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CLUB**
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Dallas Sierra Club
Lone Star Chapter

Dallas Sierra Club News - December 2018

HOLIDAY PARTY

Dallas Sierra Club Holiday Party - Sunday, December 9



Our annual Holiday Party will be held at El Fenix Restaurant at 255 Casa Linda Plaza. We'll party on Sunday, December 9 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 (or the beverage of your choice). Support the Club by getting a 2019 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!!

General Meeting Program - Tuesday, December 11, 7:00 pm - Refreshments at 6:30

Trinity Park Conservancy is dedicated to the stewardship of Dallas' largest public green space, the 10,000 acres of the Trinity River. Believing that the Trinity is the natural gathering place for all Dallas residents, the Conservancy is committed to bringing people together to share their ideas, learn more about the possibilities and habitat of the area, and to assist in making it a more accessible space.

Brent Brown, chief executive officer and president of the Trinity Park Conservancy, will provide a comprehensive overview of the vision for the Harold Simmons Park and the Trinity River area. He will discuss the community engagement process, the findings from ten citywide workshops, and the First Look event on December 6th.

Brent is the 2017 GreenSourceDFW Lifetime Achievement Award winner in recognition of his sustainability efforts, and is a 2013 Rudy Bruner Award Silver Medalist, recognizing innovative thinking about the built environment and advancing conversation about making cities better. He also serves as Chairman of the Board for buildingcommunity WORKSHOP, an organization he founded in 2005 to solve difficult problems and enhance livability for all citizens.



NOTE: Trinity Park Conservancy created a **survey** that will provide a better understanding of how Harold Simmons Park can enrich our lives and be an inclusive space. It helps supplement the efforts of our 10 city wide workshops and learn the recreational and environmental appeal of natural spaces

for residents in Dallas. The survey will be active until mid-November, at which point the questions will be updated to reflect the upcoming phase of engagement. Please [click here to take the survey](#).

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.

From the Chair's Corner

The holidays are upon us and a new year arrives shortly. For me, it marks the end of a two-year stint as your Executive Committee (ExCom) Chair. It's been a very good two years for the Dallas Sierra Club. One outstanding note was our own Political Chair, David Griggs, was honored by the Memnosyne Institute's Green Source DFW Sustainable Leadership with their Coke Buchanan Volunteer of the Year Award. This guy has such widespread involvement with so much, that being recognized for his efforts was long overdue.

Arthur Kuehne, the group's treasurer and newsletter editor, had good news. A DSC member stepped up to take responsibility for the newsletter. Being treasurer along with all his outdoors responsibilities for our group was quite enough.

Kirk Miller is that DSC member, who is transitioning from the Programs Chair position to take responsibility as the newsletter editor. We will sorely miss the excellent puns Kirk blessed us with at each meeting.

So, what about programs without Kirk? Two of the group's newer members, Victor Zertuche and Paul Rendon, stepped up to say they wanted to be Program Chair. Instead, they are co-chairs. This promises to be a terrific new act for our group. New blood, new views and all. I'm liking their enthusiasm. (Are there other members, who'd like to add some new blood?)

Of course, the Guldi's, Chris and Dick, DSC's Conservation co-Chairs. They seem to be everywhere, doing the work of a hundred people. Whether it's working with the people in Sand Branch or Joppee, or attending hearings about fracking, clean water or clean air - they put the energizer bunny to shame. They have a small cadre of volunteers who work almost as hard as they do. This small group accomplishes so much, which makes each local Sierra Club member proud. They'd love to have you join with them in an upcoming conservation action.

Others in the group aid them. Kirk and Coralie Miller devote a lot of time to keep the group informed about recycling. The Guldi's also work very hard to involve minority communities in conservation efforts. Here, David Griggs has been a lynchpin, with his work over the decades in assisting these communities.

Bill Greer takes over as Outings Chair from Mark Stein. Mark set a high bar with all the exciting outdoor trips over these last two years – including a Memorial Day weekend trip to Tennessee. Ginger Bradley, our Membership Chair, has been the day-hike guru, leading day-hikes (seems like every weekend), plus leading the monthly trail maintenance at Cedar Ridge Preserve. Liz Wheelan works hard on arranging training (and there's bunch coming up soon) and leading the "Inspiring Connections Outdoors" program.

There is so, so much the volunteers with the Dallas Sierra Club do. As you can see volunteers often work in multiple roles and areas. You can be a volunteer this coming year. Check out the "Contact Us" link on our website: DallasSierraClub.org.

Connect with one of the leaders and open a door to something exciting.

Ciao – Don't worry. I'm sure I will be involved in some way or fashion with our group.

