



Broward Sierra Bulletin



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In this issue, we start by saying a sad farewell to our friend, Stan Pannaman.



Earth Day, Anne Kolb Nature Center – 2022



Tabling at Free Ice Cream Day with Adriene at Ben & Jerry's, Broadwalk on Hollywood Beach.



Tabling at Pet Adoption Day, War Memorial Auditorium - 2017



Earth day, Fort Lauderdale Museum of Science and Industry – 2018

– See testimonials on page 2

Testimonials for Stan Pannaman

You are likely already aware, but if not, it's with a heavy heart that I share the passing of Stanley Pannaman on July 2. He was a cherished member of our Sierra Everglades advocacy leadership. To many of us, this loss feels personal. I thought I would share a little bit of my interactions w/ him as a tribute to him & his passion for service.

My son and I met Stan over 8 years ago, in 2014, as volunteers attending an Everglades conference. My early interactions w/ Stan were about the neglected pollution that harms the Everglades & our planet at night (light pollution). I became an "official" member of Sierra Club on April 13, 2014, a few hours after a warm invitation from them in response to an email that led to an [article by PopularResistance.org on light pollution](#). Stanley was among the first Sierrans I met that cared to join the fight against this neglected but growing pollution.

On a very personal note, *Stanley was one of the few I interacted with hours before my dad passed away* in my bedroom (Oct 1, 2014), sharing via email w/ him that I was "dealing with my dad's deteriorating health condition... with only hours or days left". He gave me one of his bear hugs the day after my dad joined the stars.

I became SC staff in 2016, and Stanley was one of those faithful volunteer leaders I could always count on: at press conferences for climate action and to oppose toll roads, at a talk for a film about the Miami River & its headwaters, at an Everglades conference where he was so happy to honor Betty Osceola ([some pictures here](#)). In 2019, he got a Sierra Club Manatee Award for nearly two decades as a dedicated Broward Sierra volunteer, 15 of those in their ExCom. **Stanley's inspiration for service included a genuine concern for the future of children.** In 2018, in an [interview with The Center for Public Integrity](#), he shared his concerns about fossil fuel pollution and climate change: "*All of these things: discourages me to know. And, not for me, my life is coming to an end soon. But my grandchildren and my great grandchildren, this is just beginning, what kind of planet are we leaving them?*"



There are many stories about Stanley, but **my favorite is the one that made him famous to the world: as a veteran that took a bullet (literally) to save baby sea turtles.** In 2015, Stan "went the extra mile to protect sea turtles - and got shot for it." While out monitoring turtle nests, [a drunk guy grabbed Stan's concealed gun](#), beat him in the head, threw him on the sand, and fired a shot that thankfully only landed in his butt (kid you not, I saw his wound!) [In an interview by Sun-Sentinel](#), Stan said: "*Never in my wildest dreams did I think monitoring sea turtle nests was going to be a life-threatening experience. Never, never once came into my mind.*" The interviewer went on to ask him "**Are you going to keep doing it?**" And Stanley responded: "**Of course!**" and went on to share: "*I get great pleasure at watching a hatch-out and watching these turtles do what they've done for a million and a half years, and you can't hide in your house and put blinders on, and I REFUSE to do that*".

[PETA gave him an award](#) for his act of heroism: "*Thanks to Mr. Pannaman, these nesting sea turtles have a chance to live free in the ocean... and hopes that his good deeds inspire others to come to the aid of animals in need.*"

Please, join me in honoring his beautiful life of service: as a veteran, as an environmentalist, as a father, grandfather, great-grandpa, and friend. I'm going to miss him very much, but I'm glad he gave me one last big kiss and bear hug a few months ago while celebrating Earth Day.

— Diana Umpierre, AICP, GISP
Organizing Representative, Everglades Restoration Campaign
Sierra Club

Testimonials for Stan Pannaman (*Continued*)

Stan was my mentor, my friend and a pillar to the success of the Broward Sierra Club. His passion to educate people about environmental challenges was infectious! Stan brought me into the Sierra Club and inspired me to speak up, and not be afraid of anyone! The environmentalist that I am today is because of Stan. I have so many memories with Stan that he will forever be in my heart! I will miss our long conversations that we had on the phone while I was walking my dogs. He was so proud of his family, and a respected veteran!

Now he has finished his work on Earth, and he will be looking down on all of us who continue to carry on his legacy. I will forever be proud that I had a special friendship with Stan. Rest In Peace, my friend 🙏

– Adriene Barmann, *Outings Chair*

When I think of Stanley Pannaman, the first three words that come to mind are dedicated, passionate, and protective. Stanley – you will be sorely missed. We promise to continue your work, especially now that we will be doing so in your honor and memory.

– Susan Steinhauser, *Political Chair*



It's difficult to condense a person's commitment to the environment in a few paragraphs. Stan was the consummate activist. I've done countless tabling events with him from Earth Day to Water Matters Day and so on. He always had the facts at his fingertips. He was not afraid to call politicians on their voting records and was still able to build up a network of contacts he interacted with to help support (or defeat) people and issues that were not pro-environment. He could talk to people of all ages on their level and make them care more about the world they live in. Yes, he was brash and direct when needed, but that's what it takes sometimes to get your point across. It will be difficult to go to tabling events without him, but he would want us to carry on and continue our efforts to save the planet. I'll truly miss him.

– Max Goldstein, *Treasurer*

Stan in action: <https://vimeo.com/729441860>

Important Notice

– Leah Weisburd, Chair, *Broward Sierra Club*

It's that time again! We are beginning procedures pursuant to our by-laws, to elect our 2023 Executive Committee (ExCom).

Our by-laws require that in July we form a nominating committee (NomCom) consisting of 2 ExCom members who are not seeking re-election and one who is not on BSG's ExCom, and will not be seeking a position on ExCom.

The two ExCom members who have volunteered to be on this NomCom are Pat Turpening and Pamela Kondziela. Again, our by-laws require us to reach out to you to join this NomCom!

Would you be willing to serve as the third member of our nominating committee?

I will be happy to share with you the responsibilities that being on NomCom require and answer any questions you may have. Please contact me ASAP if you wish to be on this committee at excomleah@gmail.com.

Thank you!

The 2022 Primary Election is Tuesday, Aug 23 Your voice is your power; use it and



Sierra's endorsements in Florida can be found here:

<https://www.sierraclub.org/florida/florida-sierra-club-political-endorsements-list>

To verify your registration, visit the Broward Supervisor of Elections:

<https://www.browardvotes.gov/>

To learn about voter registration, vote by mail, early voting, and the new election laws, see this video from the League of Women Voters of Broward County: <https://youtu.be/U4nuvHq3Vew> (If you're short on time, start watching at the 9-minute mark)

Message from the Chair: You Don't Want to Miss This!

– Leah Weisburd, *Executive Committee Chair*

The ExCom of our Broward Sierra Group is very busy planning many exciting outings and very interesting, informative general meeting speakers. So, please mark your calendars - you don't want to miss anything!

- **August 4, 2022.** Our presenter will be Rachel Skubel from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Her topic is An Overview of Florida's Coral Reef. We'll chat about what corals are, why they're so important to South Florida, what threats they face here, and what we can do to protect them. Recommended by our Sierra member Phil Busey.
- **September 8, 2022.** Our presenter will be Beth Malow and team from Braver Angels. They'll talk about how the environment and climate change are not partisan issues and how to discuss these issues with ANYONE, regardless of political persuasion. Recommended by our Political Chair, Susan Steinhauser.
- **October 9, 2022.** This will be a very special occasion! We are going to have a tri-group meeting with the Loxahatchee Sierra Group, and the Miami Sierra Group, on Sunday, October 9th at the Riverside Hotel on Las Olas Blvd. This is our first in-person meeting, after 2+ years of not being able to hold in-person events, and our first tri-group occasion. The Broward Sierra Group invites you to happy hour from 4:30pm-6pm on a beautiful terrace overlooking the intracoastal, drinks and hors d'oeuvres, and lots of surprises and prizes. REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!! DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 23rd DEADLINE!! REGISTER EARLY AS SPACE IS LIMITED! If you don't register, there will be a \$25.00 charge when you arrive. After mingling at our happy hour, each Chair will fill you in on what their Group is doing to protect our planet. And then, our presenter Denise Elliot, who comes to us from League of Women Voters Broward County, will focus on Decision 2022 -A recap of the political races & issues on the November 8th ballot, changes in Florida voting laws & districts, including in-person vs. vote-by-mail. REGISTER BEFORE DEADLINE 9/23!!!
- **November, 2022.** No meeting this month as we are planning a Thanksgiving holiday party to give thanks to all our members, supporters, and volunteers. We will be awarding BSG Award Trophies to several of our members who have volunteered over and over again.
- **December, 2022.** No meeting this month as we proceed with the election for our 2023 ExCom group. We wish you all a very happy, healthy, and wonderful, holiday.

