

the Central Ohio

SIERRAN



April-June 2016

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Explore, enjoy, and protect the planet.



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Letter from Our Chair

Happy April Earth Month and May Bike Month. Time for us to get out to “enjoy” and “explore” while we valiantly strive to “protect” all of it. Our COG Executive Committee members, volunteers, and staff have been very active during the past few months as we’re planning for our busiest season of the year, while dealing with the elections, and continuing to handle whatever local environmental issues occur.

I am pleased to announce the release of our brand new fully revised COG website:

<http://www.sierraclub.org/ohio/central-ohio>

This features one master e-calendar that lists all of our events, meetings, outings, programs, and service activities. It will also have a volunteer interest sign-up form; our Facebook news feed; environmental watchdog complaint form; listing of active conservation issues, campaigns and other resources. Stay tuned for further refinements and additions. Thanks to Emma and Jeff for their steadfast web design work and creativity to make it all possible.

We generated much grass roots and media interest on our month’s long campaign to preserve some of the riparian watershed corridor from development in the Columbus Polaris area. A tract of forest is to be cleared out from along a stream for the sole purpose of providing an unobstructed view of the future IKEA retail store. Sierra’s focus is to preserve the water quality that would be severely impaired from destruction of protective mature greenery. Various Sierra conversations, correspondence, and meetings were conducted with city of Columbus leaders and senior staff, IKEA, NP Limited, consultants, and watershed groups. Unfortunately the city of Columbus Department of Public Utilities (DPU) approved the requested variance of their stream corridor protection regulation. It was granted and justified by DPU supporting IKEA’s “economic hardship” argument - thereby allowing a large section of existing woodlands to be stripped from the water banks. Some good news did result: we were able to save a swath from removal

and the entire property is being deeded as a conservation preserve, the DPU variance process is being refined to provide direct public notification and allow for public comment.

Look inside this newsletter, review COG’s website, and stay tuned on Facebook for our upcoming meetings and events such as:



- Volunteer for our assorted service events (April 2, 17, 23 and more) to help clean-up parks and waterways, plant trees, and remove invasive plants.
- Join the Interfaith Climate Rally outside at the Ohio Statehouse steps on April 20 11:30 AM-1PM.
- Attend the Earth Day Celebration at Columbus Commons on the afternoon of April 23.
- Find our booth and other green partners during Com Fest at Columbus Goodale Park (June 24-26).
- Get on your bicycle during the annual Ride of Silence through downtown Columbus streets on May 18th eve.
- Watch the National Parks Adventure IMAX 3-D movie at COSI. Sierra Club is one of the National Service 100 year anniversary movie sponsors. COG is planning to attend an evening showing.
- Expand your knowledge by participating in our free educational programs and tours.

If you’re not routinely receiving our Sierra news or member “action alerts” by e-mail please contact us at address.changes@sierraclub.org to ensure we have your correct email address and subscription preferences on file.

David Roseman
Chair, Sierra Club Central Ohio Group
COGchair@SierraClub.org

Upcoming Events

FACT WATER CLEANUP Saturday, April 2, 9 am to 12 pm. Friends of Alum Creek and Tributaries is seeking volunteers to help remove honeysuckle and clean up along the Alum Creek river and trail near Westerville’s Otterbein Lake, 60 Collegeview Rd, Westerville OH

BIKE RIDE Sunday, April 3, 11 am. We will be biking at a moderate pace (10-12 mph) on the Blacklick bike trail from Three Creeks Park to Blacklick Woods Park for a lunch stop, then back again. Three Creeks MetroPark, 3860 Bixby Rd, Groveport, OH 43125

WATERSHED CLEANUP AT BERLINER PARK Sunday, April 17, 1 to 4 pm. Join the Central Ohio Sierra Club for Earth Week as we pick up litter from the Greenlawn/Scioto Boulevard area. Berliner Park: 325 Greenlawn Ave, Columbus, OH 43223

FAITH-CLIMATE ACTION Wednesday, April 20, 11 am to 1 pm. A call for actions that promote our common good and a sustainable future for all. An outdoor rally will be held at the Statehouse steps where various religious leaders will speak. In the afternoon, meet with your legislative leaders.

Upcoming Events

OSU WETLANDS CLEANUP Saturday, April 23, 9 am to 12 pm. Join us as we improve the OSU Wetlands Research Park. We will be removing invasive honeysuckle, planting native plants, and removing litter. OSU wetlands, 352 West Dodridge Street.

EARTH DAY Saturday, April 27, 1 to 10 pm at Columbus Commons, 160 South High Street. The Celebration features local bands, kids activities, Sierra Club booth, food and beverage, and more!

RIDE OF SILENCE Wednesday, May 18, 6:30 pm. Hundreds of cyclists will take to the downtown Columbus streets in silence to honor bike riders killed and injured. Meet at Columbus City Hall for this free event.

COM FEST Friday - Sunday, June 24-26. Com Fest, short for Community Festival, brings together the people of Columbus and its visitors with a street fair, hundreds of live performances, and a full schedule of events. Goodale Park, Columbus, OH 43215.

Web Site Preview

Link to the new web site:

<http://www.sierraclub.org/ohio/central-ohio>

The screenshot shows the home page of the Central Ohio Group website. At the top is a navigation bar with links: Home, About Us, Contact Us, Get Involved, Hiking/Outings, Environmental Issues, News/Letter, and Political Action. Below the navigation is a large banner image of a city skyline. The main content area features a 'bag it' campaign with a photo of a woman and a child, and a call to action to 'Join 11325 others and Take Action'. There is also a section for 'Have fun.' with a photo of a woman and a child. At the bottom, there is a calendar for March 2010 and a link to the newsletter.

HOME PAGE: Updates on events, slide show overview, newsletter link, calendar

The screenshot shows the Facebook page for the Central Ohio Group. The page header includes the group name and a navigation bar with links: Home, About Us, Contact Us, Get Involved, Hiking/Outings, Environmental Issues, News/Letter, and Political Action. The main content area features a 'Get Involved' section with a call to action to 'Join 11325 others and Take Action'. There is also a section for 'Tell the Obama administration: No more offshore oil and gas drilling!' with a call to action to 'Join 11325 others and Take Action'. The page also includes a 'You Like This' section and a 'Sierra Club Central Ohio Group' section.

FACEBOOK FEED: View the COG Facebook page on the new web site.

The screenshot shows the environmental issues page of the Central Ohio Group website. The page header includes the group name and a navigation bar with links: Home, About Us, Contact Us, Get Involved, Hiking/Outings, Environmental Issues, News/Letter, and Political Action. The main content area features a 'Environmental Issues' section with a call to action to 'Join 11325 others and Take Action'. There is also a section for 'Tell the Obama administration: No more offshore oil and gas drilling!' with a call to action to 'Join 11325 others and Take Action'. The page also includes a 'You Like This' section and a 'Sierra Club Central Ohio Group' section.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES: Current campaigns, clean water, transportation, forests and public lands, air, energy, agriculture

Outings Schedule

Friday, April 1, 7:00 pm

Walk: Grove City. Ratings: E/S = 2/2
Leader: Eric Shaumann – schaumann@copper.net
Ph: 614-270-5951

We will meet at Grove City Library, 3359 Park Street, Grove City, OH 43123. The walk will start at the library and proceed through the local neighborhood. An optional dinner will take place after the hike.



FRANKLIN PARK

The grounds include 88 acres filled with several ponds, an amphitheater, terraced waterfalls, a community garden, an Asian-themed garden, a picnic shelter, and playgrounds.

Sunday, April 3, 11:00 am

Bike Ride: Blacklick trail. Ratings: E/S = 2/2
Leader: Ed Norwood –
EdNorwood.Hiking@gmail.com
Ph: 614-774-2357

We will be biking at a moderate pace (10-12 mph) on the Blacklick bike trail from Three Creeks Park to Blacklick Woods Park for a lunch stop, then back again. Please bring your bike, water, and food, and meet at the Three Creeks MetroPark, 3860 Bixby Rd, Groveport, OH 43125 (South on US 33, Right on South Hamilton Rd 1.2 mi, Right on Bixby Rd 0.7mi, Right into Park). Meet at the bulletin board by the restrooms.

Friday, April 8, 7:00 pm

Walk: Franklin Park / Academy Park. Ratings: E/S = 2/2
Leader: Chris Tisdale – usacrkt@yahoo.com
Ph: 614-260-2109

Join us for an easy paced walk of 3 miles in the parks along Alum Creek and past the grand old mansions. Meet at Franklin Park, 1777 E Broad St, Columbus, OH 43203 - at the NE corner of the parking lot by the railroad.

Sunday, April 10, 10:00 am

Hike: Hargus Lake. Ratings: E/S = 2/2
Leader: Dave Dorsky – valordave@hotmail.com – Ph: 614-848-7879

We will hike 5-6 miles around scenic Hargus Lake in AW Marion State Park. We will have one or two short snack stops during the hike and lunch in the park after the hike. If the weather is nice, you will have the option of hiking 2-3 more miles after lunch at nearby Stage's Pond. Bring your own food, plenty of water, and sturdy shoes or hiking boots for the wooded and at times uneven and muddy terrain. Meet south of Columbus behind Tim Hortons, 3623 S High St, Columbus, OH 43206 (in the Great Southern Shopping Center on U.S. 23 just north of I-270).

Friday, April 15, 7:00 pm

Walk: Blendon Woods. Ratings: E/S = 2/2
Leader: Line Martineau – linenmartineau@gmail.com
Meet in the parking lot near the nature center. We will walk for about 3 miles in the woods with rolling hills. There is an optional dinner after the hike. Directions: I-270 to route 161 East, and follow the (brown) signs to the park, and bear left to reach the nature center parking lot.

Sunday, April 17, 9:00 am

Hike: Great Seal State Park. Ratings: E/S = 2/2
Leader: Jose Cabral – cabral.1@osu.edu
This is one of our youngest state parks and takes its name from the emblem of Ohio which it helped to inspire. Great Seal is situated on the western edge of the Appalachian Plateau and offers views of the Scioto Valley to the west and south. This 9+ mile hike spans the southern region, the hilly Bunker Hill and Mt Ives Trails, and then extends northward to Rocky Knob. It is a strenuous hike on steep hills and ridge tops. Bring water, lunch, suitable attire and meet behind Tim Hortons, 3623 S High St, Columbus, OH 43206 (in the

(continued on p. 5)

Outings Schedule continued

Great Southern Shopping Center on U.S. 23 just north of I-270).

Friday, April 22, 7:00 pm

Walk: Grandview. Ratings: E/S = 2/2

Leader: Ed Norwood –

EdNorwood.Hiking@gmail.com

Ph: 614-774-2357

We will take a neighborhood walk through this lovely community of majestic trees and homes. Meet at the Grandview Library parking lot at 1685 W First Ave, Grandview, OH (2 blocks west of Grandview Ave.) Dinner option afterwards close by.

Sunday, April 24, 11:00 am

**Hike: Dawes Arboretum. Ratings: E/S = 2/2
11:00 am**

Sherri Soble – sherri.soble@yahoo.com

Ph: 614-804-3215

We will hike 5-7 miles at a moderate pace in beautiful Dawes Arboretum. The arboretum was founded in 1929 by Berman and Bertie Dawes and is dedicated to increasing the love and knowledge of trees and the natural world. Bring hiking boots, lunch, and water. Meet at 11:00am at the Dawes Visitor Center deck. Or, if carpooling, meet at 10:00am in front of Staples, 2321 Taylor Park Dr, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068 (East on I-70 to exit 112B Reynoldsburg, North on OH 256 to the 2nd light, LEFT on Taylor Rd SW, and park behind McDonalds, near Staples).

Friday, April 29, 7:00 pm

Walk: Upper Arlington. Ratings: E/S = 2/2

Sherri Soble – sherri.soble@yahoo.com

Ph: 614-804-3215

Upper Arlington South: Join us for a walk through Upper Arlington. We'll meet at the main library at 2800 Tremont Rd, Upper Arlington, OH 43221. Our walk will take us south, then back to the library. There will be an optional dinner after the hike.

Saturday, April 30, 10:00 am

Bike Ride: Three Creeks/Blacklick. Ratings: E/S = 2/2.

Leader: Ed Norwood – EdNorwood.Hiking@gmail.com

Ph: 614-774-2357
We will be biking at a moderate pace (10-12 mph) on the Three Creeks and Blacklick bike trails from Bexley to Pickerington Ponds MetroPark for a lunch stop, then back again. Please bring your bike, water, and food, and meet at the Circle K, 2481 Petzinger Rd, Columbus, OH 43209. Please park on the left side of the parking lot

near the big bike rack.

