

Orange-Chatham Group Sierra Club

<http://nc.sierraclub.org/ocg/>

P.O. Box 1303, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Political Endorsements

Upon recommendation of the OCG Political and Executive Committees, the North Carolina Chapter of the Sierra Club has endorsed the following candidates for elected office:

Orange County Commissioner:

Alice Gordon, Barry Jacobs, and Mike Nelson.

Chatham County Commissioner: George Lucier, Carl Thompson, and Tom Vanderbeck

NC Senate 23: Eleanir Kinnaird

NC Senate 18: Bob Atwater

NC House 54: Joe Hackney

NC House 56: Verla Insko



OCG Executive Committee Elections

Four seats are up for election on our group's executive committee this year. Please take a moment to read the candidate bios and send your vote (ballot on reverse). The executive committee is responsible for setting overall policy direction for our group. Members are elected to two-year terms.

Judith Ferster: Since being appointed to the Executive Committee in 2005, she has participated in the political endorsement process and spoken for the OCG at public hearings before the Chatham County Board of Commissioners on growth and development. But her main work has been chairing the Conservation Committee. The committee's first major project was to inform the membership correcting nutrient pollution in Jordan Lake in order to prepare for commenting on new rules to be released by the Environmental Management Commission. To further this goal, the committee arranged several outings and meetings, reporting to the membership about them in the newsletter. Ferster hopes to continue working on conservation projects like the new "True Cost of Food" campaign, which highlights the environmental and health consequences of food choices.

Maureen Hayes: Maureen's appreciation of wilderness and spending time outdoors shaped her recreational choices since she was young. She has backpacked in the North Carolina mountains since the mid-80's and participated in four Sierra Club National Outings Service Trips in our National Parks. In her work life, she provides technical support to software customers at SAS. For over 10 years, she has lived in a passive solar co-housing community and currently serves as secretary of its Steering Committee. She is interested in serving in that capacity for the OCG. Her academic background is in natural resources. She is excited about being involved to protect our national parks and preserve our local green space.

Dave Keese: Dave is a fan of alternative energy, drives a VW fueled by biodiesel and has lived for the past 4 years in Northern Chatham County in a passive solar home. He is a long-time conservationist but spends his days in the corporate world as Director of Corporate IT Solutions at Quintiles, where he has IT business support responsibility for corporate functions. Having served on the boards of the SPCA of Wake County and the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Raleigh, he has practical experience serving the community. As a resident of the Triangle for 16 years he has witnessed first hand the explosion of growth and loss of open space. He would like to work with the OCG on watershed protection and sustainable communities.

Bernadette Pelissier: Bernadette has served the OCG in many capacities, including Treasurer, Membership, Political Chair and Chair. She also currently serves on the Sierra Club NC Chapter Political Steering Committee. Her goal is to address issues in the various parts of the two counties — Orange and Chatham — and to initiate collaborative relationships with community groups to achieve Sierra Club goals and enhance the sustainability of our community. She is particularly interested in water issues, having served 6 years on the OWASA board of directors and currently serving on the water resources committee of



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OCG Events:

Nov. 8th (Wed.) — Nuclear power discussion
7:30 p.m., Carrboro Century Center

Concerned about proposed expansion of the Sheron Harris nuclear plant? Interested in learning more about locally-generated nuclear power? Join us for a discussion with Jim Warren, executive director of NCWARN. Jim will discuss the need for and risks of a second reactor at Sheron Harris.

Dec. 8th (Fri.) — Holiday Party

6:30-10:00 p.m., at the home of Byron Papa

100 Clark Lake Road, Durham, NC 27702; 493-1232

Join us to celebrate the holidays and visit OCG member and builder Byron's newly finished house. We'll have a potluck supper and our traditional white elephant gift exchange. Bring a dish to share with others: beverages provided. We look forward to seeing you there!

Conservation Committee Meetings. Want to help plan our campaigns for Jordan Lake protection and the "True Cost of Food"? Contact Judith Ferster for meeting locations and dates.

