



SIERRA TAMPA BAY GROUP CLUB



Explore Enjoy and Protect the Planet September / October 2019

Program & General Meeting

When: Wednesday September 11, October 9

6:30 pm: Social Time

7:00 pm: General Meeting and Program.

Location: Seminole Heights Public Library, 4711 Central Ave. Tampa (just south of Hillsborough Ave. and west of I-275, corner of W Osborne Ave.) All Tampa Bay Sierra Club meetings are free and open to the public. For more information contact Kent Bailey at kent.bailey@florida.sierraclub.org

has been impounded for over 100 years. Beginning in the 1970s, there were many years with prolonged periods of no flow over the Hillsborough River dam. The impact of minimum flows for the Lower Hillsborough River, implemented in 2002 and increased over the years will be discussed as well as the ongoing recovery strategy that identifies the four water sources to be used to provide minimum flows to the lower Hillsborough: Sulphur Springs, Blue Sink, the Tampa Bypass Canal, and Morris Bridge Sink.

September 11, Program: Tidal ecosystems of Tampa Bay's rivers.

Speaker: Biologist Sid Flannery



Recently Retired Environmental Scientist Sid Flannery has over 35 years experience doing ecological research, management plans and protecting Florida's fresh and estuarine waters, especially related to minimum flows. Sid will discuss the major rivers that flow to Tampa Bay: the Alafia and the Little Manatee Rivers, where withdrawals are taken from each river using the percent-of-flow approach and stored in off-stream reservoirs; and the Hillsborough River, which

October 9, Program:

Program: The Endangered Species Act

Speaker: Rocky Milburn

Nationally Recognized Sierra Club Leader Rocky Milburn will talk about the impact of proposed changes to the Endangered Species Act and the plight of iconic national and Floridian species. As an outings leader and birder with decades of experience, Rocky has seen firsthand the impact of humans on biological diversity. Always an entertaining presenter with a lot to say, you will leave this meeting with the knowledge of what you can do to protect our wild America.



Its Time for Bold Action - SUPPORT YOUTH CLIMATE STRIKES!

On **September 20, 2019**, The Peoples Climate Movement is joining Future Coalition, 350.org and many more to activate thousands of people around the country who want real solutions to the climate crisis.

Just three days before the UN Climate Summit in New York City when world leaders will convene with the goal of deepening climate ambition, young people and adults will strike all across the US and the world to demand transformative action be taken to address the climate crisis. Millions of people will take the streets to demand a right to a future, and we're inviting you to #strikewithus

Its become abundantly apparent that we can't wait any longer to take bold action on climate change. From runaway wildfires, to killer storms, to stark government reports the dire consequences for inaction around climate are clear. We have to act now.

For more information, please visit strikewithus.org.



2019 Executive Committee

Group Chairperson: Kent Bailey
(813)-986-7819
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Vice-Chair / ICO Chair / Outings Chair: Rocky Milburn
(813) 966-9785
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Co-Treasurer: Don Kruse
Don.kruse@florida.sierraclub.org

Co-Treasurer: Karen Michalski
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Conservation: Nancy Stevens
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Transportation Chair: Christopher Gleason

Membership Chair: Gary Gibbons
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Energy Chair: Bob Howell
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Ex-Com: Pat Kemp
pat.kemp@florida.sierraclub.org

Other Officers & Assignments

Secretary: Linda Hugues
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Webmaster: Marcia Biggs
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Political Chair: Beverly Griffiths
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Newsletter: Corky Crowley
(813) 968-4110
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Recycling Chair: Barbara Heineken
Stadium Recycling Initiative: Dave Varrieur (813) 503-6970
dave.varrieur@florida.sierraclub.org

ICO Webmaster: Bob Rice
bob.rice@florida.sierraclub.org

Social Media Coordinator: Rob Jordan.

