

Vol. 42, No. 4

Roughly 15,000 Members in New Jersey

Our Political Endorsements By Rich Isaac, Chapter Political Chair (risaacx@aol.com)

Booker **Endorsed** for **US Senate**

The Sierra Club has endorsed Newark Mayor Cory Booker for US Senate in the Special Election for US Senator on October 16th. The winner will replace Senator Frank Lautenberg,



who died earlier this year.

Mayor Booker shares our concerns, values and vision for a cleaner and healthier world, and understands the reality of Global Warming. As Mayor, Booker created Newark's first Office of Sustainability, and as Senator he will seek passage of a comprehensive climate change bill that creates green jobs and reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

Booker's opponent, in contrast, is former Bogota Mayor Steve Lonegan: until recently the State Director of Americans for Prosperity, a branch of the conservative, anti-environmental-regulation organization founded by the billionaire Koch Brothers

If you'd like to help us send him to Washington, please contact me: risaacx@ aol.com, or (H) 973-716-0297.

Where Next on Open Space **Funding**?

Updated from a Press Release issued on June 24th, revised by Joe Testa

On June 24th the NJ Assembly shelved a vote on legislation (SCR-138, Bob Smith) that would have amended the State Constitution to dedicate \$17 billion of sales tax revenue to open space preservation over 30 years. New Jersey's open space funding program, known as Green Acres, is currently out of money for new projects. Over the last forty years we have financed open space purchases through a series of voter-approved bond acts, the last of which passed in 2009. New Jersey needs to restore its pool of money to acquire what remaining precious tracts of open space we can find. We need to devise an equitable funding formula which balances the financial responsibilities across the board, and we especially need to promote urban parks and recreational facilities to serve large numbers of our residents. Three funding options have been proposed recently by the environmental community: another Green Acres bond act to borrow more money; the aforementioned dedication of a portion of sales tax revenues; and imposition of a fee on water bills (with the reasoning that the purity and availability of our

Candidates for State Offices

On November 5th, not only the Governorship, but the entire State Assembly and Senate will be elected from New Jersey's 40 Districts. Because of a popular incumbent (Republican) Governor, there is a chance that some of our hero-Democrat legislative incumbents will suffer from coat-tail effects - particularly in the State Senate.

So please support our "environmental" candidates - it will help solve major energy problems, water quality problems, air quality problems, waste problems, etc. Our choices are based on the candidates' positions on these issues:

- 1. Sustainable funding for open space acquisitions.
- 2. Rebuilding the Shore after Sandy: Supporting a Coastal Commission and reforming the Coastal Area Facility Review Act (CAFRA)
- 3. Rescinding the DEP's notorious Waiver Rule.
- 4. Restoring funding for family planning programs.
- 5. Recycling beverage containers and plastic bags.
- 6. Restoring NJ's participation in RGGI: the northeastern states greenhouse gas initiative.
- 7. Opposing hydraulic fracturing (fracking) and importing fracking waste from other states.
- 8. Supporting Amtrak's Gateway Project to increase Hudson River rail-transit capacity.

The following are our endorsed candidates:

Sen. Barbara Buono for Governor

D	Senate/	D.		Dist.	Senate/ Assem.	Party	Candidate
Dist. 02	Assem. S	Party D*	Candidate Jim Whelan	22	A	D*	Linda Stender
02	S S	D*	•	24	A	D	Susan Williams
	-	-	James Beach	24	A	D	William Weightman
06	A	D*	Louis Greenwald	26	S	D	Avery Hart
06	A	D*	Pamela Lampitt	20 27	S	D*	Dick Codey
07	Α	D*	Herb Conaway	27 27	A	D*	John McKeon
07	Α	D*	Troy Singleton	27 27	A	D D*	Mila Jasey
11	S	R*	Jennifer Beck		A	D*	
12	S	D	Raymond Dothard	29			Grace Spencer
12	Α	R*	Robert Clifton	31	A	D*	Jason O'Donnell
14	S	D^*	Linda Greenstein	31	Α	D*	Charles Mainor
14	Α	D^*	Daniel Benson	32	Α	D*	Angelica Jimenez
15	S	\mathbf{D}^*	Shirley Turner	34	Α	D*	Sheila Oliver
15	Α	\mathbf{D}^*	Reed Gusciora	34	Α	D*	Thomas Giblin
15	Α	D^*	Bonnie Watson Coleman	36	Α	D^*	Gary Schaer
16	S	R*	Kip Bateman	37	S	D^*	Loretta Weinberg
16	Α	D	Marie Corfield	37	Α	D^*	Valerie Huttle
17	S	D*	Bob Smith	37	Α	D^*	Gordon Johnson
17	А	D*	Upendra Chivukula	38	S	D^*	Bob Gordon
18	S	D*	Peter Barnes	38	Α	D^*	Timothy Eustace
18	А	D*	Patrick Diegnan	38	Α	D	Joseph Lagana
19	S	_ D*	Joseph Vitale	39	S	D	Jan Bidwell
19	A	D*	Craig Coughlin	39	Α	D	Anthony Iannarelli
19	A	D*	John Wisniewski				
20	A	D* ● ●	Joseph Cryan	* Inci	umbent		ling - Competitive Race

water supply is aided by protecting our open space). Unfortunately, there are problems with each of these options.

Short-term bond issues cannot be relied on; they prevent responsible long-term planning, and voters may vote them down. And most of the money pays for interest on the bonds, rather than open space.

sion. This is an opportunity for the Sierra Club, working in coalition with our partners in the environmental community, to j craft a proposal which combines several reliable funding sources, and with a realistic chance of being adopted.

rell depend on the choices voters make

October–December 2013

SIERRA CLUB

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2013 Election of Officers of the New Jersey Chapter, and its Groups and Sections

All Sierra Club members in the New Jersey Chapter are invited to vote for Club officers, both Chapter-wide and in our Groups and Sections. Starting this year there is the choice of voting electronically or by this paper ballot.

The Chapter's Executive Committee (ExCom) meets monthly for discussion of State, regional and other issues, to take policy positions (including initiation of legal actions), make political endorsements, hear reports from staff and volunteer officers, elect the Chapter Chair, and consider matters arising.

The Chapter ExCom consists of nine at-large members serving three-year terms, three of whom will be elected this year, and one representative sent by each of our 11 regional Groups. Please vote for the three ExCom members and for the leadership of your regional Group. If you participate in the Singles Section, you may also cast a vote for its leadership. (Other optional specialty Sections are for Seniors, Young Sierrans, Gays and Lesbians, and for providers of Inner City Outings.)

This year's four Chapter ExCom candidates were selected by a Nominating Committee consisting of Sunil Somalwar, John Kashwick and Paul Sanderson. (There was a mechanism for additional nominations by petition, but no such petitions were received this year.) Club rules require two more candidates than the number of openings; when an insufficient number of candidates is on offer, write-in slots are provided.

If the Sierra Club has your e-mail address in its records, you will receive in October a ballot by e-mail, and you may vote EITHER online, as described below, OR by this paper ballot. If you cast an online ballot, any paper ballot you mail in will not be counted. Online votes must be cast by December 1, 2013.

If the Sierra Club doesn't have your email address, you must use the paper ballot below to cast your vote.

To vote online: click on the link in the e-mail you receive. If you have a joint membership, pairs of boxes are provid-The future of open space funding may _ ed to enable each member to cast a separate vote. The ballot page will have links to the same candidate statements as are printed in this newsletter. To vote by paper ballot: Please vote the ballot below; then clip the ENTIRE ballot on the heavy-dashed line, and return it in your own envelope, to arrive by Dec 1, to Sierra Club Ballot, 145 W Hanover St, Trenton NJ 08618. PAIRs of boxes are to enable two members of family memberships to cast separate votes. Note that a properly-clipped ballot will include the mailing label above. This is to verify your membership; it will be removed before ballots are counted. Chapter ExCom Ballot: Candidates for three-year terms. Their portraits and 100word statements are on p. 2. Name-order has been randomized. Please vote for UP TO THREE:

The sales tax dedication proposal would have locked in around \$17 billion in tax revenue over 30 years. That amount could be seen as an overreach, since the total amount from 1996 to today has only been about \$3 billion. The sales tax is a regressive tax, and 80% of it is paid by urban residents, while 80% of the open space is in rural areas. Constitutionally dedicating revenue to one purpose could result in cuts to other important programs, not to mention other constitutional dedications. We've already seen the Christie Administration cut funding for environmental programs and raid clean energy funds to balance its budget.

The water fee is often cast by its opponents as a "tax", which is unpopular in the current political atmosphere.

Our dwindling open space is too important to let slip away. While the Smith proposal has been shelved for this year, legislative leadership is looking to come up with funding proposals in the next sesin November for a new Legislature. Expect to hear more from us!

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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY CHAPTER OF THE SIERRA CLUB

Group and Section Ballots

ballot, below, and the SINGLES SECTION (Name-order has been randomized)

Skylands Group: Since we're just starting up fresh, our entire nine-member ExCom needs legitimization as follows:

Please vote for UP TO FIVE candidates for two- year seats:					
Marvin Feil Gregory Gorman					
Noreen Haberski	Edgar Sheperd				
U Write in:					
Write in:					
Write in:					
And please vote for UP TO FOUR candidates for one-year seats:					
Jeri Doherty Joyce White					

□ □ Susan Williams U Write in: U Write in: U Write in: South Highlands Group: Candidates for three positions on the Group ExCom, who will serve for two years. Please vote for UP TO THREE: □ □ Jim Fleming Cinny MacGonagle Susan Schirmer U Write in:

□ □ Write in:
North Jersey Group: Candidates for five positions on the Group ExCom, who will serve for two years. Please vote for UP TO FIVE: Laura Coll Buddy Jenssen Jennifer Rothschild Mary Ellen Shaw Mary Walsh Write in:
Gateway Group: Candidates for Group ExCom. Please vote for UP TO THREE: John Beadle ZaSah Khademi David Yennior Write in:
Write in:
Loantaka Group: Candidates for Group ExCom. Please vote for UP TO FIVE: Paul Sanderson Eric Hausker Write in: Write in: Write in: Raritan Valley Group: Candidates for Group ExCom. 2-year terms. Please vote for UP TO THREE: Daphne Speck-Bartynski Roomi Nusrat Write in: Write in:
□ □ Write in:
Write in:
Jersey Shore Group: Candidates for Group ExCom: Please vote for UP TO FOUR: Faith Teitelbaum Bob Sandberg George Moffatt Joe DeLuca Write in:
Ocean County Group: Candidates for Group ExCom: Please vote for UP TO FOUR:

 Margit Meisner-Jackson
Gerra Palmer U Write in: U Write in:

Froup and Section Ballots Please vote your GROUP ExCom I Ballot Statements

- **BOB MOSS (Gateway Group):**
- Club and Chapter member continuously since 1978.
- Chapter Green Acres Issues Coordinator since 2010.
- Past NY-NJ Trail Conference
- Highlands Trail Committee Chair • Key roles in open space fights:
 - Sterling Forest
 - West Milford "golf course"
 - Sparta TV tower • Goals for Chapter:
 - fight Green Acres diversions
 - change National policies that starve the Chapters
 - advance Club goals
 - slow population growth
 - reduce greenhouse gases
 - increase energy conservation

My experience is limited to certain areas, but ExCom appears to be full of knowledgeable volunteers who would assist me should I be elected.

