

**December
2008**

Piedmont Plateau Group Of the Sierra Club

We welcome your articles, photos, and outings reports. The deadline for contributions is the second Tuesday of each month. Submit contributions to Dixon Cook at dcook4@triad.rr.com.

To change your address officially, email your address change or correction to: address-changes@sierraclub.org.

<http://northcarolina.sierraclub.org/piedmont>

Our group **Executive Committee** (Excom) has open positions. If you are interested in having a voice and a vote on important issues facing our community please contact: **Tom Taylor** at 286-

December Program: Christmas Party!

Join us on **Tuesday, December 9** for a potluck dinner as we celebrate a year of adventure and environmental activism with the Sierra Club, and enjoy each other's wonderful good cheer and good food! Prepare a favorite dish or pick up something on the go. If you have pictures from your nature journeys or tales from any misadventures, please come and share them with us. Drinks, plates, cups and utensils provided. We will meet from 7:00 until 8:30 at the Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Branch library. Feel free to bring your family!



January Program: Tour of Africa

Please join us **Tuesday, January 13** for a virtual tour of central Africa guided by Greensboro's Katie Southard. Katie spent May 2007 in Kenya, Uganda, the DR Congo and Tanzania. If you visited the Green Bean Coffee Shop last October, you may have seen some of the beautiful pictures she snapped. She will share more fascinating pictures along with tales of the wildlife and African people, and describe the experience of traversing four countries in the "third world."

Sierra Club meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm at the Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Branch Library on 1420 Price Park Road. Come share refreshments and social time at 7:00.

2009 Sierra Club Calendars



**Wilderness Wall
Calendar
13.95 including tax**

Get a great calendar and help your local Sierra Club Group

- ◆ Sponsor the Sustainable World Film Festival at UNC-G
- ◆ Provide Local environmental education
- ◆ Promote local conservation campaigns such as Cool Cities

For more information, to order your calendar, or if you have suggestions for selling calendars please contact Kim Yarbray at kyarbray@yahoo.com or 336-632-1550



**Engagement Calendar
14.95 including tax**

Needed Hospitality Coordinator

Do you delight in making people happy by treating them to yummy snacks on a monthly basis? If so, we've got the perfect volunteer opportunity for you! The PPG seeks a new Hospitality Coordinator to furnish tasty and healthy refreshments at our monthly meetings. All snack purchases are speedily reimbursed. Please contact any member of Excom if you're interested. Happy snacking!

Sustainable World 2009 Film & Dialogue Series

All films will be shown at 6:30 in the Weatherspoon Art Museum located at the corner of Spring Garden and Tate Streets.

Want to receive email notifications about meetings and environmental events? Send your email address to Tom Taylor at tnt2703@yahoo.com. Our local group sends emails using a system provided by the national organization with the usual "unsubscribe" option.

Important Recycling News! - Tuesday, December 30, 10 AM-2 PM: Electronics Recycling

The City of Greensboro will collect residential electronic waste for recycling in the parking lot of Proximity Hotel in Greensboro. This is a safe and environmentally-sound recycling option for unwanted electronic materials that includes cell phones, computers, monitors, CPU's, fax machines, televisions, radios, digital cameras, printers, etc. In addition, there will be receptacles during the event to drop off Christmas trees and greenery that the City will recycle into mulch. Sponsored by Friendly Shopping Center and Print Works Bistro.

The pre-dinner meeting for our January program will be held on January 13 at 5:45 pm at the Village Tavern on 1903 Westridge Rd. Please contact Dick Mearns at dick_mearns@bellsouth.net by January 12 to RSVP.

**Executive Committee Ballot
Sierra Club - Piedmont Plateau Group**

Several positions on Group ExCom are up for election this year. A write-in vote will be accepted for any member in good standing.

Please vote for members for the group Executive Committee. Return ballots to Sierra Club, PO Box 5032, Greensboro NC 27435. Ballots must be received by Dec. 31, 2008.

- Jerry Varner
- Cheryl Garrity
- Dick Mearns
- _____

George G. Lockhart

Attorney at Law

Board Certified Specialist in Estate Planning and Probate Law

- Estate Administration
- Wills and Trusts

643-6066 < > Greensboro, NC

PPG Outings

Outings Information

Please call the trip leader at a reasonable time of day, at least 48 hours prior to the outing, for details regarding level of difficulty and required equipment.

Outings are open to non-members. Invite a friend!

Bring - Water, food, whistle and raingear.

Weather - Trips go unless hazardous conditions exist. Call the leader when in doubt.

Radios and firearms are prohibited.

Pets are permitted only when it is stated that pets are permitted.

Difficulty Level- Hikers should make sure their ability and equipment match the difficulty.

In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.

Easy: 0-5 miles and elevation change of up to 1000 feet.

Moderate: 5-10 miles and elevation change 1000 to 2500 feet.

Strenuous: 10 miles or elevation change of more than 2500 feet.

