The future of open space funding may well depend on the choices voters make in November for a new Legislature. Expect to hear more from us!

To vote online, click on the link in the e-mail you receive. If you have a joint membership, both boxes are provided to enable two members of family membership to cast separate votes. The ballot page will have links to the same candidate statements as are printed in this newsletter.

To vote by paper ballot, please return 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-closed ballot will include the personal signatures on the voting envelope, and that a properly-cast ballot will not be removed before ballots are counted.

Ballot: Candidates for three-year terms. Their portraits and 100-word campaigns are available, and all have been randomized. Please vote for UP THREE:

1. Incumbent
2. [Candidate Name 1]
3. [Candidate Name 2]

[Note that a written ballot must be cast by December 1, 2013.]

If the Sierra Club doesn’t have your e-mail 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, both boxes are provided to enable two members of family membership to cast separate votes. The ballot page will have links to the same candidate statements as are printed in this newsletter.

To vote by paper ballot, please return 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-closed ballot will include the personal signatures on the voting envelope, and that a properly-cast ballot will not be removed before ballots are counted.

Ballot: Candidates for three-year terms. Their portraits and 100-word campaign statements are available, and all have been randomized. Please vote for UP THREE:

1. Incumbent
2. [Candidate Name 1]
3. [Candidate Name 2]
Ballot Statements
(Name-order has been randomized)

BOB MOSS (Gateway Group):
• Club and Chapter member contin-
  uously since 1994.
• Chapter Green Acres Issues
  Coordinator since 2010.
• Past NYNJ Tailgate 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 divorcions
  • change Nuisance policies that stifle the
  • advance Chapter 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.
I am ever so glad to be a part of this amazing movement.
Unprecedented membership growth clearly says that the citizens agree with our position and are with us.
Our Chapter, through the efforts of our hard-working staff and volun-
tees, 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 these successes in my experience gained in
Chair positions at the state, regional and national levels.
I would appreciate your vote.

JANE TOUSMAN (Raritan Valley Group):
Jane is a devoted volunteer who helped save the Dismal Swamp with over 200 acres of wet-
lands and forests. She is a retired paralegal and a former President of the Edison Township Council.
ExOfficio to the Group’s Political Committee, she 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 or-
ganized the Loantaka Highlands, and Skylands Groups. Now serving as both the Chapter’s Political Chair and its Group’s Effectiveness Chair, Rich is also cur-
cently 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.

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 CO2)
That joined more greenhouse gases
That rose up in 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!

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

Did Texas shoot itself in the foot when, in 2011, it cut $75 million from family planning services? According to a December 7, 2012 article in the New York Times, and information from the blog Republicans for Choice, Texas as a Republican majority state have saved $50 million in federal funding yearly, and left 50,000 low income Texas women unable to find Medicaid providers for health care. From 2011 to 2013 the number of unintended pregnancies have increased by over 30,000. Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) also increased dramatically. “The additional cost of treating these STIs is estimated to be as much as $275 million – [adding] approximately $110 million to the state’s general revenue budget alone, most of this is due to the increase in STIs under Medicaid. [Additionally] low income women with unintended pregnancies are more likely to remain dependent on govern-
ment 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 sex education (note the increased incidence of STIs above) despite studies showing that young people are more likely to delay their first sexual encounter who receive comprehensive sex education. And here’s the added bonus, for every $1 million spent on comprehen-
sive sex education the taxpayers save $8.5 million (1).

The web site Data Studies, in a survey of 5 years of data on STIs in Texas, noted that 10% of Texas counties accounted for 80% of all STIs. They reported that “these numbers appear 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 in the process of enacting an identical legislation. This is also why they are so vehemently opposed to the Affordable Care Act (aka ObamaCare), which requires cover-
age of women’s preventative health services. According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, 27 million women were losing nonemergency obstetric services. Removing cost barriers has prevented unintended pregnancies, saving the government $10 billion $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 with unplanned pregnancies do not want. “The services provided by Title X-supported centers resulted in net public savings of $5.2 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 are otherwise (for example the minimum wage esti-
mate of $12 million to hold a special election three weeks before the November general election), will be bringing similar legislation to New Jersey, who recently re-elected him. 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 is endorsing Rich.

At the international level, many believe the “demographic divi-
dend” or “Asia tiger effect” has allowed countries such as Indonesia, Philippines, 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 pro-
ductivity, 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 eco-
nomically productive. Women’s increased labor-force participa-
tion boosts nations’ economies.” Nevertheless, “an additional $4.1 billion is necessary to reach the level needed 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 safe, effective family planning and reproductive health care.

UPDATE: In our April-June 2013 issue, I reported on the pos-
itive strides the Philippines had made with passage of the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act (1). Tragically for women in the Philippines, at the behest of the Catholic Church, the Philippines Supreme Court has blocked implementation of the law.

2. Publicly funded family planning services help women avoid unintended preg-
3. Additional investments in family planning make new developments on dollars and sense.

The Jersey Sierran: October-December 2013

Population Issue Coordinator’s Report

Family Planning Makes Dollars and Sense

By Bonnie Tillery (blt44blt@msn.com)
Having just finished Khaled Hosseini’s third novel (And the Mountains Echoed) about the destructive power of our thoughts, I was struck by the conflicts many of us face between ideologies and political parties. Many of us think that great novelists, who can make us think, would understand these conflicts and would therefore make good politicians.

