

BROWARD SIERRA CLUB EXCOM ELECTIONS

– by Philip Busey, Broward Sierra Excom Chair

Sierra Club fosters open democratic decision making. According to Group bylaws, management of the affairs and activities of the Sierra Club Broward Group is in the hands of an ExCom (Executive Committee) of 7 members elected by Group members to 2-year terms. This year four ExCom terms expire. An election must be held in the fourth quarter.

Candidates listed below have been reported by the Nominating Committee (Judy Kuchta, Barbara Curtis, and Pat Widener). Petition candidates may also be submitted, which are any Group members who give consent, and who are proposed in writing by at least 20 Group members prior to the close of nominations which will be November 1, 2011. Each signature must be accompanied by the date of signing and the membership number and/or address of the signer. On the date the petition is signed, the signer must have been a Sierra Club member for at least 60 days.

In November, every Group member will receive a ballot and will have at least four weeks to return it by mail, email, or by handing it in to the Elections Committee at the December 1st Holiday Party. This is the first year that we are allowed to vote electronically, but members are not required to vote electronically. Each individual member of record will have one ballot; joint memberships have two ballots.

Here, in their own words, are brief biographies by the candidates from the Nominating Committee. Any petition candidates have an opportunity to submit a brief biography which will also be published to members.

Hawk Arachy

Thank you for considering me for the Excom position. The Sierra Club is very dear to my heart. The organization is what started me on my path of working toward sustaining environmental and habitat issues. It would be a great honor for me to work toward implementing the organization's goals through the Excom position.

My areas of specialty involve climate change advisory services that promote understanding of the environmental impacts of climate change. Specific areas include carbon and water markets; green buildings, design, and specifications; sustainable management systems; corporate social responsibility; waste and energy

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Thursday, Oct. 6th: Robert Hartsell, head of Nova University Law's environmental law program, will be speaking about the important and integral role advocates play towards litigation.

Thursday, Nov. 3rd: Switching Gears: Protecting Big Fish in the Gulf of Mexico.

The Pew Environment Group's Cameron Jaggard will discuss the threat of surface longlines to Gulf marine life and the progress that the Pew Environment Group and its partners have made towards implementing a comprehensive, long-term solution. The presentation includes new video footage of alternative fishing gears in action, a short film on Gulf surface longlines, and updates on campaign progress to date. Cameron will also provide club leadership and membership with quick, easy ways to take action.

To learn more about the campaign, please visit www.pewenvironment.org/gulftuna.

Broward Sierra News



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

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<http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BrowardSierra>

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We hope you enjoy our newsletter. Why not join us right now? Come along on an outing. Get involved, learn about local environmental issues and how they affect you and your community. Just use the form on the back page, or go to our website at <http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>, and click on the "Become a member" link.

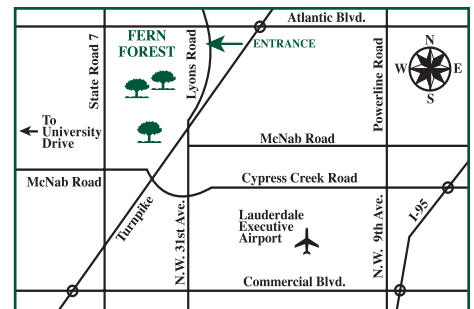
Broward Sierra Club's General Meetings

are held at 7:30 pm on the first Thursday of each month at the Fern Forest Nature Center. In addition to committee reports, each month we have an educational program on conservation or ecological issues.

DIRECTIONS:

The Fern Forest Nature Center is located at 201 Lyons Road South, Coconut Creek, just south of Atlantic Blvd. on the west side of the street. (If you are coming from the south, NW 31 Ave. becomes NW 46 Ave., and then Lyons Rd., as you pass under the turnpike). **Make sure to check our website for changes or updates of the programs.**

Doors open at 7:00 PM. Committee reports begin at 7:30, and the program begins at 8:00. The meeting is open to the public at no charge.





