Sustainable Life-style Articles inside:
Disposing of Smoke Detectors
See page 3

Roughly 20,000 Members in New Jersey

January-March 2010

By Richard Isaac, Chapter Political Chair (risaacx@aol.com)

Reader Survey

In a time of media innovations, we invite you to help guide Sierra Club practices in New Jersey. The last time we did this was April, 2004. Check as many or few boxes as you like, feel free to disregard any question that seems too inquisitive, and please feel free to disregard any questions that you do not want to answer.

This Newsletter
1. Check all the features that interest you:

- Group News
- Outings
- Sustainable Life-style articles, including eating Green and Eco-tips
- Reports from Trenton (on state environmental politics)
- Your Club involvement

2. Would you be as likely to read it if it appeared only in electronic format?
   - No - I prefer hard copy.
   - Yes - the format doesn’t matter to me.


4. Would you be likely to utilize any or all of the following additions to our “outreach”?
   - Blogging
   - Tweeting
   - Facebooking
   - Other (specify)

5. Comment on the quarterly frequency of the Jersey Sierran:
   - Satisfactory.
   - Would prefer six issues per year.
   - Would prefer fewer than four issues per year.
   - Would accept (and appreciate) additional (intermediate).

6. Is there a franchise fee (non-employment) life?

7. How active are you:
   - Less than two years.
   - Between five and ten years.
   - Between two and five years.
   - More than ten years.

8. Would you do a one or more. (contacting politicians on issues).

9. How often do you vote regularly in Sierra Club elections:
   - Never.
   - Less than two years.
   - Between two and five years.
   - More than ten years.

10. How active are you:
   - Less than two years.
   - Between five and ten years.
   - Between two and five years.
   - More than ten years.

11. How active are you:
   - Less than two years.
   - Between five and ten years.
   - Between two and five years.
   - More than ten years.

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   - Less than two years.
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   - Between two and five years.
   - More than ten years.

50. How active are you:
   - Less than two years.
   - Between five and ten years.
   - Between two and five years.
   - More than ten years.

(continued on page 3)
Sierra Club Group Ballot:

If you are a member of the Northwest Jersey Group, Hunterdon County Group, or Hudson-Meadowlands Group, please vote your section of the ballot below, and return it in your own envelope. To arrive by Feb. 1, to Sierra Club Ballot, 145 W. Orange St. Trenton NJ 08618. (Your name and address, on the reverse side of this ballot, will be used to verify your eligibility to vote if questions are encountered before the vote is counted.) Parcels of boxes are to enable two members to vote, and to be returned to the appropriate vote. Club rules require two more candidates than the number of openings; if an insufficient number of candidates is on offer, write-in votes are provided.

Hudson-Meadowlands Group: Candidates for two-year terms on the Group ExCom, listed alphabetically by title of these candidates and in this Issue’s Group News section. Please vote for one.

- Maria Due
- Jennifer Glass
- Lowell Rogers
- Helen Monagle

North Highlands Group: vote for a Name-Change: to the Skylands Group

- Yes
- No

South Highlands Group: Do you approve of the Name-Change to Skylands Group?

- Yes
- No

Judith Eck Chosen as EPA Regional Administrator

By Kara Seymour and Jeff Tittel, of our Trenton staff

On Nov 5th, the White House announced the appointment of Judith Enck, New York Deputy Secretary for the Environment, as EPA Administrator for Region 2, which includes New Jersey. The NJ Sierra Club applauds this appointment, and are grateful to EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson and the Obama Administration.

The Club has a long history working with EPA to fight environmental issues from toxic cleanups to global warming. She helped force the NPDES to clean up polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in the Hudson River. She helped to set up the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. She has over seen the cleanup of toxic sites from Long Island to the Canadian border.

Given all the problems the DEP has with siting wind turbines, the lack of weakening of the regulations, the legislature’s bad bills like permit extension and licensed site professionals, and Governor Corzine’s budget cuts, this is a critical time to have strong EPA Regional Administrators

POPULATION ISSUE COORDINATOR’S REPORT:

If you educate a girl, you educate a community

By Bonnie Tillery. (bht44b@msn.com)

Perhaps you have read “Three Cups of Tea: One Man’s Mission to Promote Peace One School at a Time” by Greg Mortenson. He has written a book on the NY Times best seller list for the last 142 weeks (as of 11/15/09). Mortenson writes about his failed attempt to climb the second highest mountain in the world, so that he could reach his goal. In failing to reach his goal, he found his life’s work – to build schools and improve lives, especially for girls, in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

His book is an adventure story of climbing, and a testament to the resilience and perseverance of people living through great sacrifice, fulfilled a promise to the people of a remote rural village who helped save his life.

This past fall, Mortenson was in New Brunswick to take his second cup of tea with an audience of some 800. (In Pakistan, when you are invited for a cup of tea, you are invited for a serious discussion. When you come back and are offered a second cup of tea, you are an honored guest. When you are invited in to drink your third cup of tea, you are family, and for family you are prepared to do anything.)

The Central Asia Institute, co-founded by Mortenson, is now fully or partially supporting 140 schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Of their 58,000 students, 44,000 are girls. In a 75 year old African proverb he learned growing up in Tanzania, “If you educate a boy, you educate an individual. If you educate a girl, you educate a community.”

When you hear about the fighting and deliberate destruction of schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan, especially those for girls, the question arises: how have Mortenson’s schools fared? The answer is that none have been damaged! The schools are generally located in areas that have not been fighting, and they are built by the communities who donate their land and labor. Above all, the Central Asia Institute supplies the materials. With this buy-in, the communities are very invested in ensuring their schools are not destroyed.

According to the World Bank, income grows up as education. In Pakistan, Mortenson has seen that educating girls does help alleviate poverty. It also helps reduce population growth: a primary education: improve quality of life with better sanitation, hygiene and nutrition; and continue the cycle of education - a mother with a primary education is five times more likely to send her children to school than a mother with no education.

Mortenson said, “the number one priority is education for too many people... Just educating a girl to the fifth-grade level reduces infant mortality (and) reduces the population explosion”. According to the latest available information from the 2008 Population Reference Bureau data sheet, if a mother has an average, 6.8 children with an infant mortality rate of 165 per 1000 live births, in Pakistan a woman will have, on average, 4.1 children with an infant mortality rate of 28 per 1000 live births for a stable belief. As he states, 2.1 children, and a stable population puts fewer strains on the environment.

Mortenson said, “Education should be our top global priority... We can drop bombs, we can build roads or we can put electricity. But unless the girls are educated, the world won’t change.”

To learn more about the Central Asia Institute and Greg Mortenson’s work go to www.ikaat.org.

