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CLUB**  
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Dallas Sierra Club  
Lone Star Chapter

## Dallas Sierra Club News - February 2018

**General Meeting - February 13, 7:00 pm - Refreshments at 6:30 - Everyone Welcome**



### **Pacific Crest Trail Adventures and Really Bad Advice for Hikers and Campers**

Dallas Sierra Club outings leader Mike Pfoser attempted to thru-hike the **Pacific Crest Trail** (PCT) this past summer. Heavy snows and stream runoff prevented him from completing the trail, at least in 2017. Still, Mike backpacked 1,175 miles. The PCT is a National Scenic Trail from the border of Mexico and California to the Canadian border with Washington, 2,650 miles in all. Join us for pictures and stories of hiking in desert heat, sub-freezing

mountain nights, hiking under interstate highways, brutal climbs above 13,000', snowy passes, learning to hitchhike, amazing views and conversations with remarkable people.

After Mike's photo and story highlights of PCT adventures, Outings Committee Chair Mark Stein will narrate a tongue-in-cheek photo collection of outings blunders, including some from Dallas Group outings. "**Really Bad Advice for Hikers and Campers**" is presented with belief that we can learn from our blunders.

**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. The meeting takes place at Brookhaven College. Click over to our [General Meeting page](#) for more information and a map.



### **Victory for Curb Side Recycling**

Curbside recycling, discontinued last spring in the town of Lucas (just east of Allen), will be resumed thanks to a grassroots campaign led by Victoria Howard, an environmentally conscious resident supported by the Texas Campaign for the Environment, the Lovejoy High School Environmental Club, and the Dallas Sierra Club. Howard's organization generated a petition with thousands of signatures plus hundreds of letters and emails to the City Council. For more information, see <https://www.greensourcedfw.org/articles/lucas-city-council-reinstates-curbside-recycling>

The Dallas Sierra Club supported this effort with a \$1,000 donation and the hard work of our Conservation Committee.

### **Memorial Day Sleeper Bus Trip to Hike in Tennessee**

Our 2018 Memorial Day weekend trip is to the Tennessee's Cumberland Plateau. We're now accepting reservations. Early registration is \$270, same as the Big Bend trip. Information and reservation forms are in [this PDF](#).

We'll depart Dallas Thursday evening, May 24 and return between 5:00 and 6:00 a.m. Tuesday, May 29. Our chartered sleeper bus converts to bunks for sleeping through much of the night travel so we can enjoy three+ days of hiking and backpacking and three nights of camping. Five hike options range from easy/moderate to strenuous. Each option has a mix of backpacking and day hiking. Two options have average daily backpacking distances of two or fewer miles. Some options are suitable for beginner backpackers in good health.



Hikes are primarily in the Savage Gulf State Natural Area, on the rim and/or bottom of a big, forested canyon 500+ feet below the steep rim of the plateau. Some hikers will transfer by bus on the third morning to hike on the rim or floor of Fiery Gizzard, another canyon or "gulf." The gulf streams are punctuated by waterfalls and we'll be there at a good time for wildflowers.

Because this is our first-ever trip to Tennessee and because the February trip to Big Bend sold out three months before departure, early registration is recommended to guarantee a place on this trip. [Click here to view the PDF](#).

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### National Park Adventure

After we showed the movie *National Parks Adventure* at our January meeting, several people asked if they could get the film on DVD or Blu-Ray, and one person wanted to show the movie at another non-profit organization.

The film will be released first on Netflix this spring. They don't have an exact date, but when it's available, they will announce it on their Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/MacGillivrayFreeman>

They allowed our screening since the Sierra Club was a partner on the film, but they haven't made any other screenings available. If someone wants to show the movie at another non-profit organization's meeting, let me know and we can see if it works with their parameters.

-- Kirk Miller, Dallas Group Program Chair, [KirkMiller@DallasSierraClub.org](mailto:KirkMiller@DallasSierraClub.org)

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

#### March 20 - Sperry Chalet in Glacier National Park and Urban Asthma

Visit the famous Sperry Chalet with Dallas Sierrans Bill and Sue Greer in our short program. In our long program, Dr. Rebecca Gruchalla will tell us why asthma is so bad in urban areas.

