



DATED MATERIAL DO NOT DELAY

Nonprofit Organization-Sierra Club
U.S. Postage PAID

The Jersey..... SIERRAN

Vol. 42, No. 1 Roughly 16,000 Members in New Jersey January–March 2013

Reports from Trenton

Hurricane Sandy: Lessons for New Jersey

By Chapter Director Jeff Tittel (Jeff.Tittel@Sierraclub.org): with editing by Joe Testa

The Sierra Club was delighted by President Obama's visit to assess the damage to the New Jersey shore by Hurricane Sandy, and by his direct consultation with Governor Christie on the provision of federal recovery help through FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Administration) and other agencies. However, this event highlights the differences between the environmental policies of the state and federal administrations.

President Obama believes that government needs to put in place programs to mitigate climate change and the resulting sea level rise. The President has the EPA developing regulations for greenhouse gases, and has pushed for climate change legislation (unfortunately, stopped by Republicans in Congress). Meanwhile, Governor Christie has pulled New Jersey out of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), has cut \$600 million in clean energy funding, and has eliminated the Office of Climate Change in the state DEP.

FEMA has developed new floodplain maps for New Jersey that show where development should not take place and where flood insurance is available to residents. The Governor has not adopted these up-to-date assessments, nor upgraded Coastal Areas Facilities Act (CAFRA) standards, because doing so would limit development and offend the NJ Builders Association.

One effect of Sandy's high rainfall was the failure of storm sewers across New Jersey,

resulting in the release of untreated sewage into our estuaries, especially Newark Bay. The EPA has criticized New Jersey for failing to clean up its combined sewer overflows, and has called for programs to restore wetlands and stream buffers.

Instead, the Governor is weakening these programs. The NJ DEP has cut so many staff positions that only one inspector remains to review the controls that prevent industries from releasing toxic substances during flood events. This includes the management of 118 Superfund sites, 16,000 contaminated sites, and 7,000 sites that have been remediated. About 500 of these toxic sites are adjacent to rivers, 3500 are

located near groundwater sources, and 500 are near major water supply wells.

Here are some examples: Laurence Harbor's sea wall was made of lead; Sandy washed it away, so the lead is now dissolving into Raritan Bay. Flooding in Jersey City is dissolving landfilled chromium waste into nearby waterways. The Diamond Alkali site in Newark, holding dangerous dioxin, was set to spill into the Passaic River. Raw sewage was pumped from overflowing sewers in Hoboken. The lagoons of toxic waste at the American Cyanamid chemical plant in Bridgewater were threatened by flood waters. In Bergen County, Little Ferry, Lodi, and Moonachie all contain toxic

sites which flooded.

A related problem is that many old, capped toxic waste sites, located in flood plains, have been declared "remediated" and have had housing built on them; Perth Amboy and Jersey City contain such developments. In Weehawken there is a housing development on a capped chromium site sitting on filled-in former river shallows. Edgewater has a large toxic plume sitting next to the Hudson River.

Another problem resulting from the overdevelopment which proliferates in New Jersey is the surge of fertilizer, silt, and other contaminants which are washed into waterways during heavy rains. This allows toxic chemicals and parasites to enter the water supply we depend on.

Climate change is an extremely complex process, but it is driven most directly by rising levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide, the main waste from fossil fuel combustion. If sea level is not to rise above much of New Jersey, the use of coal, petroleum and natural gas will have to be curtailed drastically, everywhere on the planet, and replaced by conservation and renewable sources of energy. This means major changes in all our lifestyles, and requires leadership by enlightened government officials. The federal government is beginning to address these issues. We don't think that Governor Christie is getting this message.

Hurricane Sandy Relief Efforts

By Nicole Dallara, Outreach Coordinator

Like many of you, I have spent every summer down at the Jersey Shore, and I was heartbroken to see the destruction caused by Sandy. Thankfully, thousands of individuals from all over New Jersey are taking part in the Sandy relief efforts. My job priority is to continue to organize our members' contributions to these efforts.

Hundreds of our volunteer members have donated needed goods to the affected areas, and helped with the

cleaning out of individual homes that were damaged. The relief efforts are far from over – the cleaning continues and the rebuilding process just beginning.

There are many ways that you can help. Please email me (nicole.dallara@sierraclub.org) or call 609-656-7612.

You can also LIKE us on Facebook for up-to-date information on what is needed and how to get involved: <http://www.facebook.com/NJSierraClub>.

Restoring the Jersey Shore

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



As people rebuild their homes and their lives in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, we need to understand how we became so vulnerable, and why the damage was so

extreme. There will always be storms, but our land use decisions determine how devastating they will be. Here's some history: In the 1980s under Governor Kean a coastal commission was proposed but the builders and their allies stopped it. When changes were then proposed to the Coastal Area Facilities Review Act (CAFRA) to close loopholes and strengthen regulations, again the builders were able to derail them. Even after Hurricane Floyd (1999) there were attempts to close the CAFRA loopholes that were stopped in the Legislature. Legislation that would have set up a catastrophic storm insurance pool was blocked. Attempts by Governors Whitman and McGreevy (1994-2004) to limit sprawl along the coast were stopped as well. Now even the few protections that remain are being undone by the Christie Administration.

We have built in the wrong places, filling in wetlands and tidal marshes. Governor Christie's Red Tape Review Group, charged with streamlining regulations, has emasculated the DEP: weakening land use tools that prevent sprawl

development in flood prone and wetland areas, manage stormwater, impose stream buffers, protect water quality, provide beach access, and prevent floods. Christie's waiver rule further guts environmental regulations. Dune protections have been relaxed. The Governor vetoed two important bills to reduce the flow of stormwater into Barnegat Bay and to impose Total Maximum Daily Loads for pollutants discharged to the Bay.

Many of the areas impacted by Hurricane Sandy, including Lacey, Stafford, and Toms River, are growth areas in Christie's State Strategic Plan and under CAFRA. 200,000 more people are planned where there should be none. The plans propose another 100,000 people in Lakewood, more than doubling Ocean County's population.

A recent study found that, by 2050, sea level along the coast will rise by 21 to 35 inches, enough to swamp some of our barrier islands. By 2100, 6.5-9% of the state could be impacted by coastal flooding. We need to incorporate these projections into state, regional, and municipal master plans and other planning documents.

The Sierra Club proposes that the Jersey Shore should be given protections similar to those of the Highlands, Meadowlands and Pinelands:

Coastal Council. This would coordinate efforts to rebuild along the shore, protect vital infrastructure, conduct planning and zoning, and develop building codes. During recoveries, this body would coordinate

funding and regional rebuilding activities so that redevelopment in one town does not negatively impact neighboring communities.

Better Planning Resources. New Jersey needs to adopt the new FEMA flood maps, update building codes, anticipate limits to drinking water supply, and start implementing adaptation and hazard planning along our coast to make sure we build in the right places using sound science and based on capacity of drinking water and wastewater. Building codes need revision to accommodate higher winds and flood levels both for buildings and for infrastructure such as roads and utility supplies. Buildings should be energy-efficient. Design standards for dunes need to be upgraded and dunes should be better maintained.

State Plan. We need to scrap Christie's State Strategic Plan and instead fix and update Tom Kean's State Plan, a plan that is based on carrying capacity and natural resources.

Fix CAFRA. We need to close loopholes and change the impervious cover limits to allow less development in environmentally sensitive areas. Developments of less than 25 units are currently exempt from CAFRA regulations. We need to close this loophole. We also need the DEP to do a better job of enforcing CAFRA violations.

Catastrophic Insurance Pool. We cannot allow people to keep rebuilding in the same place, with taxpayers footing the bill after each storm. We suggest a catastrophic insurance pool, such as that in

Florida and other places, that removes the burden on taxpayers.

Blue Acres Funding. This Green Acres-related program provides funding to buy out owners of the most flood-prone properties. But it is out of money.

Coordinate Disaster Relief Funding Programs. FEMA provides money to replace electronics and appliances, but a homeowner must apply to a different program for money to elevate or move hot water heaters, furnaces, and air conditioners. We need to coordinate the programs so that when we rebuild and replace things we can protect them from the next storm.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

Population: People and Climate Change 2
Conservation Reports: Petty's Island
and Bull's Island2
Shale Gas Outrage2
Chair's Message: Kate and Nicole3
Editorial: Community Solar.....3
ExCom's Fall Resolutions3
Reports from Trenton: Private Colleges...3
Appreciation Day Festivities.....4
Report from Trenton: Beach Rules.....4
New: News from LuluLand5
Reports from Trenton: Offshore Wind,
Dirty Air5
Group and Section News.....6-10
Winter Outings..... 11-12
Leader List, Meetings,
Membership Form12

Conservation Reports

Petty's Island Preserve Soon to be a Reality

By Gina Carola, Chair of our West Jersey Group and
Delaware River Issues Coordinator (ginaceee@verizon.net)

A long time ago, when it was the home of the Lenape Native Americans, a 2.8-mile-long island in the Delaware River between Camden and Philadelphia was a known as Shackamaxon. The Lenape hunted, fished and traded with other tribes from their island base. Later, four Lenape chiefs would trade it to a Quaker woman, Elizabeth Kinsey. The agreement allowed the Lenape to continue to hunt and fish from the island as long as they left Kinsey's livestock alone. After that, William Penn owned it. Over the years it changed hands again, becoming a slave depot, then a ship-building site. Legend claims that pirates such as Blackbeard docked at the island.

Today it is owned by the government of Columbia through the U.S. subsidiary of its national oil company, Citgo Petroleum. From 1902 to 2002 the company (and its predecessors) operated an oil tank farm on the island, and part of it is currently leased to Crowley Maritime Corp, which operates a shipping line to Puerto Rico. In 2000 Citgo began to shut down its facilities, and when the City of Camden and Pennsauken Township embarked on a grandiose plan to redevelop their waterfronts, Citgo agreed to sell the island for redevelopment by Cherokee Investment Partners. The \$2 billion redevelopment plan featured luxury condominiums and houses, a marina, shops and a golf course. But the surprise discovery of a pair of nesting bald eagles near the abandoned tanks caused Citgo to have a change of heart. The company decided instead to convert Petty's Island into a conservation area. Citgo also offered to endow a fund for maintenance in perpetuity.

Then-NJDEP-Commissioner Bradley Campbell was initially in favor of accepting the offer, and the announcement was to be made on Earth Day in 2004. But Pennsauken's elected officials, then-Assembly Majority Leader Joseph Roberts, and the leader of the Camden County Democrats George Norcross persuaded then-Governor McGreevey to reject the offer so that Pennsauken could proceed with its redevelopment plan. Pennsauken threatened to take the island by eminent domain if Citgo did not sell it willingly. That's when a battle ensued between environmental and preservation groups and the State, Pennsauken Township, the City of Camden and Cherokee. It was joined by thousands of residents in the adjacent Cramer Hill section of Camden, who were also to be displaced. Two public prosecutions result-

ed: alleging bribery of a State Senator and for the killing of a bald eagle chick by Cherokee's consultant. By the time the faltering economy and depressed housing market made it economically unattractive to continue with the redevelopment plans, Cherokee was packing up, leaving the State after one of their holding companies was fined for environmental violations at the Meadowlands redevelopment site in North Jersey.

In 2009, the State finally accepted the gift of the island from Citgo - with an agreement that, by 2020, Citgo would demolish the tank farm, clean it up, and endow a fund for its future care. Thus Petty's Island, so rich in natural resources, will be turned into a nature and historic park with hiking trails, areas preserved for wildlife, and a visitor center to provide some of the island's convoluted history. The trails will provide views of Philadelphia's modern skyline and Camden's Pyne Point, with signage to describe both the wildlife and the romantic history, including the accidental overnight stay of Benjamin Franklin, whose autobiography details his first arrival in Philadelphia, at night in a rowboat, when he was forced to take shelter on the island until dawn.

The 300-acre island is surrounded by some 140 acres of ecologically important tidal flats. Given its location in a heavily industrialized area, surprisingly the island provides breeding, foraging or resting habitat for an amazing array of wildlife. More than 141 species of birds have been seen, including 54 which breed there. In addition to a pair of American bald eagles that currently use Petty's Island as foraging territory, hawks, falcons, osprey, Northern harrier, Cooper's hawk, red-shouldered hawk, American kestrel, peregrine falcon and American black duck have been observed. The island contains a rookery for Night Crowned Herons. Songbirds, such as Savannah sparrows, migrate along the river corridor and find habitat and cover within the island's woods and wetlands.

There are 24 species of butterflies, 10 species of reptiles, and 5 species of mammals who call the island home. Plant life abounds. In just one visit, state botanist David Snyder found many rare plants including the awl-leaf arrowhead, American waterwort, bouquet mud-plantain and the water marigold, which is a globally rare plant documented only in the watersheds of the Delaware River, the Hudson River, and the Chesapeake Bay.

Bully for Bull's Island

By Jonathan Wall, South Highlands Group Chair

While Hurricane Sandy ravaged New Jersey in October, the 200-year-old American Sycamore trees at the edge of the Bull's Island Recreation Area's floodplain forest still stand. Bull's Island is located on the eastern bank of the Delaware River in the Raven's Rock area just a few miles north of Stockton (Hunterdon Co). This gem of a park continues to protect communities downstream from the full brunt of floods. Rare migratory birds still roost in its trees. Bikers and hikers still enjoy the views of the woods along the edge of the river.

