

**May 18 (Saturday!):** Horsehoe Crabs and the Birds which Feed on Them: An outing somewhere on the Delaware Bayshore, led by Mike D'Amico. Call Julie Akers for final details.

**June 17 (early start: 6pm!):** Park Ramble: The north end of the Atlantic County Park in Estell Manor, followed by a picnic potluck. Also organized by those remarkable Akers folk.

**ACTIVITIES:**

Members in Cape May County should please pay attention to frequent developments in the campaign to oppose extension of sewer lines (and thus permission to develop!) in Cape May County. 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 cellphone 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@comcast.net
- Outings Chair:** Joyce Haddad  
jkhaddad@juno.com
- Conservation Chair:** Bob Johnson (see above)
- Treasurer:** Joyce White  
joyce00201@yahoo.com
- Webpage designer:** David Szalay  
dszalay@home.com
- Social Chair:** Kathy Holusha  
Kathleen.Holusha@pfizer.com
- Programs:** Open position
- Publicity:** Lynn Forrest  
lvf77@msn.com

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. Special thanks to Patti Lynch for activities too numerous to list.

Open positions: Volunteers needed for the positions of outings leaders, secretary, membership 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:** (Each is followed by a PLANING/ExCom MEETING.) Casual pizza gathering and introduction to club issues and activities: SECOND MONDAY of each month at 6:30 pm, latecomers welcome. Library of the Chathams, 214 Main St., Chatham (Main Street is Route 124.) Location may change in June.

**Guest speakers at most meetings**—please join the listserver or call 973-364-7573, option 3 for details. For directions, please see our webpage or call the library at 973-635-0603.

**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.

Also on the THIRD TUESDAY of each month at 7pm: Join us for dinner in Montclair. Restaurant to be announced. R.S.V.P is required to jkhaddad@juno.com or (973) 364-7573. Option # 4 There will be a \$3.00 extra charge for nonmembers.

**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. There will be a \$3.00 charge for nonmembers at hikes.

**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.

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**Conserve Wilderness in 2002**

by Bart Semcer, former Chapter Biodiversity Issues Coordinator, now on National Sierra Club staff

Across the country, winter has had wildlife in its grip. In the Northern Rockies, grizzlies were in hibernation and bison were at lower elevations in search of food. In the Southwest, bald eagles made themselves comfortable for the season. Up in the Northern Forest and Pacific Northwest, lynx made use of their snowshoe-like feet. Even in the dark and cold that bridges the years, the wilderness is alive.

Here in Washington D.C., bureaucrats and elected officials have been making plans for the American wilderness—plans that include increased logging, oil drilling, and opening up the last of our remote country to motorized vehicles. They are making plans to tame the wilderness, to rob our children of their outdoor heritage, to strip our nation of its natural wealth. This cannot be allowed to happen.

That is why I am writing to encourage you to support what I believe is one of the most important conservation groups today: ECOLOGICAL RECONNAISSANCE.

ECO-RECON was born from an intense passion for wilderness, individual freedom, and conscious action. It is the sweat, blood and guts of protecting our planet and its beings.

ECO-RECON was founded in March 2001 in Bozeman, Montana. Since then it has helped organizations, such as the Sierra Club, monitor snowmobile trespass in Wilderness Areas, documented damages to the backcountry caused by motorized recreation, conducted road-kill studies, recorded illegal salt lick hunting sites and taken part in efforts to document grizzly bears in threatened wildlands.

ECO-RECON developed as a service project for Voyager Outward Bound to monitor motorized recreation damage on the Deer-Lodge National Forest. It has established a program to train conservation activists in wilderness living skills so they can conduct their own reconnaissance work and compile on-site information for use in lawsuits, administrative appeals and media campaigns.

**REVIVAL OF THE ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER**

*(Continued from page 3)*

Dave Ogens, Essex County's Outings Chair, and Ron Pate, a hike leader, have been leading hikes and canoe trips in this unique wetland habitat for several years. This is the last pristine, natural area in Essex County. It is home to many migratory birds, the endangered bog turtle, and other wildlife not easily found in crowded Essex County. Our vision is to restore this Center as a gateway to the natural world of rivers, wetlands and forests - for school children and adults alike—to learn and explore. Hiking or canoeing in these quiet peaceful wetlands and

**Membership**

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club

Mastercard  Visa Exp Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
<b>INTRODUCTORY</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$47
SUPPORTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32

**4000**

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**Sierra Club**

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**P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO, 80322-2968**

The intelligence gathered by ECO-RECON has been invaluable in helping to build the case that, despite what politicians, bureaucrats and industry representatives say, motorized recreation is damaging to the land, and the traditional multiple-use management scheme for our national forests and areas administered by the BLM is in conflict with the ecological integrity of our nation.

That is why I encourage you to support ECO-RECON'S work in any way you can.

ECO-RECON is led by Director and founder Tom Arnold. Tom spent four years as a Marine with the 1st Recon Company, where he was trained in information gathering and observation, amphibious and ground backcountry travel, and land/water navigation. He conducted reconnaissance missions in seven countries in climates ranging from tropical jungles to the deserts of the Middle East. Tom is an experienced wilderness traveler, information gatherer, adventure racer and triathlete.

Tom is aided by Scott Anderson, a wilderness educator and activist who, over the last six years, has worked all over the U.S. for a diverse set of organizations. He is a climbing trainer for the Ruckus Society and has worked with the Rainforest Action Coalition and Student Environmental Action Coalition. In his spare time he works as a volunteer at wildlife rehabilitation centers.

Tom and Scott are joined in their work by Moonshine, a certified therapy service dog.

ECO-RECON is working hard to gather the on-the-ground information needed to help conservation campaigns prevail in the courts of law and public opinion. Today, we need them in the field more than ever.

Please consider supporting ECO-RECON'S important work in 2002 and please forward this message to your conservation minded friends.

CONTACT ECO-RECON at  
P.O. Box 6593  
Bozeman, MT 59771  
406-222-2913  
eco\_recon@hotmail.com

along the river is a healing balm in hectic, troubled times. Although considerable progress has been made, there is much more to be done. Future clean ups will include renovation of the interpretive trails and swamp boardwalk, and establishing canoe ramps. The county has been cooperative and supportive of all our efforts and we are confident that they will continue to encourage us. At the moment, however, it is up to us to raise the money for all these improvements. We hope that,

*(Continued on page 12)*