**NOTE: Because Brookhaven College is closed for spring break on the second Tuesday in March, our General Meeting will be on the THIRD Tuesday.**

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## Limerick of the Month

About climate change scientist preaches.  
"Global oceans are rising," he teaches.  
As the polar caps melt,  
The result will be felt.  
Seas are getting too big for their beaches.

By Kirk Miller, Dallas Sierra Club program chair and national pun champion.

If you would like to submit an environmental limerick for our new Limerick of the Month feature, send it to [editors@dallassierraclub.org](mailto:editors@dallassierraclub.org).

## Calendar



### Feb 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.



### Feb 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 For 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. This event is conducted by For the Love of the Lake. Contact: Carol Nash [Send Email](#) 214-455-2115



### Feb 13 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting

Mike Pfoerster will share pictures and stories of hiking the **Pacific Crest Trail**, and Mark Stein will share pictures about blunders and consequences when hiking and camping. Everyone is invited. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



### Feb 17 (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 Ginger. Trail maintenance events are conducted by Audubon Dallas. Contact: Ginger Bradley [Send Email](#) 469-223-7902



### Feb 21 (Wed) Outings Committee Meeting

This third Wednesday of a month at 6:30 is time for our monthly gathering to plan outings. Come upstairs at Whole Foods Market, SE quadrant of Preston Road and Forest Lane, Dallas. Anyone rested in outings is welcome to attend and participate. Reply to Mark to be added to the advance agenda email list or to suggest an agenda item. Organizer: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



**Feb 28-Mar 5 (Wed-Mon) Big Bend National Park Bus Trip - THIS TRIP IS FULL**

The 2018 Big Bend Bus Trip is now FULL. We are accepting a short waiting list for trips 1 and 5 only. If you are interested in going on the waiting list, please contact the bus trip leader (contact information below) for information. The 2018 Big Bend Bus Trip is ready to accept your reservation. Don't delay! This trip fills fast. We'll depart Dallas on the night of Wednesday, February 28, hike on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday and arrive back in Dallas by sunup on Monday, March 5. We offer five alternative hike routes. Most alternatives will backpack on most days and camp in the backcountry. One will base camp in a group site in the Chisos Basin and make days hikes each day. Click on [this PDF document](#) where you will find complete trip details, price, and details on how to sign up. Bus trip leader: Arthur Kuehne [Send Email](#) 214-608-3210



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**Mar 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 For 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. This event is conducted by For the Love of the Lake. Contact: Carol Nash [Send Email](#) 214-455-2115



**Mar 10 (Sat) Pilot Knoll Trail Dayhike Highland Village, TX.**

Come join us as we day hike 6 miles (10K) on the northern reaches of the Elm Fork. This is a packed dirt trail used by hikers and horse riders heading to Lewisville Lake. No pets, please. Bring water and a snack as we will be walking all morning. The hike begins at the historic Old Alton Bridge, easy to find. We will leave the trailhead promptly at **9:00 AM**. This will be an out-and-back to the vicinity of Pilot Knoll Park in Highland Village. To reach the trailhead from I-35E, take the Swisher Road (FM 2181) exit and head west approximately 4 miles. Turn left onto Old Alton Road. The park will be approximately 100 yards down the Old Alton Road on the left. No signup necessary, just show up. The trail could be muddy so bring extra shoes. Optional lunch afterwards. Leader: Mark Adams [Send Email](#) 940-231-8482



**Mar 17 (Sat) Trail Maintenance at Cedar Ridge Preserve**

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**Mar 17-18 (Sat-Sun) Weekend Backpack at Buckeye Mountain Trail, Arkansas**

Hike one of the most scenic Wilderness trails in Arkansas in the Caney Creek Wilderness of west central Arkansas. Saturday we'll enjoy the views from the ridgetop Buckeye Mountain Trail. Sunday we'll hike out along the creek bottoms of the Caney Creek Trail. With any luck the wildflowers will be starting to emerge. This trip is rated moderate and would be suitable for beginners in good shape. Both days cover about 4 1/2 miles. Saturday includes an 800 foot uphill section. We'll camp Friday night near our cars, Saturday night near a nice little waterfall. Leader: Mark Adams [Send Email](#) 940-231-8482



**Mar 20 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting**  
**Dr. Rebecca Gruchalla will talk about urban asthma, and Bill Greer will talk about Sperry Chalet.** - Everyone is invited. Full details will be on our [home page](#).

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](#)