substances; these are the people who, because they often lack political clout, continue to be targets for polluting industrial projects that would not be tolerated in more affluent areas; and these are the people who continue to see their already scarce parklands and open spaces paved over in the misguided quest for property tax ratables.

So what are we, the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club, doing to address this problem? For many years the Chapter has conducted a program, called the Inner City Outings Program, where a core group of dedicated volunteers, led by Anne Dyjak and Joy Booth, introduce inner-city children to the wonders of nature by organizing outings in parks and other natural settings. Children who participate in this program, as well as their parents, come away with a new appreciation for environmental values, including the importance of preserving open space and the need to protect the quality of the air we breathe and the water we drink.

The New Jersey Chapter also has been active in trying to ensure that former

industrial sites in Hudson County, many of which are located near schools and residential communities, are properly remediated. The sites are contaminated with high levels of chromium, a known carcinogen that causes lung and skin irritation and is considered by many to be the second most toxic contaminant after dioxin. The State has rejected our arguments that the contaminated material needs to be removed and has proposed instead that the properties be capped. The New Jersey Chapter does not believe that capping will adequately protect the health of neighboring residents and, working in close cooperation with the Interfaith Community Organization, has been trying to derail the State's misguided proposal.

But, as much as we are doing to address environmental problems in urban communities, I wish that we could do more. Ideally I would like to see the New Jersey Chapter develop a campaign to reach out to inner-city neighborhoods, to identify and form liaisons with community leaders and to educate residents about threats to their neighborhoods and steps they can take to deal with those threats. The goal would be to empower residents, to provide them with the tools they need so that they can have a greater say in decisions that directly impact their lives. But our staff is already stretched to the limit and we cannot undertake a project of this magnitude without additional staffing and additional financial support.

So, while I am pleased with what we have been able to accomplish to date in addressing the threats faced by our inner-city neighborhoods, I am hopeful that, with the financial support of our members and friends, we will be able to do even more in the future.

Editor's note: Unfortunately, several lines were unintentionally deleted from the Chair's Message in the last issue of the Jersey Sierran. In order to view the complete article, please visit <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org> and click on newsletter. ☺

Table 1: New Jersey Chapter Memberships By Year Of Initial Membership

| Group | 1968-69 | 1970-71 | 1972-73 | 1974-75 | 1976-77 | 1978-79 | 1980-81 | 1982-83 | 1984-85 | 1986-87 | 1988-89 | 1990-91 | 1992-93 | 1994-95 | 1996-97 | 1998-99 | 2000-01 | 2002-03 | Total |
|------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|
| Central | 25 | 32 | 99 | 122 | 180 | 198 | 198 | 198 | 660 | 822 | 1,878 | | | | | | | | |
| Shore | 5 | 31 | 99 | 112 | 167 | 384 | 825 | 723 | 2,204 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Loantaka | 12 | 49 | 150 | 283 | 347 | 583 | 972 | 1,143 | 5,279 | | | | | | | | | | |
| North | 28 | 84 | 145 | 194 | 279 | 387 | 989 | 812 | 3,838 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 4 | 11 | 25 | 51 | 69 | 121 | 271 | 263 | 804 | | | | | | | | | | |
| West | 4 | 34 | 75 | 136 | 155 | 329 | 834 | 747 | 2,287 | | | | | | | | | | |
| South | 2 | 3 | 20 | 36 | 37 | 83 | 360 | 234 | 690 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Raritan | 5 | 23 | 79 | 186 | 151 | 288 | 546 | 543 | 1,234 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hudson-Misewicki | 1 | 11 | 23 | 32 | 42 | 114 | 320 | 296 | 799 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Essex | 6 | 38 | 94 | 99 | 129 | 386 | 633 | 552 | 1,874 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hammonton | 7 | 14 | 24 | 38 | 62 | 83 | 221 | 132 | 605 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other | 1 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 11 | 25 | 26 | 74 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 80 | 381 | 794 | 1,126 | 1,531 | 3,111 | 4,291 | 4,025 | 18,836 | | | | | | | | | | |

Note: there are more members than memberships, because some of the memberships are "joint."

Table 2: Growth per year, on average (members):

| Group | 1970-71 | 1980-81 | 1983-83 | 1990-91 | 1995-99 | 2000-01 | 2002-03 |
|------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Central | 5 | 20 | 24 | 36 | 72 | 132 | 241 |
| Shore | 4 | 16 | 22 | 35 | 77 | 165 | 368 |
| Loantaka | 7 | 26 | 41 | 49 | 181 | 194 | 572 |
| North | 8 | 29 | 59 | 56 | 181 | 198 | 486 |
| Northeast | 1 | 3 | 18 | 12 | 24 | 34 | 132 |
| West | 3 | 15 | 23 | 31 | 66 | 166 | 374 |
| South | 1 | 4 | 7 | 7 | 19 | 53 | 117 |
| Raritan | 4 | 14 | 21 | 30 | 60 | 109 | 272 |
| Hudson-Misewicki | 1 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 23 | 46 | 128 |
| Essex | 4 | 19 | 28 | 26 | 60 | 121 | 276 |
| Hammonton | 1 | 5 | 10 | 12 | 19 | 44 | 98 |
| Other | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 13 |
| Total | 38 | 159 | 225 | 302 | 622 | 1,315 | 2,863 |

Conference on the Economic Benefits of Environmental Progress

April 21 (Friday), at Raritan Valley Community College (North Branch, Somerset County, 3 miles south of Exit 26 on I-78)

A conference entitled **"Environment and Economy, Perfect Together,"** cosponsored by the NJ Sierra Club and the Somerset County Business Partnership, will include presenters **Jeanne Fox**, president of the NJ Board of Public Utilities, **Dr. Donald Louria**, Chair Emeritus of the Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health, UMDNJ, and **Anton Nellesen**, who has developed the concept of a high-tech van service. A gourmet vegetarian luncheon will be served.

Information and registration: <http://www.raritavalley.edu/activity/event/econconf06.html>, or from Prof. Dan Aronson, Raritan Valley Community College, (908) 526-1200 x8238.

Walk Britain's Most Beautiful Landscapes.

\$50 Discount for Sierra Club Members

Join English Lakeland Ramblers, specialists since 1985 in guided tours of England's spectacular Lake District. Walk with us along the hills and dales of England's largest national park.

TOURS ALSO IN SCOTLAND & THE COTSWOLDS

ENGLISH LAKELAND RAMBLERS

For a free brochure:

18 Stuyvesant Oval #1A, New York, NY 10009

(800) 724-8801 • www.ramblers.com



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

Will Legal Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Parks Really Protect Wildlife?

By Fred Akers, our former ATV Issues Coordinator



Last October the NJ DEP's Division of Fish and Game submitted a New Jersey Wildlife Action Plan (WAP) to the US Fish & Wildlife Service. This far-reaching blueprint for the protection and management of our wildlife species most in need of conservation enabled New Jersey to use \$381,715 of state money to leverage a \$1.1 million federal State Wildlife Grant (SWG).

Many other states are using this program to protect species from becoming threatened and endangered, and it is hoped that Congress will produce a stable and permanent funding source for rare-species conservation through continued SWGs. New Jersey's Wildlife Action Plan provides for better coordination of wildlife research and management among programs within the Division of Fish and Game, state and federal agencies, and many partners in the conservation community.

A number of threats to wildlife were recognized in the WAP. Not surprisingly, motorized recreation vehicles on or near public natural lands and waterways (e.g., off-road vehicles (ORVs) and personal watercraft) were declared to be a cause of disturbance and habitat destruction, i.e. as major threats to wildlife and their habitats. One of the most destructive aspects of motorized recreation is that it occurs mainly during spring and summer when animals are attempting to breed and plants are actively growing. Acute and chronic noise disturbance can cause animals to abandon their breeding areas or otherwise fail to reproduce. Motorized vehicles also kill wildlife directly, especially reptiles and amphibians.

To address these threats, the Division of Fish and Game has invented the strategy of providing legal ORV riding areas in

places "remote" from wildlife. The assumption is that ORV-riders will be responsible enough to avoid riding in wildlife-sensitive sites - if they are provided with alternative sites.

Unfortunately, this basic assumption has never been substantiated. There are no quantitative or qualitative data, studies, or reports to support the idea that legal parks will significantly reduce illegal use of ORVs. One might even hypothesize that legal ORV parks will attract enough NEW riders such that a substantial portion of them, riding illegally, will result in more damage to wildlife than is produced currently. This possibility should "disqualify" the legal park concept in New Jersey's Wildlife Action Plan.

Without evidence that legal ORV riding areas would be likely to conserve and protect wildlife from illegal ORV use, diverting conservation protection resources to build legal riding areas would diminish the funds available for other wildlife protection measures. The Wildlife Action Plan also proposes to "survey ORV-users through recreation associations to determine their level of satisfaction and use of designated areas." Such a survey should be funded and conducted by private industry and/or state recreational promotion groups, not by the people who should be focusing on habitat and wildlife conservation.

Likewise, spending time and money to locate the least disruptive sites for ORV parks will do little to accomplish the primary mission of wildlife protection. With 165,000 ORV owners in New Jersey already, and 14,000 new sales each year, the proposed strategy of siting ORV parks for even a small percentage of all these owners to protect wildlife is misguided, irresponsible, and looks like a nod to the political power of the ORV industry.

The Wildlife Action Plan admits that even legal ORV operation threatens both wildlife and people. Its conflicting

strategies are embodied in the following two WAP statements:

"Unlawful ORV use on public land has become a major threat to wildlife habitat. Human disturbance and wildlife mortality from vehicles occur in the most important and intact wildlife habitats in the state. Heavy ORV use renders habitat unsuitable for most wildlife. Other impacts include damage to vegetation, soil compaction, soil erosion and siltation from dirt trails".

