



CauseWays

The Newsletter for the Sierra Club Miami Group
Vol. 35 No. 4 April 2005

Earth Day Edition



Annual Sierra Club Picnic April 17

Earth Day is coming and so is the Miami Group Annual Picnic so grab your calendars and plan to join us. This year's picnic will be held at A. D. Barnes Park on Sunday, April 17.

The picnic will start at 1 p.m. and end at 6 pm with food cooked and served between 2 pm and 5 pm. Plan to bring your own pot luck dish of salads, veggies or desserts to share. Let's see all those great recipes you have been perfecting. We will server our standard burgers, veggie burgers, hotdogs, beer and soda. Don't forget to bring your own utensils (cup, plate, knife, fork and spoon). We have plastic sets, but they will cost you an extra dollar.

Advance tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. If you wait to the day of the picnic, the price will be \$8 for adults and \$5 for children. Please buy your tickets early and reserve your

spot so we know how much food to buy and prepare. You can get your tickets at the April monthly meetings or send your check to Jim Gross, 6470 SW 74 Street, Miami, FL, 33143 (305-665-2401).

A.D. Barnes Park is located on the northeast corner of Bird Road (SW 40 Street) and SW 72nd Avenue. The park entrance is on SW 72 Avenue. After you enter the park, take the first left. We have reserved Pavilion 4, the last pavilion, on your right, near the baseball field.

If you want to help us at the picnic or are not sure what to bring, please call Lee and Diane Jacobs at 305-667-6962. The picnic is for the benefit of the Miami Group's Outreach Committee.



Sharing Values: The Fight to Protect the Urban Development Boundary

Sierra Club is one of twenty-nine homeowner and civic organizations that have joined the campaign to Hold The Line - on urban sprawl and the nightmare of overdevelopment. (To learn more go to <http://udbline.com>) What is notable about this campaign is that it is unifying diverse interests and allies who are not traditionally considered environmentalist.

For years, Sierra Club has been working to inform the public of the problems created and compounded by suburban sprawl—understanding full well that protecting natural resources depends on strengthening the ties of urban communities. Miami—with a development boom pressing directly on Everglades National Park and Biscayne National Park—turns out to be the place where resolving these connections is a priority of the highest order.

The Urban Environment League of Greater Miami recently conducted a public opinion survey, using a professional pollster closely associated with Republican candidates and issues. The

poll, which surveyed public attitudes in English and in Spanish towards traffic congestion, targeted mostly Republican precincts in Miami-Dade county.

What is unusual about the UEL public opinion survey is that the majority of people, on the order of 75 percent, understand that excessive traffic is harming families and hurting economic opportunity.

The solution lies in fairly accounting for the costs of growth and providing greater choices for people in housing and in transportation. We can protect our natural areas and the places where people live, but it requires new thinking, new energy, and new involvement.

Some very powerful officials understand these values and have voiced support for maintaining the Urban Development Boundary: Governor Jeb Bush, county mayor Carlos Alvarez, and county commissioner Katy Sorenson. We owe them our gratitude for acknowledging our shared values.

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Our General Meeting

The Miami Sierra Club meets on the second Monday of every month at the Coral Gables Woman's Club. Doors normally open at 7 p.m. for outings signup and socializing and the program starts at 8 p.m.

The next meeting is April 11 and the speaker is Janet England who will be describing her exotic travels to Antarctica.

The Woman's Club is located at 1001 East Ponce De Leon Boulevard, in Coral Gables (one block east of Ponce, one block south of 8th Street).

April Earth Month Events

- April 7 - Fairchild Environmental Imersion Day
- April 8 - North Miami Beach Water Fest, St. Thomas University
- April 9 - Environmental Fair at Edison Branch Library
- April 9 - Kendall Indian hammocks Restoration Work Day, 9am- noon
- April 10 - Earth Expo '05, S. Point Park on Miami Beach
- April 10 - Clyde Butcher Art Opening, Marjorie Stoneman Douglas Nature Center
- April 16 - Bayanza Biscayne Bay Cleanup
- April 20 - Citizens Earth Day Celebration at Citrus Grove Elementary School
- April 23 - Earth Day Celebration in Little Haiti
- May 7 & 8 - Wildlife Weekend at Miami Museum of Science

We need volunteers who like to staff a Sierra table at these festivals. Call Maria Papazian, 305-519-0877.



