



**SIERRA  
CLUB**  
FOUNDED 1892

EXPLORE, ENJOY AND PROTECT THE PLANET  
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Dallas Sierra Club  
Lone Star Chapter

## Dallas Sierra Club News - February 2016

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### General Meeting Program - February 9, 7:00 pm - Refreshments at 6:30

#### Critterman and His Animals - Live!

The live animals in this family friendly presentation will be engaging entertainment for children and adults alike. Meet some amazing Lone Star natives. Before you run to your garage and grab a shovel to dispose of that pesky snake in your yard, discover the incredibly valuable services that these and other native animals perform as natural pest controllers and waste removers. You will meet a ghost, a janitor, a famous historical creature, and its arch enemy.

Critterman (aka Dave Kleven) has been a professional wildlife educator for 25 years. His mission is to clear up misconceptions about, and to foster a healthy respect of and responsibility for, all living creatures with which we share the planet, and to get outside and explore it for yourself. His animal care facility is home to over 50 non-releasable animals that were orphaned, injured, surplus, or cast off by previous owners. These animals now act as ambassadors for their species. It is Dave's belief that if an animal is capable of living in the wild, that is where it belongs.



Dave has appeared on various segments of *The Most Extreme* series which airs on Discovery Network's *Animal Planet*. He and several Animal Ambassadors have made numerous appearances at events on Discovery Network's behalf. He has had the good fortune to work with Jack Hanna, Steve Irwin, Jim Fowler from Mutual of Omaha's *Wild Kingdom*, Chris and Martin Kratt, and Jeff Corwin. Besides his work as an educator, Dave is a member of American Association of Zoos and Aquariums, American Zoo Keepers Association, and sits on the education committee for the Zoological Association of America. His two favorite outdoor experiences have been visits to Palo Duro Canyon and Yellowstone National Park.

**Everyone is welcome. FREE!** 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. Click over to our [General Meeting page](#) for more information and a map.

### Davis Mountains Explorapalooza: May 27-30

Have a memorable Memorial Day weekend in sky island locations near Fort Davis, Alpine and Marfa, Texas, elevation 4,400 to 6,800'. Meet our chartered bus (not a sleeper bus) Friday morning in Dallas to cruise to Fort Davis. We've reserved campsites at Fort Davis State Park and cabins and "camp rooms" at Stone Village Tourist Camp, a renovated 1935 tourist court in



Fort Davis town for a three-night stay. We'll take in a night Sky Party at the McDonald Observatory, a guided hike at the Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute, the Museum of the Big Bend, an afternoon to explore Marfa, an evening to view the mysterious Marfa Lights, a morning hike on the palisades above historic Fort Davis and a couple hours by the huge desert spring at Balmorhea State Park. All this happens before Monday night when you return to Dallas! For complete trip details and sign-up forms, please download [this PDF](#).

### Future Programs You Won't Want to Miss

**March 8 - Clacier National Park** - Our March program will feature a visit to Glacier National Park. Glacier was established in 1910 in northern Montana along the Continental Divide near the Canadian border.

### Upcoming Outings You Won't Want to Miss

Of course, you shouldn't miss any our out outing, but we want to draw your attentions to a couple of special outings coming up in the spring and summer.

#### **Queen Wilhelmina State Park Lodge and Camping, Arkansas: April 29 - May 1**

Drive to this gem of a park in the Ouachita Mountains near Mena, Arkansas anytime on Friday, hike Saturday and depart Sunday. We've booked ten of the forty rooms at the ridgetop QWSP Lodge atop Arkansas' second-highest point and also a cluster of campsites. Saturday day hike options include 11.6 miles on the Black Fork Mountain Trail to the third-highest point in the state. Shorter group day hike options include a segment of the Ouachita Trail and the Kerr Arboretum Trail near Talihina, Oklahoma. Full details and sign-up information will be on-line in the next couple of weeks.

