



FLORIDA State Parks

...the Real Florida



Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park Volunteer News

MAY 2013

The Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass Annual Nature Festival was a not only lots of fun but successful again this year! Many thanks to members of the Friends, staff, volunteers and vendors for making this a great event.



Assistant Park Manager, **Mark Nicoletti**, tries paddleboarding, courtesy of *The Olde Naples Surf Shop*. Students from **FGCU** and **Palmetto Ridge HS** were a tremendous help the entire day. Here they are serving some donated **Royal Scoop** ice cream! Board member, **Phil Nye** takes care of arranging for the delivery and pick up of the ice cream and supplies each year which we are truly grateful for! Below, left, **Aileen Liden** helps a visitor try on her new Nickerbean necklace. **Julie Meyer**, sitting, assists other necklace makers. Below, **Sparkles the Clown** (aka, volunteer, **Kaye Klug!**) takes a minute to admire the view on that gorgeous day. Sparkles and her dog worked tirelessly all day entertaining children and adults who attended the festival.





Friends members, **Kathryn Eastlake, Ann Petrillo, Valerie Thompson and Kathe Rasch** all took on several duties including running the Friends table, assisting other volunteers, set up, cleanup and dealing with the money (thanks Kathe ☺). Our fishing clinic was run by **Ranger Mike Odom** who was assisted by Palmetto Ridge HS student, **Eddy Larsen**. The clinic went VERY well! Mike & Eddy informed visitors about the different types of fish found in SWFL; showed them how to fish with both “artificials” and bait; focused on Safety and fishing regulations and taught several children how to cast.



Spunky the Iguana visits every year with the **Kowiachobee Animal Preserve** and is always a hit! Below is **Carol Belfiori** sharing her knowledge of all things natural and native to our park while her husband **Tom** was out in the park giving one of two scheduled interpretive walks.



Friend’s member and volunteer, **Jane Moore** (at the end of the table) takes charge of the Sea Grape art table each year and this year, tee-shirt printing was added for a fee of \$5.00. Success! Over 200.00 worth of shirts were designed by guests and sold! Members of the **FGCU Wildlife Club** assisted the entire day. Thanks to **Bill Moore** for handling the Dept of Transportation table on his own and giving out important bike safety info and lights that were donated by DOT.





Friends of Delnor-Wiggins, **Juanita Paul** and **Anne Knowlton** volunteer at the recycling table (above) with the help of a **Palmetto Ridge HS** student. Another Friends member, **Linda Colvin**, does an amazing job of running the Shell Seekers activity each year. This year she said she thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated the assistance from **FGCU** students. Pictured right is **Ralph and Roma Phillips**, our resident volunteers from February – April. So much was accomplished during their stay. Check out the new shutters on my office window and our new donation box at the Ranger station. Ralph is so talented and did these and **much more** during their stay. **Jackie Witter and Ruth Wittermeyer, right**, run the shell and shark teeth count contest.

There were many other volunteers and Friends who helped make this event a success! Special thanks to **JoAnn Linck** for sharing all her organizational and planning skills with me. JoAnn has organized this and other events at the park for over 5 years. More heartfelt thanks to:

Sharon Eddy (Sharon shares her talent year after year! She designed the beautiful flyers and posters for advertisement of the Nature Festival as well as the recycling board and Friends display)

Also, Phil Nye, David Eastlake, Jay Thompson, Carol Fletcher, Meagan Landrum, Bill & Juanita Paul, Edgar Rasch, Hank Linck, Michelle Heuschen, Sally Madden, Intern Sarah Taminosian, Dolores Kernochan; all helped make the day a success!





NEXT MONDAY....SAVE THE DATE!

Monday, 5/13/13 is a scheduled cleanup day, following Mother's Day.

If you want to arrive at 10 AM and help tidy up the picnic areas and beach that would be super.



Please RSVP to Donna Young. 239.597.6196 or Donna.Young@dep.state.fl.us

May 13, 2013 at noon - To Friends, Volunteers, and Staff at Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park

You are invited to attend a Wiener Roast at Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park Pavilion

Brief membership meeting at 11 AM



Sponsored by your Board

Larry Beer, Tom Belfiori, Marcia Byrd, David Eastlake, Joe Gagnier, Jan Gazdic, Phil Nye, Ann Petrillo, Kathe Rasch, and Bob Steiger

Meet *Lunetta* at Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park



Three months have passed since The Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park started a contest to "Name the Loggerhead Turtle".

