Introducing Crystal Snedden, our new Program Assistant

by Jeff Titel, Chapter Director

Please welcome Crystal Snedden, to the New Jersey Chapter staff. Crystal is a recent graduate of Richard Stockton College of New Jersey with a bachelor’s degree in Political Science. She is poised, articulate, and committed to our environment.

As an intern with the New Jersey Pinelands Commission she helped manage a community planning project in Egg Harbor Township, and analyzed affordable housing and crime in and out of the Pinelands. She is particularly interested in New Jersey land use, urban redevelopment, and the environmental effects of development.

Her interests and initiative led to an independent analysis of the development of Brick Park and the social implications of gentrification, displacement and lack of affordable housing, as well as the need to include a grassroots community voice in order for the city’s redevelopment to thrive. Crystal recently visited Belize, studying sustainable development.

Crystal has volunteered for a wide variety of social causes, voter registration, activism at a local women’s center and food bank, and she organized support on the Stockton campus for establishing a new Pi Sigma chapter. She is from Galloway, Township, Atlantic County.

Menendez Endorsed for US Senate

By Richard Isaac, Chapter Political Chair

The Club has endorsed incumbent Senator Bob Menendez’s re-election campaign. While his opponent has been a good friend environmentally on the state level, Senator Menendez is a true ally with a 15 year, extremely strong record on many federal issues — often achieving a League of Conservation Voters voting record of 100%.

For example, Senator Menendez has opposed loophole that long-term capital gains and losses to attacks on Transco’s line. He has opposed additions to the Pinelands, and supported funding for local governments to stop stormwater pollution. (To view his stellar voting record, go to http://www.fvcc.org and scroll down to see where Menendez clearly wants to spend his time in office, and we will work hard to keep him there.

If you’d like to help us return him to Washington, please contact us at: snesass@aol.com, or (973) 756-4287.

Welcome to a Cool Cities Workshop, on Oct 21

‘Cool Cities’ is a national Sierra Club campaign to reduce global warming at the municipal level, by convincing cities and towns to reduce their total energy consumption and to obtain their energy from renewable sources. The campaign began in 2005 when Greg Nickels, mayor of Seattle WA, challenged all mayors in the nation to commit to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012 - 275 mayors have now made the commitment, including 25 from New Jersey.

On Oct 21 we will create an opportunity to bring the Cool Cities campaign to New Jersey City’s. The campaign has conducted a number of workshops throughout the state. The first workshop will take place on October 21, at the Library of the Chatham, 214 Main Street, Chatham, NJ from 9am to 4pm, including lunch.

Topics include instruction on how to approach local authorities, a case study of our success in Montclair, and the showing of a motivational film, "Kilowatt Ours!"

To register: Please contact Stefano Crema, Workshop Coordinator, at stefcrema@aol.com, or Faith Teitelbaum, Chapter Global Warming Issue Coordinator, at faittel@aol.com.

Do not delay in voting for your 2006 elected officers. Non-receipt of Nominating Committee ballots are being reviewed by the Chapter Board of Directors. For any questions please call 973-764-2877.
BALLOT

(Continued from page 1)

Vote only those ballots for Group(s) and Section(s) in which you participate. Club rules require confirmation of all voted two more candidates than the number of positions open. When those additional candidates haven’t been identified, write-in slots are provided instead. PAIRs of boxes are provided if only two members, so that two people can vote. Information about candidates is available from Group officers and in the Group News section of this Newsletter.

Candidates for Northwest Group Executive Committee: Vote for three, maximum.

☐ Marie Springer ☐ Dennis Miranda
☐ Sue Rother ☐ Michael Wiencek
☐ Betty Adkins

Candidates for North Jersey Group Executive Committee: Vote for four, maximum.

☐ John Kashwick ☐ Tom Thompson
☐ Nancy Wiencek ☐ Nancy Wysocki
☐ Write in: ____________________________

Candidates for Hudson-Meadowlands Executive Committee: Vote for three, maximum.

☐ A Gregory Auriemma ☐ Martine Minton
☐ Jennifer Freitas ☐ Ginger Wilkins

Candidates for Essex County Group Executive Committee: Vote for five, maximum.

☐ Robert Swanson ☐ Sandi Lowich
☐ John Landenberger ☐ Howard Rapp
☐ Write in: ____________________________

Candidates for Morris/Passaic County Executive Committee: Vote for two, maximum.

☐ Linda Ackermann ☐ Bob Campbell
☐ Evie Tafel ☐ Bob Hensley

Candidates for Sussex County Executive Committee: Vote for five, maximum.

☐ Sandy Augustine ☐ John Wasilewski
☐ Joy Isaza ☐ Nancy Leveson-Jackson
☐ Rick Waskul ☐ Howard Schwartz
☐ Write in: ____________________________

Candidates for Warren County Executive Committee: Vote for three, maximum.

☐ Julie Amerson ☐ Sally Nunn
☐ Mike Wiencek

Candidates for Single Section Executive Committees: Vote for seven, maximum.

To be eligible to vote in the Single Section Executive Committees, you must have attended at least one Single Section meeting (not other events, only second-Monday of the month meetings) as a member/observer the previous year.

☐ Diana Christine Echols ☐ Jeff Sovolove
☐ Lynn Forrest ☐ Betty Stapley
☐ Josephis Hjortestrom ☐ June Trompeter
☐ Joyce Haddad ☐ Bob Johnson

Candidates for Trenton Section Executive Committee: Vote for three, maximum.

☐ Bill Batalis ☐ Bill Smith
☐ Steve Timmerman ☐ Christine Toh
☐ Write in: ____________________________

Candidates for Young Sierrans Section Executive Committee: Vote for three, maximum.

☐ Kevin Fried ☐ Bill Serfick
☐ Steve Timmerman ☐ Christine Toh
☐ Write in: ____________________________

Candidates for Hudson-Meadowlands Group Executive Committee: Vote for nine, maximum.

☐ Louise Taylor ☐ Rosemary Arana
☐ Mike Selkler ☐ Donald Korczynski
☐ Jeanne Fiera ☐ Dave Capp
☐ Write in: ____________________________

Candidates for Ocean County Executive Committee: Vote for nine, maximum.

☐ Sandy Augustine ☐ Ann Puni
☐ Joseph Isaza ☐ Nancy Leveson-Jackson
☐ Rick Waskul ☐ Howard Schwartz
☐ Write in: ____________________________

Candidates for Ocean Group Executive Committee: Vote for nine, maximum.

☐ Sandy Augustine ☐ Betty Adkins
☐ Joy Isaza ☐ Nancy Leveson-Jackson
☐ Rick Waskul ☐ Howard Schwartz

Candidates for New Jersey Executive Committee: Vote for seven, maximum.

☐ John Kashwick ☐ Tom Thompson
☐ Nancy Wiencek ☐ Nancy Wysocki
☐ Write in: ____________________________

Candidates for Ocean Group Executive Committee: Vote for three, maximum.

☐ Chris Mills ☐ Bob Campbell
☐ Sue Rother ☐ Stefano Creme
☐ Write in: ____________________________

Candidates for Central Jersey Group Executive Committee: Vote for four, maximum.

☐ Rocky Swanson ☐ Sandi Lowich
☐ Bill Willet ☐ Howard Rapp
☐ Write in: ____________________________

Candidates for Morris/Passaic County Executive Committee: Vote for two, maximum.

☐ Frank Zeni ☐ Bob Hensley
☐ Write in: ____________________________

Candidates for Warren County Executive Committee: Vote for six, maximum.

☐ John Landenberger ☐ Howard Rapp
☐ Mary Jane Freeman ☐ Howard Schwartz
☐ Write in: ____________________________

Candidates for Single Section Executive Committees: Vote for seven, maximum.

To be eligible to vote in the Single Section Executive Committees, you must have attended at least one Single Section meeting (not other events, only second-Monday of the month meetings) as a member/observer the previous year.