### **Backpack around the Collegiate Peaks, Colorado: July 25-28**

Backpack four days and three-nights in central Colorado, near Buena Vista. Allow two days on each end of the outing to drive from Dallas or a day to fly to Denver and drive. We'll hike from trailheads along the beautiful Cottonwood Pass Road. Hike routes are about 20 miles, with your choice of a western trip to Hartenstein Lake, Brown's Pass and the Texas Lakes, or an eastern trip to Hartenstein Lake, Brown's Pass and Kroenke Lake. Hikes start around 10,000' and reach 12,000+' on the Continental Divide.

Participants may opt to camp together the night before this outing and share large group cabins at Mount Princeton Hot Springs Resort on the exit day, but these arrangements are optional. Previous backpacking experience is required, preferably at altitude. There is no fee for the outing, but a deposit to hold a place is required. Complete trip details and sign-up information is in [this PDF document](#).



### **Service Projects**

The following two service projects are done every month. If all Sierrans could participate in just one of these at least once a year, the impact would be spectacular. Consider adding one of these projects to one of your Saturday mornings.

#### **White Rock Lake Clean-up: February 13**

Walk and talk while picking up trash and recyclables at the Sierra Club's adopted section of White Rock Lake Park. Meet at 8:15 AM this second Saturday of the month at the Love of the Lake office, northeast corner of Garland Road and Buckner Boulevard. Look for the crowd drinking free juice and coffee. Gloves, trash bags, etc. will be provided. Our area includes one of the wonderful prairie restoration areas, so there are always birds and wildflowers to enjoy. Brunch afterwards. Leader: Carol Nash [Send Email](#) 214-455-2115

#### **Trail Maintenance at Cedar Ridge Preserve: February 20**

Come to the hilly terrain of Cedar Ridge Preserve to help maintain one of the better trail networks in Dallas. The Dallas Sierra Club is responsible for the Possum Haw Trail. We work here on third Saturdays of almost every month, starting at 9 AM, working until approximately noon. This project is fun and the landscape is beautiful. We've ordered excellent weather. The Preserve's address is 7171 Mountain Creek Parkway, Dallas 75249. For directions and general information about Cedar Ridge Preserve, click [this link](#). If you need more information or want to carpool, call or email me. Contact: Ginger Bradley [Send Email](#) 469-223-7902

### **Calendar**

Here is our calendar for the next two months. For complete listings, visit us at [www.dallassierraclub.org](http://www.dallassierraclub.org).



#### **FFeb 9 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting**

**Critterman and his animals - Live!** The live animals in this family friendly presentation will be engaging entertainment for children and adults alike. Meet some amazing Lone Star natives. Discover the incredibly valuable services that native animals perform as natural pest controllers and waste

removers. You will meet a ghost, a janitor, a famous historical creature, and its arch enemy. Everyone is invited. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



### **Feb 13 (Sat) White Rock Lake Clean-up**

Walk and talk while picking up trash and recyclables at the Sierra Club's adopted section of White Rock Lake Park. Meet at 8:15 AM this second Saturday of the month at the Love of the Lake office, northeast corner of Garland Road and Buckner Boulevard. Look for the crowd drinking free juice and coffee. Gloves, trash bags, etc. will be provided. Our area includes one of the wonderful prairie restoration areas, so there are always birds and wildflowers to enjoy. Brunch afterwards. Leader: Carol Nash [Send Email](#) 214-455-2115



### **Feb 17 (Wed) Outings Committee Meeting**

The Outings Committee meets tonight at 6:30, upstairs at Whole Foods Market, SE quadrant of Preston Road and Forest Lane, Dallas. Anyone interested in outings is invited. Contact Mark to be added to the advance agenda email list. Organizer: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



### **Feb 20 (Sat) Trail Maintenance at Cedar Ridge Preserve**

Come to the hilly terrain of Cedar Ridge Preserve to help maintain one of the better trail networks in Dallas. The Dallas Sierra Club is responsible for the Possum Haw Trail. We work here on third Saturdays of almost every month, starting at 9 AM, working until approximately noon. This project is fun and the landscape is beautiful. We've ordered excellent weather. The Preserve's address is 7171 Mountain Creek Parkway, Dallas 75249. For directions and general information about Cedar Ridge Preserve, click [this link](#). If you need more information or want to carpool, call or email me. Contact: Ginger Bradley [Send Email](#) 469-223-7902



### **Feb 20 (Sat) Dayhike on the Chisholm Trail in Plano**

Meet at 9:30 AM in front of the Starbucks/Barnes & Noble (north side of 15th Street, just west of US 75). We will walk 5-6 miles on a paved path. Bring water. No reservations, just show up. Optional lunch afterwards. Leader: Judy Cato [Send Email](#) 972-658-6834



### **Feb 26-Mar 2 (Fri-Wed) Big Bend National Park -TRIP IS FULL**

**THE TRIP IS FULL.** Contact the leader about the waiting list. Board our chartered sleeper bus Friday night and wake to breakfast at the restaurant in the National Park. The 2016 trip will offer options to backpack the Chisos Basin, the Lost Mine Trail, the Window Trail, the Outer Mountain Loop and the Mesa d'Anguila. One trip option will base camp at the Chisos Basin Campground and make day hikes, no backpacking necessary. All trips hike four days (Sat., Sun., Mon., Tues.) and camp three nights, returning to Dallas Wednesday before daybreak. The end of February is prime time to visit the Park, before it's too hot. Complete trip details, including costs and sign up requirements are in [this PDF document](#). Bus trip leader: Arthur Kuehne [Send Email](#) 214-608-3210



### **Mar 2 (Wed) Dallas Sierra Club Executive Committee Meeting**

The Executive Committee (or Excom) is the elected governing body of the Dallas Sierra Club and meets THIS TIME ONLY at Chris and Dick Guld's house at 6:30 pm. Contact the [Dallas Group Chair](#) for more information.



### **Mar 5-6 (Sat-Sun) Beginners Backpack Trip in Ouachita National Forest, Arkansas**

We'll hike a portion of the Little Missouri River Trail and the Viles Branch Trail in the Ouachita National Forest in SW Arkansas. Camp at Shady Lake Campground Friday night. Drive to the trailhead Saturday morning and hike about 6 miles to camp near one of many streams in the area Saturday night. Hike out about 4 miles on Sunday morning. This hike is rated moderate with a few hills and stream crossings. Some spots will be reserved for members of the January 30 Backpacking 101 class. Leader: Mark Adams [Send Email](#) 940-231-8482



**Mar 8 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting**

**Promise of Peace Gardens** Learn how Promise of Peace Gardens is transforming vacant spaces into thriving places in Dallas. **Glacier National Park** See beautiful scenery at Glacier National Park and learn about its glaciers that are melting rapidly and soon will be gone. Everyone is invited. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



**Mar 12 (Sat) White Rock Lake Clean-up**

Walk and talk while picking up trash and recyclables at the Sierra Club's adopted section of White Rock Lake Park. Meet at 8:15 AM this second Saturday of the month at the Love of the Lake office, northeast corner of Garland Road and Buckner Boulevard. Look for the crowd drinking free juice and coffee. Gloves, trash bags, etc. will be provided. Our area includes one of the wonderful prairie restoration areas, so there are always birds and wildflowers to enjoy. Brunch afterwards. Leader: Carol Nash [Send Email](#) 214-455-2115



**Mar 16 (Wed) Outings Committee Meeting**

The Outings Committee meets tonight at 6:30, upstairs at Whole Foods Market, SE quadrant of Preston Road and Forest Lane, Dallas Anyone interested in outings is invited. Contact Mark to be added to the advance agenda email list. Organizer: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



**Mar 19 (Sat) Trail Maintenance at Cedar Ridge Preserve**

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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](http://www.DallasSierraClub.org). [Join the Sierra Club](#)