

The Jersey..... SIERRAN

Vol. 38, No. 3

Roughly 20,000 Members in New Jersey

July-September 2009

Chapter Welcomes Kara Seymour to our Staff – and Interviews her

Your environmental, educational and geographic background: I was born in Massachusetts and moved to Pennington, NJ when I was 13. I attended Hopewell Valley



Regional High School and went on to study communications at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Growing up, outdoor recreation was a significant part of my family's life. We were always doing something outside, whether it was camping, cross country skiing or canoeing. Every vacation I took up until age 16 involved camping. One particularly memorable trip was when we drove across the Country for six weeks and visited many national parks. The opportunity to see such breathtaking nature at a young age instilled in me a lasting respect for the environment.

Your interests and/or skills: I have a background in writing and journalism, so I love to read anything from newspapers to novels and memoirs. I also love the arts, particularly music and film. Traveling and going to new places is another one of my favorite activities – I have family moving to Ecuador and can't wait to visit them there. Additionally, I am intrigued by historical architecture and live in a 168-year-old house.

Your responsibilities: I write press releases and assist with various media outreach in the Trenton office. I also do basic administrative work, including responding to e-mails and inquiries from members. In addition, I help with the publication of our bi-weekly e-newsletter and various action alerts. I also plan to write about various statewide issues for The Sierran.

Your favorite issues; what you'd like to accomplish in New Jersey: I am interested in energy, particularly working towards renewable sources and increased efficiency. I'm also interested in open space and recycling issues.

Report from Trenton

Environmental Focus of NJ's Stimulus Funding

By Kara Seymour, Chapter Program Assistant (Kara.Seymour@Sierraclub.org)

In February, President Barack Obama signed into law the \$787 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) as the federal government's response to a weakened economy. The stimulus bill's intention is to create 3.5 million new jobs while upgrading the country's infrastructure for the 21st Century.

According to Sierra Club estimates, the bill contains nearly \$100 billion for green investments. The ARRA allocates money for public transit, energy efficiency programs, weatherization of buildings, development of smart-grid tech-

Sustainable Life-style Articles inside:

Green Home Campaign
New service from National. See page 2

Environmental Impact of Meat-eating See page 4

Sustainability Defined
Is "sustainable growth" an oxymoron? See page 5

True Cost of Bottled Water
in megajoules! See page 5

Coming in October: Election of Chapter Officers

The next issue of this newsletter will include a ballot for electing three at-large members to the Chapter's 21-member Executive Committee – for 3-year terms. The ExCom meets monthly (on second Saturdays), usually in New Brunswick or Hamilton Twp (Mercer Co), and consists of 12 Group delegates plus 9 officers elected at-large. You are invited to suggest names by Aug 1 to the Nominating Committee, chaired by Sunil Somalwar (sunil.somalwar@gmail.com), and also including Rich Isaac, Betsy Kohn and John Kashwick.

Return of the Raritan Valley Group!

Don McBride and Randy Gill, along with Chapter support, have begun revitalizing the Raritan Valley Group. Already, the Group has had two successful meetings (with free refreshments!), on transportation and energy, held respectively in East Brunswick and Highland Park, and a third is being planned for September.

If you're interested in attending the next meeting or learning more information about the group, please contact Grace Sica for details, at: Grace.Sica@Sierraclub.org, or 609-656-7612.

Proposed ARC Hudson Rail Tunnel doesn't get to the Core

By our Chapter Director, Jeff Tittel (Jeff.Tittel@Sierraclub.org)

The NJ Sierra Club calls on regional leaders to come together to address the many inadequacies of the "Access to the Region's Core" (ARC) project as it is currently proposed. We have long supported the concept of a new rail tunnel connecting New Jersey to New York City. However, the ARC project has changed significantly over time and no longer meets the initial objectives.

Originally, the ARC project was expected to serve several purposes. The first was always to increase capacity into New York. Others were to provide New Jersey commuters' access to Grand Central Station and the East Side of Manhattan, to create a backup tunnel for Amtrak's service to Penn Station or the new Moynihan Station, and to enable trains to travel through from one area of the metropolitan region to another.

Unfortunately, this tunnel now only meets the first of those goals and not the other four. Instead of connecting to Penn Station or the new Moynihan Station, the tunnel dead ends 180 feet below the ground, two blocks from Penn Station. The project is now the tunnel to Macy's basement.

The Sierra Club is concerned that this configuration will undermine good transportation planning for the region. Because it the tunnel is proposed to be so far under ground, it may deter people from using it and could be a risk in the event of an emergency.

As proposed, passengers will have to travel the equivalent of 20 stories to get to ground level, via a series of escalators that will be longer than two football fields. This labyrinth of tunnels will be more reminiscent of a corn maze than a train station.

The scheme will be confusing for passengers: since NJ Transit will continue to operate from Penn Station in addition to the new station, passengers will be hard-pressed to know which station to head for, especially at rush hour. Once they figure out their departure location, passengers then will then have to navigate through the series of underground walkways and escalators.

There are currently five major alterna-

tives under consideration. New York's Mayor Bloomberg is working to extend the No. 7 IRT Subway westward from Times Square, right above this NJ Transit tunnel.



The Long Island Railroad wants to add a stop on Manhattan's East Side. New York's Sen. Chuck Schumer is pushing for Penn Station to be replaced by a new "Moynihan Station" in Midtown. Congressman Jerry Nadler wants to establish a freight rail tunnel to relieve truck traffic into New York City. Then there's this NJ Transit tunnel proposal. Each project is actively seeking federal dollars.

The fact that all of these projects are within a few blocks of each other demonstrates the lack of collaboration between politicians and transit planners. What we have is a mishmash of disjointed ideas. Each organization is acting like a bunch of children who don't want the others to touch their train set.

There has been very little public input and virtually no local review by the communities impacted by this in New Jersey.

One option that should be considered, to allow for East Side access, would be to design the tunnel so that the IRT Subway can run through and out to Secaucus Junction. The tunnel should also connect with Penn/Moynihan Station so as to allow the flexibility of through trains.

The Sierra Club calls on New York Gov. David Patterson, New Jersey Gov. Jon Corzine, Mayor Michael Bloomberg, senators Schumer, Lautenberg and Menendez, as well as Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood, to develop a comprehensive plan that constructively brings all of these projects together. They should also establish a regional transportation board, not five agencies that deal with transportation.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

Great Falls Natl Historic Park	2
Population Report: A Challenge!	2
Healthy Living: Green Home Campaign ..	2
Obituary: Asm. Eric Munoz	2
Action Alert: NJ Envl Councils	2
Guest Editorial: Linden Coal Plant	3
Chair's Message: Volunteers	3
ExCom's Resolutions, Mar-May, 2009	3
Political Cartoon: Polar Burgers	3
LTE: Living Meatless	4
Energy Report: Tax vs. Cap & Trade	4
Eco-tip: Sustainability	5
Eco-tip: Bottled Water	5
Volunteer Spotlight: Marty Cohen	5
Highland Bribery	6
Prelude to a Gubernatorial Election	6
Group and Section News, Poetry	6-10
Summer Outings	11-12
Leader List, Meetings, Membership Form	12

(continued on page 4)

Putting the Great in Paterson's Great Falls

By Kara Seymour and Jeff Tittel, Chapter Staff

Paterson's Great Falls, which helped power the industrial revolution, is the 391st outdoor area to be added to the National Park System. The Sierra Club is extremely pleased, as Great Falls and its surrounding historic district are an area of national significance. The site was declared a National Historical Park as part of the Omnibus Public Lands Act of 2009.

The Falls have been a National Historic Landmark since 1976.

The significance of the new National Historical Park designation is that a variety of new resources will be made available to protect both the Falls and the surrounding community.

The site is rich with history that dates back more than 200 years. America's first Treasury Secretary, Alexander Hamilton, saw the 78-foot high Great Falls of the Passaic River as a way to secure economic independence from British manufacturers. In 1791 he helped found the Society for the Establishment of Useful Manufactures to utilize the Great Falls for power. He set the stage for Paterson to become the new nation's



first planned manufacturing city, and the hub of America's industrial revolution.

The Park will include about 35 acres of the Great Falls Historic District. An advisory commission will be established to aid in its development and management.

The Sierra Club's vision is for the Park to become an urban oasis for the people of Paterson, as well as a living history museum dedicated to the people who built America. We hope that Paterson will be revitalized and that thousands of visitors will flock to the area each day.

Mourning the Loss of Assemblyman Eric Munoz

By Kara Seymour, our Program Assistant
(Kara.Seymour@Sierraclub.org)

The Sierra Club is deeply saddened over the passing of Assemblyman Dr. Eric Munoz. Dr. Munoz died of a ruptured aorta on March 30 at University Hospital, where he was a trauma surgeon. He was 61.

Dr. Munoz, a five term Republican from Summit, was a good friend of the Sierra Club and an environmental champion. He has represented New Jersey's 21st District since 2001, serving on the Health and Senior Services Committee and the Human Services Committee.

He was an environmental expert, especially relating to its effects on human health. Our Chapter recently endorsed his reelection campaign, as it had endorsed all his previous campaigns for State Assembly. We worked

closely with Dr. Munoz on issues ranging from children's health to toxic chemicals in our air and water, to clean cars and open space. His expertise and dedication will be sorely missed but his legacy of helping to protect the environment and the health of the people of New Jersey will live on.

Dr. Munoz was a native of Colts Neck. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia, and his medical degree from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, in 1974. He earned an MBA degree from Columbia University in 1983. He is survived by his wife, Nancy, and five children.



Please Lobby for Protection of the Pinelands, the Highlands, the Coastal Zone, and/or New Jersey's Fish and Game:

(Adapted from Action Alerts circulated by our staff and other environmental groups)

Governor Jon Corzine has the power, and the responsibility, to make appointments to regulatory agencies including the Pinelands Commission, the Highlands Council, the Fish and Game Council, and the NJ Coastal and Ocean Protection Council. All are currently operating with severe vacancies (5 including Chairperson, 2, 5 and 6, respectively).

Please urge the Governor to speedily appoint environmentalists to these positions, by calling his office at 609-292-

6000, or writing to Gov. Jon S. Corzine, PO Box 001, Trenton 08625, or e-mailing him via www.state.nj.us/governor/gov-mail.html.

More information, including a pre-written letter you can print, is on the Chapter's web site (www.newjersey.sierraclub.org; click "take action").

You might also call your state elected officials and ask them to contact the Governor's office on your behalf to make sure these appointments are made swiftly.

POPULATION ISSUE COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Have you taken the Population, Justice and Environmental Challenge?

By Bonnie Tillery (blt44blt@msn.com)

The Challenge calls for the United States to renew its leadership role in human rights, community health, gender equality and environmental sustainability, in order to create a world that is equitable, sustainable and just.

The Challenge asks you to sign an online petition to President Obama and other national decision makers to:

1. **Invest \$1 billion in international voluntary family planning programs** that will help save women's lives, improve community health and ensure a more sustainable environmental future.