Sierra Florida Office: 727 824-8813

Driving an EV – Update

I have over 6 thousand miles on my 2019 Bolt. Here is an update. Driving these 6 thousand miles, I have utilized charging stations, other than my home – never. I made trips from my house in north-central Pasco County to Gainesville, then to Inverness, then to Tampa and then to home. When I got home, I had indicated on the dash, sufficient charge to repeat the trip.



Unfortunately, we live in an age of disinformation. Not only by our Government, by corporations as well. The need, as expressed by these corporations, for massive charging infrastructure merely is bogus. If you are accustomed to driving around on fumes in your gas tank and entering the WaWa sputtering, filling up, and bounding out 10 minutes later – you are in for a rude shock. That is NOT going to happen with today's or even the foreseeable, EV charging technology. To get any reasonable level of charge is going to take you 90 minutes even at a fast DC charger. Do you want to spend 90 minutes at the WaWa?

I have a level 2 charger at my home (cost me \$220 + installation for you). When I plug the Bolt in at night, it usually says I will have a full charge around 2 am. For the day, I do not have to search for a charging station. Not unless I am going to make a 125 mile round trip (with A/C). Plugging into every charger I can find is like pulling in to every 3rd Racetrac to top off. We do need chargers, at places people linger. They need to be at parking facilities, parks, airports, amusement parks, hospitals, hotels, anywhere you will spend an hour or more. The clamor for charging infrastructure is a delaying tactic by the corporations that will suffer if EV s are widely adopted. You know who they are. Bob Howell – Chair – The Adventure Coast Group

TAMPA BAY



Join our **Meetup Page** online where all outings are posted. Go to www.meetup.com/Sierra-Club-Groups-of-the-Greater-Tampa-Bay-Florida-Area

and click on Join Us! Receive notices when new outings are added.

Florida Seller of Travel Reference No. ST37115

To participate in the Sierra Club's Outings, you need to sign liability waiver, call: **(415) 977-5630** or

www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/

Please **RSVP** and check details on these outings as well as others at <https://www.sierraclub.org/florida/tampa-bay/outings>

Traveling this fall? Remember to check out local outings here in the State of Florida, and in other States as well, by going to the State Chapter Outings page.



Tampa Bay Inspiring Connection Outdoors

If you are interested in volunteering for the 2019-20 season, please contact **Rocky Milburn, 813-966-9785, tbico@live.com**



Conservation Committee Report: The Conservation Committee and Transportation and Water Sub-Committees meet on Mondays, **September 9 and October 14** at 6:30 PM at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 5103 North Central Ave, Tampa. We meet in the Snyder Building, directly behind the church.

There are many things going on right now, and the more volunteers we have, the more we can do! Come to the meeting to learn more and see where you might want to get involved.

WATER: Tampa continues to push Toilet to TAP, without providing an analysis of other alternative ways to provide safe water or promoting conservation to decrease demand. They have not been transparent about what potentially harmful but not yet regulated pollutants are in the wastewater. With so many unanswered questions, it is unclear what negative effects of injecting wastewater into the aquifer and using it for drinking water will be. Florida Potable Reuse Commission is developing standards for water reuse such as proposed by the Tampa Augmentation Project (TAP) – Benjamin Ochshorn, Water sub-committee chair.

LAND: Upper Tampa Bay Trail – we are still concerned about developer plans to cross the trail to access proposed development, resulting in 1000 cars per day crossing popular Hillsborough trail.

TAMPA BAY: There are commercial venture rented horses for riding in the beach area near the Skyway Bridge. This area is designated an Aquatic Preserve to maintain it for future generations. Horseback riding can harm sea grasses and horse feces can contaminate the ecosystem. A task force is being formed to study this.

CLEAN AIR: Ready for 100 Launch: We will work with new Tampa Mayor Jane Castor, City Council and County Commissioners to sign up Tampa for 100% Renewable energy. There will be a launch sometime in July. If you would like to join this effort, contact Phil Compton: phil.compton@sierraclub.org, 813-841-3601.

STATE: Unfortunately, the Governor signed HB 1159, which would negate some of the benefits of newly passed Tampa Tree Ordinance.