Report from Trenton:

Weatherization: NJ out in the Cold

By Grace Sica and Jeff Tittel, of our Trenton staff

October 30th was National Weatherization Day, an annual opportunity to remind people of the value of investing in energy efficiency, and to reassess New Jersey’s energy efficiency goals. New Jersey’s Energy Efficiency Performance Standard (EEPS) is currently being reassessed. A recent study shows New Jersey is no longer considered one of the top ten states in energy efforts and green jobs.

The American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy released its 2009 scorecard which showed New Jersey has dropped off its Top Ten List of States. Also, a Pew Report, released in July, found green jobs in New Jersey had declined by 9.6%; the second worst performance of any state.

Failure to implement energy programs comes at a cost to the environment and the economy. Every dollar invested in residential efficiency returns four dollars over the life of the home; every dollar invested in commercial efficiency returns 16 dollars over the life of the building.

Weatherization is the most cost effective way to lower our carbon footprint while saving people money on energy. It is estimated that retrofitting U.S. homes could reduce associated greenhouse gas emissions by 100 million metric tons annually by 2020. Residential buildings are responsible for a staggering 20% of total greenhouse warming pollution. Many families lose money on energy bills each month because their homes are not well insulated. These homes are one simple solution that will create thousands of good jobs, put money in the pockets of American families, and help fight global warming.

Resolutions Adopted by ExCom in September, October and November, 2009

We supported federal legislation to require that cigarette filters be made biodegradable materials, (October)

We lobbied the US Senate to stop drilling in the Dismal Swamp, (October)

Two last-minute political endorsements were made for the US Senate race, (October)

We opposed the Natural Gas Power Plant located in the Delaware River Watershed, (October)

We supported the plans for the Central Asia Institute to build schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan, (October)

We opposed Asbury Park’s proposed Bradley Cove Development, which would reduce access to the beach and boardwalk, (October)

Survey

(Continued Format page 1)

8. What environmental issues are most important to you (please rank them 1-10)?
   - Global Warming = Climate Change = Energy = 10
   - Land Use = residential sprawl = open space preservation = 8
   - Environmental health = public health = water = 7
   - Population = 6
   - Environmental Justice = 5

9. Which “faces” of the Sierra Club interest and engage you?
   - The political and lobbying side
   - The recreational side
   - The face that deals with a charitable and educational effort for societal change, through public education

10. How do you regard the political (lobbying) “operation” of the Sierra Club:
   - Essentially as an intelligent and responsible force for change
   - Too extrermist and irresponsible to obtain respect from legislators.
   - Marginally effective, as too small and lack a group to accomplish change.
   - More “professional” (staff-driven) organization than grassroots organization in its operations.
   - More “grass roots” than “professional” organization in its operations.
   - More “national” than “local” organization in its operations.
   - More “New Jersey” than “national” in its operations.

11. In what city, town, or county do you reside?
   - Urban
   - Freestanding town (shops and schools walkable)
   - Enough to consider buying a share of a COMMUNITY solar electricity scheme?
   - Enough to have replaced incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescents?
   - Enough to have replaced incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescents?
   - Enough to have replaced incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescents?
   - Enough to have replaced incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescents?
   - Enough to have replaced incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescents?

12. How seriously do you regard the threat of Global Warming?

13. How would you describe your lifestyle?

14. Your age, if you would be so kind:
   - Under 20
   - 20-29
   - 30-60

15. Any additional handwritten comments would be carefully considered by Club officers.
Classic economic dogma, from the pen of Adam Smith (1723-1790), holds that an “invisible hand” provides jobs for everyone, and that the market process is self-regulating. Adam Smith lived at a time when 80% of the population lived on farms, and most of the economy was based on the horse-drawn plow. But the theory held good through 19th Century migrations from rural farms to urban industries, and through the 20th Century shift from urban-industrial jobs to public sector jobs. The farm sector shrank to 46% by 1850, 38% by 1900, and 12% by 1950 (source: Information Please Almanac), where it has remained. In the last 50 years we’ve seen another trend from private sector jobs to public sector jobs. I had difficulty finding statistics suitable for comparison – “Statistical Abstracts” provides numbers in the range of 13 to 18%, in the public sector, for the period 1980 to 2000.

Meanwhile (getting back to history), the environment was plundered. Early townships were rich with forests, that were then cleared for farming. That farming was soon replaced by the steel mills of the early 20th century. Meanwhile (getting back to history), the Jersey sierran: January-March 2010

The Invisible Hand, Unemployment and the Environment

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

I was an economics major in college. After spending four years of my life and thousands of dollars of my parents’ hard earned money, I came to the realization that this stuff is harder than most people think. I really want to have a clue about what it all means and that if I had any hope of pursuing a successful career, it would be in economics. I can’t even begin to imagine myself as a successful economist at this point. Well, I still don’t have a clue as to what it all means. But at least now I realize that I am in bad company.

When I think back to my college days, my mind invariably returns to a class that I do not like much: Macroeconomics, an exercise in trying to stay awake after spending too much time the night before on nonacademic pursuits. The class was being taught by a non-tenured instructor and he was discussing the gross national product, clearly a challenge for any sleep-deprived undergrad. But then he said something that caught my attention.

He noted that while economists universally regarded productivity growth as a good thing, he was beginning to question this underlying assumption. He noted that the early economists believed that the economy needed to find new ways to measure economic prosperity. In his mind merely increasing GNP, without dealing with other issues, was not the answer.

I do not remember the name of the instructor. If I did I would let him know that he planted a seed in my mind that I would grow and bear fruit in awareness of environmental issues and, yes, a desire to try to do something to make a difference. I hope he would be pleased.

But unfortunately, not much has changed since I was in college. Gross national product is now gross domestic product. And of course we have new buzzwords, like “sustainable” and “environmentally friendly.” But in reality much of the conversation continues to drive the economy is unrestrained growth.

So when I read that two Nobel prize-winning economists, Joseph E. Stiglitz of Columbia and Amartya Sen of Harvard, had published a report questioning the validity of GNP as a measure of societal well-being, I decided to take a closer look.

Economists and policy-makers are happy. Stiglitz and Sen argue that our current measurement system needs to shift emphasis away from economic production to measuring people’s well-being, including people’s health, education, personal activities and environmental conditions that affect their lives. And if the system is to measure people’s wellbeing, it needs to take into account both current conditions and sustainability—whether current economic, environmental and social conditions can be maintained over time.

