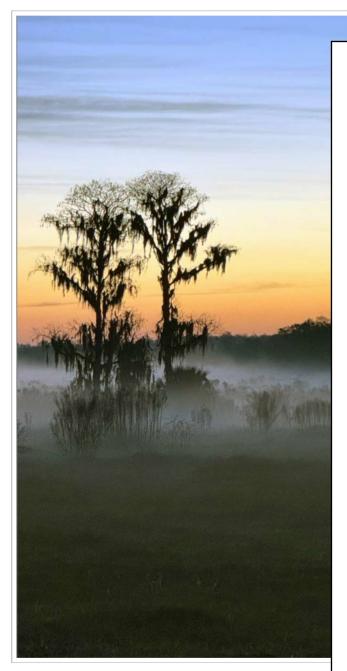
March - April 2024



Trail Sunrise, photo by Carol Gray, Chief Ranger.

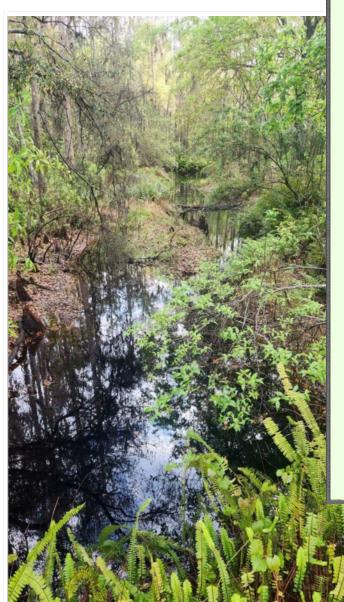
Please join us on April 20 for Earth Day
Birthday: A Springtime Conservation
Celebration. This special day of activities for all
ages celebrates the Friends 30th anniversary and
the 20th anniversary of the Education Center.

A little background . . .

The Preserve was established by Pinellas County in 1990 and Dr. Craig Huegel was hired to be its first manager. With Craig's guidance, a gang of volunteers began removing exotic vegetation and literally tons of garbage. Craig trained a willing group to be hike guides on trails he established. He created research projects and helped organize our Friends group which was founded in 1994. Back then, all of us who were involved, including me, promoted the passage of "Penny for Pinellas" because, among other things, money from this one cent tax would pay for an environmental education center. Thankfully, it passed and began generating funding on 1/1/2000. The center was completed in 2004 and, as they say, the rest is history. So this year the center is 20 years old and the Friends group is 30! Woohoo! Happy Birthday to us!

For more information about Earth Day Birthday: A Springtime Conservation Celebration, click HERE

**Note:** The Earth Day Birthday Celebration on April 20 replaces the Wildlife Safari this year.



Brooker Creek passes through Lake Dan Preserve in Hillsborough County before reaching Brooker Creek Preserve. See Craig Huegel's article on page 13.

Cathie Foster speaking at the FOBCP Annual Meeting and Brunch on Jan. 14.

#### **Upcoming Events**

Mar. 16 Night Hike & Star Party (7:30-10:30 pm)

\* arrive early gates close at 7:30

Mar. 17 Gallery reception Plein Art 2024 (1-3 pm)

Mar. 23 Wildflower Garden work day (9-11 am)

Mar. 24 Artist Reception and talk (1-3 pm)

Mar. 30 Beekeepers Club (\*Saturday, 10 am)

April Clearwater Audubon's State-wide
Birdathon

Apr. 6 Music in the Woods: 2AT (7-9 pm)

Apr. 11 Keystone Rd. Cleanup with KPB

Apr. 20 Spring Night Hike (8 pm)

Apr. 20 Earth Day Birthday Celebration (9 am -3 pm)

Apr. 27 Wildflower Garden work day (8-10 am)

Apr. 28 Beekeepers Club (10 am)

May 4 Music in the Woods: Gail Trippsmith & Joey (8-10 pm)