Worldwide, 200 million women want to voluntarily delay or prevent another pregnancy but do not have access to contraceptives. Smaller families lead to a more sustainable population and a healthier environment.

2. **Pass the Responsible Education about Life (REAL) Act** which will provide evidence-based, medically accurate, and age-appropriate, comprehensive sexuality education to young people in this country - so that they can make informed decisions.

82% of Americans want comprehensive sexuality education for their children (including 78% of Catholics); most are surprised to learn this is not being taught in schools.

At a recent panel discussion a young New Jersey woman talked about the sexual health education she had received, considering that New Jersey requires age-appropriate sex education from kindergarten through 12th grade, but also requires teachers to stress abstinence. She described it as "too little information, too late in the schooling process." She described being scared by pictures of people with gonorrhea, and the lack of talk about how to deal responsibly in relationships. For example, the drugs used in date rape are explained, but not how to handle a relationship that could lead to rape, nor what symptoms to look for if you sus-

pect your drink was spiked. Sex is used to sell everything in this country, but students do not learn about media literacy and body image — important tools for students to make informed and responsible decisions.

Another panelist related that most teens give their sex ed classes a grade of D or F. Teachers will not talk about real life situations for fear that a few parents will cause trouble for them, even though parents can opt to keep their children out of these classes.

One in four teens has an STI (sexually transmitted infection). As I write this, there is panic over swine flu, yet the number currently affected is minuscule compared to the number of teens with STIs. Why the deafening silence when it comes to protecting young people from an infection that could affect them the rest of their lives?

Comprehensive sexuality education is not going to entice young people to run out and become sexually active. They can understand this message from parents and teachers: "I'd rather you wait, but if you don't, protect yourself."

3. **Implement a comprehensive strategy to reduce global poverty, eliminate extreme global poverty, and achieve the Millennium Development Goals.**

The United Nations' Millennium Development Goals call for eradication of extreme poverty and hunger; primary education for all, especially girls; gender equality and the empowerment of women; reduction of child mortality by two-thirds and reduction of maternal mortality by three-quarters; combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases; access to safe drinking water and sanitation services; and a global partnership between rich and poor countries that would eventually lead to a more peaceful, sustainable and secure world.

To sign the petition, go to: <http://www.sierraclub.org/population/justice/>

Sierra Club Launches National Green Home Campaign

It's at www.SierraclubGreenhome.com.

Thinking about making electricity on your roof? Or hot water? Or keeping your lawn healthy without chemicals? Are you curious about how to reduce your home's carbon footprint? For most people, a more sustainable lifestyle begins at home.

That's why, as part of our mission to help people explore, enjoy, and protect the planet, the Club's national staff are pleased to announce the launch of our partner website, **Sierra Club Green Home** (SCGH).

For the past year, we've worked closely with the SCGH team to create a website that makes green living more practical for ordinary consumers. The website provides a wealth of information regarding environmentally friendly products and practices relating to every aspect of home life.

When you visit <http://www.SierraclubGreenhome.com>, you will find educationally rich, quality content on more than 100 subjects related to sustainability for the home. Additionally, you'll have access to exclusive articles from prominent green journalists, including Joan Hamilton, Jennifer Roberts, and the Club's own "Mr. Green," Bob

Schildgen.

Sierra Club Green Home also offers consumers access to thousands of providers of green products and services vetted for authenticity through the SCGH GreenCheck process—a set of carefully designed criteria whereby each applicant is evaluated. Visitors can scan the database of SCGH GreenCheck-authorized providers by region, enabling them to quickly and easily get started on greening their homes on any budget.

Lastly, Sierra Club Green Home features the following exclusive features that provide insight into incorporating green practices into daily life:

- SCGH Home Carbon Calculator to help determine a home's carbon footprints and suggest ways to lower it.

- SCGH Home Health Quiz to help people evaluate the healthiness of their homes and to tap into educational facts on bettering indoor air quality

- SCGH Net Solar Costs Calculator to determine the exact costs and benefits of adding solar technology to a home.

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

Guest Editorial

Gambling with Coal in Linden

by Jeff Tittel, Chapter Director (Jeff.Tittel@Sierraclub.org) and Grace Sica, Chapter Outreach Coordinator (Grace.Sica@Sierraclub.org)

Linden, New Jersey, may be the testing ground for carbon capture and sequestration in the generation of electricity by burning coal. A proposal has been submitted to build a new 500 megawatt (MW) plant with a pilot carbon sequestration system. The \$5 billion project is called PurGen and is proposed by SCS, a Massachusetts-based company.

PurGen will capture the carbon dioxide, turn it into a liquid, and deliver it 70 miles offshore for burial under 6,600 feet of seabed. The proposed plant location is a former DuPont chemical site alongside the Arthur Kill, with the pipeline running under Raritan Bay to the ocean. The plant will double as a chemical factory, making nitrogen when energy prices are low.

The Sierra Club firmly opposes the construction of this new coal plant in Linden. Coal can never be clean. This plant would adversely affect the environment at the local, regional, and global levels. Already in a petrochemical corridor, this additional coal plant would increase the pollution in Linden's air and water. During a 30-year operating lifetime the PurGen plant will produce 225 tons of arsenic, 240 tons of toxic lead, 7000 tons of barium, 450 tons of chromium and 700 tons of manganese. All of this would be treated on-site, before being sent for disposal. And Linden will only be the visible front room of the process. Even if coal produced no toxic waste, and didn't contribute to global warming, we'll never be able to remediate the back room effects of mining: in West Virginia a million and a half acres of mountain tops, rivers and lakes have been destroyed so that we can burn coal.

According to the New York Times, the SCS Company hopes to reap close to \$100 million a year in federal tax credits for its new technology. But how much energy will we really get from this investment? The sequestration process - coal gasification, carbon separation, hundred mile pipeline - could use a third of the plant's electrical output! The same investment in proven solar and wind technology would produce a lot more energy. The \$5 billion would pay

for solar panels on 175,000 residential roofs creating 1,350 MW of electricity, or it would buy 450 offshore wind turbines, totaling 1,600 MW. In these lean-budget times the government should make smart investment choices; every dollar invested in coal is a dollar that could have been invested in energy efficiency or renewable energy. Previous attempts at sequestration were abandoned because of escalating costs.

Building a new coal plant and expecting sequestration to deal with emissions is like running up a bill on your credit card in anticipation of lottery winnings - before you even purchase the lottery ticket. Sequestration is an unproven technology. If the pilot project doesn't work, or federal funding doesn't come through, the residents of Linden will be left with a polluting coal plant. Energy officials have said that it could take up to 40 years to develop the technology of carbon capture and storage. Carbon capture has been used in Norway to maximize the amount of oil recovered from tar sands, but that project was one fifth the size of PurGen. The quantity of gases created by PurGen would be greater than 5 million tons a year.

Linden is an attractive site for a sequestration pilot project because of its proximity to the shore, but the CO₂ does not have to come from coal. Prof. Sunil Somalwar of Rutgers University (and the Chapter's Vice-Chair) suggests that SCS and the federal government consider a Combined Heat and Power plant that uses natural gas. Then, if sequestration fails, Linden will have a high efficiency clean plant that could displace some of the coal energy that we currently import from other states. The economics are in its favor, vast new natural gas supplies have been discovered in the US, and prices have plummeted. The Combined Heat and Power plant would cost significantly less than its coal counterpart, as it would not require the gasification process, and steam could be sold to nearby businesses to displace even more fossil fuel use.

If we are going to gamble, can we at least cut our losses?

Chair's Message

Volunteers

By Ken Johanson (kjohan@comcast.net)



President Obama, following the lead of President Kennedy nearly fifty years before him, recently encouraged Americans to give of themselves to promote the public good. In the words of the President, "We need your service right now, at this moment in history. I'm not going to tell you what your role should be. That's for you to discover. But I'm asking you to stand up and play your part. I'm asking you to help change history's course."

When I read these words in a recent issue of The New York Times my thoughts immediately turned to the Sierra Club. The Sierra Club has long prided itself as being a grassroots organization, an organization controlled and to a significant extent run by its members and volunteers. I think this is what initially attracted me to the Sierra Club, and probably the primary reason why I continue to stay involved.

There are those, including myself, who believe that the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club is the most visible and most effective environmental organization in the State. This is due in large part to our exceptional staff in Trenton, led by our Chapter director, Jeff Tittel. But you can count the members of our staff on one hand, and still have two fingers to spare. Clearly they can't do it all on their own. This is why our volunteers are so important.

Our volunteers are people like you and me who freely give of their time and expertise to promote our agenda and protect and preserve our natural environment. These are the people who attend local zoning and planning board meetings to oppose environmentally harmful development proposals, who arrange programs to educate the public on important environmental issues, who organize and lead hikes to remind people just what it is that we are trying so hard to protect, who put together this newsletter and manage our fundraising efforts, who encourage local governmental units to adopt measures to reduce their generation of greenhouse gasses and who contribute in so many other ways to the success of the Chapter.

But I would not be entirely truthful if I told you that our volunteers receive nothing in return for their efforts. For while it is true that they receive nothing in a material sense, they do receive the intangible benefit of getting to know and

work with people who share their values and priorities and they do receive the satisfaction that comes from doing something that actually makes a difference.

If you think you might be interested in getting involved, there are plenty of ways to get started. Check out the Group News section of this newsletter and see if there is a group that is active in your area. Come to a meeting to learn what the group is doing and where you may be able to help out. Or give the group chair a call. There are also several special interest sections listed in the Group News section that may appeal to you.

If you think you might be interested in volunteering at the state level, attend one of our monthly conservation or executive committee meetings. Check out the box on page 12 for dates and locations. But be sure to let me know if you are planning on attending. This way I can let you know if there is a last minute change in scheduling.

While there are many volunteer opportunities available, both at the group level and the state level, if you enjoy working with children you might want to think about becoming an outings leader with our Inner City Outings program. Volunteers conduct outings that introduce inner-city children to the wonders of nature. Those who have participated in the program report that the rewards, including actually making a difference in a child's life, are immeasurable. This is a very worthwhile program but, unfortunately, it's also a program where, due to a shortage of volunteers, we are unable to reach as many children as we would like.

If you think you may be interested in helping us out by becoming an outings leader, you can obtain additional information about the program on page 10 of this newsletter. And, while you're at it, check out the interview with Marty Cohen, leader of the program, on page 5.

President Obama assures us that by volunteering we can help change history's course. This is what those of us who are active in the Sierra Club are attempting to do every day of the year. And, I'm pleased to report, over the past few years we have achieved some impressive victories.

But much remains to be done. So if you want to help us change history's course, please join us. Working together we can make a difference.