**SIERRA
CLUB**
FOUNDED 1892

The Broward Sierra Club Leaders

Executive Committee Chair

Phil Busey, 954-579-3932
philip@busey.org

Vice Chair

Ina Topper 954-722-9944
irtopper2000@cs.com

Treasurer

Max Goldstein 954-296-3411
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Secretary

Open

Conservation Chair

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Education / Recycling Chair

Ina Topper 954-722-9944
irtopper2000@cs.com

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Outings Chair

Judy Kuchta 305-308-8913
judykuchta@yahoo.com

Political Chair

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blackwelderb@nsu.law.nova.edu

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Barbara Ruge, 954-484-3229
b-realtor@att.net

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Carole Walsh 954-987-3642
carole_walsh@comcast.net

Executive Committee Meetings

are usually held on the first Tuesday of each month. Contact Phil Busey at 954-579-3932 or philip@busey.org for time and location.

Broward Sierra News is published every other month for the members of the Broward County Group, Florida Chapter of the Sierra Club. Subscriptions are available for non-members. Send inquiries to: **Broward Sierra News**, P.O. Box 550561, Davie, FL 33355

Membership Corrections -

To expedite any membership change (new addresses, etc.) or problems with your membership records please send your name, member number, old and new address or problem to: **Member Services**, 85 Second Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3441. Phone 415-977-5653 or e-mail: <address.changes@sierraclub.org> or <membership.services@sierraclub.org>

The Broward Sierra News will be available every other month in electronic format. Additionally, to keep you apprised of current Broward Sierra Club events, they will be listed on our website: <http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>. If you would like to receive reminders of these events e-mailed to you, you will need to **subscribe to our Yahoo newsgroup**. The address is: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BrowardSierra>. Simply click on the blue "Join this Group" icon and follow the instructions. You may have to create a Yahoo ID first, which is easy and free. This will also allow you to sign up for any of the other numerous Yahoo groups.

ANNUAL AUGUST BROWARD SIERRA CLUB PICNIC

– By Ina Oost Topper, Educational Chair

The first thing I want to say is that I was so pleased with the turnout at our Annual Picnic on the Beach at the John U. Lloyd State Park. What a wonderful group of people! And it's always nice to see new faces time and again. By all means Sierrans, DO bring along your family, friends, acquaintances, colleagues etc., to our events. Let's face it, if we want some new additions to our Broward Sierra group, these are the occasions for them to get to know us, and to know what we Sierrans are all about.

Judy Kuchta organized the event and made sure we were all fed with healthy and environmentally friendly food and refreshments. Max Goldstein did again a very nice job enlightening us about the informative side of the Sierra Club; after all this aspect is always important. And Matt gave us an intensive update on the Everglades issue and the panther. (We're still surprised to always learn a few extra things, at these gatherings.) The weather was very cooperative: an overcast sky - finally! We can certainly use that during the hot months in Florida. The food was delicious, as usual, with the emphasis on vegetarian. Also, thank you all for bringing those creative dishes! See you next time, and hopefully, even well before that at our other outings and activities.

Excom Elections, continued from page 2

technologies; life cycle analysis; eco-tourism; and environmental management.

I have participated and currently involved in many municipality advisory groups: Florida Green Building Coalition, City of Ft. Lauderdale Smart Watts Committee, Greenhouse Gas/Energy Conservation Team, Ecology Project, Community Awareness Environmental Committee, American Wildlands, Harvard Office for Sustainable, Green the Capitol; U.S. House of Representatives, and the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Board of Sunrise.

I hold a B.A. Summa Cum Laude in Psychology from Florida Atlantic University, and a Masters in Environmental Science from Harvard University.

