

# Broward Sierra News



SIERRA CLUB  
FOUNDED 1892

## LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD

— By Barbara Curtis, Executive Committee Chair

It has been a wonderful year for me as the Broward Sierra Club chair.

Our holiday party and auction was a great success. The food was delicious, there was lots of beautiful art and interesting items for auction, everyone had a wonderful time, and the auction and meal donations netted nearly \$600.



A big thank you goes out to Jackie Fisher and Max Goldstein for organizing the silent auction and collecting the money, John Shave for helping me carry things and set up, Judy Kuchta and everyone else who brought food, and Fern Forest for the decorations, use of their facility and help with the clean up.



I am forming a special events committee for 2008. We are hoping to get donations of food and auction items from Whole Foods and other businesses. Please contact me at 954-946-7359 if you are interested in helping.

I would like to say that our Executive Committee and Sierra Group Leaders have done a great job this past year.

George Cavros, Mara Shlackman, Matt Schwartz, and others have been attending community meetings on conservation issues. Harold Hancock has been arranging our general meetings and scheduling speakers. Pedro Monteiro is helping us get organized, in addition to working on marine issues, and has been keeping us informed on National Sierra Club issues. Louis Serra has been working on improving his secretarial skills, Max keeps us posted on our financial status. Brion Blackwelder and Rod Tirrell support our efforts to save the Everglades. We appreciate all you guys!

George is no longer our Conservation Chair, but continues to be an important part of our Executive Committee and our conservation efforts. He keeps us posted on the Port Everglades expansion and did a great job arguing against the airport expansion. Anyone interested in writing issue papers on conservation please contact me.

Matt and Kathleen have been leading hikes in the Big Cypress Preserve. Matt works tirelessly on Everglades and political issues, and was instrumental in the fight against reopening Bear Island and other areas of the Big Cypress Preserve to ORV use.

Carole Walsh has been a fantastic newsletter editor, knitting it all together, reminding us of deadlines, updating our website, and publicizing the meetings.

Also thanks to Andi Saifman for her help with our Sierra Club merchandise, and Ina Topper for hosting the newsletter mailing parties.

But an especially big thank you to all our dedicated members who have supported us with their participation, and their efforts and concern for the



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

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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.

Sierra Hotline  954-567-2841

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

## Broward Sierra Programs

### Tuesday, Feb. 5th: Going Solar.

Our speaker will be Nancy Cross of A&B Solar in Hollywood, which specializes in designing and building solar projects. She will discuss how our members can install solar water heaters and PV (photovoltaic) solar panels for electricity.



The meeting and program will be held at the Fern Forest Nature Center, 201 Lyons Rd. S., Coconut Creek (see map on next page).

### Wednesday, March 5th: TBA

The meeting and program will be held at the Anne Kolb Nature Center on Sheridan St. in Hollywood).

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.

environment. However, with the environment in crisis on so many fronts, we need you more than ever in the coming year. Please call me at 954-946-7359 to find out what you can do to help. With all the media attention on the environment and climate issues, this is our opportunity to really make a difference. So let's make 2008 the year the country goes green!



## The Broward Sierra Club Leaders

- Executive Committee Chair**  
Barbara Curtis 954-946-7359
- Secretary**  
Louis Serra 954-442-0880
- Treasurer**  
Max Goldstein 954-296-3411
- Conservation Chair**  
Open
- Marine Issues / Energy Issues Chair**  
Pedro Monteiro 954-525-3324
- Political Chair**  
Matthew Schwartz 954-865-4306
- Legal Chair**  
Mara Shlackman 954-523-1131
- Everglades Chair**  
Rod Tirrell 954-202-9263
- Outings Chair**  
Judy Kuchta 954-924-5001
- Education Chair**  
Open
- Fundraising Chair**  
Open
- Membership Chair**  
Andrea Saifman 954-817-1749
- Volunteer Coordinator**  
Anita Lind 954-983-3709
- Program Chair**  
Harold Hancock 561-417-0216
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- Newsletter Mailing Coordinator**  
Open
- Executive Committee Member**  
Leigh Buckner 954-563-0073
- Executive Committee Member**  
Brion Blackwelder 954-262-6135