"Siting ORV parks continues to be a difficult problem because communities and those involved in low-impact recreation often do not want high-noise, high-impact recreation activities adjacent to homes, parks, golf courses, etc. This relegates ORV parks to remote areas that are most critical for wildlife".

The New Jersey Wildlife Action Plan is a wonderful document created through extraordinary effort and collaboration, and the authors are to be commended for their good intentions. However, using conservation resources to establish legal ORV riding areas could be a big mistake that would actually work to defeat wildlife protection.

A better strategy would be to focus resources on education and enforcement against illegal ORV use on all public lands. Increasing the \$200 fine for riding ORVs in Wildlife Management Areas, and other fines, increasing the number of enforcement officers and their efforts, and conducting a statewide "anti-mudding" campaign modeled after the one used by the US Forest Service out west, would do more to protect New Jersey's sensitive wildlife than spending time and money making legal places to ride.

Here's a link to the New Jersey Wildlife Action Plan: <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/ensp/waphome.htm>

Contact Fred Akers at Akers@gowebway.com.

Chapter ExCom Resolutions, Jan-Feb 2006

We re-elected Ken Johanson as Chapter Chair, and approved the list of officer appointments provided on the last page of this newsletter. (Jan)

We decided on tentative **Chapter Issue priorities for 2006**, listed on p. 1. (Jan)

We approved the by-laws required for the establishment of a **new Group for members in Ocean County**. (Jan)

We authorized legal action to **save Thompson Park in Monroe Twp**, Middlesex County, a Green Acres site,

from diversion to permit construction of a high school. (Jan)

We began the process of authorizing another lawsuit: defending a **Rural Resource Conservation Zone in Hamilton Twp**, Mercer County. (Feb)

PINELANDS REPORT:

How to Evade Endangered Species Protections

By Carleton Montgomery, Executive Director of the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, and Michael Gallaway, our liaison to that organization

The Stafford Business Park includes 307 acres of land in Ocean County: on the west side of the Garden State Parkway, just south of Route 72. It was designated for development in the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP). The site contains an old, unlined landfill and an unlicensed landfill, as well as a county facility, a state motor vehicle inspection station, and a few office buildings. Stafford Township has been under a long-standing obligation to remediate and cap the landfills, but has done nothing because of the cost. A developer, Walters Homes, has now contracted with the town to redevelop the site: building 520 houses and a big shopping center (as well as about 100 affordable housing units discreetly separated from the others), in exchange for funding the landfill remediation work. The town would pay nothing towards the landfill remediation.

The problem is that the private development plan cannot meet CMP legal requirements with respect to threatened and endangered wildlife habitat. The Commission is thinking of approving the plan anyway, through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The CMP includes a narrowly-worded provision which says the Commission can modify CMP requirements for public development through an intergovernmental MOA. Now the Commission staff is suggesting it should use this provision to approve a massive, private, for-profit development because the developer will relieve Stafford Township of its obligation to fix the landfills.

But the land to be developed will all be sold to Walters, and the houses will then be sold to residents, for a private profit. The precedent will be set, that private developers can escape Pinelands regulations by purchasing the "sponsorship" of a public body (usually a town): funding municipal obligations with profits from the private development.

If it goes forward as proposed, the Commission will manipulate its rules to waive key provisions of the CMP, avoiding rigorous analysis of the environmental costs and benefits, in order to accommodate a major private development. We are concerned that this will set a terrible precedent for the future.

The Pinelands Preservation Alliance is pressing the Commission, the township and the developer to meet CMP requirements. Doing so might require downscaling the development, and might obligate the Township and Ocean County to contribute some funding toward meeting their landfill obligations. We think this is a case in which the ends do not justify the proposed means.

Contact Lee Snyder or Mike Gallaway via the leader list on p. 12, or Theresa Lettman at PPA (609-859-8860, Theresa@pinelandsalliance.org). To contact the Pinelands Commission, to suggest they rethink this approach: 609-894-7300.

An Environmental Approach to Public School Education



Teaching capable, confident kids for a healthy planet

Accepting Applications
Call now to schedule a visit

For more information:
973-292-1808

340 Speedwell Avenue, Morristown, NJ 07960
www.unity-nj.org

- A Tuition Free K-8 Public School
- Teaching New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards through an inquiry into sustainability and environmental education
- Providing the community with a voice in the decision-making process through a Democratic Governance System
- Utilizing Positive Discipline techniques to address behavior
- Personal Learning Plans to insure growth of all students
- Multi-age Classes to address emotional and cognitive intelligences
- Small Class Sizes & Healthy School Lunches

Let there be Light (but only from compact fluorescents)

By Sunil Somalwar, Chapter Lightbulb Authority

In his 2006 State of the Union address, President Bush highlighted wind and ethanol as alternate sources of energy. Ironically, at that very same time, his Dept of Energy was getting ready to fire alternate fuel researchers in its Colorado research headquarters.

As expected, the main energy message from this Administration continues to be that some magical technology is going to fix the problem in future, long after Cheney and Bush have left office.

In the meantime, mindless subsidies to the fossil fuel industries continue and so does this Administration's active sabotaging of the global efforts to curtail global warming pollution.

So, at least for the time being, we are left on our own to do our part. One of the simplest (and most financially rewarding) ways is to use a technology that is fairly old at this point: compact fluorescent light bulbs. We have been running this project for a year or so, and have convinced many people to try these bulbs — by handing out sample bulbs on an "at-cost" basis at Group meetings, tabling at environmen-

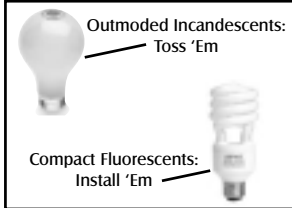
tal events and other avenues.

The project statistics are already impressive: lifetime savings from all the bulbs replaced so far, in New Jersey, amount to over 400 tons of carbon dioxide emissions from power plants, and over \$35,000 on energy bills, not to mention the multiplier effects: people who took our bulbs are probably telling their friends and neighbors about them, and purchasing additional bulbs in stores.



Chapter activists Gina Carola and Bonnie Tillery deserve special mention because so far they have "sold" enough bulbs to save four hybrid cars' worth of emissions each, while pursuing other significant environmental issues (not to mention that Gina is also a proud owner of a Prius.)

If you are interested in doing a similar campaign for your neighbors, coworkers, school, scout troops etc, contact svomalwar@sierraactivist.org for literature and detailed instructions. ☺



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 George Denzer at 609-799-5839.

**You know the reasons.
We know the gear.**

**10% OFF Gear & Apparel
For Sierra Club Members**
Must present member ID at time of purchase. Excludes a sale items not included.

BLUE RIDGE
mountain sports • brms.com

**23 Main Street
Madison • (973) 377-3301**

The Ultimate Adventure Guide DVD Delaware Water Gap Edition

**On your TV & Internet
Enabled PC!**

Ever wish you could sample a trail before you started a hike? Well then the Ultimate Adventure Guide is for you!

The DVD will give you an abundance of information such as maps, trail statistics, video footage of trail terrain, park info, nature guides, weather, trail closings and more.

Real-time, web-based information and rich DVD based information is seamlessly merged in a single user friendly interface.

60% Off Maps

NY- NJ Trail Conference Maps for \$5.00 when purchased with Ultimate Adventure Guide DVD

TrekSmart, we take you there!
WWW.TREK-SMART.COM

Extreme Makeover

(Continued from page 1)

Vermont, Maine, California, Hawaii, Michigan, Iowa, and Oregon. Since the RCA of 1983 in New York, litter has been reduced by 75% and 80% of their containers are recycled. Deposits remove more hazardous, non-biodegradable items from the waste stream.

In New Jersey only 30% of plastic containers are being recycled, meaning that 70% are discarded in landfills or incinerated. Only 50% of our aluminum cans are being recycled. One trillion aluminum cans have been trashed in the US from 1972-2003. A deposit bill will conserve the energy needed in aluminum manufacturing.

Michigan's successful RCA, initiated in 1978, imposes a 10¢ refundable deposit on all single-use or refillable containers: beer, soft drinks, juice, carbonated and mineral water, wine, and liquor bottles and cans. 25% of the unredeemed deposits go to the retailers for handling fees and 75% goes to the state treasury.

The Sierra Club's New Jersey Chapter is only beginning to study the issue of Solid Waste and Recycling to develop strategies that address the overall problem. We will be considering what action is appropriate in view of the dire circumstances of our environment. Current measures do not address the problem of wasted resources.

Enacting an RCA will require public support, which will involve consumer and voter education, and working with our legislators, NJDEP officials, members of the NJ Clean Communities Council, and public interest and environmental groups. An informed public is the way to overcome the special interests.

The beverage industry, supermarkets, large retailers, and the recycling and refuse industry will oppose changing the status quo. Common Cause reports that over the past four years opponents of expanded deposit legislation in Connecticut spent \$704,722 to fund political action committees and political campaigns.

Considerable information is available on the internet. For background please go to the Container Recycling Institute websites:

www.container-recycling.org
and/or www.bottlebill.org

Enacting an RCA in New Jersey is the right thing to do. Ten other states, including New Hampshire are considering similar legislation. Here are some expected results:

- Reduces litter by 75%
- Cleaner environment
- Reduces global warming
- Reduces hazards to Coastal wildlife
- Helps to improve the image of New Jersey
- Increases observance of litter and recycling laws
- Increases recycling from the present 33% to 80%
- Conserves our natural and energy resources
- Recycles more plastic and reduces U.S. dependency on oil
- Creates an incentive for consumers and industry to recycle
- Encourages use of and/or production of reusable containers
- Reclaims aluminum, a very desirable recyclable substance
- Solves green glass problem by returning to the distributor
- Keeps more recyclables out of landfills and incinerators
- Saves precious tax dollars by reducing government
- Creates additional revenue for New Jersey
- Makes the producers of containers responsible
- Creates private sector jobs
- Increases property values
- Increases tourism

To the 23,000 NJ Sierra Club members, local Group leaders, and advocates for the environment, there is a lot of hard work ahead. We invite your suggestions, participation, and commitment. Together, we can give New Jersey a much-needed makeover and make our state a better place to live. ☺

Contact David at
DavidYemior@cs.com

Interview

(Continued from page 1)

ExCom member, I remain Conservation Vice-Chair of both the Essex Group and on the Chapter (State) level, and Passaic River Basin Issues Coordinator.

