



April /2008

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Dear Mike,

Happy Earth Day! There are a lot of happenings around town all month long to celebrate Mother Earth.

Our Annual pic-nic is coming up... be sure to sign up for it! You can sign up at the Monday General Meeting. It is loads of fun!

Hope to see you there.....

General Meeting - Upcoming Speakers

April 14th - 7:00 PM - Coconut Grove Sailing Club - 2990 South Bayshore Drive

Our speaker will be Gus Casamayor who will address the [Sierra Club](#) on becoming green in the printing business. The printing industry is one of the top 3 polluters among all industries. Gus Casamayor is on a mission to show business owners and managers it is possible to be green and profitable, even in a industry know for polluting. Both the lessons and the message are applicable to all industries. Read below for more information.

2008 Sierra Club Picnic

Spring is in the air and it's time again for the Miami Group Sierra Club's Annual Picnic. This year's picnic will be held at A. D. Barnes Park Sunday, April 27th. The park is located on the northeast corner of Bird Road (SW 40 Street) and SW 72nd Avenue. The entrance is on SW 72 Avenue.

After you enter the Park, take the first right. We have reserved Shelter 2, the first picnic shelter on your right, overlooking the lake. Park anywhere along the road. Come out and enjoy this beautiful park. We'll have the volley ball net up and we'll organize a nature hike at their Nature Center.

The picnic will start at 1:00 pm and end at 6:00 pm with food cooked and served between 2:00 pm and 5:00 pm. Bring your own pot luck salad, veggy dish or dessert to share. We'll have regular,

turkey and veggie burgers and hot dogs. Of course, we'll provide the beer and soft drinks.

Advance tickets are \$7 for adults and \$3 for children, aged 5 to 14 years old and can be reserved until Friday, April 25th. After which, the prices will increase to \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Buying your tickets early, will help us to know how much food and drink to buy and prepare. You can make your reservations and pay at the April meeting or before April 25th by sending your check, care of Sierra Club Outings, to Jim Gross, 6470 SW 74 St, Miami, FL, 33143. For more information, call Jim at 305-665-2401 or e-mail at JMGross3013@aol.com.

The picnic is a fund raiser for the benefit of the Miami Group Outing program and is being organized and run by the Outings Committee. If you want to assist in the preparation or are not sure what to bring, please call Diane Jacobs at 305-667-6962.

Don't forget to bring your own utensils (cup, plate, knife, fork, spoon and napkin). We will have extra plastic sets of dinnerware and napkins, but they will cost you an extra dollar.

Come, rain or shine, for a great time and to celebrate Mother Earth. We'll see you there.

Jim Gross

Our April Speaker

AC GRAPHICS BECOMES FIRST TRIPLE-CERTIFIED GREEN PRINTER IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA

Established Miami-based Commercial Printer Obtains Certification to Offer Green Printing Options to Clients

MIAMI - Sept. 6, 2007 - AC Graphics, a Miami-based commercial printing company in business for over 34 years, today announced it has become the first triple-certified green printer in the state of Florida. AC Graphics has obtained the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), and PEFC Council (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification) certification as a green printer. All three are leading nongovernmental organizations devoted to monitoring and encouraging the responsible management of the world's forests.

"Our family has been in the printing business for four generations," said Augusto G. Casamayor, CEO of AC Graphics. "With this important milestone in the history of our business, AC Graphics is proud to do its part to protect the environment, and we look forward to continuing to adopt eco-friendly practices."

A green-certified printer ensures to its customers that the paper it uses comes from well-managed forests and is manufactured by companies that adhere to strict environmental and socioeconomic standards through a chain of custody. Chain-of-Custody is a certified system to track wood coming from certified forests through the entire supply-chain: harvesting, pulp, paper production, shipping, distribution, and printing.

As a 'green' printer, AC Graphics is required to maintain detailed records of sales contracts, purchase orders, and receipts. It also must store certified paper separately from non-certified inventory, and follow distinct procedures in the printing and finishing process as well as shipping and delivery of the final printed product.

"Protecting the environment is one of our most pressing needs," said Wayne Dennis, Corporate Director of Sustainability, MAC Paper. "We salute AC Graphics for joining the ranks of forward-thinking companies that are adapting to the times and taking steps to preserve and replace the earth's resources."

In addition to providing the option of using green-certified paper, AC Graphics now offers customers the ability to print with vegetable-based inks in place of petroleum-based inks, as well as use non-toxic pressroom chemicals.