☐ Diana Christine Echols ☐ Jeff Sovolove
☐ Lynn Forrest ☐ Betty Stapley
☐ Josephis Hjortestrom ☐ June Trompeter
☐ Joyce Haddad ☐ Bob Johnson

Candidates for Trenton Section Executive Committee: Vote for three, maximum.

☐ Bill Batalis ☐ Bill Smith
☐ Steve Timmerman ☐ Christine Toh
☐ Write in: ____________________________

Candidates for Young Sierrans Section Executive Committee: Vote for three, maximum.

☐ Kevin Fried ☐ Bill Serfick
☐ Steve Timmerman ☐ Christine Toh
☐ Write in: ____________________________

Please vote for Club officers using the ballot on this page.

 Statements of Candidates for Chapter ExCom:

JOAN DINGER

This is a worrisome and exciting time for environmentalists: worrisome because of the administration’s attacks on our accomplishments; exciting because unprecedented membership growth clearly says that the citizens agree with our positions and concerns. Our Chapter, through the efforts of our hard working staff and volunteers, has been successful in the last few years in furthering our goals of saving open space, and I would like to continue that success by using experience gained in positions on the state, regional and national levels. I would appreciate your vote.

LILY SYKWARD

As a Life Member of the Club, I have served as Pinelands Coordinator for the New Jersey Group since 2001, serving on the New Jersey Chapter since 2003. I actively work with the NJ Pinelands Commission. Pinelands Preservation Alliance, NJ Conservation Foundation and other organizations and individuals to protect New Jersey's natural treasures. As a part time volunteer, I participate in many Sierra Club and Pinelands related meetings, hearings and classes including attendence at the Sierra Club Training Academy. I was elected to the ExCom two years ago, and would like proudly to continue to represent the interests of the NJ Chapter.

KEN JOHNSON

I have been actively involved with the Chapter for quite some time now. I currently serve as Chair of the Environmental Education Committee of the Chapter and the Legislative, Liaison, and Planning Committee of the Ocean County Section. I have also served on the finance and personnel committees. I am dedicated to our dedicated volunteer activists, to whom I owe a great debt. I hope to continue to contribute to this effort as a member of the Executive Committee.

BONNIE TILLERY

I am presently serving as secretary of the Executive Committee, a responsibility I have held for the past six years. As a member of the Pinelands Committee, I have worked on some of the biggest battles over mass transit and sprawl development, and I work hard to keep the focus on the long term goals of the Chapter. As Chair of the Executive Committee, I am committed to the Sierra Club mission and would appreciate your vote.

GEOFF DENZER

As a lifelong member of New Jersey, I have watched as sprawl and the resultant clogged roadways have taken over our State. As a Sierra Club member, I have worked for increasing mass transit and light rail to counteract sprawl. As Chair of the Chapter, we have had success on this issue, but we have more work to do! I have held positions at the Chapter, regional and national levels, and am currently Chapter Treasurer, where I have been successful in increasing funds to help our strong grassroots activists to protect New Jersey’s environment. I would appreciate your vote.

RUTH PRINCE

I have been involved with the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club since 2001, as Chair of the Hunterdon County Group, Vice Chair of the Advocacy Committee Conservation, and since 2005 as Chapter Vice-Chair. I also Chair my hometown’s Planning Board, and am a member of the Environmental and Open Space Commissions. I am a PhD toxicologist with expertise in land use and toxics. As Vice-Chair, it has been rewarding to aid our Chapter Chair with the complex matters of the Chapter organization, and I would like to continue in that capacity as an Executive Committee member.

MADAGASCAR

Madagascar, the magical island in the Indian Ocean off the southeast coast of Africa, is home to a diverse and wonderful species of plants and animals. In the April-June 2006 issue of the Jersey Sierran I described some of the wonders of my sponsored study tour of this island nation. Hands down, the lemurs (see photos, below) are the big round-eyed, wide-topped teddy bear animals that are the island’s ambassadors. These prosimians, the earliest form of primate, are found in the wild only in Madagascar. They live in the forests, yet 90% of the island’s forests have been destroyed to grow crops, herd zebras (cattle), or make charcoal for the expanding human population. Destruction of the forests has led to erosion. From space, astronomers have talked about seeing Madagascar’s red earth bleeding into the sea.

Average Malagasy income is less than $500 a year. Many of the people, especially the children, suffer from malnutrition. Short-term the need people food, but long-term the forests must be preserved for the people and the ecosystem. To do this, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), funded with assistance from USAID (United States Agency for International Development), are providing alternatives to slash-and-burn agriculture. The NGOs help feed the people and save the forests.

NGOs talk with people in the villages to see what their needs are, then help the communities set challenging but achievable goals. If you need food, village workdays are set aside and a friendly competition is created. Achievements are celebrated, and when a significant number of a village’s goals are met, it attains Community Status. Some goals we saw targeted in the villages we visited: a community vegetable garden to provide a nutritious and varied diet and produce to sell at market; lychee trees planted to bring income into the community; a fish farm dug so that the fish can be captured and add protein to the diet and income to the community; treated mosquito netting used to lower the incidence of malaria, and increased access to, and voluntary use of, contraceptives so that women can space their children.

When women hear about modern contraceptives, they are eager to use them so that they can work in the fields to feed the children they already have.

In the three villages we visited the women who volunteered to work as health care workers were literate, respected by their communities and spoken with authority. Although men are often leaders in these roles, these women are also recognized as community leaders, helping their villages prosper. One health care worker, in a village far off the main dirt road, walks six hours every month to get the contraceptive supplies back to the village. These volunteer health workers also teach their communities how to purify water to reduce the incidence of diarrhea and cholera, and, along with malaria, is one of the biggest killers of children under five.

Madagascar is working to save its unique environment, but it needs one more thing: investment. Through the Club, we are all lending a hand, but that contribution is just $3.85 per person per year — about the price of a water cup in a store. Surely we can do better, and there are a couple of suggested actions. Contact your U.S. senators and representatives and urge them to vote for increased assistance to these programs. Of those I saw in Madagascar as well as those in the more than 100 other countries where USAID operates. Ask your representatives where they stand on population issues, and vote for those who support access to voluntary family planning. These are some of the ways we can all help protect our shared environment.