After the tragic death of a camper at the park in June 2011, the trees in the campground were determined to be unsafe. The D & R Canal Commission and DEP Commissioner Robert Martin closed the campground permanently in

early 2012. Now there's a proposal to reopen the campground by clear cutting the woods or by relocating the campground entirely, just a short distance away in the Bull's Island natural area.

In mid-September, the Chairs of our North Jersey, Central Jersey and South Highland Groups led 30 participants on a walk from Stockton to Bull's Island Recreation Area. After a snack in the park's picnic ground that remains open to the public, we strolled through the natural area. Dr. Emile DeVito from the New Jersey Conservation Foundation met us and spoke about the proposed clear cutting of the Sycamore trees. DeVito explained that the campground and the natural area are part of the same flood plain and consist of the same habitat.

(continued on page 4)

POPULATION ISSUES COORDINATOR'S REPORT

People and Climate Change

By Bonnie Tillery (btl44blt@msn.com)

Since Hurricane Sandy, we have read a lot about how it is time to get serious about global climate change. However, it is also time to get serious about slowing human population increases that are exacerbating more intense weather events.

Peer reviewed studies from the National Academy of Sciences show that by meeting unmet need for family planning, CO2 emissions can be reduced by 1 billion tons of carbon a year. Slower population growth could reduce emissions up to 2.5 billion tons a year by 2050, or up to 29% of the reduction needed to stabilize emissions.

Half the population of the world today is under age 25. This means they are entering or already in their reproductive years. Age-appropriate, comprehensive sex education programs teach young people to respect and take care of their bodies, delay their first sexual experience, delay childbirth and give them the reproductive health information they will need for the rest of their lives.

Almost half of the pregnancies in the United States are unplanned. The Affordable Care Act will provide various forms of contraception to women without co-pays. This is a step in the right direction, but women also have to have access to doctors who can recommend the best form of contraception for them and then write the prescriptions. Here in New Jersey, the Governor has vetoed \$7.5 million for family planning/reproductive health care which has resulted in

the closing of at least six clinics and reduction in hours of other health care facilities. This is a head in the beach sand approach to mitigating climate change.

The United Nations estimates population will grow to between 7.8 billion and 10.5 billion by 2050. The difference in those two numbers is based on whether we can provide voluntary family planning services to the 222 million women worldwide who have an unmet need, i.e., women who want to use family planning but have no access.

Another step we must take is reducing our own consumption. The United States comprises 5% of the world's population but consumes almost 25% of the world's resources. It takes a person in the U.S. just 28 hours to emit the same amount of carbon as someone in Tanzania emits in an entire year! So, while the birth rate in Tanzania is much higher than in the U.S., we consume thousands of times more resources.

Supporting programs nationally and internationally that promote family planning such as Planned Parenthood, Title X, USAID (the US Agency for International Development) and UNFPA (the United Nations Population Fund) is another step we can take. And, we must let our lawmakers know we think these programs are beneficial in helping reduce the effects of climate change.

We know what works to slow population growth, now we need the will to do something about it.

Island Hopping in Channel Islands National Park, California, 2013

April 7-9; May 5-7; June 2-4; July 21-23; August 25-27; Sept. 15-17

Join us for a 3-day, 3-island, live-aboard cruise to Channel Island National Park. Hike wild, windswept trails bordered with blazing wildflowers. Kayak rugged coastlines. Marvel at pristine waters teeming with frolicking seals and sea lions. Train your binoculars on unusual sea and land birds. Watch for the highly endangered island fox. Look for reminders of the Chumash people who lived on these islands for thousands of years. Or, just relax at sea. All cruises depart from Santa Barbara aboard the 68' twin diesel Truth.

The cost, \$590, includes an assigned bunk, all meals, snacks, and beverages plus the services of a ranger/naturalist who will travel with us to help lead hikes, point out items of interest, and present evening programs. To make a reservation send a \$100 check, written to Sierra Club to the leader: Joan Jones Holtz, 11826 The Wye St, El Monte CA 91732. For more information, call or e-mail Joan: 626-443-0706 or jholtzhl@aol.com.

NATURAL GAS & FRACKING ISSUES COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Shale Gas Outrage 2012

By Terry Stimpfel (terystimb@hotmail.com)

Hundreds of concerned citizens turned out in September for the second "Shale Gas Outrage" rally to coincide with the fracking industry's premier conference. Although the industry again titled their conference "Shale Gas Insight," far more insight was delivered from the microphones on the street outside the Philadelphia Convention Center. Speakers such as Bill McKibben, Josh Fox, Iris Bloom, Sandra Steingraber, Stephen Cleghorn and others discussed issues surrounding fracking, such as CO2 and methane release, drinking water contamination, massive water use, chemical contamination, toxic waste, runoff, deforestation, air pollution and hundreds of miles of pipelines damaging waterways, fragmenting habitats and open spaces and



propelling invasive species. The toll on businesses, communities and human lives were described while Sierra Club and other organizations hosted tables with information and petitions to be delivered following a march through the city to the EPA and Governor Corbett's offices. This year, on the day following the rally, the College of Physicians of Philadelphia hosted a powerful symposium on "The Potential Health Effects of Hydraulic Fracturing," which covered the process lifecycle and even included the implications for our food.

Editorial

Has the Time for Community Solar Finally Arrived? Alas, no!

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

Many years ago, as a member of Atlantic County's Environmental Advisory Commission (an agency of County government), I got county officials to agree to the concept of municipal solar farms, constructed and operated by the county utilities authority (ACUA). There would be a separate array of panels generating electricity in each of Atlantic County's 23 municipalities, built on abandoned landfills, old ("brown-field") industrial sites, and over large parking lots, such as are at malls. The idea was that the ACUA would sell shares to homeowners, which would entitle them to so many kilowatt-hours of "free" electricity each year.

Note that one's electricity bill contains two sections: one for supply of the electricity, and one for delivery. A community solar farm would provide supply (when the sun shines), and since the supply would be coming from nearby, might also reduce the cost of (and payment for) delivery.

The market for community solar should include both residential consumers of electricity and customers in other sectors of the economy: municipal buildings, schools, businesses and industries. Before buying shares, potential customers would be advised to determine their current usage of electricity – so they would know how many shares to buy.

A premise is that the customers who would buy into a "community" system are those who would not be willing, or would be unable, to contract for private solar panels constructed on their own roofs, perhaps because of the hassle (e.g. dealing with "SRECs" of subsidy), or because apartment and condominium owners don't own their roofs, or because their homes don't have the proper orientation towards the sun, or because roofs aren't sturdy enough to bear the weight of the panels. (See Dennis Anderson's article on p. 5 of the Oct-Dec Jersey Sierran.)

Well, there was a snag: my local electric utility (Atlantic City Electric Co.) refused to contemplate Community Solar, arguing inability to properly meter the energy generated so as to obtain its fair profit for distribution. Despite many successful community systems elsewhere (google "community solar"!), the argument I always got from the President and other officials of Atlantic Electric was inadequacy of the technology for "net metering." So I began to lobby New Jersey's Board of Public Utilities to require that utilities accept the concept of community solar.

I was elated when new legislation regulating solar systems was signed on July 23, 2012, by Governor Christie, to wide

acclaim by environmentalists. I learned from our Chapter Director, Jeff Tittel, that, "the bill allows for net metering so it will allow for community solar. In order to stabilize the price of SRECs, the amount of new solar installed per year over the next 2-3 years will be half of the amount installed this year, so there will be fewer projects."

My elation turned to despair, however, when I learned from my contact at the ACUA that the electric companies were successful at EXCLUDING COMMUNITY SOLAR from the new legislation, still arguing that it can't be metered accurately.

I don't understand the metering problem. Each community array of solar panels would include a meter to measure the delivery of kilowatt-hours (kWh) to the grid, and the timing of that delivery. The ACUA would know of all the community shares purchased, and therefore to whom each generated kWh should be credited. Each electricity customer's meter would report the number of kWh consumed. Subtracting the number of kWh supplied by the ACUA's panels from the number consumed would provide the number of kWh purchased from Atlantic Electric. Atlantic Electric could then levy its distribution charge for each kWh consumed by each customer.

I hope, in writing this, that there will be Club members and others in New Jersey willing to continue to lobby the BPU for enablement of community solar projects in every municipality. My preference is for non-profits such as ACUA, but the private sector should also be eligible to build and operate community solar farms. The ACUA has been exemplary in environmental responsibility: sponsoring wind turbines and a solar farm to produce the electricity needed by its sewage plant, extracting natural gas from its landfills, converting its fleet of trash and recycling trucks to natural gas, and by providing a filling station that services many other natural gas-powered vehicles in South Jersey.

An initial task is to evaluate possible sites for municipal solar farms. I've done this for Atlantic County - by asking the County Planning Office to produce maps from GIS and other data to layer all the abandoned landfills, brown-field sites, and large parking lots (e.g. of shopping malls, airports and other large employers), municipal boundaries, and high-voltage transmission lines (since a community solar farm would have to be connected to the power grid).

I'd also appreciate help from Club members and others with the expertise to estimate the costs and benefits.



Chair's Message

Kate and Nicole

By Ken Johanson (kjohan@comcast.net)



I have a great job. True, I don't get paid for what I do, at least not in monetary terms. But I do get to work with a tremendous group of dedicated and knowledgeable volunteers and staff, all of whom are committed to advancing the Chapter's environmental agenda. Working together we are making a difference.

For most people in this State the name Sierra Club is synonymous with the name Jeff Tittel. There is good reason for this. Jeff is a tireless advocate for our natural environment and, in my completely unbiased opinion, is the most visible and most effective environmental activist in the State.

But Jeff can't do it alone. And fortunately he doesn't have to. Not only does he have our corps of volunteer activists to turn to, he also has Kate Millsaps and Nicole Dallara.



Kate is a graduate of Ramapo College with majors in international and environmental studies. She joined us at the end of 2010 after spending several years with two other environmental organizations that are active in New Jersey. We had high hopes for Kate, as we had worked with her in the past and were impressed with everything we saw.

Fortunately, Kate has exceeded our highest expectations. She has a firm command of the issues, is comfortable testifying before legislative and regulatory bodies and works well with our volunteers and representatives of other environmental organizations. Kate has a particular passion for the Highlands region, and has built coalitions and organized and led effective campaigns to oppose pipeline and power line expansions and preserve open space and water resources in this vital area of our State.

Nicole is a graduate of Rutgers University with a major in environmental policy, institutions and behavior and a minor in environmental business and economics. Nicole joined us in the fall of 2010 after spending two years with a New Jersey nonprofit organization where she worked on raising awareness of environmental issues among young people.



Nicole is a people person and has a knack for bringing people together and helping them to work out differences. She was able to bring together a number of competing solar providers and convince them that it was to their advantage to work together and in cooperation with the Chapter in seeking to promote solar energy. Nicole has organized and worked on rallies promoting alternative energy and opposing the State's Energy Master Plan, offshore drilling and fracking. She also played a key role in reorganizing several dormant groups within the Chapter and currently works with high school students to build awareness of environmental issues and encourage young people to become involved in Chapter programs and initiatives.

Kate and Nicole have made significant contributions to the New Jersey Chapter and its agenda. But what particularly impresses me with both Kate and Nicole is the same thing that impresses me with Jeff, and that is their unqualified commitment to the environmental movement and their willingness to do whatever it takes to protect and preserve the natural environment of this State, the nation and the world. The New Jersey Chapter, as well as the citizens of this State, are fortunate to have them on our side.

I mentioned at the beginning of this column that I have a great job. Well, now you know why.

Report from Trenton

NJ Sierra Club Opposes Exempting Private Colleges from Land Use Laws

From a press release issued on Oct 17 by Chapter Director Jeff Tittel (jeff.tittel@sierraclub.org)

At its Oct 13th monthly meeting, the Club's Executive Committee passed a resolution opposing A2568/S1534, a bill that would exempt private colleges and universities from the Municipal Land Use Law (MLUL). The Chapter joins many other environmental and civic organizations in opposing this legislation that would exclude the public (not to mention the municipalities and counties) from the review process that planning boards give to applications for property development. Local land use review is useful for identifying the environmental impacts of development. Private colleges and universities should not be exempt from this local review.

It's not as if the private colleges want something that the public colleges already have. Development at public colleges is subject to public review. State colleges and universities receive oversight through the legislative budgetary

process. County colleges are similarly regulated by the county budgeting process. Each request for capital improvement is thus subjected to hearings that receive public comment, record disclosures and court review, as well as review and adoption by a public body. Private institutions do not go through these reviews.

Nor is it as if colleges should be considered infallible when it comes to land use. College research facilities might create noise or other pollution close to a residential area, or might want to build on an historic site such as a battle field. Just as with commercial and industrial development, there may be traffic impacts, or impact on forests and endangered species, or need for emergency services. Colleges should not be permitted to put dormitories or high rise office buildings in quiet residential areas, blocking views.

