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Why I Risked Arrest for Democracy



April 18, 2016

By Aaron Mair, President, Sierra Club Board of Directors

For the second time in the Sierra Club’s 120-plus-year history, on April 18 representatives of the Sierra Club allowed themselves to be arrested in an act of civil disobedience.

The first time was just three years ago, when Sierra Club executive director Michael Brune, Sierra Club president Allison Chin, and Sierra Club director Jim Dougherty stood alongside influential leaders like civil rights activist Julian Bond and handcuffed themselves to the White House fence, protesting the then-proposed, now-rejected Keystone XL tar sands pipeline. This simple act of defiance, which landed our fearless leaders in jail that day, ended the Sierra Club’s 120-year embargo on civil disobedience. They did this because they had to. They were arrested to evoke the urgency of the need for President Obama to reject this dangerous project that would have been disastrous for communities throughout the country, not to mention irreversible damage to our climate.

This Monday, I allowed myself to be arrested for another cause vitally important to the Sierra Club: a democracy where every voice is heard. In this organization’s history, we’ve learned that in order to protect our environment—our clean air, clean water, and wild places—we must have a fully functioning democracy. This means all eligible Americans have access to voting. This means money from the super wealthy and corporate polluters does not drown out the voice of everybody else. This also means we need a fully functioning Supreme Court, with all seats filled. All three branches of our government must be fully functioning for our rights to be protected.

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The Sierra Club is now the nation’s largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization - with more than two million members and supporters. *The Allegheny Group of the Sierra Club* was organized in the early 1970s. It is one of 10 groups comprising the Pennsylvania Chapter.

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

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When our democracy is not working, it is our most vulnerable communities that bear the brunt of dysfunction. Low-income communities and communities of color that already face disproportionate impacts from pollution also face disproportionate disenfranchisement from assaults on voting rights. Obstruction that blocks progress on health care, immigration, or climate action often shuts out people of color. This includes polluters pouring unprecedented amounts of money into elections and Senate Republicans purposely not doing their jobs and intentionally blocking efforts to fill a critical vacancy on the Supreme Court. All of these roadblocks are barriers to better environmental policies, because when our democracy suffers, so does our ability to protect ourselves and our environment.

Put short, to protect our environment, we must protect our democracy.

There is no Republican or Democratic environment. We are all connected. We must transcend barriers and come together to build the movement.

That’s why I cannot sit by and watch Republicans in Congress push an agenda of inequity, injustice, and inaction and I’m willing to stand in solidarity with hundreds of others in risking arrest to demonstrate the urgency and need for action. If it takes risking arrest to make my voice heard to help every voice be heard in our democracy, so be it. The Sierra Club stands with all our allies from civil rights, workers rights, racial justice, environmental and many faiths and anyone calling for a just society



because fighting injustice -- knowing the difference between what is right and what is wrong -- must be at the heart of our work.

I’m not alone in this. Among the hundreds of passionate activists who allowed themselves to be arrested to ensure that every voice is heard in our democracy are a couple of dedicated Sierra Club representatives I’d like to highlight:

Lena Moffitt stands up to big polluters in her day-job as director of the Sierra Club’s Dirty Fuels campaign, an initiative aimed at keeping polluting fossil fuels in the ground, but she also volunteers her free time to advocate for better environmental policy in her community as a member of the Sierra Club’s Washington, D.C. chapter. The same fossil fuel corporations that are polluting our air, water, and climate are also poisoning our democracy, pouring toxic amounts of money to sway elections and policy decisions that protect their

profits over communities’ health. Big Oil spent more than \$104 million in 2014 alone (<https://www.opensecrets.org/overview/sectors.php>) to influence elections, backing climate change deniers despite overwhelming scientific and public agreement that climate change is man-made. Lena knows that her efforts to protect the environment—whether it’s cutting emissions of methane pollution or fighting to stop new fossil fuel extraction—are dependent on getting dirty fossil fuel money out of politics, so it’s no surprise she’s risking arrest on Monday, too.

Matt Gravatt is the chair of the Sierra Club’s Washington, D.C. chapter, where he leads efforts to protect the environment and advance sustainability in the District of Columbia. The Chapter’s work focuses on expanding access to clean and renewable energy across the District, reducing waste, increasing recycling and compost-

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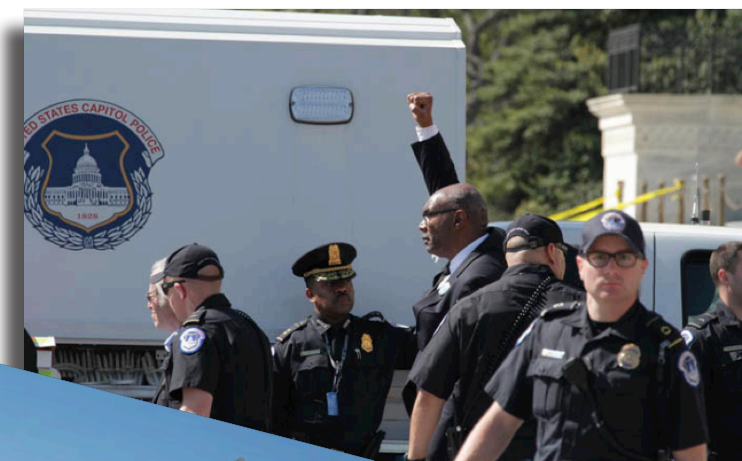
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ing, and ensuring healthy communities through improved access to high quality public transit and smart growth. Through community organizing, public education, and advocacy, the chapter leads community-driven efforts to make the District a better place to live, work, and play, and amplifies the voices of District residents seeking bold action to address climate change. Recognizing that our political system has for too long been held hostage by dirty money from big polluters and our democracy threatened by attacks on voting rights, Matt is risking arrest to stand up for what’s right, both from a personal standpoint and in defense of our common home.

There’s so much you can do to support these folks—including NAACP’s Cornell Brooks, AFL-CIO’s Tefere Gebre, Communications Workers of America’s Chris Shelton, and Greenpeace’s Annie Leonard. To help empower voters by defending and expanding voting rights, you can take action by telling Congress to restore the Voting Rights Act (<https://www.addup.org/campaigns/tell-congress-to-restore-the-voting-rights-act>). To help reduce the power of polluter money in politics, you can sign this petition (<https://www.addup.org/campaigns/get-big-money-out-of-congress-support-the-government-by-the-people-act>). And you can call on Senate Republicans to do their job and hold a hearing and a vote on the Supreme Court Nominee (<https://www.addup.org/campaigns/we-need-three-functioning-branches-of-government>). Note: these are national Sierra Club campaigns.

