Potter's Island: Conservation Victory

By Stacey Ayala, Conservation Chair of the Jersey Sierra Club

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 bald eagles and other water fowl, it’s the five-acre bay. Partly over Potter’s Island’s 92 acres has come to a site to which the county recently sold it to accept an offer by Citgo Petroleum Corporation (the current owner) to remediate the island’s pollution and donate it for a nature center and park, leaving only the National Environmental Trust Partners of North Carolina.

When Citgo first proposed donating the island for a nature preserve, dollar-eyed developers, thinking tax-ratables, even proposed using eminent domain to take the land for free and sell it to Koch Industries, which makes asphalt.

In 2006, Grace appealed to the state and county officials, using eminent domain, to take the land and hand it over to Cherokee Island Environmental Partners of North Carolina. The New Jersey Sierra Club and other environmental organizations supported Grace’s efforts, and in the end, the county and state purchased the island and transferred it to the National Environmental Trust. The island is now open to members of the public. For more information about the island and its activities, visit www.cherokeeisland.com.

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 Allen 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 Johnson (Loantaka Group)
Lee Synnott (West Jersey Group)
Bonnie Tillery and Tamar Z. (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).

Ports Newark and Elizabeth: Pollution Supplying New Jersey with Energy

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. Another fact: Newark, New Jersey residents are a whole 10% lower a whole 10% lower the nation’s second greatest cancer risk from diesel and are at two to three times the risk alone for 12 percent of New Jersey’s managed care costs. (Source: ‘Diesel Hot Spots’ New Jersey Environmental Federation and Clean Water Fund, June 2008).

The 21 counties in New Jersey violate health standards for atmospheric particulates. These counties are Bergen, Passaic, Morris, Essex, Hudson, Union, Someret, Middletex, Mercer, Gloucester, Monmouth, Burlington and Camden.

Our Ports are a critical part of our region’s economic health, but they should not harm our communities. 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, and justice organizations in urging the state and Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to focus on clean air and open to members of the public. For more information about the island and its activities, visit www.cherokeeisland.com.

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

• Stronger regulations to reduce air pollution;


The Club has joined a coalition of labor, faith, environmental, and justice organizations in urging the state and Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to focus on clean air and

• To pay for cleaner trucks, impose a surtax on dirty trucks.

• Changing the labor structure to make truck drivers independent contractors, who made it and who is selling it. See page 5.

• To pay for cleaner trucks, impose a surtax on dirty trucks. Employing drivers would also create an incentive for trucking companies to improve the efficiency of the loading and unloading system.


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

• Stronger regulations to reduce air pollution;

• Paying truckers to switch from dirty trucks.

• Changing the labor structure to make truck drivers independent contractors, who made it and who is selling it. See page 5.

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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 the US, 34% of households have 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 farming practices that maintain and replenish soil fertility with the use of toxic and persistent pesticides and fertilizers. The use of genetic engineering, sewage sludge, cloning, and irradiation are prohibited in organic production.

What does “Certified Organic” mean?
“Certified Organic” means the item has been grown according to strict unified standards enforced by independent state or private organizations.

Who regulates the certified organic claim?
The federal government sets 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 production become organic?
Yes, any agricultural product that meets third-party or state certification requirements may be considered organic.

Are all organic products completely free of pesticides residue?
Certified organic products have been grown and handled according to standards without toxic and persistent chemical inputs. However, organic crops are inadvertently exposed to agricultural chemicals that are now pervasive in air and ground water due to their presence 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 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, many foods labeled organic are spared the application of toxic and persistent insecticides, herbicides, fungicides and fertilizers. Many EPA-approved pesticides were registered long before there was conclusive evidence linking many chemical exposures to cancer and other diseases. In the long run, organic farming techniques provide a 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, transportation and processing. Organic foods produced 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 this column to Joan Woolery at jwool@jwool.com. Stay informed and find organic resources at these sites: Organic Consumers (www.organicconsumers.org), Organic Trade Association (www.ota.com), Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Jersey (www.nofanj.org), Beyond Pesticides (www.beyondpesticides.org).

Sierra Club Cruises to benefit the Club’s Population Program:
Island Hopping in California’s Channel Islands National Park
May 14; July 17-20; Aug 7-10; and Sept 11-14

Come and explore the wild, windwept islands of Channel Island National Park. In spring, the islands will be alive with wildlife. 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 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 Point Lobos; Anacapa for the brown pelican rookery; and Santa Barbara for fish, forage fish, and excellent snorkeling waters and a colony of sea lions who will swim with snorkelers and floaters. Kayakers can rent equipment from Santa Barbara abode the 60’ 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 on hikes on the island. All proceeds from these fund raising activities will benefit Sierra Club’s Global Population & the Environment Program To make a reservation mail a $100 deposit check to Sierra Club to 10 Park Road, El Monte, CA 91732. For more information: (626) 455-0706 (jolzthln@aol.com)

If you want to learn how to make a wood-saving cook stove, ask Kelly Woolery. This adventurous, spirited, formerly NJ Chapter Sierra Club staff member recently returned from a one year Peace Corps Assignment as an Agro-Forestry Extension Agent. She was stationed in the smallest town in Nigeria (pop. 1500) situated along a 6-mile lake in Niger. This village is the farthest north in 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 together and the gardens were productive. About a year into her tour, the men in the village saw how the women were doing and said, “We want to make money, too.” Kelly arranged for several meetings where she talked about how a Peace Corps Volunteer could earn $700 a year by growing acacia trees; also know as gum acacia, gum arabic or gum senegal. In a country where people exist on less than $1 a day, this could be a huge income. On top of the money 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 collect the seeds.

