



**FLORIDA**  
**State Parks**  
*...the Real Florida*



*Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park Volunteer News*  
 DECEMBER 2013



*Happy Holidays to all our wonderful volunteers, staff and visitors. We are looking forward to a productive new year that will include our regularly scheduled annual events as well as a few new events on and off site. Volunteers help make it all happen....read on for details....*

**What's happening in order of date:**

(contact [donna.young@dep.state.fl.us](mailto:donna.young@dep.state.fl.us) to sign up to volunteer for any event or RSVP to a meeting):

**OUTREACH EVENT**



Join Us at the Zoo on **Saturday**  
**January 11, 2014**  
 Booths Open: 10:00am - 2:00pm  
 Setup: 8:30am - 9:50am  
**Sign up to help the Friends host a table at this event.**



**FLORIDA**  
**ARBOR DAY**  
**CELEBRATION**  
 in Naples Zoo at Caribbean Gardens

Saturday, January 11, 2014

**MEETING**

**January 8th, Wednesday:**

**BEACH STEWARD** meeting 10:00AM 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](mailto:donna.young@dep.state.fl.us)



**January 13<sup>th</sup>, Monday** is the Annual Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Meeting 10am – Come out and join us. Learn how you can help this very important organization



## 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 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>** for the *Blue Grass Festival at Collier-Seminole State Park* **OUTREACH EVENT** Contact Donna Young if you would like to help host the Friends table. This event limits us to 4 volunteers per day so first come first serve!

## 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.



DELNOR-WIGGINS PASS STATE PARK  
16TH ANNUAL ART SHOW

# Wildlife & Wildlands

*January, 18, 2014  
10am - 3pm*

The Wildlife and Wildlands Art Show showcases the natural and cultural resources of Florida.

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

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

**Resident Artist Program**  
Ann Ponicsan has been selected as the 2014 Resident Artist at Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park. Please go to [www.DelnorWiggins.org](http://www.DelnorWiggins.org) for Ann's bio as well as her scheduled work in the park.

Find us on Facebook

Check it out!

<http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2013/dec/10/annual-wildlife-and-wildlands-art-show-11371/>



## OUTREACH EVENT

Thank you to **Diane & Michael Distefano, Jay & Valerie Thompson, Alliene Liden & Susan Zimmerman** for representing the Friends at this event!



**VOLUNTEERS!** Don't miss out on this fun day...!



### District 4 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PICNIC

February 15, 2014

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Highlands Hammock State Park

<http://floridastateparks.org/highlandshammock/>



#### LOTS TO SEE & DO!

- ◆ Tram Tours
- ◆ Live Music
- ◆ Geocaching
- ◆ Bicycle Riding
- ◆ Cracker Whip Demonstration & Storytelling
- ◆ CCC History Program & Museum
- ◆ Volunteer Awards Ceremony
- ◆ Volunteer Exhibits
- ◆ Lunch provided by Golden Corral
- ◆ Much, much more!

Please send your RSVP & Volunteer exhibit confirmation on to your park's Volunteer Coordinator no later than January 31, 2014



FRIENDS FIELD TRIP TO J. N. "DING" DARLING  
National Wildlife Refuge  
November 20, 2013



Thanks Phil!



*By, Ann Petrillo* On Wednesday, November 20, nine of the members of the Friends went to Ding Darling Wildlife Refuge in Sanibel. Phil Nye, one of our board members and an avid bird

watcher was our guide. He gave us a wealth of information regarding many of the birds that migrate to our area in the winter. The weather was very sunny and a little warm, but near the water it was delightful. We saw white pelicans, that have a beautiful pink belly and when in flight; they were magnificent. We also saw brown pelicans, snowy egret, egret, and many others. We then went to the Mucky Duck for lunch. All had a great time. Join us on our other field trips. We learn a lot about the environment and have a great time.

Ranger, **Alyssa Rothstein** shown here in her Fire Gear on her way to Collier –Seminoole State Park to assist with a prescribed fire. Prescribed fire mimics natural fire and can help prevent devastating wildfires. Park staff, guided by detailed plans called prescriptions, conduct prescribed burns as a regular and important part of their land management activities. Prescribed fire is a safe way to apply a natural process, ensure ecosystem health & reduce wildfire risk.

To learn more about the role of prescribed fire, visit

[www.goodfires.org](http://www.goodfires.org)

Congrats to Rangers **Mike Odom** and **Heather Raschke** for passing their pack tests on 12/20. They are a step closer to getting certified to work on a burn team.



Sunset Yoga on the Beach is back brought to you by **The Friends of Delnor-Wiggins** and **bala vinyasa yoga!** Sign up directly with the studio at [www.bvyoga.com](http://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 .

**CLASS TIMES:** *Thursday evenings, for December, 4:30 - 5:30pm. In January, we'll move to 5-6pm.*

**Paddleboard yoga** is Saturday evenings from 4:00-5:15 in December, and will move to 4:30-5:45 in January.

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





Help us educate our fishermen and other visitors about how fishing line can kill our shorebirds. Volunteer workshop being organized; date TBA.



**Meanwhile,** 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!**



**These photos were taken on Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. Another bird, a Pelican on his way to the Conservancy. Fishing hook in his foot and possible hook in mouth &**

**neck. Unable to fly. Found in area 5 and rescued by Ranger Mike Odom.**



The December issue of the Wrack Line is now online:  
<http://www.flshorebirdalliance.org/Wordpress-FSA/2013/11/25/decwl/>



## ***VOLUNTEERS WANTED:***

We are looking for a few local 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.



### ***Visitor surveys..... Meeting on December 30<sup>th</sup> at 1pm.***

The Park has been tasked with doing visitor surveys and counts from December through April. The Office of Parks & Rec Planning along with the University of Florida are

attempting to learn more about WHO is coming to the park, HOW they get here and WHAT they are doing while here. This will help determine how we can improve our facilities. If you would like to help us even a few hours a week, please RSVP to [Donna.young@dep.state.fl.us](mailto:Donna.young@dep.state.fl.us) Thank you to the volunteers who have already started helping us! We appreciate you!!!



Support the Friends while purchasing you or your loved ones a great gift! Check out our new visors and shirts! Men and Women's sizes.

- 20.00 for the digitized (not embroidered) logo of the Friends; 100% cotton only
- 25.00 for the embroidered logo in a blend
- 12.50 for the visors with turtle and Naples FL
- 10.00 for Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass visor
- Caps – ask Donna Young



Blue or white



blue, white, stone, red





*Photo by Laura Pacter*

*Thanks to quick thinking skills of beach goers and park rangers, this rare banded Least Tern is now at the Van Arx Wildlife Hospital at the Conservancy.*

**ANOTHER fishing line casualty!**

*(look closely) He most likely flew in from as far up as Maine but he should have flown out of Florida from November to February. Hopefully he will recover quickly and return to Delnor- Wiggins Pass one day . Congrats to everyone who helped this bird.*





**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](http://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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