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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 environmental issues and how they affect you and your community. Just use the form on the back page, or go to our website at <http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>, and click on the "Become a member" link.

KING MANGO STRUT

– By Ina Oost Topper, Broward Sierra Chair



The Broward Sierra King Mango Strutters participated again this year, joining the Miami Sierrans for this hilarious yearly event.

For those of you not familiar with the purpose of the King Mango Strut, held in Coconut Grove on the last Sunday of the year; it's a satirical, tongue in cheek portrayal by various organizations and private groups, on the past year's happenings, political or otherwise.

Last year's Sierra theme was the rising sea levels due to global warming. This year's emphasis was on fracking.

Fracking, short for Hydraulic Fracturing, is a controversial process for the purpose of recovering oil and/or natural gas from sites deep down in our earth.

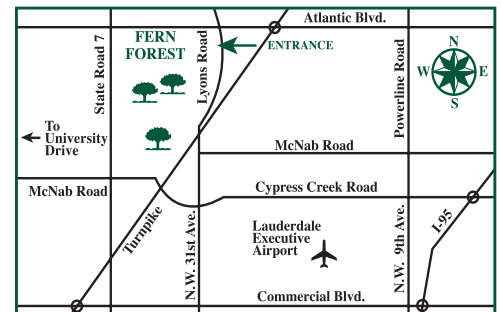
Due to ever increasing gasoline prices, it has been deemed profitable by gas supplying companies to obtain fuel from wherever it may be extracted, even if it

Continued on page 4



Broward Sierra Club's General Meetings are held at 7:30 pm at the Fern Forest Nature Center. Each month we have an educational program on conservation or ecological issues.

DIRECTIONS: The Fern Forest Nature Center, 201 Lyons Road South, Coconut Creek, just south of Atlantic Blvd. on the west side of the street. (From the south, NW 31 Ave. becomes NW 46 Ave., and then Lyons Rd. as you pass under the turnpike.) Committee reports begin at 7:30, and the program begins at 8:00. The meeting is open to the public at no charge.



Thursday, Feb. 6th: Our featured speaker will be **Cori Glick**, who is the Special Events Coordinator at Flamingo Gardens. Her talk will be about **Flamingo Gardens** and its contribution to the wildlife and people of South Florida. She may even bring some of her animal friends with her to the meeting

Thursday, Mar. 6th: Speak Up Broward – Let's Talk Transportation. Our speakers will be Eric Swanson, Policy Analyst, South Florida Regional Transportation Council and Marcie Nolan, Land Use Attorney. Transportation affects many aspects of our lives and is important to our economy and the environment. It's time for the people of Broward to speak up about how we get around today and how we want to get around tomorrow. The Broward MPO has started an important conversation with our community that will lead us to an action plan and timeline to expand our transportation choices. Join the conversation.

Thursday, Apr. 3rd: Our speakers will be **Andrea Ruth Gundersen** and a member of the Nova Southeastern University (NSU) Oceanographic Center. She will talk about the **Nova Southeastern University Staghorn Coral Nursery Project**. Researchers at the NSU Oceanographic Center are exploring scientifically sound approaches to understand, assess, monitor, restore and mitigate injured coral reefs. Ms. Gundersen is a recreational scuba diver and an attorney and a member of the Dive Bar, which has worked with NSU Oceanographic on the Staghorn Coral project.





SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

The Broward Sierra Club Leaders

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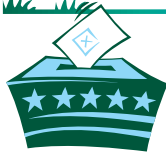
Executive Committee Meetings

are held on the first Monday of each month. Contact Ina Topper at 954-722-9944 or irtopper2000@cs.com for time and location.

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. Phone 415-977-5653 or e-mail: <address.changes@sierraclub.org> or <membership.services@sierraclub.org>

The **Broward Sierra News** is available every other month in electronic format. Additionally, to keep you apprised of current Broward Sierra Club events, they will be listed on our website: <http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>. If you would like to receive reminders of these events e-mailed to you, **subscribe to our Yahoo newsgroup**. The address is: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BrowardSierra>. Simply click on the blue "Join this Group" icon and follow the instructions. You may have to create a Yahoo ID first, which is easy and free. This will also allow you to sign up for any of the other numerous Yahoo groups.