In their book, The Measurement of Economic Performance and Well-Being, Stiglitz and Sen argue that current measurement systems need to accurately quantify such inherently subjective conditions, as well as conditions that are likely to exist in the future, is a tall order. Stiglitz and Sen do not pretend to have the answers. But they do offer a number of suggestions on how to proceed from here. It can only be hoped that their report will serve as a call to other economists and policy-makers that the nation’s misguided preoccupation with economic growth, at the expense of the natural environment and people’s overall well-being, can be successfully addressed.  

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 Sierra Club program or to the New Jersey Chapter.

For information about making a bequest to the New Jersey Chapter call George Deen at 609-793-1810.

Sustainable Life-style

Smoke Alarm/Deuter Sentral Disposal

by Ken Johanson (kjohanson@comcast.net)

When smoke alarms/detectors cease to function, they should be returned to their respective manufacturer for proper disposal. Please consult the reference section of this book for the name and address of the manufacturer you would be able to determine the manufacturer. FIREX (www.firesafety.com) will accept and properly dispose of all manufacturers’ smoke alarms/detectors at no charge. I urge you to return these items to the manufacturer as soon as possible. This is not expected that everyone should need to be employed. It wouldn’t be as if you were simply doing something perhaps like Random Acts of Violence, or coupled to more environmental

A variety of Club books, notecards, badges and clothing is available from www.sierraclub.org/store

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

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In 1999, the NJ Chapter of the Sierra Club, the New Jersey Environmental Federation, the Delaware Chapter of Sierra and several other environmental organizations formed the Alliance to Dump the Delaware Deepening. This alliance worked together for several years to stop the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Delaware River Port Authority from embarking on a project to deepen 107 miles of the Delaware River by 5 feet, dumping the toxic sludge along the riversbanks of South Jersey. The spoils have the potential to pollute South Jersey’s drinking water with dangerous contaminants such as mercury, arsenic and lead. Fortunately, with the help of local officials along with our state and federal legislators, funding for the project was deleted from the Corps budget year after year. The project was pretty close to dead when the original sponsor of the project, the Delaware River Port Authority, no longer wanted to spend the money to deepen the channel and in fact, it was no longer needed. Federal funding for the project was bolstered by a steady increase of cargo coming up the river without ever permitting shipments, a good test of the Corps’ claim.

Fast forward a few years to when Ed Rendell was elected governor of Pennsylvania. The Corps had already started pushing to revive the project and even cut a deal with Governor Corzine promising that if New Jersey would grant the necessary permits and drop all opposition, the spoils would be dumped in old New Jersey coastal waters rather than off Delaware. Mr. Corzine, however, never made that promise and that the Corps would put the spoils where the Corps wanted them to put. Opposition continued from Delaware and the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control rejected the Army Corps’ application for sub-aqueous lands dumping permits. Undaunted, the Corps announced in September 2009 that it would proceed with the deepening project without Delaware’s approval and that dredging would begin in December 2009.

Governor Corzine has said he will take legal action to block the Corps of Engineers from deepening the channel because the agency has not proven to state environmental regulators that the project is ecologically sound. He has directed the New Jersey Attorney General to prepare legal action to stop the Corps from proceeding with its plan, and the Corps allows the environmental review process to be completed. Delaware Attorney General Beau Biden said he, too, is ready to staff the project with litigation.

In the meantime, we have Congressman Manzullo, the most vocal members of the New Jersey legislature standing firm against the project. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection is closely monitoring the situation and is working with legislators from both New Jersey and Delaware to shut this project down permanently.

**Sustainable Life-style**

**Something Fishy about Fish**

By Suzanne Dragan (suzanne.dragan@aplnj.org), our Green Lifestyle Columnist

Fish, once thought to be an inexhaustible food staple, are now being reduced to just 90% of tuna, swordfish and sharks are gone, 85% of the large whales have disappeared, and many species of salmon and other8. For the sake of the environment, we have a great opportunity to realize the omega-3 fatty acids in their oil: pro- can be found locally and are organically 5. Invest in innovative clean energy tech- nology’s and businesses.

At the same time, New Jersey’s existing electricity infrastructure is aging, with roughly 50% of our generating plants 30 years old or older. The Army Corps of Engineers estimated that investments will be required. The diffi- culty of matching existing supplies with the right supply in the 2010-2020 period and further from 2020 to 2050, when existing state and federal funding sources will no longer be funded, could prove to be a challenge. Sadly, a large national legisla- tion will require an 80% reduction in GHG emissions, which will probably result in a large decrease in the cost of energy in the state.

Cooing America thru Local Leadership, a 501(c)(3) organization, believes that local governments (municipalities and counties) can utilize alternative approaches to meet energy requirements that will reduce costs, foster conservation, and improve our local environment. This alternative approach, called Community Clean Energy Aggregation (CCEA), consists of three main components:

1. Government Energy Aggregation. The program, established by the legislature approved in NJ in 2003 (PL 2003, C24), allows local governments to aggregate energy requirements of resident accounts on an “opt in” (automatic enrollment) basis and of non-residential accounts on an “opt in” (request for enrollment) basis. The total aggregated demand of the participants is procured on the open market at prices and condi- tions better than those offered by the local utilities. The utilities will be paid the usual transmission and distribution fees to deliver the energy purchased by the community on a turn-key, service accounts. This component has been suc- cessfully implemented in Massachusetts under the name of Community Choice Aggregation.

2. Energy Reduction through Conservation. The 2009 NJ Energy Master Plan states that conservation is the most cost-effective instrument to reduce demand. A CCEA will offer loans, to improve the energy efficiency of build- ngs, that will be repaid through “on bill” financing to move the responsibility of the loan from the individual owners to the municipality that issues the loan and do not affect its ability to borrow. The successful implementation of a CCEA will also depend on the active participation of local governments to:

- Identify suitable locations for develop- ment of distributed energy produc- tion.
- Design and/or acquire cost effective production assets using tax-free reve- nue bonds
- Create local job opportunities in ener- gy conservation, building & mainte- nance, and renewable and distributed assets.
- Funding for conservation and renew- able energy development initiatives can be obtained from savings in the procure- ment of energy, and by issuing revenue bonds that are repaid from income gen- erated by sale of electricity and pay- ments to the federal government.

However, the program can also be imple- mented in New Jersey since it will be a suf- ficient energy demand to procure on the open market.

The success of the program is greatly dependent on the active involvement of local governments to:

- Identify suitable locations for develop- ment of distributed energy produc- tion assets.
- Design and/or acquire cost effective production assets using tax-free reve- nue bonds
- Create local job opportunities in energy conservation, building & mainte- nance, and renewable and distributed assets.

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The successful implementation of a CCEA will also depend on the active par- ticipation of citizens, local business orga- nizations and environmental groups who perceive the opportunity to guide the development of local energy infrastruc- tures that will help meet and surpass New Jersey’s GHG emission reduction goals.