This experience confirms the findings of Tammam Yacouba. Yacouba, a 1992 Peace Prize winner, and others who found that women are the best support for child family. Yacouba said, “One out of three girls marry before they are 18 years old. On the other hand, to make money, you lift up the entire family, then the village, and then the country.” Peace Corps workers often have the opportunity to work with local nongovernmental 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 Naiman National Hospital below. 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 Naiman...with a team of surgeons from the US who have come expressly to help fix women and girls with obstetric fistulas. All of the conditions that lead to fistula are ever-present in Niger and so far this week we have operated on 70 women with perineal lacerations. We 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, I think really said to the surgeons, ‘these women are in such a bad state’. But more than a few have not been completely abandoned by their husbands and I met (a man) today who said he would not mind if his wife maybe 60 [assistant his wife who was about 19 years].”

Unfortunately, the team of doctors here now really can’t emphasize family planning because they are just trying to get 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 fistula brings and go 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 up 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. The lack of an education system also continues to reinforce this message. In all, Niger has a pretty strong tradition of development work and over time will hopefully catch up. I just hope they can find the materials that will occur in the meantime.

Kelly making bricks to repair houses.
Kelly seeing patients treated for obstetric fistula.

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

Population Issues Coordinator’s Report: Stories from Niger

By Bonnie Tillery (jolzthln@aol.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 abolished and we can now receive complete reproductive health care services. 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.

To learn more about supporting the Population Program by taking a cruise! See box at left.
Recession and my conviction that the likelihood of includes the capability of enforcing a people rioting for food. Perhaps the increased political turmoil by starving World's highest tax rates, but when I stream, supplied with the minimal mind was tried in Denmark in the 30-hour workweek at livable wages.

Also unavailable this time around is a new paradigm (if you will) for satisfying an ever-expanding need for employ- ment, where we do go from a “service- based” economy (which provides most- ly menial jobs such as fast-food serving) One of our members suggests the idea of a “carbon tax.” Another extreme model that comes to mind was tried in Denmark in the 1970s involving communal villages, providing artistic lifestyle, for citizens opting out of the employment main- stream, supplied with the minimal necessities at public expense. Denmark has made one of the highest rates of the World’s highest tax rates, but when I use Google to try to update my memo- ry I was unable to locate any references to this experiment it is still in progress. Global Warming threatens us now as never before, such as this 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 climate change. These indicators of increased political turmoil by starving people rising for food. Perhaps the political system most likely to cope with these pressures is that of China, which is trying to implement 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 extent that our grandchildren, and possibly our great grandchildren, can avoid the worst, rather than actually pursuing our environ- mental mandate. But I make this little choice in the hopes that 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 cogent anti-environmental measures and at the state level we were able not only to sub- stantially reduce the impact of the development Permit Extension Act, but also to transform what began as a weakly enforced Endangered Species Act Plan with one document with teeth.

What is the checkpoint for 2009? And just what do we hope to accomplish?

I have no doubt that we will be deal- ing with some very 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. Admittedly, despite the undisputed success of the program, and despite the ongoing need for open space acquisi- tion, it is frustrating that the federal government has run out of money. The State should never have allowed this to happen, but I am grateful that we have had an opportunity to do something about it. This means continuing the permanent effort of funding. It is 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 recep- tive to the idea of a fee and have indicated that they wish to see something about it. This means continuing the permanent effort of funding. It is for open space acquisitions, an issue that the Corzine administration has been reluctant to address.

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COOLITIES CORNER:

Cool City: Evesham Township in Burlington County

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

On September 16, 2008, Mayor Randy Brown of Evesham Township declared the township a “Green Community” and authorized the posting of a sign identifying the township as a “Green Community.” Mayor Brown of Evesham Township declared the township a “Green Community” and authorized the posting of a sign identifying the township as a “Green Community.”

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 an independent 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 complex’s bankrupt, 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 after the three-year moratorium time this summer.

Evesham Township, which comprises 5.5 million square feet of office and commercial space, will generate more than 120,000 cars a day, gridlocking an area already heavily burdened with traffic. It has already filled in priority 70 acres of 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 New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance (NJSEA), for copies of documentation on the station’s air permits. Unlike Compact Fluroscent 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. The state already overburdened with traffic. It has already filled in priority 70 acres of 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 New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance (NJSEA), for copies of documentation on the station’s air permits.

What about Cap-and-Trade for existing coal plants? The Jersey Sierran: April-June 2009

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 Assembly- persons seeking reelection to the State Assembly in 2009:

1. Linda Greenstein (D, 14th District - Middlesex, Mercer)
2. Peter Barnes (D, 15th District - Middlesex, Monmouth, Somerset, Essex)
3. Eric Munoz (D, 21st District - Union, Morris, Somerset, Essex)
4. Linda Bender (D, 22nd District - Union, Middlesex, Somerset)
5. John McKeon (D, 23rd District - Essex County)
6. Valerie Flutie (D, 25th District - Bergen)
7. David Russo (D, 40th District - Bergen, Passaic, Essex)

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

The Chapter’s 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 greg@50@yahoo.com. Also related to Xanadu, an appellate judge in December dismissed a bill for $4.387, submitted to the Sierra Club and New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance (NJSEA), for copies of documentation on the station’s air permits.

Energy Factoids - LED Lightbulbs courtesy of Professor Somalwar

Unlike Compact Fluorescent Bulbs (CFLs), which have been around for more than twenty years, LEDs are even more efficient, but are not yet ready for prime time.

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 would cancel the regressive element of the auction/tx. We should cancel all our favorite subsidies in order to avoid giving away revenues from a regressive tax to operators who game the system.
Buying Clothing

Both by Laura Lynch, our Chapter Conservation Chair (njsierrachub@gmail.com) — with thanks for re-publication rights to Sustainable Lawrence

If you're good at sizing yourself up and have no qualms about ordering clothing online, a simple search for recycled or second-hand clothing can yield many screens' worth of choices. Environmental resources offer detailed explanations of countries of origin, manufacturing process, and fair trade arrangements. Even if you're not a fan of online shopping and find less than you would at a nearby store, the extra cost is the price we pay to be sustainable.

When we moved into our split-level house nearly ten years ago, we thought that the little wood stove on the ground floor would keep us warm during the colder months, and made a virtue of it when the cold weather cooled down. We sold it when we moved and now wonder if it would have kept us warm during the colder months. We bought a new wood stove, 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. Wood stoves must meet EPA and state emissions standards.

We are not going to address the questions that arise 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 recycled or second-hand clothing can yield many screens' worth of choices. Environmental resources offer detailed explanations of countries of origin, manufacturing process, and fair trade arrangements. Even if you're not a fan of online shopping and find less than you would at a nearby store, the extra cost is the price we pay to be sustainable.

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We are not going to address the questions that arise every pair of jeans one sees on sale at the mall. So what do we do instead?
Northwest Jersey Group (Sussex and Warren Counties, approximately)

**OFFICERS:**
- Chair: Christine Forozan (973-352-9205) cforozan@gmail.com
- Vice-Chair: Susan Rittenhouse rittenhouse@optonline.net
- Conservation Chair: Marie Springer
- Secretary: Greg Wahl (908) 205-1000
- Treasurer: Christy Cooper
- Membership Chair: Pat Mindig
- Outings & Events Chair: Herb Wolf
- Delegate to State: Emily Wallace
- Cool Cities: Greg Wahl

**WEB SITE:** http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/northwest/

Our Group will continue to focus on the following goals:
1. Building a more active and vibrant Group.
2. Hosting 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 7:30 pm, at the grit Mill Cafe, located in the Andover Post Office Shopping Plaza on Rte 206 (Rte 517 intersection) in Andover. Phone: 973-786-4900.

Please contact Group officers for information about meetings.

North Jersey Group (Bergen and Passaic Counties, approximately)

**OFFICERS:**
- Group Chair: Betsy Kohn 201-461-4554 betsykohn@aol.com
- Program Chair: Mike Hansen 201-262-9472 mhansen@hotmail.com
- Conservation: Tom Thompson 201-848-1080 eiram74@siro.com
- and Mike Hansen 201-262-9472 mhansen@hotmail.com
- Air Quality: Laura Tracy Coll lauratraocyccoll@hotmail.com
- Outings Chair: Ellen Blumenkrantz eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com
- Publicity Chair: Erica Aspinwall tapirn@hotmail.com
- Political Chair: Greg Tondi greg75@siro.com
- Political Alternate: Jeff Harman jeff@optimelinet.com
- Program Chair: Open Position/ Open Position/
- Treasurer: Tom Thompson 201-848-1080 eram74@siro.com
- US Public Lands: John Kashwitz 201-660-8820 jkashwitz@optimelinet.com
- Wildlife: Mary Ellen Shaw 201-489-5588

**WEB SITE:** 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://sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-NORTH-JERSEY-NEWS.html.

**Apr 23:** Flat Rock Brook Nature Center, 443 Van Nostrand Avenue, Englewood: “Bringing Olfthorpe’s Wind Power Into New Jersey,” a presentation by Kris Olhede of Bluewater Wind LLC, about the mechanics, economics, advantages, and international experience of wind energy.

