



**SIERRA
CLUB**
FOUNDED 1892

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

Dallas Sierra Club News - November 2016

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VOTE - Tuesday, November 8 is election day - VOTE GREEN

Vote! No excuses. Do it!



Vote Green by supporting Sierra Club endorsed candidates. Sierra Club endorsed candidates for national office are at the [Sierra Club Voter Guide](#). Candidates endorsed for Texas House and Senate races are at [TurnTexasGreen.org](#).

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

Hilites from Iceland, Patagonia, and Storm Chasing

Dan Leffel, photographer extraordinaire, will cover 3 of his latest photography trips: to Iceland in winter, Patagonia in their fall, and storm chasing on the high plains this past spring. From the Iceland trip Dan will share unique images of the northern lights, which he photographed on 6 different occasions during 11 days in the country. His Patagonia images will include treks made in both Fitz Roy and Torres del Paine. His storm chasing images will include stories of the 12 tornadoes he photographed over a span of just 4 days - a very active weather period this past May. He was able to capture an image with 3 tornadoes on the ground at the same time, a rare occurrence. There will be ample time to ask questions regarding any of the other places Dan has travelled, or about his presentation.



© Dan Leffel Bold Light Photography

Dan has photographed all seven continents; rafted the Grand Canyon twice; spent a great deal of time in the four corners area of the US, as well as Alaska and New England; hiked the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu; safaried to Namibia and Zimbabwe; photographed Iceland, Cuba, India, Japan, Patagonia, Nepal, Bhutan, Ecuador, the Galapagos Islands, Greece, Thailand, Burma, Cambodia, Australia and New Zealand; and traveled throughout North and South America. His images have won a number of awards, including selection to multiple North America Nature Photographer

Association (NANPA) Showcases and Sierra Club competitions. He spends his summers in the Oregon Cascade mountains, and is committed to helping preserve and share the beauty of nature and indigenous cultures through his photographs.

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.

Dallas Sierra Club Holiday Party - Sunday, December 11



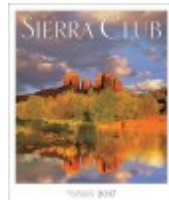
Our annual Holiday Party will be held at El Fenix Restaurant at 255 Casa Linda Plaza. We'll party on Sunday, December 11 from 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm. [Here is a Google map.](#)



Club members and guests will share the holiday spirit, some great Mexican food, and the company of others at this annual event. Join us for some camaraderie, raffle prizes, and perhaps some surprise speakers, you never know. We'll celebrate some of our outstanding volunteers and have plenty of time to mingle. There's bound to be talk about issues of the day -- air, water, fracking, coal, the election, whatever strikes your green fancy. The entire menu will be available so you can order whatever you want to eat or drink, including liquid spirits. We'll provide a free round of margaritas. Support the Club by getting a 2017 Sierra Club Calendar or Planner!. Invite your family and friends. So come on out for a great party, low price, no clean up, and lots of like minded people. What could be better? See you there, and bring your appetite. Happy Holidays!!

New 2017 Sierra Club Calendars Available for Sale at the General Meeting

Sierra Club Wilderness Wall Calendars and Engagement Calendars will be available for purchase at the October, November and December General Meetings (or until we run out). The Sierra Club Wilderness Calendar is the best selling nature calendar in the United States. Don't miss your chance to get one (or several - they make great gifts). The Wall Calendar sells for \$13 and the Engagement Calendar sells for \$14. We take check, cash or credit cards.



Big Bend National Park Bus Trip: February 15 - 20

Our 2017 trip to Big Bend will be on line early next week at www.dallassierraclub.org. We will feature 5 different hikes, including an option to take the bus to Rio Grande Village to hike to the hot springs and to visit Boquillas Canyon. Other destinations include the remote Mesa de Anguila, the varied landscapes of an expanded Outer Mountain Loop hike and a trip exploring the high Chisos Mountains. One of our trips will camp in the developed Chisos Mountains campground and do all of their exploring on day hikes. Perfect for those of you who love to hike but don't backpack.



The 2016 trip filled up in record time so be sure to check our website next week and sign up right away.

Future Programs You Won't Want to Miss

December 13 - Transition to a clean energy economy

John Hall will speak about Texas' rapid transition to a clean energy economy and the significant economic benefits and water savings that would flow from this shift. John is the Environmental Defense Fund's Texas State Director for Clean Energy.

January 10 - Howard Garrett on Non-Toxic Pest Control and Related Water Savings

The first step of natural pest control is the basic organic program and resulting healthy soil and plants. Healthy, non-stressed plants don't attract pests nearly as much as do plants that are under stress from the use of high-nitrogen, salt fertilizers and toxic chemical pesticides. Understanding the protection and use of beneficial insects and other living organisms is also a major part of successful pest control. When direct pest control is needed, there are "soft" choices that work well. Howard will explain all this with his thorough and fascinating slide show.

Calendar

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



Nov 8 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting

Photographs from Iceland, Patagonia, and Storm Chasing by Dan Leffel, whose presentations always are superb. Everyone is invited. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



Nov 11-13 (Fri-Sun) Tread amongst the Texas State Bison Herd

Hike with us on Veterans Day weekend at **Caprock Canyons State Park**. We will meet early on Friday, November 11th, departing for the park near Quitaque, Texas. After backpacking about two miles, we will make camp and explore before turning in for the night. On Saturday, we will backpack four miles with some stretches of extremely steep and rugged terrain, make camp and then day hike another five miles. On Sunday, we day hike a six-mile loop through lower ground before breaking camp, then backpack a mile and return to Dallas Sunday evening. Previous backpacking experience is required. This outing will accommodate a maximum of twelve participants. Please contact Jake Trousdale for trip information.

Leader: Jake Trousdale [Send Email](#) 214-244-4887



Nov 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



Nov 16 (Wed) NO November Outings Committee Meeting

There's no Outings Committee meeting this third Wednesday. Our 2017 outings dates and

destinations were sufficiently set as of October so that we'll recess until January. Organizer: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



Nov 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 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



Nov 19 (Sat) Day Hike at Windmill Hill Nature Preserve, DeSoto

The *Dallas Observer* called this the "Best Urban Hiking Trail in the Metroplex" in 2001. That's a reason you ought to come here for a morning hike at 10 AM on Saturday, Nov. 19. This preserve has loop trails of packed dirt and rock (not concrete), with mature trees and some respectable inclines. It seems far from the city, but it's just south of Highway 67 in DeSoto. There's parking at the corner of Duncanville Road (a.k.a Duncanville South Main Street), where DeSoto, Duncanville and Cedar Hill converge. Leader: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



Dec 7 (Wed) 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.



Dec 10 (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



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Dec 21 (Wed) NO Outings Committee Meeting tonight

It's a busy month and we'll get along fine without another meeting this third Wednesday. The next Outings Committee meeting will be Wednesday, Jan. 18. If you discover business that cannot wait, contact Mark. Organizer: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733

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](#)