Unlike recycled paper, which is post-consumer fiber coming from scrap, office wastepaper, and recovered fiber, FSC-certified paper is paper made from superior wood pulp from mill-maintained and harvested trees that is used for all forms of high-quality printed materials. Green-certified paper does not suffer in quality, and can be available at the same high quality and versatility as non-certified paper. AC Graphics offers green-certified paper at no additional cost to customers.

The FSC is an internationally recognized non-profit organization based in Bonn, Germany, founded in 1993. The SFI is a program founded in 1994 by members of the American Forest and Paper Association with the mission to certify forests that are managed in a sustainable manner. The PEFC is a global umbrella organization for the assessment of and mutual recognition of national forest certification schemes.

About AC Graphics

A family business established in 1973 by Augusto G. Casamayor, AC Graphics is a high technology printing company that serves a wide array of companies. AC Graphics offers comprehensive printing and graphic design services including stationery, annual reports, signage, catalogs, brochures, packaging, posters, magazines, books, forms, folders, point-of-purchase displays and

promotional items. Its *Prinergy Workflow* and computer-to-plate technology, managed by the company's highly trained craftsmen, offers the fastest and most cost-effective way to plate and proof projects. For more information, visit www.acgraphics.com.

Opportunities to Feel Good Still Available

by Maria Papazian - Education Chair

Research shows that helping others and volunteering for a worthy cause contributes to an individual's sense well-being. The Miami Group offers you many opportunities to enhance your personal and our organizational well-being by volunteering to reach out to the community in various events throughout the year. If you did not volunteer yet or if you want to volunteer for more events, please email Maria Papazian at miami-enviroed@florida.sierraclub.org today and volunteer. As a grassroots organization, the Sierra Club Miami Group is only as effective as its volunteers. Any time we do not have volunteers for a festival or event is a missed opportunity to educate the community and recruit new members.

A special **THANK YOU** to those members who have already volunteered: Amy Werba (Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden Fairchild Challenge Middle School Research Poster Contest); Gisela Ullrich, Stephen Mahoney & Jim Gross (Native Plant Day); Debbie Matthews, Cal Acosta and Marta Acosta (rained-out Everglades Awareness Concert); Allen Harris (UM The Green Life); Andres Mejides, Allen Harris, and Joe (Earth Fair at Wild Oats); Mark Oncavage (Miami River Day) Paul Michel and Coky Michel (Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden Fairchild Challenge Senior High Research Project Contest); Mark Oncavage (Baynanza at Morningside Park); Paul Michel, Coky Michel, Dr. Barry Burak, Dr. David Newman, Gisela Ullrich, and Allen Harris (Earth Fest at Biscayne Nature Center); Mark Oncavage (Killian Senior High Earth Day Celebration); Gisela Ullrich, Noel Cleland, Steven Hanshu, Allen Harris, and Sarah Cohn (The 4th annual NBC6/Telemundo 51 Health & Fitness Expo). As you can see, you can volunteer for more than one event; the more the better!

Directions:

1. Select a day and time from list below.
2. email Maria miami-enviroed@florida.sierraclub.org
3. Enhance you personal well-being!
4. Show up to the event.
5. Have fun!

Friday, March 28th

UM Earth Alert - "The Green Life"

UC Patio - Coral Gables Campus

(lunch & parking included)

9:30-12:30 _____ & _____

12:30- 4:00 _____

Saturday, April 12

Miami River Day

Jose Marti Park - 351 SW 4th St, Miami

11:30- 2:30 _____ & _____
2:30- 5:30 _____ & _____

Saturday, April 12

The Sr. High Research Project

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden - 10901 Old Cutler Rd.

11:30-2:30 (lunch included)

Saturday, April 12

Earth Fair at Wild Oats - 11701 S. Dixie Hwy.

11:00- 1:00 _____

Saturday, April 19

Baynanza Clean-up

Morningside Park - 750 NE 55 Terr.

