

# Sierra Summer 2004

A Sierra Club Newsletter about Environmental Matters Important to Delaware

June-July-August 2004



Hiking in the White Mountains



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### JUNE

**3, Thursday, 6:30 - 9 p.m., General Membership Meeting!!**

Announcement of annual photo contest rules!

**5, Saturday, 5 - 9:30 p.m. - Newark Main Street.** Help at the chapter booth. Hand out Sierra Club materials and sell T-shirts. 1-hour shifts. To volunteer, call Debbie at 425-4911.

**12, Saturday - Hike** along the beautiful St. Jones led by Carl Solberg. Approximately 4 easy miles. For information call Ron Zink, 735-8996

**12, Saturday, 10:30 a.m. - Explore Noxontown Pond** at the Saint Andrew's School in Middletown led by Peter McLean. Call 425-4911 to reserve a spot and to get directions.

**16, Wednesday, 7 p.m., Conservation Com., 7 p.m. -** Dave Keifer's home. For information, call the office at 425-4911.

**22, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. - Hike** in White Clay Creek State Park - Judge Morris Estate led by Terri Tipping. About 4 easy miles. For information contact Terri, [tipping@gunnip.com](mailto:tipping@gunnip.com) or 302-335-5120.

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### JULY

**1, Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Social -** The Lobby House, Dover. For further information, call Ron at 735-8996.

**10, Saturday - Canoe down Spring Creek.** This is one of Delaware's most beautiful waterways. We will be joined by the Murderkill Tributary Action Team and the Society of Natural History. A wet/dry run will be held sometime prior. Interested in either? Contact Ron Zink, 735-8996.

**13, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. - Hike** in White Clay Creek State Park at Possum Hill led by Terri Tipping. Approximately 4.5 miles. For information contact Terri, [tipping@gunnip.com](mailto:tipping@gunnip.com) or 302-335-5120.

**20, Tuesday, 7 p.m., Executive Com. -** St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Old North Road at West Street, Camden. Please plan to attend ExCom meetings. Your ideas are needed!

### AUGUST

**5, Thursday, 6:30, Social -** The Lobby House, Dover. For further information, call Ron at 735-8996.

**10, Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. - Hike** White Clay Creek State Park - Judge Morris Estate, led by Terri Tipping. Easy 4-mile hike. For information contact Terri, [tipping@gunnip.com](mailto:tipping@gunnip.com) or 302-335-5120.

**17, Tuesday, 7 p.m., Conservation Com. -** Dave Kiefer's home. Call the office at 425-4911 for more information.

**22, Sunday (tentative) - Eco-Cruise** up the Nanticoke

**28, Saturday - Moonlight paddle** around Burton's and Thompson's Islands with hosts Carl Solberg and Steve Callanen. Meet at Steve's home on the inlet, and let the Good Times Roll. Call Steve for directions, 539-0635. Need a boat? Call Ron at 735-8996.

## DELAWARE CHAPTER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 7 - 9:30 P.M.  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
MAIN STREET, NEWARK

Learn the latest about environmental challenges on the federal level and how they may affect you in Delaware from Sierra Club regional director Glen Besa.

Be one of the first in Delaware to see the newly released "Life on the Delaware," a documentary film from GreenTreks Network, Inc. This is their latest film in the series, "Stories About People and Our Environment."

Meet chapter leaders and ask them what is happening around the state.

Members and non-members are welcome to learn more about the Sierra Club in Delaware. Your opinions matter, so make them heard. Relate what you want from your Sierra Club chapter.

For directions or more information please call 302-425-4911 or email [Debbie.heaton@sierraclub.org](mailto:Debbie.heaton@sierraclub.org). You can also check us out at [www.delaware.sierraclub.org](http://www.delaware.sierraclub.org). If possible we would appreciate a RSVP so we can get a head count.

Bring your friends, and join in what promises to be a wonderful evening!



SIERRA  
CLUB  
FOUNDED 1892

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

# Outings with Eric 2004

Eric has put together exciting hikes for this year. Please contact him at 610-213-9279 or eric@logress.com if you have any questions about or would like to register for an outing listed below.

The trips to New Hampshire and Pennsylvania require lodging reservations, so these trips will be on a first-come, first-reserved basis. The WMNF requires that we limit parties on the trails in New Hampshire to 10 or fewer. To participate in an Outing With Eric, Eric requests that you contact him as soon as possible and no later than two weeks before the date of the hike. Note that there may be a small additional fees to cover common expenses.

For the Delaware Trail Challenge Outing, Eric needs at least 24 hours notice before the start of the hike. Times and dates are subject to change.

Can't wait to see you out on the trail!

## CARTER NOTCH IN THE WHITE MOUNTAINS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE (7.6 Miles Round Trip)

*June 18-20*

We will leave Friday morning and drive up to the White Mountains National Forest, where will we lodge our first night in the Pinkham Notch Base Camp. Saturday morning we will hike the 19-Mile Brook Trail up to Carter Notch. The trail has moderate grades but also some rough walking in sections. There will most likely still be snow on sections of the trail. Your efforts will be rewarded by spectacular views, unearthly terrain, two mountaintop lakes, extraordinary wildlife, and a field of house-sized boulders with ice caves to explore below. We return down the same trail Sunday morning and arrive back in the Wilmington/Philadelphia area late Sunday night.

### *Carter Notch Hut*

As with all trips into the White Mountains, appropriate equipment and attire and a healthy respect for these mountains are critical. Tents are not required for this trip, as we will stay in the huts. You will need a four-seasons sleeping bag, clothing that prepares you for anything from 0 degrees and snowing to 70 degrees and sunny, and your own food and water. The hut has a fully functional kitchen.



## MOUNT WASHINGTON'S LAKES OF THE CLOUDS, UP JEWELL/GULFSIDE TRAILS (5 MILES) AND DOWN GREAT GULF WILDERNESS TRAIL (7.9 MILES)

*Early August*

We will be taking on the granddaddy of them all, Mount Washington! This trip is still being put together, so contact me if you are interested. The plan at this point calls for us to ascend via the Jewell Trail, spend a night at the Lakes in the Clouds Hut, and descend via the Great Gulf Wilderness Trail the next day.

Overall, we will probably cover 15 miles in two days, with a total elevation change of around 10,000 feet. This is an advanced hike requiring some mountaineering experience.

## OHIOPYLE STATE PARK & LAUREL CAVERNS

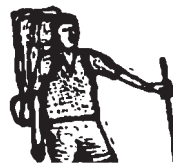
*Autumn 2004*

This fall we will be returning to Ohiopyle State Park for hiking and paddling, as well as a caving expedition in The Laurel Caverns. We are still putting this trip together, so if you are interested, please contact either Matt Urban (302-475-9894, matt@mobiusnm.com) or Eric Vanim-Botting.

Located primarily in Fayette County, Ohiopyle State Park encompasses about 19,052 acres of rugged natural beauty and serves as the gateway to the Laurel Mountains. The focal point of the area is the more than 14 miles of the Youghiogheny [yaw-ki-gay-nee] River Gorge that passes through the heart of the park. The "Yough" [yawk] provides some of the best whitewater boating in the Eastern U. S., as well as spectacular scenery. Surrounding Ohiopyle Falls is the Falls Day Use Area, the central point for the casual visitor. This area provides parking, modern restrooms, gift shop/snack bar, and overlook platforms with magnificent scenery.

## DELAWARE TRAIL CHALLENGE

*June 6, 12:00 noon*



Trail Challenge trails at Fort Delaware and Port Penn State Parks remain to be hiked! Please be sure to contact me at least 24 hours in advance if you are interested in participating as the date and time are subject to change.