JOAN DENZER (Central Jersey Group): This is a worrisome and exciting time for environmentalists: worrisome because of the impasse for Congressional legislation on climate change; exciting because unprecedented membership growth clearly says that the citizens agree with our positions and concerns. Our Chapter, through the efforts of our hard-working staff and volunteers, has been successful in saving New Jersey's open space and keep-



ing our air and water clean. As an ExCom member I would work to continue that success by using my experience gained in Club positions at the state, regional and national levels. I would appreciate your vote.

JANE TOUSMAN (Raritan Valley Group): Jane is a devoted activist who helped save the Dismal Swamp with over 200 acres of wetlands and forests. She is a certified paralegal and a former President of the Edison Township Council. Efforts have gone into the saving of Roosevelt Long Term Care Facility from privatizing. It is now on the Federal and State Registers. She worked with a citizen group that successfully saved a Revolution War



site from being developed by Walgreens. She is now an active member of the "Edison Open Space Committee". Currently on the Executive Committee she represents the Chapter at Annual Meetings in California.

RICH ISAAC (Loantaka Group): A Club member since 1976, Rich has served as Chair and Political Chair of the North Jersey, Loantaka Group and Essex County Groups, and organized the Ocean County, South Highlands, and Skylands Groups. Now serving as both the Chapter's Political Chair and its Group Effectiveness Chair, Rich is also currently serving on the Club's national Political Committee. For his efforts, he has received the Chapter's

Political Action Award and Outstanding Group Chairperson Award. Rich enjoys quiet walks in the woods with his wife.

Population Issues Coordinator's Report Family Planning makes **Dollars and Sense**

By Bonnie Tillery (blt44blt@msn.com)

Did Texas shoot itself in the foot when, in 2011, it cut \$73 million from family planning services? According to a December 7, 2012 article in the New York Times, and information from the blog Republican Majority for Choice, Texas lost \$30 million in federal funding yearly, and left 50,000 low income Texas women unable to find Medicaid providers for health care. From 2011 to 2012, the number of unintended pregnancies increased by over 30,000. Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) also increased dramatically. "The additional cost to taxpayers is estimated to be as much as \$273 million - [adding] approximately \$110 million to the state's general revenue budget alone, most of this due to the cost of caring for infants under Medicaid. [Additionally,] low income women with unintended pregnancies are more likely to remain dependent on government programs for extended periods of time, further increasing the cost to taxpayers." (1)

The retrograde legislators in Texas are also big proponents of abstinence-only-until-marriage education (note the increased incidence of STIs above) despite studies showing that young people are more likely to delay their first sexual encounter when they receive comprehensive sexuality education. And here's the added bonus, for every \$1 million spent on comprehensive sexuality education the taxpayers save \$2.5 million. (1)

The web site Data Revelations, in a study of 5 years of data on STIs in Texas, noted that 10% of Texas counties accounted for 80% of all STIs. They reported that "there appears to be a strong correlation between the existence of Planned Parenthood locations and the decreased incidence of rates." Closing Planned Parenthood clinics only exacerbated an already somber condition.

Not content to see Texas down the rat hole by itself, Republicans in the U.S. House and Senate are pushing similar legislation. This is also why they are so vehemently opposed to the Affordable Care Act (aka Obamacare), which requires coverage of women's preventative health services. According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, 27 million women are benefitting from these no-cost services. Removing cost barriers has prevented unintended pregnancies, saving the government \$10.5 billion or \$5.68 for every \$1 spent. (2) The Guttmacher Institute, one of the most respected independent organizations studying issues related to reproductive health care, reported that publicly funded family planning services helped women avoid pregnancies they do not want. "...The services provided by Title X-supported centers resulted in net public savings of \$5.3 billion." (2)

In order to curry favor with right-wing voters in his run for President, NJ Gov. Christie, who espouses fiscal constraint but whose actions say otherwise (for example the minimum estimate of \$12 million to hold a special election three weeks before the November general election), will be bringing similar legislation to New Jersey if he wins re-election. Supporting a woman's right to decide if, when, or how many children to have is just one of the many reasons the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club has endorsed Senator Barbara Buono for Governor.

At the international level, many believe the "demographic dividend" or "Asia tiger effect" has allowed countries such as Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, South Korea and China to become competitive in world markets. The one-third growth in these economies is attributed to the demographic dividend. What is the democratic dividend or Asia tiger effect? It is a shift "in which the number of income-generating adults became higher than those who depended on them for support. This shift...was a consequence of family planning and brought increased productivity, leading to economic development in the region." The United Nations Population Fund continues, "Not only does the ability for a couple to choose when and how many children to have help lift nations out of poverty, but it is also one of the most effective means of empowering women. Women who use contraception are generally healthier, better educated, more empowered in their households and communities and more economically productive. Women's increased labor-force participation boosts nations' economies." Nevertheless, "an additional \$4.1 billion is necessary each year to meet the unmet need for family planning of all 222 million women who would use family planning but currently lack access to it." (3) We know that there are environmental reasons to support family planning; we know that there are social/health reasons to support family planning. Now we see that there are also sound economic reasons to support reproductive health care. UPDATE: In our April-June 2013 issue, I reported on the positive strides the Philippines had made with passage of the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act of 2012. Tragically for women in the Philippines, at the behest of the Catholic Church, the Philippines Supreme Court has blocked implementation of the law indefinitely.



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	s 🛛 🗖 Gina Carola
Write in:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Write in:	
	ا ا
	up: Candidates for Group ms. Please vote for UP TO
🗅 🖵 Julie Akers	🗆 🗆 Michele Cooklin
Write in:	
	Candidates for seven posi- n ExCom. 1-year terms. ? TO SEVEN:
Joe Testa	Joyce Haddad
Joe Prebish	
Joyce White	□ Jeff Sovelove
Daphne Speck B	artynski
Write in:	
Write in:	

Posted next to a light switch in Haddonfield:

This is the switch left on all night That burned the bulb That pulled the watts That came from the turbine That needed the fuel That went up in smoke (and CO_2) That joined more greenhouse gases That rose up in the sky That trapped the heat That boosted the temperature That melted the ice caps That raised sea level That flooded the coast . . . PLEASE TURN ME OFF!

1. "Texas women feel the real costs of family planning cuts," Republican Majority for Choice blog, May 17, 2013. 2. "Publicly funded family planning services belp women avoid unintended preg-

nancies while generating substantial financial savings," Guttmacher Update, July 30, 2013.

3. "Additional investments in family planning would save developing countries more than \$11 billion a year," press release from UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund), November 14, 2012.

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

Editorial Environmental Ideology



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

Having just finished Khaled Hosseini's third novel (And the Mountains Echoed) about Afghanistan's recent turmoil, my thoughts are drawn to the conflicts many of us face between ideologies: private and public allegiances and behaviors. (I often think that great novelists, who can describe such conflicts, would understand them and would therefore make good politicians.)

Hosseini's characters have to reconcile their country's harsh physical environment and the economic poverty it engenders, a history of tribal (and linguistic) allegiance and rivalry made deadly by modern weapons, strictures of the Muslim religion which separate the attitudes and opportunities of men and women to an extent unusual for the 21st Century, and the incursion of the "outside world," which has enabled some to attain great wealth and/or political power, and thus be hideously corrupted. (The outside world has also projected into Afghanistan the clash between the economic and political ideologies of Russian Communism, Western Capitalism, and Iranian Theocracism, to perhaps coin an ugly new word.)

People in our American society face similar ideological conflicts, although perhaps with only a tiny fraction of the life-threatening consequences of a "wrong" allegiance. Somehow most of us settle into behavior patterns that accommodate our religious and ethnic backgrounds, the attitudes of our parents and other relatives, toleration of "outsiders" such as spouses, neighbors, teachers and work acquaintances, and the efforts we make at self-education by the TV we watch, the reading we do, the clubs we join, the charities we support, the friends we make, and the way we decide to vote. One way in which American life differs from that described by Hosseini is in our high volume of ideological messaging from all the media focused on us. Beyond the call simply to spend money is a more ideological siren that promotes the suburban lifestyle familiar to most of us: energy intensive in its dependence on automobiles, winter heating and summer cooling, and physically and psychologically corrupting in the way it isolates us, and deprives us of the social pleasures that are facilitated by the denser (European!) residential lifestyles that my editorials have long-advocated.

Polls of voters are currently revealing that the environmental priorities of the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club are barely on the political radar screen: the desire for lower taxes, more protection against crime, more and better jobs, better schools and better health care rank far above concern with the urgency of renewable energy to limit Global Warming, unhealthy air, the possible contamination of water supplies by natural gas fracking, commercial harvesting of public timber, possible health-threats from genetically modified food, or the degradation of the Highlands and Pinelands by more gas pipelines and higher voltage electrical transmission wires, or the risk to coastal buildings from storms and sea-level rise, or the need for stable funding of open-space acquisition.

So my editorial is yet another plug for raising the consciousness of environmentalism as a lifestyle-changing ideology, something that every Sierra Club member should accept as an assignment. And, as usual, I'm probably preaching to the choir.

Chair's Message **Stained Glass** Windows

By Ken Johanson (kjohan@comcast.net)

Ken Johnston is a friend of the New Jersey Chapter and a friend of the environment. But he is also a talented artist and craftsman who creates one-of-a-kind stained glass windows. Ken recently donated 11 of his hanging stained glass windows to the Chapter, a very generous gesture on his part.

Each window is a unique work of art handcrafted in the USA by Ken. The windows are being auctioned off at a silent auction, with the final bids being accepted and the successful bidders announced at the Chapter's November 17 Appreciation Day reception in Princeton. You may also place an email bid, but email bids must be received by November 16.

This is a great opportunity to obtain a beautiful work of art for your home at a reasonable price, while at the same time helping to support the work of the New Jersey Chapter. If you think you might be interested in purchasing a window, go to http://youtube/zZoqAWNPzEc to view the windows, as well as obtain additional information, including dimensions and framing, for each of the windows. Or go to the Chapter site, http://newjersey. sierraclub.org, where you will find the current high bid for each of the windows.

A minimum bid, as well as a take-out bid, has been set for each of the windows. The first bidder who agrees to pay the amount of the take-out bid will be able to purchase the window at that price. Here is a list of the windows, together with minimum bids and takeout-bids:

Coconut Sunrise - Sold

The Donald - \$50 (\$200 take-out bid) Another Hard Day At The Office - Sold Southwestern Sunset - \$50 (\$200 take-

out bid) Van Gogh Nite - Sold

Monet Mourning - \$75 (\$300 take-out



Ghost Ship - \$75 (\$300 take-out bid) Good Morning Sunrise - \$100 (\$400 take-out bid)

Large Ghost Ship - \$100 (\$400 takeout bid)

Diamonds and Darts - Sold

The Green Goddess - \$100 (\$400 takeout bid)

Please send your bids to me at kjohan@comcast.net. Be sure to include your contact information, including address and phone number. If someone already has bid on the window you are interested in, your bid must be at least five dollars higher than the current bid. If you would like to purchase a window at the take-out bid price, please send a check, made payable to New Jersey Sierra Club, to me at 72 Laurel Drive, New Providence, NJ 07974, as well as a note or an email message letting me know which window you are purchasing. I will return your check if the window already has been sold.