Resolutions Adopted by ExCom in March, April and May, 2009

We authorized legal action by the Eastern Environmental Law Center - to **oppose construction of the "Susquehanna to Roseland" electric power transmission line** across the New Jersey Highlands. (March)

We took a position **opposing a development in the Town of Tuxedo, NY**, which would significantly degrade New Jersey's Ramapo River Watershed, irreparably harm the ecosystem, and adversely affect the priority conservation lands of the surrounding Highlands wilderness. (May)

Another legal intervention was initiated - **opposing widening of the NJ Turnpike and Garden State Parkway** (with federal "stimulus" money) with-

out proper environmental impact studies. (May)

Yet another lawsuit: **challenging the constitutionality of legislation assigning oversight of brownfield cleanups to "Licensed Site Professionals"**: abrogating the duties of the DEP. (May)

Oyster Creek Nuclear Power Plant: we voted to join six or seven other groups in opposing the recent 20-year relicensing. (May)

(Victory in a previous lawsuit: in January we had authorized defense of a Jackson Twp (Ocean Co) ordinance requiring developers to replace trees cut on development sites. On May 13th the NJ Supreme Court agreed with our position.)

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.



Thanks to Ray Schulze, a member who lives in Toms River, and who, in his retirement from a career in magazines and advertising, has taken to environmental cartooning.

Stimulus

(Continued from page 1)

municipalities and counties to **protect and improve water quality**. The Club strongly supports upgrading sewer systems in urban areas rather than using the money to create sprawl-inducing sewer lines in rural areas.

- Up to \$160 million for the Hazardous Substance Superfund, to **clean up eight Superfund sites** in New Jersey, including the former Roebling Steel Works in Florence Township, the Welsbach site in Camden and Gloucester City, and the Cornell Dubilier Electronics site in South Plainfield. We are reminded, however, that even more money is needed to complete the job, on these and many other Superfund Sites - so we urge bringing back the Superfund Tax on polluters.

- \$118.9 million for the Weatherization Assistance Program. The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) will help income-qualified residents **reduce household energy use through energy efficiency upgrades**. However, New Jersey could lose Phase 2 of this funding due to its inability to pass new green building code standards. We encourage our legislators to pass legislation that will enable us to receive the second round of funds.

- \$75 million for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants. These grants are intended to facilitate an overall **reduction in state and municipal energy use**, fossil fuel emissions and an improvement in energy efficiency. The state says it is awaiting guidance from the United States Department of Energy on more details of how to implement the program. Again, we may risk losing Phase 2 funding unless the legislature passes

upgraded building code standards.

- \$73.6 million for New Jersey's State Energy Program, which provides funding for **energy efficiency improvements and development of renewable energy**, with the overall goal of reducing carbon emissions and promoting clean energy.

- \$43.5 million for the State Drinking Water Revolving Fund, which allows **public and private water systems to finance infrastructure** in order to comply with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

- \$1.6 million in Federal Water Quality Management Planning Grants, which will finance projects that **ensure clean and safe drinking water**. The EPA is also requiring states to apply at least 20% of the money towards eligible green projects.

- \$1.73 million for Diesel Emissions Reduction programs, specifically for **tailpipe retrofits of construction equipment**. Also, \$18.4 million of similar funding is available for Environmental Protection Agency Region 2 competition. New Jersey has said it plans to partner with the region's port authorities to apply additional federal funding towards **emission reductions from port-related diesel sources**. This additional money is important because New Jersey is cutting corporate businesses taxes that support the Diesel Retrofitting Program.

- \$469 million for **Department of Transportation** projects. The Sierra Club is working to ensure this money is not spent to widen the Turnpike or the Garden State Parkway. We also oppose its application towards widening Rte 206 in the Highlands and the Atlantic City Expressway.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Delete Meat

By Suzanne Dragan

April 22 marked Earth Day. People "went green" by recycling and turning off lights. However, many people are not aware that "other than not driving a car, not eating meat is the second most important positive environmental decision that a consumer can make." (Union of Concerned Scientists)

Eating meat contributes to water pollution, global warming, energy depletion and world hunger.

Factory farms, produce massive amounts of excrement—130 times as much as people. These feces contaminate our waterways & air.

Livestock account for 28% of human-induced methane emissions. Methane, a greenhouse gas, adds to global warming.

We feed cattle 70% of all US grains. Twelve pounds of grain results in one pound of hamburger. More people could be fed with grain than hamburger.

One-third of all the fossil fuel pro-

duced in the US is used for food animals: We grow grains, transport it on trucks to a feed mill, operate the feed mill, then transport the feed to factory farms where the grain is fed to animals, we operate the factory farms, then truck the animals to slaughter, operate the slaughterhouse, transport the meat to processing plants & keep the meat refrigerated or frozen until eaten. All these stages create pollution, greenhouse gases and use up massive amounts of energy.

If we want to be environmentalists, we need to eat a plant-based vegetarian diet.

Let this year's Earth Day stay with you — by "staying green"—don't eat meat.

Suzanne Dragan LPN, BA,
Director: Food for Life, a program
of the NJ Animal Rights Alliance,
Englishtown, NJ.

- \$420 million for **NJ Transit** projects, including \$130 million for the new tunnel into New York City, which the Sierra Club opposes as currently designed. Commonly referred to as the ARC tunnel, the project as proposed does not meet the initial objectives. (See Jeff Tittel's article on p.1.) We're pleased that other major NJ Transit investments include the River Line/Atlantic City Rail Line transfer station in Delair, and minibuses to serve riders in rural areas and people with disabilities.

While many of the programs slated to receive stimulus cash sound promising from an environmental standpoint, the Chapter plans to track the money as it makes its way from the federal government to the state so as to avoid its application towards environmentally damaging projects. With proper oversight, we can ensure the stimulus money does what it was intended to do - strengthen our economy while making us a greener country less reliant on fossil fuels.

GLOBAL WARMING ISSUE COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

The Right Energy Policy: Waste Not, Want Not, and Covet Thy Neighbor's Money

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

My article in the last issue argued against environmentalists becoming energy supply-siders. Policies meant to increase the energy supply or widen the fuel base run the risk of perversion. Environmentalists lack the lobbying power of companies like ADM, and boondoggles like corn ethanol result. Instead of pushing specific solutions, we should concentrate on an effective policy that will reduce energy waste by promoting conservation. That will bring about clean and feasible solutions without government subsidies.

Europeans and the Japanese have cut energy consumption by a factor of two, without reducing living standards. They did it without regulatory efficiency standards such as CAFE. On the other hand, we experienced SUV proliferation because our efficiency standards got loopholed in the era of cheap energy. Efficient cars and cheap fuel result in lots of cheap driving: Long distance commutes and shopping trips to distant big-box stores seem sensible. People sprawl out into suburbs, clamor for wider and longer highways, and the society ends up diverting money from education, environment and other worthy investments to laying asphalt. The lesson is that regulations are a very important component of our tool bag, but they must be wielded with an eye toward the unintended consequences.

How did the Europeans bring about conservation? In a nutshell, by keeping energy prices high. If you are thinking that this is a political non-starter, keep

reading because I will describe below perhaps the only politically palatable way of raising energy prices.

The most direct and effective route to energy efficiency is to tax emissions by setting a progressive price on carbon. Dirty coal should be taxed but clean solar should not. Natural gas is half-way in between. Most economists favor this transparent approach. It has worked very well in Europe, but American politicians may not have the stomach for it.

A practically equivalent alternative is "cap-and-trade" regulation, in which a total annual CO₂ cap is split into permits and auctioned to utilities, oil companies etc. Companies that want to pollute more than their share have to buy permits from those who pollute less. Energy prices increase because the cost of permits is ultimately passed on to the consumer. Cap-and-trade appears to have the political upper hand because its taxation is indirect.

Either way, people are bound to balk at the large energy price increase necessary for reducing emissions sufficiently. Additional permits will be issued when there is sufficient clamor, thus destroying the cap. However, if the environmental movement is willing to think strategically and stay disciplined, there is a smart way of keeping the cap by making consumers swallow higher energy costs.

The crucial question is what happens to the billions of dollars that will be raised by selling the carbon permits. We environmentalists will petition the government to spend it on our pet projects, but we cannot match the lobbying power of corporate and polluter lobbies.

They will get the lion's share, and what we manage to get will end up spent on feel-good subsidies for boutique renewables at best, and, at worst, on projects like electric cars that will do direct harm by putting money in the pockets of coal companies. The environmental lobby will spend its political clout, only to get blamed for higher energy prices. The green revenues will go to the very polluters whose lobbyists will use it to dilute the emissions cap.

We can prevent this scenario by being disciplined about the green revenues. People will tolerate higher energy prices if they see a monetary benefit that is joined at the hips with the higher energy prices. Consumers will see a direct and tangible benefit if, instead of frittering away money on polluter giveaways and on supply-side ideas which may not work, the cap-and-trade revenues are simply returned to them. Just like the recent economic stimulus checks, every US resident would get an equal share of the green revenues once a year. You get the same green rebate as your neighbor, but your neighbor pays more if he drives a gas guzzler. So the polluter pays: YOU! Coveting thy neighbor's money can be as good a motive as any to reduce energy waste.

We should jettison our energy subsidy ideas and do whatever it takes to make the consumer tolerate higher prices. Not asking for a share of the green pie for our pet projects will give us the moral authority of a watchdog - to safeguard that pie from the polluters. If we make sure that the money is returned with a green stamp, we

won't get blamed for the higher energy price.



Conservatives are fighting global warming legislation tooth and nail because they think of it as a massive tax hike. If the government does not get to spend the green revenues, the right wing is more likely to come along. Raising energy prices is also hard on the poor, and their champions on the left are lukewarm towards global warming legislation. Green rebates, in contrast, mean MORE when you make less, and thus cancel the regressive element of global warming legislation.

There is also talk of using the green revenues to reduce our gigantic budget deficit. Noble as the idea may be, it does not serve the environment, because consumers will not associate higher energy prices with the abstract notion of deficit reduction. They will come out in droves asking for repeal of the very visible energy price hikes - unless the money is returned with an equally visible green stamp on it. In any case, why should the job of fixing a deficit that came from enriching bankers and polluters fall on the back of the environment? The best use of green revenue is to use it to bribe consumers who will tolerate the price hike because they look forward to their annual rebate check.

So the real question is: Are we disciplined enough to forego subsidies for our pet energy projects, and watch the green revenue like a hawk, to see that it is returned to the citizens?

Conservation Eco-Tips 

Sustainability Defined

Both by Laura Lynch, our Chapter Conservation Chair (njsierraclub@gmail.com) – with the usual gratitude to Sustainable Lawrence, for re-publication rights.

The word “sustainability” is one we’ve been hearing a lot lately, but, often as the word is used, it is rarely defined.

Broadly stated, sustainability is what happens when a community, a nation, or even our planet, can survive without causing harm to the environment or the people in it, indefinitely, without harming future generations.

For municipal planners and volunteer groups across New Jersey, sustainability has a more specific definition. Based on the Natural Step, pioneered by Dr. Karl Henrik-Robert in Sweden and refined by Sarah James in the United States, the definition of sustainability can be broken down into four conditions.

