



# Dune News

A quarterly newsletter sponsored by The Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park, Inc.

Spring 2006

## NatureScaping 2006 • Earth Day Celebration

*Act Locally and Think Globally*

April 15 • 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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Since the first Earth Day, 36 years ago, people have made many improvements to the environment. Acting locally by planting Florida native plants, for example, has helped birds in their migrations and has kept the *Atala* butterfly from becoming extinct.



Many challenges face our environment, and many organizations attending the event will highlight the progress we have made towards our environment's health. You can make a difference here at John D. MacArthur Beach State Park by joining the beach clean-up from 8-11 a.m. Everyone who helps will receive a free t-shirt. Garbage bags, gloves, and pick-up sticks will be provided.



New vendors this year include artists selling works in oil, pastel and acrylic. Florida Classics Library will be selling books relating to Florida history and the environment. A silent auction will be held in the Nature Center, selling gift certificates to local restaurants, paintings, stained glass, birding tours, kayaks, and more. You can buy Florida native plants and walk through two demonstration gardens. There will be workshops and lectures about Florida gardening. A local historian will share the insider's view on John D. MacArthur, and a national award-winning storyteller will tell stories. Kids can make necklaces, bookmarks and bracelets, using natural materials, in the eco-craft pavillion.



Rekindle your sense of wonder about the *real* Florida and learn new ways to keep it green!

—Art Carton, Park Services Specialist



Kids! Can you find me in this newsletter?

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# Shorelines

## “Surf’s Up, Dude!”

by Art Carton, *Park Services Specialist*

Here comes a swell, and you start to paddle. Immediately, you stand up in your goofy foot stance, while carving a bottom turn off the bottom. As the foam starts to curl over you, and a hollow tube starts to pitch over your head, your feet slip and you wipe out.

If what I just wrote makes no sense to you, then you’ll have to attend the next surf instruction given by Park Ranger, Rob Matriscino. How to stand up with your right foot forward or “goofy foot” is just one of the things that Rob will show you how to do.

Our day started on the beach with Ranger Rob showing 20 people, from age five to 55, how to stand on a surfboard. Rob explained the different parts of a surfboard. He then moved onto paddling and finally catching a wave and standing up.

Then Rob, Bruce Kay (Park Volunteer), Robert Rogerson (Ocean Lifeguard and Park Volunteer), and Art Carton (Park Services Specialist) assisted those who attended. As the 2-3’ surf broke close to shore, children and adults alike were guided out into the waves. After about five minutes we had our first ride. Although it was only about 10’, they were thrilled. Of



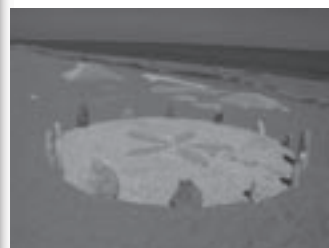
course, not everyone stood up on the first try—or stood up at all. Surfing, like golf, is a sport that can take years to perfect.

As the day progressed, I noticed one thing in common among everyone: a big smile, including on the face of volunteers Susan Gay, Chris Halfpap and Dan Schabilion. Even Ian Carton, seven-year old son of Art Carton, caught a wave with a slight push from Rob. One of the most memorable and courageous attendees was Russo. She couldn’t have been more than seven years old, and she went out on the waves with Ranger Rob three times. She wiped out quite a few times but always came out of the water smiling, while her parents stood on the beach watching proudly.

The next *Introduction to Surfing* class is this summer. Reservations are required. Call the Nature Center at (561) 624-6952.

## Shell Art on the Beach

by Junko Nomura, *Park Services Specialist*



If you walk north on the beach for about a mile, you won’t see many footprints in the sand, but you will find large works of art made of sand and shells. It will be a delightful surprise. Ranger Linda, who often patrols the beach, discovered the artist. Michael Boyhan, a Lake Park resident, visits the Park about three times a week. He spends the entire day working on his art. He has a cheerful, well-tanned face. Smiling, he said, “I always make

pyramids on the beach.” And he also creates what he calls “MacArthur Beach Stonehenge,” as well as dolphins, turtles, sea horses, and others.

I invite you to walk the Park’s pristine beach and see his ongoing works of fabulous art. Mother Nature’s big waves have taken their toll here and there, but Michael always returns and continues working on his natural creations.



