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# Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve

March - April 2022

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**Chairman's Message,** By Cathie Foster

The vernal equinox, marking the first day of Spring, won't happen until March 20, but a walk outside will tell you that Spring has already sprung at Brooker Creek Preserve! I love seeing the chickasaw plum and Walter's viburnum with their small but beautiful white flowers. If you look carefully as you slowly drive along the exit road, you may spot clusters of purple lupines poking their heads up. Along the boardwalk near the Classroom Building turn your gaze downward to see dainty white violets. I am still awaiting two of my very favorite Spring sights - the blue flag iris that usually bloom along the boardwalk on the way to the Education Center and those awesome swallow-tailed kites. So many subtle but wonderful sights to see . . . that's what draws me so often our Wildest Place!

*Cathie*

**This Saturday, March 5  
at Brooker Creek Preserve**

10:00 am -Intro to Beekeeping (see flier, page 8)

6:30 pm - Star Party (flier, page 6)

Night Hikes will be conducted during the Star Party (flier, page 7)



February at Brooker Creek Preserve, photo by Yvonne Passavant Deming.

## Upcoming Events

- Mar. 5 Beekeeping Class: Honey Bee Biology & Behavior
- Mar. 5 Readers Club
- Mar. 5 Star Party/Night Hike (Must arrive between 6:30 & 7:00 pm)
- Mar. 13 Music in the Woods: Sandy Back Porch
- \*Mar. 13 Beekeeping Class: Getting Started with Beekeeping  
\* Note, change of date
- Mar. 20 Off the Beaten Path Hike: Sandhill Scramble
- Mar. 26 Wildflower Garden Work Day
- Mar. 27 Beekeeping Club
- Apr. 2 Wildlife Safari
- Apr. 2 Readers Club
- Apr. 9 Plant Sale
- Apr. 9 Beekeeping Class: Healthy Hives
- Apr. 16 Return the Preserve Work Day
- Apr. 24 Beekeeping Club
- Apr. 30 Wildflower Garden Work Day



### Music in the Woods Jan. 23 concert

Above, Friends member, Jon Burr, thoroughly enjoying the Meriggiare String Quartet. Jon has graciously and generously supported our quartet concerts over the years. It was Jon's idea to begin hosting quartets and we are so grateful to him for the wonderful idea!

Please consider adopting an acre as a birthday gift, memorial or to honor a special person. See p. 20 for the Adopt an Acre Form and additional information.

Friends  of Brooker Creek Preserve

### ACRE ADOPTIONS FOR BROOKER CREEK PRESERVE

Many thanks for the following Acre Adoptions:

Lois Barth

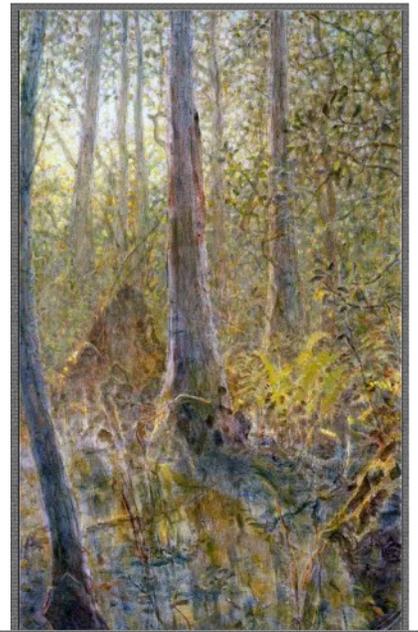
Tarpon Springs Woman's Club

## AUDITORIUM GALLERY, By Lynn Whitelaw

ON VIEW IN THE GALLERY, Through April 10, 2022

### Joseph Weinzettle: *Swamps of North Pinellas County*, Paintings and Drawings

"My paintings may take weeks to months to complete depending on the scale and complexity. Occasionally I re-visit a painting the following year, when the surface is again workable. The underdrawing and painting are layered responses to the site conditions. Due to changes over time on site, the underdrawing and painted layers are often contradictory. This is part of the process, the organic nature of working en plein air. I want the viewer to share in the experience on site." - Joseph Weinzettle