In the Cherokee we 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 greater material wealth 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 Theocracy, to perhaps coin an ugly new word.)

People in our American society face similar conflicts, perhaps not as severe as those in Afghanistan, perhaps with only a tiny fraction of the life sustaining resources that the West possess, or even a “wrong” allegiance. Somehow most of us set into behavior patterns that accommodate our religious and ethnic backgrounds, the attitudes of our parents and others, and we continue our lives as “outsiders” such as the developers, teachers, lawyers, 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 the recent turn of Khaled Hosseini’s excellently written book (And the Mountains Echoed) is in the high volume of ideological messaging from all the media focused on us. We are now so confused by the presence of so many ideas that is a more ideological siren that promotes the idea that to be true to most of us: energy intensive in its dependence on automobiles, winter heating and sum- mer 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 editors 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, bet- ter schools and better health care rank far above concern with the urgency of renewable energy to limit Global Warming, unhealthy air, the possible contamina- tion 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 high- voltage electrical transmission wires, or the risk to coastal buildings from storms and sea level rise, or the need for state funding of open-space acquisition.

So my editor is yet another plug for raising the consciousness of environ- mentalism 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.

Editorial

Environmental Ideology

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

Chair’s Message

Stained Glass Windows

By Ken Johnson (kjohan@comcast.net)

Good News from West Jersey

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

Resolved 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 in November will be in the October issue of the Jersey Sierran. We voted to subscribe to Meetup.com, a social networking site that informs regis-

ners of local activities such as our outings and Group meetings. (July)

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

We signed on to litigation challenging the “NDPPE” for a natural gas pipeline through our state. If you would like to receive similar representation pro bono by the Super Law Group and/or the Eastern Environmental Law Center. (August)

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

We voted to purchase new windows for the clubhouse. The first bidder who agrees to pay the amount of the take-out bid will be able to purchase the window at that price. (August)

For information about making a bequest to the New Jersey Chapter call George Denzer at 609-799-5839.

You have more to give than you know

Many of you can’t make a gift to 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.

Suzanne Dragun is a former radio host on WTCI 1450 AM and a nurse.

One Pot Wonder

Organic whole wheat spiral pasta, one pound bag, cooked

Several dollops of Sabra hummus (you can use this creamy brand)

Grilled or steamed organic green peas, steamed

2-3 organic carrots, peeled & diced, steamed

Sweet Mosquito Seasoning (use the Kirkland brand from Costco, it comes in pouches)

Black pepper

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

Suzanne Dragun is a former radio host on WTCI 1450 AM and a nurse.

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

Chair’s Message

Stained Glass Windows

By Ken Johnson (kjohan@comcast.net)

Ken Johnston is a friend of the New Jersey Chapter and a friend of the envi-

ronment. But he is also a talented artist and craftsman who creates one-of-a-kind stained windows. Ken recently dedi-

cated 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 win-

dows are being auctioned off at a silent auction, with the final bids being accept-

ed 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 doing something to help support the work of the New Jersey Chapter. If you think you might be interested in purchasing a window, go to the website http://zougojWNPJeC 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.

sierrean.org, where you will find the current high bid for each of the windows. The 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, along with minimum bids and take-out-

bids:

Coconut Sunrise – Sold

The Donald – $50 ($200 take-out bid)

Another Hard Day At The Office – Sold

Western Sunset – $50 ($200 take-out bid)

Van Gogh Nite – Sold

Moonset Mourning – $75 ($300 take-out bid)

Ghost Ship – $75 ($300 take-out bid)

Good Morning Sunrise – $100 ($400 take-out bid)

Large Ghost Ship – $100 ($400 take-out bid)

Diamonds and Darts – Sold

The Green Goddess – $110 ($400 take-out bid)

Please send your bids to me at kjo-

han@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 purchas- ing. I will return your check if the win-

dow 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 con- tainers, 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 take-out bid 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

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 County College campuses, the Cooper River Boathouse in Pennsauken, two branches of the county library system in Winslow and Bellmarw) and the Camden County Technical School.

As part of Camden County’s commit- ment to a cleaner, greener environment for residents, county officials unveiled seven charging stations for electric cars. The sta-

tions are strategically located throughout the county. The best part is that they will be free to all users for the first year.

Using a $50,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, and another $50,000 of county funds, ECOality 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 Bellmarw) and the Camden County Technical School.

Sustainability

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

by Suzanne Dragun (aninhawtigl@optonline.net)

Necessity is often the Mother of Innovation, so when I recently had unexpected dinner guests, I concocted an original recipe that proved to be a hit with vegetarians and meat-eaters alike. It is an original recipe that proved to be a hit with vegetarians and meat-eaters alike. It is

Invention, so when I recently had some

expected dinner guests, I concocted an original recipe that proved to be a hit with vegetarians and meat-eaters alike. It is

Unexpected dinner guests, I concocted an original recipe that proved to be a hit with vegetarians and meat-eaters alike. It is

Necessity is often the Mother of Innovation, so when I recently had unexpected dinner guests, I concocted an original recipe that proved to be a hit with vegetarians and meat-eaters alike. It is
On June 18th, leaders of the movement to keep frack waste out of New Jersey signed a coalition statement that the payments from fracturing waste from Pennsylvania’s Marcellus Shale gas fields, received by municipalities, included containment pollutants including radioactive elements. (Hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, was working to save the Yosemite Valley in California. Together, they promoted the creation of the National Park Service.)

The Sierra Club has been working to save the Yosemite Valley for hikers, lovers, artists, photographers, and for the most densely populated places in the world. John Muir, the founder of the Sierra Club, was visible from New York City. Englewood Cliffs (Bergen County) - that one of our landmark open spaces, are included redesign of the building to rise as a dam will have to be built. The New Jersey Palisades, included their vision. At that time, Teddy Roosevelt govern- 

Sierra Club Joins Campaign to Save Palisades—Again!

The proposal undermines the need to ensure that 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 the Palisades except for public interest projects such as a dam. The bill was approved by the Senate Environment Committee on June 12, 2012. Under the bill, the Palisades Interstate Park Commission would set a new and other equipment is not designed to process them. (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 Payer Advocate that would reduce project costs. New net revenue would go into the BPU has stalled the project, claiming a $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 con- 

Your Email Address Up-To-Date?

Please VOTE! — THREE TIMES! (On Oct 14 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.)
Sierra Club Statement on the Passing of Toshi Seeger

By 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, 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 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 and our shared concern for wetland preservation are a shining example for our organization.

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

(May 30th) Today the Port Authority of NY and NJ announced it would spend $50 million to improve the shores and dunes that were washed away by Hurricane Sandy. The Port Authority has long known how vulnerable Hudson County and lower Manhattan are to coastal storms.

The Chapter has been calling for years to improve the Port Authority’s Sandy relief efforts. 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 Permits Waters at Risk

(July 2nd) The DEP has approved a proposal to take more water out of the Wanaque Reservoir (Passaic Co) each day. Last year the New 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 would impact drinking water quality for more than 2 million people in the northeast. 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.

The General 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.

All the science points to there being less water in our streams within the last 20-30 years already. The Ramapo River 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 rainfall recharge to groundwater and streams, and thus more surface flooding. Since our rivers receive nutrient pollution from fertilized farms, roads and roadways, the 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 alloc.html.

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. New Jersey’s Board of Public Utilities has not investigated and reported a value for the continued operation of BL England, 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 unclear as of this report.

There are several alternative routes that would bypass the Pinelands. A line across the north from Luzerne to the Atlantic City area has not been seriously studied. In the future, the Pinelands could be used to stretch the pipeline to the south, but it is not clear that the Pinelands is the best route. If the Pinelands are opened up, it will allow more natural gas to flow through the Pinelands, it is not clear that the Pinelands is the best route.

Several subcommittee meetings of the Pinelands Commission have heard public testimony on the proposal, including suggestions for alternate routes, and questions 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 unclear as of this report.

Several alternatives routes that would bypass the Pinelands. A line across the north from Luzerne to the Atlantic City area has not been seriously studied. In the future, the Pinelands could be used to stretch the pipeline to the south, but it is not clear that the Pinelands is the best route. If the Pinelands are opened up, it will allow more natural gas to flow through the Pinelands, it is not clear that the Pinelands is the best route.

(Groups are arranged in rough geographical sequence: North to South)

Skylands Group (Sussex & northern Warren Counties)

North Jersey Group (Bergen & Passaic Counties)

Gateway Group (Essex & Hudson Counties)

Loantaka Group (Morris & Union Counties)

Central Jersey Group (Monmouth & Ocean Counties)

Jersey Shore Group (Monmouth & Ocean Counties)

Western Jersey Group (Gloucester, Camden & Burlington)

Skylands Group (Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland & Salem Counties)

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 Email: skylands@gmail.com

OFFICERS (All are members of the Group Executive Committee.)
Chair: Susan Williams • 973-600-8086 skylands@gmail.com

New Jersey Sierra Club website to explore: www.sierraclubgreenhome.com.
GROUP NEWS

(Along with page 5)

Vice Chair & Political Chair: Edgar Shepherd shepherd_edgar@yahoo.com 
Treasurer: Jeri Doherty bpj42@nac.net 
Secretary: Norene Haberski bhabers@yahoo.com 
Conservation Chair: Great - Steve Scher chabubac@yahoo.com Political Chair: Edgar Shepherd shepherd_edgar@yahoo.com 
Outings Chair: Joyce White jow0020101yahoo.com 
Publicity Chair: Jeri Doherty bpj42@nac.net 
Membership Chair: Open Position! 
Programs/Events Chair: Open Position!

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. To preserve open space, main- tain water quality, promote clean energy, and address local environmental issues. We oppose new natural gas pipelines, hydro-fracking and the Susquehanna-Roseland high-er voltage power line, so as to preserve the natural resources and views in this envi- ronmentally sensitive region of New Jersey. We also sponsor hikes and other outings throughout the region.

GENERAL MEETINGS: SECOND TUESDAY of the month from 7:30-8 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 (Hunterson and southern Warren Counties)

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

OFFICERS:

Chair: Jonathan Wall jonathanwall2010@gmail.com 
Vice Chair: Celeste Martin cmacgonagle@yahoo.com 
Chair of Conservation Committee: Dinny MacGonagle* dwight@dlirving.com 
Publicity Chair: Susan Schirmer soupsys@att.net 
Membership Chair: Jim Fleming flemingj83@comcast.net 
Webmaster: 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.

Please feel free to hike and party or just join us for the party afterwards. Please con- tact Jonathan to register and let him know what you are bringing at psychologist@jon- wall.com.

EVENTS:

Oct 6 (Sun): Joseph B. Clarke Rail Trail Walk. Meet at 10am, Old Tree Road, Tappan, NJ. We offer an early fall hike 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 jkashwick@optonline.net. Limit: 12 participants.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING: Nov 6 (Wed) at 7:30 pm. (Date and time tenta- tive, 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 online 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 ernvinc 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: eblemenkrantz@hotmail.com to find out how.

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

North Jersey Group (Bergen and Passaic Counties)

WEBSITE: http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/north/ 
MEETUP: http://www.meetup.com/NJSierraClub/ 
WEBSITE: https://www.facebook.com/northjersey.sierraclub

Officers:

Chair: John Kashwick jkashwick@optonline.net 
Vice Chair: Mary Ellen Shaw meshaw.001@gmail.com 
Treasurer: Tami Thompson catttown79@gmail.com 
Secretary: Jennifer Rothschild jeninn02@gmail.com 
Conservation Chair: Mary Ellen Shaw meshaw.001@gmail.com 
Publicity Chairs: Beth Ratliff b.ratliff@yahoo.com; Jennifer Rothschild jeninn02@gmail.com 
Air Quality Issues: Laura Golf luigirlac@gmail.com 
Events Chair: Mary Walbu buddyjensen@gmail.com 
Membership Chair: Buddy Jensen buddyjensen@gmail.com 
Outings Chair: Ellen Blumenkrantz eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com 
Program Chair: Jessica Epstein etrans743@aol.com 
Publicity Chair: Marty Cohen marco@mcverton.net 
Trail Maintenance: Mary Cohen marco@mcverton.net 
Webmaster/Listmaster: John Kashwick jkashwick@optonline.net 
Wildlands Issues: Justine Jurick ljurick@yahoo.com 
Wildlife Issues: Mary Ellen Shaw meshaw.001@gmail.com 
Ex-Com Member-At-Large: Nancy Wysocki nape2@aol.com

"(Group Executive Committee Member)

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

GENERAL MEETINGS AND GROUP EVENTS:

(Genral meetings are free and open to public. For more information, direc- tions, or updates, please contact John at jkashwick@optonline.net, check 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. We offer an early fall hike 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 jkashwick@optonline.net. Limit: 12 participants.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING: Nov 6 (Wed) at 7:30 pm. (Date and time tenta- tive, 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 online 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 ernvinc 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: eblemenkrantz@hotmail.com to find out how.

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

Gateway Group

Serving Hillsdale, Elizabeth, Essex County (except for Livingston, Millburn and E

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 envi- ronment. There are several Gateway Group open positions.

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 Club/128956835412784/f?ref=ts

Officers: 
Chair: David Vennor davennor@optonline.net 
Vice-Chair: John Beadle jbeadle57@verizon.net

There’s a new bi-weekly Chapter Alert Service. Sign up at www.scnj.convio.net.
To find out our activities, go to: http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/

There will be no pressure.

If you might be interested in getting involved, come to one of our Executive Committee Meetings on the second Wednesday 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 Committee Meetings on the first Tuesday of the month and encompassing 130 square miles, the Rahway River watershed is one of the oldest

Open Position!

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.

OPEN POSTIONS:

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

At large:

Srabasti Dutta  631-902-9948 srabastidutta@gmail.com

Webmaster:

Air Quality Coordinator:

Membership:

Publicity Chair:

Fundraising Chair:

To one of our General Meetings on the second Wednesday of the month. There are no Committee Meetings on the first Tuesday of the month and get to know us. Or come to one of our Executive Committee Meetings on the second Wednesday of the month. There are no obligations and there will be no pressure.

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

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.

If you might be interested in getting involved, come to one of our Executive Committee Meetings on the first Tuesday of the month and get to know us. Or come to one of our General Meetings on the second Wednesday of the month. There are no obligations and there will be no pressure.

To find out our activities, go to: http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/loantaka/

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

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS are held on the FIRST TUESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at Library of the Chathams, 214 Main St, Chatham.

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

MEETING SCHEDULUE:

On 9/ Steeno 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. 

Next 13 Dr. Daniela Sbietz, 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.

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.sierragroup.org/loantaka/.

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

At large:

Srabasti Dutta 631-902-9948 srabastidutta@gmail.com

Webmaster:

Air Quality Coordinator:

Membership:

Publicity Chair:

Fundraising Chair:

To one of our General Meetings on the second Wednesday of the month. There are no Committee Meetings on the first Tuesday of the month and get to know us. Or come to one of our Executive Committee Meetings on the second Wednesday of the month. There are no obligations and there will be no pressure.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.
GROUP NEWS

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

Help Needed for Other Cleanups: If you would like to participate in cleanups of our other local waterways, please contact Laura Bagwell at LBagwe83@verizon.net. In this vital effort, our Green Groups work with the Monmouth County Sheriff’s Office, and since 2002, has removed more than 20 tons of debris from our local banks and streams.

GERALD 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 cover the costs. The buffet starts at 5:30 pm.

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 held on the first floor in Rooms 1 and 2. Parking is free, except in lot 7. As you walk towards the building complex, Warner will be down the slope on your left. Lot 7 is full, use parking lots 5 or 6. A campus map is at http://www.brokodale.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 may be on the brink of 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 estimate of 8 to 18 million undiscovered species of organisms living in and around coral reefs. The CCMI’s research projects for this important habitat include reef resiliency, overfishing, 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-fish, increased recreational use, bigger container ships, which need 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 MacDonald 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.

The Ocean Group’s Happenings:

Robert Anderson, advisor and coordinator of the Ocean Group, will report on the activities of the Ocean Group and will help us understand the importance of the ocean and its ecosystems.

The Ocean Group meets the first Monday of the month at Brookdale Community College Lincroft Campus, Room 1 in the Twin Lights Rooms I and II. The meeting is generally held at 6 pm.

We encourage our members to participate in all of the Ocean Group meetings and to help us understand the importance of the ocean and its ecosystems.

We are 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 Group 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.sierrclub.org/oc.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS: General Meetings are held bimonthly (i.e., in alternate months) on the FOURTH MONDAY at 7pm at the ‘Skywalk Cafe’ in the Ocean County Administration Building, 129 Hooper Avenue (2nd Floor). Town River Information on meetings in Jan-March will be posted on the website: www.newjersey.sierrclub.org/oc.

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

WEBSITE: http://mysite.verizon.net/veux1/ Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/WestJerseyGroupNJSC. Log on and like Us

OFFICERS:

Group Chair: Gina Carola 856-484-8851 ginaaceee@verizon.net

Vice-Chair: Frank Zinni ezfiniz@aol.com

Secretary: Ellen Zinni ezfiniz@aol.com

Treasurer: Trish Sabastiano parrt1201@gmail.com

Publicity Chair: Bad Kallos 856-428-8071 badkallos@verizon.net

Political Chair: Nancy Rose nancyr@cocomcast.net

Pinelands Rep: Lee Snyder pinesld1@hotmail.com

Greenwoods Coord: Frank and Ellen Zinni ezfiniz@aol.com

Conservation Chair: Aida Ayala thunderwolfgalxy@yahoo.com

Delegate at Large: Aida Ayala thunderwolfgalxy@yahoo.com

Membership Chair: Mike Brown 856-547-9221 eyebrowen@verizon.net

Fundraising Chair: Open position Call Gina to volunteer. 856-484-8851

Smart Growth Chair: Open position Call Gina to volunteer. 856-484-8851

Program Chair: Open position Call Gina to volunteer. 856-484-8851

Outings Chair: Open position Call Gina to volunteer. 856-484-8851

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, usually the Thursday at the Quaker Meeting House on Friend Ave in Haddonfield.

Directions: From I-295, take exit 43B onto Rte 70 West. Follow the signs for Rte 41 South. Cross Rte 29 in Kings Hwy (you will have to exit to the right into a jug handle and then turn left onto Kings Hwy and you will be at Rte 154 (Beaute Rd). Make the next right and then the next left onto Kings Hwy. About 1 mile, you will cross over Kings Rd (in front of Town River on the right corner). After crossing Grove Rd, go two more blocks and turn right on to Friend 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 ingenuity 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 of arrest transformed 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 2015 and plan for 2014.

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

OFFICERS:

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

Vice-Chair: Douglas Jewell 856-465-0775

Conservation Chair: Open Position! Dick Colby 609-965-4453 dick.colby@stockton.edu

Feld, Chair: Dicken Colby 609-965-4453 dick.colby@stockton.edu

Meeting Host: Mike Cooklin

Secretary/Treasurer: Julie Akers 856-432-5280 juleakers56@gmail.com

Michele Cooklin (forax317@gmail.com) is our new Membership Chair, and will be attempting to revitalize the Group.

The Cape May County Conservation Committee hosts bimonthly 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, nice fellow-members, and usually food!

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 (GHWA) that ‘spun off’ from the South Jersey Group. Very few of our local members seem interested in the meetings we once scheduled. For now, we’ll continue to be listed in this Newsletter, and offer a point of contact for Club members in South Jersey who want help with local issues. We strongly recommend GHWA’s website for keeping up with local issues, and for links to other local, regional, state and national environmental organizations: www.gwha.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 Greens are working to prevent the use of tropical rainforest wood for rebuilding oceanfront boardwalks, on City Island and Wildwood, are being led by Georgina Shanley [shanley2001@yahoo.com]. Club officers and staff have been following closely the studies seeking to determine sustainable water supply levels for the State of 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 (A590/S467).

Some Possibly Relevant Meetings of Allied Organizations:

Oct 2, Nov 6 and Dec 4 (first Wednesday), 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 (WFCN). Contact Julie Akers, 609-452-5280.

Oct 9 and Dec 11 (alternate second Wednesdays), 7pm: Bimonthly 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 609-774-5855 or lillian.armstrong@cumauriceriver.org. Website: www.cumauriceriver.org.

Nov 26 (alternate fourth Thursdays) Great Egg Harbor River Watershed Association: Monthly meeting at 7pm, open to the public, WFCN. Contact Lynn Maun, 856-453-0416 or email lynkunmann@cocomcast.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. WFCN. Contact Julie Akers, 609-452-5280.

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 577) opposite the Stockton College campus in Galloway Township. Atlantic Co. Contact Glenn Klotz: glennk1949@gmail.com.

Singles Section
(A chapter-wide, special interest section offering hikes/cleanup, social gatherings, meetups, etc.

Please join us! The NJ Singles Section was specifically created to offer a variety of single-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 us in to it!

WEBSITE: http://newjersey.sierrclub.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.sierrclub.org/archives/NJ-SINGLES-NEWS.html and clicking on ‘Join or leave the list’. You may subscribe and unsubscribe at any time by going on to the list’s web address directions on how to unsubscribe 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.sierrclub.org/archives/NJ-SINGLES-NEWS.html

You can now also “like” us on Facebook: “Singles Group New Jersey Sierra Club”

OFFICERS:

Chair: Joe Testa
testa@live.com

Conservation Chair: Joe Testa
testa@live.com

Social Chair: Joyce Haddad jkhaledd@uno.com

Volunteer Chair: Joyce White joyce.white.exc@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Joe Prebish JoePrebish@kraft.com

Singles Chair: Terry Kulmane terrylk1949@yahoo.com

Programs: Position Open! Contact Us! We need you!

Publicity: Jeff Sovelove Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com

Executive Committee: Joe Testa, Joyce Haddad, Ron Paté, Joe Prebish, Jeff Sovelove, Joe Testa, Joyce White

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 in joining any committee or 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.
GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 9)

SOCIAL DINNER: THIRD TUESDAY of each month at 7pm. Join us for dinner at a vari- ety of Member 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 (Huderton Co.) and New Brunswick. Join us for thought-provoking films and conversation over casual desserts. 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 list-serv. Incidents below are singles outings led by Jimi Oleksiak (Oct. 12, Nov. 9 and Dec. 14) and Jeff Sorelove (Oct. 19 and Nov. 16 - listed on web-calender only). Please join the list-serv to receive notification of all 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 includ- ing hikes, open socials, 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 Kaswicz at jkaswicz@optonline.net.

We work through a “List Serve,” by which members learn about current environmental issues, and how they can be supported. Afline Zatz is the editor of the Senior Section/Fifty-Plus Section. She can be reached at azatz@hunchro.com and invites members to check her web site at www.funtravels.com for tips and travel information.

Young Sierrans

(A special interest section for Sierra Club Members in their 20’s & 30’s, providing Socials and Outings to inspire a sense of community, appreciation for the envi- ronment, and involvement in preserving our future. Many events are open to all Young Sierrans regardless of marital status, so whether you are single, dating or married, please come join us!) Young Sierrans

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

YOUNG SIERRANS COMMITTEE POSITIONS

Head Chair & Coordinator: William Sevchuk wsevchuk@yahoo.com

Vice Chair: Please Contact Us

Moderator: Denise Eichholz MistyAngel22@aol.com

Conservation Chair: Steve Timmerman sklinglest@aol.com

Webmaster: Julie Garber journey7@optonline.net

YS National Rep, (CA) Jackie Enfield jackie@jackieenfield.com

Northern Jersey YS Rep. Jim DeSantis green@northjerseygreendrinks.com

Outings Chair: (Northern Jersey) Jackie Enfield jackie@jackieenfield.com

Outings Chair: (Central Jersey) Leon Yereben byeeren@gmail.com

Outings Chair: (South Jersey) Please Contact Us

Inner City Outings Section

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

OFFICERS:

Chair: Marty Cohen 201-670-8583 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 contest- ing 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 encour- aged and you are requested to contact Marty at the above e-mail address. For our cur- rent 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)

You’re looking through a cata- logue of early industrial channels. You see large, old lock-gates, arched aquaducts, 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 heard that some people 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-walk- ers and a class of elderly hikers (in Britain: ramblers!) that happens to include me.

History and science buffs may be inter- ested to learn that Britain pioneered canal building – the early and 1700s as a means of distributing fragile 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 (1769-1859) were impressed by the stra- tigraphy of the rock-cuttings to notice fossilized organisms and to begin the study of paleontology that gave rise to modern evolutionary theory. I’ve privileged to have been able to spend three or more months in Britain, since most years since the late 1960s, teaching science, leading student trips, and work- ing 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 intercon- nect 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 lunch- es, and the routes often come close enough to the centers of villages for a short detour to offer the colored splen- dor of medieval stained glass, and other majesty associated with old churches.

Treasurer: Please Contact Us

A bit of preparation is needed for close encounters with sheep, cows and horses, and the con- quant 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!) I was privileged to admire the early canal technology of hand-oper- ated 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. There was plenty of time for the placid peace of the countryside, the full- scale vistas, the quiet, the colors and con- toures of the land, neatly partitioned by hedgerows, the one-on-one interface with nature that begins to shift 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 opened at Farmoor, near Oxford.

Sierra Student Coalition

(a semi-autonomous organization of college and high-school students)

National Website: http://www.ssc.org/
GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS
Central Jersey: Joanne Panone
joannezma@gmail.com

Gateway: David Oglesby 973-226-0748 (H)
6 Elm Rd, Caldwell 07006

Hudson County:

South Hampshire: Susan Schman 908-996-7772 (H)

Jersey Shore: Mike Veraguth 908-733-8964 (H)
304 N. 30th St, Ocean City NJ

Loantaka: Joy Wight 908-427-4479 (H)

North Jersey: Ellen Blumenkrantz 201-784-8714
elllen.b@mac.com

Skylands: Paul Morgen
pmorgen@paul.com

North Jersey: Ellen Blumenkrantz 201-784-8714
elllen.b@mac.com

Loantaka: Joy Wight 908-427-4479 (H)

outings if the event description specifically includes
14 years of age will be spectacular as we bike the Ken Lockwood Gorge from High Bridge to Califon. Meet at High Bridge Municipal Park, High Bridge, NJ 08846. Call or text leader: 908-898-1133. (JS)

NOVEMBER

Outings: Please send January-March 2014 schedule by February 15. Fewer outings are scheduled in January
in the northern fringes of the Pine Barrens. Bring drink and snack. Hiking shoes preferred. Meet at
3.5-4 hours in hilly terrain. The trip is recommended for kayakers. Trip is open to current Sierra Club members only. Contact leaders for details.

Oct 16 (Fri): Basket Weaving at Califon Nature Center 311 Windeler Rd, Howell, NJ 07731. Bring lunch and water. Leashed dogs are welcome. Leaders: Ellen Blumenkrantz & Ellen Serdiuk. For email contact: pis9@yahoo.com or 609-462-3593, evenings only.

Oct 5 (Fri): Picnic at Ninigret Pond (Ocean Co). Call or text leader: 908-422-5358. (G)

Oct 3 (Fri): Canoe/Kayak Trip on the Pommelet (Ocean Co). Meet at the confluence of Bitt’s Mill Rd & Old Cart Road. Contact: Tom Monks, 908-782-3758 or tommonks@worti51.com. Limit 15 participants.

Oct 3 (Fri): Canoe/Kayak the Great Egg Harbor River (Atlantic Co). Hike & paddle 7 miles from Weymouth Furnace to Lake Lenape. Early breakfast at the Harley Dawn Diner, Rte 322/Black Horse Pike, Blackwood, NJ. Bring your own lunch. Meet at Lake Lenape. Contact leaders for trip info and location. (W)

Oct 2 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak On-water Cleanup on the Crosswicks Creek (Burlington Co). 11am. Support the Crosswicks Creek Environmental Association. Meet at the confluence of Crosswicks Creek & Raccoon Road, Crosswicks, NJ 08029. Call or text leader: Mike Verange, 908-902-0718 or mjverange@aol.com. (JS)


Oct 20 (Sat): Sukkah Hike (Atlantic Co). Meet at 9am at the McDonald Nature Preserve, 1122 Beach Ave, Somers Point, NJ 08244. Leashed dogs are welcome. Contact leaders: Arlene & Joel Altmann 732-295-1437 or pianokeys@optonline.net (W)

Oct 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 Duke Farms offices, 197 Prospect Rd, Succasunna, NJ 07876. Call or text leaders: Parks & Recreation Manager, 908-780-4100. Lunch is held at the Historic Farmhands Barn. Bring your own lunch and water. Bike: Helmets are not necessary to contact the leader before the trip. Unless registration is required, such as for weekend trips or camping trips, you don’t have to contact the leader before the trip. However, as outfits are planned neatly months in advance, leaders may ask you to confirm your participation on the day of the outing. For your cooperation will help assure a safe and pleasant outing.

Please arrive early at the meeting place so that the outing can start on time. Outings usually start with a brief safety talk. Wear comfortable shoes and clothing. Bring drink and snack. Pack your own lunch. Day hikers are not permitted and must be carried in a small daypack. If you have any allergies, please remember to bring your medication. The leader has the last word in the conduct of the trip. Your cooperation will help assure a safe and pleasant outing.

Please arrive early at the meeting place so that the outing can start on time. Outings usually start with a brief safety talk. Wear comfortable shoes and clothing. Bring drink and snack. Pack your own lunch. Day hikers are not permitted and must be carried in a small daypack. If you have any allergies, please remember to bring your medication. The leader has the last word in the conduct of the trip. Your cooperation will help assure a safe and pleasant outing.

Please arrive early at the meeting place so that the outing can start on time. Outings usually start with a brief safety talk. Wear comfortable shoes and clothing. Bring drink and snack. Pack your own lunch. Day hikers are not permitted and must be carried in a small daypack. If you have any allergies, please remember to bring your medication. The leader has the last word in the conduct of the trip. Your cooperation will help assure a safe and pleasant outing.

Please arrive early at the meeting place so that the outing can start on time. Outings usually start with a brief safety talk. Wear comfortable shoes and clothing. Bring drink and snack. Pack your own lunch. Day hikers are not permitted and must be carried in a small daypack. If you have any allergies, please remember to bring your medication. The leader has the last word in the conduct of the trip. Your cooperation will help assure a safe and pleasant outing.

There’s a new interactive CALENDAR for outings and Group events - on our website: www.newjersey.sierraclub.org. Click “Events and Outings”
OUSTINGS
(Continued from Page 17)

Dec 8 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Oswego River (Burlington Co.). 10am. Meet at Lake Oswego for an 8-mile paddle on the Oswego River.

Dec 9 (Mon): Blue Heron Community Center (Burlington Co.). 7:30pm. Open meeting of the Blue Heron Community Center.

Dec 11 (Wed): Paddling along the Passaic River (Passaic Co.). 7pm. Meet at 1015 S Park Av, Highland Park NJ 08904-2954. Contact: Lee Snyder (see above) for more information on meeting place and location.

Dec 12 (Thu): Winter Solstice Hike and Campfire (Burlington Co.). 7pm. Meet at 43 Carlson Court, Closter NJ 07624. Contact: Marty Cohen (201-670-8383) or martinecohen@verizon.net for more information on meeting place and location.

Dec 15 (Sun): North Jersey Audubon Society (Passaic Co.). 10am. Meet at Mattison Bridge, Passaic River. Contact: Frank S. Roach, Treasurer (973) 737-1342 or slanset@hotmail.com for more information on meeting place and location.

Dec 18 (Wed): A New Year’s Eve Hike and Campfire (Burlington Co.). 7pm. Meet at 54 Sycamore St, Burlington NJ 08016. Contact: Rich Isaac (973) 746-9870 or slanset@hotmail.com for more information on meeting place and location.

Dec 22 (Sun): A New Year’s Eve Hike and Campfire (Burlington Co.). 7pm. Meet at 54 Sycamore St, Burlington NJ 08016. Contact: Rich Isaac (973) 746-9870 or slanset@hotmail.com for more information on meeting place and location.

Dec 29 (Sun): A New Year’s Eve Hike and Campfire (Burlington Co.). 7pm. Meet at 54 Sycamore St, Burlington NJ 08016. Contact: Rich Isaac (973) 746-9870 or slanset@hotmail.com for more information on meeting place and location.

Jan 1 (Wed): New Year’s Day Paddle on the Pinelands (Burlington Co.). 10am. Meet at Lake Oswego for a 6-mile paddle. Contact: Lee Snyder (see above) for more information on meeting place and location.

Jan 2 (Thu): Pinelands Paddling Treks (Burlington Co.). 7pm. Meet at 54 Sycamore St, Burlington NJ 08016. Contact: Rich Isaac (973) 746-9870 or slanset@hotmail.com for more information on meeting place and location.

Jan 2 (Thu): Pinelands Paddling Treks (Burlington Co.). 7pm. Meet at 54 Sycamore St, Burlington NJ 08016. Contact: Rich Isaac (973) 746-9870 or slanset@hotmail.com for more information on meeting place and location.

Jan 4 (Sat): Sherman Hoffmann Preserve Hike (Somerset Co.). 10am. Meet at 1015 S Park Av, Highland Park NJ 08904-2954. Contact: Lee Snyder (see above) for more information on meeting place and location.

New Jersey Chapter Leadership

Issue Coordinators
Alaska Issues
Jonathan Wall (908) 295-1890
psychologist@sierraln.com

Clean Air Issues
Bob Campbell (973) 761-4461
bcpblanc@gmail.com

Community Solar
Dick Colby (see left column)

Cool Cities
Fall Telebeatum (732) 513-5445
teddyds@verizon.net

Delaware River Issues
Gina Carola (see left column)

Genetically Modified Organisms
Barbara Conover 201-452-9389
Bconover202@gmail.com

Global Warming
Sunil Somalwar (see left column)

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

Marine Issues
Greg Aurinema (see left column)

Natural Gas and Fracking Issues
Terry Simble (763) 731-7016
terystimb@hotmail.com

Pinelands Issues
Lee Snyder (see left column)

Transportation Issues
Bill Martin (908) 604-2505
wpmartin@yahoo.com

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

Chapter Office 609-656-7612
145 West Hanover St, Trenton NJ 08618
Fax: 609-656-7618

Chapter Director: Jeff Titte
Jeff.Titte@sierraclub.org

Outreach Coordinator: Nicole Dalla
Nicole.Dalla@sierraclub.org

Conservation Program Coordinator: Kate Milaps
Kate.Milaps@sierraclub.org

Organizing Representative, Beyond Coal Campaign
Christina Guhl (201) 660-8820
Christina.Guhl@sierraclub.org

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

MEMBERSHIP COUPON

Name

Address

City

State

ZIP

Member since:

Membership expires:

Printed on Recycled Paper

The Jersey Sierran: October–December 2013

The Chapter website, www.newjersey.sierraclub.org, has been upgraded to provide much improved website services.