#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

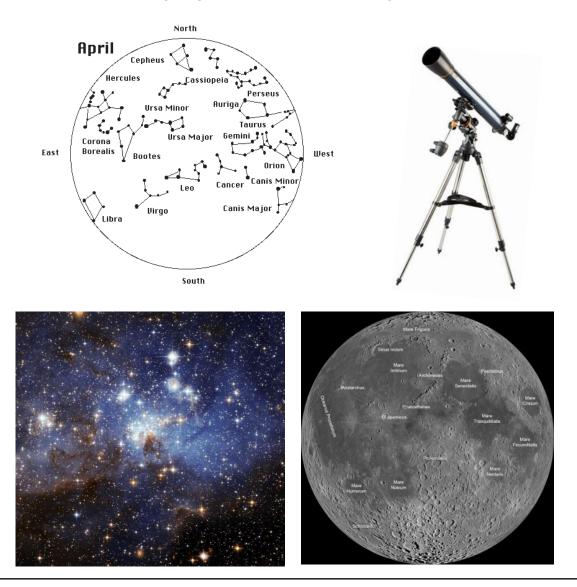
# Night Hike & Star Party!

Saturday, March 16, 2024 7:30 – 10:30

Arrive by 7:30, as the gates will close at this time.

Observe the night sky and enjoy an evening at the Preserve with the Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve and the St. Petersburg Astronomy Club! Observe the stars through telescopes provided or bring your own. Night hikes will be conducted, as well, along the .75 mile Ed Center Trail through the woods. Please bring water, insect repellent, and a chair if you like. As always, pets, smoking, and alcohol are not allowed.

#### A \$3 per person donation is requested.







Join the Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve for a hiking experience along the Education Center Trail...at night! These special hikes are open to the public and limited to 20 people per hike. **A \$3 per person donation is requested**. Hikes are led by Preserve volunteers who are knowledgeable about nocturnal wildlife. The hike is about one-mile in length and will take about 1.5 hours.

Pre-registration is required! Once you register, more information will come to you via email. Pre-register online by logging onto: <a href="https://nighthikes.eventbrite.com">https://nighthikes.eventbrite.com</a>

These hikes are for <u>adults</u> and <u>families</u> only. Children must be accompanied by parents. Please leave your pets at home. Pets are not permitted in County Preserves.

Questions? Email info@FriendsOfBrookerCreekPreserve.org
Call 727-934-2680

# AUDITORIUM GALLERY by Lynn Whitelaw

The Auditorium Gallery is open Saturdays 9 am - 3 pm, and Sundays 11 am - 3 pm, (except for scheduled events and/or upon special request).

# Currently on view through March 17:

#### PLEIN AIR 2024 EXHIBITION

Closing Reception and Awards Program: Sunday, March 17, 1-3 PM
Open to the Public and Meet the Artists

Plein air, the act of creating art outdoors within nature, has in recent years become extremely popular with artists. The natural environment of Brooker Creek Preserve is therefore perfect to host these types of events. On Friday, February 23 and Saturday, February 24, 28 area painters and photographers registered to participate in the **Brooker Creek Preserve Plein Air 2024**, our annual event and exhibition sponsored by Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve. The program this year was the most successful since we began in 2018 and moving the dates to late February to

eliminate bug unpleasantries and have cooler weather allowed the artists to do their best work.

This year 38 amazing paintings and photographs were submitted for the exhibition.

Plein Air 2024 required a great deal of planning and support and this year an artists' group organized by plein air artist Shawn del Joyce offered to assist with the logistics of registration, artwork submission, and hanging the exhibition. Special thanks go to volunteers Rachel and Ed Miller, Nancy and Rob Slusser, Seema Balwani, Ann Brigati-Mongelli, Jon Burr, as well as Shawn for making the event go so smoothly - thank you.

Photograph courtesy of artist Deborah Lazar showing her work and the Friends Trail she painted.



Over the next three weeks, please stop by the Auditorium Gallery to view these wonderful paintings and photographs by our plein air artists and consider purchasing a work of Brooker Creek art to support their efforts. A checklist of works for sale is available in the Auditorium lobby and may be purchased in the Nature Store with a 10% donation going to support the Friends'

efforts in putting on this event each year. On Sunday, March 17 there will be a Closing Reception and Awards Program and an opportunity to meet the artists. We hope you will plan to attend - it is open to the public, so please spread the work.



