



Broward Sierra Bulletin



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March 2022

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[To join the Sierra Club, click here.](#)

Earth Day Celebration

– Adriene Barmann, *Outings Chair*

It's going to be a great day at Anne Kolb Nature Center on March 6th when we invite our members and their friends and families to join us at our annual Earth Day celebration event on March 6th, 2022. from 10 AM to 5 PM. Our annual event includes seven notable speakers who will present about topics that include ocean health, coral reef restoration, sea turtle protection, the state of the arctic ice, urban farming and fresh food, and a special presentation by county Commissioner Beam Furr. There will be 14 table exhibitors representing environmental organizations, an art exhibit displaying art created by a local artist using plastic waste, a 70's band, food trucks, and full access to the park's facilities.

We are also featuring an art contest for high school students to design an original artwork piece using discarded plastic waste. We hope this contest will encourage young artists to use creativity of expression about this overwhelming issue of plastic pollution. The top 3 art pieces will be selected by judges during our Earth Day event and cash prizes will be awarded to the student winners.

Please join us to learn about local environmental organizations, and listen to topics about climate change, the natural environment, and organic farming practices. Please visit us to learn about organizations that support conservation, clean water and air quality for all of us, our beaches and our waterways.

We will see you there!

Please see the flyer on page 2.

<u>Table of Contents</u>		Getting to Know You	4
Earth Day Celebration.....	1	Message from the Chair	5
Links of the Month.....	1	Membership Survey	5
Earth Day Flyer.....	2	March General Meeting	6
A Second Nature Walk.....	3	Volunteers Needed.....	7
Hello Stranger.....	4	Political Corner.....	8

- Links of the month:**
- [Miami boat show creates threat to manatees, activists say \(local10.com\)](#)
 - [Environmentalists call on Biden to fight climate change by protecting old-growth trees \(yahoo.com\)](#)
 - [A victory for the Everglades as a bad bill is defeated in Florida Senate](#)
 - [Don't swallow Florida developers' snake-oil promise to re-grow seagrass beds | Column \(tampabay.com\)](#)

EARTH DAY 2022

SUNDAY MARCH 6TH
ANNE KOLB NATURE CENTER

751 Sheridan Street, Hollywood
Time: 10 AM to 5 PM



Free Parking
Free Nature Walks
Free Mini-Kayak Tours
Food Trucks

Family-friendly,
Something for all ages

Environmental Exhibitors
A Live 70's Band
Inspiring Art Displays on Plastic Waste
Notable Presenters

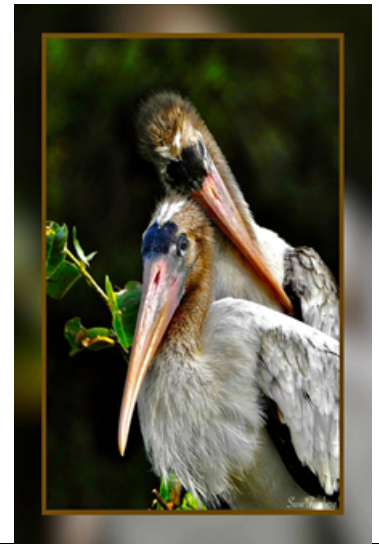
Sponsored by the



For more information see our website at:
www.sierraclub.org/florida/broward

A Second Nature Walk at Wakodahatchee and Green Cay Wetlands

– Adriene Barmann, *Outings Chair*



When: Sunday, March 13, 2022

It's time again to explore the 50-acre Wakodahatchee Wetlands, in West Delray Beach and the 100-acre Green Cay Wetlands, in Boynton Beach. Both are 'Birder's Paradises'. I, Adriene, your Outings Leader, will lead a nature walk and educate our participants about both wetland preserves, and discuss the importance of wetlands and their relationship to clean water. These unique habitats support a variety of plants, birds and wildlife that have evolved and thrived. We visited both wetland preserves in January, and now we are going back to visit the huge wood stork colony, as well as the other variety of nesting birds as they have settled into their nests to have their babies!!! Bring your cameras and binoculars to experience a true bird safari! We will visit Wakodahatchee first, at 8:30 AM, and then head over to Green Cay Wetlands at 11:00 where we will have lunch in a shaded area in the parking lot, and discuss the importance of preservation and clean waterways. Then we will explore Green Cay and observe the nesting birds and other wildlife and plants that live in the preserve.