9 AM - 12 noon Clean-up

12:00- 2:00 _____ & _____

Sunday, April 20

Earth fest

Crandon Park Visitors & Biscayne Nature Center - 6767 Crandon Blvd. Key Biscayne

9:30- 12:30 _____ & _____
6:30- 8:30 _____ & _____

Sunday, April 27th

The 4th annual NBC6/Telemundo 51 Health & Fitness Expo -
"Going Green" Pavilion

Miami Beach convention center - 1901 Convention Center Dr,
Miami Beach

9:30-1:30 _____ & _____
1:30-5:30 _____

Saturday, April 27

Earth Day Celebration at the Barnacle

The Barnacle Historic State Park - 3485 Main Hwy, Coconut Grove

10:30-1:00: _____ & _____

1:00- 3:00 _____ & _____

Message from your Conservation Chair - Urban Development Boundary

Hi All,

Mark your calendars, important date coming up.

The final County Commission meeting for 3 permits outside the UDB is April 24th in the Miami-Dade County Commission chambers. Lowes is one of the applicants and will bring in several busloads of supporters. We need to surpass their turnout. The public is against moving the UDB, so is the entire environmental community, so is the Miami-Dade County Staff, so is Florida Dept. of Community Affairs, so is the Miami Herald, so is the South Florida Water Management District - but that's not enough. We need real people power to make things right.

See the brand new "Hold The Line" video at:

<http://www.udbline.com>

Be there!

Mark

More problems with Pesticide Exposure

Sierrans are aware of problems with pesticides. We battled to take DDT off the market years ago when the link to lower reproductive rates in eagles was first discovered. We continue to battle over pesticide runoff in central Florida rivers and streams. And, once again, the science is there to show us the dangers.

Researchers led by William Scott, of the Miami Institute for Human Genomics at the Miller School of Medicine and the Morris K. Udall Parkinson Research Center of Excellence, have identified possible links between Parkinson disease and exposure to pesticides. Pesticide exposure has been previously identified as a risk factor for Parkinson disease and findings published in BMC Neurology confirm and refine these results.

Scientists have identified variations in several genes which contribute to the disease; however, genetic defects account for a small proportion of the overall prevalence of the disease. The majority of Parkinson disease cases are thought to be due to interactions between genetic and environmental factors.

- CauseWays Staff

MIAMI GROUP OUTINGS INFORMATION

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, bicycle 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 trained 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 or e-mail 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. At the leader's discretion, reservations close one week before the date of the trip. Please sign up early for planning purposes. 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 7 days or less in advance, you will forfeit all fees at the discretion of the leader.

2008 - 2009 Miami Group Outings Schedule

July 2008

July 13 - Canoeing 101. Learn the basics of handling a canoe in a safe manner. Fundamental paddling (bow and stern) and elementary rescue techniques taught in a one day short course. Lunch is included. Leisure. Limit 16. Cost \$20 member, \$25 non-members. Leader: Jim Gross, 305-665-2401, e-mail: JMGross3013@aol.com. Asst: TBA (C)

July 19 - Moonlight Culinary Canoe. (Fund Raiser) Enjoy an evening under the 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 non-members. Leader: Ken Smith, 305-758-3121, e-mail: kpsmith@gate.net. (C)

November 2008

November 2 - Loxahatchee Canoe Trip. Paddle the Loxahatchee River from near where the river crosses Indiantown Road near Jupiter, FL to Trapper John's Camp for lunch. Then canoe leisurely to Jonathan Dickinson State Park. Join us in this adventure, hopefully observing lots of wildlife and gators as we go. Moderate. Limit: 16. \$35 members, \$40 non-members. Jim Gross, 305-665-2401, e-mail: JMGross3013@aol.com. Asst: TBA. (C)

November 15 - Everglades National Park "101" Day Walk. Introductory visit and "walk-hike" sampler in the 'Glades for beginners and refresher for veterans and guests. We'll preview our experience with film, displays and visiting art show at the Coe Visitor Center then stroll the Anhinga Boardwalk Trail and nearby Gumbo Limbo Trail followed by a visit to the Pinelands area for a gourmet lunch (included) and walk an unimproved trail there. Time and weather permitting we'll visit Pa-hay-okee Overlook boardwalk. Each trail less than one mile long. We'll look for gators, birds, turtles, fish, maybe a snake or two and bugs in season. Leisure. Limit 10. Cost \$20. Please email: Leader Kaatje Bernabei, kaatjebernabei@bellsouth.net , 305-223-6551 and Assist: Alan Nowell, mrhitnmiss@aol.com 305-253-4250.

