

February
2021

Delta Sierran

MONTHLY ENEWS FROM YOUR SIERRA CLUB

DELTA CHAPTER: YOUR SIERRA CLUB

Group Meetings:

ALL MEETINGS ARE ZOOM ONLINE
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

ACADIAN-LAFAYETTE AREA
TBA

BATON ROUGE

General membership Zoom
meetings are at 7 PM on the fourth
Thursday of the month. This
month's subject: Birding in Belize.

Write: nancygrush@gmail.com
to receive the Zoom link.

HONEY ISLAND (Northshore) TBA

NEW ORLEANS

General membership Zoom
meeting is Sunday, March 14, at
6:30. The speaker is Kristen Steel,
from Tulane University on butter-
flies.

Write: leolaventhal@gmail.com
to receive the Zoom link.



This Issue

From The Chair P. 1

Zooms & Meetings P. 1

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Please send YOUR photos to
[margie.vicknair-
pray@sierraclub.org](mailto:margie.vicknair-pray@sierraclub.org) to be includ-
ed in future issues and on our
website and other Delta Chapter
social media pages.

This photo: Bayou Lacombe
bridge by Margie Vicknair-Pray

DAVE STETS: A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

From the Chapter Chair:

Happy New Year. Environmentally our country
is in a better position than we were at the end
of 2020. And, on our last Zoom call half of the
members have had at least their first
Covid vaccine shot.

Announcing the results of our Delta Chapter
Excom election. Congratulations to Charlie
Fryling, Jeff Wellborn & Sue deRada who have
been elected to serve as Excom members-at-
large for 2021-2023. We thank Matthew Allen
and Kirk Green for their past service on our
Delta Excom.

Good news, our yearend Delta fund raiser re-
ceived sufficient funds so that the
Excom can begin the process
of reorganizing the northern are-
as of Louisiana where we have over
five hundred members where we do
not have nearby groups. We also
have areas that we need to help
strengthen. We are looking into what
we can do and hope to agree on a
plan at our March Excom.

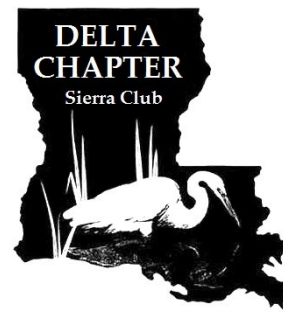
Also, welcome to the forty-eight new

members who joined in January and
the 821 new members who joined in 2020.
Please check this news letter for zoom
meetings that you can attend and the chapter
and group Facebook pages for local environ-
mental news. We try to reach all our members
but emails like this are typically only opened
by 15% of our members. Reaching out by
phone is usually more effective but we need
volunteers who can help us do that at least for
a few members in your area. Some of our
members don't have much contact with other
people because of the pandemic. Maybe you
could help us reach them.

At our February Excom
meeting we approved our
2021 budget and the chap-
ter looks to
be adequately funded
for 2021.

Please be safe.

Dave STETS



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Visit us on Facebook:

