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Dallas Sierra Club
Lone Star Chapter

Dallas Sierra Club News - October 2014

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We Are Moving

As many of you have already heard, the REI store where we hold our General Meetings is moving to Northwest Highway just east of Central Expressway. The new store will not have a meeting room large enough for our General Meetings, so we have had to find a new location.

Starting with the January General Meeting, our new meeting location will be at Brookhaven Community College, just about 1 mile west of our current location.

We'll have full details, including a map, on our website later this month.

General Meeting Program - October 14, 7:00 pm - Refreshments at 6:30

Bike touring and Bike-packing around the world on two wheels

Eli Baron recently completed a Coast to Coast, 4,200 miles bike ride across the U.S. from Seattle to Boston. He will share pictures and experiences during this bike ride, as well as others around the world. Bicycle travel provides the opportunity to explore remote locations and to experience the outdoors in special ways. Bike touring and Bike-packing will be discussed, as well as the different types and styles of bicycles and equipment recommended for bicycle travel.



Fall Elections

Come hear about the Sierra Club's 2014 Electoral Campaign to help elect political leaders friendly to the environment and learn how you can make a difference. Competitive races will be analyzed, our endorsed candidates will be introduced, and volunteer political opportunities will be discussed. David Griggs, Dallas Group Political Chair and Chair, Sierra Club Political Committee of Texas, will make the presentation.



Everyone is welcome. You don't have to be a Sierra Club member. Just show up. We'd love to meet you.

Our General Meeting starts at 7:00 pm but come at 6:30 for snacks, information and fellowship. Our meeting takes place at REI, 4515 Lyndon B Johnson Freeway, Dallas, TX 75244. Click over to our [General Meeting page](#) of our website for more information and a map.

John Muir Live On Stage - Sunday, October 19

In *The Spirit of John Muir*, renowned actor Lee Stetson will showcase Muir's dedication to wilderness protection and search for adventure in Yosemite National Park and other wild places. Stetson portrays Muir every summer for thousands of people in Yosemite National Park's Theater, and he will be in Dallas for one night only.



Some of Muir's grand, thrilling adventures are in this show: "The Perilous Night on Mount Shasta" with Muir freezing in the midst of a howling blizzard while simultaneously being boiled and blistered in hot springs; his astonishing ride down a Yosemite Valley canyon wall on a snow avalanche; climbing the 500 foot wall of the winter ice cone beneath Yosemite Falls; Muir's encounter with a mighty Yosemite earthquake; dangerous Alaskan ice crevasses; snow blindness; and much more -- all liberally salted with Muir's wilderness philosophy. This show's theme revolves around the health and invigoration one acquires when one fully and joyfully engages wildness.

\$10. 7:00 p.m., Addison Conference Centre Studio Theater, 16560 Addison Road, Addison, TX. Buy tickets at the door or at the September 9 or October 14 Sierra Club General Meeting. Seating is limited, so advanced purchase is advised. Click [here](#) for a map of the venue's location.

Everyone is welcome. You don't have to be a Sierra Club member to attend this special event.

Explore Big Bend National Park on Our Annual Bus Trip

Read a full description of the Dallas Sierra Club's upcoming trip to backpack and hike in Big Bend National Park [when you click here](#). We'll depart Dallas on a sleeper bus with professional drivers at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, Nov. 5 and return you to Dallas by 6 AM Monday, Nov. 10. The cost per person (transportation and permits) is \$240 with timely registration.



This year's trip features five hikes. Destinations include the remote Mesa de Anguila, the varied landscapes of the Outer Mountain Loop and Mule Ears Overlook and two trips in the high Chisos Mountains, including either Blue Creek Canyon or The Window and Oak Spring. Our easy backpacking and camping option goes to The Chimneys formation, several desert springs, historic ruins and pour-offs.

Black bears have returned to the park since they disappeared in the twentieth century. The Park Service has announced a bear canister requirement as a condition for backcountry permits, but—good news-- the new rule will NOT be enforced in 2014. Come to the park THIS YEAR, before you need an expensive bear canister to explore the backcountry.

Trip registration forms are at the end of the linked trip description. We appreciate early registrations (which get you preferred seats and bunks), before the October date when we need to make full

payment for the bus charter. If you have questions after you've read the description, call Mark Stein or any of the trip leaders or [email Mark](#).

Calendar

Here is our calendar for the next two months. For complete listings, visit us at www.dallassierraclub.org.