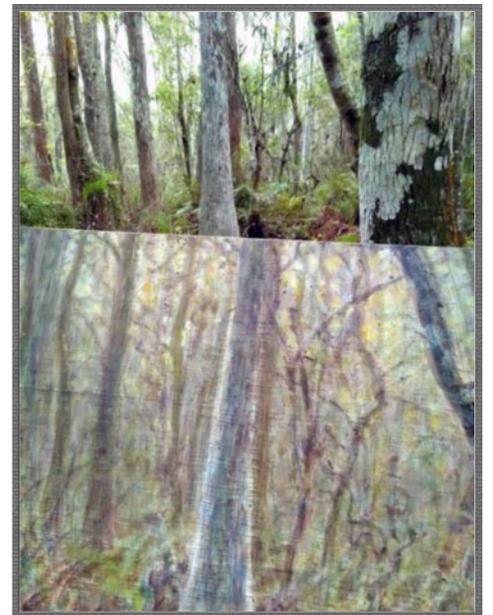


Clockwise from top: *Swamp Interior: Evening*, *Detail of Cypress Interior*, 2018-20, and *Mitigation Area, Mornings*. All are oil over silverpoint on panel. Joe Weinzettle demonstrating his plein air painting process.

### RECAP: Artist Reception, Talks and Hike

On Sunday, Feb. 13 (before the Super Bowl game started) more than 30 people attended the artist reception for the *Joseph Weinzettle: Swamps of North Pinellas County* exhibition, which remains on view in the Auditorium Gallery through April 10.

Joe's presentation about using "Old Master" painting processes for beautiful detailed atmospheric paintings and drawings done *plein air* on-site amongst the swamps in North Pinellas was fascinating to listen to.



Photograph of a nature site, with the plein air painting by Joseph Weinzettle below it.



Following Joe's presentation, Dr. Craig Huegel gave an introductory talk on *The Importance of Our Swamp Lands*, continued outdoors with a short boardwalk hike over the Brooker Creek swamp lands.

The Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve wish to thank both Joe and Craig for sharing their art, knowledge, and passion to educate and document the often misunderstood and undervalued swamp eco-systems in Pinellas County.

Dr. Craig Huegel on boardwalk hike discussing the ecology of Brooker Creek.

## UPCOMING ART EVENT AND EXHIBITION, *Plein Air 2022*

**Event:** Fri., April 22 (Earth Day) - Sat., April 24,

**Reception and Awards Program:** Sun., Apr. 24, 1-3 pm

**Exhibition:** April 24 - May 8 (works for sale with a 10% donation back to FoBCP)

**Participation fee:** \$20 (see Registration form below)

Plein air, the act of creating art outdoors with nature (in drawings, paintings, or photography), has inspired artists for centuries. In recent years, popular plein air events have been held all over the United States and for the past twelve years the Tarpon Springs Art Association has organized a weeklong Paint & Photo Tarpon Springs which includes sponsorship awards from the Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve for works created in painting and photography during the event.

To further the concept of artists using the natural environment of Brooker Creek Preserve to inspire their art, the Friends has wanted to develop its own plein air event. Our first year came during a cold front in February 2019, followed by two years being canceled by COVID, so hopefully this third year will be the charm! Seen as an annual event open to all artists and photographers (amateur or professional), the invitation is to show your talent and support of Brooker Creek Preserve by creating art inspired by the natural landscape of the Preserve.

If you know artists who create plein air, please pass along the word. If you enjoy drawing, painting, or photographing in the Preserve (even if you are new to the idea), please consider becoming a plein air participant for this event. The Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve hopes to build our plein air event to attract artists from around the area - help us spread the word. The registration form is below:



The Friends plein air event in 2019.

