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The P3 (Posterity Preserving our Planet) Eco Challenge Awards Ceremony

– Tiffany Furr Grantham, *Executive Committee*

On May 11, Adriene, Leah and I spent the afternoon at Long Key Nature Center for the P3 Eco-Challenge Awards Ceremony. This elevated oak hammock is one of the largest and loveliest natural areas in Broward and a perfect place for the event. For me, it was even more fun by knowing teachers and presenters from the Broward Climate Summit as well as David Walker, the park naturalist. My brother, Commissioner Beam Furr, gave the opening welcome address. The students, teachers and speakers were all so engaging and excited with winning projects and winning cash too for their schools. Adam Roberti, who serves as executive director of the Xavier Cortada Foundation in Pinecrest, and also a Hollywood South Broward and UM graduate, gave the keynote address. He works with artist Xavier Cortada to engage, educate and empower residents through large scale, socially engaged eco-art projects. You could hear a pin drop when he spoke, especially when he brought up how serious our climate crisis really is.

I love what our Broward Schools, County Natural Resources Division and The Environmental Conservation Organization are doing! The schoolyard nature-scapes and habitat building and enviro-thon are part of the contest with a winner continuing on to possibly a state award.

Another program we learned about was “How Low can You Go?”, sponsored by the Miami Heat. Our schools have saved over a million dollars and eliminated 24 million pounds of CO₂ over the years with this contest. They’ve even reduced water consumption this year by 2,288,974 million gallons. We can learn a lot from these folks.

The Broward P3 Eco Challenge is a multi-divisional and organizational effort between Broward County Public Schools, Broward County Natural Resources Division, and the Environmental Conservation Organization. A P3 committee, represented by members from these organizations, was formed to create and implement this wonderful initiative to recognize and reward our school, teachers, students, non-instructional and custodial staff for their many efforts to learn about and implement environmentally sustainable measures and green initiatives within our schools and communities.

We should be very proud to be a part of this, I wonder if any volunteers would want to be even more involved?



Left to right: Tiffany Furr Grantham, Broward County Commissioner Beam Furr, Adriene Barmann, and Leah Weisburd

Message from the Chair: You Don't Want to Miss This!

– Leah Weisburd, *Executive Committee Chair*, Broward Sierra Group

The ExCom of our Broward Sierra Group is very busy planning many exciting outings and very interesting, informative general meeting speakers. So, please mark your calendars - you don't want to miss anything!

- June 2, 2022, our presenter will be Jose Exposito, founder of Soroa Orchids and a Senior judge of the American Orchid Society, orchid curator for the Bonnet House Museum and Garden, in Fort Lauderdale, FL.
- July 7, 2022, our presenter will be Jessica Floyd. Ms. Floyd is the President of American Bridge PAC which has done research with women voters; what issues are moving them, what media they watch, etc. Research has shown there is surprisingly little difference in the data from state to state. A lot of what they have found applies to Florida. Recommended by me, Leah Weisburd.
- August 4, 2022, our presenter will be Rachel Skubel from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Recommended by our Sierra member Phil Busey.
- September 1, 2022, our presenters are from American Bridge and they will discuss how the environment and climate change are not partisan issues and will specify how to talk about the issues with ANYONE, regardless of political persuasion. Recommended by our political chair, Susan Steinhauser.
- October 6, 2022. This will be a very special occasion as our Loxahatchee Sierra Group will be joining us to hear our presenter Denise Elliot who comes to us from the League of Women Voters Broward County. Denise will focus on Decision 2022 --A recap of the political races & issues on the November 8th ballot, changes in Florida voting laws & districts, and in-person vs. vote-by-mail, among other topics.

Now, in between all these incredible presenters at our monthly General Meetings, our Outings Leaders Adriene Barmann, Max Goldstein, and our new Outings Leader, Alfredo Aquirre are planning many outings such as more kayaking dates, Everglades exploration, nature walks, and so many surprises, too. Keep your eyes on our website to make sure you don't miss anything! [Outings & Events | Sierra Club](#)

So, Broward Sierra members mark your calendars to "save the dates". Also, as you will note, we value your recommendations, so keep them coming. We have presenter openings from January-December 2023. Please send your suggestions to me at excomleah@gmail.com. Also, Adriene would welcome any outings suggestions that you would like her to lead. Please send your suggestions to:

adrienesierraleader@gmail.com.

And, last but never least, please check our need for you to volunteer to help us make the Broward Sierra Group the best in Florida! Please check out our need for YOU!