# Shorelines

## MacArthur Art Exhibit—Audubon Centennial Edition: April 2-30



In association with Zebra Publishing, the Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park is pleased to announce the Audubon Centennial Edition of John James Audubon's *The Birds of America* double elephant portfolio. This

edition was created by artist and photographer Robert Hall in tribute to the 100 year celebration of the National Audubon Society. The exhibit will include more than 20 of the collection's 435 images in the Centennial Edition. The entire collection of 435 images depict 1,065 birds, and each rendering of the species is painted life-size and bears the plate number in the upper right hand corner and original legend describing the bird species. Each pencil signed and numbered limited edition piece is embossed with the National Audubon Society logo and is accompanied by a Certificate of Authenticity, John James Audubon biography, a copy of the original Ornithological Biography, and a guide on

### *Caring for Your Fine Art.*

The Audubon Centennial Edition is only the third comprehensive collection produced in the 178 years since Audubon himself created the original *The Birds of America*. In preparing the Audubon Centennial Edition each original engraved Audubon print was captured as a first generation image using a custom digital camera generating a 320-mega-pixel file. Each image then underwent an exceedingly sophisticated restoration process, rendering the finished

*Giclée* images to the beauty and brilliance as when originally hand painted. Each image is printed to its exact original dimensions on a superior archival paper.

This is a unique and exciting event for MacArthur Beach State Park and Palm Beach County community. We cordially invite you, your family and friends to attend the exhibition in the Nature Center.

All artwork in the exhibit is available for purchase.



# Shorelines



## Summer Day Camps at the Park

There's a lot of educational fun to be had this summer at John D. MacArthur Beach State Park. And there is something for everyone. Below is the summer camp schedule. Registration forms are available at our website: [www.macarthurbeach.org](http://www.macarthurbeach.org), under "Group Activities" or in the Nature Center. Sign up now!

**Little Turtle Art Summer Camp** is designed for entering 2nd and 3rd graders. The camp offers a variety of crafts, games, and stories based on a Native American themes. Snacks will be provided daily. Cost: \$80 per session, one session per child. June 26–30, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**Junior Ranger Summer Day Camp** offers entering 4th and 5th graders the opportunity to learn about the biological communities in coastal Southeast Florida. Campers will explore the beach, hike, and snorkel the reef in search of tropical fish. Snorkel equipment will be required. Snacks will be provided daily. Cost: \$80 per session, one session per child. Session 1: June 5–9, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Session 2: July 3–7, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**Marine Biology Summer Day Camp** offers entering 6th, 7th and 8th graders a rare opportunity to learn about the Park's marine environment through snorkeling, beach exploration, and mudflat walking. Campers must come with an enthusiasm for learning, a willingness to explore, and be confident swimmers in the ocean. Snorkel equipment will be required. Snacks will be provided daily. Cost: \$95 per session, one session per child. Session 1: June 19–23, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Session 2: July 17–21, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

## Special Volunteer Events

by Stephanie Joyce, *Park Volunteer*

Being a volunteer at MacArthur Beach State Park is a win-win arrangement; volunteers provide a service to the public and the State by sharing their expertise and sweat equity at a place they love to be. There are other benefits as well.

In December 2005 the Park held its annual holiday party for the volunteers, sponsored by the Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park. A buffet was served, and music was made by an exceptional young band, The Hungry Hungry Hippies. Then Hitichi dancers performed traditional Native American dances, while the group's founder, Bruce Garwood, explained the significance of the costumes and dance steps. Afterward, everyone was invited to join the dancing.

Park Manager, Terry Coulliette, expressed appreciation for all the hours of service donated by volunteers. Terry also accepted, on behalf of the Park, a handheld GPS unit from Mike McLaughlin of West Marine. It will be used to record Park data.

The volunteer bus trip on January 22 was a blast, too! We cruised on the Jungle Queen over the Intracoastal Waterway and New River. We boarded the upper deck of the Jungle Queen with coolers and cameras. The number of multi-million dollar yachts we saw was astounding. Besides at the marina, posh mansions, which lined the edges of the Intracoastal, each had a dock and a yacht to go with it. We docked at Jungle Queen Island, where we enjoyed a small zoo and a hands-on experience with baby alligators... ask Art what happens if they're held too tightly!

In February, the Park and *Friends* hosted an annual volunteer awards dinner for about 80 volunteers, their spouses, and Park staff at the North Palm Beach Country Club Restaurant. Long-time volunteer, Gilda Vogel, was honored for her 3,500 hours given to the Park. Gilda started volunteering in 1990 with her late husband, Stu. Gilda gives school tours, is a board member, and helps at special events. Dan West, the well-known Sunday Nature Guide, was honored for his 3,000 hours of work. Tram drivers, Bob Lanen and Dick Goodwin, received 1,500-hour awards, and a third award went to Don Bottaro for 1,000 hours. Marty Shiffman, the *Friends* administrator and gift shop guru, was honored for his 1,000 hours. Finally, three people received 500-hour awards, three people received 250-hour awards, and eight people received 100-hour awards.

MacArthur Beach State Park is fortunate to have so many dedicated volunteers with various backgrounds and abilities. Volunteers play big roles to maintain the Park and provide high quality service to visitors. The Park staff gives a huge thank-you to every volunteer for your time and passion.



