

Broward Sierra News



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

VOL. XXX No. 9
NOVEMBER, 2008

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

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GET OUT THE VOTE!

Broward Sierra political volunteers needed from now until election day! Please contact Matt Schwartz, Broward Sierra Political Chair <matthew3222@yahoo.com> 954-865-4306



THIS ELECTION IS CRITICAL TO THE FUTURE OF OUR COUNTRY!

Your vote makes a difference. Please be sure to vote!!!

SIERRA CLUB NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

– By Barbara Curtis, Broward Sierra Chair



Many of you have asked about the meaning of a recent letter the National Sierra Club sent out to Sierra Club members.

I would like to summarize what is happening. Early this year the national Sierra Club decided to suspend the Florida Chapter. The reasons cited were internal conflict within the Florida Chapter which has been present for several years resulting in a stalemate which could not be resolved by the normal elective procedure.

The good news is that a new governing board for the State of Florida has been formed to assume the financial, lobbying, conservation, administration and other functions of the chapter. The new organization is called Sierra Florida. I was proud to attend a session of the Sierra Florida where group chairs from all over the state were invited to help them devise campaigns to carry out specific conservation goals. We met the weekend of September 27 at Eckerd College in Saint Petersburg, Florida.

The session was facilitated by Greg Casini of the National Sierra Club; several Sierra staff persons and other officers of the groups stood by to assist us. Greg was able to assist the fourteen Florida groups who officially attended, along with other interested persons, to plan new campaigns, set achievable conservation goals, and learn to work together. We also learned how to work with elected officials, other environmental groups, and our own members as well as how to recruit new volunteers.

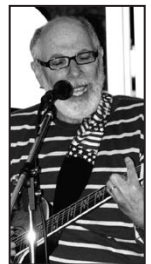
I personally volunteered to help create three campaigns. One campaign already in motion is the organization and mobilization to encourage coastal areas of Florida to create and strengthen fertilizer ordinances to lessen the Red Tide outbreak which has caused damage on the West Coast. Other algae blooms and red tide threaten the east coast of Florida as well as lakes and rivers. I am working with Debbie Matthews, chair of the Miami Group, and Drew Martin of the Loxahatchee Group, as well as the staff and other volunteers on the west coast of Florida. We also plan to tackle enforcement of regulations to stop the dropping of anchors and damaging coral reefs. We intend to set up an 800 number for callers to report violations.

Third, and most important I will be working with Frank Jackalone of the St. Petersburg office of the National Sierra Club on fundraising in Broward and throughout the state.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO CARRY OUT OUR CAMPAIGNS: CONTACT ME AT 954-946-7359 or <Legalbarb@aol.com>.

Broward Sierra Programs

Wednesday, Nov. 5: Environmental Illnesses presented by Dr. Albert Robbins, will be addressing building related health problems, new emerging allergic diseases and the silent epidemic of multiple chemical sensitivities. He will also play a few of his original environmental songs, including "Polluted Indoor Air," "American Chemical Dream," and "It's Not IgE."



The meeting and program will be held at the Anne Kolb Nature Center on Sheridan St. in Hollywood (see map on next page). We will meet in the Main Exhibit Hall instead of in the Mangrove Hall where we usually meet.

Wednesday, Dec. 10th: Holiday Pot Luck Dinner & Silent Auction. Bring a dish to share, and join us for fantastic food, friends & fun, and our fabulous silent auction (camping gear, art work, books, native plants, collectibles, and more). Contact Barbara at 954-946-7359 or <Legalbarb@aol.com> to donate items for the auction or to volunteer to help out.

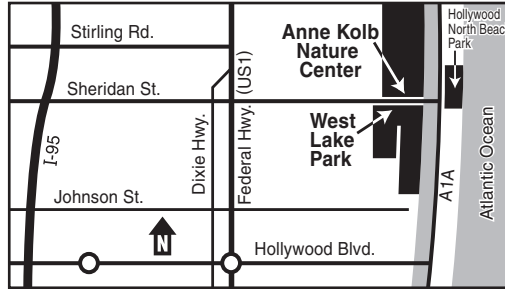


The meeting and program will be held at the Fern Forest Nature Center, 201 Lyons Rd. S., Coconut Creek.

