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**Dallas Sierra Club**  
Lone Star Chapter

## Dallas Sierra Club News - August 2017

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

**Wildlife Sanctuary Night** - We will have presentations from representatives of two animal sanctuaries: Black Beauty Ranch and The Creature Teacher.

#### **The Creature Teacher**

Jon Bjornen will talk about animal stewardship, and will have **live animals (including a kangaroo)** that are engaging entertainment for children and adults alike. He is originally from Hilo, Hawaii. Growing up close to the ocean most of his life, Jon has a love and passion for marine life. Jon studied at the University of Hawaii at Hilo earning a Bachelors in Marine Science, and has worked as a volunteer with NOAA, the Hawaii Marine Mammal Response Network, and the Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resource Center. His favorite animal at The Creature Teacher is Thor, our Colombian Red-Tailed Boa Constrictor. He loves being a part of The Creature Teacher and having the opportunity to educate kids on the importance of all animals and what makes them unique and amazing. Jon currently lives in Fort Worth along with his wife Amanda, their newborn son Keoni, and their cat Pua.



#### **Black Beauty Ranch**

Briana MacDougall will tell us about Black Beauty Ranch (BBR), founded in 1979 by Cleveland Amory. Located in Murchison, TX, BBR has been home to retired research chimpanzees, rescued elephants, kangaroos, monkeys, camels, giraffes, and tigers. Today, there are over 40 species, and about 1,000 animals on 1,400 acres. BBR is partnered with the Humane Society of the United States, Accredited by the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries, and a member of the North American Primate Sanctuary Alliance. The animal residents of BBR act as ambassadors for the issues we are working on together. BBR is also undergoing an ongoing development project for a Primate Habitat Expansion. It is the mission of BBR to provide a lifelong safe-haven for animals who have been rescued from abuse, cruelty, neglect, and exploitation. With this mission comes the educational responsibility to teach about the issues that cause animals to need sanctuary, including: the exotic pet trade, research, captive hunting, factory farming, public lands roundup, etc., and to prevent animals from needing sanctuary in the future. Black Beauty Ranch offers private visits, sustainer benefit packages, group tours, and volunteer and internship opportunities.

Briana is a Registered Dietitian and clinical staff trainer at a health care organization. She is a volunteer with the Primate Team at the Ranch, and has also helped with open house and group tours. She is interested in animal advocacy and environmental issues, an outdoor enthusiast, loves hiking, mountain biking, and spending time with her dog and two cats.

**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.

## Backpacking 101 Class - Saturday, August 12

Learn essentials of backpacking--what it's like, what you need to bring and what you don't need. This class is for never-ever backpackers and also people who want to update backpacking gear or skills. Volunteers with decades of experience leading trips will present a comprehensive range of backpacking topics with candor--packs, tents, food, what to wear, water treatment and lots more. They'll share tips to improve your comfort and keep gear affordable. Unlike stores that offer basic classes, we're not selling merchandise. This class will be particularly helpful for new backpackers on the Labor Day trip to the Pecos Wilderness, the February trip to Big Bend National Park or other outings in 2018. We'll schedule at least one fall beginner outing with spaces reserved for people completing the August 12 class. **Location:** Whole Foods Market, Preston Road at Forest Lane, Dallas ([map](#)). **Time:** 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Buy lunch downstairs at the deli or bring a sack lunch. **Cost:** \$35 for Sierra Club members, \$40 for non-members. You can register and [pay on-line here](#) or you can just show up and pay at the door.



## Dallas Sierra Club Picnic

**When:** September 16, 2007, 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM

**Where:** Churchill Park, 7025 Churchill Way, Dallas, TX 75230 ([Google map](#))

The picnic is to celebrate new members as well as established members of the Dallas Sierra Club. We will celebrate the over 900 members on Facebook, and the thousands of members in and around the Metroplex.

Please join us for good food, beverages of all kinds, vegetarian fare, cakes and cookies, and hamburgers and hot dogs, veggie burgers included. Salads, chips, dips, and all kinds of good eats.

We'll have some games to play, some water balloons for the kids, and the good ol cornhole game. We'll have a croquet set, game balls to play with, and other fun things to do.

There will be some door prizes given out, so make sure you get a complimentary raffle ticket when you arrive. We are giving away a \$100 dollar gift certificate to Jackson's and a drone, as well as some pre-paid memberships to our Club and random other free prizes.

So please save the date, mark your calendars, put it in your phone, whatever you gotta do to remember to come on out and bring the whole family. Kids, dogs, ferrets, your weird uncle Bob, whatever or whoever you consider family!

Call Ginger (Dallas Sierra Club Membership Chair) for more info at 469-223-7902 and if you want to help, I would love to have you!

Thanks and see you there.

## Wilderness Navigation Class - Wednesday and Thursday, September 27 & 28

Don't miss out! Join us for this outstanding, bi-annual two-night class to help you navigate in the backcountry with map and compass. Part 1 is Wednesday night at 6:30. Part 2 is Thursday night at 6:30. Both sessions are upstairs at the Whole Foods Market, SE quadrant of Preston Road and Forest Lane. The fee for the two-night class is \$35 for Sierra Club members, \$40 for non-members. An optional field lab for class participants will be set on Saturday or Sunday. Pay in advance by [clicking here](#) or pay at the door. Bring a compass if you have one. If not, we'll have an extra you can use and we'll advise what to look for when you buy your own. Both sessions will run until approximately 9:00.



## Future Programs You Won't Want to Miss

### September 12 - Fall/Winter Vegetable Gardening in North Texas

The best time for gardening in North Texas is from September until June. Come and find out why and how.