Outside the Club, I am vice president of the Friends of Liberty State Park in Hudson County. We are park advocates who work to keep the Park free and green.

6. What advice might you have for a new Club member contemplating activism?

Don't try to do too much at the start like I did. Yes, new members are always

welcome to participate at any level they feel comfortable with, but after awhile you'll understand that volunteering will give you back more than you put in, ten-fold. No kidding, sometimes it looks like you are all on your own in a fight to preserve a property of natural beauty. Once you've begun, the universe answers back with help from all the unexpected corners of your world. Not everyone is called upon to give some of his life to the common good but if you have the urge, just do it. You'll find it is very rewarding. ☺

ONE-STOP LOBBYING:

Bursting at the seams with pride, the Sierra Club's Washington, D.C., Legislative Program has just unveiled its own National Legislative Tracker which allows the public to learn about key pieces of environmental legislation, follow Sierra Club positions on particular bills, and take action as requested. Spread the word!
<http://www.sierraclub.org/legislativetracker/>

ONE-STOP SHOPPING:

Now you can visit a single web page to sign up for any of the national Sierra Club's email newsletters—The Insider, Currents, RAW, Daily Ray of Hope, and Planet Newsletter. Try linking to it as "Sierra Club E-Newsletters" here:
<http://www.sierraclub.org/email/>

PRIMARY ELECTION TO WATCH:

New Jersey's 13th Congressional District (most of Hudson, parts of Essex, Middlesex and Union Counties), formerly represented by now-Senator Robert Menendez, will be fought over on June 6 by State Assemblymen Albio Sires and Joseph Vas. To get involved in the endorsement process, contact the Political Chair of our Hudson-Meadowlands Group.

THE DAY THE WATER DIED

March 24 marks the 17th anniversary of the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska's Prince William Sound. The second episode in the Sierra Club Chronicles documentary series investigates the state of affairs in the town of Cordova, where fishermen and other residents whose livelihoods were devastated by the spill have yet to be compensated by ExxonMobil. Oh—and in January the oil company announced record profits. Spread the word—let folks know they can get a free copy of "The Day the Water Died" on DVD if they organize a house party. <http://www.sierraclub.org/tv/>



Group News

FROM
AROUND
THE
STATE

HOW TO IDENTIFY YOUR GROUP (BY COUNTY)

Northwest Jersey Group: Hunterdon, Sussex & Warren

North Jersey Group: Passaic & most of Bergen

Essex County Group: Essex

Hudson-Meadowlands Group: Hudson & SE Bergen

Loantaka Group: Morris & Union

Central Jersey Group: Mercer

Ocean County Group: Ocean

Raritan Valley Group: Somerset & Middlesex

Jersey Shore Group: Monmouth & Ocean

West Jersey Group: Gloucester, Camden & Burlington

South Jersey Group: Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland & Salem

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

Northwest Jersey Group

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

OFFICERS:

Chair: Dennis Miranda 973-209-1814 dmmg@earthlink.net

Special Events Chair: Pat Mangino 862-432-7552 pmangino@aol.com

Vice-Chr.

Membership Chair: Susan Rotter 973-347-8849 rotterls@mindspring.com

Treasurer: Charles Kopp 973-770-7718 cckgp@aol.com

Political Chair: Arnold Kushnick 908-788-5637 arnkush@aol.com

Group Delegate to Chapter ExCom: Ruth Prince 908-284-9103 ruthp2@patmedia.net

ACTIVITIES: 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 have over 1,000 people show up in opposition as well. The application was postponed when we raised issues that violated the Boro's land use ordinances.

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's group successfully oppose a large-scale development by identifying the correct COAH requirements for the township's planning board and council.

GENERAL MEETINGS: The Northwest Group meets at 7pm on the LAST TUESDAY of each month. For locations and details, please contact Susan Rotter, 973-347-8849. We feature guest speakers, plan hiking trips and address conservation issues.

North Jersey Group

(Passaic and Bergen Counties, approximately)

OFFICERS:

Group Chair: Betsy Kohn 201-461-4534 BetsyKohn@aol.com

Vice Chair: Mike Herson 201-262-9472 mikeherson@hotmail.com

Conservation Chairs: Tom Thompson 201-848-1080 ctrans743@aol.com

Mike Herson 201-262-9472 mikeherson@hotmail.com

Environmental

Education: Open

Fundraising: Open

Membership Chair: Barbara Quigley blvquigley@yahoo.com

Outings Chair: Ellen Blumenkrantz elblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

Political Chair: Greg Tondi 201-935-7162 gregt75@yahoo.com

Program Chair: Open Position

Secretary: Open Position

Treasurer: Tom Thompson 201-848-1080 ctrans743@aol.com

US Public Lands: John Kashwick 201-660-8820 johnkashwick@optonline.net

Wildlife: John Mikalonis 201-496-8113 mikalonis@yahoo.com

Mary Ellen Shaw MaryEllen.Shaw@pscg.com

WEBSITE (sign up for e-mail notices of meetings, events, issues): <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/northjersey.asp>

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Held four times a year. Please contact Betsy or Mike (see above) for date and location.

New additions to the Chapter's website (<http://newjersey.sierraclub.org>) include descriptions of our conservation campaigns, and our "Bill Table": legislative proposals on which we have passed judgement.

GENERAL MEETINGS. Held once a month at 7:30 pm:

Apr 11 (Tues): a spectacular slide presentation by Julia Shaw of the Alaska Wilderness League about the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Alaskan rainforests, and the impact of oil drilling on ecosystems, wildlife and indigenous cultures. At Flat Rock Brook Nature Center, 443 Van Nostrand Avenue in Englewood.

May 11 (Thurs): we'll again be at Flat Rock Brook Nature Center (program TBA).

Jun 8 (Thurs): we'll meet at a location TBA in Passaic or western Bergen County. For more information, check our website or contact Betsy (see above).

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE. Join us to discuss local and Highlands issues. We meet every THIRD THURSDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at Buehler Cultural Center, 950 High Mountain Road, North Haledon, NJ. Check our website or contact Mike (see above) to be sure the meeting is on as scheduled.

ISSUES: 1. Steep slopes adjacent to Campgaw Reservation in Mahwah are under threat of development, as is a densely wooded ravine in Wyckoff. 2. Large-scale housing projects totaling 2,000 units are being planned on watershed land in the Ramapo Highlands (which supplies much of northern NJ's drinking water). 3. Edgewater's park and marina, funded in part by the Bergen County Open Space Trust Fund and Green Acres, has added a "commuter bus and ferry transfer station," leaving little open space for a park. This is an improper diversion of open space funds and it violates the public trust. 4. We remain vigilant to keep the Hackensack and Ramapo riparian corridors, critical for habitat and flood control, free of encroachment. To learn more or help out, please contact Mike or Tom (see above).

BE A SIERRA CLUB VOLUNTEER! If you have extra time and would like to help fight sprawl, protect natural resources and wildlife, elect pro-environment candidates, lead outings, or volunteer your services in another way, please contact a Group officer (see above).

CARTRIDGE RECYCLING. Bring your used printer cartridges to Whole Foods Market, 905 River Road in Edgewater, NJ; open 8 am to 10 pm, seven days a week. Leave them in the window box by the exit door. (Only cartridges that have not been recycled, please.) Thanks for recycling and your support!

Hudson-Meadowlands Group

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

OFFICERS:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| Chair: | Louise Taylor | 201-674-8949 | l.g.taylor@erols.com |
| Vice-Chr, | | | |
| Conserv. Chr: | Mike Selender | 201-484-7277 | mike_selender@mindspring.com |
| Treasurer: | Charlotte Ermoian | 201-224-4553 | c.ermoian@att.net |
| Secretary: | Connie Ftera | 201-869-7950 | cftera@earthlink.net |
| Political Chair: | Melissa McCarthy | 201-230-8365 | mc.mc@verizon.net |
| Publicity: | Betty Leung | 201-224-3542 | leung-ibet@msn.com |
| Parks: | Rosemary Arena | 201-861-6222 | rosemaryarena@cs.com |
| ExCom | | | |
| Members: | Gil Hawkins | 201-944-5799 | gilc3d2@aol.com |
| | and Donald Kopczynsk | 201-224-2641 | Littlechops03@netzero.com |

NEWS: Issues we are currently involved with include keeping an eye on chromium mitigation efforts, preservation efforts for Reservoir #3 and the Harsimus Stem (6th Street) Embankment in Jersey City and working to ensure that the Grand Cove Marina tract in Edgewater is preserved as a park rather than a ferry terminal.

Essex County Group

web site: http://NJSierra.org/NJS_Groups/Essex. We are also accessible from the NJ Chapter web site.