[Explore Issues & Take Action | Sierra Club](#)

Thank you for supporting the Broward Sierra Group!

June General Meeting

Our next meeting will be June 2, 2022 at 700 PM. Our speaker will be Jose Exposito. His topic is **Growing Orchids, a Survival Guide**.

He will cover how to grow some of the most popular varieties, including watering, fertilizing, light, pests, and diseases.



Jose Exposito, founder of Soroa Orchids, is a Senior judge of the American Orchid Society, orchid curator for the Bonnet House Museum and Garden, in Fort Lauderdale, FL., past President of the Coalition for Orchid species, and Vice President of the Redland Orchid Growers, the hosts and organizers of the largest International Orchid Festival taking place annually in the USA. He lectures on orchid growing and hybridizing all over the world including the pasts World Orchid Conferences in Rio de Janeiro and in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000002H9iuAAC>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Upcoming Speaker

Our July speaker will be Jessica Floyd. the president of the American Bridge PAC. She will talk about Lessons from 2020 and Messages that Can Help us Win 2022. Jessica Floyd joins American Bridge as President, having most recently served as Managing Director of Campaigns at the Hub Project. While there, she oversaw numerous projects and campaigns related to the economy and democracy, including multi-year accountability efforts against Republicans in the House and Senate.

Websites of the Month

[Climate change could double the number of major hurricanes and typhoons by 2050, study finds.](#)

Getting to Know You - Alfredo Aguirre

I am a native of Colombia and I migrated to the United States in 1981. I started my passion for the outdoors at Camp Pinnacle in the 80's, backpacking, rock climbing, canoeing etc. Then my outdoors involvement deepened at the University of Florida where I guided rafts, taught people how to paddle and provided rescue for the UF canoe club.

I currently enjoy the following either by myself or with my family – (wife Gloria & 2 sons ages 18 and 16 and two daughters ages 34 & 31) – rock climbing, hiking, backpacking, mountaineering, mountain biking, road biking, sailing, wind surfing, kayaking, white water canoeing. Recent trips have included one month of hiking in the Sierra Nevada Mountains in California and an attempt to summit Mt. Hood. Upcoming trips I am planning: 4-day backpack in Smoky Mountain National Park & 5 days off trail backpack in West Virginia & maybe some white water.

I have received training in navigation, wilderness first aid, stop-the-bleed, and level 4 swift water rescue. I also teach some of the first aid and search & rescue curriculum to our CERT team and I used to co-teach the orienteering & extraction module for AWLS (Advanced Wilderness Life Support). In May, I will be teaching a class on how to safely enjoy the outdoors.

Thank you for providing me this opportunity to pursue my passion of teaching and introducing people to the outdoors. I am looking forward to being a productive member of the team.

Our Chair, Leah Weisburd, has this to say about him:

Alfredo joined the Broward Sierra Group a few years ago. He is a certified CPR and first aid instructor, and he has volunteered to be one of our Outings Leaders, effective immediately. Alfredo's new outdoors adventures will be posted shortly. So, sign up and enjoy!



Blowing Rocks Preserve Outing

– Adriene Barman, Outings Chair, *Broward Sierra Club*

Blowing Rocks Preserve, located on Jupiter Island, is one of four campus preserves owned and maintained by the Nature Conservancy. The preserve is a peaceful barrier Island sanctuary that is officially protected from development, and is well known for its native habitat restoration. There are a number of endangered plants and animals that call the preserve home, and the most popular animals are the loggerhead, green and leatherback sea turtles. The preserve was named for its rocky Anastasia limestone shoreline—the largest on the Atlantic coast. At high tide when the sea is rough, seas break against the rocks and force plumes of saltwater up to 50 feet skyward. It's an impressive sight.

There are some short hiking trails and scenic walks through a shaded maritime hammock habitat to the main staircase to the beach. There is also a sand dune trail and we can take a walk through a mangrove forest on a 300-foot long elevated boardwalk. We plan to have a picnic on the beach, with only reusable containers and bags for our lunch. We will spend the morning at the beach where participants can explore the amazing picturesque limestone rocks in the water, which attract sea life and make for good snorkeling. We will have a canopy present for shade. There is no lifeguard present, so if you are not a seasoned swimmer, you must wear a floating device. You must bring your own lunch and a chair, snorkeling gear, towels, and bicycle.

