

the Central Ohio

SIERRA



SIERRA
CLUB

Winter/Spring 2016

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**Annual Ohio Chapter Retreat
January 30th and 31st
Maumee Bay State Park**

Go to page 5 for more information, or click
here to register: <http://bit.ly/OhioRetreat>

Witnessing and Making History in Paris pp. 8-9



Chairman's Corner

Happy 2016!

Congratulations to my fellow Sierra Club Central Ohio Group (COG) Executive Committee members who were recently elected, by you, to serve a two-year term. We welcome Cathy Cowan Becker and Jeffrey St. Clair for coming on board and much appreciation to Melanie Braithwaite and Howard Miller for their continued Board activism.

We've also approved the appointment of Emma Beasley, Ed Norwood, and Adam Johnson to serve with us on the Executive Committee (Ex Com) during this year until the next annual election cycle. Much personal gratitude to Amber Bellamy for all of her time and passion in being an active Ex Com member, officer, and for exemplary leadership of the Conservation Committee over the past few years. I wish her all the best of success as she completes her PhD in Biology.

COG has a few remaining Ex Com vacancies that can be filled via the appointment process. And we always welcome additional volunteers to get involved with our various committees including programs, conservation, political, newsletter, etc. Please contact me COGchair@sierraclub.org with your interests or for any information.

Look forward to seeing many of you at the Sierra Club Chapter's Annual Retreat on January 30-31 at Maumee Bay State Park Resort. Please see the Retreat descrip-

tion on Page 12. There will also be opportunities to socialize, hike, swim (indoors), and obtain some training. Register here: <http://bit.ly/OhioRetreat>



We're already planning park and watershed clean-ups, tree planting and educational events for April's Earth Month. Along with that I hope many of you will be volunteering to help with local political campaigns while encouraging candidates and meeting legislative incumbents to support clean, green renewable energy practices and adopt healthy sustainable conservation policies. Stay tuned for COG's fully revised forthcoming modernized web site. In the meantime keep up with our local events, rallies, weekly hikes, news, and action alerts on our Facebook page <http://on.fb.me/1Ow7Qvq> and Twitter https://twitter.com/Sierra_Club_COG

As a grassroots organization, without dedicated members, the Sierra Club would not be able to fight the statehouse for renewable energy standards, protect and cleanup waterways, or educate the public on the importance of keeping fracking, logging, and burning out of public lands. Please renew your annual Sierra Club membership, join and donate to further help us. Visit www.sierraclub.org, choose: join-renew-donate.

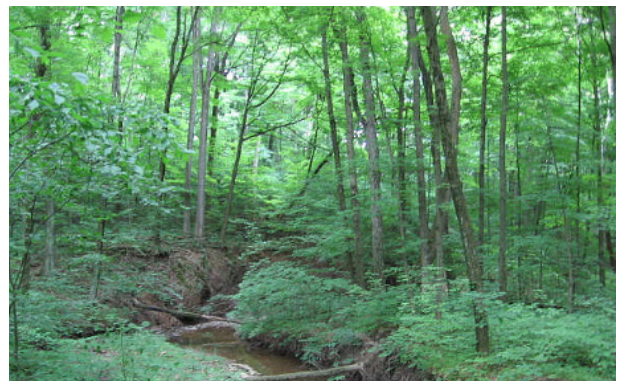
David Roseman, Chairman, Sierra Club Central Ohio

Don't let special interests rewrite the rules of clean water protection!!!!

Ohio EPA has proposed several modifications to its rules and procedures for granting 401 permits. These modifications could allow the Ohio EPA to rubber-stamp various projects, including coal mining and linear pipeline projects impacting ecologically significant wetlands, streams, and coastline. Ohio EPA's proposed modifications to the 401 permitting process threaten to pull the rug out from under clean water protections here in Ohio. **Use our on-line customizable form to quickly submit your comments:** <http://bit.ly/SubmitEmailComment>

OR TAKE ACTION by submitting written comments to be received by close of business January 19 to:

*RE: Modification of the 401 WQC for the NWPs
Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water
ATTN: 401/IWP/Storm Water Section Manager
PO Box 1049
Columbus, OH 43216-1049*



Outings Schedule

Friday, January 1 - Grandview / Scioto Greenway. Ratings: E/S = 2/2.

7:00 pm. Leader: Ed Norwood, 614-774-2357 EdNorwood.Hiking@gmail.com. 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 (two blocks west of Grandview Ave.) Dinner option afterwards close by.

Sunday, January 3 - Mohican State Park Day Hike. Ratings: E/S = 4/4.

9:00 am. Leader: Jose Cabral – cabral.1@osu.edu
This hike of 10+ miles takes us along the trails of the Clear Fork River and ridges that form the Clear Fork Gorge. The gorge originated from the erosion of the moraines, rock till and deposits of the Wisconsin glacier. Today the wildlife and old growth white pine, hemlocks, hickory, a variety of oak and maple, all comprise an area designated as a National Natural Landmark. Bring water, lunch, boots, suitable attire, and meet at 9 AM in the north end of the parking lot at Target, 1485 Polaris Pkwy, Columbus, OH 43240 (west of exit # 121 on I-71 north of Columbus).

Friday, January 8 - German Village. Ratings: E/S = 2/2

7:00 pm. Leader: Vicki Deisner – gh6@earthlink.net
Join us for a walk through historic German Village. We will walk around the German Village neighborhoods and visit Frank Fetch Park. Meet at Schiller Park (Deshler and Jaeger). We will be walking about three miles. Wear sturdy footwear appropriate for uneven walking surfaces. (Flashlight and reflective clothing is recommended). There will be an optional potluck dinner after the hike at a Vicki's house.

Sunday January 10 - Highbanks Winter Hike. Ratings: E/S = 2/2.

11:00 am. Leader: Dave Dorsky – valordave@hotmail.com – 614-848-7879. Meet at the Nature Center, 9466 Columbus Pike, Lewis Center, OH 43035. Highbanks is named for its massive shale bluffs that tower over the Olentangy State Scenic River. The park is rich in Native American history as it contains two Adena Indian burial mounds and prehistoric earthwork. We will hike three to six miles depending on weather and trail conditions including some small but steep hills. Sturdy footwear is needed for possible wet, muddy, snowy, or icy conditions. Bring lunch or a snack for the longer hike option.

Highbanks is on Rt. 23N about three miles north of I-270. Entrance is on the left, just before Powell Rd. The Nature Center is the first driveway on the right after you enter the park Note: This hike may be cancelled if road or trail conditions are hazardous. Contact leader Dave Dorsky at 614-848-7879 prior to driving to the meeting point if the weather is questionable.

Friday, January 15 - New Albany. Ratings: E/S = 2/2

7:00 pm. Leader: Line Martineau – linemartineau@gmail.com We will walk around the prestigious New Albany golf club and the surrounding neighborhoods. Meet at the New Albany Library, 200 Market St, New Albany, OH 43054 and park at the northeast corner of the library parking lot. (The far right corner when facing the library). (Flashlight and reflective clothing is recommended). There will be an optional dinner after the hike at a local restaurant.

Sunday, January 17 - Blacklick. Ratings: E/S = 3/3.

11am+1pm. Leader: Chris Tisdale – usacrkt@yahoo.com – 614-260-2109. Blacklick Woods is the first Columbus metro park and is located at 6975 E Livingston Ave, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068. The park has over 600 acres including a golf course for sledding and skiing. We will walk on mulch or asphalt trails for two three-mile treks. Meet at the Nature Center. (boots, water, lunch).

Friday, January 22 - Grove City. Ratings: E/S = 2/2

7:00 pm. Leader: Eric Schaumann – schaumann@copper.net – 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.

Sunday, January 24 - Hocking Hills Day Hike. Ratings: E/S = 4/4.

9:00 am. Leader: Jose Cabral – cabral.1@osu.edu
This hike will encompass a 9-11 mile trek anywhere from Conkle's Hollow down to Ash Cave. Some optional areas include Airplane Rock, Balanced Rock, Old Man's Cave, and Ash cave. All are picturesque with hemlocks, sandstone, limestone, and shale carved by erosion of the Appalachian Plateau. Bring water, lunch, suitable attire for

(continued on p. 4)

Outings Schedule continued

muddy trails and meet at 9 AM behind McDonald's, 6161 Gender Rd, Canal Winchester, OH 43110 (at Winchester Square Shopping Center, near US 33, on the west side of Gender Road). Please RSVP to Jose Cabral at cabral.1@osu.edu.

Fri 01/29 - Franklin Park / Academy Park. Ratings: E/S = 2/2.

7:00 pm. Leader: Chris Tisdale – usacrkt@yahoo.com – 614-260-2109. Join us for an easy paced walk of three miles in the park 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.

Sun 01/31 - Battelle Darby. Ratings: E/S = 3/3.

11:00 am. Leader: Eric Schaumann – schaumann@copper.net – 614-270-5951. Meet in front of the Ranger Station at Cedar Ridge, 1775 Darby Creek Dr, Gallopway, OH 43119 (which is 2.75 miles South of W Broad Street on Darby Creek Dr). The hike will be three miles on mostly level paths. We will visit the Nature Center. An optional dinner will take place after the walk

Friday, February 5 - New Albany. Ratings: E/S = 2/2.

7:00 pm. Leader: Line Martineau – linenmartineau@gmail.com We will walk around the prestigious New Albany golf club and the surrounding neighborhoods. Meet at 200 Market Street in New Albany and park at the northeast corner of the library. (The far right corner when facing the library). (Flashlight and reflective clothing is recommended). There will be an optional dinner after the hike at a local restaurant.

Sunday, February 7 - Scioto Trails State Park Day Hike. Ratings: E/S = 4/5.

9:00 am. Leader: Jose Cabral – cabral.1@osu.edu
The forest and park are nestled in the high ground of the Appalachian foothills rising above the Scioto River Valley. This historic area was home of the Shawnees as late as the 1700's and saw the arrival of early American explorers who traveled up the Scioto River. The hike of 11+ miles has most trails in the forest, comprised of rugged terrain that rapidly descends or rises. While offering expansive views of the area, this is a strenuous hike and may have additional weather related challenges. Bring water, lunch, boots, suitable attire, and meet 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). Please RSVP to Jose Cabral at cabral.1@osu.edu.

Sunday, February 14 - Scioto Audubon / downtown urban walk. Ratings: E/S = 2/2.

11am+1pm. Leader: Chris Tisdale – usacrkt@yahoo.com. – 614-260-2109. We will spend the 11am session exploring what this park has to offer. The 1pm session we'll follow a map/audio tour with Columbus Arts Walk in an area close by. Bring lunch or snack and dress for conditions. The 11am Park walk will be on crushed gravel and concrete 3 miles. The 1pm walk will follow sidewalks and roadways that may be uneven (3-4 miles) Meet at 505 W Whittier St, Columbus, OH 43215 at the NE corner of the Nature Center.

Friday, February 19 - Old Worthington. Ratings: E/S = 2/2.

7:00 pm. Leader: Line Martineau – linenmartineau@gmail.com. Join us for a 3 mile hike in the Old Worthington area. We will walk in and around Old Worthington and through the finest Worthington neighborhoods. Please wear sturdy footwear as we may encounter muddy and uneven ground. The hike will end with an optional dinner at a popular restaurant. Meet in the parking lot behind the Dairy Queen, 920 High St, Worthington, OH 43085 (located 2 blocks north of Route 161, on the east side of N High Street).

Sunday, February 21 - Grandview / Scioto Greenway. Ratings: E/S = 2/2.

11:00 am. Leader: Ed Norwood – EdNorwood.Hiking@gmail.com – 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.

Friday, February 26 - Upper Arlington. Ratings: E/S = 2/2.

7:00 pm. Sherri Soble – Sherri.Soble@yahoo.com
Upper Arlington South: Join us for a walk through

Outings Schedule continued

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.

Sunday, February 28 - Highbanks Winter Hike. **Ratings: E/S = 2/2.**

11:00am. Leader: Dave Dorsky – valordave@hotmail.com – 614-848-7879. Meet at the Nature Center, 9466 Columbus Pike, Lewis Center, OH 43035. Highbanks is named for its massive shale bluffs that tower over the Olentangy State Scenic River. The park is rich in Native American history as it contains two Adena Indian burial mounds and prehistoric earthwork. We will hike three to six miles depending on weather and trail conditions including some small but steep hills. Sturdy footwear is needed for possible wet, muddy, snowy, or icy conditions. Bring lunch or a snack for the longer hike option. Highbanks is on Rt. 23N about three miles north of I-270. Entrance is on the left, just before Powell Rd. The Nature Center is the first driveway on the right after you enter the park Note: This hike may be cancelled if road or trail conditions are hazardous. Contact leader Dave Dorsky at 614-848-7879 prior to driving to the meeting point if the weather is questionable.

Outings are open to all. You do not have to be a member of the Sierra Club to participate. If you are interested in joining the Sierra Club, we encourage you to go on an outing and get to know some Sierrans.

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 Ohio Chapter retreat January 30th and 31st Maumee Bay State Park

Join the Ohio Sierra Club board members, staff, and grassroots leaders in celebrating our 2015 victories and planning for 2016 at the Annual Retreat.

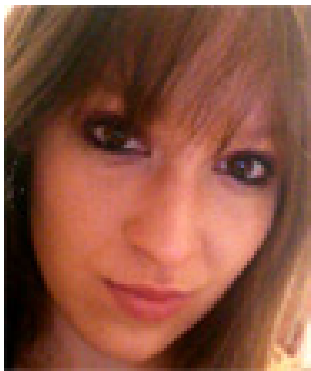
Come to celebrate our accomplishments, speak to the challenges that lie ahead, meet new people, learn new skills, and walk along the shores of Lake Erie. Meals will be provided for all members but you are responsible for your own travel and lodging. We do have a group rate of \$75 plus taxes and fees at the Maumee Bay State Park Lodge.

Save your spot at the retreat and RSVP today: <http://bit.ly/OhioRetreat>



When Hugging a Tree, Size Matters

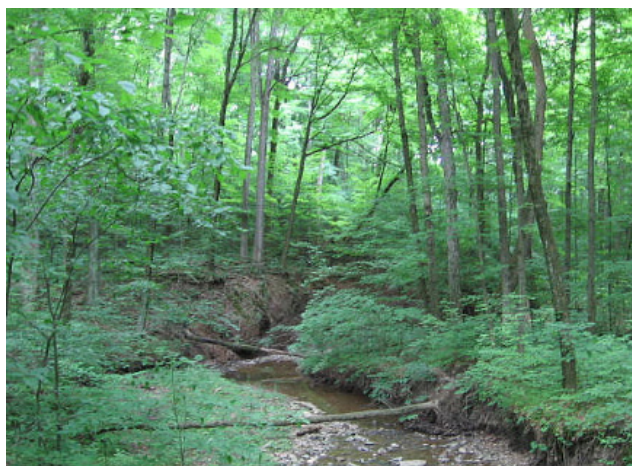
by: Emma Beasley



NOT ALL TRUNKS ARE CREATED EQUAL

When it comes to trees, bigger is better. When an area has large diameter trees it has more biomass accumulation, biological diversity and, it sequesters a greater amount of carbon. Biomass accumulation is crucial to the ecological success of an area.

What this means, is that larger trees support a greater variety of plants and animals by creating shelter and food. Insects call many trees home. This draws in mammals that eat them and transplant seeds from other plant species, which attract other insects and mammals, and so the cycle continues. This creates a refuge of biodiversity that grows larger over time.



BLENDON WOODS METRO PARK

Blendon Woods contains spectacular stream-cut ravines with exposed ripple rock sandstone and open fields surrounded by beech-maple and oak-hickory forests.

OLDER TREES GROW FASTER THAN YOUNGER ONES

It is a common misconception that tree growth slows as they get older, in actuality, the opposite is true. Research shows that in 97% of tropical and temperate tree species, growth rate increases with size. So, not only does the large size of older trunks hold more carbon, their faster growth sequesters more of it than smaller ones. Not to mention, the ability of tree roots to hold back soil erosion is also incredibly important, especially in an area like Columbus that sees an average of 35 inches of rainfall, and 27 inches of snow per year - figures that will only increase as the impacts of climate change continue.

When looking at native forests, their value as storage units of carbon and biodiversity significantly outweighs their value as timber and open space for development.

YOU CAN'T COPY A FOREST AND PASTE IT IN ANOTHER LOCATION

Trees are not words in the canopy of a word document. When we destroy a forest, the ecological benefits of that ecosystem are gone, not to be replaced someplace else. Plants, insects, and animals do not get notices informing them of the new location that we have allocated for their existence. They do not cross freeways and miles of stores and homes to find the new plot of freshly planted trees that they are now supposed to call home. More often than not, these species die out in what was a previously luscious woodland.

So the next time you hear about a forest being cut down in order to build a new shopping mall or a parking lot, remember that the trees they are planting to replace it will be small and dainty, unable to sequester nearly as much carbon as its older, thicker cousins, and will be unable to support a biodiverse ecosystem. And, if those reasons still are not enough to convince you, just think, who wants a dainty trunk?



SHARON WOODS METRO PARK

The Edward Thomas Nature Preserve inside Sharon Woods contains seasonal pools that provide critical spring breeding habitat for amphibians and other wildlife.

How an Accounting Major became a Serious Tree Hugger

by: Adam Johnson



The year was 2011, college graduation was upon me, and I was in the process of securing my first full time job. I remember amidst the chaos of supporting myself financially, there was a void that desperately needed filling – how to make meaning from my work? I graduated with a specialization in finance and I loved analytics, trading equities, and the concept of compound interest. But what good is that? How do I parlay success in my career into making an impact on the world in a realistic way?

When I was still at Ohio State's Fisher College of Business I found myself becoming profoundly affected by the concept of global climate change after writing an economics paper on the macro-market impact of the energy and agricultural industries.



YOSIMITE NATIONAL PARK

A few years after graduation, I visited Yosemite National Park and Sequoia National Forest and learned about the history of the National Parks System, and a man called John Muir who founded the Sierra Club.

This experience finally provided me some direction because the way I saw it, no matter the species, no matter the race, religion, culture or politics of any individual, the environment is the ultimate facilitator for healthy & productive life.

I started a monthly contribution to the Sierra

Club. After years of donating on a regular basis, I found myself with free time that was not fulfilled with Netflix or paying bar tabs. I knew I needed to spend some time volunteering to truly feel impactful. I began volunteering for the Sierra Club after attending their volunteer orientation session and now I regularly attend the Central Ohio Group ExCom meetings.

While I am still fairly new to the organization, I already feel a profound sense of belonging. Environmental protection transcends any individual, and universally connects each living person on this planet to live for the collective interest of a better tomorrow.

Follow our Facebook page to learn more about Sierra Club Central Ohio activities: <http://on.fb.me/1Ow7Qvq>



SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK

Volunteer for the Sierra Club Central Ohio Group

Volunteer Orientation: January 30th, 10 AM
Whetstone Library, 3909 N High St, Columbus,
OH 43214

To RSVP please email: cog.volunteer@sierra-club.org

Witnessing and Making History in Paris

by: Cathy Cowan Becker

The COP 21 climate conference in Paris was historic, not only for the agreement it produced, but for the breadth, depth, and global nature of events and actions surrounding it. I feel privileged to have participated in these events and witnessed history being made.

GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS

Although I did not have a badge for the actual climate negotiations – the United Nations issued many fewer badges than usual this year – Sierra Club members got daily reports from Fred Heutte, lead volunteer for the Federal and International Climate Campaign. That left most of us free to attend civil society events and actions – and there were a lot. Throughout the two weeks, the Sierra Club had a booth at Climate Generations, the space next to the negotiations where hundreds of organizations had displays, and as many as eight speakers and panels on climate were going on simultaneously.



SIERRA CLUB DELEGATION

Exhibition booth at the Climate Generations space

There were also dozens of meetings, festivals, actions, and other events occurring daily throughout Paris – sometimes it was hard just hearing about them all. There was no way to attend everything – you had to choose. But no matter what you picked, it would be good.

The hostel where I stayed, called “Place to B,” near the Gar du Nord, had daily programs featuring

speakers such as James Hansen, Vandana Shiva, and Amy Goodman. There were also numerous side conferences such as UNESCO’s Earth to Paris, featuring an all-star lineup of scientists and activists, an interview with Secretary of State John Kerry, and the Climate Summit for Local Leaders at which 1,000 mayors pledged to take their cities 100 percent renewable by 2050.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS:

1.5 DEGREES

Although most observers expected participating countries to agree to limit warming to 2°C, almost no one anticipated the momentum to lower that limit to 1.5°C. It started with a call from climate vulnerable countries led by the Marshall Islands. Then France and Germany joined, then Canada and Australia, then the United States and China.

In the end, all countries pledged to limit warming to “well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels” and “pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change.”

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Indigenous people from around the world were key players in many events such as an anti-fracking summit and a conference on women at the frontlines of climate change.



INDIGENOUS FLOTILLA

Canoeing in the Bassin de la Villette

They also led the Indigenous Flotilla, featuring the Canoe of Life which traveled from the Amazon. Dozens of indigenous people canoed and kayaked into Bassin de la Villette to present world governments with their "Living Forest" proposal drawing from indigenous experience to live in harmony with nature.

RIGHTS OF NATURE

A two-day International Rights of Nature Tribunal explored the rights of nature as a legal concept and how they might be defended in a series of cases against violators of those rights.

Cases included:

- Climate crimes against nature such as fossil fuels, deforestation, and water use
- Financialization of nature, including carbon trading and REDD
- Agribusiness and GMOs
- Criminalization of environmental activism and murders of activists
- Shale fracking operations, which speakers argued was akin to rape of the earth
- Megadams in Brazil that destroy ecosystems and displace indigenous people
- Ecocide through oil operations in Ecuador's Yasuni National Park

TRADE AND CLIMATE

Throughout the two weeks were events on trade, unions, jobs, and climate, emphasizing that while addressing climate change through renewable energy creates jobs, bad trade deals destroy both jobs and climate. The culmination was a general assembly at the Climate Action Zone on "Capitalism and Climate" featuring Naomi Klein.

While climate agreements are not legally binding, Klein said, trade deals such as NAFTA and the TPP are not only binding but would allow corporations to sue to overturn laws protecting the climate that hurt their profits. The trade and climate movements should work together to defeat this, she said.

EXXON TRIALS

There were two mock trials of Exxon similar to the successful RICO case against tobacco corporations by the Justice Department. A recent investigation by Inside Climate News shows that Exxon was conducting some of the foremost climate science in the 1970s and 80s, but in the 1990s chose to bury this information

and instead fund climate denial campaigns.

In the first trial, held at the People's Climate Summit, Bill McKibben and Naomi Klein called a series of witnesses affected by climate change to show the damage that Exxon's denial campaigns have done. The second event featured Matt Pawa, an environmental attorney who has won cases against Exxon and AEP, building a RICO case based on recently released documents.

ON AND OFF POLICE ACTIONS

Before COP 21 started, French authorities banned large climate marches due to the November 13 terrorist attacks in Paris. The attacks were still fresh when I arrived. Massive numbers of flowers, candles, photos, and other mementos were placed around the statue of Marianne at Place de la Republique as well as in front of and across several blocks near the Bataclan club, where most of the victims lost their lives. While taking photos at Place de la Republique on November 29 I witnessed police cracking down on a few hundred demonstrators, and I was nearly swept up. By December 12, thousands of activists were flooding the streets, and French authorities finally relented and gave them a permit. The result was a beautiful Red Lines demonstration organized by 350.org.



RED LINE DEMONSTRATION

Activists flooding the streets on December 12

COP 21 marked a turning point for humanity, resulting in an agreement by almost 200 countries signaling that the age of fossil fuels is over.

For more information, go to <http://on.fb.me/1Ow7Qvq>

Central Ohio Group Farewell

by: Amber Bellamy



PEOPLES' CLIMATE MARCH

The People's Climate March (PCM), a large-scale activist event to advocate global action against climate change, took place on Sunday, September 21, 2014 in New York City. With an estimated 311,000 participants, it was the largest climate change march in history.

I will be stepping down from the executive committee, as well as the conservation committee chair position. I will still be around (for a year at least) and intend to remain involved as I have time. I am so grateful that I had the opportunity to work with the Central Ohio Group and the Ohio Chapter. I have learned so much, in addition to meeting a lot of incredible people who are extremely passionate about protecting the environment.

My favorite memory from my time with Sierra Club was participating in the People's Climate March in New York City with thousands of others. It was so encouraging to see so many folks united for one cause and to feel like an important (albeit small) part of a larger community.

I think that it is important to keep in mind that we are all in this together, regardless of our views and opinions, and we must be willing to cross the line, be cordial, and work with those who don't necessarily agree with us. This is not always an easy task. Working on the side of the environment is not the most gratifying all of the time, but is absolutely necessary to ensure that future generations have a habitable planet and a place to call home.

The Central Ohio Sierran is published quarterly by the Central Ohio Group of the Sierra Club.

Printing: full circulation once a year to the membership, as well as regular distribution to public locations and on our website to reach over 3,500 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.sierraclubcentralohio.org

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 chairman, David Roseman with comments or questions: COGchair@sierraclub.org

ExCom Profile: Howard Miller

by: Howard Miller



There is an old saying that misery loves company. My college roommate, Matt, who eventually became a marine biologist, and I took full benefit of that old adage as we vented to one another after classes at Miami University. As I complained about introductory business courses, Matt discussed the various perils facing the planet he had learned about in his classes. Through our conversations, he opened my eyes to the complex and fascinating debate raging over the state of the planet.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWAKENING

A class on social entrepreneurship had already introduced me to a number of issues going on around the globe. It was the first time I had been asked to examine and analyze many of our world's contemporary injustices. The class showed in detail what people in both non-profits and the private sector were doing to address the harsh realities of issues such as: lack of access to healthy food, clean water, education, and more. Seeing the numerous innovative solutions awakened in me an unshakable desire to want to get involved. But the question then became how to apply my time and energy to do the most good.

As Matt reviewed his lectures with me I instantly felt a connection to environmental concerns. These were issues that would affect everyone regardless of age, ethnicity, race, religion, income, and geography. People may be affected in different ways and to different degrees, but nonetheless issues like climate change will touch the lives of all the citizens of the world.

SAVE THE PLANET

I was especially motivated to volunteer with environmental groups because of influence from my parents. While I was growing up, my mom and dad always put a heavy emphasis on being outdoors, which gave me my initial appreciation for everything nature has to offer. Weather permitting, we were not allowed to be inside. There were far too many opportunities to engage and learn about the world around us to sit

inside when we could be playing in tree houses, chasing fireflies, swimming, hiking, or catching frogs at the local reservoir.

I am so grateful for the chance to have had so many captivating experiences. As a result of my childhood memories, learning about current environmental dilemmas later in life made me want to give back. And the thought that my four amazing nephews might not be able to enjoy those same opportunities, due to pessimism or apathy on the part of our generation, is unacceptable.

I recognize the obstacles to change may be daunting to some. But Matt, and the people I have met through the Sierra Club, give me hope through their enduring effort to fight for humanity's connection to nature. Hopefully my own small contribution will help ensure that my nephews have those same opportunities to experience the magnificence of our world.



“Hopefully my own small contribution will help ensure that my nephews have those same opportunities to experience the magnificence of our world.”



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

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