

# The Jersey..... SIERRAN

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Roughly 20,000 Members in New Jersey

April-June 2009

## Petty's Island: Conservation Victory

By Stacey Ayala, Conservation Chair of our West Jersey Group  
(thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com)

There were those who envisioned an upper income enclave of condos, shops, restaurants, convention center, and a golf course, all with a spectacular view west to the Philadelphia skyline. To New Jersey historians it's one of the few places where slavery can be documented, and a piece of land once owned by William Penn. To a pair of nesting Bald Eagles and other water fowl, it's home. The five-year battle over Petty's Island's 392 acres has come to a close. NJ's Natural Land Trust has agreed to accept an offer by Citgo Petroleum Corp (the current owner) to remediate the island's pollution and donate it for a nature center and park, leaving only the NJ State Attorney General's office and Citgo executives to approve the deal.

Located in the Delaware River between Philadelphia and Camden, the island is part of Pennsauken Township, Camden County. Citgo currently uses the island for fuel storage. It also leases sites to Crowley Maritime Company, which ships goods to Puerto Rico, and to Koch Industries, which makes asphalt.

When Citgo first proposed donating the island for a nature preserve, dollar-eyed Pennsauken and state officials rejected the gift in favor of development. County officials, thinking tax-ratables, even proposed using eminent domain to take the land and hand it over to Cherokee Investment Partners of North Carolina.

But, thanks to the bad economy and collapse of the housing market, Cherokee pulled out, and Camden County rescinded its approval of a residential project by the company on Cramer Hill, next to the island. Citgo has already started the cleanup, and, with pending approval, will convert the island to permanent open space for nature and for citizens to enjoy.

## Interviewing (and Welcoming) Grace Sica, our new Chapter Outreach Coordinator

**What is your educational, geographical and environmental background?**

I am a recent graduate of Rutgers University, where I studied environmental policy and journalism. I was raised in Matawan in Monmouth County. The last few years have provided me the opportunity to travel widely while gaining experience with environmental issues. I interned at the National Environmental Trust in Washington DC, and at the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council in Juneau. I led tours at Island Beach State Park, wrote a children's guide to Glacier National Park in Montana, and worked at the Keck Astronomical Observatory on Hawaii's "big island."

**Other interests and skills that make you an interesting person?**

I enjoy sculpting, currently carving an alabaster rock into a free-form shape. I was once a vegetarian but had to give it up after seeing a bison burger while liv-

*Sustainable Life-style Articles inside:*

### An Introduction to Organic Food

Is organic food better for you? Who regulates the designation? See page 2

### Buying Clothing Sustainably:

Consider the fabric, where the clothing is made, who made it and who is selling it. See page 5

### How about a Wood Stove?

New stoves have catalytic converters; choosing the right fuel. See page 5

## Chapter Endorses Candidate for Club's Board of Directors

The Chapter's Executive Committee recommends a vote for **Lane Boldman** in the upcoming election for the Club's Board of Directors.

## Re-elected Chapter Officers

Congratulations to those elected at-large to the New Jersey Chapter's Executive Committee:

George Denzer -Central Jersey Group  
Ken Johanson -Loantaka Group  
Lee Snyder -West Jersey Group  
Bonnie Tillery -Central Jersey Group

They join continuing members Laura Bagwell (Shore Group), Mike Herson (North Jersey Group), Rich Isaac (Essex Group), Laura Lynch (Central Jersey Group) and Jane Tousman (Raritan Valley Group).



ing in Montana. And most importantly, I read widely.

**Your job responsibilities:**

I work as a liaison to the Chapter's eleven Groups, assist with press releases and administrative work in our Trenton office, and work on a national grassroots campaign to push for federal action on climate change. In addition I publish the bi-weekly E-newsletter and action alerts to our members.

**The issues you'd most like to help with?**

I am most interested in water and energy issues. I am also interested in education programs, like the Inner City Outings program.

Contact Grace at [grace.sica@sierraclub.org](mailto:grace.sica@sierraclub.org)

## Ports Newark and Elizabeth: Supplying Pollution to New Jersey

By Grace Sica and Jeff Tittel, our Chapter Staff

The Port of Newark and Elizabeth is a quiet giant. High port security these days means that nearby residents seldom interact with their industrial neighbors. Except for the 12,000 trucks that move in and out of the Port every business day.

Emissions from these trucks create a serious health hazard for Newark and Elizabeth residents, as well as for others living near the major highways of New Jersey. Diesel exhaust contains particulate matter which is directly linked to increased rates of cancer, asthma and heart disease.

Newark's school children experience a 25% asthma rate, double the state and national rates. And not just Newark: New Jersey residents as a whole face the nation's second greatest cancer risk from diesel soot, and treatment for asthma alone accounts for 12 percent of New Jersey's managed care costs. (Source: "Diesel Hot Spots," New Jersey Environmental Federation and Clean Water Fund, June 2006.)

Thirteen of the 21 counties in New Jersey violate health standards for atmospheric particulates. These counties are Bergen, Passaic, Morris, Essex, Hudson, Union, Somerset, Middlesex, Mercer, Gloucester, Monmouth, Burlington and Camden.

Our Ports are a critical part of our region's economic health, but they should not harm our families' health. We can grow our ports while protecting our environment and our families, but it takes real leadership from government.

The Club has joined a coalition of labor, faith, environmental, community and justice organizations in urging the state and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to better regulate the Ports. The coalition includes local groups like the Ironbound Community Corporation in Newark.

The coalition is pushing for some major changes that would improve conditions:

- Stronger regulations to reduce air pollution - the Port should retire all trucks manufactured before 1989; these cannot be retrofitted to reduce emissions. Newer trucks can be retrofitted with soot-filters. Anti-idling restrictions and providing heater and electrical hook ups for drivers waiting in their cabs.

- Changing the labor structure to employ drivers by trucking companies rather than as independent contractors. The current structure provides no incentive for drivers to invest in more-efficient trucks. Employing drivers would also create an incentive for trucking companies to improve the efficiency of the loading and unloading system.

- To pay for cleaner trucks, impose a fee of \$35 or \$70 per container. The port of Los Angeles successfully implemented this fee, by which all trucks will meet tougher 2007 federal emissions standards by 2012, reducing emissions at the nation's busiest cargo container port by 80%.

Many of the drivers who are currently independent contractors support this proposal. "If anyone knows how broken

the port trucking system is, how diesel pollution harms us, our families and the community, it's the drivers," said Kenel Hyppolite, a Haitian-American immigrant who has hauled cargo for eight years but earns a paycheck too small to fix his old, non-EPA-compliant rig. "My industry will only bring more dirty dirty air and dead-end jobs unless companies are required to take responsibility for clean trucks and workers like me."

*Every month the United Nations Foundation Association at Rutgers University hosts a tour of the port, open to members of the public. For information about the next tour please contact Grace Sica, at [grace.sica@sierraclub.org](mailto:grace.sica@sierraclub.org) or 609-656-7612.*

*According to Phyllis Ebrenefeld, President of the Bergen Chapter of the United Nations Assn, USA, who took the tour last Fall, "We learned that the truckers who move the containers have no union protections. They are independent contractors who receive less pay for jobs that before deregulation paid a living wage. An additional complication is that the truckers must wait long hours to receive their containers, adding to the pollution. Both Los Angeles and Long Beach California ports have begun to find solutions."*

## New Hunterdon County Group:

From 2001 to 2005 there was a Hunterdon County Group. Now it has been re-established - to work on Hunterdon County issues such as preserving open space, clean energy, and recycling. Learn more in the Group News section, inside, and contact Greg Nelson ([gregssap@hotmail.com](mailto:gregssap@hotmail.com)) or Celeste Martin ([onecentral@mac.com](mailto:onecentral@mac.com)) for more information. The next meeting will be on Apr. 6th.

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# Organic: What is it? Why should I care?

A new occasional feature by Joan Woolery, a Chapter member who resides in Woodbridge. Joan has a B.S. in Computer and Systems Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. She manages technology and standard setting associations and dreams of being an organic farmer.

What's all the fuss about organic? Organic farming methods keep toxic chemicals out of your body, the air you breathe, and the water you drink. In this article I'll answer some frequently asked questions about organic. In future articles I'll discuss the latest news and issues around organic.

The following is an excerpt from the web site of the Organic Trade Association:

## What is Organic?

Organic refers to the way agricultural products—food and fiber—are grown and processed. Organic production is based on a system of farming that maintains and replenishes soil fertility without the use of toxic and persistent pesticides and fertilizers. The use of genetic engineering, sewage sludge, cloning, and irradiation are prohibited in organic production and processing.

## What does "Certified Organic" mean?

"Certified Organic" means the item has been grown according to strict uniform standards that are verified by independent state or private organizations.

## Who regulates the certified organic claims?

The federal government set standards for the production, processing and certification of organic food in the Organic Food Production Act of 1990. All food labeled organic must meet the national organic standards.

## Can any type of agricultural product become certified organic?

Yes, any agricultural product that meets third-party or state certification requirements may be considered organic.

## Are all organic products completely free of pesticide residues?

Certified organic products have been grown and handled according to strict standards without toxic and persistent chemical inputs. However, organic crops are inadvertently exposed to agricultural chemicals that are now pervasive in rain and ground water due to their overuse during the past fifty years in North America, and due to drift via wind and rain.

## How will purchasing organic products help keep our water clean?

Conventional agricultural methods can cause water contamination. Beginning in May, 1995, a network of environmental

organizations, including the Environmental Working Group, began testing tap water for herbicides in cities across the United States' Corn Belt, and in Louisiana and Maryland. The results revealed widespread contamination of tap water with many different pesticides at levels that present serious health risks. In some cities, herbicides in tap water exceed federal lifetime health standards for weeks or months at a time. The organic farmer's elimination of polluting chemicals and nitrogen leaching, in combination with soil building, works to prevent contamination, and protects and conserves water resources.

## Is organic food better for you?

There is mounting evidence at this time to suggest that organically produced foods may be more nutritious. Furthermore, organic foods and fiber are spared the application of toxic and persistent insecticides, herbicides, fungicides and fertilizers. Many EPA-approved pesticides were registered long before extensive research linked these chemicals to cancer and other diseases. In the long run, organic farming techniques provide a safer, more sustainable environment for everyone.

## Why does organic food sometimes cost more?

Prices for organic foods reflect many of the same costs as conventional items in terms of growing, harvesting, transportation and storage. Organically produced foods must meet stricter regulations governing all of these steps, so the process is often more labor- and management-intensive, and farming tends to be on a smaller scale. There is also mounting evidence that if all the indirect costs of conventional food production—cleanup of polluted water, replacement of eroded soils, costs of health care for farmers and their workers—were factored into the price of food, organic foods would cost the same or, more likely, be cheaper.

Send your comments and suggestions for future articles to Joan Woolery at [in2hlth@att.net](mailto:in2hlth@att.net). Stay informed and find organic resources at these sites: Organic Consumers Association ([www.organicconsumers.org](http://www.organicconsumers.org)), Organic Trade Association ([www.ota.com](http://www.ota.com)), Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Jersey ([www.nofanj.org](http://www.nofanj.org)), Beyond Pesticides ([www.beyondpesticides.org](http://www.beyondpesticides.org)).

### Sierra Club Cruises to benefit the Club's Population Program: Island Hopping in California's Channel Islands National Park

May 1-4; July 17-20; Aug 7-10; and Sept 11-14

Come and explore the wild, windswept islands of Channel Island National Park. In spring, the islands are ablaze with wildflowers. The pristine waters of the Marine Sanctuary will entice both snorkelers and kayakers in all seasons. Watch for the highly endangered Island Fox. Marvel at the sight of whales, dolphins, sea and land birds, endemic plants, and reminders of the Chumash people who lived on these islands for thousands of years. All islands are ringed with rugged shorelines and dotted with sea caves. Each island offers special charm: San Miguel for white sandy beaches and a huge congregation of elephant seals; Santa Rosa for a rare stand of Torrey Pines; Santa Cruz for high mountains, deep valleys and the famous Painted Cave, Anacapa for the brown pelican rookery, a picturesque lighthouse, excellent snorkeling waters and a colony of friendly sea lions who will swim with snorkelers and follow kayakers.

Cruises depart from Santa Barbara aboard the 68' twin diesel Truth. The fee, \$950, includes an assigned bunk, all meals, snacks, beverages, plus the services of a ranger/naturalist who will travel with us to lead hikes on each island and present evening programs. The proceeds from these fundraising cruises will benefit Sierra Club's Global Population & the Environment Program. To make a reservation mail a \$100 check, payable to Sierra Club to leader: Joan Jones Holtz, 11826 The Wye St., El Monte, CA 91732. For more information: (626)-443-0706; [jholtzhl@aol.com](mailto:jholtzhl@aol.com)

## POPULATION ISSUES COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

# Stories from Niger

By Bonnie Tillery ([blt44blt@msn.com](mailto:blt44blt@msn.com))

If you want to learn how to make a wood-saving cook stove, ask Kelly McNicholas. This intelligent, spirited, adventuresome former NJ Chapter Sierra Club staffer recently returned from a two year Peace Corps assignment as an Agro-Forestry Extension Agent. She was stationed in the small village of Kehehe (pop. 1500) situated along a 6-mile lake in Niger. This village is the farthest north that the Peace Corps works in Niger, leading Kelly to be known among her fellow volunteers as a "bush rat."



Kelly with patients treated for obstetric fistula

Kelly worked with three women's cooperatives in developing gardens. The women worked well together and the gardens were productive. About a year into her tour, the men in the village saw how well the women were doing and said they wanted a means to make money, too. Kelly arranged for several meetings where she talked about how the men could earn up to \$700 a year growing acacia trees; also know as gum acacia, gum arabic or gum senegal trees. In a country where people exist on less than \$1 a day, this would be a huge income. All they needed to do was plant the trees, prune them once a year, and when they got big enough, tap them for the sap which is used in all kinds of pharmaceuticals and foods (candy, snacks, beverages, gelatin, pudding, soups, fats and oils to name just a few). There is no synthetic substitute, so this is a much sought after product from the semi-desert regions of sub-Saharan Africa where Niger is located. But, when it came time to do the work, only one man showed up to plant seeds.

This experience confirms the findings of Mohammad Yunis, the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize winner, and others who found that women are the best supporters of the family. When you lift women out of poverty and give them opportunities, you lift up the entire family, then the village, and then the country.