Sierrans Needed

The Infrastructure and Land Use Committee will hold a public hearing on April 12, as a second reading of an ordinance permitting an annexation request by Florida City.

The hearing will take place at the Stephen Clark Government Center, 1 NW 1st Street, Miami in the county commission chamber at 9 a.m. Sierrans are needed to express our concerns. Call Rod Jude, or Mark Oncavage to help out, or just come to the meeting room and look for Sierrans.



Celebrate Earth Day: Increase Your Environmental Awareness

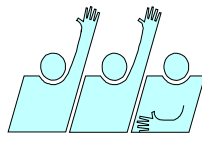


Dear Mayor Carlos Alvarez

In a recent letter to the Mayor, "The Sierra Club Miami Group wishes to thank you for your leadership in the effort to protect the Urban Development Boundary. The responsible approach you present to the public will go far in the effort to make Miami-Dade County a better community for all."

In response to last month's clamor of developers, Mayor Alvarez stated that he would oppose changing the Urban Development Boundary. In his recent State of the County address, Alvarez spoke out in favor of keeping the Urban Development Boundary exactly where it is.

Carlos Alvarez, had just past his 100th day as county mayor, and delivered a concise but clear message echoing the environmental campaign's slogan to "Hold the Line" — meaning resist pressure from developers to extend what's known as the Miami-Dade urban development boundary to permit thousands of new homes on the fringes of the county. "I do not believe moving the UDB and expanding development is the answer to our population growth," he said.



April 12 - Important Committee Meeting

The Infrastructure and Land Use Committee will hold a public hearing on April 12th, as a second reading of an ordinance permitting an annexation request by Florida City.

The hearing will take place at the Stephen Clark Government Center, 1 NW 1st Street, Miami in the county commission chamber at 9 a.m.

The Planning Advisory Board recommended against this annexation in 2004. County staff has also recommended against the annexation request. The request is supported by lobbyists and consultants who have already submitted a plan for a major development to the state on this property, involving lands now being evaluated for watershed needs. Concerned Sierrans need to attend this meeting. Call Rod Jude or Alan Farago for more information or go online at <http://udbline.com>

sewage in the state. Florida is the only state that injects sewage underground, and it has some of the worst geology for this practice, leaving drinking water supplies - and Florida residents - vulnerable. Raw sewage typically contains bacteria, viruses, and other pathogens that can cause a variety of illnesses, from mild gastroenteritis (stomach cramps and diarrhea) to life-threatening illnesses such as cholera, dysentery and infectious hepatitis.

The Safe Drinking Water Act prohibits injecting sewage if that sewage migrates into a drinking water source and could endanger public health. It also requires the state agency to take corrective action as soon as migration of sewage is detected.

The South District facility in Miami-Dade County has a long-history of violations. For more than a decade, monitoring data has revealed that sewage is migrating into sources of drinking water. However, the Jeb Bush administration has never followed up on these violations, which threaten Florida's drinking water supply. Instead the Jeb Bush administration has allowed the facility to increase the volume of sewage it can inject daily. In 2001, Jeb Bush actually wrote a letter to his brother, President Bush, asking him to relax the Safe Drinking Water Act's requirements for Florida. The Bush administration is expected to relax those standards in the near future.

President Bush has proposed a budget that cuts the Clean Water State Revolving Loan and Grant Funds, which provide money for water and sewage infrastructure, by more than \$360 million. Combined with last year's cuts, the President has requested more than \$500 million less than what Congress enacted in 2003.

- Annie Strickler, Susan Caplowe
Sierra Club, Florida Chapter

Shared Values on UDB

- continued from page 1

At first, those seeking to breach the Urban Development Boundary used the magic wand of affordable housing to promote their cause, knowing full well that very little housing in the proposed developments is "affordable". Then, the word smiths started calling the environmental groups, extremists and even religious fanatics.

