



FLORIDA State Parks *...the Real Florida*



Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park Volunteer News

NOVEMBER 2013



Happy Thanksgiving

Thanks to the tireless magnet makers who gave 23 hours collectively to create over 600 beautiful magnets distributed at **Boo at the Zoo** in October. Reports are that the magnets were very popular and the children were thrilled to choose one.

Alliene Liden, Susan Zimmerman, Roy and Lois Duncan, Patti Forman, Pat Linhoff, CC Cleveland, Marcia Byrd and Jeanie Fischer are among the many who made these fabulous magnets.

Thanks to those who represented the Friends at the Zoo by handing out candy and the magnets, compliments of the Friends. **Alliene Liden, Susan Zimmerman, Sharon Eddy, Jerry Sugarman, Kaye Klug and "Spangles the Clown", Theresa Galante.** It was a very hot day yet they handled it like pros while I was away at Ranger Academy!



There are more outreach events coming up. Join us and help promote the Friends and the park while having a great time!



Honoring our Veterans... All 5 military branches were represented at our CSO meeting today; The Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and US Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 96.

We thank you for being our guests and for serving our country.

L to R; **Richie Twiefel**, Marines; **Carl Knutson**, Navy submarine; **Tom Belfiori**, Army; **Bill Moore**, Marines; **Steve Shea**, Air Force; **Andrew Evva & Phillip Smith**, Flotilla 96 Coast Guard; **Gene Byrd**, Navy; **Tony Manes**, Army



Great article about Naples....

<http://www.bostonglobe.com/lifestyle/travel/2013/10/26/kid-friendly-naples-fla-winter-family-escape/yLXjdPYXV4Grjp3sTqvioJ/story.html>

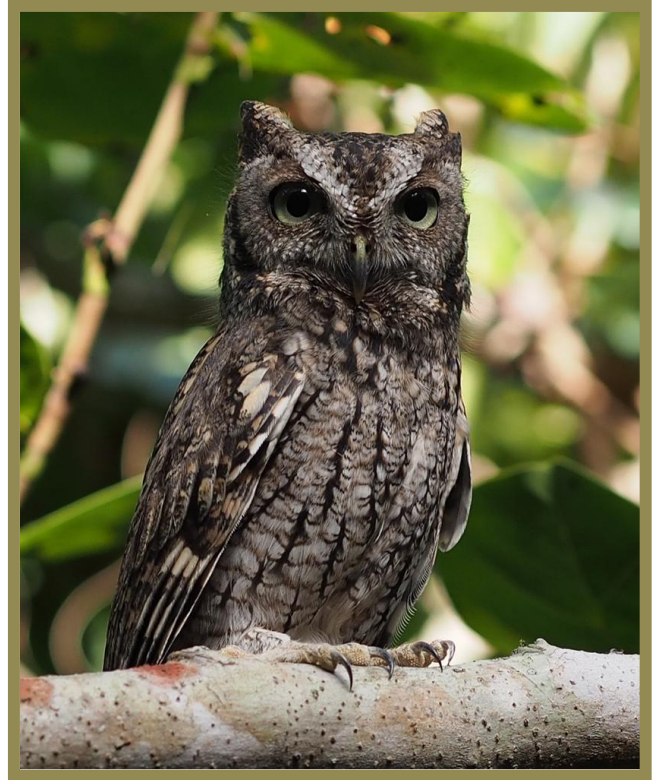


This adult Screech Owl was spotted last week by one of our visitors along the boardwalk trail in area 5 near the Pavilion. Thank you **Ted Larson** for sharing your wonderful photo!

LR-060063 OLYMPUS DIGITAL CAMERA

Share your photos of the park! You can also see more photos on our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/friends.delnorwiggins>



Rangers **Terry Nowak** and **Alyssa Rothstein** show off the ADA accessible water fountain and new platform they installed at bath house 4. Great Job!!

UPCOMING EVENTS, MEETINGS.....



bala vinyasa yoga

Sunset Yoga on the Beach is back, brought to you by The Friends of Delnor-Wiggins and bala vinyasa yoga! Thursdays at 5pm Beginning December 5th.