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.

Broward Sierra Club General Meetings

Broward Sierra Club's General Meetings are generally held the first Wednesday of each month. **This month's meeting and program will be held on Wednesday, November 5th at the Anne Kolb Nature Center in the Main Exhibit Hall.** 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, before the Intracoastal Bridge). Doors open at 7 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 holiday dinner and silent auction will be at the Fern Forest Nature Center, on December 10th.

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

GENERAL MEETING SCHEDULE AND LOCATIONS

We meet at Anne Kolb Nature Center in every odd numbered month, and at the Fern Forest Nature Center on every even numbered month.



Broward Sierra Executive Committee Election Ballot

MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 31, 2008.

Please vote for ONLY up to 5 candidates.

5 people will be elected to the EXCOM board this year. The Nominating Committee has selected 6 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:

Please vote for ONLY 5 candidates

	First Member	Second Member (if applicable)
Phil Busey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barbara Curtis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Max Goldstein	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Judy Kuchta	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
John Shave	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patricia Widener	<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 volunteer positions you would be interested in.

- Conservation Chair _____
- Program Chair _____
- Fundraising Chair _____
- Newsletter Mailing Coordinator _____
- Outings Leader _____

PLEASE NOTE:

Fern Forest will now be closed on Tuesdays, so we are unable to meet there on our usual Tuesdays. Therefore the December meeting will be at Fern Forest on Dec. 10th. Future meeting dates TBA.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT THE BROWARD SIERRA NEWS

The Broward County Sierra Club regrets to announce that because of financial constraints, we will only be publishing the Broward Sierra News every other month (six times per year, instead of the usual 10). To keep you all apprised of current Broward Sierra Club events, we will have them all listed on our website:

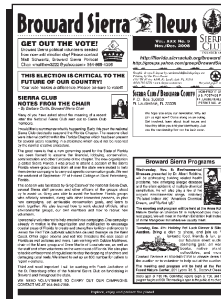
<http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward/>

If you would like to receive reminders of these events e-mailed to you, you will need to subscribe to our Yahoo newsgroup. The address is:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BrowardSierra/>

Simply click on the blue "Join this Group" and follow the instructions. You may have to create a Yahoo ID first, which is easy and free. This will also let you sign up for other Yahoo newsgroups, of which there are many.

We are sorry we have to reduce the number of mailings, but the economy is affecting everyone. We will still do our best to keep you informed of environmental current events and activities.



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

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

Environmental Education Chair
Ina Topper 954-722-9944

Environmental Justice Chair
Patricia Widener 954-929-1410

Fundraising Chair
Open

Membership Chair
Andrea Saifman 954-817-1749

Volunteer Coordinator
Anita Lind 954-983-3709

Program Chair
Open

Media
Open

Newsletter & Web Site
Carole Walsh 954-987-3642
carolewalsh@mindspring.com

Newsletter Mailing Coordinator
Open - to volunteer, contact
Max Goldstein 954-296-3411

Executive Committee Member
Brion Blackwelder 954-262-6135

Executive Committee Member
Leigh Buckner 954-563-0073

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.changes@sierraclub.org> or <membership.services@sierraclub.org>
If further assistance is needed, please contact your local Membership Chair, Andrea Saifman 954-817-1749.

WOMEN WITH TRASH

– By Judy Kuchta, Broward Outings Chair

For two hours my faithful Sierra Club buddies and I cut and uprooted Virginia Creeper along the walkway to Hollywood Beach on Douglas Rd. Please go there and take a look... It is absolutely beautiful now.



Photo by Laurie Mullane

We collected 8 huge bags of live vine, roots, and clusters of old dead vines. We also collected a huge bag of trash, and about half of it was recycleable. There are many, many dead seagrape branches that need to be removed in order to really get in there, but we'll need more help and a lot more volunteer hours. All of us want to do it again! We had fun!