**May 21:** Unitarian Society of Ridgewood, 115 Cottage Place, Ridgewood. Program TBA.

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

North 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
Loanoska Group: Morris & Union Group
Central Jersey Group: Mercer
Ocean County Group: Ocean
Rutgers Valley Group: 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) fit them conveniently.

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These designations are approximate; members are welcome to participate in whichever Group(s) fit them conveniently.

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.

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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.
CONSERVATION ISSUES: We are opposed to a 250-unit development proposed on the last remaining 20 acres of Hunter 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 will 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

website: http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/essex/ Or click from the NJ Chapter’s website.

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 Denuzter: jdenuz@z.com.

GENERAL MEETINGS: are free and open to the public, unless otherwise indicated. They usually take place on TUESDAYS, from 7 to 9 pm, at the Essex County Environmental Center, 621 Eagle Rock Ave, in Roseland. Contact Walt Goldenbaum (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 Wildlands 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 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 WEP/Scierra 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 WEP/Scierra 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, ronpace19@verizon.net; Walter Goldenbaum, 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:

Group Chair: Eric Haukser 752-669-0719 haukser@aol.com
and Paul Sanderson 908-253-2414 paulsanderson@aol.com
Treasurer: Joyce White joyce0021@yahoo.com

Open Position:

Conservation Chair: Eric Haukser 752-669-0719 haukser@aol.com
Clint Cates Chair: Stefano Crea 973-627-4545 stefcre@aol.com
Program Chair: Melting Chia chinnelling@yahoo.com
Program Chair: Tamanna Mohapatra 752-801-9629 tmohapatra@gmail.com
Education Coordinator: Jeff Huppert 752-265-0014 jeffhup@otenline.net
Partners Chair: Eric Haukser 752-669-0719 haukser@aol.com
Outreach Event Chair: Eric Haukser 752-669-0719 haukser@aol.com

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.

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 Bhattachar-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 Seelye’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 908-235-2414.

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:

Chair: Terry Stimpfel 609-731-7016 terystimb@hotmail.com
Mindi Schmitt 752-801-9629 tmschmitt@yahoo.com

Membership:

Outings Chair: Leona Fluck 908-259-7374 leona@pineywoodpaddlers.org
Political Chair: Terry Stimpfel 609-731-7016 609-948-8099
terystimb@hotmail.com

Com At Large: Malcolm McFarland Ruth Ann Mitchell

(jan13@mcfln[at]verizon.net)

(Continued on page 8)
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&K Rail Trail (Hamilton, Robbinsville), Assunpink Creek Trail (Robbinsville), and NJ Turnpike widening. Concerned about paddlers.com or 609-259-3734.

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.

CENTRAL OUTDOOR EVENTS: For event details, see Chapter Outings below and the NJ Chapter Outings website for descriptions. ALWAYS check the website for changes and possible cancellations.

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.

SPECIAL EVENT — Kayak Demo: May 30 (Sat) “Yak Attack” with Eastern Mountain Venture. For more information, see Chapter Outings below and the Chapter website. We’re also fighting to preserve Barnegat Bay and to stop “nitrogen pollution” of the Bay. We’re also fighting to conserve Hunterdon land. We are honored to have Mary K. Weis, Bassett, Chairperson, moderate the panel on local events, fundraising, and a computer-based voter education program.

Use Sierra Connection, our online organizing tool, to help us track our Chapter’s membership, donations, and other information. You can also use this tool to check your own status, including changes of address, renewals, and other information.


June 21: Sierran Potluck at Island Park: We are excited to announce the 20th anniversary celebration of the Ocean County Group.

July, August and December. No general meeting in July, August and December.

The Jersey Sierran: April-June 2009

Raritan Valley Group

Members of the Central and Raritan might enjoy some of the special events sched-uled by the Delaware and Raritan Greenway Land Trust (www.drgreenway.org/pub lc_programs.htm), in celebration of its 20th anniversary.

June 21: Marie Springer will speak on Bees. Marie raises and studies bees. Learn about native bees, honey bees and colony collapse. BEcome informed!

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

Raritan Valley Group

(Middlesex and Somerset Counties, approximately)

WEBSITE: http://www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/RaritanValley/
EMAIL LIST: Go to http://lists.sierraclub.org and sign-up for NJ-RARITAN-VALLEY-NEWS

OFFICERS AND CONTACTS:
Chair: Don McBride 732-560-0360 dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org
Vice-Chair: Open Position/ Secretary: Open Position/ Treasurer: Don McBride 732-560-0360 dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org
Outings: Open Position/ Political Chair: Randy Gill Open Position/ Treasurer: Don McBride 732-560-0360 dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org
Publicity and Programs: Open Position/ Sunil Somalwar 732-572-7721 sunil.somalwar@gmail.com
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 drinks to follow. Please be sure to call the office to reserve a spot by 4/15.

May 9: (Sat) Assunpink Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Lake/Creek Cleanup (Monmouth Co.). Rain or Shine! Optional lunch. Joint with the Princeton Ski Club.

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

July 10 (Wed): Earth Day Hike and Cleanup: Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown Marsh (Mercer Co.).

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

OCEAN COUNTY GROUP

WEBSITE: www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean

OFFICERS:
Chair: A. Gregory Auriemma, Esq. 732-451-9220 sierraclubOC@aol.com
Vice-Chair, Outings: Dawn Marie Johns 732-644-6304 sierraclubOC@aol.com
Secretary: Open Position/ Treasurer: Greg Auriemma 732-451-9220 sierraclubOC@aol.com
Political Chair: Nancy Brown 732-892-5409 hmcwartz@comcast.net
Publication Chair: Open Position/ Publicity Chair: Open Position/ Sunil Somalwar 732-572-7721 sunil.somalwar@gmail.com
ExCom Member: Sandy Brown 732-644-5934 sandybrown@sierraclub.org
ExCom Member: Jocelyn Izaa 732-981-0130 nightingale79@yahoo.com
Environmental Education Coordinator: Helen Henderson 908-278-9807 hhilarytrailing@msn.com

We’re also targeting critical local open space, sprawl, and air and water quality issues with special emphasis on the overdevelopment of Jersey Townships which will impact the drinking water for Brick, Tp Pleasant, Tp Beach and Rain-Town (Hawthorne). 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 most productive wetlands. We are fighting to keep the park in Lacey against “Exxons” money’s demand for new roads. We’re also involved in creating a greener environment in Ocean County. We’re also fighting to stop development and flooding and helping with the trees, trash and tabling at local events, fundraising, and a computer-based voter education program.

FOR MORE INFORMATION about our activities and events, please visit our WEBSITE: www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean.

May 18 (Sat): Please mark your calendars for our 4th 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 the Marshall’s side of the “Seacoast Pavilion”. We will have coffee and bagels. Join us in our

OCEAN COUNTY GROUP

offices, grills, washers, dryers, freezers, and air conditioner units. Contact the owner, Mike Giradat, at info@misterscrap.com. (We’d appreciate hearing from members elsewhere in NJ of other providers of this kind of service.)
efforts to clean up Long Swamp Creek, please call our Outings Chair Maria Johns at 732-644-6340.

Age 18 (Sat): This evening we will be partnering up with our good friends at CATHEDRAL PHILANTHROPIE in Point Pleasant Beach. For more details of this event, please contact our Group Chair Greg Auriemma at 732-541-9220.

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 Wampanoag Complex in Island Heights. If you’d like to help with the tabling or our event, please contact our Group Chair Greg Auriemma at 732-541-9220.

Jun 27 (Sat): Our 4th Annual Paddle for Protection. Please join us as we continue to fight for the future of 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://myciseverton.net/wjvutg/

OFFICERS:
Group Chair: Gina Carola 856-848-8831 ginaaceee@verizon.net
Vice Chair: Frank Zunzi ezfina@aol.com
Secretary: Ilene Zunzi
Treasurer: Trish Clemens 856-768-5639 pat321@comcast.net
Publicity Chair: Bud Kallos 856-428-8071 budkallos@earthlink.net
Policy Chair: Open Position/ Call Gina to join... 856-848-8831
Pinelands Rep: Lee Snyder pinelands1@hotmail.com
Greenways Coordinator: Frank and Ilene Zunzi ezfina@juno.com
Conservation Coordinator: Staci Avila
Membership Chair: Mike Brown 856-547-9221 eyebrown@stnj.net
Pundit: Open Position/ Contact Gina to volunteer. 856-848-8831
Smart Growth Chair: Open Position/ Call Gina to volunteer. 856-848-8831
Programs Chair: Open Position/ Call Gina to volunteer. 856-848-8831
Outings Chair: Open Position/ Call Gina to volunteer. 856-848-8831

** 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-95, take exit 41b 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 (Braes 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. 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.

Age 18: Tracy Carabufo of Delaware Riverkeeper will talk about the Riverkeeper efforts to protect the Delaware River Basin.

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:
Group Chair: Tom Boghosian 609-625-0878 boghosian1@verizon.net
Vice Chair: Open Position/ Call Gina to volunteer.
Conservation Chair: Open Position/ Call Gina to volunteer.
Pol. Chair: Calendar: Dick Colby dick.colby@stockton.edu
Membership Chair: Open Position/ Call Gina to volunteer.
Secretary: Julie Aker 856-697-5479 julie.akers@hughes.net

We have a new Cape May County Conservation Committee, with about 40 folks holding bimonthly 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 Friday, May 15th, 7-9pm, at the New Leaf Baptist Church in Looland, 15 Sloat Ln Swainton 08210-1462 (e-mail jewellrea@comcast.net, cell phone 609-780-7120). Look for meeting our 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 with the Sierra Club and in the Watershed Association (GEHWA) that “spun off” from the Sierra Club. For the past few years, 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 June 11th meeting, as noted in this Newsletter, and offer a phone-in 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 state, regional, state and environmental organizations, www.gehwa.org. If you have topics (and places) for meetings, please let the officers know about them. We welcome general comments from Club members in South Jersey. To join a carefully maintained distribution list for local issues and meet- ings, please e-mail dick.colby@stockton.edu.

Current Issues: Two Cape May County campaigns to prevent the use of tropical rain- forest lumber for residential construction. One目前正在进行中, please contact our Group Chair Greg Auriemma at 732-541-9220.

Some Possibly Relevant Meetings of Allied Organizations:

Age 16, 7pm: Atlantic County Friends of the Parks: Monthly meeting of Friends of the Parks, a group that 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 Aker, 856-697-6114.

Age 20, 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 Aker, 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. For more information about the Cumberland County Improvement Authority, call 856-464-4444 or visit online at www.ccia-net.com. WheatonArts 1501 Glaston Road, Millville 08332.

May 13, 6:30 pm: Bimonthly meeting of Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River and its Tributaries: Meeting place: Giant Room, Millville Public Library, 210 Buck Street. Cumberland County water issues are commonly discussed along with the art, historical and recreational attributes of the area. Contact Renee Brecht (CU) at 856-305-5238 or direcrtc.amurice@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 Aker, 856-697-6114.

Jun 17, 7pm: Great Egg Harbor Scenic and Riverine Council: Bi-monthly meeting, open to the public. WFNC. Contact Julie Aker, 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: Free/fee meeting, open to the public. WFNC. Contact Julie Aker, 856-697-6114.

Singles Section
(Chapter-wide, special interest section offering hikes/cleanup, social gatherings, movies, meetings, etc.)

Please join us! The NJ Singles Section was specifically created to offer a variety of singles-oriented activities to NJ Sierra Club members and those who would like to know more about us. We are not a local group. We are a statewide additional “layer” of Club involvement. Everyone is welcome to attend our events.

Webpage address: http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/singles/

The BIST way to know 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; distribution on how these bulletin boards are conducted at the discretion of the Chair. 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 previous messages at http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-SINGLES-NEWS.html.

OFFICERS:
Chair: Joe Testa testa@live.com
Outings Chair: Joyce Haddad joycehaddad@juno.com
Social Chair: Joyce White joyce.white@netzero.net
Treasurer: Tom Miller millerton@juno.com
Webpage designer: Joe Prebish jprebis@dellapp.com
Vice Social Chair: Jeff Sovelove jsolve@comcast.net
Programs Chair: Open Position/ Contact us! We need you!
Publicity Chair: Open Position/ Contact us! We need you!
Cool Cities Coordinator: Open Position/ Contact us! We need you!
Membership: Walter Goldenbaum goldenb1@optonline.net

(continued on page 12)
**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 cochair 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 listserve; 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 is required to jkhaddad@juno.com or 973-364-7573 option # 4.

**HIKES:** Please join our listserver to receive notification of our outings. See above for instructions on how to subscribe to the listserver.

**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 or Young Sierran Coordinator at YoungSierrans@yahoo.com

or Young Sierran Coordinator at YoungSierrans@yahoo.com

Please Contact Us!

**Poetic Interlude**

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

**Hike-ku**

Careful where you step: you may land in a trail deal act like ball-bears!

**Water**

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

I see a shouter and, in guilt, turn off the water periodically, reminding other shouter that I save never will get to Chaud, or to Namibia, or elsewhere in the bistroy Sable to be of any use to anyone whose tongue is parcered and thick from thirst while avertting tears from the rains that do not come.

**GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS**

Central Jersey: Leonea Fluck 609-259-3734 leona@leonaisants.com

Essex County: David Ogens 973-226-0748 (H) 64 Blvd, Caldwell 07003

Hudson-Meadowlands: Vacant

Jersey Shore: Susan Scherer 908-566-7722 (H)

Southern Jersey: Vacant

The Jersey Sierran: April-June 2009

Please send July-September 2009 write-up to your Group Outings Coordinator before May 1. If you are planning to lead an outing close to the beginning of our quarterly publication periods, please submit it for the previous Sierra, 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. Please send your write-up early for our region, but water safety does impose special requirements. The size and skill of each party must be appropriate to the river, so participation in each trip must be 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 informed assessment of your paddling experiences, whether you need or can offer a phone, your phone number, and any qualifications you may have. You will receive a description of the trip, with directions, where you can rent a canoe, if you need to bring one. Trip leaders can arrange for partners to share a canoe if you will be coming in a group. If you need to bring your own canoe, available trips are listed by the ﬁrst name. For more information, contact one of the officers listed above. Because there are many variables, meeting places may vary, and participate holidays are welcome.

**Inner City Outings Section**

(Continued from page 9)

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 innercitynewjerseycoordin@gmail.com or the above e-mail address.

To learn more, visit our webpage at http://www.sierraclub.org/oce/newjersey.

Treasurer: Anne Dyjak 732-560-0953 annedyjak@verizon.net

Chair: Marty Cohen 201-670-8383 martincohen@verizon.net

Groups contributing each outing is given at the end of the trip. The Summer 2009 issue of the Sierra Club Outings section features the official guide to the inner city outings. For more information, please contact any of the officers listed above.