3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs, FL 34688

**PLEIN AIR 2022  
EVENT AND EXHIBITION AT BROOKER CREEK PRESERVE**

**Friday, April 22 (Earth Day) – Saturday, April 23  
Sunday, April 24, 1-3 pm (Reception and Awards Program)  
April 30-May 1; May 7-8 (Exhibition and Sales)**

**REGISTRATION & RELEASE FORM - \$20 per artist**

**Pre-register by sending this form and payment to the above address (two weeks in advance) or call 727-934-2680 to RSVP and bring completed form and payment on April 22 or 23.**

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone (cell): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Art Medium: \_\_\_\_\_

**RELEASE & MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

- I fully release and hold harmless Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve, Inc. and Pinellas County for any injury or loss to myself, my possessions, and/or my artwork during the activities of **Brooker Creek Plein Air 2022**. I understand that:
- I must check-in at the boardwalk entrance pavilion at Brooker Creek Preserve on 4/24 or 4/25 between 8 and 10 am. Orientation to the Preserve and maps will be provided.
- I will provide all required paperwork and will verify, by dated signature, that all work was done during the event days and within the boundaries of Brooker Creek Preserve.
- I may submit up to two presentation ready pieces for the competition judging (works are to be framed or canvas wrapped with a wire on the back for hanging and submission form attached). Juried prizes will be awarded for Best in Show (\$100), First (\$75), Second (\$50) and Third (\$25), and Visitor's Choice (\$25) Awards.
- Completed art must be turned into the *Friends Nature Store* in the Education Building either day of the event up until 4 PM. Photography (with pre-approved paperwork) may be turned in Sunday, April 24 from 10 AM and Noon to the BCP Auditorium Gallery.
- My artwork will be on display in the Auditorium Gallery at Brooker Creek Preserve from April 24 through May 8 and will be offered for sale with the understand that 10% of artwork sales will be donated to Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve, Inc.
- Artwork, sold or unsold, must be removed from the premise between 3-4 PM on 5/8/2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name                      Date



Blooming now in the Preserve -  
Walter's viburnum (*Viburnum obovatum*, left) and chickasaw plum (*Prunus angustifolia*)

# ★ STAR PARTY ★

## Saturday, March 5 at 6:30pm

Observe the stars through telescopes and enjoy an evening at the Preserve after dark with the Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve and the St. Pete Astronomy Club! Meet at the main parking lot between 6:30 and 7:00pm; as the gates will only be open during this time. This event will include night hikes.  
A suggested donation of \$3.00 per person is appreciated.

Friends  of Brooker Creek Preserve



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 Mark Yeager, a Preserve volunteer who is 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: <https://nighthikes.eventbrite.com>

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

**Star Party!** Join the Friends AND the St. Petersburg Astronomy Club to view planets, stars, and the moon with telescopes. Night Hikes will be conducted as well. Saturday, March 5, 2022, 6:30 pm

Questions? Email [info@friendsofbrookercreekpreserve.org](mailto:info@friendsofbrookercreekpreserve.org)

Introduction to

# BEEKEEPING

A Hobby with Sweet Rewards

3 Part Series! 10am - 12pm



*Saturday, March 5*

**Part 1:** INTRO TO HONEYBEES: This program will introduce you to the basics of honey bees, their biology and the guiding principles of beekeeping.



*Sunday, March 13*

**Part 2:** GETTING STARTED: We will cover what it takes to get started with a focus on the equipment and tools necessary for beekeeping. We will review the components of the “modern” bee hive and explain Florida’s rules & guidelines.



*Saturday, April 9*

**Part 3:** HEALTHY HIVES: We will review how to maintain healthy honeybee colonies, discuss how to recognize pests and diseases, and have an in- depth discussion on what you can do to support your bees, with a focus on organic beekeeping practices.



An equal opportunity institution.

Friends  of Brooker Creek Preserve  
presents  
**MUSIC IN THE WOODS SERIES**  
with the  
*traditional folk and bluegrass music of*  
**Sandy Back Porch**



*Sandy Back Porch band hits the floor running with hard driving traditional folk and bluegrass music at lightning speed offering people-pleasing, toe tapping performances by Sandy Holdeman, Stan Burns, Mike Heffinger and Freddy Burky.*

**Sunday, March 13, 2022 1:00–4:00 pm**

**Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center**  
This concert will be held in Outdoor Music Pavilion

**\$5/person donation requested, children under 16 FREE!**  
Bring drinks, picnic dinner and lawn chairs or a blanket.  
Sorry, no pets or alcoholic beverages.