Peace Corps workers often have the opportunity to work with local non-governmental organizations (NGOs), which is how, as her time in Africa drew to a close, Kelly found herself working as an interpreter for American physicians who came to repair obstetric fistulas at Niamey National Hospital. Below are excerpts from e-mails she sent about this experience:

• For the past few days and into the next week I will be working at the national hospital in Niamey...with a team of surgeons from the US who have come expressly to help fix girls and women with obstetric fistula. All of the conditions that lead to fistula are ever-present in Niger and so far this week we have evaluated 70 women. I am helping to translate for the women using my local (Hausa) language skills and to also express their needs and desires for recovery. It's been pretty amazing so far, and also really sad. One girl got a fistula because she gave birth at age 11. Another received her fistula when her husband took her to a traditional doctor to have her normal vagina cut and lengthened. He subsequently threw her

out and divorced her. Surprisingly, a few have not been completely abandoned by their husbands and I met (a man) today who was maybe 60 [assisting his wife who was about] 19 years."

• Unfortunately, the team of doctors here right now can't really emphasize family planning because they are just trying to get as many surgeries done [as possible]. Some women are electing to have their tubes tied or hysterectomies performed at the same time the doctors are fixing their fistulas. Many girls though, are so young that they are still hoping for the chance to get rid of the shame the fistulas have brought them, recover to health, and go on to have families. Not that it's hard to distribute family planning info, there are actually a lot of avenues to do it. Radio shows talk about it, the government passes resolutions, people in the village know what it is. But the cultural factors that celebrate having big families and think it is a woman's only purpose in life make it really difficult to change people's minds. The lack of an education system also continues to reinforce this singular purpose. But Niger has a pretty strong tradition of development work and over time will hopefully catch up. I just fear all the lost lives and opportunities that will occur in the meantime.



Kelly making bricks to repair houses

[So], as for change in Niger, it moves as slowly as the desert."

What Kelly saw most in Niger, where women bear 7.1 children on average, were young women — girls really — suffering from obstetric fistula because their pelvic bones were not fully developed. By law, girls must be 15 to marry, but child bride marriages are still common with 82% of girls married before age 18. As Kelly noted, traditions die hard; but she feels education is the key to change.

To learn more about obstetric fistula, visit <http://www.kellystoriesofafrica.blogspot.com>. To read about child brides in Africa and see a picture of the hospital where Kelly worked, see the November 2008 issue of Essence Magazine. To read more about Kelly's experiences, go to: <http://www.kellystoriesofafrica.blogspot.com>.

*With the inauguration of President Obama we are seeing a reversal of the destructive environmental and health policies of the Bush Administration. The Global Gag Rule has been overturned and women can now receive complete reproductive health care information. The President has also voiced his support for fully funding the United Nations Population Fund. These are all important steps that will help women help our planet.*

*Please consider supporting the Population Program by taking a cruise! See box at left.*

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

## Editorial

# Recession and the Environment

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

My previous editorial worried that the current "millennial" recession differs profoundly from those of the 1930s and 1890s, in ways that make it unlikely to benefit from the application of Keynesian economic stimulus packages worth \$1 or 2T. Most economists agree that the 1930s recession was "ended" by the new economic growth needed to win the Second World War, and which required massive amounts of energy and raw materials for manufacturing. The "fix" also included the growth that converted post-war American residential patterns from urban-attached to suburban-detached, and substantial automotive and otherwise consumptive new consumerism. Such growth is not likely this time around - neither the fossil fuel nor the wood, metals and even water resources are available for extensions of suburban consumption.

Also unavailable this time around is a new paradigm (if you will) for satisfying the ever-expanding need for employment: where do we go from a "service-based" economy (which provides mostly menial jobs such as fast-food serving)? One of our members suggests the 30-hour workweek at livable wages. Another extreme model that comes to mind was tried in Denmark in the 1970s, as I remember: welfare villages, providing artistic lifestyles, for citizens opting out of the employment mainstream, supplied with the minimal necessities at public expense. Denmark had then, and still does, one of the World's highest tax rates, but when I used Google to try to update my memory I was unable to determine whether this experiment is still in progress.

Global Warming threatens us now as never before, such that we're also, this time around, near the end of anticipated expansion of the global food supply, and entering a period of far more annual variability in agricultural yield, due to climatic disruption. So anticipate increased political turmoil by starving people rioting for food. Perhaps the political system most likely to cope with these pressures is that of China, which includes the capability of enforcing a one-child-per-family policy. I might add my conviction that the likelihood of reversing global warming (= sea-level

rise of tens of meters) has now passed, and the best we can do is slow it to the next 200-500 years (instead of 100-200 years), but only if ALL countries join the effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to virtually zero by 2050.

Not to be entirely negative, there are "green" solutions, of course, which would have to be applied world-wide: conversion to automobile-free lifestyles - meaning much higher residential densities, far more concern with over-population, and with waste-generation, major changes in diet, invention of satisfying, non-waste-generating, non-energy-using substitutes for the current ways we use our free time and our work time, and reduction in global trade (transportation) to return much economic productivity to local venues - such as walkable pick-your-own farms. There's plenty of scope for technological progress, such as the invention of wood-substitutes (plastics, presumably; remaining fossil fuels should best be used for making plastics; that way the carbon isn't burned to form a greenhouse gas.) For one thing, we'll have to construct new cities on higher ground for about 40% of the World's population, including finding places to accommodate entire nations, such as Bangladesh and Holland - and most New Jerseyans. I suspect and hope that religious leaders will weigh-in with mantras converted from "more people (of our own ethnicity/religion)" to "fewer people."

A few weeks ago I saw the handwriting on the wall! The Babylon exhibition in the British Museum, in London, includes a dramatic re-enactment of Balshazar's Feast, as described in the Book of Daniel, during which an inscription appeared ("mene mene tekel upharsin") and was interpreted, and following which the civilization of that time was "extinguished."

*(If you care to examine some of the "sources" of my pessimism, I recommend the publications of the Worldwatch Institute, such as "State of the World 2009: Into a Warming World," available on-line. Many others circulate to subscribers to the Club's various list-serves, such as are provided at the bottom of p.10 of this issue. For optimism, my favorite is the novel by Ernest Callenbach: "Ecotopia.")*

## Resolutions Adopted by ExCom in January and February, 2009

By an electronic vote we authorized legal action to defend the Open Space Ordinance in Jackson Twp (Ocean Co.) against challenges by the NJ State Builders' Association. (Jan)

A revived Hunterdon County Group was voted into the Chapter, our 12th regional Group (see the Group News section - p.6 of this newsletter.) (Feb)

Ten early endorsements were approved for incumbent Assemblypersons running for re-election. See article on p.4. (Feb)

We endorsed the candidacy of Lane Ellen Boldman for national Sierra Club Board of Directors. (Feb)

A resolution was adopted supporting efforts to preserve the 15-mile Barnegat Branch of the former Central Railroad of New Jersey right-of-way, in Lacey, Berkeley, Dover and Manchester Twps (Ocean Co.), for a footpath. (Feb)

Related to previous resolutions, Chapter Chair Ken Johanson reported at our November, 2008, ExCom meeting on a major legal victory achieved in New Jersey's Appellate Division, in an opinion written by Judge Skillman, which overruled a lower court and held that municipal planning boards are required to determine whether applications for development comply with Phase II storm water management regulations. The Chapter appeared as amicus in the appeal and was represented by Michele Donato, Esq. Then, on Dec 12th, we achieved another victory: The court's opinion was approved for publication, which means that it now has precedential effect, i.e. that it is binding upon other courts. This is an important victory with state-wide implications. We are all indebted to Michele for representing us on this appeal.

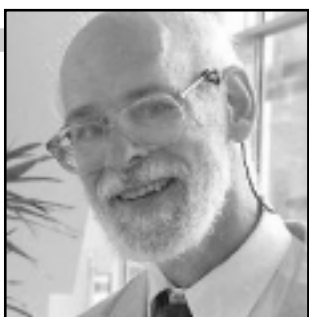
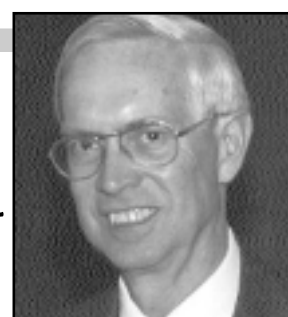


Photo: James Mendelsohn

## Chair's Message

# The Year Ahead

By Ken Johanson (kjohan@comcast.net)



Two thousand eight turned out to be a challenging year for environmentalists. In the end we spent more time and effort than we would have liked playing defense rather than actively pursuing our environmental agenda. But we had little choice.

After all, who would have known at the beginning of the year that we would need to devote so much of our time and effort to refuting the widely held yet totally specious view that economic recovery and environmental sustainability are incompatible goals? And who would have anticipated the extent to which Bush would attempt to destroy decades of environmental progress through a surge of late-term executive orders and regulatory actions?

But despite formidable obstacles, our efforts were largely successful. At the national level we were able to short circuit a number of Bush's most egregious anti-environmental measures and at the state level we were able not only to substantially reduce the impact of the pro-development Permit Extension Act, but also to transform what began as a weak and uninspired Energy Master Plan into a document with teeth.

So what is the outlook for 2009? And just what do we hope to accomplish?

I have no doubt that we will be dealing with a number of important issues in 2009. But two issues stand out above the rest, both in terms of importance and the need for immediate action. The first of these issues is reauthorization of the State's Green Acres program.

New Jersey's nationally acclaimed Green Acres program has been around for so long that many folks have begun to take it for granted. Were it not for the program, hundreds of thousands of acres of open space would have been lost to development. But the job isn't over. Development pressures continue and the need for open space funding is as great as it ever was.

Unfortunately, despite the undisputed success of the program, and despite the ongoing need for open space acquisitions, New Jersey's Green Acres program has run out of money. The State should never have allowed this to happen, but now that it has happened we need to do something about it. This means coming up with a permanent source of funding for open space acquisitions, an issue that the Corzine administration has been reluctant to address.

While identifying and agreeing upon a new revenue source in these difficult economic times may not be easy, the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club has identified several possible sources, including a fee based on water usage. Key legislative leaders have been receptive, but to date the Governor and his staff have failed to participate in the dialogue. This needs to change, and it needs to change soon.

We in the New Jersey Chapter intend to keep the pressure on. We will continue to explore funding options and will continue to lobby legislative leaders and members of the administration. The challenges we face are substantial, but I am hopeful that in the end our representatives in Trenton will see the light and that our efforts will be successful.

While Governor Corzine has been frustratingly slow in addressing the Green

Acres crisis, he does deserve some credit for dealing with our second priority issue: energy and climate change.

New Jersey's Global Warming Response Act has been on the books since 2007. But the Act, which mandates a 20% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 and an 80% reduction by 2050, does not specify how the required reductions are to be achieved. This is why the State needs to adopt specific legislative and regulatory measures designed to improve energy efficiency, reduce energy consumption and encourage the development of alternative energy sources.

We in the New Jersey Chapter have been working for some time in putting together and lobbying for a legislative and regulatory package that addresses these issues. Included in the package are bills that require enhanced energy-saving construction requirements in new construction, establish minimum energy efficiency standards for commercial and residential appliances and equipment, facilitate the installation of wind and solar facilities and encourage employers to implement traffic reduction plans for their employees.

But what differentiates 2009 from 2008 is that for the first time in eight years we will be working in cooperation with, not in opposition to, the powers that be in Washington. President Obama, unlike former President Bush, recognizes the seriousness of the threat posed by global climate change, supports the 20% and 80% goals contained in New Jersey's Global Warming Response Act and has come out in favor of a number of the proposals that we are working on here in New Jersey to improve energy efficiency, reduce energy consumption and encourage the development of alternative energy sources.

And while it is true that during the course of the campaign President Obama expressed support for biofuels, including corn-based ethanol, as well as so-called clean coal technology, the President has also vowed to "restore science to its rightful place," and has appointed a number of well-qualified scientists as scientific advisors to his administration. If the President listens to his advisors it shouldn't take him too long to come to the conclusion that the current ethanol program is a scam and that the phrase "clean coal" is an oxymoron.

I am excited by the opportunities available both at the state level and at the national level to address climate change and energy issues in a coordinated and comprehensive manner. The New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club is particularly well positioned to play an important role in this process, as the New Jersey Chapter and our allies in Trenton have been busy over the past eight years analyzing the issues and developing legislative and regulatory approaches that work. We look forward to continuing to work with Lisa Jackson, formerly head of the New Jersey Department of Environment Protection and currently head of the federal Environmental Protection Agency, as well as other members of President Obama's administration, in tackling these most difficult issues.

Yes, 2009 promises to be an exciting year.

### 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.

**COOL CITIES CORNER:**

## Cool City: Evesham Township in Burlington County

By Gina Carola, Chair of our West Jersey Group ([Ginaceee@verizon.net](mailto:Ginaceee@verizon.net))

On September 16, 2008, Mayor Randy Brown of Evesham Township declared the township a "Green Community" and authorized development of a Clean Energy Policy for inclusion in the township's master plan. He also signed the township on to the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

But that's not all. Evesham Township's manager Tom Czerniecki spearheaded a "green initiatives summit" to help agencies within the township learn about sustainability. As other towns heard about the summit and expressed interest, they were invited to attend. Leaders from around the state and also school boards attended to learn

what they can do to green their communities. Topics such as building facilities and homes to optimize natural heat and shade in order to reduce energy consumption, ride-sharing, and implementation of solar, wind and other alternative energy were discussed.

For now, Evesham Township plans to enroll in a state energy audit program so that the town can learn how to improve its energy use. Mr. Czerniecki also said the township has applied for money to fund solar panels on the municipal building.

Congratulations to the residents of Evesham Township for electing such forward-thinking leaders.

## The Latest on Xanadu

By Kara Seymour, Chapter Staff ([Kara.Seymour@Sierraclub.org](mailto:Kara.Seymour@Sierraclub.org))

The troubled Xanadu complex made headlines again recently after workers uncovered leaking fuel tanks, chemicals, and other hazardous materials on the 104-acre site in the Meadowlands.

A report prepared by the project's engineer stated that contamination at the site is pervasive and includes dangerous levels of cancer-causing compounds in the groundwater and soil. According to media reports, the bulk of the hazardous waste is being shipped off to Michigan and western Pennsylvania. A plan for addressing the problem is being formulated by project engineers but it will not be submitted for approval until the center's opening, slated for sometime this summer.

The Xanadu project, which comprises 6.5 million square feet of office and com-

mercial space, will generate more than 120,000 cars a day, gridlocking an area of the state already overburdened with traffic. It has already filled in priority wetlands and will become, when completed, the largest producer of greenhouse gas in the state.

Also related to Xanadu, an appellate judge in December dismissed a bill for \$4,387, submitted to the Sierra Club and Hartz Mountain Industries by the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority (NJSEA), for copies of documents. As part of its litigation strategy, NJSEA had submitted a 4,297-page Appendix to the Appellate Division, consisting of material already submitted to the court, irrelevant technical data, and thousands of pages of material that was never cited by any party.

