

# The Jersey... SIERRAN

Vol. 44, No. 2      Roughly 16,000 Members in New Jersey      April-June 2015

## Welcoming our new Staff Member: Toni Granato

... with an interview:

### 1. What's your environmental background?

Growing up in Toms River (Ocean Co), I naturally learned about its water quality issues and the childhood cancer cluster associated with Ciba-Geigy's nearby factory site. The Superfund designations didn't scare me, but I was motivated to prevent future such disasters. In college (Coastal Carolina Univ.) I helped organize a sustainability program. On Earth Day 2010, we convinced the college president to commit to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. That was a big highlight for me and I started writing on environmental issues in local papers. As an English major I enjoyed writing, but wanted a more comprehensive background to address sustainability and climate change. So I signed up for a two-year Master's program in global sustainability at the Univ. of South Florida, which proved to be one of the best decisions of my life.

### 2. What environmental issues concern you most?

Any issue that involves public health concerns me. I think the biggest injustice that we as a society can inflict on one another is air, land and waterway pollution. Deforestation and land use are also important issues to me because I spent time during my graduate work investigating water quality in Costa Rica and oil development in the Amazon Rainforest. I am also passionate about keeping our "oil in the soil" because of the impacts extraction can have on communities and ecosystems, at home and abroad. Closer to home, severe storms and sea level rise show our urgent need to divest completely from fossil fuels and find a new model



of development.

### 3. Why the New Jersey Sierra Club? Describe your job with us.

In graduate school I studied the Club's Beyond Coal campaign and was invited to improve its online engagement. Last Summer Christine Guhl Sadovy, a Club organizing representative, found me online and recruited me to help with the People's Climate March last Sept 21 in New York City. I recruited participants and organized their transportation from Pt. Pleasant Beach. So now I'm the Chapter's new "Administrative Assistant." My work consists of supporting our regional Groups, and media and legislative outreach: to protect our precious land, waterways, and air.

### 4. Might you have a personal success story to tell?

This might sound cliché, but I think every project I work on is a success story. Everything we do makes an impact. For example, I recently attended an EPA Superfund meeting updating the residents of Toms River on a chemical study. After the three hour presentation, I asked the EPA representative about future site remediation plans, and about whether the contamination has been spreading, things not previously considered by the audience. This showed that without my contribution the discussion may not have had the same focus.

## Report from Trenton

# Open Space Bill Would Hurt Urban Areas and Parks, and Log Our Forests

Adapted from a Press Release issued on Feb 11, with help from Bob Moss and Joe Testa

In November voters approved a ballot referendum which amended New Jersey's Constitution to dedicate 6% of the Corporation Business Tax to "preserve and steward open space, farmland, historic sites, and flood-prone areas," and "also to improve water quality, remove and clean up underground tanks, and clean up polluted sites". Since then, the environmental community has eagerly awaited the details of how this new money would be allocated and applied for.

One important issue is how much of the money will purchase additional open space, *versus* how much will be used for "stewardship" (i.e. management of open space that had previously been acquired). Another important issue is how priorities will be distributed to urban *vs.* rural purchases; preserving farmland; historic preservation; the "Blue Acres" program for buying out flood-prone properties; preserving wilderness; and adding ball-fields for active recreation.

A Senate bill has been introduced, which sets these priorities as follows:

State acquisition (Green Acres)	\$10 million
Capital repair/improvement	7
Stewardship	8
Local (acquisition?)	17.25
Non-profit (acquisition?)	3.25
Blue Acres	3
Farmland acquisition/development	20.5
Historic Preservation:	2.25
<b>Total (with rounding)</b>	<b>\$71 million</b>

The Sierra Club's primary concern is with preserving wilderness, in urban as well as rural parcels. We oppose this bill because of its emphasis on so-called "stewardship", which is often a code word used to justify the logging of public lands such as our state forests.

This bill includes money for stewardship carried out by nonprofit organizations. This would, for the first time, give salaries to nonprofit organizations that provide "stewardship" without adequate oversight or accountability.

There are also funds for the state Fish and Wildlife and Parks agencies themselves to do stewardship, but the nature of these stewardship activities is not defined. We would be very concerned if open space money were to be used for clear cutting forests in the Pinelands to create deer and grouse habitat!

The Senate bill would cut money for park capital repair and improvement, take money away from urban areas, and give less money than ever before for acquisition. It would open up environmentally sensitive lands to logging and cut DEP staffing.

The bill does not include a specific amount for urban areas. Much of the money going into open space funding would come from legacy (cancelled) programs such as brownfield clean ups, site remediation, and parks, all which benefited urban areas. We believe we should shift more money to benefit those communities. There is a bigger need now for urban parks and playgrounds because these are the fastest growing areas in New Jersey today. As we rebuild and develop our cities we have to ensure there is an adequate amount of recreation and open space for the people moving in.

The bill would also cut the percentage of money going to the Green Acres local match program, which encourages counties and towns to preserve more open space. There should be an emphasis on distressed communities. There is a \$500 million backlog of applications for local acquisitions.

## Report from Trenton

# Legislative Attack on Environmental Regulations

From a Press Release issued on Jan 12th

A bill is advancing through the State Assembly that would "require State agencies to periodically review administrative rules and regulations to ensure continued efficacy." A3804 (Casagrande, Laguna, Gusciora, Weber, Singleton) would require state agencies to "test" every rule before it is readopted to see if its benefits outweigh its costs and whether there is an alternative.

Sounds reasonable and innocuous! But this bill is an attack on the environment, and public health and safety. That's because it defines costs and benefits only in the dollars that apply to corporations that enter into contracts with the state. For example: a rule that requires removal of toxic chemicals from drinking water can be evaluated in terms of the cost to the company or ratepayers for additional treatment. But it cannot consider the cost savings for all the kids that do not get sick or adults who do not get cancer from drinking untreated water.

This bill fails to consider environmental benefits like endangered species, contiguous forest, or stream buffers that prevent flooding. Regulations on clean air may not be considered in terms of health saving from reduced treatments of childhood asthma attacks. The costs and benefits of airbags in cars would not include the savings in medical expenses, much less the economic and anguish costs to a person who has been injured - only the costs and benefits to the auto-manufacturers. The purpose of this bill is to roll back environmental protections. It comes from the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) which is funded by the Koch Brothers and big polluters. It would benefit polluters at a cost to the public.

## Attorneys Wanted!

Our New Jersey Chapter now has volunteer opportunities available for attorneys with experience in environmental or land use law. If you are interested in one or both of the following opportunities, please contact Richard Isaac at 973-716-0297 or via email: [risaacx@aol.com](mailto:risaacx@aol.com).

\* Work *pro bono* as lead counsel or as part of a team on one or more environmental or land use cases, including cases opposing diversions of previously protected lands;

\* Serve with others on the Chapter Legislative Committee helping to review and take positions on state-level environmental and land use legislation.

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## Report from a Member

## Tree Planters Wanted!

By Frank Zinni, Vice Chair West Jersey Group and Greenways liaison.

Do you really want to help the environment? Well then, plant some trees!!! Join the West Jersey Group in its ongoing support of the New Jersey Tree Foundation (NJTF), a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to planting trees in New Jersey's most urban communities.

The West Jersey Group volunteers have helped in over 15 plantings in Camden NJ over the last 5 years. Jessica Franzini (pictured), the dynamic, energetic Camden Program Director has spoken at several of our monthly meetings about the Urban Airshed program, giving progress reports on ongoing programs as well as plans for innovative new projects. The West Jersey Group also grants financial support to the NJTF which we hope other groups in the state will do as the foundation programs are state wide. Perhaps you would like to help out in Newark, Jersey City or some other town struggling to make their poorest neighborhoods more clean, attractive and livable.

In the city of Camden, the Urban Airshed Reforestation Program (UARP), a community-based street tree planting program that began in Camden in 2002, has removed approximately 83,000 square feet of impervious surface to plant 5,400 trees along Camden streets. The result is improved air quality, storm water management and shade. Prioritizing grassroots work, the UARP empowers residents to create positive changes in their own communities.



To learn how to volunteer, contribute, have an NJTF speaker at your general meeting or help in any other way with NJTF Urban Airshed Reforestation projects, contact Jessica at (856) 287-4488 jfranzini.njtf@gmail.com or NJTF State Director Lisa Simms at (609) 439-1754 njtf1@juno.com. Visit their website at <http://njtreefoundation.org/> to see all the wonderful things they are doing.

## Conservation Report

## Do It for the Tortoise

By Greg Gorman, Chapter Conservation Chair (ggorman07419@embarqmail.com)

On the Island of Santa Cruz, in the Galapagos Islands of Ecuador, a small restaurant is separated from the Galapagos National Park by a long white fence. The restaurant relies on the pristine park to attract trail hikers and bikers searching for the giant tortoises that roam the forest.

Tourists sit at a circular counter under a thatched roof-structure, eating seasonal food products gathered or raised nearby. Across the way is a stucco building housing the gift shop, where the merchandise features locally hand-crafted carvings and paintings. Corner shelves are stacked with field guides, histories, and picture books. The few electric lights are powered by a batteries connected to solar panels outside. Inside and outside walls are decorated with a collage of indigenous birds and beasts. A small room with a projector screen features short videos on the geology of the islands and on their natural and cultural wonders.

Strict rules protect the tortoises and their habitat, such as a requirement for people to stay at least six feet away from animals at all times. Maximum use is made of renewable resources, to create opportunities for educational, artistic, and spiritual growth. Living on nature's income rather than its capital has produced a "Sustainable Community."

On days of inclement weather, tourists seeking the elusive Tortuga do not come, and the community suffers. The residents

could choose to break the law by selling baby turtles on the black market, like the poachers of tigers, rhinos, and elephants on other continents. But they don't. Instead, the lower slat of the white fence was removed to allow the tortoises access to a water garden with shallow ponds surrounded by native edible plants. Tourists now come even when hiking and biking is not the greatest - knowing the tortoises will always be there. Working to integrate with the natural habitat; i.e., improving the economy without diminishing the ecology of the region, is Sustainable Economic Development.

In New Jersey, economic development solutions typically rely on "consumption" principles: build or extract more to satisfy insatiable demands. This is not intrinsically bad, but the combination of population growth and resource depletion make this approach increasingly problematic. Mankind consumed the giant land tortoises that once inhabited all continents except Australia and Antarctica, but are now only found in the Galapagos and Madagascar.

Eventually, we may do the same with fossil fuels, rainforests, and oceans, unless we incorporate sustainability principles of reuse, recycle, and rejuvenation. If you don't want to keep the planet loveable for me, or for yourself, do it for the Galapagos Tortoise!



## Population Issues Coordinator's Report

## USAID: 50 Years of Helping Families and the Environment

By Bonnie Tillery (blt44blt@msn.com)

Fifty years ago President Lyndon Johnson authorized formation of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Since then, it has been "the lead U.S. Government agency that works to end extreme global poverty and enable resilient, democratic societies to realize their potential."\*

USAID works on issues as diverse as the environment and global climate disruption; agriculture and food security; human rights; good governance; economic trade and growth; education; gender equality; health; water and sanitation; sustaining resources such as forests, grasslands, coral reefs and other ecosystems; and ending extreme poverty. They work in areas of crisis and conflict where people and the environment are most vulnerable. All of this diverse work reminds us of what John Muir said, "When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe."

On its 50th anniversary, USAID can take credit for helping to improve the lives of millions of people around the world. This is especially true of their work at the intersection of population, health, and the environment. Traveling to Madagascar and Ecuador with a senior advisor for USAID, I saw firsthand the important work they accomplish through the support of local organizations that help communities thrive.

Specifically, USAID has seen modern contraceptive use grow in the areas where they work from 10 percent in 1965 to 46 percent today. Given cultural barriers that often deter the use of family planning or family spacing methods in many countries, this is an impressive increase. However, funding limitations and political interference in this country play a role in denying more than 225 million women around the world access to voluntary reproductive health care.

More than 287,000 maternal deaths occur every year which could be cut by 30 percent through family planning, allowing women to space their pregnancies for their own health and that of their children. The lives of 1.6 million children under five could be saved every year if births were spaced at three year intervals. "Since the launch of USAID's family planning program in 1965, families are better able to feed, clothe, educate and provide health care for their children."\*

It is important that we let our representatives in Washington DC know that investments in voluntary family planning through USAID (and through the United Nations Population Fund which does equally important work in countries not covered by USAID) are crucial to the health of families and the environment.

\* Source: <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do>

## Island Hopping in Channel Islands National Park

Mar. 28-30; Apr. 5-7; May 3-5  
June 14-16 – A Birds Lovers Special!  
July 19-21; Aug. 23-25; Sept. 27-29; Oct. 25-27

Join us for a three-day, three-island, live-aboard tour of the enchanting Channel Islands! Hike wild, windswept trails bordered with blazing wildflowers. Kayak rugged coastlines. Marvel at pristine waters teeming with frolicking seals and sea lions. Train your binoculars on unusual sea and land birds--and an occasional whale. Watch for the highly endangered island fox. Look for reminders of the Chumash people who lived on these islands for thousands of years. Or, just relax at sea. All cruises depart from Santa Barbara, California. The cost, \$615, includes an assigned bunk, all meals, snacks, and beverages plus the services of a ranger/naturalist who will travel with us to help lead hikes, point out items of interest and give evening programs.

To reserve space, send a \$100 check, written to Sierra Club, to leader Joan Jones Holtz, 11826 The Wye St., El Monte, CA 91732. For more information contact leader; 626-443-0706; jholtzhln@aol.com

## Thank You for Your Support!

Supplied by Ken Johanson, Chapter Chair, and George Denzer, Chapter Treasurer

The New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club wishes to thank all those who provided the Chapter with financial support during 2014. As in prior years, our members and supporters were there when we needed them the most. If you are one of those who were able to help us out this past year, we offer you our most sincere thanks. Listed below are the names of those who contributed \$100 or more during 2014. But please be assured that all contributions are very much appreciated, regardless of the amount.

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(\$1000 and above)

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



## Editorial

# New Jersey's Gerrymandered Legislative Districts

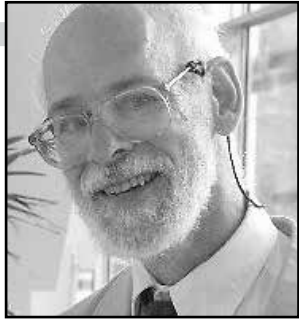


photo: James Mendelsohn

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

Our Chapter's Political Committee is currently evaluating the voting records of the members of our State Assembly, and preparing to endorse the best of them for re-election in November. I took on the job of preparing an environmental voting chart. But in examining the recent tallies of votes in each District, it became obvious that the vast majority of them have been drawn to be either strongly Democratic or strongly Republican. I.e. there is little chance that an endorsement could make a difference in the outcome of the election.

After each decennial census, the Legislature redistricts itself to equalize the number of voters in each of our 40 Districts. But it also reassigns the District boundaries to benefit incumbents, a process known as gerrymandering. Currently, 22 of our 40 Districts are certain to go to Democrats, 15 will go to Republicans, and only 3 can be said to be "competitive": the 1st (Cape May and Cumberland Cos), the 2nd (most of Atlantic Co) and the 38th (mostly part of Bergen Co).

It's easy to understand why a politician would want to stay in office: political power can't be matched for ego enhancement. But our Founding Fathers wrote our state (and national) constitutions before they could learn from Lord Acton's (1834-1902) dictum: "power corrupts." If only they had been forewarned!

By googling "redistricting," I learned that gerrymandering is perfectly legal, based on a Pennsylvania challenge that led to a US Supreme Court ruling in 2009, although there is a currently pending Alabama case testing the use of racial criteria.

New Jersey is one of seven states that assign legislative redistricting to an "independent" commission, but is isn't really independent: it consists of five Republican legislators and five Democrats, and in recent decades has been unable to decide between two competing redistricting maps, one favoring each party. The deadlock was broken each time by an 11th member appointed by the Chief Justice of the NJ Supreme

Court, a distinguished Rutgers professor of public policy named Alan Rosenthal, who picked one of the two maps. That resulted in the following "Gerrymander Index":

Gerrymander Index for New Jersey				
Year	2014	2004	1994	1984
#D/#R in NJ Assembly	49/31	47/33	27/53	44/36
%D	61	59	34	55
VoteD/VoteR (M)	1.795/1.909	1.333/1.388	1.912/2.355	1.623/1.548
%VoteD	48	49	45	51
Fair#D/Fair#R	38/42	39/41	36/44	41/39
Excess (Gerrymander Index)	11 Dem	8 Dem	9 Rep	3 Dem

(Most data from NJ Legislative Index)

It sums the Democratic and Republican Party votes in all 40 Districts, and compares that distribution with the resulting Party distribution of legislators, after each of the most recent four redistricting maps: those of 1981, 1991, 2002 and 2011. Alan Rosenthal's most recent choice was of the Democratic Party's map, which resulted in the election of 11 more Democrats to the Assembly than would be expected based on the statewide distribution of Party votes. (There were actually more votes for Republican Assemblypersons last round than for Democrats, yet the Assembly has a considerable Democratic majority of members!) You can see that gerrymandering has gotten worse in the last 40 years.

Can anything be done? New Jersey's Constitution specifies only population as requiring equalization through redistricting. Other considerations might include spatial continuity, municipal cohesion, critical mass for minorities, and faithfulness to party voting (statewide). Only a Constitutional Amendment could change the criteria!

A European perspective (that I get from my friends there) is that the important choice in an election should not be the personality of the candidate, but rather the ideology of the political party. (E.g. in Britain one votes Labour or Tory or LibDem or UKIP.) In some countries, the elected candidates are then taken from the top down on a list, in proportion to a party's vote.

Winston Churchill once reminded us that we have the worst political system imaginable - except for all the other systems. But how little of a democracy we have!

## Chair's Message

# What Were They Thinking?



By Ken Johanson (kjohan@comcast.net)

In recent months President Obama has taken some bold steps to address climate change and other environmental issues, despite unrelenting opposition from Republicans. But just when I thought he had finally seen the light and recognized that he can't count on help from the Republican Party in pursuing the goals of his administration, he does something that leaves me scratching my head.

This past fall was one of those head-scratching moments. One year earlier the Republican leadership, yielding to pressure from its tea party crazies, threatened to shut down the government if the President did not agree to emasculate the Affordable Care Act. The administration refused and the government was shut down. The entire episode was a disaster for the Republican Party. Not only did Republicans fail to achieve any of their objectives, they also incurred the rancor of Americans throughout the country who overwhelmingly blamed the Republicans for the shutdown.

Fast forward to 2014. It's no secret that House Speaker Boehner opposed a shutdown or that Republicans would be blamed, just as they were one year earlier, if there was one. A spending agreement, on the other hand, would represent a victory for Republican Party leadership and, according to The New York Times, "would put [the Speaker's] new House on a potential path to enacting the kinds of big legislation—on budgetary issues, tax reform and energy—that he envisions."

The Obama administration and Democratic members of Congress appeared to be in the driver's seat. It was in their best interests, as well as the best interests of the country as a whole, to take a strong stand and not give into Republican extortion attempts. So what did they do? They threw in the towel and gave the Republicans pretty much everything they asked for.

Let's start with the two provisions in the budget bill that have received the most attention from the media, a provision that further rolls back campaign finance reform (as if the Supreme Court needed any help from Congress or the executive branch) and a second provision that weakens hard-fought financial industry reforms. While neither provision by its terms mentions the environment, we have learned from experience that the environment is likely to suffer as big money continues to expand its role in politics and as Wall Street continues to extend its control over our economy.

But the budget bill also contains a slew of provisions that do direct and irreparable harm to so many important environmental programs. Let's start with mountaintop removal, a process whereby forested areas in Appalachia are clear-cut and converted into vast open pit mines so that underlying coal deposits can be accessed and removed. Vast amounts of soil and rock need to be removed in order to gain access to the coal. So what happens with all this debris, as well as the toxic waste generated in mining the coal? It's dumped into surrounding streams. The entire ecosystem is destroyed - forested areas, streams and habitats for countless species.

The Sierra Club, including many committed activists from the New Jersey Chapter, has long been fighting mountaintop removal and the devastation it has produced, including efforts to undo the Bush-era rule that permits the dumping of toxic coal waste into Appalachian streams. But now, thanks to the budget

bill, a procedure that was permitted by rulemaking is now authorized by statute. This will make it so much harder to take on the mountaintop mining industry and end this environmentally destructive practice.

And then there's the sage grouse. The budget bill prohibits the Fish and Wildlife Service from adding two species of sage grouse to the endangered species list. If the two species were to be designated endangered species, which they should be under the Endangered Species Act, habitat upon which they depend for their very survival would be off limits to the oil and gas industry. It doesn't matter that the industry already has ready access to vast areas of public lands. They want more. And they are not about to let the sage grouse, or any other species for that matter, stand in their way.

The list of anti-environmental provisions enshrined into law by means of the budget bill goes on and on. Here are a few highlights (or should I call them lowlights?): A reduction of \$60 million in the EPA budget, the lowest budget the EPA has had to work with since 1989; a prohibition of funding for the Green Climate Fund, an international fund to help developing countries deal with the economic impacts of climate change; a relaxation of restrictions on US funding for overseas coal-fired power plants; prohibiting funds for regulating lead for hunting and fishing purposes; prohibiting spending for light bulb efficiency; and prohibiting the EPA from requiring farmers to report on greenhouse gas emissions from manure management systems and from requiring ranchers to obtain permits for methane emissions produced by bovine flatulence and belching. The EPA has identified the agriculture sector as the primary source of methane emissions worldwide. And clearly we're a large part of the problem.

Had enough? If not, here are a few more examples of anti-environmental provisions enshrined into law via the budget bill: The cancellation of most current light-rail projects of the Department of Transportation; the relaxation of regulations on the trucking industry, including truck weight limits and the transportation of hazardous materials; requiring the Department of Agriculture to speed up permits for companies to develop genetically modified organisms; requiring the EPA to withdraw a new rule defining how the Clean Water Act applies to certain agricultural conservation practices; preventing the Army Corps of Engineers from regulating farm ponds and irrigation ditches under the Clean Water Act; and the gutting of Michelle Obama's program to require healthier school lunches.

Still haven't had enough? Well I have. Check out the bill, all 1603 pages of it, if you are up for more. But I do not recommend this exercise for the faint of heart.

So what were they thinking? I think I can answer this question for the Republicans who voted for the budget bill. The bill advances their stated goals of dismantling government and sabotaging efforts to address environmental issues, including climate change. But what about the Democrats who voted for the bill, including Donald Norcross from New Jersey, and President Obama who signed the bill into law? I haven't a clue. But one conclusion appears inescapable - they were willing to sell out the environment in order to advance other objectives. Just what those other objectives are remain a mystery.

## Resolutions Passed by the Chapter Executive Committee (ExCom) in January and February, 2015

In our annual reorganization, Ken Johanson was re-elected Chapter Chair, having served in this position since 2005. Other officers including Issue Coordinators were approved; they are listed on p. 12 of this Newsletter. Changes included new service by Laura Tracey-Coll as Chapter Membership Chair. (Jan)

We voted to involve the Chapter in the national Sierra Club's Board of Directors election (in March and April) by endorsing candidates after considering their questionnaire responses, and the degrees to which we think they would devote attention and resources to CHAPTER programs rather than to national staff programs. (Jan)

Implementing this involvement, we made the endorsement announced in the bottom compartment of this box. (Feb)

We approved by-laws for our LGBT (Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual-Transgender) Section (Feb)

The New Jersey Chapter recommends a vote for Spencer Black in the upcoming election for the Sierra Club's Board of Directors.



Reports from Trenton

# A Terminal for Liquefied Natural Gas

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

On Jan 8th a public hearing was held in Eatontown (Monmouth Co) on a proposed terminal for the oceanic shipment of liquefied natural gas (LNG) - to be located off the coast at Port Ambrose, near Sandy Hook. The facility, to be owned by Liberty Natural Gas, LLC, would receive imported LNG, convert it back into a gas, and then pump it into regional pipelines on both the New Jersey and the New York sides of the harbor.

This despite a current glut of fracked natural gas in the United States. A previous proposal by the company was vetoed by Gov. Christie in 2010. The hearing was an opportunity for community members to make known their environmental, health, and public safety concerns regarding this proposal.

The Sierra Club thinks this facility is unnecessary and would be dangerous. Natural gas is a fossil fuel; its burning generates carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas that warms the planet and acidifies the oceans, impacting our fisheries. Promoting its use undermines clean energy efforts.

The ships that transport LNG are almost the size of the Empire State Building, so an accident or a terrorist attack would produce a major disaster.

It would be easy to convert an import terminal into an export facility. Last year Congress passed a law amending port licenses to allow both imports and exports. The export of American natural gas would result in higher energy costs and more environmental impacts across the region. Because of the spot market for gas, one day they could be importing the gas and the next exporting it. This has happened at terminals at Cove Point MD and in Louisiana.

There are currently at least nine proposals to build new or upgrade existing natural gas pipelines cutting through New Jersey.

Port Ambrose is located near the entrance to New York Harbor, in two active Coast Guard training areas, and among several fishing areas and wildlife migration routes. The site would be an ideal location for offshore wind turbines. The terminal would discharge 3.5 million gallons of chemically-treated seawater used for pipe tests, generate significant underwater noise pollution, and dredge up more than 20 miles of seafloor.

We'll keep you informed.

# World Gets Hotter While Christie is Cool on Climate

From a Press Release issued on Jan 16

NASA and NOAA (federal agencies which include the US Weather Bureau) have just declared 2014 to have been the warmest year on record. The planet's surface temperature was 1.24 degrees above the 20th century average.

Try to tell that to New Jersey's Governor! While the Obama Administration and other countries around the world are trying to do something about climate change, Governor Christie is doing the opposite. He has glibly dismantled New Jersey's programs to reduce the effects of climate change, protect our coast, and reduce our spewing forth of greenhouse gases.

New Jersey was once, under former Govs. Whitman, McGreevey and Corzine, a leader in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting energy efficiency. Then Governor Christie closed the Office of Climate Change, pulled us out of RGGI (the Northeastern States' Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative), took more than a billion dollars from the Clean Energy Fund, blocked rules implementing offshore wind installations, crashed the solar market, blocked the sale of Tesla cars in NJ, and cancelled programs for energy efficiency. We were once the 8th most efficient state; now we are 24th. We were 2nd for solar installations; now we are 6th. The Governor promised offshore wind, but has done nothing in more than four years.

According to polls, 80% of New Jerseyans believe that climate change is real and that government needs to act. Tens of thousands of us joined the People's Climate March in New York City last Sept. 21st, demanding action. We suspect that Christie is learning the fiddle, so that he can play while New Jersey burns.

## National Sierra Club Elections are Underway - VOTE!

A Democratic Sierra Club Demands Grassroots Participation.

The annual election for the Club's Board of Directors is now underway. Those eligible to vote in the national Sierra Club election will receive in the mail (or by Internet if you chose the electronic delivery option) your national Sierra Club ballot in early March. This will include information on the candidates and where you can find additional information on the Club's web site.

Your participation is critical for a Strong Sierra Club.

The Sierra Club is a democratically structured organization at all levels. The Club requires the regular flow of views on policy and priorities from its grassroots membership in order to function well. Yearly participation in elections at all Club levels is a major membership obligation.

How can I learn about the candidates?

Each candidate provides a statement about themselves and their views on the issues on the official election ballot. You can learn more by asking questions of your group and chapter leadership and other experienced members you know. You can also visit the Club's election web site for additional information about candidates: <http://www.sierraclub.org/board/election>. Then make your choice and cast your vote!

# Barr Approved for Pinelands Commission!

From Press Releases supplied by Chapter staff members

After two refusals, NJ's Senate Judiciary Committee approved Robert Barr's appointment to the Pinelands Commission on Feb 24<sup>th</sup>.

This story begins with the Pinelands Commission's rejection, in January, 2014, of a natural gas pipeline through its Forest Zone, to service the electric power station at Beasley's Point, in Cape May County. In retaliation, Gov. Christie has since sought to purge those Commissioners who voted no. Robert Barr, who resides in Ocean City, well outside the Pinelands, and who has admitted a lack of experience with Pinelands issues, will replace Robert Jackson, one of those "naughty" Commissioners.

Barr is the President of the Ocean City Democratic Club, Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Cape May County Democratic Committee and an aide to Senator Jeff Van Drew. He has worked for the pipeline's main proponents. He also was on the Ocean City Utility Authority Advisory Commission that looks at issues like BL England and the pipeline.

Barr's nomination has a special twist, in that he is a Democrat offered by a Republican Governor to a Senate Judiciary Committee composed of 8 Democrats and 5 Republicans. Christie's third attempt resulted in a vote of 7-5-1. What caused the Committee to change its mind (you may well ask)? Cloak and dagger politics: When Senate President Stephen Sweeney learned that one of the "no" votes was going to be out of town for a day, he scheduled a special session of the Committee, substituting Van Drew for the absent Ray Lesniak.

# Oil-Drilling Off the Atlantic Coast?

From a Press Release issued by our Staff

On Jan 27th the Obama Administration announced its 2017-2022 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program. The proposal would continue prohibitions of dirty fuel development along the Pacific and Northern Atlantic coasts, as well as in some parts of the Arctic Sea north of Alaska, but open up new areas off the Atlantic and Alaskan coasts to drilling. The Continental Shelf from Georgia to Virginia would be offered to the oil companies.

We think this would put New Jersey's coast at risk. Drilling south of the Maryland border would put oil rigs 100 miles from Cape May, home to a substantial commercial fishing fleet. Prevailing currents would carry any spill there to our beaches, threatening both our tourism and fisheries industries. New Jersey's coastal economy is just starting to come back from Hurricane Sandy. We need offshore drilling like we need another hurricane.

The Sierra Club's Don't Rig Our Coastal Economy report found that New Jersey's coastal tourism industry supports nearly 500,000 jobs, and that one out of every six of the state's jobs is linked in some form to its shoreline. Tourist visits to the shore annually generate \$16.6 billion in wages and add \$5.5 billion to the State's tax coffers.

In other energy news, we are also concerned about proposals to site a terminal for shipping liquefied natural gas (LNG) in Monmouth County, which would presumably require a new pipeline to deliver gas fracked from the Marcellus Shale in neighboring states. At least President Obama continues to oppose the Keystone XL Pipeline from Alberta (Canada) to our Gulf Coast, and is better than the fossil fools in Congress who would open all our coasts to the petroleum industry.

Instead of drilling off our coast we should end the billions in subsidies for big oil and use that money for clean energy. We should explore new technologies for solar, wind and wave power and remove obstacles that stand in their way.

# Don't Blow Up Federal Hill

From a Press Release issued by our Chapter staff on Jan 21

Sierra Club members are troubled by an application by the Tilcon Company to expand mining operations in Bloomingdale (Passaic Co). Tilcon would like to expand quarry operations on the 180-acre Meer Tract on Federal Hill. This area is zoned for affordable housing. Tilcon announced its intention to attend Bloomingdale Council meetings on February 3rd and February 17th to explain its proposal. The Sierra Club has worked for decades to preserve Federal Hill and this part of the New Jersey Highlands.

Federal Hill is environmentally sensitive, containing many endangered species, exceptional resource value wetlands, and critically important streams for trout production and water supply. Federal Hill is also an important historic site: it is where the Pompton Mutiny took place in 1781. It also constitutes part of an existing ecological greenway.

Expanding the quarry would be an environmental disaster. By their nature, quarries are heavy industrial mining operations that destroy everything in their surroundings: streams, aquifers, wetlands, vegetation, animals, and forests. People are not allowed to put decks in stream buffers or wetlands, yet quarries can dig out streams and wetlands and cart them away. Quarries also create large amounts of storm-water runoff, siltation, and pollution of streams. The runoff will contain oil and other pollutants. There will be air pollution from heavy equipment, quarry processing equipment and trucks, and the traffic will clog up roads and wear them away. There will also be noise from heavy equipment and blasting, not to mention clouds of dust, impacting the quality of life of the people of Bloomingdale and the region.

There is no legal basis under the Municipal Land Use Law to zone an area that is environmentally sensitive for heavy, industrial, extractive use. The existing quarry zone violated Bloomingdale's zoning and Master Plan as well as the Highlands Plan, State Plan, and common sense. Since this is an affordable housing site it could lead to changes in Bloomingdale's COAH (Council on Affordable Housing) plan, resulting in the development of other environmentally sensitive areas. You don't save the Highlands by trucking its mountains all over New Jersey.

More Reports from Trenton

# More Dirty Air for Newark's Ironbound Community

From a Press Release issued on Feb 2nd

In 2011 a state law sought to protect New Jersey's electricity supply by mandating the BPU to approve 2000 MW of new, natural gas-powered, electricity generating plants. The BPU sanctioned three new plants, one in the Ironbound section of Newark, to be built by the Hess Corporation. The Newark Energy Center, as it is called, is now owned by "Energy Investor Funds" consortium, and is scheduled to open this May. The plant requires and has applied for two new air permits from the DEP.

The Sierra Club opposed this power plant from the beginning - on grounds of environmental justice. The Ironbound is a poor, minority community that has long suffered from toxic pollution from factories, incinerators, truck traffic from the Port of Newark and transcontinental rail terminals, and interstate highway and airport-related traffic. It is a nonattainment area under the federal Clean Air Act, meaning high levels of soot (particulate smog) and other air toxins.

These permits would allow four times the current amount of toxic chemicals into this community compared to previous permits. The DEP is changing the facilities permit to include the increase in the allowable annual limit for sulfuric acid added to the water used by the cooling tower. Changes are also being made to the plant's smoke stack heights and diameters.

The sulfuric acid will be released into the atmosphere, along with lead, algacides and fungicides, and volatile organic compounds. The companies that make cooling towers warn that the chemical drift could kill plant life nearby. What could that mean for the people living in the Ironbound, already home to Diamond-Shamrock, one of the worst Superfund sites in the Nation?

# Coalition to Oppose Sunday Hunting

From a Press Release

A coalition of groups who enjoy, maintain, and support New Jersey's public lands are in opposition to S699 (Kyrillos), a bill that was voted favorably out of the State Senate's Environment and Energy Committee on Jan 12th. Our coalition includes organizations that protect open space, maintain public lands, take hikes, and represent residents who enjoy the use of our public parks, forests, and wildlife areas.

We think there should be at least one day in the week when the people of New Jersey should be able to go outdoors without hearing guns or worrying about being shot. Sunday is the only day many people have off to spend with their families. There are plenty of other days in the week for hunters.

The vote in the Senate Committee was close: 3-2 (Bob Smith, Steve Sweeney and Sam Thompson in favor; Kip Bateman and Linda Greenstein opposed).

This bill would impact all outdoor recreation clubs, environmental educators, hikers, bikers, trail builders, birders, nature photographers, homeowners, and taxpayers who have funded the purchase of open space in New Jersey. The New Jersey Conservation Foundation alone has acquired and maintains 130,000 acres; New Jersey Sierra Club members participate in more than 200 hikes per year.

As of 2013, hunters make up less than one percent of the State's population. The state has a variety of firearm hunting seasons for a variety of species: deer, bear, turkey, various geese and duck species, pheasant, bobwhite, quail, snipe, woodcock, grouse, various rail species, crows, coyote, fox, possum, raccoon, squirrel, rabbit, and woodchuck. At least one species is "in season" every weekend of the year.

Ten other states in our region ban hunting on Sundays, so this bill, if successful, might attract hunters from other states. New Jersey currently allows bow hunting on private lands on Sundays, but not in parks and forests. This bill would also allow bow hunting on public lands, where most people do their hiking.

Our coalition includes: Environment New Jersey, New Jersey Conservation Foundation, New Jersey Highlands Coalition, New Jersey Sierra Club, New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, Pinelands Preservation Alliance, and the Land Conservancy of New Jersey. We have sent a letter to the Senate and Assembly Leadership to ask them to not allow the bill to move forward.

# NY Bans Fracking! Where's Christie?

From a Press Release

On Dec 17th, New York State officials announced that an environmental review of hydraulic fracturing would be released early this year and would prohibit the use of fracking statewide.

The decision is based on science - including the potential for damage to the environment. Now New York's Gov. Cuomo, Delaware's Gov. Markell, and in-coming Pennsylvania Gov. Wolf all oppose drilling in the Delaware River Basin, which includes the Marcellus Shale Formation. We believe this will keep the existing moratorium in place so that we can work towards a permanent ban.

So where's Christie? New Jersey's Governor continues to block attempts to ban fracking in New Jersey. He vetoed a bill that would have banned fracking and has now twice vetoed a bill that would have banned the disposal of fracking waste in New Jersey. Gov. Christie continues to allow radioactive and otherwise toxic chemical fracking waste to be treated and dumped in New Jersey. Might it be because the fracking industry has contributed heavily to his campaign expenses?

# Gov. Christie Signs Water Infrastructure Protection Act - which will do the Opposite!

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

On Feb 5th Governor Christie sold out New Jersey's water supply by signing S2412/A3628, which would authorize municipal, county, and regional governments to sell or lease their water utilities to private companies, in a process that would avoid any public notice, comments, or approval. This law was opposed by the League of Municipalities, the NJ Business & Industry Assn, our largest municipal workers' union (CWA), and the Association of New Jersey Authorities.

It tells us who the Governor goes to bed with. This law will raise rates for both homeowners and businesses. Citizens who object to a lease or sale would have to get a petition signed by 15% of the affected voters.

This law deregulates our water supply, limiting oversight by the Board of Public Utilities and the public. After buying the water utilities, the private companies would be permitted to charge ratepayers for that cost. The private companies will not be required even to fix the infrastructure of the water systems that they take over. (Bayonne recently privatized its water supplier; its first move was to charge the taxpayers for fixing the system.)

Privatization would result in a short term financial gain for municipalities, but will produce long term problems. Some of the private water companies are multinationals, with management headquarters in Germany or France.

# PennEast Pipeline: Another Atrocity

From a Press Release issued on Feb 3rd

The PennEast Pipeline Company is a consortium of seven partners, including PSEG Power LLC and South Jersey Industries, which (according to its website) proposes to bring "affordable natural gas" from fracked wells in the Marcellus Shale of Pennsylvania to customers in New Jersey. At a cost of approximately \$1 billion, this new 108-mile, 36-inch diameter pipeline will deliver approximately 1 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day.

The pipeline will originate in Dallas, Luzerne County, in northeastern Pennsylvania, and terminate at the Transco pipeline interconnection near Pennington, in Mercer County.

The route will pass close to Lambertville, cutting through Swamp Creek Reservoir. Though much of it is along an existing right of way, most of the right of way is preserved land: Goat Hill, Washington's Crossing State Park, the D & R Canal, and Baldpate Mountain. And much of the right of way is narrow and bordered by old-growth trees. We think the impacts will be devastating, especially to streams. 39 parks, 88 waterways, 44 wetlands, and 33 farms and other open space areas will suffer degradation. NJ Sierra spoke against the pipeline at each of the public meetings. Our statement can be found at [https://www.sierraclub.org/sites/www.sierraclub.org/files/sce/new-jersey-chapter/Documents/022515\\_Scoping\\_Comments.pdf](https://www.sierraclub.org/sites/www.sierraclub.org/files/sce/new-jersey-chapter/Documents/022515_Scoping_Comments.pdf)

# Say Goodbye to the Meadowlands

From a Press Release

On Feb 5th the Governor signed S2647/A3969 (Sarlo/Prieto), which consolidates the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission and the Sports & Exposition Authority into a single Meadowlands Regional Commission. The New Jersey Sierra Club finds this an environmental insult and tragedy.

The Governor has disposed of the Meadowlands' regional planning and environment protections. Among other consequences, he condemns Liberty State Park to become an amusement park, and he subsidizes the American Dream Megamall. For 45 years the Meadowlands Commission has helped protect thousands of acres of wetlands, steering development to less-environmentally sensitive areas. This legislation was rushed through, with changes made through an emergency action, never getting the public scrutiny it deserves. As originally written, it would have eliminated the New Jersey Sport & Exposition Authority; the changed version eliminates the Meadowlands Commission.

This bill dismantles the Meadowlands Regional Plan, returning most of the review process and zoning back to the towns. It gives towns broad powers to grant exemptions from ordinances and building regulations. It privatizes the Meadowlands Environmental Research Institute. It will weaken protections for critical wetlands in the Meadowlands.

This legislation will promote flood control projects such as dikes, channels and walls that will promote more intensive development. As one might expect from Christie, it does not consider climate change, sea level rise, or projected storm surges and their impacts on the Meadowlands. The new Commission will receive the bonding authority formerly held by the Sports & Exposition Authority, which means it can borrow money to build massive flood control projects that will not work. It will also be able to fund and build major transportation improvements not tied to any real planning. The new Commission would also be able to bond for the American Dream Megamall and subsidize other development. It could even site a casino. Forget about affordable housing in the Meadowlands. The tax sharing formula has also been eliminated, creating a new ratable chase promoting inappropriate development.

(In 2011 The Sierra Club and Jeff Tittel received Toshi & Pete Seeger Wetlands Award for Protecting the Meadowlands.)





# Group News

FROM  
AROUND  
THE  
STATE

## 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:** Essex  
**Hudson County Group:** Hudson  
**Loantaka Group:** Morris & Union  
**Central Jersey Group:** Mercer  
**Raritan Valley Group:** Somerset & Middlesex  
**Jersey Shore Group:** Monmouth  
**Ocean County Group:** Ocean  
**West Jersey Group:** Burlington, Camden & Gloucester  
**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)

### 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](mailto:skylandsgroup@gmail.com)

**OFFICERS:** (All are members of the Group Executive Committee.)

<b>Chair:</b>	Susan Williams	<a href="mailto:skylandsgroup@gmail.com">skylandsgroup@gmail.com</a>
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Edgar Sheperd	<a href="mailto:shepherd_edgar@yahoo.com">shepherd_edgar@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Jeri Doherty	<a href="mailto:bjd42@nac.net">bjd42@nac.net</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Norene Haberski	<a href="mailto:habersn@yahoo.com">habersn@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	Greg Gorman	<a href="mailto:chachabacon@yahoo.com">chachabacon@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Edgar Shepherd	<a href="mailto:shepherd_edgar@yahoo.com">shepherd_edgar@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	Dave Alcock	<a href="mailto:dwhoob@hotmail.com">dwhoob@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Acting Publicity Chair:</b>	Jeri Doherty	<a href="mailto:bjd42@nac.net">bjd42@nac.net</a>
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>	
<b>Programs/ Events Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>	
<b>Ex-Com</b>		
<b>Members-at-Large:</b>	Dave Alcock	<a href="mailto:dwhoob@hotmail.com">dwhoob@hotmail.com</a>
	Marvin Feil	<a href="mailto:mfeil@writeme.com">mfeil@writeme.com</a>

**ACTIVITIES:** We provide education about a variety of environmental issues by hosting movies or speakers at our general meetings. We also provide information to residents by tabling at town days and other events throughout the spring/summer/fall seasons.

We join with other grassroots organizations to protect the natural resources and beauty of our environmentally sensitive area in Northwest NJ. Some of our activism includes protecting open space, maintaining water quality, promoting clean energy, and addressing local, national and global environmental issues as they arise. We participate in activities to protect the Delaware River Basin and oppose hydro-fracking and all the subsequent infrastructure needed for it. The Skylands Group also sponsors hikes and other outings throughout the region to encourage people to reconnect with the outdoors.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** SECOND TUESDAY of the month from 7-8:30pm at the Unitarian Fellowship, One W. Nelson St, Newton. Best check electronic sites for more current information.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** are now held on the 4th Monday of the month, 7pm at the Andover Diner, Route 206 (Southbound lane), Andover, NJ. We have open positions so if you are interested, please attend or email Susan Williams, at [SkylandsGroup@gmail.com](mailto:SkylandsGroup@gmail.com)

**EVENTS:** 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://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/south-highlands/>  
**MEETUP:** <http://www.meetup.com/njsierraclub>  
**FACEBOOK:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/53817136187/>

**OFFICERS:**

<b>Chair:</b>	Jonathan Wall*	<a href="mailto:psychologist@jonwall.com">psychologist@jonwall.com</a>
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Celeste Martin*	<a href="mailto:onecentral@mac.com">onecentral@mac.com</a>
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	Cinny MacGonagle*	<a href="mailto:cmacgonagle@yahoo.com">cmacgonagle@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Jonathan Wall*	<a href="mailto:psychologist@jonwall.com">psychologist@jonwall.com</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Celeste Martin*	<a href="mailto:onecentral@mac.com">onecentral@mac.com</a>
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Jonathan Wall*	<a href="mailto:psychologist@jonwall.com">psychologist@jonwall.com</a>
<b>Publicity Chair:</b>	Susan Schirmer*	<a href="mailto:soupys@att.net">soupys@att.net</a>
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	Jim Fleming	<a href="mailto:jfleming18@comcast.net">jfleming18@comcast.net</a>
<b>Outings Coordinator:</b>	Jonathan Wall*	<a href="mailto:psychologist@jonwall.com">psychologist@jonwall.com</a>
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Jonathan Wall*	<a href="mailto:psychologist@jonwall.com">psychologist@jonwall.com</a>

(\*Group Executive Committee Member)

Look for us on Meetup.com at <http://www.meetup.com/NJSierraClub> or visit our Sierra Club official calendar at [http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj\\_calendar.asp](http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj_calendar.asp)

**MEETINGS:**

**PLEASE JOIN US IN OUR NEW LOCATION!** We now will be holding our general meetings at the North Hunterdon Library, 65 Halstead Street, Clinton, NJ 08809 on the first Wednesday of each month!

**Apr 15 (Wed): Executive Committee/Planning Meeting:** 7:30 pm. We will meet at the office of Dr. Jonathan Wall, 27 Center Street, Clinton, NJ. Our quarterly Executive Committee meetings are casual and informative. This is great time to get to learn about the Club and see what you can do to become involved. Contact Jonathan at [psychologist@jonwall.com](mailto:psychologist@jonwall.com) for more information.

**April 19 (Sun): Round Valley Ranger-Led Birding Program.** 9:00 am. Meet at Round Valley State Park's south parking lot. Participants need to call the park office at 908-236-6355 to be included on attendance list. Program will last approximately two hours. Contact Jim Fleming if you have any questions at [jfleming18@comcast.net](mailto:jfleming18@comcast.net).

**May 6 (Wed): NJ Invasive Species Strike Team. North Hunterdon Library, 65 Halstead Street, Clinton.** Meet and Greet at 7pm and program will begin at 7:30. The Strike Team is a statewide effort to prevent the spread of emerging invasive species. All levels of government, conservation groups, foresters and citizens like you, aim to protect our diverse habitats from the Highlands to the Piedmont to the Pinelands. Many of the species we took for granted are being wiped out in our own time. Please come to hear about the strike force's efforts to protect New Jersey's home for 2,000 native plants, 327 migrant & resident birds, 90 mammals, 44 reptiles, 35 amphibians, 421 marine & freshwater fish, 180 damselflies & dragonflies and 151 butterflies. This list includes 424 threatened and endangered species, some which are imperiled worldwide.

**June 3 (Wed): Film Screening: The Koch Brothers Exposed: 2014 Edition. North Hunterdon Library, 65 Halstead Street, Clinton.** Meet and Greet at 7pm and program will begin at 7:30. This is a hard-hitting investigation of the 1% at its very worst. This is full-length documentary film on Charles and David Koch two of the world's richest and most powerful men. This film uncovers the Koch's corruption and points the way to how Americans can reclaim their democracy. Discussion after the film.

### North Jersey Group

(Bergen and Passaic Counties)

**WEBSITE:** <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/North/>  
**MEETUP:** <http://www.meetup.com/NJSierraClub/>  
**FACEBOOK:** <https://www.facebook.com/northjersseysierraclub>

**Officers:**

<b>Chair:</b>	John Kashwick*	<a href="mailto:jkashwick@gmail.com">jkashwick@gmail.com</a>
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Mary Ellen Shaw*	<a href="mailto:meshaw.001@gmail.com">meshaw.001@gmail.com</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Tom Thompson*	<a href="mailto:etrans743@aol.com">etrans743@aol.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Jennifer Rothschild*	<a href="mailto:jenniroth2@gmail.com">jenniroth2@gmail.com</a>
<b>Conservation Co-Chair:</b>	Mary Ellen Shaw*	<a href="mailto:meshaw.001@gmail.com">meshaw.001@gmail.com</a>
<b>Conservation Co-Chair:</b>	Laura Tracey Coll*	<a href="mailto:lauratraceycoll@hotmail.com">lauratraceycoll@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Jennifer Rothschild*	<a href="mailto:jenniroth2@gmail.com">jenniroth2@gmail.com</a>
<b>Air Quality Issues:</b>	Laura Coll*	<a href="mailto:lauratraceycoll@hotmail.com">lauratraceycoll@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Climate Issues:</b>	Jeff Rapaport	<a href="mailto:jefrap@optonline.net">jefrap@optonline.net</a>
<b>Events Chair:</b>	Mary Walsh*	<a href="mailto:blehlwalsh@hotmail.com">blehlwalsh@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	Buddy Jenssen*	<a href="mailto:buddy.jenssen@gmail.com">buddy.jenssen@gmail.com</a>
<b>Outings Co-Chair:</b>	Ellen Blumenkrantz	<a href="mailto:ebumenkrantz@hotmail.com">ebumenkrantz@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Outings Co-Chair:</b>	Mary Walsh*	<a href="mailto:blehlwalsh@hotmail.com">blehlwalsh@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Programs Chair:</b>	Jessica Epstein	<a href="mailto:jepstein101@gmail.com">jepstein101@gmail.com</a>
<b>Publicity Chair:</b>	Marty Cohen	<a href="mailto:martincohen@verizon.net">martincohen@verizon.net</a>
<b>Trail Maintenance:</b>	Marty Cohen	<a href="mailto:martincohen@verizon.net">martincohen@verizon.net</a>
<b>Webmaster/Listmaster:</b>	John Kashwick*	<a href="mailto:jkashwick@gmail.com">jkashwick@gmail.com</a>
<b>Wildlife Issues:</b>	Mary Ellen Shaw*	<a href="mailto:meshaw.001@gmail.com">meshaw.001@gmail.com</a>
<b>Ex-Com Member-at-Large:</b>	Nancy Wysocki*	<a href="mailto:nape2@aol.com">nape2@aol.com</a>
<b>Ex-Com Member-at-Large:</b>	Beth Ravit*	<a href="mailto:ravit@cnvsci.rutgers.edu">ravit@cnvsci.rutgers.edu</a>

(\*Group Executive Committee Member)

**MEETINGS AND EVENTS:**

Unless otherwise noted, general meetings are free and open to general public. Please confirm topics, dates, times, and venues of our meetings by visiting our web site, Meetup, or Facebook pages (see above for URL). You can also email us at [northjersseysierraclub@gmail.com](mailto:northjersseysierraclub@gmail.com).

**Apr 15 (Wed): Executive and Conservation Committee Meeting.** 7:30pm at Location TBD. The Executive and Conservation Committees of the North Jersey Group hold their quarterly meeting at a member's home. The meeting is casual and informative. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend to learn more about the Club, discuss issues, plan future events, and become more active. Please check the on-line calendar of events to confirm date and time, or contact John at [jkashwick@gmail.com](mailto:jkashwick@gmail.com).

**Apr 18 (Sat): "Springtime at Greenbrook" Guided Walk.** 1pm at Greenbrook Sanctuary, Greenbrook Road, Tenafly. Join us for a guided walk through the 165-acre sanctuary led by naturalist Sandra Bonardi. **Participants must pre-register for this event** on Meetup or our web site. You can also email John at [jkashwick@gmail.com](mailto:jkashwick@gmail.com) to inquire about availability and register. Group limit: 20. A \$3 contribution per person to Greenbrook is requested from all participants.

**May 12 (Tue): Film: "Koch Brothers Exposed: 2014 Edition."** 7pm at River Vale Public Library, 412 Rivervale Rd, River Vale. Koch Brothers Exposed is a hard-hitting investigation of the 1% at its very worst. This full-length documentary film on Charles and David Koch two of the world's richest and most powerful men is the latest from acclaimed director Robert Greenwald (Wal-Mart: the High Cost of Low Price, Outfoxed, Rethink Afghanistan). The billionaire brothers bankroll a vast network of organizations that work to undermine the interests of the 99% on issues ranging from Social Security to the environment to civil rights. This film uncovers the Koch's corruption and points the way to how Americans can reclaim their democracy. Discussion after the film. This event is rescheduled from March.

**June 23 (Tue): Living with New Jersey Black Bears.** 7pm at Oradell Public Library, 375 Kinderkamack Road, Oradell. The mission of the Bear Education and

Resource Group is to teach people how to live responsibly with black bears and to advocate for their protection. Elaine Dunn, Education Coordinator will speak about recent legislation affecting the bears and what people can do to avoid conflicts.

**Earth Day Events.** We plan to table at the Northern Valley Earth Fair in Old Tappan on April 25 and the Paramus Green Fair on April 26. Please stop by and say hello. We'd like to participate in other events as well but need more volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, please contact John at [jkashwick@gmail.com](mailto:jkashwick@gmail.com).

**CONSERVATION ISSUES:**

**Protecting the Palisades:** LG Electronics, a multinational corporation, is planning to build an office tower in Englewood Cliffs that will rise high above the tree-line of the Palisades, and for the first time, violate the unspoiled ridgeline—a view enjoyed by Americans since before the founding of our nation. LG's proposed office tower will rise 143 feet above grade—far higher than the 35-foot limit that, until now, has been respected by other companies in this area. The Sierra Club's North Jersey Group is part of the Save the Palisades Coalition working to stop this overdevelopment. To get involved, please contact Jennifer Rothschild at [jenniroth2@gmail.com](mailto:jenniroth2@gmail.com).

**Pilgrim Pipeline:** The proposed Pilgrim Pipeline is a dual 178 miles pipeline between Albany, NY and Linden, NJ. It will likely contain Bakken shale oil that will be sent south to New Jersey and refined products (including kerosene) will be sent north back to Albany. The pipelines will cross five New Jersey counties (including Bergen and Passaic) through some of the most fragile areas vital to maintaining water quality in all communities. There would be major impact on environment, public health and property values you would bear the burden of having this risk and disruption without any benefit. A spill or explosion could be catastrophic, endangering our water supply, risking the lives of thousands, and overwhelming our emergency response resources. We are working to get communities in both counties to pass resolutions opposing this pipeline project. For more information, please contact Jeff Rapaport at [jeffrap@optonline.net](mailto:jeffrap@optonline.net).

**Oil Trains:** Thousands of substandard rail cars are used by CSX to move Bakken crude oil on the West Shore line through Bergen County each year. The threat or danger it poses to our communities demand a moratorium on the use of these substandard rail cars to safeguard our families and communities. The North Jersey Group is joining with other groups to raise awareness of this issue and get the federal government to pass stricter legislation to regulate use of these cars. For more information, please contact Mary Ellen Shaw at [meshaw.001@gmail.com](mailto:meshaw.001@gmail.com).

**TRAIL MAINTENANCE:** Marty Cohen and Buddy Jossen organize various trail maintenance projects throughout the year where we do clean-up in our nearby state parks and forests. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Marty at [martincohen@verizon.net](mailto:martincohen@verizon.net).

**OUTINGS:** If you would like to learn how to become an outings leader, lead, please contact Ellen at [elblumenkrantz@hotmail.com](mailto:elblumenkrantz@hotmail.com) or Mary Walsh at [blehlwalsh@hotmail.com](mailto:blehlwalsh@hotmail.com) to get more information.

Sign up for North Jersey Group e-mail notices by e-mailing John at [jkashwick@gmail.com](mailto:jkashwick@gmail.com).

**Hudson County Group**

The NJ Chapter understands the importance of urban issues such as protecting the public's drinking water and air quality, maintaining good mass transit, providing access to the waterfront, and addressing environmental justice issues, and is currently trying to create a local grassroots presence in Hudson County. Anyone interested in working on any environmental issue is encouraged to contact Chapter Outreach Coordinator Toni Granato ([Toni.Granato@Sierraclub.org](mailto:Toni.Granato@Sierraclub.org)).

**Gateway Group**

*All of Essex County (except for Livingston, Millburn and Roseland).*

The Gateway Group was organized in January 2011. 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/>. (also accessible from the NJ Chapter website) On Facebook: Gateway Group, NJ Sierra or <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Gateway-Group-NJ-Sierra-Club/128998363842782?fref=ts>

**OFFICERS:**

<b>Chair:</b>	David Yennior	973-844-1384	<a href="mailto:dyennior@gmail.com">dyennior@gmail.com</a>
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	ZaSah Khademi	201-618-8572	<a href="mailto:zasah@aol.com">zasah@aol.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Anne Hirs	973-844-1121	<a href="mailto:annehirs@msn.com">annehirs@msn.com</a>
<b>Program Co-Chair:</b>	John Beadle	see above	
<b>Publicity Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Conservation</b>			
<b>Co-Chairs:</b>	ZaSah Khademi	201-618-8572	<a href="mailto:zasah@aol.com">zasah@aol.com</a>
and	David Korfhage	973-932-0742	<a href="mailto:drkorfhage@gmail.com">drkorfhage@gmail.com</a>
<b>Political Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Fundraising Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Membership</b>			
<b>Chair:</b>	Steven Yafet	908-354-2537	<a href="mailto:syafet@gmail.com">syafet@gmail.com</a>
<b>Water, Newark</b>			
<b>Issues Chr:</b>	Bill Chappel	973-623-6490	<a href="mailto:chappel.bill@gmail.com">chappel.bill@gmail.com</a>
<b>Recycling Issues</b>			
<b>Chair:</b>	Lyle Landon	201-247-0288	<a href="mailto:lylelandon@aol.com">lylelandon@aol.com</a>
<b>Passaic River</b>			
<b>Co-Chairs:</b>	Brenda Toyloy	973-856-7056	<a href="mailto:brendatoyloy@yahoo.com">brendatoyloy@yahoo.com</a>
and	Jeff Weiss	973-650-1030	<a href="mailto:bonefish5000@gmail.com">bonefish5000@gmail.com</a>
<b>Elizabeth</b>			
<b>Issues Chair:</b>	Paula Borenstein	908-289-3584	<a href="mailto:brdandmkt@aol.com">brdandmkt@aol.com</a>
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Group Executive</b>			
<b>Committee:</b>	David Yennior, John Beadle, ZaSah Khademi and Bill Chappel		

**Please contact David Yennior, Gateway's Chair, if you have any ideas or suggestions for a program in the future.** The Gateway Group is very grateful for the contributions of John Beadle, Barbara Conover, ZaSah Khademi, Bill Chappel, Steven Yafet, Anne Hirs, Paula Borenstein, and Brenda Toyloy.

The Gateway Group invites YOU to join in the activism and asks your support as we strive to address the many issues facing the urban as well as suburban communities.

Gateway has been involved in the recent Massive Climate March in NYC, stopping more surface parking lots in Newark, banning Fracking Fluids in Elizabeth, cosponsoring a GMO documentary, a proposed development in Verona, a church expansion in Cedar Grove, the Pilgrim Pipeline, Keystone XL Pipeline, Fracking, Newark's Covanta Incinerator, Passaic River Restoration Community Advisory Group, Maplewood Green Day, formerly the West Orange Seton Hall project, the Newark Water Wars, advocating for NJ Sierra endorsed candidates for State and National Offices, and supporting other environmental groups.

There are several vacant positions listed, along with a full list of officers. For further information about upcoming activities, volunteer opportunities, or to discuss any concerns please contact me at [dyennior@gmail.com](mailto:dyennior@gmail.com) or call 973-844-1384.

**LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS:** There are no events currently on the calendar. For up to date information about programs 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:**

<b>Group Co-Chairs:</b>	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	<a href="mailto:ericbiomass@gmail.com">ericbiomass@gmail.com</a>
and	Paul Sanderson	908-233-2414	<a href="mailto:paulmsanderson@aol.com">paulmsanderson@aol.com</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Paul Sanderson	908-233-2414	<a href="mailto:paulmsanderson@aol.com">paulmsanderson@aol.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Scott McCarthy	813-767-5593	<a href="mailto:hi_risescott@earthlink.net">hi_risescott@earthlink.net</a>
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>			
<b>Morris County:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Union County:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Clea Carchia	908-892-7229	<a href="mailto:info@CleaCarchia.com">info@CleaCarchia.com</a>
<b>Programs:</b>	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	<a href="mailto:ericbiomass@gmail.com">ericbiomass@gmail.com</a>
<b>Fundraising Chair:</b>	Eric Hausker	732-669-0719	<a href="mailto:ericbiomass@gmail.com">ericbiomass@gmail.com</a>
<b>Outreach &amp; Events Chair:</b>			
<i>Open Position!</i>			
<b>Publicity Chair:</b>	Wynn Johanson	908-464-0442	<a href="mailto:johansons@comcast.net">johansons@comcast.net</a>
<b>Membership:</b>			
<i>Open Position!</i>			
<b>Air Quality Coordinator:</b>	Bob Campbell	973-761-4461	<a href="mailto:bobc2023_sc@verizon.net">bobc2023_sc@verizon.net</a>
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	Wanda Knapik	908-432-2198	<a href="mailto:AdventuresWithWanda@gmail.com">AdventuresWithWanda@gmail.com</a>
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Wynn Johanson	908-464-0442	<a href="mailto:johansons@comcast.net">johansons@comcast.net</a>

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

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

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

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** are held on the FIRST TUESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at Library of the Chathams, 214 Main St, Chatham. All members are welcome at Executive Committee meetings. Right now, we have open positions on it! If you would like to find out more, please contact Paul Sanderson.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** are held on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at the Library of the Chathams, 214 Main St, Chatham. Come learn something new and make some new friends. We'd welcome the chance to meet you and to introduce ourselves. Please see the schedule, below, and join us!

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

**MEETING SCHEDULE:**

**Apr 8:** The latest addition to our ExCom, Wanda Knapik - our Outings Chair, will give a presentation on Permaculture, of which she has vast experience. Permaculture is defined as: the development of agricultural ecosystems intended to be sustainable and self-sufficient." Many eco-villages operate on the basis of the principles of Permaculture.

**May 13:** Laura Szwak of the New Jersey Conservation Foundation (the organization that evolved from the initial group that stopped an international airport from being built in the Great Swamp) will talk to us about the current state of efforts to prevent inappropriate development in our state. She has been the outreach and education director for many years. Her group is another vigorous opponent of oil & gas pipelines.

**Jun 10:** Christina Sadovy who has been involved in the Beyond Coal campaign of the National Sierra Club will offer a presentation on the topic of Energy Efficiency.

**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).

**Central Jersey Group**

*(Mercer County and neighboring towns in adjoining counties)*

Find the latest at <https://www.facebook.com/CentralGroupNJSC>.

(Continued on page 8)

## GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 7)

Join our distribution list to receive timely information in infrequent emails. Please volunteer to help us. Openings for Outings, Outreach, Publicity, Webmaster and more. Contact Nicole Dallara at [nicole.dallara@sierraclub.org](mailto:nicole.dallara@sierraclub.org).

### OFFICERS:

#### Chair, and

<b>Energy Issues:</b>	Rob Benjamin	609 587-9069	<a href="mailto:robbenjamin@outlook.com">robbenjamin@outlook.com</a>
<b>Conservation:</b>	Kip Cherry	609-924-4232	<a href="mailto:kipatthesierraclub@gmail.com">kipatthesierraclub@gmail.com</a>
<b>Energy:</b>	Rob Benjamin	609 587-9069	<a href="mailto:robbenjamin@outlook.com">robbenjamin@outlook.com</a>
<b>Membership:</b>	Bill Wowk	609-610-6349	<a href="mailto:bwowk1@gmail.com">bwowk1@gmail.com</a>
<b>Political:</b>	Terry Stimpfel	609-731-7016	<a href="mailto:terystimb@hotmail.com">terystimb@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Trails:</b>	Bob Sokol	609-918-1149	<a href="mailto:robert.sokol435@gmail.com">robert.sokol435@gmail.com</a>
<b>Ex-com:</b>	Joanne Pannone	609-443-6992	<a href="mailto:jpatmeadowbrook@gmail.com">jpatmeadowbrook@gmail.com</a>
<b>Ex-com:</b>	Lynne Weiss	732-821-9688	<a href="mailto:lshari05@gmail.com">lshari05@gmail.com</a>

The Central Group is working on local environmental issues to preserve open space, promote effective planning, control invasive species, protect wetlands and build trails. We actively oppose the Transco pipeline in Princeton/Montgomery, natural gas pipelines in New Jersey, fracking and fracking waste disposal in New Jersey.

For Group Activities, please visit the Group's website, above, or contact Toni Granato ([Toni.Granato@Sierraclub.org](mailto:Toni.Granato@Sierraclub.org)).

For Central Outings, sign up for the Central distribution list and visit the NJ Sierra Outings webpage.

## Raritan Valley Group

(Middlesex and Somerset Counties and surrounding areas)

### OFFICERS:

<b>Group Chair:</b>	Roomi Nusrat	609-389-6036	<a href="mailto:sierra_nj_rartian@att.net">sierra_nj_rartian@att.net</a>
<b>Group Vice Chair:</b>	<i>Open position!</i>		
<b>Outings</b>			
<b>Coordinator:</b>	<i>Open position!</i>		
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Paul Ehrlich		
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<i>Open position!</i>		
<b>Recycling</b>			
<b>Coordinator:</b>	<i>Open position!</i>		
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	Nancy Gladfelter		<a href="mailto:nnglad.nj@gmail.com">nnglad.nj@gmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<i>Open position!</i>		
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Daphne Speck-Barynski	732-390-5311	<a href="mailto:speckbartyn@comcast.net">speckbartyn@comcast.net</a>
<b>Membership:</b>	<i>Open position!</i>		

**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](mailto: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/>

Please contribute to our Quarterly News Letter sent via the E-mail list. On our home page, please click on the link: Submit Issues, Events or other News from your Township. The due dates are 15th of February, May, August and October.

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

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.

We are for preservation of open space and preventing diversion of land from State's Green Acres program to commercial development are our goals.

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](mailto:sierra_nj_rartian@att.net).

## Jersey Shore Group

(Monmouth County, approximately)

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

### OFFICERS:

<b>Group Chair:</b>	Dennis Anderson	732-970-4327	<a href="mailto:dennisaza@aol.com">dennisaza@aol.com</a>
	6 Maple Ave, Matawan NJ 07747		
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Secretary:</b>	Joe DeLuca	732-389-1835	<a href="mailto:joe-deluca@att.net">joe-deluca@att.net</a>
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	Faith Teitelbaum	732-513-5445	<a href="mailto:faithtei@aol.com">faithtei@aol.com</a>
<b>Webmaster:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Pat Fuschetto	732-308-4588	<a href="mailto:fusche40@yahoo.com">fusche40@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Bob Sandberg	732-747-3224	<a href="mailto:sandberg00@gmail.com">sandberg00@gmail.com</a>
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	Mike Verange	908-902-0718	<a href="mailto:mjverange@aol.com">mjverange@aol.com</a>
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	Bob Grize	732-892-0684	<a href="mailto:nyucwnyppb@aol.com">nyucwnyppb@aol.com</a>
<b>Program Chair:</b>	George Moffatt	732-544-1726	<a href="mailto:gmoffattgt@aol.com">gmoffattgt@aol.com</a>
<b>Fund-raising</b>			
<b>Co-Chairs:</b>	Lois Blake	732-863-5917	<a href="mailto:lqblake@optonline.net">lqblake@optonline.net</a>
<b>and</b>	Joellen Lundy	732-741-4756	<a href="mailto:jfutey@comcast.net">jfutey@comcast.net</a>

### Shore Group Happenings:

**Whale Pond Cleanups:** We continue our cleanups with a coalition with Monmouth University, all the towns in the Whale Pond Brook watershed, and the NJ Friends of Clearwater. Hurricane Sandy dumped tons of trash back into the watershed, which we are still removing a year later, 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.

Help explore, enjoy and protect this beautiful watershed. Our Sierra dynamo heading the clean up of Whale Pond is Conservation Chair Faith Teitelbaum at [faithtei@aol.com](mailto:faithtei@aol.com).

**Help Needed for Other Cleanups:** If you would like to participate in cleanups of our other local waterways, please contact another dynamo, Laura Bagwell at [l.bagwell3@verizon.net](mailto:l.bagwell3@verizon.net). Laura focuses on the Red Bank area watersheds. In this effort, we work with the Navesink Swimming River Group which, since 2002, has removed more than 20 tons of debris from our local banks and streams. Alas, pollution never ends; we are in constant need of volunteers.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Our general membership meetings take place at 6pm on the fourth Monday of the month at Brookdale Community College's Lincroft Campus. We are delighted that the college has invited us to continue the joint membership meetings through 2015. Our meetings, billed by BCC as "Science Monday," average 65 attendees a month, with some events peaking at 95 to 150 people. The cooperative effort between Sierra and BCC extends the "reach" of both organizations into the Monmouth community. Our BCC liaison is Dr. Patricia Dillon, a biology professor in the college's Science Department.

We meet at BCC to share our speakers with environmentally-concerned BCC college students, the NJ Friends of Clearwater, and other environmental organizations. A buffet is available for the students and adults at 6 pm. Contributions from non-students are encouraged to defray the costs. The programs start at 6:30 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 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](http://www.brookdalecc.edu/PDFFiles/MAPS/MAP_04_08.pdf).

**Apr 27: Dinos 'Soar' in New Jersey – Still** – The only remaining major "dig" of dinosaur bones in NJ is in Mantua Township, headed by Dr. Ken Lacovara, a celebrated paleontologist from Drexel University who will discuss his work. Dr. Lacovara has been working with a team of student researchers, plus over a thousand volunteers, for about the last six years at the New Jersey dig. They have unearthed many fossils, including a seven-foot long prehistoric crocodile and a bus-sized predator. Dr. Lacovara maintains that today's birds are dinosaurs, and not just a species evolved from dinosaurs. The issue, though still debated by some paleontologists and taxonomists, increasingly suggests the chirping little critters are really dinosaurs, a caution we mammals should not ignore. Since the 17th Century, New Jersey's marl pits were a consistent source of dinosaur remains until marl mining declined in the 20th century.

**May 18: Is NJ Running Out of Water?** – Robert Kecskes, retired planner in the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, will discuss the increased demands on the state's water supplies and what it means for the future. He was responsible for state and regional water supply planning in New Jersey. He also authored major portions of the NJ Statewide Water Supply Plan and numerous regional water supply plans involving, among other aspects, water availability, demand projections, and alternative water supplies. He now is a water management consultant. The state has periodically experienced water shortages, due mainly to drought. But in recent years, concerns have been raised that unrestricted development is straining the state's surface (reservoir) and underground (well) water supplies, which when combined with as-yet unpredictable climate changes, may not be so easily alleviated. In some of the Raritan Bayshore communities, brackish groundwater from the bay is infiltrating the over-pumped groundwater used for drinking, literally leaving a bad taste in everyone's mouth. What must change? Mr. Kecskes has some suggestions.

**June 22: Saving Stranded Marine Mammals** – Bob Schoelkopf, director of the Marine Mammal Stranding Center, will discuss the center's work for the past 36 years saving stranded whales, dolphins, seals and sea turtles. Located in Brigantine, he and his wife, Sheila Dean, and a small paid staff and volunteers, have responded since 1978 to over 4,500 mammal strandings that have washed ashore along the New Jersey coastline. The center operates under permits and authorizations from New Jersey and US government agencies. Even though these permits sanction the rescue of strandings only in New Jersey, the Center occasionally assists agencies in other states. All funding comes through donations, grants, memberships, and fund-raising efforts. At present, there is no sustained government assistance. The brigantine facility includes a small office; two recovery building, one with specialized pools for small mammals and the other with five pools for large mammals, such as seals; a custom-built rescue truck with tanks for transporting large injured mammals; a 1000-gallon outdoor summer aquarium; a museum and gift shop; a specialized Munson boat with a bow-drop ramp to ease wounded mammals into without lifting them; and a Zodiac rescue boat.

## Ocean County Group

**WEBSITE:** [www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean](http://www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean)

### OFFICERS:

<b>Chair &amp;</b>			
<b>Treasurer:</b>	A. Gregory Auriemma, Esq.	732-451-9220	<a href="mailto:sierraclubOC@aol.com">sierraclubOC@aol.com</a>
<b>Vice-Chair &amp;</b>			
<b>Conserv Chair:</b>	Margit Meissner-Jackson	609-296-4367	<a href="mailto:sylviaJ1910@yahoo.com">sylviaJ1910@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Outings Chair &amp;</b>			
<b>Env'l Ed'n Coord:</b>	Terrance Brown	848-333-7331	
<b>Outings Co-Chair:</b>	Monica Zabroski	609-384-2693	<a href="mailto:monicazabrowski@yahoo.com">monicazabrowski@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Fund-Raising:</b>	Joyce M. Isaza	732-920-9270	<a href="mailto:realtymstr@aol.com">realtymstr@aol.com</a>
<b>Group ExCom</b>			
<b>Member:</b>	Nancy Brown	732-892-6089	<a href="mailto:nancybrown624@comcast.net">nancybrown624@comcast.net</a>
<b>Group ExCom</b>			
<b>Member:</b>	Sierra Palmer		

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



**ACTIVITIES & ISSUES:** We're hard at work: Preventing drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and off the Jersey Coast, defending the Endangered Species Act, fighting Mountain Top Removal and supporting expanded recycling legislation.

We've also targeted critical local open space, sprawl, and air and water quality issues with special emphasis on the massive "over-development" of Jackson Township and Lakewood. We're also involved in the campaigns to create a new park at "Anchor Reef" on Barnegat Bay and to stop "nitrogen pollution" of the Bay. Protecting the Ocean County Hiking Trail in Lacey. We're watching the progress of the first Wind Turbine erected in the County which resides in Ocean Gate. We're also involved in creating a greener and sustainable environment in Ocean County.

Volunteers are needed to help with these all issues, membership outreach, tabling at local events, fund-raising and a computer-based voter education program.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** about our activities and events, please visit our web site: [www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean](http://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](http://www.newjersey.sierraclub.org/ocean).

## West Jersey Group

(Camden, Gloucester and Burlington Counties, approximately)

**WEBSITE:** <http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/West>

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

### OFFICERS:

<b>Group Chair:</b>	Gina Carola	856-848-8831	ginacece@verizon.net
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Frank Zinni		efzin4@aol.com
<b>Secretary:</b>	Ellen Zinni		efzin4@aol.com
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Trish Clements		patri3210@gmail.com
<b>Publicity Chair:</b>	Anne Caridi		bears4cats@msn.com
<b>Political Chair:</b>	<i>Open position!</i> Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831		
<b>Pinelands Rep:</b>	Lee Snyder		pinelands1@hotmail.com
<b>Greenways Coord's:</b>	Frank and Ellen Zinni		efzin4@aol.com
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	Stacey Ayala		thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com
<b>Delegate at Large:</b>	Aida Ayala		thunderwolfgalaxy@yahoo.com
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	Mike Brown	856-547-9221	eyebrown@verizon.net
<b>Fundraising Chair:</b>	<i>Open position!</i> Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831		
<b>Smart Growth Chair:</b>	<i>Open position!</i> Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831		
<b>Programs Chair:</b>	<i>Open position!</i> Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831		
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	<i>Open position!</i> Call Gina to volunteer. . 856-848-8831		

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** are held at 7:30 pm on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of each month, September thru May at the Quaker Meeting Hall on Friends Ave in Haddonfield.

**Apr 8: Camden County Citizen Science Opportunities** - Maggie McCann will present opportunities for volunteering in Camden County at the Environmental Center's demonstration gardens, the Master Gardener program, Bike Share, Citizen Science and the Environmental Park in Gloucester Township.

**May 13: Sustainability in Camden County** - Chris Waldron, LEED AP and Director in the Office of Sustainability and Shared Services for Camden County will discuss ongoing efforts to make Camden County a model of sustainability.

**The West Jersey Group does not meet in June, July or August. Please join us on a hike or paddling outing. See you on September 9.**

**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.

## South Jersey Group

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

### OFFICERS:

<b>Group, Outings Chair:</b>	Tom Boghosian	609-625-0878	boghosian1@verizon.net
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Pol. Chair, Calendars:</b>	Dick Colby	609-965-4453	dick.colby@stockton.edu
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>		
<b>Secretary/Treasurer:</b>	Julie Akers	609-432-3280	julieakers56@gmail.com

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 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](http://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](mailto:dick.colby@stockton.edu).

**Current Issues:** (1) A land-use controversy in Millville has been in the news: complex attempts to balance public vs. private interests in environmentally-sensitive parcels in and near the Menantico Ponds Wildlife Management Area. Jane Galetto of "Citizens United" ([forrivers@aol.com](mailto:forrivers@aol.com)) is perhaps the best person to contact if you would like

involvement. (2) There is much regional opposition to the construction of a large-diameter (24") natural gas pipeline to feed the BL England electric power plant in Marmora (Cape May Co), led by Georgina Shanley ([shanleyg2001@yahoo.com](mailto:shanleyg2001@yahoo.com)) and the organization **350.org South Jersey** (Glenn Klotz: [glennk1949@gmail.com](mailto:glennk1949@gmail.com)). The Pinelands Commission has rejected a direct route through its Forest Zone, a decision which has been taken to court by South Jersey Gas Co. (3 etc.) Campaigns to prevent the use of tropical rainforest wood for rebuilding oceanfront boardwalks, in Ocean City and Wildwood, are also being led by Georgina. Club officers and staff have been following 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 permit development. Other hot issues include damage done to sand trails by ORVs, a campaign to promote Community Solar (photovoltaic) installations (especially in each municipality in Atlantic County), support for legislation that would end the free distribution of plastic bags at supermarkets, and support for a New Jersey Bottle Bill, known as the Smart Container Act.

### Some Possibly Relevant Meetings of Allied Organizations:

**Apr 1, May 6 and June 3 (first Wednesdays), 6:30pm:** Atlantic County Friends of the Parks: Monthly meetings of Friends of the Parks, a group which works to improve and promote the Atlantic County Park System. All are welcome. Warren Fox Nature Center (WFNC\*), Atlantic County Park in Estell Manor, Milepost 15 on NJ Rte 50, 3½ miles south of Mays Landing. Contact Julie Akers, 609-432-3280.

**Apr 8 and June 10 (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@cumauricriver.org](mailto:lillian.armstrong@cumauricriver.org). Website: [www.cumauricriver.org](http://www.cumauricriver.org).

**Apr 15 and June 17 (alternate third Wednesdays), 6:30pm:** 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.

**Apr 22, May 27 and June 24 (fourth Wednesdays), 7pm:** Atlantic Audubon Society is a lively member-organization with strong environmental programs and an excellent monthly on-line newsletter. Membership is free. Meetings are in the Galloway Twp Library, 306 E Jimmie Leeds Rd. [www.AtlanticAudubon.org](http://www.AtlanticAudubon.org).

**Apr 26, 10-4:** Annual Earth Day Festivities at the Atlantic County Utilities Authority's Egg Harbor Twp campus (Atlantic Co). The Sierra Club partners with GEHWA at one of the many tables offering environmental education. Come meet some of our officers.

**May 26 (alternate fourth Tuesdays) 6:30pm:** Great Egg Harbor River Watershed Association: Membership meeting, open to the public, likely to be a "frog-listening" field trip. WFNC\*?, Contact Lynn Maun, 856-453-0416 or email [lynnkmaun@comcast.net](mailto:lynnkmaun@comcast.net).

**350.org South Jersey** is a recently formed organization 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](mailto: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 contact one of our officers!

**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 to receive announcements for all of our events a few weeks before each event. Events are also listed on the online calendar on the Chapter's web site: [newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj\\_calendar.asp](http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj_calendar.asp).

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

### OFFICERS:

<b>Chair:</b>	<i>To be announced</i>	
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	Joyce Haddad	<a href="mailto:jkhaddad@juno.com">jkhaddad@juno.com</a>
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	<i>Position Open.</i> Contact us! We need you!	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Joyce White	<a href="mailto:joyce.white.exec@gmail.com">joyce.white.exec@gmail.com</a>
<b>Social Chair:</b>	Joe Prebish	<a href="mailto:Joe.Prebish@kraft.com">Joe.Prebish@kraft.com</a>
<b>Vice Social Chair:</b>	Jeff Sovelove	<a href="mailto:Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com">Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Programs:</b>	<i>Position Open.</i> Contact us! We need you!	
<b>Publicity:</b>	<i>Position Open.</i> Contact us! We need you!	
<b>Membership:</b>	<i>Position Open.</i> Contact us! We need you!	
<b>Nominations:</b>	Nancy Sullivan	<a href="mailto:nancysullivan@comcast.net">nancysullivan@comcast.net</a>

2015 Executive Committee members: Joyce Haddad, Ron Pate, Joe Prebish, Jeff Sovelove, Daphne Speck Bartynski, Joyce White.

**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.

(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)

**ExCom MEETINGS** take place once a month at various locations. All welcome. Contact any officer for location.

**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 listserv 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 and the Chapter's online calendar. See the Outings section of this Newsletter for singles outings led by Jimi Oleksiak (Apr 11, May 9, June 13) and Jeff Sovelove (Apr 11, May 23, June 20). Please join the listserv to receive notification of all of our outings (see above for instructions on how to subscribe).

Sierra Silver Singles is a subgroup that organizes hikes and other social events to appeal to Singles over 50. Most events are scheduled followed by an optional meal at a location determined by the leader. See the Outings section of this Newsletter for Silver Singles outings on Apr 19, Apr 25, May 7 and June 14. Check the Singles listserv for announcements of more Silver Singles outings.

## Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Section

The mission of this Section is to support Sierra Club goals, and to promote activism within the LGBT community through letter writing, phone calls, and other active support for environmental issues. All members and non-members are welcome to join our outings regardless of sexual orientation.

**WEB SITE:** <http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/LGBT/>

**MEETUP:** <http://www.meetup.com/njsierraclub>

**FACEBOOK:** Pending

### OFFICERS:

<b>Co-Chair:</b>	John Kashwick *	jkashwick@gmail.com
<b>Co-Chair:</b>	Robert Zitzman *	robertmz@att.net
<b>Secretary:</b>	Jonathan Wall*	psychologist@jonwall.com
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Corbett Klein *	corbettklein@outlook.com
<b>Outings Co-Chair:</b>	Corbett Klein *	corbettklein@outlook.com
<b>Outings Co-Chair:</b>	Robert Zitzman *	robertmz@att.net
<b>Webmaster/</b>		
<b>Listmaster:</b>	John Kashwick *	jkashwick@gmail.com
<b>Ex-Com Member:</b>	OPEN POSITION—contact John or Robert if interested	

(\* Section Executive Committee Member)

### MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

**Apr 11 (Sat): Black River Trail Hike.** 10am. Black River County Park/Cooper Mill, Chester. We'll hike seven plus miles along the Black River through pine forest and view the Kay's Cottage ruins and stop to have our bagged lunch about half way through. If time and scheduling permit we can tour the Cooper Grist Mill afterwards, and/or stop for a snack in Chester. Leader: Robert Zitzman (robertmz@att.net).

**Apr 22 (Wed): Executive Committee Conference Call.** 7:30pm. Help plan events for the summer months and discuss administrative issues. Contact John for dial in number or more information at jkashwick@gmail.com.

**May 2 (Sat): Wharton State Forest Hike.** 10am. Wharton State Forest, Hammonton. We'll hike about 10 miles on the Atsion to Quaker Bridge loop. We'll stop for a bagged lunch at the halfway point. Leader: Robert Zitzman (robertmz@att.net).

**June 13 (Sat): Washington Crossing Bike Ride.** 10am. Washington Crossing State Park, Titusville. Celebrate Pride Month with us and we take a leisurely 15 mile bike ride along the D&R Canal to New Hope/Lambertville and back. Leader: Corbett Klein (corbettklein@outlook.com).

Dates and times subject to change. Participants should register for outings at [http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj\\_calendar.asp](http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj_calendar.asp) or [www.meetup.com/njsierraclub](http://www.meetup.com/njsierraclub). Please contact leader for more information. You can also receive updated information by joining our email list. Please contact John at jkashwick@gmail.com to be included in the list.

**Volunteers Needed!** We are continuing to recruit volunteers and outings leaders. For more information, please email John at jkashwick@gmail.com or Robert at robertmz@att.net.

## Senior Section/Fifty-Plus Section

*(A chapter-wide special interest section which offers a weekly to monthly calendar of activities and events, including hikes, clean ups, social gatherings, dinner get-togethers and other functions intended for those members over fifty)*

More New Jersey events are posted on our web site: <http://www.funtravels.com>. 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](mailto:azatz@funtravels.com). and invites members to check her web site at [www.funtravels.com](http://www.funtravels.com) for trips, 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 environment, and involvement in preserving our future. Many events are open to all Young Sierrans regardless of marital status, so whether you are single, dating or married, please come join us!)*

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

### YOUNG SIERRAN COMMITTEE POSITIONS

#### Head Chair &

<b>Coordinator:</b>	William Sevchuk	wsevchuk@yahoo.com
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	<i>Open Position</i>	Please Contact Us!
<b>Moderator:</b>	Diana Christine Eichholz	MistyAngel22@aol.com
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	Steve Timmerman	skiingsteve@aol.com
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Julie Garber	journey7@optonline.net
<b>Ex-Com/</b>		
<b>YS National Rep. (CA)</b>	Jackie Enfield	jackie@jackieenfield.com
<b>Northern Jersey YS Rep.</b>	Jim DeSantis	green@northjerseygreendrinks.com
<b>Outings Chair:</b>		
<b>(Northern Jersey)</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>	Please Contact Us!
<b>Outings Chair:</b>		
<b>(Central Jersey)</b>	Leon Yerenburg	lyerenburg@gmail.com
<b>Outings Chair:</b>		
<b>(South Jersey)</b>	<i>Open Position!</i>	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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:YoungSierrans@yahoo.com) with subject heading "Young Sierrans E-Mail List" — or to subscribe directly go to <http://lists.sierraclub.org/archives/NJ-YOUNG-SIERRANS-NEWS.html>. Events for 20's only are available for those wanting to volunteer to host 20's only events. Young Sierran Event Volunteers always needed and welcomed.

## Sierra Student Coalition

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

**National Website:** <http://www.ssc.org/>

## Inner City Outings Section

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

### OFFICERS:

<b>Chair:</b>	Marty Cohen	201-670-8383	martincohen@verizon.net
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Anne Dyjak	732-560-0953	annedyjak@verizon.net

This past season we accomplished three hikes, taking a total of 28 children into the woods. The main reason for these not very robust statistics is that the current Chair has not had much success in garnering consistently active volunteers. That is not to say that the Chair doesn't appreciate the several volunteers who have assisted on hikes, they have been a great help; but in addition, it would be nice to have some regular hikers step up. The Chair should not be the only one in the organization who is able and willing to safely lead a group into and out of the woods. It is also the Chair's belief that an active steering committee would go a long way towards improving matters. Accordingly, if you are an experienced hiker willing to commit to leading two hikes per year, or if you are willing to commit to attending three steering committee meetings per year, and performing some additional assignments totaling 20 hours per year, please contact the Chair. The operative word here is "commit".



# Outings

Learn more about your environment...  
take a Sierra Club educational hike!

### GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS

(roughly north to south)

**Skylands:** Vacant  
**South Highlands:** Jonathan Wall  
 psychologist@jonwall.com  
**North Jersey:** Ellen Blumenkrantz  
 eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com, 201-784-8417  
**Gateway:** David Ogens, 973-226-0748 (H)  
 64 Elm Rd, Caldwell 07003  
**Loantaka:** Vacant  
**Central Jersey:** Vacant  
**Raritan Valley:** Vacant  
**Jersey Shore:** Mike Verange, 908-732-8364 (H)  
 1497 W Front St, Lincroft 07738  
**Ocean County:** Terrance Brown, 848-333-7331  
**West Jersey:** Vacant  
**South Jersey:** Tom Boghosian, 609-625-0878 (H)  
 4794 Andorea Drive, Mays Landing, 08330  
 boghosian1@verizon.net

**Singles:** Joyce Haddad, jkhaddad@juno.com  
**Young Sierrans (Central Region):** Leon Yerenburg,  
 lyerenburg@gmail.com  
**Inner City Outings:** Anne Dyjak 732-560-0953 (H)  
 NJ-ICO, 17 Mt. Horeb Rd, Warren, 07059  
**River Touring:** Fred Tocce, 908-453-2205 (H)  
 RD-1, Box 277, Washington, 07882  
**Chapter Outings Chair:** Ellen Blumenkrantz  
 eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com, 201-784-8417

**Outing Leaders:** Please send July-September 2015 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 May 5. 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 July-September 2015 trip write-ups by May 8.

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



**NOTES ON OUTINGS:** All Outings are open to Club members, guests and anyone interested in outings. Unless otherwise specified, the events are free and open to the public. ALL participants must sign liability waivers on ALL outings sponsored by the Sierra Club. Please check with the leader before bringing small children on an outing. A parent or other responsible adult must accompany persons under 18. At their discretion, leaders may permit pets on outings if the event description specifically includes bringing pets.

Sierra Club outings are arranged by volunteer leaders who are in charge of the trip and responsible for the safety, welfare and enjoyment of all participants. Leaders determine qualifications to participate, adequacy of equipment, routes to be followed, and special precautions to be taken. Please arrive adequately prepared and equipped. If you have any allergies, please remember to bring your medication. The leader has the final word in the conduct of the trip. Your cooperation will help assure a safe and pleasant outing.

Please arrive early at the meeting place so that the outing can start on time. For day hikes, lunch, water (at least a liter), extra clothing, rain gear, and emergency equipment should be carried in a small daypack. For all except easy hikes, sturdy over-the-ankle shoes or boots should be worn. For most trips, you are expected to have your own equipment. In some cases, it may be rented from outdoor/camping suppliers - check the yellow pages or call the trip leader. If the weather is questionable on the date of the outing, you may assume that it will take place, unless the schedule indicates otherwise.

Unless registration is required, such as for weekend trips or river tours, or if you have a question about the outing, it is not necessary to contact the leader before the trip. However, as these outings are planned many months in advance, we do advise that you contact the trip leader 1-2 days before the outing to make sure it is not cancelled. Do not call to join a trip after the posted deadline date. When

phoning a leader, please honor his or her requested calling times and call 3 to 5 days before the outing. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) when writing to a leader. On popular trips, Sierra Club members will be given preference.

Watercraft trips let you experience the unspoiled parts of our region, but water safety does impose special requirements. The size and skill of each party must be appropriate to each river, so participation in each trip must be at the discretion of the leader. We ask you to register at least one week in advance. Unless a phone number is provided, please send a SASE with an honest assessment of your paddling experience, whether you need or can offer a ride, your phone number, and any questions you may have. You will receive a description of the trip, with directions, where you can rent a canoe, and what you will need to bring. Almost all trips can arrange partners to share a canoe if you are coming by yourself. Unless stated otherwise: rental canoes are available, trips do not require advanced paddling skill or exceptional physical conditioning, public transportation is not available, non-members may participate, and responsible smokers are welcome.

If you are a Sierra Club member interested in becoming an Outing Leader or have suggestions for new outings, contact your Group Outings Chair or the Chapter Outings Chair for assistance and further information. The Sierra Group contributing each outing is given at the end of the write-up, as follows:

(C) - Central Jersey	(JS) - Jersey Shore
(G) - Gateway	(L) - Loantaka
(N) - North Jersey	(Sk) - Skylands
(RV) - Raritan Valley	(S) - South Jersey
(W) - West Jersey	(NJ) - NJ Chapter
(RT) - River Touring	(ACOC) - Atlantic Chapter
(SNG) - Especially for Singles (but ALL welcome)	

habitats. Our "Merry Month of May" trip is 7 miles from Ore Pond to Dudley Park. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**May 3 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak Trip on the D&R Canal (Mercer Co).** 9am. Let's get some exercise - paddle 12 miles from Cherry Tree Lane to Kingston. Bring lunch and beverage. Contact leaders to confirm participation and meeting location. Rentals are not available. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**May 5 (Tues): Canoe/Kayak the Wading River (Burlington Co).** 9am. Celebrate Cinco de Mayo on our annual 10-mile trip from Hawkin Bridge to Beaver Branch. Boats can be rented from Mick's Canoe and Kayak Rental: 800-281-1380 or www.mickscanoerental.com/. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**May 9 (Sat): D&R Canal State Park Hike (Mercer Co).** 11am. Easy pace, 4-5 miles. We'll meet at Ellarslie, the Trenton City Museum in Cadwalader Park. The Park was designed in 1891 by Frederick Law Olmstead and has hundreds of trees that are rare at this latitude. We'll spend some time at the Museum before and after the hike. Our towpath hike will take us along the canal toward Washington Crossing Park. Bring lunch and water and snacks. Leashed dogs are welcome! Inclement weather cancels. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**May 9 (Sat): Van Campens Glen Hike, Delaware Water Gap NRA (Warren/Sussex Cos).** 10am. See <http://www.njhiking.com/nj-hikes-millbrook-van-campens-glen/>. This hike will cover 7 miles in 4 hours in hilly terrain. Moderately strenuous. Features a picturesque glen following the Van Campens Brook. Facilities: Restrooms at Millbrook Village. No pets. Hiking boots and a day-pack with water required. Bring a lunch. Registration required via web: [http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj\\_calendar.asp](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: Jim Oleksiak: the\_hikist@mac.com.

**May 13 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak the Abbott Marshlands (Burlington/Mercer Cos).** 9am. Our trip with the tide begins on the Crosswicks Creek in Bordentown. We paddle to Watson Woods in Roebling Park where we have lunch. Option, walk around Spring Lake and see the Mute Swans before returning to Bordentown. Bring lunch and beverage. Meet at Bordentown Beach, end of Park St. Rental boats are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**May 16 (Sat): Cooper River Park - Canoe/Kayak and Cleanup (Camden Co).** 9am-Noon. Join the West Jersey Group of the Sierra Club to protect the Delaware River Watershed and be a steward as part of the Club's Water Sentinels Program. Our 2014 joint cleanups were a great success! Partner with Delaware Riverkeeper Network and the South Jersey Land & Water Trust. Participants must have their own boats - rentals are not available. Life vests must be worn. Bring lunch and water. Meet in Cooper River Park near the intersection of Cuthbert Blvd and South Park Drive in Haddon Township - opposite side of lake from mini golf. Plenty of parking at the gravel parking lot next to the lake. GPS Coordinates: N39 55.312, W75 03.205. Please contact leaders to register: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**May 17 (Sun): Hedden County Park (Morris Co).** Sierra Silver Singles. 10am. Hike 4-5 miles at a moderate pace. Hiking boots recommended for the hilly, rocky terrain. Rain cancels. Optional lunch to follow at a local diner. Directions: I-287 to exit 39. Travel West on Rte 10 for 9 miles. Turn right on the Dover-Chester Rd just before the traffic light. At the T intersection, turn left and drive 3 short blocks to Concord Rd. Turn right and proceed .5 miles to the parking lot. Any questions, contact the leader: Rozanna Fanelli: rfanelli39@hotmail.com.

**May 21 (Thurs): Canoe/Kayak the Oswego River (Burlington Co).** 10am. The American Red Cross was founded on this day in 1881! Enjoy an 8-mile spring paddle on "The Jewel of the Pinelands". Meet at Lake Oswego, Lake Oswego Rd. Bring lunch and water. Boats can be rented from Mick's Pine Barrens Rental: 800-281-1380 or www.mickscanoerental.com/. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**May 23 (Sat): Turtleback Rock, South Mountain Reservation (Essex Co).** 10am. We will start at Turtleback Rock trailhead. See the Essex County Parks Commission website <http://www.essex-countynj.org/p/index.php?section=parks/sites/so> for directions. Bring lots of water, and wear hiking boots. We will take the orange trail down to Hemlock Falls and also see the famous Turtleback Rock. Heavy/steady rain cancels. No pets please. Leader: Jeffrey Sovelove: Hiker\_Dood@yahoo.com. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike.

**May 23 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River (Mercer/Hunterdon Cos).** 10am. We'll paddle 8 miles from Kingwood Access to Bulls Island. Lunch break at the Famous River Hot Dog Man's Restaurant; bring or buy lunch. Paddling helmets required for all paddlers; spray skirts recommended for kayakers. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location. Current Sierra Club membership required. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**May 24 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Raritan River (Middlesex Co).** 10am. Celebrate Memorial Day on the "Mighty Raritan". The river section we paddle will depend on conditions. Bring lunch, snacks and water. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders for details and to confirm the trip. Helmets required. Current Sierra Club membership required. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**May 25 (Mon): Canoe/Kayak with your Pooch on the Wading River (Burlington Co).** 9am. Fortunato invites his "cousins" and dog lovers for a Memorial Day trip. Boats can be rented from Mick's Pine Barrens Canoe and Kayak Rental: 800-281-1380 or www.mickscanoerental.com. Contact leaders to confirm trip and river section we are paddling: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**May 29 (Fri): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River Watershed (Mercer/Burlington Cos).** 9am. This is an 18-mile paddle for experienced distance paddlers. Helmets required for all paddlers; spray skirts recommended for kayakers. Kayaks must be 12ft or longer. Rentals are not available. Current Sierra Club membership required. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**May 31 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Great Egg Harbor River (Atlantic Co).** 10am. This is a 10-mile trip on the "Egg" run on Penny Pot to Weymouth Furnace. Meet at the Harley Dawn Diner - arrive early for breakfast. Rentals are available from Palace Restaurant and Outfitters: 609-625-8552 or www.thepalaceoutfitters.com. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

## JUNE

**June 3 (Wed): Barnegat Bay Blitz (Ocean Co).** 9am-2pm. This is the 3rd year that the Sierra Club is participating in the "Blitz" on-water cleanup. We'll meet Lauren Keltos, NJDEP Team Captain for Barnegat Township, at the Barnegat public launch area. From there we'll paddle to areas designated for cleanup in the Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge. Garbage bags and gloves will be provided. Bring water and snacks. After the cleanup - option for late lunch at Sweet Jenny's Restaurant. Rental kayaks are not available. Contact leaders to confirm participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**June 3 (Wed): Full Moon Paddle on the lower Mullica River (Atlantic/Burlington Cos).** 6pm. Meet at Bel Haven Paddle Sports: 1227 Rte 542, Washington Twp, 12 miles east of Hammonton. Paddle the Mullica River under a spectacular full moon, and listen to the serenade of the evening wildlife. Don't miss this excellent opportunity to be on the water watching the moon rise. Some paddling experience required. Limited space, contact leader to reserve space. Please bring picnic-type food to share after paddle at our tailgate social. Bring flashlight and whistle, minimum 13' kayaks. PFD's must be worn. No rentals are available. Contact leader to confirm trip and participation: Paul Serdiuk: 609-462-3593 or pis9@yahoo.com.

**June 5-7 (Fri-Sun): Janes Island Kayak and Camping Weekend (Mount Laurel MD).** Meet at 5pm at Janes Island State Park: 26280 Alfred Lawson Drive, Crisfield MD 21817. Annual Kayak, camp and bike weekend on the Chesapeake Bay at Janes Island State Park, a Chesapeake Bay Gateway, one of over 100 special places to experience the Chesapeake Bay. We will be kayaking both days on the many sheltered water trails around the Island and Little Annemessex River. Some cabins are available. Saturday night will include an optional visit to Christfield for an all-you-can-eat crab fest: blue claw and soft shell. Minimum 13' kayaks with spray skirt & bilge pump. Contact leader for camping information, as this trip will fill quickly. Campsite reservations will be made directly with State Park, however contact leader for loop and group area information. Leader: Paul Serdiuk: 609-462-3593 eves, or pis9@yahoo.com. GPS location: 38.01639 N, 75.8575 W. Take US 13 South to MD Rte 413. Then 413 south for about 12 miles, right onto Plantation Rd, then one mile to park entrance.

**June 7 (Sun): Canoeing/Kayaking Skills Refresher on Lake Oswego (Burlington Co).** 9am. ACA Certified Instructors from the Sierra Club will share information about paddling efficiencies, safety practices, rescue techniques and equipment. The refresher is held on Lake Oswego. Boats can be rented from Mick's Canoe and Kayak Rental: 800-281-1380 or www.mickscanoerental.com/. Bring lunch, snacks and water. Contact leaders to confirm the event and your participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**June 10 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak the Rancocas Creek (Burlington Co).** 9am. The river section we paddle will depend on conditions. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders for information: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**June 13 (Sat): Terrace Pond Hike, West Milford (Passaic Co.)** 10am. See <http://www.nynjtc.org/hike/terrace-pond-loop-terrace-pond-red-trail-clinton-road>. The hike will cover 7 miles in 5 hours in rugged

(continued on page 12)

## APRIL

**Apr 1 (Wed): Richard J. Coffee Mercer County Park Hike.** 10am. 5 miles, easy pace. There's no fooling - we'll enjoy a hike along Mercer Lake and walk the woods trails. Bring beverage, lunch and snacks. Leashed dogs are welcome. Inclement weather cancels. Meet at the West Picnic Area. Leaders: Leona and George F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Apr 3 (Fri): Hike at Maurice River Bluffs Preserve (Cumberland Co).** 10am. 5 miles, easy pace. The Nature Conservancy prides itself on protecting great places like the Maurice River Bluffs, a majestic preserve overlooking the river. Directions: Take Rte 55 south to Rte 49 exit. Turn right onto Rte 49 West. After you cross the Maurice River in Millville, turn left onto Cedar Street/Rte 555 for 0.2 miles. Then bear left onto Rte 627/Silver Run Road, and continue for 1.7 miles. Look for The Nature Conservancy sign on the left side of the road. (The last public restroom is at the Wawa gas station on Rte 49 just past Rte 55.) Please contact leaders to register. Bring binoculars, water and snacks. Leashed dogs are welcome. Option for late lunch at the Maurice River Diner. Inclement weather cancels. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Apr 5 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the N. Branch Rancocas Creek (Burlington Co).** 9am. "Bunny Ears optional"! Paddle 14 miles on the N. Branch Rancocas Water Trail from BCCC to Mount Holly. Meet at the Vincentown Diner - arrive early for breakfast. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Apr 11 (Sat): Pyramid Mountain Hike (Morris Co.)** 10am. This will be a 4-5-mile loop hike past Tripod Rock using a variety of trails. Hiking boots are a MUST! There is quite a bit of elevation change and significant climbing. See the Morris County Parks website <http://www.morrisparks.net/aspparks/pyrmtmain.asp> for directions and info. Bring lots of water and a light snack. Meet in the Pyramid Mountain Visitor's Center parking lot. Inclement weather cancels. No pets please. Joint ADK-NJ and Sierra club hike. Leader: Jeffrey Sovelove: Hiker\_Dood@yahoo.com.

**Apr 11 (Sat): Garret Mountain Hike to the Great Falls, Patterson (Passaic Co).** 10am. <http://www.nynjtc.org/park/garret-mountain-reservation> <http://www.nps.gov/pagr/index.htm>. The hike will cover 7 miles in 4 hours in hilly terrain with great views of Patterson. Difficulty: Moderately strenuous. Facilities: One Port-A-Potty. No pets. Hiking boots and a day-pack with water required. Bring a lunch. Registration required via web: [http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj\\_calendar.asp](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.

**Apr 12 (Sun): Hike the Franklin Parker Preserve (Burlington Co).** 10am. 5 miles, easy pace on the Yellow Trail. The acquisition of the Franklin Parker Preserve in 2003 by the New Jersey Conservation Foundation was a momentous occasion in conservation. This 9400-acre preserve is a keystone piece of land, linking the expanses of Brendan Byrne, Wharton, and Penn State Forests and creating a more contiguous Pinelands National Reserve. Inclement weather cancels. Contact leaders to confirm hike and meeting location. Leashed dogs are welcome. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Apr 13 (Mon): Canoe/Kayak the Rancocas Creek (Burlington Co).** 9am. The river section we paddle will depend on conditions. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders for information. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Apr 18 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak Cleanup on the Crosswicks Creek/Delaware River Watershed (Burlington Co).** 10:30am-2pm. Support the Sierra Club Water Sentinels Program and our spring cleanup with the Bordentown Yacht Club. The cleanup begins at low tide and takes place in the wetlands area above the RiverLINE bridge. These marsh flats have a lot of trash so we are in and out of our boats. Wear boots and bring gloves. Garbage bags are provided. Meet at Bordentown Beach, end of Park St. Rentals are not available. Bring water, snacks and lunch. Contact leaders to register for the cleanup. Leona & George F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Apr 19 (Sun): Tourne County Park (Morris Co.).** Sierra Silver Singles Hike. 4.5-mile hike over both flat and hilly terrain. One moderately steep road; climb to a scenic lookout. Optional lunch at a local pub-restaurant. Meet and be ready to hike by 10am. Steady rain cancels. Directions: I-287 North to exit 43. At the end of the ramp, turn left, cross over I-287 and turn right at the first light (Fanny Rd). Proceed to the second stop sign and turn right (West Main St). Go a few hundred feet and turn on the road forking in from the left (Powerville Rd.). Go one quarter mile and make a left on McCaffrey Lane. Proceed to the first parking lot on the right. Any questions, contact the leader: Jay Dibble: 908-289-8813.

**Apr 22 (Wed): Earth Day - Wading River Cleanup (Burlington Co).** 10am. Join us for Sierra Club's Earth Day cleanup on the Wading River and make a difference for wildlife and the environment. We'll be getting in and out of our boats to collect trash on the river bank. Bring lunch and beverage. Garbage bags and gloves will be provided. Rentals not available. Contact leaders for details and meeting location: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Apr 25 (Sat): Essex County Environmental Center (Essex Co.).** Sierra Silver Singles. 11am. Join us at the Essex County Environmental Center, 621 Eagle Rock Ave, Roseland, to help celebrate Earth Day. We will provide short canoe trips to individuals and families, many whom have never been in a canoe. Ends at 4pm. We need about 15 volunteers. Please join in this community support activity! Contact Ron Pate at ronpate31@verizon.net for additional information.

**Apr 26 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River and Tour Lambertville's 34th Annual Shad Festival (Hunterdon Co).** 9:30am. We'll paddle the Delaware River and then walk around town, check out the arts & crafts and have lunch at the Food Court. <http://www.shadfest.com/> Paddling helmets required for all paddlers; spray skirts recommended for kayakers. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and meeting location. Current Sierra Club membership required. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**Apr 29 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak the Abbott Marshlands (Burlington/Mercer Cos).** 10:30am. Our trip with the tide begins on the Crosswicks Creek in Bordentown. We paddle to Roebling Park where we'll have lunch and walk the trails before returning to Bordentown. Bring lunch and beverage. Meet at Bordentown Beach, end of Park St. Rentals are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

## MAY

**May 1 (Fri): Canoe/Kayak Cedar Creek (Ocean Co).** 9am. Double Trouble State Park was established in 1964 to help protect the Cedar Creek watershed and now features over 8,000 acres of Pine Barrens



**SIERRA CLUB**  
FOUNDED 1892

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**Conservation Vice-Chair**  
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**Group Effectiveness Committee**  
Rich Isaac\*\*, Greg Auriemma

**Regional Issues Coordinator**  
\* Joan Denzer\*\* (JDenzer73@yahoo.com)

**Fundraising Committee**  
Ken Johanson\*\*, Joan and George Denzer

**Personnel Committee**  
Ken Johanson\*\*, Joan Denzer, Rich Isaac, George Denzer, Lee Snyder

**Legislative Committee**  
Ken Johanson\*\*, Carey Huff, Dave Mattek, and Kelly-Ann Norgaard

**Litigation Oversight Committee**  
Greg Auriemma\*\*, Ken Johanson

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

**Information Technology Committee**  
Joe Testa\*\*, Sunil Somalwar, George Newsome

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

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

**NEW JERSEY CHAPTER LEADERSHIP**

**Issue Coordinators**

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

**Community Solar**  
Dick Colby (see left column)

**Climate Change**  
Faith Teitelbaum (732) 513-5445  
faithtei@aol.com

**Delaware River Issues**  
Gina Carola (see left column)

**Energy Efficiency & Conservation**  
Rob Benjamin (robbenjamin@outlook.com)

**Genetically Modified Organisms**  
Barbara Conover 201-452-9389  
Bconifer022@gmail.com

**Green Acres Issues**  
Bob Moss (see left column)

**Land Use Issues**  
Laura Lynch (see left column)

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

**Natural Gas and Fracking Issues**  
Terry Stimpfel (609) 731-7016  
terystimb@hotmail.com  
and Greg Gorman (see left column)

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

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

**Liaison to Pinelands Preservation Alliance:**  
Mike Gallaway (M.Gallaway@comcast.net)

**Population Issues**  
Bonnie Tillery (609) 259-6438  
Blt44blt@msn.com  
389 Sawmill Rd, Hamilton NJ 08620.

**Recycling Issues**  
David Yennior (see above)

**Solar Home Issues**  
Edgar Shepherd (shepherd\_edgar@yahoo.com)

**Tiger Conservation Issues**  
Sunil Somalwar (see left column)

**Transportation Issues**  
Steve Lanset (201) 424-6348 (mobile)  
slanset@hotmail.com

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

**Utah, Wildland Issues**  
John Kashwick (201) 660-8820  
jkashwick@gmail.com

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

**Chapter Office 609-656-7612**  
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**Chapter Director: Jeff Tittel**  
Jeff.Tittel@SierraClub.org

**Administrative Assistant: Toni Granato**  
Toni.Granato@SierraClub.org

**Organizing Representative, Beyond Coal Campaign:**  
Christine Guhl Sadovy 908-231-0202  
Christine.Guhl@Sierraclub.org

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

**OUTINGS**

(Continued from page 11)

terrain. Great views of the Pequannock Watershed and Terrace Pond. Strenuous. Facilities: None. No beginners. No pets. Hiking boots and a day-pack with water required. Bring a lunch. Registration required via web: [http://newjersey.sierraclub.org/nj\\_calendar.asp](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.

**June 13 (Sat): Canoe/Kayak the Abbott Marshlands (Burlington/Mercer Co).** 10:30am. Our 12-mile trip with the tide begins on the Crosswicks Creek in Bordentown. We paddle to Anchor Thread Park where we have lunch and then return to Bordentown. Bring lunch and beverage. Meet at Bordentown Beach, end of Park St. Rental boats are not available. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**June 14 (Sun): Eagle Rock Reservation (Essex Co).** Sierra Silver Singles. 10am. Hike approximately 4 miles at a moderate pace with some ups and downs. Please bring lunch along with water/something to drink, and whatever else you will need (sun protection, hat, jacket). Plan to arrive early as the hike will start on time. Meet in front of the 9/11 Memorial. Rain cancels. No pets, please. Contact the leader, Ron Pate, for more information: ronpate31@verizon.net.

**June 14 (Sun): Canoe/Kayak the Delaware River (Hunterdon/Mercer Cos).** 10am. Celebrate Flag Day! This is an 8-mile paddle from Kingwood to Bulls Island. Helmets required for all paddlers; spray skirts recommended for kayakers. Bring or buy lunch at the Famous Hot Dog Man's River Restaurant. Contact leaders to confirm trip and participation. Rentals are not available. Current Sierra Club membership required. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**June 14 (Sun): Flat-Water Kayak Training (Burlington Co).** 9am. Meet at Mick's Canoe and Kayak Rental: 3107 Rte 563, Chatsworth 08019 ([www.mickscanoe.com](http://www.mickscanoe.com) for directions). New to kayaking or just want to refresh your skills, then this training is for you. You will learn proper fitment of your life vest, wet exit, Assisted Rescue, and Self Rescue (paddle float, modified cowboy, and heel hook). Bring paddle floats, life vest, spray skirt (if you have it). Instructions given by a certified ACA (American Canoe Association) instructor. Limited to 20 participants. Must register by June 3. No open-toed shoes; wear clothes (bathing suit) that dry quickly (no cotton). Join us for the river trip if you already know how to paddle. Tailgate social after paddle, everyone brings picnic-type food to share. For more info contact Paul Serdiuk: pis1@cccnj.net or 609-462-3593.

**June 17 (Wed): Canoe/Kayak the Oswego River (Burlington Co).** 10am. Join us for a lovely spring trip on the "Jewel of the Pinelands." Meet at Lake Oswego, Lake Oswego Rd. Boats can be rented from Mick's Pine Barrens Rental: 800-281-1380 or [www.mickscanoe.com](http://www.mickscanoe.com). Contact leaders to confirm participation: George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**June 20 (Sat): Sterling Forest Bare Rock Vista (Rockland Co, NY).** Meet at the Visitors' Center at 10am sharp. We'll climb to the Sterling Forest Fire Tower then to the Bare Rock Vista for lunch. After lunch, we'll return to the Visitor's Center back down the Bare Rock Trail. See the Sterling Forest website for information and directions: <http://nysparks.state.ny.us/parks/74/details.aspx>. No pets please. Inclement weather cancels. Joint ADK/Sierra Club hike. Leader: Jeffrey Sovelove: Hiker\_Dood@yahoo.com.

**June 20 (Sat): Decorated Boat Parade on the Delaware Canal in Yardley PA (Bucks Co).** 11am-3pm. The Boat Parade and Rubber Duckie Race are fun family events sponsored by Friends of the Delaware Canal. Enter your decorated canoe or kayak - or just enjoy the parade from the towpath. Check the website for more information [www.fodc.org](http://www.fodc.org) or contact George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com. (W)

**There are three additional outings in the last week of June, all kayak trips led by the Flucks, that wouldn't fit into the space available here; please find them on the Chapter's website (using the web address at the bottom of this page).**

**Upcoming ExCom Meetings:**

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

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

**April 11 at Hamilton Twp Library (Mercer Co), May 9 at Chatham Public Library (214 Main St.), and June 13 at the New Brunswick Public Library (60 Livingston Ave.)**



Vol. 44, No. 2 • Spring, 2015

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*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.)

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Primary typeface: Garamond, 9.5 point Printed by Princeton Packet, Princeton, NJ Addressed by Digital Dog Direct, Princeton 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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