The windows are currently at my home in New Providence. If you would like to come by and view a particular window, please contact me. If you do purchase a window, we will need to make arrangements for you to pick up your window, either at my house or at the home of one of our volunteers. The windows, while housed in sturdy containers, are too fragile to ship.

Please be sure to include your email address with your bid. I will let you know if I receive a higher bid prior to the November 16 cut-off date.

So let the bidding begin! I have been very impressed with Ken Johnston's craftsmanship and artistry since I first had an opportunity to view his works several years ago. If you turn out to be a successful bidder, I don't think you will be disappointed.

Group Chair's Report Good News from West Jersey

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

The Culinary Arts Center, at Burlington County College in Mount Holly, has received a LEED Silver Certification from the US Green Building Council after the recent rehab of the historic building it occupies. The building, a former Farmers Trust Bank, dates from 1814. The rehab includes a "cool" reflective-coated roof, water-saving plumbing fixtures, recycled and regionally produced finish materials, and solar panels. It is New Jersey's first LEED-certified historic, higher education building.

As part of Camden County's commit-

residents, county officials unveiled seven charging stations for electric cars. The stations are strategically located throughout the county. The best part is that they will be free to all users for the first year.

Using a \$30,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, and another \$30,000 of county funds, ECOtality North America installed the equipment. The locations are at each of the three Camden County College campuses, the Cooper River Boathouse in Pennsauken, two branches of the county library system (in Winslow and Bellmawr) and the Camden

Sustainable Lifestyle

Whatever's in the Fridge— It's what's for Dinner!

by Suzanne Dragan (animaltalk@optonline.net)

Necessity is often the Mother of One Pot Wonder: Invention, so when I recently had some unexpected dinner guests, I concocted Organic whole wheat spiral pasta, one an original recipe that proved to be a hit pound bag, cooked with vegetarians and meat-eaters alike. It Several dollops of Sabra hummus (must truly is amazing how you can make do with whatever you have around. As I whipped around the kitchen, I thought of the Beef Council commercial that aired a few years back. It had an exuberant original musical score and ended with happy people rushing to the dinner table to enjoy a simple meal. It made this plant-based vegetarian yearn, not for meat, but for wholesome, comfort food. That is what I believe I created with this easy, stick-to-your-ribs dish. You can serve it warm or cold. The creaminess from the Sabra hummus reminds some people of macaroni and cheese. Others say this dish tastes like ham.

ment to a cleaner, greener environment for County Technical School.

Resolutions Passed by the Chapter Executive Committee in June, July and August, 2013

A complete list of our political endorsements for the General Election to be held on Nov 5th, and the Special Senate Election on Oct 16th, is on p.1 of this issue.

We voted to subscribe to Meetup.com, a social networking site that informs registrants of local activities such as our outings and Group meetings. (July)

We voted to memorialize action taken informally in 2004 to create our Senior/50-Plus Section. (August)

We signed on to litigation challenging the "NJDEPES" permit for a natural gas pipeline from Millville to the BL England electric power plant (Cape May Co), to be represented pro bono by the Super Law Group and/or the Eastern Environmental Law Center. (August)

We reassigned the Bergen County towns, which had been in our Hudson-Meadowlands Group, into the North Jersey Group. (August)

use this creamy brand) 1 cup frozen organic green peas, steamed

2-3 organic carrots, peeled & diced up, steamed

Sweet Mesquite Seasoning (use the Kirkland brand from Costco, it comes in bits & flakes, no MSG) Ground black pepper

Mix everything together in a big pot, season to taste and you've got a meal in fifteen minutes flat.

Suzanne Dragan is a former radio bost on WCTC 1450 AM and a nurse.

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.

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

Reports from our Trenton Staff, based on Press Releases

Threat to NJ Drinking Water from Frack Waste Shipments

More than 160 Organizations condemn Governor Christie's Veto of NJ Fracking Waste Ban Bill

On June 18th, leaders of the movement to keep fracking waste out of New Jersey released data showing that shipments of fracking waste from Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale gas fields, received for disposal in New Jersey, contained pollutants including radioactive elements. (Hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, is a drilling technique in which pressurized water, sand, and chemicals are injected below the earth's surface to release natural gas. We think it is dangerous. For one thing it creates toxic wastewater that must be disposed of offsite.)

The organizations include community, business, and farmers' groups, and faith leaders, in addition to many environmental organizations.

Despite this startling new data, on June 24th the Legislature decided to continue accepting these wastes: by taking no action on a bill to override the Governor's veto of a bill banning the disposal of fracking waste in New Jersey.

Three New Jersey facilities have now received frack waste from Pennsylvania: one site in Kearney received waste exceeding the allowed limit for radioactive Radium-226 and Radium-228, and has been issued a Notice of Violation by NJDEP.

A site in Carteret received frack waste that included m- and p-xylene, Molybdenum, Barium, Strontium, naphthalene, and 1.2.4-trimethylbenzene, as well as the two Radium isotopes. The levels of radioactivity reported in the Pennsylvania lab analysis of the shipment were higher than those found at the Kearney site. (No routine sampling for radiologicals is required by NJDEP because they are not permitted; the facilities are not designed to process them.)

In June, 2012, after discovery of fracking waste shipments coming to NJ, the Legislature passed a strong bi-partisan bill - by a veto-proof majority at that time - to ban future shipments. Governor Christie vetoed that legislation in September, claiming it to be unconstitutional, despite a statement from New Jersey's Office of Legislative Services that this was not the case. In the lame duck session after the November election we will continue to work with legislators on both sides of the aisle to build support to get these protections in place.

List of the organizations: http://bit.ly/ *OverrideSupportLetter*

Data on Frack Waste: http://bit.ly/ **FrackWasteData**

Environmental Groups Request Veto of Logging Bill

(July 1st) A coalition of environmental groups has asked the Governor to veto a bill allowing for commercial logging on public lands (S-1085/A-2837). If signed the legislation would open up some of the most environmentally sensitive areas in our state to logging.

The bill requires that a "forest stewardship" plan be prepared for each of New Jersey's state parks, in preparation for logging. Environmentalists are concerned that the bill would hurt our open spaces: reducing biodiversity, limiting public access, and damaging pristine resources that people have worked for decades to protect. The Assembly passed the bill in late June, sending it to the Governor's desk.

The bill is poorly written in that it lacks adequate protections for natural resources, and has no mechanism for enforcement. The bill ties the "forest stewardship" plans to guidance documents of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), an industry-controlled group. FSC standards allow logging in wetlands, on steep slopes, in endangered species habitat, and in other such sensitive areas. Even the NJ-DEP has criticized FSC standards as weak - in a June 10th letter to legislators. Currently there is only one organization in the entire state certified to produce FSC plans, giving the legislation an odor of cronvism.

Logging is invariably a destructive process. Operations would close off large portions of our parks to the public. Hiking trails will be turned into logging roads, staging areas will be clear cut, skidders and other heavy equipment will run through streams and wetlands. All this will cause erosion and stormwater New Jersey.

runoff impacting pristine streams, reservoirs and aquatic ecosystems. Opening up the canopy increases deer populations and the proliferation of invasive species, and loss of biodiversity. Control of invasive species would require herbicide use, impacting sensitive streams, reservoirs and water supply intakes.

If signed, public support for open space preservation could wane, as people observe the fate of land held in the public trust. Do we really want to see 100-yearold oaks cut from our state parks? Will voters continue to approve open space referendums?

The Office of Legislative Services has estimated the program would cost \$2.7 million to implement. So loggers would have to take \$2.7 million worth of trees out of our forests just to cover those costs. New net revenue would go into the General Fund - not even into restoration or stewardship projects on public lands.

There has been no financial analysis to determine how much logging would be required for New Jersey to cover the cost of the program. In the past, the State has received \$75 per tree, even for oaks that sold on the market for more than \$2000. We would be giving away our forests for pennies on the dollar.

The legislation doesn't spare the Pinelands National Reserve, the Highlands, the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, or New Jersey's Wild and Scenic Rivers. Our forests are not just State but national and international treasures.

Organizations contributing to this Press Release include Delaware Riverkeeper, Food and Water Watch, and Environment

Sierra Club Joins Campaign to Save Palisades—Again!

(July 24th) The New Jersey Palisades, one of our landmark open spaces, are threatened by a new towering corporate headquarters. LG Electronics USA Inc. has proposed a 143-foot office tower in Englewood Cliffs (Bergen Co) - that would be the only high-rise north of Fort Lee visible from New York City.

The Palisades Interstate Park Commission was formed in 1900 to protect the Palisades, including their viewscape. At that time, Teddy Roosevelt governed New York State, and his friend John Muir, the founder of the Sierra Club, was working to save the Yosemite Valley in California. Together, they promoted national consciousness of the importance of open space and wild places for people to explore and enjoy.

The Palisades are a wild oasis in one of the most densely populated places in America. Protection of their viewshed is critically important both for New Jerseyans looking east, and for New Yorkers looking Palisades should retain their natural majesty for hikers, lovers, artists, photographers, ecologists and everyone else.

1800's. It is being challenged by many environmental and community groups on both sides of the Hudson. Alternatives include redesign of the building to rise lower than the tree line, or relocation south to Fort Lee. The company has received a variance from Englewood Cliffs, which has a 35-ft limit on buildings. That variance is being challenged in the courts. LG refuses to redesign because it does not want to go through the state and municipal approval process a second time.

If the project is built, a dam will have burst in the sense that many other highrises can be anticipated.

The proposal underscores the need to better protect the Palisades region. The "Save the Hudson River Palisades Act" is a bill before the New Jersey Legislature (S-2016, Stack) that would prohibit cutting into and other development of the Palisades except for public interest projects such as utility (e.g. gas) lines. The bill Senate Envir as approved by the S west across the Hudson River. The Committee in June, 2012, but has failed to move further. Under the bill the Palisades Interstate Park Commission would set buffers of protection against development. It would also forbid quarry-

BPU Stalls Wind off NJ's Coast

(July 19th) Today New Jersey's Board of Public Utilities (BPU) held a hearing on the future of the proposed Fisherman's Energy Wind Farm off the coast of Atlantic City. The company had reached an agreement with the Rate Paver Advocate that would reduce project costs, but the BPU staff objected to some of the stipulations.

The project is for six wind turbines, producing 25 MW of electric power, 2.8 miles off the Atlantic City coast, and was originally expected to be subsidized by \$200 million of taxpayer money. Under a tentative agreement between Fisherman's Energy and the Rate Payer Advocate, this amount would be reduced by \$36 million, and there would be additional savings in Offshore Wind Renewable Energy Credits (OREC) amounting to about \$50 million. Fisherman's Energy has already received \$4 million in federal grants, and if it spends \$10 million of its own money before the end of the year, it could receive up to an additonal \$100 million in federal funds.

BPU has stalled the project, claiming a need for more information. But this is a result of its own incompetence: The BPU has not developed rules for offshore wind, or ORECs, in the three years since passage of the NJ Offshore Wind Economic Development Act. The BPU also objects to a provision that makes NJ ratepayers liable for \$19 million should the entire project fail. (However, the BPU has no problem with ratepayers subsidizing the Susquehanna-Roseland highervoltage power line to carry more coalfired power from Pennsylvania, or using \$2 billion in ratepayer subsidies for 3 new gas-fired electric power plants.)