Arthur Joseph

I am seeking your vote as I run for a position on the Executive Committee of the Broward Sierra Club. I am a retired FAA air traffic controller who served for 36 years at the Miami Air Route Traffic Control Center. I have been an active member of the Sierra Club since 2003 and have been outspoken supporter of many environmental issues at many hearings and meetings held by various governmental bodies. I am also an active member of the South Florida Audubon Society and Green League of Broward. I also support the Sea Shepherds in their fight

against the Japanese whalers (as seen many times on the television show "Whale Wars"). In recent times, maybe more so than ever, it has become quite obvious that a gathering swell of anti-environmentalists are raising their voices against what the Sierra Club and other pro-environmental groups stand for. I believe my voice and dedication can and should be part of the staunch opposition to these naysayers. If elected I will not only talk the talk but I will also walk the walk. If you choose me let me thank you in advance for your support.

Stanley Pannaman

I have been a member of the Sierra Club for over 20 years. I am an active member of the Audubon Society Broward County chapter, and the green league of Broward County. At the present time I am a staff member working with Sea Turtle Oversight Protection monitoring sea turtle nests on the beaches of Fort Lauderdale. In the past I have worked with the Broward County Sierra Club protesting the BP Deep Water Horizon oil spill. Work with other members, and other environmental groups to stop the construction of the Everglades Corporate Park. I have also represented the Broward County Sierra Club in our booth at festivals, and other events.

Barbara Ruge

I sincerely wish to occupy a seat on your Broward Group's Executive Committee. Sierra Club is educational, brings me joy, new-

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Local Sierra Club Outings & Events

To preserve a place, you must believe in it. To believe in it, you must see it.



OCT. 1, SAT. 9AM. TREE TOPS PARK. 3900 SW 100th Avenue, Davie. Moderate 2 hour walk. The 243.3 acres of this park range from 23 acres of restored freshwater marsh accessible by a 1,000-foot boardwalk to the 102.2-acre Pine Island Ridge, an archaeological site that includes equestrian and nature trails and, at 29 feet above sea level, is the highest natural elevation in Broward County. *Cost: Member \$3, Non-members \$4 plus Park entrance fee of \$1.50. Bring your own lunch.* Contact Barbara Curtis at 954-946-7359 for reservations.



OCT. 13, THURS. 11AM. RECYCLING ENRICHMENT. We'll be visiting Reuter Recycling Facility in West Pembroke Pines, the largest recycling center in the S.E. United States. We'll learn from their lecture and videos about recycling and its importance to our planet. This is particularly exciting because Florida's goal is to recycle 75% of the trash coming from homes by 2020. This is a hefty goal and we need to be part of the movement. Carpooling is encouraged. Limit 30. *Cost: Free.* Leader: Judy Kuchta 305-308-8913 or judykuchta@yahoo.com. Afterwards, let's go to lunch (not included) at:



OCT. 13, THURS. CALIFORNIA PIZZA KITCHEN'S SIERRA CLUB FUNDRAISER. Bring a copy of our flyer (which will be available for download at <http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward/flyer>) to the California Pizza Kitchen in the Pembroke Lakes Mall at 11401 Pines Blvd, Pembroke Pines (954-432-1498), and 20% of your check will be donated to the Sierra Club. Enjoy a delicious hearth-baked pizza AND support the good work of the Sierra Club.



OCT. 29, SAT. JOIN US FOR THE FIRST SWAMPWALK OF THE SEASON in the beautiful Addition Lands of the Big Cypress National Preserve. Expect about 5 to 7 miles of hiking in wet conditions through one of the most pristine parts of south Florida which remains. Rated moderate. Contact Matt Schwartz at matthew3222@yahoo.com or 954-634-7173. These trips fill up so sign up early.



