



Dune News

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

Winter 2006

Special Interest Articles

Donor Honor Roll.....	3
Greenhouse Effect.....	4
The Marlberry.....	4
Loss of a Friend & Coworker....	4
Did You Know.....	5
Kudos.....	6
Loss of a Friend & Artist.....	8

Regular Highlights

Thoburn's Thoughts.....	2
Shorelines.....	4
Under the Hammock.....	5
Volunteer Spotlight.....	6
Up-n-coming.....	7



Kids! Can you find me in this newsletter?

Artists in Residence

The winter season's Artists in Residence features WOW! (Women of Watercolor).

At a watercolor workshop, eight years ago, several women from Jupiter to Boca Raton bonded and became determined to maintain their friendships and love of painting. Out of this chance meeting, "Women of Watercolor" was born. They meet approximately every two weeks at someone's home, where they paint, exchange ideas, critique one another's work, and practice new elements in watercolor.

The group consists of ten women: Sue Archer, Candy Dennis, Gail Ganzlin, Bunny Jones, Diana Magenheimer, Samm Millar, Betty Percy, Ellen Postrel, Julie Martin, Kitty Schachter and Carol Ann Sherman. Sue Archer, who is nationally acclaimed, is a frequent award winner at *Artigras* and appears frequently in various art magazines and books. She is the group's unofficial leader.

On off-weeks, the group sometimes attends art exhibits or other related events, or they do some plein air painting and, of course, "do" lunch.

Group support has been invaluable to the members and has culminated in commissions, entrance into national juried exhibitions and group shows. Even charities have benefited from group contributions of artwork for auction.

WOW! continues to learn, enjoy and give back to the community and hopes to do so for a long time to come.

Please come and bring your friends to the Nature Center anytime in January, February or March to view this excellent collection.



Gail Gazlin



Sue Archer



Kitty Schlachter



Sue Archer



Carol Ann Sherman

John D. MacArthur
Beach State Park

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Leni Bane

Thoburn's Thoughts



Year 2005 has passed, and we find ourselves into 2006 preparing for another prosperous year at the Park. While much remains to be done, 2005 was a very productive year for the *Friends* organization. Some of the accomplishments are outlined below.

Five standing committees of the Board of Directors were set up, and they accomplished much during the year. The committees are: Board and Membership Development, New Buildings, Campaign Oversight, Marketing and Public Relations, and Budget and Finance Committees.

A successful Building Campaign Feasibility Study was completed, which verified the potential success of a major capital campaign.

We worked with Park Management and the Department of Environmental

Protection in Tallahassee on amending the Park's Ten Year Unit Plan.

A productive meeting was held with the members of the MacArthur Conservation Corporation Board. They all remain vitally interested and supportive of the programs and status of the Park.

Preparation for the forthcoming Capital Campaign was begun with the recruitment of Campaign leadership and cabinet members. An architectural firm was contracted to begin the design of a new Visitors Center, Environmental

Continued on page 7...



John D. MacArthur Beach State Park Board of Directors

Front Row (Left to right): E.J. Crittenden, Janet Heaton, Dan West, Larry Harjehausen, Bill Nolan
Middle Row (Left to right): Stephen Wigal, Rebecca G. Doane, Paul A. Aleskovsky, Leni Bane, Gilda Vogel, Deborah Drum, Susie Fruehauf, Gretta Curry, Kitty Omura, Carolyn Stone, Watesah Dytrych
Back Row (Left to right): Patti Hamilton, Mary-Therese Delate, Nancy Best Van Deuren, Marty Shiffman, Terry Coulliette, Pat Rash, Paul Thomson, Ted Thoburn, Bill Mech

Donor Honor Roll 2005

Thank you all for your generous donations of funds, supplies, equipment, and countless hours of volunteer time! Your Park serves the community better because of your support. Although this list was carefully reviewed, there may be errors and omissions, for which we apologize. Please direct your comments or questions or corrections to Martin A. Shiffman, Administrator, Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park, Inc.

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Morris Zabarkus
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Marty & Ellie Shiffman, Francis
Dr. & Mrs. Andy Slavin
Gilda Vogel
Craig Winkelman
Morris Zabarkus

Shorelines



Greenhouse Effect

by Art Carton,
Park Svcs Specialist

If you like smelling wildflowers, getting your hands dirty, and watching native plants grow, then the new greenhouse at the Park is the place for you. The idea that started as a plan, drawn by Ranger Honza on a scrap sheet of paper, has finally become reality. After three months of work, the new greenhouse is ready to be filled with plants.