For more information on Community Clean Energy Aggregation programs, please contact me: sccrema@gmail.com
**Sustainable Life-style**

**Healthy Home Tips**

**Reduce the use of carpeting:** carpet collects dust, chemicals tracked into your home.

**Change your vacuum cleaner** to a High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filter model, which removes 99.97 percent of airborne particles down to 0.3 microns in diameter.

Use that same vacuum to facilitate dust removal from furniture, where dust particles that may be allergens (you will notice a difference after you use the HEPA filter).

Stop bringing poisonous chemicals into your home: use cleaning products adopt ed by greencar.org or other more stringent standards.

Use a more efficient filter on your furnace, and change it regularly.

**Stop disinfecting** everything, and mask ing dusting, thereby using perfumed scents to try more neutral cleaners without strong odors.

**Use houseplants** to help filter the air and provide more oxygen.

**Wipe your feet** before you come into the house, and have a series of shoe and boot cleaners on the way in (experts call these walk-off mats). Once inside, remove your shoes and keep them by the door.

**Bring more fresh air** into your homes and get more of the excess moisture, although there may be an energy penalty; and try not to let the heat out or unintentionally get it leave alone.

To reduce your exposure, the best thing to do with mold is to get it out of the building, and leave it alone. If there is material in an exposed area that you think might be asbestos, talk to a professional to get a sample and have it tested. If it is in fact asbestos, let a trained contractor handle it. If you are not sure, don’t try to make a decision in an area that is believed to have asbes to. They have it tested before disrupting the area.

**Mold/Moisture:** Mold often develops as a result of moisture that is not properly ventilated from the home and condenses on nutrient surfaces. Mold is both smelly and dangerous, so you should try to get out or unintentionally get it getting in from the outside.

To reduce your exposure, install a proper ventilation system, especially in areas where there is moisture (kitchens and bathrooms). Sealing up your home properly will reduce the ability of moisture to enter. Leave shower curtains open and replace一次. Open washing machine doors and glass shower doors to enable the moisture to evaporate and reduce the potential for mold growth.

**Initial Discussion for a Club Policy on Greenhouse (Hothouse) Farming in NJ**

By Sunil Somawar, Our Energy Issues Expert (sunil.somawar@gmail.com)

I attended the Rutgers Energy Institute meeting on 11/20/09 and was intrigued by a comment by Bob Goodman, a Rutgers ecology professor, Dean of Environmental Sciences, and Director of the NJ Agricultural Experiment Station. He said that NJ agriculture must go annual if it is to be competitive and to help the state meet the demand for renewable energy. But instead, DEP’s new rules would do the opposite.

The new rules would make it easier to build a shopping mall than install solar panels. The DEP criteria relating to appropriate subdivision than a solar farm. This does nothing but stop people from putting in solar arrays without too much resistance. Considering the set backs that towns require, the ability to build wind turbines may be heavily restricted.

It seems that the DEP would rather see a subcommittee than an industrial complex. Eliminate wind as a use on more than 400 square miles of New Jersey coastal area. The DEP has set the scientific backup is arbitrary and does something other than the use of wind in New Jersey. The guidance of the scientific group had some drawbacks to offshore wind projects would be limited to one small 25 MW pilot project. Hence the size of the wind turbines.

**DEP’s proposed rules would:**

- Ban wind turbines if they are to within 120 feet from existing structures. This does nothing but stop people from putting in solar arrays without too much resistance. Considering the setbacks that towns require, the ability to build wind turbines may be heavily restricted.
- Eliminate wind as a use on more than 400 square miles of New Jersey coastal area.
- The DEP has set the scientific backup is arbitrary and does something other than the use of wind in New Jersey.
- The guidance of the scientific group had some drawbacks to offshore wind projects would be limited to one small 25 MW pilot project.
- Ban the use of wind turbines in an area that is believed to have asbestos. They have it tested before disrupting the area.
- The size of the wind turbines.
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- Eliminate wind as a use on more than 400 square miles of New Jersey coastal area. The DEP has set the scientific backup is arbitrary and does something other than the use of wind in New Jersey.
An EPA report released on Oct 9th reveals that 15 counties in New Jersey are among the worst nationwide when it comes to air quality. The report said the 15 urban counties have failed to meet the EPA’s daily standards for fine particle air pollution, putting the region’s residents at risk for health complications like asthma, heart attacks, and premature death.

It’s no coincidence the report reveals that New Jerseyians breathe dangerously dirty air as a result of particulate matter and soot. In recent years, these urban counties have been subject to contamination from highway traffic, sprawling transit-oriented development, and pollution from ports and splash points in the state and to our west, chemical refineries, pollution from ports, and a lack of restrictions on diesel emissions and incinerators.

The report cited bad air quality in Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Morris, Somerset, Union, Burlington, Camden, and Gloucester counties, which represent about 85 percent of New Jersey’s population. The reason that we have some of the worst air quality in the nation is because New Jersey is home to dirty coal plants, refineries and ports, plus high amounts of industry, construction vehicles, diesel traffic, and sprawl.

The Sierra Club thinks there has been a failure by the Corzine Administration to address our air pollution and the public health impacts from it. The Governor should have gone after coal plants, and not have allowed the PurGen plant to be constructed in Linden. All of our coal plants should have been switched to natural gas, especially those in Hudson and Mercer Counties. The B.E. England plant in Cape May Co. should not have been allowed to reopen. Governor Corzine should also have required incinerators to upgrade for removal of fine particulates. We have four incinerators in New Jersey, each contributing to our pollution problems.

Proposals like the Susquehanna Roseland transmission line, which will bring in dirty power from Pennsylvania, should be stopped. It will only increase pollution and put New Jersey residents at risk. The Bush Administration failed to regulate coal plants in Pennsylvania and Ohio and now we are paying the price.

The state’s plans to widen the Turnpike, Parkway, and Atlantic City Expressway will only make pollution worse by encouraging sprawl and adding more cars and trucks to the road that will emit particulate matter and other toxic air pollutants to our air. The state has failed to implement real vehicle mile travel reductions, which has led to increased traffic and emissions of particulate matter. If we had a trip program in place for enabling car-sharing in trips to and from work, we would not need to widen the highways.

Governor Corzine should have signed an executive order on diesel trucks and construction vehicles for state contracts, as he promised to do, and demanded cleaner diesel trucks to carrying containers to and from our ports. Particulates from diesel are one of the biggest contributors to our air pollution problems. Governor Corzine has only made diesel pollution worse by cutting funding from the diesel retrofit program, which retrofits school buses, commercial buses and public vehicles.