December 2008

December 13 - Everglades National Park "101" Day Walk. Introductory visit and "walk-hike" sampler in the 'Glades for beginners and refresher for veterans and guests. We'll preview our experience with film, displays and visiting art show at the Coe Visitor Center then stroll the Anhinga Boardwalk Trail and nearby Gumbo Limbo Trail followed by a visit to the Pinelands area for a gourmet lunch (included) and walk an unimproved trail there. Time and weather permitting we'll visit Pa-hay-okee Overlook boardwalk. Each trail less than one mile long. We'll look for gators, birds, turtles, fish, maybe a snake or two and bugs in season. Leisure. Limit 10. Cost \$20. Please email: Leader Kaatje Bernabei, kaatjebernabei@bellsouth.net , 305-223-6551 and Assist: Alan Nowell, mrhitnmiss@aol.com 305-253-4250.

January 2009

January 10 - Everglades National Park "101" Day Walk. Introductory visit and "walk-hike" sampler in the 'Glades for beginners and refresher for veterans and guests. We'll preview our experience with film, displays and visiting art show at the Coe Visitor Center then stroll the Anhinga Boardwalk Trail and nearby Gumbo Limbo Trail followed by a visit to the Pinelands area for a gourmet lunch (included) and walk an unimproved trail there.

Time and weather permitting we'll visit Pa-hay-okee Overlook boardwalk. Each trail less than one mile long. We'll look for gators, birds, turtles, fish, maybe a snake or two and bugs in season. Leisure. Limit 10. Cost \$20. Please email: Leader Kaatje Bernabei, kaatjebnabei@bellsouth.net , 305-223-6551 and Assist: Alan Nowell, mrhitnmiss@aol.com 305-253-4250.

January 11 - 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 non-members. Leader: Jim Gross, 305-665-2401, e-mail: JMGross3013@aol.com. (C)

January 31 - Florida Trail/Big Cypress Day Hike. Hike the famous orange-blazed Florida Trail within Big Cypress Preserve. We head out wet or dry north from Oasis Ranger Station just off the famous Tamiami Trail way west of civilization. Put on your mud boots, pack your lunch in a day pack and grab your walking stick for this sometimes muddy adventure. Please email: Leader Kaatje Bernabei, kaatjebnabei@bellsouth.net , 305-223-6551 and Assist: Alan Nowell, mrhitnmiss@aol.com 305-253-4250.

February 2009

February 7 - Shark Valley Moonlight Bicycle Trip. Leisure. Limit 18. Cost: \$15 members, \$20 non-members. Leader: Ken Smith, 305-758-3121, e-mail: kpsmith@gate.net. Asst: TBA.

February 14, 15, 16 - Ocala National Forest

Camp/Hike/Canoe. Camp and recreate in beautiful Ocala National Forest. Camp, transportation, canoe rental, camp fees and most meals included. Camp in the pines, day hike a trail, swim in the spring, moderate canoe down Juniper Springs Run and back to camp for campfire and camaraderie. Moderate. Limit 8. Tentative cost: \$150 members, \$175 non-members. Email: Leader Kaatje Bernabei, kaatjebnabei@bellsouth.net , 305-223-6551 and Assist: Alan Nowell, mrhitnmiss@aol.com 305-253-4250.

February 28 - Everglades National Park "101" Day Walk.

Introductory visit and "walk-hike" sampler in the 'Glades for beginners and refresher for veterans and guests. We'll preview our experience with film, displays and visiting art show at the Coe Visitor Center then stroll the Anhinga Boardwalk Trail and nearby Gumbo Limbo Trail followed by a visit to the Pinelands area for a gourmet lunch (included) and walk an unimproved trail there. Time and weather permitting we'll visit Pa-hay-okee Overlook boardwalk. Each trail less than one mile long. We'll look for gators, birds, turtles, fish, maybe a snake or two and bugs in season. Leisure. Limit 10. Cost \$20. Please email: Leader Kaatje Bernabei, kaatjebnabei@bellsouth.net , 305-223-6551 and Assist: Alan Nowell, mrhitnmiss@aol.com 305-253-4250.

March 2008

March 7, 2009 - Florida Trail/Loop Road to Oasis Ranger Station Day Hike. Come slosh with us north from the southern terminus trailhead of the Florida Trail (at Loop Road) past Robert's Strand to Oasis Ranger Station on Tamiami Trail. Orchids, bromeliads, dwarf cypress, giant sword ferns. Rough, wet, beautiful and remote. Potentially strenuous 7.7 miles for the fit, experienced hiker. Limit 6. Cost

\$15. Email: Leader Kaatje Bernabei, kaatjebernabei@bellsouth.net, 305-223-6551 and Assist: Alan Nowell, mrhitnmiss@aol.com 305-253-4250.