OFFICERS:

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Co-Chair: | Dave Ogens | 973-226-0748 | bandit29@aol.com |
| | Walt Goldenbaum | 973-925-8662 | goldenb1@optonline.net |
| Vice chair | Lori Tanner | 973-857-0519 | Ljensen@montclairlaw.com |
| Conservation: | Michel Cuillerier | 973-736-0913 | schatzidog@earthlink.net |
| Political: | Chris Weis | 973-224-0474 | CWeis11@cs.com |
| | Billi Schloss | 973-467-8154 | billi_s@yahoo.com |
| Media: | Walter Clarke | 973-723-1642 | walterclarke@verizon.net |
| Outings/Parks: | Dave Ogens | 973-226-0748 | bandit29@aol.com |
| Treasurer | Lori Tanner | 973-857-0519 | Ljensen@montclairlaw.com |
| Secretary | Billi Schloss | 973-467-8154 | billi_s@yahoo.com |
| Fundraising: | Linda M. Stiles | 973-736-2224 | birdlady07052@msn.com |
| Event | | | |
| Coordinator: | Walt Goldenbaum | 973-925-8662 | goldenb1@optonline.net |
| Membership: | Maria K.deWakefield | 973-736-0913 | schatzidog@earthlink.net |
| West Orange: | Sally Malanga | 973-736-7397 | sally@eccobella.com |
| | Linda M. Stiles | 973-736-2224 | birdlady07052@msn.com |

ACTIVITIES: Presently building a Passaic River Display for the Environmental Center in Roseland. Working towards saving a major forested tract in West Orange and an Ancient Forest on Gov. McClellan's former estate. Working to preserve wetlands in the Hatfield Swamp in the Passaic River Basin and the remaining forested areas in Essex County, continuing to ensure that the Essex County Park and Open Space Trust Fund is implemented in a fair and consistent way, and addressing environmental justice (EJ) issues.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Please contact Dave or Walt (see above) for dates and locations.

GENERAL MEETINGS: The regular meetings described below are free and open to the public. They take place on Tuesdays, from 7 to 9pm, at the Essex County Environmental Center, 621 Eagle Rock Ave. in Roseland. Refreshments are provided. Contact Walt Goldenbaum (goldenb1@optonline.net or 973-925-8662) for general information.

Apr 11: "The Greatest Good." Join us for a viewing of a Forest Service Centennial film that frames the epic story of the struggle to manage a nation's resources amid global change. Followed by a discussion with Northeastern USDA Forest Service Management Community Planner, Matt Ann. For specific information call 973-228-8776.

Apr 22 (Sat): Celebrate Earth Day at the Essex County Environmental Center! Contact goldenb1@optonline.net after April 15th for details.

May 9: A Consumer's Right to Know. David Biederman, of the Office of the New Jersey Attorney General, will lecture on New Jersey's Consumer Protection Laws, how they are enforced, and what the Office of the New Jersey Attorney General does to protect consumers. Consumer protection issues such as identity theft, home improvement contractor scams, auto Lemon Law, and charity scams, will be addressed. Discussion to follow. For specific information call 973-228-8776

June 6: NY/NJ Baykeeper on the Lower Passaic River. Please help us welcome NY/NJ Baykeeper Andy Willner to the Essex County Environmental Center for an enlightening discussion on Baykeeper's work on the Lower Passaic River. Topics include the Passaic River Patrol, Superfund and clean-up activities, open space and restoration goals for the waterfront, and environmental justice. Discussion follows. For specific information call 973-228-8776

July 11: "Highlands to Oceans"—Book Presentation and Discussion. The New York-New Jersey metropolitan region is an immense natural area, as well as the most densely settled corner of the North American continent. But until now this astonishing natural treasure - which survives and thrives even after 400 years of phenomenal economic growth - has not even had a name. Join Christopher Meier, co-author of "H2O: Highlands to Ocean," to learn about your two "addresses" and for an update on the health of this magnificent region we call home." Afterwards engage in a lively discussion. For specific information call 973-228-8776

Loantaka Group

(Morris and Union Counties, approximately)

WEBSITE: <http://Loantaka.NJSierra.org>

OFFICERS:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Group Co-Chairs: | Chris Mills | 973-377-1742 | ChrisMills@sierraactivist.org |
| | and Paul Sanderson | 908-253-2414 | paulmsanderson@aol.com |
| Treasurer: | Joyce White | | joyce00201@yahoo.com |
| Secretary: | Sonya Kaloyanides | 973-275-0288 | skaloyanides@yahoo.com |
| Conservation Chairs: | | | |
| Morris County: | Chris Mills | 973-377-1742 | ChrisMills@sierraactivist.org |
| Union County: | Eric Hausker | 732-669-0719 | hauskerr@aol.com |
| Political Chair: | Meiling Chin | | chinmeiling@yahoo.com |
| Programs: | Steve Yafet | 908-354-2537 | yafet@erols.com |
| Education | | | |
| Coordinator: | Jeff Huppert | 973-263-0344 | jeffhup@optonline.net |
| Fundraising Chair: | Eric Hausker | 732-669-0719 | hauskerr@aol.com |
| Outreach & Events Chair: | Bob Johnson | 908-598-0656 | robert.johnson@njsierra.org |
| Publicity Chair: | Wynn Johanson | 908-464-0442 | johansons@comcast.net |
| Membership: | Doug Williams | 973-263-8404 | doog@optonline.net |
| Air Quality | | | |
| Coordinator: | Bob Campbell | 908-273-5720 | wrobc_sc@earthlink.net |
| Webmaster: | Melissa Goss | | |
| Greenbrook: | Bob Muska | 908-665-2296 | rmuska@erols.com |

To learn of our activities, go to: <http://loantaka.njsierra.org>

To join our emailing list, send a blank email to:

<http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/nj-loantaka-news.html>

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Meetings are held on the FIRST TUESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at Library of the Chathams, 214 Main St., Chatham, NJ

This is your club and there is always an open invitation for you to attend an Executive Committee meeting. Right now, we have open positions on our Executive Committee. If you are interested and would like to find out more, please contact Paul Sanderson.

GENERAL MEETINGS: Meetings are held on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at the Library of the Chathams, 214 Main St, Chatham. Directions are posted on our website <http://Loantaka.NJSierra.org>

Come to a general meeting and learn something new and make some new friends. We'd welcome the chance to meet you and to introduce ourselves at a general meeting. Please see the meeting schedule which follows and join us!

MEETING SCHEDULE:

Apr 12: Threats to our National Forests. Prepared by Ayelet Hines, a Sierra Club National Forest specialist in Washington, DC; presented by Bob Johnson and other Loantaka Group members. Taxpayer handouts and timber give-aways promote a destructive logging program that may actually get worse if the Roadless Area Conservation Rule from Bill Clinton's presidency is successfully repealed. Timber sale has long been a mandate of the NFS, but habitat, topsoil, drinking water, and recreation economy destruction are not a mandate as far as is known. This is the time for public support to tip legislative action, and to make sure New Jersey's Congressional Representatives support it. A huge agreement just reached in British Columbia establishes sustainable logging in the Great Bear Rainforest. If only our NFS would use the same model! We will see pretty pictures and some ugly pictures, too.

May 10: Bonnie Tillery will present "The Magical Island of Madagascar." This island nation, off the east coast of Africa, is home to plants and animals found nowhere else on Earth. Yet 90% of its forests have been burned for farming and grazing to feed a growing population. Find out what the people of Madagascar are doing to protect their special resources in one of the world's environmental hotspots. Bonnie is the NJ Chapter's Population Issues Coordinator, and has recently returned from this magical island.

June 14: Highlands Act meets the Great Swamp. Great Swamp Watershed Association director Julia Somers and photographer and naturalist Blaine Rothausen return. Julia discusses the ongoing Delbarton/Abbey Woods senior housing application, which she has been fighting for quite a long time. The application is a challenge to both the Highlands Act and the Corzine administration's good intentions. This is apparently happening in advance (or perhaps not?) of the Highlands Regional Master Plan, which will ultimately identify preservation zones in detail and spare us the nail-biters. Then on to Blaine's swamp-treats program "Great Swamp through the seasons".

(Continued on page 8)

GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 7)

Activities: (Check our website for more information.)

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. We are also organizing volunteers to help maintain and improve trails in the Morris and Union County Park Systems. In addition, the Group is actively involved in State-wide initiatives involving air quality, transportation, and environmental legislation. Volunteers are always welcome. Call Paul (908-233-2414), Chris (973-377-1742) or Bob Johnson (908-771-9676) for more information.

Central Jersey Group

(Mercer County, parts of Burlington, Middlesex and Somerset)

OFFICERS:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|---|
| Chair: | Caroline Kulesza | caroline_kulesza@yahoo.com |
| Vice Chair: | Open position! | |
| Treasurer: | Bill Wowk | 609-587-0502 bwowk@aol.com |
| Conservation Co-Chairs: | Rocky Swingle | 609-587-7568 rockyswingle@optonline.net |
| | And Laura Lynch | 609-882-4642 laura@sierraactivist.org |
| Membership Chair: | Open position! | |
| Programs Chair: | Open position! | |
| Publicity Coordinator: | Caroline Kulesza | caroline_kulesza@yahoo.com |
| Political Committee: | Joe Leist | 609-259-6438 JoeLeist@verizon.net |
| Outings Chair: | Ken Mayberg | 609-443-9138 kjmayberg@aol.com |
| Outreach Coordinator: | Harold Rapp | 609-671-0435 HalRapp@aol.com |
| Forest Issues Coord: | Nancy Carringer | 732-438-8688 ncarringer@yahoo.com |

WEBSITES: To get the most up-to-date information and news on our issues and activities, visit <http://njsierra.org/getbusy/central.html>

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Meetings are generally held on the FIRST THURSDAY of the month at 7:30 pm. Please contact Caroline Kulesza (above) for the location, which may vary. These meetings are open to all Sierra Club members.