The Governor signed the New Jersey Economic Stimulus Act, a bill that will only promote sprawl by offering public subsidies to developers, impacting our air quality even more. The failure of New Jersey to have a functioning state plan impedes programs to limit sprawl.

Annual Sierra Club Appreciation Day Celebrated

Senator Robert Menendez, BPU Commissioner Joseph L. Fiordaliso, and Darlito Valley Group-member Donald McBride were the principal honorees at the Club’s Dare to Dream gala, which took place on the grounds of the Princeton Day School, was the venue. The event is coordinated by Joan and George Deemer, who also supply the flower arrangements, wines, cheeses, canapés, crusty breads, and smoky salmon, pickled herring, desserts, and other entrees. More coverage will be in the next issue of the Jersey Sierran.

Another highlight of the Appreciation Day festivities was the unveiling of a stained glass window he created for the Chapter. Senator Menendez described Sen. Menendez as “ahead of the Club” on most environmental issues, and as an “insider’s senator” with the tenacity and ability to convince other senators of his positions in opposition to offshore oil drilling, global warming, protecting the Alaskan and Utah wilderness, and the importance of action on Global Warming. The Senator briefly described some of his current efforts to promote health care reform.

The photographs below, taken by George Fluck and Meiling Chin, respectively, show Sen. Menendez speaking with Club members, and Kenya Johnston with the next issue of the Jersey Sierran.
(1) The Ramapo River Watershed, a sole source aquifer supplying water to 2.5 million New Jerseyans, is protected in NJ under the Highlands Act - but not upstream in NY State. An urgent concern is the proposed 1,195 unit Tuxedo Reserve on 2,500 acres of forested steep slopes and wetlands. The development would double Tuxedo's population, drastically alter the landscape (massive tree clearing, bulldozing, grading, and road building), and destroy essential habitat for the region's many reptile and amphibian species (including the 'threatened' timber rattlesnake), fragment the regional forest, and degrade water resources. At the SEIS hearing on Oct 26, about 150 people turned out in opposition to the proposal. Stay tuned - the hearing resumes Nov 23.

(2) New Jersey Highlands. The Highlands Council has once again yielded to a utility, this time allowing Tennessee Gas Pipeline to cut through 250 acres (containing 1-c streams, exceptional resource wetlands, critical habitat, and conservation priority lands) in exchange for the company buying 55 acres for preservation - mitigation that appears to be a sham as the land is already protected. Last spring, after receiving an $18.4 million 1.O/U from PSE&G, the Council dropped its opposition to the 500 kV Susannah-Rockland transmission line. This dirty coal project with 195-ft towers will pollute Highlands water, damage forests and slopes extensively, and spoil the views.

(3) Hackensack River Watershed. We have long advocated preserving the narrow vege- tative riparian corridors north of Route 4, essential for the health of the river, habitat and flood control. A paved pathway on the riverbank would harm the fragile ecosys- tem in the heart of this watershed, recognized by NJAudubon as an "important bird area" where the threatened Northern Harrier, Black-crowned and Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Osprey, and foraging Eagles have been observed.

(4) Ongoing issues: threats to existing open space in Clifton at Lattieri Park and Schuhtheiss Farm; plans to use parkland in Overpeck County Park for a new road and park-and-ride; the MSU plan to turn the steep Quaint Road in Clifton into a campus exit which would destroy the hillsides, woods and habitat.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE. If you’d like to join a team to help maintain a hiking trail, please contact Marty Cohen (above).

RECYCLE PRINTER CARTRIDGES. Leave your used cartridges in the window box at the exit door at Whole Foods Market, 905 River Road, Edgewater, 8am to 10pm daily. No rebuilt ones, please. Thanks!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES. Please contact a group officer (above) to find out about the many ways you can be involved.

Hunterdon County (South Highlands) Group

(Hunterdon and southern Warren Counties and surrounding areas)

OFFICERS:
Chair: Greg Nelson gregn@sierraclub.org
Vice-Chair: Mark Barrocks markbarrocks@comcast.net
Conservation Chair: James Brightwell jamesbrightwell@comcast.net
Secretary: Dwight Irving dwight@dlirving.com
Treasurer: Mike Nusbaum mikenus@yahooom
Political Chair: Open position!
Publicity Chair: Celeste Martin onecentra@mac.com
Membership Chair: Open position!
Energy Coordinator: Mark Marzinik mmpower@ptd.net
Outings Chair: Jessica Nusbaum jrflr@sierraclub.org
Webmaster: Dwight Irving dwight@dlirving.com

WEBSITE: http://newjersey.sierran.org/Hunterdon/

Please support our NAME-CHANGE by voting the ballot on p.2 of this Newsletter.

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

We are now on Facebook! Now you have two ways to stay updated on our group and events. Join us on Facebook for more updates, or sign up for our email distribution list! Please contact shighlandssierra@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!

GENERAL MEETINGS, OUTINGS, AND EVENTS:
Make sure to check our Facebook page for the updates and the latest and greatest on Meetings, Outings, and Events for members and non-members! For information on any of the events, please contact us at shighlandssierra@gmail.com.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:
Monthly - Meetings start at 7:30 pm and are held at the New Jersey Water Supply Authority Annex, 1851 State Rte 51, Clinton. All meetings are open to the public. ** Please note - Dates and location are subject to change - For more information please e-mail Greg Nelson at shighlandssierra@gmail.com.

WHERE WE WILL BE:
We tabled at many events this past year! Thank you to all who volunteered and to those who visited our table!

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 you want to be a part of an outstanding group working 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 (shighlandssierra@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 Fair Lawn)

Members living near Trenton are invited to volunteer time to help run our state office: Call Grace Sica

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Princeton Shopping Center Princeton, NJ • 609-921-6078

(Continued on page 8)
open space on the Hudson River shore, and protecting the glorious New Jersey Palisades south of the George Washington Bridge from further destruction.

We are opposing a 250-unit development proposed on the last parcel of open space on the Anderson River in North Bergen. The plan is still before the Town of North Bergen Planning Board and we continue to attend these meetings to dispute the application. As presently constructed, this development would cause major disruption to the community. We would like to see this space become permanent parkland as it had been designated in the Hudson County Master Plan. We have formally presented a design for a park to the Town of North Bergen. It is much needed open space in this urban environment. Please contact us for more information and for how you can help.

We continue to support the Coalition to Preserve the Palisades Cliffs. They just filed a lawsuit against a proposed mini strip mall which will cut into the Palisades. It was passed by the Hudson County Planning Board, disregarding New Jersey’s Steep Slopes law which protects these vis-a-vis.

