

# Broward Sierra News

Vol. XXVIII No. 10 Dec 2006 / JAN 2007

<http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BrowardSierra>

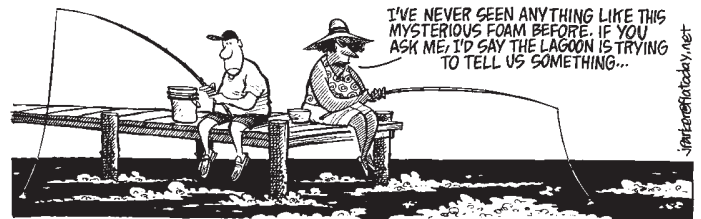
## SIERRA LEADS VICTORY OVER PROPOSED WATER QUALITY ROLLBACKS

*DEP and SFWMD Back Down* – By George Cavros, Conservation Chair

Last month, the two state agencies entrusted with protecting our water supply, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), teamed up to force Broward County to degrade its surface water quality standards by allowing utilities to dump partially treated sewage into Broward canals. The dumping would have polluted our canals with phosphorous and nitrogen likely leading to algae blooms and fish kills. Those plans came to screeching halt when the Broward Sierra Group mobilized a coalition of conservation groups in opposition to the plan.

In order to accommodate growth, Broward County is under pressure by state agencies to reduce its dependence on Everglades water and not increase the burden on the Biscayne drinking water aquifer. The SFWMD predicts that Broward's population will rise from 1.8 million to 2.3 million by 2025. Broward only reuses 5% of its water, and striving for higher reuse will benefit the ecosystem. Reuse water can be used for irrigation of green spaces such as golf courses, lawns, and parks. Unfortunately, the state plan wanted to convert Broward County's 1,800 miles of canals into reuse cesspools.

Broward County has more protective surface water quality standards than state standards. Broward measures pollutants discharged from a point source, whereas; the state measures how much pollution a water body can absorb before becoming ecologically impaired. Broward maintains higher standards because our canals flow west into the Everglades – impacting the \$10 billion dollar restoration effort. Our canals flow east into the ocean affecting our beaches and coral reefs. Broward coral reefs are an economic engine that generate \$2 billion dollars per year in diving and fishing related



activity. Perhaps most importantly, our canals recharge the most prolific underwater drinking source in the United States, the Biscayne Aquifer.

Commissioner Kristin Jacobs was instrumental in leading the opposition against the proposed rule. She stated in a November 3rd Sun Sentinel article that "this is the cheap way out ... polluting the water we already have in order to have more water is the wrong way to go." The DEP and SFWMD met a flood of resistance at a meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee of the water resources board in November. The

*continued on page 4*

### Broward Sierra Programs

**Tuesday, December 5th:** The December program will be our **Annual Sierra Potluck Dinner and Auction** - Bring a dish to share (& bring your own reusable dinnerware) and pick up some great stuff at the auction.



**Wednesday, January 3rd:** To be announced - Check the website calendar for the listing as the date gets closer

The December and January meeting and program will be in the Mangrove Hall building at Anne Kolb Nature Center in Hollywood. Take I-95 to the Sheridan Street exit, head East past U.S. 1, over the bridge, and on the left within 1/2 mile, look for the lighted Anne Kolb sign. If you go over the Intracoastal, you missed it. Doors open at 7:00 PM. Committee reports begin at 7:30, and the program begins at 8:00. The meeting is open to the public at no charge.

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for Hotline additions, call Harold @ 561-417-0216

**SIERRA CLUB / BROWARD COUNTY**  
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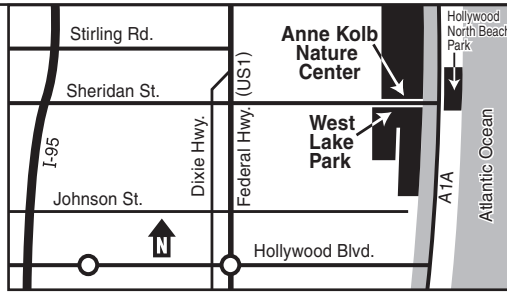
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We hope you enjoy our newsletter. Why not join us right now? Come along on an outing. Get involved, learn about local issues and how they affect you and your community. Just use the membership form on the back cover.

# Broward Sierra Club General Meetings

The December meeting and dinner will be held on Tuesday Dec. 5th at the Anne Kolb Nature Center, 751 Sheridan St., Hollywood.

**CHANGE OF MEETING DATE IN JANUARY:**  
The January meeting and program will be held on **WEDNESDAY**, January 3rd at the Anne Kolb Nature Center.