Sierra Club Calendars and Shirts For Sale at Our General Meeting

Get your 2019 Sierra Club wall calendar or planner at the General Meeting or at our Holiday Party. The Sierra Club calendar is the best selling calendar in the country. They make excellent gifts. We know of one of our members who has given his brother a Sierra Club Wilderness wall calendar for Christmas every year for the past 20+ years and it has always been his favorite gift.



We also have Dallas Sierra Club T-shirts and polo shirts for sale. Calendars are \$15, T-shirts \$10 and polo shirts \$15. Cash, check or credit cards accepted.

Big Bend National Park Bus Trip

Full details of the Dallas Sierra Club's annual bus trip to Big Bend National Park are online in [this PDF](#) and we're accepting registrations. Our 2019 trip departs Dallas at 9 p.m. Wednesday, February 27 and returns by 5 a.m. Monday, March 4. We'll travel in a new coach with 56 seats (not the buses used on previous trips), allocating two seats per person. We'll sell a maximum of 28 places.

This trip is now **FULL** (we told you to sign up early)! We are still taking application that will go on the waiting list. We usually have several cancellations, so, if you act fast, you have a good chance of getting on the trip.

Dallas Sierra Club Outreach Speakers Program - Speakers for Your Group

The Dallas Sierra Club has started a Outreach Speakers Program to provide outdoor and environmental education in the form of entertaining and informative presentations. To find out how the Dallas Sierra Club can provide a speaker for your group, [please follow this link](#).

Videos of Our General Meetings

We have started posting videos of selected General Meetings on YouTube. Visit our [General Meeting Page](#) to find links.

Future Programs You Won't Want to Miss

January 8 - Wildlife of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands and City of Dallas' Environmental Action Plan

Journey to uninhabited Laysan Island in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. Also learn about Dallas' Office of Environmental Quality and Sustainability and its Environmental Action Plan.

February 12 - 50 Year Anniversary of *Desert Solitaire* by Edward Abby

This groundbreaking sometimes radical, and always entertaining book has inspired thousands of environmentalists to stand up for clean air, clean water, and wilderness preservation in all our great park lands, including Arches National Park where the book is set.

Limerick of the Month

Thanks to efforts begun by John Muir,
The sequoias will surely endure.
So wherever they're from,
Generations to come
Can experience all their grandeur.

By Kirk Miller

If you would like to submit an environmental limerick for our Limerick of the Month feature, send it to editors@dallassierraclub.org.

Calendar



Dec 8 (Sat) White Rock Lake Cleanup

Walk and talk while helping to pick up trash and recyclables at the Sierra Club's adopted section of White Rock Lake Park. Meet at 8:15 AM at the Love of the Lake office on the Northeast corner of Garland Rd. and Buckner Blvd. Look for a crowd of people drinking free juice and coffee. Gloves, trash bags, etc. provided. Our area includes one of the wonderful prairie restoration areas, so there are always birds and wildflowers to enjoy. The lake and your karma will thank you. Brunch afterwards. Leader: Carol Nash [Send Email](mailto:carolnash@sierraclub.org) 214-824-0244



Dec 9 (Sun) Sierra Club Holiday Party

Our annual Holiday Party will be held at El Fenix Restaurant at 255 Casa Linda Plaza. We'll

party on Sunday, December 9 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, nuclear, 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. 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!!



Dec 11 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club Executive Committee Meeting, SPECIAL MEETING TIME AND LOCATION

The Executive Committee (or Excom) is the elected governing body of the Dallas Sierra Club and meets **THIS DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION ONLY** 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. at Brookhaven College. Click our General Meeting page for a map of the meeting location. Contact the [Dallas Group Chair](#) for more information.



Dec 11 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting

Brent Brown will give a vision of the **Harold Simmons Park and the Trinity river area**. Everyone is invited. Full details are on our [home page](#) now.



Dec 15 (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 from 9:00 AM until about 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 want information or want to carpool, contact Ginger. The trail maintenance event is conducted by Audubon Dallas. Contact: Ginger Bradley [Send Email](#) 469-223-7902



Dec 19 (Wed) No Outings Committee Meeting tonight

The Outings Committee won't meet on this regular third Wednesday meeting date. The next meeting is Wednesday, January 23. Organizer: Mark Stein [Send Email](#) 214-526-3733



Jan 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 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.



Jan 8 (Tue) Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting

Wildlife of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands - Everyone is invited. Full details are on our home page now.



Jan 23 (Wed) Outings Committee Meeting

The Outings Committee will meet tonight at 6:30 at the Whole Foods Market, Preston Road at Forest Lane, upstairs in the Community Rooms. Note that this January meeting date is a FOURTH Wednesday, not our usual third Wednesday meeting date. Why the anomaly? Okay, the meeting organizer will be out of the country on the third Wednesday and appreciates your flexibility about meeting dates. Anyone interested in outings is welcome to attend and participate. Outings leaders and prospective leaders will receive a proposed agenda a couple days before the meeting. 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](#)