



Iroquois Messenger

Action

Checklist

PNN Bill

- Read: *Citizens' Guide to Pesticide Notification* at http://www.oag.state.ny.us/environment/pesticide_guide.html
- Tell County Legislators you want PNN opt-in. Find your legislator at Board of Elections, 435-3312
- Call Linda DeStefano to help work for this legislation, 488-2140, 9 AM to 10:45 PM
linpar@juno.com

Up-Coming General Meetings

On **Tuesday November 27** at 7:30 PM at Westcott community Center, Sierra Club will feature Ken Showalter, our guide and historian for the Erie Canal walks. His program will be "The Erie Canal in Central NY," a grande finale to the Fall 2001 segment of the "Sierra Walks To Rome." Ken has many old slides of the Canal Era and has tales of special interest to us Central New Yorkers.

We initiated the walks in spring of 2000 to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the opening of the Canal. So far we have walked 19.5 miles and have 16 miles to go to our final destination: Erie Canal Village outside of Rome. Our last walk of 2001, was on October 21 when we visited the Canastota Canal Museum. The spring walks will begin at North Court.

On **Tuesday January 22**, at 7:30 PM at Westcott community Center, Sierra Club will recognize our new officers and new members. We will also award our most dedicated members with certificates of honor. Please help us make this a joyful occasion by calling any ExComm member with a nomination for an award.

We will also see a large-screen video on Sierra club and the Alaskan Wilderness. **Both meetings are open to the public and refreshments will be served.**

ExComm Ballot

Vote for five.

___ Linda DeSefano
___ Midge Ferris
___ Alan Fisher

___ Martha Loew
___ Richard Slingerland
___ Write-in _____

ExComm terms are 2 years. Those with one more year remaining are Tasha Cooper, Debbie DeSoccio, Danny Jezer, Martin Sage, and Debby Shanahan.

Mail your ballot to Iroquois Group, Sierra Club, PO Box 182, Jamesville, NY 13078, or bring it to the November meeting. Ballots also will be available at the meeting. Your vote is important.

Meetings and Outings

General Meetings are at Westcott Community Center 826 Euclid Avenue, usually on fourth Tuesdays at 7:30 PM, and are open to the public. **Ex-Comm meetings** are held at the **Jamesville Train Station**, in Jamesville Plaza at the corner of Route 173 and Jamesville Rd. on third Wednesday days at 7:30 PM for Sierra members only. Have a special item you would like to discuss? Please attend. Event information: 492-4745, unless otherwise listed.

Nov 14 Wednesday, 7:30 PM: Iroquois ExComm. Calendars available.

Nov 27 Tuesday, 7:30 PM Westcott Community Center: "The Erie Canal in Central New York," by Ken Showalter. (See page 1). General Membership Meeting, ballots for ExComm vote, Sierra Calendars.

Dec 3 Monday: last time in 2001 to try to convince the County Legislature to opt into PNN. Maybe this is the time! Check with Vicki Baker or Linda De Stefano before going.

Year 2002

Jan 16 Wednesday, 7:30 PM: Iroquois ExComm.

Jan 22 Tuesday, 7:30 PM — Membership Recognition party and installation of new officers. Awards for outstanding members, gifts for new members, food, Sierra Club video! 446-8062: Midge Ferris

Feb Watch for **Annual Chili Party and Snow Day** at Song Lake. (Home of Rhea and Danny Jezar)

Pesticide Neighbor Notification

By Vicki Baker, 9th District County Legislator

In August 2000, Governor Pataki signed a law allowing counties to opt into Neighbor Notification. Opting in would require that commercial pesticide applicators notify abutting neighbors 48 hours before spraying or dusting and that homeowners applying pesticides to areas over 100 square feet post signs on the day of application. Retailers selling pesticides would post warning information. These measures would increase public awareness of pesticide use and provide opportunities to those affected to protect themselves. It's as simple as that.

Evidence about the hazards of toxic pesticides continue to mount with links to childhood leukemia, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, neurological disorders, genetic anomalies, and damage to the hormonal systems of humans and wildlife, potentially

causing learning disorders, low IQ's, infertility, and reproductive cancers.

Why then, has Onondaga County defeated this proposal to Opt-in? In Suffolk, Nassau, Westchester, Albany and Rockland Counties, this legislation has passed with bipartisan support. Yet here, except for one Republican, the vote is along party lines. Legislators have excuses for opposing this law, the most frequent being that it would cause more pesticides to be used with more harm to the environment. If that were the case, why would 25 health, neighbor, and environmental organizations support the law?

I think Republicans are responding to intense lobbying by the pesticide industry. So on behalf of children, pets, wildlife and ourselves, our efforts must be even more intense.

The next vote will probably take place on December 3rd, at 2:30 PM at the County Legislature.

Small successes

Cut the Engine

Travel plazas will help save fuel with power units that make it possible for the truckers to stay warm or cool, operate a telephone, laptop, or TV without idling their engines. This is made possible by cooperation between NY Thruway Authority, NY State Energy and Development Authority, and Niagara Mohawk. Dewitt and Chittenago travel plazas are among the first so equipped.

Right to Know

The Environmental Protection Agency has awarded Atlantic States Legal Foundation (475-1170) a grant to translate environmental issues into several languages spoken in the Syracuse area. Information will include guidelines on eating fish from local waters (especially Onondaga Lake). This is a part of ASLF long-standing program called Community Right to Know.

From the Chair

Dear Tree huggers,

Give everybody you know and all the trees extra hugs these days. If we keep our eyes on the goals that mean so much to us, we will come out stronger and maybe someday safer.

The October 20 Chapter meeting was in NYC near the World Trade Center where smoke and smells linger in the air. There are home-made memorials all over. Hard to forget.

The Endorsement Reception was a success and the first meeting at our new General Meeting location: the Westcott Community Center. About 35 candidates and Sierrans attended. We had an opportunity to mingle with the candidates and to hear a few words about their platform. Thanks to all who helped.

Parking at Westcott is a real drawback. We have changed our General meeting dates to Tuesdays to avoid other groups scheduled to meet on Wednesdays.

I traveled to Romania with the Atlantic States Legal Foundation. You may think it is a bit strange to visit that area at this time, but it is an opportunity to participate in a forum addressing the degradation of the Black Sea's marine and coastal ecosystem, and to help develop environmentally sound coastal management for Romania. The public will have access to information, may participate in decision-making and have access to justice in environmental matters without discrimination.

For the Earth and all its critters.
Martha loew

Pesticide Notification Compliance

By Linda DeStefano, Chair, Conservation Committee

As of July the Pesticide Notification Law came into effect for day care centers and schools throughout New York.

Under the law, 48 hours before pesticides are applied, day care centers must post prominent notices at child drop-off points. The notice must include the pesticide used, how to get more information, and a warning.

At the beginning of the school year, schools must alert staff and parents of their right to register for advance notification of pesticide applications. Regardless of whether

they have signed up for such notice, three times a year all staff and parents must also receive a complete list of pesticides applied at school, including dates and locations. There are notification exemptions, such as boric acid and non-volatile baits.

Let us know how the law is working in your school or day care center. Call Linda 488-2140 (9 AM -10:45 PM)

Iroquois Group Contacts

Sierra Club – Iroquois Group
PO Box 182
Jamesville, NY 13078

Executive Committee

Chair	Martha Loew	492-4745
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Treasurer	Lynn Senke	676-5560
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Committee Chairs

Fund Raising	Daniel Jezer	446-4942
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Outings	Open	
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	Rich Slingerland	298-3130

Order Form

Item	Cost	Quantity	Total
Engagement Calendar	\$12.95	_____	_____
Wilderness Calendar	\$11.95	_____	_____
		Subtotal	_____
		Shipping (\$2 for one + 50¢ each additional)	_____
		Grand Total	_____
Ship to:			
Name _____	Phone _____		
Address _____			
City _____	State ____	ZIP _____	

Payable to Sierra Club, mail to: Calendars, c/o Betsy Keck, Elm St., Tully, NY 13159, phone 315-696-5439

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