

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2023

Musings From Our Chair

Elections have consequences, and sometimes it's in the best possible way! As our Dallas Sierra Club members know, The Lone Star Chapter and the local Texas Groups including: Alamo (San Antonio), Austin, Coastal Bend (Corpus Christi),Lower Rio Grande Valley, Dallas, Fort Worth, and Houston, all held elections from December 7th, 2023-January 7th, 2024 for Executive Committee (Excom) positions. Sierra Club Excom is the governing body that makes strategic decisions, approves funds, and "keeps the lights on" at both the City,State,and National levels! City Groups and State Chapter Excoms are a body of volunteer leaders who organize and comprise the many committees (Conservation, Political, etc.) that help guide the Lone Star Chapter and regional, local Groups to deal with important strategic and administrative decisions that allow us to achieve our environmental objectives.

For all of our members who voted, my sincerest thanks to you all for your participation! I'm pleased to announce that all of our current Dallas Excom members who sought another term, including yours truly, have won re-election and will continue to serve another two years. Additionally, two of our Dallas Group Excom members ran for, and won, open seats to serve on the Lone Star Chapter Excom. Both Ashia Agarwal and I are pleased as punch to be elected to not only serve the Dallas Group, but also to help positively impact decisions at the Lone Star Chapter/State as well.

Going forward, Ashia and I hope to hear lots of input from our Dallas Sierra

Club members on what they think needs help, focus, and change both locally and at the State level! If you have ideas for advances in any and all areas the Sierra Club has a foothold (i.e. Conservation, Eco Action, Political, Outings, ICO, Environmental Justice, Clean Air, Clean Water, etc.), Ashia and I want to hear from you! All branches of the Sierra Club (Group, Chapter, and National) exist to serve the environmental ethos of our members. It is very important to both Ashia and me that your environmental concerns or celebrations are taken seriously and expressed fully to all branches of this tree we call Sierra Club. Please never hesitate to drop either of us a line letting us know your thoughts and feelings. Ashia and I can be reached at: <u>Ashia@dallassierraclub.org</u> and Victoria@dallassierraclub.org

Cheers,

Victoria



Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting via Zoom - Tuesday, February 13

Tour Nature's Beauty with Photographer Dale Edelbaum

Dreaming of places to explore in 2024? Tired from the holidays? Sit back, relax, and join us Tuesday, February 13 for a photographic tour as we welcome back our own long time Sierran and nature photographer extraordinaire Dale Edelbaum. Feel your blood pressure lower and your sense of adventure rise as we enjoy Dale's program of special places from beaches to mountain, critters large and small, flowers of

amazing colors, our amazing feathered friends, and more! Accompanied by the perfect background music and a Q & A at the end, this meeting will be a real treat for nature lovers one and all!

7:00 pm, Tuesday, February 13 via Zoom

From 6:45 to 7:00 p.m. you can log in to the meeting, chat, and ask questions. The meeting will begin at 7:00 with announcements, followed by our speaker's presentation.

To register for the meeting with Zoom, click on this link.

Everybody is welcome. You don't have to be a Sierra Club member.

For more information, contact Victoria Howard, Victoria@DallasSierraClub.org.







AT 6:00 PM

COPPELL HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM 185 W PARKWAY BLVD, COPPELL, TX 75019

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COLORADO BEND STATE PARK CAMPOUT - Reservations Open! Escape city life and relax camping under the stars near bluebonnets and the Colorado River. Join us at this premier state park known for its beauty, scenic hiking trails, natural springs, swimming hole, birding, and even a waterfall! Our campout **April 12-14** is for outdoor enthusiasts of all ages and abilities. Our large grassy campsite has plenty of room for any size tent, camp chairs, even lawn games. Colorado Bend is a true Texas gem, nestled in the north end of the hill country about a 3 1/2-hour drive southwest of Dallas. A link to all the details will be posted on our Outings page and Club calendar in the next few days. Pre-registration is required. This outing is perfect for beginner and experienced campers alike, singles, families, friends, anyone wanting to try out new gear, everyone will enjoy Colorado Bend! Trip Coordinator: Liz Wheelan, Liz@dallassierraclub.org



2024 Primary Election Upcoming on March 5

The 2024 election season has begun, and the Sierra Club Lone Star Chapter has made important endorsements in the primary elections this year. There are five local Texas House districts where incumbents have been endorsed in House Districts 70, 100, 102, 103, and 114.

The Club has also endorsed the incumbent in Senate District 16 and the incumbent in Dallas County Commissioner District 1, both of whom are challenged in the primary.

For all endorsement information and to contribute to our Sierra Club political work to protect our Texas environment, go to: <u>TurnTexasGreen.org</u>. If you live in these districts, look for our postcard in your mailbox soon containing the details of these endorsements. Early voting runs from February 20 through March 1. Primary election day is March 5.

Check out <u>collincountytx.gov/elections</u> for early voting locations in the Collin County HD 70 race and <u>dallascountyvotes.org</u> for Dallas County early voting locations in all the other races listed above.

EPA Strengthens Soot Standard, Saving Thousands of Lives and Billions of Dollars

The EPA released updated National Ambient Air Quality Standards for particulate matter (PM2.5), taking a positive and long-awaited step toward addressing a dangerous and deadly air pollutant responsible for over 100,000 deaths in the United States every year.

<u>Click here</u> for more information about this important new standard.

HUGE THANKS to WHOLE EARTH PROVISION CO.

A mountain size thank you to Whole Earth Provision Co., Dallas, for their generous donations of gear and gift cards for our winter events. Some of our lucky holiday partygoers won items and those specific to camping/hiking were won by attendees of our January Backpacking 101 class. All recipients were thrilled with their unexpected gifts, and we're so grateful to Whole Earth for their support. Please mention our thanks when you visit the store on Mockingbird Ave., just east of Central Expressway!



You've reached the end of our newsletter! Thank you for reading and if you would like to support the Dallas Sierra Club, you can join us here!

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