Color Photograph, Sandy by Ted Bahas,  $15 \times 20^{\frac{3}{4}}$  in.



Acrylic Painting. Brooker Creek by artist Kevin Grass,  $14 \times 20$  in.

# Next Exhibition in the Gallery:



Elizabeth Coachman, Brooker Creek Preserves, 2023, Copperplate etching (hand water colored),  $14\frac{1}{4} \times 12$  in.

# Elizabeth Coachman BROOKER CREEK PRESERVED: IN PAINTINGS AND PRINTS

exhibit on view March 23 – May 26, 2024

**Artist Reception and Talk** Sunday, March 24, 1-3 PM

**Sponsored by** 



Over the years, Elizabeth Coachman has become a valued friend of Brooker Creek Preserve. Her iconic Brooker Creek Preserves has become a signature piece since it was shown last year in the 24 Hands Print Collective exhibition. A retired pathologist from Helen Ellis Hospital in Tarpon Springs, Coachman is equally recognized as an author/historian and reenactor for her research on Mary Safford, Florida's first female doctor who lived in Tarpon Springs in the late 19th century.



Elizabeth Coachman, **Blue Flag Irises**, 2023, Oil on Linen, 21  $\frac{1}{2}$  x 17  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

She is also an accomplished and respected painter and printmaker whose art is often based on the unique humor and commentaries that accompanies her art. In her artist statement Coachman states:

My art is apolitical and solely for entertainment. As a retired physician, I hope my works promote viewers' smiles and laughter which, in turn, generate happy hormones and better physical and mental health.



Elizabeth Coachman, Yellow Fly Symposium, 2023, Copperplate etching (hand water colored),  $14\frac{1}{4} \times 12$  in.

The Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve is honored to present the 32 prints and paintings of Elizabeth Coachman that she has created based on her passion and love for Brooker Creek Preserve. We also wish to thank **Tampa Bay Magazine** for being the official sponsor for this exhibition and look forward to an article on Coachman that will be featured in their March/April publication. Please plan to join us for a celebration of her art at the Artist Reception and Talk on Sunday, March 23, 1-3 pm.

For more information on the Auditorium Gallery exhibitions contact: Lynn Whitelaw, Gallery Curator at <a href="mailto:rlwhitelaw7@msn.com">rlwhitelaw7@msn.com</a>, or cell: 813-784-4225

### BROOKER CREEK PRESERVED: IN PAINTINGS AND PRINTS

Art by Elizabeth Coachman

# Artist Reception and Talk Sunday, March 24, 1-3 pm



Gallery open

March & April: Saturdays & Sundays 12-4 or by appointment (March 23 & 30, 2-4)

May: Saturdays & Sundays, check the Friends' website for times.

For details contact 727-934-2680 info@FriendsofBrooker(

info@FriendsofBrookerCreekPreserve.org www.FriendsofBrookerCreekPreserve.org

Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve

Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center 3940 Keystone Road • Tarpon Springs, FL 34688

Blue Flag Irises, 2023 Oil on Linen, 21 1/2 x 17 1/2 in.

# BROOKER CREEK PRESERVED: IN PAINTINGS AND PRINTS

Art by Elizabeth Coachman

Thirty-two unique works inspired by Brooker Creek Preserve exhibit on view

# March 23 — May 26, 2024

the auditorium gallery at

Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center Sponsored by

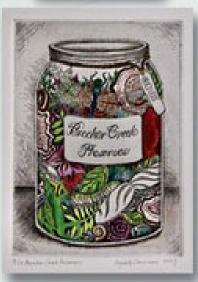
# Tampa Bay

Artist's Statement:

My art is apolitical and solely for entertainment. As a retired physician, I hope my works promote viewers' smiles and laughter which, in turn, generate happy hormones and better physical and mental health.