GENERAL MEETINGS: We meet on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of each month at 7:30 pm at the West Windsor Branch of the Mercer County Library, 333 North Post Road, Princeton Junction, 08550. The library is adjacent to the municipal complex at the corner of Old Post and Clarksville Roads. Check our website for a map. Our meetings are free and open to all members and the general public. Refreshments provided.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

Apr 12: Keeping It Local: Defining a Sustainable Community and How You Can Help. Ralph Copleman, of Sustainable Lawrence, and Anne Neumann, of the Princeton Regional Environmental Commission, will describe how Lawrence and Princeton are kicking the oil habit and getting off the grid. We will learn how and where to buy local and how to be sustainable in our own homes.

May 10: Preserved in Paintings: Local artist Charles Alden will exhibit his paintings. We will learn the history of these sites and what we can do to preserve them.

Jun 14: Preserved in Print: Local photographer Gordon Christie will show selections from his extensive travels. We will highlight sites that are threatened by human incursion, and we will learn what we can do to protect them.

The Central Jersey Group Goes On A National Sierra Club Trip

We are organizing some local members to go together on a National Sierra Trip. More details on the trips can be found in your Sierra Club magazine or on the Sierra Club website, <http://www.sierraclub.org>.

One of the following trips will be selected:

Trip 06286A: High on the Trails of the Central Sierra, California. July 2-8. Leader is Sondra Dunkle (highly recommended). Cost is \$745. Stay at the Tamarack Pines Inn where we sleep on beds, have bathrooms, eat in a dining room and meet in community room. Moderate level hiking above 7,000 feet suitable for experienced fit hikers.

Trip 06338A: Forest Rehabilitation at Clair Tappan Lodge, California. Aug. 27-Sept. 2. Leader is Suzanne Valencia. Cost is \$495. Stay at this historic and rustic Club Lodge. Bring your sleeping bag. Help return surrounding forest to its natural state. Hiking on the day off.

There is no guarantee that there will be openings on these trips if we delay. Please let Harold Rapp know of your interest and preference as soon as possible: halrapp@aol.com or 609-671-0435.

E-MAIL NOTICES: If you'd like to receive those last minute reminders of meetings or outings, please send your e-mail address to Laura Lynch (above). If you'd like to receive issue alerts, please send your e-mail address to Laura Lynch (above).

Raritan Valley Group

(Middlesex and Somerset Counties, approximately)

WEBSITE: www.njsierra.org/~njrar/

OFFICERS AND CONTACTS:

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--|
| Chair: | Sandi Lowich | 732-247-5760 | Abstract46@aol.com |
| | | | 44 Chestnut St, Milltown NJ 08850-1140 |
| Membership: | Sunil Somalwar | 732-572-7721 | svsomalwar@sierraactivist.org |
| Conservation Chair: | Jane Tousman | 908-561-5504 | jdkous@aol.com |
| Outings: | Open position! | | |
| Political Chair: | Randy Gill | 732-525-2612 | ragill@optonline.net |
| Programs & Publicity: | Sandi Lowich | | abstract46@aol.com |
| Secretary: | Open position! | | |
| Treas'r, Webmast'r: | Don McBride | 732-560-0369 | dtmcbride@yahoo.com |

ISSUES: We are fighting development along streams, wetlands, flood plains and steep slopes. We are pro-farmland 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 in these areas. Help us stop developers from buying sub-standard lots and obtaining permits and variances to construct new homes.

Calling All Volunteers: The Raritan Valley Group welcomes you to our activities. Currently, the positions of outings chair and secretary are open. If you are interested in filling an open position, 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: TBA; please check with Group officers.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Held at 7pm on the FIRST THURSDAY of every other month beginning with September except for July and August at officer's homes. All Sierra Club members are invited to attend. Please contact the group chair for location.

Jersey Shore Group

(Monmouth County, approximately)

Web Site: <http://njsierra.org/~njshore/>

OFFICERS:

| | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| Group Chair: | Dennis Anderson | 732-888-3158 | dennisaza@aol.com |
| | | | 612 Second St., Union Beach, NJ 07735 |
| Vice-Chair: | Open position! | | |
| Secretary: | Joe DeLuca | 732-389-1835 | joe-deluca@att.net |
| Conservation Chair: | Faith Teitelbaum | 732-229-0553 | faithtei@aol.com |
| Webmaster: | George Newsome | 732-308-1518 | newsome1@pobox.com |
| Treasurer: | Judy Maxcy | 732-458-5074 | |
| Political Chair: | Laura Bagwell | 732-741-8678 | l.bagwell3@verizon.net |
| Outings Chair: | Mike Verange | 908-902-0718 | mjverange@aol.com |
| Membership Chair: | Alan Roseman | 732-780-1308 | aroseman@monmouth.com |
| Program Chair: | Open position! | | |

GENERAL MEETINGS: Held at 8pm on the FOURTH MONDAY of each month - except in July, August and December - at a NEW location: the Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse at 1475 West Front Street in Lincroft (please check the congregation's website for directions, at <http://www.uucmc.org/where-we-are.htm>). Come early to socialize and enjoy refreshments. For additional directions or information, please contact Dennis Anderson or Faith Teitelbaum (see list of officers, above), or visit our web site.

Apr 24: Conservation Medicine. This emerging field combines many disciplines, including ecology, epidemiology, anthropology, and medicine, both human and veterinary. Join us as a representative from the Wildlife Clinic & Center for Conservation Medicine at Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine talks about this exciting field, and one of the Center's current projects, SEANET.

May 22: Cool Cities: Solving Global Warming One City at a Time. The Conservation Committee has begun work on what portends to be a very important effort. Faith Teitelbaum, our Group Conservation Chair, will introduce this campaign to the general membership.

June 26: Local Green Initiative. Mayor Joseph Scarpelli of Brick Township has proposed several environmentally friendly projects for his township. Come hear what is in store for Brick! (members of the Ocean County Group are welcome to join us, as always!)

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 call Dennis Anderson at 732-888-3158.

Ocean County Group

OFFICERS: (All currently in acting capacity):

| | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| Chair: | A. Gregory Auriemm | 732-451-9220 | sierraclubOC@aol.com |
| Vice Chair, | | | |
| Prog, Outings, | Dawn Marie Johns | 732-269-3729 | sierraclubOC@hotmail.com |
| Conservation Chair: | Margrit Meissner-Jackson | 609-296-4367 | sylviaj1910@yahoo.com |
| Secretary: | Corinne Washik | 732-616-2446 | corinne.washik@gdc4s.com |
| Treasurer: | Richard Washik | 732-616-2775 | richard.m.washik@us.army.mil |
| Publicity: | Howard Schwartz | 609-242-9304 | hirschwartz@comcast.net |
| Fund-Raising: | Joyce M. Isaza | 732-920-9270 | JoyMisa@aol.com |
| ExCom Member: | Sandy Brown | 609-242-9304 | sandybrown@comcast.net |

Delegate to Chapter ExCom: Position rotates among Group ExCom members.

Note: Dawn Marie Johns directs outings and maintains membership functions.

Open Position: Political Chair. Please contact Greg at 732-451-9220 for more information.

ACTIVITIES & ISSUES: The Group has just received recognition from the Club's national office, and has already begun work on several issues: Preventing drilling in the ALASKA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE (ANWR), defending the ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT, fighting expanded off-shore oil drilling, repealing New Jersey's "Fast Track" (pro-development short-cut) law, and supporting expanded recycling legislation are national and state issues we'll be tackling in the months ahead. Also, we've targeted critical local open space, sprawl, and air and water quality issues. Volunteers are needed to help with these issues, membership outreach, tabling at local events, fund-raising, and a computer-based voter education program for the 2006 elections.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Generally held monthly on the SECOND MONDAY of each month. Current location is Capone's Restaurant in Toms River. Contact Greg for more information.

GENERAL MEETINGS: Note the new location! Held bi-monthly at 7pm on the FOURTH MONDAY of January, March, May, July, September and November at the Skywalk Cafeteria at the Ocean County Administration Building, 129 Hooper Avenue (2nd Floor), Toms River. For additional information or directions, please contact Greg or Howard (see above). We have some exciting programs and activities coming up:

Apr 22 (Sat): Earth Day stream clean-up in conjunction with NJ Water-Watch.

Apr 29 & 30 (Sat-Sun): Our first annual garage sale fund-raiser. Clean out your garage and basement and help raise funds for our Ocean Group.

May 22 (Mon): Regular general meeting at our new location. Rich Bizub, of the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, will present, Water: Our Precious Resource. Everyone who lives in Ocean County knows both over-development and water resources are critical issues. Please come, learn more, and become more involved!

June 4 (Sun): Tabling event at the 16th annual Point Pleasant Street Fair. Have some fun at this great annual event and help spread the Club's environmental agenda by volunteering to help.

June 24 (Sat): Tentative date for our first annual BBQ or dinner-dance fund-raiser.

West Jersey Group

(Camden, Gloucester and Burlington Counties, approximately)

Web site: users.snip.net/~ginacce/home.htm

OFFICERS:

| | | | |
|----------------------------|--|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Group Chair: | Gina Carola | 856-848-8831 | ginacce@snip.net |
| Vice-Chair: | Wayne Zanni | 856-728-4507 | wzanni@earthlink.net |
| Secretary: | Kaitlin Kulp | | |
| Treasurer: | Trish Clements | 856-768-5639 | patri321@comcast.net |
| Publicity Chair: | Bud Kaliss | 856-428-8071 | budkaliss@earthlink.net |
| Political Chair: | Wayne Zanni | 856-728-4507 | wzanni@earthlink.net |
| Pinelands Rep: | Lee Snyder | | pinelands1@hotmail.com |
| Greenways Coord's: | Frank and Ellen Zinni | | |
| Conservation Chair: | Stacey Ayala | | thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com |
| Membership Chair: | Mike Brown | 856-547-9221 | cyebrown@snip.net |
| Fundraising Chair: | Reiss Tiffany | 856-829-6405 | r-cliffany@comcast.net |
| Sprawl Chair: | Brian Boockoff | 609-937-5022 | bboockoff@comcast.net |
| Programs Chair: | Bill Freund | | |
| Outings Chair: | Open position! | | |
| Inner City Outings: | Need volunteers! Call Mike at 856-547-9221 | | |

GENERAL MEETINGS: are held at 7:30 pm on the SECOND TUESDAY of each month, at the Unitarian Church, 401 N. Kings Highway (Rte 41), Cherry Hill (located between Rte 70 and the convergence of Rtes 38 and 73, just north of a traffic light at Chapel Avenue). Handicap accessible parking and entrance in rear of building.