## Early Political Endorsements of Legislative Heroes

By Richard Isaac, Chapter Political Chair

The Chapter Political and Executive Committees have approved support for the following incumbent Assemblypersons seeking reelection to the State Assembly in 2009:

**Linda Greenstein**

(D, 14th District - Middlesex, Mercer)

**Reed Gusciora**

(D, 15th District - Mercer)

**Peter Barnes**

(D, 18th District - Middlesex)

**Jon Bramnick**

(R, 21st District - Union, Morris, Somerset, Essex)

**Eric Munoz** (R, 21st District)

**Linda Stender** (D, 22nd District - Union, Middlesex, Somerset)

**John McKeon**

(D, 27th District - Essex County)

**Valerie Huttie**

(D, 37th District - Bergen)

**Scott Rumana** (R, 40th District - Bergen, Passaic, Essex)

**David Russo** (R, 40th District)

The candidates are honored for their consistently strong environmental records and their support of our core legislative agenda in the New Jersey State Assembly.

Our endorsement of David Russo and

Scott Rumana is of particular importance because they are being challenged in the June Primary Election in the 40th District. Club members in AD-40 who would like to help us campaign for Russo and Rumana are urged to contact Greg Tondi, North Jersey Group Political Chair, at [gregt75@yahoo.com](mailto:gregt75@yahoo.com).

Club members living in the rest of the state are urged to contact their Group Political Chairs (see the Group News section of this newsletter for their names and addresses) to learn more about how they can participate in the process by which many other endorsements will be made before the June Primary and November General Elections, and about how they can participate in the campaigns of endorsed candidates.

Note: In 2009 New Jersey will have one of only two gubernatorial elections in the nation, as well as elections for all 80 seats in the state Assembly. This will provide us with an opportunity to highlight some important environmental issues, such as a permanent source of funding for preserving open space, better protecting our water resources, and restoring NJ DEP staffing levels to where the Department can once again be truly effective.

### Energy Factoid - LED Lightbulbs courtesy of Prof. Somalwar

Unlike Compact Fluorescent Bulbs (CFL's) which have been around for more than twenty years, LEDs are even more efficient, but are not yet ready for prime time. However, if there are places that you want permanently lit (with bluish light), you may want to try them out. We recently installed one at the front entrance and another in the basement where they can be left on for extended times. They might work also work in closets, hallways and garages.

Specs: 1.3 Watts, \$4.75 each (Meritline.com). They plug into normal socket and give bluish light of a 20W regular bulb (my guess).

## The Upside Down World of Energy Policy: Supply-siders in the Driving Seat

By our Energy expert (and Chapter Vice-Chair) Sunil Somalwar, Professor of Physics, Rutgers University

*"To address Russia's out-of-control addiction to vodka, Prime Minister Putin launched a massive program today to increase the production of whisky, rum and other alcohols. Whisky will receive a 53 cents-per-gallon subsidy, and will be required to be blended with all vodka."*

Absurd as this made-up headline may sound, it is a good description of America's energy policy. We consume and waste too much energy. Europeans and Japanese consume half as much energy as we do, suggesting that we could cut energy use by half without hurting our living standards. It is puzzling that, instead of cutting our energy waste, the most talked about energy "solutions" propose to increase the energy supply.

We have one of the World's most energy-guzzling transportation systems. Here are three examples of the supply-side theme, that aim to increase the transportation fuel supply:

(1) Corn ethanol and other bio-follies: Even as global population approaches a staggering nine billion, we not only mandate conversion of food into auto fuel, but we also subsidize it! As a result, food has become more expensive. Other victims besides the poor range from birds and wildlife in the American Midwest, where Conservation Reserve Program land has been sacrificed to corn ethanol production, to endangered orangutans in Southeast Asia.

(2) Electric (plug-in cars use electricity as auto fuel: More than 80% of the pollution in electricity production comes from coal. Coal is twice as dirty as gasoline. Getting rid of coal is one of the highest global warming priorities. But it "ain't" happening for decades to come, and we have not even started down that path. With this backdrop, vehicles that effectively burn coal under the hood have no place on the road. Right wing think tanks like the American Enterprise Institute support electric cars because global warming has not been a concern for them.

(3) Pickens' Plan: Mr. Pickens wants you to use natural gas (supplied by his company) in your car. He was willing to throw a few windmills into the package to get environmental support, but they seem to have fallen victim to the ongoing credit crunch.

As if we don't burn enough gasoline in our cars, we also want to throw food, coal and natural gas into our SUV tanks. Our energy policy is to basically increase the supply, because that is what consumers want.

When supply increases, consumption finds a way to increase. Consider the auto efficiency (CAFE) standards meant to reduce our gasoline use. History shows that when fuel is abundant, so are the CAFE loopholes. For example, electric cars are expected to get a 100 miles-per-gallon super-efficient designation. Under the CAFE rules, when a car company sells an electric car, it can then sell a few SUV's

- because the standards are met on average. Talk about a loophole! (Electric cars pollute like 20mpg SUVs. Their high mileage rating comes about by ignoring the pollution from coal electricity.)

Increasing the supply of even clean energy, like wind or solar, can end up having no environmental benefit if it just encourages more consumption. Rutgers University has a very efficient cogeneration (combined heat and power) plant that saves large amounts of greenhouse emissions by using waste heat for heating and air conditioning. There is no money to increase the cogeneration capacity, but the University is spending money on a highly subsidized, sexy but dinky, solar array that is not as good as cogeneration in terms of emissions saved per dollar invested. Cogeneration efficiency can not compete with the PR power of a solar array because cogeneration is about reducing waste but solar energy is backed by the supply-side logic. Meanwhile, New Jersey keeps importing dirty coal electricity from other states that the cogeneration plant could have replaced with high-efficiency clean electricity and heat.

Energy efficiency (conservation) gets short shrift because our love for shiny new toys, and blind faith in technology, have turned us all into supply-siders.

What about Cap-and-Trade for Reducing Energy Supply?

Our conservation hopes are tied to cap-and-trade legislation, which will be

difficult to get through Congress, and will be riddled with escape hatches and giveaways for coal and ethanol. Cap-and-Trade revenues will likely be frittered on these giveaways and feel-good subsidies for ineffective boutique renewables. Giveaways will come early in the game and escape hatches will come later when the rubber hits the road in the form of a looming emissions cap.

The right solution is to tie cap-and-trade to auctions (or, almost equivalently, a carbon tax), and then send every collected penny back to the people in the form of direct refund (or income tax reduction). The refund will cancel the regressive element of the auction/tax. We should cancel all our favorite subsidies in order to avoid giving away revenues from a regressive tax to rich operators who game the system. We are no good at the subsidy game.

Large price hikes are needed to reduce emissions, but people will balk at them unless the money goes back into their pockets. If the cap-and-trade revenues are diverted for other purposes, including our pet energy "solutions," it will be that much more difficult to lower the cap. Using cap-and-trade revenues to reduce the budget deficit may sound noble, but it is not in the environmental interest. Why should fixing a deficit that came from enriching bankers and defense contractors fall on the back of the environment?

More in the next issue of this newsletter!

Conservation Eco-Tips 

# Buying Clothing

Both by Laura Lynch, our Chapter Conservation Chair ([njsierraclub@gmail.com](mailto:njsierraclub@gmail.com)) – with thanks for re-publication rights to Sustainable Lawrence

If you randomly pull a handful of clothing out of your closet, odds are that, if the labels say anything at all about the subject, most of them will tell you that they were made overseas by workers earning far below a survival wage. (For a detailed look at modern slavery in the garment industry, read John Bowe's book, "Nobodies.") Odds are also good that the cotton you wear was grown covered in pesticides and fertilizers, and that a cocktail of not-so-healthy chemicals was used in the manufacturing process.

So what is a poor, environmentally- and humanitarian-conscious shopper to do?

There are several questions worth asking when considering sustainable clothing.

First, what is it made of? If it's cotton, was it grown without pesticides or fertilizers? What sort of dyes were used? Is the fabric synthetic? Is there a natural alternative?

Second, where was the article of clothing made? If the country of origin doesn't have as strict environmental standards as the U.S. does, then determining the environmental impact of production becomes more difficult. And if the piece was made halfway around the world, then there is the added environmental cost of getting the clothing to our doorsteps.

Third, who makes the clothes? Are the workers paid a living wage or a starving wage? Are they given health benefits? Do they work reasonable hours?

Fourth, who is selling the clothes? Are the retailers paying a living wage?

Clearly it would take a lot of hard work to find all the answers to these questions for every pair of jeans one sees on sale at the mall. So what do we do instead?

If you're good at sizing yourself up and have no qualms about ordering clothing online, a simple search for "organic" or "fair trade" clothes can yield many screens' worth of choices. Many offer detailed explanations of the countries of origin, manufacturing process, and fair trade arrangements. Even though you're likely to pay more and find less than you would at a nearby store, the extra cost is the price we pay to be sustainable.

There are other ways to dress sustainably while we wait for organic, fair-trade t-shirts to become mainstream.

Before replacing an old piece of clothing, consider whether or not replacing missing buttons would fix the problem. Can a hole be sewn up? A waistline taken in?

Are you tossing something because it's no longer in style? When considering a replacement, choose something less likely to be so "ten minutes ago" five minutes after you buy it.

Try shopping at a consignment shop, where used clothes get a second life and prices are far, far less than what these things would cost if they were new. Used clothing stores often benefit charities, so you can feel twice as good about your purchase.

Finally, of course, if something you want to get rid of can still be worn, don't throw it away. Instead, give it to a friend, a relative, or a charity that gives clothing to people who need it. Or give it to your favorite consignment shop. And if that favorite old sweatshirt is so far gone that it barely even resembles a shirt any more, reincarnate it as a rag. You can never have enough of those.

# Inner City Outings and Newark's Ironbound

By Marty Cohen, Chair of our Inner Cities Outings Section

The Club's Inner Cities Program does not take individual children on its outings, it takes groups of children from various youth social service agencies, such as Police Athletic Leagues, Boys and Girls Clubs, and schools. We have just begun a relationship with the Family Success Center-East, which is a branch of the Ironbound Community Corp. (The Ironbound is the section of Newark directly east of Penn Station and Downtown Newark, and west of the Passaic River.) It gets State funding, and provides food stamps, UMDNJ health screenings, job counseling, and other essential services including enrichment opportunities for youth. A grant for neighborhood revitalization, provided by the Wachovia Foundation, funded a Community and Environmental Justice Organizer who is ICO's contact person.

The Ironbound is poor and isolated, physically disconnected from the economic activity of Newark. There are few businesses, no banks, no doctors, the nearest high school is a long distance

away, the housing stock is old, the air and land are contaminated from old industries and from traffic along Rtes 1 and 9 [including the port traffic described in the article on p.1 of this issue]; and there is tension between old residents and recent immigrants. The Family Success Center is working to pull the neighborhood together so that people can gain the skills they need to confront upcoming development plans that may not serve the best interests of the residents. In carrying out this work, it is partnered with the local elementary school, several churches, and the Ironbound Boys and Girls Club. It is continually on the lookout for good options for residents of all ages, but particularly the youth.

After reading all this I hope your reaction will be, "Let's get some kids from the Ironbound into the woods!" If you would like to volunteer some of your time towards this end, please contact me: [ico-north@newjersey.sierraclub.org](mailto:ico-north@newjersey.sierraclub.org). I will be scheduling an orientation session for volunteers in April.

# Political Corner

By Richard Isaac, Chapter Political Chair

I am pleased to extend congratulations to our two new Congressmen, John Adler (3rd CD: much of Burlington and Ocean Counties, and Cherry Hill in Camden Co.) and Leonard Lance (7th CD: parts of Hunterdon, Middlesex, Somerset and Union Counties), both of whom have had outstanding environmental records in the NJ State Legislature and will undoubtedly continue to make us proud as they serve

us in the House of Representatives.

The 2008 election cycle was the first one in which all eleven of our endorsed candidates won. Our success in the 3rd District, by far the closest race we were involved in, no doubt benefited from the combined efforts of our Ocean County Group and national Club support – which helped Adler in his opponent's stronghold in Ocean County.

# What About a Wood Stove?

When we moved into our split-level house nearly ten years ago, we thought that the little wood stove on the ground floor would be a welcome advantage come winter. Indeed, we did use it a handful of times that first year, and once or twice after that. But, as warm as it makes the house, we have good reasons not to use it again.

Our old wood stove, it turns out, is a pollution machine. According to the EPA, without pollution controls in our stove, the smoke we would create contains carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds, and dioxin. It also contains particulate organic matter, which, along with the volatile organic compounds, can be irritating and even carcinogenic.

Sure, our wood stove heats the house, but when it comes to air pollution, our stove might as well be a fireplace.

New wood stoves, however, all have catalytic converters. These devices trap pollutants and burn particulates. The smoke released from the chimney, while not entirely clean, is much easier on the atmosphere and on our lungs. All wood stoves must meet EPA and state emissions standards.

At Grist.org, the advice column, "Ask Umbra," has been providing wood stove information to readers for several years. The author suggests buying dense wood (hardwood is the densest). Buy split logs and allow them to dry six months to one year before burning. The drier the wood, the more efficient the combustion will be. There is even an online resource that lists properties of different fire woods, including the heat given off, ease of log-splitting, and whether or not the burning wood is smelly: <http://mbsoft.com/juca/print/firewood.html>.

When choosing firewood, sustainability rules apply: Buy local and buy sustainable. The Consumer Guide to Home Energy Savings states that if the wood burned in wood stoves is harvested sustainably then the trees grown to replace the burned logs will absorb more CO<sub>2</sub> than the wood burning creates.

The EPA provides a list of things that should not be burned in a wood stove: cardboard and household garbage contain plastics and inks that are toxic when burned; coated, painted, glued, and pressure-treated wood contain toxins; rotted, moldy, and diseased wood can also release toxins and irritants. In order to minimize the risk of bringing allergy-causing mold spores into the house, the EPA also recommends that the amount of wood brought in as spare logs be minimized.

One alternative to home wood-burning is a pellet stove. These devices burn compressed pellets of wood, crop waste, or paper waste. Electronic controls feed the pellets into a combustion chamber. The combustion is clean and efficient, so much so that the EPA doesn't bother to regulate pellet stoves. Electricity is required, though: approximately 100 kilowatt-hours per month.

For a graphic comparison of air pollution from old and new wood stoves, pellet stoves, and oil and gas burners, see <http://burningissues.org/car-www/index.html>.

For more information on wood stoves, follow the links below. For more information on sustainability, go to <http://sustainablelawrence.org>.

<http://www.grist.org/advice/ask/2004/01/26/umbra-woodstoves/index.html>

<http://www.grist.org/advice/ask/2007/02/05/pellet/index.html>

# Thanks For Your Support!

The New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club would like to thank all those who provided the Chapter with their financial support during 2008. Listed below are the names of those who made gifts of \$100 or more during 2008. Space does not permit us to list all contributors, but please be assured that we are deeply appreciative of all contributions to the New Jersey Chapter, regardless of the amount. We wouldn't be as effective as we are today without the continued support of our members and friends.