The turtle is the Friends' mascot, the sculpture that sits on sand near the Park entrance. The name **Lunetta** was chosen from over 200 entrants from all over the world.

The contest winner is

Rosvita Watson, from Canada, a visitor to our park for 24 years. She was awarded a turtle t-shirt as her prize. *As the Turtle Hatchlings react and move toward the bright light of the moon or lunar, the name Lunetta was chosen.*

The Friends congratulate Rosvita and hope to see her and her family again next year! *pictured; Bob Steiger, Park Manager; Marcia Byrd, President of the Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass SP and Rosvita Watson*



May Interpretive Programs

Beachcombing every Tuesday @ 9:30

Friday May 3rd: Castnetting

Friday May 10th : Gopher Tortoise

Friday May 17th: Sea Turtles

Friday May 24th : Shorebirds

Friday May 31st : Beginning Birding



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, etc)
- Boardwalk cleaning and repair
- Painting
- Interpretive programs
- Assist with Turtle monitoring (early birds please apply! Begins 7am sharp! ☺)
- Helping write Annual Passes on the 1st of each month
- General maintenance



Please call or email me for more detailed information on an area of volunteering you might be interested in. donna.young@dep.state.fl.us 239-597-6196



Great day.....!

Keep Collier Beautiful Bay Days 4-13



Thank You Very Much
Thank You Very Much
That's the nicest thing you volunteers have done for Collier County!
Thank You Very Much
Thank you Very Very Much



Each of you made a major contribution To Collier County. Through you efforts our County is a Cleaner place to live and enjoy.



Keep Collier Beautiful is most appreciative
Thank You and Hope to see you again.
Collier County is a CLEANER place to live because of **YOU!**



Special thanks to students from the **FGCU Wildlife club and Rugby Club**; employees from **Collier County Code Enforcement and Adult & Community Education**; **Palmetto Ridge HS Key Club**; **Daisy Scouts and Girl Scout Troops 844, 216 & 330** for participating in Bay Days and cleaning our park on foot and by water. Although we keep our beach very clean, they still found trash back in the mangroves and other hard to reach areas.



JOIN US! Sunset Yoga on the Beach is back!
\$5.00 plus admission to the park \$1.00 is donated to the Friends of Delnor-Wiggins
Schedule:
May 9 6:30 - 7:30
May 16 6:30 - 7:30
May 23 6:30-7:30pm (sunset 8:11)
May 30 6:30 - 7:30



We are looking for a volunteer who would like to attend the remaining classes and sell tee shirts before and after. Please contact Donna Young.

bala vinyasa yoga



The Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass hosted a table at the Conservancy Grand Opening in April. A great day for all! Here is a message from our President, Marcia Byrd:

“Thanks to all of you for helping at the Friends table at the Conservancy yesterday. Our table looked nice with all the artifacts, brochures, and the new tablecloth. We made contact with a lot of people. Many folks said they knew of the Park but had never been there. We handed them our brochure. There were a lot of questions about the shark teeth – were they actually found on our beach? Who found them? Are they still available at our beach?



The number one draw however, was that amazing painting of our beach viewed through the sea grapes, done by Carol McCardle, 2008 Resident Artist. Thanks to Carol for bringing it and another smaller one of our beach scene.

The Conservancy buildings and boardwalks are outstanding. If you have not been there lately, you need to go to see the amazing renovations of the existing buildings. There is one more building to be erected and then it is done completely. Amazing what can be done with \$35 million!”



Marcia



Future “Outreach Events” will be posted in this newsletter as well as the Friends website, <http://www.delnorwiggins.org/> . 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 donna.young@dep.state.fl.us

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

Thank you to our current Beach Stewards who seem to be enjoying their new positions and are getting quite a bit of positive feedback from our visitors!



Our awesome Rangers teaching Corkscrew Elementary 3rd graders about Sea Turtles, shells and other beach combing finds. Left is **Ranger Chris Davidson** and below is **Ranger Alyssa Rothstein**. This week they will teach over 225 students in 3 days!



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 www.PocketRanger.com.

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



Please visit
The Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/friends.delnorwiggins?ref=ts&ref=ts>

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