To learn more, go to www.sierraclub.org/population, and to read about one of the Champion Women we talked with see the Sierra Magazine article at http://www.sierrachannel.org/sier- ta/200607/good-agg.html.
When in the Eighteenth Century Adam Smith touted free enterprise as an "infallible rule, which would make an enterprising society "Collapse." The technology that pampers us has also generated the harmful wastes that pollute groundwater, landfills, and the atmosphere. Wealth (and Madison Avenue) have corrupted us into wanting homes far larger (and cozier in summer) than those our grandparents lived in, and in places that require the consumption of far more energy, and water, resulting in the unsustainable emission of greenhouse gases. Age, overpopulation threatens Americans and all other humans with the depletion of fish, forests, petroleum and many other resources. The success of the free enterprise system has reared a new threat and crisis. What are the possible solutions? The market "responds" to shortages, of course, by adjusting prices upwards. That's what's happening to the price of gasoline; it is the classic solution to the environmental threat. Equally classic is the attempt to be fair to poor people; government and other charities provide "compensatory subsidies." We've seen something of this how works (or doesn't work) in the response to the damage done by Hurricane Katrina. But there's another way to "tweak" the economic system, suggest Roberts' "Triumph of the West," the solution to the "anti-trust tweaking" of the 20th Century, would be a new modification of the Commons" scenario, which simply says that scarcities tend to spread gradually lowering everyone's quality of life. Gone, a year ago, by Hurricane Katrina. The Commons is government intervention to reduce the demand on resources, starting with regulations to reduce wasteful practices (such as over-watering of lawns or cars), and extending to bans on commercial fishing (to permit replenishing of stocks), measures to restrict greenhouse gas emissions, limit sprawl, etc. "Environmental tweaking," analogous to the "anti-trust tweaking" of the 20th Century, would be a new modification of the basic pattern of free enterprise. It's time for the policymakers to be some established and acknowledged. There's been no shortage of bad news lately. Global warming continues to displace, demonstrate the need for the policy solutions, and accelerate the extinction of species, the world's human population continues to grow and the planet's finite resources, including its water and forests, continue to be consumed. Add to this the sad state of affairs in Washington, where Bush and his right-wing cronies are in a state of denial with regard to global warming and continue to do all in their power to dismantle environmental laws and reward their friends in the extractive industries, and it is no wonder that some who recognize the seriousness of the problems we face have thrown in the towel and have decided to join in the consumptive free-for-all that is engulfing the nation. Their motto appears to be: "Eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we fly." As my wife Wynn will readily, I am not much of an optimist, but I do not subscribe to this doomsday vision. There are six reasons why I believe we need to keep on fighting: First, there are signs of change. When I first began to advise friends and acquaintances of the dangers of global climate change, I estimate that 80 percent of those who I contacted wrote me off as a blithering idiot. I currently estimate that the number is down to 50 percent. Second, there is hope in 2006 and beyond that in 2008. Bush and his right-wing agenda have a long list of problems, including many that are not directly related to the environment. Hey, we'll take help anywhere we can get it. The goal is to get him and his friends out of there! I think we have a good shot at accomplishing this. Third, despite all the bad things we read about in the press, we in New Jersey are doing some really good things. The New Jersey Chapter played a leadership role in the passage of the Highlands Act, which will protect thousands of acres of environmentally sensitive lands in the Highlands region, the Clean Car Act, which will require that automobile manufacturers comply with California clean car standards, and the Diesel Act, which will require that school buses and other diesel vehicles be retrofitted to reduce harmful emissions. And the Chapter is currently engaged in a campaign to urge municipalities to adopt measures that address global warming concerns. So yes, we're out there and we're making a difference. Fourth, working on environmental campaigns provides those of us who are involved in the movement with an opportunity to interact with an incredible group of activists, including many young people who are our hope for the future. These people share our views on the importance of protecting the environment and, more often than not, our views on other social issues as well. Working with these people has enriched my life and strengthened my resolve. Fifth, if you have children or grandchildren (or know people who have children or grandchildren), how could you not want to keep on fighting? We have a moral obligation to provide future generations with a world that is capable of sustaining human life. Sixth, we just can't cave in. I am unwilling to see Bush and his cronies with the satisfaction of knowing that he got the best of us. For our own sense of honor and our commitment to the values that we all share, we need to stand up to Bush and his anti-environmental agenda. I certainly hope that we will prevail. But even if we do not, we will go down fighting.
Tranisco, Spare That Tree!
by Rocky Swingler, Co-Conservation Chair of our Central Jersey Group

I had been up in a maple tree in the back yard doing some gymnastics. A police sergeant with a SWAT patch on his uniform was telling me to get down from the tree because he was on guard duty in the event of a court appeal. Thus began the three-step process of fighting them, then it needs to be fought. If not, they win. If we're going to do anything at all, we must start now. We're going to do anything at all, we must start now.

Last November we received a scrawled message on a business card left in our mailbox. It was from Tranisco, a Williams Pipeline company that transports natural gas from the southern and eastern part of the United States to the Northeast via more than 10,000 miles of buried pipe. The message said they would be back in the next few days to cut down all the trees in my back yard because the county was casting the pipe.

We were shocked, to say the least, since we had not notified Tranisco that it was going to bulldoze through my yard. It wasn’t on our title or survey, or title. In 1960 the five families who lived in an old wooden farmhouse had been allowed to have one ever had cleared the area, and we had never seen anyone inspect it. Our next-door neighbors, renters for the past 17 years, said the same thing – no clearing, no inspections.

An operator scrawled, “The trees can’t go – they own a buffer zone.” We didn’t know what they were talking about. We had never seen anyone inspect it. Our next-door neighbors, renters for the past 17 years, said the same thing – no clearing, no inspections.

Unknown to me, my wife asked a friend to put a sign on the easement. The sign said, “No, trees can’t go.”

The next day, the Traniscos went to the County courthouse to check on our deed for easements, and sure enough, Tranisco had it. There were eight trees, one 40 feet wide, ran completely across the rear of my yard, and they were allowed to keep it clear of vegetation.

But the nine trees had been growing undisturbed for 50 years and formed a shady green canopy around our yard, plus a natural buffer between two softball fields and a parking lot directly behind our house. They were a haven, full of birds and squirrels, the heart and soul of our home. To take them must go.

Then keep doing what you’ve been doing. In thirty minutes Transco said to her, it was moment by moment. Negotiation and the legal system failed, not a first act to get publicity.

We tried to negotiate with them, but it was a slap in the face.

Eventually, as I knew they would, they called the police. Amazingly the police did nothing. Because Tranisco had agreed to let two trees remain, they were allowed to keep it clear of vegetation.

At one point a reporter asked me how far I was willing to let this go. I struck me that I still didn’t really know. As I said to her, it was moment by moment.

Unknown to me, my wife had called a friend to call the Mayor. I’ve gotten to know him a bit over the past three years.

We don’t agree on a lot of issues, but he had the right stuff that day.

At two months Transco decided to go to court and tried to promise not to cut down any more trees until the permanent injunction was ruled on. We then had the option to let the judge do his work.

I said I wanted them to let the trees remain until the preliminary injunction is ruled on.

I said I wanted them to let the trees remain until the preliminary injunction is ruled on.

We tried to negotiate with them, but their offers always started with, “After we cut down your trees...” That’s like telling someone on death row, “After you’re dead, we’ll talk about that plea bargain.”

Tranisco decided not to wait for the ruling on the permanent injunction, saying that if they ultimately lost, they would simply pay us damages. But we didn’t want money. We wanted our trees! The arrogance of that statement was a slap in the face.

We were furious, depressed, and frustrated. What could we do? We gave up and watched the trees go down. We didn’t want to do that. They were doing this simply because they could, because it was convenient for them. We didn’t want money. We wanted our trees! The arrogance of that statement was a slap in the face.

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The Jersey Sierran: October-December 2006

Sierra Club Endorses Aronsohn for Congress 5th District

By Richard Isaac, Chapter Political Chair (risaac004@comcast.net)

The Sierra Club hopes that Paul Aronsohn (D) will unseat incumbent Representative Scott Garrett (R), the Congressman with both the worst envi-
ronmental record in New Jersey’s thir-
ten-member delegation, and also the worst record in memory.

Our choice was easy. Rep. Garrett’s environmental record has been abysmal, currently just 11% according to the League of Conservation Voters. Some of Garrett’s most glaring anti-environmental votes and actions are as follows:

• Garrett was the only member of the New Jersey delegation to support lifting a quarter-century moratorium on offshore drilling that includes the coast of New Jersey. (May, 19, 2005)
• Garrett was also alone in the delega-
tion in opposing an amendment to the House energy bill to spare the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from drilling. (April, 20, 2005)
• Garrett was the only member of the delegation to vote to undermine the Endangered Species Act through legisla-
tive riders and regulatory rollbacks, such as exempting the EPA’s regulation of pes-
ticides, and eliminating all protections for habitat essential to the conservation of a species. (September 29, 2005)
• Garrett was one of only two mem-
ers of the delegation to vote against an amendment to raise the CAFE (fuel mileage) standard for cars and light trucks (April 20, 2005)
• Garrett was one of only two members of the New Jersey delegation to vote against an amendment to exempt the EPA from the Clean Air Act. (April 21, 2005)
• Garrett was the only member of the New Jersey delegation to support lifting the Clean Water Act (April 20, 2005)
• Garrett was also alone in the delega-
tion in opposing an amendment to raise the CAFE (fuel mileage) standard for cars and light trucks (April 20, 2005)
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Joseph DiVincenzo Endorsed for Essex County Executive

By Chris Weiss, Political Co-Chair of our Essex County Group

During Mr. DiVincenzo’s past four years in office, he has built an environ-
mental center, established recycling pro-
grams for electronics, household haz-
ardous waste and old tires, and spent over $80 million on the county park sys-
tem. He spearheaded an Open Space Local Aid Program for municipal parks, assisted environmental initiatives by local non-profit groups, preserved historic sites and acquired open space. The New Jersey Chapter is pleased to support Mr. DiVincenzo in his re-election bid.