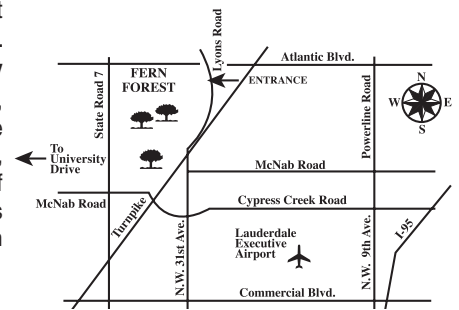
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**Membership Corrections** - To expedite any membership change (new addresses, etc.) or problems with your membership records please send your name, member number, old and new address or problem to: **Member Services**, 85 Second Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3441. 415-977-5653 or e-mail <address.changes@sierraclub.org> or <membership.services@sierraclub.org> If further assistance is needed, please contact your local Membership Chair, Andrea Saifman 954-817-1749.

## Broward Sierra Club General Meetings

Broward Sierra Club's General Meetings are held the first Tuesday or Wednesday of every month (see schedule below). **This month's meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 5th at the Fern Forest Nature Center**, 201 Lyons Road South, Coconut Creek, just south of Atlantic Blvd. on the west side of the street. (between Atlantic and Commercial Blvds., Lyons Road, south of Atlantic is the same street as NW 31st Ave., north of Commercial) (see map). 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.

Next month's meeting will be back at Anne Kolb Nature Center.



## 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 Barbara Curtis at 954-946-7359 or e-mail her at Legalbarb@aol.com.

## GENERAL MEETING SCHEDULE AND LOCATIONS

We meet at Anne Kolb Nature Center on the first Wednesday of every odd numbered month, and at the Fern Forest Nature Center the first Tuesday of every even numbered month:

Tues., Feb. 5th: Fern Forest  
Wed., Mar. 5th: Anne Kolb  
Tues., Apr. 1st: Fern Forest  
Wed., May 7th: Anne Kolb

Tues., June 3rd: Fern Forest  
Wed., July 2nd: Anne Kolb  
Tues., Aug. 5th: Fern Forest  
Wed., Sept. 3rd: Anne Kolb

Tues., Oct. 7th: Fern Forest  
Wed., Nov. 5th: Anne Kolb  
Tues., Dec. 2nd: Fern Forest



## BEAR ISLAND LAWSUIT FILED

In late December a coalition of seven conservation groups filed a lawsuit to protect Big Cypress National Preserve from damaging off-road vehicle use. The suit responds to a decision by the Park Service to open previously closed areas of the Preserve to swamp buggies and other off-road vehicles.

Hikers Brian Scherf, left, with the Florida Biodiversity Project, and Michael O'Brien, coordinator of the Green League of Broward County, stand in the middle of the Cypress Camp Trail, an off-road vehicle trail in the northwest part of the Big Cypress National Preserve. The trail is among 20 miles of trail the National Park Service opened in February 2007, drawing the lawsuit from environmental groups, including the the Sierra Club, as well as the Florida Biodiversity Project and Scherf. The park service closed the trail Dec. 14 to stabilize the trail, which has been rutted and widened by ORV use.

—Portions cited from the *Naples Daily News*, Dec. 21, 2007

## PHOTOS FROM BIG CYPRESS

From the November 24th outing in the Big Cypress Preserve. The next Big Cypress hike is on February 2nd.

To see more of Linda & Jackie's beautiful photos from the Big Cypress hike, go to our website at <http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward/articles/cypress>.