Aaron Mair of Schenectady, New York, is the president of the Sierra Club’s board of directors. An epidemiological-spatial analyst with the New York State Department of Health, Mair’s experience includes more than three decades of environmental activism and over 25 years as a Sierra Club volunteer leader, where he has worked diligently for environmental justice.

This article was published by the national Sierra Club.



Mair with Virginia Sierra Club volunteers, Charles Strickler, Moffitt, and Gravatt.

Notes from the Chair

Making a Difference:

WOW!

The natural beauty of spring blossoms provided a feeling of joy and awe for these wonders. We were treated to beautiful pink Magnolia blossoms, yellow, white and orange daffodils covering slopes and front yards, tulips, hyacinths, and a variety of trees displaying stunning white and pink blossoms. Now the dogwood and azaleas cheer us. As our thoughts often turn to the concerns we have for the future of our planet as a place for plants, humans, and wildlife to live, these sights engender hope.

Optimism for the future has also been facilitated by several recent 'victories.' These successes reconfirm my belief in Margaret Mead's quote: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." In late February 2016, the Environmental Protection Agency supported requests by Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto to extend the deadline to 2032 to incorporate "green infrastructure" into ALCOSAN's plan to significantly reduce untreated sewage

overflows. When plans are finalized with ALCO-SAN, this significant change will benefit the environment, public health, and the rate payers. Strides are being made to reduce the air pollution from nitrogen oxide (NOX), sulphur dioxide (SO₂), and coal dust at the Cheswick Power plant. Amazingly, UPMC has indicated they will increase the minimum wage of its workers to \$15/hour by 2021. Pittsburgh United, our coalition of labor unions, faith-based groups, and environmental organizations, started this Fight For 15 (FF15) in Pittsburgh about three years ago. Many thought it couldn't be done!!



Through the organization Protect Elizabeth Township (PET), residents of Elizabeth Township are having some success at Zoning Board hearings in opposing Invenergy's request for variances in order to go forward with their plans to build a 550-megawatt natural gas-fired power plant on a former toxic waste dump site. Fairshake, the environmental law firm, argued for PET and identified many misrepresentations and falsehoods in

the company's presentation to the Zoning Board. This issue continues at Zoning Board hearings.

These achievements and others are the result of the small groups of committed citizens getting involved.

Various environmental issues are currently being addressed on many levels. I'll draw your attention to a few. For the second time in the history of the Sierra Club, a National Sierra Club leader was given permission by the National Board to be involved in Civil Disobedience (see Aaron Muir's article). Water issues in Allegheny and Washington Counties, Solar Power, Climate Change, Diversity/Equity/Inclusion, and the March for a Clean Energy Revolution are here for your reading enjoyment.

In addition, we encourage you to nominate a candidate for Our Executive Committee (see page 19), participate in the Pennsylvania Resources Council Recycling Collections (see page 17), and check out our Trail Guides (page 16).

Finally, we note with sincere sadness the passing of an outstanding Sierra Club leader, Bruce Sundquist in April. A tribute to Bruce by his long time friend, Peter Wray, is on page 5.

Thank you for your support of the Allegheny Group! Please contact me with your questions or concerns at 412-521-9526, or barbgrover1@gmail.com.

Barbara Grover, Group Chair

Bruce Sundquist: Scientist, Outings Leader, Publisher, and Conservationist, 1936 - 2016

In the early morning of April 15, 2016, Bruce Sundquist died quietly in his bed at the age of 79, a fitting end for a modest and peaceful man.



Immediately after obtaining his Ph.D. from the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1960, Bruce Sundquist accepted a job at U.S. Steel's research laboratory in Monroeville, PA. The young man from Minnesota soon enjoyed hiking in the Appalachian Mountains, and when he joined the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy he began a long career of voluntary conservationism. When the Allegheny Group of the Sierra Club was formed in 1970 Bruce was one of its first members, becoming a regular outings leader and eventually chair of the Outings Committee. In the late 70's he joined Sam Hays and Dick Pratt as they explored areas in the Allegheny National Forest for potential inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System, leading to designation of the Hickory Creek Wilderness Area in 1984. In West Virginia he was a regular visitor to the Dolly Sods area, working towards designation of that unique plateau as a Federal Wilderness Area in 1975.

To help the public enjoy and protect the natural areas around Pittsburgh, Bruce began the production of guides, first with the American Youth Hostels of Pittsburgh, and then with the Allegheny Group and the Keystone Trails Association. He organized volunteers to scout and map the trail systems in various areas, and over a period of thirty years he authored or co-authored a series of guides. He started in 1974 with "Allegheny National Forest Hiking Guide," followed by "Hiker's Guide to Laurel Highlands Trail," "Monongahela National Forest Hiking Guide," "Ski-Touring in Western Pennsylvania," "Hiking Guide to Western Pennsylvania," "Canoeing Guide to Western Pennsylvania," and "Laurel Highlands Hiking Guide" (sixth edition Part 2, 2004).

Initially Bruce printed the guides using a mimeographing machine in his basement. And he used that same machine to print the early editions of the Allegheny Group's newsletter. His home was a combination office and storehouse.

Bruce was a year-round outdoorsman. For many years he led the annual January cross-country skiing trip to West Virginia, and he introduced to Sierra Club members the joy of tube floating on the Youghiogheny.

When he retired from Westinghouse's Blairsville laboratory in 1991, Bruce was able to devote more of his scientific training to the topic that had attracted his interest in the mid-eighties - the Earth's carrying capacity. The scope of this interest is reflected in the list of his writings at the Website he created at <http://www.bsundquist.civilizationsfuture.com>. Not only did he cover the topics of the degradation of soils and crop lands, forests, gaming lands and fisheries, but he also did research on globalization and Third World issues. Population growth was a major concern, and as recently as 2008 he wrote a paper titled, "Could Family Planning Cure Terrorism."

In addition to a long tenure as chair of the Allegheny Group's Outings program, Bruce was for some years chair of the Conservation Committee, and in 1995 and 1996 he was Group Chair.

It is not often that a person like Bruce Sundquist comes along, but when they do, we all benefit in many ways.

Peter J. Wray, Allegheny Group

We Must Protect Our Water



The tragic failure to protect communities in Flint, Michigan has people throughout the country wondering if they can trust their water supply. The bad news, however, is that like Flint, many communities across the United States have been fighting for access to safe and clean water for a long time.

The first step needed in order to effectively protect our water sources is to stop treating our rivers as a dilution source for pollution from coal, gas, chemical industries, and big agriculture. In Pennsylvania, compromised water sources are nothing new. Where I am from in Southwestern Pennsylvania, many private water sources have been destroyed by the fracking and mining industries and these lost water supplies often go unreported to the public as a result of legal settlements and nondisclosure agreements. According to the latest review of one of the state's mining laws, over 100 people are still waiting for a company to replace their lost water supplies. At the same time, many public water supplies along the Monongahela River are struggling to meet EPA drinking water standards due to increased

bromides and other pollutants in our river - a result of using our waterways to receive and dilute industry pollution. For example those being supplied by Tri County Water Authority in Fredricktown, PA, have received notices that trihalomethanes are above the legal limit for over five years. There are many discharges within two miles upstream of this drinking water intake that are permitted by the DEP.

But if industries are polluting clean water for corporate profit, then who is supposed to be reining them in? Unfortunately, regulators at many levels of government have sided time and time again with private interests and we cannot trust them to look out for us. It is up to us to hold them accountable and to make sure no more communities have to suffer like this again.

However, the truth is that the government didn't fail Flint. We failed Flint. By not speaking out and fighting for our clean water here and for the rights of everyone everywhere who do not have access to clean water. In Pennsylvania, the Environmental Rights Amendment in our state constitution declares that our government has a responsibility to protect our water, air,

and environment but government is failing the people of Pennsylvania. All [state] governments, not just the one we have in Pennsylvania, should uphold people's right to clean water, air, and environment. Public health disasters like Flint, Michigan should never have happened and it is up to us to make sure they don't ever again.

Veronica Coptis

Chapter Chair, Sierra Club Pennsylvania Chapter

Deputy Director, Center for Coal-field Justice





Clean Rivers Campaign Update

The Sierra Club is a founding member of the Clean Rivers Campaign. For five years we and the other organizations in the campaign have been working to ensure that we fix our sewer system with a “green first, green preferred” approach. This approach brings maximum benefits back to the ratepayers of the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority (ALCOSAN) for the \$2+ billion we will spend cleaning up our rivers.

The City of Pittsburgh, served by the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA), is by far the largest customer municipality in ALCOSAN, and the City and PWSA have shown great leadership by starting a rigorous scientific study of what a green first approach really could do – something that has never been done before. They have been recruiting other municipalities to be a part of this study, so that their results will apply to as large a portion of the ALCOSAN service area as possible. The DEP has also expressed support for this regional approach allowing and encouraging all municipalities to participate in joint studies and demonstration projects.

PWSA has also engaged Tim Duggan, a landscape architect from Kansas City, to help in this study. Tim was instrumental in changing Kansas City toward a green first solution with right-sized gray. He was also the host for a tour of the green approach in Kansas City that both Mayor Peduto and County Executive Fitzgerald attended. Both the Mayor and the County Executive were able to see the positive benefits for communities that come from a green first solution. The tour was a critical step in getting the support of these two political leaders for a green approach.

On the way to developing its green first plan, PWSA has discovered some very exciting possibilities. In any given year, our sewer system overflows 10 billion gallons of stormwater carrying raw sewage and other contaminants into our three rivers. According to initial PWSA modeling, if ALCOSAN were to expand the treatment plant and upgrade, repair and clean out parts of the existing system, that alone would get nearly half of the 10 billion gallons of raw sewage out of the rivers. These upgrades and maintenance to our current

system are estimated to cost less than \$800 million of the \$2 billion that is affordable by our region. They would also create a large number of construction jobs in just the next few years. It would also mean we have significant ratepayer dollars for green investments in our communities.

In comparison, ALCOSAN’s proposed tunnel plan would remove a comparable amount of sewage overflows but is projected to cost \$1.5 billion. And it would require communities – many of which are strapped for cash – to raise the final \$.5 billion. The jobs that the tunnels would create would also be much further in the future.

Because of this exciting opportunity, the Clean Rivers Campaign is calling on ALCOSAN to utilize the approach that will be most cost-effective and most beneficial to ratepayers. We must fix the sewer system we already have and do a green first approach before we build a whole new set of massive tunnels under our rivers.

The Clean Rivers Campaign is also encouraging municipalities to join in the regional study. If you are interested in learning more about the Campaign or getting involved in these advocacy efforts with fellow Sierra Club members, contact

Tom Hoffman (tom.hoffman@sierraclub.org).

*Tom Hoffman
Conservation Program Coordinator
Pennsylvania Chapter, Sierra Club*

In December of 2015 the solar industry received an unexpected gift from Congress: a budget was passed that included a 5-year extension of the solar and wind tax credits in exchange for a lifting of the 40 year old crude oil export ban. The final numbers for 2015 show that the U.S. solar industry had installed a record 7260 Megawatts of solar in that year. Even more amazing is the fact that GTM Research predicts that there will be a record breaking 16,000 Megawatts of solar installed in 2016 (*see <https://www.seia.org/news/us-solar-market-set-grow-119-2016-installations-reach-16-gw>*). Because the solar tax credits were extended, the solar industry will now have the ability to grow with certainty over the next 5 years. For the past 3 years solar has been in the top 3 for new sources of electricity along with wind and natural gas, and it appears that the trend will continue. Solar may even gain ground on wind power.

From 2000 to 2009 the solar industry in the US grew gradually every year. In 2009 there were 385 megawatts of solar installed in the US, the highest total of solar that had ever been installed in one year in the US. Then solar really started to take off. In 2010 the US installed 852 Megawatts; in 2011 1,925 MW; in 2012 3,372 MW; in 2013 4,761 MW; in 2014 6,247 MW; and in 2015 the aforementioned 7,260 MW (<http://www.vox.com/2016/3/10/11192022/big-solar-boom-times>).

What was it that helped solar take off as an energy source? Certainly the fact that Germany was an early

US Solar: From No-Where's-Ville to a Top Three Energy Source

leader in supporting and subsidizing solar was important. Later China became the world leader in



manufacturing solar panels, and the cost of solar dropped further. Further cost reductions for solar were realized as the price of silicon used in solar panels became much cheaper. But here in the US there was another overlooked reason that solar started to take off around 2009.

In 2009 there were no solar farms in the US larger than 100 Megawatts. The US Department of Energy (DOE) helped to finance the first five solar farms that were over

100 Megawatts. This was important because banks considered these loans risky, since solar farms that big had never been built before. So federal loan guaran-

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tees helped to get the first large solar farms built in the US. Since that time, there have been an additional 28 solar farms financed without the need of DOE assistance. So it was the advent of the utility-scale solar farm that really helped the solar industry take off in the US. One 500 Megawatt solar farm provides as much electricity as 100,000 solar rooftops, with an average 5 Kilowatt solar installation. As you can imagine, installing that many solar panels at one solar farm can help to drive the price for solar even lower.

You may remember a company called Solyndra that built a circular solar electric generating device that was in competition with traditional solar panels. In 2009, Solyndra received a \$536 million U.S. Energy Department loan guarantee and posted \$100 million in revenue; but it filed for bankruptcy on September 1, 2011 (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solyndra>). Part of the reason Solyndra failed was the dropping price of traditional solar panels.

However, the DOE loan program was mostly successful. Not only did it help launch the utility scale solar industry in the US but it also helped to launch the electric car industry by making a large loan to Tesla Motors. That loan was paid back early and Tesla Motors has been very successful in building electric cars. They recently unveiled the Tesla Model 3 which received over 300,000 preorders.

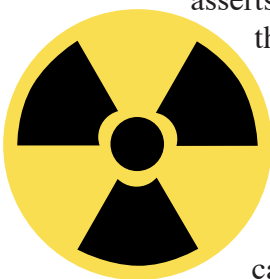
Certain politicians seem to have amnesia, though, and all they can talk about is the failure of Solyndra when clearly the DOE loan program has been very successful overall. These types of loans are known as venture capital and they are risky. The DOE loan program has exceeded expectations (<http://cleantechnica.com/2014/04/27/doe-loan-program-office-government-success-story/>).

Another example of missing the boat was a segment on the CBS “60 Minutes” program on January 5, 2014. The segment, titled “Clean Tech Crash,” talked about the failure of Solyndra and the biofuel industry for providing alternatives to fossil fuels. But the segment completely missed the Solar Power and Wind Power revolution going on around the world. This segment was a “hit job” on clean energy but it failed miserably (http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/01/06/60-minutes-cleantech-crash_n_4548560.html). Undoubtedly, though, it left some people confused. So now you know the rest of the story.

Renewable energy still has its detractors, but the world is clearly moving to a clean renewable energy future – the solution to pollution is renewable, it’s doable!

Fred Kraybill

FUKUSHIMA DAIICHI NUCLEAR DISASTER – FIVE YEARS AFTER



In the suburbs of Pittsburgh, houses, roads, and buildings intrude on the deciduous forest that once covered these hills. Where I live, in Forest Hills, hundred-year-old oaks rise to intertwine branches over the house and yard. Soft snowflakes settle on white daffodils yielding to the warming sun of this Spring morning. The fragile beauty of new growth

asserts the vitality emergent from the Earth. Sunlight sparkling through dewdrops on new leaves encapsulates in miniature all that is needed for life. How starkly different from the emitted radiance captured through the decay of Cesium-137 on objects left abandoned after the tsunami and Fukushima Daiichi disaster in Japan in March 2011. The poignant pictures of Takashi Morizumi, displayed briefly at the Frick Fine Arts Gallery in Pittsburgh, made the tragedy of that distant place feel close, and unspeakably sad.

Five years ago, the Fukushima Prefecture was rent asunder by a

9.0 magnitude Great East Earthquake and tsunami that shook foundations all along the coast and inundated the Fukushima Prefecture. The nuclear power complex at Fukushima, though fortified and built with protections, was no match for the force of the water that poured over the area. As the reactors’ auxiliary generators were inundated by the floods, the emergency systems failed, the cooling systems failed, and hydrogen explosions rent the facility, spewing radioactive material across the countryside. The fuel core of two reactors melted, with radioactivity levels so high, even five years after the event, that robots sent to “Fukushima” Continued on Page 10

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take measurements and inspections cannot function (<http://fukushimaupdate.com/radiation-so-high-at-fukushima-tepcos-robots-cant-survive/>).

In the aftermath of this disaster, 159,128 people were evacuated from the “exclusion zone” area where the radiation continues at levels unsafe for constant exposure. Cesium-137, with a half-life of 30 years, contaminates an area of 11,580 square miles, making the land uninhabitable for at least 300 years. Thyroid cancer rates of 20 to 50 times the national average have been experienced in the Iodine-131 exposed population, especially those who were children at the time of the accident. Iodine-131 has a half-life of only eight days. Its effects can be lessened by immediately giving people iodine tablets to block uptake of radioactive iodine, but enough tablets were not available to all the exposed people. Scientists have called for large-scale independent epidemiological studies to collect better information about the exposure levels and the health effects that may unfold over time. It is difficult during an emergency to collect information systematically, or to respond to the needs of so many people when the basic infrastructure of the society has been disrupted by the twin emergencies of the earthquake and tsunami itself, compounded by the nuclear power plant failures.

Other communities around the world have experienced the tragedy of tsunami and earthquake disasters. The water goes down, people return to their neighbor-



hoods and rebuild, or sell and move on. The compounding complications of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant failure make return impossible. People suffer from the grief of separation from their land, the destruction of the human network of communities, and the uncertainty of their fate from unknown amounts of nuclear exposure. The disaster has left a miasma of fear and despair. Once-fertile fields of the Fukushima Prefecture lie idle, their topsoil scraped into black plastic bags in an attempt to reduce the radioactive areas. Even as areas are cleaned, the rain and snowmelt re-introduce Cs-137 from untreated areas. The sea water being pumped into the crippled plants becomes radioactive and is being stored in thousands of tanks, with much leaking through the bottom to flow into the ocean in a radioactive plume that has not been stopped or contained yet. Plutonium has a half-life of 24,000 years, essentially contaminating the core site of the melted reactors for-

ever. Takashi Morizumi’s images capture the heartbreak of those who can never come home, and the tears of the Earth laid waste for hundreds of years.