The first condition is that **nature is not subject to systematically increasing concentrations of substances extracted from the earth’s crust.** This means that a sustainable society must decrease or eliminate the extraction of resources from underground. For example, rather than siphoning off the last of the planet’s oil, we should instead turn towards renewable resources such as wind and sun for our power. Instead of continuing to extract metals such as aluminum from the ground, we should recycle that which we’ve already used, over and over again. Across New Jersey, towns and businesses are turning away from coal and towards solar energy to power their schools, stores, and even parking garages. Once solar panels are in place, the energy is free, abundant, renewable, and non-toxic.

The second condition of sustainability is that **nature is not subject to systematically increasing concentrations of substances produced by society.** One of the most prevalent man-made substances is plastic. Plastic never truly degrades; it just gets smaller. From minuscule plastic by-products called “nurdles” that contaminate coastlines, to the massive floating plastic debris islands in the Pacific Ocean, plastics are everywhere. Sustainable alternatives to plastic, while difficult to find, are beginning to emerge. Across the country, aided by supermarkets and entrepreneurs, a movement towards reusable shopping bags is catching on. Some cities are attempting to outlaw plastic bags completely, while a few big-name designers are marketing slogan-laced reusable bags as the latest word in chic.

Sustainability’s third condition is that **nature is not subject to degradation by physical means.** World-wide wildlife habitat loss is one example. Another is New Jersey’s own 50 acres-per-day loss of open space and farmland to development. But what demonstrates degradation most vividly and obviously is coal mining by mountaintop removal. Entire mountaintops in the eastern United States have been obliterated, coal removed, the soil left bare to run into and bury streams, all so that we can leave the TV on in the back room, with nobody there to watch it. Waste is the American way, but there is no reason it has to be. Using less of anything saves money. Using less of everything is a step towards sustainability.

The fourth condition of sustainability is that **people should not be subject to conditions that systematically undermine their capacity to meet their needs.** Sustainability, in other words, should not be limited to those who can afford it. By turning towards clean, renewable energy, and by focusing on reuse and recycling, we clear the air, reduce greenhouse gases, and do less damage to the earth’s crust. The standard of living that we have become accustomed to should be available not only to those in wealthy nations. In a sustainable world, future generations will enjoy the luxuries we have come to expect, knowing that their existence treads lightly on the planet.

Clearly we are a long, long way from this ideal. But you can help by applying the four sustainability conditions in your daily life.

For an archive of sustainability Eco-Tips, see <http://ecotips.sustainablelawrence.org>.

For more information on the principle of sustainability, go to <http://www.naturalstep.org>. For an example of a township moving towards sustainability, see <http://sustainablelawrence.org>. For images of mountaintop removal and plastic islands, go to <http://images.google.com> and type “mountaintop removal mining” or “plastic island.” If you are curious about nurdles, see <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nurdle> and visit <http://www.world-without-us.com/>. Click on “Table of Contents” and you can read the chapter called “Polymers are Forever.”

The true Cost of Bottled Water

In a previous Eco-Tip (The Problem of Bottled Water, April-June 2007, available at <http://ecotips.sustainablelawrence.org/2007/02/whats-inside-bottle-of-water.html>) we discussed the ruse that is bottled water. For those of you just tuning in, the short story is that you’re paying for the packaging of water that is likely to have come from a municipal faucet, and be less clean than what comes out of your own tap.

Then there is an energy cost to the packaging and distribution of said little bottle of deception. Let’s examine that cost:

In a the 19 February 2009 issue of Environmental Research Letters, authors PH Gleick and HS Cooley published “Energy Implications of Bottled Water.” Although the writers caution that, since sources and distribution of bottled water

are so varied, it is not possible to come up with a single figure, they have chosen several water sources and traced the energy cost of their distribution.

As of 2006, about 44% of bottled water in the United States came from municipal water sources. Sold as “purified water,” most comes from the Coca-Cola Company, Pepsi Cola Company, and Nestle. These bottlers take municipal water from the nearest source to the bottling plant, with or without filtering it, and seal it in a bottle. The other 56% of bottled water comes from groundwater or protected springs, some of which are as far away as Fiji and France, and this water carries no guarantee that it is any more pure than what comes out of your faucet.

The authors report energy cost in megajoules; translating that, a barrel of

Volunteer Spotlight – Marty Cohen, Chair of our Inner-City Outings Section

Organized by Grace Sica, Chapter Outreach Coordinator (Grace.Sica@Sierraclub.org)

The Sierra Club’s New Jersey Chapter is populated and run by volunteers. Here the spotlight shines on a member who has made a big difference. Marty lives in Ridgewood (Bergen County), and has been a member since about 1988:

How are you involved with the NJ Sierra Club? In addition to chairing the North/Central Jersey ICO, I write letters to government officials on conservation issues, I help get conservation-minded candidates elected to public office, and I have gone on national Club outings.

Career/Background: Schooled in physics and mathematics; did research for ten or so years as a mathematical physicist; worked in software engineering and management for 31 years; currently retired. Besides NJ ICO Chair, I’m editor of the Catskills 3500 Club newsletter, an active trail maintainer, avid amateur musician, volunteer in a school in Paterson teaching children to play clarinet and saxophone, I do some writing, gardening, outdoor sports, political canvassing; and help stimulate the economy by going to music, drama, and dance performances.

Favorite places in New Jersey: I would start at the Delaware Water Gap, follow the ups and downs of the Kittatinny Ridge, hang a right at High Point, and enjoy the farmlands and foothills of Sussex County (or what’s left of them). Make a right onto Bearfort Ridge for the spectacular view of Greenwood Lake, visit Surprise Lake, West Pond with its gorgeous viewpoint off the Ernest Walters Trail, the most scenic trail in NJ (disclosure: I am its maintainer); I wouldn’t miss Terrace Pond. I would paddle my boat or wind surf on Monksville Reservoir; cross over to the Hudson, and hike along its shores or, better yet, paddle the tidal marshes below the Palisades; head south for the briny breezes along the Jersey Shore, and delight finally by paddling down a quiet, serpentine Pine Barrens stream.

Why did you decide to get involved



Marty Cohen enjoys the outdoors with youth on an ICO outing.

in ICO? The gratification unique to teachers. I believe education is absolutely critical for attempting to solve our problems, and those most receptive to education are children.

What environmental issues are you most concerned with? Over-population, the root cause of environmental problems.

Your favorite Sierra Club story? Taking children on outings yields no end of revelations; one of my favorites is a city child who, after being asked not to litter, said “Why can’t I litter?” His question was not an outburst of rebellion, but a genuine, information-seeking question: he wanted to understand why littering was a bad thing. How would you have answered him?

How can people get involved? ICO critically needs leaders: no leaders no outings. Even volunteering one outing a year would be a significant help. A leader should have experience in the woods or paddling, patience, and be willing to undergo some training and a criminal background check (painless and instantaneous). Just contact me: 201-670-8383 or <ico-north@newjersey.sierraclub.org>.

crude oil yields 6000 megajoules and a gallon of gasoline yields about 132 megajoules.

Their energy tracking begins with the manufacture of plastic bottles. Natural gas and petroleum supply the energy required to mold polyethylene terephthalate (PET, the “1” you see on the recycling code on the bottom of your bottle) into bottles. The average energy needed to make one bottle is approximately 0.03 gallons of gasoline. A case of 24 bottles of Philadelphia water, then, would cost you almost three quarters of a gallon of gas. And that’s just to make the bottles.

Preparing the water for those bottles takes energy too, but not nearly as much as manufacturing the plastic. Water treatment varies tremendously, from ultraviolet irradiation to reverse osmosis. Although there are energy costs for getting the water to the bottling plant, the authors analyzed just the purification step and determined that the most energy-intensive methods require only 0.02 megajoules per liter (1.5 ten-thousandths of a gallon of gasoline).

Once the water is ready, the bottles must be cleaned, filled, and sealed at an average energy cost of 0.014 megajoules per bottle, or one ten-thousandth of a gallon of gasoline per bottle.

Now the bottles must be transported. The cost variation is large here, since it depends on how the bottles travel and where they go. Bottled

municipal water doesn’t have to travel very far, since the bottlers serve local markets. Spring water, however, tends to go a lot farther from its source. So, locally-produced water costs about 1.4 megajoules (one one hundredth of a gallon of gas) per liter. However, spring water transported across the ocean from Fiji or France to the United States can cost as much as 5.8 megajoules (44 times more gasoline) to get to the supermarket.

At the store, bottled water is often refrigerated. If the water is also refrigerated at home, the total cooling energy cost would average 0.2 megajoules (1.5 one hundredths of a gallon of gasoline).

Adding all these energy components, Gleick and Cooley estimate that a liter of bottled water “costs” between 5.6 and 10.2 megajoules of energy. That’s 0.043 to 0.077 gallons of gasoline for every liter of bottled water, or about 2000 times the energy cost of tap water.

That’s a lot of gasoline for something you could just get from your tap.

“Energy Implications of Bottled Water,” by P.H. Gleick and H.S. Cooley, appears on pages 1-6 of Volume 4 of the 2009 issue of *Environmental Research Letters*. To play with megajoule-gasoline conversions, go to <http://www.convertnits.com/from/gallon/to/megajoule>. For more information on sustainability, go to Sustainable Lawrence at <http://sustainablelawrence.org>.

Report from Trenton

Highlands for \$ale: How a new Power Line across the Highlands got Approved

By our Trenton staff: Jeff Tittel and Kara Seymour

The recent change of position by the Highlands Council staff on the proposed Roseland-Susquehanna high-voltage power line – now they're saying the proposal is consistent with the Highlands Plan – is not only ridiculous: it undermines the credibility of the Highlands Council and the Highlands Plan.

In December, 2008, the Highlands Council said the proposed power line was not consistent with the Highlands Act, and it identified 56 points of inconsistency. Now, after Public Service Electric and Gas (PSE&G) has proposed to donate \$18.6 million to the Highlands Council, they've reversed course. Shaking an applicant's money in front of your board, and saying it's for mitigation, looks to the average person like a conflict of interest: an outrageous abuse of governmental authority, a sell-out of the public trust, and an undermining of the purpose of the Highlands Act.

The rationale is that this money can be used to mitigate the impact of the proposed power lines. The problem is that you cannot mitigate a scar across the Highlands that removes trees, crosses wetlands, disturbs steep slopes, and brings in dirty coal power from Pennsylvania. Those are direct on-site impacts and you cannot mitigate them offsite, with or without money.

More importantly, the Highlands Act does not call for mitigation; it calls for enhancement, restoration and protection of water quality in the Highlands. The Highlands Council seems to want to rationalize, obfuscate, and sell out the Highlands.

The Highlands Act does not give the Council authority to buy land. They only have the ability to come up with a list of properties for other agencies to purchase.

Buying property that is already woodlands and open space won't mitigate for the damage of this project, since those lands are already part of a healthy ecosystem. You're not offsetting the destruction; you're just buying open space that may already be protected under the Highlands Act.