Each location provides accessible boardwalks (3/4 mile and 1.5 mile respectively), allowing for easy viewing of birds. We expect the trip to run from 8:30 AM till approximately 2:00 PM. We ask that you bring your own lunch (with a minimum of single-use plastic), which we'll break for at our 2nd location at Green Cay.

Rated: Easy. Participant limit is 20 people.

Suggested donation: \$3 members, \$5 non-members. Reserve your spot by using this link:

You must register here:

<https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?formcampaignid=7013q000002Gg83AAC>

Any questions, contact:

Leader Adriene Barmann, adrienesierraleader@gmail.com, 954-328- 9447 or

Co-Leader: Max Goldstein, MaxSGoldstein@gmail.com, 954-296-3411.

Hello Stranger

– Leah Weisburd, Chair, *Broward Sierra Club*

GETTING TO KNOW YOU.

Many of our Sierra members lead, or have led, remarkably interesting lives. We would love to hear your story. Our monthly **Getting to Know You** column features the stories of your fellow Broward Sierra Group members.

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

Next month, the deadline for submitting your story to Pat is March 16 at patsierraexcom@yahoo.com. Please put in subject **Getting to know you**. The current month's **Getting to Know You** is just below.

We look forward to knowing our members better!

Getting to Know You – Jared Stein

Jared Stein, a resident of Fort Lauderdale, has been a member of the Broward Sierra Club for the past couple of years. He has always been drawn to nature. Even as a child, he says he felt more comfortable being outdoors than in and more comfortable with plants and animals than with people. To be able to experience nature year-round (without freezing), he left the NYC area to move to South Florida.

As an avid gardener, Jared is passionate about the environment and has joined Sierra Club to help cultivate that passion into a voice for the community and planet. He joined both the political and the conservation committees and volunteers to help foster Sierra Club's position on many issues. He considers himself very green. From a solar-powered home, a self-maintained toxic-free garden and home-composting, to strict use of reusable bags at the grocery stores and refillable water bottles while on the road, Jared is an avid recycler and a vegan and hopes to have an Electric Vehicle in the near future.



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

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

The ExCom (Executive Committee) of our Broward Sierra Group is very busy planning many exciting outings and very interesting, informative general meetings. So, please mark your calendars so you don't miss anything!

- March 3, 2022, our presenter will be Rev. Houston Cypress who will educate us on Indigenous Opposition to New Oil Drilling in Big Cypress. Rev. Cypress gave an extraordinary presentation at the Everglades Coalition last month, and, lucky for us, Susan Steinhauser, who was one of our members in attendance, asked him to share his presentation with us. Also, we will honor two of our four Florida Chapter Award winners, Sue Caruso and Adriene Barmann.

