

**February  
2009**

# ***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](mailto:dcook4@triad.rr.com).

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

## **February Program: The Climate Project**

Please join us **Tuesday, February 10** when Sharon Campbell- President of SYN-ERGY Development and Training Group talks to us about The Climate Project. The Climate Project, a nonprofit organization based in Nashville, TN, began operations in June 2006 with the mission of increasing public awareness of the climate crisis at a grassroots level in the United States and abroad. By April 2007, a diverse group of 1,000 volunteers from throughout the U.S. had been trained by Al Gore himself to present a version of the slide show featured in the Academy Award-winning film *An Inconvenient Truth*. As of October 2008, they had delivered nearly 20,000 presentations and reached a combined audience of 2 million people.

All presenters are personally trained by Al Gore to provide education on climate change and the threats it poses to humanity and the planet as a whole.

**Special Note! This meeting will not be held at our usual location! See the advertisement at the bottom of the page.**

The February pre-meeting dinner will be held on Feb. 10 at 5:45 at the Acropolis Greek restaurant, on N. Eugene St. across from the new downtown ball park.



## **The Climate Project**

February 10, 2009  
**7:30-9:30 PM.**

Haywood Duke Room at the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Greensboro:  
<http://www.holy-trinity.com/>

**Contact Person:**  
Tom Taylor  
336-286-9689 (H)  
336-691-3752 (W)  
[tnt2703@yahoo.com](mailto:tnt2703@yahoo.com)

The Climate Project thrives as a result of the commitment, dedication, and passion of presenters to educate, encourage, and promote dialogue about climate change as well as potential solutions.

### 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!

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

### Trail talk: Full Moon Hike

A group of hardy hikers joined me Friday evening, December 12, as we explored portions of the city's greenway and the Owls Roost watershed trail on a peninsula of forest land with the trail bordering Lake Brandt. We could not have chosen a better night, nicer people or more inviting hiking conditions. The air was cool and crisp, we had a good trail and incredible scenery- mainly a result of the other worldly perspective created by the full moon, at its brightest since 1993. The world appeared to be an especially sharp and crisp black and white photo. The 'Long Night Moon' (a native American name for the Dec. full moon) was in fact 30% brighter than an average full moon due to its closer than average proximity to Earth. The shadows cast of trees along the trail were exceptionally sharp, especially to those who had not hiked at night and therefore had not seen 'moon shadows' in the forest. We had absolutely no need of 'artificial' light (flashlights) on the hike, making it a true night hike.

If hiking interests you or you enjoy other outdoor recreation watch for our up coming outing listings here in the newsletter, in the News & Record or in the outings section of the PPG Sierra website: <http://www.clubhouse.sierraclub.org/outings/local/>. The hikes are well researched and our leaders experienced. Join us on one of the local watershed hikes or one of our outings to the backcountry. The listed leader will answer any questions you have or you may contact me for general information about attending or leading outings: [twoodswalker@triad.rr.com](mailto:twoodswalker@triad.rr.com)

Terry Woods, PPG outing leader

*"Be a good animal. True to your instincts."*  
— *D.H. Lawrence, English novelist and poet*

### Executive Committee Results Sierra Club - Piedmont Plateau Group

The following members were elected to the Executive Committee for the 2009-11 term:

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

## 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.

### **Feb 6 - 8 Neusiok Trail Backpack – Croatan NF**

(Easy for flat and distance) (Mostly scouted) Fortify yourself with a bowl of fish stew from the little town of Newport east of New Bern before we pack in on Friday a max of 3.0 miles to a base camp in the area of the Dogwood Shelter midway on the trail between the Neuse River and Oyster Point. (Google “neusiok trail, croatan” for many web descriptions). Saturday dayhike north to and along the sand beaches of the Neuse. Several options for return to base camp will determine the total dayhike distance (appx 8.0 miles). Scenery varies from pine/hardwood upland forest to cypress/palmetto swamp to sandy riverbanks. There is a surprising amount of “roll” to the topography. The weather should be cold enough that the bugs will not bother. CNF is said to have more flesh eating plants than people and is home to a large variety of mammals, birds (red cockaded woodpeckers maybe) and reptiles (hopefully dormant for the winter but no guarantee). Group size is limited. \$25 refundable-at-the-trailhead deposit required. Jerry Weston 856-1431 before 9:00 PM. Jweston@gbwlaw.com or takeahike@earthlink.net

### **Feb 21 Moore’s Wall Hike**

Moderate- Let’s get outside and breathe some fresh mountain air as we hike a 4 mile loop in Hanging Rock State Park. We’ll start at the lake and ascend a meandering trail to Moore’s Wall and the old fire tower. We’ll follow a steeper trail as we return to the lake. If the visibility is good from the tower, we may see magnificent views of Pilot Mountain, Sauratown Mountain, the Blue Ridge Mountains, and the skylines of Winston-Salem and Greensboro. This is as close to the top of the world you can get in our local area and on a clear day you can almost see forever. Contact Cheryl Garrity, cgarrityhike@triad.rr.com or 427-0413.

### **Mar 21 Stone Mountain State Park Loop Trail**

Moderate –See views from the valley and the mountain top. This trail is 4-5 miles in length so you definitely get your money’s worth. The first mile is strenuous as we climb to the top of the park’s namesake. The rest of the hike is almost all downhill. We’ll see great views from the top! We will also see Stone Mountain Falls up close and finally the mountain viewed from the valley. Stone Mt. is a wonder to behold, a geological beauty. Standing in the valley, you may ask yourself, “Did I really climb to the top of that?” Cheryl Garrity, cgarrityhike@triad.rr.com or 427-0413.

### **Apr 11 South Mountains State Park Hike**

Moderate/Strenuous -Forget the egg hunts; join me on a quest to find and capture photographs of spring wildflowers. What a treat it will be if we see trillium, crested dwarf iris, bloodroot, Robin’s plantain, etc. The possibilities seem endless! This hike is about 6-7 miles and includes a few really steep sections. We will hike parts of Shiny Creek, Headquarters and High Shoals Falls trails. The highlight of the hike will be the awesome waterfall. Contact Cheryl Garrity, cgarrityhike@triad.rr.com or 427-0413.

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

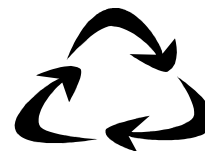
Piedmont Plateau Group  
**Sierra Club**  
 P.O. Box 5032  
 Greensboro, NC 27435

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# February 2009



**SIERRA  
 CLUB**  
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## February 2009—Activities at a glance

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Ground-hog Day	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Back-pack	<b>7</b> Back-pack
<b>8</b> Back-pack	<b>9</b> Full Moon	<b>10</b> Group Meeting	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Val Day
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Pres Day	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Hike
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Mar 1</b>	<b>Mar 2</b>	<b>Mar 3</b>	<b>Mar 4</b>	<b>Mar 5</b>	<b>Mar 6</b>	<b>Mar 7</b>

## 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*, Jerry Weston#	
* ExCom Member with term ending Dec. 31, 2009	
# ExCom Member with term ending Dec. 31, 2010	