(top) Yellow Fly Symposium, 2023 Copperplate etching (hand water colored), 14 ½ x 14 in (bottom) Brooker Creek Preserves, 2023 Copperplate etching (hand water colored), 14 ¼ x 12 in.







invites you to experience



# 2AT

Saturday, April 6, 2024
7:00 pm — 9:00 pm
Please arrive no later than 7:00 pm
as the entrance gate closes at that time!

Outdoor Music Pavilion Brooker Creek Preserve 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs, FL 34688

2AT performs song genres ranging anywhere from the 60's to now, and originals, where each song is a testament to the melodies that have shaped their lives.

Bring lawn chairs and a picnic supper or snacks. Sorry, pets and alcoholic beverages are not allowed.

~ Part of the **FOBCP Music in the Woods** Series ~ \$5 donation requested

More information:

info@FriendsOfBrookerCreekPreserve.org or 727-934-2680



From Clearwater Audubon: We are excited to be hosting our own state-wide Birdathon this year! Spring migration is fast approaching and we want as many birders to help determine the number of birds traveling through our state as a stopover on their migration. Good community science with a bit of competition are a great combination that can benefit conservation as well. Gather your team and register now! Important Dates:

Team Registration Open through March 31, 2024

Statewide Birdathon Window: April 1-30, 2024

Fundraising Deadline: May 11, 2024

Celebration Luncheon at Brooker Creek Preserve: May 18, 2024

For more information & to register: https://f3birdathon.wixsite.com/birdathon



SPRINGTIME CONSERVATION CELEBRATION



# April 20th 9am-2pm

# **ACTIVITIES:**

- Free Trees
- Touch-a-Truck
- **Guided Hikes**
- Crafts
- Workshops
- Bio-Blitz
- Green Career Expo

BROOKER CREEK PRESERVE 3940 KEYSTONE RD TARPON SPRINGS, FL 34688



Cupcakes served at

REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR CERTAIN ACTIVITIES AT BCPBDAY.EVENTBRITE.COM







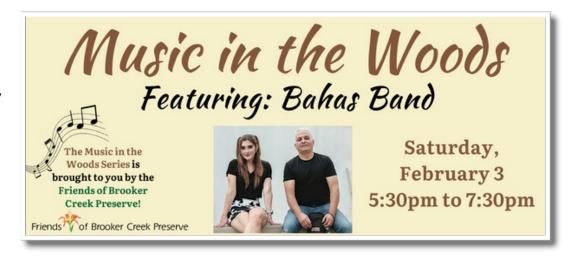




#### **RECENT EVENTS:**

#### Music in the Woods with Bahas Band

The Bahas Band, a father/daughter duo, provided another lovely evening of music in our Preserve's outdoor music pavilion.



#### Music in the Woods with 2PM

A beautiful spring evening at the Preserve was only made more beautiful by the musical renderings of the 2PM Band. As dusk gave way to nightfall, we watched dragonflies and bats flitting about as we listened to Pete

Hennings, Pete Price and Mike Jergensen's skilled harmonies, with lyrics that evoke the wonders of natural Florida. This was their fifth year performing at Music in the Woods. We hope they will be back again next year!

For more about the band, check out:

https://www.2pmband.com/

https://www.facebook.com/2pmBand





#### The Bigger Picture of Brooker Creek Preserve, Part 1 By Craig Huegel

Last issue, I mentioned some of the Preserves in Hillsborough County that share property boundaries with Brooker Creek Preserve. In this issue I want to write a bit more on that topic. As I'm sure that most of you know, Brooker Creek itself begins in a series of cypress swamps in Hillsborough County on the north side of Lutz Lake Fern Road. Unlike many of the major rivers and streams in north Florida, Brooker Creek is not spring fed. That is why it may dry up after extended periods of drought and then flow with some energy during the rainy season. The Southwest Florida Water Management District and Hillsborough County jointly purchased an extensive parcel of land in 1993 to protect these wetlands and the future of Brooker Creek. It is called the Headwaters Tract and these roughly 1,100 acres of environmentally sensitive land can be accessed off Ramblewood Road or Lutz Lake Fern Road in northwest Hillsborough County. This wonderful Preserve is managed by Hillsborough County.