Apr 11: Bonnie Tillery will present "The Magical Island of Madagascar": What the people of Madagascar are doing to protect their special resource.

May 9: Erik Mollenhauer presents Discovering A Lost World: What was the New World like at the time of Columbus?

Jun 13: Update on the Camden Greenways

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: | Sally Nunn | 609-704-1790 | nunsal41@comcast.net |
| Conservation Chair: | Open Position! | | |
| Pol. Chair, Calendars: | Dick Colby | 609-965-4453 | dick.colby@stockton.edu |
| Membership Chair: | Gary Roman | 609-625-3438 | |
| Secretary/Treasurer: | Julie Akers | 856-697-3479 | akers@gowebway.com |

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 two other 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 want help with local issues. If you have topics (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 we'll cancel. 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 planners (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.

Possibly Relevant Meetings:

Apr 1 (Sat) All day! Stockton College's fifth annual Environmental Education Forum, sponsored by NJ Community Water Watch. All-day workshops, speakers and informational tables. Free to all, even breakfast and lunch! Register by calling Stockton Water Watch (609-748-6097 or NCWW@stockton.edu). Information from Julie Akers (see above).

Apr 23 (Sun) All day! Earth Day — as celebrated by the Atlantic County Utilities Authority — at their recycling headquarters in Egg Harbor Township. See local newspapers for details, or call one of the officers listed above. (Likely to be tours of the new wind farm on City Island!)

May 10 (Wed) 6:30pm: Bi-monthly meeting of Citizens United to Protect the Maurice

River and its Tributaries. Meeting place: Gant Room, Millville Public Library, 210 Buck Street. Cumberland County development issues are usually discussed, including updates on the Holly Farm, the Airport Race Track, ETC. Call Julie Akers, 856-697-6114.

May 23 (Tues) 7pm: Opportunity to catch up on conservation planning for the Great Egg Harbor Wild and Scenic River, at a public (membership) session of the Watershed Association (an organization that once got its start as our Group Executive Committee!). For more information or to confirm, call Julie Akers, 856-697-6114. Warren Fox Nature Center, Atlantic County Park in Estell Manor (milepost 15 on NJ Rte 50).

June 27 (Tues): 7pm: Great Egg Harbor River Watershed Association: Trustees' meeting, open to the public. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114. Warren Fox Nature Center, Atlantic County Park in Estell Manor (milepost 15 on NJ Rte 50).

Seniors Section

(A chapter-wide special interest section offering hikes/cleanups, social gatherings, movies, meetings, etc. — soon to be called "Fifty Plus Section")

The mission of the Senior Section has been to support Sierra Club goals, and to promote activism through letter writing and other active support for environmental issues. Seniors worked through a ListServe, "the Senior Forum." But this mission is evolving.

A new ListServe, called "NJ Fifty Plus News," with already more than 80 members, has replaced the Senior Forum. Terry Stimpfel (teristimb@hotmail.com) is the coordinator of activities — she organizes the calendar. Events and activities will be posted weekly, and will include (as exemplified by our February, 2006, listings): "Socialize & Dine at..."; Hiking 6 miles in Monmouth County at a moderate pace; Sierra Green Night with the Central Jersey Group; Sunday afternoon EcoChat and Social; and Concert and Dance—Sock Hop."

With new members, it is hoped that new leadership will emerge, and the Fifty Plus group will be able to develop an Executive Committee (ExCom) to focus the Section's energies, and a web site to report accomplishments. For further information, please contact Nancy Carringer at ncarringer@yahoo.com.

Singles Section

(A Chapter-wide, special interest section offering hikes/cleanups, 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: singles.njsierra.org

email: abc77@msn.com (mention "Sierra Club" in your subject line)

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 as some events are advertised only by email. If you prefer not to receive email, you may view an archive of all prior messages at <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-SINGLES-NEWS.html>.

OFFICERS:

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Chair: | Bob Johnson | robert.johnson@comcast.net |
| Outings Chairs: | Joyce Haddad | jkhaddad@juno.com |
| | Dave Ogens | Bandit29@aol.com |
| Conservation Chair: | Mary Walsh | blchwalsh@hotmail.com |
| Treasurer: | Joyce White | joycewhite@netzero.net |
| Webpage designer: | Tom Miller | millertom@juno.com |
| Social Chair: | Position Open! Contact us! We need you! | |
| Programs: | Position Open! Contact us! We need you! | |
| Publicity: | Lynn Forrest | abc77@msn.com |
| ANWR Coordinator: | Diana Eichholz | MistyAngel22@aol.com |
| Membership: | Walter Goldenbaum | goldenb1@optonline.net |

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 letter-writing. SECOND MONDAY of each month starting at 7pm with optional pizza, at the Chatham Library (214 Main St). Guest speakers at each meeting at 7:30 pm. \$5 donation at door and RSVP (required for pizza only) to joycewhite@netzero.net or 973-364-7573, ext. 3, by noon the day before. (Please leave name and specify plain or veggie-topping pizza.) Free (and no RSVP required) if you're not having pizza.

We are collecting used laser/inkjet cartridges and used cell phones at our meetings for recycling. If you have any from work or home to get rid of, please bring them! Sierra Club gets a donation for each one.

April 10 - Phil L'Hommedieu presents a slideshow on our local jewel, the NJ Highlands.

May 8 - Julia Shaw from the Alaskan Wilderness Coalition will inform us of both the beauty of the Arctic and the dangers posed to it by oil extraction.

June 12 - Drew Kahn will be giving us backpacking tips for the summer months ahead.

Directions to the Chatham Library: From I-287 take Rte 24 East to Exit 8 (Summit Ave). Turn left at the top of the ramp and then left again so you go back onto Rte 24 headed West. Take exit 7A for Chatham and bear right onto Rte 124 (Main St). Follow Main St. through 2 lights. The Library is to your right about 1/2 block past the 2nd light. From Parkway take I-78 West to Rte 24 West. Take exit 7A for Chatham and follow above directions.

(continued on page 10)

GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 9)

ExCom MEETINGS take place once a month at various locations. All welcome. Contact any officer for location.

SOCIAL GATHERINGS:

SOCIAL DINNER: 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.

SOCIAL DINNER: THIRD TUESDAY of each month at 7pm. Join us for dinner in a Montclair restaurant. Location will be announced 2 weeks before the social. RSVP is required to jkhaddad@juno.com or 973-364-7573, option # 4.

Friday HAPPY HOURS for Singles in their 30's & 40's. Please check website at www.Singles.NJSierra.org for exact schedule of dates as well as putting yourself on the listserv.

For YOUNG SIERRANS in their 20's: once a month meet and greet along with an ECO (Environmental Concerns Overview) chat group. Times and places will be posted on website or call 973-364-7573 push option # 1 or contact MistyAngel2005@yahoo.com.

Note: After some of the Happy Hours there will be a brief ECO meeting - (Environmental Concerns Overview) informing people of recent developments in our struggle for a better environment. Please remember to RSVP for all events so that you may be informed of the exact date or of any last minute changes.

We are also seeking Young Sierran volunteers - either someone in their 20s to lead other environmentally-minded 20-somethings, or someone in their 30s to run events for both 20 and 30 year-olds. If you are able to help, please contact us.

SUMMER PICNIC at 107 Oldwick Road in Whitehouse Station will be JULY 22nd. We need help! We need volunteer cooks, people to bring grills, food, etc. Please sign up for our picnic committee by calling Diana at 973-364-7573 option #8, or emailing MistyAngel22@aol.com. We expect 200 people or more, and we desperately need volunteers.

HIKES:

Please see the Outings section of this newsletter for our hikes. Many of Paul Serdiuk's South Jersey hikes/events are also oriented toward singles.

50 PLUS!

Are you 50 or better and occasionally bored by singles events? The 50Plus Singles events provide an opportunity to socialize with interesting people while enjoying a variety of cultural, outdoors and even goofy events held throughout the state. So join with like-minded folk and even help the environment. To learn about upcoming events join the Singles listserv, check the Singles web page or call the hotline (973) 364-7573 option #6. For more information please contact Terry at terystimb@hotmail.com.

Young Sierrans

(A special interest section for Young Sierra Club Members ages 18-35 with socials and ECO chats along with discussions meant to connect and inform environmentally-minded individuals seeking to get involved with preserving the future.)

YOUNG SIERRAN COMMITTEE POSITIONS

| | |
|---|--|
| Young Sierran Leadership Chair: | Jackie Enfield |
| Young Sierran Conservation Chair: | Bill Sevchuk |
| Young Sierran Outreach/Membership Chair: | David Smith |
| Young Sierran Outings Chair: | Open Position! Contact us! |
| Young Sierran Event Coordinator: | Open Position! |
| Young Sierran Web Master: | Open Position! |
| Young Sierran Publicity Chair: | Open Position! |
| Young Sierran Coordinator/Moderator: | Diana Christine Eichholz at MistyAngel22@aol.com |

Young Sierran Phone Line: 973-364-7573 press # 1

YOUNG SIERRANS (age 18-35): monthly 8:30 pm Friday meeting in back community room of Panera Bread, 136 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08542 (right next door to the Princeton Triumph Brewery). ECO (Environmental Concerns Overview) Chat Group with nightlife social afterwards. Contact MistyAngel22@aol.com or call 973-364-7573 push option # 1.

