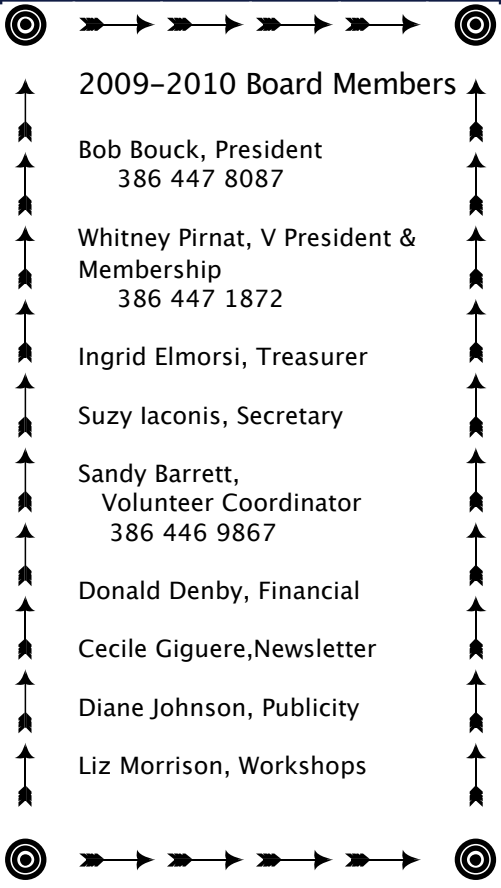


FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

WASHINGTON OAKS GARDENS STATE PARK

editor, Cecile Giguere

March/April 2009



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386 447 8087

Whitney Pirnat, V President & Membership
386 447 1872

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386 446 9867

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THE VIEW FROM MY BRANCH

Bob Bouck, President

The renovation of Mr. Young's Log Cabin is proceeding on schedule for a late spring opening. New merchandise is being ordered and procedure manuals are being prepared. Again, many thanks to all of you, Park Staff, Friends, Volunteers and Camp Hosts for your financial and physical support on this project. It is my belief that "Mr. Young's Cabin" Gift Shop will be a major focal point in the Park. It will serve as a welcome and information center, a meeting point, a Park Services Site, the Gift Shop and a Friends' Room. The Friends Room will serve as an office for our Treasurer and Membership Chair, a storage and preparation room for our bake sales, food concessions and a work area for events, all which are desperately needed.

As outlined in my recent letter, the loss of nearly \$2,000 in support for Earth Day from the Flagler County Tourist Development Council has necessitated our request for financial support for our major fund raising event. Sponsors and Supporters will be appropriately acknowledged during our Earth Day Activities. For as little as \$25 you can be a Bronze Level supporter, \$50 for Silver and at \$100 Gold, Platinum at \$250. Sponsorships start at \$500. I hope your name will be on the "Honor Role of Earth Day Supporters". Additionally, we will need physical support to make the event successful, I hope you will say "yes" when called.



EARTH DAY

APRIL 18th and 19th from 10 AM to 4 PM

WASHINGTON OAKS GARDENS STATE PARK



There will be living history demonstrators; nature programs; arts and crafts for sale; environmental club and organizations' booths; fun activities for children including face painting, games, crafts and story telling; continuous entertainment from local groups; and, food vendors.

Friends of Washington Oaks will hold a bake sale; herb, plant and vegetable sale; as well as the sale of merchandise. There will be programs for all ages.

Come and enjoy a wonderful day in our beautiful park.

Special Park Admission fees for EARTH DAY will be \$8 per car for up to 8 people per car.

Welcome
to Our New Friends

John & Kathleen Dickinson

Mark & Gina Giblin

Margaret Phillips

Peter & Marianne Preiser

Louise & Art Dycke

Don & Phyllis Nichols



2009 upcoming events

Mar 14–Second Saturday Plant Sale
Apr 11–Second Saturday Plant Sale
18/19–Earth Day Celebration
May 9–Bromeliad Workshop
9–Second Saturday Plant Sale
9–Bird Migration Bird Tour
Jun 6–National Trails Day
7–13 National Gardens Week
13–Second Saturday Plant Sale

Volunteers Needed

The Park is seeking volunteers on a regular or occasional basis to upgrade the Bella Vista Trail area at the north end of the Park through trail maintenance and identification of the plants.

At the north end of the Park, is a beautiful trail system of approximately 2.5 miles in length which passes through several historic areas and interesting habitats containing many species of plant and animal life. Passing through and experiencing the solitude and beauty of this unique area of the Park is a rich, rewarding, and educational experience.

Our goal is

- to insure the trails remain clear and safe
- Maintain in excellent condition the interpretive plaques, plaque holders, and posts
- Identify and maintain an index of plant life to include invasives and endangered species.

We would need probably one or two 3 hour periods per month during this spring.

Please call David or Victoria Kelsey
386 447 0350
pcoast@mindspring.com

or Mark Giblin
Park Specialist–Volunteer Coordinator
386 446 6783
Mark.Giblin@dep.state.fl.us

Bill Reardon, our new gift shop Manager is offering the Friends of Washington Oaks State Park a "SPRING SPECIAL"

Our Friends Yellow Shirts are being offered at \$15 Reserved with a check identified with size and gender, made payable and mailed to:

Friends of Washington Oaks Gardens State Park
6400 N Oceanshore Blvd
Palm Coast, FL 32137

Your Shirts can be picked up at the Park on April 18/19, the Earthday event.

FRIENDS OF WASHINGTON OAKS HOLD ANNUAL MEETING

The Friends of Washington Oaks Gardens State Park held their Annual Meeting on February 18th at the Whitney Center for Marine Studies. A social and buffet preceded local historian and author Bill Ryan's discussion of Old Kings Road and Grey Eyes. Both are subjects of his books, "The Search for Old Kings Road" and "I am Grey Eyes".

Newly elected to the Board of Directors is Cecile Giguere of Palm Coast, Donald Denby and Elizabeth Morrison of Palm Coast were re-elected. Officer for the Year are Robert Bouck, President, Whitney Pirnat, Vice President, Ingrid Elmorsi, Treasurer, all of Palm Coast and Suzy Iaconis, Secretary of Ormond Beach.

For more information about the Friends of Washington Oaks call 386-446-6783 or on the internet go to washingtontoaks.org

Also, the Park is looking for volunteers that will assist in keeping the gardens looking beautiful. Volunteers are needed who would go in on a weekly basis and assist with raking the garden paths. If interested, please contact

ECO-IQ DID YOU KNOW

The ingredients in sunscreen prime the growth of a virus in the algae that live inside coral reefs. Researchers estimated that between 4,000 and 6,000 metric tons of sunscreen wash off of swimmers each year around the world, threatening 10% of coral reefs.

as told to Maureen Mackey, Readers Digest
by Daniel Goleman