Wind energy is renewable, clean, and creates jobs. Offshore wind is more constant than onshore wind, and the electricity will be produced close to where it will be used. It has been successfully harnessed in many other countries. This project is small, compared to many others that have been proposed, and would make New Jersey a leading state for the energy transition that must take place to prevent devastating sea-level rise.

The LG proposal would undermine preservation efforts dating back to the late ing the cliffs, a serious concern.

Conference on Superstorm Sandy: one year later!

What we've done, What we've learned, What still needs to be done

Tuesday, October 29, at Monmouth University, W. Long Branch Presented by Monmouth Univ, NJ Future, NJ Recovery Fund More details on the Chapter Website's Interactive Calendar!

Is Your Email Address Up-To-Date?

Does the Sierra Club have your current email address on file? This lets the Club send you online membership renewal notices and ballots in our annual elections. Don't know? You can check at https://secure.sierraclub.org/site/ConsProfileUser. To update your address, please send an email to membership.services@sierraclub.org with your name, address, and (if you know it) your membership number.

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.

Please VOTE! -- THREE TIMES! (On Oct 16 for Cory Booker for US Senate, on Nov 5 for Barbara Buono and other endorsed State candidates, and by Dec 1 for Sierra Club officers, electronically or using the ballot on pp. 1-2 of this Newsletter.)

More Reports from Trenton

Sierra Club Statement on the Passing of Toshi Seeger

By Chapter Director Jeff Tittel (jeff.tittel@sierraclub.org)

The Chapter is saddened by the death of Toshi Seeger, aged 91, on July 9th. Our hearts and condolences go out to her husband, folk-singer Pete Seeger, and his family. Toshi was a committed activist who worked for peace, social justice, and the environment. The Seegers had a beautiful marriage, built on a wonderful love story. Toshi was Pete's muse and inspiration, keeping him organized.

In 2011 the NJ Chapter of the Sierra Club received the Toshi and Pete Seeger Wetlands Preservation Award for "our outstanding efforts and accomplishments in wetland preservation, . . . recognizing our shining example, leadership, and valiant work." The Seegers' passion for wetland protection started when, driving down the Turnpike, they observed the Meadowlands, and realized their importance and need for protection. Every year they hosted a concert to promote awareness of the importance of wetlands, and to recognize individuals and organizations working to protect them. When Pete performed the concert for us last November, he asked that it take place in Bergen County, so he would not be more than an hour away from Toshi, already in declining health.

They lived in the New York Highlands, overlooking the Hudson River, leading a campaign to remove toxic pollutants from the Hudson. Toshi was often at Pete's side, such as at the 1963 Civil Rights March on Washington, and at Pete's 1984 benefit concert in Ringwood to help protect the mountains around the Wanaque reservoir from sprawl development.

Wanaque Withdrawal Permit Puts Water at Risk

(July 2nd) The DEP has approved a proposal to take millions more gallons of water out of the Wanaque Reservoir (Passaic Co) each day. Last year the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission proposed increasing the "safe yield" of the largest reservoir system in the State, and now the DEP has agreed. The increase is from 173 to 190 million gallons per day.

We think this change could impact drinking water quality for more than 2 million people in New Jersey. In May, 2012, thirteen organizations joined us in submitting comments to the DEP opposing the increase, including Delaware Riverkeeper Network, New Jersey Environmental Federation, and Pequannock River Coalition.

The organizations note that the DEP has not investigated and reported a value for the reservoir's "safe yield," which includes consideration of the effect of the increased withdrawal on the reservoir's other uses, water quality, and wildlife habitat.

New Jersey's Water Supply Master Plan has not been updated since 1995, making it impossible to predict all the consequences of increased withdrawal. We ask that the Master Plan take into consideration all the new property developments since 1995 that draw water from the reservoir, as well as droughts that have reduced the reservoir to critically low levels. The Wanaque connects to the Ramapo, Passaic, and Pompton Rivers, which complicates the analysis.

All the science points to there being less water in our streams than 20-30 years ago. The Ramapo River's flow has been at 10-year-drought levels just about every other year recently.

Allowing more withdrawal from the Reservoir will stimulate more development in the New Jersey Highlands, loss of open space, and loss of rainwater recharge to groundwater and streams, and thus more surface flooding. Since our rivers receive nutrient pollution from fertilized lawns, farms and roadways, their water will be harder to purify as drinking water.

The DEP's staff reports and responses to comments can be found at www.nj. gov/dep/watersupply/a_allocat.html.

Port Authority's Sandy Relief is too Little, too Late

Pinelands Issues Coordinator's Report Pipeline through the Pinelands

By Lee Snyder

Permission is being sought from the New Jersey Pinelands Commission for a new natural gas pipeline through southern portions of the Pinelands, including the protected Forest Management Area. The stated purpose is to repower the BL England electricity-generating plant, across Great Egg Harbor Bay from Ocean City (Cape May Co), from coal and oil to natural gas. The pipeline and natural gas supplier is South Jersey Gas, which would like to start construction by October of this year. The proposal should be up for a vote of the full Commission at its September 13th meeting.

New Jersey's Board of Public Utilities has a petition pending to also approve the proposed 22-mile pipeline route, 15 of which are sited through Pinelands areas in existing road right of way. (Of the 15 miles, 10.2 are in the Forest Area, 2 are in the Rural Development Area, and 2.8 are in the Village Area.) According to the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP), pipelines are forbidden in the environmentally sensitive Forest Management Area, so some kind of variance would have to be granted. This nonconforming use could damage the critically important underlying aquifer.

Several subcommittee meetings of the Pinelands Commission have heard public testimony on the proposal, including suggestions for alternate routes, and questioning of the need to keep the power plant active, as it currently operates only part-time. (This is because its current fuels, coal and oil, are expensive compared to natural gas.) Other concerns were where the compressor stations would be sited along the pipeline route, and whether the pipeline is oversized the proposed 24" diameter may be too large for the amount of gas the plant would need; some fear that the pipeline is secretly intended to supply a future offshore liquefied natural gas (LNG) export terminal. Stormwater impact was still under review as of this report.

There are several alternative routes that would bypass the Pinelands: via Atlantic City to the north, and via Cape May to the south. Violation of the CMP would set a bad precedent for future pipeline projects in the Pines. If New Jersey had not been dragging its feet for the past several years on approving three planned wind farms off the coast, there would not be a need for the continued operation of BL England, or this pipeline.



HOW TO IDENTIFY YOUR GROUP (BY COUNTY) Skylands Group: Sussex & northern Warren South Highlands Group: Hunterdon & southern Warren North Jersey Group: Bergen & Passaic Gateway Group: Morris & Union Central Jersey 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 arranged in rough geographical sequence: North to South)

(May 30th) Today the Port Authority of NY and NJ announced it would spend \$59 million to upgrade its facilities following Hurricane Sandy. Its facilities include PATH, the Hudson Tube rail system that was devastated by the storm, and its management is guided largely by the Governors of the two states, through political appointments.

The barn door is closing when the horse is already down the street! The Port Authority has long known how vulnerable Hudson County and lower Manhattan are to coastal storms. New York's Metropolitan Transit Authority, which operates the commuter rail system, heeded the storm warnings and suffered very little damage. If the Port Authority had done the same, taxpayers would have saved almost \$450 million, and the PATH system would not have been out of commission for months. We suggest the Port Authority's disgrace is the consequence of a managerial opinion that climate change is esoteric, so that there is no need to prepare for environmental catastrophes.

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.

NOTE TO CLUB MEMBERS LIVING IN HUDSON COUNTY:

Your area is not currently assigned to a Group. Hoping to re-establish a Club "presence" there, on Thursday, Oct 10, 7:30-9:30pm, at the Barrow Mansion, 83 Wayne Street, Jersey City, NJ Chapter Conservation Program Coordinator Kate Millsaps will give a 30-minute overview on a variety of environmental issues ranging from the Tennessee Gas Pipeline to Amtrak's proposed Gateway Project, followed by a brief Q&A session and then a cordial "Meet and Greet" hour. Please come and learn about state and local environmental issues and meet people with like-minded interests. Free refreshments will be provided!

Those interested in getting involved there can also contact Chapter Outreach Coordinator Nicole Dallara: nicole.dallara@sierraclub.org, or 609-656-7612.

Skylands Group

(Sussex and northern Warren Counties)

Web-site: http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/skylands/ Or click from the NJ Chapter's web-site. FaceBook: https://www.facebook.com/SkylandsNJSC E-mail: skylandsgroup@gmail.com

OFFICERS: (All are members of the Group Executive Committee.) Chair: Susan Williams 973-600-4960 skylandsgroup@gmail.com

(continued on page 6)

Another new Sierra Club website to explore: www.sierraclubgreenhome.com.

GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 5)

Vice Chair &		
Political Chair:	Edgar Shepherd	shepherd_edgar@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Jeri Doherty	bjd42@nac.net
Secretary:	Norene Haberski	habersn@yahoo.com
Conservation Chair:	Greg Gorman	chachabacon@yahoo.com
Political Chair:	Edgar Shepherd	shepherd_edgar@yahoo.com
Outings Chair:	Joyce White	joyce00201@yahoo.com
Publicity Chair:	Jeri Doherty	bjd42@nac.net
Membership Chair:	Open Position!	
Programs/Events Chai	r: Open Position!	
Ex-Com	_	
Member-at-Large:	Laraine Reedy	lunarmusic@msn.com
Ex-Com		
Member-at-Large:	Rosemary Hoffmann	hoffmannrosemary@yahoo.com

Please vote for Group officers: electronically or with the ballot on p.2 of this Newsletter.

ACTIVITIES: Presently working with other grassroots organizations to protect the pristine environment and natural beauty of this area, i.e. to preserve open space, maintain water quality, promote clean energy, and address local environmental issues. We oppose new natural gas pipelines, hydro-fracking and the Susquehanna-Roseland higher-voltage power line, so as to preserve the natural resources and views in this environmentally sensitive region of New Jersey. We also sponsor hikes and other outings throughout the region.

GENERAL MEETINGS: SECOND TUESDAY of the month from 7-8:30 pm at the Unitarian Fellowship, One W. Nelson St, Newton.

Events are posted on our FaceBook website and the online events calendar on the Chapter website. We also advertise on various media sites throughout the Skylands region.

South Highlands Group

(Hunterdon and southern Warren Counties)

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

OFFICERS:				
Chair:	Jonathan Wall*	psychologist@jonwall.com		
Vice Chair:	Celeste Martin*	onecentral@mac.com		
Conservation Chair:	Cinny MacGonagle*	cmacgonagle@yahoo.com		
Secretary:	Dwight Irving*	dwight@dlirving.com		
Treasurer:	Open Position!			
Political Chair:	Caroline Galofaro*	cagciao@aol.com		
Publicity Chair:	Susan Schirmer*	soupys@att.net		
Membership Chair:	Jim Fleming	jfleming18@comcast.net		
Energy Coordinator:	Open Position!			
Outings Coordinator:	Jonathan Wall*	psychologist@jonwall.com		
Webmaster:	Dwight Irving*	dwight@dlirving.com		
Ex-Com Member-at-Large:	Patricia Thompson*	carepat@aol.com		
(*Group Executive Committee Member)				

Please vote for Group officers: electronically or with the ballot on p.2 of this Newsletter.