The idea would never have become reality without the donation of almost \$400.00 by Park volunteer, Jim Strahan. Thanks, Jim, for your generosity. The next step was to tear down the old eyesore, which was the eleven-year-old shade house. Once this was done, Ranger Honza, Park Services Specialist Art Carton, and volunteer



Pat Santy started nailing and hammering the frame together. Once the frame was done, Palm City Palms donated \$500.00 worth of shade cloth to cover the structure.

John D. MacArthur Beach State Park would like to say "Thanks" to all of the volunteers, high school interns, and staff who helped with this project. In the near future, we will have school groups learn how to make cuttings and air layerings, while filling our greenhouse with beautiful native plants. Once the plants are ready, we will use them to give away at our NatureScaping event, as well as at many other projects. So, next time you're at the Nature Center, stop by and get a tour of our new addition, and remember, we are always looking for volunteers who don't mind getting their hands dirty.



The Marlberry

by Art Carton,
Park Services Specialist

Just the other day, I was walking around my yard and trying to decide what plant to put in a shady area—in a dry area, and as a foundation planting around a front porch. While reading *A Gardener's Guide to Florida Native Plants*, I realized that marble-berry would be the perfect plant for all of these conditions. Found throughout John D. MacArthur Beach State Park, "marlberry", as it is more commonly known, is a beautiful replacement plant for weedy exotics. Growing to heights of 20' when left untrimmed, marlberry has clusters of fragrant white flowers. The 3-4" dark green, glossy leaves are a nice contrast to the white flowers. Due to these qualities and its densely branched growing habit, this plant makes a great addition to any garden, even the most formal.

In my reading, I also discovered that the Micosukee Indians used the fruit of this plant in their

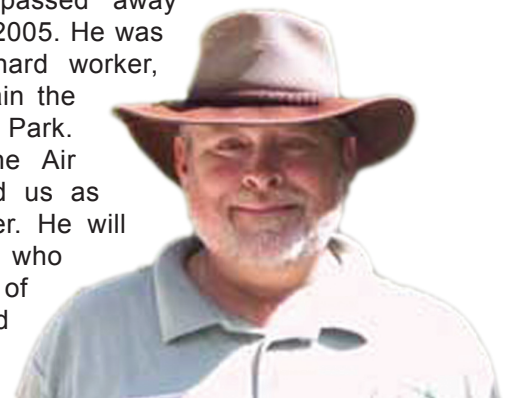


tobacco, probably as a flavoring. This practice was not uncommon with the Native American Indians of Florida. The Indians of North Florida used a plant known as Deer Tongue to flavor their tobacco. Interestingly, marlberry has also been researched to be used as a food crop. Although the fruit is a bit acidic, there has been talk of developing some cultivars with sweeter fruit.

So, if you are thinking of landscaping or just want to add a small tree to your yard, marlberry is the perfect choice. As of right now this plant can only be found at retail native plant nurseries. Hopefully, in the future, marlberry and other natives will be easier to find. Remember that *NatureScaping Earth Day Celebration* is coming up on April 15, 2006 and marlberry will most likely be for sale.

The Loss of a Friend & Coworker

Bill Frazier, a valued Park employee (Ranger Support Staff), passed away on November 2, 2005. He was a diligent and hard worker, helping to maintain the beauty of the Park. A veteran of the Air Force, Bill joined us as his second career. He will be missed by all who had the pleasure of meeting him and working with him.



Under the Hammock

Gift Gab

Look for these special items in MacBeach Park's Gift Shop!

A View from the Bar: Bob Sanford's book of interesting facts and stories about the legendary John D. MacArthur. Read an excerpt of the book in the *Did You Know?* column in this issue of *The Dune News*!

Red-White-Blue Sweatshirts: featuring the MacBeach Park logo.

Aussie Hats: the selection has been expended to two colors: tan and earth. The hats are crushable—wear them or fold them for packing... great travel item.

Children's Headwear: straw hats with ribbon accent; bucket hats emblazoned with a turtle.

