

Orange- Chatham Group

www.sierraclub-nc.org/ocg

OCT 2002

Events

2003 Sierra Club Calendars are now for sale!

October 6 11:00 a.m. — New Urbanism Hike Join Robert Chapman for a tour of Trinity Heights.

October General Meeting—Clean Water in NC
Church of Reconciliation, Thursday Sep 12 at 7:30 p.m.



Thank You Gary Phillips

The Sierra Club would like to thank Chatham County Commissioner Gary Phillips for his four years of distinguished service. Gary Phillips's leadership was crucial in Chatham County's adoption of the Land Conservation and Development Plan. He courageously stood against plans to expand high level nuclear waste storage at Shearon Harris, and he consistently fought wealthy outside developers in favor of environmental protection and the needs of Chatham County's citizens.

The Sierra Club was proud to endorse Gary Phillips in his successful 1998 race, and in his campaign this year. We are deeply saddened by his 320 vote loss in the September 10 Democratic Primary. Phillips ran a superb grassroots reelection campaign, but was significantly outspent by the winning candidate, conservative businessman Bunkey Morgan.

The cost of running for public office has skyrocketed, and continues to soar further out of sight with each election cycle. It has become increasingly difficult for champions of the public good, which surely includes those who would protect the earth, to compete financially against the darlings of wealthy special interest groups. With good reason then, the Sierra Club strongly supports campaign finance reform. We believe that the defeat of Gary Phillips can only further demonstrate the wisdom of our course.

2003 Sierra Club Calendars



The new 2003 Engagement and Wall Calendars are available at \$12.00 and \$11.00. Calendar sales are the largest source of income for the Orange-Chatham Group.

That income helps us stay active and keep you, our members, and the community informed about environmental news and happenings that affect us locally.

To purchase calendars, call Pam Hemminger at (919) 942-2273 or email at pamsh@earthlink.net.

OCG Meetings & News

Wednesday, October 2, 7:30 p.m. ExCom meeting. At the Oriental Garden Restaurant on Rosemary Street. Submit agenda items to Robert Porter at robertporter@mindspring.com or 933-7613.

Thursday, October 10 at 7:30 p.m. General Meeting at the Church of Reconciliation.

Clean water. Please join us to hear Courtney Washburn, Clean Water Coordinator for the NC Sierra Club, talk about special challenges facing our state related to factory farming practices.

New Urbanism

For much of the past decade growth in the Triangle has approached a 2% rate. While this does not seem like a lot it translates into a doubling rate of 35 years. A favorable job market and (the pull) and unfavorable conditions elsewhere (the push) have been a major factor driving a lot of this growth. The scope of this growth has stirred a lot of debate during the past two decades on how to best accommodate all the newcomers moving into our area. During the next half year the OCG group would like to organize a number of outings to explore different types of development in order to start to build a consensus on what smart growth really looks like. The first of these type events will take place on **Sunday, October 6th**. Bob Chapman, a practitioner of new urbanism will give us a tour of Trinity Heights, one of his developments over in Durham, and explain to us the rationale behind the new urbanist vision. Join us for this tour that will begin at 11:00 AM. For more information email Greg Gangi at ggangi@mindspring.com.

OCG ExCom

Robert Porter	Chair	929-6983
	robertporter@mindspring.com	2003
Vann Bennett	Programs	942-5862
	benne012@mc.duke.edu	2003
Bill Bracey		967-4116
	arbornet@mindspring.com	2002
Dan Coleman	Political	
	dan-coleman@nc.rr.com	
Greg Gangi		932-7340
	ggangi@mindspring.com	2002
Annette Jurgelski	Outings	644-0280
	jurge001@mc.duke.edu	2003
Norman Miller		
	nmiller285@aol.com	2003
Gustavo Ocoro	Conservation	918-7773
	gusyanne@earthlink.net	2002
Dena Puco	Secretary	
		2002
Andrea Rohrbacher	Treasurer	
Peter Todd	Media	942-2581
	hartodd@mindspring.com	2003

Low-Sulfur Gasoline

BPAmoco is selling low-sulfur gasoline. It is only high test, but, if you drive a fuel-efficient vehicle, the extra cost is not that much. It would be helpful for environmentalists to use the low-sulfur fuel to show that it can be competitive.

The petroleum industry, instead of preparing for the 1999 deadline for 30/80 fuel, put pressure on the Legislature to delay the time-line for compliance until 2004. Of our local delegation, Joe Hackney and Ellie Kinnaird voted against the industry delay (Verla Insko missed the vote; Howard Lee voted for the bill).

Outings

1st and 3rd Saturdays of each Month - American Tobacco Trail Service Outing. Friends of the American Tobacco Trail and the Sierra Club are continuing their efforts to extend the American Tobacco Trail in southern Durham and surrounding counties. Generally, the group meets on the first and third Saturdays of every month starting at 9:00 AM. The workgroup meets at the Scott King Rd. crossing of the ATT. If you would like to know more about trails and greenways construction or maintenance and other service outings in the Triangle, contact Thad Howard (HWG) at 919-544-9126 or e-mail thad.howard@duke.edu.