Sign up directly with the studio at www.bvyoga.com \$5.00 per class plus (does not include admission to the park) \$1.00 is donated to the Friends of Delnor-

Wiggins - Volunteers wanted to sell our beautiful yoga shirts before each class. Please contact Donna Young for more info.

Paddleboard Yoga schedule to be announced soon!



OUTREACH EVENT

Saturday, December 7th, 2013 10am- 3pm Lovers Key State Park will host the Annual Great Outdoor Adventure Day, located at the Kayak Launch /Picnic Area of the park. **The Friends of Delnor-Wiggins will host a table at this event.** Volunteers needed for 2 hour shifts. Come and enjoy this event while promoting the Friends! Contact Donna Young donna.young@dep.state.fl.us



More dates....

January 8th, Wednesday:

BEACH STEWARD meeting 10:00 am in the CSO room. This meeting is for all existing Beach Stewards as well as volunteers who are interested in learning more about this position. Please RSVP to donna.young@dep.state.fl.us

January 18th, Saturday:

The 16th Annual Wildlife & Wildlands Art Show held in area 3 of the park. Please contact Donna Young if you would like to help the day of this amazing event.

February 22nd & 23rd, Saturday & Sunday:

The FIRST Annual Children's Art Show held in the Pavilion. Volunteers needed to help before and during this event. Please contact Donna Young.

Other OUTREACH EVENTS:

- **Feb. 8 and 9, 2014** for the Blue Grass Festival at Collier-Seminole State Park
 - **April 5th** Naples Zoo Party for the Planet
 - **Conservancy of SW FL Earth Day- TBA**
- Contact Donna if you would like to attend.

**DELNOR-WIGGINS PASS STATE PARK
16TH ANNUAL ART SHOW**

Wildlife & Wildlands



*January 18, 2014
10 am - 3 pm*



This is an annual event showcasing the natural and cultural resources of Florida.

Local artists display their work in a variety of medium; watercolor, oil, pastel, acrylic, photography, basketry and weaving.

A percentage of the proceeds through sales of the artwork are donated to the Park.

*February 22 & 23
10 am - 3 pm*

The Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park are pleased to announce our first ever "Children's Art Show". Check our website for details.



www.DelnorWiggins.org



Tennis anyone?

We are collecting empty tennis ball cans as shown in the picture and making them into personal fishing line recycling containers to hand out to the fisherman at the park. They will be equipped with Velcro to attach to their fishing equipment or boats. Special thanks to our local Sea Grant Extension Agent, **Bryan Fluech**, who provided the idea and recycle stickers for the containers and other helpful info to include for the fisherman. Excellent project for FGCU students.....hint, hint.



THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO ALREADY DROPPED OFF SOME CONTAINERS! KEEP 'EM COMING!



Ever wonder **WHAT CAN YOU DO** to help the park? By helping the Friends, you are helping the park. Use your talents to make a difference! We need you!

- Redesign of brochure
- Write script for video about the Friends – Donna has the filming worked out
- Help plan the new Children's Art Show – Committee in place – Planning, help before, during and after event.
- Planners and workers for the Art Show in January
- Manage sales of visors/caps during season at concession and events
- Manage ordering and picking up polo-shirt, caps, visors, pencils, magnets at T-Shirt Express
- Write articles for newsletter – Send to Donna who puts them in our part of the Volunteer Newsletter
- Create and assemble information folders for new members
- Become a Board member – need at least two – serve 3 years
- Volunteer to be our accountant – Currently set up on QuickBooks
- Take photos of events, field trips, parties, etc. and send to Donna for newsletter
- Membership Chair – monthly mailings and management of membership files
- Work with a group to plan an after 5 event for realtors – needs to be held during season
- Help to plan programs for meeting and special events
- Work with a group to plan the holiday dinner in December
- Water, weed, and work in Delora's Garden – D-GGGs
- Chair and/or work on the Capital Campaign Committee for our future Boardwalk

If you can assist in any way please contact Donna Young at Donna.Young@dep.state.fl.us 239.593.2658 or Marcia Byrd at marciabyrd@comcast.net 239.593.4563.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



What's On Your Bucket List?