Adult T-shirts: with turtle designs, kayak designs, and more.

New and Interesting Jewelry is on display in the center of the gift shop.

• HOT ITEM! •

T-shirts that Change Color in the Sun!

All of the gift shop personnel wish to thank you for your support. This has been a record-setting year for sales.



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

It's that time of year, when we pause to look back at 2005 and reflect on the challenges and achievements that we encountered together. In spite of the hurricanes and other events that tested our resolve, we have had many opportunities to work together and accomplish good things.

Teamwork among our staff and volunteers helped us recover quickly, and we were able to re-open the Park only four days after Hurricane Wilma. The support of the *Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park* has constantly helped us obtain the things we needed to get the job done.

We have conducted numerous programs, providing educational, recreational, and cultural opportunities for Park visitors, as well as thousands of local students. The Florida Park Service achieved the distinction of being the first to obtain over 1,000,000 volunteer hours of donated time. The Florida Park Service also became the first park system in the USA to achieve an award for being the nation's *best* park service for the second

time. The coveted "Gold Medal" award will be noted on signs, flags, and on every uniformed employee and volunteer.

As we embark on 2006, we do so looking forward to continuing to work with the *Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park* towards the design, development, funding, and finally, construction of two new facilities. There will be a new Education Center for meetings and school programs, as well as a new Visitor Center to expand and enhance the services provided by the present gift shop.

I hope this newsletter finds everyone safe and healthy. It has been a challenging year for everyone, everywhere, and we need to take time to express our appreciation for the many good things around us.

Finally, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation to the volunteers, CSO members, and staff for working together to make this Park one of the brightest stars of the *REAL FLORIDA* state parks.

Terry

Terry Coulliette, Park Manager

Did You Know...

...that when John D. MacArthur died in 1978, control of his companies and \$700 million in assets formed the John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation? If his wealth had been handed over to his heirs and family, they would have had to pay \$300 million in estate taxes.

...that the MacArthur Foundation, in a series of investment and real estate deals, became one of the largest privately owned foundations in the nation with \$3.27 billion in assets, rivaling old trusts such as Ford, Getty, Kellogg, Rockefeller and Mellon?

...that the Colonnades Beach Hotel was built by architect A.O. Edwards? The hotel opened on January 1, 1949 as the Inlet Court. A large convention hall was

added in 1954. John D. MacArthur purchased this 138 room hotel in 1963 for \$750,000.

...that from 1967-1968 the Colonnades hotel played host to the first outdoor game show in television history? The show was called *Treasure Island* and was filmed on the back lawn of the hotel, and people came from all over the country to be part of this event. The show was produced by MacArthur Productions. It aired five days a week on ABC and could be viewed as far away as Guam and Anchorage, Alaska.

...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

Mort Green

Mort Green is originally from Andover, Massachusetts. He retired and moved to South Florida in 1986 after 24 years as a Lieutenant Colonel in the US Army. He has been married for 60 wonderful years to his wife Sybil. Together they have two children: a son and a daughter, as well as three lovely granddaughters. Mort has been volunteering as a tram driver at John D. MacArthur Beach State Park since 1991.

I first met Mort one beautiful summer morning. I had gone to the main beach to check the ocean conditions. Mort was there, and we soon began chatting about our beautiful paradise that you know as MacArthur Beach. We both agreed how lucky we were to be working in such a beautiful park! In further conversation, I asked Mort what he loved about the park. He replied, "The beauty, the serenity, and the calmness." Mort later told me that

he loved volunteering at MacArthur Beach so much, and that if he had to choose between golf and volunteering as a tram driver, he would surely give up golf!

Mort is an extremely kind person, full of a good and friendly spirit. He has a smile that will warm your heart, and can easily make any rainy day at MacArthur Beach sunny and bright! Mort, thank you for all your hard work, and keep on smiling!

Just a few words to tell you how very dedicated and hardworking some of the people were at MacBeach, who worked to make this year's clean-up a huge success. We registered about 500 people. Tiffany did a super job with T-shirts and other give-aways, as well as crowd control. The barbeque lunch was great. Pat Rash, Barry, Honza, Rob, and Beverly did a tremendous job of feeding everyone in about 100° heat at the grills. Junko was at the beach giving out rubber gloves, trash bags and water to all volunteers—again in the hottest part of the day, and all was accomplished with calm and pleasure! It was a wonderful site to see hot, sweaty, but smiling faces enjoying our Park! Bruce was on kayak duty, pleasing people and keeping everyone happy. Kudos to all! ~Gilda Vogel

Gilda Vogel has been an active volunteer in all aspects of Park activities since the Park opened in 1989 and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Friends. She has volunteered more than 5000 hours.