Look for us on Meetup.com at http://www.meetup.com/NJSierraClub or visit our Sierra Club official web page at newjersey.sierraclub.org/southhighlands. Please contact shighland-ssierra@gmail.com for information!

GENERAL MEETINGS AND OTHER EVENTS:

Sept 18 (Wed): 7pm Meet & Greet; 7:30 Program begins at the Hunterdon Medical Center's Auditorium, Wescott Lane, Flemington. A representative of Food and Water Watch will discuss the dangers of GMOs (genetically modified organisms) in our food supply and how it affects your health and the environment.

Sept 21 (Sat): All Day. We'll be tabling at the Milford Alive Fall Festival. Stop by and say hello! Milford is in Hunterdon County, on the Delaware River, about 10 miles south of Phillipsburg. http://www.visitmilfordnj.com/Milford_Alive.html

Oct 16 (Wed): 7pm Meet & Greet; 7:30 Program to be announced. Please visit http:// newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj_calendar.asp or www.meetup.com/NJSierraClub/.

Nov 20 (Wed): 7pm Meet & Greet; 7:30 Program to be announced. Please visit http://

meetings are casual and informative. This is great time to get to know more about the Club and see what you can do to become more involved. For those interested, after the meeting we will walk to Main Street for tea or coffee.

CURRENT ISSUES: Delaware Water Gap: We support efforts to enhance park protections and funding by upgrading the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area to a National Park and Preserve. We are working 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

(Bergen and Passaic Counties)

WEBSITE: http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/North/ MEETUP: http://www.meetup.com/NJSierraClub/ FACEBOOK: https://www.facebook.com/northjerseysierraclub

Officers:

Chair: John Kashwick* Vice Chair: Mary Ellen Shaw* Treasurer: Tom Thompson* Jennifer Rothschild* Secretary: **Conservation Co-Chair:** Mary Ellen Shaw* **Conservation Co-Chair:** Beth Ravit* **Political Chair:** Jennifer Rothschild* Air Quality Issues: Laura Coll* **Events Chair:** Mary Walsh* Membership Chair: Buddy Jenssen* **Outings Chair:** Ellen Blumenkrantz **Programs Chair:** Jessica Epstein Publicity Chair: Marty Cohen Trail Maintenance: Marty Cohen Webmaster/Listmaster: John Kashwick* Wetlands Issues: Justine Jurick Mary Ellen Shaw* Wildlife Issues: Ex-Com Member-at-Large: Nancy Wysocki* (*Group Executive Committee Member)

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Please vote for Group officers: electronically or with the ballot on p.2 of this Newsletter.

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.)

Oct 6 (Sun): Joseph B. Clarke Rail Trail Walk. Meet at 10am, Old Tree Road, Tappan, NY. Join us for an early fall walk at a steady pace from Tappan, NY (near the NJ state border) to Piermont along Joseph B. Clarke Rail Trail with views of the Hudson. Trail is flat with either a paved, gravel, or earthen surface. We'll meet for brunch at a local eatery in Nyack before returning via the same trail. Total trail length is about 5 miles. The theme of the outing will be rail trails and how Bergen County would benefit by extending the trail south into the Northern Valley. Rain cancels. Registration required online or by contacting John at jkashwich@optonline.net. Limit: 12 participants.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING: Nov 6 (Wed) at 7:30 pm. (Date and time tentative, Location TBD). 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 of events to confirm date and time, or contact John: jkashwick@optonline.net or Mary Ellen: meshaw.001@gmail.com for more information.

CONSERVATION ISSUES: Join our conservation team and become more involved in the North Jersey group and tell us more about what you are working on. Some issues we are currently working on include preventing overdevelopment of DePiero's Farm in Montvale and the proposed LG Tower in Englewood Cliffs that would tower over the NJ Palisades vistas. For more information about these issues, to become involved, or alerted to something that is going on, please contact our Conservation Co-Chairs-Mary Ellen Shaw at meshaw.001@gmail.com or Beth Ravit at ravit@envsci.rutgers.edu.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE: If you're interested in helping with clean-up work on the AT, please contact Marty Cohen (martincohen@verizon.net).

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

newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj_calendar.asp or www.meetup.com/NJSierraClub/

Dec 22 (Sun): Lower Landsdown Trail Hike and Holiday Pot Luck: 2pm for the hike, and 4pm for the holiday appetizer and dessert PotLuck. Come out for our merry 5-mile easy winter solstice hike! This will be a fun and easy jaunt just in time to get you in shape for the holidays: Bring the kids, binoculars and a lunch. Foul weather cancels. For the hike we will gather at the Fox Lumber parking lot behind Weichert Realtors. Afterward, we will meet at 27 Center Street, Cinton for our holiday Potluck. Please feel free to hike and party or just join us for the party afterwards. Please contact Jonathan to register and let him know what you are bringing at psychologist@jonwall.com.

DINNER AND A MOVIE: 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 St, Milford. Separate checks with no minimum or cover. Parking is available on street or across the road in the church parking lot. For listing of films, please visit http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj_ calendar.asp or www.meetup.com/NJSierraClub/.

For additional information, please contact: Susan Schirmer: soupys@att.net or 908-797-6725. Space limited to limited to 25.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING: Nov 6 (Wed): 7:30 pm: At the office of Jonathan D. Wall, PsyD, at 27 Center St, Clinton. Our quarterly Executive Committee

Sign up for North Jersey Group e-mail notices by e-mailing John at jkashwick@opton-line.net.

Gateway Group

Serving Hillside, Elizabeth, Essex County (except for Livingston, Millburn and Roseland.

The Gateway Group was organized in January 2011 to fill a much-needed void after the Essex County Group disbanded. This year it tentatively added Hudson County when the former Hudson-Meadowlands Group lost its leadership. Please contact any of the leaders below if you are interested in joining our campaigns to protect the environment. There are several Gateway Group positions open.

Our website: http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/Gateway/. We are also accessible from the NJ Chapter website. Follow (and "Like") us on Facebook: Gateway Group, NJ Sierra or https://www.facebook.com/pages/Gateway-Group-NJ-Sierra-Club/128998363842782?fref=ts

Officers:			
Chair:	David Yennior	973-844-1384	dyennior@msn.com
Vice-Chair:	John Beadle	973-284-1594	jbeadle571@verizon.net

There's a new bi-weekly Chapter Alert Service. Sign up at www.scnj.convio.net.

Secretary:	Open Position!		
Treasurer:	Anne Hirs	973-844-1121	annehirs@msn.com
Program Co-Chairs:	John Beadle		see above,
and	Barbara Conover	201-452-9389	bconifer022@gmail.com
Publicity Chair	Open Position!		C
Conservation	*		
Co-Chairs:	ZaSah Khademi	201-618-8572	zasah@aol.com
and	David Korfhage	973-932-0742	drkorfhage@gmail.com
Political Chair:	Open Position!		0 0
Fundraising Chair	Open Position!		
Membership	•		
Co-Chairs:	Steven Yafet	908-354-2537	syafet@gmail.com
and	Barbara Conover		see above
Water, Newark			
Issues Chr:	Bill Chappel	973-623-6490	chappel.bill@gmail.com
Recycling Issues Chair:	Lyle Landon	201-247-0288	lylelandon@aol.com
Passaic River Co-Chairs:	Brenda Toyloy	973-856-7056	brendatoyloy@yahoo.com
and	Jeff Weiss	973-650-1030	bonefish5000@gmail.com
Elizabeth Issues Chair:	Paula Borenstein	908-289-3584	brdandmkt@aol.com
Outings Chair:	Open Position!		
C F C	1. D 1117 1	T 1 D 11	177 0 1 171 1 1

Group Executive Committee: David Yennior, John Beadle, and ZaSah Khademi

Please vote for Group officers: electronically or with the ballot on p.2 of this Newsletter.

ACTIVITIES: Please contact John Beadle or Barbara Conover, Gateway's Program Chairs, if you have a question about our program listed below or any suggestions for a program in the future. The Gateway Group invites YOU to join in the activism and asks your support as we strive to address the many issues facing our urban as well as suburban communities. Several vacant positions are listed above. For further information about upcoming activities, volunteer opportunities, or to discuss any concerns please contact David Yennior: dyennior@msn.com or call 973-844-1384.

EVENTS:

Wed, Oct 9: Jeff Jotz, from the Rahway River Association, will discuss how the Association protects and restores the River and its ecosystem. Starting in Essex County, and encompassing 130 square miles, the Rahway River watershed is one of the oldest urbanized areas of the State, but nature remains resilient with oases of wildlife and remarkable natural areas tucked in pockets along the various branches. 7pm at the Ver ona Boathouse, Porcello Lane, Verona.

Thurs, Oct 24: Let Me Decide! Label GMOs in NJ! The Gateway Group will cosponsor (with Food & Water Watch, GMOfreeNJ, Cornucopia Network of NJ, and others) a Food Day program on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs). Over 70% of grocery store food contains GMOs, and 93% of Americans want them labeled. Learn about GMOs as well as GMO labeling bills in the NJ Legislature and Congress. Food Day is a nationwide celebration of healthy, affordable and sustainably produced food and a grassroots campaign for better food policies. 6:30-9pm, Montclair Public Library, 50 South Fullerton Ave.

Wed, Nov 13: Sustainable Jersey - presented by Gray Russell. Sustainable Jersey is a certification program for municipalities that want to go green, save money and take steps to sustain their quality of life over the long term. Launched in 2009, the program provides a menu of "action points" by which municipalities can become more sustainable and receive formal certification. Gray Russell is Montclair's Sustainability Officer; he has led his town through two cycles of certification and was part of the team that created Sustainable Jersey. 7pm at the Verona Boathouse, Porcello Lane, Verona.

For further information please check the website.

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:	Open Position!		
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
At Large:	Srabasti Dutta	631-902-9948	srabastidutta@gmail.com

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

GENERAL MEETINGS: are held on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at the Library of the Chathams, 214 Main St, Chatham.

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:

Oct 9: Stefano Crema will make a presentation about the environmental benefits of Community Energy Aggregation and describe how individuals can encourage their own municipalities to look into and possibly enter into Community Energy Aggregation programs. Community Energy Aggregation has the potential to lower the price currently being paid to existing electricity suppliers while incorporating a significant percent of renewable energy in the aggregation.

Nov 13: Dr. Daniela Shebitz, an ecology professor at Kean University will describe her ongoing research in Costa Rica where she works with colleagues and students to study the effects of land management on the distribution of medicinal plants. She works with local people to document the medicinal plants in the tropical wet lowland forests, learning how to harvest, prepare, and use the plants as medicine for ailments ranging from insect bites to cancer. She then studies how land management such as clearing land for pasture is affecting the ecology and distribution of these important plant species.

Dec 11: Come to our annual Holiday Party. We have a gathering where we mingle and listen and try to find out what issues are important with our members. We ramp up the refreshments and hone our listening skills, so come out and enjoy some time with us.

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).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: We had another successful auction fundraiser, thanks to items contributed by the following generous Chatham and Madison merchants (followed by years of participation). Please patronize them if you get the chance!