Also managed by Hillsborough County is Lake Dan Preserve; another 1,100-acres of protected land adjacent to Brooker Creek Preserve. While the Headwaters Preserve and Lake Dan Preserve are not directly linked together by a continuous band of protected land, they are significant conservation areas that protect the ecological integrity of the entire region. These two acquisitions in Hillsborough County, coupled with the 1,673-acre Lake Francis Preserve and the still-unnamed "Clearwater Tract" add over 3,000 acres to the overall Brooker Creek Preserve complex. Too often, I think we lose sight of the fact that both Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties have come at this conservation initiative in much the same way. Furthermore, if you add in the Pinellas County preserved land adjacent to Brooker Creek, we realize that more than 13,000 acres are currently protected and managed in this most-densely populated region of central Florida. It is quite an achievement.

My partner, Jane, and I explored some of the trails recently in Lake Dan Preserve, which is north of Keystone/Tarpon Springs Road just east of the Hillsborough/Pinellas County line. I have shared some of my photos from that outing. The region includes two undeveloped lakes and protects portions of the several channels that comprise Brooker Creek itself. Access to the hiking and equestrian trails is achieved by turning north off Tarpon Springs Road on Tyler Road, then north on Huckavalle Road to the parking area. I find it incredible that any lake in the vicinity of Brooker Creek Preserve is undeveloped. Though some of Lake Dan Preserve has been altered a bit by past grazing and other agricultural practices, the remainder includes some wonderful uplands and wetlands. Not only are the altered portions being restored, but the fire-dependent sites are burned regularly, and the wildflowers there are spectacular. Access to Lake Frances Preserve is off Keystone Road about six miles east of East Lake Road on the north side of the road.





Lake Dan Preserve, January-March 2024. Clockwise from upper right: Lake Dan Preserve, sandweed hypericum, shiny lyonia, flatwoods pawpaw, orange milkwort, bog white violet, glades lobelia, a beautiful isolated cypress dome (center).

# Return The Preserve Work Days

If you have a civic organization, business, or school looking for a hands-on volunteer opportunity, consider partnering with the Friends Of Brooker Creek Preserve (FOBCP) for a Return The Preserve (RTP) Work Day for your group. Volunteers will work with the FOBCP to remove exotic, invasive plants such as caesarweed and St. Augustine grass. In doing so, you will help to Return The Preserve to its natural environment. If you are interested, contact the FOBCP at:

Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve, 3940 Keystone Rd., Tarpon Springs, FL 34688

Voicemail: (727) 934-2680

info@friendsofbrookercreekpreserve.org

#### Friends Outreach by Julie Wade

The Friends Outreach is enjoying the weather! Please join us on the second Monday of even-numbered months at 9 am. Our next date is April 8th. In only about an hour, we clean up the mile-long entrance to Brooker along the Trail and Keystone. After meeting at GREATER LIFE Church (3770 Old Keystone Rd), we get a little outdoor exercise and share the task of keeping our "front door" welcoming. Thank you to our dedicated volunteers!

Additionally, Outreach continues at the First Friday event in downtown Tarpon Springs. We meet area visitors and locals and remind them that natural Florida is close at hand. It has been rewarding to see those we meet when they come to share our love for Brooker.

April 22nd is the annual Earth Day celebration at the Tarpon Springs

Above, Patti, Tony, Julie & Ellen, Left, Susan & Joanne,

> Not pictured, Greg & Patty

campus of St Pete College and our Friends Outreach will join other eco-friendly partners for an informational event. It is an excellent opportunity for students, faculty, and college guests to learn more about "Our Wildest Place."

If you would like to be a part of the Friends Outreach, there are one-time and recurring events that we would love to have you join. Call the Friends at 727-934-2680. Julie will get back to you!

