



# L.I. Sierra Club News

Volume 32 No. 3

[www.LISierraClub.org](http://www.LISierraClub.org)

Fall 2012

## *See and Test Drive the Cars of the Future*



**What:** *National Plug-In Day*

**When:** *Sunday, September 23rd, 11am – 4pm\**

**Where:** *Sun-Vet Mall (NW corner of intersection of Sunrise and Veteran's Memorial Highways in Holbrook)*

**Free Admission!**

**Don't miss this chance** to see and test drive a wide variety of electric and electric-hybrid cars from multiple manufacturers and private car owners all in one place! Find out from the people who own them why they love them. All the vehicles have batteries that can be charged by plugging the car into an electric outlet. Some also have auxiliary gas engines for extended distance travel.

### **Advantages of electric cars:**

- No tailpipe pollution and reduced greenhouse gas emissions;
- More economical to operate—the equivalent of \$1 per gallon gasoline;
- More reliable because they have fewer moving parts; and
- With rooftop solar panels, you can “let the sun power your car!”

You'll have a chance to talk to people who already made the switch to an electric vehicle, and take a ride in one to experience the difference for yourself. Visit [www.lipluginday.org](http://www.lipluginday.org) for more information, a list of sponsors, cars and related equipment being exhibited. Event organized by Long Island Sierra Club, Greater NY Electric Auto Association, and Plug-In America.

**\*Hurricane Date: October 7th**

## **Cross Country Ski Trip to Jackson, New Hampshire**

**January 18-21, 2013**

Please join us for our annual ski weekend at the Eagle Mountain House, a wonderful old Victorian inn in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Amenities include a sauna, hot tub, pool, library, game room, large lobby with fireplace, two dining rooms and a cozy tavern. Activities include cross country skiing, downhill skiing, snowshoeing, ice skating, sleigh rides, and the outlets of North Conway. Included in the price of \$399 is bus transportation, lodging, three breakfasts, two dinners, two ski passes, and all taxes and gratuities.

To register, send a check for the full amount of \$399, payable to Sierra Club Long Island Group, to True Hampton, 26 Revere Rd., Port Washington, NY 11015 by December 15, 2012. Be sure to include a self-addressed stamped envelope and your phone number. No refund for cancellation after December 15, unless a replacement can be found. If we do not have 40 participants by December 15, the trip will be cancelled and all checks will be returned. Questions? Please contact the trip leader, True Hampton (516-883-7850).



***Executive Committee nominations due October 31st. See page 7.***



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet  
SIERRA CLUB  
LONG ISLAND GROUP  
516-826-0801  
[www.LISierraClub.org](http://www.LISierraClub.org)

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND CHAIRS

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Open

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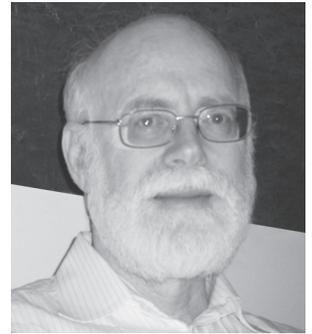
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\*Executive Committee Member

## Letter from the Chair

By Mark Kinnucan



I'd like to return this month to a theme I have mentioned in passing in some of my previous letters, and talk about it more at length: Is there a fundamental incompatibility between economic growth and the necessity to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, or can global warming be meaningfully combatted without triggering an economic slowdown? If reduced emissions of CO2 cannot be accomplished simultaneously with "healthy" economic growth, then we need to be thinking about the economic and social implications of non-growth as a choice.

For the most part, our economic policy-makers and commentators don't see this as a problem; even many who are committed to fighting global warming are likewise convinced that economic growth is a necessity. They are either oblivious to incompatibility of growth and controlling carbon, or they believe that greenhouse gas emissions can be controlled with minimal impact on economic growth.

The New York Times columnist Paul Krugman is a classic example of the latter point of view. As regular readers of his columns know, Dr. Krugman is a strong advocate of Federal fiscal stimulus; to wit, "This is a demand-side slump; all we need to do is create more demand." (<http://krugman.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/06/04/fatal-fatalism/>). He also is a strong proponent of a cap-and-trade approach to controlling CO2 emissions. And he thinks the latter can be accomplished with at most a modest drag on growth—not enough to worry about (<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/11/magazine/11Economy-t.html>).