(continued on page 4)

Resolutions Passed by the Chapter Executive Committee in September, October and November, 2012

We urged public approval of Ballot Question 1 on the November Ballot, which would fund new energy-efficient academic buildings on NJ public university and college campuses, thereby promoting education likely to build public awareness of environmental issues, and promotion of energy conservation and efficiency. (October)

We took a position in opposition to Assembly Bill 2586, which would exempt developments in private universities and colleges from compliance with NJ's Municipal Land Use Law. (October) See article to the right.

Annual Awards to the Club's NJ Heroes

Adapted from a press release issued by Jeff Tittel, Chapter Director

On Nov 11, in splendid fall weather, at an old farmhouse on the campus of the Princeton Day School, the Sierra Club's New Jersey Chapter held its Annual Appreciation Day event to recognize the accomplishments of its volunteers and of hero-lawmakers in the State Legislature and in Congress.

Congressman Rush Holt (D, 12th CD) received an Outstanding Achievement Award. He is a sponsor of the FRAC Act which would remove exemptions for hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Holt has promoted energy efficiency and renewable energy. He has been a leader on protecting water quality, and supported bills to protect New Jersey from toxic coal ash and mountaintop removal coal mining.

Another Outstanding Achievement Award was given to NJ Sen. Christopher (Kip) Bateman (R, 16th LD) for his many

years of environmental leadership, including efforts to keep New Jersey in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, and to keep toxic fracking waste out of the State. He serves on the Senate Energy and Environment Committee, where he promotes clean energy.

Assemblyman John F. McKeon (D, 27th LD) was also recognized with an Outstanding Achievement Award. As Chair of the Assembly Environment Committee, McKeon sponsored and pushed for the Highlands Act, protecting the drinking supply for millions of state residents, and for legislation to clean up Barnegat Bay. He is convinced that Climate Change is real, and that we need to change our lifestyles so as to slow its progress.

The awards were presented in front of a packed room of Sierra Club volunteers, by Chapter Director Jeff Tittel.

John Kashwick was named the Chapter's Volunteer of the Year, in recognition of his efforts as Chair of the North Jersey Group (Bergen, Passaic and northern Morris Counties) to oppose harmful development projects and promote environmental activism. Kashwick is also the Chapter's Issue Coordinator for Utah and Wildland Issues, and leads efforts to re-designate the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area as a National Park and Preserve. He serves on the Closter Town Council.

State Sen. Linda Greenstein (D, 14th LD) was in attendance and was lauded for her efforts to preserve open space and farmland, and to protect NJ communities from air pollution and toxics.

As has occurred for many years of award ceremonies, Joan and George Denzer were appreciated for their logistical excellence in organizing the event.

Report from Trenton

Anti-Beach Access Rules Finalized

From a Press Release issued by Chapter Director Jeff Tittel (jeff.tittel@sierraclub.org)

On Oct 4th, DEP Commissioner Robert Martin signed a new set of beach access rules. Their effect will be to further limit public access to New Jersey's beaches, bays, and waterways. They will also make it more difficult for citizens to challenge the DEP regulations in lawsuits.

The NJ Supreme Court has ruled that all tidal waters belong to the people of New Jersey. This includes beaches: the sand between low tide and high tide. At issue here is the desire of property developers to build expensive homes and other buildings on waterfront sites, and then to deny public access to that waterfront. Municipal planning boards and zoning officials have tended to side with the developers' desire to restrict public access. Thus, for example, much of the oceanfront of Long Beach Island is off limits to visitors.

The new beach access rules require municipalities to approve beach access plans. But the rules are vague and weak, and will be easy to circumvent. The previous beach access rules enabled municipalities to demand contributions from developers that would pay for alternate public beach construction and maintenance, including public parking. No more! Nor, under the new rules, will municipal plans be enforceable, or challengeable in court.

Another change in the rules is in the quarter-mile maximum distance between access walkways to public beaches. Towns will now be entitled to extend this distance to a half-mile, as well as to concentrate all public beach access into a single site with inadequate parking.

The new rules provide no standards for towns regarding where or how to provide for parking, nor requirements for bathrooms or changing areas. They limit waterfront access in urban areas more than anywhere else – so that waterfronts may be walled off from the public. The rules did recognize the Hudson River Walkway, but only because that was won in a court case. This undermines urban revitalization because having access to waterways is an important amenity. (Witness successful waterfront redevelopment in Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, San Antonio, and many other cities.) Now Jersey City, Trenton, Camden, Newark, etc. will be denied this opportunity.

The new rules exempt existing commercial and industrial buildings, sewer plants and other large facilities from the need to provide waterfront access. When industrial or commercial sites are redeveloped, access should be required. The new rules allow for bars on the beach in Atlantic City, but limit the right of day trippers to get access to the beaches or bays.



Jane Tousman, Daphne Speck-Barynski, Bob Campbell, Rich Isaac.



Bob Sandberg, Joanne Pannone, Kate Millsaps, Max.



Our heroes: Asm. Bateman, Asm. Jeon, John Kashwick, Rep. Holt, with Jeff Tittel and Ken Johanson.



Dick Colby, George Denzer, Steve Lanset.



Lee Snyder, Joan Denzer.



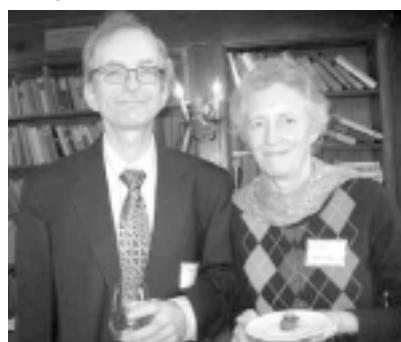
Buddy Jenssen, Linda Bowden.



Barbara Walsh, John Kashwick, Jonathan Wall.



Steve and Regina Knowlton, with Dick Colby.



Joe Testa, Anne Manda.



Steve Lanset, David Yennior.



Kate Millsaps, Sen. Goldstein, Ken Johanson.

Bull's Island

(Continued from page 2)

Club members from all over the State admired the wide girth of the huge trees and the gnarly old grape vines draping from their massive limbs. DeVito then spoke of the pristine condition of the forest undergrowth and how, once the old trees are removed, the soil will be disturbed and the entire area will be opened up to invasive weeds.

Knowing of this danger, one would think that far-sighted commissioners might expand the natural area, relocate the campground outside the flood plain, and promote a brighter future for our park system. Unfortunately, there is word that the D & R Commission may instead clear cut the campground, per-

haps even disrupt the natural area not far away, and rebuild the campground there instead.

Just across Route 29, we learned that the State has acquired uplands that are more suitable for camping. Perhaps new cross-walk systems could be installed (instead of traffic lights) for campers and hikers. Here is an opportunity to enhance rather than botch up a charming setting of old-growth forest.

Participants enthusiastically signed petitions to protect the great trees. We hope that the Commissioners will consider the constructive option of preserving and enhancing the flood plain and still allow for the safety of campers.

Private Colleges

(Continued from page 3)

The MLUL enables municipal environmental ordinances that protect steep slopes, impose disturbance limits, lot clearance, buffer requirements, tree clearing limits, and stormwater and wastewater capacity. There are also ordinances that protect the quality of special areas in the community that the colleges would be exempt from. College campuses are like small cities. They have tremendous impacts on the communities around them.

Colleges can also construct buildings that generate profit. For instance, Princeton University is the developer behind Forrestal Village, and has pushed for bad road projects such as Route 92 and the Millstone bypass, which would have opened up lands owned by the

University for more commercial and office park development. A college could build high rise luxury apartments in Hoboken. Many universities are in the economic development business as well as education.

The bill is also opposed by many local and county governments. Princeton Township, Princeton Borough, and the Mercer Board of Freeholders have all passed strong resolutions opposing it. Other allies include the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, the American Planning Association – New Jersey Chapter, Preservation New Jersey, NJ League of Women Voters, the Land Use Section of the Bar Association, and New Jersey History Advocates.

News from LuluLand

This new feature consists of short reports, condensed from Jeff Tittel's press releases, on local land-use conflicts in New Jersey. "Lulu" denotes "locally unwanted land uses."

Mase Mountain Preserved in Jefferson Township (Passaic Co)

Last August the Trust for Public Land and Green Acres Program announced the preservation of the Baker Residential Property or Mase Mountain, in the New Jersey Highlands. This 835-acre track was previously slated for development and has long been a preservation priority in the Highlands region.

Back in the 1990's, 850 sprawl housing units were proposed for the site. Local citizens and environmental groups, including the Sierra Club, spent years fighting the proposed developments and sewers. Both of New Jersey's US Senators, Lautenberg and Menendez, helped secure the funding through the Highlands Conservation Fund. Since Green Acres is running out of money, the federal government will be increasingly important for funding Highlands conservation.

Millville (Cumberland Co) Polluter Let Off the Hook

In late September, the Durand Glass Manufacturing Co. signed a consent agreement with DEP and EPA to correct Clean Air Act violations at its plant. They will install new emissions controls and pay a civil penalty for years of air pollution. Glass plants are a major source of volatile organic chemicals and other pollutants that are hazardous to human health.

EPA Proposal to add Woolwich Site (Gloucester Co) to Superfund List

On Sept. 14th, the Matlack Inc. tanker-truck terminal was given high-priority for cleanup. The site is significant in that it is rural and surrounded by important wildlife habitat. So its remediation would be a victory for open-space preservation.

Since the 1960s, empty tanker-trucks have been cleaned with organic solvents there, with the wastes run into underground pits. Contaminants include many chlorinated hydrocarbons, benzene, xylenes and toluene. A leaking underground pipeline for diesel fuel also contributed much contamination.

This proposed addition underscores the importance of adding the DuPont site in Pompton Lakes to the Superfund National Priorities List.

EPA also adds Orange Toxic Site (Essex Co) to Superfund List

The Orange Valley Regional Ground Water site in Orange and West Orange is contaminated by chlorinated organic solvents such as those used in dry cleaning and metal degreasing. No specific polluter has been identified. This urban area contains many public water-supply wells that have been closed, and others modified to remove the contaminants.

Purging the groundwater of these chemicals will be expensive and time-consuming, but public health should be of primary concern. The Sierra Club hopes to work with the EPA to develop a plan to cleanup this site.

Xanadu-doo-doo (smells too) (Essex Co): a Megamall Gets Bigger

The EPA has taken the side of developers over protecting priority wetlands in the Hackensack Meadowlands. Last August, the agency approved permits allowing the filling of yet more wetlands in the American Dream/Xanadu megamall. More than seven acres of wetlands have already been filled; now the project owner, Triple Five, will be able to fill five more. The company is moving forward with the expansion while providing inadequate, taxpayer subsidized mitigation. In granting the permit, on-site alternatives were not properly examined and impacts to the entire site and Meadowlands wetlands system were not properly studied.

We thank Joe Testa for the rhyme.

Privatization of Liberty State Park (Hudson Co)

In September a new picnic area was opened in Liberty State Park. The charge to use it is \$125, and the money goes not to the DEP or the state, but rather to a concessioner.

The lease purchased by a private contractor at Liberty is a model that we will soon see in other state parks. It has no safeguards to prevent pay-to-play abuse, sweetheart deals, or insiders getting control of these public assets. There is no public oversight. The lease does not limit the amount that can be charged for the use of public amenities. Expect to see chain restaurants, arcades, indoor shops, and conference centers in our state parks.

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.

Reports from Trenton

What Happened to New Jersey's Offshore Wind?

From a news release by Kate Millsaps, of our Trenton staff
(Kate.Millsaps@Sierraclub.org)

In late August of last year, to mark the second anniversary of the federal Offshore Wind Economic Development Act (OWEDA), the Chapter held a press conference in Paulsboro, with State Senate President Steve Sweeney and Assemblypersons John Burzichelli (Deputy Speaker) and Celeste Riley, calling on Gov. Christie and the Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to move forward with offshore wind financing regulations. Paulsboro is a port on the Delaware River, slated for turbine manufacturing facilities and port facilities - once financing regulations under OWEDA are in place. The site is currently a sorry BP oil tank storage site, but it is ready to be turned from fossil fuels to green energy. Two years after OWEDA, the gate to the site is still locked, we do not have any wind off our coast, or green jobs from manufacturing and installing turbines. The Senate President has been a leader on this issue and we will continue to work with him to press for BPU regulations.

The BPU had until March, 2011, to develop regulations setting up the Offshore Renewable Energy Credit (OREC) program. These regulations have still not been released, even in draft form. BPU is readopting the current wind rules, which are very weak, without changes or strengthening to expedite wind projects.

The Attorney General's office is dragging its feet on the wind rules, delaying needed language to ensure money that should go to wind projects will not be diverted to close budget gaps. Even though a company called Fisherman's Energy has received federal approvals to begin construction of wind turbines off the coast of Atlantic City, no state support or approval from the BPU has resulted. The Governor has claimed the federal government was holding up offshore wind, but now we see that is not the case. Projects and the jobs they create will move to other states that are doing more to advance their offshore wind programs.

Gov. Christie Trying to Hide our Dirty Air

From a Press Release issued by our Chapter staff

On Sept 12th, 2012, the Sierra Club's National Law Program and the New Jersey Chapter submitted comments on the Governor's plan to roll back important air quality standards. We believe that what the Governor is doing has national significance. Instead of improving our air, the Governor is playing games with the data and trying to change our State Implementation Plan (SIP) under the Clean Air Act.