The Highlands Council has the authority to raise money to meet its budget needs. At a time when budgets are being cut, and when furloughs and potential layoffs are in prospect, the Highlands

Council could use this funding not only to meet its budget needs, but also to pay staff salaries. Taking money from an applicant to a public board to support your staff is a breach of public trust and a conflict of interest.

New Jersey's Uniform Ethics Code provides the following general standards of conduct:

1. No State officer or employee or special State officer or employee should have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or engage in any business or transaction or professional activity, which is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his/her duties in the public interest.

3. No State officer or employee or special State officer or employee should act in his/her official capacity in any matter wherein he/she has a direct or indirect personal financial interest that might reasonably be expected to impair his/her objectivity or independence of judgment.

4. No State officer or employee or special State officer or employee should knowingly act in any way that might reasonably be expected to create an impression or suspicion among the public having knowledge of his/her acts that he/she may be engaged in conduct violative of his trust as a State officer or employee or special State officer or employee.

The Highlands have been opened to the "Highlands" bidder. If PSE&G can offer money and have their project approved, what's stopping a developer to offer money so he can build in the Pequannock (or any other protected) Watershed?

This money won't come out of PSE&G's pocket, it will come from ratepayers. So it's the public that's paying for PSE&G "gift" to the Highlands Council.

Not only will the new power line have a direct impact on wildlife habitats, it will invite increased pollution from dirty coal-fired power plants. Pennsylvania's coal plants are the major source of mercury in our reservoirs and the reason for advisories against eating fish caught in the Highlands Region. In addition, nitrogen oxides from the coal plants are carried by rainwater into our Highlands lakes and streams, resulting in eutrophication.



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:	<i>Open Position!</i>	
Treasurer:	Charles Kopp	ccgkp@verizon.net
Hospitality & Special Events Chair:	Pat Mangino	patmangino@optonline.net
Publicity & Membership Chair:	Marilyn Finley	marfin@earthlink.net
Outings & Events Chair:	Herb Wolff	herbwolff@warwick.net
Environmental Education Leader:	Toni Zimmer	tzimmer@twgpower.com
Webmaster:	Christine Feoranzo	cfeoranzo@gmail.com

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

GENERAL MEETINGS: Open to all and held on the FIRST WEDNESDAY of every month, 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.

Our meetings consist of open discussions regarding various issues in our area. If you have an environmental concern in your town and are considering forming or have formed a citizen action group to address the issue, come to a meeting to discuss it. Our meetings are a good forum to spread the word about an issue and to obtain information and ideas on how to proceed.

Please see our website for information on conservation issues our group is focusing on.

UPCOMING MEETINGS: Please contact Group officers for information.

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
Program Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>	
Treasurer:	Tom Thompson 201-848-1080	etrans743@aol.com
US Public Lands:	John Kashwick 201-660-8820	johnkashwick@optonline.net
Wildlife Issues:	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; date/location below. To find out more, contact Betsy (above) or sign up for e-mail notices at <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-NORTHJERSEY-NEWS.html>. No meetings in July and August.

Sept 24: at Flat Rock Brook Nature Center, 443 Van Nostrand Avenue, Englewood: **National Parks: America's Unique Contribution to the World** - an audiovisual presentation by John Kashwick of the Sierra Club National Parks and Monuments Committee about the history, establishment, management, problems, and future prospects of parks and other sites in the National Park System; with a discussion of how to mount a campaign to designate a new park/site or expand the boundaries or buffers of an existing one.

Prelude to a Gubernatorial Election:

By your editor, Dick Colby (dick.colby@stockton.edu)

How the candidates stand on some environmental issues - culled from Internet and other sources: (At press time - June 3rd - only Corzine and Daggett have asked for endorsement interviews, both set for June 6th. A decision to endorse will be considered at an ExCom meeting in June, July or August.)

Chris Christie (R): The Republican front-runner in the campaign for New Jersey governor said he wants to trim government spending, and that his first target would be the state Department of Environmental Protection, which is too big and is "killing business" with permit delays and indiscriminate fines. He said he would lay off DEP workers and strip the agency of its fish and wildlife oversight. (Associated Press, 28 Apr 09)

Christopher Daggett (D): Daggett called for protecting the state's water by controlling development in the Highlands and Pinelands, while helping those whose land values have been reduced. At the same time, he said affordable

housing laws should be rethought, since they have pushed thousands of homes into the suburbs without achieving the legislation's original goals. Daggett headed up the federal Environmental Protection Agency's regional office for several years during the Reagan administration, later quitting to oversee the state Department of Environmental Protection under former Republican Gov. Thomas Kean. (Press of Atlantic City, 24 Apr 09)

Jon Corzine (D): Told us at his endorsement interview in 2005 that he wanted his "environmental legacy" to be a solution to Global Warming. But he has not been able to move the Legislature in green directions, and has not restored the cuts to the DEP made by the previous Governors (Whitman and McGreevey). His appointments to environmental councils such as the Pinelands Commission have been poor, although Corzine's effectiveness may have been thwarted to some extent by budgetary problems inherited from previous governors.

2009 is an election year for NJ's Governor, all 80 members of the state Assembly, and many local officials.
Ask your Group's Political Committee Representative about how you can participate.

CONSERVATION ISSUES. Our primary concerns are preservation of open space and protection of air and water quality. The Hackensack River vegetative riparian corridors north of Route 4 should not be disturbed: they are essential for the health of the river, habitat and flood control. Parkland in the Overpeck County Park should be preserved — not destroyed for a new road or a 750-space commuter park-and-ride lot. The forested steep slopes in the Ramapo River watershed, a sole source aquifer supplying drinking water for over two million New Jerseyans, should not be developed for large-scale housing projects such as the proposed 1,195-unit Tuxedo Reserve. The forested watersheds in the NJ Highlands should not be cleared or bulldozed to build the proposed PSE&G Susquehanna-Roseland 500 kV transmission line towers that will average 195 feet, twice the height of the existing 230 kV towers. We have 21st century energy problems, and PSE&G is giving us a 19th century dirty coal project that ultimately will pollute Highlands' watersheds.

We remain skeptical that the Highlands Regional Master Plan adequately protects our water supply: 60 percent of Highlands' sub-watersheds lack enough water yet the RMP allows new and expanded extraction in areas of water deficit.

We continue to monitor Elmwood Park's air quality (contact Laura Coll, above) and Clifton's Latteri Park. To find out more or tell us about an issue, please contact Betsy, Mike or Tom (above).

BE A SIERRA CLUB VOLUNTEER! Help with grassroots organizing, conservation issues, educational programs, hikes and outings, Cool Cities Campaign, or work on an issue of your choosing. For more information, contact a group officer (above).

RECYCLE PRINTER CARTRIDGES. Leave your used cartridges in the window box by the exit door at Whole Foods Market, 905 River Road, Edgewater, 8am to 10pm daily. No remanufactured ones, please. Thanks for recycling and supporting North Jersey Group!

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:	Celeste Martin	onecentral@mac.com
Membership Chair:	<i>Open position!</i>	
Energy Coordinator:	Mark Marciniak	mpmplace@ptd.net
Outings Chair:	Jessica Nusbaum	syfrgrl@yahoo.com
Webmaster:	Mike Nusbaum	mikeynus@yahoo.com

WEBSITE: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/Hunterdon/>

See us and keep up to date with our group on Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/group.php?gid=53817136187>

We are now on Facebook! Now you have two ways to stay updated on our group and events/activities going on! Either go to our Facebook page or get on our email distribution list! Please contact hunterdonsierra@gmail.com for more information!!!!

Currently we have a variety of fun outings and events planned for our members! The list is constantly being updated! Please see our group Facebook page for information on upcoming activities! On the initiatives front, we are tackling a variety of important issues, but focusing on three major topics: conservation issues, such as preserving open space (a priority in Hunterdon County), clean energy, and recycling. GET INVOLVED!!!!

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Monthly - Normally alternating between the FIRST MONDAY and WEDNESDAY: July 13, Aug 5, Sept 7. 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 hunterdonsierra@gmail.com.

GENERAL MEETINGS: Held three times a year: May, September and January at 7:30 pm. Locations and topics to be announced! All are invited.

WHERE WE WILL BE: Please join us at our next tabling event!
June 13: "Treasures of the South Branch" festival at the Red Mill in Clinton, between 10am and 4pm.
Aug 19-23: "Hunterdon County 4-H and Agricultural Fair" at the Hunterdon County 4-H & Agricultural Fairgrounds, on Rte 179, about 1 mile south of Ringoes. For information on the fair call 908-782-6809.

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 Group Chair, Greg Nelson (hunterdonsierra@gmail.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:	Judith Courtney	201-868-6575	jaocourtney@netzero.net
and	Ruth Olsen	201-868-6575	oof46@msn.com
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

Fundraising Chair:	Rosemary Arena	201-861-6222	drrosemary@verizon.net
Cool Cities Chair:	Helen Manogue	201-963-3511	
Outings Chair:	Scottie 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

CONSERVATION ISSUES: We are opposed to a 256-unit development proposed for the last parcel of open space on the Hudson River in North Bergen. The development plan is still before the North Bergen Planning Board, and we continue to oppose it. We would like to see this space become permanent parkland, as designated in Hudson County's Master Plan. We have also been monitoring additional development proposals along the Palisades south of the George Washington Bridge in order to protect the Palisades Cliffs from being destroyed for a proposed Walgreens, Starbucks and Bank of America and several other developments. Our impressive group of concerned citizens and experts in many related fields has continued its Planning and Zoning Board attendance on both the Hudson River Park and the Palisades for more than three years.

In April we made a well-received presentation—including a petition of 2500 signatures and a beautiful proposed park design—to the North Bergen Mayor and Commissioners. The petition is in favor of a riverfront park rather than the proposed residential development. The beautiful color rendering by a local architect had a positive impact. This petition is ongoing and soon to be online. So when it runs across your screen. Please take a moment to... Sign it!

We worked with the Coalition to Preserve the Palisades Cliffs at the Liberty State Park Earth Day Celebration and the New Jersey Fisherman's Association at the annual "Hooked on the Hudson" Festival. Many signatures were collected on a second petition to the DEP to uphold the Steep Slope Ruling in addition to the paper petition about the Palisades (1200 signatures and counting), an online petition is now being circulated. Please sign the petition previously sent on The Con-Com Listserv or sign online: <http://www.thepetitionsite.com/2/Coalition-to-Preserve-the-Palisades-Cliffs>.

MEETINGS: ExCom meetings are on FIRST FRIDAYS at 7:30 pm, every other month. The next meeting is Aug 7th. Please contact Judith or Ruth for more information.

Essex County Group

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

OFFICERS: 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 soon receive a postcard giving the time and place of a reorganization meeting. Questions? Contact Joan Denzer: jdenzer73@yahoo.com.

(Continued on page 8)

GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 7)

ACTIVITIES: Presently working with land conservation groups to preserve 120 acres atop the Second Watchung Mountain (known as the West Essex Highlands) in West Orange as open space. Also working to preserve a five-acre forested tract in West Orange and an ancient forest on Gov. McClellan's former estate. Contact Sally Malanga at 973-736-7397 or sally@eccobella.com or Linda Stiles at 973-736-2224 or birdlady07052@msn.com if you want to get involved.