If you want to see a real extremist, go talk to people who spend a huge part of their waking lives stuck in traffic, trying to get to work or get home to spend time with children left to the care of a television set.

In April and May, the Urban Development Boundary will be on the front burner of the Miami-Dade county commission with an annexation request by Florida City, for lands which have long been identified as environmentally sensitive—at the intersection of Card Sound Road and US 1—and for which a major home builder, Lennar Corp., has plans to build many thousands of housing units.

Sierrans should support redevelopment and denser urban communities in south Florida. This will strengthen the urban fabric with sound planning, incentives for redevelopment, and high barriers to growth that harms families. This will ultimately protect our quality of life and our natural resources.

- Alan Farago



Sierra Club Files Suit For Safe Drinking Water

The Sierra Club has filed a federal Safe Drinking Water Act lawsuit to prevent treated sewage from being discharged into and contaminating drinking water supplies in Florida. The suit was filed against the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. For over a decade, the state has failed to comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act and as a result Miami-Dade County's daily injections of 112.5 million gallons of treated sewage underground are migrating up into drinking water aquifers.

"The Sierra Club is acting to protect Florida's drinking water supply from sewage contamination because the Jeb Bush and George W. Bush administrations refuse to enforce basic safe drinking water laws," said John Glenn, Safe Drinking Water Issue Chair of the Sierra Club's Florida Chapter.

"The state and federal governments are allowing more sewage to be pumped underground and are taking insufficient steps to prevent this sewage from leaking into drinking water supplies."

According to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the South District Facility is the largest underground injector of municipal



Sierra Club & Beer

Sierra Club & Beer meetings take place the third Tuesday of every month. Miami Group's next one will be on Tuesday, April 19 at 6 p.m. at Titanic Brewery at 5813 Ponce de Leon Blvd., Coral Gables, 33146

Each month's gathering features a different environmental topic with opportunity for discussion and learning. You can meet and socialize with others who share concern for environment. All this, plus you get a free Beer just for showing up.

Sierra Club & Beer is a great way to learn about issues that effect us in Miami and South Florida, while having fun and meeting people. All are welcome, but only 21 and over will be served alcohol. Send an e-mail to Mike Matthews at anakanpa@yahoo.com or call Ken Smith at 305-801-6876 for more information.



Celebrate Earth Day: Increase Your Environmental Awareness



Arctic Loss

The Senate last month, voted by a razor-thin margin to take the first step towards drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as part of the Federal Budget Resolution. A bipartisan group of Senators attempted to safeguard this national treasure and the native people and wildlife that depend on it, but 51 Senators voted against an amendment to strip Arctic drilling revenues from the Budget Resolution.

"We deeply regret that 51 Senators voted to pursue special interests instead of energy solutions," said Carl Pope, Sierra Club Executive Director. "This is only the opening gambit in the chess game, and a strong, bipartisan coalition of Senators — backed by the will of the American people — will press on with a vigilant campaign to keep the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge where it belongs: wild and free and out of the budget."

The Bush administration and allies in Congress advanced their plan for Arctic drilling through the complicated budget process by slipping in an assumption of \$2.4 billion in revenues to the federal treasury from leasing and development of the Arctic Refuge. These numbers are speculative at best. Given that oil leases on the North Slope of Alaska have historically sold for about \$50 an acre, the budget figure voted on by Congress is inflated to at least 80 times that average.

Even after the vote on the Cantwell amendment, the Senate must still pass the budget resolution before it goes to the conference committee. There, they must iron out their differences with the House spending plan, which does not assume Arctic drilling revenues. The conference report is then subject to a straight up or down vote in both the House and Senate. The next step is the Budget Reconciliation Bill where Congress must pass the actual legislation to authorize opening the Arctic Refuge to drilling.

"Even the oil companies know that America's energy future does not lie in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge," said Pope.