To get to Anne Kolb Nature Center: Take I-95 to the Sheridan St. exit. Go East past Federal Hwy. The entrance to Anne Kolb Nature Center will be on your left (About 1/2 mile after the sign for West Lake Park on the right). The Center is before the Intracoastal Bridge (see map above).

Doors open at 7:00 PM. Committee reports begin at 7:30, and the program begins at 8:00. The meeting is open to the public at no charge.

## Executive Committee Meetings

Held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 pm, in room 430a of the Broward County Governmental Center. For details call Harold Hancock at 561-417-0216 or e-mail hhdhpcpa@yahoo.com.

## EXCOM ELECTION BALLOT

MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 2007

According to the By-laws of the Broward Sierra Group, each Board Member will serve a two-year term, electing 4 candidates one year and 5 the next year.

This year we will vote for up to 4 candidates and 4 people will be elected to the EXCOM board. The Nominating Committee selected 4 candidates. If you have a joint membership, both members should select candidates for office by using the "First Member" and "Second Member" spaces. When you have completed your ballot, **clip on the dotted line** and mail to:

**Broward Sierra Club, P.O.  
Box 350432, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33335**

Members may bring ballots to the December meeting.

All valid ballots must have either a printed newsletter mailing label on the reverse side or your membership number in the space provided:

Membership number:



	First Member	Second Member (if applicable)
Barbara Curtis .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Max Goldstein .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pedro Monteiro .....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mara Shlackman.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Write-in Candidates

_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

## VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Please print your name in the space of any committees where you would be interested in serving.

Program Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Fundraising Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter Mailing Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_

Outings Leader \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Greeter \_\_\_\_\_

## BIG CYPRESS ORV ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Broward Chapter of the Sierra Club will suggest the name of Matthew Schwartz for the ORV Advisory Committee that is being formally constituted to commence work in about February. The meetings will be open to the public and information about them will be available at the Big Cypress Nat'l Preserve website: <<http://www.nps.gov/bicy/>>.

## HOLIDAY POT LUCK DINNER AND AUCTION



December's general meeting will be our Holiday Pot Luck Dinner and auction.

If you would like to donate an item or service for the auction or would like to volunteer to help with the dinner or the auction please call Max Goldstein at 954-296-3411 or email to <[maxgold@yahoo.com](mailto:maxgold@yahoo.com)>. Please put "Sierra auction" in the subject line.

So bring a dish and some cash and join your fellow Sierrans for a holiday celebration on December 5th at the Anne Kolb Nature Center.



**SIERRA CLUB**  
FOUNDED 1892

## The Broward Sierra Club Leaders

### Executive Committee Chair

Harold Hancock 561-417-0216

### Secretary

Louis Serra 954-442-0880

### Treasurer

Max Goldstein 954-296-3411

### Conservation Chair

George Cavros 954-295-5714

### Marine Issues / Energy Issues Chair

Pedro Monteiro 954-525-3324

### Political Chair

Matthew Schwartz 954-764-2739

### Legal Chair

Mara Shlackman 954-523-1131

### Everglades Chair

Rod Tirrell 954-202-9263

### Outings Chair

Judy Kuchta 305-308-8913

### Education Chair

Open

### Fundraising Chair

Open

### Membership Chair

Andrea Hagen 954-475-9399

### Volunteer Coordinator

Anita Lind 954-983-3709

### Programs

Open

### Media

Open

### Newsletter Editor

Carole Walsh 954-987-3642  
[carolewalsh@mindspring.com](mailto:carolewalsh@mindspring.com)

### Newsletter Mailing Coordinator

Open

### Executive Committee Member

Leigh Buckner 954-563-0073

### Executive Committee Member

Brion Blackwelder

**Broward Sierra News** is published monthly for the members of the Broward County Group, Florida Chapter of the Sierra Club. Subscriptions are available for non-members. Send inquiries to: **Broward Sierra News**, P.O. Box 350432, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33335

### Membership Corrections -

To expedite any membership change (new addresses, etc.) or problems with your membership records please send your name, member number, old and new address or problem to:

**Member Services**, 85 Second Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3441.  
415-977-5653 or e-mail <[address.change@sierraclub.org](mailto:address.change@sierraclub.org)> or <[membership.services@sierraclub.org](mailto:membership.services@sierraclub.org)>

If further assistance is needed, please contact your local Membership Chair, Andrea Hagen 954-475-9399.

# Local Sierra Group Outings *To preserve a place, you must believe in it. To believe in it, you must see it.*



**DEC 2, SUN. EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK DAY HIKE.** Introductory hiking for beginners and a refresher for veterans. We will walk the Anhinga Boardwalk Trail and the Gumbo Limbo Trail, then drive to the Pinelands area, have a gourmet lunch and walk a trail there. Each trail is less than one mile long. We'll see gators, birds, turtles, fish, insects and maybe a snake or two. Rated Easy. Limit 10. *Cost: \$20 members, \$25 non-members.*

Contact Leader Kaatje Bernabei 305-223-6551 <cbernabei@braddock.dadeschools.net> or Assistant Alan Nowell 305-270-5262 (days) <alan.nowell@sfefcu.org> (Miami Group)



**DEC 9, SAT. SOUTH DADE BIKE.** Meet at Black Point Park in South Dade, bike 12 miles to Homestead Bayfront Park, swim, then bike back to Black Point for a Sierra lunch. Rated moderate to strenuous (24 miles). Limit 18. *Cost: \$15 members, \$20 non-members.*

Contact Leader Jim Gross 305-665-2401 <JMGross3013@aol.com> (Miami Group)



**DECEMBER 17, SUN. DAY HIKE IN THE SAVANNAS STATE PARK** east of Port St. Lucie. 5-7 miles, approx. 3 hours. *FREE.* Rated moderate.

Contact Leader Charles Hunt 561-967-4770 <sierra@smartsolutions.com> (Loxahatchee Group)



**JANUARY 6, SAT. HELLS BAY CANOE ORIENTEERING.** Enjoy a challenging day of orienteering with map and compass while canoeing through mangrove-lined channels and islands in Everglades National Park. Rated strenuous depending upon wind/wave conditions. Limit 16. *Cost: \$35 members, \$40 non-members.*

Contact Leader Jim Gross 305-665-2401 <JMGross3013@aol.com> (Miami Group)



**JANUARY 13, SAT. EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK DAY HIKE.** See Dec. 2nd listing above.

Contact Leader Kaatje Bernabei 305-223-6551 <cbernabei@braddock.dadeschools.net> or Assistant Alan Nowell 305-270-5262 (days) <alan.nowell@sfefcu.org> (Miami Group)



**JANUARY 13-15, SAT -MON. MYAKKA BACKPACKING.** Hiking in Florida's largest state park, six to nine miles per day for three days. Abundant wildlife and nicely marked trails. Rated strenuous. Limit 8. *Cost: \$35 members, \$40 non-members.*

Contact Leader Dan Cruse 305-661-2975 or Assistant Pat Lopez 305-279-5354 (Miami Group)



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## JANUARY 20, SAT. OUTING LEADER WORKSHOP.

One day workshop for leaders and potential new leaders. Sharpen and learn new skills for running outings. Lunch included both days. Limit 15. *Cost: \$15 members only.*

Contact Leader Jim Gross 305-665-2401 <JMGross3013@aol.com> or Assistant Lee Jacobs 305-667-6962 <eeljac@earthlink.net> (Miami Group)

**JANUARY 20-21, SAT-SUN. FLORIDA TRAIL/BIG CYPRESS PRESERVE BACKPACK.** Backpack carrying all your gear, food, water, and tent on the at times rugged Florida Trail, wet or dry, north of the Tamiami Trail amidst cypress, pine and prairie. Listen at night for owls, panthers, bobcats, feral pigs, deer and the soulful whippoorwill. Rated strenuous. Limit 6. *Cost: \$20 members, \$25 non-members.*

Contact Leader Kaatje Bernabei 305-223-6551 <cbernabei@braddock.dadeschools.net> or Assistant Alan Nowell 305-270-5262 (days) <alan.nowell@sfefcu.org> (Miami Group)

## JAN 28, SUN. JONATHON DICKINSON STATE PARK HIKE.

This hike will be on a 7 mile loop that is part of the Florida Trail and the Sand Pine Scrub Nature trail. Rated moderate. *Cost: \$6 members, \$8 non-members.* Bring your own lunch.

