





# Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park Volunteer News JUNE 2013



HELP!!!!! Volunteers needed for July 4th as well as the entire holiday weekend.

Beach Stewards, and field help, especially late field from 4pm until close would be so helpful. The park closes at sunset as we normally do. Fireworks are not visible from our beach, and many visitors will be asking about this. If you have any amount of time to volunteer over this 4-day holiday weekend, please contact Donna Young, donna.young@dep.state.fl.us or 239-597-6196



Ranger Lourdes Q. gives a Sea Turtle presentation to one of 18 elementary student classes we had visit the park in the month of May. The children asked great questions and Lourdes did an excellent job teaching them. If you love teaching, consider learning our programs to give to the students as well as our visitors.



#### Welcome new volunteers!

- Early field: Bill Meador Wed, Thurs
- Beach Stewards: Ira Rubenstein; Jackie Randel; Muffin Beaudry
- Interpreter/programs: Ira Rubenstein
- Resource Management/Exotic invasive plants: Patricia Moirano
- Friends of Delnor-Wiggins membership coordinator: Ray Beaudry
- Jerry Sugarman –bringing our info & fliers to hotel concierges each month also beach cleanup
- Joan DeVore so new and so much to offer! Stay tuned....
- Resident RV volunteer for summer months: Robert Smith Robert volunteers Sunday through Wednesday and is a HUGE help to the staff especially on Sundays when he is there to do early field so the Ranger on duty can get right out to the beach and check for turtle nests. And Robert is BRAVE. Brave to stay and work here during the summer! We are happy and fortunate to have him through August.





We are looking for a Volunteer who would be willing to be our United Arts Council liaison. This volunteer would attend two UAC meeting per year, usually January and May. Also, if the park is having an event, promote it at their meeting either by making an announcement or passing out a flyer/bookmark about the event. Then at the Friends monthly meeting, a brief report on what the UAC meeting was about would be presented. If you are interested in filling this position, please contact Donna Young.



**Summer volunteers wanted!** Calling all students and local residents.....Even though "season" is over, we still have a great need for volunteers. Weekends are always very busy, and with Turtle Season beginning this month, our rangers could definitely use more help. Some specific jobs include:

- Beach Stewards
- Beach cleaning
- Trimming trees throughout the park
- Caring for Delora's Garden (weeding, trimming,
- Boardwalk cleaning and repair
- Painting
- Interpretive programs
- Helping write Annual Passes on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month
- General maintenance

Please call or email me for more detailed information on an area of volunteering you might be interested in. <a href="mailto:donna.young@dep.state.fl.us">donna.young@dep.state.fl.us</a> 239-597-6196 Great day.....!



etc)

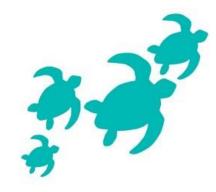


Coach B's Aquatics Beach Camp is here at the park through August and we are happy to have them! You will find them mostly in area 4 supervised by several very capable counselors. Our Rangers will be giving a lunchtime talk to the campers each Wednesday and Thursday during the summer. Topics we will cover include; Sea Turtles, Gopher Tortoises, Shore Birds, Shells, "Leave No Trace", recycling, Manatees, Native Plants and more. The Rangers are having a great time teaching the campers something new each week and the kids are attentive and ask excellent questions.





Ranger Mike Odom teaches the campers about Gopher Tortoises and was able show them a live tortoise! Campers learning how to paddleboard and surf. Sign me up!



**Great news!** Thanks to the American Bird Conservancy we are replacing our old faded bird sign in the kiosk located between area 4 and 5with this beautiful new one! And at NO COST to us! www.HelpGulfBirds.org www.abcbirds.org





I am pleased to announce that the Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass now have an Executive Membership with Costco and can shop tax free! Additionally, Costco has already agreed to donate snacks and beverages for our volunteers who work

during all our upcoming fund raising events such as Public Lands Day on September 28th; the Wildlands and Wildlife Art Show in January; Children's Art Show in February; the Nature Festival; Staff holiday party and a Halloween event we are still in the process of planning.



We continue to work with **FGCU** students year round. These students help in so many areas of the park, especially on weekends when visitor numbers are even higher. Our partnership with the Office of Service-Learning and Civic Engagement has proved to be a win-win for all involved. Students are learning about this amazing

park and what it takes to carry out our mission; "Provide resource-based recreation while preserving, interpreting, and restoring natural and cultural resources."





Eagle Scout candidate, **Brit**Lewis, meets with Assistant
Park Manager, **Mark Nicoletti**to discuss plans to renovate
the traffic median near parking
lot 5. Native plants will be
chosen and purchased under
the direction of Park Manger, **Bob Steiger**. All supplies and



plants will be purchased with monies from fundraising Brit will do and any extra funds raised will be donated to the Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass!





### **JUNE/JULY Interpretive Programs**



#### Beachcombing every Tuesday @ 9:30 w/ Brian

June 28	<b>Gopher Tortoises</b>	Wayne
July 5	Spiders	Chris
July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Shorebirds	Mike
July 19 <sup>th</sup>	Native Plants	Terry
July 26 <sup>th</sup>	Sea Turtles	Chris





Future "Outreach Events" will be posted in this newsletter as well as the Friends website, <a href="http://www.delnorwiggins.org/">http://www.delnorwiggins.org/</a>. We encourage our volunteers and members to join us in hosting a table. These are great opportunities to not only promote the Friends organization, but to visit some of the many great places in the area and meet new people.



Have a great shot you took in the park? Please share with us so we can show it off in the newsletter! Email <a href="mailto:donna.young@dep.state.fl.us">donna.young@dep.state.fl.us</a>

#### Join our Beach Steward Team!





L to R, Bill & Jane Moore, Vicki Sowinski, JoAnn & Hank Linck, Carol Fletcher, Kaye Klug and pictured giving a Beach Combing program is Brian Settle.



"Beach Steward" is a new volunteer position in the park. Stewards at Delnor-Wiggins monitor the beach, picnic areas and parking lots and travel by bike or on foot. They interact with and answer questions that may arise from our visitors in a friendly, courteous and educational manner. Our goal is to have Beach Stewards available 7 days a week. If you would be interested in becoming a Beach Steward, please contact Donna

The picture above shows off one of several new "No Swimming" signs for visitors to see as they walk out towards area 5. Beach Stewards can assist staff in making sure there are no swimmers in these posted areas.

Young Donna.young@dep.state.fl.us





Correction from the last newsletter... Volunteer Kaye Klug is shown here as SPANGLES the Clown, not Sparkles! I have it straight now!





DID YOU KNOW.....??

The Florida Park Service is pleased to partner with ParksByNature Network™ and PocketRanger.com to provide visitors and Florida state park enthusiasts with a FREE smartphone app. .

You can download the Florida State Parks Pocket Ranger ® app today onto your personal smartphone from iTunes, Android Market and at <a href="https://www.PocketRanger.com">www.PocketRanger.com</a>.

The app will download faster if you are connected to Wi-Fi. The app is also formatted for a mobile website at <a href="http://fl.pocketranger.com">http://fl.pocketranger.com</a>.





## Please visit The Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Facebook Page

https://www.facebook.com/friends.delnorwiggins?ref=ts&fref=ts





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