Drilling in the Arctic Refuge has long been the

centerpiece of the Bush administration's energy policy, even there are cheaper, quicker, safer and cleaner energy solutions that allow us to safeguard the wild places Americans care so deeply about. We cannot drill our way to energy independence, but we can embrace responsible measures and real, 21st Century energy solutions that make cars go farther on a gallon of gas, promote conservation, invest in clean renewable energy, and protect our natural heritage.

When the Budget was brought to the floor, Senators Maria Cantwell (D-WA), Olympia Snowe (R-ME) and John Kerry (D-MA) offered an amendment to strip Arctic drilling revenues from the bill, which lost by a vote of 51-49.

- National Sierra



What's going on in the Florida Legislature?

With media attention everywhere but Tallahassee, the Florida Senate is proposing several bills to curb citizen involvement in government. Senators Jim King, Rod Smith, Senator Fasano and Senator Hairdopolos have proposed a resolution requiring constitutional amendments be approved by at least three-fifths of electors of state voting on a measure rather than a simple majority. Senator King proposes that amendments proposed by citizen initiative meet new standards, which would make it more difficult for voters to change their Florida constitution, and one by Senator Atwater, with the same intent. SB0006, SB0004, SB2200.

The Senate is also looking at an Agriculture bill they call Agriculture Economic Development but which environmentalists call the pave over Florida bill, making it easier to convert farm land to development. Among other things, it takes away control from local government denying anti-sprawl provisions in the case of conversion of farm land. SB716.

And finally, of particular concern are two bills that could prevent citizens from ever doing petition gathering or voter registration activities again. Those two bills are SB1996 and HB1471,

It is time to start calling your representatives in the legislature and remind them that there are voters out there that still believe they have a right to representation. And, to keep up with what happens at the great halls of Tally, subscribe to The TALLAHASSEE REPORT. It is brought to you by the Tallahassee Lobbying team made up of Big Bend Sierrans, Florida Sierra Issue Chairs, grassroots activists and our allies. We will be working hard for you and know that you will plug in as often as you can by calling, emailing, writing, or visiting your legislators. If you have any questions or need to contact us, you can send your requests to Betsy Roberts, Florida Chapter Sierra Club Conservation Chair. betsyred@comcast.net

The Chapter also has a legislative liaison who can assist you with some of your questions regarding legislation: Helen Spivey, manatees@habitats.org is the new Chapter Legislative Liaison.

- Tallahassee Report

And Now, For Some Good News...Puerto Rico Has Sierra Club Chapter

The newest Chapter of the Sierra Club was chartered February 19 by the 113-year old conservation group's national Board of Directors in San Juan. Puerto Rican Sierra Club members formally petitioned the board to become the first new Sierra Club chapter in more than 10 years. Puerto Rico will be the Club's first Spanish speaking chapter.

"It is with pride and pleasure that we welcome the Sierra Club of Puerto Rico as the 64th chapter of the Sierra Club," said national Sierra Club President Larry Fahn. "And we are proud to support the Puerto Rico Chapter's first environmental campaign calling for the permanent protection of the Northeast Ecological Corridor."

Creative Tastes
card here

Gisela Ullrich & Associates

card here

Miami Group May Outings



April 16 - Baynanza Service Project. Participate in this county-wide event of beautifying our coastal areas. Bring gloves, old clothes and lunch, if you wish. Community service hours for youth. Leisure to Moderate. Limit: no limit. Cost: None. Leader: Kaatje Bernabei, 305-223-6551. Asst: Alan Nowell, 305-270-5262 (W), alan.nowell@SFEFCU.org.

April 17 - Annual Sierra Club Picnic. See story page 1.

April 23, 24 - Prairie Lakes Backpacking. Overnight trip to Prairie Lakes for backpacking. Easy fun trip for all. Leisure. Limit 8. Cost: \$25 members, \$30 nonmembers. Leader: Dan Cruse, 305-661-2975, 6580 Santona St. #27, Coral Gables, 33146. Asst: Madeline Piero, 305-595-9376.