Oct 11 (Sat) Day Hike the Trinity River Greenbelt

Hike 10K (6 miles) on the Lake Ray Roberts Greenbelt Corridor. This is an easy trail running alongside the Elm Fork of the Trinity River. No reservations required, just show up. Well behaved pets on a leash are allowed. Bring water and a snack as we will be hiking all morning. Meet at 9:00 AM at the Highway 380 Trailhead Park. Admission to the park is \$5.00 per person or free with a Texas State Parks Pass. There will be an optional lunch afterwards. The Park is on US Hwy 380 2.1 miles west of Hwy 377 or 2.8 miles east of Loop 288 in Denton. Highway 380 can be reached from Central Expwy, Preston Rd., or the Tollway. Bring extra shoes in case the trail is muddy. This hike will be canceled if it is raining at the trailhead. Leader: Mark Adams [Send Email](#) 972-658-1281



Oct 14 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting

Eli Baron will share pictures and experiences of his bike rides around the world, and David Griggs will talk about the upcoming fall elections and candidates friendly to the environment. Everyone is invited to the Dallas Sierra Club's General Meeting. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



Oct 15 (Wed) Outings Committee Meeting

Meet upstairs at the REI Dallas store on the north side of LBJ between Midway and Welch at 6:30 PM. The agenda will include final planning for the Beavers Bend trip and the Big Bend trip. We will confirm destinations dates and coordinators for major trips of 2015. Outings leaders, prospective leaders, and people interested in outings are welcome. Ask Mark to be placed on the email list for an agenda. Organizer: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



Oct 17-19 (Fri-Sun) Beavers Bend State Park

UPDATE: This event is full but there's always a chance someone may cancel, opening a place for you. Send a reservation to be placed on the wait list. Join us for this annual event among the scenic beauty and fall colors of Beavers Bend State Park in southeast Oklahoma. Our group complex offers your choice of rustic cabin or tent camping on the grassy lawn or by the river. Amenities include a dining hall, kitchen and stone fireplace, hot showers and flush toilets. Activity options will include group hikes in a variety of lengths, special interest hikes and outdoor-related mini-clinics for those interested. You're also welcome to be on your own to enjoy the many options offered by the park, including hikes, great biking, new nature center, local history museum, horseback riding, canoeing and kayaking (rentals available), even a train ride through the forest for those wanting to see it the easy way! Saturday night offers a catered dinner (optional) and a **special performance by actor Lee Stetson, portraying John Muir**. Reservation deadline is October 14. [For complete trip information, including costs and sign-up forms, click here.](#) Do a lot or just sit back in your camp chair and watch the horseshoe game. Gather your family and friends. This outings is great for outdoor enthusiasts of all ages and stages! Coordinator: Liz Wheelan [Send Email](#) 214-368-2306





Oct 19 (Sun) John Muir Live On Stage

In The Spirit of John Muir, renowned actor Lee Stetson will showcase Muir's dedication to wilderness protection and search for adventure in Yosemite National Park and other wild places. Stetson portrays Muir every summer for thousands of people in Yosemite National Park's Theater, and he will be in Dallas for one night only. Some of Muir's thrilling adventures in this show: his ride down a canyon wall on an avalanche; freezing in the midst of a howling blizzard while simultaneously being boiled and blistered in hot springs; Muir's encounter with a Yosemite earthquake; and much more -- all liberally salted with Muir's wilderness philosophy. \$10. 7:00 p.m., Addison Conference Centre Studio Theater. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



Oct 24-26 (Fri-Sun) Eagle Rock Loop Backpack

Join me on a three day backpack on the longest loop trail (27 miles) in Arkansas. A combination of parts of the Little Missouri Trail, the Athens-Big Fork Trail and the Viles Branch Trail, the Eagle Rock Loop Trail crosses the Little Missouri River several times and travels over six major ridges. The hike will combine steep hill climbs through mixed hardwood and pine forests with strolls along crystal clear streams. It is arguably one of the best hikes in the Ouachita Mountains. Points of interest include Little Missouri Falls, Spirit Rock Vista, Eagle Rock Vista and Winding Stairs. Participants should have some backpacking experience. TRIP RATING: STRENUOUS (due to elevation changes along the Athens-Big Fork Trail and the amount of miles covered). Please contact the trip leader to sign up. Leader: Justin Taliaferro [Send Email](#) 214-534-6606