Not all economists are so sanguine about the economic effects of (meaningful) cap-and-trade, especially many environmental economists. Nor, for that matter, am I. Certainly, the historical record of the link between CO2 growth and economic growth is not encouraging. A recent academic study found that, with very few exceptions, the only times that CO2 emissions dropped were in years in which economic activity also dropped—i.e., during recessions. The study's authors conclude that "it would not be a good thing to come back after [the recent

(continued on page 7)

## ***More events for members and the community:***

### ***Film Showing: Bag It***

*Thursday, Oct. 4th at 7pm at St. Joseph's College in Patchogue*

This well-worth-seeing documentary will be shown for a second time for those who missed it in August. It follows the plastic bag and its adverse effects on our environment.

Light refreshments will be served. (Please bring your own coffee mug if possible.)

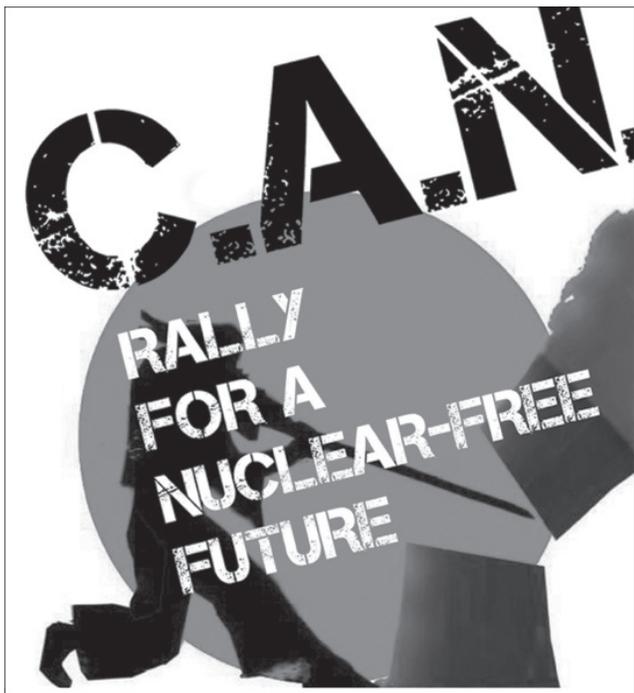
*Where: Shea Conference Room, O'Connor Hall, St. Joseph's College, Long Island Campus, 155 West Roe Boulevard, Patchogue. Parking is available in student lots located directly off Waverly Ave. Exit 52 on Sunrise Highway.*

### ***Sierra Club Night at the Eclectic Cafe***

*Saturday, Nov. 10th, Unitarian Universalist Society of South Suffolk, 28 Brentwood Rd, Bay Shore*

Musical performance by Appalachian Diaries, featuring Maria Fairchild and Kerry Kaerney. A great blend of traditional and acoustic music. Admission \$12. Show time 8:30pm. Open mic 7:30pm. Great homemade goodies available. The Eclectic Cafe is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit organization. Proceeds from this show will go to the Long Island Sierra Club. More info at [www.eclecticcafe.org](http://www.eclecticcafe.org) or 631-661-1278.

*Directions: Sunrise Highway to Exit 44 South (Brentwood Road). Go south on Brentwood Road, over the railroad tracks and across Union Boulevard. Look for the small building (house) on the west side of the street, halfway between Union Boulevard and Montauk Highway. The church entrance is on the left. Parking is available along Brentwood Rd. Please bring your used cell phones to all Sierra Club events (meetings, outings, movies, etc.) for 100% recycling in the U.S.A.*



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#### **LEGAL SERVICES PROVIDED:**

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**Sierra Club Member Since 1973**



# Outings and Events

Note: For further details on our hikes and other events, including Executive Committee meetings, call the L.I. Group voicemail at 516-826-0801. For additions or cancellations, please check the calendar on our website, [www.LISierraClub.org](http://www.LISierraClub.org). For all outings that say "Information: see header," call Jane at 631-689-1568 or, within an hour of the event, call 631-682-6018.

