

May
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.

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-

May Program: Adopt-A-Property

Please join us **Tuesday, May 12** when Alex Ashton, the Open Space Planner with Guilford County Parks and Open Space and John D. Young the Chair of the Guilford County Open Space Committee will present information about the past success and ongoing efforts to preserve forests, wetlands, stream corridors, meadows and agricultural land in Guilford County. We will discuss our efforts to identify suitable land for acquisition and preservation. We also plan to continue our discussion with the Sierra Club on one of our new land stewardship and management ideas -- Adopt-A-Property.



<http://www.news-record.com>

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. Come share refreshments and social time at 7:00.

The next Sierra Club pre-meeting dinner will be held Tuesday, May 12th at 5:45 pm at Pastabilities Restaurant located at 1726 Battleground Ave. **Please contact Dick Mearns at dick_mearns@bellsouth.net by April 13 to RSVP.**

The 12th Annual 2009 National Trails Day Celebration is right around the corner!

So, mark those calendars for June 6th at Bur-Mil Park because you won't want to miss this year's festivities! We are really looking forward to working along side your organizations to inspire residents and local trail enthusiasts to discover, learn about and celebrate trails while participating in educational exhibits, gear demonstrations, instructional workshops and trail activities like hikes and biking trips. We have had record high numbers of people on the trails this year and I believe they are looking for more ways close to home to get their hearts pumping and escape life's stresses. The secret is out, Greensboro has some of the best trails around and we want everyone to know it!

Take this opportunity to promote your organization and network with residents and other vendors. As usual, the event is free for the public and vendors. If you would like to participate this year please contact us early as we expect another huge turnout for this event. Please consider donating a prize for our raffle, leading an excursion or workshop or hosting a contest. Monetary donations can also be made for a chance to put your logo on the highly sought after NTD T-Shirts. And of course, all monetary or raffle donations are tax deductible.

Every year we are blown away by the support and enthusiasm your groups have had for the trails. Our network of greenways and trails would not be what it is today without your time, donations and effort. Thank you so much for your continuous dedication to Greensboro Trails! Feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. Thanks again!

Madeleine Carey, Trails & Greenways Assistant Director, Greensboro Parks & Recreation Dept. Office: (336) 373-3816

Important Notice!

Volunteers are needed for a workday/afternoon at Piedmont Plateau Group's Adopted area- the "BoldMoon" Property. Our group is the first organization to officially pair with Guilford County's Open Space Program and adopt an area. Call Vance Arnold @ 272-5736 for more info and specific date (probably either Sat. May 24 or Sun May 25).

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.

Our Newsletter Editor, Dixon Cook will be celebrating his 10th anniversary as newsletter editor in September 2008. The PPG is looking for an assistant newsletter editor with the hope that the assistant will eventually replace him.

Anyone who would like to learn how our newsletter is put together and would like to help, please contact Dixon for more information at 373-9059.

Margaret Ware is resigning as Publicity person and we need a volunteer to take her place. The Publicity position duties are as follows:

- * Writing an extended notice of every meeting for Greensboro Library's online calendar and send to KCE Library 6 weeks before the event.
- * Preparing a poster for every meeting and place it in KCE Library a month in advance (attend club meetings and change poster).
- * Writing a brief notice of every meeting with a description of content and speaker - send to the Greensboro News and Record a minimum of two weeks before the event. (Earlier receipt appears to improve use by calendar editors)
- * Writing a brief description of each outing and send to N&R a minimum of two weeks in advance.

New Members as of April, 2009

Peggy and Bob Fulp
Barbara Harmonds
Michael Rosco
Mr. Shawn Wozniak
Judy G. Dicks
Ms. Sara G Lynch

Important Note from the Executive Committee

The Sierra Club is exploring the possibility of starting a community garden. If you are interested in managing a small plot call Jerry Varner at the Sierra Club (337-4987), or Philip Gillespie at Thunder Horse Nursery (668-2689).

"Let every individual and institution now think and act as a responsible trustee of Earth, seeking choices in ecology, economics and ethics that will provide a sustainable future, eliminate pollution, poverty and violence, awaken the wonder of life and foster peaceful progress in the human adventure." - John McConnell, founder of International Earth Day

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.

May 9 Rock Castle Gorge Hike

(moderate) Join us as we hike a portion (approx 7 mi) of the popular loop hike, from the BR Parkway down past the old farm house 'in holding', ending at the old CCC camp, now used as a backpack camping area. We will learn a bit about the area's history, pass through a section well known for the spring wildflowers and simply appreciate the variety of terrain & views nature has to offer in the gorge. Group size limited. Visit these sites for more info about the destination: <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?attrID=39349> and from Backpacker mag: <http://www.trimbleoutdoors.com/ViewTrip.aspx?tripId=54029>. Contact Terry Woods online: twoodswalker@triad.rr.com or call 580-0510 for details.

May 15 - 17 Avery Creek Pisgah NF Backpack

moderate (not scouted) Join us for a backpack which begins near the BR Parkway in the John Rock/Looking Glass Rock area off of NC #276. We will hike 1 or 2 mi. to a suitable base camp along Avery Creek on Fri PM. Then Sat we'll do an 8 to 10 mi day hike loop. I am told there are great views to the east and west from the ridge portion of the hike. Group size is limited. To participate: (1) Fitness and experience to cover the distances and proper gear. (2) Other terms and conditions at the top of the main NC Chapter Outings page for more details. (www.nc.sierraclub.org/outings). Leader pre-approval plus \$25 refundable at the trailhead deposit required. Contact Jerry Weston at takeahike@earthlink.net or call 856-1431 before 9:00 pm for more information.

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

Do you have an important issue you would like to contact your Representatives about? You can just call them!

Senator Kay Hagan	(202) 224-6342
Senator Richard Burr	(202) 224-3154
Representative Howard Coble	(336) 333-5005
Representative Mel Watt	(336) 275-9950
Representative Brad Miller	(336) 574-2909
Governor Beverly Purdue	(919) 733-4240

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

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 PERMIT NO. 494
 GREENSBORO, NC

May 2009



**SIERRA
 CLUB**
 FOUNDED 1892



Recycled Paper

May 2009—Activities at a glance							Group Directory	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
					1	2	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
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Hospitality: Lena Vesterlund (info@swedebread.com)	790-2370
						Hike	Membership: Cheryl Garrity# (cgarrityhike@triad.rr.com)	427-0413
							Newsletter Editor: Dixon Cook (dcook4@triad.rr.com)	373-9059
							Newsletter Dist.: Richard Kreager*	288-8297
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Outings: Terry Woods (twoodswalker@triad.rr.com)	580-0510
Mother's Day		Group Meeting			Back-pack	Back-pack	Political Com: Bill Markham (wtmarkha@uncg.edu)	
							Program Chair: Tom Taylor (tnt2703@yahoo.com)	286-9689
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Publications: Laurie O'Neill (laurieponeill@yahoo.com)	279-1043
Back-pack							Publicity: Peggy Ware (mjware@triad.rr.com)	282-6553
							Secretary:	OPEN
							*Treasurer: Peggy Markham (pvmarkham@bellsouth.net)	
							Webmaster: Gwen Exner (fractalwolf@gmail.com)	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	At Large: Tom Clary*, Jerry Weston*, Dick Means#	
		Excom					* ExCom Member with term ending Dec. 31, 2009	
							# ExCom Member with term ending Dec. 31, 2010	