



Broward Sierra News

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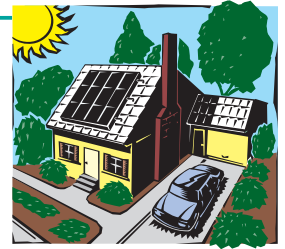


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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT! BROWARD SIERRA CONTRIBUTES TO THE CAMPAIGN TO VOTE NO ON AMENDMENT 1



As we reported in our August 2015 issue of Broward Sierra News, we acknowledged the generosity of the Estate of Damon Bee. Mr. Bee sincerely wished to help the continuing efforts of Sierra Club to educate and inform the public about Florida's unique ecosystems, while aiding our relentless work to protect and preserve our natural Florida. He knew that many times these efforts take more than volunteers. These efforts take a lot of money, pure and simple. Public promotion campaigns and legal actions take cooperation and funds. That is why we are happy to announce that Broward Sierra has chosen to help the efforts of Floridians for Solar Choice in defeating the deceptive, utilities-backed solar Amendment 1 on the 2016 ballot. Over 100 groups, associations and organizations are

working together on a large campaign to get this message out – **VOTE NO on 1**. On behalf of Broward Sierra Executive Committee and all members of Broward Sierra, we are eternally grateful to our faithful member Mr. Damon Bee. He has our sincere promise to protect his legacy by applying his generosity wisely for conservation of Florida's natural resources for the welfare and enjoyment of generations to come. Sierra Club supports expansion of Solar power, but we do not support utility monopolies that want to control and limit solar growth by dictating its use and profits through deceptive practices. Please **VOTE NO on 1!**

BROWARD SIERRA CLUB 2017 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTION

– By Barbara Ruge, Broward Sierra Excom Vice Chair

During the week between November 16 through November 25, please check the postal mail for your postcard ballot, which will be going out to all 2178 current Broward Sierra members. **We ask you to vote for no more than 3 candidates. Three seats are up for election to a two-year term to serve on the Broward Sierra Executive Committee.** As of this writing of this issue of Broward Sierra News, our nomination period is still open. You will be able to read about all the nominated candidates on our website by November 3rd. If you attend our November 3rd general membership meeting at Fern Forest, you will be able to meet and greet our candidates.

All candidates names will be printed on the ballot mailer. **WHEN YOU RECEIVE YOUR BALLOT, PLEASE VOTE.** Vote for 3 candidates. It is so important for members to participate in this process. Then your EXCOM can continue to bring the conservation message of Sierra Club to the public, fight the legal battles to protect our planet, and to provide the exceptional educational programming we offer at our membership meetings. Mail your voted ballot as instructed on the card. Or, bring it with you to our great annual Holiday Party at Fern Forest on Thursday December 1st! Questions? Contact Barbara Ruge at 954-328-2165 or email b-realtor@att.net.

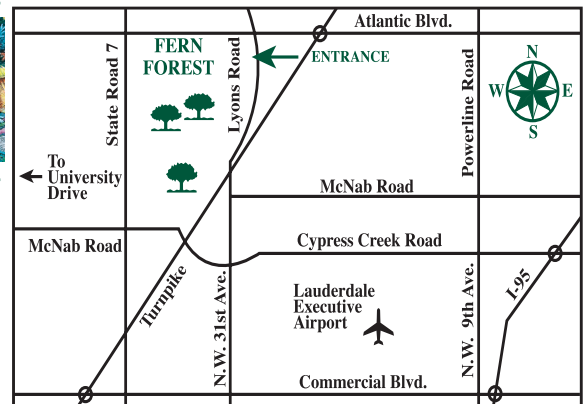
Broward Sierra Club's General Meetings - The first Thursday of each month we have committee reports and an educational program on conservation or environmental issues.

DIRECTIONS: Fern Forest Nature Center, 201 Lyons Road South, Coconut Creek is 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, Nov. 3th: Our featured speaker will be **David Stout, Natural Resources Specialist for Broward County.** His talk will be on environmental projects planned for Broward County, such as **beach re-nourishment, coral reef protection, etc.**



Thursday, Dec. 1st (7:00pm): Our annual **Pot Luck Dinner Holiday Party & Raffle.** After announcements and meeting business, join us for fantastic food, friends & fun, and some fabulous raffles! Donation is \$5 if you bring a dish to share, \$10 without a dish. Raffle tickets will be \$2 each or 3 for \$5. For more info contact Ina at 954-722-9944 or irtopper2000@cs.com.



Local Sierra Club Outings & Events



Nov 5 - 6, SAT. - SUN. CAMPGROUND CAMPING AND KAYAKING/CANOEING ON FISHEATING CREEK. We'll meet at the campground Saturday morning and the outfitter will transport us and our boats to the put in point. Sunday, we can explore some of the trails. You may bring your own kayak/canoe or rent one. The outfitter's price for the transport is practically the same whether you bring your own vessel or rent from them. Suggested donation is \$55 per person for members, \$65 person for non-members if you will have two people in your boat. If you bring or rent a single kayak, the donation is \$75 per person members and \$85 per person non-members. \$30 per person for non-paddlers. This includes the campsite (Friday and Saturday nights if you wish), 3 meals (Saturday lunch and dinner and Sunday breakfast), upriver transport, and canoe/kayak rental, if applicable. RV sites are available at slight extra cost. Rated Moderate. Limit 24. If you wish, you may camp at our main campground campsite on Friday evening on your own – just provide your own meals. Leaders: Chas Hunt loxoutings@gmail.com 561-315-0677, Kaatje Bernabei kaatjebnabei@bellsouth.net 305-223-6551.