**Questions: [info@FriendsOfBrookerCreekPreserve.org](mailto:info@FriendsOfBrookerCreekPreserve.org)**  
or  
**727-934-2680**



## 2020 OFF THE BEATEN PATH

*A nature-based fundraising hike series*

**Description:** This series of four hikes will take place in beautiful areas tucked away within Brooker Creek Preserve in sites that are closed to the public. Our guide, Dr. Craig Huegel (SPC Biology Professor), can identify everything, from the tiniest moss to the tallest tree including animal prints, bird calls, lichens, and more. He is full of stories and very patient in answering questions. The hikes will be educational, and a lot of fun as well! The hikes will begin at 9:00 am, and be about 3-4 hours long. Bring water and lunch.

**Cost:** \$80 donation for the series of four hikes or \$25 donation per hike, with a 10% discount for members of Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve.

**Sept. 26, 2021 – In Search of Catesby’s Lily** – Located in the eastern part of the preserve, we will search for the threatened Catesby’s Lily. In so doing, we will see a profusion of beautiful fall wildflowers in full bloom.

**Dec. 12, 2021 - Cypress Swamp Stomp** – Located in the central part of the Preserve, this site features orchids, ferns, and epiphytes. Plan to get wet, or maybe not get wet, as we plunge into the depths of the swamp!

**\* March 20, 2022 – Sandhill Scramble** – The only true sandhills of Brooker Creek Preserve. This site is in the northern end of the preserve and will feature an abundance of spring wildflowers.

**July 17, 2022 – Interior Wildlands** – We will be in parts of the Preserve so remote that cell phones won’t work, areas so pretty you won’t believe you are in Pinellas County!

### **Reservations Required:**

Sign up early! Only 20 spots are open for these fabulous hikes *off the beaten path!* Questions? To register, call 727-934-2680 or email

**[info@friendsofbrookercreekpreserve.org](mailto:info@friendsofbrookercreekpreserve.org)**



# Hey Kids!

If you are between the ages of 4 -12  
Bring an adult and join the...

## WILDLIFE SAFARI

Saturday April 2, 2022

Arrive anytime between 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

The safari walk takes about one hour.

Join in the fun at this educational and fun adventure for children ages 4 through 12 years old! The children begin with a blank Wildlife Passport, then walk with their families along a one-mile loop of adventure with live owls, snakes, baby raccoons, hawks, and more!

As kids visit each Wildlife Station, their Passport gets stamped.

At the end, kids get a special prize for completing the journey. This event is free and sponsored by the Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve.

Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center

3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs, 34688

Questions? Email [brookercreek@pinellascounty.org](mailto:brookercreek@pinellascounty.org)



# *Native Plant Sale*

at Brooker Creek Preserve

Saturday, April 9, 2022

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

*Near the main Parking Lot*

*Learn How to Incorporate Native Plants into your Landscape*

*Experts Available to Answer Questions*

*Exhibit Hall and Nature Store Open until 4pm*

Friends  of Brooker Creek Preserve

This event is sponsored by Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve.

3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs, 34688

Questions? Call 727-934-2680

Email [info@FriendsOfBrookerCreekPreserve.org](mailto:info@FriendsOfBrookerCreekPreserve.org)

## Expectation

By: Craig Huegel

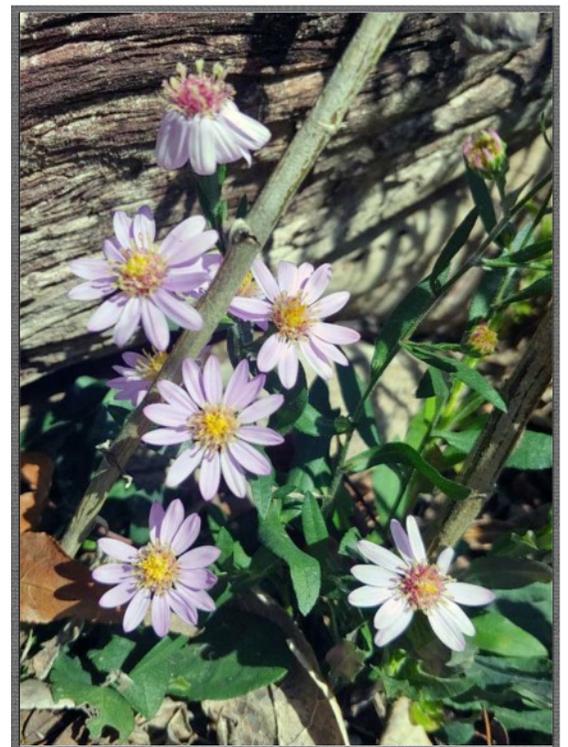
Expectation is defined as the feeling that good things are going to happen in the future. Without it, we become depressed by what may lie ahead, and with it we plant seeds for tomorrow with a belief that our efforts will lead to something worthwhile. Though I have never been accused of being an optimist, I believe that my life is rich with expectation.



We live in a world that is rife with things to be depressed about: the future effects of climate change and biodiversity collapse, the invasion of sovereign nations with no real intent other than to secure power, and the loss of empathy for the unfortunate to name just a few, but we move ahead with the expectation that we can turn things around for the better. Without expectation, there would be no need for a Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve, for example. The truth is that we have accomplished a great many things over these 20+ years that some might have thought unrealistic. We will accomplish more of those things in the years ahead if we choose to persevere. Never doubt the possibilities of a group of individuals united in a worthy mission.

Each spring, I wait for my own little landscape here in my rental home in Pasco County to fulfill its mission - to create habitat for the wildlife I've planted it for. We plant for the future, not for the present and we do so with great expectation. Over the years, my sapling trees and shrubs take on more of the characteristics that my landscape needs. Plants once too young to flower reach enough maturity to do so. These flowers feed pollinators that were originally absent from my yard and this pollination allows for fruit that will feed birds that also were never present here.

I have never understood a landscape that lies stagnant - one that never changes with the seasons or over the years. Such landscapes produce no expectation as the seasons change from winter to spring and then from spring through summer and fall. I would encourage you to purposely add expectation into your daily equation, help the Friends move forward through whatever issues lie before us, and add life to your landscape at home.



Flatwoods plum (top), and wavyleaf aster

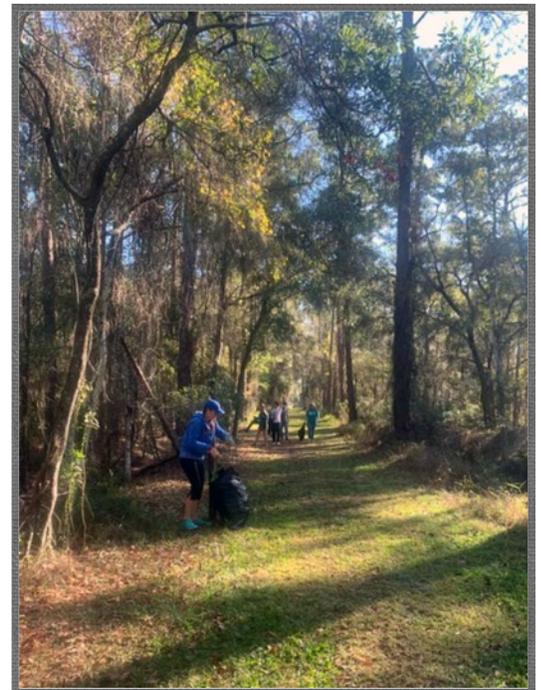
## Return The Preserve Work Days 2022, By Evan Earle, Jr.

We started 2022 with a very successful Return The Preserve (RTP) Work Day on Saturday, January 8th. Our target - ceasarweed. This exotic invasive grows in the Preserve. It grows very well. So much so that it can crowd out native plants and create a monoculture.

Thanks to a tremendous turnout, we were able to remove some ceasarweed from around the buildings at the Preserve. But then we decided to move our efforts to Lora Lane where the Friends Trail and the Horse Trail are located. (Just a side note. If you haven't visited the Friends Trail, make the time to do so. It is another beautiful area of the Preserve.) It was along the Friends Trail where we "hit pay dirt" in terms of ceasarweed. Thanks to the hard working volunteers, we removed 50 bags of ceasarweed. In two hours! We had volunteers from East Lake High School, Sickles High School, Mitchell High School, Hillsborough Academy of Math and Science, from the general public, and from the Friends Of Brooker Creek Preserve (FOBCP).

