

# The Jersey..... SIERRAN

Vol. 32, No. 3

Roughly 23,000 Members in New Jersey

July-September 2003

## GROUND WATER SHORTAGES:

### *A Story of Net Loss, Shifting Baselines, and Misconceptions*

by Fred Akers, South Jersey Group Conservation Chair, and Great Egg Harbor River Administrator



In many places in New Jersey, especially in the coastal plain, freshwater is pumped up from the ground for drinking and other domestic uses. Since we cannot see or test it until it comes out of the pipe, how do we know how much is down there, and whether it will be pure enough for us to use? As we plan for growth, smart or otherwise, we also need to also ask whether there will be enough water for the future.

Currently the NJ Department of Environmental Protection and the US Geological Survey (USGS) are struggling to employ sound science to answer all the questions, establish meaningful water budgets, and ensure the long term availability of groundwater. This also means uncovering and correcting the mistakes of past planning.

In the past, as long as the total rainfall exceeded total natural and human consumption, statewide drinking water supplies were thought to be sustainable. New Jersey's rainfall is fairly abundant at about 45 inches (114 cm) per year, and this amount greatly exceeds that which is consumed by people. Past wisdom accommodated localized water shortages, by assuming that there would be water surpluses elsewhere, and that water could always be pumped from a region of surplus to one of deficit.

So everyone was building happily ever after—until the ground water supply started going critical in parts of Burlington, Gloucester, and Cape May Counties, and other places in the state. Some wells went dry, and from others the water was starting to taste a little too salty. Then it was discovered that in many places we were pumping the water out of the ground far faster than it was being replaced or recharged. In fact, most aquifers have had declining water levels for many years. What happened to the water budget?

With the coming of Governor McGreevey and the Gibson Bill (which is funding a study to locate a sustainable water supply for Cape May County), the sun is beginning to shine on hydrologic science in our state. We are now being told by USGS hydrologists, at public meetings, that the cleanest water that can be pumped with the biggest pumps without impacting the surface hydrology is so deep and so old that it cannot be recharged at anywhere close to the rate of its withdrawal. For example, the 800-Foot Sand aquifer underneath Ocean, Atlantic, and Cape May Counties contains water that is 15,000 years old, and the hydrologic pressure in this aquifer, measured in vertical pressure head, has declined from about 20 feet above sea level in the 1890's to over 100 ft below sea level in some areas today. Pumping, and ocean discharging of sewage effluents, are causing a continual net loss of these prehistoric waters.

The New Jersey Coastal Plain is like a slanted layer cake of alternating layers of porous (water bearing) and non-porous

(confining) soils, and the USGS is now endeavoring to age-date the different water layers to determine their rate of recharge. Even if the recharge in a given aquifer takes a mere 100 years, that may not be fast enough to sustain the existing demand, let alone accommodate more people and more consumptive uses.

Reservoirs and the surface aquifers will be looked to more and more as the best sources of water for human consumption, and to keep the local water budgets in balance, but there are already a myriad of problems that have diverted many big water suppliers to the lower, confined aquifers. Lower aquifers are drought resistant (until they dry up), they are protected from surface pollution sources, and they are not directly affected by high percentages of local impervious surfaces. Their confining layers protect the surface water of ponds and streams and the surface aquifers from being sucked dry.

The current and growing focus on stormwater management and aquifer recharge will be extremely important for the future of our water supplies. But stormwater will not contribute to the lower, confined aquifers unless we pump it down, under pressure, or wait for a few hundred or thousand years for it to get there. In several of the critical water supply areas there were moratoriums on withdrawals, and whereas the water levels have begun to increase in response to the reduced pumpage, they are nowhere near their original levels. The baselines have shifted.

Water conservation is needed—to save as much water as possible through efficient and intelligent use. There are many ways to implement conservation, and these will ultimately require a high level of cooperation between local, regional, and state jurisdictions.

One major consequence of our water shortages is a clear and present danger to all the non-human animal, plant, and other species that constitute the natural ecology. We saw during the 2001-2002 drought how reservoir releases promised to rivers and streams were cut back. As reservoir and river waters are siphoned off for human consumption, discharged pollutants will become more concentrated. The budget decisions for water allocation between man and nature will become much more pressing, and nature will most likely be the loser.

As the Gibson study gets moving and other areas of the state begin serious consideration of long-term water supply, the general public needs to realize the importance of making decisions based on carrying capacity. As we conduct build-out analyses of our communities, we must change zoning densities if the water supply isn't there. If streams or surface aquifers are being polluted, we should add to the stream-buffers and take other remedial steps. Now is the time to scrutinize our water budgets — for our families and for our future. ☺

## Facts About Smart Growth MARKET NEEDS VS. HOUSING CHOICE

Supplied by New Jersey Future, our new co-tenants in Trenton

- More than 60 percent of all households in New Jersey have no children under 18, a number that's gradually growing.
- One quarter of all households are single-person households.
- About one quarter of all households contain at least one senior resident, aged 65 or older.
- These markets, each containing millions of people, have limited housing choice in New Jersey. Less than half of all housing available is made up of the attached housing such markets generally prefer, including townhomes and apartments; and most of this stock is concentrated in older urban areas. (Source: U.S. Census)

### GIVING 'EM WHAT THEY WANT?

Some builders complain that smart growth will take away the "suburban dream" of New Jerseyans, and interfere with natural market demand.

Census evidence suggests that the opposite is true: today's predominance of sprawling three- and four-bedroom suburban homes doesn't fit New Jersey's large and growing populations of childless households, singles and seniors. Such populations often prefer apartments, condos, townhomes and other types of attached housing - as well as smaller single-family homes in communities where walking and public transit are options.

Such choices are the hallmarks of smart growth. The popularity of these

choices is supported by growing demand and soaring home values in urban places like Hoboken and Jersey City, and suburban communities along the Midtown Direct line.

Unfortunately, more than half of New Jersey's municipalities built no new multi-family housing in the boom decade of the 1990s. Where it was offered, new attached housing was too often located in automobile-dependent complexes, remote from shopping and offices. Rarely, too, are smaller single-family homes built within walking distance of shops, offices and public transit.

It may be that sprawl sells because in too many places, it's all that's available. It's a stretch to say housing is market-driven. Rather, what gets built is determined by local zoning and a host of other government regulations, including those for sewer and water.

Smart growth restores choices that sprawl-inducing zoning has taken away, by drawing public funding, private investment and jobs back into cities, older suburbs and rural communities, and providing a range of housing and transportation choices that can't be matched by any sprawling suburban community.

To receive semi-monthly bulletins from NJ Future, the state's oldest and largest non-profit, non-partisan organization devoted exclusively to Smart Growth, visit the website:

[www.njfuture.org](http://www.njfuture.org) ☺

## SIERRA CLUB THEATRE OUTING FUNDRAISER

Saturday, October 18, 2003

Come join some of your fellow Sierra Club members for a fun day in New York City. We'll all get to mingle and enjoy a fine lunch in the theatre district, followed by a matinee performance of the new production of *Gypsy*, starring Bernadette Peters.

*GYPSEY*, the consummate show-biz musical suggested by the memoirs of the stripper Gypsy Rose Lee, features original choreography by the late Jerome Robbins, and new choreography by Hairspray's Jerry Mitchell. Academy Award winner Sam Mendes will helm the production. The great music score was written by Jules Styne and Stephen Sondheim, and includes *Some People*, *Let Me Entertain You*, *Together*, *Everything's Coming Up Roses*, and *All I Need Is The Girl*.

At Noon we'll enjoy an Italian lunch at Becco's, on Restaurant Row (W 46th St): choice of salad or grilled vegetables and all you can eat of 3 pastas (pasta primavera, cheese tortellini in a cream or pesto sauce, linguini with broccoli rabe and Italian sausage or meatballs). Choice of two desserts; coffee or tea.

The price of \$150 per person includes lunch and show ticket (normally \$101.25 just for the ticket), as well as a contribution to the New Jersey Chapter. Tickets are limited, and will be assigned on a first come - first served basis.

Contact Ellen Blumenkrantz at [eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com](mailto:eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com) or 201-784-8417 to order your tickets.

### YOU HAVE MORE TO GIVE THAN YOU KNOW

Maybe you can't make a gift to protect the environment during your lifetime, but you can become a financial hero by remembering the Sierra Club in your will. You can even direct your gift to a special Club program or to the New Jersey Chapter.

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

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## ISSUE COORDINATOR'S REPORT: CLEANING THE AIR

by Bob Campbell, our Clean Air Issues Coordinator

In April I testified at the Annual Public Hearing of New Jersey's Clean Air Council, as follows:

Last year the US Senate failed to approve an increase in automobile fuel efficiency (CAFE) standards, and thus to reduce our nation's dependence on foreign oil, and to reduce the massive volumes of nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and small particulates emitted by the cars and light trucks sold between now and 2015. Consequently, New Jersey needs to act now to reduce the emissions of our vehicles, and to protect the health of our 8.5 million residents. Everyone in New Jersey, especially those living or working in urban areas and near major highways and roads, is forced to breathe air containing high levels of toxic chemicals such as benzene, 1,3-butadiene, formaldehyde, the ground level ozone resulting from VOC's, and the small particulates emitted by mobile sources: cars, buses and trucks.

I asked all members of the Council to examine the NJ-DEP website "Air Toxics of Special Concern." In a section titled "The 25 Air Toxics of Greatest Concern in NJ" it says, "...our preliminary analysis of the county average hazardous air pollutant concentrations generated by US-EPA's Cumulative Exposure Project indicates that there were 24 carcinogenic chemicals predicted by EPA to exceed health benchmarks in one or more counties in 1990". The first table that follows lists 10 "Pollutants of

Concern" and indicates they exist statewide. Benzene, 1,3-butadiene and formaldehyde are included in this group and the source of these emissions is listed as either "Mobile" or "Mobile and Area". In fact, 7 of the 10 chemicals listed in this statewide group are produced by mobile sources! Page 2 of this website provides information on the sources and concentrations of 7 Air Toxics which exist globally. As regards benzene and formaldehyde, it states "...they are emitted in such large quantities around the world, especially in cities, that they travel on the wind and are still found in significant quantities in remote and rural areas."

There are several facts worthy of further comment concerning the three chemicals noted above.

**Benzene:** According to NJ-PIRG's report, "INVISIBLE THREATS - How Air Toxics May Affect Public Health in New Jersey," benzene makes up 3 to 5% of exhaust hydrocarbons from gasoline fueled vehicles. An increased incidence of leukemia occurs in people exposed to benzene in the workplace.

**1,3-Butadiene:** is a gaseous hydrocarbon classified as a probable human carcinogen. It occurs as a product of incomplete combustion of motor fuels.