Blue Ridge Mountain Sports (9) Sages Pages Book Store (9) Ahhre's Coffee Shop (9) Charley's Aunt (4) Sally Lunn's Tea Shop (3) Chatham Sandwich Shop (2) Aida's Cozy Kitchen (first time) North Jersey Dog Grooming (9) Westfield Symphony (9) REI, East Hanover (4) Village Hardware (3) Morris Museum (3) Chatham Sports Shop (2) F.Gerald New Jewelry Store (first time)

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:	Joanne Pannone	609-443-6992	jpatmeadowbrook@gmail.com
Political Chair:	Terry Stimpfel		
Publicity Chair:	Joanne Pannone	as above	
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!		
Trail and Field:	Bob Sokol	609-918-1149	robert.sokol435@gmail.com
ExCom At-Large:	Bill Wowk	609-587-0502	bwowk1@gmail.com

Please vote for Group officers: electronically or with the ballot on p.2 of this Newsletter.

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.

ADVOCACY: The Central Group works locally to preserve open space, promote effective planning and protect wetlands and trails. After providing an education and empowerment forum on environmental impacts and regulatory processes governing natural gas pipelines, we continue to work closely with the residents and municipality of Princeton to protect the environmentally sensitive Princeton Ridge from devastating damage by construction of the proposed Transco natural gas pipeline. We continue our efforts in support of a ban on disposal of hydrofracking wastes in New Jersey and to protect the Princeton Battlefield and a nearby stream from adjoining development. We oppose the NJ DEP waiver rule, the Susquehanna-Roseland electric transmission lines, natural gas transmission pipelines through New Jersey and horizontal hydrofracking.

Trail and Field: We are actively constructing a hiking trail in Robbinsville as a component of a much longer NJ trail. We also conduct small invasive species removal projects and clean ups. Join us for work details and hikes.

Events: In September we will meet in conjunction with a film at Rider University. Watch for details of all our meetings, outings and other fun events during the quarter. See the Chapter events calendar at http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj_calendar.asp and our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/CentralGroupNJSC.

We invite you to become more involved, share your ideas, issues and interests and

(Continued on page 8)

Members in commuting distance of Trenton are invited to volunteer time to help run our state office: Call Nicole Dallara.

GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 7)

especially join us for fun times. Subscribe to the Central Group distribution list to receive timely information and action notices. Please contact Terry or another of our active members.

Raritan Valley Group

(Middlesex and Somerset Counties and surrounding areas)

OFFICERS:

Group Chair:	Roomi Nusrat 908-429-9017 sierra_nj_rartian@outlook.com			
Group Vice Chair:	Don McBride	732-560-0369	dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org	
Conservation				
Advisor:	Jane Tousman	908-561-5504	jdtous@aol.com	
Outings				
Coordinator:	Open position!			
Webmaster:	Don McBride	732-560-0369	dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org	
Treasurer:	Open position!			
Recycling				
Coordinator:	Open position!			
Conservation Chair:	Nancy Gladfelter			
Secretary:	Open position!			
Political Chair:	Daphne Speck-Bary	nski 732-390-531	1 speckbartyn@comcast.net	
Communication Chair: Sarah Martin				

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

Our monthly meetings are usually on a weekday evening of the third week. We have a program with convenient telephone conferences to update the membership on activities. Please write to us on e-mail sierra_nj_rartian@att.net to participate.

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:

UTTULIN,					
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	732-513-5445	faithtei@aol.com		
Webmaster:	Lud Lanko	732-462-2199	lud@pobox.com		
Treasurer:	Pat Fuschetto	732-308-4588	fusche40@yahoo.com		
Political Chair:	Bob Sandberg	732-747-3224	Sandberg00@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	gmofattgt@aol.com		
Fund-raising					
Co-Chairs:	Lois Blake	732-863-5917	lqblake@optonline.net		
and	Joellen Lundy	732-741-4756	jfutey@comcast.net		

Help Needed for Other Cleanups: If you would like to participate in cleanups of our other 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 meetings of the Jersey Shore Group take place on the first Monday of the month, at 6pm, at Brookdale Community College, Lincroft Campus. We are delighted that the college has invited us to continue the joint meetings this Fall and through 2014.

We meet at BCC to share our speakers with environmentally-concerned BCC college students, the NJ Friends of Clearwater, 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 programs start at 6:30pm.

To get to Brookdale, take GSP Exit 109 to Rte 520 West (Newman Springs Rd, which becomes E Main St at the Lincroft campus). Exit the traffic circle into the campus and follow the signs to the Warner Student Life Center (SLC), where the meeting usually is in the Twin Lights Rooms I and II. Use parking lot 7. As you walk towards the building complex, Warner will be down the slope 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.

Oct 28: Dr. Carrie Manfrino, President and Director of Research and Conservation at the Central Caribbean Marine Institute (CCMI), Little Cayman Island, will discuss the plight of the world's coral reefs that range from the Caribbean Sea to Australia's famous Great Barrier Reef, and the research work at CCMI. The world's coral reefs are under siege by global warming, bleaching, acidification, rain runoff that contributes to water pollution, physical destruction, mining, over-fishing, deep-water trawling, natural predators, and cyanide and dynamiting to catch fish. Dr.Manfrino, who also teaches at Rutgers University and Kean College, is a recognized expert on corals. She founded the CCMI in 2005 to study how coral reefs can survive their current environmental degradations. Coral reefs occupy less than 0.25 percent of the Earth's marine environment, yet they are home to about 25 percent of all known marine species, including 800 species of coral, and thousands of other plants and animals; more than 25 percent of all known fish species, about 4,000 species at last count, and perhaps another estimated 1 to 8 million undiscovered species of organisms living in and around coral reefs. The CCMI's research projects for this important habitat include reef resiliency, over-fishing, coral fluorescence, deep and shallow reef connectivity, and threats from invasive species.

Nov 25 (Tentative): 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. Before coming to Monmouth University, Tony was executive director of the Coastal States Organization (CSO) from 1998-2005. The 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. Prior to joining CSO, he was the special counsel and director of Environmental Affairs at the American Association of Port Authorities, where he represented the International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH) at the International Maritime Organization on negotiations at the London Convention. Tony has also practiced law with a private firm in Washington, DC, working on environmental and legislative issues, and served as the Washington, DC, environmental legislative representative for the Mayor of the City of New York.

Dec 1: 2-5pm: Our traditional holiday party will be held at Dennis Anderson's house at 6 Maple Av, off of Middlesex Rd, Matawan. Use MapQuest for directions, but beware, there are two Middlesex Roads in Matawan. If you get lost, call him at 732-970-4327. Everyone is asked to bring hors d'oeuvres, cakes or other hot and cold dishes, as well as soda, wine and beer, but please let Dennis know in advance at dennisaza@aol.com so we don't wind up with five tofu dishes. If members of other Sierra Groups are in the neighborhood, please stop by and say hello.

<u>Ocean County Group</u>

WEBSITE: www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean

OFFICERS:

Chair: A. Gregory Auriemma, Esq. Vice-Chr, Outings: Dawn Marie Johns Conserv'n Chair: Margit Meissner-Jackson 609-296-4367 sylviaJ1910@yahoo.com

732-451-9220 sierraclubOC@aol.com 732-644-6340 sierraclubOC@hotmail.com

Please vote for Group officers: electronically or with the ballot on p.2 of this Newsletter.

Shore Group Happenings:

Oct 10 Fundraiser: The Jersey Shore Group and the Whale Pond Brook Watershed Association will be holding a fundraiser Oct. 10 to help restore the eroded banks and water quality of Whale Pond Brook. The event will be held at Cedars and Beeches B&B, 247 Cedar Av, Long Branch, from 5-7pm. Donation is \$20. Everyone is invited. Please RSVP by Sept 24 to Lois Blake at lqblake@optonline.net. The fundraiser's theme is "Wine, Cheese and Music on the Watershed." Music is by Diane Doolittle

Come mingle with local environmental officials, watershed members, and the general public, and enjoy the conversation and good wine. (The B&B is on the north side of Cedar Ave., just east of Monmouth University).

Whale Pond Cleanups: We have had several cleanups with a coalition with Monmouth University, all the towns on the Whale Pond Brook watershed, and the NJ Friends of Clearwater. But Hurricane Sandy dumped tons to trash back into the watershed, so more cleanups are being scheduled. Our long-range 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.

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

Conserv in Onante is	fuigit mensorier jackson	00/ 2/0 1/0/	syntagr / noe yanoo.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 Me	mber: Sierra Palmer		

Please vote for Group officers: electronically or with the ballot on p.2 of this Newsletter.

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

Please share this newsletter with a non-member friend, inviting use of the coupon on p. 12.

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/

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/WestJerseyGroupNJSC Log on and Like Us

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 volu	inteer 856-848-8831	

Please vote for Group officers: electronically or with the ballot on p.2 of this Newsletter.

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.

Oct 9: Sustainable Cherry Hill - Lori Braunstein, Founder and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Sustainable Cherry Hill will update us on their continuing efforts to make Cherry Hill a model green community. Come and learn how you can help make your community sustainable.

Nov 13: Movie Night - Bidder 70. Come and watch a 70 minute film about the ingenious and effective act of civil disobedience demanding government and industry accountability by a college student willing to go to jail to defend the environment. His act redefined patriotism in our time, igniting a spirit of civil disobedience in the name of climate justice.

Dec 11: Join us for our Year-End Wrap Up and holiday party. Bring a favorite munchie to share as we discuss our successes and ongoing efforts for 2013 and plan for 2014.

South Jersey Group

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

OFFICERS:

Vice-Chair:

Group, Outings Chair: Tom Boghosian 609-625-0878 boghosian1@verizon.net Douglas Jewell 609-463-0775

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:

Oct 2, Nov 6 and Dec 4 (first Wednesdays), 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.

Oct 9 and Dec 11 (alternate second Wednesdays), 7pm: 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.

Nov 26 (alternate fourth Tuesdays) Great Egg Harbor River Watershed Association: Membership meetings, open to the public, WFNC*. Contact Lynn Maun, 856-453-0416 or email lynnkmaun@comcast.net.

Oct 16 and Dec 18 (alternate 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, 609-432-3280.

350.org South Jersey is a recently formed group that opposes Climate Change, and that tries to hold monthly meetings at the Unitarian Universalist Church on Pomona Rd (Rte 575) opposite the Stockton College campus in Galloway Twp, Atlantic Co. Contact Glenn Klotz: glennk1949@gmail.com.

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

You can now also "like" us on Facebook: "Singles Group New Jersey Sierra Club".

OFFICERS: Joe Testa Chair: testa-j@live.com Outings Chair: Iovce Haddad jkhaddad@juno.com **Conservation Chair:** Joe Testa testa-j@live.com joyce.white.exec@gmail.com Treasurer: Joyce White Social Chair: Ioe Prebish Ioe.Prebish@kraft.com Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com Vice Social Chair: Jeff Sovelove 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 Executive Committee members: Susan Browne, Joyce Haddad, Ron Pate, Joe Prebish, Jeff Sovelove, Joe Testa, Joyce White

Conservation Chair:	Open Position!		
Pol. Chair, Calendars:	Dick Colby	609-965-4453	dick.colby@stockton.edu
Membership Chair:	Michele Cooklin		lorax317@gmail.com
Secretary/Treasurer:	Julie Akers	609-432-3280	julieakers56@gmail.com

Michele Cooklin (lorax317@gmail.com) is our new Membership Chair, and will be attempting to revitalize the Group.