Shortly after this picture was taken we headed to the beach, swam, rested then went kayaking in West Lake Park until nearly sunset. It was a very fulfilling day.

PLANTING SEEDS TODAY FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

The City of Oakland Park is having the next clean up day at the Lakeside Sand Pine Preserve on Saturday, November 1st from 8:30am to 12:00 noon. This is a great opportunity for residents of Broward County to volunteer to help clean up a rare and endangered natural community, a sand pine scrub! During the clean up day you will discover flora and fauna unique to the sand pine scrub.

Directions: At West Oakland Park Blvd. & NW 27 Ave., travel south on NW 27 Ave. until it dead ends at the preserve (about 2 blocks). The address is 2820 NW 27 Ave.

What to wear: Please wear clothes that you don't mind getting dirty. Closed-toe shoes, gloves, sun screen and a hat are strongly recommended. The City will provide water and brochures on our Lakeside Sand Pine preserve.

To Volunteer: Please call Charles Livio, City Horticulturist, at 954-630-4511.

CANDY CANE PARADE

Join the Sierra Club at the annual Candy Cane Parade on Hollywood Beach's Broadwalk, Saturday, December 6th, 7-10pm. Contact Pat Widener for details: patwidener@yahoo.com, 954-665-7615.

Local Sierra Group Outings

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



Nov. 9, SUN. HIKE THE BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE ADDITION LANDS.

We'll get wet and have fun while unwinding from the election in this incredible example of public land in Broward's backyard. Hike will be a leisurely 5 to 6 miles. Rated moderate. *Cost: \$5 members, \$6 non-members.*

Leader: Matt Schwartz, 954-865-4306 <matthew3222@yahoo.com>



Nov. 9, SUN. CANOEING/KAYAKING ON FISHEATING CREEK.

Fisheating Creek is the only remaining pristine stream feeding Lake Okeechobee. Rated leisure. Limit 20. *Cost: FREE.* Canoe and kayak rentals extra or bring your own.

Leader: Charles Hunt, 561-967-4770 <sierra@smartsolutions.com>



Nov. 15, SAT. MOONLIGHT YOGA ON HOLLYWOOD BEACH.

An hour and a half yoga experience on the beach. This class includes traditional yoga postures and moonlight salutations on a semi-full moonlight night where, as Muir wrote, "nature may heal and give strength to body and soul." This class is open to all levels, including beginners, ages 15 and over. Wear comfortable clothing, and bring water and a beach towel or sheet. We'll meet at 7:45pm on Hollywood Beach Broadwalk, behind the Ramada Hotel & Oceanwalk Mall, between Harrison St. and Tyler St., and walk together to the beach. Metered parking is available. Enrico will be our yoga instructor. Rated easy to moderate. Limit 20. *Cost: \$8 members, \$9 non-members for groups of 1-10 or \$7 members, \$8 non-members for groups of 11-20.*

Leader: Pat Widener, 954-665-7615 <patwidener@yahoo.com>



Nov. 16, SUN. LEISURELY URBAN BICYCLING IN THE LAKE WORTH AREA.

Explore local parks, open spaces, and neighborhoods with fellow Sierrans. Rated leisure. Limit 20. *Cost: FREE.*

Leader: Ron Haines, 561-964-1995 <RonaldHaines@bellsouth.net>



Nov. 22, SAT. HIKE THE BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE WILDERNESS TRAIL.

From approximately 8:30 am to 2:30 pm, we'll hike approximately 8 miles on a blue-blazed wilderness trail off Section II of the Florida National Scenic Trail, north of Alligator Alley. You will learn the difference a few inches of elevation makes to the local flora, as you trek through cypress forest, hammocks and prairie. Water can be ankle deep. Bring your own lunch, which we'll eat on the trail. Rated moderate to strenuous, due to distance and 'back country' trails, with occasional trees across the path. *Cost: \$3 members, \$5 non-members.* Please call to reserve your space.