GENERAL MEETINGS: are free and open to the public. 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 or 973-925-8662) for general information.

Loantaka Group

(Morris and Union Counties, and surrounding areas)

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

OFFICERS:

Group Co-Chairs:	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	hauskerr@aol.com
and	Paul Sanderson	908-233-2414	paulmsanderson@aol.com
Treasurer:	Joyce White		joyce00201@yahoo.com
Secretary:	<i>Open Position!</i>		
Conservation Chairs:			
Morris County:	Chris Mills	973-377-1742	chrismills@yahoo.com
Union County:	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	hauskerr@aol.com
Cool Cities Chair:	Stefano Crema	973-627-4354	stefcre@aol.com
Political Chair:	Meiling Chin		chinmeiling@yahoo.com
Programs Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>		
Education Coord:	Jeff Huppert	973-263-0344	jeffhup@optonline.net
Fundraising Chair:	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	hauskerr@aol.com
Outreach, Events:	<i>Open Position!</i>		
Publicity Chair:	Wynn Johanson	908-464-0442	johansons@comcast.net
Membership:	Doug Williams	973-263-8404	dougjwilliams@verizon.net
Air Quality Coord:	Bob Campbell	973-761-4461	bobc2023_sc@verizon.net
Webmaster:	Paul Sanderson		paulmsanderson@aol.com
Greenbrook:	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. Or come to one of our General Meetings on the second Wednesday of the month. 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.

Come learn something new and make some new friends. We'd welcome the chance to meet you and to introduce ourselves. Please see the schedule, below, and join us!

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
Conservation Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>		
Membership Chair:	Grace Marie Beans	585-755-3430	beansgm@yahoo.com
Outings Chair:	Leona Fluck	609-259-3734	Leona@pineypaddlers.com
Political Chair:	Terry Stimpfel	609-731-7016	terystimb@hotmail.com
ExCom At-large:	Malcolm McFarland	609-448-8699	jmalcolmmcfarland@verizon.net
	Ruth Ann Mitchell		ram400500@yahoo.com
	Tamanna Mohapatra	732-801-9629	tmohapatra@yahoo.com

We need you! Want to help out? Thinking of becoming involved? Try volunteering for a few hours or at an event! Opportunities abound in Publicity, Recycling, Events, Outreach and as Conservation Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Let's talk. Please contact Terry or Grace Marie.

Some local conservation issues include the C&A Rail Trail (Hamilton, Robbinsville), Assumpink 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 from 7:30 to 9pm (pre-meeting social at 7) on the THIRD TUESDAY of most months at the Whisk and Spoon meeting room of

Whole Foods Market, Windsor Green Shopping Center, Rte 1 South, Princeton. No general meetings in July, August and December.

Upcoming Program:

Sept 15 (Tues): Tracy Carlucci of Delaware Riverkeeper will talk about **Riverkeeper efforts to protect the Delaware Estuary.**

CENTRAL OUTINGS and EVENTS: For event details, see Outings Section of this Newsletter, or Chapter Outings website. For full description, updates and last minute events visit the Central Group online calendar accessed from Central Group website. ALWAYS check with outing leader for cancellations, etc.

ALL paddling trips require pre-registration with leaders: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (Have you considered becoming an outings leader or possibly co-leading an outing? Please contact Leona about opportunities for emerging leaders.)

Friday evening picnic social in July and Aug, at Mercer Co Park. Check online calendar for details.

Jul 4 (Sat): Paddle Crosswicks Creek/Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown Marsh.

Jul 29 (Wed): Paddle Delaware River - Frenchtown / Lambertville.

Aug 2 (Sun): Paddle Crosswicks Creek/Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown Marsh.

Aug 9 (Sun): RiverLINE Ramble to Historic Burlington City and Riverton.

Aug 12 (Wed): Meteor Watch, Short Hike and Picnic.

Aug 16 (Sun): Paddle Delaware River - Firemens Eddy / Bordentown.

Sept 14 (Mon): Paddle Crosswicks Creek - Bordentown / Anchor Thread Park.

Sep 30 (Wed): Paddle D&R Canal and Delaware River.

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.

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:

Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>		
Vice-Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>		
Conservation Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>		
Membership:	<i>Open Position!</i>		
Outings:	<i>Open Position!</i>		
Political Chair:	Randy Gill	732-525-2612	ragill@optonline.net
Secretary:	<i>Open Position!</i>		
Treasurer, Webmaster:	Don McBride	732-560-0369	dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org
Publicity and Programs:	<i>Open Position!</i>		
Chapter Delegate:	Sunil Somalwar	732-572-7721	sunil.somalwar@gmail.com

REORGANIZATION: We began reorganizing the Group this Spring and are looking for volunteers for our Executive Committee, and suggestions for locations and programs. Should we move the meetings back to Bound Brook, stay with East Brunswick, or find a new location? We had organizational meetings in April and May, and plan to have another one in September, the time and place to be announced by postcard, e-mail, and on our web site.

ISSUES: We will be taking on energy issues, land issues, and other issues of interest to our new members.

GENERAL MEETINGS: The next General Meeting will be in September, at a time and date still to be determined. If interested, please contact Grace Sica, at 609-656-7612.

Raritan Group members are invited to partake of a new removal and recycling service for appliances: Misterscrap (908-616-0004; www.misterscrap.com) operates in Somerset & Middlesex Counties for free removal of metal household items such as lawn mowers, grills, washers, dryers, freezers, and air conditioner units. Contact the owner, Mike Girardi, at 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, and surrounding areas)

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

OFFICERS:

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

GENERAL MEETINGS: Held at 8pm on the FOURTH MONDAY of each month - except in July, August and December, at the Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse, 1475 West Front Street, Lincroft (please check the congregation's website for directions: <http://www.uucmc.org/where-we-are.htm>). Come early to socialize and enjoy refresh-

ments. For additional directions or information, please contact Dennis Anderson or Faith Teitelbaum (see list of officers, above), or visit our web site at <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/JerseyShore/>.

June 22: Marie Springer will speak on the **care and feeding of bees**, and their importance to the environment in general and agriculture in particular.

Sept 28: Grace Sica, a Chapter staff member, will discuss **advances and issues in state and federal energy policy**, including implementation of NJ's Energy Master Plan, renewable projects in New Jersey, and the Obama Administration's efforts to mitigate global warming.

Ocean County Group

Website: www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean

OFFICERS:

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

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.

Jul 18 (Sat): Get your tickets now for our 4th ANNUAL BBQ FUND RAISER at Windward Beach in Brick. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 per child age 6-10 and children 5 and under are free. We will have great food, a live "DJ", swimming, volleyball and giveaways. Come out, have some fun and support the environment. To purchase tickets please contact Fund Raising Chair Joyce Isaza at 732-604-4583. If you cannot make it, donations are gladly accepted and greatly appreciated.

Aug 22 (Sat): Come join us for our second summer outing. For more details, please contact our Outings Chair, Dawn Marie Johns at 732-644-6340.

Sep 7 (Mon): Please join us for FATHER ALPHONSE's CONCERT EVENT in Point Pleasant. For more details please contact Group Chair Gregory Auriemma at 732-451-9220.

Sep 21 (Mon): GENERAL MEETING held at 7pm location will be determined, please check our web site for updates and more details.

A very special THANK YOU to the following Ocean County contributors: A-1 Bicycles, Alan's Florist, Amy's Buffet, Asian Nails, Athen's Grill, Bay Point (Meat) Market, Bayville Diner, Beachwood Boutique, Bel Haven Paddlesports, Berry Fresh Farms, Blase DeNatale Jewelers, Brick BBQ, Brick Bicycle, Brick Flower Market, Bricktown Florist, Buy-Rite, Cafe Denise, Calendar Club, Carlton Cards, Chicken Holiday, China Express II, Craig's Pub, Dairy Queen, De Carlo's, Del's Farm Market, Dunkin' Donuts, Edible Arrangements, Elyne Leighton, El Familiar, Europa South, Every Blooming Thing, Fat Cat Bake Shop, Forbes Liquors, Fur Balls Pet Grooming, Galanti's Pizza, Garden State Philharmonic, Gavone's, Great Pacific Frame Shop, Hand & Stone Massage Spa, Hanna Krause Candy, Health Matters Foods & Vitamins, Here Boy Grooming, Hargrove Gallery, Il Giardinello, Java Joint, Jules South, Ken's Hardware, La Scala Italian Pastry Shop, La Strada Restaurant, Linda Coulter, Lorry's Island End Motel, Luca e Luca, Mafe-A Hair Place, Mario's South, Mattina's Bakery, Maureen's Precision Cuts, Mid-Shore Meats & Italian Deli, Mike's Pizzeria, Moore's Farm Market, Mrs. Walker's Ice Cream, Nature's Best, Nature's Backyard, Natures Nutrition, Oil House Café, Panda Buffet, Pasquale's Pizza, Pete Leighton, Peter Weeks, Pilot House, Point Pleasant Bicycle, Sand Castle Diner, Sarah's Salon, Schiano's Pizza, Shady Rest Restaurant, Shop-Rite, Shore Animal Volunteer Enterprise, Spano's Ristorante Italiano, Studio Edge, Sue Puder, Sundaes-The Ice Cream Place, Sweets at the Beach, The Beach House, The Game Room, The Office Lounge, The Shrimp Box, The UPS Store, Van Holten's Candy, Via Roma III, Villa Amalfi, Way 2 Cool Sports, Wickit Good Candles, Wild Birds Unlimited, Wine World, Wood 'N' Things, Yakkity Yak Kayaks, Yesterday's Restaurant

West Jersey Group

(Camden, Gloucester and Burlington Counties, approximately)

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

OFFICERS:

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

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

Sept 9: To be announced. Please check our website for details

South Jersey Group

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

OFFICERS:

Group, Outings Chair:	Tom Boghosian	609-625-0878	boghosian1@verizon.net
Vice-Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>		
Conservation Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>		
Pol. Chair, Calendars:	Dick Colby	609-965-4453	dick.colby@stockton.edu
Membership Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>		
Secretary/Treasurer:	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, Swainton 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. 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.

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:

July 8 and Sept 9, 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.

July 16, Aug 20, and Sept 17, 7pm: **Atlantic County Friends of the Parks:** Monthly meetings 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.

(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)

Aug 19, 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 ½ miles south of Mays Landing. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114.

Aug 25, 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.

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:

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

Volunteer Opportunities: We need volunteers in all areas of the state to run events. Volunteers needed for the positions of: hike leaders, 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.

Consider volunteering with the Cool Cities Campaign. The message and method of empowering groups to manage carbon dioxide emissions are relevant for public and private school systems, nonprofit community operations, etc. in New Jersey. Volunteers with diverse skills and contacts are important for environmental success. Sign on now. Want to promote the Cool Cities goals but have limited free time? Contact Terry Stimpfel at terystimb@hotmail.com with your ideas and to learn about short duration assignments.