**Benefactors (\$1000 and above)**

Dennis and Carol Anderson  
Environmental Endowment of New Jersey  
Ken and Wynn Johanson  
William & Carolyn Knox  
Estate of Waldemar Wastallo Jr

**Patrons (\$500 to \$999)**

Richard H. Colby  
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Jeffrey and Anita Liebman  
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**Partners (\$250 to \$499)**

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Madison Library Teen Advisory Board  
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Jessica W. Seaton  
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**Supporters (\$100 to \$249)**

Doris R. Aaronson  
Mary Anne Adams  
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Dennis Kahn  
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Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Knowlton  
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Katherine T. Nelson  
Joseph Nichols  
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Aaron Paglia  
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Howard Rose  
Leon M. Rosenson  
Gaile Sarma  
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John Wilmot  
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Wolfe  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Zornesky  
Anonymous (10)



# Group News

FROM  
AROUND  
THE  
STATE

## HOW TO IDENTIFY YOUR GROUP (BY COUNTY)

**Northwest Jersey Group:** Sussex & Warren  
**North Jersey Group:** Passaic & most of Bergen  
**Hunterdon County Group:** Hunterdon  
**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  
**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 and Warren Counties, approximately)

#### OFFICERS:

**Chair, Political Chair:** Christine Feoranzo 973-352-9203 cfeoranzo@gmail.com  
**Vice-Chair:** Susan Rotter rotterls@mindspring.com  
**Conservation Chair:** Marie Springer aikidomarie@yahoo.com  
**Secretary:** *Open Position!*  
**Treasurer:** Charles Kopp ccgkp@verizon.net  
**Publicity:** Toni Zimmer tzimmer@twgpower.com  
**Membership Chair:** Pat Mangino pmangino@aol.com  
**Outings & Events Chair:** Herb Wolff herbwolff@optonline.net  
**Delegate to Chapt. ExCom:** *Open Position!*  
**Cool Cities Delegate:** *Open Position!*

**WEBSITE:** <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/northwest/>

Our Group will continue to focus on the following goals:

- (1) Building a more active and vibrant Group.
- (2) Scheduling more guest speakers and hosting more frequent outings that are related to the issues and interests that concern our members and the general public.
- (3) Our Group will work to change the view our municipal governments have of us, so that we can help motivate the preservation of our region's wilderness.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Held on the FIRST WEDNESDAY of every month, at 7pm, at the Grist Mill Café, located in the Andover Post Office Shopping Plaza on Rte 206 (Rte 517 intersection) in Andover. Phone: 973-786-6400.

Please contact Group officers for information about meetings.

### North Jersey Group

(Bergen and Passaic Counties, approximately)

#### OFFICERS:

**Group Co-Chairs:** Betsy Kohn 201-461-4534 BetsyKohn@aol.com  
 and Mike Herson 201-262-9472 mikeherson@hotmail.com  
**Conservation Co-Chairs:** Tom Thompson 201-848-1080 etrans743@aol.com  
 and Mike Herson 201-262-9472 mikeherson@hotmail.com  
**Air Quality:** Laura Tracey Coll lauratraceycoll@hotmail.com  
**Outings Chair:** Ellen Blumenkrantz eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com  
**Passaic Issues:** Tricia Aspinwall taspinwall@hotmail.com  
**Political Chair:** Greg Tondi gregt75@yahoo.com  
**Political Alternate:** Jeff Hartman jeffhartman@optonline.net  
**Program Chair:** *Open Position!*  
**Treasurer:** Tom Thompson 201-848-1080 etrans743@aol.com  
**US Public Lands:** John Kashwick 201-660-8820 johnkashwick@optonline.net  
**Wildlife:** Mary Ellen Shaw 201-489-1588

**WEBSITE:** <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/North>

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Held at least four times a year. For more information or date and location, please contact Betsy or Mike (see above).

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Begin at 7:30 pm; dates and locations below. To find out more, please call Betsy (see above) or sign up for e-mail notices at <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-NORTH-JERSEY-NEWS.html>.

**Apr 23:** Flat Rock Brook Nature Center, 443 Van Nostrand Avenue, Englewood: "Bringing Offshore Wind Power into New Jersey," a presentation by Kris Ohleth of Bluewater Wind LLC about the mechanics, economics, advantages, and international experience of wind energy.

**May 21:** Unitarian Society of Ridgewood, 113 Cottage Place, Ridgewood: Program TBA.

**CONSERVATION ISSUES.** We remain alert to threats to the vegetative riparian corri-

dors in the **Hackensack River watershed**, essential for habitat, flood control and the health of the river. Of current concern is the protection of a riverfront parcel with wetlands in Teaneck (from a renewed threat of development that includes a 35-space parking lot) and the fragile ecosystem of Van Buskirk Island in Oradell.

Also of concern is the preservation of lands in the **Ramapo River watershed**. In Mahwah, 200 trees at the foot of Stag Hill Road are to be cleared for a huge parking lot near the river. This project could be halted if evidence of the endangered wood turtle, known to be in the area, is found on the site. (To help, contact Mary Ellen, above.) Upstream in NY, the forested slopes are still under threat by large-scale housing projects, including the 1,195-unit Tuxedo Reserve. The good news is the 495-acre Wrightman's Plateau has been saved with help from NY State, Rockland County and the Trust for Public Land.

We are skeptical that the **Highlands Regional Master Plan** will adequately protect our water supply. Sixty per cent of 183 sub-watersheds in the NJ Highlands lack enough water, and yet the RMP allows new and expanded water extraction in areas of current water deficit. It also allows clustered housing on operating farmland, reduction of C1 and C2 stream buffers in redevelopment areas, and relaxation of NJDEP nitrate standards to permit pollution of well water with septic.

**Still monitoring:** Elmwood Park's air quality (contact Laura Coll, above) and Clifton's Latteri Park. For more information on any issues, contact Betsy, Mike or Tom (above).

**CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!** To find out how you can help with grassroots organizing, conservation, outings, meetings, Cool Cities, and more, please contact Betsy or Mike (above).

### Hunterdon Group

(Hunterdon County and surrounding areas)

#### OFFICERS:

**Chair:** Greg Nelson gregssap@hotmail.com  
**Vice-Chair:** Mark Sharrock msharrock@comcast.net  
**Conservation Chair:** James Brightwell james\_brightwell@comcast.net  
**Secretary:** Dwight Irving dwight@dlirving.com  
**Treasurer:** Mike Nusbaum mikeynus@yahoo.com  
**Political Co-Chair:** David Mills dave\_mills\_175@comcast.net  
**Publicity Chair:** Fran Houston happieneddy@gmail.com  
**Membership Chair:** Celeste Martin onecentral@mac.com  
**Energy Coordinator:** Mark Marciniak mpmpplace@ptd.net  
**Outings Chair:** Jessica Nusbaum syrfrgrl@yahoo.com  
**Webmaster:** Mike Nusbaum mikeynus@yahoo.com

**WEBSITE:** available soon!

After a long absence, the Hunterdon Group has been reformed. The Group's focus will be on conservation issues, such as preserving open space (a priority in Hunterdon County), clean energy, and recycling. We will also have many fun events chosen by Group members, and we have an outings calendar.

Please contact Greg Nelson at gregssap@hotmail.com or Celeste Martin at onecentral@mac.com if you'd like more information. Our next Executive Committee meeting will be April 6th at the New Jersey Water Supply Authority Annex building, off Rte 31 near Clinton. Free refreshments will be served.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Monthly - Alternating between the FIRST MONDAY and WEDNESDAY: Apr 6, May 6 and June 1. Meetings start at 7:30 pm and are held at the New Jersey Water Supply Authority (NJWSA) - Annex, 1851 State Rte 31, Clinton 08809. For more information please e-mail Greg Nelson at gregssap@hotmail.com.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Held three times a year: March, July and November at 8pm at the location above. All are invited.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:** Ever think about volunteering? Do you enjoy the outdoors and/or want to help protect our environment and open space in New Jersey? Do something about it! Join us to work on important environmental issues facing Hunterdon County, New Jersey, the United States, and the World. YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE! Contact our Membership Chair, Celeste Martin (onecentral@mac.com), to learn more about the Sierra Club and to join our Group.

### Hudson-Meadowlands Group

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

#### OFFICERS:

**Chair:** Louise Taylor 201-886-9320 ltaylor2@nj.rr.com  
**Vice-Chair:** Helen Manogue 201-963-3511  
**Secretaries:** Connie Ftera 201-869-7950 cftera@earthlink.net  
 and Judith Courtney 201-868-6575 jaocourtney@netzero.net  
**Treasurer:** Brane Zivkovic 201-758-0398 brane@nyu.edu  
**Conservation Chair:** Mariana Zivkovic 201-758-8390 tenisko@hotmail.com  
**Political Chair:** Brane Zivkovic 201-758-0398 brane@nyu.edu  
**Publicity:** Jodi Jamieson 917-804-8390 jodijami@mac.com  
**Parks Chair:** Rosemary Arena 201-861-6222 drrosemary@verizon.net  
**Cool Cities Chair:** Helen Manogue 201-963-3511  
**Singles Chair:** Marlene Rost 201-766-8982 MARRO@optonline.net  
**Outings Chair:** Scotte Perry 201-320-1758 scotteperry@optonline.net  
**Palisades Landmark Status Committee:**  
**Chair:** Rosemary Arena 201-861-6222 drrosemary@verizon.net  
**Vice Chair:** David Kronick 201-869-6218 jktejas@aol.com  
**Group ExCom** Gil Hawkins 201-944-5799 gilc3d2@aol.com  
**Members:** Donald Kopczynski 201-224-2641 Littlechops03@netzero.com

**General Meetings:** FIRST FRIDAY, every other month, at 7:30 pm. **Next: Apr 3.** Please contact Louise Taylor for information about the next meeting.

**Issues:** We are working hard to save open space on the Hudson River shore, and to

2009 is an election year for NJ's Governor, all 80 members of the state Assembly, and many local officials.  
 Our Political Committee can use your help in deciding on candidates to endorse.

protect the **New Jersey Palisades** south of the George Washington Bridge from further destruction. We need your help. Please contact Louise Taylor to volunteer.

**CONSERVATION ISSUES:** We are opposed to a 256-unit development proposed on the last parcel of open space on the Hudson River in North Bergen. The oversized residential plan's application was "denied without prejudice" at a Hudson County Planning Board meeting in October. The denial was due to a dispute over title and land ownership of one of the lots, in addition to the improper annexing and subdivision of the same lot. The development plan is still before the Town of North Bergen Planning Board and we continue to attend these meetings to dispute the application. The developer's plan as presented requires several variances to support the density they propose. As planned this development will cause many traffic issues on an already congested roadway plagued with flooding problems and it will destroy the view of the Hudson River for many current residents. We would like to see this space become permanent parkland as it had been designated in the Hudson County Master Plan. We feel that it is much needed open space in this urban environment.

### Essex County Group

web-site: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/Essex/>. Or click from the NJ Chapter's web-site.

The Essex Group is in reorganization. To facilitate this, the Chapter Executive Committee has assigned mediators to help rebuild and strengthen the Group. Essex members will receive a postcard in the Spring giving the time and place of a reorganization meeting. Questions? Contact Joan Denzer: [jdenzer73@yahoo.com](mailto:jdenzer73@yahoo.com).

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** are free and open to the public, unless otherwise indicated. They usually take place on TUESDAYS, from 7 to 9pm, at the Essex County Environmental Center, 621 Eagle Rock Ave, in Roseland. Contact Walt Goldenbaum ([goldenb1@optonline.net](mailto:goldenb1@optonline.net) or 973-925-8662) for general information.

**Apr 14, 7-9pm: Protecting Alaska's Wild Lands.** Join guest speaker Julia Millan Shaw of the Alaska Wilderness League, an advocacy organization working to protect the natural lands and waters of Alaska—particularly the regions of the Tongass National Forest and the Arctic Refuge. After a breathtaking presentation, join in a lively discussion.

**May 12, 7-9pm: Pharmacy Or "Farm"-acy?** Looking for a better way to support your family's health? Tired of the harmful side effects of synthetic drugs? Join us for a discussion and hands on activity on the topic of therapeutic grade essential oils led by Lori Rothbard, BA, CHHC, a well known area natural health educator. Fee: \$7 per adult; Free for WEPC/Sierra Club members

**June 9, 7-9pm: Be Kind To Your Environment.** Join the West Essex Park Conservancy and Sierra Club in welcoming Anna Winkler, certified **yoga instructor and Ayurvedic consultant**, to discuss choosing activities that promote health and vitality in your internal, as well as external environment. Yoga and Ayurveda are several thousand year old sister sciences devoted to the care of the body and mind through being in tune with the rhythms of nature both internally and externally. Fee: \$7 per adult; Free for WEPC/Sierra Club members

**OUTING SPECIAL: May 2: Canoe Trip on the Passaic River.** Canoe 4 hours at a steady pace observing the wildlife and natural settings. Bring water, picnic lunch and comfortable clothes. Meet promptly at 10 am at the 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 and to register call (973) 364-7573 ext.2. or write leaders: Ron Pate, [ronpate31@verizon.net](mailto:ronpate31@verizon.net) ; Walter Goldenbaum, [goldenb1@optonline.net](mailto:goldenb1@optonline.net).

### Loantaka Group

(Morris and Union Counties, approximately)

There is a new website address for the Loantaka group:  
<http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/>

**OFFICERS:**

|                             |                       |              |                           |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Group Co-Chairs:</b>     | Eric Hausker          | 732-669-0719 | hauskerr@aol.com          |
| and                         | Paul Sanderson        | 908-233-2414 | paulmsanderson@aol.com    |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>           | Joyce White           |              | joyce00201@yahoo.com      |
| <b>Secretary:</b>           | <i>Open Position!</i> |              |                           |
| <b>Conservation Chairs:</b> |                       |              |                           |
| <b>Morris County:</b>       | Chris Mills           | 973-377-1742 | chrismills@yahoo.com      |
| <b>Union County:</b>        | Eric Hausker          | 732-669-0719 | hauskerr@aol.com          |
| <b>Cool Cities Chair:</b>   | Stefano Crema         | 973-627-4354 | stefcre@aol.com           |
| <b>Political Chair:</b>     | Meiling Chin          |              | chinmeiling@yahoo.com     |
| <b>Programs Chair:</b>      | Tamanna Mohapatra     | 732-801-9629 | tmohapatra@gmail.com      |
| <b>Education Coord:</b>     | Jeff Huppert          | 973-263-0344 | jeffhup@optonline.net     |
| <b>Fundraising Chair:</b>   | Eric Hausker          | 732-669-0719 | hauskerr@aol.com          |
| <b>Outreach, Events:</b>    | <i>Open Position!</i> |              |                           |
| <b>Publicity Chair:</b>     | Wynn Johanson         | 908-464-0442 | johansons@comcast.net     |
| <b>Membership:</b>          | Doug Williams         | 973-263-8404 | dougjwilliams@verizon.net |
| <b>Air Quality Coord:</b>   | Bob Campbell          | 973-761-4461 | bobc2023_sc@verizon.net   |
| <b>Webmaster:</b>           | Paul Sanderson        |              | paulmsanderson@aol.com    |
| <b>Greenbrook:</b>          | Bob Muska             | 908-665-2296 | rmuska@erols.com          |

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

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

To join our e-mailing list, go 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.