Hey! Don't throw away your plastic grocery bags, we really need them for the beach clean up, in the gift shop, day camp projects, and many other uses. Please collect as many as you can and drop them off at the entrance gate. Thanks!

We need your plastic bags!



# Under the Hammock

## Gift Gab

The old saying, "what goes around comes around" is true! The kayak program has 12 brand-new kayaks (6 singles and 6 doubles), all new paddles and 6 new life jackets. All of the equipment was purchased with income generated from Gift Shop sales and kayak rentals! Moreover, those of you who have paid your dues to become members of The Friends and those of you who have given your time as volunteers in the Park can use the kayaks for free!

Look for new items in the Gift Shop:

- Note card sets featuring beautiful photographs of the natural beauty of MacArthur Beach State Park

- Ocean and Habitats—sticker books
- Sea-life magnetic bookmarks
- Funky frog figurines
- Turtle and octopus puppets
- Clownfish whimsy purses

We've been hard at work designing the layout for the new Gift Shop—more room, more racks, more sales! I will keep you informed as we progress on this exciting project. We are definitely making headway.



*Marty*

Gift Shop Guru, Administrator,  
Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park

**All profits from the gift shop go to the Park to support the programs and activities that you, your family and your friends enjoy all year long.**

## Manager's Musings

Spring is here, and with it comes new opportunities to enjoy the *Real Florida* at MacArthur Beach State Park. Unfortunately, as the winter visitors head back north, so do some of our wonderful volunteers. We wish them a safe journey to their homes in the North and look forward to their return next winter, just as we welcome the return of this spring weather now.

If you haven't been to the Park in a while, I would like to invite you to return and enjoy some of the many fun activities we have to offer. Whether you prefer kayaking, beach-walking or simply enjoying the tranquility of our undeveloped beach, there is something for everyone. And don't forget our great moonlight music series that takes place near the time of the full moon.

Bring your membership card, and it will get you free entry into the Park. One of the benefits of being a

member of The Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park is free admissions into the Park for you and everyone in your car.

With the arrival of spring comes the arrival of our sea-turtle season. Our morning beach patrols will check and record the nesting activities of the various species of turtles that return to our beach each year. If you are interested in keeping up with the turtle nesting count, or if you would like to volunteer to help with our turtle program, please contact the staff at the Nature Center and let them know your interest.

Thank you for supporting the Park and the Citizens Support Organization with your membership. I hope you visit with us again soon.

*Terry*

Terry Coulliette, Park Manager



## Did You Know...

...that, although John MacArthur was a self-made multibillionaire when he died in 1978 at the age of 80, because he was a risk-taker with strong conviction, more than once in his life he tried to break from working for someone else and ventured into business deals that failed and left him broke?

...that in 1923 at the age of 26 he decided to invest his life savings in a gas station that required him to hire extra staff, so that he could still sell insurance and help out at the station? Surviving on only two hours sleep, he dreamed that this type of no-frills station would someday be a coast to coast chain.

...that the problem for MacArthur was his being ahead of his time? In his time, Chicago was still a small town. Everybody had his own barber, baker, and of course, his favorite gas station. After all was said and done, Chicago was not ready for

depersonalization. As a result, John lost all his dreams for the immediate future, and he went broke... but not beaten.

...that two years after the gas station failure in 1925, MacArthur had worked around the clock selling insurance, in order to make back the money he had lost. He dove head first into another risky business—a bakery. Things probably would have gone well for John except for the unfortunate fact that the Chicago underworld hoodlums, among many other things, controlled all baked goods. Under tremendous pressure, he let go of yet another dream and returned to the only thing he knew he could never lose at—the art of selling insurance. He would never be broke again.

...that these are excerpts from Mr. Sanford's book, which you can buy at the Nature Center?

# Volunteer

# Spotlight

by Cee Cee Barrett,  
Volunteer Coordinator

Marco Topic is a senior at Dreyfoos School of the Arts. He originally began volunteering at MacArthur Beach State Park because he needed 40 hours of community service for school. After completing his 40 community service hours,

he enjoyed volunteering at the Park so much that he decided to continue volunteering. Marco is extremely bright and has many talents. One of his talents is playing piano. Those of us that were at the holiday party were lucky to catch the groovy tunes by Marco's band The

## Marco Topic

Hungry Hungry Hippies. In his spare time, Marco enjoys surfing, music, and spearfishing. Marco says he also enjoys the relaxed, chill, cool vibe in John D. MacArthur Beach State Park. Marco, thank you for your hard work and your good spirit.