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.

Arline 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

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

The Coalition will be running nine Summer Environmental Leadership Training Programs (Sprogs) around the country—CA, IL, NH, NM, OR, PR (Spanish speaking), TX, VA, and WA. These week-long programs teach high school and college-aged youth how to be effective advocates and provide grassroots organizing skills. More details at: www.ssc.org/sprog

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

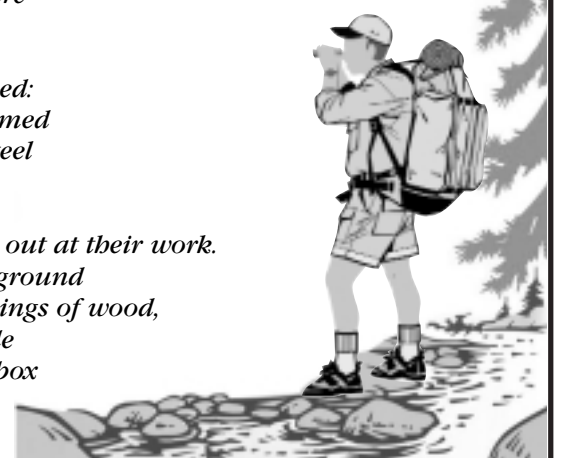
Inner City Outings is a community outreach program, providing wilderness adventures for city youth of New Jersey. Volunteer certified outings leaders conduct outings (generally day-trips) mostly on weekends. If you would like to experience the rewards of introducing inner-city youth to the wonders of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

Poetic Interlude

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

Building Site

Whose woods these really were
I thought I knew.
It's no longer of moment.
They're dead now, or displaced:
the place ripped up, transformed
by busy monsters made of steel
and their indifferent drivers,
smoking, drinking coffee,
stopping for a break to stare out at their work.
They rip the trees out of the ground
as if they were just lifeless things of wood,
or garbage to be shoved aside
allowing room for this next box
of glass and stone and steel
to float on its black-top sea.





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 October-December 2009 write-ups to your Group Outings Coordinator before August 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 October-December trip write-ups by August 5th.

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 Group contributing each outing is given at the end of the write-up, as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| (C) Central Jersey | (JS) - Jersey Shore |
| (L) - Loantaka | (N) - North Jersey |
| (NW) - Northwest Jersey | (S) - South Jersey |
| (W) - West Jersey | (NJ) - NJ Chapter |
| (H) - Hudson | (RV) - Raritan Valley |
| (IC) - Inner City Outings | (RT) - River Touring |
| (E) - Essex County | (ACOC) - Atlantic Chapter Outings Comm. |

and — if in doubt — check with the leader by phone (201-444-2096) the morning (7-8:30) of the event. To register and for directions contact the leader, George Ekel: GeorgeEkel@aol.com, or by phone, by Wed, July 8.

Jul 15 (Wed): Canoeing/Kayaking Skills Refresher at Lake Oswego (Burlington Co). 9am. Event leaders will share information about equipment, safety practices, self-rescue, paddling techniques and efficiencies. New and beginning paddlers are welcome. Canoes and kayaks can be rented from Mick's Canoe and Kayak Rental 800-281-1380 or www.mickscanoerental.com. Please contact leaders to confirm your participation: George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Jul 22 (Wed): Canoe or Kayak with your Pooch on the Oswego River (Burlington Co). 9am. Fortunato invites his doggie cousins to bring their owners on the "Jewel of the Pinelands". This is a 7-mile trip. Canoes and kayaks can be rented from Mick's Canoe and Kayak Rental: 800-281-1380 or www.mickscanoerental.com. Please contact leaders to confirm trip participation and meeting logistics: George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Jul 29 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River (Mercer/Hunterdon Cos). 9am. Paddle 15 miles from Frenchtown to Lambertville. We'll stop for lunch at the famous Hot Dog Man's river "restaurant" for paddlers. Kayaks must be over 12 ft; spray skirts and helmets recommended. Rental boats are not available. To confirm the trip, meeting location and participation please contact Leaders: George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

AUGUST

Aug 2 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak on the Crosswicks Creek/Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown Marsh (Mercer Co). 10:30 am. Native Americans thrived on these lands more than 10,000 years ago. See where Joseph Bonaparte's Bordentown estate, Point Breeze, was located on the bluffs above the Crosswicks. This is a shuttle-less 8-mile round trip to John A. Roebling Park for our lunch break; optional walk to Spring Lake after lunch. Bring lunch and beverage. To confirm the trip and participation please contact leaders: George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

Aug 8 (Sat): C5C Patriots Path Stroll (Morris Co) - Singles hike. 10am. Come take an easy stroll on Patriots Path in Morristown. This 3-5-mile stroll will start out from the Speedwell Lake parking lot, across the street from Historic Speedwell. See the Morris County Parks website (<http://www.morrisparks.org/>) for directions, or put the following address into your preferred map engine: 300 Speedwell Avenue, Morristown NJ 07960. The path is wide, partly paved, partly crushed stabilized gravel, with very little in the way of elevation change. We will be strolling at a very moderate pace. Please bring plenty of water and a light snack. Great for beginners. Heavy/steady rain cancels. Optional lunch afterwards. No pets please. Leader: Jeffrey Sovelove: Hiker_Dood@Yahoo.com. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike.

Aug 9 (Sun): RiverLINE Ramble - Historic Burlington City and Riverside (Burlington Co). Midday travel on RiverLINE to the Burlington City Tourism Office for a 1-1/2 hour walking tour, which includes the Friends Meeting House. Then ride to Riverside for late lunch at historic Madison Pub (bar, not restaurant) and a look at the Pennsylvania Watch Building. Return via RiverLINE. Costs: Train is \$1.35 per two hour period, fee for walking tour is \$8. Heavy rain cancels. Group size limited. For details and reservations contact leader: Don Carlo: 609-586-4357 or doncarlo2@verizon.net. Co-leader: Terry Stimpfel: 609-731-7016 or terystimb@hotmail.com. (C)

Aug 9 (Sun): Harteshorne Woods (Monmouth County) (Special interest: recent history). 9am. Moderate 6-mile hike with elevation gains and a lot of scenery. Please bring drinks and snacks. Hiking shoes are suggested. Meet at the Rock Point parking area. Take GSP to exit 117. Take Rte 36 toward Sandy Hook to Portland Road (last street on the right before the Sandy Hook bridge). Take Portland Rd to the top of the hill. Rock Pt Parking is on the left. Bad Weather (including high heat index) Cancels. Confirmation/questions please call or text leader: Mike Verange: 908-902-0718 or mjverange@aol.com. (JS)

Aug 12 (Wed): Meteor Watch, Short Hike and Picnic at Pole Farm (Mercer Co). Join us for a short evening hike at Mercer County Park NW (Pole Farm) in Lawrence Township. Bring a picnic supper and something to recline on. Park has no support facilities. Stay after dark to observe the Perseid meteor shower with folks from the Mercer Co Park Commission and Lawrence Nature Center. Cloudy weather cancels. For details visit the Central Group homepage <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/Central/> and follow link to the Central online calendar. Leader: Terry: 609-731-7016 or terystimb@hotmail.com. (C)

Aug 15 (Sat): Meteor Shower Hike, Wharton State Forest (Atlantic Co). 7:30 pm. 6 miles at moderate pace. We will do a short hike on sandy roads and return to watch the Perseid meteor shower, a solar system spectacular. Bring snack-type food to share at our tailgate social after the hike, and a chair or blanket to sit on. NP/NC. Meet in open field next to Atsion Office on Rte 206, 10 miles south of Red Lion Circle (Rtes 70 & 206), or 5 miles north of Hammonton. Leader: Paul Serdiuk: 609-462-3593 (evenings only) or pisl@cccj.net.

Aug 15 (Sat): Relax on the beach at Shepherd Lake in Ringwood State Park (Passaic County). Singles outing. 9:30 am onwards. Shepherd Lake offers swimming, boating, kayaking, canoeing, hiking, biking, vast picnic/playground area, cafeteria for fast food. In the morning, the more adventurous of us will go for an easy hike (3 miles, 300 ft. altitude gain/loss, 2 hours at slow ("smell-the-flowers") pace); hiking boots recommended. The rest of us may swim, play volley-ball (if one of us brings the ball and the net), boat, kayak, canoe, talk, read (bring a book), sun-bask, etc. by the lake until a cafeteria lunch between noon and 1pm. (Or bring your own food.) Then a hilly 5-6-mile bike ride, or swimming, volley-ball, boating, kayaking, canoeing, talk, reading, sun-basking, etc. Bring recreational paraphernalia, sun-screen, bug juice and — most importantly — cheerful attitude. Meet on the lake side of the Park Office; look for a guy in a green Sierra t-shirt. Don't be late — when the parking lot fills up they close the gate. Children and pets (on leash) as well as your non-Sierra friends welcome. There is an entrance fee of \$10 per car for people under 62. (The youngsters of us may want to car pool from a nearby lot; let me know if you're interested.) Rain day: August 16 (Sun). VERY IMPORTANT: Because of the "beach" nature of the event it will go on only with VERY GOOD WEATHER (warm and sunny; not just "no rain"), so please check the weather forecast and — if in doubt — check with the leader by phone (201-444-2096) the morning (7-8:30) of the event. To register (by Aug 12) and for directions: George Ekel: GeorgeEkel@aol.com or by phone.

Aug. 16 (Sun): Minnewaska State Park (NY) bike and swim. Singles outing. Ride starts from the Upper Parking Area of Minnewaska State Park at 9:30 am. Bring lunch, at least a quart of water, and optional bathing suit. HELMET REQUIRED. The ride will traverse the carriage trails about 7-1/2 miles to the secluded beach on Lake Awosting. Outstanding scenery and views along the way. We will break for lunch at the beach and for those who choose, a swim in this crystal clear lake. After lunch the ride will climb to Castle Point followed by a 3+ mile downhill along the majestic Shawangunk cliffs back to the parking area. Carriage trails are wide, reasonably well graded, generally flat to mild rolling hills, with one or two climbs. Pace will be easy, matched to all of group; no one will be left behind (hike-a-bike allowed). Spare inner tube highly recommended. Plan to arrive by 9:15 am as the parking area fills up quickly on summer weekends; once full, no one is admitted and you are out of luck. Take NY Thruway north to exit 18. Turn left onto Rte 299 west and follow thru New Paltz. Continue on Rte 299 to end. Go right onto Rte 44/55. Follow around hairpin and up mountain. Go past West Trapps pkg area on right and also past first Minn St Pk pkg area on right. Turn left into 2nd Minn St Pk pkg area on left, and pay entrance fee approximately \$10 per car. Proceed to upper pkg area where the ride will commence. Call or write for further info: Bruce Gaylen: wynbruce@aol.com or 973-696-1809. Cell phone (day of ride): 973-356-1149.