NOV. 6, SUN. SIERRA CLUB 3 HOUR BEAUTIFICATION PARTY to keep Fern Forest Nature Center at 201 Lyons Rd., Coconut Creek as pristine and 'native' as possible. A great Community Service project. We'll meet downstairs in the nature center at 9am and we'll be out by lunchtime. This is an opportunity to learn about some of the challenges of maintaining and upgrading a natural area, while returning something to the park for the beautiful meeting room they provide to us. No experience or tools needed. Bring a hat, water, sunscreen and substantial footwear and clothing for working outdoors, in the brush. Contact: Jackie Fisher 954-434-2855 or jsf812@bellsouth.net.



NOV. 10, THURS. NIGHT HIKE AT SECRET WOODS NATURE CENTER 6 pm. Explore the little known green space near Port Everglades and the airport where I-95 and I-595 meet. Dense canopy of mangroves along the south fork of New River. Great birding, bats, crabs and spiders that glow in the dark. Top notch nature center and boardwalks. Limit 10. *Must send \$7 check by Nov 1. Includes \$4 to park, \$3 for Sierra outings program.* Leader: Barbara Curtis, 954 946-7359.



NOV. 19, SAT. HIKE THE BIG CYPRESS NATIONAL PRESERVE WILDERNESS TRAIL. We'll hike approximately 8 miles on a wilderness trail, off a section of the Florida National Scenic Trail, north of Alligator Alley (about 50 minutes from downtown Ft. Lauderdale). You will learn the difference a few inches of elevation makes to the local flora, as you trek through cypress forest, hammocks and prairie. We will walk at a leisurely pace, allowing for identification of birds, wildflowers, plants and butterflies. Bring your own lunch to eat on the trail. Rated moderate due to distance and uneven footing. *Suggested donation of \$3 members, \$5 for non-members.* Leader: Jackie Fisher 954-434-2855 or jsf812@bellsouth.net, Assistant: Kip Fisher 954-434-2855.



DEC. 10, SAT. SHARK VALLEY MOONLIGHT BIKE RIDE FUNDRAISER. Enjoy the spectacular view of the sun setting and minutes later the moon rising. This 15 mile ride is on flat paved terrain. It is moderately strenuous but we take our time and enjoy the birds and alligators in the River of Grass. There won't be a fancy buffet this time so we encourage you to bring your own snack (and if you like, something to share). Suggested donation: \$5 members \$6 non members. All proceeds go towards our "Save the Panther Fund." Leader Judy Kuchta judykuchta@yahoo.com, Assistant: Hawk Arachy



DEC. 11, SUN. SIERRA CLUB 3 HOUR BEAUTIFICATION PARTY to keep Fern Forest Nature Center at 201 Lyons Rd., Coconut Creek as pristine and 'native' as possible. A great Community Service project. We'll meet downstairs in the nature center at 9am and we'll be out by lunchtime. This is an opportunity to learn about some of the challenges of maintaining and upgrading a natural area, while returning something to the park for the beautiful meeting room they provide to us. No experience or tools needed. Bring a hat, water, sunscreen and substantial footwear and clothing for working outdoors, in the brush. Contact: Jackie Fisher 954-434-2855 or jsf812@bellsouth.net.

Outing Leaders Wanted. Outing Leaders get involved, get active, meet new people, have fun, and attend their outings for free. (Assistant Leaders attend for half price.) If you are interested, contact Judy at 305-308-8913 or <judykuchta@yahoo.com>.

We would like to invite you to come on one of our fun and educational outings! If you have any questions about an outing, please check with the certified Sierra Outing Leader listed for the outing. Some of the outings need no experience; others require some level of proficiency. All participants are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read the Liability Waiver before you choose to participate in an outing, contact the leader of the outing or go to <www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms>.

Florida Seller of Travel Ref. No. ST37115

Unless otherwise stated, the costs for each outing represent a best estimate of actual shared expenses, for food and transportation and other direct expenses.

For sign-up, payment and further information, please contact the outing leader.