There has been no improvement in New Jersey's air quality - so the Governor wants to weaken the standards instead. He proposes to move monitoring stations away from some of the most polluted areas of the State, such as the Ironbound section of Newark and Elizabeth.

The DEP is asking the federal EPA to re-designate the non-attainment areas in New Jersey for fine particulate matter (PM-2.5) as attainment areas, based on changes in monitoring locations, and decreased emissions due to decreased energy use, even though they will actually increase air pollution in the long run. Sounds to us like a smokescreen.

New Jersey has been in an economic recession for the last few years, resulting in decreased energy use. People drive less because they are unemployed, and businesses have been using less energy because they have not been running at full capacity. Thus fewer air emissions. More people have been using mass transit. High energy costs have led to a reduction in energy across sectors. It has also been rainier than usual the past two years, resulting in cleaner air readings. By using data from only the past two years, the DEP makes our air appear cleaner than it really is.

Over the last decades, New Jersey's air has been getting dirtier. Toxic Release Inventory data from the EPA shows increased pollution. The American Lung Association reports that New Jersey still has some of the worst air quality in the nation. Its 2012 State of the Air Report graded 16 counties in New Jersey for high ozone days: 11 received an F grade and two others received a D.

Gov. Christie's Administration claims its State Strategic Plan and Energy Master Plan will enable NJ to meet long term pollution goals, but these "Plans" are neither permanent nor enforceable. The State does not directly regulate particulates. There are secondary emissions that are not enforceable either.

Rather, the Governor's policies will make air pollution worse. The State Strategic Plan will allow for more sprawl and development, especially in the Highlands, Pinelands, and around Barnegat Bay. The Energy Master Plan slashed our clean, renewable energy goals, and shifted the State back to reliance on fossil fuels. The Administration has not looked at the cumulative impacts of air pollution - to develop health-based standards.

Many of the Administration's projects will make air quality worse: the Xanadu megamall, delaying the Sulfur rule for industrial smokestack emissions, widening the Parkways, and increasing transit fares. Safety inspections on automobiles have been delayed. \$279 million was taken from the Clean Energy Fund in 2012 to close budget gaps. Christie pulled New Jersey out of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Emissions Initiative and refused join other northeastern states in Kansas v. EPA, a lawsuit which challenges the proposed Cross State Air Pollution Rule.

The Governor has supported the construction of three new natural gas-fired electric generating plants that will receive larger ratepayer subsidies than renewable energy sources. The increased air pollution from these fossil fuel plants will especially impact the Ironbound section of Newark.

The Governor is weakening compliance and enforcement programs, especially when it comes to air pollution: fines over the past four years are down from \$13.8 million to \$2.1 million. Violation notices across all DEP programs are down to 5500 in 2011, compared to 6900 in 2008 - and the average amount of each fine has decreased.

To see the changes to the SIP, visit: www.state.nj.us/dep/baqp/sip/siprevs.



Group News

FROM
AROUND
THE
STATE

HOW TO IDENTIFY YOUR GROUP (BY COUNTY)

Skylands Group: Sussex & northern Warren
South Highlands Group: Hunterdon and southern Warren
North Jersey Group: Passaic & most of Bergen
Hudson-Meadowlands Group: Hudson & SE Bergen
Gateway Group (formerly Essex County Group): Essex, approximately
Loantaka Group: Morris & Union
Central Jersey Group: Mercer
Raritan Valley Group: Somerset & Middlesex
Jersey Shore Group: Monmouth
Ocean County Group: Ocean
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

(Groups are listed roughly from North to South)

Skylands Group

(Sussex and northern Warren Counties)

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

OFFICERS: The Chapter is rebuilding the Skylands Group looking for dedicated individuals to address a number of important environmental issues in the area. For information regarding conservation issues, please contact Greg Gorman, Acting Conservation Chair at: chachabacon@yahoo.com; for information regarding outings, please contact Joyce White, Acting Outings Chair at: joyce00201@yahoo.com. For other questions about this Group and how to get involved, please contact Nicole Dallara, Chapter Outreach Coordinator at: Nicole.Dallara@SierraClub.org.

ACTIVITIES: Presently working with other grassroots organizations to protect the pristine environment and natural beauty of this area. We are working to preserve open space, maintain water quality, promote clean energy, and address local environmental issues. Our opposition to Susquehanna-Roseland line and natural gas pipelines focuses on preserving the views and natural resources of the Appalachian Trail, the Delaware Water Gap, and New Jersey Highlands. We support actions to upgrade the Delaware Water Gap National Recreational Area into a National Park and Preserve. We also sponsor hikes throughout the region.

GENERAL MEETINGS: Announced on our website and on the online calendar on the Chapter website.

South Highlands Group

(Hunterdon and southern Warren Counties)

OFFICERS:

Chair:	Jonathan Wall	psychologist@jonwall.com
Vice-Chair:	Cinny MacGonagle	cmacgonagle@yahoo.com
Conservation Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>	
Secretary & Webmaster:	Dwight Irving	dwright@dliwing.com
Treasurer:	<i>Open Position!</i>	
Political Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>	
Publicity Chair:	Celeste Martin	onecentral@mac.com
Membership Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>	
Energy Coordinator:	<i>Open Position!</i>	
Outings Coordinator:	Jonathan Wall	psychologist@jonwall.com
Webmaster:	Dwight Irving	dwright@dliwing.com

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

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

Now you have three ways to stay updated on our group and events/activities going on! Go to our Facebook page, visit our Sierra Club Official Website, or get on 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. 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 our local area), protecting our environment, and clean energy / energy conservation. GET INVOLVED!

GENERAL MEETINGS AND GROUP EVENTS:

Jan 16 (Wed), 7pm: at the Hunterdon Medical Center's Auditorium, Wescott Lane, Flemington: Beneath the Garden State. Herb Segars, professional photographer and author will make a fascinating presentation introducing us to the strange and beautiful animals found in the Atlantic waters off the New Jersey coast. See the beauty of the one-half inch long naked sea butterfly and the fascinating blue shark, sandbar shark and tiger shark. Watch a goosefish devouring a black sea bass or a sea star growing new arms. Tour the 2,000 shipwrecks and numerous artificial reefs made of subway cars, army tanks, armored personnel carriers, and decommissioned ships. This presen-

tation and Herb Segars book will be of interest to divers, snorkelers, fishermen and all others curious about what goes on beyond the boardwalk. If you would like a book, please order it ahead of time at the Clinton Bookshop (908) 735-8811. The presentation is free and open to the public: 7pm for socializing and 7:30 for the talk.

Feb 14 (Wed), 7pm: Topic and location TBD.

Mar 9 (Sat), 10am: at Patterson Great Falls National Historical Park, Patterson: On November 7, 2011 Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis designated the site as America's 397th National Park. Home to one of the nation's largest and most spectacular waterfalls, Great Falls was harnessed to power new industries and played a key role in shaping the American Industrial Revolution and building the U.S. economy. We will view the falls and walk around the historical park. Registration required for this event—please contact Jonathan Wall at psychologist@jonwall.com or John Kashwick at jkashwick@optonline.net or register on line at http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj_calendar.asp.

Mar 20 (Wed): 7pm Location TBD. (Check our online calendar for location). A National Park for New Jersey? John Kashwick, National Parks and Monuments Team Member and Chair of the North Jersey Group, will lead a discussion on the efforts to create a National Park and Preserve at the Delaware Water Gap National Recreational Area in New Jersey. 7pm for socializing and 7:30 for the talk.

Hunterdon County Monthly Social Dinners and a Movie: 2nd Thursdays of the month at 7pm. Films will be relevant to nature or the environment and will take place at The Ship Inn Brew Pub, 61 Bridge Street, Milford. Separate checks with no minimum or cover. Parking is available on street or across the road in the church parking lot. Contact: Susan Schirmer at soupy@att.net, 908-797-6725 for more information. Seating limited to 25.

Please check the online calendar at http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj_calendar.asp or our Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/group.php?gid=53817136187>) for the most up-to-date plans for meetings and outings.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:

Jan 9 (Wed): 7:30 pm: at the office of Jonathan D. Wall, PsyD, at 27 Center Street, Clinton. Our annual re-organization meeting will involve the selection of officers and positions for the up-and-coming year. Please attend if you wish to become more involved! There is a role for everyone. For those interested, after the meeting we will walk to Main Street for tea or coffee. .

CURRENT ISSUES:

Portland power plant: <http://connect.sierraclub.org:80/ActivistNetwork/home>

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company: Proposal to install a pipeline across the South Highlands.

Delaware Gap National Park & Preserve:

Supporting efforts to enhance park protections and enhance funding via upgrading the Delaware Gap National Recreation Area status by formalizing it as a National Park and Preserve. Our effort aims to work with local and state governments, outdoor enthusiasts, environmental, hunting & game groups... together with you... to conserve and enhance our local environment and protect it from the pressures of suburban sprawl, power lines, gas pipes and mineral and gas extraction.

North Jersey Group

(Passaic County and most of Bergen County)

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

OFFICERS:

Chair:	John Kashwick *	jkashwick@optonline.net
Vice Chair:	Mary Ellen Shaw *	meshaw.001@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Tom Thompson *	etrans743@aol.com
Secretary:	Jennifer Rothschild *	jenniroth2@gmail.com
Conservation Co-Chair:	Mary Ellen Shaw *	meshaw.001@gmail.com
Conservation Co-Chair:	Beth Ravit *	bravit@attglobal.com
Political Chair:	<i>Open Position!</i>	
Air Quality Issues:	Laura Coll *	lauratraceycoll@hotmail.com
Events Chair:	Mary Walsh	blehlwalsh@hotmail.com
Membership Chair:	Buddy Jenssen *	buddy.jenssen@gmail.com
Outings Chair:	Ellen Blumenkrantz	eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com
Programs Chair:	Jessica Epstein	jepstein101@gmail.com
Publicity Chair:	Marty Cohen	martincohen@verizon.net
Trail Maintenance:	Marty Cohen	martincohen@verizon.net
Webmaster/Listmaster:	John Kashwick *	jkashwick@optonline.net
Wildlife Issues:	Mary Ellen Shaw *	meshaw.001@gmail.com
Ex-Com Member-at-Large:	Nancy Wysocki *	nape2@aol.com

(*Group Executive Committee Member)

GENERAL MEETINGS AND GROUP EVENTS:

(General meetings are free and open to general public. For more information, directions, or updates, please contact John at jkashwick@optonline.net, check out our Facebook page, or check out the on line calendar listing at http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj_calendar.asp. As inclement weather is more common in the winter months please be sure to confirm before attending events.)

Jan 24 (Thu): 7pm at the Paramus Public Library, E116 Century Road, Paramus: Beyond Coal. Christine Guhl of the Sierra Club's "Beyond Coal" campaign will present the on the affects of coal on the environment. The presentation will spotlight the impact of air pollution, mountaintop removal and strip mining. She will also examine the real costs of "cheap energy" and "clean coal" and alternatives for future energy. (This event is rescheduled from July)

Feb 21 (Thu): 7pm at the Clifton Memorial Library, 292 Piaget Ave, Clifton: Tom Belton, author of the book "Protecting NJ's Environment: From Cancer Alley to the New Garden State" will speak about key environmental issues in NJ and champion the ways common citizens have sought justice when faced with unseen health threats. Belton is a scientist with the NJDEP. He has investigated the impact of toxic chemicals on humans and wildlife.

Mar 9 (Sat): 10am at Patterson Great Falls National Historical Park, Patterson. On November 7, 2011 Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis designated the site as America's 397th National Park. Home to one of the nation's largest and most spectacular waterfalls, Great Falls was harnessed to power new industries and played a key role in shaping the American Industrial Revolution and building the U.S. economy. We will view the falls and walk around the historical park. Registration required for this event—please contact John Kashwick at jkashwick@optonline.net or Jonathan Wall at psychologist@jonwall.com or register on line at http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj_calendar.asp.

Mar 24 (Sun): 3pm at the Closter Nature Center, Ruckman Road, Closter: Getting to Know New Jersey Black Bears. Elaine Dunn of the Bear Education and Resource Group will present a program about the true nature of black bears, one of New Jersey's most magnificent animals. The Bear Education and Resource Group's mission is to educate residents about black bears, reduce unwarranted fears, promote tolerance of our bear neighbors and foster peaceful coexistence between people and bears. (This event is rescheduled from October)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING: Feb 7 (Thu) at 7:30 pm (Date and time tentative, Location TBD). This will be our annual reorganization meeting where officers are selected for the upcoming year. The meeting is casual and informative. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend to learn more about the Club, discuss issues, and plan future events. Please check the on line calendar to confirm date and time or contact John at jkashwick@optonline.net or Mary Ellen at meshaw.001@gmail.com for more information.

HALL MONITOR PROGRAM:

Our Town-Hall Monitor program is off to a good start. We have monitors in half a dozen communities. We are still looking for volunteers, particularly in Passaic County, that can check their town's web sites on a weekly basis and monitor any agenda items that might have an impact on the environment. We would also be looking for these individuals to attend to occasionally attend Mayor and Council, Planning Board, or Zoning Board meetings and keep the group up to date with what's going on. We are looking to start a pilot program in just a few towns for now. Please contact John at jkashwick@optonline.net or Mary Ellen at meshaw.001@gmail.com to find out more.