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

January

01	Sunday	2:00 p.m.	<i>Introduction to Kayaking</i> with Adventure Times Kayaks
07	Saturday	9:30 p.m.	<i>Birding at MacArthur Park</i>
08	Sunday	1-3:00 p.m.	Volunteer Orientation
08	Sunday	2-3:00 p.m.	Volunteer Training (with Leni Bane): <i>Nature Walk</i>
14	Saturday	7-9:00 p.m.	<i>MacArthur Under Moonlight</i> : Cous Cous, Jazz Music
15	Sunday	2-4:00 p.m.	Recreational Skills: <i>Estuary Walk</i> , 10 years old and up
15	Sunday	1-5:00 p.m.	Bluegrass Jam Music Session
21	Saturday	<i>Time TBA</i>	Volunteer Bus Trip

February

05	Sunday	2:00 p.m.	<i>Introduction to Kayaking</i> with Adventure Times Kayaks
11	Saturday	11-Noon	F.U.N. Program: <i>Paper Making & Valentine's Day Cards</i>
11	Saturday	7-9:00 p.m.	<i>MacArthur Under Moonlight</i> : Band TBA
12	Sunday	1-3:00 p.m.	Volunteer Orientation
19	Sunday	1-5:00 p.m.	Bluegrass Jam Music Session
25	Saturday	12:30 p.m.	<i>Birding at MacArthur Park</i>
26	Sunday	4-7:00 p.m.	Volunteer Awards Dinner

March

02	Thursday	3-4:00 p.m.	Volunteer Meeting
05	Sunday	2:00 p.m.	<i>Introduction to Kayaking</i> with Adventure Times Kayaks
11	Saturday	1:00 p.m.	<i>Birding at MacArthur Park</i>
11	Saturday	7-9:00 p.m.	<i>MacArthur Under Moonlight</i> : Band TBA
12	Sunday	1-3:00 p.m.	Volunteer Orientation
19	Sunday	1-5:00 p.m.	Bluegrass Jam Music Session
26	Sunday	1-3:00 p.m.	Recreational Skills: <i>Surfing</i>

Thoburn's Thoughts *Continued from page 2.*

Education buildings, and staff housing.

Public relations and marketing efforts were improved with the design of a new format for Dune News and its distribution to a greatly expanded mailing list. We also experienced a major increase in press coverage of the Park and its programs.

More than \$25,000 of grants from the Nature Foundation to the Park were applied towards the purchase of a new tram, new kayaks, computer hardware, software, and other items requested by Park management.

As we enter 2006, the challenges of an ambitious Capital Building Campaign are before us, providing a very busy time for the rest of this year and into next. We are excited about the many forthcoming improvements to the Park. We hope that all of the Park's Friends will give serious consideration to their financial support of this effort.

TED

Ted Thoburn, *President*
Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park, Inc.

The Loss of a Friend and Beloved Artist



John D. MacArthur Beach State Park

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North Palm Beach, FL 33408

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Friends Office:
(561) 776-7449

Websites:
www.macarthurbeach.org
www.floridastateparks.org

More than just a beach!

Newsletter created by

THE INKLING PATCH • (772) 285-8865

The *Friends* and staff of John D. MacArthur Beach State Park were saddened to learn of the untimely passing of Gerry Hamzik, July 25, 2005.

Gerry worked tirelessly during all Natural Selections art shows, designing the interior walls with the paintings and sculpture for all exhibitions making the shows visibly outstanding.

Born in Southern California, raised in New York and Palm Beach, Gerry attended Pratt Institute in New York and Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida. As a painter, Gerry's work was exhibited at the National Academy of Design in New York, Society of the Four Arts in Palm Beach and was included in a traveling exhibition with the Smithsonian Institute. His

work is included in the permanent collection of the Palm Beach International Airport, as well as numerous corporate and private collections.

His fun loving and giving nature will be missed by all who knew him.



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