March 15 - 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 non-members. Leader: Jim Gross, 305-665-2401, e-mail: JMGross3013@aol.com. Asst: TBA. (C)

April 2009

April 19 - Annual Sierra Club Picnic.

Join your friends for a fun day at the Miami Group's annual picnic. Details: TBA. Leisure. Leader: Jim Gross, 305-665-2401, e-mail: JMGross3013@aol.com. Assts: Lee and Diane Jacobs, 305667-6962, email: eeljac@bellsouth.net.

Other Chapter Outings

Apr 19-20th - Myakka River State Park - Mossy Island Campsite - Overnight backpack trip. We will explore this beautiful park and learn a little about what Florida's prairie was like. An easy backpack of only about 5 miles total. Limit 6. Leader Mike Pici, [727-798-9227](tel:727-798-9227) or revmp777@earthlink.net (Suncoast)

Apr 26th - Tillie K. Fowler Regional Park - Moonlight Hike and Owl Prowl. Join us for a unique night hike under an almost full moon. Learn about night vision and experience the nocturnal wildlife. We'll look for owls, listen to various owl calls, and enjoy other learning activities led by the Park Naturalist. The total hike is about one mile and will last about 1 ½ hours. We need a minimum of 15 participants; children old enough to be comfortable in the dark woods are welcome. Bring water, bug spray, closed-toed shoes, and clothing appropriate for the weather. PLEASE DO NOT BRING A FLASHLIGHT.!! (Leaders will have light in case of emergency.) Tillie K. Fowler Regional Park (formerly Westside Regional Park) is located at 7000 Roosevelt Blvd (west side) directly across from the [Jacksonville Naval Air Station's Yorktown Gate](#). Reservations required. RSVP by April 13 to Outing

Leader Bill Armstrong armsfam@yahoo.com; [904-880-7702](tel:904-880-7702)
(Northeast).

May 2nd-4th - Cayo Costa State Park - Weekend Kayak and Camping. Come join us for a great weekend at one of the state's premier island state parks, [Cayo Costa State Park](#), truly a Gulf Coast paradise located on [Lacosta Island](#) west of [Fort Myers](#), has one of the top rated beaches in the nation. We'll paddle out on Fri. morning with a stop at legendary Cabbage Key restaurant for lunch and paddle back on Sun. We've rented 3 primitive cabins and 3 camp sites for the trip. The cabins can accommodate 2-3 people comfortably and the campsites can hold 2 tents each. The cabins are \$62 for the weekend and each campsite is \$37. We'll divide this up appropriately along with a \$5 charge per vehicle for parking so the Club can be reimbursed. This trip is rated Moderate to Strenuous because of open water and possible wind conditions. Be sure to reserve early. Contact Don Kirkley [941 493 3085](tel:941-493-3085)
(Manatee/Sarasota)

May 10th-11th - Withlacoochee River Overnight canoe trip. Easy 16 miles of paddling, primitive camping. Learn about local birds and river issues. Limited to 8 participants. Rental canoes are available for \$70, and a shuttle of a personal canoe is \$20. Leader: Rudy Scheffer, rudy@adventuresworldwide.com , [727-726-8375](tel:727-726-8375)
(Suncoast)

Silent Auction Items for Sale

If you missed the opportunity to shop the silent auction, it's not too late. If you would like to purchase any of the following, please contact Maria Papazian at Miami-enviroed@florida.sierraclub.org :

1. Complimentary admission to the Deering Estate for a Family of four valued at \$28 (Excludes special events - expire date: February 2009) - minimum offer: \$15
2. Gift certificate for Cavanaugh's Men's Shoe Fitters valued at \$100 (expire date: February 2010) - minimum offer: \$50
3. Gift certificate for services from Coral Gables Acupuncture valued at up to \$250 (may be applied to consultation, examination, diagnosis, and all necessary testing - expire date: March 16, 2008) - minimum offer: \$75
4. Gift certificate for The Dog Bar valued at \$100 (1684 Jefferson Ave., Miami Beach or 259 Miracle Mile, Coral Gables - expire date: none) - minimum offer: \$30
5. Gift certificate for Snakes at South Dixie valued at \$50 (expire date: none) - minimum offer: \$20