#### Beekeepers Club News by Cathie Foster

The FOBCP Beekeepers Club recently removed honey bees that had made their home in a local homeowner's shed. The timing was perfect! We had just inspected our hives the week before, to find that one hive was not doing well. An infusion of bees was a solution we had considered, but where to get them? Then, a phone call from the homeowner! With so many bees in the shed, they were unable to get their bikes out. FOBCP Beekeepers Club to the rescue! The bees were taken to their new home in our apiary. We hope they decide to become permanent residents there!

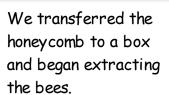
First we had to determine where in the shed the bees had made their nest. It was an old shed. The homeowner said "Tear it up if you have to." And so we did!



We noticed many bees flying in and out of one bottom corner where there was a slight opening in the floor.



Honey comb! The bees had been busy making a home under the shed.



Using our bee vac, we sucked up as many bees as we could into a separate transport box. It's a slow process; the suction has to be set very low to prevent harming the bees.

When enough bees gather on one spot, we just scoop them up!



2024 Activities / Tasks			NO STATE OF THE ST		
Month	Activity	Date Time		Comments	
March	Apiary Work Day	Saturday, March 30, 2024	10:00 AM	Easter is on Sunday, March 31st to chang	
April	Apiary Work Day	Sunday, April 28, 2024	10:00 AM		
May	Apiary Work Day	Sunday, May 26, 2024	9:00 AM	Bob on Vacation	
June	Spring Honey Harvest	Saturday, June 29, 2024	9:00 AM		
June	Apiary Work Day	Sunday, June 30, 2024	9:00 AM	Day after Extracting	
July	Apiary Work Day	Sunday, July 28, 2024	9:00 AM		
August	Apiary Work Day	Sunday, August 25, 2024	9:00 AM		
September	Apiary Work Day	Sunday, September 29, 2024	9:00 AM	Bob on Vacation	
October	Apiary Work Day	Sunday, October 27, 2024	9:00 AM		
November	Fall Honey Harvest	Saturday, November 30, 2024	9:00 AM		
December 1 For November	Apiary Work Day	Sunday, December 1, 2024	10:00 AM	Moved to Day after Extracting	
December	Apiary Work Day	Sunday, December 29, 2024	10:00 AM		

Introduction	fo Beekee	ping Classes
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Date	Class
Sunday, July 7, 2024	Honey Bee Behavior and Biology
Sunday, July 14, 2024	Getting Started, Overview of Equipment and Tools & Florida Regulations and Recommendations
Sunday, July 21, 2024	Principles of Organic Beekeeping Practices & The Year of Florida Beekeeping

# Nature Store News By Cathie Foster

If sorting through the books you've accumulated over the years is on your spring cleaning to-do list, consider donating those you no longer want to the Friends Nature Store. We accept books in relatively good condition with topics relating to nature and the environment, and fiction with a Florida theme or by Florida authors. As always, our store profit is used to support Brooker Creek Preserve and the Education Center.



#### News from the Wildflower Garden

By Pam Brown

The garden is waking up from our cloudy winter. There is some color visible with violets and lyre leaf sage starting to bloom white and blue. We should start to see some yellow soon as well. The plants seem to be a bit more lush than usual since we had ample rain this winter. I am hoping this will lead to a heavy bloom this year and that we don't have a repeat of drought this summer . . .

We will work in the garden on Saturday March 30th, still observing our winter work hours of 9:00 to 11:00 am. Our work time will change for the April 27th work day to our summer hours of 8:00 - 10:00 am. If you would like to join us, please register by emailing me at <a href="mailto:pamperedgardeners@gmail.com">pamperedgardeners@gmail.com</a>. We limit the number to five workers, including children 10 years or older, due to the fragility of the plants in the garden. Bring your light gardening tools, gloves, hat, and bug repellant, and wear closed-toed shoes. We will provide a light snack along with coffee and tea.

# Pam's Thoughts

Proper plant selection can eliminate much of the pruning requirements in your landscape. Unfortunately, plants are frequently chosen according to their current size and shape, not the size the plant is likely to become in five years or more. This means that frequent pruning is needed to keep them the proper size for their space. Be sure to research the mature size of plants as you choose them.

