

GROUP NEWS

(Continued from page 9)

Membership Chair: Gary Roman 609-625-3438
Secretary/Treasurer: Julie Akers 856-697-3479
 akers@gowebway.com
Cape May Issues: Douglas Jewell 609-463-8423
 jewell@avaloninternet.net

MEETINGS: Group meetings are usually held on the THIRD MONDAY of each month, at 7pm, usually at the Warren Fox Nature Center, Atlantic County Park, Estell Manor (4 miles south of Mays Landing on NJ Rte 50 — milepost 15). Best to call one of the officers to confirm each meeting - or (better yet!) send (e-mail!) your e-mail address to dick.colby@stockton.edu and be put on a distribution list for notices of each meeting.

Jan 22, 2002: (obviously not a third monday, but close!): We'll probably share our meeting with that of Cape May Concerned Citizens, to deal with Cape May issues, possibly the issue of environmental impacts of a new high school for Ocean City. The meeting will probably take place at 7pm at the Old Court House in Cape May Court House (on Rte. 9, one block south of the Hospital). Final arrangements will be sent to the e-mail distribution list; others should call an officer.

Feb 26: (also not a third monday!): We'll share our meeting time with that of our teenage "daughter" organization, the Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association, which will meet at 7pm at the Warren Fox Nature Center to consider regulation of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs), Jet-skis, and other nuisance objects. Probable presentation by Fred Akers, our Group Conservation Chair.

Mar 16: (goodness! also not a third monday!): Our quarterly outing meeting, on a saturday at 10am, to perform some maintenance (removal of old barbed wire fencing) at the Unexpected Wildlife Refuge, on Unexpected Road (where else?) in Buena Vista Twp, border of Atlantic and Gloucester Counties. We'll see if the beavers have returned upstream. Bring thick leather work gloves and wire cutters. We may have lunch together afterwards. RSVP to Fred and Julie Akers.

ACTIVITIES:

Members in Cape May County should please pay attention to frequent developments in the campaigns to oppose extension of sewer lines (and thus permission to develop!) in Cape May County, and of Route 55. Contact Doug Jewell (jewell@avaloninternet.net) if you'd like to help.

Members in the watershed of the Great Egg Harbor River should please pay attention to developments in the Watershed Association's campaign to protect the river from illegal docks, illegal moorings, unsightly cell-phone towers, illegal use of powerboats, and other obnoxious/destructive recreational/commercial practices. Julie Akers is the Watershed Association's President, and Belinda Irizarry (609-567-4762) is our Watershed Coordinator.

Singles Section

(A chapter-wide special interest activity including hikes, social gatherings, cleanups, picnics, cultural outings, and camping.)

Web site: <http://njsierra.enviroweb.org/~singles/>
 Phone announcements: 973-364-7573

To receive further information about events, please join our listserver by sending an empty e-mail message to: NJ-Sierra-Singles-Announcements-subscribe@topica.com. All events, including those planned after publication, will be announced by an e-mail message sent directly to your e-mail account.

If you prefer not to receive e-mail, 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:

Co-Chairs: Lou Ambrosio
 lou.ambrosio@juno.com
 and Bob Johnson
 robert.johnson@home.com
Outings Chair: Joyce Haddad
 jkhaddad@juno.com
Conservation Chair: Bob Johnson
 robert.johnson@home.com
Treasurer: Joyce White
 joyce00201@yahoo.com
Webpage designer: David Szalay
 dszalay@home.com
Social Chair: Kathy Holusha
 Kathleen.Holusha@pfizer.com
Programs: Patti Lynch
 lynchp@eden.rutgers.edu

A special thanks to those volunteers who have helped out with our events: Pete Baczinsky (NJAS), Paul Regan (HVO) And Tina Schvejda (ANWR) who spoke at our meetings, Ron Pate (Outings), Keith Khieu (Shore Days) Connie Farley (Calendar Coord), Wilma Hurwitz and Janet Crowley for their efforts at Calendar sales. Mary Russell, Susan Long, Pat Montague Joan Housman, Wilma Hurwitz and Deborah Schwenk for Socials.

Volunteers needed for the positions of outings leaders, secretary, membership chair/co-chairs, publicity chair/co-chairs, 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.

GENERAL MEETINGS: Casual pizza gathering and introduction to club issues and activities. SECOND MONDAY of each month at 6:30 pm, latecomers welcome. Library of the Chatham, 214 Main St., Chatham (Main Street is Route 124.) Guest speakers at most meetings — please join the listserver or call 973-364-7573, option 3 for details. \$5 donation at door and R.S.V.P. required for pizza only to lynchp@eden.rutgers.edu or 973-364-7573, option 3. (Please specify plain or veggie pizza.) For directions, please see our webpage or call the library at 973-635-0603.

PLANNING/EXCOM MEETINGS following each general meeting.

SOCIALS: FIRST WEDNESDAY of each month at 6pm. Join us for dinner in Morristown at the Famished Frog. RSVP required, join our list server for further details.

THIRD TUESDAY of each month at 7pm. Join us for dinner in Montclair. Restaurant to be announced. RSVP is required to jkhaddad@juno.com or 973-364-7573 Option 4.

PARTIAL LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS:

For information on general meetings or any hikes or social events planned after publication, please join the listserver or call 973-364-7573. All events are posted via listserver; many do not make it into this Sierran or to the phone line.

Hikes: Please see the outings section of this newsletter for more details.

Upcoming hikes in North Jersey:

Jan. 13th (Sun) at Eagle Rock Reservation/ Ron Pate
Feb. 10th (Sun) at Hatfield Swamp in West Essex Park/ Ron Pate and Joyce Haddad
Mar. 9th (Sat) at Eagle Rock Reservation/ Joyce Haddad
Mar. 10th (Sun) at South Mountain Reservation/ Ron Pate

Upcoming Cleanups:

April 7th (Sun) at Eagle Rock Reservation/ Ron Pate
April 21st (Sun) at South Mountain Reservation/ Ron Pate (EARTH DAY)

Upcoming hikes in South Jersey: Please see Paul Serdiuk's hikes/events in the outings section of this newsletter.

NJ Inner City Outings

(another Chapter-wide special interest activity)

Chair: Anne Dyjak 732-560-0953
 Njicoutings@aol.com

NJ Inner City Outings is a community outreach program which provides wilderness adventures for inner city youth of NJ. Volunteer outings leaders and assistants conduct outings on weekends for agencies and schools which have established a partnership with NJ ICO. 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 attend a NJ ICO meeting.

GENERAL MEETINGS: Meetings are held at 7pm on Thursdays, every other month, generally in the Somerset County area. Please call or e-mail for meeting and outings information.

**INNER CITY OUTINGS
 NEW VOLUNTEER MEETING**
Wednesday, February 6th, 2002, 6pm.
Latecomers welcome.
**Pilgrim Diner, 82 Pompton Avenue (Rte 23),
 Cedar Grove.**
**RSVP required by Sunday, February 3rd to
 Patti Lynch at 973-809-2370**

Outings

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



GROUP OUTINGS COORDINATORS

Central Jersey: Don Griffin, 609-397-1513 (H)
 122 N. Union Ave., Lambertville, NJ 08530
Essex County: David Ogens 973-226-7107 (H)
 29 Hatfield Street, Caldwell, NJ 07003
Hudson: 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: Vacant
Northwest Jersey: Joe Pepin 973-252-5137 (H)
 4 Cathy Pl., Succasunna, NJ 07876
Raritan Valley: Vacant
South Jersey: Tom Boghosian 609-272-9005 (H)
 3722 Lehigh Ct., Mays Landing, NJ 08330
West Jersey: Dan Procidia 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 Chair: Steve Ember 732-926-8964 (H)
 511 Grandview Street, Middlesex, NJ 08846

Outing Leaders: Please send April-June write-ups to your Group Outings Coordinator before March 31. If you are planning to lead an outing close to the beginning of one of our bimonthly 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 (or the Chapter Outings Coordinator, if there is no Group Outings Coordinator), instead of directly to the Chapter Outings Coordinator. This is particularly important for occasional leaders.

Group Outings Coordinators: Please submit your April-June trip write-ups by April 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. To car pool to Steve Ember's hikes, contact Bob Johnson at robert.johnson@home.com or 908-771-9676.

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.