Prison Camp Trail, 0.8 mile: In addition to its Civil War fort, Pea Patch Island boasts the state's largest nesting site for egrets, herons, and ibis. For spectacular views of the birds, hike the nature trail that winds through the woods to an observation platform overlooking the northern side of the island. Begin to the north of the fort.

The Wetlands of Port Penn Trail, 1.5 miles: Begin the interpretive trail on Route 9, across from the Port Penn Interpretive Center. On this easy trail, you can take a closer look at the relationship that existed between the wetlands and Port Penners in the past, and recognize how the land continues to influence the lives of the people here today.

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Categories	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35	<input type="checkbox"/> \$47
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 (per person)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250

All dues include subscription to *Sierra* (\$7.50) and chapter publications (\$1). Dues are not tax deductible. Mail to: **Sierra Club**, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder Co 80529 FRIP F94QW58001

## NOXONTOWN POND

Sat., June 12, 10:30 a.m.

Explore Noxontown Pond at Saint Andrew's School in Middletown. This trip will be led by biology teacher and Sierra Club member Peter McLean. Learn about this special oasis in the midst of the growth taking place in southern New Castle County. Noxontown Pond is part of the Appoquinimink River watershed, and it is home to many plants and animals that the school students have been studying in their biology and art classes. Peter will explain the role of the fauna and flora and talk about how the lake is doing. Moderate level of hiking. Bring water and a hat. Call 425-4911 to reserve a spot and to get directions.

*SNEAK PREVIEW! SAVE THE DATE!*

### FOURTH ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION EVENING - COOL SPACES, WILD PLACES

**Saturday, October 9,  
6:30 - 9:30 p.m**

The Events Committee is hard at work planning the upcoming auction that will take place at the Delaware Center for Contemporary Arts in Wilmington. Please note that the date is changed to a *Saturday night* this year! There'll be live music, even more gourmet nibbles, great beverages, and greater auction items!!

The collection of items has begun. If you wish to donate an item, can help out, or want more information, please contact Debbie at 302-425-4911.

This event, which supports our conservation activities in Delaware, is a lot of fun to

## Eco-Cruise 2004

### AN AFTERNOON ON THE NANTICOKE RIVER

*Sunday, August 22,  
12:30 - 4:00 p.m.*

The Delaware Chapter of the Sierra Club is sponsoring its third annual eco-cruise on Sunday afternoon, August 22.

This year's cruise will feature the diverse communities of the Nanticoke River in Sussex County. Enjoy a relaxing cruise and explore the remaining wilds of southern Delaware and the Eastern Shore. This leisurely cruise will give you a chance to become reacquainted with what the natural world is like at the river's edge.

The cruise will last about 3.5 hours and will leave from the DNR station in Vienna, Maryland. The trip will take you up the Nanticoke from Vienna to Bethel, along the Broad Creek near the Woodland Ferry, and back to Vienna. A light lunch and beverage will be served.

To reserve your space, contact Debbie at 302-425-4911. Tickets are \$45 per person, and a limited number of spaces are available.

attend! Tickets will be \$30. Invitations are to be mailed in late August.

Keep the auction in mind as you are cleaning out the attic and find a gently used antique!

Terri

Treks



Terri

Treks

To beat the heat, we'll have a short evening hike, followed by a stop at either Joe's or McGlynns (for those that want). Hike leader will buy the first round of beer (but only for those who hiked!). Tuesday's is 1/2-price burgers at these places. Contact hike leader Terri Tipping, 302-335-5120 or [ttipping@gunnip.com](mailto:ttipping@gunnip.com) if you have questions. Note: We will hike in the rain.

### WHITE CLAY CREEK STATE PARK - JUDGE MORRIS ESTATE

*Tues., June 22, 6:30 p.m.*

Easy 4 mile hike on the Judge Morris Estate property. The hike will take no more than 1.5 hours. Meet by 6:30pm at the Judge Morris Estate section of White Clay Creek State Park (.6 miles north of Kirkwood Highway on Polly Drummond Hill Road). \$2.50 Park entrance/parking fee at this time of year. Bring water.

