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# The Mackinac

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF MICHIGAN'S SIERRA CLUB • FEBRUARY - APRIL 2002



*Kayakers travel the transparent, blue-green water of Georgian Bay while backpackers follow the cliff top trail along Ontario's Bruce Peninsula. Between Tobermory and Cabot Head, the thin line where wind and water meet stone and forest fascinates viewers on either side.*

PHOTO BY GARY DE KOCK

It's been a privilege to serve as your chair during these past three years. They've been years of tremendous growth for the Chapter, and for me personally as well. As we move on under new leadership, we are strong both in membership and organizationally. A record number of Michiganders, upwards of 20,000, belong to the Sierra Club. Our Traverse and Wakelin McNeel Groups are active again. The Chapter Conservation and Political Committees continue their involvement in a large range of issues and attract healthy numbers of volunteers to their meetings.

Our staff has grown to the point of doubling, and we are proud of each one of them. Their commitment to the environment shines through their work; their expertise and their vision are enhanced by the joy and unfailing sense of humor they bring to their jobs. Our Chapter can boast of the close collaboration and respectful relationship that prevails between volunteers and staff.

I'm particularly proud of The Mackinac you're holding in your hands. Over the last year, what was already a very good newsletter has become even better, more attractive, and more accessible. Putting together a great publication is a task that will continue to demand lots of volunteer work and attention.

Never shy of taking on a challenge, the Chapter has outdone itself. We don't like to litigate, but if we must, we will. The Pittman Robertson and CAFO lawsuits are top priorities and we expect some very good developments shortly.

Among other accomplishments, the Chapter hosts one of six sites where the Club has an Environmental Justice program. Our Regional staff person

is organizing neighborhoods and communities in Detroit to help them defend against environmental wrongs.

In the last year we've added a media coordinator who is helping to raise awareness on a broad spectrum of environmental issues in Southeast Michigan. And soon we will have a new office in Detroit for both of these staff. We look forward to using the space for committee meetings and Sierra Club functions.

Throughout these last three years, I've been helped and guided by many people. Anne Woiwode is the best Chapter Director in the Club and we are privileged to have her. The staff has been wonderful and I want to thank each one of them and especially Dan Farough and Joyce McIntosh, with whom I've worked the longest.

Thanks so much to my Steering committee colleagues: Sue Kelly, Helen LeBlanc, Mike Keeler, Fred Townsend, and Mike Johnson. We've shared many hours of meetings — too many, some will say — and developed good friendships.

Thanks to the Executive Committee, in particular, Barb Yarrow for her excellent work on the Mackinac, Nancy Schiffler for her wisdom and Anna Holden for her personal friendship and support.

As we move forward into this important election year, I turn over the gavel to two of Michigan's finest environmentalists, Sue Kelly and Mike Keeler. I ask all of our members to continue the encouragement and assistance you offered me. Let us renew our determination to work for a better environment, taking comfort in all of our accomplishments and looking forward to smashing victories for Michigan's air, water and forests in 2002.

— Lydia Fischer  
Mackinac Chapter Chair 1999-2001



PHOTO BY ANNE WOIWODE

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— Anne Woiwode, Oct. 17, 2001

# The Mackinac

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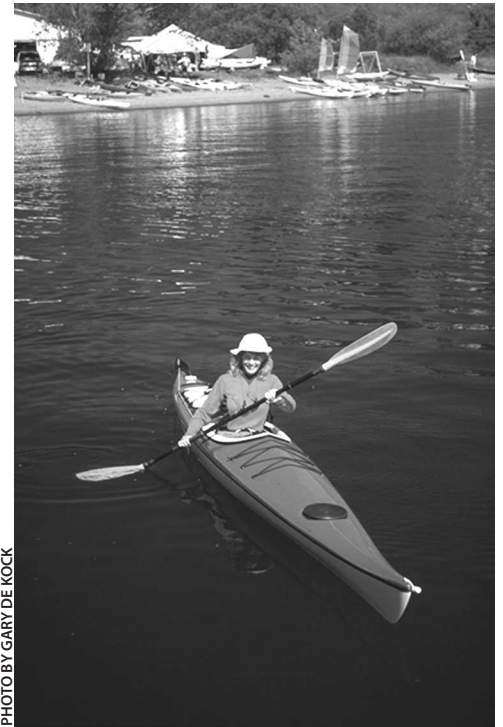


PHOTO BY GARY DE KOCK

From a sand beach in Bayfield, WI, a short kayak trip will bring you to Lake Superior's Apostle Islands. These protected treasures of the Great Lakes inspire rugged wisdom with all who dare venture from the mainland.

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# **DUEL OF THE ENERGY PLANS: ENERGY REMAINS CENTER STAGE IN 2002**

by Dan Farough, Political Director

What a difference a year makes! 2001 opened with a major push by special interests to pass a regressive energy plan that included opening our last precious places to oil drilling, rolling back public health and clean air laws, and giving the coal industry \$30 billion in subsidies. No justification or tactic was considered too low to get the industry-backed plan through Congress. In the spring we heard how drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge would cure California's energy crisis. When that failed and the lights stayed on, the summer brought notification that we needed to drill our National Monuments and Great Lakes to enhance energy security. When this argument failed and the crisis around September 11 provided sufficient cover, the fall witnessed energy interests attaching one rider after another to must-pass legislation — disaster relief, including defense appropriations and airline worker relief packages among others. These despicable tactics in turn failed.

2002 opens with energy again at center stage, but in an entirely different environment. Democrats in the Senate, under Senator Daschle's leadership have introduced energy legislation that is in stark contrast to the industry-backed plan that passed the House. This plan is based on the premise that the best way to ensure our energy security is through higher fuel efficiency and greater use of renewable energy such as wind and solar. Sierra Club believes that while this plan is not without flaws, it is a better starting point for a secure and safe energy future. Below are some key highlights of the Daschle plan and the Sierra Club position.

## **RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD**

The Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) is a market-based mechanism that requires utilities to gradually increase the portion of electricity produced from renewable sources such as wind, biomass, geothermal and solar. The Daschle plan sets a goal of 10% of our energy from renewables by 2020. Sierra Club believes we can do better and achieve 20% by the same date.

## **RAISING CAFÉ STANDARDS**

The Daschle plan has a "placeholder" for Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFÉ) standards to be included in the energy bill. The amount of increase is left open. Sierra Club believes we can raise fuel efficiency for cars and light trucks to 40 miles per gallon by 2012. This would save more oil than we import from all Persian Gulf countries combined and fight global warming.

## **PROTECTION OF ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AND OTHER PRECIOUS PLACES**

The Daschle plan recognizes that there is simply not enough oil left in the U.S. to make a dent in our dependence on foreign oil. Opening up our national monuments and wildernesses would destroy these places with no benefit. Sierra Club supports protecting the nations last remaining wilderness, National Monuments and other special places.

## **ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

The Daschle plan increases federal research and development on energy efficiency to over \$1 billion per year by 2006 and requires a 30% increase in residential air conditioner efficiency which will save 13 quadrillion BTUs of energy by 2020. Sierra Club supports greater funding for efficiency programs and increases in efficiency for consumer products.

## **SUBSIDIES FOR COAL AND NUCLEAR**

The Daschle plan contains the Price-Anderson reauthorization, which perpetuates huge subsidies for the nuclear industry and extends accident liability limits and taxpayer-supported insurance coverage. The plan also leaves open the possibility of massive subsidies for the coal and oil industries. Sierra Club opposes the reauthorization of the Price-Anderson Act. Taxpayers should not be held responsible for paying for nuclear industry insurance or providing subsidies to mature industries, like coal and oil that do not need them.

## **FOREST MAP MONITOR AND GUARD UPDATE**

Would you like to get out into the woods, help identify important stands of forest on public lands, and help further Sierra Club's goals of restoring Michigan's Great Forests? The Forest Map Monitor and Guard project of the Mackinac Chapter is an opportunity both to learn skills for mapping and to use those skills to improve management of our National Forests.

Marvin Roberson, who staffs the Forest Map Monitor and Guard Project, trains activists both in the use of global positioning satellite (GPS) units owned by the Sierra Club, and in what to look for in the woods. Trained volunteers are able to go out on their own to collect the data, often in areas of interest to them. The data collected is entered into the Chapter's geographic information system (GIS) computer program and will help inform forest activists in our efforts to shape forest policies in Michigan.

While the mapping effort will be done most easily in the spring, the relatively warm winter so far has provided excellent conditions for mapping activities. Mapping will continue at least through the spring.

Contact Marvin Roberson at 810-424-3575, or by email at [gassho@softhome.net](mailto:gassho@softhome.net) to find out more about this exciting project.



PHOTO BY ANNE WOIWODE

## MAJOR VICTORY IN ANIMAL FACTORY CAMPAIGN

### CONTINUED VIGILANCE IS CRITICAL

by Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director

*Three Tours de Manure in spring 2001 and organizing activities with afflicted communities throughout Lower Michigan helped to raise awareness of the depth and extent of the problems these facilities create.*



PHOTO BY ANNE WOIWODE

An aggressive campaign led by the Sierra Club to force Michigan to regulate water pollution from animal factories achieved a major victory in early 2002. On January 14th the state formally agreed to implement a water quality permitting system for concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) in compliance with the Clean Water Act. The state's acquiescence, in a letter signed by Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Director Russ Harding, was a major reversal, and came one day before the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was to release a detailed report about the state's failure to comply with the law.

"This is a monumental victory for everyone downstream of these manure making machines," said Anne Woiwode, Director of the Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter. "The Engler Administration has been forced to end its overt defiance of the federal Clean Water Act. However, the coming months will be critical in determining whether the state's words will translate into on-the-ground prevention and clean up of the horrific pollution these facilities cause."

Michigan's agreement to follow the law came about as a result of a mix of legal and political pressure brought by Sierra Club and others during the past several years. Although the state's defiance is the problem, a lawsuit directly against the state to force compliance is not permitted under the Clean Water Act. The state's capitulation was brought about by the USEPA's response to petitions filed in November 1999 to remove the state's authority under the Clean Water Act for failure to properly regulate CAFOs. Sierra Club, Michigan Land Use Institute, Michigan Environmental Council, and Neva and Larry Bailey, filed the petitions, which documented the state's failure to enforce both state and federal law. The petitions triggered an EPA investigation into the state's program, and the issuance of a scathing interim report in September 2000.

Pressure on the state and the Michigan livestock industry was brought through a variety of other means. Sierra Club's national Litigation Office, under lead attorney Aaron Isherwood, brought two lawsuits against individual CAFOs, and gave notice of intent to sue against three others. These lawsuits

were prompted both by illegal discharges by these facilities and to point out the state's failure to enforce the law.

Three Tours de Manure in spring 2001 and organizing activities with afflicted communities throughout Lower Michigan helped to raise awareness of the depth and extent of the problems these facilities create. Then, late last summer the Sierra Club sent letters signed by Isherwood and Woiwode to 92 livestock operations that fit the definition of CAFOs. These hortatory letters informed the facilities of their vulnerability to citizen lawsuits and advised them that the state's refusal to process permit applications did not absolve them of their obligation to comply with the law.

The January 14th letter from MDEQ to the EPA establishes a starting point for discussion about the permit program Michigan will adopt. Among areas of greatest contention will be whether the state will be required to bring all CAFOs under either individual or general permits. Michigan has attempted to argue that its voluntary compliance program, Michigan Agricultural Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) should substitute for permits, however Michigan's defiance of federal and state laws argues for this state to be held to a stricter standard.

The agreement between the MDEQ and EPA also requires proactive inspections of CAFOs in Michigan starting as soon as state staff can be trained. This is a major substantive change in the Michigan program, which was previously entirely complaint driven. Michigan officials are reportedly estimating that there are between 200 and 250 CAFOs in the state, and details about how quickly inspections will begin are yet to be worked out.

"We have no illusions that our work is done, and urge concerned citizens to hang tough on bringing polluting CAFOs under control," says Woiwode. "The Engler Administration has an abysmal record of environmental compliance and enforcement, and until adequate regulations, funding and staff are in place to assure the law is being carried out as intended, we will not rest. Significant progress has now been made, but assuring the health of our communities still has very far to go."

# TRAVERSE GROUP WORKS TO PREVENT ISLAND LAND SWAP

by Monica Evans, Traverse Group

Shortly after the Traverse Group started last year, we joined a highly publicized and heated environmental battle to protect and preserve South Fox Island.

South Fox Island lies 25 miles off the coast of Leelanau County. Of the 3,400 acres, 11.4 acres are shoreline. The State of Michigan owns 1,251 acres.

Its beauty is unparalleled, with breathtaking shorelines, a historic lighthouse, and some of the tallest bluffs in the Great Lakes. Critical dunes and a stand of old growth forest thrive, along with threatened species including Pitcher's Thistle, Lake Huron Tansy, Ginseng, and Pump-belly's Broome Grass.

Native Americans used the island for fishing, lumbering, homesteading and as a waystation on journeys between Leelanau and Beaver Island. The island is eligible for listing as a traditional cultural property and there are still unresolved treaty rights. An ancestral burial ground has been inaccessible to Native Americans for years.

In 1989 David V. Johnson acquired about 64 percent of the island from the State of Michigan. Johnson, a downstate developer, had purchased an abandoned cement plant in the Petoskey-Charlevoix area and turned it into Bay Harbor, offering getaways for the rich and famous. \$60 million later, Johnson bought land on South Fox with the intention of creating "the Nantucket of the West." He built a ranch, two runways, a barn for his champion horses, a lavish guest cottage and an asphalt plant.

Then came the "land swap" proposals in which Johnson would "swap" some of his private land for public land to eliminate the patchwork of land ownership. He hoped to attain a contiguous boundary to "reduce trespassing and improve management."

When the Traverse Group first became involved, there was another proposal pending with the DNR in which Johnson would acquire the lower 115 acres of South Fox Island. This part of the island provides the only safe harbor and landing site for fishermen, hikers and hunters. It also is home to the historic lighthouse; Johnson would be required to restore it and the nearby buildings.

Johnson said he would not exchange land or restore the lighthouse without the road. However, the road would have cut through beautiful critical dunes and endangered plants. It would threaten nesting Piping Plovers, a state- and federally-threatened Michigan shoreline bird.

The Traverse Group of the Sierra Club began working with other organizations, such as the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Northern Michigan Environmental Action Council, Michigan Land Use Institute, and the South Fox Island Public Hunters Club. We helped defeat the proposed road and oppose the bad deal "swaps" proposed by the DNR and developer Johnson.

The Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians filed a lawsuit Dec. 26 in Leelanau County Circuit Court aimed at voiding the land swap. They contend the DNR violated state law and its own procedures with the deal that was approved by the NRC and DNR Director K.L. Cool in Lansing on Dec. 7. Judge Thomas Power declined the tribe's motion to block the transfer until the case is decided, but ruled the exchange could be reversed if the suit prevails. The Traverse Group will continue to support the Band and do what we can to help stop the exchange.

We've learned some hard lessons in this process. The very ones who have always been looked upon to preserve and protect are willing to sell, swap or give away public land to the rich and powerful. We've learned that in order to be heard, sometimes it's best to speak softly, while other times you must shout with fever pitch to be heard at all.

And we've learned that while we've done an incredible job this first year, good publicity and press coverage does not come easy! For all the time and energy we've put into South Fox Island, we have yet to see our name among those who earned the right to take the credit in the press. But we'll keep on. The most important thing we've learned this year is that it's not for the glory or the credit that we do what we do. It's because we are passionately committed to doing whatever we can to make a difference and protect the incredible beauty that surrounds us here.



PHOTOS COURTESY TRAVERSE GROUP

**Top: Threatened dunes on the island.  
Bottom: Mr. Johnson's private airfield and asphalt plant on South Fox Island.**

*South Fox Island's beauty is unparalleled, with breathtaking shorelines, a historic lighthouse, and some of the tallest bluffs in the Great Lakes.*

## **ENVIRONMENTALISTS ORGANIZE TO DERAIL DETROIT PROJECT TO CENTRALIZE FREIGHT**

by David Holtz, Mackinac Chapter Media Coordinator

**Y**ou would think local and state officials would be leading the parade of determined residents in southwest Detroit who have made their community into a real success story. Perhaps at times they have. But when the community got in the way of a major big-bucks transportation project, many officials went for the green.

So it will be up to people like Kathryn Savoie to make sure the parade of progress isn't derailed by a plan to bring 16,000 heavy trucks into one of Detroit's few growing neighborhoods. Savoie is environmental director of ACCESS, a Dearborn-based community and service group. She lives in southwest Detroit and is part of a regional environmental initiative that includes the Mackinac Chapter of the Sierra Club.

The initiative involves an old concept of neighbors helping neighbors, but in this case the neighbors are environmental groups who work throughout southeastern and western Michigan, mostly in their home communities. Sierra Club brought me on board as media coordinator to work with Kathryn and activists like her on nuts-and-bolts local environmental issues.

That's how I found out about the Detroit Intermodal Freight Terminal proposal or DIFT. It's a Michigan Department of Transportation plan to centralize international rail and freight operations at a new factory-size terminal that would stretch seven miles and cover 850 acres of land in the heart of southwest Detroit.

With NAFTA-fed truck traffic in the Detroit area said to have increased 300-400 percent in recent years, the concept of centralizing rail and freight traffic in southeastern Michigan might be a good one if more trucks were actually taken off Michigan's roads. But at least one Michigan transportation expert challenges the likelihood of this happening, and the DIFT proposal has few defenders beyond MDOT.

Until a full Environmental Impact Statement was ordered late last year, the project has been subjected to little study. With its origins in line-item pork barrel funding from Congress, the \$18-million authorized for planning and development has given the proposed DIFT a life of its own.

MDOT's proposal would wipe out 66 local businesses and a number of homes. Consider also the enormous added truck traffic and increased noise and you begin to understand why the southwest Detroit community is up in arms over the proposal. But it is the prospect of increased air pollution in an area already suffering from high rates of asthma that has parents in particular most alarmed.

But local residents are not alone in their fight to "Ditch the DIFT." More than 40 local organizations have joined a local opposition group, Communities: A Better Rail Alternative (CBRA), including the Southeast Michigan Group of Sierra Club. And while more than 500 local residents guide CBRA's day-to-day opposition to the proposed DIFT, they occasionally need technical support. That's when some of us will cross the organizational divide to join hands with our neighbors in defense of community. We expect this will happen over the coming months in a number of places, involving a variety of environmental issues from rapid transit, to cleaner water, to keeping our kids safe from toxic schools.

As this grassroots work connects me to environmental issues throughout southeastern Michigan, I expect along the way to meet a number of Sierra Club members. I already have, and it's no surprise. We are, after all, people who understand as well as anyone how connected we all are.

*If you want to connect to David Holtz, his email address is [david.holtz@sierraclub.org](mailto:david.holtz@sierraclub.org).*



PHOTO COURTESY DAVID HOLZ

## **HOSPITAL CEO RECEIVES SIERRA CLUB AWARD**

**Henry Ford Hospital and Health System CEO Nancy C. Schlichting (on right) is the recipient of the Michigan Sierra Club's top environmental protection award for 2001. Anna Holden (left), conservation co-chair of the Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter's Southeast Michigan Group, presented the White Pine 2001 Award in December. Schlichting's leadership helped close the hospital's pollution-plagued incinerator and implemented a groundbreaking medical waste disposal system. The award follows three years of discussions between hospital officials and citizen activists.**



## PROJECT MAPS FACTORY FARMS

by Anne Woiwode, Mackinac Chapter Director

Dozens of Sierra Club volunteers are cruising the Michigan countryside to locate and map animal factories. The program, created by Kendra Kimbirauskas and kicked off by interns Sebastian Naslund and Peter Harkema, seeks to identify possible concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) throughout our state. In Michigan, agencies have usually not known of the existence of a CAFO until a complaint was filed against it, therefore Sierra Club leaders believe this mapping project may be critical to bring about effective enforcement of environmental laws.

Using their eyes and noses to identify and locate potentially polluting facilities, the volunteers note the location of the facility, write up what they observe from the road, take pictures if they can, and provide the information to Sierra Club staff and interns. This information will be put into the Sierra Club's ArcView GIS system to give a detailed overview of the location of CAFOs, including proximity to water bodies and watersheds. Because the mapping is done without detailed knowledge of the CAFO operations, the information gathered is not complete, but does provide a picture of where and what kinds of facilities are found throughout our state.

The motive is pretty simple: assuring that communities and waterways are protected from contamination by CAFOs means first knowing where those facilities are. As documentation of problems such as E.coli contamination and the presence of antibiotics in waterways increases, it is clear that knowing potential sources of these problems in advance may help bring needed enforcement actions to bear. Even in states where agencies have prepared complete inventories, there are significant disagreements about how many CAFOs exist and where they are located. Michigan has only recently agreed to prepare an inventory of CAFOs from the state's lists, but that list has not been made public. Ultimately, Sierra Club hopes to have a good overview of the CAFOs in our state and ongoing monitoring of the most problematic facilities.

*In Michigan, agencies have usually not known of the existence of a CAFO until a complaint was filed against it, therefore Sierra Club leaders believe this mapping project may be critical to bring about effective enforcement of environmental laws.*

### **PINE RIVER UPDATE: MONITORS ARE STEPPING FORWARD; AND THERE'S STILL TIME FOR YOU TO VOLUNTEER**

by Rita Jack

Volunteers are stepping forward to help monitor benthic macro-invertebrates in Horse Creek and the Pine River in Gratiot County. The Pine River, a Chippewa River tributary that flows past old oil refineries and chemical plant sites in Alma and St. Louis, is contaminated with petroleum hydrocarbons, DDT and PBB, as well as heavy metals and other contaminants.

At the November Wakelin McNeel Group meeting in Mt. Pleasant, members viewed a slide presentation about the project and met with Project Director Rita Jack. Wakelin McNeel Group Chair Julie Janeczko Murphy believes this is a great opportunity for local activists. Several Central Michigan University students who are also Sierra Club members, signed up to help recruit on campus, and when Dave Dempsey, Senior Policy Advisor at Michigan Environmental Council, spoke at Alma College to a Students United for Nature meeting about individuals' contributions to the environmental movement in Michigan, even more students signed up.

National Water Sentinels Program Director Scott Dye came to Michigan to see the Pine River study area, and praised the Mackinac Chapter's efforts so far. Dye noted that Sierra Club Executive Director Carl Pope particularly liked one quote by Rita Jack, which he read from a copy of an Alma Morning Sun article. "Sierra Club doesn't tend to leave things undone," said Jack. "If we don't accomplish everything in one year, my guess is we will find a way to continue the work." Those interested in volunteering will be trained for the project, and April is the target for getting into the streams to sample aquatic life forms. We hope you'll join the Water Sentinels in working to restore one of Michigan's most beautiful rivers.

**There is still plenty of time to volunteer. Sierra Club members who are interested should contact Rita Jack at [rita.jack@sierraclub.org](mailto:rita.jack@sierraclub.org) or leave a message at the Mackinac Chapter office in Lansing at 517-484-2372.**



# Great Lakes Report

by Mike Johnson, Kalamazoo Valley Group

## **THE SKY IS FALLING – IT REALLY IS**

Most people, when asked to name the greatest cause of toxic water pollution, would say discharges from factories into rivers and lakes.

In fact, for the Great Lakes Basin it is the air that now contributes most to our water problems. For instance, 58 percent of PCBs in Lake Michigan come from the air, as does 95 percent of lead and 88 percent of dioxins. Eighty percent of mercury pollution falls from the sky.

The extent of this contamination is dramatic. According to the Michigan Department of Community Health, all Michigan inland lakes and streams contain toxic levels of mercury.

- Lake Michigan contains toxic levels of PCBs, mercury, and dioxins.
- Lake Huron has toxic amounts of PCBs and dioxins.
- Lake Superior - PCBs, mercury, dioxins.
- Lake St. Clair - PCBs and mercury.
- Lake Erie - PCBs and dioxins.

What are the effects of these substances?

- PCBs are connected to cancer, fetal and childhood developmental defects, and damage to liver, hormonal, neurological and immune functions.
- Mercury causes neurological, developmental, and reproductive problems.
- Dioxins are linked to cancer, and impair the immune, nervous, endocrine, reproductive, and integumentary systems.

The sources of these toxics are many, but the most serious contributors are coal burning electric power plants; industrial and municipal and medical incinerators; pulp and paper bleaching; improper/illegal disposal practices; the manufacture of chlorine; and the use of household burn barrels.

Since air travels freely, the contributing source may be local, regional, or global.

Approximately one-half of Lake Michigan's dioxins come from 250 to 1000 miles away. Most of the toxaphene, a pesticide that is found in the lakes on Isle Royale, is sprayed on crops in the Gulf states. Environmental Protection Agency data show the Great Lakes Basin to be a major depository for mercury carried by global winds.

The water quality controls of the Clean Water Act do not deal with air-borne causes of water pollution. However, the Clean Air Act does.

An amendment to the Clean Air Act entitled The Great Waters Program directs the EPA to send to Congress a biannual report that:

1. identifies the sources of air pollution affecting The Great Waters (the Great Lakes, Lake Champlain, Chesapeake Bay),
2. quantifies this pollution,
3. assesses its affect on the environment and public health,
4. describes what control measures must be implemented to protect the environment and public health.

The reports have done a good job on points 1, 2, and 3. But many persons and organizations concerned about the environment and public health have criticized the EPA for not using its authority to implement solutions to the problems.

You can be certain that businesses and municipalities are using their resources and influence in Congress and the EPA to see that the EPA acts in ways favorable to them. So, as is far too often the case, it is necessary for environmental and public health advocates to see that the government does what it is supposed to do.

The Great Lakes make up 95 percent of North America's and 20 percent of the planet's fresh surface water. They are where tens of millions of people live and recreate and are home to a marvelous diversity of plants and animals. They are a national and global treasure.

Persons interested in protecting the Great Lakes should contact their representatives in Congress and the EPA. Ask that the EPA simply do what the law says it is required to do in The Great Waters Program of the Clean Air Act to implement and carry out controls which will safeguard the Waters from air-borne pollution.

### **TAKE ACTION**

For Congressional telephone numbers and addresses see the "Taking Action" box on page 26. Also contact:

Christie Whitman, Director  
US EPA 1101A  
Ariel Rios Bldg  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, D.C. 20460  
Telephone 202-564-4600  
Email [whitman.christine@epa.gov](mailto:whitman.christine@epa.gov)

Randy Waite  
Great Waters Team Leader  
Office of Air Quality Planning & Standards  
Maildrop 13  
Research Triangle Park  
North Carolina 27711  
Telephone 919-541-5447

*Much of the information in this article came from the Lake Michigan Federation publication "An Advocate's Field Guide to Protecting Lake Michigan."*

# Conservation Briefs

by Heather Rorer, Mackinac Chapter Intern

## DNR AND OLD GROWTH

Due to Sierra Club efforts over the past few years, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is finally asking, what is and how do we define old growth and biological diversity on state-owned lands? The DNR is requesting public comments to create criteria and guidelines to identify old growth and biological diversity on the public lands. DNR policy recognizes the need to maintain a healthy ecosystem by preserving more than just trees in an area of old growth. The DNR has formed a public advisory committee comprised of industry representatives and environmental groups, including the Sierra Club, to provide formal recommendations, and public comments will be reviewed by this group. Once the draft criteria and guidelines are approved, the public will also be able to comment and suggest parcels to be included in this new designation. Please send in your comments by e-mail to [DNR-FMFM-OGBS@michigan.gov](mailto:DNR-FMFM-OGBS@michigan.gov), or regular mail to the DNR Forest, Mineral and Fire Management Division, c/o Old Growth and Biodiversity Stewardship, Box 30452, Lansing, MI 48909 no later than February 28, 2002.

## SOUTH FOX ISLAND

In the continuing saga of the controversial land exchange plan

for South Fox Island in Lake Michigan north of Grand Traverse Bay, a circuit court judge refused to grant a restraining order filed by the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians to temporarily stop the land swap. The Grand Traverse Band wanted to delay the exchange until they could take their case to trial and eventually block the exchange entirely. The Grand Traverse Band objects to the land exchange between the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and developer David Johnson because the tribe has unresolved land claims on the property and are concerned about possible environmental damage to rare sand dunes. Although the temporary restraining order was denied, the Grand Traverse Band will continue to pursue their lawsuit against the DNR in an effort to stop the exchange.

## LAND USE

A land use legislation package recently signed into law will help create more open space for Michigan in future developments. The package of bills, sponsored by Representatives Ruth Johnson (R-Holly), Chris Kolb (D-Ann Arbor) and Randy Richardville (R-Monroe) will require local units of government to allow denser housing developments in exchange for preserving land in perpetuity. If the landowner puts a conservation easement on at least 50% of the buildable property, significantly higher densities will be allowed for the remainder of the land. These new laws will help create more open space for animals and humans to enjoy. Local governments without comparable ordinances in place already will be required to enact ordinances within 12 months of the effective date to begin preserving more open space for citizens to enjoy.

## BIPARTISAN SENATE GREAT LAKES REPORT ISSUED

The bipartisan Michigan Senate Great Lakes Conservation Task Force issued its 2002 Final Report, "The Citizen's Agenda: An Action Plan to Protect the Great Lakes" in mid-January with a remarkable show of unanimity about some of the most serious environmental threats to the state. The Task Force, chaired by Senator Ken Sikkema (R-Grand Rapids), issued 66 recommendations, including: a halt to leases for oil and gas drilling under the Great Lakes from shore until regulations can be reviewed; requiring permits for groundwater usage to avoid draining reserves; restrictions on mercury from power plants to protect the lakes from deposition; and improved regulation for livestock feedlots. Task force member Senator Ken DeBeaussaert (D-Chesterfield Twp) said, "It's the first time I can recall such a broad blueprint for action and consensus." Senate Majority Leader Dan DeGrow said, "If you're against this report, you'd better have a good reason other than that one of your good buddies makes good money if we don't change. You're either for protection of the Great Lakes or you're not." The full report is available at [www.senate.state.mi.us/gop/greatlakesreport/conservationreport.pdf](http://www.senate.state.mi.us/gop/greatlakesreport/conservationreport.pdf).

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# A BIG-THREE "FUEL ECONOMY" BLACK HOLE FOR YOUR TAX DOLLARS

by David Wright, Crossroads Group

Over the past decade the fuel economy of new vehicles has remained stagnant or declined slightly. Recently the U.S. House of Representatives debated whether to require Detroit to produce more fuel-efficient vehicles. At the urging of the Big Three lobbyists, Michigan's congressional delegation (with the notable exception of Vern Ehlers) voted not to require any reasonable improvements in the fuel economy of products produced by the Big Three.

During the same decade American taxpayers have funded more than \$1 billion in research directed toward improving the fuel economy of the vehicles produced by General Motors, Ford, and Daimler-Chrysler.

The Partnership for a New Generation of Vehicles (PNGV) was conceived in 1993 with the original goals to produce an affordable mid-size sedan that could comfortably seat five passengers, meet all existing safety and emissions regulations while achieving a fuel economy of 80 miles per gallon.

In 2000 the automobile manufacturers showed the press their pre-production prototype vehicles. The Detroit Free Press noted the arrival of these vehicles with the

headline "At Last! The Supercars Arrive." GM and Ford showcased their ultra-light hybrid electric vehicles that demonstrated they were on target to meet the Partnership's goal of production ready prototype vehicles by 2004.

In January 2000 the manufacturers and the federal government were convinced the project was achieving the goals it had committed to meet.

"I think everyone involved from government and industry is justifiably excited," said Eric Clark, government spokesman for the project. "The progress has been amazing."

Bob Purcell, executive director of GM's advanced technology vehicles, agreed. "We pulled out all the stops. There are many innovations and industry first on this vehicle (GM's Precept) that we are very, very excited about."

Innovations on the vehicles included the use of advanced hybrid electric powertrains, significant use of aluminum and other lightweight materials to reduce vehicle weight, and reduced aerodynamic resistance. These incremental advancements, when applied to

mid-size vehicles, produce huge improvements in fuel economy. Similar gains can be achieved by applying these technologies to the design of trucks.

While appearing to be on target to achieve its goals, PNGV has been revamped with the arrival of the Bush Administration. The requirement to produce production-ready prototype mid-sized sedans has been scrapped, and yet the funding remains. According to insiders, the federal government is budgeting over \$150 million for the coming fiscal year to PNGV related activities.

After 10 years of advanced research and the development of prototype vehicles two years ago, the time has come for Detroit to produce. Unfortunately, since there is no requirement to improve fuel economy in the House version of the energy bill.

There is no requirement on the Big Three to actually produce any vehicles utilizing the technologies our tax dollars have funded. Michigan industry is wasting our tax dollars with the direct support of our elected representatives.

## MAKE 'EM ALL GREEN: GIVE TO THE SIERRA CLUB MACKINAC CHAPTER POLITICAL COMMITTEE

**2002 Promises to be an extremely interesting and active year for environmentalists! The Governors race is wide open, the State House and Senate are ripe for a "greening" and there are great opportunities to weigh in on our congressional races. In all cases the environment promises to figure like never before. Help us make 2002 the 'Year of the Environment' with a generous donation to the Mackinac Chapter Political Committee!**

**YES! I WOULD LIKE TO HELP ENSURE THAT WE ELECT ENVIRONMENTAL CANDIDATES!**

Please accept my generous donation of:

\$25  \$35  \$50  \$100  \$200  Other

Federal Law requires the following information:

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**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:** Sierra Club Mackinac Chapter Political Committee. **SEND TO:** Sierra Club, Mackinac Chapter, Attention: Dan Farough, 109 East Grand River, Lansing, MI 48906

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND!**

Please contact either Dan Farough or Tim Killeen to find out ways to get involved!

Dan Farough  
Political Director  
109 East Grand River  
Lansing, MI 48905  
517-484-2372

Tim Killeen  
Political Chair  
16260 Lappin  
Detroit, MI 48205  
313-526-4052





Sue Kelly



Julie Murphy



Kim Waldo



Barbara Yarrow

PHOTOS COURTESY BARBARA YARROW

## WELCOME NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE MACKINAC CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Anna Holden, Chair, Nominations Committee

The Mackinac Chapter's 2002 Executive Committee includes two new members serving their first two-year terms: Julie Murphy, Wakelin-McNeel Group; and Kim Waldo, Huron Valley Group. Sue Kelly, 2001 Chapter Vice Chair, Crossroads Group, and Barbara Yarrow, Southeast Michigan Group, were re-elected for another term.

Each of the new members adds specific interests, talents and skills to the chapter's existing executive board. Julie Murphy, an accountant, is already acting as Business Manager for the Mackinac and playing a major role in planning the annual autumn retreat. Kim Waldo has extensive experience in conservation work, for example, securing more parks for Ann Arbor and serving six years on the Ann Arbor Parks Advisory Commission. Kim Waldo has also edited the Huron Valley Group's newsletter. Sue Kelly has been active with the Chapter on both conservation and political fronts and is looking forward to strengthening the Chapter's 2002 electoral efforts to help elect "an environmentally friendly state government." Barbara Yarrow, a talented publicist, established and chairs the Mackinac Editorial Board and has made a great deal of progress in improving the Mackinac's content and appearance.

Congratulations and welcome aboard! As a Chapter, we have many challenges ahead in the Year 2002. This year's Executive Committee represents a cross section of the state's Sierra Club members who will be instrumental in meeting these challenges.

Local group election results will be available on the Chapter website in the near future. If you would like a copy of your group newsletter mailed to you, please contact your group chair (see the Chapter Directory, page 27, for contact information).

*Each of the new members adds specific interests, talents and skills to the chapter's existing executive board.*

### LITIGATION UPDATES

By Marvin Roberson, Forest Policy Specialist

The Mackinac Chapter has filed suit in Federal District Court in Grand Rapids over the management of aspen on National Forest lands in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. At issue is whether or not the US Forest Service can demonstrate that the aspen management they currently do can be sustainable and not harm sensitive species.

Currently, National Forests in these three states manage aspen at levels up to 10 times those which naturally occur. Mackinac Chapter staff and activists have raised concerns about this overabundance of aspen for over 5 years with the Forest Service, both in the individual National Forests and at the Regional Forester's office in Milwaukee. The major concern revolves around whether or not species which use older, interior forests are being negatively impacted by the large amount of aspen which is displacing their natural habitat.

In addition, since the current management generally attempts to regenerate aspen on the same site over and over again (which does not happen in nature), concerns have been raised regarding the sustainability of this practice.

The suit asks that the US Forest Service undertake an assessment of the environmental impacts of this continuing over manage-

ment for aspen, and disclose to the public the effects of this management. In addition, in order to halt the ongoing harm which continues under this management, the Sierra Club has asked for a temporary moratorium on aspen regeneration until the assessment has been completed.

The suit has been filed by Leigh Haynie, an environmental attorney from Minnesota and has attracted nationwide press attention.

#### PITTMAN-ROBERTSON LAWSUIT UPDATE

The Mackinac Chapter's ongoing lawsuit against the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Michigan DNR is moving forward. The suit asks that the management activities on State of Michigan lands funded by US Fish and Wildlife Service grant dollars be subject to NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act).

Currently, the federally funded activities are being exempted from analysis of their effects. The suit asks that the effects of these activities be disclosed under NEPA, as required by law.

Both sides have submitted their main written arguments at this time, and oral arguments will commence soon. The suit is being handled by Tom Buchele, Director of the Environmental Law Clinic at the University of Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh.

## 2001 DEFENDERS, PROTECTORS, AND GUARDIANS OF THE PENINSULA

**Thank you to all of our member donors that contributed so generously this year. Your support helps the Mackinac Chapter of the Sierra Club with our local work. The donations will be used to protect the Northwoods, wildlife, and open space; to promote environmental justice; to clean up the Great Lakes waters and shorelines; and to make the environment an issue in elections. Thank you again to all the donors!**



### GUARDIANS (\$500+)

Lorne Beatty  
Richard & Carolyn Fortier  
Gary Lasko  
Helen & Al Leblanc  
David & Nancy Maturen  
Julia Morris  
John & Gwen Nystuen  
Nancy Shiffler  
Tom & Anne Woiwode

### PROTECTORS (\$250-\$500)

Chris & Stephanie Bixler  
The Fackerts  
Lydia Fischer  
Richard Flannery  
Carl & Marian Haussman  
Robert Johnson  
Alexandra Kalaydjian & R Blum  
Cathryn Kurtagh  
Robert & Priscilla McDougal  
Thomas Newhouse  
David Osher  
Sim & Phyllissa Ren  
Joseph Ritok & Jean Hayes  
William Salot  
Dennis Skriba  
Renate Soulen  
Fred & Alyce Townsend

### DEFENDERS (\$100 - \$250)

David & Judy Allen  
Effie Ambler  
Russell Anderson  
Rodrigo Andrade  
Ronald Backus  
Patricia Bauer  
Janice Bauman  
Carl & Karen Bekofske  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Betz  
Chris & Stephanie Bixler  
Joe Blaszak  
Robin & Kathleen Blumer  
Dr. Marjorie Boyer  
David & Sharon Brooks  
Robert Brubaker  
Dr. Frances Bull  
Jim Bush & Shirley Rehn  
Floyd Byerly  
Joanne Cantoni  
Thomas & Denise Carr  
John & Patricia Chipman  
Hal Christiansen  
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Jack & Rosalyn Coury  
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Ron Emaus & Nancy Sovak  
William Eyler

Susan Fencil  
Joseph Filonowicz  
Jeff Fletcher  
Norman & Carol Foster  
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Margaret Hammond  
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Dick & Sandy Hansen  
Denise Harris  
Robert Heacox  
Mike Hedge  
Dr. Roland & Margaret Hiss  
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Tom Hughes  
Nan Hunt  
Debroah Igleheart  
Clarence Jan  
John & Laurie Jelinek  
Daniel & Catherine Joba  
Cathy Jones  
Robert Kachman  
Katherine Kalaydjian  
Annette Kelly  
Craig & Janis Kendziorski  
Dana & Paul Kissner  
Kelvin & Emily Kozlowicz  
Suzanne Kurz-Van Dam  
Robert Kyes & Dagmar Moore  
Frank Lahr  
Jeffrey Lapinski & Beverly Bonning

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John Matle  
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Susan McGillicuddy  
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Richard Nisbett  
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Randolf Paschke  
Jane Perrin & Karen Johnstone  
Dr. Eugene Perrin  
Leonard Raimi  
Dr. John Rebers  
Janice Reelitz  
Bruce Relyea  
Leanne Rimnac  
John Rockne  
Dr. Kenneth Rosenman  
Robert Rudd  
Michael Ryan  
Elise Schlaikjer  
Richard Scott  
Cathy & Gary Semer  
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Nancy & Stuart Winston  
Wilmott Wood  
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Stephan Yokich  
Walter Zarnoch  
Frank Zupancic

## NOVEMBER SIERRA CLUB TRAINING ACADEMY TRAINS 26 ACTIVISTS

by Rita Jack

The Kettunen Center in Tustin, Michigan, was the site of the Sierra Club Training Academy this past November. It was my second Training Academy, and as in the first, I came away re-energized and ready to organize.

We learned to write a campaign plan, identify allies and opponents, set goals and objectives, and how to work with the media. Throughout the weekend, building organizational strength was stressed in addition to reaching conservation goals, so that groups will be even stronger for their next conservation battle.

Workshop leaders came from the Sierra Club offices in San Francisco and Washington, D.C., as well as from the Mackinac Chapter staff.

We were divided into groups to practice our new skills as we learned them. We were given a scenario and told to write a campaign plan that would get us to our goal. On Sunday morning, we each had 20 minutes to present our plans to the others. "You will receive valuable prizes if you have the best plan!" workshop leaders told us. The competition was fierce, but the group that included Joyce McIntosh, the chapter's Group and Volunteer Development Coordinator, won the day!

Watch for training academy opportunities in 2002. If you have an issue that you need to seriously organize for, this is the training for you! For more information, contact Liz Pallatto, Training Academy Organizer, at 415-977-5674, [liz.pallatto@sierraclub.org](mailto:liz.pallatto@sierraclub.org) or call Joyce McIntosh at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372 or [joyce.mcintosh@sierraclub.org](mailto:joyce.mcintosh@sierraclub.org).



PHOTO COURTESY RITA JACK

## FEBRUARY ACTIVIST INTERVIEW: JULIE MURPHY

by Joyce McIntosh, Chapter Group and Volunteer Development Coordinator



PHOTO COURTESY JOYCE MCINTOSH

When Julie Murphy jumps into a project, she does it wholeheartedly – so it's no surprise that in her several years of involvement with the Mackinac Chapter she's become a greatly appreciated activist on many fronts.

I had the opportunity to speak with Julie after our January Executive Committee meeting in Pellston, Michigan. Here's what I learned.

**QUESTION:** When and how did you first become interested protecting the environment?

**JULIE:** In the early nineties I was looking for volunteer work, and I became involved with Recycle Livingston.

**QUESTION:** What drew you to the Sierra Club, and how did you first become involved with the Mackinac Chapter?

**JULIE:** I felt that the Sierra Club covered a lot of different issues, so I became a member in 1995. That year I participated in a service outing at Pictured Rocks. Since then I've worked on the Retreat Committee and as the Chapter One Club coordinator. I'm currently the Chapter Business Manager, the Wakelin McNeel Group Chair, the Awards Committee Chair and Secretary on the Chapter Executive Committee.

**QUESTION:** I understand you met your husband, Mark Janeczko, at a Sierra Club event.

**JULIE:** Mark and I met at the Chapter retreat in 1996 – we were married in 1998. Mark is currently the Great Lakes Committee Chair and we've both been on the Retreat Committee since 2000.

**QUESTION:** If you had to list two or three things an individual can do to have the greatest impact in protecting the environment, what would they be?

**JULIE:** It's not as important what you do – it's that you take the initiative to do something. Everyone has different issues and interests, and as long as you're doing one thing it makes a difference.

**QUESTION:** What are your interests outside of the Sierra Club?

**JULIE:** In addition to keeping up with a 14-year-old (my daughter, Nicole), I like to cross-country ski, garden and I work as an accountant.

*It's not as important  
what you do – it's  
that you take the  
initiative to do  
something. Everyone  
has different issues  
and interests, and as  
long as you're doing  
one thing it makes a  
difference.*

*Clambering up a slope,  
rounding a corner and  
ducking under a ledge, we  
were greeted by an awe-  
some sight: a huge sea cave  
had been cut into the stone  
by the ancient waves.*

**EXCERPTS FROM  
A BACKPACKER'S JOURNAL:  
PICTURED ROCKS  
NATIONAL LAKESHORE**

by Mary Powell



PHOTO COURTESY MARY POWELL

**Off-trail backpacking — traveling cross-country with map and compass — offers solitude and the opportunity to enjoy seeing what few others have seen. The following are excerpts from my journal during a mostly off-trail trek at Pictured Rocks National Park.**

**FORDING THE STREAM**

On the far side of a small creek, the brush became thicker and in a little while our footprints were filling with water as we lifted our boots. Still farther along we found ourselves stepping from hummock to hummock and finally we were balancing on roots, fallen saplings and small tufts of grass.

Michael suggested we might want to change to sandals, as we would be fording the Miners River soon. Those with good balance and dry boots did that. Some of us decided that there was no use in getting a second pair of footwear wet.

We came upon the river just below the beaver dam responsible for the widespread flooding. Fording was a bit tricky but was accomplished without major problems. We then located a semi-dry spot for lunch. Despite the swampy nature of the area there were few bugs and the break was much enjoyed.

A scan of the topo map as we prepared to move on disclosed the next obstacle: multiple contour lines merged into a half-inch wide brown streak directly ahead. Someone asked if there were any stairs.

**A SPECTACULAR CAVE**

We began the next day by bushwhacking to a point farther down the river where Michael had previously discovered a small but picturesque falls dubbed Little Miners Falls.

We then located a ledge of sandstone, a remnant of what had been a rocky shoreline thousands of years ago when the water level in Lake Superior was much higher. We donned our helmets and edged along the wall of rock. Clambering up a slope, rounding a corner and ducking under a ledge, we were greeted by an awesome sight: a huge sea cave had been cut into the stone by the ancient waves.

The arched opening of the cave was easily 50' high and 120' wide. The cave was at least 80' deep. The Little Miners River cascaded from the center of the arch into a pool directly in front of the cave, then flowed out of sight through the screen of trees into the valley below. Peach and gray layers of rock circled the walls of the cave. The splashing of the river into the pool was soothing. We ate lunch there taking in the beauty of the place.

**HIDDEN CAVES OF CHAPEL BASIN**

Donning our helmets, we belayed down the initial slope. After negotiating a couple of difficult turns where there really wasn't enough room for a person with a pack on, it was pretty easy going. As promised, a series of caves appeared for us to explore. While they all had the general configuration of sea caves — a dome ceiling with a more or less flat floor — each had its own unique flavor:

- *Raptor* is very large with a mostly open entrance and a high ledge on which there was a nest composed of sticks. The floor below is littered with sticks and refuse which we investigated, curious as to the identity of the nest builder. Post trip research by Sue determined that it was likely a raven or a hawk.
- *Down and Out* has an entrance mostly blocked by fallen rubble. Two small openings allowed us to slip into the dusky cave and find copious evidence it had been used as a shelter by animals, probably porcupines.
- *Coal* shows evidence of past human occupation: some coal, pieces of metal, and a worn shirt.

By late afternoon we had reached the end of the bluff. We stowed our ropes and helmets and headed for a campsite in the buffer zone. Sue found native orchids called coralroots there in unusually prolific numbers. After an evening meal accompanied by pleasant conversation everyone retired to their respective shelters just before the rain began.

To read the rest of this journal, with sketches and photos, visit [www.geocities.com/sierraclub2](http://www.geocities.com/sierraclub2).

*Mary Powell is a recent convert to wilderness tripping who welcomes your questions or comments via e-mail at [powell\\_mm@hotmail.com](mailto:powell_mm@hotmail.com).*

# Group Meetings & Programs

## AG: Algonquin Group

If interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Joyce McIntosh at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372.

## CMG: Central Michigan Group

General meetings are held the 3rd Monday each month at the Harris Nature Center, off Van Atta Road in Meridian Township. 5:30pm supper (small donation requested) or 6:15 meeting. Pete Pasterz, 517-676-3339.

The Conservation Committee usually meets the 2nd Monday each month. Maria Lapinski-LaFaive, [mlapinsk@wmich.edu](mailto:mlapinsk@wmich.edu), 517-374-4444.

The Executive Committee meets the 1st Monday each month. Jerry Schuur, 517-351-7796.

## CUP: Central Upper Peninsula Group

Sierra Club members in central & western counties of the Upper Peninsula are invited to participate in the CUP group activities. Executive committee meetings are held 7pm in Northern Michigan University's West Science Bldg, Room 270. General Membership meetings are held 7pm in Marquette's Peter White Public Library Community Room. John Rebers at 906-227-1585.

For outings & activities news, send \$5 for a subscription to the CUP newsletter to Sierra Club, 338 West Crescent, Marquette, MI 49855.

**2/12** Isle Royale National Park. Mark Gleason, Director of the Isle Royale Institute, describes what you need to know to plan a trip to Isle Royale.

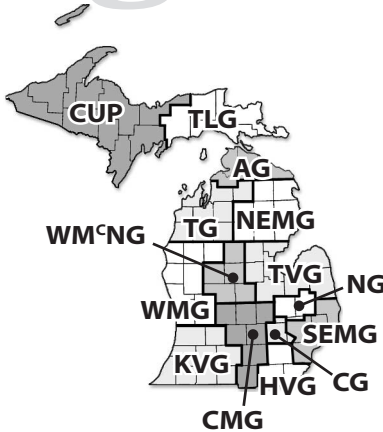
**3/12** Water Quality & the Great Lakes. Tom Baldini, U.S. Section Chair of the International Joint Commission, gives his perspective on the work that has been done & is needed to address water quality in Lake Superior & the other Great Lakes.

**4/8** How do Beavers Change Their Habitat? Luigi Torretti, graduate student from Northern Michigan University, describes the changes beavers make upon fen habitats in Northern Michigan & Minnesota.

**5/9** Photographing UP Wildlands & Wildlife. Scott Stewart, local nature photographer, describes how to capture the natural beauty of the Upper Peninsula.

## CG: Crossroads Group

Sierra Club members of Livingston, southern Genesee & western Oakland Counties meet monthly at the Brighton District Library, 200 Orndorff Dr, Brighton, for informative & entertaining



## Group boundaries of the Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club

programs. Meetings begin at 7pm & are open to the public.

**2/12** Wolves, a Howling Success in Michigan. A lively slide presentation updating current wolf recovery & other issues, giving lots of information on this predator.

**4/16** Mike Johnson presents a program on The Tongass National Forest of Alaska & his recent work & studies there.

The Conservation Committee meets monthly to discuss & address local issues. Emily Gobright, 517-548-0595 or David Wright, 810-229-1685.

The Executive Committee meets the last Wednesday of the month. Rick Pearsall, 810-227-6298.

## HVG: Huron Valley Group

The General Meetings of the Huron Valley Group of the Sierra Club are held 7:30pm the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the UM Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N Dixboro Rd, Ann Arbor. Non-members welcome. Call 734-480-7751 or visit [www.mirror.org/groups/mi-enviro](http://www.mirror.org/groups/mi-enviro).

The HVG Sierra Club Book Club meets 7:30pm every 2nd Tuesday at Nicola's Books in the Westgate Shopping Center, Ann Arbor. Read a selected book about nature or the environment on your own & then discuss it in a small group. 734-332-0207 for information.

## KVG: Kalamazoo Valley Group

General membership meetings are usually held 7:30pm the third Thursday of each month at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Texas Twp Campus, Room 4370. Call Mike Johnson, 616-948-8840.

The Executive Committee meets 7:30pm the 2nd Wednesday of each month. All members are welcome. Verne & Cindy Mills, 616-344-4279.

**2/25** Michigan's Great Forests: They Deserve a Second Chance, by Mackinac Chapter Director Anne Woiwode. 7:30pm at People's Church, 1758 N 10<sup>th</sup> St, Kalamazoo. Joint program with the Audubon Society of Kalamazoo. Coffee & cookies served at 7pm. Verne, 616-344-4279.

**3/21** Growing Your Own Food Organically. 7:30pm. Organic growers Norm & Rita Bober share expertise, ideas & tips for growing your own food organically. Verne, 616-344-4279. This program will be held in classroom 2530 rather than our regular meeting room (4370).

**4/18** S.O.S.: Save Our Sand (Dunes). 7:30pm. Learn about Michigan's fresh water sand dunes' formation, ecological importance, threats & what can be done to protect them. Tanya Cabala of the Lake Michigan Federation presents. Mike, 616-948-8840.

## NG: Nepessing Group

Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Mott Community College in the "New Students" Prah Building, Genesee Room, 1401 E Court St in Flint. Refreshments are available. Non-members are welcome, parking is free. Learn about local conservation issues, local watershed monitoring & great outings. Ann Crane, 248-634-8641. Visit our web page, with a weekly hiking schedule, at [www.gfn.org/sierrang](http://www.gfn.org/sierrang).

**2/13** General Meeting. 6:45pm. Congressional aid to Rep. Dale Kildee, discusses NAFTA &/or U.S. immigration laws.

**3/13** General Meeting. 6:45 p.m.

**4/10** General Meeting. 7pm. Mott Community College in the Mott Memorial Building auditorium. One of the 12 members of the all-woman expedition that cross-country skied from Russia to the North Pole in 2001 will speak. Sharon Johnson, 810-655-4575.

## NEMG: Northeast Michigan Group

If interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Joyce McIntosh at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372.

## SEMG: Southeast Michigan Group

General meetings are 7pm the 1st Thursday of each month, Sept-June, at Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Hwy (southbound M-10 service drive) between South-





field & Evergreen roads and 9 & 10 Mile roads in Southfield. Social time: 7-7:30pm; Business meeting: 7:30-8pm; Program: 8-9pm. Contact Carol Izant, 248-352-6137, [cogknot@yahoo.com](mailto:cogknot@yahoo.com). Visit the SEMG website at [michigan.sierraclub.org/semg](http://michigan.sierraclub.org/semg) for the latest news.

The Executive Committee meets 7:30pm the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Royal Oak Senior Citizens' Center, 3500 Marais, in Royal Oak. Contact Tim Killeen, 313-526-4052, [timk@bikerider.com](mailto:timk@bikerider.com).

Conservation Committee meets 7:30pm the 3rd Monday of each month at the Royal Oak Senior Citizens' Center, 3500 Marais, in Royal Oak. Contact Anna Holden, 313-331-0932.

Outings Committee holds quarterly planning meetings. If you're interested in planning or leading outings, contact Outings Chair Philip Crookshank, [wanderphil3@netzero.net](mailto:wanderphil3@netzero.net), 313-562-1873 or Outings Coordinator Joanne Cantoni, 248-932-5370.

Political Committee meets 6:30pm the last Thursday of each month at Jimi's Restaurant on Washington, one block north of Lincoln (10-1/2 Mile) in Royal Oak. All are welcome! Contact Tim Killeen, Political Chair, 313-526-4052.

#### TG: Traverse Group

The General Meetings of the revitalized Traverse Group are held at the Traverse City Public Library. Call Monica, 231-325-6812 or Pam, 231-275-3322. Or check our website at [michigan.sierraclub.org/traverse](http://michigan.sierraclub.org/traverse).

Executive Committee meetings are held at Horizon Books, downstairs café, Traverse City. Call Monica, 231-325-6812 or Pam, 231-275-3322.

The Conservation Committee meets at Horizon Books, downstairs café, downtown Traverse City. Call Monica, 231-325-6812.

For information on Political Committee meetings call Monica, 231-325-6812.

For Outings Committee information, call Andrea Dean, 231-947-9344.

#### TLG: Three Lakes Group

Sierra Club members in the Upper Peninsula counties of Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac & Schoolcraft are welcome to attend meetings of the Three Lakes Group. Business meetings are held monthly at various locations in Sault Ste Marie. Programs are held the 1st Wednesday each month from Sept-May at the Walker Cisler Center on the Lake Superior State University campus. Floyd Byerly, 906-632-0218.

#### TVG: Thumb Valley Group

No group meetings planned at this time. Call group chairs Craig & Janis Kendziorski, 517-631-5170 for updated information or if interested in participating on the leadership team or leading an outing.

#### WMcNG: Wakelin McNeel Group

If you are interested in helping to build an active Group or want information about the Sierra Club in this area, please contact Julie Murphy, 517-539-1676.

#### WMG: West Michigan Group

Meetings are held 7pm the 2nd Thursday each month at the Grand Valley Blood Center on Fuller NE near Leonard St. in Grand Rapids. Everyone welcome! Call Marty Lore, 517-682-1316.

## GET INVOLVED IN STATEWIDE EVENTS

**3/15-17** Leadership Training is scheduled for anyone interested in developing leadership skills in the Sierra Club.

**4/13** Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club Executive Committee Meeting in Southeast Michigan.

**7/19-21** Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club Executive Committee Meeting in Marquette to be held in conjunction with a National Sierra Club board meeting.

**9/13-15** Annual Chapter Retreat at Camp Miniwanca on Lake Michigan.

**10/5** Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club Executive Committee Meeting hosted by the West Michigan Group in the Grand Rapids area.

#### 1/10-12, 2003

Mackinac Chapter Sierra Club Executive Committee weekend meeting will be held at Nettie Bay Lodge in Hawks.

Mackinac Chapter Steering Committee Meetings are held at the Chapter office in Lansing on the following days: Feb 6, Mar 6, May 1, June 5, Aug 14, Sept 4, Nov 13 & Dec 4.

For more details on all of the above state meetings and events, call Joyce McIntosh at the Mackinac Chapter office, 517-484-2372.

"Every good thing, great and small, needs defense." —John Muir



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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

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.

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## FINANCIAL ADVISOR AD

# Learning Vacations!

*NettieBay Lodge prides itself as a learning center specializing in hands-on craft schools specializing in a variety of courses on techniques to start or encourage an already existing outdoor hobby.*

**School of Birding: During the month of May** – The guiding principle of the school is to help people get in touch with nature by: acquainting them with the beauty of birds, then providing information about birds and their habitat, and finally showing how each individual has a stake in continued existence of bird populations. Surveys show more than 80% of NettieBay's birders are almost guaranteed with new life birds.

**Split Bamboo Rodmaking: April 1-7, 2002** – Arrive with Enthusiasm. Return home with your own handcrafted Split Bamboo Rod and the skills to continue a time-honored craft. The Genesis School of Split Bamboo Rodmaking is a five-day, intensive, hands-on craft school. The participants will learn the skills and techniques needed to complete a split bamboo fishing rod.

**School of Stone Masonry: June 12-16, 2002** – NettieBay Lodge is committed to preserving the relationship between man's ingenuity and nature by offering courses that are essentially a hands-on introduction to stone masonry.

**Twig Furniture Making: Day & Weekend Programs** – Check web site for dates and times.

Become a Twigger! Learn basic twig construction techniques from an experienced twigger. Create a twig Chair, table, or headboard from natural growing sticks. Class will cover tools, adhesives and twig selection.

**School of Photography: May & June Classes** – This photographic weekend is a guided tour designed to give photographers the opportunity to capture images of the common loon.

**Women in the Outdoors Workshop: September** – Women in Nature programs are workshops aimed at helping women learn and gain confidence in outdoor skills, skills usually associated with hunting and fishing, but useful for many outdoor pursuits.

**NettieBay Lodge** 

9011 W. 638 Hwy. Hawks, MI 49743  
(989) 734-4688

[nettiebay@george.lhi.net](mailto:nettiebay@george.lhi.net)

[www.nettiebay.com](http://www.nettiebay.com)

**Sleeping warm on a frigid, Michigan camping trip requires more than just a cold-weather sleeping bag. Just as a home is heated only by its furnace, your sleeping bag will not warm up without your heat-producing body inside it. There are several ways you can both increase the amount of heat generated by your body and reduce the amount of heat that escapes from your sleeping bag.**

#### **SEAL THE WARMTH IN**

A properly sealed sleeping bag will capture more of your body's heat just as tightly sealed windows and doors slow the loss of heat from your home. In addition to 8 inches or more of insulation, a well-designed cold-weather bag will have a sculptured hood that seals well around the face and creates a small hole for you to expel moisture-laden breath. The side-entry zipper and the area around the shoulders should be sealed against heat loss by thickly insulated draft tubes. These critical baffles prevent body heat from being pumped out of the bag as you move around during the night.

#### **BEEF UP YOUR BAG**

If your bag lacks enough loft to keep you warm all night, consider loosely draping another sleeping bag over it. To keep the second bag from sliding off, sew a few, well-placed shoelace ties on each bag to keep them aligned. A fleece or wool sweater draped around your shoulders can serve as an improvised heat baffle. To prevent heat from escaping through an unprotected zipper, simply rotate the bag sideways until you're almost sleeping on the zipper.

#### **INSULATE YOURSELF FROM THE COLD GROUND**

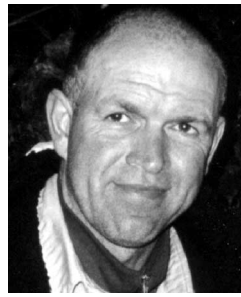
During colder periods, a full-length, 1/2-inch-thick, closed-cell foam pad is essential. Many experienced winter campers add a second 3/4-length pad for extremely cold temperatures. You may want to avoid using open-cell foam, as it tends to absorb moisture. Air mattresses are popular too, but make sure yours is a design that incorporates open-cell foam in the interior. If not, place a closed-cell foam pad on top of it to prevent air currents within the air mattress from sucking away your body heat. Even if you're sleeping on a cot or a hammock, you'll still need a pad to insulate you from the cold air circulating underneath you. The portion of the sleeping bag that is compressed underneath you will have little insulation value.

#### **SLEEP IN DRY CLOTHING**

Always change into dry clothing before you retire for the evening. Since the layer next to your skin is most important, choose a non-cotton wicking fabric like polypropylene. Never wear cotton, especially against your skin, as it is a magnet for moisture. During colder periods, wear additional synthetic-insulated layers to extend the comfort range of your sleeping bag. Adding additional layers will only work if they fit loosely on you and in the bag.

#### **IF YOU WAKE UP COLD**

If you wake up cold during the night, eat a high-energy snack and drink water. This should help get your digestive system going and warm you from the inside out. Static stretching or isometric exercises involving the large muscles also help. And finally, if you get the urge to urinate, by all means get up and brave the elements. You'll sleep much warmer if you're not wasting precious body heat trying to keep a full bladder warm.



## **WILDERNESS SKILLS: SIX WAYS TO SLEEP WARMER IN COLD WEATHER**

© Michael A. Neiger,  
Central Upper Peninsula Group

*A properly sealed sleeping bag will capture more of your body's heat just as tightly sealed windows and doors slow the loss of heat from your home.*

#### **WEAR A HAT AND SLEEPING BOOTIES**

Always wear a hat or two since an uncovered head can allow 50 to 75 percent of your body heat to escape. In extremely cold temperatures, I like to wear two warm hats over a thin, polypropylene balaclava (or facemask). Worn directly against your skin, a facemask wicks chilling moisture away from your head while protecting your face and neck, two areas where a hat comes up short.

Even if the rest of your body is warm in your sleeping bag, if your feet are cold, you'll likely have difficulty sleeping. Wear two pairs of thick, dry socks and a pair of thickly insulated sleeping booties.

#### **STOKE THE FURNACE BEFORE RETIRING**

In the hours before you retire to your bag, eat a good, hearty meal to stimulate the digestive process. This will help the body generate heat well into the night. Drinking plenty of liquids, preferably hot ones, will warm you up and help stave off cold-inducing hypothermia.

To warm your bag up quicker, eat some high-calorie snacks and sip some water just before entering your sleeping bag. Some winter campers warm up their bags by placing one or two tightly sealed water bottles filled with hot water into their bags. A brisk walk or some light calisthenics can quickly warm you as you climb into your bag.

Armed with the right sleeping system as well as an understanding of how to use it properly, you're much more likely to enjoy your next cold-weather camping trip in Michigan.

See you in the bush.

*Michael Neiger of Marquette is a Central Upper Peninsula Group wilderness trip leader. His Web site is The RuckSack ([www.geocities.com/sierraclub2](http://www.geocities.com/sierraclub2)) and he welcomes your comments and opinions via e-mail at [mneiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mneiger@hotmail.com).*

# Quiet Water Symposium

Saturday, March 2, 2002 from 9 AM to 5 PM

Cost is \$5.00 for adults and free for those under 18

At the Pavilion for Livestock and Agriculture Education (southwest corner of Mt. Hope and Farm Lane) on the campus of MSU in East Lansing, MI



Featuring lectures, slideshows and displays in a large exhibition hall, the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Quiet Water Symposium kicks off another season of outdoor, human powered recreation in the Great Lakes region.

## LECTURES

Gary and Joanie McGuffin, Goulais River, Ontario – “The Voyage of the Wooden Canoe, a 3-month Journey through Lake Superior’s North Shore Islands.” See the canoe built for the trip. Purchase books about previous McGuffin adventures.

Verlen Kruger, Lansing, MI – “The Mississippi River Race.” Record setting winner of the 2001 canoe race covering the entire length of the Mississippi River, Verlen is a legendary canoe builder and paddler. See canoes used in his world class trips.

Lynn Bartley, Okemos, MI – “The WomenQuest 2001 Polar Expedition.” Lynn was part of an all women team that skied from the floating Russian Ice Station Borneo to the North Pole. Hear how the team overcame frostbite, open water and drifting ice.

## DISPLAYS

Outdoor clubs, environmental organizations, antique and hand built canoes and kayaks, outdoor recreation outfitters, Voyageur costumes, boat building, canoe re-canvassing, fly tying and casting, snowshoes, dog sleds and outdoor cooking.

Sponsored by MSU’s Department of Park, Recreation and Tourism Resources and by the Lansing Oar and Paddle Club  
QWS is a part of MSU’s Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) Week

For more details see [www.qws.homestead.com](http://www.qws.homestead.com)



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*“This boat helped our stream cleanup program immensely. The boat is a great performer.”*

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### **READ ALL ABOUT IT!**

Visit our website at [www.artechparts.com](http://www.artechparts.com) to read a May, 2001 Grand Rapids Press story on the cleanup boat.



# Shop to Stop Sprawl!



***"What a great idea! Local grassroots action to preserve nature is what the Sierra Club is all about. I encourage every Sierra Club member in Michigan to participate in Shopping for the Earth."***

**- Carl Pope, Sierra Club Executive Director**

Your next shopping trip could help stop sprawl! How? By joining the Sierra Club/Huron Valley Group's **Shopping for the Earth** program, like hundreds of other people. At least 5% of your purchases will be donated to Sierra Club.

We'll use the funds to fight the out-of-control development devastating Michigan. Each year, you can contribute hundreds of dollars to the fight against sprawl - at no cost to you!



To join the program, just mail in the order form below with your check. You'll get EarthCash vouchers of equal value for the stores you select. Then you spend the vouchers (accepted *nationwide*) just as if they're cash. You can return unused vouchers for a refund if you're not completely satisfied.

For more information, please contact Michael Sklar by phone at (248) 542-1789 or by email at [mssklar@home.com](mailto:mssklar@home.com).

***"I use EarthCash vouchers. I haven't changed what I buy or where I shop. But now we're contributing over \$200 each year to make our community a better place. It's easy, and it doesn't cost us a penny."***

**- Gwen Nystuen**

## Sierra Club/Huron Valley Group "Shopping for the Earth" Order Form

Indicate the number of EarthCash vouchers you want by dollar amount for each store below, and enclose your check payable to "Huron Valley Group-Sierra Club." Total order (\$500 maximum): \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

<b>Kroger</b>	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	_____ @ \$50
<b>Whole Foods/Merchant of Vino</b>	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	
<b>Meijer (store &amp; gas station)</b>	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	_____ @ \$50
<b>Farmer Jack (&amp; affiliated stores)</b>	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	_____ @ \$50
<b>Hiller's Markets</b>	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20	_____ @ \$50
<b>Ann Arbor People's Food Co-op</b>	_____ @ \$5	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20
<b>Busch's</b>	_____ @ \$5	_____ @ \$10	_____ @ \$20
<b>Borders Books &amp; Music</b>	_____ @ \$20	_____ @ \$25	_____ @ \$50

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**Mail to:**  
 Michael Sklar  
 10404 Kingston Avenue  
 Huntington Woods, MI 48070

# Mackinac Chapter Outings

**Abbreviations in capital letters signify the group that is planning the outing. Refer to the Group Meetings map on page 16 to determine a group's location. Trips begin at the trailhead. Outings are open to everyone.**

## FEBRUARY

**2/9 KVG Preserving Nature through Urban Redevelopment: A Brownfields Tour.** 10:30am. An important part of curbing urban sprawl is encouraging redevelopment of abandoned industrial sites: "brownfields." Driving tour of Kalamazoo area to visit some redeveloped brownfields & some in process of redevelopment. Lunch at business built on a brownfield: Mackenzies' Bakery. Meet at Parchment City Hall parking lot, 650 S Riverview Dr. Mary, 616-344-0536.

**2/9 SEMG Maybury Chilly Moonlight Stroll.** 6:30pm. Easy pace to hear resident owls. Meet at Maybury State Park horse stable parking lot. Eight Mile Rd to Beck Rd (2 miles west of Northville); south 1/4 mile to gravel entrance on west. Park at barns. Restaurant stop after. Ed McArdle, 313-388-6645.

**2/9 NG Murphy Lake Hike.** 10am. Difficult 6-1/2 miles. M-15 to Millington, east 4 miles on Millington Rd (stoplight in Millington). Trailhead across from Mt. Kotarski sign. Restaurant stop. Dave Mansfield, 810-658-0406, [dmansfield@intouchmi.com](mailto:dmansfield@intouchmi.com).

**2/10 SEMG Proud Lake.** Noon. Moderate 5-miles. Hike gentle, woody trails of State Park. Meet in Southfield behind Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & Twelve Mile Rd. Restaurant stop after. Don Dahlin, 248-644-2746.

**2/14-17 NG Munising Cross-country Skiing.** 3 different trail complexes in Munising area; all levels available. Bring trail snacks for Fri, Sat & Sun; breakfasts & dinners at restaurants. Stay at Munising motel Thurs-Sat nights. \$60 deposit & reservations required by 1/25. Linda Berker, 810-653-8242(D), 810-653-0142(E).

**2/16 TG Family (all ages) Ice Fishing at Sanford Lake in Benzie Co.** 1pm. Meet at CherryLand Grocery on US-31 west of Interlochen. Bring own equipment; some equipment available. Big Bluegill & Northern Pike. Jim Stricko, [jstricko@GLEC-tc.com](mailto:jstricko@GLEC-tc.com); John Lewis, 231-947-9104, [johnbetty@bignetnorth.net](mailto:johnbetty@bignetnorth.net).

**2/17 SEMG Proud Lake State Park Winter Hike.** Noon. Moderate 5 miles. Hike goes rain/shine; dress accordingly. Meet north of Wixom in trailhead parking lot, 1/4 mile E of Wixom Road, 1/2 mile N of Glengary Road. Optional restaurant stop. Tom Griebe, 248-349-8782.

**2/23 TG Youth Snow Fort Building & Cross Country Skiing at Lake Ann Pathway.** 1pm. Meet at trailhead. US-31, 4 miles west of Interlochen, take Reynolds Rd. 4 miles north to trailhead & pick your favorite activity! Pam Smith, [psmith@GLEC-tc.com](mailto:psmith@GLEC-tc.com); John Lewis, 231-947-9104, [johnbetty@bignetnorth.net](mailto:johnbetty@bignetnorth.net).

**2/23 NG Holly Recreation Area Hike.** 10am. 7-10 moderate miles. Dixie Hwy to Grange Hall Rd, east to McGinnis Rd, turn right to park entrance. Meet in Overlook Parking Lot. Bring lunch. State Park permit required. Dave Mansfield, 810-658-0406, [dmansfield@intouchmi.com](mailto:dmansfield@intouchmi.com).

**2/24 SEMG Pointe Pelee Ice Hike.** 9:30am. 11th annual ice hike in Ontario to see mounds of ice on the Pointe. Dress for 2-3 hours outdoors. Meet for this all-day activity behind the Dearborn Centennial Library, south side of Michigan Ave 1/4 mile east of Southfield Fwy; west end of parking lot. Optional restaurant stop after. Bring passport or birth certificate ID. Bridge, park admission fees: \$12/car. Liz Allingham, 313-581-7579.

## MARCH

**3/2 SEMG Belle Isle Browse.** 9:30am. 5 miles. We'll criss-cross the island forest looking for the deer herd. We counted 300 head last year. Meet at east end of island in Nature Center parking lot. Greektown restaurant stop after. Philip Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

**3/2 WMG Blandford Nature Center.** Maple Syrup Festival. Sweet opportunity for young & old! We'll hike first & then join the festival. (Date is tentative, depending on festival.) RSVP Lisa Symons, 616-942-6549.

**3/3 SEMG Ortonville Rec Area Hike.** 9am. 6-7 brisk-paced miles. Hike forests & hills of state recreation area. Bring water & trail lunch. Meet in front of Old Navy store in Baldwin Commons shopping mall. I-75 North to Baldwin Rd exit; mall on left. Confirm: John Calandra, 248-391-8973, [john.calandra@worldnet.att.net](mailto:john.calandra@worldnet.att.net).

**3/8-11 CUP Winter Camping: Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore (Alger Co).** Explore prime section of area by snowshoe with backpacks or sledges (limited number available). Non-basecamp, very strenuous bushwhacking. Instruction in snow shelter building. Must be: 18, non-smoker, experienced winter camper (2 trips in last 3 years) with cold weather (-20) experience & gear, very physically fit (able to run 3 miles), swimmer, adventurous & fully equipped, including rations & stove. 8am Fri to midday Mon. \$15. Michael Neiger, [mneiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mneiger@hotmail.com), 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W, [www.geocities.com/sierraclub2](http://www.geocities.com/sierraclub2).

**3/8-10 NG Black Mtn/High Country Cross-country Skiing.** Also snowshoeing and/or hiking depending on conditions. Lodging at Bill's Broken Blade Ranch log cabin north of Atlanta. Limit 12. Call for directions & info. Reservations required. \$1/night for wood & snowplow plus \$1 donation to Sierra Club. Bill Somers, 810-653-0867, [freewillie40@hotmail.com](mailto:freewillie40@hotmail.com).

**3/10 SEMG Heritage Park.** Noon. Moderate 2 to 2-1/2 hours hike in Farmington Hills park. Wetlands, meadows, small hills & the Rouge River; bluebirds, orioles, others. Optional restaurant. Meet at visitor center. From Farmington Road south of 11 Mile, turn west into park, left on first road to parking lot. Call if weather doubtful. Tom LaFramboise, 734-464-7899.

**3/15 NG Frog Presentation.** 10-11:15am. DNR Natural Heritage Program speaker will present all the information you always wanted to know about frogs, in preparation for the spring count of frogs in our local environment. Mott Community College, Prah Center, 1401 E. Court St., Flint. Meeting room NW of Applewood Cafe. Linda Berker, 810-653-8242(D), 810-653-0142(E).

**3/16 TG Hiking & big family bonfire cookout.** 1pm. Hosted by Chad & Monica Evans at their home near Honor. Details later.

**3/16 SEMG Outings Potluck & Scheduling Meeting.** 6pm. Open to everyone interested in doing or learning about doing outings. Casual dinner (bring a dish to pass). Quarterly planning meeting for summer & fall at 7pm. From downtown Northville go west on Main St 4/10 mile after road turns to gravel, turn left (S) on Westhill, then right (W) on Timberlane. Park at end of circle: 47103. Tom Griebe, 248-349-8782.

**3/16 NG Hadley Hills Jasmond Rd Hike.** 10am. 6 difficult miles. Ortonville Rec. Area. M-15 to Hegel Rd. (Goodrich), east 4.5 miles to Jasmond Rd, south to dead end. Restaurant stop. Terry Lemmer, 810-732-9902.

**3/17 SEMG Jonathon Woods Hike.** Noon. 4 easy miles. Hike the Nature Conservancy Preserve. Optional restaurant stop after. Meet in Bloomfield Township in Costco parking lot near McDonalds on Telegraph (east side) north of Square Lake Rd. Hike goes rain/shine. John Kalam, 248-681-9160.

**3/17 NG For-Mar Nature Center.** 1pm. St. Patrick's Day hike. 5 easy miles. 2142 N Genesee Rd, Burton, just north of Davison Rd. Restaurant stop. George Yurek, 810-232-8009.

**3/23 KVG Dinner & Kzoo Folklife Concert.** Join us for "dinner & a concert". Dinner at 6pm at a restaurant TBD, then head over to Colt Center in Comstock for a Kzoo Folklife concert by Joel Mabus who performs traditional/contemporary folk/blues. Or join us at concert: 8pm. Concert: \$9/adults, \$3/children under 12. Reserve for dinner by 3/19: Cindy, 616-344-4279(E).

**3/24 NG Bald Mountain Hike, North Unit.** 1pm. Moderate. M-24 to Lake Orion, left on Flint Street to Orion Rd, left on Stoney Creek Rd, left on Harmon Rd. Trailhead parking lot, corner of Harmon & Predmore. State

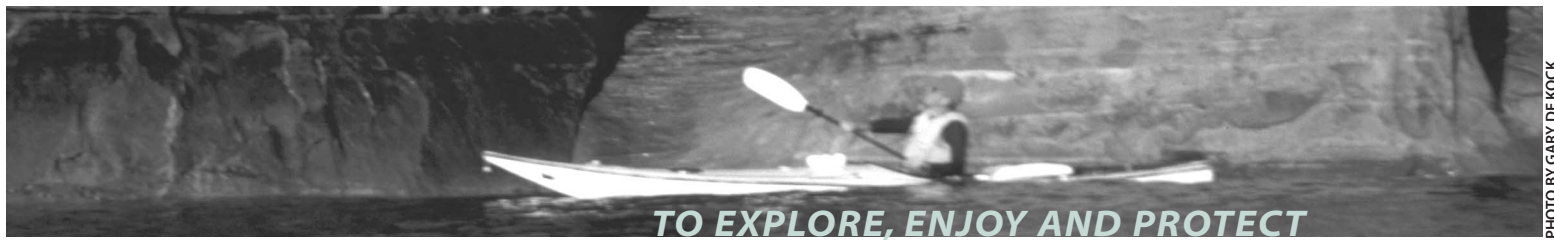


PHOTO BY GARY DE KOCK

## TO EXPLORE, ENJOY AND PROTECT

Park permit required. Restaurant stop. Gloria Bublitz, 810-664-0304, [glorypepper@yahoo.com](mailto:glorypepper@yahoo.com).

**3/24 SEMG Seven Lakes State Park.** Noon. 5-mile hike. Hilly, possibly slippery terrain. Dress in layers, hiking boots required, gaiters optional. Bring trail snacks & meet in W. Bloomfield, SE corner of Woodward & Square Lake Rd in CVS rear parking lot. Or meet at park entrance at 1 pm. Restaurant stop after. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313.

**3/30 NG Lapeer State Game Area Hike.** 10am. 4 moderate miles. Take M-24 3-1/2 miles north of M-21 to Daley Rd, turn right, go 3 miles to Fish Lake Rd, turn left (north), go 2 miles to Vernor Rd, right on Vernor, 1 mile to Five Lakes Rd. Turn left & go 1 mile to parking lot on hill. Restaurant stop. Gordon Schneider, 810-664-6180.

**3/31 SEMG Seven Ponds Easter Hike.** 10am. 4 slow-paced miles. We'll go through the visitor center & walk trails. Meet in Sterling Heights at Metro Pkwy (16 Mile Rd) & Van Dyke, (SE corner) in SMART parking lot between the banks, or 10:45 there. Restaurant stop after. Lee Becker, 586-294-7789.

## APRIL

**4/5-7 CUP Advanced Backpacking: Wilderness at southern reach of High Country Pathway (Montmorency Co).** Very strenuous off-trail, deep-water river fords, tough swamp crossings, non-basecamp. Explore rugged wilderness, Eagle Ridge, Sec 21 gorge, Old Baldy, Black River Swamp, RR grades & Rattlesnake Hill. Must be 18, non-smoker, experienced backpacker (5 trips in last 3 years), very physically fit (able to run 3 miles), swimmer, adventurous & fully equipped, including stove & rations. 8am Fri to midday Sun. \$10. Michael Neiger, [mneiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mneiger@hotmail.com), 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W, [www.geocities.com/sierraclub2](http://www.geocities.com/sierraclub2).

**4/6 SEMG Basic Backpacking Seminar.** 1pm. See article on page 25. Seminar held at The Benchmark,

32715 Grand River Ave., in Farmington from 1-4pm. \$10 registration & payment required by 3/20: John Herrgott, 810-735-9313, [johnherrgott@msn.com](mailto:johnherrgott@msn.com); Phil Crookshank 313-562-1873, [wanderphil3@netzero.net](mailto:wanderphil3@netzero.net).

**4/6 NG Genesee County Fairgrounds Mott Lake Hike.** 10am. 5 easy miles. Mt. Morris Rd, 1 mile east of Genesee Rd. Tim Gundlach, 810-232-0917.

**4/7 NG Hogback Hills Hike.** 1pm. 5 difficult miles. Meet at fishing parking lot near 12406 E. Stanley Rd, 3 miles east of M-15. Restaurant stop. Gloria Bublitz, 810-664-0304, [glorypepper@yahoo.com](mailto:glorypepper@yahoo.com).

**4/7 SEMG Mystery Hike.** 1pm. Check out an old trail or perhaps a new one. We'll hike about 5 miles at a mystery spot & make a mystery restaurant stop after. Meet in Bloomfield Township at 1pm in Costco parking lot near McDonalds on Telegraph (east side) north of Square Lake Rd. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984.

**4/12-14 SEMG Manistee River Trail Backpack.** Hike in Friday at 5pm from the Seaton Creek State Forest campground, then backpack 23 miles in three days. The Manistee River Valley high bluff vistas will knock your sweaty socks off! Must be well equipped, with own gear & food for 3 days. \$4 fee + fuel costs. Limit 6; reserve by 3/31: John Calandra, 248-391-8973, [john.calandra@worldnet.att.net](mailto:john.calandra@worldnet.att.net).

**4/13 NG Service Outing, Ortonville Recreation Area.** 10am-3pm. Bring lunch. Potluck & campfire to follow (bring dish to pass). Jean Gaffney, 810-695-6529, [virginia.gaffney@gm.com](mailto:virginia.gaffney@gm.com).

**4/13 SEMG Potawatomi Trail Tenner.** 9am. More strenuous, 10-mile loop on the Potawatomi, Silver Lake & Crooked Lake trails in the Pinckney Recreation Area. Lots of ups & downs. Bring trail lunch & drinks for 5-6 hour hike; we usually hike about 3mph. Wear sturdy shoes & dress for weather. Meet in Livonia between WalMart & Jiffy Lube (near Jeffries) on the SW corner of Middlebelt & I-96 (Jeffries Fwy). Call before 8am

(313-410-7157 cell) if weather doubtful. Optional restaurant stop after. Donna Kolojeskie, 313-336-7529.

**4/14 SEMG Brighton Rec Area.** Noon. 5-mile moderate-brisk loop hike. Bring water, proper hiking boots, trail snacks. Meet in Southfield behind the Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & Twelve Mile Rd. Restaurant stop after. Mike Scanlon, 313-884-2214.

**4/17-18 NG Benthic Sampling Training.** See April 27.

**4/19 NG Audubon Society Presentation.** 10-11:15am. Presentation on local bird populations & the spring bird count. Mott Community College, Prah Center, 1401 E. Court St., Flint. Meeting room NW of Applewood Cafe. Linda Berker, 810-653-8242(D), 810-653-0142(E).

**4/20-21 NG Llama Packing.** 9am. Trek 11 moderate miles along AuSable River with pack llamas carrying your gear. Camp Sat along trail. Backpackers carrying own gear welcome. \$10 camping fee. No dogs. Reservations required; limit 6. Dave Foy, 810-636-2059, [foyllama@yahoo.com](mailto:foyllama@yahoo.com).

**4/20 SEMG Basic Backpacking Seminar.** 1-4pm. See article on page 25. Seminar held at Moosejaw Mountaineering, 34288 Woodward Ave. Birmingham. \$10 registration & payment required by 4/6: John Herrgott, 810-735-9313, [johnherrgott@msn.com](mailto:johnherrgott@msn.com); Phil Crookshank 313-562-1873, [wanderphil3@netzero.net](mailto:wanderphil3@netzero.net).

**4/20 WMG Trail Maintenance Day.** 9am. Help maintain our section of the North Country trail. Possible potluck will follow with other groups tending their sections & with North Country Trail folks. Meet at Duba's Park & Ride parking lot. Expect to spend 4 hours. Dress for the weather; bring water, sack lunch & garden gloves. RSVP Sue Norman, 616-891-9055, [snorman942@aol.com](mailto:snorman942@aol.com).

*see OUTINGS, page 24*

## ORGANIC FARMING

The Michigan Organic Food & Farm Alliance (MOFFA), a statewide nonprofit group that promotes local, organic food systems, has seen an increase in demand for organic products, particularly specialty crops. In partnership with the Michigan Department of Agriculture, MOFFA will present a half-day workshop, "Risks & Rewards of Alternative Farming: Understanding Organic Certification," providing an intense overview for farmers interested in becoming certified in Michigan. The workshop will be tailored for specialty crop producers. Participants will study the basics of organic production — farm plans, production techniques, allowable materials — and review the step-by-step process of certification.

To reach audiences throughout the state, MOFFA is offering four workshops in 2002: 2/18 Van Buren Conference Center, Lawrence; 3/8 2002

Michigan Organic Conference, Michigan State University, East Lansing; 3/21 Lapeer County Center Building; 4/6 Gaylord. The April 6 workshop includes a separate half-day session on hoop house and greenhouse production. Workshop participants will receive a workbook and resource materials. For workshop fees, brochure and information, contact Cathy Halinski, Workshop Coordinator, 616-543-9900, [evergreenlane@i2k.com](mailto:evergreenlane@i2k.com). The 2002 Michigan Organic Conference will be held at Michigan State University March 7-9. Call 517-432-1611 to request a registration brochure or visit the conference website at [www.msue.msu.edu/misanet/MIOC](http://www.msue.msu.edu/misanet/MIOC).

FUNDING FOR THESE WORKSHOPS IS PROVIDED IN PART BY THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE USDA RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY AS PART OF THE MICHIGAN RISK MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.

# Mackinac Chapter Outings, cont.

*continued from page 23*

**4/20 NG Lapeer State Game Area Hike.** 10am. 5-6 moderate miles. I-69 to M-24, north 7.5 miles to Sawdust Corners Rd, west 0.6 miles to parking lot on north side of road (go past "Road Closed" sign). Restaurant stop. Greg & Mary Downey, 810-664-4917, [marydowney@blclinks.net](mailto:marydowney@blclinks.net).

**4/20 SEMG Highland Recreation Area Hike.** 10am. 2-hour slow wildflower hike in Haven Hill Natural Area deciduous woods & wetlands. Meet at park entrance station, parking area S of M-59 (East Highland Road) just west of Alpine Valley ski area (14-15 miles west of US-24, Pontiac). Call if weather questionable. Optional restaurant stop after. Ken Jacobsen, 248-684-8844.

**4/21 KVG Earth Day Outing: Lake Michigan Beach Clean-up at Warren Dunes State Park.** Noon. Celebrate Earth Day & Sierra Club founder John Muir's birthday on service outing to clean up Lake Michigan beach at Warren Dunes State Park near Bridgman. Restaurant stop after. Meet at KVCC's Texas Twp Campus (NE corner of parking lot). Verne, 616-344-4279.

**4/21 SEMG Holly Spring Flower Hike.** Noon. 5 slow miles. Hike in Holly Rec. Area & identify trees & wildflowers. Meet in Southfield behind the Marathon station at Tel-Twelve Mall, SE corner of Telegraph & Twelve Mile Rd. Restaurant stop after. Pat & Tom Skinner, 517-552-9121, [pskin@ismi.net](mailto:pskin@ismi.net).

**4/27 or 5/1 NG Benthic Organism Sampling.** All day. Help the Flint River Watershed Coalition evaluate the health of area creeks by collecting organisms & taking them back to the lab for identification. Training: classroom on 4/17, field on 4/18. U of M Flint, Center for Applied Environmental Research, 810-767-6490.

**4/27 NG Annual Frog Hike.** Picnic & campfire 7pm. 3 moderate miles, 8:30pm. Ortonville Rec. Area, Equestrian Campground. Take Hadley Rd. 4 miles south of Hadley to Fox Lake Rd, west on Fox Lake Rd. about 1 mile on north side. Bring food, snacks, marshmallows, beverages, flashlight, boots for muddy trails & rain gear. Hope to hear spring peepers, grey tree frogs & American toads. No dogs. Out by 11pm. Fred Townsend, 248-627-3587, [fh Townsend@aol.com](mailto:fh Townsend@aol.com).

**4/27 TG Hiking at Shauger Hill Trail in SBNL.** 2pm. Meet at SBNL Visitors Center at corner of M22 & M72 in Empire. Beautiful dunes area with views of Lake Michigan. John Lewis, 231-947-9104, [johnbetty@bignetnorth.net](mailto:johnbetty@bignetnorth.net).

**4/27-28 NG Shingle Mill Pathway Early Spring Backpack.** Sat 9:30am at trailhead. Backpack 7 miles Sat & 4 miles Sun. Easy, flat, beautiful trail. Vanderbilt. I-75 to Exit 290. Left at blinking light on Sturgeon Valley Rd, 10 miles to trailhead at Pigeon Bridge. Don Persson, 810-257-7441(D), 810-695-0516(E), [donald.persson@delphiauto.com](mailto:donald.persson@delphiauto.com).

**4/27 SEMG Maybury State Park.** 8am. 1-1/2 slow miles. Beginners birding by sight & sound. Spot birds in fields (usually bluebirds) & woods. Emphasis is for beginners, but all welcome. Bring binoculars, dress in layers; we go rain or shine. Meet at park concession bldg, Eight Mile Rd. entrance, west of Beck Rd. (& Northville); 5 miles west of I-275. Restaurant stop after. Tom Griebe, 248-349-8782, [dearbluebird@peoplepc.com](mailto:dearbluebird@peoplepc.com).

**4/27 NG Flint River Trail Clean-Up.** 9am-1pm. Meet at Vietnam Veterans' Park on James P. Cole, south of Hamilton Ave, west of river. We've adopted a section of the trail; other groups will be working on their sections. Bring water, work gloves, yard clean-up tools. Lunch plans TBD. Jean Gaffney, 810-695-6529, [virginia.gaffney@gm.com](mailto:virginia.gaffney@gm.com).

**4/27-28 SEMG Waterloo-Pinckney State Rec Area Backpack.** Easy weekend beginner backpacking trip. Enjoy spring on this low-mileage, high-instructional outing. Leader will mentor novices. Meet Sat morning: two days, one night. Must have own equipment. Call by 4/19. John Herrgott, 810-735-9313, [johnherrgott@msn.com](mailto:johnherrgott@msn.com).

**4/28 SEMG White Lake Hike.** 10am. 5 miles. Begin at Pepper Ridge Farm, through meadows, woodland trails, country roads & horse country in western Oakland Co. Meet in Bloomfield Township in Costco parking lot behind McDonalds on Telegraph (E side) N of Square Lake Rd. Restaurant stop. Glory Havlin, 248-851-9324.

## MAY

**5/2-6 CUP Remote Advanced-level Backpacking: McCormick Wilderness Tract (Marquette & Baraga Co).** Extremely strenuous, steep, deep-water river fords, non-basecamp, no trails, 100% bushwhack. Explore rocky peaks, waterfalls, lakes & old growth among moose & wolves. Must be: 18, non-smoker, experienced backpacker (5 trips in last 3 years), very physically fit (able to run 3 miles), swimmer, adventurous & fully equipped, including stove & rations. 8am Thur to mid-day Mon. \$10. Michael Neiger, [mneiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mneiger@hotmail.com),

906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W, [www.geocities.com/sierraclub2](http://www.geocities.com/sierraclub2).

**5/4 SEMG Earth Day Service Event.** 10am. Celebrate 32<sup>nd</sup> Earth Day at Kensington Metropark by literally weeding Nature's Gardens. Bring the family, wear sturdy boots & bring work gloves to remove invasive weeds in natural area near Nature Center. Take I-96 to exit 151 (Kensington Rd) to park entrance. Meet at Nature Center. Potluck lunch after (bring a dish to pass) at East Boat Launch picnic grounds. Bob Duda, 734-464-0076.

**5/4 NG Grand Ledge Hike.** 10am. 6 easy-moderate miles. Hike Fitzgerald Park & Lincoln Brick Park in Grand Ledge & view ledges where rock climbers train. Meet 8:45am at St. Mary's Church, Morrish Rd, S of I-69, Swartz Creek. Trailhead: I-69 W to Lansing (becomes I-69 & I-96) to Exit 93A, M-43/Saginaw Hwy, W on M-43 to Grand Ledge, E on Jefferson St to park entrance. \$3/person admission + \$1 donation to Sierra Club. Restaurant stop. CJ Stanford, 810-743-4305, [thegblady@aol.com](mailto:thegblady@aol.com).

**5/4-5 SEMG High Country Pathway Backpack.** Linear 2-day, 14-mile backpack begins Sat 9am at Shoepac Lake Campground (near Atlanta) & ends at Clear Lake State Park. East segment has hills & giant sinkholes. Must have own equipment, meals for 2 days. Limit 6, reserve by 4/20. John Calandra, 248-391-8973, [john.calandra@worldnet.att.net](mailto:john.calandra@worldnet.att.net).

**5/5 NG Friends of the Flint River Trail weekly bike rides** begin through Oct. Stef Diana, 810-239-2795.

**5/5 SEMG Bald Mountain North Hike.** 12:30pm. 8-mile, medium-paced hike: hills, dales, through woods, puddles & meadows. Meet in Troy behind the Michigan Nat'l Bank on 14 Mile Rd. just east of I-75 (south edge of Oakland Mall). Restaurant stop after. Cindy Gunnip, 248-336-2984; Don McHarness, 248-814-9937.

**5/11 SEMG Lower Huron Metropark Bike.** 10am. Cruise 22-27 miles on paved bike trail through 3 Metroparks. Bring trail lunch & water for after the ride. Meet at Tulip Tree picnic area in Lower Huron Metropark. Take I-94 to Haggerty Rd., south to second parking area (Tulip Tree). Call before 8:45 if weather is ? Mary Stoolmiller, 248-879-6004.

**5/11-12 NG Service Outing, Ligon Center.** Noon Sat to Noon Sun. Work Sat on projects at Ligon Nature Center, 5213 E. Farrand Rd, between Genesee Rd & Belsay Rd. Bring own lunch. Potluck & campfire Sat night (bring dish to pass). Optional overnight camping in rustic log cabin. No dogs. Denny Crispell, 989-624-5038.

**The One Club project integrates conservation and outings to strengthen Chapter leadership, to make outings more relevant to the Club's objectives and to support local conservation objectives. If you like to learn more about how your group can meet those objectives, contact Julie at 989-539-1676 or [soaringbuteos@msn.com](mailto:soaringbuteos@msn.com).**





**5/11-12 NG Hoist Lakes Backpacking.** Moderate. Meet Sat, 9:30am at trailhead. Hoist Lakes foot area parking lot on M-65, 7 miles north of Glennie. 9 miles Sat; 6 miles Sun. \$5 recreation fee permit required (purchase at Glennie Party Store). Call for info. Don Persson, 810-257-7441(D), 810-695-0516(E), [donald.persson@delphiauto.com](mailto:donald.persson@delphiauto.com).

**5/12-18 CUP Women's Canoe/Service Trip to Sylvania Wilderness.** Join other paddling women for trail & campsite maintenance in this pristine wilderness dotted with jewel-like lakes and primeval woods. \$90 with your canoe; \$141 with canoe rental. Kate Cunningham, 502-339-1381 or [kate.cunningham@juno.com](mailto:kate.cunningham@juno.com); Sherry Zoars, 358-1110 or [zoars@skynet.net](mailto:zoars@skynet.net). Include your name and where you read the announcement if you e-mail.

**5/12 SEMG Mothers Day Wildflower Walk.** 9am. 3-hour stroll in Holliday Nature Preserve (Cowan Rd. entrance). Flower lists provided; bring flower field guides, magnifiers, cameras. Return to trailhead in time for Mother's Day dinner. Meet in Westland at north end of Service Merchandise parking lot (facing preserve) 1/4 mile west of Wayne Rd, 1/4 mile north of Warren Ave. Philip Crookshank, 313-562-1873.

**5/12 NG Bird Hike.** 8am. Easy, leisurely walk through a variety of bird habitats, learning to identify birds by sight & sound during nesting season. Bring binoculars & bird field guides. Location TBD; call for details. No dogs. Restaurant stop optional. Fred Townsend, 248-627-3587, [fh-townsend@aol.com](mailto:fh-townsend@aol.com).

**5/18 NG Flint River Cleanup.** 10am-2pm. Several sites within Genesee & Lapeer Counties will be cleaned. T-shirts for volunteers. Details: Dorothy Gonzales, 810-257-3190.

**5/18 TG Joint hike with Leelanau Land Conservancy at two of their holdings near Leland: Whaleback Natural Area & Houdek Dunes Natural Area.** 10am. Lunch optional. Meet at Whaleback: from junction of M22 & M204 south of Leland, take M22 approx. 1 mile north. Follow sign to parking area. Spectacular view of Lake Michigan from platform. Meet 12:30 at Houdek, 5

miles north of Leland on M22. Beautiful area includes wetlands, Houdek Creek & unique habitat. John Lewis, 231-947-9104, [johnbetty@bignetnorth.net](mailto:johnbetty@bignetnorth.net).

**5/18 NG Seven Ponds Nature Hike.** 10am. Easy. M-24 to Dryden Rd, east 6 miles, south on Calkins to 3854 Crawford. \$3/person admission; \$1 donation to Club. No dogs. Restaurant stop. Christina Withrow, 810-614-0201.

**5/18-19 SEMG Hoist Lakes Footpath Backpack.** Good trip for beginner & experienced backpacker. Soft trails, sink holes, beaver, bald eagles & wildlife. Must have own equipment. Leave 6am. Sat for two days hiking, one night backcountry camping. Limit 8. Contact John Herrgott by 5/11: 810-735-9313, [johnherrgott@msn.com](mailto:johnherrgott@msn.com).

**5/19 SEMG Raisin River Wilderness Canoe.** 8:30am. Headwaters of the Raisin are described as most wild & "crookedest" river in MI. A tricky, twisty, but gentle 4-5 hour float through wild forests, millpond, to downtown Manchester. Some canoe experience necessary. Bring river lunch; meet behind Dearborn Centennial Library, south side of Michigan Ave, just east of Southfield Fwy at west end of parking lot. \$18 fee must be received by 5/1: Philip Crookshank, 17916 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, MI 48125. 313-562-1873.

**5/25 to 6-2 CUP Remote Advanced Backpacking: Agawa Canyon (Ontario, Canada).** Extremely strenuous, non-basecamp, deep-water river fords, no hiking trails, 100% bushwhack, jeep trails, RR grade. Spend 9 days exploring the Canyon, several waterfalls, Kawagma Mountain, old growth. Must be 18, non-smoker, experienced backpacker (5 trips in last 3 years), very physically fit (able to run 3 miles), swimmer, adventurous & fully equipped, including stove & rations. 8am Sat to midday Sun. \$15 + permits. Michael Neiger, [mneiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mneiger@hotmail.com), 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W, [www.geocities.com/sierraclub2](http://www.geocities.com/sierraclub2).

**5/31-6/2 SEMG North Country Trail Backpack.** Leave Brevort Lake Campground (just N of Mackinac bridge) Fri 1pm. Linear 21 miles in 3 days. River crossings, lake visits & explore Niagara escarpment. Backcountry camping. Must have own gear, meals & supplies for 3 days. \$4 fee + fuel costs. Limit 6, reserve by 5/17:

John Calandra, 248-391-8973, [john.calandra@worldnet.att.net](mailto:john.calandra@worldnet.att.net).

## JUNE & JULY

**6/9-15 TLG Eastern UP Bicycle Trip.** Ride from Sault Ste Marie to Whitefish Point, Tahquamenon Falls, Newberry, US2, St. Ignace, De Tour, Drummond Island & back to the Sault. Cycle a maximum of 60 miles/day, many days much less. Camp along the way. Expenses include food & camping fees. Limit 15. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316, [blanchardr@altavista.com](mailto:blanchardr@altavista.com).

**6/29-7/1 TLG Agawa Canyon Train/Hike Trip.** Algoma Central Railroad train to Agawa Canyon & spend several days hiking. Camp approx. 1 mile south of train station in canyon. Camping gear & food. Train: \$45/person. Limit 15. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316, [blanchardr@altavista.com](mailto:blanchardr@altavista.com).

**7/3-7 CUP Remote Advanced-level Backpacking: Drummond Island (Chippewa Co).** Very strenuous, deep-water lake channel crossing, tough swamp crossings, non-basecamp, no hiking trails, all bushwhacking & old jeep trails. Explore SE quarter of island: secluded shoreline, Marble Head, Pilot Cove, Glen Cove, Corn Beef Junction. Must be 18, non-smoker, experienced backpacker (5 trips in last 3 years), very physically fit (able to run 3 miles), swimmer, adventurous & fully equipped including stove & rations. 8am Wed to midday Sun. \$10 + car ferry. Michael Neiger, [mneiger@hotmail.com](mailto:mneiger@hotmail.com), 906-226-9620H, 906-228-2683W, [www.geocities.com/sierraclub2](http://www.geocities.com/sierraclub2).

**7/14-20 TLG Quetico Provincial Park Canoe Adventure.** Experience world class canoeing area. Paddle & portage from Beaverhouse Lake to Quetico Lake, Jean Lake, Sturgeon Lake, Maligne River, Lac Le Croix, Nami-kan River, Quetico River & back to Beaverhouse. Trip goes deep into interior, far from medical facilities so participants should be healthy & fit. Transportation expenses from outfitter's lodge to entry point & back, canoe & park fees approx \$150/person. Other expenses TBD. Limit 16. Roger Blanchard, 906-253-9316, [blanchardr@altavista.com](mailto:blanchardr@altavista.com).

## BEGINNING BACKPACKING

The Southeast Michigan Group Outings Committee will host two "Introduction to Backpacking" seminars in April. The seminars will cover basic requirements and gear will be displayed, explained and demonstrated. Speakers will talk on all aspects of backpacking, including the woman's perspective, and will give an introduction to the purpose and goals of the Sierra Club with an emphasis on the outings program. A seminar booklet that includes the topics covered, Sierra contacts, pertinent web sites, basic gear list, gear sources and a reading list will be distributed. Seminar participants will be invited to join

upcoming backpack trips that are specifically designed for the novice backpacker.

The seminars will be held from 1-4pm April 6 at The Benchmark, 32715 Grand River Ave, Farmington and April 20 at Moosejaw Mountaineering, 34288 Woodward Ave, Birmingham. Advance seminar registration with \$10 fee is required by 3/20 for either seminar. Contact John Herrgott, 810-735-9313, [johnherrgott@msn.com](mailto:johnherrgott@msn.com) or Phil Crookshank, 313-562-1873, [wanderphil3@netzero.net](mailto:wanderphil3@netzero.net).

## OPINION: HEALING THE PLANET

By Jim Corcoran

The Union of Concerned Scientists has identified agriculture as being a close second to transportation as the most environmentally destructive things we do on our planet. Eighty-seven percent of U.S. food production is devoted to raising animals for human consumption. Because of our obsession with this form of agriculture, the EPA has cited it as the leading cause of pollution for over 173,000 miles of U.S. rivers. Animal agriculture contributes to more water pollution than storm drains, sanitary sewers and airborne particulates combined.

The fact is that raising animals for food is terribly inefficient. It requires vast natural resources and wreaks havoc on the environment. As John Robbins documents so well in his book, *The Food Revolution*, it contributes heavily to fossil fuel consumption, air pollution, global warming, deforestation, desertification, habitat loss, species extinction, water shortages and a host of other calamities that we face in this new millenium. Putting it succinctly, the single most

important thing that you can do for the Earth, aside from never entering a car again, is to give up meat, dairy and eggs.

So, what do you have to sacrifice in return for a better world? Nothing. Loma Linda University has credited a plant-based diet with improved health and longevity. Practitioners suffer fewer heart attacks, strokes, cancers and other illnesses and average 15 healthy years longer on this planet than meat-eaters.

Going veg has never been easier or more appetizing. Fresh fruits and vegetables, legumes and whole grains are the cornerstones to a better world. Every day on a plant-based diet you will help heal this planet. As the brilliantly insightful Albert Einstein once wrote, "Nothing will benefit human health and increase chances for survival of life on Earth as much as the evolution to a vegetarian diet." This is advice we can all live with.

For more facts and assistance in becoming vegetarian visit [www.all4vegan.net](http://www.all4vegan.net). You can also get a free vegetarian starter kit from the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (5,000+ Medical Doctors that advocate a plant-based diet) by calling 1-202-686-2210 or visiting [www.pcrm.org](http://www.pcrm.org).

## UNCLASSIFIEDS

**CREEKS RUNNING, ONTARIO:** Quaint log cabin with wood fired sauna. Located in the Algoma Highlands 1/2 hour north of north of Sault Ste Marie. Ideal for groups of up to 6, couples welcome. From \$80. Ski and snowshoe trails out the backdoor, minutes from Nordic and downhill ski centers. Telemark ski workshops and guided back country tours available. Call Detlef or Daniela at 705-649-2186 or fax 705-649-1852.

**VACATION TOURS:** New Zealand-Australia Tours. Walking, Wildlife, Garden. Small escorted groups or individual custom itineraries. PACIFIC PATHWAYS 650-595-2090 [www.pacificpathways.com](http://www.pacificpathways.com).

**EARN \$ FOR YOUR GROUP!** For every advertiser that you refer, your group will receive 25% of the ad fee. Hurry — only applies to the next (summer) issue! Contact Julie at 989-539-1676 or [soaringbuteos@msn.com](mailto:soaringbuteos@msn.com).

**OFFICE VOLUNTEERS** to work in the Lansing Sierra Club office. Call Kathy Boutin-Pasterz at 517-484-2372.

**THE MACKINAC IS SEEKING A NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** The Editor is responsible for overseeing the editorial content in *The Mackinac*, the statewide newsletter for the Sierra Club of Michigan. Volunteers or staff write most articles. Duties of the Editor include:

- Edit articles for grammar, accuracy, readability

- and length
- Write headlines, captions
- Develop freelance contacts for features, news stories
- Determine priorities for publication
- Acquire appropriate art (photos, line art and other camera-ready items)
- Alert staff and authors regarding deadlines, copy needs and editorial guidelines
- Coordinate copy with newsletter designer
- Send edited copy via e-mail to web page designer
- Send copy to other magazines to be reprinted
- Return all materials and requested tearsheets

The Mackinac is a 24-32 page publication, covering conservation and environmental issues for Sierra Club members, the media, and legislators. Circulation is about 20,000 statewide, published quarterly. The newsletter communicates Michigan's Sierra Club activities, including outings, state and local meetings, volunteer activities and special events. State and federal elections are covered.

This is a compensated position subject to independent contractor requirements.

Send résumé and cover letter to [semgyarrow@aol.com](mailto:semgyarrow@aol.com).

**CALENDAR EDITOR:** The Sierra Club in Michigan is seeking a volunteer to prepare copy for the Outings and Meetings pages of the Mackinac, a quarterly publication of the Mackinac Chapter. This statewide organization regularly conducts outings and meetings at the state (Chapter) and local (Group) levels. The Calendar editor is responsible for compiling submissions from each group for inclusion in a larger calendar that is published in The Mackinac. Word processing computer skills are required. Estimated hours needed per issue: 10-15.

Send résumé and cover letter to [semgyarrow@aol.com](mailto:semgyarrow@aol.com).

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# TAKING ACTION: YOUR WORDS COUNT!

Get your free copy of "A Citizen's Guide To State Government" to find out who your legislators are. Call House Speaker Rick Johnson at 517-373-1747, mention that you are concerned about environmental protection, and ask him to send you a copy!

## THE WHITE HOUSE

**President George W. Bush**  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20500  
202-456-1414

**White House fax line:**  
202-456-2461  
**White House comment line:**  
202-456-1111  
**White House e-mail:**  
[president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)

## US CONGRESS

**US Capitol switchboard:** 202-224-3121

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
**US House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
**US Senate**  
Washington, DC 20510

## MICHIGAN

**Governor John Engler**  
State Capitol  
Lansing, MI 48909  
517-373-3400

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
**Michigan Senate**  
State Capitol  
Lansing, MI 48909

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
**Michigan House**  
State Capitol  
Lansing, MI 48909

## RESOURCES FOR ACTIVISTS

**Sierra Club National Legislative Hotline:** 202-675-2394

- **ENVIRO-MICH** is the Mackinac Chapter-sponsored Internet list and forum for Michigan environmental and conservation issues. For a free subscription, send e-mail to: [majordomo@great-lakes.net](mailto:majordomo@great-lakes.net) with a one-line message body of "subscribe enviro-mich" (leave your signature file off).
- **Sierra Club's National Website** is at: [www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org). Check out the daily War On the Environment postings.
- **Visit our Mackinac Chapter Website** at: [michigan.sierraclub.org](http://michigan.sierraclub.org)
- **Get a free subscription to The Planet** by promising to write at least 3 letters a year to your elected officials in support of the environment. Send your name and address to Sierra Club Planet Subscription Request, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968.
- **E-mail activists needed!**  
The Michigan Action Project (MAP) is an electronic rapid response system to enhance communication with state and federal officials.

All you need is an E-mail address! We send you alerts 10 to 12 times a year and convert your personalized response (using our sample letter) into faxes to the appropriate decision maker. Learn more about MAP and sign up right now at [www.mecprotects.org/map.html](http://www.mecprotects.org/map.html).

# Chapter Directory

## MACKINAC CHAPTER OFFICE

109 East Grand River Avenue  
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**Director:** Anne Woiwode  
**Environmental Justice Organizer:**  
Rhonda Anderson, 313-821-1064  
**Development Associate:**  
Sarah Baker, 616-329-3289  
**Administrative Assistant:**  
Kathy Boutin-Pasterz  
**Political Director/Public Education Coordinator:** Dan Forough  
**Southeast Michigan Media Coordinator:**  
David Holtz, 313-640-9943  
**Water Sentinels Project Coordinator:**  
Rita Jack, 810-629-1107  
**Group & Volunteer Development/Office Manager:** Joyce McIntosh  
**Forest Policy Specialist:**  
Marvin Roberson, 810-424-3575

## SIERRA CLUB MIDWEST OFFICE

214 N. Henry Street, Suite 203  
Madison, WI 53703  
Phone: 608-257-4994

**Midwest Regional Staff Director:**  
Alison Horton  
**Great Lakes Program Director:**  
Emily Green

## SIERRA CLUB NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

85 Second Street, Second Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Phone: 415-977-5500

## ADDRESS CHANGES

Please include old mailing label and send to:  
PO Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80321-2968

## CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Officers**  
Mike Keeler, Co-Chair.....810-767-9904  
Sue Kelly, Co-Chair.....810-227-9563  
Helen LeBlanc, Treasurer.....517-655-6454  
Julie Murphy, Secretary.....989-539-1676  
Kim Waldo, 5th Officer.....734-971-1943

## At-Large Representatives

(Terms expire January 2003)  
Lydia Fischer.....313-863-8392  
Mike Keeler.....810-767-9904  
Helen LeBlanc.....517-655-6454  
Anna Holden.....313-331-0932  
Bob Duda.....734-464-0076  
(Terms expire January 2004)  
Sue Kelly.....810-227-9563  
Julie Murphy.....989-539-1676  
Kim Waldo.....734-971-1943  
Barbara Yarrow.....248-932-9164

## Group Representatives

**Central Michigan**  
John Veenstra.....517-339-1427  
**Central Upper Peninsula**  
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David Wright.....810-229-1685  
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Nancy Shiffer.....734-971-1157  
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Mike Johnson.....616-948-8840  
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Ann Crane.....248-634-8641  
**Southeast Michigan**  
Carol Izant.....248-352-6137

**Three Lakes**  
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**Thumb Valley**  
Craig Kendziorski.....517-631-5170  
**Traverse Group**  
Monica Evans.....231-325-6812  
**Wakelin McNeel**  
Julie Murphy.....989-539-1676  
**West Michigan**  
Martha Lore.....616-682-1316

## REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRS

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**Central Upper Peninsula**  
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Rick Pearsall.....810-227-6298  
**Huron Valley**  
Doug Cowherd.....734-662-5205  
**Kalamazoo Valley**  
Paul Haas.....616-664-5417  
**Nepessing**  
Linda Berker.....810-653-8242  
**Southeast Michigan**  
Tim Killeen.....313-526-4052  
**Three Lakes**  
Floyd Byerly.....906-632-0218  
**Thumb Valley**  
Janis & Craig Kendziorski.....517-631-5170  
**Traverse Group**  
Monica Evans.....231-325-6812  
**Wakelin McNeel Group**  
Julie Murphy.....989-539-1676  
**West Michigan**  
Martha Lore.....616-682-1316

## CHAPTER COMMITTEES

**Awards**  
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**Conservation**  
Bob Duda.....734-464-0076  
**Elections**  
Kim Waldo.....734-971-1943  
**Fall Retreat**  
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**Finance**  
Julie Murphy.....989-539-1676  
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Alex Sagady.....517-332-6971  
**Inner City Outings**  
West Michigan: John Pulver.....616-453-2480  
Washtenaw: Peter Bednekoff.....734-480-9285  
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**The Mackinac Newsletter**  
See "Editorial Board," masthead, page 3  
**The Mackinac Website**  
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**Mackinac Chapter History**  
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**Member Programs**  
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**Nominations: Open**  
**Outings**  
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Mike Keeler.....810-767-9904  
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Mike Keeler.....810-767-9904  
**Sexual Harassment Investigation**  
Sue Kelly.....810-227-9563  
Mike Keeler.....810-767-9904  
**Sierra Club Council Delegate**  
Anna Holden.....313-331-0932  
**Sierra Club Delegate to MRCC**  
Fred Townsend.....248-627-3587

## NEXT DEADLINE: APRIL 1 (NO JOKE!)

**SEND ARTICLES AND PHOTOS TO:**

**Chapter Office (address & e-mail above) c/o Joyce McIntosh**  
**SEND GROUP MEETINGS AND OUTINGS TO:**

**Barbara Yarrow, 248-932-9164, SEMGYarrow@aol.com**

The Mackinac Chapter wants to thank the dedicated members who volunteered to sell raffle tickets again this year. We especially want to thank everyone who wrote in asking for more tickets to sell.

Thanks to your efforts, we raised about \$13,000 before prizes, printing, and mailing expenses were deducted. The raffle raises much of our needed funds for the year. With help from members like you, and from everyone who bought raffle tickets, we can continue to win protection for Michigan's land, trees, water and air.

The drawing was held January 12, 2002 during the winter meeting of the Executive Committee. The winners are:

- First prize, \$1,000: Janet Wood
- Second Prize, \$500: Rebecca Schmitt
- 5 Third Prizes, \$100: William Beute, Janet Lorch, Jayne Mann, Toria Perrin, and Jane and Price Watts.

### Many thanks for your help!

RECYCLED PAPER WAS USED FOR ALL THE RAFFLE MATERIALS, AND EVERYTHING WILL BE RECYCLED.

## THANKS TO ALL RAFFLE PARTICIPANTS

by Mike Keeler, Raffle Coordinator



**Left: Mike Keeler is assisted by two volunteers who drew the names of raffle winners. Right: John Rebers calls William Beute, who donated his raffle prize back to the chapter.**

PHOTOS COURTESY SHERRY HAYDEN



PHOTO COURTESY DAN FAROUGH

## STABENOW AND LEVIN DEFEND THE ARCTIC

Senator Debbie Stabenow receives the "Arctic Defender" award from Alaska Coalition of Michigan organizer Carolyn Hwang and Director Dan Farough. Both Senator Levin and Stabenow received the award for their work to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from oil exploitation during the fall energy debates.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to SIERRA CLUB, 109 East Grand River Ave., Lansing, MI 48906

### What does the Sierra Club work to do?

*To explore, enjoy and protect the wild places of the Earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the Earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.*