If you would like to keep up to date on these and other Conservation Committee topics via email, please contact Nancy Stevens, Chair, Conservation Committee Tampa Bay Sierra Club,

Nancy.Stevens@Florida.SierraClub.org



The Sierra Club's Stadium Recycling Initiative:

Now seeking volunteers for the **2019-20** season to help recycle bottles, cans and plastics for the Tampa Sports Authority at Raymond James Stadium!



Sierra Club volunteers show up 2 hours prior to the events and are assigned a recycling station and asks patrons to please recycle using the blue containers around the stadium. It is fun, easy and a great way to get into stadium events for free!

This includes all Tampa Bay Buccaneer and USF Bulls home games and special events during the year. In order to get involved, you only need a Sierra Club membership and a great attitude.

Please email coordinator Dave Varrieur at dave.varrieur@florida.sierraclub.org

USF Botanical Gardens 2019 Fall Plant Festival

**Located at USF Botanical Gardens
4202 E. Fowler Ave.**

**October Saturday 12, from 10am to 3pm &
Sunday 13, from 10am to 2pm**

Admission is \$5.00, USF Botanical Garden members and children under 12 are free.

Family activities include free children's activity area.

On Saturday at:

11am: Fall vegetable gardening workshop

12 noon: Native Plants workshop

1pm: Orchid growing basics talk

On Sunday from 11 to 1pm annual

Honey tasting. There will be garden beekeepers on hand to talk about beekeeping and give tours of the Apiary.





Sierra Club Tampa Bay Group

September / October 2019



Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TAMPA, FL
Permit No. **2834**

Address Changes:

Please call (415) 977-5653 or email address.changes@sierraclub.org
Include your membership number located on the mailing label.

Tampa Bay Group
P.O. Box 1596
Thonotosassa, Florida 33592

Web:
florida.sierraclub.org/tampabay



Membership: Join today for just \$15.00 and receive a FREE Sierra Club 1892 style Rucksack at www.sierraclub.org



My Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
E-mail _____
 Check enclosed, made payable to *Sierra Club*
Please charge my: MasterCard Visa
Exp. Date _____ / _____
Cardholder Name _____
Card Number _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES INDIVIDUAL JOINT

INTRODUCTORY	\$15	\$20
REGULAR	\$39	\$49
SUPPORTING	\$75	\$100
CONTRIBUTING	\$150	\$175
LIFE	\$1000	\$1250
SENIOR	\$25	\$35
STUDENT	\$25	\$35
LIMITED INCOME	\$25	\$35

SIERRA CLUB
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We're Having An Election - Step Up Your Involvement in Sierra Club

The Executive Committee of the Tampa Bay Group of the Sierra Club ("Ex-Com" for short) is now accepting nominations for people to serve on this committee. The Ex-Com manages and helps determine the focus and direction of our local Sierra Club Group, as well as being responsible for managing the Group's finances. We have FIVE positions to be filled and we are hoping to have a minimum of SEVEN candidates running to fill those slots.

September 20, 2019 is the deadline for submitting your name as a candidate for this election. Please submit your name to the Nominating Committee by **contacting Gary Gibbons at: ggibbons@gibblaw.com or mail your request to: Gary Gibbons, 3321 Henderson Blvd., Tampa, FL, 33609.** Please submit a short written biographical sketch (100 words or less) about yourself, your involvement in environmental causes, and why you want to serve on the Ex-Com. This information will be published in our newsletter in connection with the paper ballots that are used for the election.

October 9, 2019: At our October Membership Meeting at the Seminole Heights Library, all candidates will have an opportunity to introduce themselves to the members and give a short campaign speech.

Voting is by mailed paper ballots found in the November Newsletter, which must be mailed back and postmarked no later than December 1. At our Holiday Party on December 11, the results of the Election will be announced and the 2020 Ex-Com Members will be introduced. Please take this next important step in your personal efforts to protect our fragile environment by submitting your name in nomination for our local Executive Committee.