

## Dallas Sierra Club Newsletter - November, 2022



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### Vote on Tuesday, November 8.

Elect candidates who can make a difference in advancing environmental issues. For information about our chapter endorsements, go to: [www.turntexasgreen.org](http://www.turntexasgreen.org)



### Dallas Sierra Club General Meeting **via Zoom** - Tuesday, November 8

#### Environmental Commission Update

Join us to hear an update from the chair of the City of Dallas Environmental Commission on the Commission's first year, the new FY 22-23 City budget for environmental efforts, and an update on the City's most pressing environmental justice issues. [Click here](#) for information about the Environmental Commission.

From 6:45 to 7:00 p.m. you can log in to the meeting, chat, and ask questions. The meeting will begin at 7:00 with announcements, followed by our speaker's presentation.

#### How to join the meeting via Zoom:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99535860396>



One tap mobile: +13462487799,,99535860396#

Dial in: +1 346 248 7799

Meeting ID: 995 3586 0396



## Dallas Sierra Club Holiday Party - Sunday December 11



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

Club members and guests are invited come and share the holiday spirit, some great Mexican food, and the company of others at our annual holiday get-together. Join us for some camaraderie, a fantastic raffle, and perhaps some surprise speakers. We'll celebrate some of our outstanding volunteers and have plenty of time to mingle. Invite your family and friends. The entire menu will be available so you can order whatever you want to eat or drink, including liquid spirits. So come on out for a great party, low price, no clean up, and lots of like-minded people. You can relax and share a laugh or get serious and talk about issues of the day -- air, water, climate change, politics, outings, fracking, coal, nuclear, whatever strikes your green fancy. What could be better? Nothing. See you there, and bring your appetite. Mark your calendar now so you won't miss it. Happy Holidays!!

### Profile: Ananya Agarwal

My name is Ananya Agarwal and I'm 17 years old. I've been a part of the Dallas Sierra Club for over a year. I am currently the secretary for the Executive Committee. I really enjoy expanding my understanding of the environment and the ways in which I can get involved through the Dallas Sierra Club!

I've lived in the Dallas area for about 7 years now, and I lived in Houston for 2 years prior to that. Before that, I lived in India and moved when I was 8. I joined the Sierra Club to focus on advocacy and spread awareness about environmental issues and sustainability. I enjoy graphic design, and I currently create Instagram and Facebook posts for the Dallas Sierra pages.

I am also a part of the initiative to create new branches of the Sierra Club across Dallas high schools. I am interested in expanding Dallas Sierra Club's outreach to teenagers and high schools.

I lead the Coppell Sierra Club at my high school where we focus on providing volunteering opportunities for other students interested in environmental activism. At my school club, we have created a prairie to promote native wildlife. We currently compost and plant in our garden, and are working on a project to install solar panels.

Here are a few quick facts about me:

Favorite Singer: Harry Styles

Hobby: I love embroidering and painting! I also started a small business called ArtwithAnanyaa where I combine the two.

Favorite Color: Green

Future Plans: I am currently applying to college and I am looking into colleges that either have green spaces, farms, or a focus on the environment.



### Videos: Bill Oliver and Ned Fritz Tributes

Bill Oliver, noted eco troubadour from Austin, was Ned Fritz's favorite singer. If you attended a TCONR powwow or forest rally, you enjoyed Oliver's wit and wisdom. View Bill's videos here: <https://mrhabitat.net/videos/>

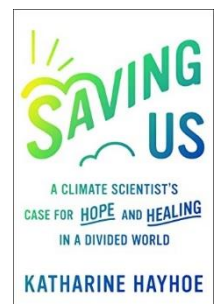
Bill recorded a special version of *Red Headed Woodpecker*, his tribute to Ned Fritz, for Ned Fritz Legacy <https://nedfritz.com/>. At the launch party for the Legacy last April, he recorded three songs that got the crowd moving: *Walk in the Woods*, *Tree Hugger*, and his super popular singalong song, *Habitat*. Find those, plus recitations of Ned's poetry, here: [https://nedfritz.com/?page\\_id=1663](https://nedfritz.com/?page_id=1663)

### Book: *Saving Us*

*Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World* by Katharine Hayhoe, 2021

In *Saving Us*, Hayhoe argues that when it comes to changing hearts and minds, facts are only one part of the equation. We need to find shared values in order to connect our unique identities to collective action.

Drawing on interdisciplinary research and personal stories, Hayhoe shows that small conversations can have astonishing results. *Saving Us* leaves us with the tools to open a dialogue with your loved ones about how we all can play a role in pushing



forward for change.