At a time when property taxes are soar-
ing and farmland is being paved over at his-
 toric rates, we need to take a look at New
Jersey’s Farmland Assessment Program. This offers a property tax break to anyone who owns a minimum of five acres of land and sells $500-worth of agricultural prod-
ucts per year. If the Governor and Legislature are looking for ways to reform the property tax, they should closely exam-

Although most farmers are dedicated and really need help from farmland assessment, others take advantage of the Program. The largest “farmer” in central New Jersey is the

large corporate headquarters are the considered farmland by the 
Farmland Assessment Program. A develop-
er in Ringwood is using the trees on his 
property both to build the houses and to meet his agricultural quota! Then we have 

Some of our largest corporate headquar-
ters lawns are considered farmland by the 
Farmland Assessment Program. A develop-
er in Ringwood is using the trees on his 
property both to build the houses and to meet his agricultural quota! Then we have 

We have no problem with the Program as long as the land is honestly farmed. But developers and land speculators should not receive benefits. The Program needs to be 

revised in order to protect New Jersey’s threatened farmland. Developers are hardly an endangered species. It is time to stop 

hand-feeding them. For some it’s not how 
well you farm the land, but how well you 

farm the government.

Two of our Congressional endorsements (p.1) attempt to unseat entrenched incumbents. Please help!

Want to reduce pollution, fight global warming and save money... at the same time?

Solar Electric Systems • NJ Rebates pay up to 50% of the total installed cost • Protects you against rising electric costs • Reduce or eliminate electricity bills • Increase the value of your home • Recoup your investment in 6-8 years • Generate annual revenue from the sale of SREC's

Solar Hot Water Systems • Receive a 30% federal tax credit to help cover the cost of your solar hot water system • Protects you against rising electric, natural gas, oil and propane costs • Meet your family’s hot water needs with your solar hot water system • Reduce our dependence on foreign oil

Serving New Jersey, Westchester and Long Island www.thesolarcenter.com (888) SOLAR-05

NJDirector@NJSierra.org

By Jeff Tittel, Chapter Director
Southern Singles Starting
from Marie Hageman, of our West Jersey Group

Calling all Single Sierrans who live south of Trenton. Do you want to participate in the Singles Section but feel daunted by the long drive to North Jersey? A group in the southern half of the state is forming for fun, socializing, activism, and good, (environmentally!) clean fun. Every unattached Sierran, who lives south of Trenton, and her/his guests are invited. Wayne Zanz and I, from the West Jersey Group, are organizing an initial meeting to get acquainted and plan.

We need some idea of the number of interested enviro-singles and the activities preferred. Please send an e-mail to wzanni@hotmail.com to show your interest — and so we can secure a satellite-sized location. We will respond with all the information.

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 973-209-1824 dmimg@earthlink.net
Vice Chair, Membership: Billi Schloss 973-467-8154 billi_s@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Charles Kopp 973-770-7717 cckpgk@aol.com
Secretary, Publicity: Marie Springer 201-660-8880 aikadomarie@yahoo.com
Special Events Chair: Pat Magino 862-432-7552 pmagino@aol.com
Delegate to Ch. Res. Com. 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 group successfully oppose a large-scale development by identifying the correct COAH requirements for the township’s planning board and counsel.

GENERAL MEETINGS: The Northwest Group meets at 7pm on the FOURTH TUESDAY of each month. For locations and details, please contact Susan Rotter, 973-547-8849.

North Jersey Group
(Passaic and Bergen Counties, approximately)

OFFICERS:
Group Co-Chair: and Betsy Kohn 201-461-4554 BetsyKohn@aol.com
Consortium Co-Chair: and Mike Herson 201-262-9472 mikeherson@hotmail.com
Membership Chair: and
Outings Chair: Ellen Blumenkrantz tdpotterls@mindspring.com
Political Chair: George Tonge 201-955-7162 george73@yahoo.com
Program Chair:
Program: Open Position!
Secretary: Open Position!
Treasurer: Tom Thompson 201-848-1080 ecran74@aol.com
US Public Lands: and
Wildlife: Mary Ellen Shaw marylshawn@verizon.net

EVENTS (sign up for e-mail notices of meetings, events, issues): http://newjersey.sierraclub.org

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

GENERAL MEETINGS: Held once a month at 7:30 pm (except July, August and December), open to the public, free of charge. To find out more or verify that the program is on as scheduled, contact Betsy (see above).


Nov 9: at a Passaic County location TBD. Focus will be on Passaic River and watershed issues. Please contact TBD.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: Join us at Buchar Cultural Center, 950 High Mountain Road, North Haledon to discuss issues. Contact Mike (see above) for meeting dates.

ISSUES:
(1) The 50-year-old Lattieri Park in Clifton might disappear: these 7.5 acres are being proposed as the site for a large middle school. Working with residents, we advocate finding an alternative site and preserving the park with help from the Passaic County Open Space Trust Fund. (2) Plans for Edgewater’s park and marina now include a commuter bus/ferry station, raising concerns about an improper use of the $4 million in state and county open space grants that went to acquire the site. (3) Hats off to Brian Scanlon and his daughters, and the Friends of Wyckoff for raising public awareness of the need to save Deep Vallie ravine and establish an open space trust fund! An open space referendum is on November’s ballot. (4) Van Buskirk Island on the Hackensack River is identified in NJ Audubon’s new “Birding and Wildlife Trail Guide” for the Meadowlands region as a special nature resource site where the Eastern Towhee, Baltimore Oriole, Black-crowned Night Heron and other species have been observed. The guide features a photo of a Black-crowned Night Heron and Great Egret by the island’s waterfall. To find out more or alert us to issues, please contact Mike, Tom or Tricia (see above).

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS: Join Sierra Club’s Cool Cities Campaign to help promote energy efficiency and alternatives in New Jersey. Help us protect natural resources and wildlife, elect conservation candidates, lead outings, organize general meetings, fundraise, monitor planning boards, or be involved in other ways. Please contact a group officer (above).

CARTRIDGE RECYCLING: Please bring your used printer cartridges to Whole Foods Market, 905 River Road in Edgewater. NJ, open 8am to 10pm daily. Leave them in the window box by the door. No remanufactured cartridges, please. Thanks for recycling!

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

OFFICERS:
Chair: Louise Taylor 201-886-9520 taylor209jr.com
Vice Chair: Mike Selender 201-484-7247 mike.selender@mindspring.com
Treasurer: Charlotte Ermenio 201-224-4553 cerniao@att.net
Secretary: Connie Finger 201-869-7990 cferter@earthlink.net
Political Chair: Melissa Bailey-Carroll 201-250-8405 mbc@verizon.net
Publicity: Betty Leung 201-224-3542 leung-bet@msn.com
Parl: Rosemary Arena 201-865-6222 rosemaryarena@cs.com
Res. Com Members: Bill Hawkins 201-914-5799 gil52@n2i.com
and Donald Kopczynski 201-224-2614 littlechop05@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://escc.serraclub.org/Groups/Essex/

We are also accessible from the NJ Chapter web site.

OFFICERS:
Co-Chairs: Dave Ongos and Walt Goldenbaum 973-925-8662 golden@optonline.net
Conservation Chair: Michel Cuillerier 973-756-0915 scholar@earthlink.net
Political Co-Chairs: Chris West and Billi Schloss 973-467-8154 billi_s@yahoo.com
Co-Chair: Billi Schloss 973-467-8154 billi_s@yahoo.com
Fundraising: Linda M. Oley 973-576-2224 lindam@970928.com
Brent Coordinator: Walt Goldenbaum 973-925-8662 golden@optonline.net
Membership: Maria K.de Wakefield and Brian Scanlon 973-756-0915 scanlon@earthlink.net
West Orange: Sally Malanga 973-576-7597 sally@fotechella.com
Linda M. Oley 973-576-2224 lindam@970928.com
Member At Large: Janine Schaeffer 973-452-2034 janesch@comcast.net

ACTIVITIES: Presently working with land conservation groups to preserve 120 acres on the second Wiming Memorial Mountain in West Orange for Open Space. Building a Pacifica 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 farm! An open space referendum is on November’s ballot. (4) Van Buskirk Island on the Hackensack River is identified in NJ Audubon’s new “Birding and Wildlife Trail Guide” for the Meadowlands region as a special nature resource site where the Eastern Towhee, Baltimore Oriole, Black-crowned Night Heron and other species have been observed. The guide features a photo of a Black-crowned Night Heron and Great Egret by the island’s waterfall. To find out more or alert us to issues, please contact Mike, Tom or Tricia (see above).