Please go to the CPPC website for more information and to sign their petition. www.thepetitionsite.com/2/Coalition-to-Preserve-the-Palisades-Cliffs

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**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 Joann Denzer jdenzer73@yahoo.com.

**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 (adjacent to an residential forest estate. Contact Sally Malanga at 973-756-7597 or sally@ecobest.com or Linda Stiles at 973-756-2224 or birdla
dy07025@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 (goldenb18@optonline.net or 973-925-8662) for general information.

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**Loantaka Group**

(Morris and Union Counties, respectively)

The website address for the Loantaka group: http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/

**OFFICERS:**

Group Co-Chairs: Eric Hausker and Paul Sanderson 732-669-0719

Treasurer: Joyce White 908-235-2414

Secretary: Allison Michalski 973-656-6775

Conservation Chairs: Morris County: Chris Mills 973-377-1742

Union County: Eric Hausker 908-235-2414

Political Chair: Paul Sanderson

Programs Chair: Joan Sanderson 732-669-0719

Fundraising Chair: Eric Hausker 908-235-2414

Outreach, Events Chair: Paul Sanderson

Education Coordinator: Jeff Huppert 973-263-9344

Funds Market: Bob Muskia 908-665-2290

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://newjersy.sierraclub.org/loantaka/

To join our e-mailing list, go to: http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/nj/loantaka-news.html

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**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 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!

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**DIRECTIONS:** Directions are posted on our website: http://newjersy.sierraclub.org/loantaka/.

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**MEETING SCHEDULE:**

Jan 13: Jeff Huppert, a retired educator and an active Sierra Club volunteer, will present a program on Family Energy Consumption. Learn how to compute your family’s energy footprint and what you can do to reduce it.

Feb 10: Dr. Daniela Shebitz of Kean College will present a program on Sustainability.

Mar 10: The program will be announced at a later time. Please visit our website for more current information.

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

The Loantaka Group is working with concerned citizens and local environmental organizations to protect open space and wildlife habitat in Morris and Union Counties, and to protect the water resources on which we all depend. We are also organizing volunteerunteers to help maintain and improve trails in the Morris and Union County Park Systems. In addition, the Group is actively involved in State-wide initiatives involving air quality, transportation, and environmental legislation. Volunteers are always well come. Call Paul (908-235-2414) or Eric (732-669-0719).

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**Central Jersey Group**

(Mercer County and neighboring towns in adjoining counties)

**web-site:** http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/central/

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

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**OFFICERS:**

Chair: Terry Stimpfel 609-751-7016 terystim@hotmail.com

Membership Chair: Don Carlo 609-586-4357 documentsdon@gmail.com

Outings Chair: Leonia Flack 609-259-5734 leonial@pineyaddlers.net

Political Chair: Terry Stimpfel 609-751-7016 terystim@hotmail.com

ExCom At-large: Malcolm McFarland 908-448-8699 malcolmcmfarland@verizon.net

Ruth Ann Mitchell 609-301-6800 ruthannmitchell@optonline.net

Tamanna Mulpurpa 732-801-9629 tammpa@vera@yahoo.com

Lynne Weiss 732-822-9688 bharrweis@optonline.net

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We need you! Want to help out? Thinking of becoming involved? Opportunities abound. Open positions: Conservation Chair, Publicity, Secretary, Treasurer, Recycling, and Outreach. Try volunteering for a few hours or an event! Please contact Terry or Leonia.

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

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**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Our meetings are held from 7:30 to 9pm (pre-meeting social at “7pm) on the THIRD TUESDAY at the Whisk and Spoon meeting room of Whole Foods Market, Window Green Shopping Center. Rte 1 South, Mercer. No general meetings in July, August and December; special event in January.

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**Special Event in January:** In conjunction with the Princeton Environmental Film Festival Jan 2 - 17 (http://www.princeton.lib.nj.us/pelf-schedule.html), we will meet for a film, and film discussion. Please check our website and calendar for further details.

Feb 16 (Tues): Invasive Species and coming events. Jennifer Lea, County Naturalist, Mercer Co. Park Commission will discuss invasive species and also announce her new spring programs and volunteer opportunities. This is a don’t miss program as you plan your garden and get to sign up for some great spring events.

Mar 16 (Tues): Legislative Update. Assemblywoman Linda R. Greenstein (D-14) will discuss the status of bills and legislative activity in NJ under the new administration. Come and learn what’s happening and how you can help.

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**CENTRAL SERVICE and OUTINGS:** For brief description see Outings Section or Chapter Outings website. Important: For details, updates and new events visit the Central Group online calendar accessed from the Central Group website. ALWAYS check for cancellations, etc.

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**SERVICE**


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**CENTRAL NEWS:** You can receive infrequent e-mail reminders of meetings and events and occasional notices of local import. Just send an email message to Membership Chair Don Carlo at documentsdon@gmail.com

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**Raritan Valley Group**

(Middlesex and Somerset Counties, and surrounding areas)

**web-site:** http://www.nj-sierran.org/central/

**OFFICERS:**

Group Chair: Kevin Geoffrey 732-560-4914 kg Geoffrey@gmail.com

Group Vice Chair: Don McBride 732-560-4369 dmb@alumni.hsu.edu

Conservation Co-Chairs: Mike Lindemann and Renee Skelton

Conservation Advisor: Josie Toohey 908-561-5504 djsosu@aol.com

Treasurer: Roomi Nusrat

Secretary: Melissa Moskowski

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Please share this newsletter with a non-member friend, inviting use of the coupon on p. 12.
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 and Long Beach Island. 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. Protecting the Ocean County Hiking Trail in Lacey. We’re watching the progress of the first Wind Turbine erected in the County which resides in Ocean Gate. We’re also involved in creating a greener and sustainable 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.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS: General Meetings are held bi-monthly (i.e., in alternate months) usually on the FOURTH MONDAY at 7pm at the “SKYWKALF CAFE” in TOMS RIVER. We will recap the events and issues covered in 2009 and discuss the happenings planned for the year ahead. Please join us as we discuss Alaska issues in regards to the upcoming Alaska Wilderness League’s Wilderness Week in Washington, DC.

Feb 20 (Sat): Join us for our opening meeting of the New Year where we will have a “WINTER WILDLIFE HIKE”. Please check our website for more details. To register for the event, please contact Dawn Marie Johns our Outings Chair.

Mar 22 (Mon): GENERAL MEETING held at 7pm at the “SKYWKALF CAFE” in TOMS RIVER. Our main topic will be discussing local environmental issues.