6. Gift certificate for services from Dr. Robert Faine, D.D.S. at Affiliated Healthcare Centers, Inc. valued at \$175 (dental cleaning - expire date: none) - minimum offer: \$75
7. Gift certificate for services from Dr. Barry Burak, F.A.C.C. at Affiliated Healthcare Centers, Inc. valued at \$500 (initial visit & 2 follow-up visits - expire date: none) - minimum offer: \$175
8. Gift certificate for one week stay at 3/3 furnished town house in Monticello, NY valued at \$1000 (restrictions-availability - expire date: none) - minimum offer \$400
9. Gift certificate for services from Dr. Elton Rosenblatt, D.D.S. at Affiliated Healthcare Centers, Inc. valued at \$250 (TMJ consultation - expire date: none) - minimum offer: \$100

Environmental Meetings and Happenings Around Town

Thursday April 10 2:00-7:00

RESPECT YOUR MOTHER EARTH FEST!!!

In the FIU Preserve (across from the Rec Center, behind the baseball and soccer fields)

30th Anniversary of the FIU Preserve

free food, music, open mic, yoga, scavenger hunt, preserve and organic garden tours, environmental organizations, FIU clubs, and just good 'ol fun in the sun

Friday April 11 - 7:00pm

Screening and Discussion of *Manufactured Landscapes* (2007)
Wolfsonian-FIU auditorium

Focuses on landscapes in China produced by enormous and relatively recent increases in industrial production, sponsored by the Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy and Citizenship Studies.

EarthFest 2008

A celebration of Earth, The Greater Everglades & the promise of a sustainable South Florida!

ON April 20th from 10 AM - Sundown
at the North Entrance to Crandon Park
FREE after you pay for \$5 parking.

A full-day celebration of Earth, Greater Everglades, and a sustainable South Florida!

Music and spoken-word performances by

Inner Voice (now Here II Here) ✕ Agape with Nadia Harris

Ana Kanpa ✕ Deblois ✕ Fabi Patino & friends

Lil' Peppi ✕ Michelle Forman

Enjoy delicious, sustainable foods, green exhibits and vendors,

hands-on workshops, and nature-based activities!
The festival will amplify the positive message that each and every one of us has the power to bring about a more sustainable world through our everyday actions and personal choices.

EarthFest is the anchor event for the [Greater Everglades Empowerment Network \(G.R.E.E.N.\)](#)!

Sponsors
Event Organizers
Earth Learning
Miami-Dade County Parks & Recreation

Themed Tent Sponsors
Earth Learning
Imagine Miami
MDC Earth Ethics Institute
Whole Foods Pinecrest

Tuesday, April 22 **Conference on Health and Well-being.**
[Register now](#) for the inaugural Well-Being/Being Well conference, which offers an integrated, educational approach to achieving a healthy lifestyle. The one-day conference, to be held at the InterContinental Hotel in Miami, will feature concurrent breakout sessions and panel discussions covering a wide variety of timely issues including: genetics, clinical trials, cancer survival, preventive health care, holistic treatments, nutrition, and exercise and lifestyle. As a highlight to the conference, President Donna E. Shalala, a renowned expert on health care, and [Deepak Chopra](#), one of the world's leaders in the field of mind and body medicine, will present keynote speeches during the opening and lunch sessions. Attendance is limited to 800 and admission is \$100 per person. For more information, call [305-243-9949](tel:305-243-9949) or visit www.sylvester.org/wellbeing.

Free Environmental film festivals kick off GLEE Expo

Theaters in Marathon and Key West will feature movies about global warming, the environment, urban sprawl and even trash as a precursor to Green Living & Energy Education's (GLEE) 3RD Annual Expo. The film series in Key West launches on April 26 and continues through April 30 at the Eco Discovery Center. GLEE will show films on three nights in Marathon at Crane Point Nature Center and Museum beginning on May 2 and running through May 4. All films are free and open to the public.

The environmental films will show at 5 and 7:30 p.m. in Key West and at 7:30 p.m. only in Marathon. The GLEE Expo events run from May 9-11, with the Saturday Expo at Marathon High School.

Some of the movies to be shown include "Garbage Warrior," a feature length documentary about a creative architect, with an

out-of-the-box style, who makes buildings literally out of garbage, from discarded beer cans to car tires and more. Another film, "The Queen of Trees," follows the ecology of a fig tree growing at the edge of a river in Africa for years, using cameras to show the microcosm of the fig environment, and how every tiny aspect of life truly is interconnected. The film has some of the most spectacular nature footage ever seen. Both films will be shown in Marathon. Other movies to be shown include "How to Save the World," "A Life Among Whales" and "The True Cost of Food."