May 15 - Biscayne National Park Snorkel. Snorkel a beautiful reef five miles from Elliot Key with a gourmet supper afterwards in Biscayne National Park. Moderate. Limit 15. Cost: \$55 members, \$60 nonmembers. Leader: Diane Jacobs, 305-667-6962, e-mail: diane@cobb-ebin.com. Asst: Lee Jacobs.

May 28, 29, 30 - Wekiva Springs Family Camping and Canoeing. Canoe one of Florida's most popular canoe trails, Rock Springs Run. Swim in Wekiva Springs. This is a portion of Florida that has remained much as it was before settlers arrived. Moderate. Limit 15. Cost: \$120 members, \$130 non-members, \$60 children. Leader: Georgia Guerra, 305-448-6693, cell: 305-934-7296, georgiapg@msn.com. Asst: Mark Walters, 305-669-3047, Laudia63@aol.com.

Inner City Outings

April 16 - Exploration - Booker T Washington High School, Exploring Anne Kolb Nature Center Leader: Alma Rodenas (alma@icomiami.org)

April 16 - BAYNANZA. Baynanza coastal clean-up on Virginia Key Leaders: Karen Gorenstein (kareng@icomiami.org)/ Mark Walters (mark@icomiami.org)

April 22 - 24 - Backpacking - Youth Leaders Backpacking and camping at Myakka River State Park Leaders: Alma Rodenas (alma@icomiami.org), Lawrence Moon lawrence@icomiami.org, Mark Walters: mark@icomiami.org

April 22 - The Family Center (TBA) Leader: Karen Kerr karenk@icomiami.org

Inner City Outing News



Inner City Outings' Miami Group has launched a web site - www.icomiami.org. Come check out what ICO is all about. Also see our schedule of upcoming trips, pictures of past trips and posts from our volunteers.

Fundraiser: Inner City Outings is having a benefit show on Wednesday April 6. It will take place at Churchill's- A sort of English Pub- 5501 N.E. 2nd Ave There will be a band as well as drink specials- 8pm/\$3.00 entry to benefit ICO. Come meet ICO volunteers and give to a great cause.

Upcoming Meetings: ICO meetings take place the last Thursday of every month. The next meeting is April 28th and will take place at the Sierra Club field office: 2700 S.W. 3rd Ave Contact: Karen Gorenstein kareng@icomiami.org Mark Walters mark@icomiami.org



Mother Earth is Calling

The Sierra Club can be your means to promote local environmental causes and to fight back against unplanned or regulated sprawl.

The fundraising team works to raise funds to support local conservation efforts including preserving the Everglades, promoting clean water and air, and advocating for the rights of local communities. You can assist by volunteering for one of our special events, work the Sierra Club membership booth at a local festival or fair, write letters to solicit corporate donations for our upcoming silent auction, sell advertising for the CauseWays newsletter, or help market and promote the clubs activities. You can do as little or as much as you want. Volunteer projects can be done at home, on weekends, or during sunsets.

Funnel your frustration into activism. For more information, please call fundraising chair, Karen Gorenstein at 305-538-4925 or e-mail at kareng249@yahoo.com.

Sierra Yahoo! Group

Join the Miami Sierra Yahoo! Group listserve. Members receive messages on hot topics. To join, go to Yahoo! Group <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MiamiSierra>.

Giving for the Future

Many years ago, the Miami Group set up an environmental education fund with the Sierra Club Foundation. To make a tax-deductible donation, write a check to the Sierra Club Foundation: Miami Group Education Fund, and send it to Sierra Club Miami Group, Treasurer, P.O. Box 43-0741, Miami, FL. 33243-0741.

Sierra Club Miami Group
P.O. Box 43-0741

S. Miami, FL 33243-0741

Sierra Club Infoline: 305-667-7311

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Conservation: Mark Oncavage...305-251-5273

Treasurer: Dr. James Jude

Events: Mike Robinson

Political: Kent Harrison Robbins

ICO: Karen Gorenstein....karen249@yahoo.com

Membership: Ken Smith.....305-275-0180

Outings Chair: Lee Jacobs.....305-667-6962

Outings Sec.: George Fedorko....305-254-1716

Education: Maria Papazian.....305-519-0877

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Members send address changes to address.change@sierraclub.org. Include your membership number.