Sunday, May 1, 11:00 am

Hike: Grandview / Scioto Greenway. Ratings: E/S = 2/2.

Leader: Ed Norwood – EdNorwood.Hiking@gmail.com

Ph: 614-774-2357

We will walk through the new Scioto Greenway starting at Grandview and walking south through the new trails and paths lining the Scioto River. Please meet at The River Club (old Confluence Park Restaurant), 679 W Spring St, Columbus, OH 43215 (exit OH-315 northbound at the US-33/Long St/Dublin Rd exit, stay in the left lane, turn left on Dublin Rd, immediately turn left again on Souder Ave, immediately turn left again on Rickenbacker Dr, and park in the North part of the parking lot). There will be an optional brunch after the hike.

Note: Sierra Club COG is in the process of updating our web site. If you want to be on a separate Outings Mailing List, please send a note to: linenmartineau@gmail.com



JOHN BRYAN STATE PARK

The park contains a remarkable limestone gorge, cut by the Little Miami River.

Outings Rating System

Each outing is rated twice. Both scales are one to five. The **E scale** indicates the required experience level and the **S scale** shows the physical activity level anticipated.

E Scale

1. Novice - no experience required
2. A little experience is required
3. Moderate experience required
4. Considerable experience required
5. For the very experienced only

S Scale

1. Not strenuous
2. Could be strenuous
3. Somewhat strenuous
4. Strenuous
5. Very strenuous

Annual Retreat: Recap from the "Bag It" Monster

by: Roland Bennett, Clean Water Fellow and Ohio State University Sierra Club Student Coalition



To me, the most useful workshop of the weekend was the student session. All of the students were able to come together and share what we have been working on. There were enough of us to break into smaller groups and focus on connecting with others working on similar projects.

The session leaders were helpful in giving us advice on how to build our campaigns and accomplish our goals. For example, they explained how organizing a series of events can often be more effective than a single event, as well as the importance of consistency in the time and location of meetings.

It was a great opportunity to learn how other campuses are working on sustainability efforts. I was able to get to know other students from the University of Cincinnati, University of Toledo, Case Western Reserve, and Cleveland State University.

The success of other schools, such as UC's Ban the Bag Campaign, is quite motivational. I was even able to put on the Bag Monster costume at one point to emphasize the effect of single-use plastic bags. The costume is made of 500 plastic bags, the total amount of bags an individual uses in one year. Keep an eye out in your town. The Bag Monster may be coming for a visit soon!

Clean Water Fellow: Nicole Tabit



Hello! I am Nicole Tabit, currently a first year student at The Ohio State University, majoring in environmental science, specializing in water science and minoring in communications.

As a Clean Water Fellow, I am excited to raise awareness of environmental issues on campus and become involved with the Columbus community to connect people to nature through events and education. I have been passionate about water issues since high school, when I became interested in conservation. It was then that I also gained hands-on experience with water quality testing and water ecosystems.

Water is a common resource used by every living thing on earth. Having a clean water source to support life is so important! I look forward to growing my communications skills, learning new things about conservation, and having an impact on the environment during my time as a Clean Water Fellow.

The Climate Diet

by: Emma Beasley, Sierra Club Central Ohio Ex Com member and Outreach Coordinator

Spring is just around the corner, and you know what that means, shorts and bathing suit weather. But this year, make your diet "green" too!

"Water, water everywhere and not a drop to drink." This adage was horrifyingly truly for the people of Flint, Michigan. Water from faucets and fountains were deemed unsafe due to high lead levels from polluted water, and while the effects of that crisis are still lingering, we still take access to clean drinking water for granted.



FLINT, MICHIGAN WATER CRISIS

The crisis started with a bankrupt city trying to save money. A federal state of emergency was declared after as many as 8,000 children were exposed to a poisonous element that will have lifelong effects on their brain and nervous systems.

Although the United States does have water quality legislation and enforcement, the law does not go far enough and the EPA cannot be everywhere all the time. Water protection is not just the duty of the government, each person has a responsibility to report illegal dumping, not to litter, and advocate for clean water policies.

COG in action

After the Flint, Michigan water crisis, the City of Columbus held a water quality forum, the day after their regularly held City Council Meeting, for the public to voice any of their concerns.

David Roseman, COG Chair, and Howard Miller, the Chair of COG's Conservation Committee, both voiced their concerns over exceptions the city has given to development projects being built near riparian buffer

zones, and the city's current process on giving those variances. These have been ongoing issues for Central Ohio, with the city giving us little to no time to respond to upcoming development projects, on sensitive land.

You can help by becoming more involved in our Conservation Committee, joining us in an upcoming cleanup, or send your thought to City Council! After all, clean water is right and duty for everyone.

Drink healthily

So, how can water help your diet? Drink more water of course! Studies have shown that after drinking 17 ounces of water, metabolic rates for men and women increased by 30%! They also tend to lose an additional 1.5 pounds a year. Not only is water good for your waistline, but it keeps your skin looking healthy and young, improves concentration and will give you an energy boost.



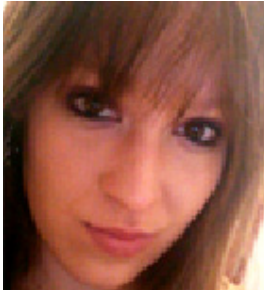
WHY WATER?

Roughly 60 percent of the body is made of water. Drinking enough H2O maintains the body's fluid balance, which helps transport nutrients in the body, regulate body temperature, and digest food.

In between sips, stop in for a WARN water training where you will learn about algae blooms, when to report suspicious water sights and smells, and which government agency to contact. E-mail Elissa Yoder at elissa.yoder@sierraclub.org for details.

Ex Com Profile: Emma Beasley

From the Sky Down



When I was nine years old, I saw Star Wars for the first time and decided that I wanted to be an astronaut. From then on, all I wanted to do was learn about the universe, so that I could fly spaceships like Han Solo.

I never pictured myself writing letters to the newspaper about climate change, or educating people about toxic algae at festivals. At that age I only considered nature to be the universe outside the planet, and environmental protection was far from my mind. This was a time before recycling bins were commonplace, and biking was purely for recreation.

But, it was also when I was a little girl when my dad would take me on bike rides through the neighborhoods of the Hilltop, and we would meander by small parks and houses. While riding, he told me stories from his childhood, about the floods in the Bottoms that occurred before the City of Columbus built the flood wall, and how during those times, he would kayak in the same parks we rode past, when the waters grew high enough. But whenever my dad and I would go on these day trips, he would always stop and pick up litter. Coming back from our bike rides his hands were full of plastic bags and paper cups, and he would mutter, "Why would anyone want to live in trash?"



"...he told me stories from his childhood, about the floods in the Bottoms that occurred before the City of Columbus built the flood wall..."

Those experiences stayed with me when I went to Catholic school, where they instilled in us a sense of belonging to one human family, and a stewardship for the planet, but I still wanted a career in astronautics.

Once I entered Ohio State however, working towards a job at NASA didn't seem as fulfilling as it did when I stared at the night sky growing up. I felt lost. So I took a quarter off to work fulltime, and volunteer for Ohioans for Humane Farms where I met Cathy Cowan Becker, the current Vice Chair of COG.



"For me growing up, nature was tree-lined streets, small parks, and the stars in a light-infused night sky."

While I loved activism, I knew working in the animal welfare field would be too emotionally taxing. But, every day after work I would watch The Daily Show with Jon Stewart, and when he discussed environmental issues I would get so wound up, I couldn't go to bed. I would just yell at the TV, and mutter angrily to myself. It took six months of working a dead-end job and volunteering before I realized how much I stewed over environmental issues. It was then that I paired my frustration at the lack of environmental progress with my love of activism. After graduating from The Ohio State University, with a degree in environmental and natural resources, I found the Sierra Club by searching the web, and immediately became involved with COG. While here, I have met so many interesting and passionate people, each with his or her own story about how becoming involved.

For me growing up, nature was tree-lined streets, small parks, and the stars in a light-infused night sky. Some, like me, became agitated with the political situation, while others have the classic tale of enjoying nature so much as a child they wanted to protect it as an adult. But it wasn't until I joined the Sierra Club, that I realized you don't need to have traveled to a wondrous National Park, or spent nights camping in a forest, in order appreciate the environment.

Is There Arsenic in Your Water?

by: Howard Miller, Sierra Club Central Ohio Ex Com member and Conservation Committee chair

In the fall of 2013 Fairfield County Commissioners voted unanimously to proceed with the development of a new Fairfield County jail in Lancaster, Ohio. The new facility was intended to replace three overcrowded jail buildings that have consistently failed state inspections. There were two potential sites up for consideration, downtown on Wheeling Street, and another site about four miles outside of town on Fair Avenue.

In 2014 the Lancaster City Council approved a resolution opposing the downtown jail location. The council's concerns centered on the history of the site, which at various times housed a 19th-century slaughterhouse, tannery, other industries, and currently has about 17 feet of fill material from a former city landfill. As a result, the site includes potential contaminants such as arsenic, lead, magnesium, and chromium.

Downtown Lancaster vs. out-of-town location

Since construction includes drilling 485 concrete-and-steel-encased pilings 55 to 65 feet deep to support the foundation, there is fear that the drilling will cause migration of contaminants into the public water wells located immediately north of the site. The pilings also mean the Wheeling Street location would cost at least \$1.5 million more than the Fair Avenue site according to estimates.



The site includes potential contaminants such as arsenic, lead, magnesium, and chromium.

In the spring of 2014, an environmental investigation was performed to develop information about the chemical characteristics of the landfill material at the downtown site. The results, reported that summer, indicated that no hazardous waste was in the fill material at the site. However, city officials pointed out that the test showed elevated levels of arsenic. Lancaster Water Superintendent Mike Nixon commented that arsenic occurs naturally in groundwater in the region's glacial-till soil.

Sierra Club intervention

Councilmen Groff and representatives of the Sierra Club met with OhioEPA officials in July of 2014. Unfortunately, the OhioEPA determined they were unable to get involved at this point. Since the fill material was the focus of the initial investigation, testing was not done below 14 feet. No additional soil testing has been performed at greater depths despite the requirement for pilings.

The Fairfield County Commission approved the downtown Wheeling Street location in the fall of 2015. The sheriff, prosecutor, judges, police chief, the water superintendent, and others supported the location choice. As a result of the decision, construction started this past fall with the new facility scheduled to be ready for occupancy by the fall of 2017.

Uncertain future

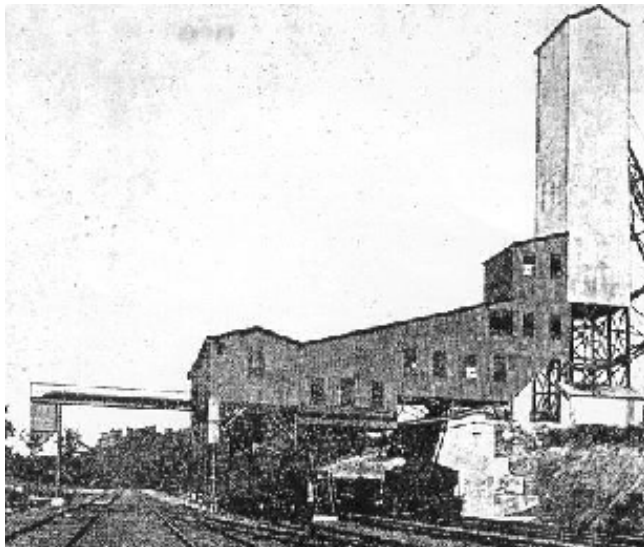
Lancaster City Council President, Robert Hedges, a retired hydrologist, and Co-councilman Randy Groff have been vigilant in expressing concerns about the project to the OhioEPA. They have shown how material from the construction site is being tracked onto Lincoln Avenue, and that, since September of 2015, arsenic levels have increased in both production wells and monitoring wells. Levels in the production wells are approaching the drinking water standard, while levels in the monitoring wells have already exceeded the standard. On top of which, the direction of local groundwater flow goes from the jail site towards the well field.

The City of Lancaster has implied that the treatment plant can remove toxic metal contaminants that might enter the well field. However, the well field plant uses filtration, chlorination, and water softening via ion exchange. According to City Council President Hedges, none of these measures are approved technologies for removal of arsenic or any other toxic metal. Councilmen Groff and Hedges will continue to update regulatory agencies and press for greater involvement in the matter.

Growing up with Coal

by Jeffrey St.Clair, Sierra Club Central Ohio Ex Com member and Communications Committee chair

My hometown in Western Pennsylvania was nestled in a valley among three hills. The most prominent was home to the "tipple," or coal processing and loading structure, enclosing the mine entrance. The slate dump and coke ovens were close by. The "bosses'" houses were downhill from the slate dump, with the "men's" housing, where I lived with my parents, on the opposing hill. The schoolhouse was on the remaining slope among small forests and cow pastures.



Muse, Pennsylvania mine in the 1960s

All of these, along with the company store and baseball diamond in a clearing in the center of town, were visible from my front porch. The saloon district, which my grandfather called "Jew Town" was not visible, but I knew the old guy spent most of his time there. Around 500 unfortunate people called this settlement home.

Coal reality

The coke ovens, behind the slate dump, gave off a breath-devouring odor of sulfur and other gasses that permeated my life and clothing for eleven years. Several children, including escapees from a nearby reform school, were suffocated to death when they tried to bed down for the night on the warmth of the slate dump.

Once I was able to leave, my existence was still negatively affected by coal. An explosion at Robina Mine in Western Pennsylvania while I was at Penn State, killed 37 men in 1962. A high concentration of methane that lingered in unventilated areas slowed search efforts. It took three days for several teams of rescuers working eight-hour shifts to reach the explosion site and two more days before all the dead were recovered.

My father was spared this time, but his twin brother lost

his life at age 42. Later dad was completely covered with coal in an explosion and had to wear a back brace for five years.

Dirty Coal

Coal mining remains an extremely hazardous occupation. Breathing in coal dust causes black lung disease: <http://huff.to/210403P> Although mining regulations have been passed in recent years in developed countries, black lung still shortens the life span of thousands of coal miners in the United States. My father suffered from black lung, but was not able to receive any compensation due to legislation passed under the Reagan administration.

Beyond the deleterious effects on the people who live with coal, coal mining also results in: carbon pollution and climate disruption, mountain top removal, toxic mercury, coal ash waste, coal plant water pollution, smog, soot, and asthma. Read the Sierra Club article: <http://content.sierraclub.org/coal/dirty-coal>



Mountain top removal

The best way forward is to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels like coal, pursue energy efficiency, and oppose customer-funded bailout of uneconomic coal-fired power plants. For information on how you can get involved, contact Neil Waggoner: Niel.Waggoner@SierraClub.org, 330-730-5109.

Join Us for Fun and Commitment!



"NATIONAL PARKS ADVENTURE" AT COSI

The Sierra Club is one of the national sponsors of this spectacular 45-minute IMAX 3D showing February 12 through September 5, 2016. Visit www.cosi.org/exhibits/theater for showtimes. Pictured above: Max Lowe (left) and David Roseman (right)



OHIO CHAPTER RETREAT

Over 100 Sierrans attended the weekend's free annual Ohio Chapter Retreat at Maumee Bay State Lodge in Oregon, Ohio January 30 -31. Pictured above: Jack Turner

The Central Ohio Sierran is published quarterly by the Central Ohio Group of the Sierra Club. Editor, Jeffrey St.Clair

Printing: full circulation once a year to the membership, as well as regular distribution to public locations and on our website to reach over 3,800 members and supporters. **Printed on 100% recycled paper.**

The Central Ohio Sierran also appears on the Central Ohio Group website.

Visit our website at www.sierraclub.org/ohio/central-ohio

We are on  <http://on.fb.me/1Ow7Qvq>

Follow us on  https://twitter.com/Sierra_Club_COG

Our e-mail: sierracog@gmail.com

Contact our Chair, David Roseman with comments or questions:
COGchair@sierraclub.org



SIERRA CLUB

Explore, enjoy, and protect the planet.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____

Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
Special Introductory Offer	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Student/Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

Contributions, gifts, and dues to Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to Sierra magazine and \$1 for Chapter newsletters.

Enclose a check and mail to:

Sierra Club
P.O. Box 421041
Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

or visit our website: www.sierraclub.org

F94Q W 2801 1

Sierra Club Central Ohio Group
131 North High Street, Suite 605
Columbus, OH 43215-3026

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