Dec 6 Waterfalls at Hanging Rock State Park Hike

(easy) The Waterfalls of Hanging Rock are calling. Hidden, Window, Upper Cascades, Lower Cascades and Tory's waterfalls will lift your spirits and reveal peace in one small part of our world. With the challenges facing us individually and as a country, this hike may be just what you need. Waterfalls hold a special mystery not explained by the simple drop in elevation of flowing water. For a few brief hours, let's focus on this mystery. The hike is easy (but includes some steep sections) with a total hiking distance of about 3 miles. The hiking will be interspersed with three drives necessary to reach the trailheads. Call Cheryl Garrity 427-0413 or email cgarrityhike@triad.rr.com

Dec 12 Full Moon Hike

(easy to moderate) Join us for a night hike under the stars and a full moon as we walk a portion of the greenway and a section of the Owls Roost watershed trail. Night hikes offer a new perspective of Lake Brandt, the woods and the trail; often we find that no flashlight is required as our night vision adjusts under the full moon. This improves the chances of hearing or seeing wildlife and heightens one's other senses. Contact Terry Woods: twoodswalker@triad.rr.com or call 580-0510 or for details. Group size limited.

Jan 10 Cook's Wall Hike

This trail at Hanging Rock State Park is gorgeous in the spring when the Rhododendron and Mountain Laurel are in bloom. Winter holds its own special beauty when the rock formations are revealed and most trees/shrubs are bare. Perhaps ice or snow will transform the scene in unique ways. Spending time outside helps reduce stress and promotes healing in many of us. Join me on the hike and "chill out" for a while. The total hike is about 5 to 6 miles and moderate in elevation gain. Call Cheryl Garrity 336 427-0413 or email cgarrityhike@triad.rr.com

Jan 24 Grassy Gap/Basin Creek day Hike

(moderate) Let's explore Doughton Park (along the Blue Ridge Parkway) through the 'back door' by hiking the Grassy Gap fire road to the Basin Creek trail. We'll follow that trail along a beautiful mountain stream, see some nice views of the cove and learn about - see a bit of the history of the area: the early 20th century floods, the grave of a young flood victim and the crumbling foundations of early homesteads. We should have the area to ourselves to enjoy the peace and 'hear the trees speak for themselves' as John Muir said. **Contact Terry Woods, preferably at: twoodswalker@triad.rr.com** or leave a message on voicemail at 580-0510, to request additional information. Group size limited.

CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.



EACH OFFICE INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

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336-333-9888



Katie Jo Icenhower
NC's 1st EcoBroker

Cell: 336-253-6506
Direct: 336-478-2700
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E-mail:
snkicenhower@triad.rr.com

Web Site:
www.HealthyHomeHunting.com

Licensed Assistant:
Mary Anne Goslen
ABR, CRS, GRI, SRES

We're ready to help!



*"Environmentalists have long been fond of saying that the sun is the only safe nuclear reactor, situated as it is some ninety-three million miles away."
- Stephanie Mills ed.,
In Praise of Nature,
1990.*

Piedmont Plateau Group
Sierra Club
 P.O. Box 5032
 Greensboro, NC 27435

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 GREENSBORO, NC

December 2008



**SIERRA
 CLUB**
 FOUNDED 1892



December 2008—Activities at a glance

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Hike
7 Pearl Harbor Day	8	9 Group Meeting	10	11	12 Full Moon Hike	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Winter Begins	22	23	24	25 Christmas	26	27
28	29	30	31	Jan 1 New Year	Jan 2	Jan 3

Group Directory

*Chair: Jerry Varner (varnerj@bellsouth.net)	337-4987
Vice-Chair:	OPEN
Advertising: Alan Hedrick (hedwood1@yahoo.com)	299-8351
Conservation: Paula Burch (pnt1pl@aol.com)	
Fund Raising Chair: Kim Yarbray (kyarbray@yahoo.com)	632-1550
Hospitality: Catharine Sutherland (dancingtreesyoga@yahoo.com)	707-0082
Membership: Cheryl Garrity (cgarrityhike@triad.rr.com)	427-0413
Newsletter Editor: Dixon Cook (dcook4@triad.rr.com)	404-4543
#Newsletter Dist.: Richard Kreager	288-8297
Outings: Terry Woods (twoodswalker@triad.rr.com)	580-0510
Political Com: Bill Markham (wtmarkha@uncg.edu)	
Program Chair: Tom Taylor (tnt2703@yahoo.com)	286-9689
Publications: Laurie O'Neill (laurieponeill@yahoo.com)	279-1043
Publicity: Peggy Ware (mjware@triad.rr.com)	282-6553
Secretary:	OPEN
#Treasurer: Peggy Markham (pvmarkham@bellsouth.net)	
Webmaster: Gwen Exner (fractalwolf@gmail.com)	
#At Large: Tom Clary	
* ExCom Member with term ending Dec. 31, 2008	
# ExCom Member with term ending Dec. 31, 2009	