LOOK FOR UPDATED INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE:

<<http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>>

found friends, and bolsters my personal mission to make a difference. I send emails in support of Sierra's fight for Big Cypress Preserve and anti-nuclear position, and promote Sierra causes to my large base of contacts. You can see me at Hands Across the Sand, anti-oil protests, and rallies for the rights of "people over profits." An active member of five Democratic Clubs, I attend one or more meetings, candidate fundraisers and party conventions per week. I gain access to public officials and individuals who can influence Sierra's causes. Through an online network, we promote the health and welfare of people, animals, and our environment to thousands of eco-minded friends, signing and sending petitions daily to governing representatives.

Personally, Ron and I have always lived with a humble respect for our Earth. As owner of L'Amour Florida Realty, I utilize my business to promote issues of land, air, water, and wildlife. Client sellers and L'Amour Florida allocate a portion of commissions as tax-deductible donations to Sierra Foundation or EDF. L'Amour also gifts to client buyers an energy audit, identifying ways owners can save money, reduce consumption and enjoy a healthier home. L'Amour Florida hosted a vendor table at Earth Day in April, and considering Broward Green Expo in November. Thank you for your consideration. "Love Florida greener? Ask me how."



"Every good thing, great and small, needs defense."
 – John Muir

Matthew Schwartz

Current Conservation Chair for the Broward Sierra Club, up for reelection, he also serves on the Sierra Club's Everglades Committee and National Wildlands Committee where he has been active in promoting wilderness designation for national parks and citizen stewardship of public lands. Matthew holds master's degrees in counseling and sociology and has worked as an educator, researcher and counselor. He writes frequently on Everglades topics, and his conservation work has been featured in various local and national newspapers, as well as radio and television. His "swampwalks" to remote sections of the Big Cypress National Preserve are a popular activity for local Sierra Club members.. In addition to his work in the Sierra Club, Matthew serves as Executive Director of the South Florida Wildlands Association.

Matthew is originally from Brooklyn, NY. He grew up fishing on piers throughout the greater New York metropolitan area and credits that experience with his lifelong devotion to wildlife and habitat. In his free time, Matthew enjoys dancing, music, yoga and tai-chi, photography, independent cinema and global trekking.

Mara Shlackman

Current Legal Chair of the Broward Sierra Club, up for reelection, and is a past member of EXCOM. She is the former co-chair of the Sierra Club Florida Chapter Legal Committee. Mara has participated in the Broward Sierra Political Committee, researching candidates and attending interviews for the endorsement process. Mara has attended many public hearings of local, state, and federal agencies to submit public comments on environmental issues in our community, and also enjoys going on Club Outings to appreciate wildlife and natural habitats.

Ina Oost Topper

Current Educational Chair for the Broward Sierra Club, up for reelection. Longtime Sierra member and environmentalist. Background in teaching - Social Sciences & foreign language instruction, with a Masters Degree in International Studies. Also extensive work over the past 20-plus years, during the summer months, as a Tour Guide throughout North America's National Parks. (Strong objective: aiming for much more recycling here in Broward County and throughout South Florida.)



DONATE TO PROTECT THE FLORIDA PANTHER



You can help protect the Florida Panther and wilderness through litigation and education. This is fund of The Sierra Club Foundation created by your Broward Group. Your tax-deductible gift will support our lawsuit challenging the National Park Service plan to put 130 miles of off-road vehicle (ORV) trails in Big Cypress National Preserve, habitat of the Florida Panther.

Please make your check payable to:
 The Sierra Club Foundation
 In the notes, write "for Florida Panther"
 Mail your donation to:
 Broward Sierra, P.O. Box 550561, Davie, FL 33355

Join the Sierra Club and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag! (While supplies last)

Yes, I want to join the Sierra Club! I want to help safeguard our nation's precious natural heritage and receive a free Sierra Club Weekender Bag. My payment is enclosed.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (optional) (____) _____

E-mail (optional) _____

Check enclosed, payable to Sierra Club Mastercard Visa AmEx

Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____ Exp. Date ____/____/____

Contributions, gifts or dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

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Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49	Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175	Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

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