Join the Sierra Club

New member name:

Address:

City/State:

ZIP _____ Phone _____

Membership Categories
(circle one) Individual Joint

Introductory	\$25	
Regular	\$39	\$47
Supporting	\$75	\$100
Contributing	\$150	\$175
Life	\$1000	\$1250
Senior	\$24	\$32
Student	\$24	\$32
Limited Income	\$24	\$32

Contributions, gifts and 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 for Chapter publication, Pelican. F94QW33081

Enclose check and mail to:

Sierra Club

P.O. Box 52968

Boulder, CO 80322-2968



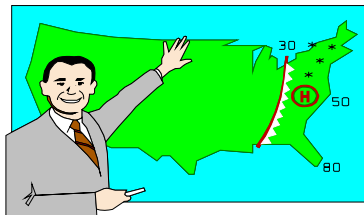
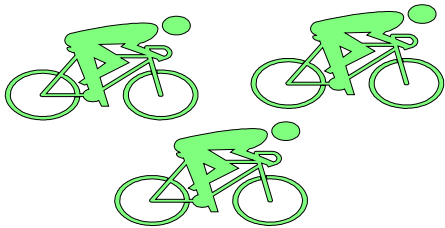
Sierra Club, Miami Group 2005 -2006 Outing Schedule

Our outings are listed as Leisure, Moderate, or Strenuous. Be realistic about your physical condition and the degree of challenge you enjoy. Come ready to paddle or hike and share the work. There are no passengers on our outings, only participants. Family trips are open to everyone. Once you have made a reservation, we ask that you make a serious commitment to attend the trip. Cancellations are detrimental to our program. Our outings leaders are unpaid volunteers.

Camping trip fees typically include food, transportation, canoes and campground fees. Trip participants need to furnish their own tents, backpacks, sleeping bags, and personal gear. Because of changing costs, outing fees listed may be changed at the opening of the trip.

If you are interested in a trip, call the trip leader and ask for details or come to the signup table at the general meetings. Reservations open at the general meeting three months in advance of the trip. All reservations must be accompanied by a non-refundable deposit. Make all checks payable to Sierra Club Outings. Please write the name and date of your trip on your check and include your phone number. Deposits are \$10 on trip fees of up to \$100 and \$20 on trips over \$100. Fees on trips of \$15 or less are to be paid in full with your reservation. Full payment is due 30 days in advance of the trip. Please send all payments to the trip leader.

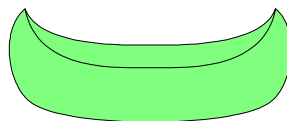
If you must cancel, call the leader or assistant leader as early as possible. If you cancel 30 days or more in advance, your deposit will be refunded. If you cancel less than 30 days in advance, you lose your deposit. If you cancel 5 days or less in advance, you will forfeit all fees.



June 4 - Bike to the Light. Enjoy the best vistas South Florida has to offer! View 360 degrees of splendor from atop the Rickenbacker bridge and the Cape Florida lighthouse, including a historical tour. Bring money for lunch; a dip at the beach is optional. We will bicycle approximately 20 miles. Cost: \$10 members, \$15 nonmembers. Moderate. Limit 10. Leader: Paul Heydemann, 305-273-4937, e-mail: paul.heydemann@netzero.net Assistant: TBA.

June 11 Outings Equipment Work Day. Bring your vacuum cleaner, Windex, paintbrush, and elbow grease. Help clean and repair the Horse Creek van, and repair our camping equipment. Lunch is included. Leisure. No limit. No cost. Leader: Lee Jacobs, 3056676962, e-mail: eeljac@earthlink.net. (CV)

June 18 National Hurricane Center Tour. Discover the inner workings of the National Hurricane Center located on the west side FIUs main campus. Learn what a hurricane is, how it is tracked, and what precautions to take. Leisure. Limit 25. Cost: \$5 members, \$10 nonmembers. Leader: Jim Gross, 305-665-2401, e-mail: James.M.Gross@noaa.gov. (Note: this is the last time this trip will be offered - leader is retiring)



