

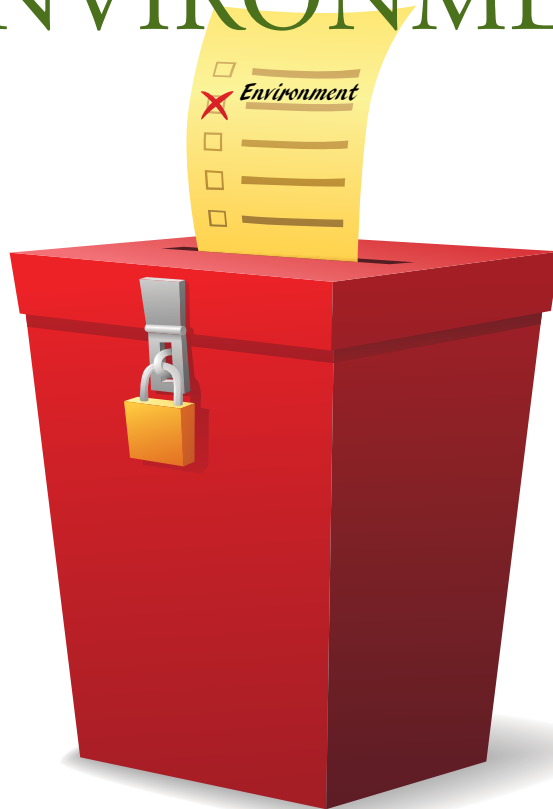
[the sylvanian]

fall 2016

Pennsylvania Chapter Sierra Club • pennsylvania.sierraclub.org

V  TE

for the
ENVIRONMENT



explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

[from the editors]

we've done the research...



The candidates we've endorsed in this election have a record of voting for the environment. It has never been more important to our world and our state that we get out to vote for those that will work towards slowing global warming.

On a national level, our presidential candidates could not be more different. Just on global warming alone, we can see the importance of voting for Secretary Clinton.

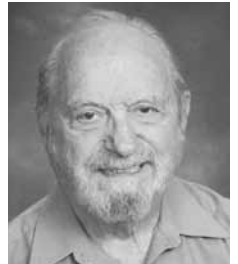
Sec. Clinton: During an April 2016 primary victory speech, Sec. Clinton said, "We Democrats agree that climate change is an urgent threat. And it requires an aggressive response that can make America the clean energy superpower of the 21st century." [Philly Voice, 4/27/16]

Donald Trump: In a September 2015 interview on MSNBC's Morning Joe, following the second GOP presidential debate, Trump said, "I consider climate change to be not one of our big problems. I consider it to be not a big problem at all. I think it's weather. I think it's weather changes. It could be some man-made something. But, you know, you look at China, they're doing nothing about it. Other countries are doing nothing about it. It's a big planet." [MSNBC Morning Joe, 9/17/15]

Enough said.



Wendi Taylor



Phil Coleman

WENDI TAYLOR AND PHIL COLEMAN
Co-editors of *The Sylvania*

chapter directory

Due to space restrictions, the Chapter Directory was not included in this issue. To view the directory, go to http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/PA_Chapter_2008/chapter-directory.html



Find us on Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/PASierraClub>



Follow us on Twitter:
@SierraClubPA



Read our Blog:
<http://sierraclubpa.blogspot.com/>

[the sylvanian]

PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER
OFFICE

Phone: 717-232-0101

Email:

pennsylvania.chapter@
sierraclub.org

Website:

www.pennsylvania.sierraclub.
org

Editors: Wendi Taylor &
Phil Coleman

Feature Writer: Gary Thornbloom

Design: Sydney Willis
Strategy Design Studio

The Sylvanian, © 2016 Sierra Club
Pennsylvania Chapter. Issued four times
per year.

This publication is dedicated to serving
the Sierra Club Pennsylvania membership,
and is a forum for internal policy
discussion and debate among those
truly concerned with protecting the
environment. Opinions expressed herein
are the personal opinions of their authors
and may or may not reflect Sierra Club
policy.

Contributor deadlines are December 15
(Winter issue), March 15 (Spring issue), June
15 (Summer issue), and September 15 (Fall
issue). Anonymous contributions are not
accepted.

SIERRA CLUB MISSION STATEMENT:
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.

The Sierra Club seeks to become a fully
realized multicultural organization and is
working to make the systemic changes
required to welcome, respect, support,
and value any individual or group to fully
participate.

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER WITH SOY INKS



[endorsements]

special report

- 6 Voting for the Environmentally Sound Candidate
- 7 Our 2016 Endorsements at a Glance
- 8 The Sierra Club Endorses Hillary Clinton for President
- 9 Statewide Elections
- 10 Endorsements by Group

landmarks

- 2 From the Editors
- 4 View From Harrisburg
- 19 Coleman's Lantern
- 20 Explore, Enjoy... Pennsylvania

news & outings

- 5 PA Supreme Court Holds Additional Act 13 Provisions Unconstitutional
- 5 Environmental Scorecard
- 22 At-Large Delegate Statements
- 23 Ballot
- 24 Crossword Puzzle



[on the cover]

Many issues drive us to vote in each election. It is our responsibility as the Sierra Club to help you find the candidates that have a record of voting to protect our natural world. We've done the footwork, now it is your turn to get out and vote!

To send photos by email:
wendi.taylor@verizon.net or
pcoleman19@tampabay.rr.com

*To mail photos: Sylvanian, Sierra Club
- PA Chapter, PO Box 606, Harrisburg,
PA 17108*

next deadline: December 15

Send articles & photographs
to: wendi.taylor@verizon.net or
pcoleman19@tampabay.rr.com

[the view from harrisburg]

by Joanne Kilgour, Chapter Director



Full in Harrisburg, especially on the grounds of the Capitol complex, can be beautiful; views of the sun sparkling over the Susquehanna, leaves turning color on the trees that line the walkways, and historic statues standing proud in the cool air. Unfortunately, the outlook inside the building - despite gilded ceilings and Moravian tile - is much more bleak.

This past session has been one of the worst sessions in recent history for the environment - and that means it has been one of the worst sessions for the future and prosperity of the Commonwealth. To catalogue and quantify just how dark these days have been for conservation, clean air and water, and renewable energy in Pennsylvania, the Sierra Club PA Chapter joined our colleagues at Conservation Voters of Pennsylvania, Clean Water Action, and PennEnvironment in releasing the “2015-2016 Pennsylvania Environmental Scorecard,” and we hope that you will use this assessment to educate yourselves and your neighbors about key environmental policy debates and hold your legislators accountable for their votes.

In this scorecard, we considered votes on the following bills:

- House Bill 965 - a bill that would amend the Regulatory Review Act in such a way that it would grant even more power to a smaller number of legislators to interfere with, or even block, new regulations, including new protections for the environment.
- House Bill 1327 - the Fiscal Code bill that was amended to become a backdoor attack on oil and gas safeguards, but was vetoed by Governor Wolf.
- House Bill 2013 - a bill that would have opened the door for new public-private partnerships in state parks including hotels, golf courses, and amusement parks.
- Senate Bill 562 - similar to HB 965, and attempt to grant just a handful of legislators the ability to block or delay any new regulations, including those regulations designed to protect human health and the environment.
- Senate Bill 279 - a bill that blocked hard-fought regulations of the conventional oil and gas industry from moving forward and being finalized, despite broad public support.
- Senate Bill 1195 - a bill that is likely to delay the development and implementation of Pennsylvania’s State Implementation Plan for the new EPA rules to cut carbon emissions, known as the Clean Power Plan.

These bills represent an overall trend within the legislature of rollbacks on existing regulations that protect our health and our environment, blocking new and proposed regulations, undermining the integrity of our public lands, and rejecting the need to act on climate. Out of 253 legislators, only 42 can be classified as “Environmental Champions,” scoring 90 percent or higher, and 58 scored a 0 percent, casting no pro-environment votes all session. The list of legislators scoring 0 percent includes Representative

John Maher, who serves as the majority chair of the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee.

The average environmental score in the PA House of representatives was 35 percent, and was only slightly higher in the PA Senate with an average environmental score of 38 percent. Regionally, the breakdown of average scores highlights a geographic trend in pro-environment voting, with the average score in the Southeast at 47 percent, 33 percent in the Northeast, 30 percent in the Southwest, 26 percent in the Northwest, 21 percent in the North Central and the South Central region seeing the lowest average environmental score at 11 percent. This means that even legislators in the regions of the state with the largest population - Philadelphia and Pittsburgh - are casting pro-environment votes less than half of the time, while legislators in the region of the state that is home to our capitol - the center of our democracy - are voting for the environment just 11 percent of the time.