Executive Committee Meetings: Nov. 7th & Dec. 5th at 7:00 p.m.: Want to get involved? Join the Executive Committee members in our discussion of issues and projects. For meeting locations, check our web site or contact Bernadette Pelissier.

Orange-Chatham Group Leaders

Chair+ **Bernadette Pelissier** bpelissier@juno.com 643-2762
Vice Chair & Energy Issues+ **Don Eads** eadsd1@aol.com 837-5003
Secretary+ **Marsha Stephens** stephens@mail.fpg.unc.edu 732-4014
Treasurer* **Andrea Rohrbacher** arohrbacher@earthlink.net 967-4213
Conservation+ **Judith Ferster** judith_ferster@ncsu.edu 929-6648
Transportation Issues* **Loren Hintz** lhintz@chccs.k12.nc.us 933-8987
Fundraising* **Brian Rosa** brosan@bellsouth.net 967-2698
Membership **Ana Hacic-Vlahovic** anahacic@email.unc.edu 360-8234
Newsletter **Kristen Dang** kamerath@bellsouth.net 932-3127
Outings **Annette Jurgelski** jurge001@mc.duke.edu 644-0280
Political **Tom Jensen** tjensen@email.unc.edu 260-2990

* = Executive Committee Member (term expires in 2007)

+ = Executive Committee Member (term expires in 2006)

Volunteer opportunities

Contact Bernadette Pelissier if interested

Hospitality Chair – All of us enjoy having refreshments when attending a Sierra Club event. We are looking for someone to bring beverages and cookies to our monthly meetings. Reimbursement for expenses is provided.

Publicity Chair – We are looking for a member who wants to help advertise Sierra Club events in the media.

the Orange County Commissioner for the Environment.

Matt Scheer: Matt is a graduate of Davidson College. For the past four years, he has been teaching middle school history at St. Timothy's School in Raleigh where he also coaches tennis. He has been active in local politics for several years, serving as President of the Durham County Young Democrats and Democratic Chairman of the Westwood Precinct in Chapel Hill. As chairman of the Westwood Precinct, he helped organize a forum on healthcare reform in North Carolina. In 2005, he designed the Orange County Democratic Party's Voter Guide. Matt has been a strong supporter of the environment since his days as a camper at the Acadia Institute of Oceanography outside of Bar Harbor, Maine and right next to Acadia National Park.



Outings

All participants on Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read the liability waiver before you chose to participate on an outing, please go to: <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/>, or contact the Outings Department at (415) 977-5528 for a printed version.

Ongoing Service Outing:

3rd Saturdays on the Bolin Creek Trail: This is a long-term habitat restoration project, and we need many more volunteers. It's hard work, but very rewarding. We meet 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.

Current Outings:

William B. Umstead Park Saturday and Sunday morning hikes. Sat.: Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25, Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30. Sun.: Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31. See hike descriptions on the website. Pre-registration for both Saturday and Sunday hikes above is not required. In case of inclement weather or questions, contact Debbie Jacobowitz (HWG) at (919) 493-0780. For directions, see <http://ils.unc.edu/parkproject/visit/wium/directions.html> or call (919) 571-4170.

NOV 5 (Sun) Falls Lake hike. Hike Honeycutt Creek, Western Section, 5.2 miles (out and back), easy - moderate afternoon hike. This section of the trail offers many water views and a small waterfall in wet seasons, and is one of the trail's prettiest sections. Contact: Susan Bowers (CG) at 919-755-0665 in evenings before 9 p.m. or at SBowers2@nc.rr.com

NOV 10-12 (Fri-Sun) Scouting trip of area trails for Spring '07 base-camp/day hiking excursion. Limited to four fit hikers with a sense of adventure, stamina and above average map & compass skills. Base camp, exploratory day hikes, many stream/river crossings and high mileage. Rated: very strenuous due to rugged terrain and quickly changing conditions. Highly experienced only. Contact Chris David (CG): E-mail: chrisdavid@bellsouth.net or call 919-676-8927.