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: Join us at Buchar Cultural Center, 950 High Mountain Road, North Haledon to discuss issues. Contact Mike (see above) for meeting dates.

ISSUES:
(1) The 50-year-old Lattieri Park in Clifton might disappear: these 7.5 acres are being proposed as the site for a large middle school. Working with residents, we advocate finding an alternative site and preserving the park with help from the Passaic County Open Space Trust Fund. (2) Plans for Edgewater’s park and marina now include a commuter bus/ferry station, raising concerns about an improper use of the $4 million in state and county open space grants that went to acquire the site. (3) Hats off to Brian Scanlon and his daughters, and the Friends of Wyckoff for raising public awareness of the need to save Deep Vallie ravine and establish an open space trust fund! An open space referendum is on November’s ballot. (4) Van Buskirk Island on the Hackensack River is identified in NJ Audubon’s new “Birding and Wildlife Trail Guide” for the Meadowlands region as a special nature resource site where the Eastern Towhee, Baltimore Oriole, Black-crowned Night Heron and other species have been observed. The guide features a photo of a Black-crowned Night Heron and Great Egret by the island’s waterfall. To find out more or alert us to issues, please contact Mike, Tom or Tricia (see above).

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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.
The Loantaka Group Complete a Fundraising Drive

At an auction held in September, 2005, $863 was contributed to our treasury. We are grateful to the following donors who provided items for the auction:

C’st La Vie Hair Salon, Chatham
Village Hardware & Paint, Chatham
North Jersey School of Dog Grooming, Chatham
Bella Luna Gourmet Deli, Chatham
Best Little Luncheonette, Chatham
Sages Pages Book Store, Madison
Blue Ridge Mountain Sports, Madison
Garlic Rose Bistro, Madison
Whole Foods Supermarket, Madison & Millburn
Sterling Hallmark Gift Shops, Summit & Chatham
Ahre’s Coffee Roastery, Westfield
The Office Restaurant, Summit
The Morristown Community Theater
The Westfield Symphony
The Colonial Symphony (Morristown)

We also thank our friend Jim Burchell, who provided bags of fair-trade coffee that were auctioned.

Loantaka Group
(Morris and Union Counties, approximately)

There is a new website address for the Loantaka group:

http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/

OFFICERS:

Group Co-Chairs: Chris Mills 973-377-1742
doug@optonline.net
Paul Sanderson 908-253-2411
ChrisMills@sierraactivist.org

Treasurer: Joyce White 908-253-2411
JoyceO2010@yahoo.com

Secretary: Chris Mills 973-377-1742
ChrisMills@sierraactivist.org

Conservation Chairs:

Chris Mills 973-377-1742
ChrisMills@sierraactivist.org

Eric Hauser 720-669-0719
hausera@aol.com

Stefano Cremas 973-627-4351
stefanco@aol.com

Melling Chinn
melling@yahoo.com

Program Coordinator:

Steve Yafet 908-354-2577
yafet@erols.com

Coordinators:

Jeff Huppert 973-263-0344
jeffhupp@optonline.net

Eric Hauser 720-669-0719
hausera@aol.com

Bob Johnson 908-598-0606
robert.johnson@njsierra.org

Robert Johnson 908-4640-442
johnson@comcast.net

Doug Williams 973-263-8404
doug@optonline.net

Bob Campbell 973-761-4461
wrbce_sc@earthlink.net

Mellyssa Goss 988-465-2296
mellyssa@erols.com

To learn about our activities, go to: http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/

To join our mailing 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 – you are always welcome to attend an Executive Committee meeting. Right now, we have open positions on our Executive Committee. If you are interested in a position and 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) Please come and learn something new and make some new friends. We’d welcome the chance to meet you and to introduce ourselves. Please see the meeting schedule which follows and join us!

MEETING SCHEDULE:

Oct 10: Global Warming: Is That A Fact? Stefano Cremas is a PhD chemist working for multi-national chemical industries for over 25 years in research and marketing. He argues in a powerful slide presentation that from the melting of Arctic ice to the disappearance of Alpine glaciers, the signs of global warming are becoming more and more apparent. There is little debate in the international scientific community that human activities are causing changes in the climate of the Earth. The main questions today are what the magnitude of the changes will be and whether they will become irreversible before we can be corrected. Engage in discussion afterwards. For more information, call 973-228-8776.

Nov 9: Woven Ways: Documentary Film and Discussion. A one-hour documentary film that shows the stories of the Navajo, the livestock that sustain their culture and economy, and the environmental issues that threaten their health and well-being. Deadly uranium mining and dirty coal power pose serious problems for all who live on the Navajo Reservation in western New Mexico and eastern Arizona. NJ producer/director Linda Helm Krapf has teamed with acclaimed Navajo filmmaker Samuel Goodman and award-winning editor Dena Seidell to bring this important, timely, and poignant story to audiences. Discussion to follow. For specific information call 973-228-8776.

Dec 12: Environmental Politics…How The Presidency Sets The Course For Better Or Worse? A powerful presentation on the critical role of political power and it’s effects on the governance of environmental laws as well as the enforcement of laws by an administration. The important role of Presidential leadership, the influence of corporations on legislation, and the increasing control of mass media through consolidation are examined in this multi-media presentation. Presenter, Jeffrey Huppert, will expand your awareness of the important role of politics on human health through environmental actions and inactions. Engage in discussion afterwards. For more information, call 973-228-8776.

Loantaka Group
(Morris and Union Counties, approximately)

Group Co-Chairs: Chris Mills 973-377-1742
doug@optonline.net
Paul Sanderson 908-253-2411
ChrisMills@sierraactivist.org

Executive Committee. If you are interested in a position and would like to find out more, please contact Paul Sanderson.

Central Jersey Group
(Mercer County, parts of Burlington, Middlesex and Somerset)

OFFICERS:

Chair: Caroline Kulesza caroline_kulesza@yahoo.com

Vice Chair:

Bill Wuck 609-587-5052
bwuck@aol.com

Conserv. Co-Chair:

Rocky Swingle 609-877-7568
rockyswingle@optonline.net

Membership Chair:

Open Position/

Program Chair:

Open Position/

Policy Coordinator:

Caroline Kulesza
caroline_kulesza@yahoo.com

Political Committee:

Joe Leist 609-259-6438
joleist@verizon.net

Outreach Chair:

Ken Mayberg 609-445-9138
kmayberg@aol.com

Outreach Coordinator:

Harold Rapp 973-671-0435
hrapp@aol.com

Forest Issues Coordinator:

Nancy Carringer 732-438-8088
ncarringer@yahoo.com

(Continued on page 8)

10% OFF Gear & Apparel For Sierra Club Members

Must present member ID at time of purchase. Boats & sale items not included.

23 Main Street
Madison • (973) 377-3301

Urging all members to contribute to New Jersey’s Trail Survey by clicking “Online Survey” at www.njtrailsplan.org.

Group meetings offer interesting speakers, topics, and fellow members, plus involvement and usually food!
We'll focus on forest issues as well as local and national environmental concerns.

GEOGRAPHIC AREAS: We meet on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of most months at 7:30 pm at the West Windsor Branch of the Mercer County Library System, 553 North Post Rd, Princeton Junction, corner of Clarksville and Old Post Roads. Check our website for a map. Our meetings are free and open to all members and the general public.