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 within the Sierra Club and in the Watershed Association (GEHWA) that "spun off" from the South Jersey Group. Very few of our local members seem interested in the meetings we once scheduled. For now, we'll continue to be listed in this Newsletter, and offer a Please vote for Section officers: electronically or with the ballot on p.2 of this Newsletter.

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.

(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)

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 as described in the announcement.

SOCIAL DINNERS with MOVIE SHOWINGS are scheduled approximately monthly in Milford (Hunterdon Co.) and New Brunswick. Join us for thought-provoking films and conversation over casual dinners. Topics and locations will be announced on our list-serv and on the Chapter's online calendar (see above).

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. Included below are singles outings led by Jimi Oleksiak (Oct. 12, Nov. 9 and Dec. 14) and Jeff Sovelove (Oct. 19 and Nov. 16 - listed on web-calendar only). Please join the listserv to receive notification of all of our outings.

Gay and Lesbian Section

(At its January, 2013, meeting, the Chapter Executive Committee created this new, chapter-wide special interest Section which will offer activities and events including hikes, clean ups, social gatherings, dinner get-togethers, and other functions intended for those members of the LGBT Community.)

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. Please check our listings on our online calendar at http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj_calendar.asp. For more information or to get involved in the Section, please contact John Kashwick at jkashwick@optonline.net.

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 free of charge, in which they can list items they are searching for or want to buy.

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

1001100111111		
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@no	rthjerseygreendrinks.com
Outings Chair:		
(Northern Jersey)	Open Position!	Please Contact Us!
Outings Chair:		
(Central Jersey)	Leon Yerenburg	lyerenburg@gmail.com
Outings Chair:		

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

Looking for power? A position where you are the boss? Here's your chance. The supreme head of NJ ICO would like to retire; wouldn't you like to replace him and be in charge? Wouldn't you like to have all the privileges, perquisites, and yes, responsibilities of that coveted position? Just think how your nameplate would look on the corner office that goes with the job. If you're interested just let Marty Cohen know; he'll even guide you through the transition and assist you in running the group. [Full disclosure: This notice has been forwarded to the 11 power-hungry candidates contesting for mayor in NYC and the 16 like-minded mayoral candidates in the up and coming metropolis of Detroit.]

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. For our current schedule and other info, please visit our webpage: ico.sierraclub.org/newjersey.

On the Trail Britain's Canal Towpaths

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

Your editor takes seriously the criticism that this Newsletter lacks "culture": there's too much for policy wonks, not enough for the plurality of Club members whose primary interest is being in the outdoors. But I can only publish what I receive. So here's an **invitation(!)** and an example:

Like New Jersey with its Delaware and Raritan Canal, Cape May Canal, and remnants of the Morris Canal, Britain is enlightened to have preserved some of its industrial heritage in the form of an extensive canal system, still used to distribute bulk goods, but more widely appreciated by families who own or rent "narrow boats," cruising far and wide, sometimes queuing for locks, and tying up for the night just about everywhere.

Mules have gone out of fashion as a means of propulsion (although I have friends who remember them during the Second World War), but their towpaths remain, providing access to unspoiled countryside, connecting villages and towns, clearly marked on Ordnance Survey Maps, and popular with dog-walkers and a class of elderly hikers (in Britain: ramblers!) that happens to include me.

History and science buffs may be interested to learn that Britain pioneered canal-building -- in the early and mid-1700s as a means of distributing fragile heavy goods such as Wedgewood China (in addition to coal, bricks, grains, iron ore and iron products), and that early canal-builders such as William Smith (1769-1839) were impressed by the stratigraphy of the rock-cuttings to notice fossilized organisms and begin the study of paleontology that gave rise to modern evolutionary theory.

I'm privileged to have been able to

most years since the late 1960s, teaching science, leading student trips, and working with a Britain-based research group, and living first in Nottingham, then Milton Keynes, and now Oxford. All are "canal cities," containing respectively the Trent & Mersey, the Grand Union, and the Oxford Canal, all of which interconnect ultimately.

Most of my walks are day-hikes of 5-15 miles, starting with a train or bus ride, then returning home on foot. But I've also gone for longer periods, staying at youth hostels or bed and breakfasts, easy to find these days using the internet. Canal-side pubs provide the ideal lunches, and the routes often come close enough to the centers of villages for a short detour to offer the colored splendor of medieval stained glass, and other majesty associated with old churches.

Be prepared for close encounters with sheep, cows and horses, and the consequent need to have your boots sterilized (by the USDA) when you come back through American Immigration and Customs. Be prepared to see unfamiliar birds, butterflies and vegetation, such as rooks, ravens, kites, magpies and stinging nettles. (But there are almost no ticks, and no chiggers!) Be prepared to admire the early canal technology of hand-operated locks, feed-in and overflow control of the water in each segment, and the occasional tunnel through a mountain and high spanning of a river valley.

Most importantly, be prepared for the placid peace of the countryside, the fullscale vistas, the quiet, the colors and contours of the land, neatly partitioned by hedgerows, the one-on-one interface with all that nature has to offer. The sky is bluer and cleaner than any in New Jersey, thanks to 2000 miles of ocean upwind. Here's a view of a lock being

(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/

spend three or more months in Britain, opened at Farmoor, near Oxford:



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



GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS

Central Jersey: Joanne Pannone jpatmeadowbrook@gmail.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 Dyjak 732-560-0953 (H)

NJ-ICO, 17 Mt. Horeb Rd, Warren, 07059 Chapter Outings: Ellen Blumenkrantz 201-784-8417 eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com

Outing Leaders: Please send January-March 2014 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 Nov. 4. 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 January-March 2014 trip write-ups by Nov. 8.

NOTES ON OUTINGS: All Outings are open to Club members, guests and anyone interested in outlings. 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.

take a Sierra Club educational hike!

Learn more about your environment...

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
(SNG) - Especially for Singles	
(but ALL welcome)	

OCTOBER

Oct 6 (Sun): Tappan to Piermont Rail-Trail (Rockland Co, NY). Meet at 9am at 205 Oak Tree Road, Tappan, NY 10983. Join us for an early fall walk at a steady pace from Tappan NY (near the NJ state border) to Nyack along Joseph B Clarke Rail Trail (the converted Northern Branch Railroad) with views of the Hudson. Other than a short climb returning from Piermont, the trail is flat with either a paved, gravel, or earthen surface. Total distance will be about 5-6 miles. Please bring a lunch-we will walk out to the pier in Piermont. Please also bring water, snack, and wear comfortable walking shoes and weather-appropriate clothing. The theme of the outing will be rail trails and how Bergen County would benefit by extending the trail south into the Northern Valley. Well-mannered dogs are welcome. Rain cancels. Call or text John the morning of the outing at 201-294-1092 if weather is questionable. Contact leader: John Kashwick, at jkashwick@optonline.net for more information. (N)

Oct 4 (Fri): Pinelands Month - Canoe/Kayak the Great Egg Harbor River (Atlantic Co). 10am. We'll paddle 7 miles from Weymouth Furnace to Lake Lenape. Early breakfast at the Harley Dawn Diner, Rte 322/Black Horse Pike. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Oct 6 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River Water Gap (Warren Co). 10am. The Water Gap may begin showing fall foliage of gold, orange and red hues. Paddling helmets required for all paddlers; spray skirts recommended for kayakers. Trip is open to current Sierra Club members only. Contact leaders for details. Leona & George F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

right on to Allenwood Rd. At "T" intersection (Ramhorn Rd) turn right. Make next left (Hospital Rd). The parking area is approximately 1 mile on the right. Bad weather cancels. Confirmation/questions: call or text Leader Mike Verange: 908-902-0718 or mjverange@aol.com. (JS)

Oct 14 (Mon): Columbus Day! Canoe/Kayak the Abbott Marshlands (Burlington Co). 9:30am. Meet at Bordentown Beach, end of Park St. We'll see migrating Red-winged Blackbirds on our 8-mile tidal trip in the Abbott Marshlands from Bordentown Beach to Watson Woods and back to Bordentown. Rentals are not available. Bring lunch and beverage. Contact leaders to confirm trip: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Oct 18-20 (Fri-Sun): Pocomoke River Fall Kayak Trip (MD). Starts 6pm at Milburn Landing State Park, 3036 Nassawango Rd, Pocomoke MD. Kayak the beautiful Pocomoke River which was recently top-rated by Paddler's Mag. "Pocomoke" is thought to be the Native American word for "black water." This area is famous for its stands of loblolly pine and its cypress swamps. We'll paddle up and downstream on the Pocomoke River and its tributaries: Nassawango Creek, Dividing Creek, and Corkers Creek. Bring binoculars to view the varied birds. Milburn Landing Park features a new bath-house and showers. Days will be warm and evenings cool. Cabins are available. Minimum 13' kayak. A local outfitter will transport them. Contact leader for registration and camping location: Paul Serdiuk: 609-462-3593 eves or pis9@yahoo.com. Campground reservations: http://reservations.dnr.state.md.us/ or call 1-888-432-2267.

Oct 19 (Sat): Bicycle Ride on the Columbia Trail (Hunterdon Co). 10am. 12+ miles, 5-8 mph pace. Fall foliage will be spectacular as we bike the Ken Lockwood Gorge from High Bridge to Califon. Meet at High Bridge Municipal Lot, Main St, High Bridge. Bicycle helmets are required. Bring water and snacks. Rain cancels. Option: late lunch at Casa Maya restaurant in High Bridge. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Oct 20 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the D&R Canal (Mercer Co). 10am. The trip is 10 miles from Firemen's Eddy to Lower Ferry Rd. 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: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Oct 23 (Wed): Hike at Manasquan Reservoir (Monmouth Co). 10am. 5 miles, easy pace on the scenic Perimeter Trail. This is the most visited site in the Monmouth County Park System. Meet at the Visitor Center 311 Windeler Rd, Howell, NJ 07731. Bring lunch and water. Leashed dogs are welcome. Leaders: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Oct 25 (Fri): Pinelands Month! Canoe/Kayak the Oswego River (Burlington Co). 10am. Celebrate Pinelands Month with an 8-mile trip on the "Jewel of the Pinelands". Meet at Lake Oswego, Lake Oswego Rd. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Oct 31 (Thurs): Canoe/Kayak Trip on the N. Branch Rancocas Creek (Burlington Co). 9am. We'll be looking for goblins, ghosts and skeletons as we paddle the 14-mile Canoe Trail. Bring lunch and beverage. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

NOVEMBER

Nov 2 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak On-water Cleanup on the Crosswicks Creek (Burlington Co). 11am. Support the Sierra Club Water Sentinels Program on our annual fall cleanup of the Crosswicks and Thornton Creeks with the Bordentown Yacht Club. Wear boots and gloves. Bring lunch and water. Meet at Bordentown Beach, end of Park St. Contact leaders to confirm: Leona & George F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Nov 3 (Sun): Wissahickon Gorge Fall Hike (Philadelphia PA). Meet at 8:30am. 7 miles at moderate pace over hills and small creeks. Spectacular views with fall colors. Backpacker Magazine labeled the Wissahickon Gorge as the "secret jewel" of the east. Bring picnic-type food to share at tailgate social after hike. NP/NC. Carpool from rear parking lot of Crown Plaza Hotel on Rte 70, Cherry Hill. Or meet at 9:30am at Valley Green parking lot in park. Leader: Paul Serdiuk: 609-462-3593 eves or pis9@yahoo.com. Remember to change your clocks back 1 hour!