Early spring is a good time to manage the size of shrubs in the landscape. One of the most common pruning errors that I see is a hedge that is getting sparse foliage at the bottom of each plant. To remedy this you will want to prune them so that the top of each plant is narrower than the base. This insures that there is sufficient light to encourage full growth all the way to the bottom of each plant (see below).

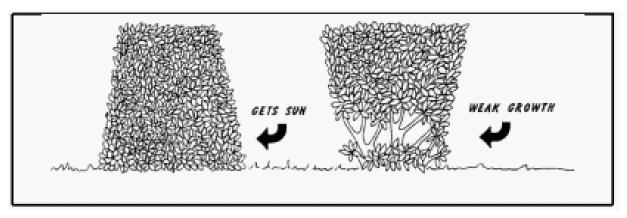


Illustration from UF(IFAS)

#### Volunteer News

Education Center Updates
November/December 2023

By Julia Myers, Education Support Specialist, Brooker Creek Preserve



**Volunteer Appreciation:** We had a blast celebrating the incredible volunteers of Brooker Creek Preserve earlier this month. Brooker Creek Preserve Volunteers do EVERYTHING for the Preserve and it is always an honor to recognize and appreciate their efforts and accomplishments.

Our mighty and dedicated volunteer team accumulated nearly 5,000 hours last year and led 99 public programs! Volunteers are the backbone of our operations, and we truly couldn't do it without them. We greatly appreciate this team and can't thank them enough for sharing so much of their time, talent, and heart with the Preserve. Let's hear a round of applause for the incredible volunteers of Brooker Creek Preserve!



Save the Date: We're throwing an Earth Day Birthday on Saturday, April 20th!

Earth Day Birthday: A Springtime Conservation Celebration will be held on April 20, from 10:00-3:00. This special celebration of the Education Center's 20<sup>th</sup> birthday and the anniversary of the Friends' 30<sup>th</sup> year providing support for the Preserve will include hands-on activities, hikes, touch-a-trucks, green careers, a BioBlitz, rehabbed wildlife, birthday cake, and more! Of course, we'll need your help to make it happen. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be posted soon. Please save the date!

Advanced Plant ID: Our 4-part advanced plant identification course is back this March! Classes are four consecutive Saturdays on March 9, 16, 23, & 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. During each 4-hour classroom event, participants will engage in a participatory lecture, and have plenty of time for Q & A. The final session will be a hands-on workshop that will include graduates from previous courses. Register here: https://api24.eventbrite.com













A program to enhance restoration and land management programs to help provide improved habitat for wildlife in **Brooker Creek Preserve** 

The **ADOPT AN ANIMAL** program was established by the Friends in 2020 to give individuals the opportunity to help keep intact the ecological integrity of the Preserve. Funding will be used for:

Removing exotic and invasive plants Restoring natural water flow Fire management Restoring natural plant communities

Animal adoptions make perfect gifts for birthdays, anniversaries, memorials, and more!

Upon receipt of your donation, the honoree will be sent by mail an adoption package with an adoption certificate, a fact sheet about the adopted animal, and a cuddly plush animal chosen for adoption. The donor will receive a thank you letter that can be used for tax purposes.

Donor Name:						
Phone: ()	() Email:					
	in honor ofin memory offor myself					
Honoree Name:						
Send packet to this address. This is the donor <u>or</u> honoree address (circle one):						
I wish to adopt (\$35 e	each):					
☐ Gopher Tortoise ☐ Gray Squirrel			□ Eagle □Bat		□ Alligator □ Bobcat	□ Owl □ Fox
Total Due: \$ Questions? info@FriendsOfBrookerCreekPreserve.org, 727-934-2680						
Check endorsed to:	FOBCP. M	ail to: FOBCP, 394	0 Keystone I	Road, Tarpon	Springs, FL 3468	38
FEID #59-3302182 tax	x-exempt, non-p	rofit corporation				

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (1-800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSMENT,

APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. REGISTRATION NUMBER CH. 16077



# **ADOPT AN ACRE**



A program to enhance restoration and land management programs in **Brooker Creek Preserve** 

The **ADOPT AN ACRE** program was established by the Friends in 2016 to give individuals the opportunity to help keep intact the ecological integrity of the Preserve.