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

– Continued

- March 6, 2022: our early Earth Day celebration at Anne Kolb Nature Center has been put together by our incredible Outings Leader, Adriene Barmann and her team. Please check our website to find out about all our events that you all are invited to enjoy. Outings & Events | Sierra Club
- March 17, 2022: Susan Steinhauser, our Political Chair, and Mae Smith, our Political Vice Chair, hold our political meetings the 3rd Thursday of each month. As you are all aware, this will be an extremely important election year for Florida. We need all hands-on deck to make sure our environment is being protected by the legislators we elect. Please join the team!
- April 7, 2022: Our presenter will be Patrick Ferguson. Mr. Ferguson is a Sierra Club member and comes highly recommended by one of our members, Victoria Olson. He will educate us on the Stop the Burn Go Green Campaign, with an overview of the issue, the solution, and the progress the campaign has made. We will also honor the other two Florida Chapter Award winners, Cat Uden and Vice Mayor of Lauderhill, Melissa P. Dunn.
- May 5, 2022: Our presenter will be Sarah Kornbluth-Friel. Ms. Kornbluth-Friel is an expert on the importance bees make to keeping us healthy. She will speak to us on The Important Role Bees Have to Our Existence. She comes recommended by Jared Stein, a Broward Sierra member, and also by yours truly, a lifelong acquaintance of Sarah.
- June 2, 2022: Our presenter will be Dr. Jason L. Downing, from Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens in Coral Gables. He will speak to us on The Million Orchid Project and comes to us highly recommended by two of our members, Pamela Kondziela and Jared Stein.

Now, in between all these incredible presenters at our monthly General Meetings, our Outings Leader Adriene Barmann is planning many other outings, such as more kayaking trips, Everglades exploration, nature walks, and other surprises.

Our Membership Chair Mae Smith, and Vice Chair Susan Steinhauser, are planning a membership get together, perhaps a picnic in a park. Details will be announced soon.

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 speaker openings for July to December. Please send your suggestions to me at excomleah@gmail.com. Also, Adriene would welcome any recommendations for outings that you would like her to lead. Send them to adrienesierraleader@gmail.com and, it goes without saying, both Mae and Susan would welcome your ideas for membership get-togethers. Those go to Mae at bsierramembership@gmail.com.

And, last but never least, please consider volunteering to help us make the Broward Sierra Group the best in Florida! We have an urgent need for YOU! Explore Issues & Take Action | Sierra Club

Thank you!

Membership Survey

– Mae Smith, *Membership Chair*

As you know, the Broward Sierra Group is a strong advocate protecting our environment, not only in Broward County, but all of Florida, and the planet. We cannot do it without your input and help. Please let us know your concerns by clicking on this [link](#) to answer a very short survey. Thank you!

March General Meeting

Our next meeting will be March 3, 2022 at 7:00 PM. Our presenter will be Rev. Houston R. Cypress of the Love The Everglades Movement <https://www.facebook.com/LoveTheEverglades>

The topic will be **Indigenous Opposition to New Oil Drilling in Big Cypress.**

- Historical and Cultural connection to the Greater Everglades, Big Cypress, River of Grass
- Designated Uses by the Miccosukee
- Summary and Importance of the Western Everglades Restoration Project
- Florida DEP assumption of the Clean Water Act Section 404 Permitting
- 404 Permit Applications by Burnett Oil for access roads and oil drill well pads
- Manifestations of Indigenous Opposition based on Interfaith Spiritual principles (prayer walks, rallies, hikes)



Houston Cypress is a Two-Spirit Artist and Environmentalist from the Otter Clan of the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida. Cypress serves the Love The Everglades Movement, a full spectrum organization devoted to the development of platforms and initiatives for environmental protection and indigenous solidarity. The Everglades Coalition awarded him their 2022 Grassroots Activism Award. He cares for the LGBTQ+ communities through his work with Unity Coalition / Coalicion Unida. His recent artistic collaborations include a variety of films, and programs with the Institute of Contemporary Art Miami, the Perez Art Museum Miami, Museum of Contemporary Art of North Miami, Superblue and NOWNESS, and art residencies with Bas Fisher Invitational / Rogaland Kunstsenter, the Musagetes Foundation, and Oolite Arts. He invites you to join him in creating portals between worlds.

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUIf-iprD0rGdS64qxJ_xVaMAHbLjtF-mY3

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

Upcoming Speakers

April 7, 2022: Patrick Ferguson: **Stop The Burn Go Green Campaign.** An Overview of the issue, the solution, and the progress our campaign has made.