In Key West, the series at the Eco Discovery Center will feature a number of films including "Gimme Green," a humorous look at the American obsession with the residential lawn and the effects it has on our environment, our wallets, and our outlook on life. From the limitless subdivisions of Florida to sod farms in the arid southwest, "Gimme Green" peers behind the curtain of the \$40-billion industry. "No Room to Move" explores the effect of urban sprawl on sensitive wildlife in Florida. This documentary also examines how Florida could accommodate the needs of its wildlife and its growing human population through a development model known as The New Urbanism. Other titles include "Point of Return," "The Recyclergy," and "Return of the Scorcher."

GLEE will publish full schedules for both series at a later date. For more information about the film series or the GLEE Expo, go to www.keysglee.com.

Sunset Sail on Biscayne Bay Fundraiser

Come aboard! Step back into the age of sail when tall ships ruled the seas. Join Kip & I for an adventure on an 85 foot, two-masted topsail schooner plying the waters off Miami in Northern Biscayne Bay.

The Heritage of Miami II is designed after the 19th century cargo and passenger schooners that once sailed the waters off Miami, the Florida Keys and Gulf of Mexico. She is reminiscent of another time when the ocean was the chief means of transporting goods from port to port. The Heritage of Miami II operates under the US Flag and is fully US Coastguard inspected for safety.

The 2-hour tour will capture the spirit and adventure of a century gone by. We will see conventional points of interest on both land and sea as we cruise northern Biscayne Bay, just offshore of the beautiful Miami skyline.

The Heritage of Miami II possesses modern amenities to assure a comfortable cruise...spacious topside decks with seating, below deck lounge areas, a clean rest room and a ship's store offering a variety of souvenirs, snacks and refreshments.

After docking around 20:30 hours (that's 8:30 p.m. for you landlubbers), choose one of the many eateries at Bayside for dinner on your own, or an evening of music and browsing in Bayside Marketplace.

Date & Time: Saturday, May 10th, 2008

Meet at 6:00 p.m. At Bayside Market Place (next to the

bandstand)

Leader: Jackie Fisher 954-434-2855

Asst. Leader: Kip Fisher 954-434-2855

Cost: Sierra Club Members - \$27.00; Nonmembers - \$30.00

GLEE announces third annual green Expo

Green Living & Energy Education (GLEE) will host its third Florida Keys Green Living & Energy Education Expo on May 9-11 at Marathon High School, 350 Sombrero Beach Road, Marathon, FL.

The three-day event is dedicated to demonstrating sustainable living through ideas and technologies that promote renewable energy and promote energy conservation in the Florida Keys.

Friday, May 9 will be dedicated to continuing education classes for the trades. The classes will award CEU credits. The group also plans a business reception and award ceremonies for green businesses on Friday evening.

On Saturday, the Expo will stage 28 workshops with local and national speakers on a wide range of green topics. In addition sixty exhibitors with green goods and products will display their wares. The Expo also features an outdoor display of hybrid and electric cars as well as recycling and bio-diesel workshops. Vendors will sell healthy organic food and a farmer's market will provide visitors with the opportunity to buy fresh organic fruits and vegetables.

The Expo concludes on Sunday with a brunch, eco activities, and green home tours throughout the islands.

For more information about sponsoring this exciting event or purchasing a booth, log on to www.keysGLEE.com, or email info@keysglee.com. People can also call (305) 293-7658.

<http://www.greenermiami.com/greenermiami>

Much ado about not much

It is very funny to me that even with the housing market crisis, the war in Iraq, and the antics of Britney Spears, there is still a spot in the press to mention that an environmental group is having problems. Yes, the Florida Chapter of Sierra got their hands slapped by the National Sierra to which they report, but is it big news? Not really.

Those of you who are members of the Sierra Club Group in Miami or Broward or Palm Beach, may not even know there is such a thing as a Florida Chapter of Sierra Club except in name. It makes sense to hear of a Florida Chapter, we are in Florida, but the real

grass roots environmental activists live in a city or county and are active with the group in that city or county. Nothing has changed there. Miami Group has more to work on than ever. We just get past someone putting an airport in the Everglades and we find someone else ignoring the fact that we have a water shortage, or, that we are living on top of our water supply and shouldn't inject sewage into the ground.