3rd Saturday - Bolin Creek Trail. Work is continuing on the Bolin Creek habitat restoration project. After a fairly small amount of work, a significant improvement is now visible along the Greenway. Almost all of the Chinese privet has been removed from the first target section, and we've put a dent in the bittersweet and wisteria as well. There may be an opportunity this winter to reintroduce some more desirable native species.

This is a long-term project, and we need many more volunteers. It's hard work, but very rewarding. The difference is visible immediately, and the effect is long lasting. After the initial pilot project is complete, other sections of the creek will be targeted. The plan is to include neighborhood groups from the various areas adjacent to the creek.

We meet the third Saturday of each month at the Greenway entrance on Bolinwood Drive, just off Hillsborough Street in Chapel Hill. Please contact Bill Bracey at arbor-net@mindspring.com, or 942-9937 if you are interested in participating.

OCT 18-20 Shut-in Trail Base Camp. Cuning technology allows day hikes that are downhill all the way, criss-crossing the Blue Ridge Parkway, and completing the trip with a visit to the North Carolina Arboretum. Call Dick Udry (OCG) at 919-929-1779 between 8 and 10 PM, or email udry@unc.edu.

OCT 19 (Sat) Rock Creek Park. One of this area's best kept secrets is Rock Creek Park in Burlington. Visit a reconstructed nineteenth century farm with live and friendly animals; then hike an easy 2-1/2 mile trail amid colorful autumn leaves. Ideal for all ages, but especially enjoyable for children. Easy. Contact Annette Jurgelski (OCG) at (919) 644-0280.

OCT 19 (Sat) 9 a.m. American Tobacco Trail. Hike a new section of the ATT, about 6 miles round trip (moderate). Meet at Kroger's shopping center at 54 and Fayetteville Rd. There is

a separate parking lot for the trail closer to Fayetteville Rd. Lunch at Foster's after the hike for those interested. Call Janet Burhans-Hitti (HWG) at 919-572-2407 or e-mail jhitti0326@cs.com.

OCT 20 (Sun) Eno River State Park day hike. Moderate 7-mile morning hike along Buckwater Creek, Ridge, Shakori, and Holden's Mill trails. Contact Isabel Calingaert (OCG) at isabelca@bellsouth.net (or 919-933-5489 before 9 pm).

OCT 6 (Sun) New Urbanism Hike. Robert Chapman, a nationally renowned practitioner of new urbanism will lead a tour of his Trinity Heights Development near the Duke Campus. The program starts at 11:00 AM. Send an email to ggangi@mindspring.com for directions of call 932-7340. Outings leader Eric Block

OCT 26 (Sat) White Pines. Enjoy an easy day hike in this 258-acre Triangle Land Conservancy Preserve containing the easternmost stand of white pines in the southern US. The 100-foot bluffs and moisture rising from the Rocky River and the Deep River create a cool, moist microclimate. A number of trails offer a choice of river walking and forest hikes. Call Larry Henson (CG) at 919-661-8371 between 3 and 8 P.M., or e-mail lwh@nc.rr.com.

OCT 27 (Sun) Falls Lake. Come and enjoy fall at Falls Lake on a moderate eight-mile hike. Contact Margaret Anderson (OCG) at andcamlib@hotmail.com or 919-493-0397 before 10 p.m.

NOV 2-3 Roanoke River. Paddle the chocolate-colored water of the lower Roanoke River. The Roanoke River Canoe Camping Trail meanders through part of largest intact and least disturbed bottomland hardwood and cypress-tupelo forest ecosystems remaining in the mid-Atlantic. To heighten the experience, we'll camp in the swamp/forest on canoe-in platforms. EASY. Size is limited--call early. Contact Chandler Stewart (CG): phone--910-739-4879 or 910-671-4486 or e-mail at cstewart4@mindspring.com.

NOV 3 (Sun) Falls Lake. Day hike at Falls Lake hiking the NC 98 to New Light Rd. trail. The trail is 3.4 miles, so hiking boots or good walking shoes would be appropriate. Lunch will be a picnic along the way so please bring some food and plenty of water. Please e-mail Sarah Crouch at sarahcrouch@yahoo.com to sign up.

Seniors Outings

OCT 12 3:00 PM. Blue Jay Point hike (Falls Lake) and potluck Meet at the Conference Center. Following the hike there will be a potluck dinner at the home of Sara Romeis (528-6483).

OCT 26 Sat. 10am Ayr Mount walk. Walk the trail on the grounds of Ayr Mount, a beautiful historic mansion in Hillsborough. Bring your lunch and beverage. We will eat on the grounds. Tour of the house is available for \$6.00 at 11:00 a.m. Directions to Ayr Mount are: once in Historic Hillsborough take a right on King Street, left on St. Mary's Rd. look for signs on the right for Ayr Mount. Please call Annette Jurgelski at 644-0280 or email jurge001@mc.duke.edu for further details or if you have any questions.

NOV 2 3:00 PM Clemmons State Park (Johnston County) hike and potluck dinner and potluck dinner at the home of Amy Devereaux (919 938-0761). Meet at the parking lot.

More outings information is available on-line at <http://www.sierraclub-nc.org/ocg>



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