Contact Leader Ron Reese 954-443-7423 or Assistant Judy Kuchta 305-308-8913 <judykuchta@yahoo.com> (Broward Group)

## FEBRUARY 3, SAT. SHARK VALLEY MOONLIGHT BIKE

(byo bike). Contact Leader Judy Kuchta 305-308-8913 <judykuchta@yahoo.com> (Broward Group)

## FEB 10, SAT. EAST RIVER DAY CANOE FUNDRAISER.

Paddle approximately 8 - 10 miles, while exploring several mangrove tunnels and small 'lakes', south of Tamiami Trail, just West of Route 29. Learn what inhabits this unique ecosystem. Check out pictures from a previous trip, on the Broward Sierra Website, under 'Sierra Tales'. Paddles, life vests and canoes provided compliments of our host, John Judy of Florida Adventures. Bring your own lunch. Rated: Moderate to Strenuous. *Cost: \$25 member, \$30 non-members.*

Contact Leader Jackie Fisher 954-434-2855 or Assistant Kip Fisher 954-434-2855 (Broward Group)

**Outing Leaders Wanted.** Outing Leaders get involved, get active, meet new people, have fun, and attend their outings for free. (Assistant Leaders attend for half price.) If you are interested, contact Judy at (305) 308-8913 or judykuchta@yahoo.com

We would like to invite you to come on one of our fine educational outings! If you have any questions about an outing, you can check with the certified Broward Sierra Outing Leader in charge of the outing. Some of the outings need no experience; others require some level of proficiency. All participants in Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read the Liability Waiver before you choose to participate in an outing, contact the leader of the outing.

For Broward Group outings, make your check payable to: Broward Sierra Outings. Include the name and date of the trip on your check. Also include your name, phone number, email and street address. Mail checks to: Judy Kuchta c/o Jackie Fisher, 4992 S.W. 105 Way, Cooper City, FL 33328. For other group outings, contact the outing leader for payment information.

**You may call the Sierra Hotline for updates at 954-567-2841**

**LOOK FOR UPDATED INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE: <http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>**

groups that spoke in opposition included Sierra Club, National Parks Conservation Association, Broward Audubon Society, Clean Water Action, Surfrider Foundation, Everglades Law Center and a host of individuals.

The opposition seemed to catch state officials by surprise. DEP and SFWMD officials backed off on bringing the matter to a vote and the Broward Technical Advisory Committee voted to table the measure indefinitely.

The victory was nothing short of a stunning display of how a united local environmental community can quickly mobilize to hold the line on water quality in the face of intense state pressure. In the meantime, Broward County must begin the process of creating more water reuse in an environmentally sustainable way for its growing population. We can all be proud that the environmental community drew a line in the sand on maintaining Broward's higher water quality standards – and won.



Ansel Adams

Most people don't know that Ansel Adams was a member of the Sierra Club for over 5 decades. He didn't just photograph the wilderness. He fought for it. Shouldn't your grandchildren have more than photos to remind them of the grandeur of our land? The Sierra Club is dedicated to protecting our wilderness for generations to come. Join us. You'll be in good company.

**Join the Sierra Club and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!**  
(While supplies last)



**Yes**, I want to join the Sierra Club! I want to help safeguard our nation's precious natural heritage and receive a free Sierra Club Weekender Bag. My payment is enclosed.

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (optional) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

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Check enclosed, payable to Sierra Club  Mastercard  Visa  AmEx

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Contributions, gifts or dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

**Membership Categories**



	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT		INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
Introductory	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25		Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$47	Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175	Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32

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W3302 1 Enclose check and mail to: **Sierra Club**  
P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968

**FROM THE EDITOR**

The environment was a big winner in this past election, and the Broward Sierra Club would like to thank all our friends and members for their work, and of course for getting out there and voting.

The Broward Sierra News will be on Winter vacation next month, so there will be no newsletter in January. Keep up with club news at our website <<http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>>. We will be back in February.

Everyone have a wonderful holiday season, and may the coming year bring peace.

**Please support these fine businesses that help bring you the Broward Sierra News**

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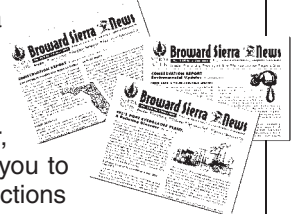
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Placing an ad in the Broward Sierra News does more than reach thousands of local, environmentally sensitive readers. It also helps to offset the costs of printing and mailing the newsletter, making it possible to continue to alert you to issues of local importance and the actions you can take, as well as inform you of events, outings and meetings of the Broward Sierra Club group.



	1 month	3 months
Business card size ad (3-3/4" x 2")	\$55	\$150
Double size ad (3-3/4" x 4")	\$95	\$255
1/2 page ad (7-3/4" x 5")	\$195	\$525

If you would like to place an ad, please contact Max Goldstein at 954-296-3411 or email him at <[maxgold@yahoo.com](mailto:maxgold@yahoo.com)>.