**Inner City Outings Section**

(Continued from page 9)

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 innercitynewjerseycoordin@gmail.com or the above e-mail address.

To learn more, visit our webpage at http://www.sierraclub.org/oce/newjersey.

Treasurer: Anne Dyjak 732-560-0953 annedyjak@verizon.net

Chair: Marty Cohen 201-670-8383 martincohen@verizon.net

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**APRIL**

**Apr 4** (Sat) Annapolis Wildlife Management Area (PMD) Lake/Creek Cleanup (Mount Olive Co.) 9am. Join us for a cleanup along the Annapolis Lake. Rain or shine. Wear gloves and clothes you don’t mind getting dirty. Meet at the Visitors’ Center. Contact: Leona@annapolismopc.com

**Apr 5-6** (Sat-Sun) Round Valley Reservoir Cleanup (Bedminster Co.) 9am. Join us for a cleanup of Round Valley Reservoir. Meet at the Round Valley Reservoir Visitor Center. Contact: Leona@annapolismopc.com

**Apr 6** (Sun) Spring Valley Reservoir Cleanup (Bedminster Co.) 9am. Join us for a cleanup of Spring Valley Reservoir. Meet at the Round Valley Reservoir Visitor Center. Contact: Leona@annapolismopc.com

**Apr 5** (Sat) Cezanne/Kayak The Ridge (Burlington Co.) 9am. Our trip will begin on the north shore of the Peacham Reservoir then paddle through the Assunpink Wildlife Area. Meet at the Peacham Reservoir. Contact: Leona@annapolismopc.com

**May 1** (Sat) Cezanne/Kayak The Ridge (Burlington Co.) 9am. Our trip will begin on the north shore of the Peacham Reservoir then paddle through the Assunpink Wildlife Area. Meet at the Peacham Reservoir. Contact: Leona@annapolismopc.com

**May 7** (Sat) Single Kayak/Canoes on the Marsh (Mercer Co.) 10am. Paddle the Marsh Cube and explore the backwaters of the Assunpink Lake, enjoying a 3-mile paddle. Contact: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**May 8** (Sun) Senior Safe Passage (Burlington Co.) 10am-12pm. This event is designed to give seniors free access to outdoor activities. Participants will learn basic safety practices that will aid in a safer paddling experience. Meet at the Visitor Center. Contact: Leona@annapolismopc.com

**May 15** (Sat) Cezanne/Kayak The Ridge (Burlington Co.) 9am. Our trip will begin on the north shore of the Peacham Reservoir then paddle through the Assunpink Wildlife Area. Meet at the Peacham Reservoir. Contact: Leona@annapolismopc.com

**May 22** (Sat) Spring Clean-up at Round Valley Reservoir (Bedminster Co.) 9am. Join us for a cleanup of Round Valley Reservoir. Meet at the Round Valley Reservoir Visitor Center. Contact: Leona@annapolismopc.com

**May 22** (Sat) Spring Clean-up at Round Valley Reservoir (Bedminster Co.) 9am. Join us for a cleanup of Round Valley Reservoir. Meet at the Round Valley Reservoir Visitor Center. Contact: Leona@annapolismopc.com

**May 29** (Sat) Canoe/Kayak the Ridge (Burlington Co.) 9am. Our trip will begin on the north shore of the Peacham Reservoir then paddle through the Assunpink Wildlife Area. Meet at the Peacham Reservoir. Contact: Leona@annapolismopc.com

**May 30** (Sun) Canoe/Kayak the Ridge (Burlington Co.) 9am. Our trip will begin on the north shore of the Peacham Reservoir then paddle through the Assunpink Wildlife Area. Meet at the Peacham Reservoir. Contact: Leona@annapolismopc.com

**June**

**June 5** (Sun) Canoe/Kayak Thru Great Falls on the Delaware River (Mercer Co.) 10am. Join us for a 4-5 hour paddle on the Delaware River from Trenton to Lambertville. Contact: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**June 12** (Sat) Ramapo Reservation to Ringwood State Park, passing 3 lakes and 2 great viewpoints. Bring lunch & lots of water. Meet at Goshen Pond campsites, from Rte 23. Contact: Leona@annapolismopc.com

**June 19** (Sat) Goshen Paddle, B kneeling (Burlington Co.) 10am. Paddle the Delaware River from Trenton to Lambertville. Contact: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

**June 26** (Sat) Single Kayak/Canoes on the Marsh (Mercer Co.) 10am. Paddle the Marsh Cube and explore the backwaters of the Assunpink Lake, enjoying a 3-mile paddle. Contact: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com
NEW JERSEY CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

**Issue Coordinators**

Clean Air Issues
Bob Campbell (973) 761-4461
bob23cs@verizon.net

Delaware River Issues
Gina Caro (856) 848-8831
grecton@sierraclub.org

Eel Eel DENZER (N.J. 800) 848-8831

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Sunil Somalwar (see left column)

Cool Cities
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Highlands Issues
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Marine Issues
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Recycling Issues
David Yennior (see above)