While issues related to clean air, clean water, and climate disruption are only becoming more of a concern for the people of this state, those individuals we elect to represent us are not reflecting the true will of the people, and that must change just as the leaves must turn. I look forward to continuing to work with all of you to make sure our legislators know where we stand, and that it is our future at stake.

PA supreme court holds additional act 13 provisions unconstitutional

After a back-and-forth in the courts spanning years, in the last days of September the Pennsylvania Supreme Court released its final decision on the Oil and Gas Act (known as Act 13), *Robinson Township et al v. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*, finding that four additional provisions of that law violate the state or U.S. Constitutions. These provisions included: the “doctor gag rule” that prevented physicians from disclosing “trade secret” chemicals to patients who may have had exposure to fracking fluid; a requirement that only customers of public water supplies - not private water supply owners - be notified of a nearby spill or leak at a gas drilling site; approval of eminent domain for the purpose of taking private land for gas storage; and the authority of the Public Utility Commission to withhold impact fee monies from municipalities with certain local ordinances.

The PA Supreme Court held that the General Assembly could not confer special treatment on the oil and gas industry by limiting access to chemical information. The Act requires doctors who seek

information on fracking fluids to sign a confidentiality agreement. The Court found this “special law” restriction unconstitutional.

The Court also held that the spill disclosure provision of the Oil and Gas Act were not uniform, in that DEP was mandated to provide information on spills from oil and gas operations only to public water supplies.

“Pennsylvanians have a right to know the quality and safety of their water supply, regardless of whether they are on a public water system or have a private water well,” said Thomas Au, Conservation Chair of the Sierra Club PA Chapter. The Court declined to rewrite the spill notification requirements of the statute, but noted that all residents in the affected area should be notified of any spill that could affect their health. The court gave the General Assembly 180 days to come up with a uniform rule. “Citizens will be watching to make sure they leave no one out this time around,” continued Au.

The court affirmed the lower court’s finding that a separate review of municipal ordinances by the PUC, to ensure that

municipalities did not restrict oil and gas operations, served no purpose.

In addition, the court struck down a provision of the Oil and Gas Act that would allow private corporations operating underground gas storage facilities to take private property even if the operator were not a public utility. The court found this expansion of eminent domain authority repugnant to the Pennsylvania and US Constitutions. “We applaud the Court’s respect for landowner rights,” said Au.

“This ruling is a victory for communities across the Commonwealth whose care and well-being have been viewed as secondary to corporate polluters’ profits by certain members of the legislature,” said Joanne Kilgour, Director of the Sierra Club PA Chapter. “We thank the organizations and individuals who stood up to challenge this law and applaud the Court in its ruling that it is unconstitutional for the General Assembly to prevent doctors from sharing essential information about exposure to chemicals from the fracking industry with their patients - a mandate that was not only unconstitutional but unconscionable,” Kilgour said



Environmental Scorecard

You will see several references to the Pennsylvania Environmental Scorecard in the following articles.

All readers should consult the scorecard before voting.

The Pennsylvania Environmental Scorecard is a joint project of Conservation Voters of PA, PennEnvironment, Sierra Club Pennsylvania Chapter, and Clean Water Action. Release date: Wednesday, September 21, 2016.

The Pennsylvania Environmental Scorecard can be found at:

<http://pennenvironment.org/reports/pae/20152016--environmental-scorecard>

The national scorecard, produced by The League of Conservation Voters, which rates United States Senators and Congressmen **can be found at:**

<http://scorecard.lcv.org/>

[endorsements]

voting for the environmentally sound candidate

By Dave Hemberger



This issue of *The Sylvania* features our 2016 Sierra Club general election endorsements. Approximately 50 candidates state-wide share our interest in making protection of the environment a priority when enacting legislation and public policy. We confidently recommend these candidates based on a vetting procedure that incorporated questionnaires, interviews and research.

Our Club endorsement sends a message about the candidates' proven track record on our most important environmental issues. And the process of interviewing candidates gives us an opportunity to develop a relationship with potential legislators; a relationship that will facilitate communications when environmental laws are being crafted or considered.

Endorsement benefits to the candidates include the use of Sierra Club name on campaign materials, access to Club mailing labels and use of Club volunteers to assist campaign activities. The Sierra Club seal (pictured) may also be used in campaign publications and mailings to announce the candidate's endorsement.

Sierra Club endorsements elevate and focus the public dialogue on environmental issues during political campaigns. We are proud of our role in the endorsement process and our efforts to work with legislators to protect America's air, water and land for our families and our future.

AS A SIERRA CLUB MEMBER, WHAT CAN I DO TO SUPPORT ENDORSED CANDIDATES?

Number one vote!

But prior to the election, campaigns need volunteers to assist the general public in getting acquainted with the candidates and committing to voting in November. The value of your personal involvement in assisting campaigns cannot be over-stated.

Recent research findings reveal that personalized methods and messages work best in mobilizing voters. Door-to-door canvassing was the most consistently effective and efficient

method, attributed to the personal, face-to-face delivery of the GOTV (Get Out The Vote) messages. However experiments of volunteer phone calls (phone banking) have suggested that personalized messages delivered in a conversational manner over the phone may be as effective (and cost-effective) as canvassing.

The bottom line is that the dynamic interaction of authentic person-to-person contact is the most important factor in successfully mobilizing voters.

HOW DO I GET STARTED?

Each Pennsylvania Sierra Club group has a volunteer serving as political chair who is responsible for coordinating the endorsements and following up with candidate campaign efforts. Contact your local group leadership today to find out what's happening in your area.





our 2016 endorsements at a glance

National

President Hillary Clinton

State

US Senator Katie McGinty
 PA Attorney General Josh Shapiro
 PA Auditor General Eugene DePasquale

US House of Representatives:

Group	District	Candidate
LHV, KIT	17	Matt Cartwright (i)
MSH	5	Kerith Strano Taylor
SPG	1	Robert Brady (i)
SPG	8	Steve Santarsiero
SPG	13	Brendan Bolye (i)
SPG, LAN, KIT	16	Christina Hartman

State Senate

Group	District	Candidate
GVP	15	Rob Teplitz (i)
KIT	11	Judy Schwank (i)
LKE	49	Sean Wiley (i)
SPG	7	Vincent Hughes (i)
SPG	9	Marty Malloy
SPG	17	Daylin Leach (i)
SPG	19	Andy Dinniman (i)

State House

Group	District	Candidate
ALG	28	John Craig Hammond
GVP	104	Jody Rebarchak
KIT	120	Bob McDonald
KIT	126	Mark Rozzi (i)
LKE	1	Pat Harkins (i)

State House (cont.)

Group	District	Candidate
LKE	2	Flo Fabrizio (i)
MSH	171	Melody Fleck
SPG	18	Gene DiGirolamo (i)
SPG	31	Perry Warren
SPG	70	Matt Bradford (i)
SPG	140	John Galloway (i)
SPG	141	Tina Davis (i)
SPG	145	Vera Cole
SPG	146	Joe Ciresi
SPG	147	Rachel Hendricks
SPG	148	Mary Jo Daley (i)
SPG	149	Tim Briggs (i)
SPG	150	Linda Weaver
SPG	154	Steve McCarter (i)
SPG	156	Carolyn Comitta
SPG	158	Susan F. Rzucidlo
SPG	161	Leanne Krueger-Braneky (i)
SPG	162	jim Butt
SPG	163	Barbarann Keffer
SPG	165	Elaine Schaefer
SPG	166	Greg Vitali (i)
SPG	170	Matt Darragh
SPG	175	Mike O'Brien (i)
SPG	177	Joe Hohenstein
SPG	185	Maria Donatucci (i)
SPG	188	Jim Roebuck (i)
SPG	194	Pam DeLissio (i)
SPG	195	Donna Bullock (i)
SPG	198	Rosita Youngblood (i)



[endorsements]

the sierra club endorses Hillary Clinton for president

As soon as she had enough votes to secure her nomination, the Sierra Club endorsed Hillary Clinton for president.

Citing her sound environmental record, Director Michael Brune said, “We firmly believe Secretary Clinton will be the strong environmental champion that we need to lead our country, which is why the Sierra Club is proud to endorse her and her vision for America.

“Over the last eight years, our country has made enormous advancements in cutting carbon pollution, transitioning away from dirty fuels, and increasing clean energy deployment. Secretary Clinton has a long record on the environment and is the leader we need to build on this progress made by President Obama and the climate movement. She has listened to the grassroots and crafted detailed plans to safeguard our climate, air, water, and public lands, to protect the most vulnerable from environmental injustice, and to continue the rapid expansion of our clean energy economy.”

Many Club members, especially young members, were attracted to Bernie Sanders during the nomination process. Recognizing this feeling, Brune said, “Senator Bernie Sanders and his millions of supporters ran a hard-fought campaign and helped elevate climate change and protecting our environment while reducing inequality as key issues in the Democratic Primary. Senator Sanders and his supporters brought the passionate, principled advocacy that we need, and we are eager to work together to raise these issues in every campaign--not just the presidential race.

“Together, Senator Sanders and Secretary



Clinton made this an election about the issues and finding real solutions. Solutions like protecting our oceans and public lands from fossil fuel development; rejecting dangerous trade deals such as the Trans Pacific Partnership; and transitioning onto 100 percent clean, renewable energy.”

The Sierra Club will keep these important issues before the public during the campaign. It will also press for Senate and Congressional candidates to embrace environmental principles. Pennsylvania is a battleground state with both presidential and senatorial elections being key to the future direction of our country.

Finding the opposition starkly unfit, Brune said, “(W)e have a reckless and misinformed candidate in Donald Trump, who has called climate change a “hoax,” a “con job,” and a “concept created by the Chinese.” Trump’s record

setting contradictory statements includes his “energy plan.” Trump claims he’ll protect clean air and water but has pledged to dismantle the EPA.

“He offers vague promises to create jobs but would stifle growth in wind and solar, which are among the fastest growing sectors of the U.S. economy. And when he gets to specifics, Trump makes rash promises, like ripping up the Paris Climate Agreement, a landmark agreement that brought 196 countries together for the first time in history. The gap on environmental and climate issues between Secretary Clinton and Donald Trump is the largest in U.S. political history.”

Seldom, if ever, has the difference between presidential candidates been so extreme. The need for action and advocacy in Pennsylvania has never been so clear.



State Wide Races

KATIE MCGINTY, D – US SENATE



Katie McGinty has a long professional resume in state and federal government, a degree in chemistry from St. Joseph's University and a law degree from Columbia University. She began her career as a congressional research fellow and then as a legislative assistant to U.S. Sen. Al Gore. After Gore became vice president, Katie was selected as the Clinton administration's chairwoman of the White House Council on Environmental Quality and then became an environmental adviser to Gore's presidential campaign.

McGinty served five years in Pennsylvania with Gov. Ed Rendell as Secretary for the Department of Environmental Protection. In that capacity she worked on efforts to curb mercury pollution from coal-fired power plants, impose more stringent vehicle emission rules, strengthen safety measures in coal mines, secure taxpayer funding to underwrite clean energy projects, promote regulations to advance cleaner sources of electric power and encourage the private sector in the clean-up of waste coal and acid mine drainage polluting Pennsylvania watersheds and rivers.

More recently she was selected by Governor Wolf as his chief of staff, resigning in July, 2015 to run for US Senate.

In contrast, incumbent Republican Pat

Toomey possesses an abysmal League of Conservation Voters (LVC) score of 0 percent for 2015 and 7 percent lifetime. Toomey is regarded as a climate change denier, is pro-fracking and anti-alternative energy.

This race has gained national attention due to its potential effect on the political balance and majority control within the US Senate. In addition, anticipated Supreme Court nominees, approved by the Senate, will be influenced by the same Senate outcome. Recent polls reflect a very close election, with both candidates showing a small lead, depending on the poll.

JOSH SHAPIRO, D – ATTORNEY GENERAL



Josh Shapiro resides in Montgomery County where he has served as a County Commissioner since 2011. Prior to his election in Montgomery County, Shapiro received Sierra Club endorsements and represented the 153rd Legislative District in the State House for seven years, where he had been recognized as an environmental ally.

Under his leadership, Montgomery County doubled public investment in their parks, added 10 miles of new trails and increased protected opens space throughout the county. They also cut energy consumption in county buildings by 50 percent.

As attorney general, Shapiro plans to pursue litigation to build on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's ruling in Robinson Township vs. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and will make efforts to expose and prosecute industrial polluters. He has also committed to pursue environmental justice for low-income communities and communities of color that are disproportionately impacted by pollution.

EUGENE DEPASQUALE, D – AUDITOR GENERAL



Incumbent Eugene DePasquale was previously endorsed for Auditor General by the PA Chapter in 2012. He served from 2007-13 in the State House of Representatives (York County's 95th district) where he demonstrated a strong environmental voting record. DePasquale made Marcellus Shale drilling a central issue of his campaign for auditor general, and promised to order an immediate performance audit of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to ensure the state's water supply has not been compromised by drilling. He vowed to aggressively audit the drilling industry, and followed through with eight findings, most of which addressed water issues related to industry activity.



[endorsements]

Allegheny Group

JOHN CRAIG HAMMOND,
D - 28TH HOUSE DISTRICT



John Hammond is running against Mike Turzai, who has been Speaker of the House since 2001. Hammond is disturbed by how the natural gas industry disposes

of the toxic waste water, which is a by-product of fracking. He believes that jobs can be shifted from the gas industry to the wind and solar industries.

Hammond wants smart growth in his district and is concerned about the lack of convenient public transportation from his district to downtown Pittsburgh.

Hammond teaches at Penn State New Kensington, where he is an internationally recognized scholar of slavery and politics in early America.

He and his wife and two children live in Franklin Park and he is active in the North Allegheny community where he has coached youth soccer and softball.

Governor Pinchot Group

ROB TEPLITZ, D - 15TH PA SENATE DISTRICT



Democrat Rob Teplitz is running for a second term to keep his seat in the 15th Senatorial district. A Dauphin County resident, Teplitz supports the Clean Power Plan, increasing the use of clean,

renewable energy to produce electricity in Pennsylvania and expanding the natural buffer zones that protect the Commonwealth's streams.

Teplitz is the Democratic chair of the

Senate's Local Government Committee and also serves on the Senate Appropriations and Finance Committees. Over the past four years, Teplitz has grown more receptive to the environmental issues that the club supports and earned a 100 percent rating in the 2015-2016 environmental scorecard.

JODY REBARCHAK,
D - 104TH PA HOUSE DISTRICT



Jody Rebarchak is a Democrat, who is challenging Republican incumbent Sue Helm in the 104th House District. Rebarchak has been elected to the Susquehanna Twp. Board of

Supervisors three times. While supervisor, the township has supported a rain garden project, sponsored rain barrel workshops, and has purchased and preserved Logan Farms as a passive park by Paxton Creek.

Rebarchak believes that climate change is real, manmade and needs to be addressed. She also would like to increase the targets for solar and other clean, renewable energy. She will work for strict regulations on fracking and supports taxing the industry to support education and the environment.

Kittatinny Group

MATT CARTWRIGHT, D - 17TH US CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT (LVG, NEA, KIT)



Endorsed previously by the Sierra Club in 2014, Cartwright has a 97-percent voting rating by the League of Conservation Voters. Vice-Chair of the Sustainable

Energy and Environmental Coalition, he introduced 57 pieces of legislation in his first term focusing heavily on protecting the environment from exemptions and loopholes in fundamental environmental protection statutes. Cartwright is also a member of the House Committee on Natural Resources. He advocated a strong response to the Flint, Michigan water crisis, and served on the Congressional committee that investigated the Flint water crisis in March, 2016.

JUDY SCHWANK,
D - 11TH PA SENATE DISTRICT



A former Berks County commissioner, Schwank has an 88-percent League of Conservation Voters pro-environment voting record. She supports the PA Clean Power plan, higher energy

efficiency standards, strong regulation of the fracking industry, and a severance tax on natural gas. Schwank recognizes Pennsylvania's role in greenhouse gas emissions and embraces efforts to increase the State's alternative energy economy and infrastructure. She is opposed to pipelines and gas extraction in state forests and parks.

BOB MCDONALD, D - 120TH HOUSE DISTRICT



After 27 years in business Bob McDonald is running against first term incumbent Aaron Kaufer, who has an environmental scorecard of 18 percent. A strong

advocate of alternative energy solutions, McDonald recently served as Vice President of a solar energy company.

McDonald supports heavy oversight of the natural gas industry and would favor



a moratorium on new drilling approvals until the health and environmental impacts are better understood. He understands climate change science, and views the acidification of the oceans as an often overlooked source of climate degradation.

He would support legislation to fix SREC (Solar Renewable Energy Certificate) loopholes and regulations to better protect our watersheds from agricultural fertilizer pollutants.

MARK ROZZI, D - 126TH PA HOUSE DISTRICT



Mark Rozzi is completing his 2nd term and has a 92 percent pro-environmental rating from the League of Conservation Voters. He has been previously endorsed by the Sierra Club. Rozzi

is a strong supporter of measures to promote solar and alternative energy and recognizes the need to increase and enforce regulations on gas extraction. He supports a severance tax on natural gas. An opponent of increased pipeline construction, he is especially concerned about construction in urban areas, state forests and state parks. Rozzi supports increased budget allocations for the PA Department of Environmental Protection and agrees with mandatory minimum fines, denial of future permits, and enforcement actions for significant violations of oil and gas regulations.

Lake Erie Group

SEAN WILEY, D - 49TH PA SENATE DISTRICT



Democrat Sean Wiley is seeking a second term. Previously endorsed, he did not disappoint us. Last May Wiley called for a fracking moratorium in the

Lake Erie watershed. His responses to the Club's questionnaire were 100 percent pro-environment. Wiley indicated he would cosponsor legislation ending the local property tax exemption for oil and gas companies.

Wiley's Republican opponent, Dan Laughlin, has attempted to connect the job loss at the GE locomotive plant in Erie to Wiley, based on the Sierra Club's support. Laughlin's campaign website, says the Club "leads the movement ... to close down coal powered electrical generating stations," and declining coal usage reduces railroad coal haulage by GE-built locomotives. Such "spin" should motivate Sierra Club members to work extra hard for Wiley's re-election.

PATRICK HARKINS, D - 1ST PA HOUSE DISTRICT



Democrat Patrick Harkins is seeking re-election to the General Assembly to represent the City of Erie. First elected in 2006, he has often been endorsed by the Club in the past.

Harkins has a proven track record of supporting pro-environment legislation in Harrisburg. In prior terms he earned a 100 percent score on the Marcellus Shale Voting Scorecard and stood up for water quality by voting "no" on HB 1565 (the bill that would undermine existing stream buffer requirements and thereby threaten our Exceptional Value and High Quality waterways).

FLORINDO FABRIZIO,
D - 2ND PA HOUSE DISTRICT



Democrat Florindo Fabrizio has no opposition in November's election as he seeks an eighth term in the State House. The Club is endorsing him, as it has in the past, because of his

support of the environment. He earned a perfect score on the Marcellus Shale Voting Scorecard. During the budget process in 2014, Rep. Fabrizio voted "no" on HB 278, the fiscal code bill that provided for transfers of bonus payment monies from new gas leases on state park and forest land to the general fund.

Moshannon Group

KERITH STRANO TAYLOR,
D - 5TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



Kerith Strano Taylor is challenging Glenn Thompson, who has a lifetime League of Conservation Voters score is only 6 percent.

As an attorney practicing family law and an advocate for children's rights, she is particularly sensitive to the impact of the environment on health and will work to protect our air, water, climate and natural resources. She pledges to represent the voices of hunters, anglers, and others who depend on our government to ensure our wildlife remains healthy.

Kerith understands the impact of climate change and the economic challenges fac-



[endorsements]

ing the people who are currently working in fossil fuel industries. She supports investing resources in solar and wind and becoming more energy independent, while developing well-paying, long-term jobs.

MELODY FLECK,
D - PA HOUSE - 171 DISTRICT PA HOUSE



Democrat Melody Fleck has been an active member of the Moshannon Group for many years. As a retired attorney and mother, Melody knows that Pennsylvania's Environ-

mental Rights Amendment must be given full force and effect and that climate change must be addressed responsibly for the sake of future generations. She recognizes the opportunity Pennsylvania has to develop stable, good-paying jobs by becoming a world leader in renewable energy and green building technologies. Melody has pledged to support legislation that will provide incentives to property owners who install renewable energy systems, remove caps on net-metering, assure that the High Performance Buildings Program is fairly funded, and strictly regulate the oil and gas industry while assessing a fair severance tax.

Southeast Pennsylvania Group

BOB BRADY,
D - 1ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



Bob Brady is the Democratic incumbent. During his 18 years serving in the US House he has earned a lifetime voting score on the environment of 85 percent. In 2015 he voted

for the Clean Power Plan cutting carbon emissions from existing power plants and for higher standards for new power plants. He also voted against liquefied natural gas and crude oil exports. Brady is the ranking Democrat on the US House Committee on House Administration and is the Chairman of the Philadelphia Democratic Party.

STEVE SANTARSIERO,
D - 8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



Steve Santarsiero is running for the open seat in this Bucks County District. He began his political career when he was elected to the Lower Makefield Board of Supervisors in 2003.

While serving, Santarsiero led the Township Council to become a Sierra Club Cool City. In 2009, he was elected to the PA House of Representatives, where he earned an environmental score of 97 percent. He supported stricter regulation of the natural gas industry. Santarsiero received his bachelor's degree from Tufts University and his law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. He has worked as an attorney and also taught social studies at Bensalem High School.

BRENDAN BOYLE,
D - 13TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



Brendan Boyle is the Democratic incumbent running for a second term representing Northeast Philadelphia and northern Montgomery Counties. He has been 100 percent supportive of the

environment. Most recently, in 2015 he voted against dissolving the Office of

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy and for a ban on fracking on Bureau of Land Management land. Boyle has also championed issues such as increasing the minimum wage, narrowing the income gap between rich and poor and improving access to higher education. He was the first member of his family to attend college. He earned a master's degree in Public Policy from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. Boyle resides in the Somerton neighborhood and is married to a public school teacher.

CHRISTINA HARTMAN,
D - 16TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



Christina Hartman is running for the open seat, which was held for 20 years by Republican Joseph Pitts, who announced his retirement last year. Hartman said that living

overseas taught her that global warming is a national security threat. She is concerned about sprawl and the lack of mass transit in the district.

Since Lancaster county is one of the fastest growing counties in the state, she hopes to balance sustainability of the County's farmland with economic and population growth. Lancaster county's bountiful farmland has been the key to its success for hundreds of years. As stewards of this land, she wants to protect and support farmers, while controlling the polluted runoff from farms, which is a significant local problem.



VINCE HUGHES, D - 7TH PA SENATE DISTRICT



Since 1994, Vince Hughes has represented the residents of western and northwestern Philadelphia. Throughout his time in the State Senate he has been a dependable supporter of

the environment. In 2015 he voted not to give legislators the power to override scientists' plans to reduce carbon pollution. He also voted against confirming a nominee who denied global warming to the Department of Environmental Protection. Hughes serves as Democratic chair of the most powerful Senate committee, the Senate Appropriations Committee.

MARTY MOLLOY,
D - 9TH PA SENATORIAL DISTRICT



Marty Molloy is challenging Thomas Killian who won his seat in a special election, prompted by the resignation of Dominic Pileggi. Molloy has spent the majority of his career in education and establishing workforce development opportunities with YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School. As part of the curriculum students are learning to build green houses. Molloy is interested in promoting open spaces and renewable energy. The district encompasses southern Delaware and Chester counties. He, his wife and two children live in Wallingford in Nether Providence Township. His children attend Nether Providence Township Elementary School, where Molloy has been a soccer coach.

tion and establishing workforce development opportunities with YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School. As part of the curriculum students are learning to build green houses. Molloy is interested in promoting open spaces and renewable energy. The district encompasses southern Delaware and Chester counties. He, his wife and two children live in Wallingford in Nether Providence Township. His children attend Nether Providence Township Elementary School, where Molloy has been a soccer coach.

DAYLIN LEACH,
D - 17 PA SENATORIAL DISTRICT



Daylin Leach is running for a third term to represent the residents of Norristown, Radnor, Upper and Lower Merion in the Senate. Leach is well-known

throughout the district, having served three terms in the state House, as a legislator who values the environment and wildlife. Most recently, Leach has cosponsored bills charging for plastic bags as a way of reducing their use and impact on the environment. He also supported legislation banning sale of shark fins and the hunting of released zoo animals. In 2008, Leach was awarded the Humane Legislator Award by the Humane Society.

ANDY DINNIMAN,
D - 19TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT



Since June 2006 Andy Dinniman has represented the 19th Senatorial District, which includes eastern and southern Chester County. During meetings of the Pipeline Infrastructure Task

Force, Dinniman demonstrated his concern for the community. He has introduced a legislative package of four bills designed to protect residents' properties and the public's natural resources against harm from the growing number of natural gas pipeline projects coming through the region. He believes that corporations that make profits from extracting valuable natural resources should pay their fair share to the communities impacted by their operations. He cosponsors bills to protect easements against encroaching pipelines and to allow local governments

to tax them. Dinniman got his start in public service as a member of the Downingtown School Board in 1975. He also served three terms as a Chester County Commissioner before running for the General Assembly.

GENE DIGIROLAMO, R - 18TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Gene DiGirolamo is the Republican incumbent, representing southern Bucks County. He, along with Republican Tom Murt and Democrats Pam Delisio and Harry Readshaw, introduced a bill to levy a 3.2 percent severance tax on natural gas. DiGirolamo would restore tax credits for the purchase of solar panels. Prior to elective office, DiGirolamo owned and managed the family's farm with his uncle.

DiGirolamo was elected to the House in 1994 to replace Rep. Tommy Tomlinson who ran successfully for the State Senate. He has been re-elected six times. DiGirolamo serves as the Republican Chairman of the House Labor Relations Committee.

DiGirolamo was elected to the House in 1994 to replace Rep. Tommy Tomlinson who ran successfully for the State Senate. He has been re-elected six times. DiGirolamo serves as the Republican Chairman of the House Labor Relations Committee.

PERRY WARREN, D - 31ST HOUSE DISTRICT



Perry Warren is running for the open seat to represent the residents of Yardley and Newtown. Perry, a Newtown native, attorney and father of five, has served on the

Newtown Borough council for the past six years, two of them as Council Vice President. As a Borough Councilman, Perry worked to establish a 4.5 mile rail-to-trail and to revive the Environmental Advisory Council.

As State Representative, Perry would



[endorsements]

support policies that ensure living wages for our citizens, protect our environment, promote gun safety and assure legal and social equality. In addition, Perry would support a State budget that invests in education, job creation, and a functioning government. Perry is supported by Steve Santarsiero, who is giving up the seat to run for state Senate

MATT BRADFORD, D - 70TH HOUSE DISTRICT



First elected in 2008, Democrat Matt Bradford represents Norristown, East Norriton, Worcester in Montgomery County. He has voted with the environment 100

percent of the time. Most recently, he voted for the 150-foot buffer for High Quality and Exceptional Value streams, which provides critical protections for our watersheds. He voted against tax credits for natural gas fueling stations.

Bradford has a BA and law degrees are from Villanova. He took a two years' leave from practise of law to help a state commission managing the finances of nearly-bankrupt Norristown. In his first term, he voted for a three-year moratorium on leasing state land for drilling. He has co-sponsored bills to increase the amount of renewable electricity in Pennsylvania and to reserve the money in the Oil and Gas Fund for conservation only.

JOHN GALLOWAY, D - 140TH HOUSE DISTRICT



John Galloway, has represented the residents of Central Bucks County since 2007. In the 2015-2016 term he achieved an environmental voting record of 91 percent. He voted against

new leases of state land for gas drilling.

He also voted not to give the legislature veto power over future plans to cut carbon emissions by the PA Department of Environmental Protection. He currently serves as the Democratic Chair of the House Labor and Industry committee.

Galloway graduated from the Project Management Institute in 2001 and is a certified project manager. He previously served as a member of the Pennsbury School Board.

TINA DAVIS, D -- 141TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Democrat Tina Davis is running for a fourth term to represent the people of southern Bucks County. Over the past six years, she has earned a perfect score on environmental votes.

Davis succeeds

environmental hero Tony Melio.

Most recently, she cosponsored a bill to charge a severance tax on natural gas and voted to require state buildings to be built to high performance standards. She earned a BA in computers from LaSalle. For years she was a mother of three, business owner, and Bristol Township supervisor, later Board chair. She helped block Dow Chemical's plan to build an ethanol plant along the Delaware River on 114 acres of undeveloped land, a politically courageous act because the plant would have brought jobs to a low-income area. The land was needed for flood control among other uses.

VERA COLE, D - 145TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Vera Cole is challenging Craig Staats to represent northern Bucks County in the state House. Staats has an environmental voting score of 9 percent. Cole is

head of the Energy and Sustainability Policy program at Penn State, a mentor to teenagers, and an advocate for clean energy and the environment. Cole is known for her leadership and ability to work well with others. She's president of the Mid-Atlantic Renewable Energy Association. With a PhD from Drexel, Cole has extensive experience working with large corporations, high-tech start-ups, non-profit groups and academia. Further, she knows how to install solar panels.

Cole lives in West Rockhill Township with her husband of 25 years.

JOE CIRESI, D - 146TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Joe Ciresi, is the Democratic challenger for a seat currently held by Thomas Quigley, who had an environmental rating of 9 percent on the last LVC score card. The district includes Pottstown and

northwestern Montgomery County. Ciresi is on the Spring-Ford Area School Board and voted to install geothermal systems at five schools. He is concerned that the Limerick nuclear plant lacks a satisfactory escape plan for residents should there be an emergency at the plant.

For the last 14 years, Joe has worked as the Director of Sales and Promotions at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, a world-class arts center in Philadelphia. In this role, he works with Fortune 500 companies — executing multi-million dollar productions and building corporate partnerships.



RACHEL HENDRICKS, D – 147TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Rachel Hendricks is a long-time resident of the 147th, which is located in northwestern Montgomery County. She has a Bachelor of Science in Geo-Environmental Studies from

Shippensburg University and interned for Department of Environmental Protection. She is currently working as Compliance Coordinator for a small Environmental Contract Operations Company in Harleysville, which is checking environmental compliance of a mining company. She is 28 years old and challenging Republican Marcy Toepel for the honor of representing her district in the State House. Hendricks grew up in Gilbertsville and she and her husband moved into their home in Schwenksville in 2013.

MARY JO DALEY, D – 148TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Democrat Mary Jo Daley is running for her third term in her district which includes Lower Merion, Conshohocken, and Whitmarsh in Montgomery County. She scored 100 percent on the latest LVC scorecard. Most recently, she voted to require purchasers of homes near a gas well be warned of health effects.

Daley has a BA and an MA in Government Administration from the University of Pennsylvania. She was a Narberth Borough Council member for 20 years, president for ten, and for the first eight years, she was the only Democrat. While on Council, she expanded business recycling and the number of recyclable plas-

tics. She also served on the Montgomery County Planning Commission. When the Sierra Club had an office in Narberth in 2004, she went door to door with the Club and volunteered as a team captain.

TIM BRIGGS, D – 149TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Democrat Tim Briggs is an incumbent who represents Lower and Upper Merion in Montgomery County. He was first elected in 2008 and has an environmental score of 100 percent.

Briggs has introduced a measure to set efficiency standards for appliances not covered by federal law, such as televisions, fluorescent lights, and furnace fans. He would also like to ban captive hunts of non-native species. The US Humane Society estimates that there are more than a thousand captive hunting operations across the country. Captive hunting operations are private trophy hunting facilities that offer their customers the opportunity to kill exotic and native animals trapped within enclosures.

Briggs earned a BA in political science from West Chester and his law degree from Temple University. He sponsors a yearly essay contest in which students propose a law to benefit their school.

LINDA WEAVER, D – 150TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Linda Weaver is running for the open seat currently held by Mike Vereb, who had a zero rating on the last environmental scorecard. Weaver heads the Teachers of Bucks and Montgomery

Counties union. Her experience as a special education teacher, teacher-advoc-

ate, and founding member of the Bucks and Montgomery County Schools Health Care Consortium has taught her what can be accomplished when good people come together. She is convinced that global warming is a problem which can be solved by abstaining from fossil fuels

STEVE MCCARTER, D – 154TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Steve McCarter is the Democratic incumbent serving eastern Montgomery County and is seeking his third term in the state House.

McCarter earned a 100 percent

rating on the environmental scorecard, in keeping with his predecessor, Larry Curry, who was also an environmental champion. McCarter is a retired high school civics and history teacher, who took students on summer trips, including one to China. He's a strong union supporter and was on the board of the PA State Education Association.

McCarter would like to enact a 5 percent severance tax and supports monitoring of air quality near gas wells. He is currently promoting a five-day holiday from the state Sales Tax for people who purchase Energy Star appliances.

CAROLYN COMITTA, D – 156TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Carolyn Comitta, who is seeking the seat currently held by Republican Dan Truitt, has built a strong environmental record as a two-term Mayor of West Chester.

She led the city's efforts to become 100 percent renewable and to codify recommendations of BLU-



[endorsements]

ER, an anti-global warming group. She has a broad knowledge of public policy and governance from serving as West Chester mayor and a member of Borough Council, the National League of Cities and PA Municipal League.

Comitta is Vice President and Chief Financial Officer at Thomas Comitta Associates, Inc., a town planning and landscape architecture firm. She has bachelor's degree from West Chester University and a master's degree from Widener University. Comitta has a strong commitment to environmental sustainability, education, and public health.

SUSAN RZUCIDLO, D - 158TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Susan Rzucidlo is running for the seat left open with the retirement of Republican Chris Ross when his term ends this year. Rzucidlo has run for this seat three times before. She grasps the problem of nonpoint source runoff and how to reduce it with green roofs and porous pavement. Rzucidlo and her husband live in Landenberg, raising their four children while building a farming business together for the past 27 years. In 2004 she founded a nonprofit, SPEAK Unlimited Inc., which is known for its innovative, solution-based work. The 158th Legislative district includes Avondale, London Britain, New Garden, East Marlborough, West Marlborough, Newlin, West Bradford, East Bradford and parts of West Goshen.

LEANNE KRUEGER-BRANEKY, D - 161ST HOUSE DISTRICT



Leanne Krueger-Braneky is running to retain her seat in the House whose district includes Swarthmore, Ridley, Marple, Radnor in Delaware County. During her two years in the

House, Krueger-Braneky has earned a 100 percent environmental record. She sits on the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee.

For eight years Krueger-Braneky directed the Sustainable Business Network, an organization which rates businesses according to several factors -- the ratio of the Chief Executive Officer's pay to lowest paid worker, the number of minority workers employed and promoted, whether ownership is shared, what materials are used, material miles traveled, and whether the firm recycles, composts, and uses renewable energy. She helped found the Green Energy Task Force, which was instrumental in creating green jobs in Obama's 2008 Economic Stimulus package and inspiring Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter's intention to make his city America's greenest.

JIM BUTT, D - 162ND HOUSE DISTRICT



Jim Butt, is challenging Nick Miccarelli for the seat in the state House to represent southeastern Delaware County. He is an aeronautical engineer, and he

argues that engineers are natural environmentalists because they always conserve energy, build to last, and recycle. Butt is a senior manager and has worked for Boeing for nearly 30 years, leading R&D projects on the V-22 Osprey tiltrotor program and other product strategic

analysis. He served as School Director and Board Vice President, Cheltenham Township from 2009-2014. He is a graduate of the Aerospace Engineering program at Virginia Tech and earned a master's degree from Temple University.

BARBARANN KEFFER, D - 163RD HOUSE DISTRICT



Barbarann Keffer seeks to represent the people of eastern Delaware County in the House, who are currently represented by James Santora, who was elected in 2015. Keffer serves on

the Upper Darby Council. Before her election, she coordinated the yearly Darby Creek cleanup and convinced Upper Darby Township to adopt single stream recycling. She supports passing a severance tax on fracking to ensure that gas-drilling companies pay their fair share. She wants to preserve precious open space to keep our communities beautiful and green. Keffer's opponent, incumbent James Santora has only voted for the environment 9 percent of the time.

ELAINE SCHAEFER, D - 165TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Elaine Schaefer is running for the position in the House, which is now open with the retirement of William Adolph, who chose not to run after holding the seat for 28 years. The dis-

trict is located in central Delaware County. Schaefer was the first woman chair of the Radnor Council, where she strengthened the tree ordinance and cut the deer population. She also co-founded the Radnor Conservancy. Schaefer said her time on council as a Democrat in a largely Republican area has taught her to



work with both sides. Among her priorities, she is seeking fair and full funding for education, implementing a shale tax, protection of natural resources and increasing recreation.

GREG VITALI, D - 166TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Greg Vitali has represented northern Delaware County since 1992 and is the leading elected advocate for legislative action on global warming and restrictions on gas drilling. He is

the Democratic chair of the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee and has a rating of 100 percent on the environmental scorecard. During his time in the General Assembly, Vitali has championed many environmental initiatives. He was the first to introduce a global warming bill in the legislature calling for an inventory of state greenhouse gas emissions and an action plan to reduce them. He was the prime sponsor of a measure to require utilities to generate 15 percent of their electricity from renewables instead of the current 8 percent. He opposed diverting Oil and Gas Fund royalties from conservation projects and further leasing of state land for drilling. He supports measures to inform people about the health risks of gas drilling.

MATTHEW DARRAGH, D - 170TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Matthew Darragh seeks to represent northeast Philadelphia, a district represented by Brendan Boyle for six years. Darragh works as a regional manager

for the Department of the Auditor Gen-

eral, supervising personnel, reviewing audits and developing procedures. He is a graduate of Temple University and in 2013 earned a law degree from Widener University. While at Temple Darragh interned in Mike Stack's State Senate office and became interested in public service. He would like to work to reclaim the brownfields along the Delaware River to increase public access. He believes that global warming is a threat which requires action.

MICHAEL O'BRIEN, D - 175TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Michael O'Brien is the incumbent, who represents the Penn's Landing area. He was first elected in 2006 and currently holds a rating of 100 percent on the latest scorecard.

Recently, he voted against lowering standards for sewage systems because they would pollute streams. He also opposed tax credits for users of natural gas. He has supported a variety of environmentally friendly measures such as increasing the amount of wind and solar power utilities should be required to generate and suspending the leasing of state land for gas drilling. In 2010 he voted to ban televisions and computers from landfills and to require manufacturers to recycle them.

JOE HOHENSTEIN, D - 177TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Joe Hohenstein seeks to represent the residents of the 177th District in northeast Philadelphia. As clerk of Frankford Friends Meeting, he oversaw construction of a green middle school. He also got a \$250,000 Growing Greener grant to

build an outdoor STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) facility. Hohenstein believes that a severance tax on natural gas drilling still remains one of Pennsylvania's best opportunities to generate much needed revenue, and guarantee that there are funds available to mediate the environmental impact of natural gas drilling.

Joe graduated from Earlham College with a degree in International Studies in 1989. He graduated the University of Minnesota Law School with a J.D. in 1993 and passed the bar the same year. Hohenstein has devoted his practice exclusively to immigration law

MARIA DONATUCCI, D - 185TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Maria Donatucci is running unopposed in November to represent the residents of southwestern Philadelphia and southeast Delaware County. She voted to allow municipalities to create au-

thorities that will better manage stormwater and reduce pollution. Authorities may impose fees based on impervious surfaces. Over the last two years she has voted with the environment 73 percent of the time. Donatucci was elected to the House in 2011 in a special election after the death of her husband, Robert, the previous incumbent.

JIM ROEBUCK, D - 188TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Jim Roebuck is a long-time member of the House, having been first elected in 1985. He represents western Philadelphia and in the last two years has voted for the



[endorsements]

environment 80 percent of the time.

Roebuck taught history at Drexel for 14 years before being elected to the General Assembly. He voted not to divert money from conservation programs to gas projects and to increase funding for Growing Greener. He also supports a Severance Tax on natural gas drillers. Like many of his colleagues he thinks it's a poor choice to subsidize gas drilling but not education.

PAM DELISSIO, D - 194TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Pam DeLissio is vying for her fourth term in the House, whose district covers portions of Philadelphia and Montgomery counties, including Lower Merion Twp. DeLissio earned

an environmental score of 100 percent on the latest scorecard, which makes her a dependable advocate for the environment. She cosponsors a bill for a 3.2-percent severance tax on natural gas. DeLissio also voted to end Department of Environmental Protection's expedited, careless review of drilling permits. Before her election in 2010, DeLissio worked as an administrator for several adult care and residential communities and was also a small business owner. DeLissio earned her B.S. in Health Planning & Administration from Pennsylvania State University.

DONNA BULLOCK, D - 195TH HOUSE DISTRICT



Donna Bullock, who represents west Philadelphia in the state House, won her position in a special election in August 2015. In her short term, she has earned a perfect score for her environmen-

tal votes. In her first few months in Harrisburg, she supported Governor Wolf's effort to pass a balanced, responsible budget. She also stood for policy and legislation that support children and families, small businesses and job growth, as well as affordable housing and sustainable communities. Before her election to the House, she served as Special Assistant and Attorney for the Philadelphia City Council President's Office. Prior to her promotion to the President's Office, she was the Community and Economic Development Coordinator in the 5th Council District.

Bullock has worked with Moms Clean Air Force to educate parents about the need for clean air and with Clean Water Action on trains carrying oil through the city.

ROSITA YOUNGBLOOD, D - 198 HOUSE DISTRICT



Rosita Youngblood is the Democrat incumbent serving the Germantown and Mt. Airy areas of Philadelphia. She was first elected in 1994 and has an excellent record of supporting the

environment. The latest environmental scorecard rates her at 100 percent.

During her tenure, she has supported a number of environmentally friendly bills. Most recently, she voted to enact a severance tax and make drillers pay for roads they damage. She also voted to make natural gas companies test water beforehand, which could help citizens prove that any damage to drinking water was caused by drilling.



DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND?

Consider this your invitation to say it on our blog. Yes, the Sierra Club Chapter has a blog that allows our members to share their thoughts, ideas and peevs with the rest of us on Sierra Keystone Conversations.

THE PROCESS IS SIMPLE.

Submit your blog to: wendi.taylor@verizon.net

Or, of course, you can just be a regular reader. Find it at: <http://sierraclubpa.blogspot.com/>

[coleman's lantern]

what is at stake

by Phil Coleman

On the night of November 7, 2000, I was driving home. As the executive director of the Pennsylvania League of Conservation Voters, I had spent a busy month working on the presidential election. Working with the national League, I had been doing a variety of get-out-the-vote efforts throughout the state, and I had ended up on Election Day working a single precinct, which was otherwise ignored. Soon after the polls closed, the networks announced that Gore had won Pennsylvania. I had to feel good about that.

That is not to say that I thought my League efforts had been a major factor. We had just been doing our part, as had the Sierra Club and all sorts of other public interest organizations.

But here I was driving home late at night, just beginning the long descent from Chestnut Ridge (on Route 40). And my cell phone rang. It was my friend Ann Riley, from the national League office. "NBC just announced that Gore won Florida! We won!" We were happy. I was happy on the rest of my drive home.

It wasn't until the next morning that I found out Florida really wasn't certain. The next days were full of recounts, discovered votes and hanging chads, and finally Gore's concession.

Nothing is ever certain in electoral politics. But we are 16 years later, facing a similar situation. Pennsylvania is a so-called swing state. Florida is a so-called swing state.

We didn't realize in 2000 how much was at stake. We couldn't know that the destruction of New York sky scrapers and deaths of 3000 people would lead to military devastation in the Middle East. I like to believe that a response from Gore would have been measured and directed at the perpetrators rather than at Iraq, but there is no way to know.

I have to believe that what is at stake this time around is as important as what was at stake then. Control of the Senate, selection of Supreme Court Justices, measured response to foreign threats. These are issues we want to be in the hands of careful leaders.

[connect with your sierra club group]

Chapter Executive Committee

<http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/>

Follow us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/PASierraClub>

Follow us on Twitter: @SierraClubPA

Allegheny Group

www.alleghenysc.org

Governor Pinchot Group

<https://gvpssierraclub.wordpress.com/>

Kittatinny Group

<http://kittgroup.weebly.com/>

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Sierra.Kitt.Club>

Lake Erie Group

www.lakeeriegroupleads.com

Lancaster Group

www.lancastersierraclub.org

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sierraclublancaster>

Email: sierraclublancaster@yahoo.com

Lehigh Valley Group

<http://sierraclublv.wordpress.com/>

Follow us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/sierraclublv>

Moshannon Group

www.sierramsh.org

Follow us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/112180198821601/http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/moshannon/outings.html>

Northeastern Group

<http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/northeastern>

Otzinachson Group

<http://otzinachson.wordpress.com>

Follow us on Facebook: (<https://www.facebook.com/Otzinachson?ref=ts&fref=ts>)

Southeastern Group

<http://pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/southeastern>

[explore enjoy...pennsylvania]

North Country Trail — *walk on the wild side!*

by Gary Thornbloom

From New York to North Dakota hikers can find great hiking on the North Country National Scenic Trail (NCT). The trail will stretch 4600 miles when completed, linking trails throughout the states it traverses. The Pennsylvania section includes 180 miles running northeast to southwest from New York to Ohio, 95 of those miles in the Allegheny National Forest (ANF).

Near the New York border I met Kirk Johnson, Friends of Allegheny Wilderness (FAW) Executive Director, and Joe Hardisky FAW Board member and NCT volunteer/maintainer, to hike 9.7 miles on a section of the NCT that is an example of recovering wilderness in National Forests.

I asked Joe what was special to him about the section we were hiking? He said:

"This section of the North Country Trail is truly special because it travels through one of the last back country areas in the Allegheny National Forest and that is Tracy Ridge. Hiking through a Wild area is a unique experience, offering the back country traveler a chance to escape the mechanization and hype of the modern world. I love it!"

The North Country Trail along with all of the other footpaths in Tracy Ridge provides us with just that kind of high quality remote hiking.

We soon experienced this. We walked away from the trailhead, the

hot sun in the opening of the parking area and road. We walked uphill away from Willow Creek Campground. We walked deeper into the forest, into silence and coolness beneath tall trees.

Coinciding with the silence was our crossing into the Allegheny National Recreation Area, established by Congress in 1984 by the Pennsylvania Wilderness Act. Part of the intent of Congress was to preserve the natural character of the area.

We continued south paralleling the Allegheny Reservoir. At times it was a steep drop to the water. Our path followed a contour line that was fairly level along the mountainside, dropping or rising as we made our way in and out of hollows

containing streams that had cut their way down to what is now the Allegheny Reservoir.

In and out of Williams Run, Tracy Run, Whiskey Run, and Johnnycake Run along with additional unnamed streams. Mid-summer it was mostly dry streambeds that we crossed. It was easy to imagine the sound of water as we looked at boulder and rock beds where the stream should have been flowing. Some rocks were green, moss covered and damp, waiting. The beauty of the stream remained. The streambeds usually ended at fingers of the reservoir.

In summer you can see the water through the trees as you walk along the



Gary Thornbloom snapped this photo of Tracy Run with Joe Hardisky, Friends of Allegheny Wilderness (FAW) board member and North Country Trail maintainer and Kirk Johnson FAW Executive Director.

mountainside. Once the leaves drop there will be better views of the water bordered by steep mountainside.

After crossing Johnnycake Run we stood at the Johnnycake Trail junction. We opened a map and talked about this being one of the trails that wind through the heart of the Recreation Area.

Kirk later expressed his thoughts on our hike. He said:

“The nine-mile portion of the North Country National Scenic Trail in the proposed Tracy Ridge Wilderness is one of the premier sections of the entire 4,600-mile trail — not only for the stark untrammeled beauty of Tracy Ridge, but also because of the extensive Tracy Ridge trail system with dozens of miles of hiking-only trails linking to the North Country Trail within the area that hikers utilize for side trips.”

Kirk uses “untrammeled” with precision. He is aware that, native Pennsylvanian and author of the 1964 Wilderness Act, Howard Zahniser, chose the word carefully when he included it in the Act:

A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.

Congress dealt with the question of wilderness in the eastern US in 1975 by including for consideration lands that had been affected by man, but that now were healed or in the process of recovering. It was not until the Pennsylvania Wilderness Act of 1984 that the first Wilderness Areas were designated in Pennsylvania —Hickory Creek and the Allegheny Islands. This Act also designated the Tracy Ridge area as a National Recreation Area.

While much of the ANF has been severely impacted by industrial uses, Tracy Ridge is one of the largest undisturbed areas in the ANF. The forest has come back. We measured one hemlock that was three feet in diameter.

Perhaps the most enjoyable aspect of this hike is the relative solitude, the peace, the quiet, and the feeling of getting away. Maybe it is more a sense of return. Returning to a landscape that, if only for the day, is big enough and empty enough for a hiker to fit into rather than to dominate.

At the core of the concept of untrammeled is the free play of natural forces and that is what is at work today and what you will find along this section of the North Country Trail. It is good that we can still find places like this.

answers to crossword puzzle

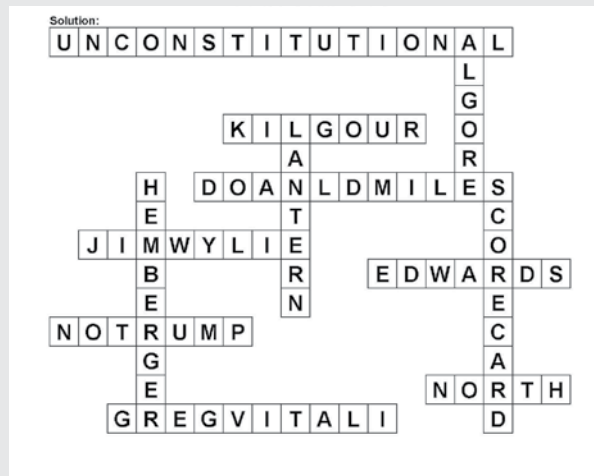
(from page 24)

Across

- 1 Unconstitutional
- 3 Kilgour
- 6 Donald Miles
- 8 Jim Wylie
- 9 Edwards
- 10 No Trump
- 11 North
- 12 Greg Vitali

Down

- 2 Al Gore
- 4 Lantern
- 5 Hemberger
- 7 Scorecard



[chapter elections]

at-large delegate statements

Each fall the members of the Pennsylvania Chapter elect three At-Large Delegates to represent them at the Chapter Executive Committee (Ex Com) meetings.

The Pennsylvania Chapter is comprised of ten groups, each elects one delegate to represent its interests on the Chapter Ex Com. Additionally, there are six At-Large Delegates that are elected by the entire general membership to serve two-year terms.

The candidates listed below are running for the three At-Large Member positions on the Chapter Executive Committee for terms running from January 2017 to January 2019.

The delegates you elect will help the Chapter determine which candidates to endorse in elections, which environmental issues the Chapter will pursue, how staff time and financial resources are used, and other critical issues.

Vote to ensure that the Ex Com reflects your choice. Ballots (on facing page), including address label (on back page), must be received on or before December 16, 2016. The order of the candidate statements and the names were determined by a drawing of lots.

Donald W. Miles *Lehigh Valley Group*

I appreciate the opportunity to run for re-election to the Pennsylvania Chapter ExCom. I have been a member of the Chapter ExCom for the past 6 years. This is my fourth year as the Pennsylvania delegate to the national Sierra Club "Council of Club Leaders", the annual meeting in San Francisco of the representatives of the Club's 64 chapters. Five years ago I was a leader in establishing the Pennsylvania Chapter's call for a ban on all fracking in Pennsylvania and three years ago I was a leader in passing the national Council of Club Leader's call for a national Club policy to ban fracking. I have worked as a volunteer attorney to attempt to stop construction of the largest natural gas electric plant in Pennsylvania and to try to halt construction of a destructive 500kv powerline through the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. I co-chair the Pennsylvania Chapter's committee on transmission and pipe lines and chair the committee on land use. I am also the Chapter's political compliance officer. As a 40-year environmental and zoning law attorney, avid backpacker, amateur nature photographer and former Scoutmaster, I bring a love of the outdoors as the energy driving my environmental activism.

Jim Wylie *Southeast Pennsylvania Group*

I'm a Philadelphia area Sierra Club activist, contributing to committees and programs for nearly 10 years. I got my start in Chester County, leading local awareness and outreach programs and then as I met more people like me, volunteering for bigger projects in the Beyond Coal Campaign, organizing with the Peoples Climate March, and raising awareness about the evils of mountaintop removal coal mining through lobbying and rallies. As chair of the ExCom for the Southeastern PA Group and the Conservation Committee Chair, I also help with website admin and email management. We write letters to politicians, speak at DEP hearings, and organize outdoor fun. Local issues in our focus include the risks posed by expanding gas infrastructure and oil trains. I participate in Sierra Club endorsements of local political candidates.

My "thing" is climate change – encouraging solutions, discouraging our continued addiction to fossil fuel based energy and consumable products. By day I rent and sell electric bicycles, giving people reasonable alternatives for short trips in a car. It is very rewarding.

I hope to contribute to chapter and group initiatives as an at-large delegate, aiming to help improve the quality of Pennsylvania's air, waterways and open spaces.

Nancy Felicia Parks *Moshannon Group*

A Sierra Club life member (1974) working with Pennsylvania Chapter for 42 years and committed to the reality of cleaner air in PA. Chapter representative to National Council of Club Leaders 2008- 2012 and chair of Chapter Reserve Fund committee ongoing, watch-dogging Chapter expenditures.

I have represented the public interest and the Chapter's 28,000 plus members before state and federal government for 35 years and have been a member of the PADEP Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee for 23 years. I would like to continue to represent the best interests of the entire chapter membership. I will continue as Reserve Fund chair and Clean Air Research Committee chair, concentrating on air quality research, distributing information to Chapter activists.

Sierra Club service: Moshannon Group: (1980-1990) formation, chair twice, vice-chair, secretary, conservation chair, chapter delegate 1981-1997, 2000, alternate 2007-2008. Pennsylvania chapter: (1981-2016): delegate (1981-1998, 2000-2002, 2003-2016), 1st vice-chair, 2nd vice-chair, secretary (8 years), Appalachian RCC delegate (10 years), Clean Air Committee chair (1990-2016), Council delegate (4 years). National: (1974-2008) Air Quality Issues Committee (member 1988-1997,

[pennsylvania chapter sierra club]

Vote for no more than three (3) candidates. The second set of boxes is for the second Sierra Club member of a joint membership only. The blank line is for write-in candidates.

DON MILES	<input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> J
JIM WYLIE	<input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> J
NANCY FELICIA PARKS	<input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> J
SUE EDWARDS	<input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> J
JEFF SCHMIDT	<input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> J
	<input type="checkbox"/> S	<input type="checkbox"/> J

Your ballot must be received by December 16, 2016. Your mailing label which appears on the reverse side of this page is used for validation. The label must be legible, including the indication S/SNGL or J/JNT. No facsimiles.

Please mail your completed ballot to:

Sierra Club PA Chapter
Election Committee
attn.: Roy Fontaine
503 Wilson Street
Williamsport, PA 17701-3521

national Chair 1995-1997, senior advisor 1998-2016), Environmental Quality Strategy Team (1994-1997), EQST/Trading task force chair (1997).

Sue Edwards
Southeast Pennsylvania Group

I have been a member of the Sierra Club since 1995. I became active as a volunteer with the Beyond Coal Campaign in the Philadelphia area in 2011 when I retired. I was determined to make a difference on the issue of climate change, which greatly concerns me. Through the Sierra Club, I have done outreach in communities and to organizations and individuals, lobbied in Harrisburg and Washington DC, testified at EPA hearings, helped organize demonstrations, written letters to the editor,

done phone-banking, created street theater for Philly Beyond Coal, and helped build up a diverse activist team in Philadelphia. My particular area of interest is in fostering the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion work of the Club. I was asked in 2015 to be the first ever Diversity Chair for Pennsylvania. In that capacity I lead monthly statewide diversity conference calls, I twice attended the annual White Privilege Conference (with support from Sierra Club) and I am available to groups and members who want to consult about doing this work effectively. Although not a member of the SPG Executive Committee, I have attended many of its meetings as well as state Executive Committee meetings and outings.

Jeff Schmidt
Governor Pinchot Group

I have been honored to serve as both a volunteer and as a staff person for Sierra Club since joining the Club in 1978. I helped form the Lehigh Valley Group that year. After serving as Group Chair, Conservation, Outings, and Program Chair, I also became active with the PA Chapter, eventually as Conservation Chair and PA Delegate to the national Club Council. In 1983, I was honored to become the PA Chapter's first lobbyist in Harrisburg. Later, I became the Chapter Director and continued as lobbyist until my retirement at the end of 2013. I currently serve as Co-Chair of the Chapter Public Lands Committee.

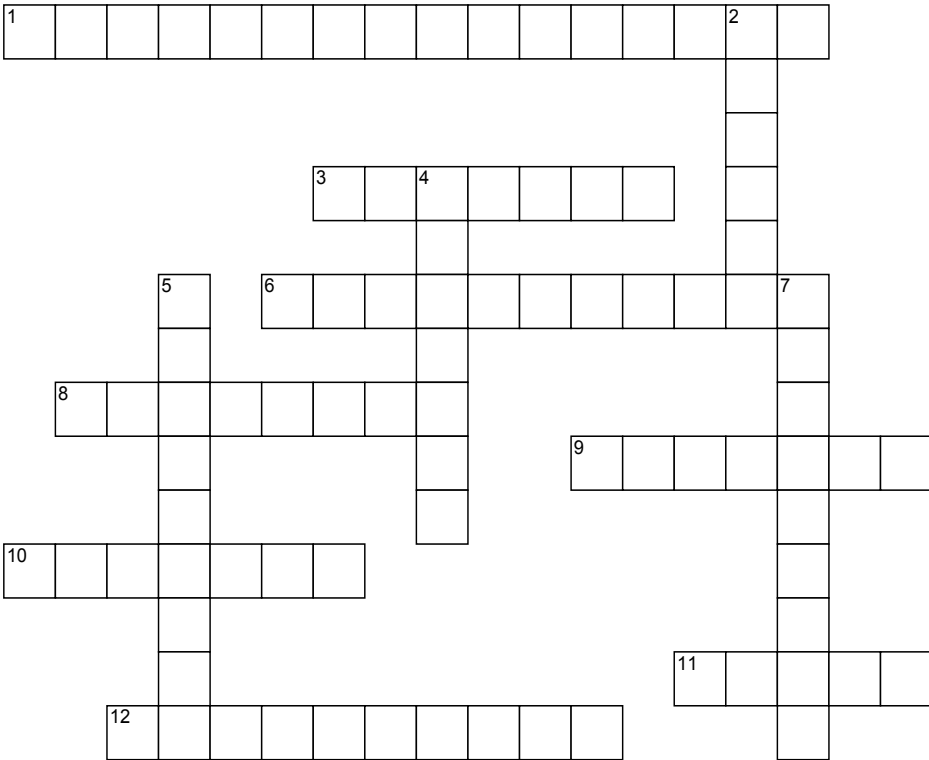
I am running for reelection as At-Large Delegate to the PA Chapter so I can continue to lend my knowledge of environmental issues and governmental decision-making to the Club. I have a deep commitment to the role of volunteer leadership as part of the Club's effectiveness. We are fortunate to have competent and dedicated staff and Chapter leadership, and I look forward to being part of that team, with your support.

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
HARRISBURG
PA
PERMIT NO.
705



explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

[fall crossword]



Across

- 1 Act 13 Provisions
- 3 Chapter Director Joanne _____
- 6 Council delegate
- 8 Southeastern Group Chair
- 9 Chapter Diversity Chair Sue _____
- 10 Bridge Bid growing in popularity
- 11 _____ Country Trail
- 12 Environmental leader in legislature

Down

- 2 Presidential candidate in 2000
- 4 Coleman's _____
- 5 Political Chair Dave _____
- 7 Environmental _____

answers on page 21