**Formaldehyde:** is a pungent colorless gas also classified as a probable human carcinogen. In New Jersey, 82% of formaldehyde emissions come from motor vehicles and off-road vehicles and equipment. ☺

## Sierra Club offers Inner City Outings

by Anne Dyjak, our Inner City Outings Coordinator

Do you remember the first time you thrilled to see a deer roaming the woods, or were awed by a night sky of twinkling stars, or felt the sense of accomplishment at hiking to the top of a mountain? These are just a few of the experiences of participants in the Club's Inner City Outings (ICO) program. This community outreach program provides wilderness, recreational and learning experiences for inner city youth who would not otherwise experience them. ICO is staffed by dedicated volunteers with an appreciation of the natural world and a desire to introduce youth to nature.

New Jersey is well served by TWO ICO groups; one in the northern/central region of the state, the other around Camden. The groups have sponsored trips for children from Elizabeth, Newark, Jersey City, Hoboken, and Camden. Primarily weekend day trips, the outings have included environmental education and outdoor skill development. Outings have included hiking, white water rafting, canoeing, ice skating, cross country skiing and overnight tent camping. Through a generous donation of used bicycles from ICO leader Ray Terek's local bike shop, North/Central NJ ICO is also able to sponsor bicycling outings. Youth participants from New Jersey's cities have marveled at the beauty of Norvin Green State Forest, Jenny Jump State Forest, Wawayanda State Park, Harriman State Park, Merrill Creek Reservoir and the Watchung Reservation. They have witnessed the magnificence of birds of prey up close — at the Raptor Trust Rehabilitation Center. They have shaken off their inhibitions and romped in the ocean waves at Island Beach State Park. Participants have learned to dissect owl pellets and reassemble the bones to discover what creature served as the owl's meal. The groups have taken advantage of learning opportunities from state and county naturalists, NJ Audubon Society members, Hudson Valley Orienteering

volunteers, as well as benefiting from the myriad of talents and knowledge of ICO volunteers.

In addition to the local trips sponsored by the two ICO groups in New Jersey, some youth participants attended the ICO Regional Outing in Maine, during the summer of 2001. Patti Lynch from North/Central NJ ICO, along with other certified ICO leaders from New York City, Albany NY, New Haven and Hartford CT, and Boston MA, led a group of youth participants from the four-state Northeast region on a five-day adventure which included kayaking, camping and biking in beautiful Acadia National Park. The Northeast region is quite lucky to have been awarded funding for the outing last year and is thrilled to have submitted a successful proposal for this year's Regional Outing. The competition for these Outings is fierce as each region throughout the country must design a trip proposal which provides challenges for youth to develop outdoor skills and opportunities for environmental education and team-building. The ICO National Steering Committee has the difficult task of determining which two regions will be funded. This year New Jersey youth and leaders will be participating with our ICO peers from the Northeast on a five-day adventure in the Adirondack State Park's High Peaks region where they will be hiking, canoeing and camping.

If you are interested in sharing your love of the natural world and developing the next generation of stewards for the environment, please contact ICO and volunteer. To spend a day outdoors with a group of energetic, enthusiastic, intelligent youngsters is certainly rewarding. A small donation of time can make a tremendous difference in an inner city child's life. ☺

(See the ICO Section News on page 6 of this Newsletter for contact information.)

## SIERRA STUDENT COALITION REPORT: SSC Environmental Justice Committee Forming

by Dan Rosen, our Sierra Student Coalition liaison

If you are interested in building an exciting environmental justice (EJ) movement,\* read below. If you have worked on anti-racist activism before, or care deeply about the issues of racism, classism, justice and equality, freedom, and the health of our environment, please, please consider applying to be on the newly forming national EJ Committee of the SSC to work with students from across the country.

Last year at the fourth annual Public Lands Action Summit (PLAS), twenty Navajo and Hopi SSCers from the Black Mesa Water Coalition spoke to 200 fellow SSCers about the environmentally racist policies of the Peabody Coal Company that are continuing the genocide brought upon these indigenous peoples 500 years ago. For many, this was a moment that changed their views on environmental activism and their lives.

Students at the PLAS immediately got 200 signatures on letters addressed to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Gale Norton, and Peabody Coal Company officials, demanding that they stop their racist energy policies that destroy indigenous sacred cultures, and solve energy problems with clean and renewable energy. After the rally many students marched to Secretary Norton's office, protesting the coal mining on indigenous lands.

Racism and environmental destruction are linked. To look at a drill in an oil field, a power plant in an inner city, a nuclear waste dump on a native land as mere tools for destroying our Earth, is not grasping the depth of the problems that our society faces. It is easy to destroy the Earth and its species (including people) when our society marginalizes groups and individuals. We must consider the human aspect in each of these problems.

Students around the country understand that the natural environment is not some abstract concept, merely places untouched by human influence. Students understand that our natural environment includes the places we eat, sleep, play, work, and pray. Every human being has

the right to clean water, clean air, safe food, and a safe home, workplace, and school. The SSC can help lead such efforts for environmental justice.

To do this, the SSC is in the process of forming an Environmental Justice Committee to educate and train activists to work with affected communities. The Committee will engage in many local EJ campaigns throughout the country.

If you deeply care about justice and wish to make the world a cleaner, healthier, more livable place, consider joining us. Please e-mail me - dan-rosen85@hotmail.com - if you wish to be on the EJ Committee. Please explain why you wish to work on EJ issues, describe experience you may have had in the past with anti-racism or EJ work, and say what role you would hope to play on the Committee. Be as creative, inspiring, and passionate as possible.

Through training, local action, media work, and legislation, the SSC can help strengthen the EJ movement, and realize the dream that, one day, our society will be free of racism and oppression.

Students are leading the fight for environmental justice. With your help, the SSC will be at the forefront of this movement, representing the energy, the compassion, and the determination to make real change. Join with other SSC leaders to plan and make this effort effective; together we can win! ☺

*The Sierra Student Coalition includes Groups at many high schools and colleges throughout the state, and operates semi-autonomously from the Club's New Jersey Chapter. Contact Dan for more information, or visit: [www.ssc.org/nj](http://www.ssc.org/nj).*

\* "Environmental justice affirms the sacredness of our Mother Earth, ecological unity and the interdependence of all species, and the right to be free from ecological destruction." From the Principles of Environmental Justice, adopted October 27, 1991 at the first People of Color Environmental Leadership.

## New Website Design for Action Network

Dennis Schvejda is pleased to announce the launch of a redesigned online activism community website called **Action Network**: <http://www.actionnetwork.org>

Visit Action Network to take action on the latest online lobby campaigns on environment, health and population issues.

### MORE ABOUT ACTION NETWORK:

While you now receive e-mail action alerts from us, you probably don't know that the Sierra Club's NJ Chapter is part of this larger online activism community, featuring action alerts from us and more than 170 other environment, population and public health organizations and coalitions. With over 800,000 activists and growing, the site is among the largest and oldest online activism hubs on the World Wide Web.

Action Network utilizes the power and speed of the Internet to help people take action for the environment, and gives busy people who are concerned about the environment a way to get involved and feel empowered.

Visit Action Network (<http://www.actionnetwork.org>) and take action on alerts from us and other local and national environment, health and population organizations.

## REPORT ON TRANSPORTATION ISSUES:

### TEA-21 RENEWAL

by Bob Johnson, our Transportation Issues Coordinator

TEA-21 is the federal "Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century." It is a major source of funding for rail transit and bikeways as well as conventional forms of surface transportation. It comes up for reconsideration every six years and the current Act expires Sept 30, 2003. For the latest information about it, see <http://www.tea3.org/>

The renewal wording is important because it will determine whether we will have more alternate transportation or more sprawl-inducing highways.

The Sierra Club is waging a campaign to get the most environmentally friendly

bill possible. We need volunteers to visit our Congressional offices in NJ, specifically those of Congressmen LoBiondo, Menendez and Pascrell, who serve on a key committee. We also plan to meet with Senator Corzine. We need a strong delegation to show that we care. Watch for the announcement on the list-serve below.

If you would like to get involved in this campaign, the chapter's list serve devoted to transportation has changed. To join, go to <http://lists.njsierra.org/listinfo.cgi/njsierra-transportation-njsierra.org> ☺

Bob Johnson can be reached at [robert.jobson@comcast.net](mailto:robert.jobson@comcast.net)

**Most members will soon receive our 2003 fund-raising appeal. Please be generous.**

## Editorial

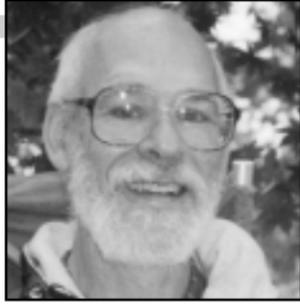
# WHY DON'T PEOPLE CARE?

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

It's depressing and demoralizing to think of all the people who don't care. Of all the people who throw cans and bottles (and worse) along the roadside. Of all the people who destroy hiking trails by riding ATVs on them. Of all the people who pollute the atmosphere and waste gasoline by driving fuel-inefficient cars for unnecessary miles. Of all the people who succumb to a society with sick values based on consumption, waste, and passive acquiescence.

Then it's rejuvenating and refreshing to think of the Sierra Club members (and many other people, of course) who devote untold hours of effort and intelligence each week to caring for our sick planet. I think of Lee Snyder speaking at meetings of the Pinelands Commission, Bonnie Tillery taking students to Washington DC to lobby for legislation that would slow World population growth, Gina Corola hanging on (bulldog fashion!) to the coattails of politicians in a position to oppose dredging of the Delaware River, Ken Johanson investing his retirement years in public service lawyering on our Legislative Committee, Bob Johnson organizing a state-wide conference on alternate transportation, Sunil Somalwar squeezing extra hours into a busy family life and a demanding intellectual life as a Rutgers scientist and teacher, and Rich Isaac preparing once more to motivate Club members to evaluate candidates for state and local public office, and to elect those willing to join the effort to save sensitive open space in New Jersey. If I had more space I'd acknowledge ALL the officers listed in this Newsletter.

What makes them different? What do these people have in common? What makes them stick their necks out when others don't? I don't know, but I'd like to armchair philosophize that they might each have experienced some pivotal stimulus at an impressionable age. In my own life I can think of three such moments: when I watched my father lead a citizens committee to improve the public schools I attended; when I ful-



filled the promise demanded by my favorite high school teacher—to read Lincoln Steffens' Autobiography (which celebrated the activists who exposed and ousted corrupt politicians during the Progressive Era - 1903-1915); and when during my graduate school years some friends cajoled me into joining a clandestine tour of Redwood Creek, in northern California, which at the time was coveted both by logging companies and by the National Park Service.

I don't think socio-economic background is important in determining who will become an activist. We have the recent Star-Ledger comparison of two successful New Jersey environmental activists (one of them our Jeff Tittel), who came from opposite ends of the spectrum of family wealth and privilege.

So back to the vast majority of Americans, and probably even of Sierra Club members, who stand aside while others become active. Are there other possible explanations? Might their inactivity be a numbing effect of mindless television and other media? Is it defeatism about fighting city hall? Are that many of us on the edge of poverty such that no time can be spared from essential life activities? Are people simply blind to the degradations all around us? Is it the inability to write proper letters to editors or to think straight in a lobbying pitch? Are Congressional offices that intimidating? Is it hedonism or narcissism? Or is it just inertia?

I don't mean to imply that most Sierra Club members don't care. Rather, do they care ENOUGH? It's not too late. Please first read *The Autobiography of Lincoln Steffens!* ☞

*Footnote: Carl Pope, the Club's national Executive Director, has issued - to volunteer leaders - a lengthy "Strategic Response to the Bush Administration," dated 4 April. Members may see their Group leaders to examine a copy.*

## Population Issues Report

by Cathy Kunkel, Sierra Student Coalition (Princeton University)

On March 28th, I joined about two hundred population activists converging on Washington DC for the annual "Capitol Hill Days" conference sponsored by Population Connection, the Sierra Club, and National Wildlife Federation. This conference brings activists together for a weekend to educate them on population issues, and it culminates with Congressional lobby visits. Having never been to the conference before, I was not sure what to expect. To be honest, aside from the chance to meet with my senators and representatives, I was not expecting to get much out of the weekend; after all, I have been writing letters on this issue for a while and had just finished a research paper on world population growth and U.S. population policy.

The conference far exceeded my expectations and in fact proved to be an invaluable and eye-opening experience. The most enjoyable part was meeting such a dedicated and passionate group of activists. People had come from as far as Seattle to learn about and lobby on this critical issue. It was inspiring just to meet these people and hear their stories and advice. One of the most memorable experiences was listening to Jane Roberts, an ordinary citizen-activist who co-founded the 34 Million Friends Campaign, which has now raised over one million dollars for the United Nations Population Fund.

I learned more about how to be an effective activist in this one weekend than I had managed to figure out for myself in four years. From how to work with the media to how to communicate effectively with elected officials, both the conference workshops and the other activists offered a broad range of ideas and advice. Even if population growth were not the issue of main concern to me, I still would have found the conference valuable. In addition, as a student, I benefited from the experiences of others trying to raise awareness of population concerns on their campuses.

Leaving the conference, I reflected on how I could implement the ideas and strategies I have learned. Last week, I made a lobbying visit in my home district about population issues, and I am also planning events for World Population Awareness Week in October on my campus. Despite the depressing theme of the conference and the knowledge of the difficulties involved in working on such a broad and long-term issue, I went home inspired.

*(To participate in the Club's Population Issues campaigns, please contact our Coordinator, Bonnie Tillery. Her contact information is in the Leader List on p. 8. She adds the reminder of the following actions we can take:*

*(1) Ask our Representatives to cosponsor HR1196, the "UNFPA Funding Act," which will restore funding to the United Nations Population Fund, and help provide birthing kits to refugee camps. It will also help prevent fistulae caused by difficult childbirth, educate communities about the detrimental effects of female genital mutilation, and provide family planning assistance, reducing the need for abortion. Right now, the U.S. spends less than \$2 per person on international family planning aid—less than a cup of brand-name coffee.*

*(2) Ask our legislators to support the "Global Democracy Promotion Act," which would prohibit the imposition on other countries of actions that are illegal in this country. After all, shouldn't our policies be consistent with our democratic values?*

*(3) Finally, ask legislators to repeal the Global Gag Rule—which prevents medical personnel from giving women information about family planning choices. When women have information about choosing the size and spacing of their families, they choose smaller families and space their children further apart. This is not only healthy for the mothers and the children, but healthy for the environment, putting fewer demands on our finite resources.) ☞*

## Annual Election of Chapter Officers Coming in the Fall

by Ken Johanson

Later this year members will have the opportunity to elect five members to the Chapter Executive Committee. A nominating committee, chaired by Ken Johanson, has been appointed to prepare a list of nominees. All Chapter members are invited to submit names of candidates for consideration by the nominating committee. Members also may submit candidate petitions. The name of any Chapter member proposed in writing by at least 15 Chapter members prior to the deadline for submission of candidate petitions will be included on the ballot, provided that the candidate has given his or her written consent. Names for consideration by the nominating committee, together with names of petition candidates, should be sent to Ken Johanson, chair of the nominating committee, at 72 Laurel Drive, New Providence, NJ 07974.

In order for a candidate to be considered by the nominating committee, his or her name must be received by the committee chair no later than July 21, 2003. The nominating committee will report the names of nominees to the Executive Committee on July 28, 2003. Candidate petitions must be received by the committee chair no later than August 11, 2003. It is anticipated that ballots will be mailed on or about September 13, 2003. All Chapter members of record as of the date mailing lists are prepared by Sierra Club headquarters in San Francisco will be entitled to vote. Ballots must be received at the address indicated in the notice of election no later than December 1, 2003. Ballots will be counted at a time and place yet to be determined. Members will be provided with this information in the next issue of the Sierran. ☞

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### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## ACTION ALERTS RECEIVE TRIBUTE!

I just wanted to thank you for e-mailing Action Alerts to me. I have encouraged other students in my Environmental Club at Atlantic Cape Community College to participate in them as well. Overall, they have responded positively.

I think that that it is important for people to actively contribute to help our environment. It is something that can be easily damaged and people should not be damaging it.

I thank you for everything that you do to help our environment.

Thank you,  
Alexis A. Plotkin  
President, Student Environmental Assoc.

*Action Alerts enable members to easily use e-mail to send important lobby letters to their federal and state legislators, and other public officials. To receive them, visit <http://SierraActivist.org/join>*

*"Cynicism was okay, bitterness a pain in the neck. The hairline difference between the two was hope and humor. The cynic had both, the embittered, nothing." (Nevada Barr) - seen in a graduation brochure at Bucknell Univ.*



## Group News

FROM AROUND THE STATE

### Northwest Jersey Group

(Sussex and Warren Counties, approximately)

**Web site:** <http://pepin.home.att.net>. We are also accessible from the NJ Chapter Web site.

#### OFFICERS:

<b>Chair:</b>	Ellen Pepin (in absentia!)	
	epepin@worldnet.att.net	
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Open position!	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Donna Rubin	973-726-9278
<b>Secretary:</b>	Debbie Hambright	973-729-8015
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Dean Shemenski	908-684-1515
	dshemenski@billbehrl.com	
<b>Publicity Chair:</b>	Claire Cifelli	973-726-8606
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	Open position!	

**NEWS:** As you can guess, the Northwest Group is suffering "growth pains." Ellen and Joe Pepin are leaving New Jersey for a better economic climate! It takes active volunteers to operate the Sierra Club, people interested both in local issues (see below), and in the regional and statewide issues discussed at monthly Chapter ExCom meetings and pursued by our Issue Coordinators. Please read the editorial in this issue of the JS, and call Ruth Prince or Rich Isaac or any other officer if you want more information or would like to take part.

#### LOCAL ISSUES:

One issue we have been involved with is the proposed plan to widen Rte 15 from Wharton to its terminus at Rte 206. The widening of Rte 15 will not only disturb the central part of the highlands, but will only lead to more sprawl development and more congestion. Since Gov. McGreevey and the DEP have come out with their anti-sprawl plans and the "BIG Map" it may be a little easier to block those plans.

A second issue concerns the air quality in parts of Warren County. This is greatly affected by power plants across the river in Pennsylvania, one in Martins Creek and the other in Portland.

We have also helped a small number of families in Washington Twp. (Warren Co.) whose wells are polluted with the chemical MTBE. We provided support in appealing to local authorities and DEP for immediate help.

Sussex County officials seem to be trying to head off any state control of the Highlands region, which is a good deal of the county. There have been meetings of a new Open Space Committee and the County Strategic Growth Advisory Committee. Also, the Freeholders have passed a resolution stating that local officials should make up the majority of any agency that oversees development in the county. Their goals are not matched to the goals of the Big Map. We would like to hear from people who would be willing to attend meetings of the Freeholders and/or the Strategic Advisory Committee.

#### MEETINGS:

Our general meetings take place in Sparta. Please call for the meeting place.

### Hunterdon County Group

#### OFFICERS:

<b>Chair:</b>	Ruth Prince	908-284-9103
	ruthp2@earthlink.net	
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Arnold Kushnick	
	apkushn@eclipse.net	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Arnold Kushnick	
	apkushn@eclipse.net	

For meeting times and locations, please contact Ruth Prince.

#### ACTIVITIES:

We are involved with the development of the Hunterdon County Growth Management Plan, an effort that has been funded by the state DCA. This is a multi-year process (as all planning is!) beginning with defining the broad goals followed by the specifics for the county, as well as environmental indicators, looking at build-out analyses, etc. Since municipal representatives will be involved throughout this process, we are hoping that this plan will actually be followed. Our group continues to be the only environmental advocacy group present. We have also joined the County Planning Board's Environmental Toolbox Subcommittee spearheaded by one of our freeholders. We review draft ordinances designed to be environmentally protective and legally

## HOW TO IDENTIFY YOUR GROUP (BY COUNTY)

**Northwest Jersey Group:** Sussex & Warren  
**Hunterdon County Group:** Hunterdon  
**North Jersey Group:** Passaic & most of Bergen  
**Essex County Group:** Essex  
**Hudson-Meadowlands Group:** Hudson & SE Bergen  
**Loantaka Group:** Morris & Union  
**Central Jersey Group:** Mercer  
**Raritan Valley Group:** Somerset & Middlesex  
**Jersey Shore Group:** Monmouth & Ocean  
**West Jersey Group:** Gloucester, Camden & Burlington  
**South Jersey Group:** Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland & Salem

*These designations are approximate: members are welcome to participate in whichever Group(s) they find convenient*

defensible, which our municipalities can then use as needed.

We have opposed several DEP permits for groundwater allocation and stream encroachment throughout the county, using technical and regulatory arguments.

We have done childrens' environmental education at community and kids day events in the county, and would be happy to do more of the same at other events. Please contact Ruth Prince for information.

### North Jersey Group

(All of Passaic County; Bergen County except for the eight southern towns mentioned in the Hudson-Meadowlands Group's description, below)

#### OFFICERS:

<b>Group Chair:</b>	Betsy Kohn	201-461-4534
	BetsyKohn@aol.com	
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Hugh Carola	201-692-8440
	HCarola@aol.com	
<b>Conservation Co-Chairs:</b>	Tom Thompson	201-848-1080
	etrans743@aol.com	
	Anne Summers	201-825-8395
	annesumers@aol.com	
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	Ellen Friedman	201-587-1263
	EFric@rcn.com	
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	Ellen Blumenkrantz	
	eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com	
<b>Legislative Chair:</b>	Patrick Maloof	201-405-0970
	patrickmalooof@yahoo.com	
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Charlotte Foale	201-921-3059
	cfoale@aol.com	
<b>Secretary:</b>	open position	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Mary Ellen Shaw	201-489-1588
	MaryEllenShaw@msn.com	
<b>Highlands Committee:</b>	Open position!	

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/CONSERVATION MEETINGS:** Held four times a year (once every quarter). For next date and location, contact Betsy Kohn or Hugh Carola (see above).

#### GENERAL MEETINGS:

Held at 7:30 pm on the SECOND THURSDAY as indicated below. For directions or other information, contact Betsy Kohn (see above)

**No general meetings in July and August.**

**Sept 11:** at Flat Rock Brook Nature Center, 443 Van Nostrand Avenue, Englewood: Foreign Flora: Invasive Species in the Palisades - a slide presentation by Nancy Slovik, Director and Naturalist of the Greenbrook Sanctuary, on the accelerated appearance of non-native species and their ecological impact; plus current research on why this is happening and what's being done (new techniques).

**HIGHLANDS COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Held at 7:30 pm on the FIRST WEDNESDAY of the month at Pompton Lakes Public Library, 333 Wanaque Avenue, Pompton Lakes. Open to all interested in Highlands conservation. For information, contact Bill O'Hearn at 973-962-0562 or william\_ohearn@juno.com

**LOCAL ISSUES:** On our radar screen is the proposed development of Camp Todd's 73 acres in Oakland, now before the planning board. We are also concerned about the proposed 100-unit complex with 195-car parking lot on six acres lying inside 100 acres of Green Acres parkland in Franklin Lakes. To build the access road, the developer is asking to divert parkland which, if allowed, would be the first use of Green Acres parkland for private purposes. Another concern is the proposal to build a golf course and 103 luxury homes in the middle of Sterling Forest. If you would like to know more, please contact Betsy Kohn or Tom Thompson (see above).

**CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS:** This summer and fall, you can work on our campaign to reinstate Bergen County's open space trust fund (which expires at the end of 2003). Or help endorse and elect pro-environment candidates to public office. Or work to conserve the Ramapo or Hackensack River watersheds or the NJ Highlands; or help with tabling at public events, publicity, river cleanups, petition drives, or fundraising. Or you can focus on an issue, such as air quality, environmental justice, nuclear energy, population, transportation, urban renewal, water quality or another of your own choosing. To find out more, please contact Betsy Kohn or Charlotte Foale or Tom Thompson (see above).

**E-MAIL NOTICES:** If you would like notices of meetings, hikes and issue alerts, please send your e-mail address to BetsyKohn@aol.com. (It will not be shared with anyone else.)

### Hudson-Meadowlands Group

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

#### OFFICERS:

<b>Chair:</b>	Louise Taylor	201-224-3754
	l.g.taylor@erols.com	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Open position!	
<b>Secretary:</b>	Tina Munson	201-941-5784
	artina@rcn.com	
<b>Programs Chair:</b>	Open position!	
<b>Publicity:</b>	Open position!	
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Open position!	
<b>Membership:</b>	Louise Taylor	201-224-3754
	l.g.taylor@erols.com	

**NEWS:** As you can guess, the Hudson-Meadowlands Group is suffering "growth pains." It takes active volunteers to operate the Sierra Club, people interested both in local issues (environmentally responsible development of the Hoboken waterfront area, oversight of Liberty State Park, motivations for using public transport, local parks, Meadowlands issues, etc.), and people interested in the larger regional and statewide issues discussed at monthly Chapter ExCom meetings and pursued by our Issue Coordinators. Hudson (and southern Bergen) County always presents interesting political election endorsement issues. Please read the editorial in this issue of the JS, and call Rich Isaac or any other officer if you want more information or would like to take part.

### Essex County Group

(Essex County)

#### OFFICERS:

<b>Chair:</b>	Richard Isaac	973-716-0297
	risaacx@aol.com	
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Michel Cuillerier	973-736-0913
	schatzidog@earthlink.net	
<b>Conservation:</b>	Michel Cuillerier	973-736-0913
	schatzidog@earthlink.net	
<b>Political:</b>	Janice Desir	973-678-4580
	jtdesir@eden.rutgers.edu	
	Bob Wolff	973-509-7331
	robert_wolff@urcorp.com	
<b>Media:</b>	Camille Gutmore	973-667-2203
	cgutmore@hotmail.com	
<b>Outings:</b>	Dave Ogens	973-226-7107
	bandit29@aol.com	
<b>Open Space:</b>	Michel Cuillerier	973-736-0913
	schatzidog@earthlink.net	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Lori Tanner	973-857-0519
	LJensen@montclairlaw.com	
<b>Secretary:</b>	Bob Wolff	973-509-7331
	robert_wolff@urcorp.com	
<b>Fundraising:</b>	Kim McGuire	973-275-1030
	mackim@aol.com	
<b>Programs:</b>	Sue Slotnick	973-564-9589
	PSue82@juno.com	
<b>Membership:</b>	Janine Schaeffer	973-736-0898
	jschaeffer@sealtechcompany.com	
<b>Consumption:</b>	Mike Minaides	973-470-0793
	msminaides@hotmail.com	
<b>Rahway River:</b>	Kirk Barrett	973-313-1218
	kbarrett@cimic.rutgers.edu	

**ACTIVITIES:** Working to preserve wetlands in the Passaic River Basin and remaining forested areas in Essex County, continuing to ensure that the Essex County Park and Open Space Trust Fund is implemented in a fair and consistent way, and addressing environmental justice (EJ) issues.

**\*\*OPENINGS\*\*** The Group has openings for those interested in our Environmental Justice Campaign, our Wetlands Campaign, and for those who interested in recycling and consumption issues! For those interested in helping please contact Rich at 973-716-0297, or at: risaacx@aol.com for details!! Thanks!!

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

Held at 7pm the first week of the month. Please contact Rich at risaacx@aol.com or 973-716-0297 for the location and day of the week, which may vary.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** 7:30 pm on the SECOND THURSDAY of the month at the Verona Park Boathouse, corner of Lakeside and Bloomfield Ave., Verona. For directions, please call Sue, 973-564-9589.

**July and August:** Summer Break; No meetings scheduled

**Sept. 11:** Combating the Asian Longhorned Beetle - lecture (with slides) by Dr. Carl Schulze of the NJ Department of Agriculture about this tree-eating pest and current efforts to control infestations. New Jersey's trees are at risk. The ALB bores deep into deciduous hardwood trees where it deposits its larvae to feed on living tree tissue, making it difficult to detect. The only way to eliminate the pest is to cut down, chip and burn the infected trees. Some experts predict that if this beetle is not checked it could infect half the state's trees within 10 years. The Department of Agriculture needs our assistance. Learn what you can do to help.

**Loantaka Group**

(Morris and Union Counties)

**WEBSITE:** [http://njsierra.enviroweb.org/njs\\_groups/loa.htm](http://njsierra.enviroweb.org/njs_groups/loa.htm)

**OFFICERS:**

**Group Chair:** Paul Sanderson 908-233-2414  
paulmsanderson@aol.com

**Treasurer:** Joyce White 908-272-4478  
joyce00201@yahoo.com

**Secretary:** Lisa Melanie 908-875-5570  
lisamelanie@comcast.net

**Conservation Chairs:**

**Morris County:** Chris Mills 973-377-1742  
ChrisMills@Sierraactivist.org

**Union County:** Ed Johnson 908-687-2778

**Legislative Chair:** Ken Johanson 908-464-0442  
kjohan@comcast.net

**Political Chair:** Meiling Chin 908-490-1054 (8-10PM)  
chinmeiling@yahoo.com

**Programs:** Open position!

**Outreach &**

**Events Chair:** Bob Johnson 908-771-9676  
robert.johnson@comcast.net

**Publicity Chair:** Janice La Gala 973-895-2143

jlagala@cs.com (before 9PM)

**Membership:** Open position.

**Air Quality**

**Coordinator:** Bob Campbell 908-273-5720  
wrobc@intac.com

**Highlands**

**Coordinator:** Phil L'Hommedieu 973-425-2808  
plhommedie@aol.com

**Invasive Plants**

**Coordinator:** Franz Leinweber 973-328-4625  
fjleinweber@aol.com

**Greenbrook:** Bob Muska 908-665-2296  
rmuska@erols.com

To join our e-mailing list, send a blank e-mail to:

Loantaka-Group-Announcements-subscribe@topica.com

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

**NOTE:** Due to construction, the meeting location has changed until further notice. Meetings are held on the FIRST TUESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at Chatham United Methodist Church, 460 Main St., Chatham.

This is your club and there is always an open invitation to attend an Executive Committee meeting. We have open positions. If you are interested, and would like to find out more, please contact Paul Sanderson.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:**

**NOTE:** Due to construction, the meeting location has changed until further notice. Meetings are held on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of the month at 7:30 pm at Chatham United Methodist Church, 460 Main St., Chatham. Everyone is welcome! Church phone: (973) 635-7740

Come to a general meeting and learn something new and make some new friends. We'd welcome the chance to meet you and to introduce ourselves at a general meeting. Please see the meeting schedule which follows and join us!

**DIRECTIONS:** Directions are posted on our website [http://njsierra.enviroweb.org/njs\\_groups/loa.htm](http://njsierra.enviroweb.org/njs_groups/loa.htm)

**MEETING SCHEDULE:**

**July and August:** No general meetings are scheduled. Have a great summer! See you in September!

**Sept 10:** Julia Somers, Executive Director of the Great Swamp Watershed Association, will give an update on major regional development issues. Subjects include the St. Mary's Abbey/Morris Township Wastewater

Management Plan, the Exxon property/Florham Park commercial development, Great Swamp Greenhouses/Right to Farm Act, and protection of deed restrictions/Girl Scout Camp expansion next to the Jockey Hollow section of the Morristown National Historical Park. Blaine Rothauer, a naturalist and photographer, who will present a slide show of the Great Swamp and its inhabitants, will accompany her.

**Central Jersey Group**

(Mercer County, parts of Somerset and Middlesex)

**WEBSITES:** [www.sierraactivist.org](http://www.sierraactivist.org)  
[www.sierraactivist.org/getbusy](http://www.sierraactivist.org/getbusy)

**OFFICERS:**

**Co-Chairs:** Harold Rapp 609-671-0435  
HalRapp@aol.com

and Ed Pfeiffer 609-581-1660  
ECPfeiffer@aol.com

**Treasurer:** Bill Wowk 609-587-0502  
bwowk@aol.com

**Conservation Chair:** Laura Lynch 609-882-4642  
llynch@mail.med.upenn.edu

**Membership Chair:** Corinne Egner  
conskayakr@aol.com

**Programs Committee:** Ken Mayberg 609-443-9138  
kjmayerg@aol.com

and Lisa Ridge  
lisa.haile@worldnet.att.net

**Publicity Coordinator:** Janet Black  
jblack8084@aol.com

**Political Committee:** Tom Zolandz 908-874-4194  
earthsounds@yahoo.com

and Kelly McNicholas  
kellymcnicholas@hotmail.com

**Outings Chair:** Ken Mayberg 609-443-9138  
kjmayerg@aol.com

**Wildlands Coordinator:** Dave Mattek 609-737-1342  
MattekDC@aol.com

**Parks & Biodiversity:** George Schindler  
GESchindlerJr@worldnet.att.net

and Pat Sayles  
Plsayles@aol.com

**Advisor:** Mary Penney  
Penney4Thoughts@aol.com

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

Meetings are generally held on the FIRST THURSDAY of the month at 7:30 pm. Please contact Ed Pfeiffer (above) for the location, which may vary. These meetings are open to all Sierra Club members.

It's time for our Nominating Committee to begin seeking candidates for our next Executive Committee election. Please contact Harold Rapp (above) or Lisa Ridge (above) if you have an interest in serving on the ExCom.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:**

**No program meetings in July and August.** See Outings Schedule.

**THE CENTRAL JERSEY GROUP IS MOVING!** Starting in September, the Central Jersey Group will hold meetings on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of each month at 7:30 pm in a new location: the West Windsor branch of the Mercer County Library. The library is at 333 North Post Road, at the intersection of North Post and Clarksville Roads, in Princeton Junction. Check our website for a map. We welcome everyone at our meetings and hope you can participate in some way. We are involved in many conservation issues at the local, state and national level.

**SCHEDULE: Sept 10:** Carolyn Foote Edelman of The Friends for the Marsh will give a slide presentation on The Beauties of the Hamilton-Trenton Marsh or "Monet in New Jersey." Please join us for this opportunity to learn more about this marvelous nature preserve so close to home and admire its artistic beauty.

**E-MAIL NOTICES:** If you'd like to receive those last minute reminders of meetings or outings, please send your e-mail address to Corinne Egner (above). If you'd like to receive issue alerts, please send your e-mail address to Laura Lynch (above).

**Raritan Valley Group**

(Middlesex and Somerset Counties, approximately)

**OFFICERS AND CONTACTS:**

**Chair:** Steve Ember 732-926-8964  
sehiker@yahoo.com

**Vice-Chair:** Open position!

**Conservation Co-Chairs:** Open position!

**Membership Chair:** Open position!

**Political Chair:** Open position!

**Programs Chair:** Open position!

**Publicity Chair:** Sandi Lowich  
abstract46@aol.com

**Secretary:** Open position!

**Treasurer:** Steven Zawid  
steven.e.zawid@intel.com

**Webmaster:** Don McBride  
dtmcbride@yahoo.com

**ISSUES:**

We are fighting development along streams, wetlands, flood plains and steep slopes. Group members are involved in local issues, answering questions for concerned citizens regarding development and stewarding local master plan initiatives. This includes working to protect threatened and endangered species in these areas. Help us stop developers from buying sub-standard lots and obtaining permits and variances to construct new homes.

We want to stop the Green Brook Flood Control Project. Besides wasting enormous amounts of taxpayer funds, this project will eliminate 100 acres of wetlands, build miles of tall unsightly levees, and increase development pressure in the area where people are now hesitant to build.

**Calling All Volunteers:** The Raritan Valley Group welcomes you to our activities. Currently, several positions are open although there are several interested people. If you are interested in participating in our activities or filling any of the open positions, please contact Steve Ember, the Group Chair.

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** Held at 7:30 pm on the SECOND TUESDAY of the month except for July and August. Currently, meetings are being held at the Bound Brook Presbyterian Church at 409 Mountain Avenue in Bound Brook. Take the Mountain Avenue exit off Route 22 towards Bound Brook. The church is on the right hand side at the first stop light (Union Avenue - Route 28). The public is invited and refreshments are served.

**Executive Committee Meetings:** Held at 7pm on the FIRST TUESDAY of the month except for July and August. Currently, meetings are being held at the Somerset County Library on 1 Vogt Drive in Bridgewater. All Sierra Club members are invited to attend. Please contact us first in case there is a change of plans.

**July and August:** No meetings. Enjoy the summer.

**Sept 9:** The Race for Open Space. We will show this highly acclaimed program which was on New Jersey Network television recently. Following the video, we will have an open discussion about the impact of sprawl and what we can do about it. Excellent pizza and other refreshments will be served. Please arrive promptly for the pizza.

**Jersey Shore Group**

(Monmouth and Ocean Counties)

**Web Site:** <http://njsierra.enviroweb.org/~njshore/>

**OFFICERS:**

**Group Chair:** Dennis Anderson 732-888-3158  
dennisaza@aol.com

612 Second St., Union Beach, NJ 07735

**Vice-Chair:** George Newsome 732-308-1518  
newsome1@optonline.net

**Secretary:** Judy Maxcy 732-458-5074

**Conservation:** Steve Knowlton 732-747-7011  
knowlton@worldnet.att.net

**Monmouth Co:** Open position!

**Ocean County:** Open position!

**Ocean County**

**Section Chair:** Open position!

**Webmaster:** George Newsome (see above)

**Treasurer:** Judy Maxcy (see above)

**Political Chair:** Laura Bagwell 732-741-8678  
lbagwell@rcn.com

**Outings Chair:** Mike Verange 908-902-0718  
mjverange@aol.com

**Membership**

**Chair:** Steve Treson 732-933-1487  
xstre@comcast.net

**Program Chair:** Regina Maurer 732-335-1183  
rmaurer@sprintmail.com

**GENERAL MEETINGS:**

Held at 8pm on the FOURTH MONDAY of each month - except in July, August, and December - at the Old Wharf House, Old Wharf Park, Main Street and Oceanport Avenue, Oceanport, NJ. Come early to socialize and enjoy refreshments. For directions and information, please call Regina Maurer at 732-335-1183, or visit our web site.

**Sunday, July 27, noon, Turkey Swamp County Park:  
ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC**

Join the Jersey Shore Group for our annual picnic at Turkey Swamp Park, Georgia Road, Freehold Township. Please bring a dish to share. To coordinate food, and for more information and directions, contact Diane Doolittle at 732-765-0053 or d.doolittle@worldnet.att.net.

**Sept 22:** Protecting our Bays: The Hudson-Raritan Estuary is one of the largest ecosystems in our regions, providing food, water, recreation and aesthetic

(continued on page 6)

## GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 5)

resources to countless residents, human and otherwise. The natural wonders of this ecosystem are denied to these residents when pollution and illegal development contaminate or block access to the waters of the estuary. Join us as we learn about the Public Trust Doctrine, and the legal concept of Natural Resource Damages, from the NY/NJ Baykeeper, Andy Willner, who will explain what citizens can do to reclaim their rights to an unspoiled estuary system.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

The Group's Executive Committee and Conservation Committee meet monthly at members' homes. All are welcome to attend. For more information, please call Dennis Anderson at 732-888-3158, or Steve Knowlton at 732-747-7011.

**SPECIAL NOTICE: Elections for Group Executive Committee (ExCom):** We encourage members to join the Group's Executive Committee. This is where the decisions for the Group are made. By August 1, a nominating committee will present its recommended slate, trying to have two more candidates for the ExCom than positions available. Another way to get on the ballot is to submit a petition signed by 15 members, along with the consent of the candidate. The petition must be received by August 5. Please send the petition to our Nominating Committee Chairman, George Newsome, 36 Kettle Creek Road, Freehold, NJ 07748. On August 11, we will be putting together nominees and petition candidates for publication in our Group newsletter.

## West Jersey Group

(Camden, Gloucester and Burlington Counties, approximately)

Web site: [users.snip.net/~ginacee/home.htm](http://users.snip.net/~ginacee/home.htm)

### OFFICERS:

<b>Group Chair:</b>	Gina Carola	856-848-8831
	<a href="mailto:ginacee@snip.net">ginacee@snip.net</a>	
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Open position	
<b>Secretary:</b>	Open position	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Trish Clements	856-768-5639
	<a href="mailto:psclcm@aol.com">psclcm@aol.com</a>	
<b>Publicity Chair:</b>	Bud Kaliss	856-428-8071
	<a href="mailto:budmilmilbud@yahoo.com">budmilmilbud@yahoo.com</a>	
<b>Political Chair:</b>	Marie Hageman	856-589-0606
	<a href="mailto:mdhageman@mail.com">mdhageman@mail.com</a>	
<b>Pinelands Rep:</b>	Lee Snyder	
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	Open position	
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	Mike Brown	856-547-9221
	<a href="mailto:eyebrown@snip.net">eyebrown@snip.net</a>	
<b>Fundraising Chair:</b>	Reiss Tiffany	856-829-6405
	<a href="mailto:r-stiffany@home.com">r-stiffany@home.com</a>	
<b>Programs Chair:</b>	Open position	
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	Open position	
<b>Inner City Outings:</b>	Jennifer Grenier	856-582-5512
	and Maxine Vogt	856-779-9156

**GENERAL MEETINGS:** are held at 7:30 pm on the SECOND TUESDAY of each month, at the Unitarian Church, 401 N. Kings Highway (Rte. 41), Cherry Hill (located between Rte. 70 and the convergence of Rtes. 38 and 73, just north of a traffic light at Chapel Avenue). Handicap accessible parking and entrance in rear of building.

**We do not meet in July or August.** Please join us on a hike or other outing.

**Sept 9:** To be announced. Please check the website and local papers.

### ACTIVITIES:

The West Group is working to prevent the environmentally dangerous Delaware Deepening. We are also looking for volunteers to work on preserving Petty Island in the Delaware River off Camden and Burlington Island off Burlington. If you would like to be a part of this effort, please contact any of the officers listed above.

We also have an Inner City Outings program and are looking for volunteers. To help, contact either of the two leaders above.

## South Jersey Group

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

### OFFICERS:

<b>Group and Outings Chair:</b>	Tom Boghosian	609-272-9005
	<a href="mailto:boghosia@atlantic.edu">boghosia@atlantic.edu</a>	
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Donna Strack	609-927-6344
	<a href="mailto:dnzi@aol.com">dnzi@aol.com</a>	
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	Fred Akers	856-697-3479
	<a href="mailto:akers@gowebway.com">akers@gowebway.com</a>	

### Political Chair,

<b>Calendar Sales:</b>	Dick Colby	609-965-4453
	<a href="mailto:dick.colby@stockton.edu">dick.colby@stockton.edu</a>	
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	Gary Roman	609-625-3438
<b>Secretary/Treasurer:</b>	Julie Akers	856-697-3479
	<a href="mailto:akers@gowebway.com">akers@gowebway.com</a>	
<b>Cape May Issues:</b>	Douglas Jewell	609-463-8423
	<a href="mailto:jewell@avaloninternet.net">jewell@avaloninternet.net</a>	

The central conservation issue, for which the 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 two other organizations that have "spun off" from the South Jersey Group. Very few of our local members seem interested in the meetings we've scheduled in the past few years, and many of them have been cancelled for lack of interest. For the present, 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. 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.

**July and August:** No meetings scheduled. Time for outdoor adventure!

**Sept 23 (Tues), 7pm:** We'll piggyback on a scheduled public meeting of the Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association, to hear Steve Eisenhower present his (New Jersey) Land Trust's efforts to purchase land along both the Maurice and the Great Egg Harbor Rivers. Fox Nature Center, Atlantic County Park in Estell Manor, Milepost 15 on Rte 50, 4 miles south of Mays Landing. No need to RSVP (to the Akers) unless you'd like to join us for dinner nearby, beforehand.

## Singles Section

(A chapter-wide special interest activity including hikes/cleanups, social gatherings, cultural outings, meetings, etc.)

The NJ Singles Section was specifically created to offer a variety of singles-oriented activities to New Jersey Sierra Club members and their guests. You do not have to be single, or even a member, to attend our events. Come out and meet fellow Club members and others who care about the environment.

**Webpage:** <http://njsierra.enviroweb.org/~singles/>

### Phone announcements: (973) 364-7573

- Press 1 for:** Final Friday Film Fest (last Friday of each month)
- Press 2 for:** Ron Pate's upcoming hike
- Press 3 for:** 2nd Monday monthly meeting at the Chatham Library
- Press 4 for:** 3rd Tuesday of the month dinner in Montclair
- Press 5 for:** 1st Wednesday Morristown social dinners
- Press 6 for:** Patrick Montague's hikes
- Press 7 for:** Joyce Haddad's upcoming hike
- Press 8 for:** any special events we may have

The best way to be notified of upcoming events is to join our listserver by sending an empty email message (no subject, no message) to: **NJ-Sierra-Singles-Announcements-subscribe@topica.com**. All events, including those planned after publication, will be announced by an email message sent directly to your email account.

If you prefer not to receive email, you may view all messages which have been sent to the listserver by going to: <http://www.topica.com/lists/NJ-Sierra-Singles-Announcements/read>.

### OFFICERS:

<b>Chair:</b>	Bob Johnson
	<a href="mailto:robert.johnson@comcast.net">robert.johnson@comcast.net</a>
<b>Outings Chair:</b>	Joyce Haddad
	<a href="mailto:jkhaddad@juno.com">jkhaddad@juno.com</a>
<b>Conservation Chair:</b>	Bob Johnson
	<a href="mailto:robert.johnson@comcast.net">robert.johnson@comcast.net</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Joyce White
	<a href="mailto:joyce00201@yahoo.com">joyce00201@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Webpage designer:</b>	David Szalay
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<b>Social Chair:</b>	Kathy Holusha
	<a href="mailto:Kathleen.Holusha@pfizer.com">Kathleen.Holusha@pfizer.com</a>
<b>Programs:</b>	Open Position! Email us!
<b>Publicity:</b>	Lynn Forrest
	<a href="mailto:abc77@msn.com">abc77@msn.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Nancy Sullivan
	<a href="mailto:nancysullivan@comcast.net">nancysullivan@comcast.net</a>
<b>Membership:</b>	Barry Britton
	<a href="mailto:JerseyVox@aol.com">JerseyVox@aol.com</a>

Volunteers needed for the positions of: outings leaders, Programs coordinator, Secretary, fundraising chair/co-chairs, and members of all committees, including social event planners for Plaza Grille. Please attend a Planning/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 and introduction to club issues and activities. SECOND MONDAY of each month at 7pm, latecomers welcome. Please note: our location has changed. We will now meet at the Morris County Library, 30 E. Hanover Ave, Whippany. Guest speakers at most meetings at 7:45 pm — please join the listserv or call 973-364-7573, ext. 3 for details. \$5 donation at door and RSVP required for pizza only to [joyce00201@yahoo.com](mailto:joyce00201@yahoo.com) or 973-364-7573, ext. 3, by noon the day before. (Please specify plain or veggie pizza.) Free (and no RSVP required) if you're not having pizza.

**July and August:** no meetings. Have a great summer!

**Sept 8:** Mike Noll's slideshow of his roadtrip along California's Route 1.

Please call to confirm above speakers at 973-364-7573, ext. 3.

**Directions:** From Route 10 East: Go through Parsippany. Just before the 287 overpass, turn south at the Hanover Mariott onto Ridgedale Avenue. Go about 2 miles, past Morris County Mall on the left. Turn left onto Hanover Ave. Library is ½ mile down on your left. From Route 10 West: Pass under 287. Take the jughandle turn for Ridgedale Avenue and follow directions above. For further directions, see <http://www.gti.net/mocolib1/compass.html> or call the library at 973-285-6930.

**PLANNING/EXCOM MEETINGS** preceding each general meeting.

### SOCIALS:

**FIRST WEDNESDAY** of each month at 6:30 pm. Join us for dinner in Morristown at the Famished Frog. RSVP required; join our listserv for further details.

**THIRD TUESDAY** of each month at 7pm. Join us for dinner and a guest speaker in a Montclair restaurant. Location will be announced 2 weeks before the social. RSVP is required to [jkhaddad@juno.com](mailto:jkhaddad@juno.com) or 973-364-7573 option # 4.

**LAST FRIDAY** of the month — join us for the FINAL FRIDAY FILM FEST! Come see a great movie on the big (well, pretty big) screen. Donation: \$5.

**July 25:** Another classic Hitchcock mystery to be announced. Outdoors-bring lawn chair. Rain or shine. Begins when dark — 9pm or so. Location: The Shillelagh Club, 648 Prospect Ave., in West Orange. Take Rt 280 to Exit 8A. Go through 3 lights. Club is on left ¾ mile after 3rd light. Food/beverages available.

**Aug 29:** Another outdoor feature at The Shillelagh Club; bring lawn chair. Begins 9pm or when dark. We are hoping to kick-off a series of documentaries, beginning with "The Hudson Riverkeepers."

**Sept 26:** Further details to be announced. Check the webpage, join the listserv, or call 973-364-7573, ext. 1.

Please ALWAYS CONFIRM these movie dates by checking our announcement at 973-364-7573, ext. 1. You can also email [abc77@msn.com](mailto:abc77@msn.com) with questions.

Other special social events are scheduled throughout each month, such as our Dinner-And-A-Movie event on various Saturday evenings. Be sure to sign-up for listserv email announcements for specific details regarding each event. All events are posted via listserv, but many do not make it into this Sierran or to the phone line.

## Inner City Outings Section

(another Chapter-wide special interest activity)

### OFFICERS:

<b>Chair</b>	
<b>(North/Center Jersey):</b>	Anne Dyjak 732-560-0953
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<b>Volunteer Coordinator:</b>	Patti Lynch
	<a href="mailto:Njicoutings@aol.com">Njicoutings@aol.com</a>
<b>Co-Chairs</b>	
<b>(South Jersey)</b>	Jennifer Grenier 856-582-5512
	and Maxine Vogt 856-779-9156

Inner City Outings is a community outreach program which provides wilderness adventures for inner city youth of NJ. (See the article on p. 2 of this Newsletter.) Volunteer certified outings leaders conduct outings on weekends, generally day trips on Saturdays. If you would like to experience the rewards of introducing NJ inner city youth to the wonders of nature, your involvement is encouraged and you are requested to contact us at the above email address. To learn more, visit our web page at <http://www.sierraclub.org/ico/newjersey/>. Also, copies of an annual report are available from the Chair.

NJ ICO has groups both in North/Central Jersey and in the Camden area, known as South Jersey ICO. If you are interested in volunteering with either group, please contact any of those listed above.



# Outings

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

## GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS

**Central Jersey:** Ken Mayberg  
kjmayberg@aol.com  
**Essex County:** David Ogens 973-226-7107 (H)  
29 Hatfield Street, Caldwell, NJ 07003  
**Hudson-Meadowlands:** Vacant  
**Hunterdon:** Vacant  
**Jersey Shore:** Mike Verange 908-732-8364 (H)  
1497 W Front St, Lincroft, NJ 07738  
**Loantaka:** Bob Muska 908-665-2296 (H)  
95 Delmore Ave, Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922  
**North Jersey:** Ellen Blumenkrantz 201-784-8417  
eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com  
**Northwest Jersey:** Vacant  
**Raritan Valley:** Steve Ember, sehiker@yahoo.com  
see phone and address below  
**South Jersey:** Tom Boghosian 609-272-9005 (H)  
3722 Lehigh Ct., Mays Landing, NJ 08330  
**West Jersey:** Dan Prociada 609-767-2149 (H)  
813 Old White Horse Pike, Waterford Works, NJ 08089  
**River Touring:** Fred Tocce 908-453-2205 (H)  
Rd 1 Box 277, Washington, NJ 07882  
**Inner City Outings:** Anne Dyjak 732-560-0953 (H)  
NJ-ICO, 17 Mt. Horeb Rd. Warren, NJ 07059  
**Chapter Outings:** Steve Ember 732-926-8964 (H)  
511 Grandview Street, Middlesex, NJ 08846

**Outing Leaders:** Please send October-December write-ups to your Group Outings Coordinator before July 31. 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:** If possible, leaders should send their trip descriptions to the Group Outings Coordinator instead of directly to the Chapter Outings Coordinator. This is particularly important for occasional leaders.

**Group Outings Coordinators:** Please submit your October-December trip write-ups by August 5.

**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 Sierra Club. This is a new policy. 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. 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 trip leaders can arrange for partners to share a canoe if you will be 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
(L) - Loantaka	(N) - North Jersey
(NW) - Northwest Jersey	(S) - South Jersey
(W) - West Jersey	(NJ) - NJ Chapter
(H) - Hudson	(RV) - Raritan Valley
(IC) - Inner City Outings	(RT) - River Touring
(E) - Essex County	(ACOC) - Atlantic Chapter Outings Comm.

**JUL 19 (Sat) Social Hike in Pequest Trout Hatchery & Wildlife Management Area.** We will hike about 4 miles of mostly flat terrain at a leisurely pace. Highlights include the hatchery, trout raceways and views of the Allamuchy Mountains. Pequest is a one-of-a-kind experience, set in lovely Warren County. Hiking shoes are preferred and participants should be in good condition. Bring lunch or snack, 2 quarts of water. Meet before 10:30 AM at the Car parking lot of Pequest. Take Exit 19 on Route 80. Drive toward Hackettstown on Route 517 south for about 4.5 miles. Turn right onto Route 46 west & proceed about 9 miles. See entrance for Pequest at left & follow road about a 1/2 mile. Go to Car parking lot on right. Rain cancels. Leader: Joyce White at (908) 272-4478 or joyce00201@yahoo.com (L)

**JUL 19 (Sat) Minnewaska State Park.** 6-7 hour hike at a moderate pace in Minnewaska State Park. We'll walk a combination of carriage roads and trails from Minnewaska to Lake Awosting and back. Great views and some early blueberries may be available to much on as we walk. Lunch stop and optional swim at Lake Awosting. Optional dinner stop in New Paltz. Hikers must pre-register. Group limited to 10 people. Ride sharing will be arranged if requested. Bring hiking boots, lunch, snacks and plenty of water. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com, 201-784-8417 (N)

**JUL 20 (Sun) Harriman State Park.** 6-7 hour hike (about 10-12 miles) at a moderate pace in northern Harriman State Park. A combination of ridge and wood trails, with a loop around Island Pond and a nearby marsh, usually filled with redbird blackbirds. Hikers must pre-register. Group limited to 10 people. Bring hiking boots, lunch, snacks and plenty of water. 9:30 AM start. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com, 201-784-8417 (N)

**JUL 20 (Sun) Social Hike/Swim at Catfish Pond.** We will hike about five miles at a moderate pace. Optional routes are available for those who prefer to hike more. Join us for the summer sun, fun and frolic on the relatively pristine Kittatinny Ridge. SWIMSUITS and hiking boots are recommended and participants should be in good condition. Meet BEFORE 9:30 AM in Blairstown. Take Route 80 West to Exit 4 for Blairstown. Drive north on Route 94 for 6.5 miles until reaching a shopping center on your left. Rain cancels. Leader: Steve Ember, sehiker@yahoo.com (RV)

**JUL 20 (Sun) Singles Kayak Trip.** We do Crosswicks Creek as we go out with the tide and return with the tide, easy paddle! Meet by 9 AM at Paint Island Canoe Rental, 350 Farnsworth Ave. Bordentown, NJ. Call leader to reserve boat. NP/NC. Bring picnic type food to share at tailgate social after trip. Call leader for carpool info. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 856-697-3870 eve. pis1@cccnj.net (W)

**JUL 26-27 (Sat-Sun) Singles Whitewater Rafting Part II.** We will raft the Lower Youghiogheny River in PA on Saturday, optional hike or bike through the beautiful Laurel Highlands forest on Sunday. Stay in campground, hotel, or B&B, individual option, call leader for info. We will carpool/caravan on Friday or meet at outfitters by 9 AM, leader will coordinate. Space is limited; call leader for reservation NLT July 1. Enjoy this classic river ride. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 856-697-3870 eve. pis1@cccnj.net (W)

## AUGUST

**AUG 1-11 (Fri-Mon) Costa Rica Adventure.** Hiking, rafting and wildlife in central Costa Rica and Tortuguero Canals (giant sea turtle nesting site). \$1350 per person/double occupancy includes everything but airfare. Women only trip. Direct non-stop flights available from Newark and JFK. Details at www.angelfire.com/trek/forfun. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com, 201-784-8417 (N)

**AUG 3 (Sun) Singles Bike Ride.** Class D ride. 20 miles with stops. We will ride the D&R Canal tow path from Bull's Island to Frenchtown. Bring picnic type food to share at tailgate social after ride. Meet by 9 AM at Bull's Island SP; second parking lot near pedestrian bridge, on Route 29, 3 miles North of Stockton. Call leader for carpooling info. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 856-697-3870 eve. pis1@cccnj.net (W)

**AUG 8 (Fri) Singles Moonlight Kayak Trip.** Paddle the Mullica River with a dinner stop at a local restaurant. Some experience required. Limited space, call leader to reserve space. Meet by 6 PM at Bel Haven Canoe Rentals, on Route 543, 12 miles east of Hammonton, Atl. Co. Bring flashlight and whistle. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 856-697-3870 eve. pis1@cccnj.net (W)

**AUG 9 (Sat) Full Moon Hike/Swim at Blue Mountain Lakes.** See July 12 for details. Rain cancels. Leader: Steve Ember, sehiker@yahoo.com (RV)

**AUG 9 (Sat) Picnic and Outdoor Theatre Show, Washington Crossing State Park.** Picnic begins at 5 PM, box office opens at 6 PM, curtain time is 8 PM. Please bring your own picnic food and supplies and a dish to share, and a cushion for the show. The Open Air Theatre show is "Oliver" performed by the Yardley Players. Theatre ticket prices are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12. Group rate for 15 or more is \$8. Please contact Harold Rapp (609-671-0435 or hrapp@aol.com) by Aug. 2 to guarantee your reservation in order to obtain group rate, and arrange for payment. The park entrance is on Pennington-Washington Crossing Road slightly east of Rt. 29. Upon entering the park proceed to the Knox Grove picnic area. Check the Central Jersey Group website for a map. (C)

**AUG 9 (Sat) Recycle a House - Volunteer Activity.** We will help Habitat for Humanity rebuild a row home. This is a way to give back to the community and create a positive image for the club. Bring lunch, water and boots. Meet 8 AM at the rear parking lot at the Hilton Hotel, Rt. 70, Cherry Hill. Leader: Tom J., 856-234-9369. Call in advance if possible so we know how many to expect. (W)

**AUG 9 (Sat) Singles Moonlight Hike.** 6 miles. Moderate pace. Hike dirt roads lit by moonlight in the Pines. Bring swim wear, chair or blanket. Bring snack type food to share at tailgate social after hike. NP/NC. Meet by 7:30 PM at Lake Oswego parking lot on Lake Oswego Road. Off Route 563, 8 miles S. of Chatsworth, Burl. Co. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 856-697-3870 eve. pis1@cccnj.net (W)

**AUG 10 (Sun) Hartshorne Woods Hike, Monmouth County (Special Interest: Recent History).** Moderate 6 mile hike has elevation gains and lots of scenery. Please bring a drink and a snack. Hiking shoes are suggested. Meet at 9 AM at the Rocky Point parking area. Take GSP to exit 117 for Rt. 36 toward Sandy Hook. Proceed on Rt. 36 approx. 10 miles to Miller Street. At top of hill make a left. Then, make the first right. The parking area is straight ahead. Bad weather, includes high index, cancels. Confirmation/questions please call. Leader: Mike Verange, 908-902-0718, or mjverange@aol.com (JS)

**AUG 16 (Sat) Social Hike in Princeton Battlefield State Park.** We will hike about 4 easy miles of level terrain at a moderate pace. Highlights include revolutionary war era paths & monuments and suspension bridge. Hiking shoes are preferred and participants should be in good condition. Bring lunch or snack & 2 quarts of water. Meet before 10:30 AM at the Princeton Battlefield State Park parking lot at 500 Mercer Road. Take Route 27 south which becomes Nassau Street as you approach downtown Princeton. Make left onto Mercer Street which becomes Mercer Road (Princeton Pike). See Princeton Battlefield sign & park in lot in front of Clarke House. Rain cancels. Leader: Joyce White at (908) 272-4478 or joyce00201@yahoo.com (L)

**AUG 16 (Sat) Explore Lambertville and New Hope.** Meet 6:00 PM at toll house on Lambertville side of Delaware River Bridge. We'll walk around the two towns for approximately 1.5 hours and then stop at a restaurant for dinner. Moderate pace. May include stops in shops. Approximately 3-4 miles. Rain cancels. Leader: Ken Mayberg, kjmayberg@aol.com or (609) 443-9138 for questions (C)

**AUG 16 (Sat) Singles Hike and Meteor Shower.** 5-6 miles moderate pace. Short hike and then watch the Perseid Meteor Shower, a solar system spectacular. Bring snack type food to share at tailgate social after hike, blanket or chair to sit on. NP/NC. Meet by 7:30 PM in field behind Atsion Office on Route 206, between Red Lion Circle and Hammonton, Burl. Co. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 856-697-3870 eve. pis1@cccnj.net (W)

**AUG 17 (Sun) North of Bear Mountain State Park.** 6-7 hour hike (about 10-12 miles) at a moderate pace in a rarely used park 10 minutes north of Bear Mountain State Park. Beautiful woods, a waterfall and lake views. Trailhead parking is very limited. So, we'll carpool from Bear Mountain. Hikers must pre-register. Group limited to 10 people. Bring hiking boots, lunch, snacks and plenty of water. 9:00 AM start. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com, 201-784-8417 (N)

**AUG 17 (Sun) Social Hike/Swim at Catfish Pond.** See July 20 for details. Rain cancels. Leader: Steve Ember, sehiker@yahoo.com (RV)

**AUG 17 (Sun) Singles Tube Float Trip.** Repeat of last year's great trip. 4 lazy hours floating down the Delaware River. Bring lunch with you in a small cooler. We will eat on the river or in picnic area. Bring snack to eat on river. NO Alcohol on river! Bring change of clothes for optional tour of New Hope After trip. Call leader to reserve space. Meet by 9:30 AM at Bucks County River Country Outfitters, on Route 413, Point Pleasant, PA. Call leader for carpool info. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 856-697-3870 eve. pis1@cccnj.net (W)

**AUG 24 (Sun) Harriman State Park.** 6-7 hour hike (about 10-12 miles) at a moderate pace in southern Harriman State Park. Walk along a beautiful stream, past several lakes and along ridges with some great views. Hikers must pre-register. Group limited to 10 people. Bring hiking boots, lunch, snacks and plenty of water. 9:00 AM start. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com, 201-784-8417 (N)

**AUG 24 (Sun) Singles Back Bay Kayak or River Trip.** Learn some basic paddle strokes as we paddle the back bay area of the Great Egg Harbor Bay. Some paddling experience required. Call leader to reserve space. If not enough interest in the Back Bay trip I will do a river kayak trip, call for details. Meet by 9 AM at Bel Haven Canoe Rentals on Route 542, 12 miles E. of Hammonton, Atl. Co. Bring picnic type food to share at tailgate social after trip. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 856-697-3870 eve. pis1@cccnj.net (W)

## SEPTEMBER

**SEP 7 (Sun) Social Hike/Swim at Blue Mountain Lakes (Special Interest: Beavers).** We will hike about five miles at a moderate pace on the Kittatinny Ridge. Optional routes are available for those who prefer to hike more. Highlights include pretty lakes and evidence of beaver activity (Nature's illustrious engineers). SWIMSUITS, cameras and hiking boots are recommended and participants should be in good condition. Meet BEFORE 10 AM at the Blue Mountain Lakes parking area. Take Exit 12 on Route 80. Drive into Blairstown on Route 521 North. Turn left at the Route 94 junction. Then, turn right at the traffic light (leave Routes 94 and 521). Take County Road 602 for about seven miles to Millbrook (not Stillwater). Turn right at Millbrook Village and go about 1.5 miles to the Grater Lake sign. Turn right and watch for the Blue Mountain Lakes parking area. Rain cancels. Leader: Steve Ember, sehiker@yahoo.com (RV)

**SEP 7 (Sun) Brookdale Community College/Thompson Park Hike.** Moderate 6.5 mile hike that follows the perimeter of the Swimming River Reservoir. Hiking shoes preferred. Bring a drink and a snack. Take GSP to

(continued on page 8)

When Summer lies upon the world, and in a noon of gold, Beneath the roof of sleeping leaves the dreams of trees unfold; (JRR Tolkien)

**Chair**

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svsomalwar@sierraactivist.org  
1015 South Park Ave., Highland Park NJ 08904-2954

**Vice-Chair**

\* Ken Johanson (908) 464-0442  
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**Conservation Chair**

Laura Lynch (609) 882-4642  
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**Conservation Vice-Chair**

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**Political Chair**

\* Rich Isaac (973) 716-0297  
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**Political Vice-Chair**

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lbagwell@rcn.com

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and Ken Johanson (see above)

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**Treasurer**

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**Membership Chair**

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**Council Delegate**

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

**Other ExCom members at large**

\* Tina Schvejda (973) 427-6863  
tschvejda@mindspring.com  
40 Marilyn St., North Haledon NJ 07508-2441  
\* Bob Johnson (see below)

**NERCC Representatives**

Joan Denzer (see George Denzer above)  
and Bob Johnson (see below)  
Alternate: George Denzer - (see above)

**Atlantic Coast Ecoregion Delegate**

Joan Denzer (see above)  
Alternate: Fred Akers (see below)

**Legal Chair**

Bill Singer, Esq. (908) 359-7873

**Financial Committee**

Tina Schvejda\*\*, Sunil Somalwar,  
Ken Johanson, George and Joan  
Denzer, Dick Colby

**Events & Fundraising**

Joan Denzer & Tina Schvejda\*\*,  
Steve Ember, Sunil Somalwar,  
Carolyn Freeman

**Personell Committee**

Ken Johanson\*\*, Sunil Somalwar,  
Mary Penney, Tina Schvejda, George &  
Joan Denzer, Dick Colby

**Legislative Committee**

Maria Kelly\*\*, Ken Johanson\*\*,  
Dennis Anderson, Dave Mattek,  
Kelly McNicholas, Carolyn Freeman,  
Jeff Tittel, Dennis Schvejda

**Litigation Oversight Committee**

Ken Johanson\*\* Tina Schvejda,  
Sunil Somalwar, Dick Colby

**Inner City Outings Coordinator**

Anne Dyjak (see Group News pages)

\* Indicates Chapter-wide elected ExCom members.

\*\* Indicates committee chair or co-chair

## NEW JERSEY CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

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**Conservation Director:**

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**Chapter Office Manager  
(open position)**

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

**Upcoming ExCom Meetings:**

All members are welcome to attend these monthly statewide policy deliberations, held on SECOND SATURDAYS. Details, including agendas, and driving instructions, are available in advance from Sunil Somalwar, the Chapter Chair.

**JULY 12 • AUGUST 9 • SEPT 13**

The meeting location will be the New Brunswick Public Library, 60 Livingston Ave.

Conservation and Political Committee meetings start at 10am. Lunch is shared at noon. The main meeting starts at 1pm. We usually continue discussions informally over dinner at a nearby restaurant, at 5pm.

## OUTINGS

(Continued from page 7)

Exit 109. Head west on Monmouth County 520 approx. 2 miles to Brookdale Community College. Make first right. Proceed to Parking Lot #2. Meet in back right corner at 9 AM. Bad weather cancels. Confirmation/questions call. Leader: Mike Verange, 908-902-0718, or mjverange@aol.com (JS)

**SEP 12 (Fri) Singles Moonlight Kayak Trip.** Last one of the summer. Paddle the Mullica River under a full moon. Possible dinner stop after trip. Some paddling experience needed. Call leader to reserve space. Meet by 6:30 PM at Bel Haven Canoe Rental on Route 542, 12 miles E. of Hammonton, Atl. Co. Bring flashlight and whistle. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 856-697-3870 eve. pis1@cccnj.net (W)

**SEP 13 (Sat) Recycle a House - Volunteer Activity.** We will help Habitat for Humanity rebuild a row home. This is a way to give back to the community and create a positive image for the club. Bring lunch, water and boots. Meet 8 AM at the rear parking lot at the Hilton Hotel, Rt. 70, Cherry Hill. Leader: Tom J., 856-234-9369. Call in advance if possible so we know how many to expect. (W)

**SEP 13 (Sat) Singles Moonlight Hike.** 6 miles. Moderate pace. Hike dirt roads lit by moonlight in the Pines. Bring swim wear, chair or blanket. Bring snack type food to share at tailgate social after hike. NP/NC. Meet by 7:30 PM at Lake Oswego parking lot on Lake Oswego Road. Off Route 563, 8 miles S. of Chatsworth, Burl. Co. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 856-697-3870 eve. pis1@cccnj.net (W)

**SEP 14 (Sun) Harriman State Park.** 6-7 hour hike (about 10-11 miles) at a moderate pace in Harriman State Park. Starting at Anthony Wayne parking lot, we'll hike over the Timp to great viewpoints of the park and the Hudson River. Hikers must pre-register. Group limited to 10 people. Bring hiking boots, lunch, snacks and plenty of water. 9:30 AM start. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com, 201-784-8417 (N)

**SEP 14 (Sun) Social Hike at Sunfish Pond.** We will hike about 8 miles at a mod. pace on the Kittatinny Ridge. Highlights inc. Dunnfield Creek ravine and picturesque Sunfish Pond. Hiking boots are required and participants should be in good condition. Meet BEFORE 10 AM at the Appalachian Trail parking lot on Rte 80 West. Take Rte 80 West past Exit 4 and look carefully for the Rest Area sign. Leave Rte 80 at the Rest Area exit; however, continue down the exit ramp to the Dunnfield Creek/Appalachian Trail parking lot. Rain cancels. Leader: Steve Ember, sehiker@yahoo.com (RV)

**SEP 14 (Sun) Roller Blading at Bulls Island State Park.** Approx 12 miles round trip. There is a paved shoulder. Please bring sneakers or sandals in a backpack for some walking. Lunch in Frenchtown. Meet at 10 AM in parking lot next to bike path (immediately upon entrance) in Bulls Island State Park. Take Rte 29 about 2 mi north of Stockton, NJ, to Frenchtown. Rain cancels. Leader: Ken Mayberg, kjmayberg@aol.com or (609) 443-9138 for quest. (C)

**SEP 14 (Sun) Social Boardwalk Hike & Kite Festival.** 7 miles at a moderate pace. Enjoy a fun day at the beach. Arrive at 9:00 AM to beat the traffic for the kite festival. Bring lunch and beverage with you while enjoying blue skies filled with spectacular, colorful kites. At 2:30 PM, we will hike to Victorian Ocean Grove and back along the boardwalk with its ocean views and salt air. No pets/children. Take Route 295 N. to Route 195 E. which ends at Route 35. Take Route 35 N. to 1st light (16th Avenue). Turn right and go 1 mile to end at ocean. Look for signs to hike. Tentatively scheduled for 5th Street. Call before hike for exact location. Look for signs to meeting area or kite set up area. We will be near there. Leaders: Paul Serdiuk 856-697-3870 eve. pis1@cccnj.net and Nancy Hazelgrove 732-292-3102 eve. indydunes@usamailbox.com (W)

**SEP 21 (Sun) Singles Kayak Trip.** We do the Egg Harbor River. We will have a pizza party after trip with volleyball game. Call leader to reserve kayak as space is limited. Meet by 9 AM at Palace Restaurant, Route 322, Weymouth, Atl. Co. Leader: Paul Serdiuk 856-697-3870 eve. pis1@cccnj.net (W)

**SEP 27 (Sat) Social Hike in Watchung Reservation.** We will hike about 6 miles of hills & level terrain at a moderate pace. Highlights include pine plantation & Deserted Village. Hiking boots are preferred and participants should be in good cond. Bring lunch or snack & 2 quarts of water. Meet before 10:30 AM at the Trailside Nature Center parking lot. Take Rte 78 West to exit 43 (New Providence/Berkeley Heights). At light, turn right onto McMane Avenue. Then turn left onto Glenside Ave. Drive about 1 mile or so. Turn right onto Rte 645 and pass Lake Surprise. At traffic circle, take first right and proceed 1/2 mile to Trailside. OR Take Rte 78 East to exit 44, turn left at the light onto Glenside Avenue. Then follow dir above. Rain cancels. Leader: Joyce White at (908) 272-4478 or joycec0201@yahoo.com (L)

**SEP 28 (Sun) Social Hike in Stokes State Forest.** We will hike eight miles primarily along the Kittatinny Ridge on the Appalachian Trail. Highlights include panoramic views from Sunrise Mountain and the Culver Fire Tower. Hiking boots are required and participants should be in good condition. Meet BEFORE 10 AM at the park office off Route 206. Proceed north on Route 206 past Branchville and Culvers Lake. Turn right into Stokes State Forest into the park office parking area. Rain cancels. Leader: Steve Ember, sehiker@yahoo.com (RV)

## FUTURE OUTINGS – ADVANCE NOTICE

**OCT 5 (Sun) Social Hike in Harriman State Park.** We will hike eight miles at a moderate pace. Highlights include excellent views and interesting rock formations. Hiking boots are required and participants should be in good condition. Meet BY 10 AM at the Lake Tiorati Circle on Seven Lakes Drive. Drive north on the Garden State Parkway (or Route 287 North) and take the Route 17 exit. Proceed north on Route 17 into New York. Immediately after the town of Sloatsburg, turn right on Seven Lakes Drive. The Lake Tiorati Circle is about eleven miles up Seven Lakes Drive. Rain cancels. Leader: Steve Ember, sehiker@yahoo.com (RV)

**OCT 5 (Sun) Southern Allaire State Park Hike (Special Interest: Geology).** Moderate 4.75 mile hike is in the Northern fringes of the Pine Barrens. Hiking shoes preferred. Please bring a drink and a snack. Meet at 9 AM at large parking lot on the right off Hospital Road in Wall Township. Take GSP to Exit 98 for Route 34 south. Turn right onto Allenwood Road. At "T" intersection (Ramhorn Road), turn right. Make next left onto Hospital Road. The parking area is approximately 1 mile on the right. Bad weather cancels. Confirmation/questions call. Leader: Mike Verange, 908-902-0718, or mjverange@aol.com (JS)

**NOV 21-DEC 1 (Fri-Mon) Costa Rica.** Hiking and wildlife trip to Guanacasta/Nicoya Peninsula in northwest Costa Rica. Volcanoes, forests filled with wildlife and time at the Pacific Coast to see turtle nesting sites, mangroves, bird rookeries and enjoy the beach. \$1500 per person/double occupancy includes everything but airfare. Direct flights available from Newark and JFK. Start/end date 11/22-11/30 possible if on Lacs flights from JFK. This would reduce trip price by about \$140. Details at www.angelfire.com/trek/forfun . Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com, 201-784-8417 (N)

**DEC 19-JAN 4 (Fri-Sun) Costa Rica.** Incredible hiking and canoeing in northern Costa Rica to remote, seldom visited areas. \$1900/per person/double occupancy for 10-12 people; \$2050 per person if 8-9 people; \$2200 per person if group size only for 4-7 includes everything but airfare. Direct non stop flights available from Newark and JFK. Start/end date 12/20-1/3 possible if on Lacs flights from JFK. This would reduce trip price by about \$140. Details at www.angelfire.com/trek/forfun. Leader: Ellen Blumenkrantz, eblumenkrantz@hotmail.com, 201-784-8417 (N)

## Membership

**Yes**, I want to help safeguard our nation's precious natural heritage. My check is enclosed.

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## THE JERSEY SIERRAN

The Jersey Sierran is the newsletter of the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club. Readers are encouraged to submit articles, photographs, artwork, cartoons on environmental subjects, letters to the editor, poetry, press releases and expressions of opinion.

Articles and letters should be submitted typed and double spaced (or preferably by e-mail or on disk: call for format information). **Send submissions to: Dick Colby. The deadline is the 10th of the month two months prior to the issue date.**

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The Jersey Sierran is published quarterly by the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club, 139 W. Hanover St, Trenton NJ 08618.

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Thank you to all who contributed. The Jersey Sierran is produced mostly by volunteers.