



SIERRA TAMPA BAY GROUP CLUB



Explore Enjoy and Protect the Planet September / October 2017

September & October Program & General Meeting:

When: Wednesday, Sept 13, & Oct 11, 2017

6:30 pm: Social Time

7:00 pm: General Meeting and Program.

Location: Seminole Heights Public Library, 4711 Central Ave. Tampa (just south of Hillsborough Ave. and west of I-275, corner of W Osborne Ave.)

All Tampa Bay Sierra Club meetings are free and open to the public. If the Library parking lot is full, park in the fenced lot next door on the south side.

For more information contact Kent Bailey at kent.bailey@florida.sierraclub.org

September 13 Program:

Gary Gibbons presents "World Within Itself"

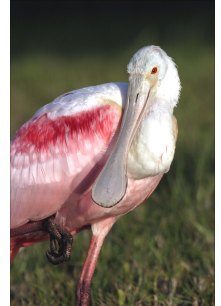
Recently returning from a "bucket list" trip to the Galapagos, Gary will recount his exploration of the unique ecology of these remote and isolated islands. From their early history as the inspiration of Darwin's "Origin of the Species" to their current status as a World Heritage Site the Galapagos have endured as a natural wonder. In the words



of Charles Darwin, "The archipelago is a little world within itself". You will want to be there as Gary shares his experience and observations of this "little world" through his skills as a talented photographer.

October 11 Program: Nationally recognized birder Rocky Milburn presents "Specialty Birds of Florida"

Rocky will be highlighting several of the rare and endangered species that are primarily found in the Sunshine State such as the Scrub Jay, the Burrowing Owl, Roseate Spoonbill, American Oyster Catcher, Reddish Egret and more. If you've ever been on an outing or nature hike with Rocky, you know what a treat this will be. Rocky has a long history surveying birds for the USGS and ELAPP. And he has been the winner of the June Challenge 2 of the last 4 years, spotting more birds than anyone in the entire state. He spent 10 years working as Audubon national staff on the Roseate



Spoonbill Alafia Banks project. Experience birders and novices alike are sure to learn more about Florida's birds from this expert presentation. Don't miss it!



The Sierra Club's Stadium Recycling Initiative: Now seeking volunteers for the **2017-2018** season to help recycle bottles, cans and plastics for the Tampa Sports Authority at Raymond James Stadium! Sierra Club volunteers show up 2 hours prior to the events and are assigned a recycling station and asks patrons to please recycle using the blue containers around the stadium. It is fun, easy and a great way to get into stadium events for free! This includes all USF Bulls home games and special events during the year. In order to get involved, you only need a Sierra Club membership and a great attitude. **Please email coordinator Dave Varrieur at appraiserfl@outlook.com**



RECYCLING CORNER

WHAT DO I DO WITH MY OLD COMPUTER?

All Hillsborough County residents can recycle their household electronic equipment (limit 5 per month), including computers, monitors, TVs, laptops, printers, and phones at a Community Collection Center (open 6 days a week) by showing a Photo ID. Visit the county's website for locations and hours at www.HCFLGov.net/SolidWaste (Household Paint & Electronics menu).



2017 Executive Committee

Chair: Kent Bailey

(813)-986-7819

kent.bailey@florida.sierraclub.org

Vice-Chair / ICO Chair / Outings

Chair: Rocky Milburn

(813) 966-9785

rocky.milburn@florida.sierraclub.org

Treasurer: Don Kruse

Energy Chair: Bob Howell

bob.howell@florida.sierraclub.org

Membership Chair: Gary

Gibbons ggibbons@gibblaw.com

Michael Newett (813) 381-2620

michael.newett@florida.sierraclub.org

Ex-Com: Paul Thibault

paul.thibault@florida.sierraclub.org

Ex-Com: Tamara Pearson

tamara.pearson@florida.sierraclub.org

Ex-Com: Pat Kemp

pat.kemp@florida.sierraclub.org

Other Officers & Assignments

Conservation: Nancy Stevens

813-380-1668

nancy.stevens@sierraclub.org

Tabling Chair: Kaitlin Connolly

Secretary: Linda Hugues

Webmaster: Marcia Biggs

Newsletter: Corky Crowley

(813) 968-4110

corky.crowley@florida.sierraclub.org

Political Chair: Beverly Griffiths

(813) 210-4850

bev.griffiths@florida.sierraclub.org

Stadium Recycling Initiative:

Dave Varrieur (813) 503-6970

appraiserfl@outlook.com

Student Liaison Chair / Publicity/

Outreach Chair: Lauren Jones

laurenjones1209@gmail.com

Recycling Chair: Barbara

Heineken bheineken@recycle.com

Sierra Florida Office: 727 824-8813

Tampa Bay Group web site:

<http://florida.sierraclub.org/tampabay>

TAMPA BAY



SIERRA CLUB

Join our **Meetup Page** online where all outings are posted. Go to www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Groups-of-the-Greater-Tampa-Bay-Florida-Area and click on

Join Us! Receive notices when new outings are added. Or for outings throughout the state go to florida.sierraclub.org/outings_browse.asp

Florida Seller of Travel Reference No. ST37115

To participate in the Sierra Club's Outings, you need to sign a liability waiver, call: (415) 977-5630 or

www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/

Sunday Sept. 24 Alafia River Paddle:

Come out and kayak or canoe on the beautiful Alafia River. We will meet at the Alafia Canoe Outpost, 4419 River Dr., Valrico. Canoe Rentals - \$39.95 (for 2), Single Kayak rentals - 26.75. Both include pick up at the end.

We will be watching the water level on the Alafia. It is 3 feet above normal now. If there is a problem with the levels, we will paddle the Hillsborough instead. Watch Meetup and Facebook for any change and more details. Leaders: Barbara Heineken bheineken@recycle.com and Gary Gibbons ggibbons@gibblaw.com.

Please check details on these outings as well as others at the Tampa Sierra Club website.

Volunteers Needed for Clean Up at Westshore Sanctuary

Join us **Saturday morning, October 7, 2017 from 9 to 11:00 am**. San Jose Street, at the S-shaped curve in the road. Directions: I-275 to Westshore Blvd Exit; head south on Westshore; turn right on San Jose Street. The Sanctuary will be on your right. Look for us on a small patch of grass where a roll-off dumpster will be located. Park along the residential street.

Dress for comfort, wear closed-toe shoes. Clothing and shoes will likely get muddy. Bring a hat or visor. Gloves, trash bags, water and a light snack will be provided. In addition to picking up litter volunteers will be needed to help demolish an illegally built wooden structure.

Please RSVP to Site Captain **Bev Griffiths**, Contact information: bevgriffiths@verizon.net or 813-210-4850 (mobile)

Seeking 2018 Executive Committee Candidates! The Nominating Committee is now seeking FIVE plus candidates for election to Tampa Bay Group's Executive Committee. The Candidates must be Sierra Club members. They will be expected to promote the mission of the Sierra Club and participate in meetings, goal setting and planning activities. Terms are for two years. Please submit the name of any willing candidate before September 20 2017. Willing candidates not selected by the Nominating Committee may qualify by petition prior to October 4. Ballots will be sent out with our November newsletter and must be returned by November 31. For details, contact Nominating Committee Chair Paul Thibault paul.thibault@florida.sierraclub.org

The Conservation Committee Report:

The Conservation Committee will meet on **Monday September 11, and Monday October 9, 2017, at 6:30pm.** Join us at **St. Paul Lutheran Church at 5103 North Central Ave., Tampa, FL.**

We meet in the **Snyder Building** directly behind the church. Follow the Tampa Bay Sierra Club signs.

Conservation Committee Report

The Conservation Committee is currently working on the following pressing items:

Say NO to sewage-effluent dumping on the Little Manatee River!

Chris's Plumbing Service, which runs a huge commercial septic operation, is asking Hillsborough County to let them dump effluent from human excrement, commercial sludge, and restaurant grease on the banks of the Little Manatee River's wetlands. They have applied for a special use permit to spread **100,000 gallons a day (!!!)** of sewage effluent across 36 acres of a site that sits on the Little Manatee River system. A large part of the site is wetlands that flow right into the river.

Toxic waste that ends up in the river can cause devastating fish kills and human health dangers.

ACTION: Go to this link to see maps and other details, along with 3 things YOU can do to help Sierra Club oppose this pollution of the Little Manatee River: bit.ly/septic-dump -

Join us at the public hearing Monday, September 18, 6:00 pm., County Center, 2nd floor boardroom, 601 E. Kennedy, Tampa, FL 33602. (Check link above for schedule changes.)