All members are welcome at Executive Committee meetings. Right now, we have open positions on it! If you would like to find out more, please contact Paul Sanderson.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** are held on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at the Library of the Chathams, 214 Main St., Chatham. **DIRECTIONS:** Directions are posted on our Website: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/>.

**MEETING SCHEDULE:**

**Apr 8: Alien Invaders!** (Plants of a different sort), Mindy Schmitt from the Great Swamp Center- Learn how to identify invasive species, hear the sometimes bizarre stories behind their arrivals and learn how to have a positive impact on the problem.

**May 13: Philippines Visit,** with Sandeep Bhatala - The Philippines is one of the World's three biodiversity hotspots most at risk from population pressures. Sandeep recently visited the Philippines with the Sierra Club Populations Issues Study Group. She will discuss what is being done and what can be done to address these population pressures.

**June 10: New Jersey Native Plants,** presented by Kate Kunz, of the NJ Native Plant Society - Kate will talk about the importance of preserving native plants from the dangers posed by invasive species of plants.

**ACTIVITIES:** (Consult our website (<http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/>) for more information.)

A clean-up event is tentatively scheduled to be held at Seeley's Pond in the Watchung Reservation on May 2nd. We need folks to come out and help us! For more information, please call Paul at 908-233-2414.

### Central Jersey Group

(Mercer County, and the adjoining towns in Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Somerset Counties)

Website: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/central>.

Please visit our website for conservation news, meetings, event details and last-minute announcements.

**OFFICERS:**

|                            |                   |              |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Chair:</b>              | Terry Stimpfel    | 609-731-7016 | terystimb@hotmail.com         |
| <b>Conservation Chair:</b> | David Schmetterer | 609-356-0701 | david@dlsplanning.com         |
| <b>Membership Chair:</b>   | Grace Marie Beans | 585-755-3430 | beansgm@yahoo.com             |
| <b>Outings Chair:</b>      | Leona Fluck       | 609-259-3734 | Leona@pineypaddlers.com       |
| <b>Political Chair:</b>    | Terry Stimpfel    | 609-731-7016 | terystimb@hotmail.com         |
| <b>ExCom At-large:</b>     | Malcolm McFarland | 609-448-8699 | jmalcolmmcfarland@verizon.net |
|                            | Ruth Ann Mitchell |              | ram400500@yahoo.com           |

(Continued on page 8)

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## GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 7)

**NJ-CENTRAL-NEWS:** You can receive infrequent e-mail meeting and event reminders and occasional notices of local import. You manage your own subscription to the NJ-CENTRAL-NEWS list serve. Visit our website and follow link to subscribe or unsubscribe to the NJ-CENTRAL-NEWS.

Local conservation issues include the C&A Rail Trail (Hamilton, Robbinsville), Assunpink Creek Trail (Robbinsville), and NJ Turnpike widening. Concerned about an issue? Want to take action? Let's talk.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** All Sierra Club members are invited to find out what's happening in Central Group and help make things happen too! Please contact Terry.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Our meetings are held at the Whisk and Spoon meeting room, Whole Foods Market, Windsor Green Shopping Center, Route 1 South, Princeton from 7:30 to 9pm on the THIRD TUESDAY of most months. No general meeting in July, August and December.

**Apr 21: The Delaware and Raritan Canal.** Linda Barth, canal author and historian, will introduce us to the people, the bridges, the locks, and the aqueducts that made the canal work. You can find events marking the 175th anniversary of the D&R Canal's opening at [www.dandrcanal.com/park\\_index.html](http://www.dandrcanal.com/park_index.html).

**May 19:** Marty Johnson, Founder and Director of Isles, Inc., will discuss **conversion of older homes and factories into high performing, low-cost places** as well as Isles' new training and business opportunities for green development.

**Jun 16: Population & Global Warming:** What's the connection? Bonnie Tillery, member of the Sierra Club Global Population and the Environment Program Committee and NJ Chapter Secretary and Population Issues Coordinator, will give a slide presentation discussing this link. Former VP Al Gore talked about the "collision between our civilization and the earth". What is the connection, and what can we do about it?

**CENTRAL OUTDOOR EVENTS:** For event details, see Chapter Outings below and the NJ Chapter Outings website for descriptions. ALWAYS check for details, last-minute updates, cancellations, etc. at <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/central/>. (Have you considered becoming an outings leader or possibly co-leading an outing? Please contact Leona about opportunities for emerging leaders.)

**SPRING HAPPENINGS - FUN SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES:** Join with Central members and friends to make April an outstanding service month. See Chapter Outings Section for descriptions, and ALWAYS check the website for changes and possible cancellations.

**Apr 4 (Sat):** Assunpink Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Lake/Creek Cleanup (Monmouth Co.) Rain or Shine! Optional lunch. Joint with the Princeton Ski Club.

**Apr 18 (Sat):** Trail Building at Assunpink Wildlife Management Area (Mercer Co.)

**Apr 19 (Sun):** Earth Day Paddle and Cleanup: Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown Marsh (Mercer Co.)

**Apr 22 (Wed):** Earth Day Hike and Cleanup at Mercer County Park (Mercer Co.)

**SPECIAL EVENT - Kayak Demo:** May 30 (Sat): "Yak Attack" with Eastern Mountain Sports Princeton and the Sierra Central Group at Mercer County Park. Are you interested in learning about kayaking? Not sure which kayak you'd enjoy owning? Having a hard time deciding among boats? Want to test paddle different kayaks? Sign up now for the Yak Attack! For more information, meeting time and registration, please contact Co-Leaders: Terry 609-731-7016, [terystimb@hotmail.com](mailto:terystimb@hotmail.com) or [Leona.leona@piney-paddlers.com](mailto:Leona.leona@piney-paddlers.com) or 609-259-3734.

Members of the Central and Raritan might enjoy some of the special events scheduled by the **Delaware and Raritan Greenway Land Trust** ([www.drgreenway.org/public\\_programs.htm](http://www.drgreenway.org/public_programs.htm)), in celebration of its 20th anniversary.

## Raritan Valley Group

(Middlesex and Somerset Counties, approximately)

**WEBSITE:** <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/RaritanValley/>

**EMAIL LIST:** Go to <http://lists.sierraclub.org> and sign-up for NJ-RARITAN-VALLEY-NEWS

### OFFICERS AND CONTACTS:

|                                |                       |              |  |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--|
| <b>Chair:</b>                  | Don McBride           | 732-560-0369 | <a href="mailto:dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org">dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org</a> |
| <b>Vice-Chair:</b>             | <i>Open Position!</i> |              |  |
| <b>Conservation Chair:</b>     | Jane Tousman          | 908-561-5504 | <a href="mailto:jdtous@aol.com">jdtous@aol.com</a>                       |
| <b>Membership:</b>             | Sunil Somalwar        | 732-572-7721 | <a href="mailto:sunil.somalwar@gmail.com">sunil.somalwar@gmail.com</a>   |
| <b>Outings:</b>                | <i>Open Position!</i> |              |  |
| <b>Political Chair:</b>        | Randy Gill            | 732-525-2612 | <a href="mailto:ragill@optonline.net">ragill@optonline.net</a>           |
| <b>Secretary:</b>              | <i>Open Position!</i> |              |  |
| <b>Treasurer, Webmaster:</b>   | Don McBride           | 732-560-0369 | <a href="mailto:dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org">dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org</a> |
| <b>Publicity and Programs:</b> | <i>Open Position!</i> |              |  |
| <b>Chapter Delegate:</b>       | Sunil Somalwar        | 732-572-7721 | <a href="mailto:sunil.somalwar@gmail.com">sunil.somalwar@gmail.com</a>   |

**ISSUES:** We are fighting development along streams, wetlands, flood plains and steep slopes. Group members are involved in local issues, answering questions for concerned citizens regarding development and stewarding local master plan initiatives.

**GENERAL MEETING:** Tentatively **Apr 23** (Thurs), 7:30 pm at Bound Brook Presbyterian Church, 409 Mountain Av. The talk will be on **Climate Change**. Pizza and snacks will be served. We'll set times and places for future meetings, explore our interests, and hope for volunteers to serve on our Group Executive Committee. Check the web-site or contact Don McBride (see above) for more details.

Raritan Group members are invited to partake of a **new removal and recycling service** for appliances: Misterscrap (908-616-0004; [www.misterscrap.com](http://www.misterscrap.com)) operates in Somerset & Middlesex Counties for free removal of metal household items such as lawn mow-

ers, grills, washers, dryers, freezers, and air conditioner units. Contact the owner, Mike Girardi, at [info@misterscrap.com](mailto:info@misterscrap.com). (We'd appreciate hearing from members elsewhere in NJ of other providers of this kind of service.)

## Jersey Shore Group

(Monmouth County, approximately)

**Web Site:** <http://NewJersey.SierraClub.org/JerseyShore/>

### OFFICERS:

|                            |                               |              |  |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--|
| <b>Group Chair:</b>        | Dennis Anderson               | 732-970-4327 | <a href="mailto:dennisaza@aol.com">dennisaza@aol.com</a>           |
|                            | 6 Maple Ave, Matawan NJ 07747 |              |  |
| <b>Vice-Chair:</b>         | <i>Open Position!</i>         |              |  |
| <b>Secretary:</b>          | Joe DeLuca                    | 732-389-1835 | <a href="mailto:joe-deluca@att.net">joe-deluca@att.net</a>         |
| <b>Conservation Chair:</b> | Faith Teitelbaum              | 732-229-0553 | <a href="mailto:faithtei@aol.com">faithtei@aol.com</a>             |
| <b>Webmaster:</b>          | George Newsome                | 732-308-1518 | <a href="mailto:newsome1@pobox.com">newsome1@pobox.com</a>         |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>          | Pat Fuschetto                 | 732-308-4588 | <a href="mailto:fusche40@yahoo.com">fusche40@yahoo.com</a>         |
| <b>Political Chair:</b>    | Laura Bagwell                 | 732-741-8678 | <a href="mailto:l.bagwell3@verizon.net">l.bagwell3@verizon.net</a> |
| <b>Outings Chair:</b>      | Mike Verange                  | 908-902-0718 | <a href="mailto:mjverange@aol.com">mjverange@aol.com</a>           |
| <b>Membership</b>          |                               |              |  |
| <b>Co-Chairs:</b>          | Alan Roseman                  | 732-780-1308 | <a href="mailto:rosealan@optonline.net">rosealan@optonline.net</a> |
| <b>And</b>                 | April Klimley                 | 917-626-4838 | <a href="mailto:AprilJeanK@aol.com">AprilJeanK@aol.com</a>         |
| <b>Program Chair:</b>      | George Moffatt                | 732-544-1726 | <a href="mailto:gmofattgt@aol.com">gmofattgt@aol.com</a>           |
| <b>Fund-raising</b>        |                               |              |  |
| <b>Co-Chairs:</b>          | Lois Blake                    | 732-863-5917 | <a href="mailto:lqblake@optonline.net">lqblake@optonline.net</a>   |
| <b>and</b>                 | Joellen Lundy                 | 732-741-4756 | <a href="mailto:jfutey@comcast.net">jfutey@comcast.net</a>         |

**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 27:** Michael Pollock, teacher and naturalist, from the NJ Audobon Society will talk on Backyard Habitat for Wildlife: native plants for butterflies and hummingbirds.

**May 18 (not the Fourth Monday):** Green Chemistry - presented by Stephan P. B. Taylor, PhD, Director - Project & Process Optimization Systems, Bristol-Myers Squibb. A general overview of green chemistry and engineering in the pharmaceutical industry, and how the industry has integrated greenness into the manufacturing of its products.

**June 22:** Marie Springer will speak on Bees. Marie raises and studies bees. Learn about native bees, honey bees and colony collapse. BEE-come informed!

## Ocean County Group

**Website:** [www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean](http://www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean)

### OFFICERS:

|                                |                           |              |  |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|--|
| <b>Chair:</b>                  | A. Gregory Auriemma, Esq. | 732-451-9220 | <a href="mailto:sierraclubOC@aol.com">sierraclubOC@aol.com</a>           |
| <b>Vice-Chr, Outings:</b>      | Dawn Marie Johns          | 732-644-6340 | <a href="mailto:sierraclubOC@hotmail.com">sierraclubOC@hotmail.com</a>   |
| <b>Conserv'n Chair:</b>        | Margit Meissner-Jackson   | 609-296-4367 | <a href="mailto:sylviaJ1910@yahoo.com">sylviaJ1910@yahoo.com</a>         |
| <b>Secretary:</b>              | <i>Open Position!</i>     |              |  |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>              | Gregory Auriemma          | 732-451-9220 | <a href="mailto:sierraclubOC@aol.com">sierraclubOC@aol.com</a>           |
| <b>Political Chair:</b>        | Nancy Brown               | 732-892-6089 |  |
| <b>Publicity Chair:</b>        | Howard Schwartz           | 609-242-9304 | <a href="mailto:hirschwartz@comcast.net">hirschwartz@comcast.net</a>     |
| <b>Fund-Raising:</b>           | Joyce M. Isaza            | 732-920-9270 | <a href="mailto:realtymstr@aol.com">realtymstr@aol.com</a>               |
| <b>Co-Membership</b>           |                           |              |  |
| <b>Chair:</b>                  | Sandy Brown               | 609-242-9304 | <a href="mailto:sandybrown@comcast.net">sandybrown@comcast.net</a>       |
| <b>ExCom Member:</b>           | Jocelyn Isaza             | 732-581-0130 | <a href="mailto:nightingale77nj@yahoo.com">nightingale77nj@yahoo.com</a> |
| <b>ExCom Member:</b>           | Helen Henderson           | 908-278-9807 | <a href="mailto:hhlaceyrailtrail@msn.com">hhlaceyrailtrail@msn.com</a>   |
| <b>Environmental Education</b> |                           |              |  |
| <b>Coordinator:</b>            | Terrance Brown            | 848-333-7331 | <a href="mailto:terrybrown@comcast.net">terrybrown@comcast.net</a>       |

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Generally held on the SECOND MONDAY of each month at the home of one of our ExCom members.

