



The Pinchot Papers

Newsletter of the Governor Pinchot Group of the Sierra Club
Visit us online at gvpsierraclub.wordpress.com

Winter 2016

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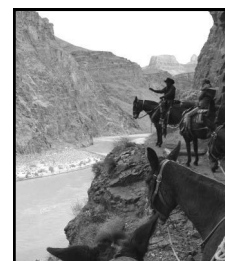
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Visit the National Parks of the Southwest — in Harrisburg



Take a virtual ride down the Grand Canyon on a mule. Meet a bird that regularly catches and eats rattlesnakes. See the sun set on Joshua trees. See sunrise at Zabriskie Point.

Examine 2,000-year-old petroglyphs. Climb into cliff dwellings. Walk between 40-foot cacti. See a rainbow of flowers blooming in the desert. All this and more will be shown and discussed in celebration of Earth Day.

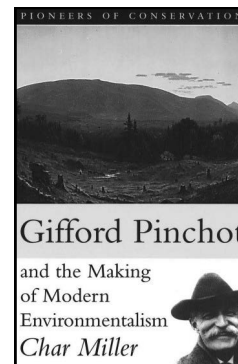
From Texas' Big Bend to California's Death Valley see the beauty of the desert, learn about its flora and fauna, and find out what conservation challenges this region faces.

David Platt, GVP member and founder of Query Quest National Parks Education, has spent the last 10 years photographing and teaching people about our magnificent national parks, monuments, historic sites, memorials and seashores.

Free admission. Join us at 7:30 pm Thursday, April 21 (the eve of Earth Day), Unitarian Church of Harrisburg, 1280 Clover Lane, Harrisburg, PA 17113 (Off Eisenhower Blvd.)

New Book Club - Pinchot Group Readers

How much do you know about the man our group is named for? Of course, you know he was a Pennsylvania governor, and you may know he was the first director of the US Forest Service. What else do you know about this fascinating resident of Grey Towers? Please join us as we read *Gifford Pinchot and the Making of Modern Environmentalism* by Char Miller. The dates and meeting locations will be determined with the interested members. Contact David Platt david@queryquest.us or join the Facebook group Pinchot Group Readers for more information.



The GVP Executive Committee meets the last Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. To be added to our email list or for the meeting location, please contact Amy Fox at amf194@gmail.com or see the GVP Website: gvpsierraclub.wordpress.com

Climate Change: We Need to Reduce Carbon Now to Protect Our Children



The year 2015 was the hottest year recorded since the beginning of the industrial revolution. According to the *New York Times'* survey of scientists, 2015 temperatures exceeded 2014 by far, breaking a mark set only the year before — "a burst of heat that has continued into the new year and is roiling weather patterns all over the world."



The climate accord reached in Paris, France last December committed nearly 200 countries to achieving a climate goal of a temperature increase of no more than 2.0° Celsius. As of October 2015, the Earth had warmed by about 1° C above the pre-industrial 1880-1899 period. The World Meteorological Organization found both the average temperature and the carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere (exceeding 400 parts per million) alarming.



Longer term, if carbon emissions continue to rise, the risks are profound. Scientists fear climate effects that would melt the polar ice fields, causing the seas to rise high enough to flood most of the world's coastal cities, and warming that would cause droughts and crop failures. The social and political consequences would include destabilizing governments, producing waves of refugees, and causing starvation of many.



The debate on whether human actions cause climate change is over. "Humans have sped up the rate by which we change the world, while the rate at which evolution adapts is much slower. There's a mismatch between what we can do and what nature can sustain," states Elizabeth Kolbert, author of *The Sixth Extinction*. As a country, the United States is committed to reducing carbon pollution. How we do so and how fast we move are critical questions. How do we translate that commitment into practical action?



What can Pennsylvanians do about reducing carbon pollution? Pennsylvania is an energy exporter -- we produce 1 percent of the world's carbon emissions. We can reduce carbon emissions by supporting the state Clean Power Plan under the Clean Air Act. By law, we must reduce our power plant carbon emissions by 30% by 2025. We can ask the Governor and the General Assembly to submit a Clean Power Plan to EPA on schedule by September, 2016. On the local level, we can support the use of renewable energy by public institutions - schools, hospitals, parks, and governments. On the personal level, we can reduce unnecessary energy use, drive conservatively, and take actions to reduce our carbon footprint - like planting trees.

2016 GVP Sierra Club Events Calendar

More Event Details Online: pennsylvania.sierraclub.org/pinchot

ON-GOING EVENTS

Pinchot Readers Book Club Contact David david@queryquest.us
Executive Committee Meeting Last Tuesday of the month, 6:30 pm. Contact Amy amf194@gmail.com

APRIL

Sat 2	Fracking Well Tour Contact Amy amf194@gmail.com
Sat 9	Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup 9-10 am Contact Jill kerrouac@msn.com
Thurs 21	National Parks of Southwest Presentation 7:30 pm Contact David david@queryquest.us
Sat 30	Wildwood Wetlands Festival Tabling Event 10 am - 4 pm Contact Amy amf194@gmail.com

MAY

Sat 7	Fundraiser Yard Sale Item drop-off 5/1-5/6 at 3244 Green St, Harrisburg. Contact: Robin 717-221-8590 rbroderick1@email.com
Sat 21	Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup 9-10 am Contact Jill kerrouac@msn.com

JUNE

Sat 4	Bike Ride and Ice Cream Mt Gretna Trail. Contact Justina Jawasicek@gmail.com
Sat 11	Caledonia Hike 10 am Contact Justina Jawasicek@gmail.com
Fri/Sun 24-26	PA Chapter Outing & Dinner Contact Carli 717-232-0101 carli.timpson@sierraclub.org

JULY

Thurs 21	Happy Hour 7-9 pm HMAc. Contact John lenahan.john@mac.com
Sat 26	Pride Festival of Central PA Tabling Event Contact Cece 717-766-4392 cdviti@gmail.com

AUGUST

Sun 7	York Equality Fest Tabling Event Contact Cece 717-766-4392 cdviti@gmail.com
Sat 13	Summer Picnic Contact Amy amf194@gmail.com
Sat 27	Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup 9-10 am Contact Jill kerrouac@msn.com

SEPTEMBER

Sat 13	Susquehanna River Clean-up 9-2 pm Contact Robin 717-221-8590 or rbroderick1@email.com
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OCTOBER

Sun 16	Wildwood Presentation 1 pm Wildwood Lake. Contact Robin 717-221-8590 rbroderick1@email.com
Sat 22	Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup 9-10 am Contact Jill kerrouac@msn.com

NOVEMBER

Wed 9	Happy Hour 7-9 pm. River City Blues Contact Robin 717-221-8590 rbroderick1@email.com
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DECEMBER

Fri 2	Holiday Party -Details TBA
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Harrisburg, PA

*Don't miss the
2016 event
calendar on
page 3!*

Volunteer Needed: Calendar Sales Coordinator

The Governor Pinchot Group is looking for a volunteer to be its Sierra Club calendar sales coordinator. Calendar sales are an important fund raising activity for the Group. These beautiful calendars come in two styles, wall calendar and desktop calendar. They are sold mainly through order forms placed in the fall newsletter, and by GVP members to their own "customers". The sales coordinator orders calendars from the publisher, edits the order form, and distributes calendars. We are also open to additional sales ideas and opportunities. If interested or if you have any questions, please contact Richard Gordon at 717-458-5323 or richgordon47@gmail.com.



E-Newsletter Planned for Early Summer

The Pinchot Papers will be in electronic format only for the Summer Edition due out in early July. The newsletter will be posted on the website and we will send out an email alert when it is posted. Please join our email list to receive the notification of the newsletter, and also to keep up to date with events that are scheduled in between newsletter mailings. You can join our email list on the website: gpsierraclub.wordpress.com or by contacting Amy: amf194@gmail.com. We will mail another printed newsletter in the fall.