The promise of nuclear power, using atoms for peaceful generation of electricity, rings hollow in such a place and time. There are 328 nuclear power plants operating worldwide, 104 in the United States. Of these, 63 are of the same design as the Fukushima Daiichi plants. The Price Anderson Act protects nuclear power plant operators from liability with a government-backed insurance policy. But what happens to the community, if the worst does occur? Each power plant in the U.S. has a “spent fuel” pool nearby to store the highly radioactive spent fuel rods removed from the reactor cores. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission fact sheet on nuclear power states, “There are no permanent disposal facilities in the United States for high level nuclear waste.” Several nuclear

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plants around the world are situated along earthquake fault lines, including the Diablo Canyon plant in California. Even the Fukushima plant remains in the path of future earthquake or tsunami events. There is no way to assure that such disasters will not occur again. The most advanced technology is no match for the full force of nature.

The unintended consequences of using nuclear power technology are subtle. They unfold over long periods of time, and the effects are not immediately obvious. Radiation can accumulate in food chains and concentrate in biological systems. Chronic exposures to phytoplankton and zooplankton in contaminated ocean waters, even at low doses, can magnify up the food chain. As the Fukushima Daiichi plant continues to leak, long-lived radionuclides spread through the biosphere.

Environmental effects can accumulate over generations. There is no way to be sure what the ultimate effects will be over time. The saddest part of this story is that the power requirements of this mostly agricultural area can be easily met with solar and wind power for irrigation, domestic uses, and heating. Generating large amounts of electricity in remote areas to send away to large cities has placed the burden on poorer people, living simply. The injustice of their burden gives pause for the future of nuclear power. The probability of an accident may be very low and the risk small compared to other kinds of exposures, but in case of a nuclear disaster, the effects are catastrophic.

There is no “Planet B.” We need to take precautions to protect the living earth and the essential life support systems of fresh air, clean water, fertile ground, and the biodiversity of species that form the interconnected web of life. In Rachel Carson’s words, “Underlying all of the problems of introducing contamination into our world is the question of moral responsibility – not only to our own generation but to those of the future” (Rachel Carson, “On the Pollution of Our Environment,” in *Lost Woods*, Linda J. Lear (ed.), 1998, Beacon Press, Page 242).

Live in harmony with nature

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We Can Do It! Citizens Climate Lobby

2014 was the hottest year in human history. 2015 was dramatically hotter than 2014 and now holds the new historic record. Every month so far during 2016 has shattered temperature records, causing even climate scientists to cast about for new words to use to describe how terrified they feel. Only four months into 2016, there’s already a 99% chance this year will claim the newest record for hottest year ever. That’s according to the analysis by Climate Central of NPAA and NASA data <http://www.climatecentral.org/news/99-percent-chance-2016-hottest-year-20359>.

Our world has a fever. That fever is getting worse. And, the rate it is getting worse is getting faster.

Does it ever strike you that changing our light bulbs or driving a more fuel efficient car is trivial since this is truly a global problem? This is a big planet and it took 150 years of burning fossil fuels to double the CO2 blanket that traps heat in our atmosphere. Faced with the sheer scale of our climate crisis, I am well aware that my shopping bag or water bottle choices won’t make a dent. I will still do those things, but it is because of a de-

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sire to live intentionally and with integrity.

I am convinced that to really impact our global problem of a warming world, it takes governmental policy action. The 2015 climate accord in Paris and the EPA’s Clean Power Plan are definitely hopeful signs our world and nation are finally beginning to move. However, neither will do nearly enough to reduce greenhouse gas pollution as much or as fast as our world needs. The political process in the U.S. and in Pennsylvania is corrupt and gridlocked. Powerful corporations and the Koch network of billionaires spend millions every year to keep billions in tax breaks; careless of the harm it does and will do to us, our children and our common home -- this planet.

Fatalism is sorely tempting because that would mean there is nothing we can do except sit back and enjoy the ride. Yeehaw, ala... Dr. Strangelove.

I wish that this was not happening to me. I wish none of this was happening. That must have been what the trade unionists in Pittsburgh thought during the first gilded age of the robber barons. That must have been what our parents and grandparents thought during the rise of fascism and the holocaust.

Unions fought for and won our labor rights. The greatest generation turned our entire economy around in just over a year’s time and defeated the fascists. Any person who lives to see frightening times wishes it wasn’t happening to them, but they don’t get to decide that. Denial that we can do great things to make a more livable world is as

wrong as denying the climate science. We need to decide what we will do in the time we have.

I choose to take civic action now, before we reach a point of unavoidable crises and drastic decisions.

And we can.

Governments will respond to the will of the people provided we tell them what we want. And what we want is a livable world. Citizens’ Climate Lobby (<https://citizensclimatelobby.org/>) empowers citizens to connect with and influence their members of Congress, spreading the idea that each one of us can address climate change. Working together, we can make this happen. By building constructive, working relationships with members of Congress we seek passage of Carbon Fee-and-Dividend; the best first step climate change solution, that bridges the partisan divide. But will that work despite toxic politics?

We already are making real progress and with your help it will happen faster. The Republican Gibson Resolution (HRes424) (<https://citizensclimatelobby.org/gibson-climate-change-resolution/>),

including three Pennsylvania GOP members of Congress and the formation of the bipartisan Climate Solutions Caucus (<https://citizensclimatelobby.org/climate-solutions-caucus/>), are the latest examples.

Carbon Fee and Dividend (<https://citizensclimatelobby.org/carbon-fee-and-dividend/>), a revenue-neutral carbon tax with all revenue returned directly to households, will reduce greenhouse gas emissions

52% below 1990 levels within 20 years. It will correct our broken energy market while growing our economy and saving lives. Any nation who wants to do business with the United States will either pay a border tax or implement their own equal Carbon Fee and Dividend. This will lead to a clear and global price on greenhouse gas pollution.

We can do great things. Together.

L. Ray Roberts

*Citizens Climate Lobby--Pittsburgh
Chapter #183*

Citizens’ Climate Lobby is a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots advocacy organization which supports the power of the people rather than asking people to give power to headquarters.

We are laser focused both on a specific piece of legislation and a proven strategy to gain its passage. Our plan, Carbon Fee and Dividend, is the one climate change solution economists and climate scientists alike say is the “best first-step” to preventing the worst impacts of a warming world (*see citizensclimatelobby.org/*).

Building a **Just** and **Sustainable** Future

White people are projected to become a demographic minority (under 50%) in the United States by 2045. That being the case, most societal improvement organizations (i.e., rights groups, peace and justice groups, civic improvement groups, etc.), concerned about their survival and the survival of their missions are mounting an effort to diversify by reaching out to ethnic and gender communities that have not traditionally played a significant role in these organizations, either as members or, especially, as leaders.

Having participated in several social justice movements and been a part of several progressive organizations, I have reached the conclusion, based upon my experience, that the environmentalist movement is the whitest and the wealthiest of them all.

The reason I think this a reasonable conclusion is that other progressive movements address manifestations of social injustice, and activists in those movements are usually the people who are the victims of a specific form of injustice. So, those who suffer discrimination because of ethnicity or gender, for example, are drawn to rights movements that address those issues; while the working poor are inclined to rally for a raise in the minimum wage and are, in general, drawn to the labor movement.

On the other hand, it is quite likely

that folks who dedicate their time and energies to saving the whales and the polar bears, or to fighting to preserve pristine wildernesses from the depredations of drillers and loggers are, for the most part, members of an ethnic social category and an economic class not struggling on a daily basis with racial discrimination and/or economic hardship. In other words, they are “white” and trending to “upper middle class.” And this absence of discrimination based on color is part of what is meant by a term that a lot of people find objectionable: “white privilege.”

None of this is meant to be criticism. That people who could be spending their lives totally in pursuit of pleasure and entertainment are willing to give of themselves to work for a better world is truly commendable. Clean air and clean water are basic human necessities. And global warming threatens the whole human race, but especially the poor. Environmentalists are certainly fighting on behalf of the whole human race, including the underprivileged.

Yet this very fact may lead some to wonder why a special outreach effort is being undertaken by the Sierra Club to achieve diversity, equity and inclusion within the organization by actively reaching out to minorities, especially communities of color, in an effort to form partnerships and alliances with the goal of eventually changing the complexion of our activist demographic. After all, anybody who wishes to join the Sierra Club or participate in Club activities is more than welcome. And might not the fact that so few minority persons become involved with the

Club indicate a lack of interest on their part? Perhaps even a lack of concern for the plight of our planet?

Such questions, however, even when posed in an honest and sincere manner and with the best of intentions, are the best evidence for why such outreach is necessary. People best understand what they have experienced, what they have lived, as opposed to what they have read about in books or derived from other second-hand sources of information. White people who have grown up in white middle-class surroundings, and, who, as adults, live a white middle-class or upper middle-class existence, and whose friends and associates are similarly situated, have no real understanding of what it is like to be African-American in this society. There is no real idea what it is like to be a member of a group that, in our society, has been enslaved, beaten, lynched and otherwise murdered, exploited, deemed inherently inferior to the majority population, and to be at best treated as second-class citizens, which has been the experience of black Americans since the time the first African was brought to this continent in chains until the present day. Those who have watched *Roots* or read *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* might think they can “imagine” what it is like, but, really, such “imaginings” are gauzy fantasies compared to a reality reeking of burnt flesh and the sweat of a lynch mob.

So, the fact that poor people and people of color have not come flocking to our predominantly

“Just Future”

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white, predominantly upper-middle class environmental movement, despite our “open door policy,” is not because they don’t care. It is because they face more immediate and pressing needs on a daily basis, such as extremely high unemployment especially among youth, lack of educational opportunities, drugs, and the ever-present threat and reality of violence in their neighborhoods. This is an existential situation that well-off white people are mostly clueless about, and the most clueless are the ones who think they “get it.” Let’s be frank: we in the environmental movement have never been able to persuasively articulate our message among a majority of the white blue-collar working class who at least share the “privilege” of being white. How much more difficult is it to connect with people whose history and experience in the United States has been so vastly different from our own?

Yet it is imperative that we in the environmental movement make the utmost effort to actively open our organizations to the whole panoply of diverse ethnicities, cultures, genders, faith traditions (or lack thereof), and poor and working people of every background. And by “actively” I mean that we must work to create spaces within our organizations in which diverse humanity feels safe, comfortable and valued. The Sierra Club, as the oldest and largest environmental organization in the nation, must assume a leadership position here and, in fact, that is precisely what is starting to happen. The election of Aaron Mair as the first African-

American president of the Board of Directors of the national Sierra Club is a step in the right direction. But much more needs to be done on every level to achieve this goal. And one of the best ways to start is to join the fight for racial and social justice by joining organizations that work for these goals in communities of color and among the working poor and among those who are discriminated against because of their gender or perceived gender. And to join them not as a “gimmick” to get them to join us, but as a real expression of solidarity in the struggle for justice.

Clean air and clean water are basic human necessities

Locally, for example, the Sierra Club Allegheny Group endorsed and was a part of the National Mobilization Against Police Brutality in Pittsburgh last summer, and this year we have endorsed the Freedom From Violence March held in the Hill District on Memorial Day weekend. Also the Allegheny Group will be marching as an organization in the Pride Parade in June.

Global warming is the foremost threat facing humankind today, but combating global warming is going to involve a lot more than simply switching our energy sources from fossil fuels to renewables. Currently the United States has 5% of the world’s population but consumes 20% of its energy. That is an unsustainable way to live, fossil fuels or no fossil fuels, as is becoming increasingly evident as people all over the world, including

China and India with over a billion people apiece, “want to live like Americans.” Real and hard decisions about consumption habits are going to have to be made, and it is unacceptable that those decisions be made by professional politicians often beholden to wealthy institutions and individuals. Some form of direct democracy is going to have to either replace or supplement the so-called “representative democracy” that currently prevails.

And in this direct democracy everybody’s voice, and I mean everybody’s, is going to have to be heard and everybody’s vote is going to have to count and right now what is coming to pass is One Big Movement dedicated to building the institutions of inclusion and diversity and equity. And the environmental movement needs to be integral part of this One Big Movement, or we are going to be on the outside looking in.

The truth that environmental issues and social justice issues are intimately linked was eloquently expressed by Pope Francis last year in his encyclical *Laudato Si* when he wrote: “[T]he earth is essentially a shared inheritance, whose fruits are meant to benefit everyone. . . . [H]ence every ecological approach needs to incorporate a social perspective which takes into account the fundamental rights of the poor and the underprivileged.”

Welcome to the Movement for building a just and sustainable future.

*Michael Pastorkovich,
Vice Chair
Sierra Club Allegheny Group*

Join the March for a Clean Energy Revolution



This summer is heating up, and with it election season and a time for community action. On Sunday, July 24th, the eve of the Democratic National Convention, thousands of people will converge in Philadelphia with a clear message: we must act on issues of fossil fuel extraction and climate change impacts.

Pennsylvania is ground zero for every aspect of fossil fuel use. From coal mining to fracking, to transportation of crude oil, fracked gas, and coal, to the burning and disposal of fossil fuels, communities across the Commonwealth are negatively impacted. People's health and safety are thrown aside, their land is destroyed, and communities are left with the economic bust that comes with the cycle of "boom and bust" industries like coal mining and fracking.

Yet, communities are standing up and fighting against these impacts, and it's time to take our clear demands right to the steps of the Democratic National Convention, where local, state, and national decision-makers are gathering. It's time for us, as western Pennsylvanians, to stand strong together and demand a just transition away from fossil fuels, a ban on fracking, longwall mining, and other forms of extreme fossil fuel extraction, and a halt to the expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure. Together with thousands of people across the country, we will march through downtown Philadelphia on July 24th to demand that these strong, bold actions are taken to protect our health, safety, and the environment. The movement is going to take all of us, and our actions need to build up to and last beyond the March for a Clean Energy Revolution in July. Now is the time for us to join together as a community.

Interested in getting on a bus to attend the March for a Clean Energy Revolution? There are many buses leaving from throughout the region on Sunday, July 24th in the morning and returning that evening after the March and rally. Buses currently are leaving from Butler, Cranberry, Monroeville, Pittsburgh, Washington, Waynesburg, and Morgantown. Please email Eva at ewestheimer@fwwatch.org; or call at 267-428-1916 for more information about buses or how to get involved.

Eva Westheimer

Western Pennsylvania Organizer – Food & Water Watch

Western Pennsylvania Hiking Guides



Allegheny National Forest Hiking Guide

The 800-square-mile Allegheny National Forest contains over 250 miles of foot trails for hiking, back-packing, and ski-touring. Edition 4 of this guide describes hiking and ski-touring opportunities and points of scenic interest. 192 pages – \$9.95

The Laurel Highlands: A Hiking Guide

This guide to the foot trails of Chestnut Ridge, Laurel Ridge, and Allegheny Front covers 446 miles of foot trails, mainly in state forests and state parks. Features: directions to trail-heads; ski-touring and back-packing information; difficulty ratings; and more. Does not cover Laurel Highlands Trail (see separate guide). 288 pages – \$8.95

Hiker's Guide to Laurel Highlands Trail

The 6th edition of this guide to the 70-mile Laurel Highlands Hiking Trail features: the geology, climate, vegetation, and wildlife of Laurel Hill; tree identification; elevation profile; directions to the trailheads; back-packing information and shelter reservations; a list of hiking organizations in the area; and more! 128 pages – \$7.00

These trail guides and other items can be ordered online at www.alleghenysc.org using a credit card. They can also be ordered by mail: make checks payable to Allegheny Group, Sierra Club; send check and order form to: Rick Arnold, 839 N. Sheridan Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15206 (1bud401@gmail.com).

	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Total</i>
Allegheny National Forest Hiking Guide	\$9.95	_____	_____
Laurel Highlands: A Hiking Guide	\$8.95	_____	_____
Hiker's Guide to Laurel Highlands Trail	\$7.00	_____	_____

For shipping: add \$3.50 for one guide plus \$0.50 for each additional guide. Ship to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____



Spring time is well known as the season of renewal, growth, and, of course, cleaning! But what do you do after you've made everything spic and span? Recycling your unused or broken belongings can be a problem. What are you supposed to do with that old computer or other old electronic device? What about those old tires, unused paint in cans, aerosol cans? The Styrofoam that came with various delivered packages? Even more confusing, what do you do with all those prescription and non-prescription pills that are unused or out of date? The Pennsylvania Resources Council (<http://prc.org/2016-collection-events/>) has the answers.

Each year between April and October, PRC holds Recycling Collection events in the Greater Pittsburgh area (which includes Washington, Beaver, Cambria, and Allegheny Counties). They sponsor two types of events: Hard to Recycle collections (such as TVs, computers, electronics, tires, medical equipment); and Household Chemical Collections (such as paint and aerosol cans).

According to PRC Regional Director Justin Stockdale, "The

Pennsylvania Resources Council provides residents of the commonwealth with numerous options to conveniently and cost-effectively dispose of a wide variety of materials. Since details vary for each of these opportunities, we encourage individuals to visit our website (<http://prc.org/2016-collection-events/>) or call PRC at 412-488-7452 for complete details."

NOTE: As of April 16, 2016, PRC is accepting televisions at these collections, for the fees noted below; but that information is subject to change at a later date. Stay current by visiting the PRC website regularly (<http://prc.org/programs/collection-events/hard-recycle-collections/west/>).

HARD-TO-RECYCLE COLLECTIONS:

June 25: Ansys-Canonsburg (2600 Ansys Drive, Canonsburg)

August 20: Century III Mall (3075 Clairton Rd, West Mifflin)

October 1: The Mall at Robinson (100 Robinson Center Drive, Pittsburgh)

All events run from 9:00am until 1:00pm.

The following are collected for free: CPU (towers), laptops, mice, keyboards, home phones, cell phones, tablets, PDA's, UPS/servers, routers, modems, web and digital cameras, DVD's VHS's, paper shredders, clock radios, stereos, microwaves, printers, copiers,

fax machines, scanners zip drive, electronic cables, video game consoles, expanded polystyrene packaging material.

The following are accepted for a fee:

- all computer monitors – flat screen and CRT (\$15 each);
- televisions (\$25 each);
- console or projection TV's (\$35 each);
- small kitchen appliances such as toasters and blenders, etc., hair dryers and curling irons (\$5 each);
- vacuum cleaners and large stereo speakers (\$10 each);
- alkaline batteries (\$1 per pound);
- small Freon-containing appliances such as window air conditioning units, dehumidifiers(\$10 each);
- CD's, DVD's, and floppy discs (\$1 per pound);
- tires for cars or trucks ..(\$3 with out rims, \$7 with rims);
- hard drive data destruction verification . . .(first drive \$11.50, each additional drive after the first \$3 each).

The following lighting items are also collected for a fee:

- fluorescent tubes (\$2 per 4 feet, \$3.50 per 8 feet);
- U and circle lamps (\$2.75 each);
- neon lighting (\$9 per pound);
- incandescent (\$0.75 each);
- halogens (\$1 each);
- projector lamps (\$12 each).

HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL COLLECTIONS:

Individuals can drop off automotive fluids, household cleaners, pesticides, paints and other household chemicals for a cost of \$3/

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“Recycle” Continued from Page 17

gallon (cash only). All events are from 9:00am until 1:00pm. NOTE from PRC: All events and/or locations are subject to change; please check back frequently (<http://prc.org/programs/collection-events/household-chemicals/>). All fees need to be provided in cash.

Per the PRC, Household Chemical Waste generally falls into six categories:

Cleaning Products: aerosols, bathroom cleaners, drain cleaners, chlorine bleach, solvents, spot removers, toilet cleaners, oven cleaners, rug and floor cleaners, furniture polish.

Auto Maintenance: car waxes, starting fluids, solvent cleaners, antifreeze, repair products, batteries, brake fluid, motor oil, and gasoline.

Home Environment and Improvement Supplies: oil based stains and paints, caulking, varnish, paint thinners, chemical strippers, fire extinguishers, flea collars and sprays, insect repellents, insecticides, kerosene, lighter fluid, lye, mothballs, and pool chemicals.

Hobby Products: glues, paints, stains, finishes, contact cement, and photographic chemicals.

Personal Care and Pharmaceuticals: nail polish and remover, hair color, prescription and over-the-counter drugs, and mercury thermometers.

Lawn and Garden Care: weed and pest killers, herbicides, fungicides, and other lawn chemicals

Locations and Dates for 2016:

Washington County:

Saturday, July 9; Washington County Fairgrounds

Allegheny County #2: Saturday, August 13; Boyce Park Four Seasons Ski Lodge parking lot

Allegheny County #3:

Saturday, September 17; South Park Wave Pool parking lot

Beaver County:

Saturday, October 8, Bradys Run Park Recycling Center.

UNUSED PHARMACEUTICAL COLLECTIONS:

Controlled Substance Public Disposal Locations authorized by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration in our local area are Wilson’s Pharmacy, 4101 Penn Avenue; Asti’s South Hills Pharmacy, 250 Mt. Lebanon Boulevard; Donora Union Pharmacy, 642 McKean Avenue; and the Heritage Valley Pharmacy, 720 Blackburn Road.

Unused medications in homes create a public health and safety concern, because they can be accidentally ingested, stolen, misused, and abused. And disposing of them through the sewage system can harm the water supply. Please dispose of these pharmaceuticals responsibly!

Barb Grover



Call for Nominations!

Sierra Club Allegheny Group Executive Committee

In the fall of each year, Sierra Club members have the opportunity to vote for candidates for our Allegheny Group Executive Committee. YOU, our members, have the opportunity to submit names for consideration by our Nominating Committee, including nominating yourself. The ExCom is a wonderful opportunity for you to make a difference here in southwestern Pennsylvania, You can help prioritize our campaigns, how we organize our work, and have a good time working with others who care about the world in which we live and its future. Monthly meetings occur the second Monday of each month at our office in Oakland from 7-9pm.

The nine-member Executive Committee assures that the activities and services provided by the Group are consistent with our Group Bylaws as well as the policies and directives of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Sierra Club and the National Sierra Club. These responsibilities include financial management, membership services, publication of The Allegheny Sierran (our newsletter), conservation issues, outings, and political programs. Each elected Executive Committee member serves a two year term and can run for re-election as often as he/she wishes.

Candidates for the ExCom provide a brief statement about their interest in environmental issues and why they wish to serve on the Executive Committee. These statements are included with the ballot. Voting by the membership for the 5 of the 9 seats up for election for the 2017-2019 term occurs in the fall via email or US Postal Service. Results of the election will be announced in January 2017.

Please complete the form below and mail to Naomi Swerdlow, c/o the Sierra Club, 425 N. Craig St., Suite 202, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, or email the information to Naomi (*nswerdlow@gmail.com*). Please let us hear from you. Your voice needs to be heard!

Nominee for the Executive Committee of the Allegheny Group of the Sierra Club
(2017-2019 term)

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Name of Nominee: _____
Phone number: _____ email address: _____
Postal Address: _____

Name of person submitting Nominee's name: _____
Phone _____ email address: _____

If this is not a self-nomination, please sign your assent to the statement below:
I have spoken to the nominee and he/she has agreed to be considered as a candidate for the Executive Committee of the Allegheny Group of The Sierra Club.

Signed: _____

Sierran

Summer Newsletter, 2016

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events

Activist Nights: Every Tuesday evening, 6:30-8:30pm, Sierra Club Office, 425 N. Craig St., Pittsburgh 15213. Pizza and drinks provided – come join like-minded environmental activists!

Executive Committee Meetings:

2nd Monday of the month, 7:00-9:00pm, Sierra Club Office, 425 N. Craig St., Pittsburgh 15213. All are welcome to attend.

June 12: Gay Pride Parade – we'll be marching in this parade. Come join us for planning sessions and marching. Check our website (alleghenyssc.org) for details as we set dates and times to prepare.

June 24-26: Sierra Club's Annual Membership Outing weekend, Raccoon Creek State Park, 3000 State Route 18, Hookstown, PA 15050. FREE fun-filled weekend of outdoor activities, good conversations, good food. Meet old and new friends who care about the environment. More details on our website (alleghenyssc.org) closer to the date.

June 25: 10th Annual Dryerson Festival, 1:00-4:00pm, Ryerson Station State Park, 360 Bistoria Road, Wind Ridge, PA 15380. Closer to the date, please check the website for the Center for Coalfield Justice (<http://www.coalfieldjustice.org/>).

July 24: **March for a Clean Energy Revolution** – demonstration at the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia. Busses from 6 locations in southwest PA are organized by Food and Water Watch. Register under Events (<http://foodandwaterwatch.org>).

Allegheny Sierran

Allegheny Sierran Summer 2016

The Allegheny Sierran is the newsletter of the Allegheny Group and is intended to keep the membership posted on the activities of the Group. Opinions expressed in the Allegheny Sierran are those of the authors, and should not be taken as Sierra Club policy unless specifically so stated.

All parties are encouraged to respond to any of the articles we publish and submit any material they feel may be appropriate. Submissions and questions regarding newsletter content should be addressed to the editor, Claudia Kirkpatrick (kirkclaudia@gmail.com).

Founded by legendary conservationist John Muir in 1892, the Sierra Club is now the nation's largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization -- with more than two million members and supporters. Our successes range from protecting millions of acres of wilderness to helping pass the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, and Endangered Species Act. More recently, we've made history by leading the charge to move away from the dirty fossil fuels that cause climate disruption and toward a clean energy economy.

The Allegheny Group of the Sierra Club was organized in the early 1970s. It is one of 10 groups comprising the Pennsylvania Chapter.

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**SIERRA
CLUB**

Allegheny Group
www.alleghenysc.org