



Greater Charlotte Harbor News

www.gchgroup.org

Ballot Edition November 2019

FALL ! We hope you are enjoying this season of **CHANGE**. Many of you are raking leaves “up North” and preparing to change venues for the winter months while non-snowbirds are relishing the change to lower temps and humidity in Florida.

In the spirit of this season of change, Fall is an appropriate time for Elections at the local, state and national levels. The ballot for our EXCOM election is ready for your vote(s) and is included on page 2. Please participate, because each of your votes is important.



We hope you are looking forward to an active, fun time with your Sierra Club Group this season. Adventurous nature outings for Greater Charlotte Harbor Sierra Club and other nature lovers as well as interesting General Meetings are available to you this Fall and throughout the Winter into early Spring.

Our web-master, Jim Reske, has been working to keep an updated list of all outings and meetings on our website www.gchgroup.org. In the previous newsletter, we listed Fall Outings through December 2019. This newsletter will feature a preview for Paddles with Rick Fried, January to May 2020.

Outings Chair Allain Hale reports that recently our Group has had three new Outings Leaders certified! We can look forward to a variety of adventures in our area and feel fortunate to have the guidance and expertise of our wonderful Leaders.

General Meetings will be held once again on the 3rd Tuesday of each month except December. UU Hall, 1532 Forrest Nelson Blvd. Pt. Charlotte. 7pm : Refreshments

Saturday, Nov 16th: Come see us at our booth! CHNEP Nature Festival, 10am-3pm, Laishley Park, Punta Gorda

Tuesday, Nov 19th: Don't miss a lovely virtual trip on the Peace River with Rick Fried at our November General Meeting.





If you enjoy paddling in Paradise , **SAVE THIS PAGE.**

Florida Master Naturalist Rick Fried has submitted this preview of paddles that he will lead during the New Year. Varying in length and areas of exploration, they are delightful to those who enjoy leisurely observing fauna and flora as well as to fitness enthusiasts. Participants must provide their own watercraft, PFD, and be able to swim. Reservations are mandatory: call 941-637-8805. No charge, but voluntary donations to the Sierra Club are gratefully accepted to keep our programs going!



January 15, Wed 9am to 3pm: SHELL CREEK: This will be the longer upstream paddle to the shallows and the Cypress Knee Garden (aka “Gnome Forest”). Participants who don’t want to complete the entire 5 mile trip may opt to sign out. Bring a shady hat , your lunch, and water.

January 23, Fri, 9am to 3pm: LETTUCE LAKE OR LIVERPOOL: Start from Lettuce Lake or Hunter Creek and paddle through a maze of channels that lead out into the Peace River. Then downstream, exploring side lagoons. Stop to lunch at the Nav-A-Gator Restaurant before retuning via a different route to your cars. One of our most popular outings. !

February 12, Wed 9am to 3pm: LOWER PEACE RIVER: Paddle past the turn-of –the-century phosphate dock ruins. Check out the rookeries for bird activity from a safe distance. On up to the Nav-A-Gator Restaurant to have lunch before returning via a different route. Another popular outing.

March 3, Tue, 9am to 3pm: LOWER PEACE RIVER: Lettuce Lake or Liverpool into Boggess Creek and then through side channels or the river to the Nav-A-Gator for lunch. Alt. Peace River return.

March 20, Fri. 9am to 3pm: LOWER PEACE RIVER: Bird-watching paddle down to the rookeries and then up side channels or the river to the Nav-A-Gator for lunch. Alt. Peace River return.

March 31, Tue. 9am-3pm: LOWER PEACE RIVER : Down to the rookeries to see active nest-building and hatching, then a different way up Deep Creek to the Nav-A-Gator for lunch. Return via a different Peace River short cut route.

April 10, Fri. 9am to 3pm: LOWER PEACE RIVER: A repeat during nest-building and hatching period, down to the rookeries and then up side channels or the river to the Nav-A-Gator for lunch. Return via a different Peace River route.

May 21, Thur. 9am-3pm: LOWER PEACE RIVER: Down Hunter Creek to the rookeries to see and hear the busy activity, then up side channels or the river to the Nav-A-Gator for lunch. Return via different Peace River route.

In this Issue:

- ◆ **Welcome back to another GCH Sierra Club Group Season!**
- ◆ **See you soon at the Nature Festival, General Meeting or Outing**
 - ◆ **Don't forget to send in your Ballot**
 - ◆ **Sneak Preview to Upcoming Paddles**
- ◆ **Check out www.gchgroup.org or like us on Facebook!**



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