Now in between all these incredible presenters at our monthly General Meetings, our Outings Leaders Adriene Barmann, Max Goldstein, and our new Outings Leader, Alfredo Aguirre are planning many outings this year, such as more kayak dates, Everglades exploration, nature walks, and so many surprises too. Keep your eyes on our website to make sure you don't miss anything! [Outings & Events | Sierra Club](#)

So, Broward Sierra members mark your calendars to "save the dates". Also, as you will note, we value your recommendations so keep them coming. We have presenter openings from January-December 2023. Please send me your suggestions to excomleah@gmail.com. Also, the Outing Leaders will welcome any outings suggestions that you would like them to lead. Please send your suggestions to adrienesierraleader@gmail.com, alfredo_aguirre@ml.com, or maxgold@yahoo.com. Please don't hesitate to send any other suggestions to me Leah Weisburd, excomleah@gmail.com.

And, last but never least, please remember our need for you to volunteer to help us make the Broward Sierra Group the best in Florida! Please check out our need for YOU! Explore [Issues & News | Sierra Club](#).

Thank you for joining the Broward Sierra Group!

NATIONAL SIERRA CLUB AWARDS
COMMISSIONER BEAM FURR
THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE AWARD



The Broward County Sierra Group nominated Commissioner Furr for a National Sierra Club award, and the National Sierra Club wholeheartedly agreed. Commissioner Furr has been awarded **The Environmental Service Award**.

Commissioner Furr stands out from the crowd because he is a long-term planner and thinker. He doesn't go for the flashy short term attention getting projects. He is working for our future and the well-being of our children and that includes a healthy environment, public transportation, policies that promote the reduction of carbon emissions, and clean energy options. These are what build a robust and fulfilling place to live.

He has always made himself available to listen to our concerns on environmental issues and has consistently championed those issues to the County Commissioners. He never stops.

But for those who don't know him. Beam Furr is the Broward County Commissioner representing District Six, which comprises parts of Hollywood, Hallandale Beach, West Park, Pembroke Park, Dania Beach, and Fort Lauderdale. He was first elected to the Broward County Commission in 2014. Prior to that, he was a Hollywood city commissioner for 12 years. As an elected official, he has always focused on environmental issues, early childhood education, transportation, housing, economic opportunity, and the arts. Commissioner Furr was a teacher in the Broward County School system for 25 years.

Thank you, Commissioner, for being our champion.

Hello Stranger

– Leah Weisburd, Chair, *Broward Sierra Club*

GETTING TO KNOW YOU.

Hey, Broward Sierra members! What's your story? Tell us why you joined our club and what interests you. Is it to attend our monthly meetings? Is it to go on outings with our outings leaders? Is it to help us save our endangered species? Is it to protect our environment? Is it to help us elect environmentally concerned candidates? Is it to volunteer on a committee? What is it that brought you to us?

This column has created a good amount of members' interest. We love getting to know our members. Perhaps they would like to know you too! It is fascinating to learn about the different paths that have brought people to the Broward Sierra Group. Everyone's story is unique.

Please send our editor/proofreader, Pat Turpening, a short paragraph or two to publish in our Bulletin along with a photo of yourself.

This month, the deadline for submitting your story to Pat is the end of day on August 17 at:

patsierraexcom@yahoo.com. Please put in subject **Getting to Know You**.

We are all looking forward to knowing our members better!

Broward Sierra August General Meeting

Our next meeting will be August 4, 2022, at 700 PM via Zoom. Our speaker will be **Rachel Skubel**. Her topic: **An overview of Florida's Coral Reef**.



Rachel is a researcher, educator, conservation practitioner, and communications professional. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Miami, where she studied climate vulnerability in shark fisheries and policymaking for marine conservation. Originally from Canada, she completed her M.Sc. at McMaster University, studying the carbon and water dynamics of forests in response to extreme weather. In her current role as the Awareness and Appreciation Coordinator for FDEP's Coral Reef Conservation Program, Rachel oversees education, stakeholder engagement, and outreach within the South Florida community.

In this presentation, we'll chat about what corals are, why they're so important to South Florida, what threats they face here, and what we can do to protect them. Florida's Coral Reef extends over 350 nautical miles from the Dry Tortugas to the St. Lucie Inlet in Martin County. The five counties bordering the reefs are home to over 6 million people. South Florida's economy and way of life are inextricably linked to the coral reef ecosystem. The reefs provide habitat for species that are valuable to commercial and recreational fisheries, serve as a new frontier for biomedical research, attract tourists who bolster our economy, and protect our coastlines from storms and flooding.

Register in advance for this meeting by clicking here:

<https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000002JcXAAW&mapLinkHref=>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

COMING SEPTEMBER 8, 2022 PRESENTERS

**BETH MALOW AND TEAM FROM
BRAVER ANGELS**

TOPIC

**The environment and climate change are not partisan issues; how to discuss with ANYONE,
regardless of political persuasion**

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