Photos by Nancy Lunz







*"Keep close to Nature's heart... and break clear away once in a while, and climb a mountain or spend a week in the woods. Wash your spirit clean."*

*— John Muir*



Photo by Kathleen Rhoad



# Local Sierra Group Outings

*To preserve a place, you must believe in it. To believe in it, you must see it.*

**JAN. 25 - 26, FRI. - SAT. MUIR TREK THROUGH J. W. CORBETT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA.** Fri. 7pm - Sat. 7pm. A dawn to dusk, cross-country hike includes readings from John Muir's journals, leader inputs which explore perceptions in nature, and time to sit, watch and reflect on the natural world. Rated moderate. Limit 10. *Cost \$35, includes tent/bunk fee and food shared dawn to dusk on Saturday.* Leader: Joan Hourican, 561-306-2462 <hourican@fau.edu> Asst. Leader: Judy Kuchta, 305-308-8913 <judykuchta@yahoo.com>



**JAN. 26, SAT. BIG CYPRESS WILD ORCHID DAY WALK/SLOSH.** Get your feet wet and your senses filled. Discover wild orchids in a pristine corner of Big Cypress National Preserve. This spectacular trail experience ends at the Three Graces. Rated moderate. Limit 4. *Cost: \$20 members, \$25 non-members.* Leaders: Alan Nowell, 305-253-4250 <mrhitnmiss@aol.com> Kaatje Bernabei, 305-223-6551 <kaatjebnabei@bellsouth.net>



**FEB. 2, SAT. HIKE THE WILDERNESS TRAIL, BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE.** 8 miles on a side wilderness trail of the Florida National Scenic Trail, north of Alligator Alley (about 50 min. from downtown Ft. Lauderdale). You'll learn the difference a few inches of elevation makes to the local flora as you trek through cypress forest, hammocks and prairies. Rated moderate. Bring your own lunch to eat on the hike. *Cost: \$3 members, \$5 non-members.* Leader: Kathleen Rhoad, 954 627-2665 <katrroad@prodigy.net>



**FEB. 3, SUN. 15-MILE BIKE RIDE, SHARK VALLEY IN EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK.** See <www.florida-outdoors.com/9trail-sv.htm>. Meet at 10 am. Bike rentals are available. Lots of wildlife to be seen and halfway through the ride, a tower to climb with a terrific view of flat Florida Everglades terrain. We'll find somewhere tacky and funky for lunch afterwards and then head home. Shark Valley is about an hour and 40 minutes from Lantana. *Cost: FREE except for bike rentals and park admission.* Moderate. Limit 19. Leader: Ron Haines, 561-964-1995 <RonaldHaines@bellsouth.net>



**FEB. 16 - 18, SAT. - MON. LONG PINE KEY CAMPING, BIKING & HIKING.** Camp in a beautiful pine rockland in Everglades National Park. Explore the wildlife and plants by off-road biking and hiking. Rated moderate. Limit 7 people in 7 tents. *Cost: \$70 members, \$80 non-members (not including transportation or park admission).* **Must sign up and pay in full no later than Feb. 1st.** Leader: Diane Jacobs 305-667-6962 <diane@cobb-ebin.com> Asst: Lee Jacobs



**FEB. 16 - 18, SAT. - MON. OCALA NATIONAL FOREST CAMP/HIKE/CANOE.** Camp fees, transportation, canoe rentals, and most meals included. Rated moderate. Limit 8. *Cost: \$110 members, \$130 non-members.* Leader: Alan Nowell, 305-253-4250 <mrhitnmiss@aol.com> Asst: Kaatje Bernabei, 305-223-6551 <kaatjebnabei@bellsouth.net>



**FEB. 23, SAT. SHARK VALLEY MOONLIGHT BICYCLE TRIP.** Rated leisure. Limit 18. *Cost: \$15 members, \$20 non-members.* Leader: Ken Smith, 305-758-3121 <Kpsmith@gate.net> Asst: TBA