Check out the FOBCP website <https://friendsofbrookercreekpreserve.org>, for the future dates of our RTP Work Days in 2022 as well as all of the other cool activities that are going on and planned for 2022.

Thank you to our FOBCP RTP Work Day volunteers for your time and energy! It is through your effort and support that we are helping to Return The Preserve to its natural ecological environment and beauty.



We hold our RTP Work Days the first month of each quarter. Our next RTP Work Days are planned for April 16 (we will be honoring Earth Day), July 16, and October 15. Please join us!

## Beekeeping Club News

February 27 was a beautiful day for beekeeping! Our bees were busier than ever at our monthly hive inspection. We observed brood cells, which means an active queen is making more bees. With the onset of the Spring blooming season the girls are beginning to bring in pollen, as expected, and the hives look healthy.

Want to learn more about beekeeping? See the information about upcoming beekeeping classes on page 15 or contact us to join one of our monthly apiary work days.

[Info@FriendsOfBrookerCreekPreserve.org](mailto:Info@FriendsOfBrookerCreekPreserve.org)  
727-934-2680



Head Beekeeper Bob Burkard skillfully readies the smoker we use to calm the bees.



The bees were plentiful! You can see them flying all around us.

Capped honey cells. The honey flow is starting! We hope to have Brooker Creek Honey for sale some time in June.



# News from the Wildflower Garden

By Pam Brown

On our regular workday in January we had a group of 10 volunteers from Sickles High School to help us transplant a number of the gulf muhly grass clumps. The muhly grass was beginning to take over the garden. These young volunteers were so energetic that they dispatched this task in record time. The plants that were removed were transplanted to the north side of the boardwalk that runs along the garden. We had a couple of new volunteers who helped clean up the dead heading of the spent seed heads. Now we need some additional wildflower plants to add to the areas where the muhly grass was removed. There is some color in the garden with the violets and lyre-leaf sage blooming. I even saw a rare coreopsis in bloom.

We will work in the garden on Saturday March 28, still observing our winter work hours of 9:00 to 11:00 am. If you would like to join us, please register by emailing me at:

[pamperedgardeners@gmail.com](mailto:pamperedgardeners@gmail.com)

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 gardening tools, gloves, hat, and bug repellent, and wear closed-toed shoes. We will provide a light snack along with coffee and tea. For our April workday we will go back to our summer schedule of 8:00 to 10:00 am on the last Saturday of each month.

## Pam's Thoughts

If you have shrubs that were damaged during the couple of light freezes and heavy frosts that we had this winter, now is the time to prune them for recovery.

Look closely at each plant from the base and up the branches to see where new green growth is sprouting. Prune back to this place on each stem, generally choosing an outward facing bud. Make pruning cuts at a 45 degree angle about one quarter inch above the bud or sprout. You do not need pruning paint, as it does more harm than good. Some plants may look dead, but will most likely sprout from the roots if not along the stem, be patient! You can also lightly scrape along the bark of a stem - if it is green under the bark, it is still alive and will re-grow.



Patches of lupines near the BCP drive.

## Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve Readers Club

By Jon Burr

In February, the Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve Readers Club crowded - all five of us - into the conference



room in the Ed Center to discuss the book *Cat Tale: The Wild Weird Battle to Save the Florida Panther, 2020*, by Craig Pittman.

All felt it was an 'easy' read with one comment about it being a little too 'breezy' which was probably because it was standard 'Pittmanesque'. Those of us who have lived here all our many decades are familiar with Craig's newspaper article writing style. Craig has spoken at the Preserve before.

What was obvious was that saving the Florida panther required a lot of undeveloped territory and the loss of such land to development was not being hindered by those responsible for protecting endangered species. (Here you utter a big, drawnout, DUH . . . don't suppose that large amounts of money had anything to do with it, and that doesn't mean outright bribes: there are lots of ways big money can make things happen.) Our form of land ownership and land-based taxing makes setting aside undeveloped land a very hard sell. Brooker Creek Preserve is an unparalleled exception.