Leader: Jackie Fisher, 954-434-2855 <jsfisher@bigfoot.com>

Asst. Leader: Kip Fisher (same phone number)



Nov. 27-Nov. 30, THURS.-SUN. (THANKSGIVING WEEKEND)

Thanksgiving at Cedar Key (30 minutes West of Gainesville). We'll stay in a townhouse on the water, cook a turkey dinner, visit the John Muir Museum and the haunted hotel, go kayaking, biking and hiking. Rated easy to moderate. *Cost (including meals): approx. \$150.*

Leader: Barbara Curtis, 954-946-7359 <legalbarb@aol.com>



DEC. 13, SAT. MOONLIGHT YOGA ON HOLLYWOOD BEACH.

See Nov. 15th, except we'll meet at 6:45pm since it will be getting dark earlier.

Leader: Pat Widener, 954-665-7615 <patwidener@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 or go to <www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms>.

Florida Seller of Travel Ref. No. ST37115

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

LOOK FOR UPDATED INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE:

<<http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>>

DONATE TO THE SIERRA CLUB BROWARD GROUP

You can donate directly to our environmental work here in Broward County. Your donation will support our county wide environmental programs, including our efforts to protect Florida panther habitat in South Florida. Contributions and gifts to the Sierra Club are not tax-deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts.

Please make your check payable to:
Broward Group of the Sierra Club

Mail your donation to: Broward Group of the Sierra Club,
PO Box 350432, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33335

GIVE THANKS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT DAY

Saturday, November 15, 2008 from 10:00am to 4:30pm at the Anne Kolb Nature Center

November 15 is America Recycles Day so the theme for the day is being built around RECYCLING!

10:00-11:00am in Mangrove Hall: Rain Barrel Workshop with John Shave (Limit 10 people, must pre-register. Contact Doug Young at Anne Kolb: 954-926-2480).

11:30am: Broward County Audubon Society - Bird Walk

12:00-1:30pm in Mangrove Hall: Food and Beverages

12:00-12:45pm in Mangrove Hall: Dean of Green - Eco-Theater

12:45-1:30pm in Mangrove Hall: Environmental Awards

1:30pm: Broward County Audubon Society - Bird Walk

2:30-4:30pm in Mangrove Hall: Audubon of Florida presents a Global Climate Change Forum

FLORIDA HOMETOWN DEMOCRACY UPDATE

– By Leslie Blackner

Although disappointed that Hometown Democracy won't be on the 2008 ballot, our dedication to getting our petitioning finished up and to be certified to be on the 2010 ballot is unwavering, and still our TOP Priority!

Basically the Federal judge has ruled that the citizens' initiative process is a State right and is not subject to Federal Constitutional guarantees, and so will not compel the State to put us on the 2008 ballot. It is a disappointing ruling, but nothing else has changed.

So, simply put, we must continue our ongoing effort to get certified for 2010 by the State standards, and to do so before the 2008 election. We are very close now, by the State's own numbers, some 5,000 short, and with the revocation issue still up on appeal, we are determined to meet the state requirement as is.

The hardest part is behind us, the monumental task of getting over 840,000 petitions signed! We have had more asked of us, more dirty tricks pulled on us, and more obstacles thrown in our way than any other citizen initiative ever has. And yet here we are in the final stretch, and we will finish a WINNER!

We are truly appreciative for everyone's contributions of time, effort and money to this historic campaign so far, and ask that we all now turn this energy and effort to the next stage of the campaign, to educate the electorate and have them prepared to vote FOR FHD at election. We are confident that Hometown Democracy will then take its hard-earned place in the Florida Constitution!

HELP SAVE WHAT'S LEFT OF FLORIDA...
LET THE PEOPLE VOTE to control growth!

Note from the editor: If you haven't signed the petition yet, you can get the petition from www.floridahometowndemocracy.com

Whether you have signed the petition or not, funds are needed to keep the fight going.

Please make checks payable to: Florida Hometown Democracy

And mail your donations to:

Florida Hometown Democracy, Inc.

P.O. Box 636, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32170

Or donate on-line with a credit card on the website.

All donations go directly to support this grassroots effort.

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.



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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

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

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 Group of the Sierra Club.

	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>.