For those who want to continue the fun day, we plan to do a bike ride for about 90 minutes towards Hobe Sound and back. The street is very quiet and residential with huge beautiful ocean view homes on one side of the road, and beautiful mansions on the intracoastal side. You must bring your own bikes and lunch, as well as snorkeling gear.

Leaders: Adriene Barmann, Contact: Mobile: 954-328-9447 adrienesierraleader@gmail.com & Alfredo Aguirre, Mobile contact: 954-261-5973 alfredo_aguirre@ml.com. Please sign up and register on the Sierra Club Campfire site:

<https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000002JAYfAAG>

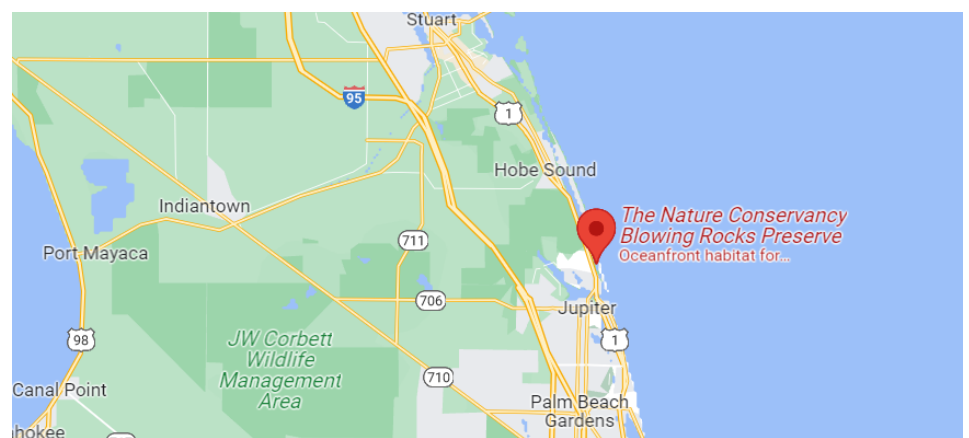
After you register on the Sierra Club site, you will receive an email with more detailed directions.

Please call if you are delayed arriving. There will be a basic first aid kit on the trip. Email us with any questions.

Starting time: Saturday, May 28th, 2022. Meeting at the Blowing Rock Preserve parking lot at 9:30 AM. Limit is 20 people.

Cost: Please pay your entrance fee separately and directly to the Nature Conservancy when you arrive (\$5 cash for visitors).

*Jupiter Island,
Hobe Sound,
Florida*



Blowing Rocks Preserve Outing

– *Continued*

Adriene will collect the \$3 member or \$4 non-member suggested donation to Broward Sierra Club at the parking lot.

Starting Point: 574 South Beach Road, Hobe Sound, 33455

Directions:

1. From northbound I-95, take Exit 79A onto SR-786 East, PGA Blvd.
2. Keep right to turn onto Lake Victoria Gardens Ave.
3. Turn right onto Highway A1A Alt.
4. Continue straight onto Beach Rd.
5. Take a slight right turn then stay straight.
6. On your left is the BRP main parking lot with extra parking to the right.



Hello Stranger

– Leah Weisburd, Chair, *Broward Sierra Club*

GETTING TO KNOW YOU.

Hey, Broward Sierra members! What's your story? Tell us why you joined our club and what interests you. Is it to attend our monthly meetings? Is it to go on outings with our outings leaders? Is it to help us save our endangered species? Is it to protect our environment? Is it to help us elect environmentally concerned candidates? Is it to volunteer on a committee? What is it that brought you to us?

These columns have created a good amount of member interest. It is fascinating to learn about the different paths that have brought people to the Broward Sierra Group. Everyone's story is unique.

Please send our editor/proofreader, Pat Turpening, a short paragraph or two to publish in our Bulletin along with a photo of yourself.

This month, the deadline for submitting your story to Pat is the end of day on June 22 at: patsierraexcom@yahoo.com. Please put in subject **Getting to Know You**.

We are all looking forward to knowing our members better!

Volunteers Needed

Membership Committee – Contact Leah Weisburd, excomleah@gmail.com.

The Committee collaborates with the Membership Chair to attract new members and to engage new and existing members to volunteer. Recruitment is a vital part of the membership committee! Aims of the Committee are to increase our membership; to send a monthly welcome letter to new members; and to reach out to schools, organizations, and clubs . Committee members will set up quarterly get-togethers, such as wine & cheese mixers, picnics, environmental outings, garden parties, and art exhibits. They will create ways to stay in touch with all members and supporters via the tools that are provided by Sierra Club.