NOV 10-12 (Fri-Sun) Uwharrie National Forest Backpack. Spend a weekend hiking along a historic trail of gold mining, bootleggers, and civil war lore. We will ramble south and up the legendary and ghostly Dark Mountain, and continue along Dark Mountain Ridge. We'll cover 15+ miles of varied terrain, about half with backpacks and half with daypacks. Limited to 8. Moderate diffi-

culty; prior backpacking experience is recommended. Contact Chris Plummer (CG) at cplummer@nc.rr.com or Chris Moses (OCG) at mosesconsulting@hotmail.com or 919-932-7708 between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m. please.

NOV 18 (Sat) 10 a.m. 30-minute outing to Ten Thousand Villages. Come to Cameron Village and learn more about fair trade. Many products are made from recycled goods and care is taken for environmental sustainability of materials utilized for products produced. Great outing to purchase holiday gifts. Those in attendance will receive a discount coupon good towards their purchase. Contact Jennifer Kreimer (CG) at 919-829-1515 or jenntripod@yahoo.com. Limited to 30 participants.

NOV 19 (Sun) Haw River day hike. Hike 5-6 miles along the Haw River in Chatham County. Remote area with large trees, no traffic sounds and great views of the river. Easy hiking but there is no formal trail. Contact Sarah Slover (CG) at 919-362-8632 or sloversj@hotmail.com.

NOV 19 (Sun) Enjoy a cool-weather hike at Falls Lake. Moderate due to length; about 8 miles. Contact Margaret Anderson (HWG) by e-mail at andcamlib@hotmail.com or call 919-493-0397 before 10:00 p.m.

DEC 2 (Sat) 9 a.m. Urban hike in Durham. Meet at Duke Park entrance. We will do a loop starting at Duke Park down through historic North Durham over to Central Park and back. Please wear comfortable shoes and bring plenty of water. Rated easy. Contact Janet Hitti (HWG) at 919-572-2407 or janet.hitti@verizon.net.

DEC 8-10 South Mountain State Park. Winter camping and hiking in one of the largest and most rugged state parks in North Carolina. Trip includes a 1.5-mile backpack in to a primitive but well-provisioned group site, and day hiking Saturday on two six-mile loop trails. Elevation gains to 3,000 ft. Mountain bikers welcome to camp with us and (on their own) travel the designated, separate 18-mile bike trail. Good trip for learning winter camping skills. Contact Chris and Odile Gould (HWG) at chris_gould@mindspring.com or 919-493-1194 before 9 p.m. Two dollar/night/person camping fee, plus a ten dollar deposit which will be refunded at the trailhead. Moderate rating. Maximum group size 10.

DEC 30-JAN 2 (Sat-Mon) Winter backpack on the Art Loeb Trail. Cold and strenuous 33-mile backpack on the "crown jewel" of Pisgah National Forest. Provides many high, panoramic winter views as well as watery, white and icy lower ones. Starts at Davidson River campground, heads west and then north for climb to Shining Rock Ledge. Continues on to Cold Mountain and descends steeply northwest to the northern terminus. Some night hiking probable. Limit of five and refundable deposit required. Contact Chris David (CG): E-mail: chrisdavid@bellsouth.net or call 919-676-8927.

2007 ExCom Ballot

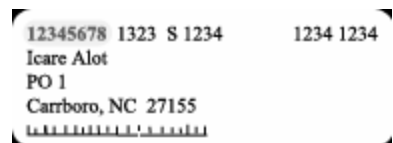
Vote for no more than four

- Judith Ferster
- Maureen Hayes
- Dave Keesee
- Bernadette Pelissier
- Matt Schreer

Please mail this ballot by Dec 12th to:

OCG ExCom Election
c/o Marsha Stephens
4515 Mystic Lane
Hillsborough, NC 27278

You must include your Sierra Club Membership Number from the top left corner of your mailing. See shaded area of example label shown below.



Single: _____ Joint: _____



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