West Jersey Group (Camaro, Gloucester and Burlington Counties, approximately)

Web Site: http://www.africa.sierraclub.org/CamGroup/

OFFICERS:
Group Chair:	Gina Carola 856-846-8831 gina@sierraclub.org
Vice-Chair: Frank Zinni efzinni@aol.com
Secretary: Ellen Zinni efzinni@aol.com
Treasurer: Trish Zinni efzinni@aol.com
Publicity Chair: Bud Kalis 856-517-5870 budkalis@sierraclub.org
Chair: Nancy Wit onef@sierraclub.org

MEMBERSHIP:
Camaro:	Gina Carola 856-846-8831 gina@sierraclub.org
Cape May Point: Lea Snyder pineland1@hotmail.com
Ocean City: Frank and Ellen Zinni efzinni@aol.com
Toms River: Stacey Ayala thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com
North Cape May: Aida Ayala thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com
White Horse: Mike Ayala 856-547-9221 MikeAyala@comcast.net
Wildwood: Steven Ayala thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com

PROGRAMS:
Open Position/Come to volunteer 856-846-8831

South Jersey Group (Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland and Salem Counties, approximately)

Web Site: http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/SouthJersey/

OFFICERS:
Group Chair: Tom Boghosian 609-625-0878 boghosian@verizon.net
Vice-Chair: Open Position!
Secretary: Open Position!
Treasurer: Open Position!
Public Relations: Dick Colby 609-965-4453 dick.colby@stockton.edu
Membership Chair: Open Position!
Treasurer/Secretary: Julie Alkers 609-697-5479 julie.akers@hughes.net

The Cape May County Conservation Committee hosts bimonthly educational presentations at the Arc of Cape May. You may attend administrative building; 822 Rte 47 in South Dennis. Our get-togethers are 7-8:30 pm, each with a guest speaker covering an environmental topic ranging from wind power and solar power to aquifers and habitat. The Arc is located off 2nd Ave, between Rte 47 and Rte 50. You can reach us at capemaycountyconservationcommittee@gmail.com for more information.

The Jersey Sierran: January–March 2010
GROUP NEWS
(Continued from page 9)

in the Sierra Club and in the Watershed Association (GISWHA) 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 that reason, we 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. To be placed on a carefully guarded distribution list for local issues and meetings, please e-mail deick@stockton.edu.

Current Issues: Two Cape May County campaigns to prevent the use of tropical rainfor- est wood for rebuilding oceanfront boardwalks. In Ocean City and Wildwood, are being led by Georgina Shanley [shaneley2001@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 develop- ment. Other issues have been damage to sand trails by ATV’s, a campaign to promote Community Solar (photovoltaic) installations (especially in each municipality in Atlantic County), and support for a New Jersey Bottle Bill, known as the Smart Container Act.

Some Possibly Relevant Meetings of Allied Organizations
Jan 13 and Mar 10, 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 (C3) at 856-305-3238 or reneehr.cuarumice@yahoo.com. Website: www.cumarauicteriv- er.org — for information on the following additional events:

Jan 21 and Mar 18, 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. All are welcome. Warren Fox Nature Center (WFNC*), Atlantic County Park in Estell Manor. Milepost 15 on NJ Rte 50, 5 miles south of Mays Landing. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114.

Feb 17 and Apr 21, 7pm: Great Egg Harbor Scenic and Recreational River Council. Represents the 12 municipalities discuss river management strategies. Open to the public. WFNC*. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114.

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

Please join us! The NJ Singles Section was specifically created to offer a variety of sin- gles-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. Other groups are unable to attend our events, and those who would like to meet with other singles-oriented Sierra Club members and others who care about the environment. We can only offer as many activities as we have volunteers to run them – if you have the slightest urge to get involved, please give in to it!

Webpage address: http://newjersey.sierranews.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 recom- mend joining the listServ as some events are advertised only by e-mail. If you do not receive email, you may view an archive of all prior messages at http://lists.sierra- club.org/archives/NJ-SINGLES-NEWS.html

OFFICERS:
Chair: Joe Testa testa@jffe.com
Treasurer: Nancy Sullivan nancysullivan@comcast.net
Conservation Chair: Joyce White joycewhite@netzero.net
ExCom: Jackie Enfield jackie@jackieenfield.com
Volunteer Opportunities:
Volunteers needed for the positions of: hike leaders, members of all committees, including social event planners. Please attend an executive committee meeting or e-mail 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 activi- ties, speakers, and letter-writing at the Chatham Library (214 Main St). Dates and top- ics 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 7pm. Join us for dinner in Monmouth County. We’ll collect email RSVP required. Join our listServ for further details.

SOCIAL DINNER: THIRD TUESDAY of each month at 7pm. Join us for dinner in Montclair restaurant. Location will be announced 2 weeks before the event. RSVP is required to jkhaddad@juno.com or 973-564-7535 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 Simpfle at terytsim@hotmail.com with your ideas and to learn about short duration assignments.

HIKES: Please join our listserver to receive notification of our outings see for informa- tion on how to subscribe to the listserver.

Senior Section/Fifty-Plus Section
(Chapter-wide special interest section which offers a monthly calendar of activi- ties and events, including hikes, clean ups, social gatherings, dinner get-togeth- ers and other functions intended for those members over fifty)

In addition, a monthly Buy & Sell newsletter is sent out to members in which they can list items they are searching for or want to buy, at no charge. The mission of this section is to support Sierra Club goals, and to promote activism through letter writing, phone calls, and other active support for environmental issues.

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

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

Young Sierrans
(A special interest section for Sierra Club Members in their 20’s & 30’s, providing Socials and Outings to inspire a sense of community, appreciation for the envi- ronment, 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!)

Web site: http://newjersey.sierranews.org/YoungSierrans/

YOUNG SIERRAN COMMITTEE POSITIONS
Head Chair & Coordinator: William Sevchuk wsevchuk@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Jackie Enfield jackie@jackieenfield.com
Conservation Chair: Jackie Enfield jackie@jackieenfield.com
Ex-Com/: Jackie Enfield jackie@jackieenfield.com
YS National Rep. (CA): Leon Yerenburg yerenburg@gmail.com
YS Rep. (Northern NJ): Deon Sevchuk deonsevchuk@comcast.net
YS Rep. (Southern NJ): Leon Yerenburg yerenburg@gmail.com

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, 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-YOUTH-SIERRANS-NEWS.html. Events for 20’s only are available for those wanting to promote youth to host 20’s only events. Young Sierra Event Volunteers always needed and welcomed.