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Swripl Issues
John Walsh (see above)

Tiger Conservation Issues
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Trail Issues
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4 1/2 Park Av., Pennington NJ 08534-2313

Utah Issues
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Chapter Director: Jeff Tittel

Outreach Coordinator: Grace Sica
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Kara.Seymour@SierraClub.org

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

Upcoming EcxCom Meetings:

All members are welcome to attend these monthly statewide policy deliberations, held on the second Saturday of the month. Details, including agendas and travel instructions, are available from Ken Johanson, the Chair. (Best confirm!)}

**OUTINGS**

(Continued from page 11)

Wild and scenic Maurice River. This is a pristine river with undisturbed banks, beaches and wildlife sightings. Enjoy a 10K run around a beautiful lake and ending at a Passenger Ship Home. You must register with leaders. Karak rema are available. Meet at St. John’s Canoe Rental on Be St, Delta. Dinner: 2.5 miles of St. John’s Canoe Rental. Bring your own lunch to share at the end of the trip. Leaders: Susan Newman, 856- 564-0278 or slstretch@comcast.net, and Paul Sentiuk, 609-452-9593 or er@optonline.net

Jun 20 (Sat):* slagel: Lake Sonoma Trails, North Green State Forest, Passaic Co. Hike: 13.7 miles. (B) About 7 miles, however, some tough up and down treks. Some tight spots and some steep. This hike is in the northern section of North Green State Forest. Lake Sonoma is secluded, with no roads. If the weather is warm enough we will try to cool off. These are no facilities in this very; just old-growth forest and views at the various lake tips. No pets. Hiking boots recommended. Bring a day bag with lunch, water and personal first aid kit. compass, map, and a water bottle. Registration is required. Notify the leader if you want to attend. Directions will be sent to registrants. Leader: Jim Oldhime. TheBlade@sierraclub.org

Jun 27: (Sat): slagel: Pine Barrens Interpretive Trail - Hudson River Shore Line Trail, Monmouth Co. Hike: 8 miles. Meet in the parking lot in the Englefield Wood Home south closest to the Kearney House. Four miles on flat ground, with the next at a gentle incline. Leaders: Mary Walsh, mildtwell@optonline.net or 908-326-0076 to confirm or for more info.

Jun 21 (Sun): Clinton Park, Upper Peautiful Highlands, Monmouth Co. Special Interest: History. Hike: a moderate wide foot on one of Monmouth County Park System best kept secrets. Moderate elevation gain. Some short steep drops. Bring a bag to share at the end of the trip, including high index cards. Confirmation/questions or call or text Leader: Mike Verance. 908-902-7184, or mverance@nypg.org (JS)

Jun 27: (Sat):* Castle Rock Trail, Pine Barrens, Monmouth Co. SPECIAL INTEREST: Hike. A moderate wide foot on one of Monmouth County Park System best kept secrets. Moderate elevation gain. Some short steep drops. Bring a bag to share at the end of the trip, including high index cards. Confirmation/questions or call or text Leader: Mike Verance. 908-902-7184, or mverance@nypg.org (JS)

Jun 29 (Mon): Paddle the Mullica River (Bordentown Co.) Hike: 5.6 miles. A beautiful afternoon to enjoy the Aquatic Biotic envelopes of the NJ Damarista. This is an all-day trip. Paddlers enjoy downwells and portages. Please contact leaders to confirm trip and presentation logging. Leaders: George Leora & Fioa. 609-259-5753 or Lmarine@lapanese.com (PS)

SITC **ESPECIALLY FOR SINGLES** (although all club members are welcome to participate!) – main descriptions are above

**APR 4 (Sat):** Singles: South Mountain Reservation, Essex Co. Hike: 6.5 miles. A moderate wide foot near the water. Bring snacks, drinks, bird books or binoculars. Hiking shoes are not required. This is a family group. Meet at the main parking lot of the Reservoir Road Trailhead. Walk starts at 10am. (N.J. 18) Go north on Mill Road. Make first right onto Willowdale Rd. The main entrance is 1.5 miles on your left. The parking lot is the first lot on your left including high index cards. Confirmation/questions or call or text Leader: Mike Verance. 908-902-7184, or mverance@nypg.org (JS)

**APR 11 and MAY 9 at the Hamilton Public Library (Mercer Co., Hamilton Township) Meeting of the EXCOM: He may evaluate the introduction to our Cool Cities Program.

**APR 12 (Sun):** Spring 2009. New and beginning paddles are welcome. Knowledgeable paddlers will enjoy equipment, safety practices, self-rescue, paddling techniques and efficiencies. Canoes and kayaks can be rented from Pine Barrens Adventures, 609-462-3593. Call to register, space is limited. Bring a bag to share at the end of the trip including high index cards. Confirmation/questions or call or text Leader: Mike Verance. 908-902-7184, or mverance@nypg.org (JS)

**APR 20 (Sat):** Meeting: The Jersey Sierra. This meeting is a friendly get together of all friends and5 members. (Best confirm!)