Refreshments provided.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

Oct 1: County Group Outings Coordinator Ken Mayberg will present his spectacular photographs from his recent trip to Alaska.

Special event: Nov 4 (Saturday), 9am to Noon: Clean-up at the Hamilton-Trenton Bordentown Marsh. Meet at the Spring Lake parking area. Directions to the Marsh from South Broad Street in Hamilton (near the border with Trenton), turn south onto Sewell Avenue and follow to the end. Turn left on the dirt road into Roebling Park and down the hill to Spring Lake.

Nov 8: Green Night. part two! Join us again for a night of environmental activism. We’ll focus on forest issues as well as local and national environmental concerns. Come write letters, sign postcards and learn how you can become more involved in your local Sierra Group.

Dec 13: We will present The Day the Water Died, an episode of the Sierra Club Chronicles. This short film is about the Exxon oil spill in Alaska, the environmental wasteland it has left even to this day, and the effects on the local community. Bring a snack to share as we review the years activities and make plans for 2007.

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: http://newjersey.sierrclub.org/RaritanValley

OFFICERS AND CONTACTS:

Chair: Don McBride 732-560-0369 dmcbride@yahoo.com

Open Position

Vice-Chair: Jane Tousman 908-561-5504 jdtouss@aol.com

Open Position

Secretary: Michael Rickerts 732-571-9061 irconyx@gmail.com

Publicity: Sandi Lowich abstract4@aol.com

Program Chair: Open Position

Chapter Coordinator: Sundi Somawar 732-572-7721 ssomawar@sierractivist.org

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 residents regarding development and monitoring/observing all township/regional land use master plans in our area. This includes working to protect threatened and endangered species in these areas. Help stop developers from buying sub-standard lots and obtaining permits and variances for planned and poorly-planned projects.

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 Ryder's Lane exit off I-291 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 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)

WEBSITE: http://www.sierraclub.org/jerseyshore

OFFICERS:

Chair: Dennis Anderson 732-888-1518 dennis@sierraclub.org

122 Second St, Union, NJ 07083

Open Position

Vice-Chair: Joe DeLuca 732-389-1835 joe-deluca@att.net

Open Position

Secretary: Faith Teltebaum 732-229-0555 faiths@sierraclub.org

Open Position

Treasurer: George Newsome 732-908-1518 newsome1@pobox.com

Webmaster: Pat Fichetino

Publicity: Laura Bagwell 732-741-8678 l_bagwell@verizon.net

Outings Chair: Mike Verange 908-902-0718 mverange@aol.com

Open Position

Membership Chair: Alan Roseman 732-780-7308 arosemann@monmouth.com

Program Chair: Stephanie Sceur quispack@verizon.net

AACCTTIIVVIITTIIEESS && IISSSSUUEESS:: We’re hard at work: Preventing drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, defending the endangered Species Act, fighting drilling off the Jersey Coast, repealing New Jersey’s ‘Fast Track’ (pro-development short-cut law), and supporting expanded recycling legislation.

We’ve also targeted critical local open space, sprawl, and air and water quality issues in Brick, Stafford, Lacey and Jackson Townships. Help us defend both the Toms River and Cedar Creek against more development and protect Ocean County’s newest park in Lacey against ‘Big Box’ money’s demand for new roads. Volunteers are needed to help with these issues, membership outreach, tabling at local events, fund-raising, and a computer-based voter education program.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Generally held monthly on the SECOND MONDAY of each month. We’ve just launched a new project, which will make our meetings even more dynamic and interesting. Contact Greg or Howard for more information.

GENERAL MEETINGS: Held Bi-Monthly on the FOURTH MONDAY of every other month at 7pm at the ‘Toms River Coffee Cafeteria’ in the Ocean County Administration Building, 129 Hooper Avenue (2nd Floor), Toms River. Our next meeting is Monday, Nov 27. For additional information or directions, please contact Greg or Howard (see above).

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

Oct 1 (Saturday): Tabling event at the Ocean County Library. Help educate the public about the environment and participate in festival events.

Oct 7 (Saturday): Tabling event at Windward Beach in Brick. We need your help to spread the environmental message.

Nov 7 (Tuesday): It’s Election Day. We’ll need help on Election Day and in the weeks in advance to work the ‘Rail-Trail Referendum’ No Vote. Yes Vote “Parks” Referendum.

Nov 27 (Monday): Our next General Meeting. We guarantee a great speaker on an issue of critical concern.

Dec 15 (Friday): Our second annual Holiday Party & Silent Auction. Food and auction donations needed. The fun and food are free to all. Participate in the auction and help build the Ocean County Sierra Club.

Ocean County Group

WEBSITE: www.newjersey.sierrclub.org/oc

OFFICERS:

Chair: A. Gregory Aurelienza, Esq. 732-451-9220 sierraclubOC@aol.com

Vice-Chair: Dawn Marie Johns 732-269-5729 sierraclubOC@hotmail.com

Conservation Chair: Margrit Meissner-Jackson 609-296-4367 sylvia1991@yahoo.com

Secretary: Richard Washik 732-616-2775 r_washik@hotmail.com

Open Position: Contact Greg Aurelienza for information.

Publicity Chair: Howard Schwartz 609-242-9304 hschwartz@comcast.net

Fundraising Chair: Joyce M. Isaza 732-920-9270 reallmyst@aol.com

Re-Contact Chair: Sandy Brown 609-242-9304 sandybrown@comcast.net

Delegate to Chapter Rep: Position rotates among Group Execom members.

Webmaster: Rick Washik (see above)

Note: Dawn Marie Johns and Sandy Brown maintain the membership.

ACTIVITIES & ISSUES: We’re hard at work: Preventing drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, defending the Endangered Species Act, fighting drilling off the Jersey Coast, repealing New Jersey’s ‘Fast Track’ (pro-development short-cut law), and supporting expanded recycling legislation.

EEXXEECCUUTTIIVVEE CCOOMMMMIITTTTEEEE MMEEEETTIINNGGSS:: Meetings are generally held on the FIRST THURSDAY of every month at 7pm at the “Skywalk Cafeteria” in the Ocean County Administration Building, 129 Hooper Avenue (2nd Floor), Toms River. Our next meeting is Monday, Nov 27. For additional information or directions, please contact Greg or Howard (see above).

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

Oct 1 (Saturday): Tabling event at the Barnegat Lighthouse Festival in Toms River. Help educate the public about the environment and participate in festival events.

Oct 18 (Saturday): Tabling event at the Barnegat Lighthouse Festival in Toms River. Help educate the public about the environment and participate in festival events.

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The Jersey Sierran:: October-December 2006

Volunteer Opportunities: We need volunteers in all areas of the state to run events. Volunteers needed for the Pinelands to help with local issues. Please attend an executive committee meeting or email any of the officers if you are interested. You can co-chair any position with a friend, if desired. We’re happy to help you learn the ropes.

SINGLES Section

Please visit our website for more events and details.

http://Loantaka.NJSierra.org. Contact MistyAngel22@aol.com. Help Save ANWR, Protect Our American Heritage:

For more information please contact Terry at terry@stimb@hotmail.com. Consider volunteering with the Cool Cities Campaign. The message and method of empowering groups to manage carbon dioxide emissions are relevant for public and private school systems, nonprofit community operations, etc. in New Jersey. Volunteers with diverse skills and contacts are important for environmental success. Sign on now.

50Plus Happy Hour:

SECOND THURSDAY of each month from 5 to 7 pm at the Westin Governor Morris Hotel. Enjoy live music, drink specials and free finger food. RSVP required. Join our listserv for further details.

SINGLB 50/40s:

Friday HAPPY HOURS for Singles in their 50’s & 40’s. Please check website at www.Singles.NJSierra.org for exact dates and join the listserv. If you would like to volunteer to run a 50/40s event contact Diana at AngelBettlerfly37@aol.com for more information or leave a message at 973-564-7573 ext. 8. Note: After some of the Happy Hours there will be a 6pm meeting to discuss environmental awareness issues. Environmental awareness groups are a recent development 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.