### October 10 - The Wave

Photos of surreal sandstone landscape along the Utah - Arizona Border.

### November 14 - Wildflowers of North Texas

This colorful slideshow program will take you on a virtual tour through the seasons of some of our last undisturbed natural areas, and introduce some of the amazing plants that once dominated the region.

## Calendar

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



### Aug 8 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting

**Wildlife Sanctuary Night** - We will have presentations from representatives of two animal sanctuaries: Black Beauty Ranch and The Creature Teacher. Live animals will be present. Everyone is invited. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



### Aug 12 (Sat) Backpacking 101 Class

Learn essentials of backpacking--what it's like, what you need to bring and what you don't need. This class is for never-ever backpackers and also people who want to update backpacking gear or skills. Volunteers with decades of experience leading trips will present a comprehensive range of backpacking topics with candor--packs, tents, food, what to wear, water treatment and lots more. They'll share tips to improve your comfort and keep gear affordable. Unlike stores that offer basic classes, we're not selling merchandise. This class will be particularly helpful for new backpackers on the Labor Day trip to the Pecos Wilderness, the February trip to Big Bend National Park or other outings in 2018. We'll schedule at least one fall outing with spaces reserved for people completing the August 12 class. **Location:** Whole Foods Market, Preston Road at Forest Lane, Dallas ([map](#)). **Time:** 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Buy lunch downstairs at the deli or bring a sack lunch. **Cost:** \$35 for Sierra Club members, \$40 for non-members. You can register and [pay on-line here](#) or you can show up and pay

at the door. Interested or have questions? Please contact the class coordinator. Coordinator: Liz Wheelan [Send Email](#) 214-368-2306



#### **Aug 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



#### **Aug 16 (Wed) No Outings Committee meeting tonight**

There's NO Outings Committee meeting tonight. Take a month off and come to the next meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 20. Contact: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



#### **Aug 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 8 AM for August, working until approximately 11 AM. 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



#### **Aug 19 (Sat) Sandbranch Tire Pickup Day**

August 19. 9:00 to noon, is Tire Pickup Day, organized by Project DreamHaus and Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Volunteers are needed to load illegally dumped tires onto trucks for proper disposal. This will be hot and heavy work among weeds. Wear long sleeves, long pants, a hat, boots and gloves. There are snakes in the neighborhood. Call Chris Guldi 972 239-5878 or email [caguldi03@gmail.com](mailto:caguldi03@gmail.com) if you wish to take part. We will arrange carpools. For more information: Chris Guldi [Send Email](#) 972 239-5878



#### **Aug 31-Sep 5 (Thu-Tue) Pecos Wilderness, Sangre de Cristo Mountains, New Mexico**

This Labor Day weekend, we're traveling by sleeper bus to backpack in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of the Pecos Wilderness Area. From trailheads at Cowles and Jacks Creek, we'll hike in five groups of five to ten per group through fir and aspen forests to meadows above the tree line. Each group will enjoy four days of hiking and three nights of camping. The Pecos Wilderness is one of the very best and most memorable destinations in the southern Rockies. Our bus will leave Dallas Thursday night to arrive at trailheads Friday morning. We'll bring you home by 6 AM Tuesday. Complete trip information, including detailed hike options, cost, and sign-up instructions are in [this PDF file](#). *As of July 31, **all places on the outing were filled.** If there are cancelations, we'll add from a wait list comprised of applicants whose check and forms we hold. Contact the trip coordinator to inquire.* Coordinator: Steve Fleischman [Send Email](#) 972-689-7317



#### **Sep 6 (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.



#### **Sep 12 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting**

**Learn about fall / winter gardening from Master Gardener Larry Legg.** Everyone is invited. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



### **Sep 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. (Note that this is an hour later than our summer starting time.) 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



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When: September 16, 2007, 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM  
Where: Churchill Park, 7025 Churchill Way, Dallas, TX 75230 ([Google map](#)) The picnic is to celebrate new members as well as established members of the Dallas Sierra Club. We will celebrate the over 900 members on Facebook, and the thousands of members in and around the Metroplex. Full details on [our home page](#).



### **Sep 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. Anyone interested in outings is welcome. Reply to Mark to be added to the advance agenda email list or to suggest an agenda item. Let's finalize a line-up of fall 2017 outings and discuss where we want to go on trips in 2018. Organizer: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



### **Sep 27 (Wed) Wilderness Navigation Class--Part 1**

Don't miss out! Join us for this outstanding, bi-annual two-night class to help you navigate in the backcountry with map and compass. Part 1 is Wednesday night at 6:30. Part 2 is Thursday night at 6:30. Both sessions are upstairs at the Whole Foods Market, SE quadrant of Preston Road and Forest Lane. The fee for the two-night class is \$35 for Sierra Club members, \$40 for non-members. An optional field lab for class participants will be set on Saturday or Sunday. Pay in advance by [clicking here](#) or pay at the door. Bring a compass if you have one. If not, we'll have an extra you can use and we'll advise what to look for when you buy your own. Both sessions will run until approximately 9:00. Coordinator: Liz Wheelan [Send Email](#) 214-368-2306



### **Sep 28 (Thu) Wilderness Navigation Class--Part 2**

Join us for this second night of a two-part class that begins Wednesday, Sept. 27. Both sessions are at Whole Foods Market, Preston Road at Forest Lane. See above for details and link to pay online. Coordinator: Liz Wheelan [Send Email](#) 214-368-2306

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](#)