Nov 20, SUN. CANOE/KAYAK AT JOHN PRINCE PARK IN LAKE WORTH. Leisurely morning canoeing and kayaking in the backwaters of John Prince Park (<http://discover.pbcgov.org/parks/Locations/John-Prince.aspx>). Boat rentals available, but must be reserved in advance. Limit 10. Rated Leisure. Suggested donation \$3 members, \$5 non-members. Leader: Ron Haines RonaldHaines@bellsouth.net 561-315-0528.



DEC 3, SAT. HIKE THE BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE WILDERNESS TRAIL. We'll hike approximately 8 miles on a wilderness trail, off a section of the Florida National Scenic Trail, north of Alligator Alley (about 50 minutes from downtown Ft. Lauderdale). You will learn the difference a few inches of elevation makes to the local flora, as you trek through cypress forest, hammocks and prairie. We will walk at a leisurely pace, allowing for identification of birds, wildflowers, plants and butterflies. Bring your own lunch to eat on the trail. Rated moderate due to distance and uneven footing. Suggested donation of \$7 members, \$10 non-members. Leader: Michelle Berndgen - TEXT only to 954-593-0238 or michmaber@gmail.com. Assistant Leader: Jackie Fisher, 954-434-2855 or jfs812@bellsouth.net.



DEC 10, SAT. URBAN BICYCLING IN BOCA RATON. Leisurely morning bicycling on sidewalks, bike paths or quiet streets through Boca's parks, commercial district and neighborhoods. Bicycle helmets are REQUIRED on all Sierra Club bicycle outings. Moderate. Limit 10. \$3 members, \$5 non-members suggested donation. Leader: Ron Haines RonaldHaines@bellsouth.net 561-315-0528.

WINE TASTING: SIERRA STYLE

– By Ina Oost Topper, Broward Sierra Excom Chair

Since our two previous Sierra Club wine tasting events were great successes, on Oct. 15th we held another wine tasting at Total Wine in Plantation.

Not only is this a nice way to bring friends, family and neighbors to a nice Sierra Club evening, it's also a fundraiser for our Broward group.

Total Wine has been graciously hosting these gatherings. They brought in a very knowledgeable wine expert to tell us about specific wines and wine regions around the world. It was amazing to find out that wine is being produced in areas we never had imagined! We're familiar with wines from Australia, but who knew New Zealand produces excellent white wines? I've never tasted such a unique Sauvignon Blanc – such a very refreshing, light, outright lemony tasting wine. And we learned how a heavier white wine like chardonnay gets its "oaky" flavor. It's aged in wooden barrels – just like old Scotch whiskeys. This was an eye opener, for me anyway.

We also tasted wines from Argentina and Chile, both now firmly established wine producing countries. Malbec, known as an almost exclusively Argentinian wine, gets

its unique flavor from grapes grown in very cold areas of this country. The next "coldest" wine, we were told, is the so-called "ice wine," made from grapes which have actually gone through a first night of frost and are picked while still frozen!

And accompanying the wine tasting were delectable hors d'ouvres (all you can eat) which were out of this world! We are planning to continue this Sierra Club wine tasting tradition every 6 months or so. Not only is it a wonderful way to socialize, but we learn some interesting wine facts, AND it's a nice fundraiser as well! This makes it a win-win-win situation on all fronts.

Keep an eye out for our next wine tasting venture!



GET READY, I-95 USERS!

– By Barbara Ruge, Sierra Club's representative to the Citizen Advisory Committee of Broward MPO

Florida Department of Transportation has begun Phase 3 of the I-95 Express Lanes Network. Phase 3 spans northward from Stirling Road to Linton Boulevard. The project consists of 5 construction segments with the completion target date sometime in fiscal year 2020. The project improvements include: 2.44 miles of widening, I-95 Bridge replacement over the Hillsboro Canal, 4300 linear feet of 22 foot Noise Wall buffering Tivoli Park, and LED lighting and ramp signalization improvements. If you have interest in learning more about this project, or have any questions about how this will affect you and/or your neighborhood, please consider attending an MPO or MPO-CAC advisory meeting to speak during public comments. You can find agendas, power points, contact information, and everything planned and in-process regarding roads and transportation at the Broward MPO website, www.browardmpo.org. You can read the 25-year Transportation Plan and the five year plan of approved and funded projects. They are very specific by city, streets and intersections. Broward MPO is vital in obtaining Federal funds and State funds to provide Broward residents with a multi-modal system of mobility for pedestrians, bikers, cars and public transportation for the future. They need your input, desires, needs, and technical ideas. Speak Up, Broward!



Please join us for the
**December Broward Sierra Club meeting
and Annual Pot Luck Dinner Holiday Party**

Date: Thursday, December 1, 2016

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Fern Forest Nature Center
201 Lyons Rd. S., Coconut Creek, FL 33068

After announcements and meeting business, join us for **fantastic food, friends & fun, and some fabulous raffles!**

**We'll also have a slide show of photos
from some of this past year's outings.**

We're looking forward to seeing you at our holiday dinner once again. We had a great turnout last year, with everyone very involved with environmental causes. And the raffle was a great fundraiser for our nature preservation work.

So bring your friends and neighbors, and let them know it's a time to celebrate with great food, a glass of wine or soda, meet wonderful people, and contribute to an important cause.

And if you'd like to donate any items for the raffle, please bring them with you. For more info, contact Ina at 954-722-9944 or irtopper2000@cs.com.

Bring a pot luck dish to share. Donation \$5 if you bring a dish to share, \$10 without a dish.

Please also bring your own non-disposable plates, cups and utensils.

Raffle tickets will be available for \$2 each or 3 for \$5.