June 18 Moonlight Culinary Canoe. (Fund Raiser) Enjoy an evening under the (almost) full moon on Biscayne Bay, with the delights of good company, delicious food, exquisite wine and a skyline view. No special diets. Rain or Shine. Leisure. Limit 18. Cost: \$45 members, \$50 nonmembers. Leader: TBA. Asst: Ken Smith, 305-275-0180. (CV)

July 23 Moonlight Culinary Canoe. (Fund Raiser) Enjoy an evening under the (almost) full moon on Biscayne Bay, with the delights of good company, delicious food, exquisite wine and a skyline view. No special diets. Rain or Shine. Leisure. Limit 18. Cost: \$45 members, \$50 nonmembers. Leader: TBA. Asst: Ken Smith, 3052750180. (CV)

August 21 South Dade Bike. Meet at Black Point Park in South Dade, bike 12 miles to Homestead Bayfront Park, swim, then bike back to Black Point for a Sierra Lunch. Sag vehicle (following van) is provided. Moderate to strenuous (24 miles). Limit 20. Cost: \$10 members, \$12 nonmembers. Leader: Dan Cruse, (305) 6612975, 6580 Santona St. #27, Coral Gables, 33146. Asst: Chris Hermie, 3058236853.

November 20 - Beach Bike Boogie. A fun ~50 mile bicycle trip on some of the most scenic shoreline roads anywhere. We'll board the Tri-Rail (bike permit suggested in advance), disembark in either Ft. Lauderdale or Palm Beach, ride to the other end, and return on the train. Bring money for lunch. Cost: \$10 members, \$15 non-members. Strenuous. Limit: 6. Leader: Paul Heydemann, 305-273-4937, e-mail: paul.heydemann@netzero.net Assistant: TBA.

December 10 - Everglades National Park Day Hike. Introductory hiking for beginners and a refresher for veterans. Hike three different short hikes in different habitats (Anhinga, Gumbo Limbo and Pineland trails). Enjoy a gourmet lunch with kindred spirits. Leisure. Limit 8. Cost: \$15 members, \$20 nonmembers. Leader: Kaatje Bernabei, 305-223-6551, e-mail: cbernabei@braddock.dadeschools.net. Asst: TBA.

December 18 South Dade Bike. Meet at Black Point Park in South Dade, bike 12 miles to Homestead Bayfront Park, swim, then bike back to Black Point for a Sierra Lunch. Moderate to strenuous (24 miles). Limit 20. Cost: \$10 members, \$12 nonmembers. Leader: Dan Cruse, (305) 6612975, 6580 Santona St. #27, Coral Gables, 33146. Asst: Madeline Piero, 305595-9376.



Sierra Club, Miami Group 2005 -2006 Outing Schedule



January 7 Hells Bay Canoe Orienteering. Enjoy a challenging day of orienteering with map and compass while canoeing through mangrove-lined channels and islands in Everglades National Park. Strenuous depending upon wind/wave conditions. Limit 16. Cost: \$35 members, \$40 nonmembers. Leader: Jim Gross, 305-665-2401, e-mail: James.M.Gross@noaa.gov. (CV)

January 7 - Everglades National Park Day Hike. Introductory hiking for beginners and a refresher for veterans. Hike three different short hikes in different habitats (Anhinga, Gumbo Limbo and Pinelands trails. Enjoy a gourmet lunch with kindred spirits. Leisure. Limit 8. Cost: \$15 members, \$20 nonmembers. Leader: Kaatje Bernabei, 305-223-6551, e-mail: cbernabei@graddock.dadeschools.net. Asst: TBA.

January 14, 15, 16 Myakka Backpacking. Hiking in Florida's largest state park, six to nine miles per day for three days. Abundant wildlife and nicely marked trails. Strenuous. Limit 8. Cost: \$35 members, \$40 nonmembers. Leader: Dan Cruse, 305-661-2975, 6580 Santona St. #27, Coral Gables, 33146. Asst: Pat Lopez, 305-279-5354.