Sierra Student Coalition

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

web site: <http://www.ssc.org/nj/>
Contact Tejal Kuray; 732-770-2142; tejal.kuray@ssc.org for information.

STUDENT TRAINING: This summer the Sierra Student Coalition will hold training sessions in North Carolina, Minnesota, Washington, California, Pennsylvania, and Puerto Rico (the last for native Spanish-speakers only). More information is available on the website: www.ssc.org.

Inner City Outings Section

(another Chapter-wide special interest activity)

OFFICERS:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Chair | | |
| (North/Central Jersey): | Anne Dyjak | 732-560-0953 annedyjak@verizon.net |
| Co-Chairs | | |
| (South Jersey): | Joy Booth | 856-486-1574 joeboo@hotmail.com |
| | and Jennifer Grenier | 856-582-5512 Jennig1@yahoo.com |
| | and Maxine Vogt | 856-779-9156 Mvogt1@juno.com |

Inner City Outings is a community outreach program which provides wilderness adventures for inner city youth of NJ. Volunteer certified outings leaders conduct outings on weekends, generally day trips on Saturdays.

NJ is currently served by two ICO groups, one in the northern/central region and one in the southern region/Camden area. If you would like to experience the rewards of introducing NJ inner city youth to the wonders of nature, your involvement is encouraged and you are requested to contact us at the above email addresses. To learn more, visit our webpage at <http://www.sierraclub.org/ico/newjersey/>, or send an email to annedyjak@verizon.net.



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

Activist Outing Special: Four national "Wild Legacy Conservation" trips are offered this year for the first time, including one in Vermont:

Sept. 10 - 17. **Autumn Wanderings in Wild Vermont.** Come enjoy our mixture of moderate backpacking and trail maintenance in Vermont's proposed Glastonbury Mountain Wilderness. Early autumn colors and an exciting wilderness campaign enhance our two separate short "working" backpacks in the legendary Green Mountains, with leader Debbie Smith and Vermont activist John Harbison. Trip #06104A, cost \$595. For details, contact Vicky Hoover at 415-977-5527 or vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org.

GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS

Central Jersey: Ken Mayberg
kjmayberg@aol.com
Essex County: David Ogens 973-226-7107 (H)
29 Hatfield Street, Caldwell, NJ 07003
Hudson-Meadowlands: Vacant
Jersey Shore: Mike Verange 908-732-8364 (H)
1497 W Front St, Lincolnton, NJ 07738
Loantaka: Joyce White 908-272-4478 (H)
joyce00201@yahoo.com
North Jersey: Ellen Blumenkrantz 201-784-8417
elblumenkrantz@hotmail.com
Northwest Jersey: Pat Mangino, Pmangino@aol.com
Raritan Valley: Vacant
South Jersey: Tom Boghosian 609-625-0878 (H)
3722 Lehigh Ct, Mays Landing, NJ 08330
West Jersey: Vacant
River Touring: Fred Tocce 908-453-2205 (H)
Rd 1 Box 277, Washington, NJ 07882
Inner City Outings: Anne Dyjak 732-560-0953 (H)
annedyjak@verizon.net
17 Mt. Horeb Rd, Warren, NJ 07059
Chapter Outings: Ellen Blumenkrantz 201-784-8417
elblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

Outing Leaders: Please send July-October 2006 write-ups to your Group Outings Coordinator before May 3. If you are planning to lead an outing close to the beginning of one of our quarterly publication periods, please submit it 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: If possible, leaders should send their trip descriptions to the Group Outings Coordinator instead of directly to the Chapter Outings Coordinator. This is particularly important for occasional leaders.

Group Outings Coordinators: Please submit your July-October 2006 trip write-ups by May 8.

NOTES ON OUTINGS: All Outings are 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 Sierra Club. This is a new policy. 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 equip-

ment, 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 equipment. 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, such as for weekend trips or river tours, or if you have a question about the outing, it is not necessary to contact the leader before the trip. 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 trip leaders can arrange for partners to share a canoe if you will be 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 |
| (L) - Loantaka | (N) - North Jersey |
| (NW) - Northwest Jersey | (S) - South Jersey |
| (W) - West Jersey | (NJ) - NJ Chapter |
| (H) - Hudson | (RV) - Raritan Valley |
| (IC) - Inner City Outings | (RT) - River Touring |
| (E) - Essex County | (ACCOC) - Atlantic Chapter Outings Comm. |

APRIL

Apr 1 (Sat) Singles Cherry Blossom Hike, Washington, DC. Meeting at 8am. Hike among the beauty and splendor of the Capitol's cherry blossoms. Meet at Hilton Hotel, Rte 70, Cherry Hill. We will have lunch at the festival and dinner at a restaurant outside Baltimore. We will take the Metro into Washington. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 eve. or pis1@cccnj.net No blossoms/ cold weather cancels hike, call leader prior to event for update.

Apr 2 (Sun) Singles Hike, Wells Mills Park. Meet at 9am. 6 miles, moderate pace. Hike trails with spectacular views of Atlantic white cedar, pitch pine and oak trees. NP/BC. Bring picnic-type food to share at trailside social. Meet at Hilton Hotel, Rte 70, Cherry Hill, rear parking lot to carpool/cavean or meet at 10am in parking lot of park, on Rte 532, 3 miles east off Rte 72, Waretown, Ocean Twp. Ocean Co. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 eve. or pis1@cccnj.net. Inclement weather cancels. Daylight Savings Begins! (Turn clocks forward 1 hour.)

Apr 2 (Sun) Social Hike in Watchung Reservation. About 7 miles of mixed terrain at a moderate pace. Great views, waterfalls, pine plantation and Deserted Village. Children 12 years or older and friendly dogs are welcome. Bring water and a picnic lunch and wear hiking boots. Meet before 10am at the Trailside Nature Center parking lot. For directions use www.Mapquest.com with the address of 452 New Providence Rd, Mountaintop 07092, or call the Nature Center at 908-789-3670. Rain cancels. A \$3 fee will be charged to nonmembers. All participants must sign a liability waiver. For further information call 973-364-7573; press 2. Leaders: David Ogens. Bandit29@aol.com, Walter.Goldenbaum.goldenb1@optonline.net (E)

Apr 8 (Sat) Norvin Green State Forest. Moderate paced, full-day loop includes several viewpoints and portion of the Highlands Trail. Some steep ups and downs. Bring lunch & lots of water. Limit 12 people. Must pre-register. Ellen Blumenkrantz, 201-784-8417, elblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

Apr 8 (Sat) Social Hike in Lewis Morris Park, Morristown. Bring water and a picnic lunch and wear hiking boots. Meet before 10am at Lewis Morris Park, Sunrise Lake Parking Lot. This is a joint hike with the UHC, using various marked trails past Sunrise Lake. Rain cancels. Take I-287 to Exit 30-B (Bernardsville). At light, turn right onto Rte 202N. Go about 1.7 miles to light and turn left onto Tempe Wick Rd. Pass Jockey Hollow entrance and go another mile on Tempe Wick Rd. Turn right onto Corey Lane. Go 1.4 miles and turn right on Rte 24510 (Mendham Rd.) Go 1.7 miles to park entrance. Alternate route: I-287 south to Exit 35. Leader: Lee Ousley, ousleyl@mindspring.com



Chair
* Ken Johanson (908) 464-0442
kjohan@comcast.net
72 Laurel Drive, New Providence NJ 07974-2421

Vice-Chair
Ruth Prince (908) 284-9103
ruthp2@palmedia.net

Conservation Chair
Laura Lynch (609) 882-4642
laura@sierraactivist.org
11 Lumar Rd., Trenton, NJ 08648-3127

Conservation Vice-Chair
* Michel Cuillerier (973) 736-0913
schaltzdog@earthlink.net

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

Secretary
* Bonnie Tillery (609) 259-6438
blt44blt@verizon.net
389 Sawmill Rd., Hamilton NJ 08620

Treasurer
* George Denzer (609) 799-5839
gdenzer73@yahoo.com
127 Day Road, Cranbury NJ 08512-5418

Outings Chair
Ellen Blumenkrantz (201) 784-8417
elblumenkrantz@hotmail.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
George Newsome (732) 308-1518
newsome1@pobox.com

Membership Chair
Chris Mills (973) 377-1742
ChrisMills@sierraactivist.org

Group Effectiveness Chair
Rich Isaac (see above)

Council Delegate
* Jane Tousman (908) 561-5504
jdtous@aol.com
14 Butler Rd., Edison NJ 08820-1007
Alternate: Rich Isaac - (see above)

Student Outreach Coordinator
Jeff Huppert (973) 263-0344
jeffhupp@optonline.net

Atlantic Coast Ecoregion Delegate
Greg Auriemma (732-451-9220)
hesiod1@aol.com

NY-NJ Trail Conference Delegate
*Mike Herson (201-262-9472)
mikeherson@hotmail.com

Legal Chair
Bill Singer, Esq. (908) 359-7873

Other ExCom members at large
* Bob Johnson (908) 598-0656
Robert.Johnson@njsierra.org
174 Summit Ave #32, Summit NJ 07901
* Lee Snyder (856) 596-0621
pinelands1@hotmail.com

Regional Issues Committee
Joan Denzer** (see George Denzer, above),
Bob Johnson, George Denzer

Fundraising Committee
Ken Johanson**, Ruth Prince, Joan
and George Denzer, Sunil Somalwar

Personnel Committee
Ruth Prince**, Ken Johanson, Sunil
Somalwar, George and Joan Denzer