SINGLB 18-25:

Events Available. Also, see “Young Sierrans,” below. Volunteers Needed. Contact MistyAngel122@aol.com. Help Save ANWR, Protect Our American Heritage: www.AlaskaAction.org

HIKIS:

Please see the Outings section of this newsletter for our hikes. Many of Paul Serdiuk’s South Jersey hikes are also listed below.

Get active in one of your Group’s conservation campaigns! Attend a Group meeting!
Sierran Hikers and Outing Leaders! Must be willing to go through the training process others! Volunteer event leaders are needed throughout New Jersey. We need Young Young Sierran positions available include Membership Chair, Secretary, Treasurer & The Young Sierrans List Serve please send an e-mail to MistyAngel22@aol.com. Events All Events will be announced via The Young Sierrans E-Mail List Serve. To be put on be announced.

Inner City Outings Section

Inner City Outings is a community outreach program, providing wilderness adventures for city youth of New Jersey. Volunteer certified leaders conduct outings (generally day-trips) on weekends. If you would like to experience the unexpected parts of our region, but water safety does impose special requirements. The use of each facility will be appro- priate to each level, so coordination in each must be appro- priate to the leader to be contacted. We ask you to allow at least one week in advance. Unless a phone number is provided, please call at least 24 hours in advance with the leader’s name and phone number. Please call the trip leader. If the weather is questionable on the day 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, 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 dead- line. Our country is becoming more “green” for the future. Many events open to all Young Sierrans regardless of marital status so whether you are single, dating or married, please come join us!

GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS

Central Jersey: Ken Meldby
meldbyk@comcast.net
Essex County: Diana Ogens 973-226-6072 (H)
jsierra@comcast.net
Hudson-Meadowlands: Vacant
Hunterdon: Susan Sierin 908-996-7722 (H)
Jersey Shore: John Meehan 973-967-2856 (H)
Jersey City: Mike Venne 732-720-8364 (H)
Jersey Town: Ann Ogens 973-226-6072 (H)
Jersey Village: Show White 973-972-4647 (H)
New York: Ellen Blumenkrantz 212-784-8417
blumenkrantz@nycap.net
North Jersey: Pat Mangione, Pnangione@aol.com 973-869-8682 (H)
River Valley: Vacant
South Jersey: Tom Boghosian 609-625-0878 (H)
West Jersey: Vacant
Waretown: Fred Toze 609-235-2053
Rd 1 Box 277, Waretown, NJ 08758
Inner City Outings: Marty Cohen 210-670-8383 (H)
Chapter Outings: Ellen Blumenkrantz 212-784-8417
edblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

Outing Leaders: Please send Jan.-Mar. 2007 write-ups to your Group Outings Coordinator instead of directly to the Chapter Outings Coordinator. This is particularly important for occasional leaders.

GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS

Leadership Chair: Jackie Illuminati, MistyAngel22@aol.com
Vice Chair: Debbie Templeton, tvark@sierraclub.org
Secretary: Glenda Eichholz, sevuchek13@earthlink.net
Treasurer: Christine Tomth, chris_anns@yahoo.com
Programs & Social Chair: Bill Sevuchek, sevuchek13@earthlink.net
Publicity Chair: Debbie Templeton, tvark@sierraclub.org
Webmaster: Jackie Illuminati, jackie@jackieluminati.com

YOUNG SIERRAN COMMITTEE

 feminism, nature and the environment. They work in 1497 W Front St, Lincroft, NJ 07738

CiCi Coordinators: (a semi autonomous organization of college and high school students)

web site: http://www.ssc.org/nj/
Contact Tejal Kuraj: 732-770-2412, tejal.kuraj@sycomoris for information.

Inner City Outings Section

(a chapter wide special interest section which offers a monthly calendar of activities and events, including hikes, clean ups, social gatherings, and other functions which might be of interest to those members over fifty)

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

We work through a “Listserve” to learn about current environmental topics, and how those topics may be supported. Topics range from local issues to items of regional and national concern.

For further information, or to join the Listserve, please contact Nancy Carringer at ncarringer@yahoo.com

Young Sierrans

(A special interest Section for Young Sierra Club Members in their 20’s & 30’s with socials and EOC chats along with discussions meant to connect and inform environmentally minded individuals seeking to get involved with preserving the future. Many events open to all Young Sierrans regardless of marital status so whether you are single, dating or married, please come join us!

Young Sierrans web site: http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/YoungSierrans/

GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS

Central Jersey: Ken Meldby
mupdbyk@comcast.net
Essex County: Diana Ogens 973-226-7107 (H)
93 Hollywood, Caldwell, NJ 07006
Hudson-Meadowlands: Vacant
Hunterdon: Susan Sierin 908-996-7722 (H)
Jersey Shore: John Meehan 973-967-2856 (H)
Jersey City: Mike Venne 732-720-8364 (H)
Jersey Town: Ann Ogens 973-226-6072 (H)
Jersey Village: Show White 973-972-4647 (H)
New York: Ellen Blumenkrantz 212-784-8417
blumenkrantz@nycap.net
North Jersey: Pat Mangione, Pnangione@aol.com 973-869-8682 (H)
River Valley: Vacant
South Jersey: Tom Boghosian 609-625-0878 (H)
West Jersey: Vacant
Waretown: Fred Toze 609-235-2053
Rd 1 Box 277, Waretown, NJ 08758
Inner City Outings: Marty Cohen 210-670-8383 (H)
Chapter Outings: Ellen Blumenkrantz 212-784-8417
edblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

Outing Leaders: Please send Jan.-Mar. 2007 write-ups to your Group Outings Coordinator before Nov. 7. You are planning to lead an outing due to one of your current qualification periods, please refer for the previous Sierran, due to the occasional lag in mailing. Also, please let your outing’s original 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

Chair: Marty Cohen 210-670-8383 ico-north@newjersey.sierraclub.org
Treasurer: Anny Dymak 732-560-4995 annedyjak@verizon.net
Webmaster: Jackie Illuminati, jackie@jackieluminati.com

ICO to Hold Training Sessions at Two Venues

Introduction to ICO and Volunteer Training sessions will be held (1) on Saturday, Nov 4 at, Hunterdon State Park in Stuarts Ny, and (2) on Saturday, Nov 11, at Watchung Reservation in Mountainside NJ (detailed directions and meeting times will be provided to registrants).

Either of these sessions would be an excellent opportunity to learn the details of how ICO operates, and to meet Sierra Club members who dedicate their time and love of the outdoors as ICO volunteers. From 10am to 1pm experienced ICO leaders will present information on all aspects of planning and leading an ICO outing. In the afternoon, we will have an optional 2-hour hike. If you would like to learn more about compass and map use, please so indicate in your response. Refreshments will be served. Please register by Oct 28, or address questions to Ben-craig@ricoh nj.com. Additional information about ICO is available at http://www.sierraclub.org/ico/newjersey.