Oct 25 (Sat) Day Hike Around White Rock Lake

Let's meet at the Stone Tables at White Rock Lake near Lake Highlands Drive and Buckner Blvd. From the intersection of Lake Highlands and Buckner, turn southwest on E. Lake Highlands. Take an immediate left (south) on Tiffany Way, then an immediate right on E. Lawther. There is a sign here but it now says "one Tables." The hike will start at 9:00am. We'll walk 9 miles in about 3 hrs on a paved path. This is a good conditioning hike for the upcoming Fall backpack trips. Bring water and snacks. No reservations necessary. There will be an optional lunch at a local restaurant after the hike. Leader: Mark Adams [Send Email](#) 972-658-1281



Oct 25-26 (Sat-Sun) Car Camping in the Winding Stair Area in Oklahoma

We'll try to catch the fall colors in this beautiful part of the Ouachita Mountains this weekend. On Saturday, we will hike about 9 to 10 miles on a loop trail in the Horse Thief Springs area. The hike will be downhill into the Holson Valley in the morning, and uphill back to the cars in the afternoon. The day hike includes about 1900 feet of elevation change. There will also be a short day hike on Sunday morning before heading home. Because of the length and terrain of the day hike, this trip is rated as moderately strenuous. Note that the campsite is semi-primitive, and has no water. Contact the leader to sign up. Leader: Marcos Jorge [Send Email](#) 214-682-6555



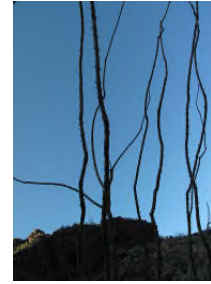
Nov 5 (Wed) Dallas Sierra Club Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee (or Excom) is the elected governing body of the Dallas Sierra Club and meets at REI, 4515 LBJ Freeway, Farmers Branch, TX 75244 (north side of LBJ between Midway and Welch) at 6:30 pm. Contact the [Dallas Group Chair](#) for more information.



Nov 5-10 (Wed-Mon) Explore BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK!

November's an ideal month to see this crown jewel of the Texas landscape, its largest National Park. Leave Wednesday night, sleep in a bunk on a chartered sleeper bus with professional drivers and wake Thursday morning to backpack in an environment you'll never forget. Read a full trip description and registration forms [in this PDF document](#), including five itinerary options from easy to strenuous. Our transportation arrangements allow four days and three nights to experience the park with trained Sierra Club volunteer outings leaders who love to backpack and hike. We'll return you to Dallas by 6 AM Monday morning. Of all the outdoor destinations in Texas, Big Bend National Park is number one on almost everybody's list. \$240 covers transportation and permits. Coordinator: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



Nov 11 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting

Central Oregon Cascades and Wildlife of the Alaska Inside Passage - Dan Leffel, photographer, will present his experiences in hiking trails of the Cascade Mountains of Central Oregon, including high alpine trails and waterfalls of Central Oregon. Additionally, Dan will cover the Alaska Inside Passage, including whales and bears. Techniques to improve your photography also will be presented. Everyone is invited to the Dallas Sierra Club's General Meeting. Full details will be on our [home page](#) about a month before the meeting.



Nov 15-16 (Sat-Sun) Little Missouri River Beginner Backpacking Trip

We'll do a moderately-easy backpack of about 9-1/2 miles over 2 days along one of the most scenic backpacking trails in Southwest Arkansas. Because the trail follows the upper reaches of the Little Missouri River there is minimal elevation change, but do be prepared for a couple of wet stream crossings. Drive up Friday night and return Sunday. Hopefully the Fall colors will still be going strong. This hike is suitable for graduates of the Beginner Backpacking Class who are in good shape. Leader: Mark Adams [Send Email](#) 972-658-1281



Nov 19 (Wed) Outings Committee Meeting

Meet upstairs at the REI Dallas store on the north side of LBJ between Midway and Welch at 6:30 PM.. Tonight we will review the Beavers Bend and Big Bend trips. This will be the final Outings Committee meeting of 2014. Outings leaders, prospective leaders, and people interested in outings are welcome. Ask Mark to be placed on the email list for an agenda. Organizer: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



Nov 22-23 (Sat-Sun) Beginner Backpack Trip to the Caney Creek Wilderness

Join us for one of the Dallas Sierra Club's favorite local backpacking trips. We'll backpack in about 4 1/2 miles along Caney Creek, cross it a few times, and climb some small hills. After setting up camp near a waterfall, we'll do a short day hike as time and energy permits. For many of us this was our first Wilderness hike and it's still one of our favorites. Leader: Bill Greer [Send Email](#) 972-247-0446

The Dallas Sierra Club News e-newsletter, sent monthly (and occasional for late-breaking news or events), keeps you up-to-date on meetings, activities, issues and special events. Visit us at www.DallasSierraClub.org.
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