



Broward Sierra News

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BROWARD SIERRA CLUB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS 2017

– By Barbara Ruge, Broward Sierra Excom Vice-Chair

Our ByLaws require that an election for members of the Broward Group Executive Committee (ExCom) takes place each year. This year, THREE ExCom members' terms expire. There are THREE available seats. Nominations were closed on October 16th. Three candidates were approved by the Nominating Committee and are running this year. We received no nominations by petition. The candidates are: Ina Topper, Pat Turpening, and Stan Pannaman. Postcard ballots will be going out by postal mail to all members of Broward Sierra during the week of December 2nd. Please watch for your ballot. Vote for up to THREE candidates and return your ballot by the December 29 deadline. Valid ballots must show your address label or your Sierra Club membership number (which is on your Sierra Club magazine address label).

Please provide a working email address for our database so that we can keep all our members regularly informed of timely Sierra events

The ballots will be counted by an Elections Committee appointed by the ExCom at its meeting which was held on November 4. It is *essential* that our Broward Sierra members vote for their executive committee. In this way, you strengthen the Sierra Club's ability to provide the informative programs you enjoy, the environmental outings to explore, and the positive actions you demand to protect our planet.

We are also welcoming MaryAnn Soltis in our Excom midst, volunteering to finish Carole Walsh's term who is temporarily stepping aside.

CANDIDATE PROFILES

Ina Oost Topper

I am currently the Excom Chair, and a longtime Sierra member. My professional background is in teaching Social Sciences & Foreign Language Instruction, with a Masters Degree in International Studies. I also have, for many years, extensively guided groups of people as a professional Tour Guide, throughout all of North America's National Parks. While also holding the Educational & Recycling Chair, my objective is to aim for more recycling here in Broward County and throughout Florida.

Stan Pannaman

I am Programs Chair and Conservation Chair for the Broward Sierra Club. I am also the team leader of the South East Florida Marine and Water Quality Team, and have been appointed to the Everglades Restoration Team, which is a statewide committee. I am the representative of the Broward Group to the Everglades Coalition, which is a coalition of 57 different groups and organizations dedicated to full restoration of the greater Everglades ecosystem.

Pat Turpening

I have been a professional librarian for nearly 40 years. Until I retired in 2006, I was an academic law librarian and archivist in Ohio and now I'm a part-time librarian at the Tamarac branch of Broward County Library. Although I just joined Sierra Club 2 years ago, I have considered myself an environmentalist for many years. I volunteered with the Club's Earth Day event at Anne Kolb this year and attend most meetings. I also have recently joined the local Audubon Society. Close to home, my husband and I pick up litter by our house 2 or 3 days every week. I look forward to taking a more active part in the Broward Sierra Club.



Date: Thursday, December 7, 2017
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Fern Forest Nature Center
201 Lyons Rd. S., Coconut Creek, FL 33068
Please also bring your own non-disposable plates, cups and utensils.
Raffle tickets will be available for \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

In other news:

- Florida regulators reject bid for oil search in eastern Everglades (kudos to one of our long time Sierra members, Matthew Schwartz, who has been instrumental in fighting this anti-Environmental endeavor).
- City of S. Miami stops using traditional fertilizers, pesticides, on city land due to known harmful effects. Instead, it will use organic products. This is also the same municipality that recently decided, hence forward, all new residential construction should come with solar panels already installed.
- This to be followed by other Miami-Dade municipalities that will promote planting of water saving bushes, plants on municipal grounds. Hopefully Broward County is not far behind.
- A recent TIME article about electronic waste states that 700,000 tons of recycled metals were traded this year - hopefully to increase to over a million tons within a decade.
- The Keystone pipeline has leaked 210,000 gallons of crude oil in South Dakota.
- And finally: ***The newly-passed GOP Tax Bill Authorizes Drilling in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.***

LOCAL SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS AND EVENTS

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



Saturday, December 9, 9:00 AM to noon - Urban Bicycling in Boca Raton.

This will be a leisurely 12-mile bicycle ride on sidewalks, bike paths or quiet streets through Boca's parks, commercial district and neighborhoods. It will include rest stops as required and a bathroom break. Bicycle helmets are REQUIRED on all Sierra Club bicycle outings. The leader is Ron Haines, 561-315-0528, RonaldHaines@bellsouth.net. We will meet near the intersection of U.S. 1 and Spanish River Boulevard. Precise instructions will be sent to attendees prior to the event. Moderate. About 12 miles. Limit 10. \$3 members, \$5 non-members suggested donation.



Saturday, December 16, 10:00 AM – West Lake Park Paddle. Meet at 10 am at the boat ramp at West Lake Park: 1200 Sheridan St., Hollywood, FL. The entrance is on the SOUTH side of Sheridan Street. This will be about a four-hour paddle through the mangroves and wildlife with a stop at Anne Kolb Nature Center and Observation Tower. Entrance to the park is \$1.50/person and entrance to the Nature Center's exhibit hall is \$2/person. There is no charge to use the observation tower. Call 954-357-5161 to make your own arrangements. Please let the trip leader know if you are renting. Renters should paddle the short distance from the rental stand to the boat ramp to meet up with the group at 10 a.m. \$3 members, \$5 non-members suggested donation. Moderate. Requires some experience.

Park website for more information: [Click here.](#)

Marina website for rental information: [Click here.](#)

Anne Kolb Nature Center website: [Click here.](#)

Ron Haines, 561-315-0528, RonaldHaines@bellsouth.net.



Saturday, January 6, 10 AM – Biking at Riverbend Park in Jupiter. Leisurely morning bicycling in the woods at Riverbend Park [Click here](#). Bike rentals may be available. Bicycle helmets are REQUIRED on all Sierra Club bicycle outings. Moderate. Limit 10. \$3 members, \$5 non-members suggested donation. Ron Haines, 561-315-0528, RonaldHaines@bellsouth.net



Saturday, January 13, 9:00 AM to noon - John Prince Park in Lake Worth.

This is a leisurely bicycle ride through John Prince Park and will take about two hours. Helmets are required on all Sierra Club bike outings.

Where: At the first parking lot on the right after entering John Prince Park at the Lake Worth Road/Lake Osborne Drive entrance in Lake Worth. This is BEFORE the basketball and tennis courts. Look for other folks with bicycles and say hello. Moderate. About 12 miles. Limit 10. \$3 members, \$5 non-members suggested donation. Ron Haines, 561-315-0528, RonaldHaines@bellsouth.net.



Saturday, January 20, 10 AM – Canoe/kayak the Winding Waters Natural Area in West Palm Beach.

Leisurely morning paddle, suitable for beginners. Sorry, no rentals available. See it at <http://discover.pbcgov.org/erm/NaturalAreas/Winding-Waters.aspx>

Suggested donation: \$3 members, \$5 non-members. Moderate. Limit 10.

Ron Haines, 561-315-0528, RonaldHaines@bellsouth.net