*E - educational information will be shared along the way with up to three brief hands-on stops. Most walks include some environmental information, but not all stop for viewing and hands-on.*

**Sep 8 - E**

**noon**

## **Bicycle – Westhampton Beach**

Let's ride while the day is still likely to be warm and the crowds are down. We'll do 15 to 20 miles of flat riding at ~11 mph. We'll stop along the barrier beach at a dune overpass from which there will be a wonderful view of the bay. Learn about the area washed out in the hurricanes and see the brand new homes built on the filled in land while riding on the new section of road. If it is very windy, we'll tour roads surrounding the village with at least one stop at a bayside beach instead of riding on the barrier island. Helmet required. The town is about ½ mile from the end of the ride. You are welcome to stop and shop and/or have lunch, or continue back to your car. Allow 1½ hrs for the ride. Rain cancels. Meet in the parking lot of the elementary school on the SW corner where Mill Rd. intersects Oneck La. For directions or registration, call Jane by 10:30 at 631-689-1568.

**Sep 9 - E**

**1 pm – 5 pm**

## **Sail on Huntington Bay**

Sail from Northport Harbor through Huntington Bay and out into the Long Island Sound on a private racing trimaran called Zoom. If you wish, you can even assist sailing the boat. We leave the pier at 1pm and expect to return by 5pm. If you want to see how the boat is rigged, you must get there earlier and ask to be taken out to the boat. Owner Harry, who comes from a long line of boat makers, will share a lot of information about maintaining and racing a sail boat. Attendance is limited to 6 adults. You MUST REGISTER or go on a waiting list by calling Harry at 631-223-4580. Bring lunch, water, sun screen, sneakers or boat shoes, warm sweater, waterproof jacket, life jacket or PFD. Meet on the right (north) pier at the Northport Yacht Club. Call Harry by noon if you need directions. If you are not there by 1pm, you will be left behind so plan to be a little early.

**Sep 15 - E**

**10:30 am**

## **Kayak Port Jefferson Harbor**

Explore Port Jefferson Harbor, Pirates Cove and McCallis-

ter Park by kayak. Learn about the history of the harbor and its surrounds. See the Connecticut ferry in action from the water. Allow 2-3 hrs. Bring water and snack. Dress for the weather. Floatation devise MUST be worn. Rain, high winds and significant waves cancel. Must register with Ed Hyshiver at 631-664-0257 or Edhysh@optonline.net.

**Sep 30**

**8:30 am**

## **Bicycle 26 road miles, Manorville & Westhampton**

Experienced riders over 18 years of age only and road bikes only. Must bring a spare tube for your bike, and filled water bottle. Ride leaves the dead end street next to Michaelangelos Restaurant/Catering on County Route 111 in Manorville at 9am sharp! Bring money for rest stop at the Westhampton Beach bakery. Helmet must be worn. Cue sheets (road name directions) will be provided. Questions and required registration with Gordon Howard, the trip leader, at fortescu@optonline.net. If you do not have internet access, call Jane at 631-689-1568 to register. LIE exit 70 south, then go ½ mile to the light and turn left.

**Oct 6 - E**

**1 pm**

## **Walk, West Meadow Beach, Stony Brook**

Walk with the Park Ranger along West Meadow beach to the end of the peninsula where three currents converge, then return along the wetlands side. Allow two to 2.5 hours for this two-mile interpretive walk featuring Eileen Gerle, the Brookhaven Town Park ranger and environmental educator at West Meadow. Eileen will discuss local wildlife (plovers, crabs, raccoons, etc.), beach habitats, and beach ecology. Dress in appropriate layers and wear shoes appropriate for sand and dampness. A beverage is strongly suggested. There may be a fee for non-residents (\$20) and residents (\$5 without a Brookhaven Town sticker) to park at the beach. Though it is late in the season, a mosquito/tick repellent is suggested. For directions and registration, call Jane at 631-689-1568 by 12:15.

**Oct 13- E**

**11 am**

## **Kayak Browns River, Sayville**

Kayaking north from the launch area, we will travel through the waters and marsh of the lower Browns River then loop

back. Along the way, see, hear and learn about some of the inhabitants of the marsh, and learn about the effects of the seasons on those who inhabit the grasses and reeds. The distance up and back is just over four miles. Weather permitting, we will go into the Great South Bay for a more open water experience—very different sights and sounds but the channel out may have some boat traffic and we will have to be careful. If it's windy, we will do a second loop of the river instead. After the full kayak, we will stop for lunch at the Cull House (you pay). Bring beverage and appropriate clothes for possible cold weather. Floatation device must be worn while in your boat. Rain cancels. Allow two to three hours for the paddle. If you have your own kayak, meet at the end of Terry Street. If you need a rental, call Captains Kayak (631-750-3587) at least a day ahead. For directions and registration call Jane at 631-689-1568.

**Oct 14** **noon**

**Bicycle Heckscher Park, Islip**

Take a casual, not-too-fast ride on the flats. Do a loop in the park then spin through some lightly traveled streets with well-kept homes and light traffic. Plan for nine miles in one hour or 15 miles in 1½ hours, which includes a loop to the yacht basin and beach. Must wear a helmet and have your own bike. Meet at the JFK elementary school on Woodland Drive in E. Islip. Directions: Sunrise Hwy to Carlton Ave south which becomes Woodland Dr. after crossing Montauk Hwy. Information: see header.

**Oct 14** **8:30 am**

**Bicycle 26 road miles, Manorville & Westhampton**

Experienced riders over 18 years of age only and road bikes only. Must bring a spare tube for your bike, and filled water bottle. Ride leaves the dead end street next to Michaelangelos Restaurant/Catering on County Route 111 in Manorville at 9am sharp! Bring money for rest stop at the Westhampton Beach bakery. Helmet must be worn. Cue sheets (road name directions) will be provided. Questions and required registration with Gordon Howard, the trip leader, at fortescu@optonline.net. If you do not have internet access, call Jane at 631-689-1568 to register. LIE exit 70 south, then go ½ mile on the light and turn left.

**Oct 20 - E** **10 am /11 am**

**Walk &/or sketching class, Belmont Lake St. Park**

Belmont Lake is a beautiful place known particularly for the variety of birds it draws, especially at this time of year, the late migratory season. With its trees, shrubs, vines and wetlands, it's a favorite place for photographers, artists and naturalists as well as the birds. You may participate in either or both parts of the following: Part 1: A ¾-mile slow walk around the lake starts at 10am. Flat with some protruding

roots and possible wet spots. End in the parking lot between 10:45 and 11:00. Part 2: Artists will retrieve their pencils, paints, brushes, watercolor sketchbook or paper, small bowl for water, palette or small plastic plate for mixing color, and whatever water media you have from their car. The art class begins at 11:00. Beginners welcome! Instructor Kathy Clark is an experienced sketch and watercolor artist who will concentrate on sketching nature. Email Kathy with questions at watercolor86@gmail.com or visit her blog at [www.KathyClarkLongIslandArt.blogspot.com](http://www.KathyClarkLongIslandArt.blogspot.com). Non-art students will walk south of the lake and Southern State parkway for an additional two miles. The park may still be charging an \$8 parking fee. Bathroom facilities should still be open. For directions and registration (required for the art class), call Jane at 631-689-1568.

**Oct 21 - E** **2:00 pm**

**Hike Southaven County Park, Yaphank**

Take a guided hike with Sierra Club naturalist Jan Porinchak at lovely Southaven County Park. The approximately three-mile hike goes through White Pine groves, beautiful deciduous woodlands, and along the scenic Carmens River. Jan (pronounced Yahn) will discuss the plants and animals we "meet" along the way. Over 16 only. Registration required with Jan P, at 631-327-1268 or beachtowel1@verizon.net. Call by 1 pm for directions. Use the westmost entrance off the north service road of Sunrise Hwy.

**Oct 27 - E** **noon**

**Hike Edgewood Preserve, NE Deer Park**

Three-plus miles, flat, slow pace, 2½ hours. Learn about the Edgewood-Oak Brush Plains Preserve and its inhabitants. This state-owned, 843-acre nature preserve is situated in the hamlets of Deer Park, Dix Hills and Brentwood. It is Long Island's only remaining pitch pine scrub oak wildlife habitat. Some sandy areas and some potentially wet spots. Heavy rain storms will cancel. For adults and children who can walk for 2½ hrs. Website: [www.friendsofedgeswoodpreserve.org](http://www.friendsofedgeswoodpreserve.org). Register with Jane at 631-689-1568 or jfas1@optonline.net. Meet at the Edgewood parking lot on the east side of Commack Road south of LIE (exit 52). Call for more details.

**Oct 28** **noon**

**Bicycle Cedar Creek Park to Jones Beach**

8½ miles of flat riding from Cedar Creek Park to Jones Beach and back along the paved Wantagh Parkway bike/walk path. At Jones Beach, we should be able to ride the boardwalk paralleling the ocean. Also, time and weather permitting, we'll cross to the north side for a view of the bay's channels. Meet in Cedar Creek Park by the break in

*(continued on next page)*

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## Outings and Events

(continued from previous page)

the fence for entry to the path. Best lot to park in is the second one on your left. A helmet must be worn. Be sure to dress for the weather. Heavy rain will cancel. Call Jane at 631-689-1568 by 10:45 for information and directions. Enter the park on Larch Street, south of Merrick Rd.

**Nov 10** **noon**

### Hike Bayard Cutting Arboretum

Just under four miles of flat walking at an easy to moderate pace. Allow two hours. Walk to the arboretum through oaks and pines then, on the grounds, venture along the Connetquot River, through two small "naturalized" islands of shrubs and trees, and stroll through the many gardens of this old estate with its labeled specimen trees. The arboretum café may still be open but no guarantee so bring your own snacks and beverage. Heavy rain cancels. Meet at the Great River RR Station on Connetquot Avenue south of Sunrise Hwy. Information: call Jane by 11 am at 631-689-1568.

**Nov 11 - E** **noon**

### Hike Muttontown Preserve

Mainly flat terrain with some small hills. Allow two-plus hours. Moderate pace. With 550 acres of fields, woodlands, ponds and estate grounds, Muttontown is Nassau County's largest nature preserve and one of the most beautiful settings on Long Island. Learn some of the history of this great place and find out about its many roads, plants and its role in preserving wildlife of the area. This hike is an exploratory for adults and older children. A beverage is suggested. Bathroom facilities may NOT be open. Wear clothes appropriate for the weather—layers are best. Heavy rain cancels.

## Sierra Club's New York State Chapter Takes a Step Forward

The Sierra Club's New York State division (Atlantic Chapter) has been gathering data to establish existing water conditions throughout many upstate areas. When changes occur, it will be easier to determine what they are and what might be the cause. Should fracking be suspected of changing water quality, the evidence of prior water quality will be available to help landowners establish a case to hold the drilling company accountable.

The Atlantic Chapter's Hydrofracking Foundation Account (which is set up to provide money for the Sierra Club's work in citizen education, legal cases and water testing related to fracking) now has an online donation page. All donations made through the link are tax deductible. The donation page may be reached by this link: <http://bit.ly/N7hjsW>. If you would like to donate by check, please send it to: Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter Coordinator,

Location: Muttontown Lane, south off 25A in East Norwich. Call Jane at 631-689-1568 by 10:45 for directions.

**Nov 24 - E** **noon**

### Hike Caumsett State Park, Lloyd Neck

Start with a walk to the bathrooms, then proceed to the mansion and down past the heart-shaped pond to the bay. Follow the bay before transitioning back into the woods and back to the cars. The walk involves some beach walking around large boulders and there are quite a few hills. The combination of the fresh water pond and the salt water shoreline offers good opportunities for seeing some of L.I.'s wintering birds so, birders, bring your binoculars and a bird book. We will also look along the shore for signs of life and look for animals and their signs in the woods. You may want to bring a camera. Expect to walk four to five miles. Call Jane before 10:45 at 631-689-1568 for directions or information. In season, the park charges \$8 for parking.

**Nov 25 - E** **noon**

### Hike Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge, Shirley

Enjoy 4½ miles of upland forests along the Carmans River, parts of which border the marshlands. Wertheim has a total of 2250 acres and is flat. The pace will be moderate with stops to discuss the plants and animals and to give a brief historical perspective of the park. Allow two to 2½ hrs. Beverage suggested. Continuous rain or storms cancel. If cancelled, a notice will be posted on the calendar page of the Long Island Sierra Club website ([LISierraClub.org](http://LISierraClub.org)) by 11 am. Call Jane at 631-689-1568 for information or directions by 11 am. The new park entrance is west off Smith Rd, south of Sunrise Hwy.