**GENERAL MEETINGS AND EVENTS:** Meetings are held bi-monthly (i.e., in alternate months) usually on the FOURTH MONDAY at 7pm at the "Skywalk Cafe" in the Ocean County Administration Building, 129 Hooper Avenue (2nd Floor), Toms River. See our Web Site (below) for directions. We've recently purchased a new computer projector and large screen, which has made our meetings even more dynamic, interactive and interesting. We will not have a July meeting, but our next meeting will be in September.

**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), fighting Mountain Top Removal and supporting expanded recycling legislation.

We've also targeted critical local open space, sprawl, and air and water quality issues with special emphasis on the massive "over-development" of Jackson Township which will impact the drinking water for Brick, Pt Pleasant, Pt Pleasant Beach and Ram-Town (Howell). We're also involved in the campaigns to create a new park at "Anchor Reef" on Barnegat Bay and to stop "nitrogen pollution" of the Bay. We're also fighting to 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. We're also involved in creating a greener environment in Ocean County. Volunteers are needed to help with these all issues, membership outreach, tabling at local events, fund-raising, and a computer-based voter education program.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** about our activities and events, please visit our WEBSITE: [www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean](http://www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean).

**Apr 18 (Sat):** Please mark your calendars for our **4rd ANNUAL EARTH DAY CLEAN UP** in Toms River. This is our opportunity to highlight the need for legislation to stop the trash going into our waterways. Meeting place for this event will be on the Marshall's side of the "Seacourt Pavilion". We will have coffee and bagels. To join us in our



efforts to clean up Long Swamp Creek, please call our Outings Chair Dawn Marie Johns at 732-644-6340.

**Apr 18 (Sat):** This evening we will be partnering up with our good friends at the **GARDEN STATE PHILHARMONIC** in Point Pleasant Beach. For more details of this event, please contact our Group Chair Greg Auriemma at 732-451-9220.

**May 18 (Mon):** GENERAL MEETING location will be determined, please check our web site for updates and more details.

**Jun 7 (Sun):** It's the 12th Anniversary of the **BARNEGAT BAY FESTIVAL** at the Wanamaker Complex in Island Heights. If you'd like to help with the tabling or our food concession stand, please contact Group Chair Greg Auriemma 732-451-9220.

**Jun 27 (Sat):** Our **4th Annual Paddle for Protection**. Please join us as we continue to fight for C-1 designation for Cedar Creek. We will be meeting at Triple T Canoes on Double Trouble Road in Beachwood. Please bring lunch and sunscreen. To register please call our Outings Chair Dawn Marie Johns at 732-644-6340.

## West Jersey Group

(Camden, Gloucester and Burlington Counties, approximately)

Web site: <http://mysite.verizon.net/vzev1ujt/>

### OFFICERS:

|                            |  |              |                             |
|----------------------------|--|--------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Group Chair:</b>        | Gina Carola  | 856-848-8831 | ginaceec@verizon.net        |
| <b>Vice-Chair:</b>         | Frank Zinni  |              | efzin4@aol.com              |
| <b>Secretary:</b>          | Ellen Zinni  |              | efzin4@aol.com              |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>          | Trish Clements   | 856-768-5639 | patri321@comcast.net        |
| <b>Publicity Chair:</b>    | Bud Kaliss   | 856-428-8071 | budkaliss@earthlink.net     |
| <b>Political Chair:</b>    | <i>Open position!</i> Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831 |              |                             |
| <b>Pinelands Rep:</b>      | Lee Snyder   |              | pinelands1@hotmail.com      |
| <b>Greenways Coord's:</b>  | Frank and Ellen Zinni  |              | efzin4@aol.com              |
| <b>Conservation Chair:</b> | Stacey Ayala   |              | thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com |
| <b>Membership Chair:</b>   | Mike Brown   | 856-547-9221 | eyebrown@snip.net           |
| <b>Fundraising Chair:</b>  | Reiss Tiffany  | 856-829-6405 | r-ctiffany@comcast.net      |
| <b>Smart Growth Chair:</b> | <i>Open position!</i> Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831 |              |                             |
| <b>Programs Chair:</b>     | <i>Open position!</i> Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831 |              |                             |
| <b>Outings Chair:</b>      | <i>Open position!</i> Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831 |              |                             |

### \*\*\* IMPORTANT NOTE - NEW MEETING VENUE AND DAY \*\*\*

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** are held at 7:30 pm on the **SECOND WEDNESDAY** of each month, September thru May at the Quaker Meeting Hall on Friends Ave in Haddonfield.

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

**Apr 18:** Tracy Carlucci of Delaware Riverkeeper will talk about the Riverkeeper efforts to **protect the Delaware River Estuary**.

**May 13:** Mike Hogan, New Jersey's greatest nature photographer, will present "**Birding in South Jersey**".

The West Jersey Group does not meet June through August. Please join us on a hike or paddle trip. See you in September.

## South Jersey Group

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

### OFFICERS:

|                               |                       |              |                         |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Group, Outings Chair:</b>  | Tom Boghosian         | 609-625-0878 | boghosian1@verizon.net  |
| <b>Vice-Chair:</b>            | <i>Open Position!</i> |              |                         |
| <b>Conservation Chair:</b>    | <i>Open Position!</i> |              |                         |
| <b>Pol. Chair, Calendars:</b> | Dick Colby            | 609-965-4453 | dick.colby@stockton.edu |
| <b>Membership Chair:</b>      | <i>Open Position!</i> |              |                         |
| <b>Secretary/Treasurer:</b>   | Julie Akers           | 856-697-3479 | julie_akers@hughes.net  |

We have a new **Cape May County Conservation Committee**, with about 40 folk holding bi-monthly meetings at the Arc of Cape May administrative building: 822 Rte 47 in South Dennis. Our meetings are 7-9pm, each with a guest speaker. There will be a meeting on Wed, May 13th. The Chair is Douglas Jewell, 5 Timber Lane, Swanton 08210-1462 (e-mail jewellrea@comcast.net, cell phone 609-780-7129). Look for our meeting notices in the CMC Herald.

The central conservation issue, for which the South Jersey Group was founded in the 1970s, continues to be protection of the Great Egg Harbor Wild & Scenic River, and continues to consume the energies of those few officers who remain active both within the Sierra Club and in the Watershed Association (GEHWA) that "spun off" from the South Jersey Group. Very few of our local members seem interested in the meetings we've scheduled in the past few years; most 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. We strongly recommend GEHWA's website for keeping up with local issues, and for links to many other local, regional, state and national environmental organizations: [www.gehwa.org](http://www.gehwa.org). If you have topics (and places) for meetings, please let the officers know about them. We welcome general comments from Club members in South Jersey. To be placed on a carefully guarded distribution list for local issues and meetings, please e-mail [dick.colby@stockton.edu](mailto:dick.colby@stockton.edu).

**Current Issues:** Two Cape May County campaigns to prevent the use of tropical rain-forest wood for rebuilding oceanfront boardwalks, in Ocean City and Wildwood, are being led by Georgina Shanley [shanleyg2001@yahoo.com]. 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) who authorize development. Other hot issues include proposals to develop several large tracts of environmentally sensitive land in Millville, damage done to sand trails by ATVs, and inducements for public recycling.

### Some Possibly Relevant Meetings of Allied Organizations:

**Apr 15, 7pm:** Great Egg Harbor Scenic and Recreational River Council: Bi-monthly meeting, open to the public. Warren Fox Nature Center (WFNC\*), Atlantic County Park in Estell Manor, Milepost 15 on NJ Rte 50, 3 1/2 miles south of Mays Landing. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114.

**Apr 16, 7pm:** Atlantic County Friends of the Parks: Monthly meeting of Friends of the Parks, a group which works to improve and promote the Atlantic County Park System. A focal point is preservation of historic resources in the parks and sponsorship of an annual folk arts and music festival, along with advocacy for all parklands in fast-growing Atlantic County. All are welcome. WFNC\* Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114.

**Apr 26, 10am - 4pm: ACUA 2009 Earth Day Festival:** The Atlantic County Utilities Authority will celebrate its 19th Annual Earth Day Festival at the Haneman Environmental Park in Egg Harbor Township on Sunday, April 26th from 10 am until 4 pm. The festival draws a crowd of nearly 4,000 people of all ages, who have fun and learn how to improve the environment. In 2008, approximately 120 vendors and crafters did an excellent job showcasing their information and wares, including home-energy-saving devices. Entertaining exhibits included The Philadelphia Zoo, The Franklin Institute, 4H Petting Zoo, a live turtle presentation, a magic show, live music and much more. Tours of the wind farm and recycling center were a big hit and everyone enjoyed the hayride to the top of the landfill. Contact [www.acua.com](http://www.acua.com)

**Apr 28, 7pm:** Great Egg Harbor River Watershed Association: Membership meeting, open to the public. The annual Belinda Irizarry Memorial Award will be presented. WFNC\*. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114.

**May 2, 10am - 5pm: Wheaton Arts Eco-Fair:** a Community Open House that is free and open to the public. The event is produced in partnership with the Cumberland County Improvement Authority. A host of exhibitors and presenters will offer resources, products and real solutions about living better, healthier lives with less environmental impact. For more information about WheatonArts, call 1-800-998-4552 or 856-825-6800, or visit online at [www.wheatonarts.org](http://www.wheatonarts.org). For more information about the Cumberland County Improvement Authority, call 856-825-3700, or visit online at [www.ccia-net.com](http://www.ccia-net.com). WheatonArts 1501 Glasstown Road, Millville 08332.

**May 13, 6:30 pm:** 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 commonly discussed, including art, historical and recreational attributes of the area. Contact Renee Brecht (CU) at 856-305-3238 or [rbrecht.cumaurice@yahoo.com](mailto:rbrecht.cumaurice@yahoo.com).

**May 21, 7pm:** Atlantic County Friends of the Parks: Monthly meeting; see Apr 16, above.

**May 26, 6pm:** Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association: Membership Frog Hike outing; open to the public. Location TBA. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114.

**Jun 17, 7pm:** Great Egg Harbor Scenic and Recreational River Council: Bi-monthly meeting, open to the public. WFNC\*. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114.

**Jun 18, 7pm:** Atlantic County Friends of the Parks: Monthly meeting; see Apr 16, above.

**Jun 23, 7pm:** Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association: Trustee meeting, open to the public. WFNC\*. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114.

## 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.

**Webpage address:** <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/Singles/>

The BEST way to be notified of upcoming events is to join our free listserv. Anyone may subscribe by going to: <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-SINGLES-NEWS.html> and clicking on "Join or leave the list". You may subscribe and unsubscribe at will; directions on how to unsubscribe are at the bottom of each announcement. We recommend joining the listserv 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:

|                                 |  |                        |
|---------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| <b>Chair:</b>                   | Joe Testa                                      | testa-j@live.com       |
| <b>Outings Chair:</b>           | Joyce Haddad                                   | jkhaddad@juno.com      |
| <b>Conservation Chair:</b>      | Joe Testa                                      | testa-j@live.com       |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>               | Joyce White                                    | joycewhite@netzero.net |
| <b>Webpage designer:</b>        | Tom Miller                                     | millertom@juno.com     |
| <b>Social Chair:</b>            | Joe Prebish                                    | Joe.Prebish@kraft.com  |
| <b>Vice Social Chair:</b>       | Jeff Sovelove                                  | jeffreys@childapp.com  |
| <b>Programs:</b>                | <i>Position Open.</i> Contact us! We need you! |                        |
| <b>Publicity:</b>               | <i>Position Open.</i> Contact us! We need you! |                        |
| <b>Cool Cities Coordinator:</b> | Terry Stimpfel                                 | terystimb@hotmail.com  |
| <b>Membership:</b>              | Walter Goldenbaum                              | goldenb1@optonline.net |

(continued on page 10)

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

## GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 9)

**Volunteer Opportunities:** We need volunteers in all areas of the state to run events. Volunteers needed for the positions of: hike leaders, 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, speakers, and letter-writing at the Chatham Library (214 Main St). Dates and topics will be announced on our listserv; see above for subscription information.

**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.

### HIKES:

Please join our listserv to receive notification of our outings. See above for instructions on how to subscribe to the listserv.

## Senior Section/Fifty-Plus 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)

In addition, a monthly Buy & Sell newsletter is sent out to members in which they can list items they are searching for or want to buy, at no charge.

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

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

Arlene Zatz is the editor of the Senior Section/Fifty-Plus Section. She can be reached at azatz@funtravels.com and invites members to check her web site at www.funtravels.com for trips and travel information.

## Young Sierrans

(A special interest section for Sierra Club Members in their 20's & 30's, providing Socials and Outings to inspire a sense of community, appreciation for the environment, and involvement in preserving our future. Many events are open to all Young Sierrans regardless of marital status, so whether you are single, dating or married, please come join us!)

Young Sierran web site: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/YoungSierrans/>

### YOUNG SIERRAN COMMITTEE POSITIONS

|                                      |                          |                                  |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Head Chair &amp; Coordinator:</b> | William Sevchuk          | wsevchuk@yahoo.com               |
| <b>Vice Chair:</b>                   | Open Position            | Please Contact Us!               |
| <b>Advisor, transitional:</b>        | Diana Christine Eichholz | MistyAngel22@aol.com             |
| <b>Conservation Chair:</b>           | Steve Timmerman          | skingsteve@aol.com               |
| <b>Webmaster:</b>                    | Julie Garber             | journey7@optonline.net           |
| <b>Ex-Com/</b>                       |                          |                                  |
| <b>YS National Rep. (CA)</b>         | Jackie Enfield           | jackie@jackieenfield.com         |
| <b>Northern Jersey YS Rep.</b>       | Jim DeSantis             | green@northjerseygreendrinks.com |
| <b>Outings Chair:</b>                |                          |                                  |
| <b>(Northern Jersey)</b>             | <i>Open Position!</i>    | Please Contact Us!               |
| <b>Outings Chair:</b>                |                          |                                  |
| <b>(Central Jersey)</b>              | Leon Yerenburg           | lyerenburg@gmail.com             |
| <b>Outings Chair:</b>                |                          |                                  |
| <b>(South Jersey)</b>                | <i>Open Position!</i>    | Please Contact Us!               |

We need Young Sierran Outing Leaders for all areas, but extra especially for the Northern and South Jersey areas. We will help you step-by-step through the training process to properly lead hikes and outdoor activities. Reimbursement, insurance and guidance are provided under the Sierra Club's membership. If interested contact Chair or Young Sierran Coordinator at YoungSierrans@yahoo.com

**EVENTS:** Volunteers for events throughout New Jersey wanted. Meet great people in your area! Publicity provided. Contact Coordinator at YoungSierrans@yahoo.com for information.

All Events will be announced via The Young Sierrans' E-Mail List Serve. To be put on it, send an e-mail to YoungSierrans@yahoo.com with subject heading "Young Sierrans E-Mail List" — or to subscribe directly go to <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-YOUNG-SIERRANS-NEWS.html>. Events for 20's only are available for those wanting to volunteer to host 20's only events. Young Sierran Event Volunteers always needed and welcomed.

## Sierra Student Coalition

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

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

## Inner City Outings Section

(another Chapter-wide special interest activity)

### OFFICERS:

**Chair:** Marty Cohen 201-670-8383 martincohen@verizon.net  
**Treasurer:** Anne Dyjak 732-560-0953 annedyjak@verizon.net

Inner City Outings is a community outreach program, providing wilderness adventures for city youth of New Jersey. Volunteer certified outings leaders conduct outings (generally day-trips) mostly on weekends. If you would like to experience the rewards of introducing inner-city youth to the wonders of nature, your involvement is encouraged and you are requested to contact us at [ico-north@newjersey.sierraclub.org](mailto:ico-north@newjersey.sierraclub.org) or the above e-mail addresses. To learn more, visit our webpage at <http://www.sierraclub.org/ico/newjersey/>.

Inner City Outings (north/central Jersey) will be scheduling an orientation session for volunteers in April, 2009; please contact us if you would like to be notified as the details emerge.

## Poetic Interlude

Thanks to Peter O'Malley,  
a member from Oakland, NJ

### Hike-ku

Careful where you step:  
acorns on a downhill trail  
act like ball-bearings!

### Water

The water that I use to brush my teeth  
would have to last me a full day in Chad.  
I think of this while watering the plants  
out on the deck, but then go on.

I take a shower and, in guilt,  
turn off the water periodically,  
knowing that the water that I save  
will never get to Chad,  
or to Namibia,  
or elsewhere in the thirsty Sabel  
to be of use to anyone  
whose tongue is parched  
and thick from thirst  
while waiting for the rains  
that do not come.



## Outings

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

### GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS

**Central Jersey:** Leona Fluck 609-259-3734 (H) leona@pineypaddlers.com  
**Essex County:** David Ogens 973-226-0748 (H) 64 Elm Rd, Caldwell 07003  
**Hudson-Meadowlands:** Vacant  
**Hunterdon:** Susan Schirmer 908-996-7722 (H)  
**Jersey Shore:** Mike Verange 908-732-8364 (H) 1497 W Front St, Lincroft, NJ 07738  
**Loantaka:** Joyce White 908-272-4478 (H) joyce00201@yahoo.com  
**North Jersey:** Ellen Blumenkrantz 201-784-8417 eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com  
**Northwest Jersey:** Pat Mangino, Pmangino@aol.com  
**Raritan Valley:** Vacant  
**South Jersey:** Tom Boghosian 609-625-0878 (H) 4794 Andorea Drive, Mays Landing, 08330 boghosian1@verizon.net  
**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) NJ-ICO, 17 Mt. Horeb Rd, Warren, 07059  
**Chapter Outings:** Ellen Blumenkrantz 201-784-8417 eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**Outing Leaders:** Please send July-September 2009 write-ups to your Group Outings Coordinator before May 1. 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-September trip write-ups by May 6th.

**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 equipment, routes to be followed, and special precautions to be taken. Please arrive adequately prepared and equipped. If you have any allergies, please remember to bring your medication. The leader has the final word in the conduct of the trip. Your cooperation will help assure a safe and pleasant outing.

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

## APRIL

**Apr 4 (Sat): Assunpink Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Lake/Creek Cleanup (Monmouth Co.)** 9:30am. Join us for a cleanup along the Assunpink Lake. Rain or Shine! Wear gloves and clothes you don't mind getting muddy. Trash bags provided. Bring water and snacks. Cleanup ends 12:30pm. Optional lunch at La Piazza, Allentown, NJ. Meeting Location Options: (1) 9:30 at the Marina Boat House at Mercer County Park and we'll carpool to the Assunpink WMA Conservation Center. (2) 10am - Meet George and Leona Fluck at the Conservation Center. Directions (1): The Mercer Park Marina Boat House can be reached from either the Hughes Drive Park or Edinburg Rd entrances. Directions (2): Assunpink WMA Conservation Center. 1- Take I-195 East or West to exit 11 (Imlaystown-Cox's Corner). 2- Head toward Cox's Corner as you come off the ramp. 3- At the first stop sign intersection (Rte 524) go straight across. 4- Go one mile to the next stop sign intersection (East Branch Rd), and turn right. 5- Follow this road past the horse farms, and you will come to the Assunpink Wildlife area. 6- Pass the new Central Region Office on your right, go several hundred yards, the next driveway on your right will be for the Conservation Center. Co-Leaders: Leona Fluck leona@pineypaddlers.com 609-259-3734 or Joanne Pannone (cell 609-977-8222) or Bob Sandberg (cell 732-241-7757). (Joint with the Princeton Ski Club) (C)

**Apr 4 (Sat): Singles: South Mountain Reservation, Essex Co.** Meet before 10am. We will hike 6-7 miles at a vigorous pace stopping for lunch at Hemlock Falls, a very pretty 25 foot waterfall. Bring lunch, water and wear hiking boots. Rain cancels. Take I-280 to exit 10, Northfield Av, turn left onto Northfield Av. Take Northfield Av to Walker Rd. Turn left onto Walker Rd. Turtle Back Rock Parking area is 1/4 mile on right. Leader: Ron Pate ronpate31@verizon.net

**Apr 9 (Thu): Canoe/Kayak Cedar Creek (Ocean Co.)** 9am. We'll paddle 10 miles from Dover Forge to Dudley Park. Rentals are not available. Please contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting logistics. Leaders: George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

**Apr 11 (Sat): Island Pond Loop/Harriman State Park, NY.** 10am. Moderate paced 9-10 mile hike from Lake Skannati to Island Pond and back. This loop has several scenic views, and only some moderate ups and downs. Heavy rain/snow/sleet would cancel. Bring lunch & lots of water. Limit 12 people. Must pre-register. L: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**Apr 11 (Sat): Blauvelt Parks: Piermont-South Nyack, NY.** Strenuous 10 miles. Visit Rockland Cemetery, an old Nike base and an abandoned National Guard rifle range. 2 quarts water. Hiking boots. Meet in front of 450 Piermont Av (building with mural) by 10:15 am. LP out, return via Rail-Trail. Leader: John P. Jurasek 845-365-3618 (no calls past 10 pm) or Jurasek@optonline.net

**Apr 11 (Sat): Social Moonlight Hike, Campfire and Campout: Byrne St Forest (Burlington Co.)** 7:30 pm. 6-7 miles. Moderate pace. Hike over roads and trails lit by the Pink moon with a campfire at end. Bring picnic-type food to share at tailgate social after hike. Overnight camping is available Fri. & Sat, call leader to reserve space. NP/NC. Meet at parking area opposite Group campsite area, Bryne State Forest, enter forest off Rte 72, 1 mile E. of jct. Rtes 70&72. Leader: Paul Serdiuk, 609-462-3593, eve., or pis1@cccnj.net

**Apr 12 (Sun): Norvin Green State Forest, Passaic Co.** 10:15 am. Moderate-paced, 9-mile loop includes several viewpoints, a waterfall, and portions of the Highlands Trail. Several ups and downs on rocky terrain. Rain will cancel. Bring lunch & water. Limit 12 people. Must pre-register to confirm space and obtain directions. L: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**Apr 12 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Great Egg Harbor River on Easter Sunday (Atlantic Co.)** 10am. The Great Egg has been designated as a Wild and Scenic River. We'll paddle 7 miles from Weymouth Furnace to Lake Lenape. Meet at the Harley Dawn Diner, Rte 322/Black Horse Pike - arrive early for breakfast! Rentals are not available. Please contact leaders to confirm trip. Leaders: George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

**Apr. 18 (Sat): Storm King, NY** 10:30 am Strenuous 7-9 mile hike, with some rock scrambling, at a moderate pace up to great views of the Hudson River and valley. Bring lunch & lots of water. Heavy or steady rain would cancel. Limit 12 people. Must pre-register. L: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**Apr 18 (Sat): Trail Building at Assunpink Wildlife Management Area (Mercer Co.)** 9am. Bring gloves and bush clippers. Meet at the Fish and Wildlife parking lot on US Rte 130 northbound between the traffic lights at Meadowbrook Rd. and Windsor Rd. Leader: Dave Mattek: 609-737-1342, or mattekdc@aol.com

**Apr 18 (Sat): Singles: Monksville Reservoir, Long Pond Iron Works State Park, Passaic Co.** 10am (88B) About 7-8 miles in less than 4 hours. Some vigorous uphill stretches. We will hike the Highlands Trail to Horse Pond Mountain and take in magnificent views of the Monksville Reservoir, surrounded by old growth forest. We will return by a different route. No pets. Hiking boots recommended. Bring a day bag with lunch, water and personal first aid, a compass and rain gear. Registration required: Notify the leader if you want to attend. Directions: will be sent to registrants. Leader: Jimi Oleksiak The\_Hikist@Mac.com

**Apr 19 (Sun): Singles: Columbia Trail Bike Ride, Morris Co.** 12 Noon. 22-24 miles on mostly gentle rolling and flat terrain. (No one will be left behind.) Join us on this end-to-end and halfway-back-again ride on the scenic Columbia Rail Trail. We will meet at the very northern not-often-used end of the trail in Flanders and shuttle some of our vehicles to the Bank St Parking Lot in Califon where the ride will eventually end. Ride south from Flanders passing thru Califon and the Ken Lockwood Gorge, clear to the southern end of the trail in High Bridge (and break for lunch). From there we will ride a short distance across town, turning left to ride a scenic dirt road along the opposite side of the South Branch River north again to Califon. The ride will complete there at the Bank St Pkg Lot where we will load the bikes and shuttle whomever necessary back to their cars in Flanders. Call or e-mail Bruce Gaylen for directions to the starting point: wynbruce@aol.com, 973-696-1809 (home), 973-356-1149 (cell).

**Apr 19 (Sun): Brookdale Community College/Thompson Park (Monmouth Co.)** 9am. Moderate 6.5-mile hike that follows the Swimming River Reservoir. Please bring drinks and snacks. Hiking shoes are suggested. GSP Exit 109, head west on Monmouth Co. Rte 520 approx. 2 miles to Brookdale Community College, make first right, proceed to parking lot #2. Meet in the right back corner. Bad weather, cancels. Confirmation/questions please call or text Leader: Mike Verange, 908-902-0718, or mjverange@aol.com (JS)

**Apr 19 (Sun): Earth Day Week Paddle and Cleanup in the Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown Marsh (Mercer Co.)** 8am. We'll canoe and kayak on the Marsh while we pick up trash on the way to Watson Woods. There is plenty of trash in the reeds at Watson to pick up too! There will be a "barge trash canoe" on the trip - we'll need it!! Bring work gloves. Trash bags will be provided. Bring lunch and beverage. Contact leaders to confirm trip and your participation. Leaders: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com (C)

**Apr 22 (Wed): Earth Day Hike and Cleanup at Mercer Park (Mercer Co.)** 10am. 5 miles, easy pace. Join us on Earth Day as we enjoy a leisurely walk at Mercer Park and participate in Sierra's Earth Day Cleanup. We'll pick up litter and trash along macadam and woods trails. Meet at the Boat Marina parking lot; accessible from Hughes Drive or Edinburg Road. Bring gloves. Trash bags will be provided. Rain or shine!! Bring lunch and beverage. Leaders: George & Leona F 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com (C)

**Apr 25 (Sat): Pyramid Mountain Singles Hike (Morris Co.)** 10am. This will be a 4-5 mile loop hike past Tripod Rock using a variety of trails. Hiking boots are a MUST! There is quite a bit of elevation change and significant climbing. See the Morris County Parks website <http://www.morrisparks.net/aspparks/pyrmtmain.asp> for directions and info. Bring lots of water and a light snack. Optional lunch at a local eatery afterward if we get done in time. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Inclement weather cancels. No pets please. Joint ADK-NJ and Sierra club hike. Leaders: Jeffrey Sovelove Hiker\_Dood@yahoo.com and Lee Ousley Ousleycl@mindspring.com.

**Apr 26 (Sun): Singles: Overpeck County Park (Teaneck/Leonia, Bergen Co.)** 10am. Meet in parking lot near stables on Fort Lee Road. Four miles on flat ground with an emphasis on birds, hopefully with Audubon representative. Optional lunch afterward. Leader: Mary Walsh, blehlwalsh@earthlink.net to confirm or for more info.

**Apr 27 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River and Tour Lambertville's 28th Annual Shad Festival (Hunterdon Co.)** 10am. We'll paddle 8 miles on the Delaware River from Byrum into Lambertville, walk around town, check out the arts & crafts, taste fried Oreo cookies and enjoy BBQ at River Horse Brewery. Rentals are not available. Experienced paddlers only. Spray skirts and helmets recommended for kayakers. Contact leaders to confirm trip and logistics. Leaders: George & Leona F 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com (C)

## MAY

**May 2 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak Cedar Creek (Ocean Co.)** 9am. We'll paddle 13 miles from Cedar's headwaters at Bamber Lake to Dudley Park. This is an all day trip for experienced Pines paddlers; expect downfalls. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location. Leaders: George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

**May 3 (Sun): Social Kayak Trip on the Oswego River (Burl. Co.)** 9am. One of the most picturesque rivers in the Pines. Bring lunch and water with you. We will stop to explore and swim along the way. Limited space, call leader to confirm participation and trip status. NP/NC. Meet at Bel-Haven Paddle Sport Rte 542, Green Bank, Leader: Paul Serdiuk 856-697-3870 or pis1@cccnj.net

**May 5 (Tue): Canoe/Kayak the Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown Marsh on Cinco de Mayo (Mercer Co.)** 10am. This is an 8-mile round trip from Bordentown Beach to Watson Woods. Optional walk to Spring

Lake after lunch. Bring lunch and beverage. Meet at Bordentown Beach, end of Park St. in Bordentown City. Contact leaders to confirm trip, time and participation. Leaders: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com (C)

**May 9 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak the Wading River (Burlington Co.)** 9am. Our trip will begin at the town of Speedwell which is the former site of an iron furnace. We'll take out at Beaver Branch. This is a 17 mile trip for experienced Pines paddlers; expect downfalls and portages. Rentals are not available. Please contact leaders to confirm trip, participation and meeting logistics. Leaders George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or lfluck@pineypaddlers.com (W)

**May 9 (Sat): Social Moonlight Hike near Whitesbog Village (Burl. Co.)** 7:30 pm. 6 miles at moderate pace. Hike under the Flower Moon as we walk along old cranberry bogs and listen to the evening serenade. Bring snack type food to share for our tailgate social after the hike. NC/NP. Meet in parking lot at Whitesbog Village. From Rte 70E take Rte 530 N, go 1 mile, turn right onto village entrance road. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593 eve. or pis1@cccnj.net

**May 9 (Sat): Anthony Wayne Loop, Harriman Sate Park, NY.** 10am. A strenuous 9-10 mile hike ascending/descending 3 different mountains with fabulous views of the Hudson River, Bear Mountain and Harriman. Total elevation gain/loss nearly 2,000 ft. Bring lunch & lots of water. Limit 12 people. Must pre-register. L: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**May 10 (Sun): Grounds for Sculpture/Trenton, and Washington Crossing State Park (Mercer Co.)** We'll meet at 10:30 am at the sculpture garden (admission fee) and take 1.5-2 hours to enjoy the grounds, gardens and sculptures, followed by a picnic lunch and then 8 mile hike at Washington Crossing State Park. Must pre-register. L: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**May 16 (Sun): Wurtsboro Ridge, NY Hike.** Strenuous 10 miles with several ascents/descents totaling over 2,500 ft. Hike takes about 7 hours including lunch and snack breaks. Great views. Car shuttle set up meets at 9:45 am in Wurtsboro. Hike starts 10:45 am, finishes around 6pm. Optional dinner stop at Danny's in Wurtsboro after hike. Rain would cancel. Limit 12 people. Must pre-register. L: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**May 16 (Sat): Singles: Mahlon Dickerson Reservation, Jefferson, Morris Co.** 10am (B7B) About 7-8 miles in less than 4 hours. This Morris County park is a wonderful mix of civilization and wilderness. The facilities include a picnic grove, ballparks, various rest rooms, and a campground. We will visit the Hedley Overlook with great views of the Rockaway River Wilderness Area. We'll hike to the highest point in Morris County, the Pine Swamp and the Ogden Mine Railroad Bed. No pets. Hiking boots recommended. Bring a day bag with lunch, water and personal first aid, a compass and rain gear. Notify the leader if you want to attend. Directions will be sent to registrants. Leader: Jimi Oleksiak, The\_Hikist@Mac.com

**May 17 (Sun): Singles: Flat Rock Brook in Englewood, Bergen Co.** 10am. Four miles on flat ground. Optional lunch afterward. Leader: Mary Walsh blehlwalsh@earthlink.net to confirm or for more info.