**FEB. 23, SAT. GREYNOLDS PARK NATURE HIKE & PICNIC.** 9am. An easy 2 hour hike through picturesque Greynolds Park (trails encircle a mangrove wetland, Oleta River, and hammock forest). It is a great park for kids and families, with a hill to run on, and slight inclines in terrain. (No baby buggies on hike). We may see iguanas, raccoons, alligators, egrets, anhingas, ibis, tricolored herons, little blue herons, green herons and double-crested cormorants. Bring your cameras. A healthy picnic lunch will be provided. Rated easy. Limit 20. *Cost: \$6 members (\$4 children), \$8 non-members (\$6 children). Plus park admission of \$4 or \$5 per car.* Leader: Nancy Lunz, 954-658-8531 <a10Inunzie@aol.com> Asst: Kathleen Rhoad, 954 627-2665 <katrroad@prodigy.net>



**MAR. 1, SAT. HIKE THE WILDERNESS TRAIL, BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE.** (See Feb. 2nd) Leader: Kathleen Rhoad, 954 627-2665 <katrroad@prodigy.net>



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 or go to <www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms>.

**For sign-up, payment and further information, please contact the outing leader.**

**Check the Sierra Hotline for updates at 954-567-2841**

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

## EPA REJECTS CLEAN CAR STANDARDS SUPPORTED BY 17 STATES



On December 19 the Environmental Protection Agency denied California and 16 other states, including Florida, the right to set their own standards for carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from automobiles. CO<sub>2</sub> is a major cause of global warming. Earlier this year, Governor Crist issued executive orders that would reduce Florida's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from all sectors by

80% by 2050. The Florida clean cars initiative is an important element of the plan.

E.P.A. administrator Stephen L. Johnson said that California had failed to make a compelling case that it needed authority to write its own standards for greenhouse gas emissions from cars and trucks to help curb global warming.

The New York Times reported on December 20th that the decision immediately provoked a heated debate over its scientific basis and whether political pressure was applied by the automobile industry to escape the proposed California regulations. Officials from the states and numerous environmental groups vowed to sue to overturn the edict.

The emissions standards California proposed in 2004, but which were never approved by the federal government, would have forced automakers to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 30 percent in new cars and light trucks by 2016, with the cutbacks to begin in 2009 models.

That would have translated into roughly 43 miles per gallon for cars and some light trucks and about 27 miles per gallon for heavier trucks and sport utility vehicles.

"It is disappointing that the federal government is standing in our way and ignoring the will of tens of millions of people across the nation," Mr. Schwarzenegger said. "We will continue to fight this battle."

It is widely held that the EPA's case for denial is weak and it is expected that many states, including Florida, will also sue the EPA to have the denial of the waiver overturned.

## BARBARA'S GUMBO RECIPE



Begin the Gumbo by sautéing 2 onions, 2 each of red, green and yellow peppers, with a clove of garlic. Add 2-4 cans of tomato paste, 4 large cans of diced tomatoes, 2 bags of frozen okra and a pound of sliced browned Italian sausage tofu. Season with salt, pepper, hot sauce and chili sauce to taste. Add 1-2 cups water to achieve desired thickness.

Bring to boil, simmer for 2 or more hours. Serve with brown rice.

*Editor's note: Whether you tasted Barbara's delicious gumbo at the holiday dinner, or you (unfortunately) missed it, now you can cook it yourself.*

*If you have any healthy recipes you'd like to share, email them to carolewalsh@mindspring.com. We will occasionally print them, as space allows.*

## FORT LAUDERDALE TREE GIVE-AWAY



**Help restore the tree canopy by planting a free tree from the City of Fort Lauderdale.** Hurricane Wilma destroyed 30 percent of the City's tree canopy. Planting trees is more important than ever to replenish the tree cover and restore the City's natural beauty. You can help by participating in one of the City's upcoming tree giveaways. Residents will be able to choose from a variety of native tree species while supplies last.

Giveaways will be from 9 am to 11 am and are for City of Fort Lauderdale residents only. One tree per adult with proof of City residency.

February 16 - George English Park (1101 Bayview Dr.)

March 15 - Riverland Park (950 SW 27th Ave.)

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## ADVERTISE IN THE BROWARD SIERRA NEWS

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 issue	3 issues
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>.

**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.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

E-mail (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed, payable to Sierra Club  Mastercard  Visa  AmEx

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

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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Enclose check and mail to: **Sierra Club**  
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