Push for Transit for Hillsborough County

Hillsborough County has the worst funded transit in the country, equivalent to Sheboygan, Wisconsin. We need to encourage Hillsborough County to increase funding for HART and plan for additional transit services.

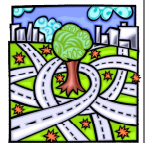
ACTION: Attend Thursday, September 7 & 14 BOCC Budget Meetings and request more funding for transit, including HART service, CSX Train conversion and Ferry Service.

ACTION: Attend a TB NEXT town meeting: September 19, Westshore, location TBD

Help prevent urban sprawl

The *Future of Hillsborough Comprehensive Plan for Unincorporated Hillsborough County* provides land use criteria for rural and urban areas. Developers often request changing designations from rural to residential, increasing sprawl. At the September meeting, Commissioner Kemp will describe the plan in more detail.

ACTION: Join the new subcommittee being formed to understand the plan and defend the rural areas from development encroachment.



Nancy Stevens: Conservation Chair, nancy.stevens@sierraclub.org 813-380-1668

Get Updated Sierra Club News on Social Media

Your Tampa Bay Sierra Club is working hard to fight the constant assaults to our environment. We are on the front lines and hope you will join us by coming to our meetings, rallies, press conferences, and workshops. We also follow important political and conservation news here in Tampa Bay and post about it.

You can find updated news from Tampa Bay Sierra Club by Liking us on our Facebook page, joining our Meetup group, and following us on Twitter. Our web site, florida.sierraclub.org/tampabay is a good source of information, where you can also find news from Pasco County and our Adventure Coast Committee.

Search for Tampa Bay Sierra Club or go to: **Twitter: @SierraClubTB Facebook:**

@SierraClubTampaBay Meetup: Sierra-Club-Groups-of-the-Greater-Tampa-Bay-Florida-Area.



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

Sierra Club Tampa Bay Group

September / October 2017



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Address Changes:

Please call (415) 977-5653 or email address.changes@sierraclub.org
Include your membership number located on the mailing label.

Tampa Bay Group
P.O. Box 1596
Thonotosassa, Florida 33592

Web:
florida.sierraclub.org/tampabay



Membership: Join today for just \$15.00 and receive a FREE Sierra Club 1892 style Rucksack at www.sierraclub.org



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Please charge my: MasterCard Visa
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MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES
INDIVIDUAL JOINT

INTRODUCTORY	\$15	
REGULAR	\$39	\$49
SUPPORTING	\$75	\$100
CONTRIBUTING	\$150	\$175
LIFE	\$1000	\$1250
SENIOR	\$25	\$35
STUDENT	\$25	\$35
LIMITED INCOME	\$25	\$35

SIERRA CLUB
P.O. BOX 421041
Palm Coast, FL 32142-6417

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New Members Are Stepping Up - Volunteering Is On The Rise

We are pleased to report that Membership in the Tampa Bay Group is now at an all-time high of 2,723, and growing. The Florida Chapter of Sierra Club currently has 37,950 members and has experienced extremely strong growth. On July 31, the Tampa Bay Group hosted a Volunteer Training meeting and more than 30 new volunteers came to the orientation meeting to learn more about Sierra Club and to find out ways in which they can offer their time and talents as allies in the local fights that we face to protect the beautiful place in which we live and work.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact **Gary A. Gibbons, Membership Chair**, ggibbons@gibblaw.com and let him know the area that you are interested in helping with, and he will help you to get you in touch with the Chair of the Committee for your particular interests. We need your help and your passion. There is so much work to be done.

TAMPA BAY
ICO **Tampa Bay Inspiring Connection Outdoors (ICO)**
ICO Volunteer Meeting and Fun Day!

Saturday, September 9, 2017 from 8:30 to 3:00 pm. Crystal Springs 39734 Bay Ave, Zephyrhills, FL 33540, USA

Come join us at beautiful Crystal Springs for a day and learn about the ICO with the kids. We will furnish lunch. Please bring water, water shoes, swimming cloths or something that can get wet. Dry change of clothes. **Cost:** Free, but must register.

NO admittance without prior registration.

Event Organizer: Rocky Milburn, at 813-966-9785, tbico@live.com. Contact for more information.