Available at local libraries and at local and online bookstores

[Click here for information about the book at goodreads.com](#)

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## Video: Sierra Club Values

[Click here for a one minute video about the Sierra Club's values.](#)

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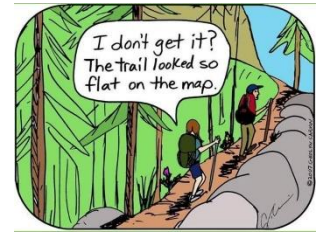
## BACKPACKING 101 Class is BACK!

**Ready to camp away from your car and get into the wilderness?** Save the date and plan to join us for one of our Club's most popular classes. This interactive class is for anyone new to backpacking and those who want to refresh their backpacking knowledge and skills. Dallas Sierra Club leaders with decades of experience will present a comprehensive overview of backpacking topics, including packs, footwear, tents, sleeping bags, food and cooking, clothes, wilderness ethics, sanitation, safety and more. Learn tips to make your time in the wilderness more comfortable, less expensive, and fun!

**Saturday, January 28**, 10:30 am - 4:00 pm, Dallas Library – Skillman/Southwestern Blvd Branch, Dallas

Complete details and reservation information will be posted on our Club's website in mid-November. (<http://www.dallassierraclub.org/>)

Questions? Liz Wheelan, 214 207 4997, [Lizwico@aol.com](mailto:Lizwico@aol.com)



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## How to Engage with the Community (While Giving Back)

by David Dixon



*The [Dallas Sierra Club](#) provides outdoor/environmental education in the form of entertaining and informative presentations by Dallas Sierra Club members with expertise in the topics offered. Contact us today to learn more! **214-369-5543***

Passionate about a cause and excited to make a difference? We often think to affect change, we need to go big - in terms of money, energy, and power. But what if we told you that you can bring about change in your community? Yes, there are lots of ways to take action and stand up for the causes you believe in. Want to learn more? The [Dallas Sierra Club](#) breaks it down below.

This article is too large for our newsletter. [Click here](#) for the entire article which lists several ways to take action, such as:

- \* Start Small
  - \* Work with or Start a Nonprofit
  - \* Take Positive Action in the Community
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## Recommended Reading

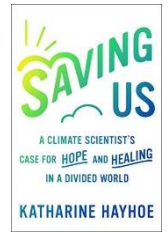
Click on a book's title (below) for a link to information about the book at [goodreads.com](https://www.goodreads.com)

[Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World](#) by Katharine Hayhoe, 2021

In *Saving Us*, Hayhoe argues that when it comes to changing hearts and minds, facts are only one part of the equation. We need to find shared values in order to connect our unique identities to collective action.

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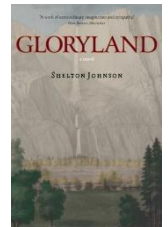
Available at local libraries and at local and online bookstores



[Gloryland](#) by Shelton Johnson, 2009

If you watched Ken Burns' *National Parks* mini-series, you will recognize the author, Shelton Johnson. His historical fiction novel is the story of a Black man growing up after the Civil War, becoming a Buffalo Soldier, and eventually patrolling the newly created Yosemite National Park. It is an uplifting book that touches on a variety of subjects -- justice, prejudice, the beauty of the outdoors, and more. His profound imagery of Yosemite and the Sierras is lyrical - poetry in prose. I savored the book, one of the best that I have read. - Kirk Miller

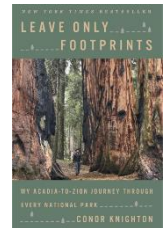
Available at local libraries and at local and online bookstores



[Leave Only Footprints: My Acadia-to-Zion Journey Through Every National Park](#) by Conor Knighton, 2020

This is a delightful story of one man's journey through every national park in one year. From sunrise in Acadia on January 1 to sunset at Point Reyes National Seashore on December 31. A story told with humor and love for the great outdoors. - Coralie Miller

Available at local libraries and at local and online bookstores



**Previous book recommendations are here.** <http://dallassierraclub.org/page.htm?buystuff>

**Please give us YOUR reading recommendations via** [newsletter@dallassierraclub.org](mailto:newsletter@dallassierraclub.org)

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## Recommended Viewing

[Click here](#) for a one minute video about the Sierra Club's values.

