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CLUB**
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Dallas Sierra Club
Lone Star Chapter

Dallas Sierra Club News - March 2016

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General Meeting Program - March 8, 7:00 pm - Refreshments at 6:30

Promise of Peace Gardens

Learn how Promise of Peace Gardens is transforming vacant spaces into thriving places in Dallas. At the gardens, people from all backgrounds come together and learn to grow and support each other. Children and their families gain access to healthier life styles, community involvement, and a sense of stewardship for the planet.

www.PromiseOfPeace.us



Glacier 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. 93 percent of Glacier is managed as wilderness, although so far Congress has resisted designating any of it as such. Glacier contains a dozen large lakes and hundreds of smaller ones in its glacier carved mountains. Some century old chalets and lodges still welcome visitors. Two of them (Sperry and Granite) are reached only by long, steep trails. Our program will visit Sperry Chalet, opened in 1914 and still looking just as it did when it first opened.



Evidence of glacier action is everywhere in Glacier National Park. U-shaped valleys and glacial cirques abound. What is largely missing from Glacier is glaciers! When the park was created in 1910, it had 150 glaciers. Today, 25 remain. Models predict that all will be gone by 2030, but in recent years they have been melting faster than predicted. In addition to enjoying some magnificent scenery and fun places to stay, we'll talk just a little bit about what's happening to the glaciers.

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.

Queen Wilhelmina State Park Lodge and Camping, Arkansas: Friday April 29 - Sunday 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 Queen Wilhelmina State Park Lodge atop Arkansas' second-highest point and also a cluster of campsites. Saturday group hike options include a 10-mile day hike to Black Fork Mountain, third-highest point in Arkansas. Shorter group hike options are a segment of the Ouachita Trail to the Oklahoma line and the Kerr Arboretum trails near Talihina, Oklahoma. Outing details, including complete sign-up information, are [in this PDF](#).

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](#).



Earth Day is Coming and We Need Your Help

Every April the Dallas Sierra Club is invited to participate in many Earth Day events around Dallas. This year we are focusing on Earth Day Texas which will be held at Fair Park on April 22-24. We need volunteers to help greet people at the Dallas Sierra Club booth. If you would like to help promote the Sierra Club and the environment, and have a great time meeting people from across Texas, please contact our Earth Day Coordinator, Wendel Withrow at [this email link](#). We have time slots to fit any schedule on all three days of the event.

In addition to Earth Day Texas, we will participate in several other Earth Day events. Contact Wendel for more information.

Future Programs You Won't Want to Miss

April 12 - Pacific Crest Trail Adventure - This presentation will cover some of what goes into the planning and execution of a thru-hike on the Pacific Crest Trail, as well highlights along the way.

June 14 - The Compost Contribution - You do good things when you make a pile of brown leaves and assorted green waste, then encourage it to rot.

Calendar

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



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 11-13 (Fri-Sun) Car Camp and Rock Scrambling at Wichita Mountains in SW Oklahoma.

The Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge in SW Oklahoma is a treasure of interesting hikes, pioneer history, unusual rock formations, and wildlife in a natural habitat. You are likely to come around a corner and find yourself face to face with a bison bull! We will have moderate hikes on Saturday and Sunday. The neatest parts of Wichita Mountains are off trail so be prepared for some bushwhacking and rock scrambling. You can find out more about Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge [here](#). Leader: Bill Greer [Send Email](#) 972-247-0446



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) No Outings Committee Meeting

The March Outings Committee meeting is canceled. Contact Mark if you have items for the April agenda. Organizer: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



Mar 19 (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



Mar 25-27 (Fri-Sun) Eagle Rock Loop Backpack Trip

Backpack for 3 days on the longest loop trail 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 nine times and travels over nine mountains. The hike will combine rugged 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, among others. Participants should have some backpacking experience for this 27 mile hike. This is a strenuous trip due to elevation changes along the Athens-Big Fork Trail and the amount of miles covered. Drive to the area (about 4 hours from Dallas) on Thursday. We'll hike Friday, Saturday and half of Sunday. Leader: Arthur Kuehne [Send Email](#) 214-608-3210



Apr 5 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee (or Excom) is the elected governing body of the Dallas Sierra Club and meets upstairs at Whole Foods Market, southeast corner of Preston Road and Forest Lane, in Dallas at 6:30 pm. Contact the [Dallas Group Chair](#) for more information.



Apr 9 (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



Apr 9-10 (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



Apr 12 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting

Hear about Conor and Mason Pucketts' four month adventure hiking the entire **Pacific Crest Trail** in 2015. Fewer people have done this than have summited Everest. Everyone is invited. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



Apr 16 (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 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. The Preserve's address is 7171 Mountain Creek Parkway, Dallas. 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



Apr 20 (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. Upon conclusion, we typically adjourn to Pei Wei for dinner. Anyone interested in outings is invited to participate. Reply to Mark to be added to the advance agenda email list or to suggest an item for the agenda. Organizer: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



Apr 29-May 1 (Fri-Sun) Queen Wilhelmina State Park Lodge and Camping, Arkansas

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 group hike options include a 10-mile day hike to Black Fork Mountain, third-highest point in Arkansas. Shorter group hike options are a segment of the Ouachita Trail to the Oklahoma line and the Kerr Arboretum trails near Talihina, Oklahoma. Outing details, including complete sign-up information, are in [this PDF](#). Coordinator: Lynn Marple [Send Email](#) 972-345-5528



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. [Join the Sierra Club](#)