Sierra Club Delta Chapter

Look for us on other social media
Such as Twitter & Instagram

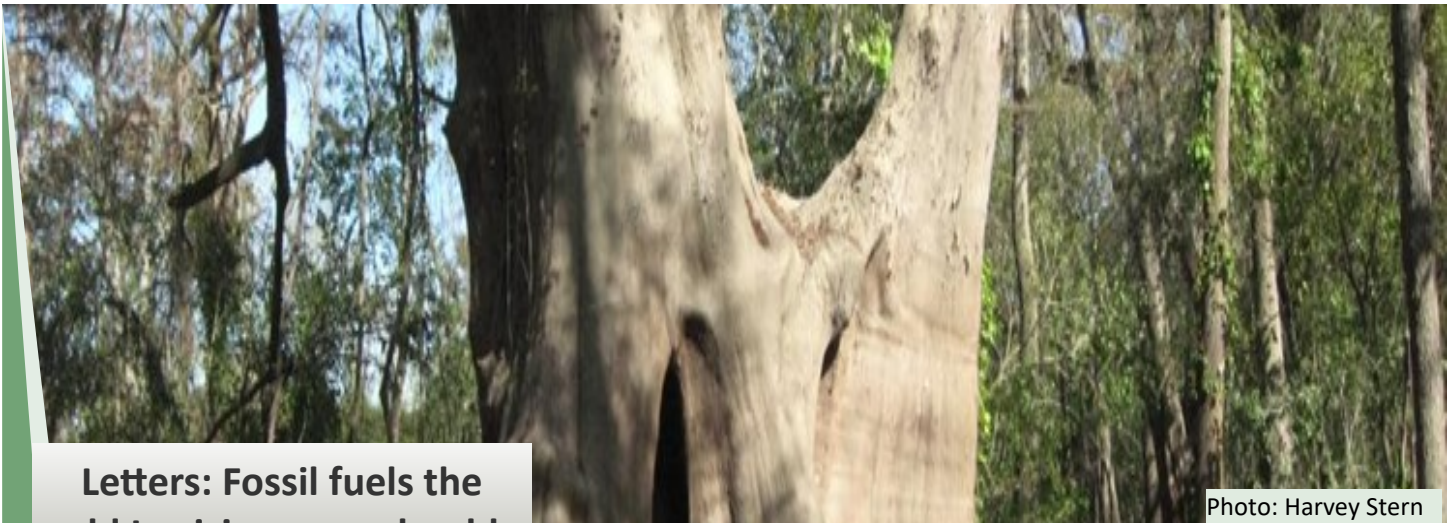


Photo: Harvey Stern

Letters: Fossil fuels the old Louisiana, we should turn to what comes next

Angelle Bradford, Delta ExCom member and coordinator of the Sierra Student group at Southern BR, and others that are in organization, wrote this amazing letter (Feb. 7. 2021), to the Advocate Editor. Here's the beginning and you can follow the link for the entire letter!

"We are still having the wrong conversation. Instead of reframing and reimagining what this state could be, so many of us are being pigeonholed into believing that oil and gas is all we have ever been and all we will ever be."

https://www.theadvocate.com/baton_rouge/opinion/letters/article_7d5712e-61b0-11eb-9778-d725f6b32d0b.html

Bob Marshall: Biden hasn't declared war on oil...

Which of these two recent headlines is true and critical to the future of Louisiana's coastal communities?

- 1) Joe Biden's war on oil is very bad news for Louisiana.
- 2) Global ice loss accelerating at record rate.

It's the second one. The state's own coastal survival plan shows if the rate of ice melt pouring into the oceans isn't slowed, most of Louisiana's bottom third — including cities from Lake Charles to Mandeville — could be drowned by sea-level rise before the end of this century.

But if you only listened to Louisiana politicians and local news sites, you're excused for thinking that first story was true.

For complete article:

https://www.nola.com/opinions/article_f8f57caa-6722-11eb-89f0-ebfd673edbe4.html

FONTAINEBLEAU STATE PARK BENEFITS FROM SOME TLC!

Sierra Club Honey Island Group partnered with the St Tammany Master Gardeners to start a program to beautify Fontainebleau State Park (FSP) in Mandeville.

It's more than just beautification, however. Master Gardeners and Sierra Club volunteers will be working to design and improve existing gardens, and to plan new areas for development. We will also be working to improve trails by planting and encouraging native species and identifying them so that visitors can learn what the plants are as well as how they were used by the natives and early settlers.

Although our concerted effort has yet to kick off officially, we were recently aided in our quest to beautify and improve the gardens and natural plants by the Louisiana Iris Conservation Initiative,



a group that rescues irises from destruction and habitat loss.

In January, this iris-loving group and other volunteers planted about 20 cypress trees and 1,000 irises in the marsh areas near the lake.

When the irises start blooming in late March (no definite date — check local irises for confirmation of the blooming period!), you should be sure to bring your family out to experience the beauty of our native irises.



If you're interested in helping out with this exciting new project, please contact margie.vicknair-pray@sierraclub.org. We are looking for volunteers and donations and hope to get boots on the ground in March.

For more on the Iris Conservation Initiative, see

<https://www.licisaveirises.com/news>