CONSERVATION ISSUES:

Become more involved in the North Jersey group and tell us more about what you are working on. Some issues that we have worked on in the past and continue to work on include keeping the Hackensack and Ramapo pristine and protecting our drinking water, as well as protecting the New Jersey Highlands from electric power lines and gas pipe lines that will impact the view-shed, damage forests and wildlife, and pollute Highlands water. We also support the concept of a National Park and Preserve in the Delaware Water Gap region. For more information about these issues, become involved, or alert to something that is going on, please contact Mary Ellen at meshaw.001@gmail.com or Beth at bravit@attglobal.com.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE:

The recent hurricane has left our assigned section of the Appalachian Trail with some work. If you're interested helping with clean-up work, please contact Marty Cohen (martincohen@verizon.net). Also, if you are interested in receiving Marty's short essay "Trail Maintenance - some thoughts," just send him an email.

OUTINGS:

If you have an idea for an outing you would like to lead, please contact Ellen at ebulmenkrantz@hotmail.com to find out how.

CONNECT WITH US:

- Check out our Web page at <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/North/>.
- Sign up for North Jersey Group e-mail notices by e-mailing John at jkashwick@optonline.net.
- You can also check our Facebook page for updates by searching "Sierra Club North Jersey Group"—don't forget to Like us!

Hudson-Meadowlands Group

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

OFFICERS:

Chair:	Judith Courtney	201-868-6575	jaocourtney@netzero.net
Vice-Chair:	Janet Glass	201-868-4216	iguanaj@aol.com
Secretary:	Ruth Olsen	201-868-6575	oof46@msn.com
Treasurer:	Judith Courtney	201-868-6575	jaocourtney@netzero.net
Conservation Chairs:	Mirjana Zivkovic	201-758-8390	tenisko@hotmail.com
	Louise Taylor	201-562-5251	LTAYLOR2@comcast.net
Political Chair:	Judith Courtney	201-868-6575	jaocourtney@netzero.net
Cool Cities Chair:	Helen Manogue	201-963-3511	helenmanogue@verizon.net
Events Chair:	Janet Glass	201-868-4216	iguanaj@aol.com
ExCom At-large:	Gil Hawkins	201-944-5799	gilc3d2@aol.com
	Jodi Jamieson	917-804-8390	jodijami@mac.com
	Steve Lanset	201-424-6348	slanset@hotmail.com

GENERAL AND EXCOM MEETINGS: Unavailable at press time. Please contact Group officers for information, or refer to the calendar of events on the Chapter's website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CONSERVATION ISSUES: Our group is committed to protecting open space in our urban area. We are currently focused on major conservation campaigns and issues, primarily along the Palisades south of the GW Bridge. We attempt to block development efforts that would impact negatively on the Palisades, free and open access to the Hudson River Walkway, and the quality of life of those who live nearby. We monitor other developments in our territory that violate the environmental needs of our residents and our land.

RIVERFRONT ISSUES:

1) We're promoting a **riverfront park** on the last 6 acres of Hudson Riverfront in North Bergen and opposing a 250+-unit development, Riverview, currently in planning for this last lot. The North Bergen Planning Board (NBPB) continues its hearings on the Riverview application to construct three high-rise towers and a multilevel garage at River Road and Bulls Ferry Road. Members of our Group have been tracking this application

for years, attending hearings on a regular basis. Despite the Dept. of Environmental Protection's (DEP) revoking Riverview's permit, the NBPB continues local hearings.

2) We're promoting safety over greed by **opposing the Appleview development** on River Road that abuts a major high pressure gas line. We created a SC State Chapter Resolution against this development and are reading it into all records. The Appleview development was approved overwhelmingly by both the NBPB and the Hudson County Planning Board (HCPB). HOWEVER, a Superior Court judge, in a summary judgment, just tossed the application back to the NBPB, saying that they hadn't properly addressed the safety issues regarding the pipeline!!! Additionally, for our protection, the judge has stated that she wants to review the results of the new hearings to determine if the safety issues have been properly addressed.

3) The Churchill Group is trying to get approval at the NBPB to build a **new 24-unit rental building 7 stories high on the face of the Palisades.**

4) Churchill Estates (Paul Silverman) has already installed netting on the Palisades to catch boulders that have been dislodged by previous construction. Now it wants to construct a **new 80 unit high rise** in addition to what is already there on the face of the Palisades.

5) A new development group is requesting approval to build at the base of the Palisades famous Suicide Bridge in three stages: a two story, 51,840 ft. retail space with a three story garage behind that and a seven story 210-unit hotel on top of that. It has been tabled for the moment, perhaps because of all the other pending issues on River Road.

Please note: all of these hearings take place at 4233 Kennedy Boulevard in North Bergen. Call 201-392-2024 or call our Secretaries, Ruth and Judith, to confirm upcoming meetings. Free parking is available. These developments will add significant traffic to the already highly congested River Road as well as blocking what views are left of the Palisades below the GWB.

OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

1) We're **protesting the approvals given by the NJ DEP to the Bayonne Golf Club.** The owners protested fines levied five years ago for numerous severe violations of the Waterfront Development Permit Act and other waterfront rules and regulations. The recent DEP approvals not only give the Golf Club everything it originally wanted but in addition is also allowing the closing of at least half of the Waterfront Walkway from use by the general public. Just to add insult to injury, it also permits the closing of the entire Walkway from dusk to dawn. We are consulting with the Hudson River Waterfront Conservancy to seek a reversal of these approvals.

2) Our Group and the State Chapter are **opposed to the Spectra High Pressure Gas line** proposal in Jersey City. It is currently going through the various stages of evaluation and approval.

3) We are opposing a proposed high-rise development on Boulevard East in West New York. This location was previously a gas station so there are safety issues regarding any digging here; additionally it is oversized for the location, will be an eyesore within this low-rise community, and will add considerably to the congestion on Boulevard East. Meetings are taking place in the Municipal Building on 60th Street in West New York. Call us for more meeting information.

There's still some natural beauty in our urban areas especially on the Palisades and along the Waterfront. Developers are circling to construct hotels, commercial buildings and residential projects that will block any view of these majestic cliffs and block citizen access to the Walkway. We need your help. Get involved in the fight to save some of this last open space in Hudson County. To find out how you can take some action call Judith or Janet.

Gateway Group

(Essex County except for Livingston, Millburn and Roseland; plus Elizabeth and Hillside)

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

The Gateway Group serves Newark, Elizabeth, Hillside, and most of Essex County

The Gateway Group is the reincarnation of the former Essex Group with the addition of Elizabeth and Hillside. The Group resumed function in 2011.

Officers:

Chair:	David Yennior	973-844-1384	dyennior@msn.com
Vice-Chair:	John Beadle	973-284-1594	jbeadle571@verizon.net
Secretary:	<i>Open position!</i>		
Treasurer:	Anne Hirs	973-844-1121	annehirs@msn.com
Program Chair:	John Beadle	973-284-1594	jbeadle571@verizon.net
Conservation Co-Chairs:	ZaSah Khademi	201-618-8572	zasah@aol.com
	David Korfhage	973-932-0742	drkorfhage@gmail.com
Political Chair:	<i>Open position!</i>		
Membership Chair:	Steven Yafet	908-354-2537	syafet@gmail.com
Newark Issues Chair:	Bill Chappel	973-623-6490	bchappel1@verizon.net
Water Issues Chair:	Bill Chappel	973-623-6490	bchappel1@verizon.net
Recycling Issues Chair:	Lyle Landon	201-247-0288	lylelandon@aol.com
Passaic River Issues Chair:	Brenda Toyloy	973-856-7056	brendatoyloy@yahoo.com
Elizabeth Issues Chair:	Paula Borenstein	908-289-3584	brdandmkt@aol.com
Outings Chair:	<i>Open position!</i>		
Group ExCom:	David Yennior, John Beadle, and ZaSah Khademi		

In the upcoming months Gateway is planning several interesting evenings. Invitations will be sent out to the entire Gateway Group by email. Here are the plans for the Fall 2012:

Seton Hall Prep Old Growth Forest - Talk on the fight to save an Old Growth Forest in West Orange. Seton Hall Prep wanted to cut down an old Growth forest to create ball fields. Sally Malanga will talk about trying to save the forest and the final outcome. October 10th, 7pm at the Verona Boathouse. (Directions: <http://www.essex-countynj.org/p/index.php?section=parks/sites/ve.>)

(Continued on page 8)

Members living near Trenton are invited to volunteer time to help run our state office: Call Nicole Dallara.

GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 7)

Creating a Urban Wildlife Refuge - Lois Ross from friends of Clarks Pond will talk about how a group of neighbors joined together to create an 18 acre Urban Wildlife Refuge in Bloomfield on the third river. Building support, recruiting volunteers, working with the town, permits, grants, clean-ups, planting of native plants, turtle daycare. November 7, 7pm at the Verona Boathouse.

Please contact John Beadle, Gateway's Program Chair, if you have any special requests for a program.

The Gateway Group invites YOU to join in the activism and asks your support as we strive to address the many issues facing the urban as well as suburban communities. There are several vacant positions listed, along with a full list of officers. For further information about upcoming activities, volunteer opportunities, or to discuss any concerns please contact me at dyennior@msn.com or 973-844-1384.

Loantaka Group

(Morris and Union Counties (except for Elizabeth and Hillside), plus Livingston, Milburn and Roseland, approximately)

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

OFFICERS:

Group Co-Chairs:	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	ericbiomass@gmail.com
and	Paul Sanderson	908-233-2414	paulmsanderson@aol.com
Treasurer:	Paul Sanderson	908-233-2414	paulmsanderson@aol.com
Secretary:	Scott McCarthy		hi_risescott@earthlink.net
Conservation Chair:			
Morris County:	Bill Martin	908-604-2505	WP_Martin@yahoo.com
Union County:	Open Position!		
Political Chair:	Meiling Chin		chinmeiling@yahoo.com
Programs:	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	ericbiomass@gmail.com
Fundraising Chair:	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	ericbiomass@gmail.com
Outreach & Events Chair:	Open Position!		
Publicity Chair:	Wynn Johanson	908-464-0442	johansons@comcast.net
Membership:	Bill Martin	908-604-2505	WP_Martin@yahoo.com
Air Quality Coordinator:	Bob Campbell	973-761-4461	bobc2023_sc@verizon.net
Webmaster:	Paul Sanderson		paulmsanderson@aol.com
Greenbrook:	Bob Muska	908-665-2296	rmuska@erols.com
At Large:	Srabasti Dutta	631-902-9948	srabastidutta@gmail.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: 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!

DIRECTIONS: Directions are posted on our website: <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/>.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

Jan 9: Movie called "Earth 2100," presented by Eric Hausker: It is an animated special about an old lady's memories of being born in 2010 and experiencing everything that happened as the environment deteriorated in her lifetime. It was first broadcast by ABC in 2009. One of the highlights of the film is a hurricane that floods New York as a result of global warming!

Feb 13: Endangered species in New Jersey: Maria Grace of Conserve Wildlife will give a general presentation about endangered species in NJ.

Mar 13: Discussion on current status of the New Jersey Highlands: Erika Van Auken of the NJ Highlands Coalition will present a 30 minute video and give a talk afterward.

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 safeguard the water resources on which we all depend. We are also organizing volunteers 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 welcome. Call Paul (908-233-2414) or Eric (732-669-0719).

Online NJ Sierra Club Resources

Chapter Website <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/> : your central Club information resource.
Chapter Action Center <http://scnj.convio.net/> : sign up for our biweekly e-mail newsletter, and for Action Alerts which call on YOU to help make a difference.

Central Jersey Group

(Mercer County and neighboring towns in adjoining counties)

Like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CentralGroupNJSC>

OFFICERS:

Chair:	Terry Stimpfel	609-731-7016	terystimb@hotmail.com
Co-Chair:	Open position!		
Conserv'n Chr:	Open position!		
Memb' Chair:	Open position!		
Outings Chair:	Leona Fluck	609-259-3734	leona@pineypaddlers.com
Political Chair:	Terry Stimpfel		
Publicity Chair:	Joanne Pannone	609-443-6992	jpatmeadowbrook@gmail.com
Program Chair:	Lynne Weiss	732-821-9688	lshari05@gmail.com
ExCom At-large:	Kip Cherry	609-924-4232	kcherry10@gmail.com
	Rob Benjamin	609 587-9069	robert.benjamin@greenwords.net
Outreach:	Open position!		
Secretary:	Open position!		
Webmaster:	Open position!		

ADVOCACY: The Central Group is working locally to preserve open space, promote effective planning, and protect wetlands and trails. Currently we are working to stop the Meadowbrook Road warehouse/flex space and to save the former Valley Road School in Princeton and the Princeton Battlefield. We support a ban on horizontal hydrofracking and disposal of fracking wastes in New Jersey. We oppose the natural gas pipelines through New Jersey and the Susquehanna-Roseland electric transmission lines

EVENTS: Details of meetings and outings during the quarter will be appear on the Chapter events calendar at http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj_calendar.asp

As the Central Group is invigorated, we hope you will be involved, share ideas and have fun. Please contact Terry or Joanne. Join the Central Group distribution list to receive timely information.