The Florida Chapter is an entity made up of volunteers from each of the groups in Florida, plus some elected officers. It makes sense to have a Chapter, particularly when you need to present a united front in the legislature. But, the Chapter leaders had some trouble this past year getting along with one another. The problems escalated and then they started fighting with National Sierra. Somewhere, along the way, they lost their perspective. So, we will start over and build a new collection of volunteers. In the meantime, a steering committee will be found to keep things moving along on statewide issues, our lobbyist is in place and working the halls of government, even National Sierra is remodeling itself to be more effective. And the beat goes on. So, forget about this administrative problem and spend your energy worrying about what our county commission is doing, or what FPL has up their sleeve. Or, take a spring break and get out and enjoy the wonders of Florida. Renew yourself and your enthusiasm for protecting the environment.

Betsy Grass, Miami Group Webmaster

P.S. If you are still dying for details on this (zzzzzzzzzzzz), read the note by Steering Committee Search Team on what is expected of the new volunteers. You may get a hint.

Steering Committee Letter

Dear Florida Sierra Club Leaders,

We are reaching out to all current and former Sierra Club leaders in Florida to invite you to offer your time and talent as a member of the new Florida Steering Committee - the body that will have responsibility for handling statewide matters during the period of the Chapter's suspension - or to assist us identifying qualified prospective candidates.

The Steering Committee has been charged with rebuilding and managing statewide Sierra Club functions in Florida, rebuilding trust among volunteer leaders and with the Board and staff, and preparing for a transition to a well-functioning member-elected Florida Chapter leadership.

We have set up a webpage where Florida volunteer leaders can let us know they are interested in being considered for a seat on the Steering Committee, or recommend another person for the

Steering Committee. Please go to
<http://clubhouse.sierraclub.org/people/committees/florida-steering>

This site also contains information about the Florida Steering Committee's responsibilities, authority and accountability, structure, terms of appointment, meetings and operating procedures.

We are looking for people who can bring the following qualities to the Steering Committee:

- Knowledgeable about the work and activities of the Florida Chapter
- Brings specific skills, experience or perspective needed for the team to accomplish its work
- Willingness to work closely with and be accountable to the Board of Directors Executive Committee and those working with it
- Demonstrated ability to work cooperatively with others and as part of a team
- Demonstrated ability to engage in robust but constructive debate with other team members that leads to shared understanding and agreement
- Demonstrated ability to think strategically about Florida as a whole, beyond his or her own areas of expertise or interest
- Demonstrated willingness to embrace new ways of exercising leadership and structuring the Florida Sierra Club to achieve goals
- Demonstrated ability to put Club interests ahead of personal interests
- Willingness to commit the needed time and participate fully in the work of the steering Committee, including attendance at in-person meetings
- Demonstrated ability to follow through on commitments

We will strive for geographic diversity as much as possible, but all Steering Committee members must bring a statewide perspective to their work.

We're counting on all of you to help us identify volunteer leaders in Florida who are willing to take on this commitment and accept shared responsibility for moving the Florida Sierra Club forward together.

The deadline for submitting a statement of interest is Tuesday, April 15, 2008.

Sincerely,

The Florida Steering Committee Search Team

Lane Boldman
Rebecca Falkenberry
Frances Howell-Coleman
Laurie MacDonald
Julie Morris

Contact Info for Sierra Club Miami Group

Chair/Newsletter Editor: Debbie Matthews - treehuggerdeb@yahoo.com

Vice Chair: Barbara Lange

Secretary:

Betsy Grass

Treasurer: Margarita Borda

Conservation: Mark Oncavage - 305-251-5273

Education: Maria Papazian- 519-0877

ICO: Mark Walters - mark@icomiami.org

Outings Chair: Jim Gross-JMGross3013@aol.com

Outings Sec: George Fedorko - 305-254-1716

Ads: Georgia Guerra georgiapg@msn.com

Meeting Coordinater: Ken Smith - 305-758-3121

Board Members: Barbara Lange, Betsy Grass, Debbie Matthews, Kristina Trotta, Margarita Borda, Maria Papazian, Mark Oncavage, and Stephan Mahoney

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to your friends, family and colleagues. Also, do you want to contribute to the newsletter? Share your nature photograph(jpg format please)? Email them to me, and I will put them in!

Debbie Matthews
Miami Sierra Club - Newsletter Edition

More Photos from the Valentines Earthfest Benefit





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