Sierra Student Coalition
(a semi-autonomous organization of college and high-school students)
National Website: http://www.ssc.org/

Inner City Outings Section
(another Chapter-wide special interest with the motto: No Child Left Insidied)

FUTURE OUTING: Sept 5-12 (Sun-Fri) September in Western Maine! Location: Bald Mountain Camps, Ottercomb, Me. This historic sporting camp is situated on pristine Moosehead Lake. Check the website www. baldmountaincamps.com. Two dates proposed: Sept. 5th-10th and Sept. 12th-17th. For more informa- tion, contact Jerry Norris 856-259-8735, jnorriss@aol.com or Leisa Plunk Leima@preppydrinks. com, 609-259-5724 (C/W).

Care for more Club involvement? You can sample (and subscribe to) several specialist Club national electronic newsletters by logging on to: insider@sierranews.org, currents@sierraclub.org, www.sierraclub.org/population, and www.sierraclub.org/globalwarming.

OFFICERS:
Chair: Marty Cohen 201-670-8583 mcoben@verizon.net
Treasurer: Anne Dyjak 752-560-0953 medyjak@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 (gen- erally 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 encour- aged and you are requested to contact us at icc-north@newjersey.sierranews.org or the above e-mail addresses. To learn more, visit our webpage at http://www.sierraclub. org/iccnewjersey/.

THE JERSEY SIERRAN: JANUARY-MARCH 2010
FEBRUARY

Feb 5 (Sat): Cause/Kayak the Wawayanda (Sussex Co). The river section we paddle will depend on weather conditions. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting/gather time. George & Lena F 609-259-5743 or leena@leena2012.com

Feb 7 (Sat): NJ Outing Leaders’ Workshop (Atlantic County, NJ). The NJ Outing Leaders’ Workshop is for current and potential River Outing Leaders. The NJ Outing Leaders’ Workshop is co-hosted by the Atlantic (AC) and Essex County (E) Sierra Group Outing Leaders. The workshop will be held at the Smithville-Mount Holly Bicycle Railroad and the Star high-wheeled bicycle. Meet at the Smithville-Mount Holly Bicycle Railroad at 10am. Lunch will be at a local restaurant after the workshop. This is a free event with parking on site. Bring a lunch if you wish. Space is limited to 20 people. For more information, email Solovey_Horizon@yahoo.com. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike.

Feb 7 (Sat): Superblusk Hike (Atlantic Co.). 10am, 5 miles, easy/moderate pace. The 294 square kilometer preserve is a great source for field guides, optics, etc. Dogs are not permitted. This is a great family hike!! Bring water and snacks. Pipes leaders: George & Lena F 609-259-5743 or leena@leena2012.com.

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Feb 18 (Sun): Tallman Mountain State Park (Rockland Co., NY). 11am. This hike will walk through Tallman Mountain State Park and view the hermit and ruins while walking the mile long Long Path. Meet in front of 450 Piermont Ave. (building with mural) at 11am. Leader: John P. Jurasek, 845-365-3618 or jake@piermont-ny.com. Contact leader for hike confirmation of gathering point.

Mar 5 (Sat): Moonlight hike in Wharton State Forest, Bu. Ca. This 5-mile hike will wind through 800 acres of the Wharton State Forest on the Janka Brook section. Bring a picnic-type food to share at tailgate social after hike. MJNP. Meet at Anson Lake from 2:06 PM. For more information contact Bruce at 908-263-3050 or Bruce.Tocce@nps.gov.

Mar 7 (Sat): Wild Edibles Workshop (Atlantic County, NJ). 10am. A hands-on field identification workshop for wild edibles. Participants will learn to identify a variety of wild plants that can be used as edible plants. Registration: $25—$30. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting time. George & Lena F 609-259-5743 or leena@leena2012.com

Mar 7 (Sat): Social Tundra Swan Hike in Brendan Byrne State Forest, Bu/Ocean Cos. 10am. Moderate pace. All hike leaders are welcome. Hike the wet and snow filled puffy filled with Tundra Swans. Bring warm and dry clothing. Birds are the main attraction. Meet at Brendan Byrne parking lot. Take 100 River Rd to 150/25 (Black Mill Rd) 1.5 miles to the parking lot on the right. Leader: Colette Minko, 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com (W).

MARCH

Mar 6 (Sat): Cause/Kayak the Owego Rover (Burlington Co.) 10am. Join us for a 4 mile paddle on the Owego Rover, a tributary of the Delaware River. This paddle will use theClausland Path. Take路线 to 117. Take Rte 36 toward Sandy Hook to Caranza Mill Rd (3.5 miles). Meet at the Caranza Mill Rd parking area.

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Visit our Website: www.newjersey.sierraclub.org. The “Committees/Initiatives” menu includes a list of legislative bills we’ve evaluated, and an introduction to our Cool Cities Program.

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Regional Issues Committee
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Rich Isaac (see above)
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389 Sawmill Rd, Hamilton NJ 08620
blt44blt@msn.com
*Laura Lynch (609) 882-4642
Conservation Chair
1015 S Park Av, Highland Park NJ 08904-2954

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

OUTINGS
(Continued from Page 17)
an all-you-can-eat buffet at Renault Winery Restaurant. NC/NP. Meet at Atsion Office on Rte 206, between 4000
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Mar 14 (Sat): Delaware Sailing Time Hike at Turkey Swamp Park (Monmouth Co). 8am, 8 miles, easy/ moderate. The Park creates an area of 2 miles by 2 miles where its rails are a welcome. For Park directions see www.mونmouthcountyparks.com. Turn into the Main Entrance -200 feet, beyond the parking lot, take the GSP to exit 26, turn right onto the GSP, and exit 28. Bring lunch and beverage. Leaders George and Leona L. 069-295-5734, or Leona@pineypaddlers.com (C).

Mar 10 (Sat): Visiting the Vernal Equinox with a canoe/Kayak paddle on The N. Branch Bancrook Cook Camp. 7am. Welcome smoother with a paddle on Bancrook Camp. 7am. Welcome smoother with a paddle on Bancrook Camp. 7am. Welcome smoother with a paddle on Bancrook Camp. 7am. Welcome smoother with a paddle on Bancrook Camp. 7am. Welcome smoother with a paddle on Bancrook Camp. 7am. Welcome smoother with a paddle on Bancrook Camp. 7am. Welcome smoother with a paddle on Bancrook Camp. 7am. Welcome smoother with a paddle on Bancrook Camp. 7am. Welcome smoother with a paddle on Bancrook Camp. 7am. Welcome smoother with a paddle on Bancrook Camp. 7am. Welcome smoother with a paddle on Bancrook Camp. 7am. Welcome smoother with a paddle on Bancrook Camp. 7am. Welcome smoother with a paddle on Bancrook Camp. 7am. Welcome smoother with a paddle on Bancrook Camp. 7am. Welcome smoother with a paddle on Bancrook Camp. 7am. Welcome smoother with a paddle on Bancrook Camp. 7am. 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