BROWARD SIERRA CLUB ELECTIONS

We're pleased to announce that Stanley Pannaman, Barbara Ruge, Darryl Rutz, and Ina Oost Topper were all reelected to the Broward Sierra Executive Committee. The complete list of Excom members, officers and other Club leaders is to the left.

ALL ABOARD FLORIDA – THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

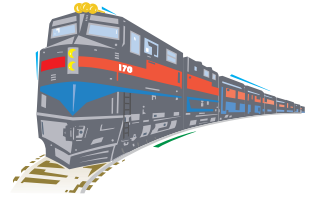
– By Barbara Ruge, Broward Sierra Vice-Chair

Although Florida's governor refused passenger high-speed rail funds allocated from the Federal Government (and by-the-way, the money went to California and New York instead), a private for-profit enterprise has stepped forward, planning to provide essential passenger rail service from Miami to Orlando with two stops, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach.

Florida East Coast Industries has the rights to develop passenger rail along the existing Florida East Coast freight railway corridor, Miami to Cocoa. However, the stretch of track needed to connect Cocoa to Orlando International Airport requires an additional deal. To lay track along the Beachline Expressway, the Orlando Orange County Expressway Authority must buy a sizable strip of land from Deseret Ranches, the Mormon Church property-owner.

If the deal is sealed, Deseret requires expressway expansion with numerous interchanges built in. This sets the stage for unprecedented development on the now pristine

300,000 acres of lakes, Florida citrus trees and 50,000 head of cattle raising. **The Good:** Florida residents need a long-awaited, clean

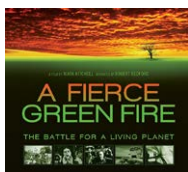


and fast, express travel system through the state. **The Bad:** For-profit companies charging an estimated \$100 per person from Miami to Orlando, and being held hostage to the wants of a private land owner. **The Ugly:** Wider expressway, expanded vehicle traffic, more polluted air, more concrete and asphalt covering our natural lands, more people moving to Florida, less water for all, drastically-reduced habitat for our precious wildlife.

Stay tuned for news and updates about "All Aboard Florida." We may not be able to stop the development, and may not want to, but the Florida Chapter of Sierra Club is gearing up a campaign to mitigate for our natural resources. Let your voices be heard.

ENVIRONMENTAL MOVIE NEWS: "A FIERCE GREEN FIRE"

– By Ina Oost Topper, Broward Sierra Chair



The Sierra Club recommends seeing the movie "A Fierce Green Fire, The Battle for a Living Planet", a big-picture exploration of the environmental movement (grassroots and global activism) spanning fifty years, to be shown at Cinema Paradiso.

This film (from a book by Philip Shabecoff), produced by Mark Kitchell and supported by the Sierra Club nationally, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 2012, and received nationwide acclaim. The movie is narrated by Robert Redford and Meryl Streep, among many others.

One topic of this film deals with the battle to halt construction of dams in the Grand Canyon. (As a side-note, how ironic that in recent years there has been considerable talk of revisiting the past, and actually blowing up some dams that now block natural flows of our rivers.)

Among many other topics, the movie also addresses the Love Canal debacle and the struggle of the area's residents (does Erin Brockovich come to mind?), Paul Watson's (the Sea Shepard) heroic efforts to stop the slaughter of whales in the Pacific, as well as the continuing struggle to save the Brazilian rain forest.

Date: Feb. 15, 2014

Place: Cinema Paradiso, 503 SE 6th St., downtown Ft Lauderdale (free parking available - get in touch with the Cinema)

Time: doors open at 6:30pm, film starts at 7:00pm.

General Admission: \$10, Seniors & Students \$8, Members \$6.

Mark Kitchell, the Producer (himself the son of California environmentalists) will be personally attending this showing, and will hold a Q & A session after the movie!

Local Sierra Club Outings & Events

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



FEB. 1 - 2, SAT. - SUN. VIEW THE HEAVENS AT MARKHAM STATE PARK. We will be joining the South Florida Amateur Astronomers Association to look at the full moon. Then we will be tent camping in the primitive camping area on Saturday night (so it won't have all the comforts of home). This outing is great for the beginner and advanced stargazer. *Suggested donation: \$10 members, \$12 non-members (includes dinner and breakfast).* Contact Darla Ferrante 954-812-4127 <rdeferrante@aol.com> or Max Goldstein 954-296-3411 <maxgold@yahoo.com>.



FEB. 8, SAT. BICYCLING IN OKEEHEELEE PARK. Leisurely bicycling in Okeehlee Park. Bicycle helmets are REQUIRED on all Sierra Club bicycle outings. Email or call Ron Haines for more info and reservations <ronaldhaines@bellsouth.net> 561 315-0528.



FEB. 8, SAT. EVERGLADES ECOLOGY 101. Explore the Anhinga and Gumbo Limbo trails, and more. Lots of wildlife including birds and alligators while learning about Everglades ecology, and the things that make it unique. Pack a lunch and bring lots of water. Rated leisure - great for beginners or veterans, families with kids welcome. Limit 12. *Suggested donation: \$10, park entrance: \$10/vehicle.* Carpooling is encouraged. Contact the leader if you would like to carpool or can take someone in your vehicle and for details. Leader: Kaatje Bernabei 305-223-6551 <kaatjebnabei@bellsouth.net>, Asst. Leader: Alan Nowell <mrhitnmiss@aol.com>.



FEB. 22, SAT. OKEECHOBEE RIM BIKING. This will be an exciting and beautiful bicycle ride on the Herbert Hoover Dike that surrounds Lake Okeechobee (part of the Florida Trail). We'll see a wide range of wildlife and learn about the Big Lake. We will be biking about 25 to 30 miles on the elevated paved and level trail. You should be able to bike about 30 miles and have a good command of your bike. There will be periodic rest points. Please bring a mountain bike or cruiser, spare inner tube and the appropriate wrench to take the wheel off. It is important that you bring plenty of water and a good hat, as there is no shade or water on the dike. A bladder back pack is recommended. We will be meeting at a designated location in Ft. Lauderdale at 9:00 am, and returning around 4:00 pm. We will have lunch at a local restaurant in the Okeechobee area (the riders will cover the cost of their lunches). Limit: 10. *This will be a Sierra Fundraiser with a \$10 donation collected at the meeting place in Ft. Lauderdale.* For more information and/or to reserve a spot, please contact Leader: Darryl Rutz 954-892-1740 <dmrutz2@msn.com>. Asst. Leader: Manuel Monteiro 954-815-6230 <manuel_monteiro@yahoo.com>.



FEB. 22, SAT. BIG CYPRESS HIKE ON FLORIDA TRAIL. Hike in the splendor of Big Cypress National Preserve, from Oasis Visitor Center south on Tamiami Trail and back; 6 miles roundtrip with a leisurely lunch halfway. Hiking through sawgrass prairies with beautiful stretches of saw palmettos and pineland trails that may be under water amidst cypress forests. Expect to see reptiles, birds, butterflies and wildflowers. Panther, bobcats and deer encounters are possible. Rating: moderate to strenuous. Pack a lunch and bring lots of water. Limit: 8. *Suggested donation: \$20 members, \$25 non-members.* Contact the outing leader for meeting times and location or more information. Carpooling is encouraged. Contact the leader if you would like to carpool or can take someone in your vehicle. Leader: Kaatje Bernabei 305-223-6551 <kaatjebnabei@bellsouth.net>, Asst. Leader: Alan Nowell <mrhitnmiss@aol.com>.

VOLUNTEER OUTDOORS



FEB. 15, SAT. FERN FOREST NATURE CENTER COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT. We'll be giving back to the park, as they so kindly allow us to hold our monthly general meetings at this urban forest treasure. This is an opportunity to learn about some of the challenges of maintaining and upgrading a natural area. No experience or tools necessary. Bring a hat, water, sunscreen and substantial footwear and clothing for working outdoors in the brush. Meet downstairs at the nature center at 9 am, and we'll be out by lunch time. *Free.* Contact: TBA (Check our website under Outings and Events at <http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward/>)

We invite you to join our outings to beautiful and interesting natural areas with friendly and mutually supportive people, and enjoy the variety of experiences that few other places in the world have to offer. Our outings are fun and educational and some even offer the opportunity to provide hands-on service in some of our parks and natural areas. If you have any questions about an outing, please contact the certified Sierra Outing Leader listed for the outing. Some of the outings need no experience; others require some level of proficiency. All participants 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.

Once you have made a reservation, we ask that you make a serious commitment to attend the trip. Cancellations are detrimental to our program. Our outings leaders are unpaid trained volunteers.

Trip expenses (some park fees, food etc.) are covered by participant donations. Some outings may require a refundable deposit to guarantee a place. Contact the outing leader for details. Because of changing costs, outing fees/donations listed may be changed at the opening of the trip. If you are interested in a trip, call or e-mail the trip leader and ask for details, or come to the sign-up table at the Sierra Club Broward Group's general meetings (first Thursday of each month). Please sign up early for planning purposes. Make all checks payable to Sierra Club Outings. Please write the name and date of your trip on your check and include your phone number. Please send all payments to the trip leader.

If you must cancel, contact the leader or assistant leader as early as possible. If you cancel less than 30 days in advance, you lose your deposit. If you cancel 7 days or less in advance, you will forfeit all fees at the discretion of the leader.

Florida Seller of Travel Ref. No. ST37115

Unless otherwise stated, the costs for each outing represent a best estimate of actual shared expenses, for food and transportation and other direct expenses.

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

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



means causing ever increasing damage to Mother Earth. It is estimated that at least half of our fuel is supplied by these controversial methods, whereby millions of gallons of water, mixed with toxic chemicals, are forced deep into

the earth in order to, yes, simply fracture layers of rocks to free oil or gas deposits. Needless to say, this highly compromising method costs us dearly, in terms of wasteful resources (think of the millions of gallons of water going into the ground) and significantly polluting side effects. Not only are the chemicals used in this process finding their way into our water supplies (and yes, the flaming faucet is REAL), the scorched earth left behind will saddle our future generations with decades of environmental misery.

GOING, GOING, GONE?

Sea turtles date back nearly 90 million years and are among the Earth's oldest surviving species. All 6 species of sea turtles are protected under the Endangered Species Act. Sierra Club has mounted a major effort to defend and preserve threatened habitats before their inhabitants are gone forever.



Help protect our animal friends; because once they're gone, they're gone.

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
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49	Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175	Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

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Enclose check and mail to: **Sierra Club**
P.O. Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

Back to our Satirical Strutters! The flaming faucet, ingeniously crafted, was part of the parade, as was a large group of supposedly ruthless, money hungry businesspeople who would stop at nothing to get their Dollars for Fuel - by whatever means. And then there was "Frackenstein" and "Frackenstein Junior" (on stilts) who were pulling the handle on a box to force deep down in the earth explosions, while in the process killing many innocent animals. There is now increasing evidence that this fracking method is also causing man-made earthquakes in some areas.

The message intended to bring to the enthusiastic public lining the streets, was that with the recent talk of some form of future fracking close to home, in the Everglades, we might just as well declare this pristine remnant of our Florida heritage as a next potential environmental victim to this appalling form of procuring fuel.

The applause along the parade route made it clear that, once again, the South Florida Sierrans brought a message to preserve our environment - and the message was heard and understood.



For those of you who are interested, you can see a video of the entire parade at <http://tinyurl.com/kingmango>.

Thanks to all of you who collected signatures and signed the petition, Florida's **Water and Land Conservation Amendment** will be on the November 2014 ballot! (See www.floridawaterlandlegacy.org/.)

DONATE TO PROTECT FLORIDA'S WILDLIFE HABITATS



You can help protect the Florida Panther and other native flora and fauna through litigation and education. This fund, The Sierra Club Foundation was created by your Broward Group. Your **tax-deductible gift** will support our conservation work and lawsuits challenging the National Park Service and other agencies that seek to reduce or cause harm to Florida's natural resources.

Please make your check payable to:

The Sierra Club Foundation

In the notes, write "Broward Sierra Group"

Mail your donation to:

Broward Sierra, P.O. Box 550561, Davie, FL 33355