WTF - Boat is 100% energy self-sufficient, 4 minutes, [click here](#)

Engine Trouble, 6 minutes, [click here](#)

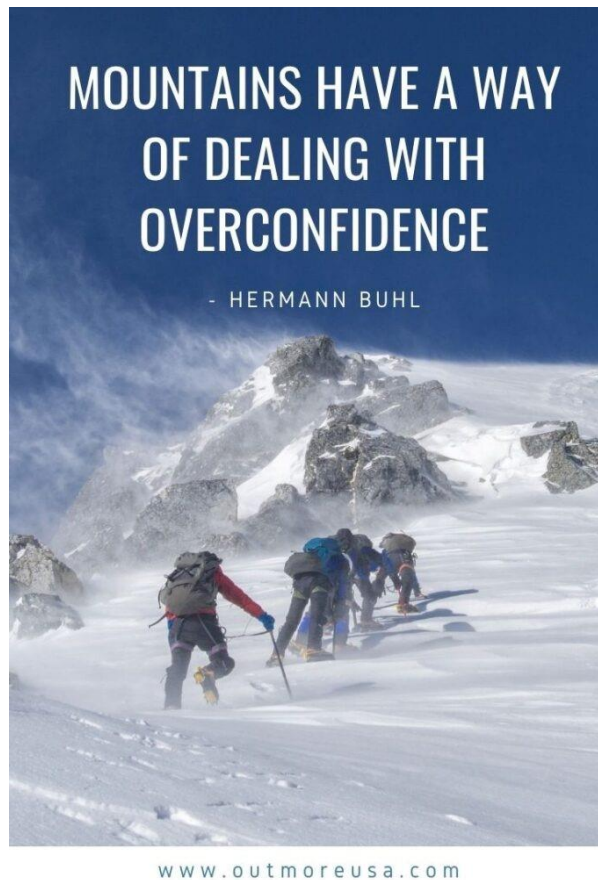
Eating Our Way to Extinction, a video documentary, 2021, 1 hour 22 minutes, [click here](#)

The Ocean Cleanup, 8 minutes, [click here](#)

**Previous video recommendations are here.** <http://www.dallassierraclub.org/page.htm?videos>

**Please give us YOUR viewing recommendations via** [newsletter@dallassierraclub.org](mailto:newsletter@dallassierraclub.org)

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## Et Cetera

**It is the mountain that has been calling me, and it's time to answer. - Susan Jagannath**

The closer you are to nature, the further you are from idiots.

**To summit all up . . . we had a great time.**

### Limerick

Man's election bid sure is a strain.  
Tries to woo campers' votes, not complain.  
    Since the man just abhors  
    Being in the outdoors,  
He just mutters about the camp pain.  
- by Kirk Miller

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## Let Us Know

Please let us know **your opinion**. Give us **an article** for the newsletter. Give us **feedback** on articles. What would you like to see in the newsletter? Changes? Improvements? What **books** and **videos** do you recommend? Please let us know. This is YOUR newsletter. Feedback is welcome (comments, suggestions,

letters to the Editor, etc.). Submit feedback to [newsletter@dallassierraclub.org](mailto:newsletter@dallassierraclub.org)

Previous issues of our newsletter are available [here](#).

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## Videos of prior General Meetings are on YouTube

[Click here](#) for a list of meetings with varied topics such as national parks, Critterman, beautiful photos from around the world, wild animals, activism, and more.



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## Dallas Sierra Club Outreach Speakers Program - Speakers for Your Group

The Dallas Sierra Club provides outdoor/environmental education in the form of entertaining and informative presentations by Dallas Sierra Club members with expertise in the topics offered. These presentations range in length from 30 minutes to one hour and cover a variety of topics in the general categories of outdoor adventure, environmental education, and general ecology. These talks are appropriate for a wide range of audiences including youth groups, school classes, civic and social groups, nature and gardening clubs, church groups, etc. Any group interested in an available topic is welcome to contact us. To see available topics and to schedule your speaker, [click here](#).

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## Calendar of Upcoming Events

Here is our calendar for the next few months. For complete listings, click [here](#).

### November 8, Tuesday - General Meeting

Environmental Commission Update - [click here](#) for details.

### December 7, Wednesday - Dallas Sierra Club Executive Committee (Excom) Meeting

The Executive Committee (Excom) is the elected governing body of the Dallas Sierra Club and meets at 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM. For more information, contact the Dallas Group Chair.

### December 11, Sunday - Dallas Sierra Club Holiday Party

[Click here](#) for details.

### January 10, Tuesday - General Meeting

Details will be on our Club's website soon.

### January 28, Saturday - Backpacking 101 Class

Details will be on our Club's website soon.

### February 8 - 12, Wednesday - Sunday - Big Bend National Park Hiking, Camping and Exploring Trip

[Click here](#) for details.

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