Legislative Committee
Ken Johanson**, Dave Mattek,
Joe Leist, Kelly McNicholas,
Carolyn Freeman, Jeff Tittel

Litigation Oversight Committee
Ken Johanson**, Ruth Prince,
Carolyn Freeman

Finance Committee
George Denzer**, Sunil Somalwar,
Ken Johanson

Information Technology Committee
Sunil Somalwar**, George Newsome
Bob Johnson, Dennis Schvejda,
Laura Lynch

**Facilities Committee (office,
meeting sites)**
George Denzer**, Joan Denzer,
Bob Johnson, Sunil Somalwar,
Bonnie Tillery

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

**NEW JERSEY CHAPTER
LEADERSHIP**

Issue Coordinators

Clean Air Issues
Bob Campbell (908) 273-5720
wrob_sc@earthlink.net
18 Shadyside Av, Summit NJ 07901-2111

Bill Green (908) 276-2357
WGreen@spcorp.com
2 Roger Av, Cranford NJ 07016-2715

Delaware River Issues
Gina Carola (856) 848-8831
ginacee@snip.net
534 Elberne Av, Westville NJ 08093-1715

Environmental Justice
Zoe Kellman (201) 321-4578
zoeks@verizon.net

Forestry Issues
Nancy Carringer (732) 438-8688
ncarringer@yahoo.com

Global Warming
Faith Teitelbaum (732-229-0553)
faithlei@aol.com

Highlands Issues
Mike Herson (201-262-9472)
mikeherson@hotmail.com

Marine Issues (Interim)
Greg Auriemma (see left column)

Passaic River Basin Issues
Michel Cuillerier (see left column)

Pinelands Issues
Lee Snyder (see left column)
PPA Liaison: Mike Galloway
M.Galloway@comcast.net

Population Issues
Bonnie Tillery (see left column)

Recycling Issues
David Yennior (973) 844-1384
DavidYennior@cs.com

Sprawl Issues
Janie Tousman (see left column)

Tiger Conservation Issues
Sunil Somalwar (732) 572-7721
svsomalwar@sierraactivist.org

Transportation Issues
Bob Johnson (see left column)

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

Utah Issues
John Kashwick (201) 660-8820
jkashwick@optonline.net

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

Chapter Director: Jeff Tittel
NJDirector@njsierra.org

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.
Please SPELL YOUR LAST NAME, and state
whether the phone number you leave is for daytime
or evening.

Upcoming ExCom Meetings:

All members are welcome to attend these
monthly statewide policy deliberations, held
on **SECOND SATURDAYS**. In April and
May we'll meet in the HAMILTON TWP
(MERCER CO.) PUBLIC LIBRARY. In June
we'll meet in the NEW BRUNSWICK PUB-
LIC LIBRARY. More details, including agen-
das and driving instructions, are available in
advance from Ken Johanson, the Chapter
Chair.

April 8 • May 13 • June 10
Conservation and/or Political Committee meet-
ings start at 10am. Lunch is shared at noon.
The main meeting starts at 1pm. We some-
times continue discussions informally over din-
ner at a nearby restaurant, at 5pm.

OUTINGS
(Continued from page 11)

June 24 (Sat) Anthony Wayne/Timp (NY). Moderate-paced hike up/down 3 different peaks totaling 2,000 ft. elevation gain/descent with fabulous views of the Hudson River, Bear Mountain and Harriman Park. Wear hiking boots, bring lunch, snacks and plenty of water. Hikers must pre-register. Group limited to 12 people. Rain cancels. Contact Ellen at elblumenkrantz@hotmail.com or 201-784-8417.

June 24 (Sat) Tuxedo Circular, NY. Scenic hike of about 7 miles in Harriman State Park. Follow a variety of trails to Claudius Smith's Den where we will stop for lunch. This is a moderate hike with a lot of history thrown in. Meet at the Tuxedo Railroad station on Rte 17 in Tuxedo NY at 10am. Leader John P. Jurasek, 845-365-5618 (no calls after 10pm) or Jurasek@optonline.net (ACOC)

June 24 (Sat) Singles Sunset Hike, Pine Barrens. Meeting at 4:30 pm. 6-7 miles. Moderate pace. Enjoy a sunset on the river as we cool off in the river in the late afternoon. Bring swim wear, picnic-type food to share at tail-gate social after the hike. N/C, pets must be leashed. Meet at Atison Office, off Rte 206, between Hamonton and Red Lion Circle, Burl Co., Leader: Paul Serdink, 609-462-5593 eve. or ps1@ccncf.net.

June 25 (Sun) Canoe Trip on the Passaic River. This is a one-way trip and we will car-pool back. Canoe 4 hours at a steady pace observing the wildlife and natural settings. Not for beginners. Exact location will depend on water conditions. Bring water, picnic lunch and comfortable clothes. Meet promptly at 9am at canoe garage next to the Environmental Center on Eagle Rock Ave in Roseland, 1/2 mile west of the intersection of Eisenhower Pkwy and Eagle Rock Ave. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. A limited number of canoes are available at \$15 per seat. (\$20 for non-members). Older children are welcome and can sit in the middle. Rain cancels. For further information call 973-364-7573, press 2. Leaders: David Ogens, Bandit29@aol.com, and Walter Goldenbaum, goldenb1@optonline.net (E)

July 2 (Sun) Social Bike Ride along the D&R Canal. We will bike 30 miles (roundtrip) from Frenchtown to Lambertville with a 45-minute lunch break in Lambertville and swimming at Bulls Island on the way back. Suited for mountain and hybrid-type bikes. Bring water and snack, and a bathing suit. Terrain is flat but you should be in good physical shape since we will be going at a steady pace. Meet before 10am at the Frenchtown parking lot off Rte 12 just east of the Delaware River bridge to PA. A \$5 fee will be charged to nonmembers. Helmets are required and all participants must sign a liability waiver. Rain cancels. For further information call 973-364-7573, press 2. Leaders: David Ogens, Bandit29@aol.com, and Walter Goldenbaum, goldenb1@optonline.net (E)

July 4 (Tue) Manasquan River Reservoir, Monmouth County (Special Interest: birds). Enjoy an easy 5-mile circular hike on one of the largest reservoirs in the area. We may observe waterfowl. Bring snacks, drinks, and bird books and/or binoculars. Hiking shoes are not required. This is a great family hike. Meet at 9am at the main entrance to the reservoir on Windeller Rd. (Take the GSP to exit 98; head west on I-95 to exit 28 (Rte 9); go north on Rte 9 to first right onto Windeller Rd. The main entrance is 1.5 miles on your left.) Meet in the parking area at the far left toward the back. Bad weather, including high heat index, cancels. Confirmation/questions: please call leader: Mike Verange, 908-902-0718 or mjverange@aol.com (JS).

JULY

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 on environmental subjects, letters to the editor, poetry, press releases and expressions of opinion. Articles and letters should be submitted typed and double spaced (or preferably by e-mail or on disk: call for format information). **Send submissions to: Dick Colby.** The deadline is the 10th of the month two months prior to the issue date. The opinions expressed in *The Jersey Sierran* are not necessarily those of the New Jersey Chapter, the Sierra Club or the editor. Nor does publication of an advertisement imply Club endorsement of the advertised product(s) or service(s). Copyright 2006. All rights reserved. The contents of *The Jersey Sierran* may be used without permission in publications of other entities of the Sierra Club. Acknowledgement of the source would be appreciated. Some display advertising may be accepted. Please contact the Advertising Manager before submitting an ad. Placement of any ad is contingent upon availability of space and must meet Sierra Club guidelines. *The Jersey Sierran* is published quarterly by the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club, 145 W. Hanover St, Trenton NJ 08618. **Members, send changes of address to address.changes@sierraclub.org or to Sierra Club, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80328 and to the Chapter Office, 145 West Hanover St, Trenton, NJ 08618 or call 415-977-5653.** **Editorial Board:** Dick Colby, George and Joan Denzer, Rich Isaac, Ken Johanson, Laura Lynch, Chris Mills, Ruth Prince, Paul Sanderson, Sunil Somalwar, Bonnie Tillery and Jeff Tittel. **Editor:** Dick Colby, 609-965-4453, dick.colby@stockton.edu **Layout/Design:** Karen Brown, 856-310-1450 **Advertising:** Contact Ads@NJSierra.org or 732-572-7721. E-mail preferred. (Instructions available at http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/njs_sierran/njs_advertise.asp) **Contributors to this issue:** David Yennior, Ken Johanson, Michel Cuillerier, Bonnie Tillery, Jane Tousman, Nancy Carringer, Dan Aronson, Fred Avers, Carleton Montgomery, Michael Galloway, and Sunil Somalwar. *Thank you to all who contributed. The Jersey Sierran is produced mostly by volunteers.*

Earth Day '06

Celebrate by giving someone a Sierra Club Membership in commemoration of Earth Day



Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Member's Weekender Bag

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club
 MasterCard Visa AMEX
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.

| MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES | RENEWAL FEE |
|--|-------------|
| INTRODUCTORY <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 | |
| REGULAR <input type="checkbox"/> \$89 <input type="checkbox"/> \$47 | |
| SUPPORTING <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 <input type="checkbox"/> \$190 | |
| CONTRIBUTING <input type="checkbox"/> \$150 <input type="checkbox"/> \$175 | |
| LIFE <input type="checkbox"/> \$3000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$1250 | |
| SENIOR <input type="checkbox"/> \$24 <input type="checkbox"/> \$32 | |
| STUDENT <input type="checkbox"/> \$24 <input type="checkbox"/> \$32 | |
| LIMITED INCOME <input type="checkbox"/> \$24 <input type="checkbox"/> \$32 | |

Enclose check and mail to:
Sierra Club,
P.O. Box 52968,
Boulder,
CO 80322-2968

F94Q W 4000

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet