Limited space makes it impossible to report in detail on all 12 House races. By Chapter Political Chair John Kashwick (jkashwick@gmail.com).

Our Political Endorsements: Menendez for US Senate and Democrats in all 12 House Races

By Chapter Political Chair John Kashwick (jkashwick@gmail.com)

During the past two years we have seen an unprecedented assault on the environment by the Trump administration and the Republicans in Congress—gutting the Endangered Species Act, rollbacks to auto-emissions standards, shrinkage of national monuments, and opening up offshore oil and gas drilling.

It is URGENT that we now elect an environmental-sane majority in both the House and Senate, and that we endorse those candidates, whether Democrat or Independent, who will make outstanding regional Democratic House candidates.

During our endorsement interview, Van Drew committed to protect federal public lands, oppose offshore drilling, and support renewable energy projects. He earned a B.S. from Rutgers University and a D.D.S. from Fairleigh Dickinson University Dental School. Concurrent with his dentistry practice, Van Drew has served for many years as a Township Commissioner, Mayor, Freeholder, and most recently, since 2008, state senator from the 1st legislative district, where he chairs the Community and Urban Affairs Committee.

Andy Kim (District 3), a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford, served as State Department for 20 years under both George W. Bush and Barack Obama, serving in both Iraq and Afghanistan. He favors overturning Citizens United and has taken the “No Fossil Fuel Pledge.” Kim is running against Rep. Frank LoBiondo.

Josh Welle (District 4) was a mechanism for additional nominations. For Congress: Senators and representatives, new Jersey state senators and Assembly members. For Congress: Senators and representatives, new Jersey state senators and Assembly members.

Also, please join us for canvassing weekend Oct 13-14. We plan to organize canvassing and/or phone banking events at various times throughout the weekend in the more competitive House districts. We may add additional dates and times (check our on-line calendar). To help, please contact me, John Kashwick, at jkashwick@gmail.com.

LIMITED SPACE MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE TO REPORT IN DETAIL ON ALL 12 HOUSE RACES. BY CHAPTER POLITICAL CHAIR JOHN KASHWICK (JKASHWICK@GMAIL.COM).
At a July 25th hearing in Trenton on affordable housing, schools, infrastructure and racial and economic discrimination were discussed. But, for the most part, environmental issues were not. The hearing was the first of four that will be held in various locations in New Jersey.

Meanwhile, back in my neck of the woods, the Great Swamp Watershed Conservation Report for June – December 2018 was approved by the Chapter Executive Committee. It contains the following resolutions:

- Approve the Chapter Executive Committee’s request to “escalate forest protection, restoration, and responsible management as a method to fight climate change.”
- Approve the Chapter Executive Committee’s request to “commit to the development of a long-term land use plan for the Town of Great Swamp, Toms River, Ocean County, and Wal-Mart in Lawrence Township, Mercer County. I am the NJ Sierra Club liaison to several open space preservation groups. I am involved in long-term land use issues, from the Peck Pipe Line to neighborhood parks. I was the lead author of our Chapter’s Beginner’s Guide to Land Use and Open Space Preservation in New Jersey. I participate actively in decision-making at the Chapter level.”
- Approve the Chapter Executive Committee’s request to “help edit the Jersey Sierra Newsletter. My academic background includes an undergraduate degree from Rutgers University and graduate degrees from Columbia University and The College of New Jersey. I’ve also been active in this Chapter since the early 1990’s and I hope to continue to contribute to the Chapter.”

The new officers welcomed in Rich Isaac’s Chair’s Message, on page 3, were approved.

Additional political endorsements are included in John Kashwick’s article on page 2. Our major criterion is to support US Senate and House candidates (in this case, all Democrats) who will resist Pres. Trump’s environmental onslaughts.

In June we joined 22 of the Club’s roughly 70 Chapters in asking the Club’s Board of Directors to “escalate forest protection, restoration, and responsible management as a method to fight climate change.”

In July we joined an “Electrify New Jersey Coalition,” seeking to (1) establish a commissioner-level task force, (2) encourage municipalities to convert to electric vehicles, (3) instruct NJ Transit to purchase electric buses, and (4) improve NJ Transit’s public transparency in this regard.

In August we endorsed legislative efforts to implement a triennial electric school bus program to assess the viability, long-term cost savings, and health benefits of deploying these vehicles in school buses throughout the state.

Our resolutions are now available online at: sierraclub.org/new-jersey/chapter-resolutions.
Proposal for Electric School Buses

By Richard Isaac (risaac@nju.com)

On behalf of our NJ Chapter, I welcome all our new volunteer officers and thank them for their interest and service.

Kristen Andra, Chapter Solar Homes Coordinator

She graduated from Ramapo College of New Jersey with a BS in Environmental Studies. At Ramapo she served with the Mahwah Environmental Volunteers Organization and also became a bee-keeper – founding the Ramapo College Beekeeping Club.

Inspired perhaps by the solar panels on her own family home, Kristen worked briefly for Green Mountain Energy as a sales agent. Now she looks forward to learning more about the intricacies and practical applications of solar energy.

Jim Andreano, Chapter Solar Homes Financial Director

He is already a long-time supporter of our Chapter’s Faith-Based Buses Coordinator. His new role will take advantage of his many years of experience in the field of finance by a CPA performing audits, preparing financial statements, budget analysis and risk management.

For five years Jim has chaired the Board of a nonprofit organization in which interfaith congregations provide services to homeless families, and now to refugee families. Now retired, Jim uses his gift of time to make a difference. He is looking forward to our new Solar Homes Project.

Shivani Patel, High School Coordinator

Shivani is now a high-school senior. She was inspired by Dr. Seuss’s “The Lorax,” about the destruction of a wonderful forest, and which includes the quote, “unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing will get better, it’s not.” She also claims inspiration by the works of Sierra Club founder John Muir.

Shivani is well aware that she is only one person, but feels strongly that she still has an opportunity to do something about a cause she has been passionate about since becoming a vegetarian, and not just for the environment, but for other people as well. Shivani is strongly motivated to expand access of women to a seat at the proverbial table – corporate and political – and to their making their own decisions. Her expertise and experience include volunteer work fighting female femicide and infanticide and the illegal use of contraceptive methods. And other volunteer work in this country: in education and sustainable communities management.

Shivani intends to advance the Sierra Club’s agenda in gender equity and the environment, by speaking up and by creating more opportunities for herself and her fellow members, spreading awareness more widely in the New Jersey community and possibly collaborating with policy makers.

Do not hallucinate.
The generation of air pollution by inter- 
natural combustion engines is a major factor in 
the causes of these dramatic increases in the 
concentrations of pollutants inside vehicles, which depends on pollutants generated by the engine (combustion 
reaction) plus other nearby vehicles, as well as 
regional/local ambient air quality. These 
vehicles have been shown to be of a higher 
quality and, the results, on average, are not 
good. I've written before (Oct-Dec, 2017) 
about air pollution effects on cyclists who 
share the road. In this article, pollut- 
tant levels on the road will be exam- 
ined in more detail.

Most worrying are school buses with 
diesel engines: pollution in the cabin of 
the bus is higher than in the air above 
the bus. Notably, the effects of pollution on 
children are even more critical because 
the exact levels of pollutants are quite vari- 
able because of a complex interplay of many 
variables. (Density, particle size, vehicle 
condition, type of engine, the number of open 
windows, weather, and type of route (urban 
or rural, traffic volume, hills, etc) as well as 
the level of pollutants from sources near 
the school bus (like parked cars) and caused 
by other vehicles). Some results appear counterev- 
taneous as an increase in the speed of a 
route (urban or rural, traffic volume, hills, 
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**Bear Hunt is Not Needed**

According to the latest report on black bears from the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), the state’s population of 5500 bears is increasing. The most recent bear hunt in 2009. While bears have been seen in every county, the number of sighting reports has dropped by 85%, and damage and nuisance reports have dropped by 85%. Just two encounters with aggressive bears were reported in 2017, and four so far this year. These numbers show that there is no need for bear-hunting in northwestern New Jersey this year. Governor Murphy, who pledged during his campaign to cancel the hunt, has not yet announced his decision for the Fall 2018 hunt.

The main purpose of the hunt, to eliminate aggressive and nuisance bears, has proved to be successful. More than 4,000 bears were killed in the ten hunts held between 2003 and 2017. During the 16-day black bear hunting period in 2017, more than 400 bears were killed, including some sows and cubs. Additional bears died in vehicle collisions. Because there are fewer bears able to reproduce, the Sierra Club believes that there are fewer bears in New Jersey than the figure provided by the Division of Fish and Wildlife. The recent funding of the Bear Budget Hearing, DFW Commissioner McCabe did not abide by Governor Murphy’s promise to end the bear hunt. Instead, she supported ex-Governor Christie’s five-year management plan that includes bear hunting. She intimated that the bear hunt would be legislated to cancel the hunt, but not yet announced his decision for the Fall 2018 hunt.

Governor Corzine canceled the hunt in 2006, and the courts upheld his decision. Based on McCabe’s comments, there will most likely be bear hunts until 2020. New scientific evidence, McCabe optimistic on the thinking of the sportsmen-dominated Fish and Game Council, which claims that the bear population will continue to increase in New Jersey because of the abundance of food sources.

The Sierra Club believes that the hunt is no longer needed to reduce the bear population. Rather, New Jersey should implement a comprehensive bear management plan that includes non-lethal techniques. It should also institute a statewide education program that teaches bear-safety. Materials such as those prepared by the Division of Fish and Wildlife, the Sierra Club believes, should be disseminated throughout the state and discussed in all schools. Residents should be taught to bear-proof their properties. Warnings should be posted at trailheads: describing proper comportment in bear country. Education is the key to coexisting with this unique predator.

**Golf Course Rejected for Liberty State Park**

We’re delighted that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has rejected an application by Liberty National Golf Club to expand into the Caven Point area of Liberty State Park (Hudson Co) has been shot down by Governor Phil Murphy’s Administration, according to a letter, dated May 24, from the DEP to a representative for Sunemax Management Group, which proposed to lease (private) $5 acres (including land and water) at the south end of Liberty State Park.

We thank Governor Murphy for stopping this march and protecting our park. The decision adds to another decision regarding a private golf course in Liberty State Park; see article above.

The site is located on the Jersey City shoreline opposite Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty and Lower Manhattan, receives more than 7 million visitors a year, and is one of the most visited state parks in the country. It also houses the State Science Museum, and birding enthusiasts. Of the 50 state parks in New Jersey, Liberty is probably the most visited state parks in the country. It also houses the State Science Museum, with a diversity of habitats and biomes – sandy beach, saltwater marsh, tide pools, mud flats and upland forest. It is a home for ongoing environmental programs, sports and recreation of all kinds, and is a vital recreational area of Liberty State Park.

Caven Point is a vital ecological and recreational area of Liberty State Park, with a diversity of habitats and biomes – sandy beach, saltwater marsh, tide pools, mud flats and upland forest. It is a home for ongoing environmental programs, sports and recreation of all kinds, and is a vital recreational area of Liberty State Park.

**Sierra Club Endorsed Reed Gusciora for Mayor of Trenton**

On June 12th, Reed Gusciora won a runoff election for Mayor of Trenton, having received the Sierra Club’s endorsement in April.

He had served in the New Jersey General Assembly since 1996, representing the 15th Legislative District, which includes portions of Mercer and Hunterdon Counties, including the Capital City of Trenton. Gusciora has served for nearly every election; he was also a municipal prosecutor in Princeton, Lawrenceville, and Hopewell boroughs, and a professor at the College of New Jersey. His website notes that he moved to Trenton from Princeton in 2011 because he believed in the city’s potential, drawing on his childhood experiences. For more than two decades, Gusciora has been a strong advocate for the development and revitalization of Trenton. His campaign platform included his intention to reshape and remediate the City, making it more attractive for people to live in. Now he will take on the illegal trade dumping problems in Trenton, and improve the city’s clean energy infrastructure.

His record in the Assembly was outstanding: authoring and sponsoring bills providing cleaner drinking water, especially in schools where lead was a contaminant, establishing New Jersey’s Electronic Waste Recycling Program, and, more recently, imposing fracking and fracturing waste bans. He also sponsored the Historic Tax Credit legislation that was unfortunately vetoed by Governor Christie.

Gusciora defeated seven other candidates in his bid for mayor. Since none of them received 50% of the votes in the election on May 8th, there was a runoff election on June 12th. When re-elected, he promised only 22%, he took 52% of the vote.

He has his work cut out: Trenton’s infrastructure water quality problem is an example of New Jersey’s ongoing water crisis. Trenton has old, leaky lead pipes. The water contains iron, calcium, and magnesium, which leads to scaling, and it tastes bad. Reed has pledged that fixing Trenton’s water works will be his administration’s top priority.

He proposes to establish a Mayor’s Caucus, including the leaders of the communities served by Trenton Water Works, in order to facilitate the necessary updates to its facilities and operations.

Gusciora also intends to boost the city’s green economic development. Reed believes that Trenton should be New Jersey’s green energy economic center. He has said that mitigating flooding is critical to the city’s economic future, especially as the effects of climate change become more apparent. Of the state’s 21 major defense installations, five are in the Trenton area. “We are at our constitutional and environmental crossroads,” Reed has said.

Reed’s recommendations include amendments stating that all facilities must require necessary permits before resuming their operations. He also asks for language stating that all facilities ‘fully comply with applicable environmental laws and regulations.’

It’s a victory for clean water. All of the Governor’s recommendations were incorporated into a revised version of the bill that was passed on July 3rd.

It’s also a reminder that corporations such as DuPont must be held accountable for pollution and regulated by government. DuPont was once the third largest discharger of reproductive toxins in the United States. We remember its attempt to bring VX Nerve Agent to the Chambers Works Facility for dumping into the Delaware River in 2004-2006, which we helped stop in 2007.

We still have major concerns with this facility, especially if it receives permission to treat fracking wastes. We have urged a complete ban on fracking activities by the Delaware River Basin Commission, including disallowing the dumping of fracking waste or taking water from fracking activities.

The federal government is also after DuPont to make it pay for the damages to the wildlife and habitats in Pompton Lake (Passaic Co), where DuPont operated a 600-acre factory. DuPont contaminated many waterways, including the Wanaque River, Acid Brook, and Pompton Lake itself, a major backup reservoir. (See article on pg 13 - in the electronic supplement to this Newsletter.)

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**Win for Liberty State Park: No Millionaire’s Marina**

A proposal to build a $500-slip marina in the Caven Point area of Liberty State Park (Hudson Co) has been shot down by Governor Phil Murphy’s Administration, according to a letter, dated May 24, from the DEP to a representative for Sunemax Management Group, which proposed to lease (private) $5 acres (including land and water) at the south end of Liberty State Park.

We thank Governor Murphy for stopping this march and protecting our park. The decision adds to another decision regarding a private golf course in Liberty State Park; see article above.

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Coastal marshes are the most densely populated areas in the entire country. It should be preserved for the people in the area who need to enjoy open space.

New Jersey’s Murphy Administration must do more to protect and preserve our parks. There is a $400-million backlog of needed capital repairs and other improvements. The Christie Administration took money from parks to fund open space acquisitions, and then tried to privatize them to cover that shortfall.

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**Sierra Club website to explore: www.sierraclubgreenhome.com**

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**Victory for Clean Water: Murphy Vetoes DuPont Dirty Water Bill**

An interesting insight into the greedy ugliness of pollution economies arose in May, when Governor Murphy conditionally vetoed S879 (Sweeney)/A5116 (Barbierelli).

The bill as written would have amended the definition of ‘existing major hazardous waste facilities’ in a piece of legislation known as the ‘Major Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting Act.’

The proposed legislation would have allowed DuPont to reopen its Chambers Works facility in Salem Co, a closed waste-processing plant with a history of dumping toxic residues into Delaware Bay – for which DuPont paid a $250,000 fine in 2011. The re-opening would have been allowed without imposition of the stringent controls that are required of new facilities. Murphy cited concerns that ‘the bill does not contain specific safeguards to protect the health of our environment and the safety of our residents.’ Murphy’s recommendations include amendments stating that all facilities must require necessary permits before resuming their operations. He also asks for language stating that all facilities ‘fully comply with applicable environmental laws and regulations.’

It’s a victory for clean water. All of the Governor’s recommendations were incorpo- rated into a revised version of the bill that was passed on July 3rd.

It’s also a reminder that corporations such as DuPont must be held accountable for pollution and regulated by government. DuPont was once the third largest discharger of reproduct- ive toxins in the United States. We remember its attempt to bring VX Nerve Agent to the Chambers Works Facility for dumping into the Delaware River in 2004-2006, which we helped stop in 2007.

We still have major concerns with this facility, especially if it receives permission to treat fracking wastes. We have urged a complete ban on fracking activities by the Delaware River Basin Commission, including disallowing the dumping of fracking waste or taking water from fracking activities.

The federal government is also after DuPont to make it pay for the damages to the wildlife and habitats in Pompton Lake (Passaic Co), where DuPont operated a 600- acre factory. DuPont contaminated many waterways, including the Wanaque River, Acid Brook, and Pompton Lake itself, a major backup reservoir. (See article on pg 13 - in the electronic supplement to this Newsletter.)
Sierra Club Supports Offshore Wind at BPU Stakeholder Meeting

From a press release issued by our Trenton staff on July 19th, edited by Irene Gnarra

On July 10th, New Jersey’s Board of Public Utilities (BPU) hosted a Public Hearing at Mercer County Community College – to begin implementing the Offshore Wind Energy Development Act (OWEDA). The Board proposes to create Offshore Renewable Energy Credits (OREC), a funding mechanism. The BPU provided nine questions to facilitate bids from Contractors for an initial supply of 1,100 megawatts (MW) of offshore wind electricity.

Ex-Gov. Christie signed OWEDA in 2010. In 2015 he received “territory” for the wind farm when the BPU government auctioned 344,000 acres of Atlantic Ocean, sealed off the New Jersey shore. Only one “bid” was submitted then. Christie rejected it because of its cost, and he discouraged all other likely bidders.

Enter Gov. Murphy! The BPU’s new plan supports Murphy’s Executive Order No. 8 of January 2018, directing state agencies to begin implementing the 2010 OWEDA goal of 3,500 MW of offshore wind by 2030.

We hosted the BPU’s informative meetings to encourage the public, garner support from stakeholders, and develop positive relationships with developers. But we are disappointed by the timidity with which the BPU is proceeding. Our work appears to be a replay of events of previous years. Why has there been so little progress toward the construction of offshore wind farms? We need to get the finances, environmental studies, and impact assessments now. Delay may cost us federal tax credits. It has certainly cost us new jobs, venture capital investments, and the use of renewable energy.

Several of the best places for wind turbines were completed six years ago.

New Jersey’s ideal location, with its shallow ocean depth and high wind speeds, offers the potential for offshore wind to meet 1/5 of its electrical needs. Offshore turbines would be built with cleaner energy. At a million dollars per MW, the BPU should solicit proposals for the initial 1,100 MW. Developers should be able to decide whether they want to pursue the entire project of $500 MW or just a part of it. To assure an open and transparent process, all companies should be eligible to bring the project to fruition should be encouraged to submit their proposals to provide, install, and maintain turbines, as well as their plans for transmitting the electricity to the shore.

As advocates, The Skylands Group of the NJ Sierra Club advocates the protection of the Sparta Mountain Wildlife Management Area from logging done under the guise of creating a ski facility. A major threat to New Jersey’s offshore wind goals is recent legislation that increases the subsidies for our three nuclear power plants – to the tune of $300 million annually to PSEG. Those three plants are generating wind to mention their environmental irresponsibility.

We must advocate for offshore wind, it is the most renewable and cost-effective form of power.

More important, we must address the problems of climate change, as we are vulnerable to sea level rise and super-storms. A wider moratorium on the burning of fossil fuels in the production of electricity would also alleviate health-related problems from air pollution.
North Jersey Group (Bergen and Passaic Counties)

OFFICERS:
- Chair: Jonathan Wall * jonwall@jonwall.com
- Vice Chair: Celeste Marin * onecentral@mac.com
- Secretary: Amy Weeder * aweder@comcast.net
- Treasurer: John Kashwick * jkaswick@gmail.com
- Political Chair: Kareen Becker * karbecker@gmail.com
- Conservation Chair: Debbie Young * debyoung51@comcast.net
- Children’s Program Coor: Angela Desajo * angela.desajo@gmail.com
- Biologist: Jonathan Wall * jonwall@jonwall.com
- Outings Coordinator: John Kashwick * jkaswick@gmail.com
- Webmaster/Listmaster: Cinny MacGonagle * cmacgonagle@yahoo.com

Unless otherwise noted, meetings and outings are free and open to general public, but donations are accepted. Please check our web site, Meetup page, or Facebook page (see above for URLs) as these as topics, dates, times, and venues are subject to change. (* Group Executive Committee Member)

GENERAL MEETINGS: All our general meetings are held at the North County Library, 65 Halstead St, Clinton, 08809, on the first Wednesday of each month. Meet and Greet at 7 p.m followed by program at 7:15 p.m. Meetings are free but donations are gladly accepted.

Sept. 5 (Wed): Wilderness Symposium: “7 p.m. Join us for an informative discussion about various wilderness proposals including the need for wildlife corridors to connect our increasingly fragmented natural lands and threats to our federal lands from the Trump administration and Congress. District 7 Congressional Candidate Tom Milawonik is scheduled to speak.

Oct. 3 (Wed): Shad Migration and Shad Farming: Michelle DiBlasio, The Nature Conservancy’s Watershed Restoration Coordinator will present on Shad fish migration and present on the conservation efforts to rehabilitate the Musconetcong River. Steven Yaffet.

Oct. 10 (Wed): Vice project at one of our most celebrated National Parks. Hear Al’s tales of tending to Yosemite Service Project: Come and hear Al Rylak present on his ser-

Oct. 17 (Wed): The Promise of Urban Life in the Age of Climate Change by Ashley Dawson. Visit the NJ Sierra Club’s Book Group. The Book Group meets every other month to read and discuss the environmental literature about environmental justice, conservation policy, climate change, sustainability, etc. The selection for this meeting is Extreme Cities: The Peril and Promise of Urban Life in the Age of Climate Change by Ashley Dawson. Please contact jonwall@jonwall.com or sign up on Meetup

Gateway Group

Serving Hillsdale, Elizabeth, and 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://sierragroup.org/new-jersey/gateway/(also accessible from the NJ Chapter website)

Please also join the Gateway Group on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/pages/GatewayGroup-NJ-SierraClub/1288998538047782

OFFICERS:
- Co-Chairs: Suzanne Trimmel 973-509-8435 suszanne.trimmel@gmail.com
- and
- David Yenner 973-844-1384 dyennor@gmail.com
- Vice-Chair:
- Co-Chair’s Ctrl: Caroline Kane 646-961-9005 ckanet678@verizon.net
- Secretary & Treasurer: Anne Hirs 973-844-1121 annehirs@msn.com
- Program Co-Chairs: Suzanne Trimmel 973-509-8435 suszanne.trimmel@gmail.com
- and
- Steven Yafet 908-554-2597 syafet@gmail.com
- Publicity Chair:
- Political Chair:
- Fundraising Chair:
- Membership Chair:
- Water, Newark Issues:
- Recycling:
- Passaic River Issues:
- Elizabeth Issues:
- Outings Chair:
- Group Executive Committee:

Please contact Suzanne Trimmel or David Yenner, Gateway’s Co-Chairs, if you have ideas or suggestions for a meeting/topic or program, or conservation project. We are very grateful for the contributions of Anna Whitley, John Beadle, Barbara Conover, Zach Khademi, Bill Chappel, Steven Yafet, Anne Hirs, Paula BoreNSTein, and Brenda Toyloy.

We invite YOU to join in our activism and ask your support as we strive to address the many issues facing our urban as well as suburban communities. Note several vacant positions listed above.

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

Hudson County Group

Website: http://www.sierragroup.org/new-jersey/hudson-county
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/HudsonCountySierraClub
E-mail: hudsonsierragroup@gmail.com

OFFICERS: (*ExCom)
- Chair: Buddy Jansen * buddyjansen@gmail.com
- Chair & Treasurer: Patrick Hildart * hildart_patrick@hotmail.com
- Vice Chair: David ‘Ace’ Case * accase88@gmail.com
- Secretary:
- Treasurer:
- Political Chair:
- Conservation Chair:
- Ready for 100:
- Delegate to ExCom:
- Publicity Chair:
- Membership Chair:
- Events:
- ExCom-at-Large:
- Webmaster:

MEETINGS AND EVENTS:
- Autumn Nature Walk. Sun, Oct 7; 10am-Noon. Liberty State Park, 200 Pesin Dr, Jersey City. Join us to enjoy autumn’s splendor in Liberty State Park’s popular Caven Point Cove along the shoreline and open fields. still looking like they did in Henry Hudson’s time! Free and open to the public. Visit the NJ Sierra Club website and the Hudson County Sierra Club facebook page to find out more and to RSVP.

Hudson County Group Executive Committee Meeting. Sun, Nov 18; 12:50pm. Hudson County Community College Library, “1” Sip Ave, Jersey City. Regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the Hudson County Group. Free and open to the public.

Hudson County Book Group. Thurs, Nov 29; 6-8:30pm. WORD Bookstore, 225 Newark Ave, Jersey City. The Book Group meets every month to read and discuss literature about environmental justice, conservation policy, climate change, sustainability, etc. The selection for this meeting is Extreme Cities: The Peril and Promise of Urban Life in the Age of Climate Change by Ashley Dawson. Visit the NJ Sierra Club website and the Hudson County Sierra Club facebook page to find out more and to RSVP.

Third Annual Holiday Party. Sun, Dec 16; 1-4pm. South House, 149 Newark Ave, Jersey City. Come out to meet New Jersey’s urban conservationists, to socialize over Sunday Brunch, and to discuss the environmental concerns facing Hudson County, New Jersey, and beyond. Visit the NJ Sierra Club website and the Hudson County Sierra Club facebook page to find out more and to RSVP.

Loantaka Group

(Morris and Union Counties (except for Elizabeth and Hillsdale), plus Livingston, Millburn and Roseland, approximately)

WEBSITE: http://www.sierragroup.org/new-jersey/loantaka

(Continued on page 8)
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://sierraclub.org/new-jersey/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 to come 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 or 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://sierraclub.org/new-jersey/loantaka/

**MEETING SCHEDULE:**

**Sept 12:** Meet your next Congresswoman, Mikie Sherrill! Mikie Sherrill is running for the NJ 11th District Congressional seat, which is currently held by Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen. Mikie will discuss her positions and then there will be a Q&A session.
**Oct 10:** Michael Watson, NJ Chapter of The Climate Mobilization will give a presentation about Recent Victories for Our Climate.
**Nov 14:** To be announced

**Dec 12:** Come to our annual Holiday Party. We have a gathering where we mingle and fun and try to find out what issues are important with our members. We ramp up the refreshments and hone our listening skills, so come and enjoy some time with us.

**ACTIVITIES:**

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 water resources on which we all depend. In addition, the Group is actively involved in State-wide initiatives involving air quality, transportation, and environmental legislation. Volunteers are always welcome. Call Paul at 908-253-2414 to confirm the location. Our website: http://sierraclub.org/new-jersey/loantaka/

**WEB SITE:** http://sierraclub.org/new-jersey/loantaka/

Please share this newsletter with a non-member friend, inviting use of the coupon on p. 12.
line to the uplands in Tinton Falls. The four-year effort, a classic citizen’s response to local pollution problems, involves local residents; members of the Sierra and other environmental groups, the local Freeholders, the Environmental Commission and other municipal, county and state environmental and elected officials; Monmouth University; the Monmouth County Historical Commission; and the occasional mechanical muscle of local municipal public works employees.

Recently, Long Branch Scout Troop 148 sponsored a daylong cleanup of the Ross Island and its tributaries. They called it “Ross’ River Revival” and it included a folk “folly” from when Ross Island was part of a 19th Century estate. The cooperative effort between Sierra and BCC extends the “reach” of both organizations into the local waterways, please contact Laura Bagwell at l.bagwell3@verizon.net. Laura focuses on the Red Bank area watersheds. In this effort, we work with the Navesink Swimming River Association, which, since 2002, has removed more than 20 tons of debris from our local banks and streams. For Whale Pond cleanups, contact Faith Teitelbaum at Faithtei@aol.com. Alas, pollution never ends; we are in constant need of volunteers.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS:
Our general membership meetings take place at 6pm on the fourth Monday of the month at Brookdale Community College’s Linwood Campus (BCC). We are pleased to report that the college has invited us to continue the joint meetings of BCC students, SCC members and the public through 2019. Our meetings, billed by BCC as “Science Monday,” average 75 attendees a month, with some talks peaking at 120 to 150 people.

The cooperative effort between Sierra and BCC extends the “reach” of both organizations into the local waterways. For Whale Pond cleanups, contact Faith Teitelbaum at Faithtei@aol.com. Alas, pollution never ends; we are in constant need of volunteers.

We meet at BCC to share our speakers with environmentally-conscious BCC college students, the general public, and other environmental organizations. A buffet is available for the students and adults at 6pm. The programs start at 6:30pm.

To get to Brookdale, take GSP Exit 109 to Rte 520 West (Newman Springs Rd, which becomes E Main St at the Linwood campus). Exit the traffic circle into the campus and follow the signs to the Warner Life Center. The Warner Life Center is on the right in the Twin Lights Rooms II and I. Use parking lot 74. As you walk towards the building complex, watch out for the high-speed down the slope on your left. If lot 7 in full, use parking lots 5 or 6. A campus map is at http://www.brookdale.edu/PDFFiles/MAPS_MAP_04_10.pdf.

Sept 24: The Constitution and the Environment: Maya K. von Rossum, head of the Delaware Riverkeeper organization, will discuss her book, “Green Amendment,” in which she argues that to protect the environment, we should use the bedrock of state and federal law to exceed our environmental protections, rather than push for specific state and federal regulations.

Oct 22: The Decline and Resurrection of the Raritan: Narrated by actor Avery Brooks, this hour-long DVD documentary tells the story of New Jersey’s Raritan River, a water source badly contaminated for over 200 years, and the extraordinary efforts to clean it up. The film reveals how government agencies, corporations, environmentalists, developers, scientists, and lawyers have clashed for years in their attempts to deal with the attendant pollution and environmental neglect. Before the Raritan River takes you down the lower ten miles of the Raritan, giving you a close, unflinching look at the aftermath of extensive pollution and environmental neglect, and the steps we can take.

Nov 26: DEP’s Plans for NJ: Mrs. Christine McCabe, newly appointed Commissioner of NJ’s Department of Environmental Protection, will discuss her plans and those of Gov. Phil Murphy to protect NJ’s fragile environment. The state’s previous administration loosened most of the state’s environmental regulations, in addition to cutting the DEP’s budget, much to the chagrin of environmentalists who hope the new administration will vigorously protect the environment.

Dec 2: Holiday Party: 2:5 pm at the home of Dennis Anderson, who has generously hosted these events for years. Open to all Sierrans. Admission: Nothing!! But we urge you to bring a favorite dish, whether appetizer, entrée, main dish, or dessert, as well as some drinks to share! Please let Margaret Meissner-Jackson know in advance at dennis36@yahoo.com so we don’t wind up with too many tortillas. Dennis’s house is at 6 Maple Avenue, off Millstone Road, Matawan. Use MapQuest or your GPS for directions, but beware, there are two Margarets named Dennis at “M-D-1” in Matawan! Members of other Sierra Groups are in the neighborhood, please stop by and say hello.

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

We are a grassroots organization that continues to fight for the protection of the Delaware and the Raritan Rivers. In the fall of 2018, the South Jersey Group sponsored a series of programs to discuss the issues facing the Delaware and the Raritan.

Some Possible Relevant Activities of Allied Organizations:
Oct 3, Nov 7 and Dec 5: (first Wednesdays), 6:30pm. Atlantic County Friends of the...
GROUP NEWS

 Parks (FoP) Monthly meetings of 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 Rt 50, 3½ miles south of Mays Landing. We are open during daylight hours. Phone: 609-432-3280. FoP will host “Plain Air in Atlantic County Parks,” an art exhibition and speaker series at the Art Gallery at Atlantic Cape Community College, Mays Landing. Details on the web site. November weekend: date the Roadside Treasures in Estell Manor. The December FoP meeting will be a potluck holiday feast, starting at 6pm.

 Oct 10 & Dec 12: (alternates second Wednesdays): 7pm: Bi-monthly meeting of Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River and its Tributaries (another “Partnership River” under federal protection): Meeting place: George Luciano Center. Cumberland County College. Cumberland County-based environmental issues are commonly discussed, including art, historical and recreational attributes of the area. Contact Karla Rossini (CU) at 609-774-5853 or karla.rossini@cumucarteret.org. Website: www.cumucarteret.org.

 Oct 17 & Dec 19: (alternates third Wednesdays): 6:30pm: Great Egg Harbor Scenic and Recreational River Council meeting at the Village of Bayville, 32 Market Street, Bayville, NJ. Phone: 609-237-3010. Contact: Janae Mackin, 609-390-6964. This meeting is held so that community members can share information on the development of the Great Egg Harbor Scenic and Recreational River. Council.


 Oct 28, 10am at Atlantic County’s Estell Manor Park. FoP-sponsored Mushroom Foray, led by the NJ Mycological Assn. See the FoP website.

 Nov 27: (alternates fourth Tuesday): 6:30pm: Great Egg Harbor River Watershed Association. Please go to the above listed electronic mailing list by contacting Lynn Maun, 856-649-2792 or email lynnkmaun@comcast.net. 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 the event. Event details are also listed on the online calendar on the Chapter’s web site: sierraclub.org/new-jersey.

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

 OFFICERS: Interim Chair: Ron Pate rpate31@verizon.net. Outings Chair: Joyce Haddad jkhaddad@juno.com. Conservation Chair: Position Open - Contact us! We need you! Treasurer: Joyce White joyce.white.exec@gmail.com. Social Chair: Joe Prebsh Joe.Prebsh@kraft.com. Vice Social Chair: Jeff Sovelove Hiker_Dood@yahoo.com. Programs: Position Open - Contact us! We need you! Publicity: Position Open - Contact us! We need you! Membership: Position Open - Contact us! We need you! Nominations: Nancy Sullivan nancysullivan@comcast.net.

 2015 Executive Committee members: Rozanna Fanelli, Joyce Haddad, Ron Pate, Joe Prebsh, Jeff Sovelove, Daphne Speck Burtynski, 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 events and activities. Some meet on the 1st or 2nd Mon of the month. Check the Club’s website for meeting time and location. New members are always welcome.

 ExCom meetings take place as needed at various locations. All welcome. Contact any officer for information.

 SOCIAL GATHERINGS: 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 New Brunswick. Join us one of the many 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 Outions section of this Newsletter for singles outings led by Jimi Oleksaik and Jeff Sovelove. 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 women over 50. Most events are scheduled following an optional meal at a location determined by the leader. See: The Outions section of this Newsletter for Silver Singles outings. Check the Singles listserv for announcements of more Silver Singles outings.

 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Section

 Our 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. Anyone is welcome to join our outings regardless of sexual orientation.

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


 OFFICERS: Co-Chair: Robert Zitzman * robertzmatt@att.net. Co-Chair: John Kashwick * jkashwick@gmail.com. Secretary: Corbett Klein* corbettklein@outlook.com. Outings Co-Chair: Jonathan Ackerman * jkashwick@gmail.com. Outings Co-Chair: Robert Zitzman * robertzmatt@att.net. Webmaster/Listmaster: John Kashwick jkashwick@gmail.com. Ex-Com Member: OPEN POSITION—contact John or Robert if interested.

 MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

 Check: Meetup.com/njsierrachurch or www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/LGBT/ for outings listings. You can also receive updated information by joining our email list. Please contact John at jkashwick@gmail.com to be included in the list.

 Sept 29: 2 pm: Stonewall National Monument and LGBT History Tour: Guided tour of the monument and nearby LGBT historic sites led by Tatiana Orlov, Senior Program Manager for National Parks Conservation Association. Learn how the monument was created and what you can do help ensure its legacy. The walking tour should last 60-75 minutes. We’ll meet for lunch before or a snack afterwards—time and location TBD. Space limited—check our Meetup page for availability and meeting location.

 Volunteers Needed! We are continuing to recruit volunteers and outings leaders. For more information, please email John at jkashwick@gmail.com or Robert at robertzmatt@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 a web site: http://www.funtravels.com. In addition, we will post notices on the listserv and the Chapter’s online calendar. See the Outings section of this Newsletter for singles outings led by Jimi Oleksaik and Jeff Sovelove. Please join the listserv to receive notification of all of our outings (see above for instructions on how to subscribe).

 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. Please find more news at web site http://www.sierraclub.org/new-jersey/senior-section.

 Arline Zatz is the editor and Chair of the Senior Section/Fifty-Plus Section. She can be reached at azatz@funtravels.com, and invites members to check her web site at www.funtravels.com for trips, tips, and travel information regarding New Jersey and other states.

 Paul Erlich is the Vice-Chair (p.w.erlich@gmail.com).

 Sierra Student Coalition

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

 National Website: http://www.ssc.org/

 Introducing Children to the Outdoors Section

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

 OFFICERS: Chair: Marty Cohen peli1491@gmail.com.

 Once again we took 38 students from Paterson’s Clemente Middle School on a hike in Harriman State Park. As we had enough leaders and assistants, we could break the group in two and do two separate hikes, a lot more enjoyable for all involved than an H. M. Stanley expedition. The weather cooperated so, despite the challenging trails and hills, there were smiles all around.

 NJCO is a public service program, one of 50 Sierra Club groups nationwide which provide about 1,000 nature outings per year, oriented towards children. About five such outings take place in New Jersey each year. That’s right only five – but they are great! We sure could use a couple of steering committee members to help expand this wonderful program.

 If you would like information about volunteering or if you would just like to be placed on our email list for our sporadically issued e-newsletters, please send me an e-mail.
Ocean County Group members are especially invited to explore the Traders Cove Marina and Park, in Brick (Twp. Ocean Co.); 10am. Bring lunch, drinks and a day-pack with water and lunch. Registration required via Web at: https://www.sierraclub.org/newjersey/sierra-singles. Directions for the meeting place will be sent via email to members who register. Leader: Jane Olsokak: <The.Hikist@mac.com>.

Oct 27 (Sat): Hike Turkey Swamp Park, Freehold (Monmouth Co.). 9:30 am. Forest and the meaning of history: Turkey Swamp once had 400 acres of wetland swamp that is now part of the 502 acres of the park. Meet at Turkey Swamp Park parking lot at 9:30 am. Bring beverage, lunch and snacks, and detailed weather forecast. Hiking boots and a day-pack with water and lunch are required. Non members are welcome. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: ellenblumenkrantz@hotmail.com.

Nov 4 (Sun): “Fall Back” Bicycle Ride at Duke Farms (Somerset Co.). 100 miles, 10 am. A bicycle ride that will take you from the heart of Somerset County to the Delaware Water Gap. The ride is divided into three sections: the first 62 miles to the Delaware Water Gap, the second 38 miles to the Delaware Water Gap, and the third 10 miles to the state line. Bring beverage, lunch and snacks. Non members are welcome. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: ellenblumenkrantz@hotmail.com.

Nov 7 (Wed): Fall Foliage Hike at Monmouth Battlefield State Park (Monmouth Co.). 10 am. A hike through the historic Monmouth Battlefield State Park in West Long Branch. Meet at the corner of Broad and Main Streets. Bring beverage, lunch and snacks. Non members are welcome. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: ellenblumenkrantz@hotmail.com.

Nov 10 (Sat): Jockey Hollow Loving Leader’s Hike (Morris Co.). 10 am. Meet at the center of this little Trailhead located on the 59-acre property at 101 Weehawken Road, Montville. Bring beverage, lunch and snacks. Non members are welcome. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: ellenblumenkrantz@hotmail.com.

Nov 13 (Mon): Pinelands Month - Hike the Franklin Parker Preserve (Burlington Co.). 10 am. Bring beverage, lunch and snacks. Non members are welcome. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: ellenblumenkrantz@hotmail.com.

Nov 21 (Sat): Island Pond Hike in Harbor Beach State Park (Ocean Co.); 10 am. Bring beverage, lunch and snacks. Non members are welcome. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: ellenblumenkrantz@hotmail.com.

Nov 25 (Mon): Canoe/Kayak the D&R Canal from Bulls Island to Prallsville (Hunterdon Co.). 10 am. Bring beverage, lunch and snacks. Non members are welcome. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: ellenblumenkrantz@hotmail.com.

Dec 2 (Sun) Hike at Duke Island Park (Somerset Co.). 10 am, 4 miles, easy pace. Duke Island Park is located near the Raritan River and has some of the best views of the river and the bay. Bring beverage, lunch and snacks. Non members are welcome. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: ellenblumenkrantz@hotmail.com.

Dec 5 (Wed) Hike at Jakies Branch County Park (Ocean Co.). 10 am, 4 miles, easy pace. Jakies Branch County Park is located near the Raritan River and has some of the best views of the river and the bay. Bring beverage, lunch and snacks. Non members are welcome. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: ellenblumenkrantz@hotmail.com.

Nov 25 (Mon): Canoe/Kayak the D&R Canal from Bulls Island to Prallsville (Hunterdon Co.). 10 am. Bring beverage, lunch and snacks. Non members are welcome. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: ellenblumenkrantz@hotmail.com.

Oct 12 (Fri): Hike Harrowswood Woods, Middlesex and Highlands (Monmouth Co.). 9-10 am. Enjoy mature woods, some distant views. 4-5 miles, easy pace. A trip to start, then some ups and downs, bring plenty of water, beginners welcome, supporter recommended. Contact leader to register and learn meeting place and parking. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz: ellenblumenkrantz@hotmail.com.

Oct 12 (Fri): Pinelands Month - Canoe/Kayak the Raritan River (Burlington Co.). 9:30 am. We’ll enjoy a Fall Foliage Paddle from Prallville to Baker Bridge to Raritan Lake. Pinelands Preservation Alliance has launched Pinelands Adventures and рекомедл to canoeing as well as private boat touring, www.pinelandsadventure.org. Contact leader to confirm the trip, meeting place and your participation. George & Leona F: 609-259-3734 or leona@pineypaddlers.com.

Oct 13 (Sat): Turntulock Rock, South Mountain Reservation Hike (Essex Co.). 10 am. We will start at Turntulock Rock trailhead. See the Essex County Parks Commission website www.essexcountyparks.com for reservations. Bring lunch and some water. We will take the Orange Trail down to Blenked Fields and also see the famous Turntulock Rock. Henry/ Scott Natural Area. Contact leader to confirm the trip, meeting place and your participation. Please RSVP and put “Sierra” in the subject line: Joan Pammone: (609)454-0693, pammoleon@comcast.net

New Jersey Chapter Leadership

Air Quality & Clean Air Issues
Paul Ehrlh. (paul@ehrlh.com)

Alaska Issues
Amy Pierson (amypierson@sierra.org)

Asbestos and Toxic Dust Issues
Francie Goldstein, M.D. (francie@sierra.org)

Community Solar
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Marine Issues
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Natural Gas and Fracking
Greg Goram (see left column)

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Tiger Conservation
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Wildlands Issues
Lonny Farley • lonnyf@sierra.org

Wildlands Issues
John Kashwick (see left column)

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Senior Trail Director: Jeff Tittel
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Administrative Assistant: Taylor McFarland
TaylorM@sierraclub.org

Communications and Legislative Coordinator: Jamie Zaccaria
Jamie.Zaccaria@SierraClub.org

I’m no one in the office to take your call, please leave a message on the following number. Please SPEEL YOUR LAST NAME, and state whether the phone number you leave is for daytime or evening.

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

Outings

(a) Hike: December 23: Pine Barrens Hike, Caumsett State Park, LongIsland (631-987-3212). 5 miles, easy pace on sandy trails. Contact leaders: George Denzer (609-799-5839) or Paul Sanderson (paulmsanderson@aol.com) to confirm participation and details.

(b) Hike: December 26-31: Patriots Week in Trenton - History of the American Revolution in NJ (Mercer Co). Please f no one is in the office to take your call, please leave a message on the following number. Please SPEEL YOUR LAST NAME, and state whether the phone number you leave is for daytime or evening.

(c) Hike: December 29-31: Tinton Falls Hike, Voorhees State Park, Monmouth Co. 4 miles, easy pace. Contact leaders: George Denzer (609-799-5839) or Paul Sanderson (paulmsanderson@aol.com) to confirm participation and details.

(d) Hike: December 31: Christmas Hike in the Pinelands (Monmouth Co). 5 miles, easy pace. After the hike we’ll tour the Mansion decorated for a Victorian Christmas (small fee) by local garden clubs. Option: Lunch at a Victorian Inn. Meet at Smith’s Woods at Historic Spot. East Railroad Ave. Funtastic! Leashed dogs are welcome. George & Lee 609-209-5734 or lee@pinnerpiddies.com. (H)

(e) Hike: December 31: Tunnel Head Hike in the Pinelands (Monmouth Co). 6 miles, easy pace. Bring lunch and beverage. Meet at Tunnel Head Park, near Lincroft. Leashed dogs are welcome. George & Lee 609-209-5734 or lee@pinnerpiddies.com. (H)

(f) Hike: January 1: FDR Channel Hike on the First Day of Winter (Burlington/Mercer Cos). 10 miles, easy pace. It’s the first day of winter — let’s take a walk! Our meeting point is outdoors for the Rocky Mountain Trailhead. Meet at the Rocky Mountain Trailhead at 9:30am. Leashed dogs are welcome. Contact leaders to confirm participation and details. George & Lee 609-209-5734 or lee@pinnerpiddies.com. (H)

(g) Compmat: January 15: Pine Barrens Hike, Onas Island Preserve, Salem Co. 7 miles, easy pace on sandy trails. For more information contact leaders.

(h) Dance: January 18: National Dance Day — Dance with the Iceman! Meet in the Pinelands (Monmouth Co). 2 miles, easy pace. Contact leaders to confirm participation and details. George & Lee 609-209-5734 or lee@pinnerpiddies.com. (H)

(i) Hike: January 25: Trenton Hike, New Jersey Botanic Garden, Mercer Co. 5 miles, easy pace. Contact leaders to confirm participation and details. George & Lee 609-209-5734 or lee@pinnerpiddies.com. (H)

(j) Hike: January 27: Cantwell’s Bridge Hike, Columbia Mo. 5 miles, easy pace. It’s the first day of winter — let’s take a walk! Our meeting point is outdoors for the Rocky Mountain Trailhead. Meet at the Rocky Mountain Trailhead at 9:30am. Leashed dogs are welcome. Contact leaders to confirm participation and details. George & Lee 609-209-5734 or lee@pinnerpiddies.com. (H)

Upcoming ExCom Meetings:

All members are welcome to attend these monthly state policy deliberation ordinances, held on SECOND SATURDAYS. Details, including agenda and travel information, are available from Rich Isaac, the Chair (ex officio). All members please send address changes: to address.changes@sierraclub.org, or by e-mail to changes@sierraclub.org

January 5 (Tues) New Year’s Day Paddle on the Wading River (Burlington), 10 am. Bring lunch and beverage. The river will be cold, so please dress for the weather. Meet at the Longden Bridge County Park at 9am. Bring lunch and beverage. Leashed dogs are welcome. Contact leaders to confirm participation and details. George & Lee 609-209-5734 or lee@pinnerpiddies.com. (H)

January 13 (Sat), 2-5pm: Paddling the Wading River (Burlington), 10 am. Bring lunch and beverage. Meet at the Longden Bridge County Park at 9am. Bring lunch and beverage. Leashed dogs are welcome. Contact leaders to confirm participation and details. George & Lee 609-209-5734 or lee@pinnerpiddies.com. (H)

January 20 (Sat), 9am: Snowshoeing on the Morris Canal/Kayak the Wading River (Burlington), 10 am. Bring lunch and beverage. Meet at the Longden Bridge County Park at 9am. Bring lunch and beverage. Leashed dogs are welcome. Contact leaders to confirm participation and details. George & Lee 609-209-5734 or lee@pinnerpiddies.com. (H)

Upcoming Events:

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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The Jersey Sierran, October–December 2018

MEMBERSHIP COUPON

Name
Address
State ZIP

Check enclosed, make payable to Sierra Club

MasterCard Visa American Express

Expiration

Card Number

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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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The Jersey Sierran, October–December 2018

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MEMBERSHIP COUPON
South Jersey Gas has applied for an extension of two state permits for their pro-
posed natural gas pipeline through the Pinelands to fuel an old electric power plant at
Marmora in Cape May County - A Freshwater Wetlands general permit as well as an
individual Waterfront Development permit. This pipeline would irreversibly harm wet-
lands and streams, and threaten one of the largest reservoirs of freshest drinking water on
the East Coast.

It’s been five years since the permits were originally issued, and the project has not
moved forward because we’ve been in court fighting them. The permits were granted under
rules that have since been withdrawn, nor are they strictly defined. The law requires
that the DEP reject them. We urge the DEP to throw out these permits and require
new applications.

If approved, the pipeline would use the same land uses in the Forest Area are strictly
limited. The pres-
ence of the BL England power plant near the Pinelands isn’t sufficient to justify a new
gas pipeline feeding it. Rather, the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan
requires a proactive approach to the residents and communities of the Pinelands.
Re-fueling BL England would not have that primary outcome, since its elec-
tricity will enter the PJM (regional) power grid and be distributed all over the state.
The Sierra Club is suing the Pinelands Commission over its approval of this pipeline.

The pipeline would also undermine Governor Murphy’s intention for 100% renew-
able energy by 2050. The DEP has approved a proposed develop-
ment that would harm public welfare and the environment. This pipeline is
opposed by thousands of New Jersey citizens, including four former Governors. We
urge the DEP to deny the permit extensions.

Cascade of Corruption Sweeps Pruitt Out of EPA

Reneing on earlier positions, Governor Murphy and the DEP are opposing
Superfund status for the Pompton Lakes (Passaic Co.) neighborhoods still affected by
toxic lead, mercury, and other wastes from an old DuPont munitions factory.

In little more than a year, Pruitt’s EPA’s authority and duty has become a
vain, pro-business approach to environmental protections to the benefit of corporate polluters.

Instead of draining the swamp, Pruitt became the swamp monster.

Bureaucracy, complexity, and the combination of state and local authorities,
meant business and industry could sidestep the procedure.

With a new political environment in Trenton, we can look forward to the possi-
bility of significantly improving the supply and storage of electrical power in New
Jersey. Here are some measures for our future grid.