### WHITE CLAY CREEK STATE PARK - POSSUM HILL

*Tues., July 13, 6:30 p.m.*

We will hike approximately 4.5 miles along the Bryan's Field and Whitely Farms trails. The hike will take approximately 1.5 hours. Meet by 6pm at the Possum Hill parking lot (from Paper Mill Road, route 72, turn west onto Smith Mill Road, park is signed, parking lot is at end of the road). \$2.50 Park entrance/parking fee at this time of year. Bring water.

Or if you would like to donate a service or product to be auctioned, please contact Matt Urban (302-475-9880 x 17) or Debbie Heaton (302-425-4911). Arrangements can be made for pick-up at your convenience.

### WHITE CLAY CREEK STATE PARK - JUDGE MORRIS ESTATE

*Tues., Aug. 10, 6:00 p.m.*

Easy 4 mile hike on the Judge Morris Estate property. The hike will take no more than 1.5 hours. Meet by 6:30pm at the Judge Morris Estate section of White Clay Creek State Park (.6 miles north of Kirkwood Highway on Polly Drummond Hill Road). \$2.50 Park entrance/parking fee at this time of year. Bring water.

## SNEAK PREVIEW! SAVE THE DATE!

### THRILLIN' GRILLIN'

*SEPTEMBER 18 (TENTATIVE)*

The Sierra Club is grillin'. And politicians -- aspiring and elected -- will be invited to join us.

Our annual picnic is tentatively set for an afternoon and evening at Killen's Pond State Park. There'll be trail walks, horseshoes, frisbees, boomerangs, baseballs, swimming,

CALLING ALL AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS!

# Sierra Club 2004 Photo Contest



Delaware Sierra Club is sponsoring a statewide photo competition, for both children and adults, culminating in an awards reception on November 4, 2004 in Smyrna Delaware. Not only is this a great way to gain recognition for your special photos, it's also an excellent way to show your support for Delaware Sierra Club, and all contest proceeds will go directly to support our chapter's efforts to protect Delaware's environment.

**Contest Specifics:** Submit your photos by September 30, 2004 to be eligible to win one of our fabulous prizes. The contest will be judged by a panel of photographers and other design professionals.

**Award Reception:** Whether you enter the photo contest or not, please come join us for the awards reception - to be held on Thursday November 4, 2004 from 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. All photos entered in the contest will be on display during the event. There will be a small charge for this event as it will include dinner. Details are being confirmed as this newsletter is going to press.

### Contest Categories:

*Landscape/Scenic* (Scenic vistas, sunsets, mountains, waterfalls, etc.)

*Nature/Abstract* (Plants, close-ups/macro, interesting angles, patterns in nature, etc.)

*Wildlife* (Wild animals, insects, etc... No Pets Please!)

*Seasons* (Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter)

### Contest Entry Fees:

*Adults:* \$15 first entry, or \$75 for up to 10 entries

*Children under 16:* \$5 per entry or \$30 for up to 10 entries. This category is being limited to 4 x 6 format photos.

Prizes will be awarded to the best in each category as well as Best of Show - first, second and third places.

*To enter, please fill out the form below, detach, and mail along with your check and photo submission(s).*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail contest entry form and all photo submissions to:  
Sierra Club - Delaware Chapter, 100 West 10th Street, Ste 1107  
Wilmington, DE 19801

**Deadline for submissions is noon September 30, 2004.**

Make all checks payable to: Sierra Club - Delaware Chapter

### Adults:

\_\_\_ Entries at \$15 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

10 or more Entries at \$75 (for the group) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Children 16 or younger: (4 x 6 format only)

\_\_\_ Entries at \$5 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

10 or more Entries \$30( for the group) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Donation to Sierra Club \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### TOTAL ENCLOSED

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a Sierra Club Member? ( ) yes ( ) no

I am interested in being contacted about:

( ) Membership ( ) Outings ( ) Volunteering