Raritan Valley Group

(Middlesex and Somerset Counties and surrounding areas)

OFFICERS:

Group Chair:	Roomi Nusrat	908-429-9017	sierra_nj_rartian@att.net
Group Vice Chair:	Don McBride	732 560-0369	dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org
Conservation Advisor:	Jane Tousman	908-561-5504	jdtous@aol.com
Outings Coordinator:	Denise McClellan		mcclellan09@comcast.net
Webmaster:	Don McBride	732 560-0369	dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org
Treasurer:	Open position!		
Recycling Coordinator:	Open position!		
Conservation Chair:	Open position!		
Secretary:	Open position!		
Political Chair:	Daphne Speck-Barynski	732-390-5311	speckbartyn@comcast.net
Membership:	Open position!		

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

Our monthly meetings are usually on a weekday evening of the third week of every month and well as any other special events.

Meetings Location and Updates: Because meeting dates and locations change, please subscribe to our E-mail list: NJ-RARITAN-VALLEY-NEWS after creating a password on <http://lists.sierraclub.org/>

The issues of interest to our communities include but are not limited to:

1. Conservation and Protection of the Raritan River basin area.

Key issues: preservation of our water supply, wildlife and prevention of water pollution.

2. Passage of and responsible enforcement of environmentally friendly zoning and development ordinances.

3. Prevention of diversion of conserved land for commercial or other development.

Key issue: Diversion of Dismal Swamp Conservation Area in Middlesex County for development.

We encourage you to attend your town's planning/zoning board or land use board meetings. If you are aware of development proposals in your town that may have a negative environmental impact, PLEASE communicate concerns by attending our meetings and by contacting us via sierra_nj_rartian@att.net.

Jersey Shore Group

(Monmouth County, approximately)

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

OFFICERS:

Group Chair:	Dennis Anderson	732-970-4327	dennisaza@aol.com
	6 Maple Ave, Matawan NJ 07747		
Vice-Chair:	Open Position!		
Secretary:	Joe DeLuca	732-389-1835	joe-deluca@att.net
Conservation Chair:	Faith Teitelbaum	732-229-0553	faithtei@aol.com
Webmaster:	Lud Lanko	732-462-2199	lud@pobox.com
Treasurer:	Pat Fuschetto	732-308-4588	fusche40@yahoo.com
Political Chair:	Shahnaz Shahidain	732-666-4285	shahidain@gmail.com
Outings Chair:	Mike Verange	908-902-0718	mjverange@aol.com
Membership Co-Chair:	Bob Grize	732-892-0684	nyucwnyppb@aol.com
Program Chair:	George Moffatt	732-544-1726	gmoffatt@aol.com

Fund-raising

Co-Chairs: Lois Blake 732-863-5917 lqblake@optonline.net
and Joellen Lundy 732-741-4756 jfutey@comcast.net

Shore Group Happenings:

We thank the following donors whose support and generosity made our Fall Fundraising Auction possible:

Monmouth Symphony Orchestra	State Theatre (New Brunswick)
Two River Theater (Red Bank)	Hand and Stone Massage (Aberdeen)
Gold's Gym (Long Branch)	Elegant Creations (Freehold)
McLoone's Restaurants	Delicious Orchards (Colts Neck)
Luigi's (Lincroft)	Queso Grill (Lincroft)
Good Karma Cafe (Red Bank)	The Danish Cafe (Red Bank)
Richard's Deli (West End)	Turning Point (Long Branch)
Monmouth Meats (Red Bank)	Riverside Salon (Red Bank)
Stefano's Pizza & Restaurant (Freehold)	Eastern Mountain Sports (Eatontown)
Andres the Tailor (Freehold)	

We have had several cleanups with a coalition with Monmouth University, all the towns on the Whale Pond Brook watershed, and the N.J. Friends of Clearwater. Our goal is to clean up the watershed and educate local residents about the detrimental effects of lawn fertilizers and storm water run-off, and the importance of integrated pest management. We have held several hikes along part of the watershed and have shown the documentary film, A Chemical Reaction, which chronicles the harmful effects of common lawn and garden pesticides and one town's fight to ban them.

Please join us to help explore, enjoy and protect this beautiful watershed. Contact: Faith Teitelbaum: faithtei@aol.com.

HELP NEEDED FOR CLEANUPS: If you would like to participate in cleanups of our local waterways, please contact Laura Bagwell at l.bagwell3@verizon.net. In this vital effort, our Group joins forces with the Navesink Swimming River Group which, since 2002, has removed more than 20 tons of debris from our local banks and streams..

GENERAL MEETINGS: The general meeting of the Jersey Shore Group will continue at the NEW TIME and LOCATION: 6pm at Brookdale Community College. We're meeting at Brookdale in hopes of sharing our speakers with both the N.J Friends of Clearwater, environmentally concerned BCC college students, and other local organizations. A buffet will be available for the students and adults at 6pm. Contributions from non-students are encouraged to defray the costs. The general meeting starts at 6:30 pm.

To get to Brookdale, take GSP Exit 109 to Rte 520 West (Newman Springs Road, which becomes E. Main Street at the Lincroft campus). Take the traffic circle into the campus and follow the signs to the Warner Student Life Center (SLC), where the meeting will be in the Twin Lights 1 Room. Use parking lot 7. As you walk towards the building complex, Warner will be on your left. If lot 7 is full, use parking lots 5 or 6. A campus map is at http://www.brookdalecc.edu/PDFFiles/MAPS/MAP_04_08.pdf.

Jan 28: The role of watershed management and pollution control will be discussed by two Monmouth County environmentalists – The Sierra Club's Faith Teitelbaum and Monmouth County Parks' naturalist Joe Reynolds. Faith is a founder and co-chair of the Whale Pond Brook Watershed Association, which stretches from Fort Monmouth to the Atlantic Ocean. Joe is chairman of the Bayshore Regional Watershed Council, which focuses on the Raritan River and Bay. Both speakers will relate how they helped start the two watershed groups, some of the problems they had to overcome, their successes to date, and their organizations' future plans. Watershed-based activities can range from simple anti-litter campaigns and cleanups to sophisticated programs involving local residents, and municipal, county, and state officials to both manage water resources and control pollution.

Feb 25: Doug O'Malley, interim executive director of Environment New Jersey, will discuss his organization's recent report on the deteriorating water quality in NJ, due primarily to overdevelopment. (His talk was rescheduled from November because of a conflict with the national elections.) An invitation has been sent to the N.J. Department of Environmental Protection for a representative to join him in the discussion. New Jersey's water quality is an important issue because only one creek, originating in a state park, is pollution-free. All of the state's other bodies of water are polluted. O'Malley will explain what regulatory actions should be taken by the state legislature and the DEP to reverse this deterioration. (See the Asbury Park Press three-part series in mid-January.) In particular, O'Malley will discuss Raritan River and Bay, the Navesink and Shrewsbury Rivers, and Barnegat Bay.

Mar 25: Tony MacDonald, director of Monmouth University's Urban Coast Institute, will discuss the problems that must be addressed to protect coastal and global ocean resources in the 21st Century. Such issues include increased drilling for oil and natural gas, over-fishing, increased recreational use, bigger container ships, the need for larger port facilities, and continued population growth and pollution along coastal areas. The Urban Coast Institute, created in 2005 by Monmouth University, serves as a forum for research, education, and collaboration in developing and implementing science-based policies and programs that support healthy, productive, and resilient coastal ecosystems and communities. Tony previously was executive director of the Coastal States Organization (CSO) from 1998-2005. CSO, based in Washington, DC, represents the interests of the governors of the United States' 35 coastal states and territories on coastal and ocean policy matters.

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 sylvia1910@yahoo.com
Secretary: Jill Palmer 732-928-0988 palmer2x2@aol.com
Treasurer: Gregory Auriemma 732-451-9220 sierraclubOC@aol.com
Political Chair: Nancy Brown 732-892-6089 nancybrown624@comcast.net
Publicity Chair: *Open Position*
Fund-Raising: Joyce M. Isaza 732-920-9270 realtymstr@aol.com
Env'l Consultant: Helen Henderson 908-278-9807 hhlaceyrailtrail@msn.com

Env'l Educ'n Coord: Terrance Brown 848-333-7331 terrybrown@comcast.net
Group ExCom Member: Sierra Palmer

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Generally held on the SECOND MONDAY of each month at the Ocean County Library.

ACTIVITIES & ISSUES: We're hard at work: Preventing drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and off the Jersey Coast, defending the Endangered Species Act, 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 and Lakewood. 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 web site: 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 "Skywalk Cafe" in the Ocean County Administration Building, 129 Hooper Avenue (2nd Floor), Toms River. Information on meetings in Jan-March will be posted on the website: www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean.

West Jersey Group

(Camden, Gloucester and Burlington Counties, approximately)

WEBSITE: <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 Sabastiano patri3210@gmail.com
Publicity Chair: Bud Kaliss 856-428-8071 budkaliss@verizon.net
Political Chair: Nancy Rone NancyRone@comcast.net
Pinelands Rep: Lee Snyder pinelands1@hotmail.com
Greenways Coord's: Frank and Ellen Zinni efzin4@aol.com
Conservation Chair: Stacey Ayala thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com
Delegate at Large: Aida Ayala thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com
Membership Chair: Mike Brown 856-547-9221 eyebrown@verizon.net
Fundraising Chair: *Open position!* Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831
Smart Growth Chair: *Open position!* Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831
Programs Chair: *Open position!* Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831
Outings Chair: *Open position!* Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831

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.

Jan 9: Jim Cummings of Urban Trekkers Camden will present I never knew you could get to New York from Camden...Turning kids onto learning by turning them onto life.

Feb 13: Alex Cooper, Watershed Ambassador for Watershed Area 18 will present Human Impacts on Water Quality in South Jersey.

Mar 13: Brian Hayes, Director at Educational Information and Resource Center and Monarch Teacher Network will present The Amazing Story of the Monarch Butterfly.

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: Douglas Jewell 609-780-7129 jewellrea@comcast.net
Conservation Chair: *Open Position!*
Pol. Chair, Calendars: Dick Colby 609-965-4453 dick.colby@stockton.edu
Membership Chair: *Open Position!*
Secretary/Treasurer: Julie Akers 609-432-3280 julie_akers@hughes.net

The Cape May County Conservation Committee hosts bi-monthly educational presentations at The Free Meal Center, 1206 Route 9 South, Cape May Court House NJ 08210. Our get-togethers are 7-8:30pm, each with a guest speaker covering an environmental topic ranging from wind power and solar power to aquifers and habitat. The Chair is Douglas Jewell, 5 Timber Lane, Swainton 08210-1462 (e-mail jewellrea@comcast.net, cell phone 609-780-7129), or call Vilma Pombo at 609-465-3565. 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 with-

(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)

in 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 once scheduled. For now, 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: In addition to our opposition to the extension of Rte 55 into Cape May County (see article in the previous issue of this Newsletter), two Cape May County campaigns to prevent the use of tropical rainforest 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 damage done to sand trails by ATVs, 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 (A930/S1467).

Some Possibly Relevant Meetings of Allied Organizations:

Jan 10 and Mar 14 (Second Thursdays), 6:30 pm: Bi-monthly meeting of Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River and its Tributaries: Meeting place: George Luciano Center, Cumberland County College. Cumberland County development issues are commonly discussed, including art, historical and recreational attributes of the area. Contact Lillian Armstrong (CU) at 609-774-5853 or lillian.armstrong@cumauriceriver.org. Website: www.cumauriceriver.org.

Jan 17, Feb 21 & Mar 21 (Third Thursdays), 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, Atlantic County Park in Estell Manor, Milepost 15 on NJ Rte 50, 3½ miles south of Mays Landing (WFNC*). Contact Julie Akers, 609-432-3280.

Jan 22 & Mar 26 (Fourth Tuesdays), 7pm: Great Egg Harbor River Watershed Association: Members’ meeting, open to the public. Watershed awareness presentation. WFNC* Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114.

Feb 20 (Third Wednesdays), 7pm: Great Egg Harbor Scenic and Recreational River Council: Representatives of the 12 municipalities discuss river management strategies. Open to the public. WFNC*. Contact Julie Akers, 856-697-6114.

Singles Section

(A chapter-wide, special interest section offering hikes/cleanups, social gatherings, 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. Come out and meet fellow 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!

WEBSITE: <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	Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com
Programs:	Position Open. Contact us! We need you!	
Publicity:	Terry Kulmane	terrykayhiker@yahoo.com
Membership:	Position Open. Contact us! We need you!	
Nominations:	Nancy Sullivan	nancysullivan@comcast.net

Volunteer Opportunities: We need volunteers in all areas of the state to run events. Volunteers needed as hike leaders, Fundraising Chair/Co-Chairs, and members of all committees, including planning social events and conservation activities. 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. 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 7pm. Join us for dinner at a restaurant in the Morristown area. Location will be announced 2 weeks before each social. RSVP required; join our listserv for further details.

SOCIAL DINNER: THIRD TUESDAY of each month at 7pm. Join us for dinner at a variety of Montclair restaurants. Location will be announced 2 weeks before each social. RSVP is required to jkhaddad@juno.com or 973-364-7573 option # 4.