**May 17 (Sun): Ramapo Reservation (Bergen/Passaic Cos.)** 10am Moderate-paced 9-10 mile loop connects Ramapo Reservation to Ringwood State Park, passing 3 lakes and 2 great viewpoints. Bring lunch & lots of water. Heavy rain would cancel. Limit 12 people. Opt. pizza/beer stop after hike. Must pre-register. L: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**May 17 (Sun): Southern Allaire State Park, Monmouth Co. (Special Interest: Geology)** 9am. A 4.5-mile, moderate hike in the northern fringes of the Pine Barrens. Bring drink and snack. Hiking shoes preferred. Meet at the large dirt parking lot on the right, off Hospital Rd., in Wall Township. Take GPS exit 98, turn right on to Allenwood Rd. At "T" intersection (Ramhorn Rd) turn right. Make next left (Hospital Rd.) the parking area is approximately 1 mile on the right. Bad Weather Cancels Confirmation/Questions call or text Leader: Mike Verange: 908-902-0718, or mjverange@aol.com (JS)

**May 21 (Thu): Canoe/Kayak the N. Branch Rancocas Creek (Burlington Co.)** 9am. The Burlington County Parks System invites paddlers to experience the beautiful 14-mile Rancocas Creek Water Trail from Burlington County College's Pemberton Campus through Historic Smithville Park and on to Mill Dam Park in Mount Holly. It is spring and we'll see an enormous variety of wildlife as we paddle. Rentals are not available. Meet at the Vincentown Diner on Rte 206; arrive early for breakfast. Please contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting time. Leaders: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

**May 25 (Mon): Memorial Day Paddle on the D&R Canal and the Delaware River (Mercer Co.)** 9am. This year will mark a Delaware and Raritan Canal milestone. It's the 175th anniversary of the D&R Canal's opening in 1834! Check the D&R Canal website for special anniversary events [www.dandrcanal.com/park\\_index.html](http://www.dandrcanal.com/park_index.html) Join us for a 10-mile shuttleless paddle from Washington Crossing State Park to Firemens Eddy. We'll then portage to the Delaware River and float downriver to Washington Crossing. Bring lunch and beverages. Rentals are not available. Please contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. Leaders: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com (C)

**May 30 (Sat) "Yak Attack" with Eastern Mountain Sports Princeton and the Sierra Club's Central Group at Mercer County Park.** Are you interested in learning about kayaking? Not sure which kayak you'd enjoy owning? Having a hard time deciding among boats? Want to test paddle different kayaks? Sign up now for the Yak Attack! For more information, meeting time and registration, please contact Co-Leaders: Terry Stimpfel, 609-731-7016, terystimb@hotmail.com or Leona Fluck, leona@pineypaddlers.com, 609-259-3734 (C)

**May 30 (Sat): Singles: Pyramid Mountain, Morris Co.** 10am. Meet at Pyramid Mt. parking lot in Boonton. We will hike 6-7 miles stopping at Tripod Rock and Whale Rock. Bring lunch, water and wear hiking boots. Rain cancels. Directions: [www.morrisparks.net/parkslist.asp](http://www.morrisparks.net/parkslist.asp). Leader: Ron Pate ronpate31@verizon.net

**May 31 (Sun): Canoeing/Kayaking Skills Refresher on Lake Oswego (Burlington Co.)** 9am. New and beginning paddlers are welcome. Knowledgeable paddlers will share information about equipment, safety practices, self-rescue, paddling techniques and efficiencies. Canoes and kayaks can be rented from Pine Barrens Canoe Rental at [www.pinebarrencanoe.com](http://www.pinebarrencanoe.com) or 609-726-1515. Please contact leaders to confirm your participation. Leaders: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

## JUNE

**Jun 3 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak on the Crosswicks Creek Water Trail (Mercer Co.)** 10am. This is a 14-mile shuttleless trip. We paddle with the tide from Bordentown to Anchor Thread Park in Groveville. Kayaks must be 12ft or longer. Few stops. Bring your lunch and beverage. Meet at Bordentown Beach, end of Park St, Bordentown City. Please contact leaders to confirm trip, meeting time and participation. Leaders: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com (C)

**Jun 6 (Sat): Social Moonlight Hike, Campfire and Campout, Goshen Pond area, Burl. Co.** 7:30 pm. 6 miles at moderate pace. Join us under the Strawberry Moon on sand roads and come back to a roaring fire. Overnight camping is available, contact leader for reservation. Bring picnic-type food to share at the tailgate social after the hike, any firewood and a chair to sit on. Meet at Goshen Pond campsites, from Rte 206 take Atsion Rd 1.5 miles to Goshen Pond campsite sign, turn left onto dirt road and follow to campsites. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 609-462-3593, eve. or pis1@cccnj.net

**Jun 8 (Mon): Canoe/Kayak Cedar Creek (Ocean Co.)** 9am. We're paddling 10 miles and will enjoy an always-spectacular paddle in the amber-colored waters of Cedar Creek from Dover Forge to Dudley Park. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip, time and participation. Leaders: George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

**Jun 13 (Sat): Sterling Forest Fire Tower Ramble, NY - Singles.** 10am. 5 miles, moderate to slow pace. We will do the Sterling Forest Sterling Fire Tower Ramble with the option to extend if the group desires. This is a moderately strenuous hike with a considerable amount of climbing. Bring water, lunch, and wear hiking boots. Meet at the Visitors' Center. See the Sterling Forest website for information and directions: <http://nysparks.state.ny.us/parks/info.asp?parkID=81>. No pets please. Inclement weather cancels. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike. Leaders: Jeffrey Sovelove (Hiker\_Dood@yahoo.com) and Lee Ousley (Ousleycl@mindspring.com).

**Jun 13 (Sat): Splitrock Reservoir Loop (Morris Co.)** 10:15 am. Beautiful 12-mile hike combines the Four Birds Trail and Split Rock Trail to form a 12-mile loop around enormous Splitrock reservoir. Possible carpool from Parsippany. Finishes around 5pm. Bring lunch & lots of water. Heavy rain would cancel. Limit 12 people. Must pre-register. L: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**Jun 14 (Sun): Island Pond Loop, Harriman St Park (NY).** 10am. Moderate paced 10-mile loop hike from Lake Skannati to Island Pond & back. Slight ups & downs. Bring lunch & lots of water. Opt. pizza/beer stop after hike. Group limit 12 people. Hikers must pre-register. L: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com.

**Jun 14 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River on Flag Day! (Hunterdon Co.)** 10am. Wear your red, white and blue on our 15-mile trip from Kingwood to Lambertville. Our lunch stop will be at the "Famous River Hot Dog Man's Adventure Island". Please contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. Spray skirts and helmets recommended for kayakers. Rentals are not available. Leaders: George & Leona F, 609-259-3734, or leona@pineypaddlers.com (C)

**Jun 20 (Sat): Maurice River Paddle, BBQ and Bonfire, Cumb. Co.** 2pm A late-afternoon paddle on the

(continued on page 12)



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Laura Lynch

**Facilities (office, meeting sites)**  
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Sanderson, Sunil Somalwar and Bonnie  
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\* Indicates Chapter-wide elected ExCom members.  
\*\* Indicates committee chair or co-chair

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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. Details, including agendas and travel instructions, are available from Ken Johanson, the Chapter Chair. (Best confirm!)

**Apr 11 and May 9 at the Hamilton Public Library (Mercer Co, Cypress La.)**

**June 13 at the New Brunswick Public Library (60 Livingston Av)**

Conservation and/or Political Committee meetings usually start at 10am. Lunch is shared at noon. The main meeting starts at 1pm. We sometimes continue discussions informally over dinner at a nearby restaurant, at 5pm.

**OUTINGS**

(Continued from page 11)

Wild and Scenic Maurice River. This is a pristine river with undisturbed banks, beaches and wildlife sightings. Then enjoy a BBQ and sit around a bonfire lingering into the evening at a private home nearby. You must register with leaders. Kayak rentals are available. Meet at Al & Sam's Canoe Rental on Rte 47, Delsea Drive, 2 miles S. of Rte 40. Bring picnic-type food to share at bbq after trip. Leaders: Susan Brown, 856-364-0278 or slstretch@comcast.net, and Paul Serdiuk, 609-462-3593 eve. or pis1@cccnj.net

**Jun 20 (Sat): Singles: Lake Sonoma Trails, Norvin Green State Forest, Passaic Co.** 10am. (B8B) About 7-8 miles in 4 hours, longer if we swim. Some vigorous uphill stretches. This hike is in the northern section of Norvin Green State Forest. Lake Sonoma is secluded, with no roads. If the weather is warm enough we will try a swim to cool off. There are no facilities in this venue, just old growth forest and views at the various ridge tops. No pets. Hiking boots recommended. Bring a day bag with lunch, water and personal first aid, a compass, rain gear, and optional swimsuit. Registration required: Notify the leader if you want to attend. Directions: will be sent to registrants. Leader: Jimi Oleksiak The\_Hikist@Mac.com

**Jun 21(Sun): Singles: Palisades Interstate Park - Hudson River Shore Line, Bergen Co.** 10am. Meet in the parking lot in the Englewood Boat Basin closest to the Kearney House. Four miles on flat ground. Optional lunch afterward. Leader: Mary Walsh, blehlwalsh@earthlink.net to confirm or for more info.

**Jun 21 (Sun): Clayton Park, Upper Freehold Township, Monmouth Co.** (Special Interest: History) 9am. A moderate 6-mile hike in one of Monmouth County Park System's best kept secrets. Moderate elevation gains. Hiking shoes not required. Bring snack and drink. Meet at the Wawa store near the intersection of County Road 537 and I-195 in Upper Freehold Township. Bad Weather Cancels. Confirmation/ Questions call or text Leader: Mike Verange: 908-902-0718, or mjverange@aol.com (JS)

**Jun 27 (Sat): Canoeing/Kayaking Skills Refresher on Lake Oswego (Burl. Co.)** 9am. New and beginning paddlers are welcome. Knowledgeable paddlers will share information about equipment, safety practices, self-rescue, paddling techniques and efficiencies. Canoes and kayaks can be rented from Pine Barrens Canoe Rental at www.pinebarrenscanoe.com or contact at 609-726-1515. Please contact leaders to confirm your participation. Leaders: George & Leona F. 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)


**Jun 29 (Mon): Paddle the Mullica River (Burlington Co.)** 9am. June is a beautiful time of year to enjoy the aquatic flowering plants of the NJ Pinelands. This is an all-day trip for experienced Pines paddlers; expect downfalls and portages. Please contact leaders to confirm trip, participation and meeting logistics. Leaders George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com (W)

**JULY**

**Jul 4 (Sat): Manasquan River Reservoir, Monmouth Co. (Special Interest: birds)** 9am. Enjoy an easy 5-mile circular hike on one of the largest reservoirs in the area. We may observe water fowl. Bring snacks, drinks, bird books or binoculars. Hiking shoes are not required. This is a great family hike. Meet at the main entrance to the reservoir on Windeller Rd. Take the GSP to exit 98. Head west on I-195 to exit 28 (Rte 9.) Go north on Rte 9. Make 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 or text. Leader: Mike Verange, 908-902-0718, or mjverange@aol.com (JS)

**HIKES ESPECIALLY FOR SINGLES** (although ALL Club members are welcome to partake!) - main descriptions are above

- Apr 4 (Sat):** Singles: South Mountain Reservation, Essex Co.
- Apr 18 (Sat):** Singles: Monksville Reservoir, Long Pond Iron Works St Pk, Passaic Co.
- Apr 19 (Sun):** Singles: Columbia Trail Bike Ride, Morris Co.
- Apr 25 (Sat):** Pyramid Mountain Singles Hike (Morris Co.)
- Apr 26 (Sun):** Singles: Overpeck County Park (Teaneck/Leonia, Bergen Co.)
- May 16 (Sat):** Singles: Mahlon Dickerson Reservation, Jefferson, Morris Co.
- May 17 (Sun):** Singles: Flat Rock Brook in Englewood, Bergen Co.
- May 30 (Sat):** Singles: Pyramid Mountain, Morris Co.
- Jun 13 (Sat):** Sterling Forest Fire Tower Ramble, NY.
- Jun 20 (Sat):** Singles: Lake Sonoma Trails, Norvin Green State Forest, Passaic Co.
- Jun 21(Sun):** Singles: Palisades Interstate Park - Hudson River Shore Line, Bergen Co.



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

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

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

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To [address.changes@sierraclub.org](mailto:address.changes@sierraclub.org), or Sierra Club Membership 85 Second St, 2nd Floor San Francisco CA 94105, or 415-977-5653, and NJ Sierra Club, 145 West Hanover St. Trenton NJ 08618

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