**Can you help your Broward Sierra Group to have more of an impact?
Step Up and Make a Difference!
These are our highest priority volunteer opportunities.**

Communication Chair and Committee Volunteers

Pamela Kondziela (paschieltz@gmail.com). Communication is vital to the success of our other committees. The Chair promotes unified group messaging across all print, broadcast, social media, and IT platforms to keep the membership informed about campaigns, outings, events, and general announcements. Committee members assist the Communications Chair in posting updates to media platforms and emails. They work in collaboration with the Media Chair. **Training will absolutely be provided.**

Media Chair-and Committee Volunteers

Pamela Kondziela (paschieltz@gmail.com). The Chair, along with the committee members, will write articles for publication. Duties include sending op-eds to the Sun Sentinel and Miami Herald, publishing articles in local city newsletters, writing and publishing in college newspapers, participating in speaking engagements at local organizations (via Zoom for now) to gain new members and volunteers, and speaking on local radio shows. They work in collaboration with the **Communications Chair and Committee.**

Program Chair

Leah Weisburd (excomleah@gmail.com). We need an organized individual to follow up with potential presenters who have been recommended by our members. The Chair will be in contact with the presenters, keep the Speaker Spreadsheet up-to-date, and forward the presenters' information in a timely manner to our editors for the Bulletin, the website organizer to post on our website, and to the individuals in charge of our social media accounts. The Chair will send form emails to General Meeting attendees, those who registered but did not attend, and thank-you emails to our speakers.

Our Political and Conservation Teams need you too!!

Susan Steinhauser (browardsierrapc@gmail.com) or Mae Smith (bsierramembership@gmail.com). Help us elect officials who will propose legislation to protect the environment and help us get that legislation passed into law!

Sue Caruso (susancaruso.sierra@gmail.com). Our Conservation Chair is seeking volunteers: The members of this committee shall work to preserve the natural resources and habitats of the native species of Broward County. That focus can lead to work beyond our county due to the interconnectedness of our vast watershed and human development. The duties will include bringing attention to proposed developments that are unsustainable and partnering with stakeholders to mitigate or stop such projects, working on local issues brought forth by our members, promoting community efforts that foster environmental justice and education, such as our community gardens, exotic plant removal and tabling events. Attending quarterly meetings will be required.

Political Corner

– Susan Steinhauser, *Political Chair*

County



Did you know that we can all participate in Broward County Commission meetings? Meetings are held every other Tuesday at 10am. We may all attend either in person or remotely.

Take action: Learn about the meetings and how to attend. Visit Broward.org, click on the menu bar in the upper left-hand corner, click on “Government,” and then click on “Government Meetings.” Click around to familiarize yourself with the site so you’re ready to attend a future meeting. You never know when a meeting agenda will contain an environmental issue.

State



The Goliath Grouper has been protected for decades so that its population could recover. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC) is now considering lifting the harvesting ban although the population has not yet recovered.

[Tell the commission to vote no on the proposed “harvest” of goliath groupers so this fragile species has a chance to survive.](#)

Federal



A climate bill has been introduced in Congress: the Future Generations Protection Act bans fracking and stops new fossil fuel power plants and exports.

Take action: Call your Rep. to ask him/her to co-sponsor H.R. 6168, the Future Generations Protection Act.

Rep. Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
(202) 225-1313

Rep. Ted Deutch
(202) 225-3001

Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz
(202) 225-7931

2022 FIRST QUARTER CONTEST

WHO’S YOUR COUNTY COMMISSIONER AND WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE HIM/HER TO ADDRESS?

E-mail browardsierrapc@gmail.com with your name, your County Commissioner’s name, and what environmental issue you’d like to your commissioner to address, and you’ll be entered into a drawing for a \$25.00 Visa card. The drawing will take place at our Political Committee meeting on March 17, 2022

What’s Happening in your Neighborhood?

The city of **Plantation’s Sustainability Advisory Board** held their first meeting. Does your city have an Environmental/Sustainability Advisory Board? E-mail browardsierrapc@gmail.com to let us know! And if anything else environmental is happening in your city, let us know that as well!