## The Sound of the Wheels

by Junko Nomura, *Park Services Specialist*

Dr. Benito Rakower, 71, comes to the Park almost everyday. The afternoon breeze carries the sound of bicycle wheels, and Dr. Benito appears on his bike out of the tunnel of trees. He is thin, tanned, wearing eyeglasses, a long-sleeved shirt, and a hat. He enters the Park; then it becomes his own. He smiles now. His bike slowly proceeds onto the boardwalk, and he goes into the shady hammock (he calls it a "jungle"). He swims every day. He uses the old shower at the end of the trail. Nobody bothers him. There is no hassle, no rowdiness. There is just



peace. He knows every Park staff member. He says, "My favorite person is Mr. West. I always enjoy talking with him." Dr. Benito

describes Dan West, who is Sunday's Nature Guide, as a person who has a true heart about the Park.

Dr. Benito was a teacher his entire career. He has a PhD from Harvard and taught either English or Mathematics to high school students and adults. Locally, he taught at Benjamin School. Now retired, he is enjoying his life in a different way. His current writing focuses on his personal experiences on a bike trip in Switzerland. He comes home with a renewed spirit from the Park, and the next day he returns.

## Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park, Inc.

### Membership Application

A not-for-profit Citizens' Support Organization

☐ Benefactor... \$500+    ☐ Patron... \$100-\$499    ☐ Family... \$75    ☐ Individual...\$40    ☐ Student... \$20

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this application along with your donation to:

The Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park, Inc.

PO Box 32395

Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33420

For more information on the "Friends" please call (561) 776-7449

A copy of the official registration and financial information of the "Friends" may be obtained from The Division of Consumer Services by calling 800-435-7352

# Up-n-Coming

## April

01	Saturday	11-12:00 p.m.	F.U.N. Program: <i>The Microscopic World</i>
01	Saturday	2:00 p.m.	Butterfly Walk
02	Sunday	2:00 p.m.	<i>Introduction to Kayaking</i> by Adventure Times Kayaks
05	Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Yoga on the Beach
08	Saturday	7-9:00 p.m.	MacArthur Under Moonlight: <i>TBA</i>
09	Sunday	1-3:00 p.m.	Volunteer Orientation
15	Saturday	8-11:00 a.m.	Beach Clean-Up
15	Saturday	10-3:00 p.m.	<b><i>NatureScaping 2006: An Earth Day Celebration</i></b>
16	Sunday	1-5:00 p.m.	Bluegrass Jam Music Session
22	Saturday	10:30 a.m.	Birding at MacArthur Park

## May

06	Saturday	10:30 a.m.	Birding at MacArthur Park
07	Sunday	1-3:00 p.m.	Volunteer Orientation
07	Sunday	2:00 p.m.	<i>Introduction to Kayaking</i> by Adventure Times Kayaks
13	Saturday	7-9:00 p.m.	MacArthur Under Moonlight: <i>Amaru</i> , Andean Music
20	Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Birding at MacArthur Park
21	Sunday	1-3:00 p.m.	Recreational Skills: <i>Introduction to Snorkeling</i>
27	Saturday	1:00 p.m.	Butterfly Walk
30	Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Turtle Walk Reservations Start

## June

01	Thursday	3-4:00 p.m.	Volunteer Meeting
03	Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Birding at MacArthur Park
03	Saturday	10:00 a.m.-Noon	Guided Reef Tour
04	Sunday	2:00 p.m.	<i>Introduction to Kayaking</i> by Adventure Times Kayaks
10	Saturday	10:00 a.m.-Noon	Guided Reef Tour
10	Saturday	1-3:00 p.m.	F.U.N. Program: <i>Wonderful World of Crabs</i>
11	Sunday	1-3:00 p.m.	Volunteer Orientation
17	Saturday	10:00 a.m.-Noon	Guided Reef Tour

# It's Turtle Time at MacArthur Beach!



## John D. MacArthur Beach State Park

10900 State Rd. 703 (A1A)  
North Palm Beach, FL 33408

**Office Phone:**  
(561) 624-6950

**Nature Center:**  
(561) 624-6952

**Fax:**  
(561) 624-6954

**Friends Office:**  
(561) 776-7449

**Websites:**  
[www.macarthurbeach.org](http://www.macarthurbeach.org)  
[www.floridastateparks.org](http://www.floridastateparks.org)

***More than just a beach!***

*Newsletter created by*

THE INKLING PATCH • (772) 285-8865



*A loggerhead turtle crawl*

A Turtle Walk is a fantastic educational program led by a Park Ranger for people of all ages to learn about the Florida sea turtles and to observe a loggerhead turtle's nesting habits. Watch them crawl up the beach and dig their nests out of the sand. See how they place their eggs in the nest and return to the sea. Learn how to do your part to keep them safe, happy, and willing to return to our beaches.

The programs will be held on weeknights in June and July in the Nature Center and on the beach. Program fee is \$5 per person. Reservations will be taken by phone, starting at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 30, with a Visa or MasterCard credit card number. Call the Nature Center at (561) 624-6952. Call early: space is limited and the list fills up quickly!



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