By Marcia Byrd

Have you seen the Ken Burns' documentary: *The National Parks: America's Best Idea*? After viewing the six episodes, my husband and I decided that we would add to our bucket list – "Visit all the National Parks." Over the years we have visited and camped in many national parks but we had plenty more to explore. So we loaded our hiking gear into the Sequoia and headed west for exciting adventures in fourteen national parks– one in Nevada, Oregon, and Arizona, two in Colorado and nine in California. My Fodor's Complete Guide to the National Parks of the West was all we needed to make the best use of every exhilarating day along the journey. I will admit to using my iPhone to google restaurants and sights along the way, too.

The grandeur and diversity of these parks is humbling to say the least. We experienced temperatures from 122 degrees to below freezing. We drove to summits over 10,000 feet and spent a stifling half-hour at Badwater in Death Valley, 292 feet below sea level. In Sequoia, Kings Canyon, and Redwood National Parks we saw the largest and tallest trees in the world, the sequoia and the coast redwood, grown from pinecones no larger than a chicken egg or an olive, respectively! In Joshua Tree National Park we learned that those trees are not really trees but plants from the yucca family. Trees that were once living trees but are now rocks are lying in the Petrified Forest National Park. At Great Basin National Park we hiked up over 10,000 feet to find bristlecone pines, amazing survivors of the high desert that are over 4,000 years old! (OK, I loved the trees. Actually I was awed by them.) We hiked across snow fields and in streams, up rock domes, around lakes, and in caves. It was a trip of contrasts for sure.

Every park offered larger-than-life panoramas, jaw dropping sights formed by volcanoes, shifting plates, earthquakes, wind and water. Uniquely different was Mesa Verde National Park in southwestern Colorado, set aside to preserve the culture of the Ancestral Pueblo peoples who farmed on the mesas and lived in pit houses and in the cliff dwellings built over centuries. We had the benefit of paved walkways and steps to get to the cliff dwellings and were amazed by the skill it took to reach these dwellings, located in arches of rock hundreds of feet above canyons and hundreds of feet below the mesas.

Each park's visitor center offered exceptional information through films and displays on the history and geology of the park. Helpful, friendly, and enthusiastic rangers and volunteers were available to talk with us about hikes and what not to miss. Within each park we found plaques and memorials to so many exceptional individuals - John Muir, Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, Stephen Mather, and others - who fought to preserve these lands for future generations. America's best idea, for sure.

Returning to Paradise here in Naples, and to Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park, to jaw dropping sights formed by sun, wind, and water, I am reminded of the natural diversity

Continued...

which exists in our small 160 acre park. In a few paces and up to elevations of only a foot, we can experience trees that only grow in brackish waters, trees that need that foot or so of elevation to live in the coastal hammocks, trees that grow on the beaches and in the dunes. We have gopher tortoises that do not like the Gulf waters and Loggerhead turtles that swim to our beach to nest. And I am also reminded that like the national parks, our beautiful park exists due to the foresight, advocacy and support of individuals who fought to preserve this land for future generations. We too display a plaque in Dellora's Garden (area #5), in grateful appreciation to Lester and Dellora Norris who made the purchase of this park possible. Collier County's best idea, for sure.



VOLUNTEERS WANTED:

We are looking for a few volunteers who live locally and would be willing to be on call to take injured or sick wildlife we find at the park to the

von Arx Wildlife Hospital at the Conservancy.

Many times they have volunteers who are willing to come here and pick up the animals however they are limited and very busy. If you are interested in helping transport the animals, let me know! I will put you on a call list.





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>.



**FOR MORE INFO AND PHOTOS, Please visit
The Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Facebook Page**

<https://www.facebook.com/friends.delnorwiggins>



New direct line to reach Donna Young:
New desk phone # - 239-821-1618



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