January 21 Outing Leader Workshop. One day workshop for leaders and potential new leaders. Sharpen and learn new skills for running outings. Lunch included both days. Leisure. Limit 15. Cost: \$15 members, \$50 nonmembers. Leader: Jim Gross, 305-665-2401, e-mail: James.M.Gross@noaa.gov. Asst: Lee Jacobs, 3056676962, e-mail: eelj@earthlink.net. (CV)

January 29 - Nine Mile Pond Canoe. Paddle through the sawgrass and see it at eye-level in Everglades National Park. A unique experience with lots of wildlife and gators galore. Moderate. Limit: 16. Cost: \$35 members, \$40 nonmembers. Leader: Lee Jacobs, 3056676962, e-mail: eelj@earthlink.net. Asst: Diane Jacobs, 305-667-6962, e-mail: diane@cobb-ebin.com. (CV)

February 4 - Everglades National Park Day Hike. Introductory hiking for beginners and a refresher for veterans. Hike three different short hikes in different habitats (Anhinga, Gumbo Limbo and Pinelands trails. Enjoy a gourmet lunch with kindred spirits. Leisure. Limit 8. Cost: \$15 members, \$20 nonmembers. Leader: Kaatje Bernabei, 305-223-6551, e-mail: cbernabei@braddock.dadeschools.net. Asst: TBA

February 12 - Noble Hammock Canoe. Paddle an interesting canoe loop trail in Everglades National Park located just north of West Lake. We will attempt to find the hidden canoe trail to West Lake. Join us in this adventure, observing lots of wildlife and gators as we go. Moderate. Limit: 16. Cost: \$35 members, \$40 nonmembers. Leader: Lee Jacobs, 305-667-6962, e-mail: eelj@earthlink.net. Asst: Diane Jacobs, 305-667-6962, e-mail: diane@cobb-ebin.com. (CV)

February 15 Outings Schedule Signup Meeting. Outing leaders and assistant leaders will meet Wednesday evening for snacks and beverages to planning of our new Outings Year 2006-2007. Leisure. No limit (the more, the merrier!) No cost. Leader: Lee Jacobs, 305-667-6962, e-mail: eelj@earthlink.net.



March 5 South Dade Greenways Bike. Off road bike trip on the Southern Glades Trail along the C111 canal in the Southern Glades Wildlife and Environmental Area. Look for manatees in Manatee Bay. Lunch is included, but we will not have a sag wagon! Moderate. Limit 16. Cost: \$10 members, \$12 nonmembers. Leader: Diane Jacobs, 305-667-6962, e-mail: diane@cobb-ebin.com. Asst: Lee Jacobs, 305-667-6962, e-mail: eelj@earthlink.net.

April 15, 16 Prairie Lakes Backpacking. Overnight trip to Prairie Lakes for backpacking. Easy fun trip for all. Leisure. Limit 8. Cost: \$25 members, \$30 nonmembers. Leader: Dan Cruse, 305-661-2975, 6580 Santona St. #27, Coral Gables, 33146. Asst: Madeline Piero, 305-595-9376.

April 23 Annual Sierra Club Picnic. Join your friends for a fun day at the annual picnic. We celebrate Earth Day and the Miami Group each year at this family event at a local park. Enjoy the chance to meet up with old friends and make new ones. TBA. (V).

May 21 Biscayne National Park Snorkel. Snorkel a beautiful reef five miles from Elliot Key with a gourmet supper afterwards in Biscayne National Park. Moderate. Limit 15. Cost: \$55 members, \$60 nonmembers. Leader: Diane Jacobs, 305-667-6962, e-mail: diane@cobb-ebin.com. Asst: Lee Jacobs, 305-667-6962, e-mail: eelj@earthlink.net.



Calling All Experienced Outings Leaders

If you missed the chance to get on the schedule this year, or have now come up with a good idea for a trip and want to schedule it, please call Jim Gross or Lee Jacobs. Share your knowledge of Florida and the outdoors with fellow Sierrans.

Notice

In order to participate on one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/> or call the local outings secretary. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them.