Nov 5 (Tue): Election Day Hike! Tatum Park and Deep Cut Gardens (Monmouth Co). 10am. 5 miles, easy pace. Tatum Park contains 366 acres of beautiful woods and fields. Across Red Hill Rd is Monmouth County's Deep Cut Gardens. After our hike we'll have lunch and then tour the gardens. Leashed dogs are welcome. Bring lunch and water. Meet at 151 Red Hill Rd, Middletown. http://monmouthcountyparks. com/documents/130/tatum.pdf. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Nov 9 (Sat): Cushetunk Mountain Preserve Hike, Lebanon (Hunterdon Co). 10am. See http://www.co. hunterdon.nj.us/depts/parks/ParkAreas/Cushetunk/info.htm. Moderately strenuous: 7 Miles in 4 hours in hilly terrain. The route will feature exceptional views of Round Valley Reservoir. No facilities at the parking lot, but there are several outhouses along the hike. No beginners, no pets. Hiking boots and a day-pack with water and lunch required. Registration required via web: http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj_calendar.asp. If you haven't hiked with The Hikist before, include a brief description of your hiking experience with your registration. Directions for the meeting place will be sent via email to members who register. Leader: Jimi Oleksiak: the_hikist@mac.com.

Nov 10 (Sun): Bicycle Ride at Duke Farms (Somerset Co). 10am. Approx.10 miles; leisurely day with stops along the way. Duke Farms serves as a model of environmental stewardship in the 21st century. Meet at the Farm Barn Orientation Center. Free Ride-Bikeshare is available - check the website for information. Bring lunch and beverage on the ride. Bicycle helmets are required. Directions: www.dukefarms.org/ Rain cancels. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Nov 15 (Fri): Canoe/Kayak Trip on Crosswicks Creek (Burlington Co). 9:30am. Meet at the confluence of the Delaware River and Crosswicks Creek - Bordentown Beach. We'll enjoy fall foliage as we paddle 7 miles to Groveville and then return to Bordentown with the tide. Bring lunch and beverage. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Nov 16 (Sat): Full Moon Hike and Campout, in Brendan Byrne State Forest (Woodland Twp, Burl Co). Meet at 7:15 pm at the campground: Glass House Rd and Coopers Rd. Hike the Full Beaver Moon on moonlit sand roads. Moderate pace, 6.5 miles. Return to a roaring fire and socializing. Please bring picnictype food to share at the tailgate social after the hike. NP/NC. Meet in open field across from bathhouse. Leader: Paul Serdiuk: pis9@yahoo.com or 609-462-3593. Possible camp-over if weather permits. You can reserve your site via ReserveAmerica.com. http://maps.google.com/maps?q=glass+house+road+and+coo pers+road%2C+Woodland+Township%2C+NJ

Nov 17 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the D&R Canal (Middlesex Co). 9am. This trip is 11 miles in a spectacular section for fall foliage: Kingston to Amwell Rd. There is one canal lock portage, bring portage wheels if you have them. Meet in Kingston at the D&R Canal State Park, Rte 27. Bring lunch and beverage. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting logistics: George & Leona F:609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Nov 22 (Fri): Canoe/Kayak Cedar Creek (Ocean Co). 9am. Enjoy a fall trip on Cedar Creek from Ore Pond to Dudley Park. Contact leaders to confirm meeting details: George & Leona F 609-259-3734 or Leona@ inevpaddlers.com. (W)

Oct 11 (Fri): Pinelands Month Cranberry Cruise - Canoe/Kayak Cedar Creek (Ocean Co). 9am. Our annual "Cranberry Cruise" is 10 miles from Dover Forge to Dudley Park - we'll pick cranberries along the way. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Oct 11-13 (Fri-Sun): Fall Foliage Hiking and Camping Weekend, Catskills (Haines Falls NY). Starts 6pm at Loop 6 campsite in North-South Lake State Campground at Haines Falls NY. 6-7 miles per day. This is a great time to see the spectacular fall foliage in the mountains. Several hikes are planned for the weekend as well as camping in spectacular fall settings. We will visit Sunset Rock, Alligator Rock, and Kaaterskill Falls. Day-hikers also welcome. Contact leader to reserve a space, additional information and directions: Paul Serdiuk: 609-462-3593 eves or pis9@yahoo.com.

Oct 12 (Sat): Splitrock Reservoir Hike, Rockaway Twp, Passaic Co. 10am. Information: http://www.state. nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/farny.html. Moderately strenuous: 7 miles in 4 hours in hilly terrain. The route will feature views of the reservoir from hilltops and shore. There is a modern composting outhouse next to the parking lot. No beginners, no pets. Hiking boots and a day-pack with water and lunch required. Registration required via web: http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj_calendar.asp. If you haven't hiked with The Hikist before, include a brief description of your hiking experience with your registration. Directions for the meeting place will be sent via email to members who register. Leader: Jimi Oleksiak: the hikist@mac.com.

Oct 12 (Sat): Pinelands Month - Wells Mills Hike and 19th Annual Pine Barrens Jamboree (Ocean Co). 10am. 3-4 miles, easy pace. After the hike we'll enjoy the Jamboree! This day-long festival celebrates the history and culture of the Pinelands with music, crafts, "piney vittles" and local produce. Leased dogs are Welcome. Bring a lawn chair. Meet in the Wells Mills parking lot, 905 Wells Mills Road (Rte 532), Waretown. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Oct 13 (Sun): Southern Allaire State Park, Monmouth Co. (Special Interest: Geology) 4.5-mile moderate hike in the northern fringes of the Pine Barrens. Bring drink and snack. Hiking shoes preferred. Meet at 9am at the large dirt parking lot on the right, off Hospital Rd, Wall Township. Take GPS to exit 98, turn

Nov 24 (Sun): Old City Philadelphia Walking Tour. Meet at 9am. Guided tour led by renowned author Ed Major. Includes many historic sites in America's first Capital, plus South Philly, South Street, Society Hill, and the waterfront. We will lunch in one of the many eateries on South Street. Tour guide's fee is \$10, cash only. Meet at the PATCO Woodcrest Station, exit 31 of I-295. Or meet at the Visitor's Center, 6th&Market, Philadelphia, at 9:30am. Wear comfortable shoes and appropriate clothing for the weather. Limited number permitted in tour. Contact leader to reserve space and additional information: Paul Serdiuk: pis9@yahoo.com or 609-462-3593, evenings only.

Nov 30 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak the D&R Canal from Lawrenceville to Kingston (Mercer Co). 9am. Work off those Thanksgiving calories with this 11-mile paddle from Cherry Tree Lane to Kingston - no portages either! Bring lunch and beverage. Contact leaders to confirm trip participation and logistics: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

DECEMBER

Dec 1 (Sun): Manasquan River Reservoir, Special Interest: birds (Monmouth Co), 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 cancels. Confirmation/questions please call or text leader: Mike Verange, 908-902-0718 or mjverange@aol.com. (JS)

Dec 4 (Wed): Hike at Jakes Branch County Park (Ocean Co). 10am. 4 miles, easy pace. Jakes Branch has a nature center with 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. Leaders: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

(continued on page 12)

There's a new interactive CALENDAR for outimgs and Group events - on our website (www.newjersey.sierraclub.org). Click "Events and Outings"



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

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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 Ciara Fagan ciaraann3@gmail.com

Speakers' Bureau Organizer Don McBride (732) 560-0369 dtmcbride@alumni.haas.org

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Group Effectiveness Committee Rich Isaac**, Greg Auriemma

Regional Issues Coordinator com)

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Sprawl Issues Jane Tousman (see left column)

Tiger Conservation Issues Sunil Somalwar (see left column)

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

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

OUTINGS (Continued from page 11)

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

Dec 14 (Sat): Sherman Hoffman Preserve Hike, Bernardsville (Somerset Co). 10am. See http://www. njaudubon.org/sectioncenters/sectionscherman/thesanctuary.aspx. Moderately strenuous: 7 miles in 4 hours in hilly terrain. The route will view the cascades of the upper Passaic River and visit Jockey Hollow. No facilities at the parking lot but we will rest stop at the visitor's center at lunch. No beginners, no pets. Hiking boots and a day-pack with water and lunch required. Registration required by web: http://newjer-sey.sierraclub.org/nj_calendar.asp. If you haven't hiked with The Hikist before, include a brief description of your hiking experience with your registration. Directions for the meeting place will be sent via email to members who register. Leader: Jimi Oleksiak: the_hikist@mac.com.

Dec 14 (Sat): Whitesbog Village Fall Hike (Burlington Co). 10am. 5 miles, easy pace on sandy trails. Directions: www.whitesbog.org. Bring lunch and beverage. Meet in the parking lot across from the General Store. Leashed dogs are welcome. Optional, guided village tour after lunch for small fee. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Dec 14 (Sat): Social Full Moon Hike and Campfire, Wharton St. Forest, Burl Co. Meet at 7pm. 7 miles at moderate pace. Hike the Pines under the Full Cold Moon on a new route and return to a roaring campfire. Bring picnic-type food to share at tailgate social after hike. NC/NP. From Rte 206 at Atsion, take Atsion Rd west 1 mile to Goshen Pond Group Site sign. Turn left into camping area. Contact leader to confirm: Paul Serdiuk: 609-463-3593 eves or pis9@yahoo.com. Inclement weather cancels.

Dec 20 (Fri): Hike Historic Smithville and Tour Smithville Mansion (Burlington Co). 10am. 4 miles, easy pace. After the hike we'll tour the Mansion decorated for "A Victorian Christmas" (small fee). Option, late lunch at Vincentown Diner. Meet at Smith's Woods at Historic Smithville Park, E. Railroad Ave, Easthampton. Leashed dogs are welcome. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Dec 21 (Sat): Celebrate the Winter Solstice! Canoe/Kayak the Wading River (Burlington Co). 10am. The trip section depends on weather conditions. Experienced winter Pines paddlers only. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Dec 21 (Sat): Shortest Day/Longest Night/Winter Solstice Hike, Wharton St. Forest, Burl Co. Meet at 7pm. Come out and relieve some of the holiday shopping stress at our Campfire. 7 miles at moderate pace. Enjoy the Pines and return to a roaring campfire. Bring picnic-type food to share at tailgate social after-wards. NC/NP. From Rte 206 at Atsion, take Atsion Rd west 1 mile to Goshen Pond Group Site sign. Turn left into camping area. Contact leader to confirm: Paul Serdiuk: 609-463-3593 eves or pis9@yahoo.com. Inclement weather cancels.

Dec 26-31: History of the American Revolution in NJ (Mercer Co). Learn about the American Revolution during Patriots Week. This week offers fun and history for the entire family. See the First and Second Battles of Trenton Reenactments and participate in Walking Tours of the Trenton Battlefields. Check web-site for events www.patriotsweek.com More information: Leona F: leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

JANUARY

Jan 1 (Wed): 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 7 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 register: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

Upcoming ExCom Meetings:

All members are welcome to attend these monthly statewide policy deliberations, usually 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.

October 12 and November 9, both at the New Brunswick Public Library, 60 Livingston Ave, a 10-minute walk from NJ Transit's Rail Station



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

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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

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

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

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The Chapter website, www.newjersey.sierraclub.org, has been upgraded to provide much useful information.