HIKES AND OTHER OUTINGS:

The Singles Section sponsors many outings, ranging from beginners’ level to advanced difficulty. Some of these are listed in this newsletter; others are announced only on our listserv. Please join the listserv to receive notification of all of our outings (see above for instructions on how to subscribe).

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, dinner get-togethers 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.

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!)

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

YOUNG SIERRAN COMMITTEE POSITIONS

Head Chair & Coordinator:	William Sevchuk	wsevchuk@yahoo.com
Vice Chair:	Open Position	Please Contact Us!
Moderator:	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/>

Inner City Outings Section

(another Chapter-wide special interest activity with the motto: No Child Left Inside!)

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 Marty at the above e-mail address. To learn more, visit our webpage: ico.sierraclub.org/newjersey.

Check out the new interactive calendar on our web site!

There’s a new way on our web site to find out about Sierra Club outings and meetings! Click on “Events and Outings” the new label for a list of events around NJ. The “Calendar View” tab gives a monthly display. “Map View” shows where the events are. “List View” shows a list with brief titles. Click on a title for more information. If you click on “Change Location” and enter your address, the List View will tell you how far away each event is, and you can click on “Directions” to get there. You’ll be able sign up for some events using the web site.



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
Gateway: David Ogens 973-226-0748 (H)
64 Elm Rd, Caldwell 07003
Hudson-Meadowlands: Vacant
South Highlands: 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
Skylands: 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 Djyak 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 April-June 2013 write-ups to your Group Outings Coordinator (or, if you don't associate yourself with a single Group, directly to Ellen Blumenkrantz, the Chapter Outings Chair) before November 3. 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: Group Outings Coordinators: Please submit your April-June trip write-ups by February 8.

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 the Sierra Club. 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. However, as these outings are planned many months in advance, we do advise that you contact the trip leader 1-2 days before the outing to make sure it is not cancelled. 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 trips can arrange partners to share a canoe if you are 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 |
| (G) - Gateway | (L) - Loantaka |
| (N) - North Jersey | (Sk) - Skylands |
| (RV) - Raritan Valley | (S) - South Jersey |
| (W) - West Jersey | (NJ) - NJ Chapter |
| (RT) - River Touring | (ACOC) - Atlantic Chapter
Outings Comm. |

JANUARY

Jan 1 (Tue): New Year's Day Paddle on the Oswego River (Burlington Co). 10am. Ring in the New Year with the NJ Sierra Club. Meet at Lake Oswego and paddle 8 miles on the "Jewel of the Pinelands". Enjoy a tailgate get together after the trip at Harrisville Lake. Bring something to share. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. Experienced winter Pines paddlers only. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Jan 1 (Tue): Harteshorne Woods (Monmouth Co). (Special interest: Recent History): 9am. Moderate 6-mile hike has elevation gains and a lot of scenery. Please bring drinks and snacks. Hiking shoes are suggested. Meet at the Rock Point parking area. Take I-95 to exit 117. Take Rte 36 toward Sandy Hook to Portland Road. (It is the 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 snow cover) cancels. Confirmation/questions please call or text Leader Mike Verange, 908-902-0718 or mjverange@aol.com. (JS)

Jan 6 (Sun): Veterans Park (Mercer Co). 10am. 5 miles, easy pace. Enjoy a winter hike in one of our favorite parks. This 333-acre park was built in 1977, in honor of Hamilton Township's veterans. Meet at the Kuser Rd entrance. Leashed dogs are welcome. Bring snacks and water. Option for late lunch at Mastoris Restaurant. Inclement weather cancels. Co-leaders: Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com and Joanne P at jpatmeadowbrook@gmail.com. (C)

Jan 9 (Wed): Hike Tuckahoe WMA (Cape May Co). 10am. 5 miles, easy pace. The Tuckahoe WMA features nearly 14,600 acres of salt marsh, fresh water rivers, marshes and impoundments, and Pine Barrens woodland. We'll look for winter waterfowl, raptors and Tundra Swans. Leashed dogs are welcome. Bring snacks and water. Meet at the entrance of the Tuckahoe WMA on CR 631; less than 1/4 mile from the intersection of Rte 631 and State Hwy 50. GPS Coordinates N39 15.940 W 074 44.067. Option for late lunch at Levarl's American Grill. Inclement weather cancels. Co-leaders: Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com and Nancy T.: nancythomson@comcast.net. (W)

Jan 12 (Sat): Wawayanda State Park Hike (Sussex Co). 10am. Moderate difficulty. 7.6 miles in 4.5 hours in moderately hilly terrain, featuring views of Wawayanda Lake and the deep interior of the Park. Total elevation gain is moderate: only about 600 ft. No pets. Hiking boots and a day-pack with water required. Bring a lunch. Leader: Jimi Oleksiak (the_hikist@mac.com). If you haven't hiked with him before, include a brief description of your hiking experience with your registration. Directions for the meeting place will be sent via e-mail to all who register. http://www.nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/parks/wawayanda.html.

Jan 13 (Sun): Hike on the D&R Canal Towpath (Burlington/Mercer Cos). 10am. 5 miles, easy pace. This will be an opportunity to use the new Lock 1 "swinging bridge" as we walk along the towpath. Meet at the RiverLINE parking lot in Bordentown City. Option for a late lunch at a local restaurant. Inclement weather cancels. Leona and George F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

Jan 17 (Thurs): Canoe/Kayak Trip on the D&R Canal (Mercer Co). 9am. Let's get some winter exercise - paddle 12 miles from Cherry Tree Lane to Kingston. Bring lunch and beverage. Contact leaders to confirm trip participation and meeting location: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

Jan 19 (Sat): Jockey Hollow Grand Loop (Morris Co). 10am We will do the Grand Loop at Jockey Hollow National Park in Morristown. See http://www.nps.gov/morr/playourvisit/directions.htm for directions and information. Bring lots of water, lunch, and wear hiking boots. Meet at the visitors' center. Inclement weather cancels. Proper footwear required (sabllicers, crampons or snowshoes) if appropriate for the conditions. Optional lunch at a local eatery if we get done in time. No pets please. Leader: Jeffrey Sovelove: Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike.

Jan 21 (Mon): Canoe/Kayak the N. Branch Rancocas Creek Canoe Trail (Burlington Co). 9am. We begin our day with breakfast at the Vincentown Diner - one of the BEST diners in NJ. The section we paddle will depend on weather conditions. Experienced winter paddlers only. Contact leaders to confirm trip. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Jan 26 (Sat): Tallman Mountain State Park (Rockland Co, NY). 11:15 am. 7 miles. We will hike through the Park and view the bams and salt marsh. We will then walk the mile-long Piermont pier halfway across the Hudson! Trails include the Long Path. Bring lunch and water. Adverse conditions will alter the route. Meet in front of 450 Piermont Ave (building with mural, on the corner of Tate & Piermont Aves) in Piermont NY. Park across the street in parking lot D. Leader: John P. Jurasek: 845-519-4247 (no calls after 10pm) or Jurasek@optonline.net. (ACOC)

Jan 27 (Sun): Breakneck Pond hike in Harriman State Park (Rockland Co, NY) 10am Moderate paced 8-mile hike on gentle terrain with 1-2 hills, past 2-3 lakes. Trail conditions will determine exact route of hike. Rain, snow, inclement weather cancels. Hike limited to 12 people. Hikers must preregister with leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz. Email: eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com.

Jan 27 (Sun): Hike at Jakes Branch County Park (Ocean Co). 10am. 4 miles, easy pace. Jakes Branch has a wonderful nature center with interesting hands-on exhibits and an observation deck that offers a 360 deg view of the Pinelands. Leashed dogs are welcome. Meet at Jakes Branch Park, 1100 Double Trouble Rd, Beechwood. Bring lunch and water. Inclement weather cancels. Leaders: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Feb 2 (Sat): Whitesbog Village Winter Hike (Burlington Co). 10am. 4-5 miles, easy pace. Whitesbog is a NJ historic site, built to house workers in the local cranberry bogs. Perhaps we'll see wintering Tundra Swans as we hike around the bogs. Leashed dogs are welcome. Optional guided tour of the Village at 1pm (small fee). Directions www.whitesbog.org. Bring beverage and lunch. Inclement weather cancels. Leaders: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Feb 3 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Wading River (Burlington Co). 10am. Yesterday was Groundhog Day - what was "Piney Phil's" decision in NJ? The river section we paddle will depend on weather conditions. Contact leaders to confirm trip. Experienced winter Pines paddlers only. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Feb 10 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Oswego River (Burlington Co). 10am. Meet at Lake Oswego and paddle 8 miles on the "Jewel of the Pinelands". Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. Experienced winter Pines paddlers only. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Feb 10 (Sun): Clayton Park, Upper Freehold Township. (Special Interest: History) A moderate 6-mile hike in one of Monmouth County Park System's best kept secrets. Moderate elevation gains. Hiking shoes not required. Bring snack and drink. Meet 9am at the Wawa store near the intersection of County Rd 537 and I-195 in Upper Freehold Township. Bad weather (including snow cover) cancels. Confirmation/questions call or text Leader: Mike Verange: 908-902-0718 or mjverange@aol.com. (JS)

Feb 13 (Sat): Patriots Path Stroll (Morris Co). 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. The path is wide, partly paved, partly crushed stabilized gravel with very little in the way of elevation gains. We will be strolling at a very moderate pace. Please bring plenty of water and a light snack. Great for beginners. No pets please. Inclement weather cancels. Proper footwear required (sabllicers, crampons or snowshoes) if appropriate for the conditions. Optional lunch afterwards. Leader: Jeffrey Sovelove: Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike.

Feb 14 (Thu): A Sweet Hike on Valentine's Day (Burlington Co). 10am. 5 miles, easy pace. Historic Smithville Park in Vincentown, NJ features a diverse collection of habitats and terrain, upland forests and meadows and also offers Rancocas Creek vistas. Meet at the Smith's Woods access parking lot, East Railroad Ave. Option for lunch at Vincentown Diner after the hike. Leashed dogs are welcome. Leaders: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Feb 16 (Sat): Hike at Atsion (Burlington Co). 10am. Hike approximately 8 miles on mostly flat terrain at a moderate pace in the NJ Pine Barrens. Bring water, lunch and dress in layers for cold weather. Snow or inclement weather cancels. We will follow the yellow trail and visit old cranberry bogs and beaver lodges in this area that was once an iron producing town now reclaimed by nature. Meet at the Atsion office parking lot on Rte 206, Shamong Twp, approximately 8 miles north of Hammonton. Experienced hikers only, and hikers should preregister with the leaders no later than the Friday prior to the hike. Leaders: Beth Compagnucci, 609-533-1335, belhcompagnucci@gmail.com, and Paul Foged, 732-996-1406, hikerpaul@verizon.net. (W)

Feb 17 (Sun): President's Day Weekend Hike at Allaire State Park (Monmouth Co). 10am. 5 miles, easy pace. The Historic Village was known as the Howell Works in the early 19th century. At that time it was a thriving industrial community which produced pig and cast iron. After the hike, option to tour the village buildings and shop at the Allaire General Store. Bring lunch and beverage. Meet in the village parking lot. Leaders: George & Leona F: Leona@pineypaddlers.com or 609-259-3734. (W)

Jan 19 (Sat): B 5 B - Jockey Hollow Grand Loop (Morris Co). We will do the Grand Loop at Jockey Hollow National Park in Morristown. See http://www.nps.gov/morr/playourvisit/directions.htm for directions and information. Bring lots of water, lunch, and wear hiking boots. Meet at the visitors' center at 10am. Inclement weather cancels. Proper footwear required (sabllicers, crampons or snowshoes) if appropriate for the conditions. Optional lunch at a local eatery if we get done in time. No pets please. Leader: Jeffrey Sovelove: Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike.

FEBRUARY

Feb 9 (Sat): High Point State Park Ski & Snowshoe (Sussex Co). 10am. If there is adequate snow cover we will lead cross country skiing. There is a full service cross country ski center at the park with rentals and a ski lodge. (http://www.xcskihighpoint.com/) If there is no snow, we will hike: 7 miles in 4 hours. Email the leader for the up-to-the-minute details. No pets. XC Skis/ Hiking boots and a day-pack with water required. Bring a lunch. Registration required: email the Leader: Jimi Oleksiak (the_hikist@mac.com). Include a brief description of your XC Ski experience with your registration. Directions for the meeting place will be sent via email to members who register. http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/highpoint.html

Feb 16 (Sat): C 3-5 C Patriots Path Stroll (Morris Co). Come take an easy stroll on Patriots Path in Morristown. This 3-5 mile stroll will start out from the Speedwell Lake parking lot at 10am, across the street from Historic Speedwell. See the Morris County Parks website (http://www.morrisparks.org/) for directions. The path is wide, partly paved, partly crushed stabilized gravel with very little in the way of elevation gains. We will be strolling at a very moderate pace. Please bring plenty of water and a light snack. Great for beginners. No pets please. Inclement weather cancels. Proper footwear required (sabllicers, crampons or snowshoes) if appropriate for the conditions. Optional lunch afterwards. Leader: Jeffrey Sovelove: Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike.