Aug 16 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River (Mercer Co). 8am. Our 18-mile trip begins at Firemens Eddy, and continues past Trenton through the Trenton Falls before we enter the tidal section of the Delaware on our way to Bordentown Beach. This is a trip for experienced paddlers. Kayaks must be 12ft or over; spray skirts are recommended. Helmets are required. Rental boats are not available. For meeting logistics and to confirm your participation please contact leaders: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

Aug 19 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak Cedar Creek to Lanoka Harbor (Ocean Co). 9am. Enjoy a 10-mile summer paddle in the amber-colored waters of Cedar Creek. Meet at Double Trouble Park, Pinewald-Keswick and Double Trouble Rds. Please contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Aug 24 (Mon): Canoe/Kayak on the Wading River (Burlington Co). 9am. We'll paddle 10 miles from Hawkins Bridge to Beaver Branch. This is a good trip for novice paddlers. Canoes and kayaks can be rented from Mick's Canoe and Kayak Rental, 800-281-1380 or www.mickscanoerental.com. Please contact leaders to confirm trip participation and meeting logistics: George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Aug 30 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Mullica River (Burlington Co). 9am. The Mullica River is designated as part of New Jersey's Wild and Scenic River System. Its watershed is the largest in the Pinelands. We paddle 12 miles from Atsion to Pleasant Mills, an all-day trip for experienced Pines paddlers. Please contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting logistics: George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

SEPTEMBER

Sep 12 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak Cedar Creek (Ocean Co). 9am. Join us for George's birthday on our favorite river and eat cake too! We'll paddle 7 miles from Ore Pond to Dudley Park. Meet at Double Trouble Park

(continued on page 12)



NEW JERSEY CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

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

Vice-Chair and Vice-Treasurer
Sunil Somalwar
sunil.somalwar@gmail.com
1015 S Park Av, Highland Park NJ 08904-2954

Conservation Chair
*Laura Lynch (609) 882-4642
njsierraclub@gmail.com
11 Lumar Rd., Trenton, NJ 08648-3127

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

Political Vice-Chair
Randy Gill (732) 525-2612
ragill@optonline.net

Secretary
* Bonnie Tillery (609) 259-6438
blt44bit@msn.com
389 Sawmill Rd, Hamilton NJ 08620

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

Outings Chair
Ellen Blumenkrantz (201) 784-8417
EllenBlu@specialistsms.com
43 Carlson Court, Closter NJ 07624

Newsletter Editor
Dick Colby (609) 965-4453
dick.colby@stockton.edu
217 Liverpool Av, Egg Harbor City NJ 08215-1319

Webmaster
George Newsome (732) 308-1518
newsome1@pobox.com

Membership Chair
Chris Mills (973) 377-1742
ChrisMills94@yahoo.com

Group Effectiveness Chair
Rich Isaac (see above)

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

Student Outreach Coordinator
Jeff Huppert (973) 263-0344
heffhup@optonline.com

Environmental Education Coordinator
Leia Sims
leia@bized.com

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

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

Legal Chair
Bill Singer, Esq. (908) 359-7873
wsinger@singerfedun.com

Other ExCom members at large
* Laura Bagwell (732) 741-8678
L.Bagwell3@verizon.net

* Lee Snyder (609) 969-7909
pinelands1@hotmail.com

Regional Issues Committee
Joan Denzer** (JDdenzer73@yahoo.com),
George Denzer

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

Personnel Committee
Joan Denzer**, Sunil Somalwar, Ken
Johanson, Laura Bagwell, George Denzer

Legislative Committee
Ken Johanson**, Carolyn Freeman,
Carey Huff, Dave Mattek, Greg Nelson, Tim
Palmer, and Kelly-Ann Pokrywa

Litigation Oversight Committee
Ken Johanson**, Carolyn Freeman

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

Information Technology Committee
Sunil Somalwar**, George Newsome,
Laura Lynch

Facilities (office, meeting sites)
George Denzer**, Joan Denzer, Paul
Sanderson, Sunil Somalwar and Bonnie
Tillery

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

Issue Coordinators

Clean Air Issues
Bob Campbell (973) 761-4461
bobc2023_sc@verizon.net

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

Environmental Justice
Zoe Kellman (201) 321-4578
england5@optonline.com

Global Warming
Sunil Somalwar (see left column)

Cool Cities
Faith Teitelbaum (732-229-0553)
faithtei@aol.com

Stefano Crema
stefcre@aol.com

Highlands Issues
Mike Herson (see left column)

Marine Issues
Greg Auriemma (see left column)

Passaic River
David Yennior (973) 844-1384
dyennior@msn.com

Pinelands Issues
Lee Snyder (see left column)

liaison to Pinelands Preservation Alliance:
Mike Galloway (M.Galloway@comcast.net)

Population Issues
Bonnie Tillery (see left column)

Recycling Issues
David Yennior (see above)

Sprawl Issues
Jane Tousman (see left column)

Tiger Conservation Issues
Sunil Somalwar (see left column)

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

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

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

Chapter Director: Jeff Tittel
Jeff.Tittel@SierraClub.org

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

Program Assistant: Kara Seymour
Kara.Seymour@SierraClub.org

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

Upcoming ExCom Meetings:

All members are welcome to attend these monthly statewide policy deliberations, held on **SECOND SATURDAYS**. Details, including agendas and travel instructions, are available from Ken Johanson, the Chapter Chair. (Best confirm!)

July 11, August 8, and September 12, 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)

headquarters, Pinewald-Keswick and Double Trouble Rds. Please contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F, 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Sept 12 (Sat): Farewell to summer: on the beach at Shepherd Lake in Ringwood State Park (Passaic Co). Singles outing. Shepherd Lake offers swimming, boating, kayaking, canoeing, hiking, biking, vast picnic/playground area, cafeteria fast food. Note: NO (official) swimming after Labor Day (unofficially, you may try it). See the descriptions, above, for July 11 or Aug 15. No more entrance fee after Labor Day! Rain day: September 13 (Sun). To register and for directions contact the leader, George Ekel: GeorgeEkel@aol.com or 201-444-2096, by Wed, Sept 9.

Sept 13 (Sun): Thompson Park, Lincroft (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 County Rte 520 past Brookdale Community College. Thompson Park is the next left. Parking area is on the right. Bad weather, (including high heat index) cancels. Confirmation/questions: please call or text leader: Mike Verange: 908-902-0718 or mjverange@aol.com. (JS)

Sept 14 (Mon): Canoe/Kayak the Crosswicks Creek (Mercer Co). 9am. This is a 14-mile shuttle-less trip on the Crosswicks Creek Canoe Trail. We paddle with the tide from Bordentown to Anchor Thread Park. Bring lunch to eat in the park. Meet at Bordentown Beach. Kayaks must be over 12ft. in length. To confirm the trip and participation please contact leaders: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

Sept 18-20 (Fri-Sun): Assateague Island (MD/VA) Kayak Weekend. Kayak and camp at the Federal campground on Assateague Island. We will kayak the back bays and visit several islands of interest. Downtime to relax, light hiking trails, optional group dinner in town, Fiddlers Festival or Kite festival as options. Contact leader to confirm trip participation and campground information. Participants will be responsible for their own campsite reservations. Trip will only run with a minimum confirmed group. Leader: Paul Serdiuk: 609-462-3593 evenings only or pis1@cccncj.net>


Sept 20 (Sun): Canoe or Kayak with your Pooch on the Wading River (Burlington Co). 9am. We'll paddle 10 miles from Hawkins Bridge to Beaver Branch. This is a good trip for novice paddlers. Canoes and kayaks can be rented from Mick's Canoe and Kayak Rental: 800-281-1380 or www.mickscanoerental.com. Please call leaders to confirm trip participation and meeting logistics: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com.

Sept 23 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak the Great Egg Harbor River (Atlantic Co). 8:30 am. The "egg" is lovely to paddle in September. We'll paddle 17 miles from Penny Pot to Lake Lenape. Meet at the Harley Dawn Diner, Black Horse Pike; arrive early for breakfast. Boats can be rented from Palace Outfitters: www.palaceoutfitters.com or 609-625-5882. Contact leaders to confirm trip participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com.

Sept 26 (Sat): B6B - Lewis Morris Park Singles Hike (Morris Co). 10am. We will start at Sunrise Lake, then hike to the upper parking lot and back down to the lake using a combination of the Yellow and Red Trails. The pace will be a moderate one. See the Morris County Parks Commission website http://www.morrisparks.net/aspparks/lmmain.asp for directions. Bring lots of water, lunch, and wear hiking boots. Meet in Sunrise Lake parking lot. Heavy/steady rain cancels. No pets please. Leader: Jeffrey Sovelove: Hiker_Dood@Yahoo.com. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike.

Sept 27 (Sun): Kayak the Tidal Delaware River (Burlington Co). 8am. We'll paddle 21+ miles with the tide from Bordentown to the Palmyra Cove Nature Park (www.palmyracove.org). This is a trip for experienced kayakers. Kayaks must be 14ft or over in length; spray skirts recommended. Please contact leaders for logistics and to confirm the trip and your participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com.

Sept 30 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak the D&R Canal and the Delaware River (Mercer Co). 9am. This year marks the 175th anniversary of the D&R Canal's opening in 1834! Find special anniversary events at www.dandrcanal.com/park_index.html. Join us for a 10-mile shuttle-less paddle to Firemens Eddy that begins on the canal at Washington Crossing State Park. We'll then portage to the Delaware River and float downriver to Washington Crossing. Bring lunch and beverages. Rentals are not available. To confirm the trip and participation please contact leaders: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)



Vol. 38, No. 3 • Summer, 2009

Dick Colby (dick.colby@stockton.edu)Editor
Karen Brown (karonna@yahoo.com)Designer

Editorial Board: George and Joan Denzer, Rich Isaac, Ken Johanson, Laura Lynch, Paul Sanderson, Sunil Somalwar, Bonnie Tillery and Jeff Tittel.

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.

Members please send address changes:
To 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

Prospective advertisers: see instructions: http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/njs_sierran/njs_advertise.asp

Printed by Redmond Press, Denville, NJ
Addressed by SHM Mailhouse, Princeton, NJ
Periodical postage paid at Princeton NJ.

The Jersey Sierran is published quarterly by the Sierra Club's New Jersey Chapter, 145 West Hanover St, Trenton NJ 08618

Copyright 2009

Permission to reprint (with source acknowledgement) is granted to other Sierra Club entities.

MEMBERSHIP COUPON

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club

Mastercard Visa American Express

Exp Date ____/____/____

Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____

Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

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

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES	INDIVIDUAL JOINT	
	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
INTRODUCTORY	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39 <input type="checkbox"/> \$47	
SUPPORTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100	
CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150 <input type="checkbox"/> \$175	
LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$1250	
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24 <input type="checkbox"/> \$32	
STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24 <input type="checkbox"/> \$32	
LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24 <input type="checkbox"/> \$32	

F94Q **W 4000** -1



FOUNDED 1892

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet