



SIERRA
CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

Iroquois Messenger

SEWAGE PLANT UPDATE

IROQUOIS GROUP CONTACTS

SIERRA CLUB – IROQUOIS GROUP
PO BOX 182
JAMESVILLE, NY 13078

Chair	Martha Loew	492-4745
	mloew@twcny.rr.com	
Vice-Chair	Linda DeStefano	488-2140
	linpar@acmgfcu.net	
Secretary	Tasha Cooper	446-3750
Treasurer	Lynn Senke	676-5560
	lynn@mail.syracusebanana.com	
Newsletter	Debby Shanahan	446-1273
	debbys@verizon.net	
Conservation	Vicki Baker	469-5347
	baker99@worldnet.att.net	
Education	Janet Allen	487-5742
	jkallen@twcny.rr.com	
Membership	Rebecca Paul	463-4103
	rebepa@yahoo.com	
Outings	OPEN	
Political	Alan Fisher	475-0643
	vze36rxj@verizon.net	
	Rhea Jezer	430-7536
	jezer@ix.netcom.com	
	Martin Sage	472-4977
	mlsage@syr.edu	
Program	Adina Mulliken	428-1905
	pepperballmeow@yahoo.com	
Special Projects	Lisa Daly	428-1384
	ldaly@yahoo.com	
	Debra DeSocio	329-0196
	ddesocio@twcny.rr.com	
	Rich Slingerland	298-3130
Webmaster	Scott Webster	
	sigmaun@netscape.net	

The Partnership for Onondaga Creek (POC) is into its sixth year and going strong! Recently, the EPA has said it would investigate part of the civil rights complaint filed by neighbors opposed to the sewage treatment plant at Midland and Blaine in the city's South side. EPA has accepted such complaints only since the 1990's. Out of 147 complaints received, only 18 have been investigated. So the POC has really done its homework. Construction will halt only after a ruling of discrimination.

The latest POC exciting public education event brought dynamic speakers together: Lois Gibbs of Love Canal who incited the government into action over a toxic dump that was poisoning families; Sandra Steingraber (*Living Downstream*), who writes about and studies the link between cancer and the environment; and Vernice Miller-Travis of National Environmental Justice Movement, who helped win against the North River sewage treatment plant in Harlem.

POC has shown that being black and poor does not mean "powerless." Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter and Iroquois Group have endorsed this fight.

To learn more or help, contact <Aggie.lane@a-znet.com>

CINTAS LAUNDRY

Testimony by Sierra, other environmental groups, and the unions has stalled prospects for an industrial laundry in the Town of Lysander and made progress toward guaranteeing an Environmental Impact Statement.

Sierra Club and Unite-Here, Local 150, have worked together in the past to protect worker health and prevent environmental contamination. "Unite and Sierra Club will continue to reach out to people who are concerned about the environment and health and safety in the workplace," said Ed Hopkins, director of SC's Environmental Quality Program.

Iroquois Group will press its claim to NYDEC and the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency for an EIS, with the cost to be born by UNITE-HERE.

KUDOS TO SIERRA IROQUOIS MEMBERS

Janet Allen, tireless advocate for sustainable living, renewable energy and wildlife habit, shared honors with Nick Pirro for annual environmental awards. This was the first time that Central New York swept the major awards of the Environmental Advocates of New York, which honored Pirro for the second year with the "Oil Slick" Award. Allen was named Environmentalist of the Year for creating New York Interfaith Power and Light, a nonprofit organization dedicated to energy conservation. Kudos to Janet!

And kudos to Linda DeStefano and Richard Weiskopf for spending a week in Pennsylvania telephoning undecided environmental voters. And again to Janet Allen who pledged to mail 5 postcards a day to swing states.

Did you know...

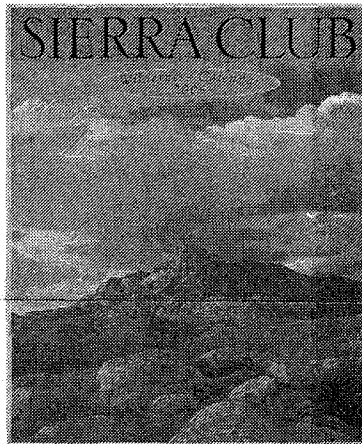
It takes 1-5 years for a cigarette filter to decompose

SIERRA CLUB 2005 CALENDARS



Sierra Club 2005 Wilderness Wall Calendar—Spiral bound, month-by-month format, featuring 12 majestic North American landscapes.

Sierra Club 2005 Engagement Calendar—Week-by-week format, featuring 57 spectacular photographs and "wire-o" binding.



ORDER FORM

Item	Cost	Quantity	Total	Ship To:
Engagement	\$12.95	_____	_____	Name _____
Wilderness	\$11.95	_____	_____	Address _____
		Subtotal	_____	City _____
	Shipping (10% of subtotal)		_____	State _____ ZIP _____
	Sales tax		_____	
	Grand Total		_____	



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

*Make checks payable to Sierra Club. Mail to:
Calendars, c/o Betsey Keck
201 Summerhaven Dr.,
East Syracuse, NY 13057
315-637-3446 or ekeck@twcny.rr.com*

AMERICA RECYCLES

Naef Recycling, a dual-stream material recycling facility will host an open house Monday, November 15 from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM at their plant, 380 Carr St., East Syracuse to celebrate America Recycles Day.

COMPOSTING WEB SITE

We generate lots of organic waste in our homes, like yard trimmings and food scraps, much of which can be recycled with home composting. Cornell Waste Management Institute has launched a new web site with great resources for both composters and educators seeking to promote home composting. Check it out at <http://cwmi.css.cornell.edu/smallscalecomposting.htm>

...and 1 million years for a glass bottle.

**Cash & Carry
Sierra Club
Calendar Sale
only at UUMC
November 23
See Schedule p.4**

\$10.00 each

FROM THE CHAIR

Dear tree huggers,

I am using two great memories of the past month — two “singing” events with “choirs” of wonderful environmentalists, to put some spring back into my earth dance.

Memory one: National Wilderness Conference, October 10, celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Wilderness Act of 1964. I have to confess that I did not know much about it — please do not tell! It is: “An Act to establish a National Wilderness Preservation System for the permanent good of the whole people, and for other purposes...” It would take more than the whole Messenger to describe. One statement, however, “There shall be no commercial enterprise and no permanent road within a wilderness area *except as necessary to for...*” (italics mine), is where all the loopholes: management, fire control, insects, disease, mining exploration are spelled out. The current administration has exploited those loopholes to invade our wilderness.

President Johnson upon signing the Act in 1964 said, “If future generations are to remember us with gratitude rather than contempt, we must leave them more than the miracles of technology. We must leave them a glimpse of the world as it was in the beginning, not just after we got through with it.” The president is empowered to nominate wilderness areas upon recommendation of the Secretaries of Interior or Agriculture. Designation requires an Act of Congress. All past presidents have increased the areas.

The “choir” in this case was 250 people from many organizations and many States, all eager to exchange ideas and celebrate. Fantastic organization of the event... Sierra Club put on the opening night party. The location, Lake George Conference Center, is less than “Wild,” the food was terrible, but I flew back home on the thruway with a very light heart and a head full of great ideas.

Memory Two: Organizing a local Phone Party designed by Sierra Club to reach voters in swing states with a message about the candidates. Messages were tailored to the community, such as a toxic dump that was not being cleaned up. We chose Philadelphia. Twelve dedicated workers phoned on Sunday evening, using cell phones with unlimited weekend hours — a great scheme. We reached 450 people and enrolled at least 2 volunteers.

I knew it was going to be a good event when my friend and Sierra member, Norma Schlesinger, volunteered: “Why not my place, and we’ll also have light desert.” Using my friend, Rocki’s cell phone, I worked with Norma, Debra DeSocio, Donna Coyle, Becky Paul, Don Seibert, Martie Sahuc, Phil McCarten, Donna Muhs-McCarten, Charles Tremper, Diane Swords and Adina Mulliken. Looks like we convinced some voters.

Hope for the earth and all its critters,
Martha Holly Loew

OUTDOORS - CONTINUED

INNER HARBOR CREEK WALK — JAN 2

Much in the news... We need to consider the environmental impact of the many proposals for this area, so let’s try to identify some of the issues. If the weather is nasty we’ll visit the Erie Canal Museum, 318 Erie Blvd, instead. Call 492-4745 for an update.

☞ Head north on I-81 to Exit 22, Court Street. Follow signs to Court St and turn left to cross over I-81. When you reach Solar St., Court becomes Kirkpatrick St. We will meet in the second parking lot off Kirkpatrick: on your right just after you cross over the creek. The landmark is a little harbormaster building, the only building on your right.

CHILI & SNOW FEST — FEBRUARY 13

Check the weather and bring your boots, snowshoes or X-country skis for a hike at Song Lake. We will look for signs animal life in the snow. Hate snow — then relax in front of the fire. Afterward, enjoy various Sierra chilies including vegetarian and vegan. We’ll celebrate our National February Birthdays with cake and hot drinks. Come meet us. RSVP 492-4745, 696-6945 so we can plan the food, or drop in last minute with a chili or salad.

☞ Exit 14, off I-81. Follow signs for Song Mountain Ski area, turn left at parking lot to 7426 Song Lake Road. Park on the road.

WINTER SCHEDULE

The Sierra Club educational programs, both indoors and outdoors, encourage us "Explore, Enjoy and Protect the Planet" and are free and open to the public.

Indoor programs are usually the fourth Wednesday at 7:30 PM, downstairs at University United Methodist Church (UUMC), 1085 E. Genesee St. Park and enter on University Ave. Information 428-1905.

Outdoor programs are usually on Sundays at 2 PM at interesting locations in the Iroquois Group area. Information and cancellations: 492-4745 and 446-1273.

ExCom meetings are for Sierra members only, at the Jamesville Train Station in Jamesville Plaza, corner of Route 173 and Jamesville Rd on third Wednesdays at 7:30 PM. Come, bring your ideas. Info: 492-4745.

- Nov 23 Tuesday, 7:30 PM Indoors: Janet Allen, "Insatiable is Not Sustainable"
- Dec 5 Sunday, 2 PM Outdoors: Walk the John Haley Memorial Trail (West Shore Trail of Onondaga Lake)
- Dec 8 Wednesday, 7:30 PM ExCom
- Jan 2 Sunday, 2:00 PM Outdoors: Explore Syracuse Inner Harbor. Bad weather back-up: Erie Canal Museum. Meet in parking lot.
- Jan 12 Wednesday, 7:30 PM ExCom
- Jan 25 Tuesday, 7:30 PM Indoors: Robin Kimmerer, "Gathering Moss."
- Feb 9 Wednesday, 7:30 PM ExCom
- Feb 13 Sunday, 2 PM Outdoors (and in): Chile & Snow Fest at Rhea and Danny Jezer, 7626 Song Lake Rd., Tully, NY.

INDOORS

NOVEMBER 23 – INSATIABLE

For many of us, more is better, but it's never enough. Our consumer culture assures us that we deserve all we have and more. And yet the earth's resources used to make these goods are finite. Part of a sustainable lifestyle is being a responsible consumer. Janet Allen, Education Chair, will show us ways to reduce our consumption and still have a high quality of life.

JANUARY 25 – GATHERING MOSS

Nibble that magic mushroom, shrink down and join Robin Kimmerer in a tiny world of mosses. You'll see fabulous slides of the different mosses and learn how animals and societies use them. Robin is a professor at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry with research interests in ethnobotany and ecology. She has authored many scientific articles plus a book, *Gathering Moss: a Natural and Cultural History of Mosses*.

OUTDOORS

JOHN HALEY MEMORIAL TRAIL – DECEMBER 5

We fought the paving the West Shore trail of Onondaga Lake, but now lets explore and enjoy it under its new name. We'll identify migrating birds and signs of mammals getting ready for the winter.

Take I-690 past the Fair Grounds to exit 4, John Glenn Blvd. Turn right onto Van Vleck Rd, which bends left and becomes Long Branch Rd. Meet in the parking lot on the right.

Continued on page 3



SIERRA
CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
SIERRA CLUB
PO BOX 52968
BOULDER, CO 80322-2968

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 29
JAMESVILLE, NY