Feb 23 (Sat): A Special Guided Hike at Merrill Creek Reservoir (Warren Co). 10am. 5 miles, easy pace. Join us for a very special guided hike with Jane Bullis, Merrill Creek Reservoir Naturalist. Merrill Creek Reservoir is a 650-acre reservoir surrounded by a 290-acre Environmental Preserve and 2000 additional acres of woods and fields. The reservoir is home to tens of thousands of Snow Geese during the migration season. There are resident Bald Eagles and last year a Snowy Owl wintered there. Bring lunch and beverage. Meet at the MCR Visitors Center. Directions: www.merrill-creek.com/. Inclement weather cancels. Leaders: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Feb 23 (Sat): Clausland Mountain (Rockland Co, NY). 11:15 am. 6 miles. We will climb 700 ft through historic Rockland Cemetery to an old Nike missile base. Bring hiking boots, lunch, 2 quarts of water. Adverse conditions will alter the route. Meet in front of 450 Piermont Ave. (building with mural, on the corner of Tate & Piermont Aves) in Piermont NY. Park across the street in parking lot D. Leader: John P. Jurasek: 845-519-4247 (no calls after 10pm), or Jurasek@optonline.net. (ACOC)

MARCH

Mar 3 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Great Egg Harbor River (Atlantic Co). 10am. We're paddling 9 miles from Penny Pot to Weymouth Furnace. Meet at Harley Dawn Diner, Black Horse Pike/Rte 322. Arrive early for breakfast! Experienced winter Pines paddlers only. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Mar 9 (Sat): Abbott Marshlands Cleanup (Mercer Co). 9am-Noon. Spring Lake area. Bring gloves if you have them, water to drink: wear long sleeves, long pants, and boots. Meet at Spring Lake - Roebling Park (end of Sewell Ave., Hamilton). Contact: Bob Sokol, robert.sokol435@gmail.com, 609-918-1149. (Cosponsors with Friends for the Marsh: Central Jersey Sierra Group, Mercer County Parks, D&R Greenway Land Trust). (C)

Mar 9 (Sat): On-Water Canoe/Kayak Cleanup on the Abbot Marshlands (Mercer Co). 9am. Bring your kayak or canoe and help us clean-up the Marsh in the Watson Woods area for 2-3 hours. We'll have QJ, muffins and donuts to begin the morning. Bring gloves and be prepared to get "dirty"! The Marsh is part of the Delaware River Watershed and the NJ Sierra Club's Water Sentinels commitment to the watershed. We'll have garbage bags. Rain or shine. Meet at Watson Woods - Roebling Park, 151 Westcott Ave. Contact leaders to confirm participation. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

Mar 9 (Sat): Osio Rock and Stone Living Room Hike, Bloomingdale (Passaic Co). 10am. Strenuous hike with climbing: rugged, with rock and boulders; 7 miles in 5 hours. No pets. Hiking boots and a day-pack with water required. Bring a lunch. Registration required: e-mail the Leader: Jimi Oleksiak (The_Hikist@Mac.com) if you haven't hiked with him before, including a brief description of your hiking experience. Directions for the meeting place will be sent via e-mail to all who register. http://www.localhikes.com/Hikes/OsioRock_5602.asp

Mar 10 (Sun): Hike at Turkey Swamp Park (Monmouth Co). 10am. 5 miles, easy pace. This is our 4th annual Daylight Savings Time hike at Turkey Swamp Park. This wooded Park is 2,173 acres with miles of trails. Park information and directions: www.monmouthcountyparks.com/. Turn into the Main Entrance - 200 Georgia Road, Freehold - drive to the Oak Point picnic area parking lot. Bring lunch and beverage. Leashed dogs are welcome! Leona and George F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Mar 16 (Sat): Hike Apple Pie Hill in the NJ Pine Barrens, Wharton State Forest (Burlington Co). 10am. Hike at a moderate pace, approximately, 8 miles past Tea Time Hill to Apple Pie Hill. The terrain varies with small streams and bogs. Dress in layers for cold and windy weather. Bring lunch, water, and pie. Snow or inclement weather cancels. Experienced hikers only and hikers should preregister with the leaders no later than the Friday prior to the hike. Meet at the Carranza Memorial parking lot on Carranza Road. Directions: from Rte 70 Red Lion Circle take Rte 206 south 1 mile and turn left onto Carranza Rd, drive approximately 9 miles and the parking lot is on the right just before

(continued on page 12)



Chair

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

Vice-Chair and Political Chair

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

Conservation Chair

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

Conservation Vice-Chair

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

Secretary

*Joe Testa
Testa-j@live.com

Treasurer

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

Vice-Treasurer

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

Outings Chair

Ellen Blumenkrantz (201) 784-8417
EllenBlu@stockton.edu
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

Bill Martin (908) 604-2505
wp_martin@yahoo.com

Council Delegate

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

High School Coordinator

Sophie Kapica (973) 701-7354
sjm.kapica@gmail.com

Speakers' Bureau Organizer

* Don McBride (732) 560-0369
dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org

Atlantic Coast Ecoregion Delegate

Greg Auriemma (732) 451-9220
sierraclubOC@aol.com

Legal Chair

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

Other ExCom member at large

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

Group Effectiveness Committee

Rich Isaac**, Greg Auriemma

Regional Issues Coordinator

*Joan Denzer** (jDenzer73@yahoo.com)

Fundraising Committee

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

Personnel Committee

Ken Johanson**, Joan Denzer, Rich Isaac,
George Denzer, Lee Snyder

Legislative Committee

Ken Johanson**, Carolyn Freeman,
Carey Huff, Dave Mattek, and Kelly-Ann
Norgaard

Litigation Oversight Committee

Ken Johanson**, Greg Auriemma

Finance Committee

George Denzer**, Sunil Somalwar,
Ken Johanson

Information Technology Committee

Sunil Somalwar**, George Newsome,
Bill Martin, Joe Testa, Cynthia Mackowicz

Facilities (office, meeting sites)

George Denzer**, Joan Denzer, Paul
Sanderson, Sunil Somalwar, Laura Lynch,
and Bonnie Tillery

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

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

Issue Coordinators

Alaska Issues
Jonathan Wall (908) 295-1890
psychologist@jonwall.com

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

Coal Campaign
Barbara Conover 201-452-9389
Bconifer022@gmail.com

Cool Cities
Faith Teitelbaum (732) 513-5445
faithtei@aol.com

Delaware River Issues
Gina Carola (see left column)

Genetically Modified Organisms Issues
Bill Martin (201) 675-1967
wp_martin@yahoo.com

Global Warming
Sunil Somalwar (see left column)

Green Acres Issues
Bob Moss (973) 743-5203
bobmossnj@verizon.net

Marine Issues
Greg Auriemma (see left column)

Natural Gas and Fracking Issues
Terry Stimpfel (609) 731-7016
terystimb@hotmail.com

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 (609) 259-6438
Bit44blt@msn.com
389 Sawmill Rd, Hamilton NJ 08620.

Recycling Issues
David Yennior (see above)

Sprawl Issues
Jane Tousman (see left column)

Tiger Conservation Issues
Sunil Somalwar (see left column)

Transportation Issues
Steve Lanset (201) 860-9870
slanset@hotmail.com

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

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

Water Quality and Habitat Issues
Rich Isaac (see left column)

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: Nicole Dallara
Nicole.Dallara@SierraClub.org

Program Assistant: Kate Millsaps
Kate.Millsaps@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!)

Conservation and/or Political Committee meetings usually start at 10am. Lunch is shared at noon. The main meeting starts at 1pm.

Jan 12 • Feb 9 • Mar 9
Hamilton (Mercer Co) Library
1 Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. Way
08619-3809

OUTINGS
(Continued from page 11)

the road turns into a dirt road. Leaders: Beth Compagnucci: 609-533-1335, bethcompagnucci@gmail.com, and Paul Foged: 732-996-1406, hikerpaul@verizon.net. (W)

Mar 16 (Sat): Lewis Morris Park (Morris Co). 10am. We will start at Sunrise Lake, then hike to the parking upper lot and back down to the lake using a combination of the Yellow and Red trails. The pace will be a moderate to slow one. See the Morris County Parks Commission website <http://www.morrisparks.org/aspparks/lmdir.asp> for directions. Bring lots of water, lunch, and wear hiking boots. Meet in parking lot. Inclement weather cancels. Proper footwear required (sabilicers, crampons or snowshoes) if appropriate for the conditions. No pets please. Leader: Jeffrey Sovelove: Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike.

Mar 17 (Sun): Manasquan River Reservoir, Monmouth Co. (Special Interest: birds) 9am. Enjoy an easy 5-mile circular hike on one of the largest reservoirs in the area. We may observe water fowl. Bring snacks, drinks, bird books or binoculars. Hiking shoes are not required. This is a great family hike. Meet at the main entrance to the reservoir on Windeller Rd. Take the GSP to exit 98. Head west on I-195 to exit 28 (Rte 9). Go north on Rte 9. Make first right onto Windeller Rd. The main entrance is 1.5 miles on your left. Meet in the parking area at the far left toward the back. Bad weather (including snow cover) cancels. Confirmation/questions please call or text. Leader: Mike Verange, 908-902-0718 or mjverange@aol.com. (S)

Mar 17 (Sun): St. Patrick's Day Hike at the NJAS Plainsboro Preserve (Mercer/Middlesex Cos). 10pm. 4-5 miles, easy pace. Wear Your Green! The Preserve has wildlife exhibits, a reference library and the Nature Store is a great source for field guides, optics, etc. Dogs are not permitted. Bring water and snacks. Directions: www.njaudubon.org/Centers/Plainsboro/. Option for lunch at a local restaurant after the hike. Co-leaders: Leona F: 609-259-3734, leona@pineypaddlers.com, and Joanne P: jpatmeadowbrook@gmail.com. (C)

Mar 20 (Wed): Bicycle Ride - Celebrate the Vernal Equinox at Mercer County Park. 10am. 12 miles, easy pace. Welcome spring with a bicycle ride on macadam trails with views of Lake Mercer. Bring lunch and beverage. Helmets must be worn. Meet at the Marina parking lot, 334 South Post Rd. Leaders: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734, or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

Mar 21 (Thu): Canoe/Kayak Crosswicks Creek/ Abbott Marshlands (Burlington/Mercer Cos). 9am. Our 8-mile round trip with the tide begins on the Crosswicks Creek in Bordentown. Bring binoculars to see returning waterfowl, Red-tailed Hawks and maybe Bald Eagles on our float to Roebeling Park. After lunch, an optional walk around Spring Lake before returning to B'town. Bring lunch and beverage. Meet at Bordentown Beach, end of Park St. Rental boats are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

Mar 23 (Sat): Hook Mountain Hike (Rockland Co, NY). 10:30 am. 7 miles, with excellent views of the Hudson River and Croton Point. Meet in the Rockland Lake South Parking Lot near the entrance booth. Rockland Lake is in Congers, NY, off Rte 9W. Bring lunch, hiking boots, and water. Adverse conditions will alter the route. Leader: John P. Jurasek, 845-519-4247 (no calls after 10pm), or Jurasek@optonline.net. (ACOC)

Mar 30 (Sat): Roam Rancocas State Park. (Burlington Co). 10am. 5 miles. Moderate hiking pace. See why this area is called Mt. Holly as we hike among the many hollies and view the meandering Rancocas Creek typically obscured by foliage. Follow gentle trails through a 50-yr-old grove of Douglas fir and lovely upland and lowland hardwood forests. Bring water, lunch and snacks to enjoy at look outs. Trail may be muddy in spots; wear appropriate footwear. Heavy rain cancels. Maximum 12 participants. Preregistration required. Leader: Terry Stimpfel terystimb@hotmail.com or 609-731-7016. (C)

Mar 31 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak Trip on the D&R Canal (Mercer Co). 10am. We'll be looking for the "Easter Bunny" on our 10-mile trip from Firemen's Eddy to Lower Ferry Rd. Wear your "bunny ears"! Lunch break will be at Washington Crossing Park - bring lunch and beverage. There are 2 portages: bring portage wheels if you have them. Contact leaders to confirm trip. Rentals are not available. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (C)

FUTURE OUTING

Sept 8-13 or Sept 15-20 (Sun-Fri): September in Western Maine! Location: Bald Mountain Camps, Oquossoc, Me. This is an historic sporting camp located on pristine Mooselookmeguntic Lake. Many activity options, excellent food and a comfortable warm environment provide relaxation and fun. Internet access available. Outing includes: hiking the AT, guided kayaking or canoeing pristine lakes and rivers with our host and Registered Maine Guide, Steve Philbrick. Log cabins with fireplace, wood, bath, linens, porch, breakfasts and dinners in the lodge dining room, sack lunches for the trail. \$1273 per person. For more information contact leader: Judy Norcross (609) 288-6737 or jsnrcross@aol.com. (W)



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,
Joe Testa, 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://newjerseysierraclub.org/njs_sierran/njs_advertise.asp

Primary typeface: Garamond, 9.5 point
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 2013

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 ____/____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES	INDIVIDUAL JOINT	
	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
INTRODUCTORY	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49
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"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

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 421041,
Palm Coast,
FL 32142-1041**



F94Q **W 4000** -1

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet