

Delaware Sierra News

A Newsletter about Environmental Matters Important to Delaware ❁ June/July/August 2002

Army Chooses Bugs Over Burning

Sierra Club wins 14-year fight to stop weapons incineration

by John Byrne Barry

In the late 1980s, when Sierra Club volunteer Ross Vincent first challenged the Pentagon's plan to incinerate 2,600 tons of mustard gas being stored at the Pueblo Chemical Weapons Depot in Colorado, he was a lone voice.

This March, the Army announced that it will not incinerate the mustard gas, but will instead use a safer, cleaner method that uses warm water and bacteria. Water neutralization followed by biodegradation, the "bug method," uses water and microbes to break down the hazardous chemicals and is much safer than burning.

And Vincent is no longer a lone voice. Thanks to his persistence, incineration was opposed in the end by a formidable coalition of labor unions, community groups, the Catholic Diocese, the county commissioners, the state Senate, the governor and U.S. Sen. Wayne Allard (R-CO.).

The groundswell of support is a reminder that meaningful victories take time. "If we take care of ourselves and each other, we can stick with this for the long haul and win," said Rocky Mountain Chapter Director Susan LeFever.

The victory bodes well for several other communities fighting chemical weapons incinerators, like those near the Blue Grass Army Depot in Kentucky. But one incinerator has already been built in Utah, another in the Pacific, and a plant in Alabama is beginning preliminary test burns. Two more are under construction. "Incinerator salesmen can no longer argue that incineration is the best available technology," said Vincent. "There's a better way."

"Winning is hard work, but it's great fun," said Vincent. "I recommend it highly."



Assawoman Canal as seen through the lens of Peter Mclean. See update on Project: Wilderness in Livable Delaware on page 5.

Senate Scores Great Victory by Protecting Arctic Refuge - Battle Not Done - YET!

In a big victory for America's environment, 54 Senators rejected a proposal to open the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling! This decisive vote was a stinging rebuke for one of the Bush Administration's top domestic priorities. Moreover, the victory is a testament to tremendous outpouring of grassroots activism in support of protecting the Arctic Refuge. The Sierra Club's grassroots network really kicked into high gear across the county educating their neighbors and the press, writing and calling and meeting directly with their Senators. With the Sierra Club turning up the heat back home, the Senate Democratic leadership was able to prevail in safeguarding this national treasure despite heavy lobbying by the Bush administration and the oil industry.

While the Senate staved off attempts to include Arctic Refuge drilling in its version of an energy bill, the House version which is dramatically worse, does include a drilling provision. This discrepancy will have to be reconciled in a conference committee. So though we have one victory under our belt, it is possible that the conference may produce a bill with an Arctic drilling provision back in.

Despite the Senate's rejection of Arctic Refuge drilling, the Sierra Club cannot support the bill in its current form. While the Senate energy bill began as a promising plan, polluters plundered the bill. Now the Senate bill utterly fails to meet America's energy needs, and instead sends

Continued on page 6

Challenge from the Chair

by Matt Urban

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

– Margaret Mead

We recently had the rare pleasure of experiencing two major victories back-to-back. One was the vote in the Senate to reject drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska. And at home, a poorly crafted

and environmentally dangerous plan by the US Army Corps of Engineers to dredge the Delaware River was abandoned (at least for now).

Both of these are excellent examples of a small group making a big difference, and the Delaware Sierra Club membership played a key role in both victories.

That’s what the Sierra Club is all about, and that’s what we’re all a part of. Ultimately what we bring to the world is a dash of common sense and hope for the future.

This letter is intended to serve two purposes. First, it’s a major thank-you to those that continue to contribute what they can of their time and energy to these causes with calls, active participation, donations, attendance at fundraising events, or participation in chapter outings – all of these things mean a great deal to the continued success of our chapter. Second, this letter is a call to action – because the more of us there are working together, the more we invest in a healthy future for ourselves and for future generations.

If major victories can be won by a tiny fraction of the Sierra members in this state, can you imagine if all (approximately) 1,700 of us came together to work more actively on issues like these and others that affect our lives? Now that’s probably unrealistic, but what if it was half that many, or a even quarter? When you really think about it, it’s amazing the power that even one person can have to shape the world. Ghandi was but one man, but he managed to change the course of a country with his actions alone.

That’s not to say that everyone can commit their lives to a cause, and we all have to find our own balance in our lives between work, family, recreation and service. But the power to make a huge difference in the world is available to everyone, and the rewards can be great.

In this newsletter, we’ve got a listing of some

opportunities that are currently available within our chapter. Please take the time to review them and imagine what you would get out of being involved. We’ve also got some great events planned for the summer and fall. Your participation in these events makes a huge difference as to what we can accomplish within our chapter. And your continued and generous support of our chapter through your contributions helps us to continue to grow.

An organization like Sierra Club exists only because of caring committed citizens. There is no-one ‘out there’ that we can count on to win our battles for us.

So if the future is ours, so why not make it something remarkable? Let’s bring common sense, caring, and commitment and compassion back to the world.

Let’s see the challenges that we face as what they are – opportunities to transform life itself.

I personally invite you to participate in this work in whatever way you can, and to push beyond the boundaries that you see for yourself.

And it inspires me and gives me hope to think that you just might take me up on it.

“The future’s here, we are in it, we are on our own.” – Weir / Barlow

HELP WANTED!

The Chapter is seeking volunteers to take over the following activities:

- ✓ **Membership chair**
- ✓ **Newsletter Editor**
- ✓ **Designer to help with fundraising outreach**
- ✓ **Outdoor enthusiasts**

If you can help with any of these activities or have other ideas about how you would like to contribute please contact Matt Urban at 302-661-2050.

The **Delaware Sierra News** is published five times a year by the Delaware Chapter of the Sierra Club. This publication is written and produced entirely by volunteers. If you would like to help with its publication, please contact the editor (302-378-8501). The deadline for materials for the next issue is **August 1, 2002**. We reserve the right to edit materials submitted for publication. Materials and Letters to the Editor can be send to: debbie.heaton@sierraclub.org. Ideas expressed in the *Delaware Sierra News* are those of the columnists and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Sierra Club. While effort is made to check for accuracy, time constraints and limited all-volunteer staff do not allow for complete data corroboration.

Editors: Debbie Heaton, Mike Casale and Jean Bauer. Contributing writers as noted. This newsletter was printed on recycled/post consumer paper with soy based ink by the Dover Post Company, Dover, Delaware.



News throughout Delaware

Jim Steffens, Newark, having moved to rural Wisconsin in late May, turned his Delaware Dredge files over to **Dick Bewick**, Dover. Stay tuned for more updates on this project from Dick.

Shiray Shipley, Wilmington, our chapter coordinator has been upgraded to full-time status after the receipt of a grant from the Sierra Club's Chapter Fundraising Capacity Building Task Force. She will be working with the fundraising committee to plan and arrange the upcoming fundraising events for the summer and fall. (See insert)

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge education and outreach this spring included a little street theatre. **Phil Shuman** and **Ron Zink**, both of Dover, were seen at various venues taking turns wearing a plush polar bear costume while waving to folks driving by. Rumor also has it that Shiray was the only bear-like attendee at the Polar Bear plunge in Lewes.

Bob and Jean Bauer hosted the April Sierra Club of Kent County meeting at their home in Camden. This group is forming to work on Kent County issues. They will function as a committee of the Chapter with the goal of creating a formal Sierra Club Group in the future.

The Chapter Executive Committee elected **Rich Anthony**, vice chair at their May meeting.

A gaggle of Ohio Sierrans were hosted overnight by Matt Urban and his housemates prior to their attendance at an AK Steel annual meeting at the Hotel DuPont in mid-May. They attended to share samples and stories about pollution the company contributes to the air in the Cincinnati area.

The Chapter Conservation Committee requested a hearing on the subaqueous lands permit for the Christiana Mall expansion. The developers are seeking to fill in headwater wetlands and a stream. The Chapter is seeking to have the plan adjusted to reduce the impacts to local streams and the Christina River.

The Chapter is also working on a House Bill in the General Assembly to protect **Delaware's isolated wetlands**. These special areas include Delmarva Bays, Fens and Whale Wallows - all unique and often threatened by development with filling. This bill was passed out of Representative Cathcart's Land Use and Infrastructure Committee on May 16th and will go to the house floor after the Memorial Day

break. Check the Chapter website for more information. Rep. Cathcart also sponsored this bill.

The General Assembly is working to provide regulations to oversee above ground storage tanks since the Motiva explosion last summer. Various groups have been working to "refine" the bill and it needs your help! Please call your state Senator and Representative to let them know how important you feel such a program is.

Appointments: **Glen Ernst** is serving on the Community Involvement Advisory Council. The CIAC is a result of the effort of the Community Involvement Advisory Committee created by DNREC in 1999. The Committee was charged with developing a set of recommendations to DNREC that would inform, educate and expand public participation and ensure access to information in under-served communities.

Ken Mulholland has been serving on The Chronic Violators Regulatory Development Committee. The committee was created by Senate Substitute 1 of Senate Bill 33, which amended Titles 7 and 29 of the Delaware code with respect to notification of environmental releases, facility performance and establishment of the Community Involvement Advisory Council. The bill was sponsored by Senator David B. McBride and Representative George R. Quillen. The following working definition of a Chronic Violator was developed at the Committee's April meeting: "A facility or regulated party that is unable to maintain compliance or has engaged in a pattern of willful neglect or disregard with respect to the State's environmental permits, laws or regulations as administered by DNREC."

Sierra Club 2002 Election Results for Board of Directors

*Elected to the Board		Election Summary	
*Ben Zuckerman	36,383	Total Returns by Internet	
*Jim Catlin	33,788	11,778	15.95%
*Larry Fahn	32,135	Total Returns by Mail	
*Chuck McGrady	30,532	62,064	84.05%
*Marcia Hanscom	30,141	Total Returns	73,842
Lois Snedden	28,639	Total Ballots	
Charlie Ogle	28,504	Mailed	776,586
Bernie Zaleha	27,103	Percent Returned	9.51%
Nancy Rauch	25,199		
René Voss	24,204		
James Mays	20,706		
Brian Brademeyer	15,692		
Patrick Murphy	12,798		

– Marvin Baker,
Chief Inspector of Election,
for the Inspectors

Delaware Chapter and Southern Delaware Group Leaders

Chapter Office

1304 N. Rodney St.

Wilmington, DE 19806

Shiray Shipley 302-425-4911

hours: Tue-Thurs 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Chapter Executive Committee

Matt Urban, chair 661-2050

Rich Anthony, v-chair 645-1732

Dick Bewick 736-1670

Jay Cooperson 571-0660

Debbie Heaton 378-8501

Chris McEvilly 656-8858

Terri Tipping, treas. 368-1452

Boyd White 335-1323

Chapter Appointed Officers

Cons. Debbie Heaton 378-8501

Litigation Carl Solberg 492-1225

Membership Al Denio 455-0389

Outings Dan Soeder 284-2613

Trans. Bob Bennett 731-4524

Southern Delaware Group Excom*

Sallie Callanen, chair 539-0635

Pete Okie 856-2728

Rich Anthony 645-1732

Yuki Usuki, vice chair 436-4042

SDG Appointed Officers

Cons. Terri Usuki 436-4042

Land use. Rich Anthony 645-1732

Legal Mike Lamb 539-1008

Membership Claudia Alesi

Secretary Carrie Bennett

Visit us on the web:

www.delaware.sierraclub.org

Army Corps of Engineers Suspends Dredge

By Jim Steffens

A local folksinger by the name of John Flynn has a song that says:

*If it walks like a duck
And talks like a duck
And you have duck doo on your truck,
You can bet your bottom buck
That it ain't no armadillo.*

For three years an alliance of over twenty-five local and national environmental and civic groups have been saying this make-work, dredging of the Delaware River shipping channel to 45 feet, project is a duck. No, no, said the Corps and its chief cheerleader, Dennis Rochford, it's an armadillo. Well, the veterinarian's report just came back, and guess what!

This campaign involved a lot of folks, who came together and mastered arcane subjects such as the economics of river shipping, the toxicity of heavy metals, the grain size distribution of bottom sediments, the population dynamics (as much as it is known) of shortnosed sturgeon, the biology of colony-forming tubeworms. We were aided immensely by two national organizations, the National Wildlife Federation and Taxpayers for Common Sense, who provided

crucial knowledge of what was going on in Washington, D.C., not only in Congress but in several federal agencies as well. In the end we were greatly aided by the Corps of Engineers, who (I believe this will be borne out) acted with the arrogance they were permitted under federal guidelines, but which won them no friends at Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC).

This is a time for celebration, but the war is not over. The Corps is likely regrouping to see if they can salvage the project. We have not seen the General Accounting Office report, but it must be pretty damning if the Corps pulled back so abruptly without a fight. The Stearns report, an independent economic and environmental analysis funded by several groups including the Sierra Club, has not been made public. And the Corps' application to DNREC is still outstanding. There is a good chance that DNREC will return the permit application to the Corps as incomplete. We shall be working hard to convince DNREC to reject it outright. Neither Delaware nor New Jersey has paid its state share of the cost of the project, and neither state is likely to in the near future. But we will continue to drive as many stakes into the heart, and fire as many silver bullets into the body of this project as we can.

How Is Your Deck?

by Al Denio

Most decks added to homes to enhance outdoor living are made with "pressure treated wood" to help it last longer. The same type of lumber is also used in children's playground structures. It is called Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA) treated wood and it often has a pale greenish color due to the copper ions present. The danger is due to the elements arsenic and chromium, both carcinogens.

You should not let young children make skin contact with this wood. Adults should also minimize contact. If you like to sunbathe in the buff on your deck, cover the wood with an old carpet or exercise pad.

When the time comes to replace your deck, dismantle it with care! Handle the wood only while wearing gloves. Never use a power sander or saw on this treated lumber – the fumes and sawdust can be deadly. Do not chop up this lumber and burn it in a stove, fireplace or cook-

out grill. A steak cooked over a CCA wood fire would probably be your "Last Supper."

How should you dispose of this treated wood? The ideal final resting-place would be a licensed hazardous waste landfill. If that is not possible, a certified municipal landfill should be used.

How toxic is this CCA wood? The Connecticut Agricultural Experimental Station reports that a 20 cubic inch piece of this wood contains a lethal dose of arsenic.

There is good news, however. The EPA has reached a voluntary agreement with those who produce CCA treated wood. Production will cease by December 31, 2003. It is possible now to purchase non-toxic pressure treated wood for outdoor use. However, insist on a written guarantee from the supplier.

We thank the Massachusetts Chapter of the Sierra Club for leading on this issue. On March 9 they unanimously passed a lengthy resolution dealing with this problem.

Project WILD Nominations Are Coming in...



and they are being explored, mapped, photographed...Many more activities are happening as the committee reviews the nominations as they come in! We have an active group of Sierrans from across the state who are concerned about their favorite wild and natural areas and have nominated them to the Chapter's Project WILD listing. We will continue to collect WILD place nominations throughout the year...so when you go outside this summer to relax and explore, take a nomination form and your camera with you – tell us about what you find. Below are some field notes from Peter Mclean who is exploring Delaware while on his sabbatical. If you need a copy of the form visit the Chapter website, check out your January newsletter or call 302-425-4911 for a copy. Check out the outdoor activity listing on page 7. Several Project WILD activities are listed. *Please join us!*

Field Notes Assawoman Canal

by Peter Mclean (4 October 2001)

Beautiful day, sunny, though not terribly clear; supposed to hit 80 later on. Winds are from the southwest, about 5 mph.

I check out the Canal's north end. Chicken coops, mobile homes, and 'No Trespassing' signs seem to pervade. I wave to the locals I see and usually get a wave back. Their properties typically back up to the Canal, though there's a narrow buffer of assorted sedges, grasses and greenbrier to separate the lawn from the water...some riprap, too, placed along the Canal's sides, an effort to stabilize them from the wake of many boats, the wash of the tides, and the incessant rise of the sea...

As I move a bit farther south, along the stretch near the bridge where a sign indicates the Canal was formerly under Department of Interior jurisdiction, the human presence subsides; Mr. Natural Spring Water is the Canal's closest neighbor, and the buffer of Loblolly Pines, oaks, hickories, gums, and sycamores, widens to about 60 feet. The quality of the Canal's water is the chief beneficiary; it is so clear. It reveals a beautiful sand bot-

tom and allows great, absolute reflection of the blue sky above and the trees, shrubs, and creeper crowding the Canal's sides. As I walk past the lespedeza and goldenrod along the dirt road which parallels the water, I observe several Cardinals among the Black Cherry and Sassafras, Mockingbirds chattering and chasing one another, a Red-Bellied Woodpecker working some old growth, Blue Jays ceaselessly calling, Mourning Doves gracefully flying from the pines over the Canal...

Farther along, while exploring under the Route 26 bridge, I notice large mats of Black Mussels. Valves agape, seemingly confident with their situation, they filter the Canal's water and contribute to the rich environment nearby... minnows dart in and out of the dark masses, and a blue crab finds refuge among them then scoots away as I near.

At the southeast end, near the West Avenue bridge, the Canal is surrounded by a rich wetlands, a refuge for all that we and others need and desire...clean water, a storm buffer, a seafood nursery, a wildlife haven, and a place to ease our minds and restore our souls...

Kent County Levy Court Outing on July 30

Call Boyd at
302-335-1323 for
details and final
arrangements.

Are you concerned about water and air quality? Seeing too much development lately? Concerned about traffic? Worried about our natural resources disappearing before your eyes? Then now is the time to do something about the way Kent County is being run.

Join Boyd White for an evening at Levy Court. Learn what Kent County Levy Court is all about, and something about the people involved. Meet your local commissioner, and watch Levy Court in action. Meet at TGI Friday's on Tuesday, July 30 at 5:30 p.m. for dinner together before going to Levy Court at 7.

Sierra Club's Carl Pope receives Sidney Hillman Award

On May 23rd the Sierra Club received one of this year's Sidney Hillman awards, established in the 1950's as "labor's Pulitzer", in New York. The award Carl Pope received, the Public Service Award, has been given in recent years to such figures as Robert Reich and Jesse Jackson. While these awards are given to individuals, it was clear from the introduction that this was really an award to the Sierra Club for its work with organized labor over the years.

Organic Foods Really DO Have Less Pesticides

Consumers Union press release (edited for this newsletter)

Do organically grown foods contain fewer residues of toxic pesticides than conventionally grown foods? The answer is an emphatic YES, according to a scientific study published in the peer-reviewed journal *Food Additives and Contaminants*. The study team included analysts from Consumers Union (CU), and from the Organic Materials Research Institute (OMRI).

Organic foods are grown without most synthetic chemical inputs used in conventional farming, and many consumers who buy organic do so to avoid dietary pesticides. But the issue has been surprisingly controversial, with some conservative and media commentators claiming organic foods have just as many residues as foods grown conventionally.

"We have shown that consumers who buy organic fruits and vegetables are exposed to just one-third as many residues as they'd eat in conventionally-grown foods, and the residues are usually lower as well," said Edward Groth III, Senior Scientist at CU and one of the paper's co-authors.

The authors obtained and analyzed test data on pesticide residues in organic and non-organic foods from three independent sources: The combined residue data sets covered more than 94,000 food samples from more than 20 different crops; 1,291 of those samples were organically grown.

"The results are remarkably consistent across all three data sets," says Brian Baker of OMRI, a co-author of the study. "If we take the results as a whole, the evidence is very convincing that - as you'd expect-there are fewer residues by far in organically grown foods."

The USDA and CU tests also included some samples of "green labeled" foods - foods that are not organically grown, but are marketed with claims based on reduced pesticide use, or "no detectable residues." Foods in this category showed residues in between the results for organic and conventional crops.

The authors explored reasons why organic foods contain any pesticide residues at all. When they excluded residues of persistent, long-banned insecticides such as DDT from their data, the fraction of organic samples with residues dropped from 23 to 13 percent. Most residues in organic foods (and some of the residues in conventional foods) can readily be explained as unavoidable results of environmental contamination by past pesticide use, or by "drift" (sprays blown in from adjacent non-organic farms). Some tested samples may also have been mislabeled as organic, either because of fraud or because of lapses in maintaining the identity of foods as they moved from the farm to point of purchase.

What about residues of natural pesticides, used by some organic (and non-organic) farmers? Critics of organic agriculture have suggested that residues of natural pesticides in organic foods pose risks comparable to those residues of conventional crop chemicals in non-organic foods. The paper concludes there is no current evidence to support that assertion, although the authors see this as an interesting question that should be pursued with better data.

A summary of the study can be found at <http://www.consumersunion.org>. The full paper can be purchased from the publisher of *Food Additives and Contaminants*. Go to www.biosciencearena.com for a link to the paper.

Arctic - Not won yet! *Continued from page 1*

America backward. The Senate bill: saves virtually no oil; hardly increases renewable energy; eliminates safeguards that protect consumers from Enron-like manipulations; and gives billions of dollars in subsidies to coal and oil, and nuclear power.

Delaware Sierra Club activists can applaud Senators Biden and Carper who voted to protect the Arctic Refuge. Urge them to continue to fend off future attacks on the Arctic and reject this inadequate energy bill should it emerge from the conference without dramatic changes.

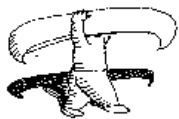
Preserve the Future

Not everyone can make a large gift to protect the environment during their lifetime, but you can preserve the environment for generations to come by remembering the Sierra Club in your will.

There are many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

For more information and confidential assistance contact: John Calaway, Director, Gift Giving, Sierra Club, 85 Second Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105 (415) 977-5639 or e-mail: planned.giving@sierraclub.org

Delaware Chapter Outings: Summer, 2002



Special activity coming up...

Saturday, June 15: Outings Leader Training.

Leader: Dan Soeder (302-284-2613, e-mail DEhiker2@cs.com). Join Dan at 2 p.m. for two hours of outings leader training at Brecknock Park in Dover. We will discuss the responsibilities of outings leaders, how to rate activities, determine if people are capable of participating in an activity, respond to various types of emergencies, and use outings as a recruiting tool for activists, new members and for conservation. Even if you're not especially "outdoorsy," you can still be an outings leader. We need people with all interests, at all skill levels. Contact Dan to reserve your spot and find out where in the park the meeting will be held.



Please contact the trip leader listed with each trip for more information and to reserve a spot.

The Delaware Chapter is seeking outings leaders. We need members with ideas for outings to step forward and help us build our outings program. We are looking for people who are interested in doing activities we have not done before, such as dolphin cruises, nature walks, and birding tours, which will appeal to a broad cross-section of members. Of course, the rock climbers, mountain bikers and whitewater kayakers are still welcome. There will be a two-hour training session for new leaders on

Saturday, June 15. If you are interested in helping the chapter expose people to conservation issues, recruit new members, inspire activists, and if you enjoy the outdoors, please contact Dan Soeder, chapter outings chair, at 302-284-2613 (e-mail: DEhiker2@cs.com) for more information. As always, I'll see you outside!
— Dan

Friday, June 7 through Sunday, June 9, 2002: **Camping and hiking in Hickory Run State Park, PA.** Leader: Matt Urban (302-661-2050, e-mail: Matt@mobius-nm.com). We plan to camp at the walk-in sites, which are the nicest, and do moderate day-hikes into the Ice-Age boulder field and perhaps along the rim of Lehigh Gorge. We intend to leave Friday to secure the sites, and return Sunday evening before dark.

Sunday, June 23, 2002: **Delaware Natural History Society outing on "How Streams Find Their Courses."** DNHS Contact: Al Matlack (302-239-5383), Sierra Contact: Dan Soeder (302-284-2613, e-mail DEhiker2@cs.com) This is a joint outing between DNHS and the Pennsylvania White Clay Preserve to show how landscape features and their underlying geology determine the morphology of a stream and the resultant biodiversity. Group will meet at the London Tract Meeting House at the intersection of London Tract, South Bank and Sharpless Roads, Landenberg, PA. Contact Gay Overdeest at (610) 274-2471 to reserve a spot and to obtain more details about the outing.

Saturday, July 20, 2002: **Paddle the Wild Nanticoke!** Leader: Ron Zink(302-735-8996, e-mail: ron_z_19904@yahoo.com). This outing is part of Project WILD and the One Club Program. One of the wildest and most undeveloped reaches of any river on Delmarva is the Nanticoke from Laurel, DE across the Maryland state line. As this land is considered for inclusion in the Project WILD inventory, we will take the opportunity to see for ourselves what a river might look like before removal of the riparian buffer zone, stabilization of the channel, and the development of marinas and condominiums along the banks. Boat rentals will be available. Please contact Ron early to reserve a spot, as space is limited.

Friday, August 2 through Sunday, August 4, 2002: **Backpacking in the White Mountains of New Hampshire.** Leader: Dan Soeder (302-284-2613, e-mail DEhiker2@cs.com). Join Dan for two days of backpacking in the Presidential Range of the Whites in New Hampshire. Friday will be a travel day, with a possible stay overnight at the Appalachian Mountain Club's lodge at Pinkham Notch. Saturday and Sunday will be spent hiking well-marked trails in Madison Gulf and along the base of Mount Washington. This is a strenuous hike for experienced, well-equipped backpackers only. Space in the lodge can be difficult to obtain in the summer, so please reserve with Dan by early July.

Saturday, August 17, 2002: **White Clay Creek Hike.** Leader: Debbie Heaton (302-378-8501, dheaton@mcgan-

ndesign.com). Join the chapter conservation chair for an easy morning hike along White Clay Creek to look at land that is being considered for the Project WILD inventory.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

Saturday, September 28 and Sunday, September 29, 2002: **We're going back to "The Gap;" Delaware Water Gap,** that is. The highly successful 2-day paddle trip of the Dirty Dozen (at least by the time we were done) down the Delaware River from above Bushkills through the Delaware Water Gap last October is being repeated! Boat rentals will be available. Contact Matt Urban (302-661-2050, e-mail: Matt@mobius-nm.com) for details.

More Socials Planned

In addition to our highly successful Logan House socials that we've been running monthly for almost two years in Wilmington, we've added another set for Dover and folks downstate. These will be held the first Thursday of the month (more or less) at W.T. Smithers on State Street in downtown Dover. Our Logan House socials will continue to be held on the third Thursday of the month. We hope you'll join us at either or both!

Dover socials: June 6, July 11, August 8, and September 5, 6-9 PM, at W.T. Smithers Restaurant, 140 S. State Street, Dover, DE. Contact Ron Zink for information (302-735-8996, e-mail: ron_z_19904@yahoo.com)

Wilmington socials: June 20, July 25, August 22, and September 19, 6-9 PM, at Kelly's Logan House, Trolley Square, Wilmington, DE. Contact Matt Urban for information (302-661-2050, e-mail: Matt@mobiusnm.com)

Join chapter members at these events for drink and food specials, and meet new members, old members and potential members.

Please join us!

Planning meetings for conservation activities and general statewide activities are schedule on the following dates:

Conservation:

June 13th

August 15th

Chapter Executive

Com. meetings:

July 16th

September 10th

Meetings will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Wesley United Methodist Church in Dover at the intersection of Loockerman and State Streets. We will meet in front of the old post office under the pillars.

Join us for two picnics this year: one up **NORTH** and another in **SOUTHERN DELAWARE;** members are welcome to come to either or both.

Chapter Picnic 2002

Saturday, June 29, 3-6:00 p.m.

at Ed Yalisove's home, 644 Horseshoe Hill Road, Hockessin, DE. People should bring folding/lawn chairs, plus whatever you want to drink. Join us for a relaxing, family oriented afternoon of swimming in a spring-fed pond complete with floating dock and beach, enjoy short hikes through climax piedmont forest or just bat the badminton birdie! The Chapter will provide food for both vegans and carnivores. RSVP 302-425-4911.

Directions: Take Route 48 north to Brackenville Rd. At light take left onto Brackenville Rd. Cross over Old Wilmington Rd. and take next left onto Horseshoe Hill Rd. Come to mailboxes make a right, go 1/10 of a mile and take the left fork. Go to the bottom of the drive. Park along the drive at the bottom.

Sunday, September 15, 3-6:00 p.m.

Sierra Club Southern Delaware Group picnic, Til and Skip Purnell's home (Thorneby). The southern Delaware picnic will be at the Purnell's lovely home on the waterside of the Herring Creek. Mark your calendar now and check out the September newsletter for more details. RSVP 302-425-4911.

Delaware Chapter Change of Address Form

Name _____

New Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Old Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Membership # (see label below) _____

Please send this coupon to **Sierra Club**, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80321-2968.

Sierra Club Membership Application Coupon

New Member Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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