September-October 2006

OCTOBER

Oct 1 (Sat) Social Bike Ride, Huntscloa Cy. We will ride 30 miles from Freeholdton in Lakewood to a 9-10 am refreshment stop in Toms River. The distance is long but you should be in good physical shape since we will be going at a steady speed. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the parking area at the base of the Toms River Trestle. The ride is free but you should bring your own lunch. Riders must wear a helmet, and signs should be mounted on the back of the bike. The ride will take place rain or shine, but please check the weather before the ride. Directions to the starting point will be sent to participants one week before the ride. All riders must wear a helmet and sign a waiver before the ride. For more information contact 973-564-0775, press 2. Leaders: David Ogens, Bandit29@aol.com, Walter Goldenbaum, goldenbaum@sierraclub.org.
Rain may fall and wind may blow, And many miles be still to go, But under a tall tree I will lie, and let the clouds go sailing by.” - JRR Tolkien

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**November**

**Now 4 (Sat)** Social Hike/Clean-Up in Harstena State Park, NJ: 10:30 am. We will hike to 3.4 miles of some much puddingstone conglomerate, rhododendron tunnels, a visit to Surprise Lake, and a little unexposed area. Bring long-sleeved shirts, long pants, hat, and sunglasses. Bring lunch and water. Rain cancels. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz, 201-784-8417, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**Now 4 (Sat)** Social Hike in Wallington, Essex County, NJ: 10am. We will hike about 7 miles of mixed terrain at a moderate pace. Highlights include great views, waterfalls, pine plantation and Devil's Island. Children 12 years of age and older may participate. Bring picnic-type food for the tailgate social. Leader: Paul Serdiuk, 609-259-3734, pis1@cccnj.net

**Now 4 (Sat)** Canoe/Kayak the Delaware & Raritan Canal, Somers Point, NJ: Enjoy 13 miles of beautiful fall foliage passing through scenic areas of the canal. This is a cooperative club and you will be expected to share household chores (cooking, cleaning). Bring picnic-type food for the tailgate social after hike. Leader: Paul Serdiuk, 609-259-3734, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**Now 4 (Sat)** Canoe/Kayak the Delaware & Raritan Canal, Somers Point, NJ: Enjoy 13 miles of beautiful fall foliage passing through scenic areas of the canal. This is a cooperative club and you will be expected to share household chores (cooking, cleaning). Bring picnic-type food for the tailgate social after hike. Leader: Paul Serdiuk, 609-259-3734, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**Now 5 (Sat)** Canoe/Kayak the Delaware & Raritan Canal, Somers Point, NJ: Enjoy 13 miles of beautiful fall foliage passing through scenic areas of the canal. This is a cooperative club and you will be expected to share household chores (cooking, cleaning). Bring picnic-type food for the tailgate social after hike. Leader: Paul Serdiuk, 609-259-3734, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**Now 6 (Sat)** Canoe/Kayak the Delaware & Raritan Canal, Somers Point, NJ: Enjoy 13 miles of beautiful fall foliage passing through scenic areas of the canal. This is a cooperative club and you will be expected to share household chores (cooking, cleaning). Bring picnic-type food for the tailgate social after hike. Leader: Paul Serdiuk, 609-259-3734, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**Now 7 (Sat)** furnace Paddle Trip to Lake Lenape, Millstone River, NJ: Meet at the Harley Dawn Diner, Rte 322/Black Horse Pike; arrive early for breakfast. Life vests are required and must be worn. Bring picnic-type food to share at lakeside social after hike. Leaders: David Ogens, Bandit29@aol.com, and Walter Goldenbaum, goldwheels@comcast.net

**Now 7 (Sat)** Saddleback Mountain Social Hike: 9:30 am meeting time. 4 miles, 2 hours to picnic spot, and 2 hours back. Moderate pace, some ups and downs. We will start at Sunrise Lake, then hike to the upper parking lot and back down to the lake using local trails. Mountain biking trails and kayaking in the lake are available, as well as swimming. Four-seasons lodge for accommodations. Cost: $219. This is a joint trip of the AMC, Sierra Club and UCHC. Leader: Al Tatyrek, eve 973-763- 2303, no calls after 9pm. If you can't get there before 9pm, then please arrive the following day. Leader: Leslie Jersey. Social Hike. NC/NP. Meet at Forest's group campsite, entered from Rte 72, 1/2 mile E of the jctn of Rtes 70 & 72. Leader: John Olszynko, 973-364-7573, press 2. Leaders: David Ogens, Bandit29@aol.com, and Walter Goldenbaum, goldwheels@comcast.net

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**December**

**Dec 1 (Sat)** Canoe/Kayak the Mullica River bordering Atlantic and Burlington Counties: We launch at the old Millville Boat Launch 9:00 am. We will canoe/kayak 18 miles of the Mullica bordering both counties. Paddles please. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz, 201-784-8417, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**Dec 2 (Sat)** Pine Meadow Lake, Nj: 10:15 am. Moderate pace 8 mile trip in Harstena State Park along streams and lakes. Bring lunch and water. Rain cancels. Leader: Richard C. Smith, 201-334-9928, rcs2011@yahoo.com

**Dec 3 (Sat)** Raystown Mountain State Park, PA: 9:30 am. Moderate pace 8 mile trip in Raystown State Park along streams and lakes. Bring lunch and water. Rain cancels. Leader: Richard C. Smith, 201-334-9928, rcs2011@yahoo.com

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**Rainfall may fall and wind may blow, And many miles be still to go, But under a tall tree I will lie, and let the clouds go sailing by.” - JRR Tolkien**
OUTINGS (Continued from page 17)

Dec 3 (Sat) Social Hike at Tulip Springs, Seasocache. 10am. Hike 6.7 miles at a moderate pace in the South Mountain Reservation and see some of the many highlights this 2004are track has to offer, including a 25-foot waterfall, and scenic views or New York City and South Jersey. Children 12 and under and friendly dogs are welcome. Bring water and light snacks and wear hiking boots. After the hike there will be an opportunity for a quick chocolate at the local diner. Meet in the Tulip Springs parking lot on Rt. 287, which runs between Northfield Av and South Orange Av. A 3.5 mile hike will be conducted to non- members without the leader's prior written permission. Rain cancels. For further information contact Beverly Veltrop or visit the SIerra Club Web site. 2 leaders: David Craig, 3875 Greenoak Rd., and Walter Goldhammer, 450250mtonic.com (E)

Dec 5 (Mon) canoe/Rafting trip on the Delaware 10:30am to 2:30pm. Meet at the White Horse Tavern in Penns Bridge. This is a long day, only experienced Pinnel paddlers. Contact leaders to confirm trip participation, meeting location and time. Life vests are required and must be worn. Leaders: George & Irene 609-845-5754, beverly.veltrop@psw.com or the outcomg committee.

Dec 9 (Sat) Canoe/Kayak Cedar Creek, Opequon Cay. A very pretty waterway in the winter; especially with the snow, you can contrast how dry it will be in the summer. Bring lunch or 2 quarts of water. Meet at the pavilion lot of Opequon Cay. Take 138 to the park road. Meet at the pavilion lot at 10am. Contact leaders before the trip for more info. Rain cancels. Leaders: David Gonzalez (973) 264-9128, and Ralph Zissler, 450250mtonic.com (E)

Jan 1, 2007 (Mon) Clayton Park, Upper Payson Trailways, Middletown. (Special Interest: Hiking) New Year's Day. Meet in the lower parking lot of Clayton Park. Hike 2.6 miles of trail through wooded area, followed by a 1.4 mile walk along the Payson Trail. Bring water, sunscreen and good shoes. Contact leaders to confirm trip participation, meeting location and time. Life vests are not required but can be worn. Leaders: Ken Johanson, 732-799-6262, kjohan@comcast.net or the outcomg committee. Rain cancels. Leader: Joyce White, 908-867-5285, joyce00201@yahoo.com (E)

Dec 17 (Tues) New Jersey State Parks, Winters brooks. 10am. Offers many panoramic vistas of the Highlands and the High Mountain Range and Valley, to the west, and scenic views of the Great Meadows to the east. This is a long trip; only for experienced hikers. A small fee may be charged. We'll hike all five trails. probably about 5 miles, but short break. Take 180 exit 102 (Route). Turn onto Rte 513 S. Drive straight ahead through two traffic lights. Take third right Rte 206 W. Park. Park at the far right; please do not park in the back. Rain cancels. Leader: Joyce White, 908-267-5253, joyce00201@yahoo.com

Jan 110 ((Sun): GGeo-ccaching HHike aand IIntroduction CClass, BBurlington CCo: 10am. Join us for a brief introduction to geocaching, the upcoming popular outdoor activity, and then hike into the woods at Aton to find the many geo-caches hidden there. No ticks or heavy underbrush to deal with this time of year. Experienced hikers and South Jersey notable geocacher. Tom Siegel, will give a brief overview of the sport. Bring your bicycle. Register by phone or email. Hike 3 miles. Contact leaders before the trip for more info. Rain cancels. Leaders: David Ogens, Bandit29@aol.com, and Walter Goldenbaum, goldenb1@optonline.net (E)