100% of funding will be used for:

Removing exotic and invasive plants
Restoring the natural flow of water
Fire management
Restoring natural plant
communities

Acres make great gifts for birthdays, anniversaries, memorials and more!

Upon receipt of the donation, the donor or honoree's name will be placed on the **ADOPT AN ACRE** display inside the Environmental Education Center for one year. A certificate will be sent to the honoree acknowledging the adoption.

Donor Name:				
Address:				
Phone: ()				
Email:				
in honor ofin memory offor myself				
Honoree Name:				
Address:				
Phone: ()				
I wish to adopt acres @ \$100/acre				
Total Due:				
Make check payable to: FOBCP				
Mail to: 3940 Keystone Road Tarpon Springs, FL 34688				

# in fo @Friends Of Brooker C reek Preserve. or g

FEID #59-3302182 tax-exempt, non-profit corporation

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (1-800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. REGISTRATION NUMBER CH. 16077

Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve - Mission Statement: The mission of the Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve is to provide public support for the Preserve through fund raising, volunteer programs, and education to ensure that the Preserve remains a natural wilderness for future generations.

Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve - Land Use Position Statement: The Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve support land uses within the boundaries of Brooker Creek Preserve which have a main purpose that furthers the preservation, conservation, restoration or protection of the land and resources of the Brooker Creek Preserve.

#### Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve:

www. Friends Of Brooker CreekPreserve. org

Email:

info@FriendsOfBrookerCreekPreserve.org

Voicemail: (727) 934-2680

#### Brooker Creek Preserve:

Phone: (727) 453-6900

Website: www.brookercreekpreserve.org

Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center is located at 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs, Florida,

34688. Phone: (727) 453-6800

Hours: Thurs. - Sat. 9am - 4pm, Sun.,

11am - 4pm.

Friends Nature Store is located in the Education Center. Hours: Thurs. - Sat.

9am - 4pm, Sun., 11am - 4pm.

Preserve Hiking Trails open 7 days a week, 7:00am to 30 minutes before sunset. Closed the day after Thanksgiving and Dec. 25.

Horse Trails open 7 days a week, all year, sunrise to sunset.

This newsletter is published every other month. Please submit articles to News-letter Editor Dr. Craig Huegel (727) 422-6583 or email Huegelc55@aol.com

#### Pinellas County PCR Mission statement:

The mission of the Parks and Conservation Resources Department is to maintain and protect the inherent value of the County's natural, cultural and recreational resources through sustainable access, education, and stewardship that enhance quality of life for our community and future generations.

#### FOBCP Leadership 2023

#### **Board of Directors**

#### **Officers**

Chair: Cathie Foster

Vice Chair: Robert Burkard Secretary: Allyn Childress Treasurer: Ed Helvenston

Business Director: Barb Hoffman

#### Directors:

Pam Brown: Wildflower Garden Robert Burkard: Beekeeping Allyn Childress: Grants

Evan Earle, Jr.: Return the Preserve Work

Days

Cathie Foster: Nature Store Manager

Barbara Hoffman: Membership/

Owl-O-Ween

Walt Hoskins: Guiding Documents

Dr. Craig Huegel: Land Use/Newsletter Editor/Off-the-Beaten-Path Hikes Chuck Parsons: 4th Grade Coordination Ray Poynor: Craftsman, Night Hikes

Barbara Schultz: Publicity

Cathy Vogelsong: Newsletter Publisher Julie Wade: Communications/Outreach

#### Further Leadership

Mona Gardner & Dixie Mills: Nature Store

Bookkeepers

Cathy Ordiway: Website Master Lynn Whitelaw: Art Gallery Curator

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