PO Box 886, Syosset, NY 11791-0886. Make your check payable to The Sierra Club Foundation and write "Atlantic Chapter Fracking Project" in the memo line.

Money donated to this account can't be used to lobby legislators, so if you want to support the Sierra Club's political work, please donate to the chapter's general account. These donations will not be tax deductible. One hundred percent of your gift will stay in New York to support our advocacy programs in the following areas: fighting against unsafe hydrofracking, promoting energy efficiency and renewables, preserving New York's resilient habitats, and protecting our natural resources.

The donation page may be reached by this link: <http://bit.ly/MQIEji>. Or make your check payable to Sierra Club - Atlantic Chapter and send to the address above. To donate by phone, call 516-672-8252.

(continued from page 2)

recession] to a business-as-usual scenario of 'prosperity' in which ... our economic system pushes us over the cliff of irreversible climate change" ([http://sitemaker.umich.edu/tapia\\_granados/files/co2\\_emissions\\_and\\_gdp\\_growth\\_-\\_dec\\_2009\\_-\\_f2.pdf](http://sitemaker.umich.edu/tapia_granados/files/co2_emissions_and_gdp_growth_-_dec_2009_-_f2.pdf)).

In short, we need alternatives to growth. In my next column, I will describe some that have been proposed.

Nominations for the Long Island Sierra Club Executive Committee ("Ex Com") are now being accepted. Send all candidate statements (150 words describing your qualifications) to [smileyann21@verizon.net](mailto:smileyann21@verizon.net). Deadline: October 31, 2012.

Want to go paperless? If you'd like to receive this newsletter electronically, saving us money and perhaps helping reduce paper use, send your request to [hmillers@optonline.net](mailto:hmillers@optonline.net). Please include your name and membership number, found on your address label.



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*Not a Sierra Club member? What are you waiting for? Add your voice to protect the planet. Join the Sierra Club today. Visit our website at [www.LISierraClub.org](http://www.LISierraClub.org) to join, or call 631-567-1937.*

## SPECIAL SOLAR SAVINGS FOR SIERRA CLUB MEMBERS

In life, we come across some natural pairings: peanut butter & jelly, Lennon & McCartney, Yin & Yang, *Solar & Sierra*. We're inspired by your grassroots work to protect, enjoy and celebrate nature. That's why Energy By Choice is offering special savings to Sierra Club members.

We're making it easy for you to save 6,200 lbs of CO2 every year, 72 trees grown for 10 years and 7.5 barrels of crude oil per year PLUS \$1,000 a year on your LIPA bill with special savings on a 3,920 watt SunPower Solar Electric (PV) System.

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Homegrown power doesn't get any better than when it is produced on your own roof. Solar energy...it's just another way to protect your community and the planet. Please mention 'Sierra Club' when you call, email or contact us through our website.



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[Solar@EnergyByChoice.com](mailto:Solar@EnergyByChoice.com)  
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\*Must qualify for SAME AS CASH, NO INTEREST/NOPAYMENT financing. Special offer based on 16 SunPower 245 Watt modules in one contiguous group. Final offer requires site visit and inspection. Based on current LIPA rebate of \$1.75/watt. Assumes customer assigns LIPA rebate to Energy By Choice. Offer is limited and subject to change. Offer expires 12/31/12.

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# 2013 Sierra Club Calendars

## Order Form

Item	Cost	Quantity	Total
Engagement Calendar	<input type="checkbox"/> \$13 (\$12, \$11)	_____	_____
Wilderness Calendar	<input type="checkbox"/> \$12 (\$11, \$10)	_____	_____
Clip & mail:		Subtotal	_____
<b>Sierra Club Calendars</b>		Shipping (\$3 per calendar)	_____
<b>Jeanne Sofia</b>		Sales tax	_____
<b>25 Barrington Drive</b>		Grand Total	_____
<b>Wheatley Heights, NY 11798</b>			
<b>631-643-1434</b>			
<i>Make check payable to L.I. Sierra Club</i>			

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Proceeds from the sale of these calendars and engagement books help fund local Sierra Club conservation work. But you must buy directly from us!

These wonderful items are offered at below retail prices. Members receive a discount of \$1 per calendar or engagement book when ordering any 2 (first price in brackets).

There is a discount of \$2 per calendar or engagement book when ordering any 3 or more (second price in brackets).

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

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