One of the things I learned from reading this book was the very strong probability that Florida Panther inbreeding had caused male Florida panthers to become infertile and that without an influx of close cousins of the Florida panther the species would be extirpated in the state. You could easily see the inbreeding by a right angle bend near the tip of the tail of the Florida animals. (Cat Tale?).

Please come and join us: there's plenty of room at the table.

**The remaining dates and books for the first half of the year are:**

March 5th, *The Wild Heart of Florida, 1999*, Ripple and Cerulean, eds.

April 2nd, *Journal of Light, The Visual Diary of a Florida Nature Photographer, 2004*, John Moran.

May 7th, *The Wilder Heart of Florida, 2021*, Davis and Poole eds.

June 4th, *Oranges, 1967*, John McPhee

See you at 9:30, Saturday, March 5th, 2022 in the conference room in the Ed Center.

## Volunteer News

### Education Center Updates & More

By Julia Myers, Education Support Specialist, Brooker Creek Preserve



**Alligator Case:** We are sending a BIG thank you to volunteer Ray Poynor for building a gorgeous new case to display our taxidermied alligator in. Ray even created a wetland habitat inside the case for the alligator AND he has added audio of alligator calls. It's amazing. Be sure to check it out if you haven't seen it yet. Thank you, Ray!

**Wildlife Safari is BACK on Saturday, April 2nd!** This is a fun, educational event for kids and their families that features live native animals and is always a big hit. This event normally brings in over 1000+ visitors and we are looking forward to bringing it back! (See the flier on page 10)

**Introduction to Beekeeping: A Hobby with Sweet Rewards:** This three part series kicks off on March 5th and is led by our very own Bob Burkard, President of the Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve's Beekeeping Club! (See the flier on page 15 for more information)

Friends  of Brooker Creek Preserve  
**ADOPT AN ANIMAL - \$35/adoption**



*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 of      \_\_\_in memory of      \_\_\_for myself

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

Send packet to this address. This is the donor or honoree address (circle one):

\_\_\_\_\_

I wish to adopt (\$35 each):

- |  |                                    |                                  |                                |                                 |                                    |                              |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gopher Tortoise | <input type="checkbox"/> Deer Buck | <input type="checkbox"/> Raccoon | <input type="checkbox"/> Eagle | <input type="checkbox"/> Otter  | <input type="checkbox"/> Alligator | <input type="checkbox"/> Owl |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gray Squirrel   | <input type="checkbox"/> Deer Fawn | <input type="checkbox"/> Opossum | <input type="checkbox"/> Bat   | <input type="checkbox"/> Coyote | <input type="checkbox"/> Bobcat    | <input type="checkbox"/> Fox |

Total Due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Questions? [info@friendsofbrookercreekpreserve.org](mailto:info@friendsofbrookercreekpreserve.org) or 727-934-2680

Check endorsed to: **FOBCP**. Mail to: FOBCP, 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs, FL 34688

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

Friends  of  
Brooker Creek Preserve

**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 of \_\_in memory of \_\_for 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

Questions? [fobcp@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:fobcp@tampabay.rr.com)

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**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.FriendsOfBrookerCreekPreserve.org](http://www.FriendsOfBrookerCreekPreserve.org)  
Email:  
[info@FriendsOfBrookerCreekPreserve.org](mailto:info@FriendsOfBrookerCreekPreserve.org)  
Voicemail: (727) 934-2680

**Brooker Creek Preserve:**  
Phone: (727) 453-6900  
Website: [www.brookercreekpreserve.org](http://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 Newsletter Editor Dr. Craig Huegel (727) 422-6583 or email [Huegelc55@aol.com](mailto: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 2022

### Board of Directors Officers

Chair: Cathie Foster  
Vice Chair: Robert Burkard  
Secretary: Allyn Childress  
Treasurer: Jane Myers  
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  
Jane Myers: Music Events  
Chuck Parsons: 4th Grade Coordination  
Ray Poynor: Craftsman  
Barbara Schultz: Publicity  
Cathy Vogelsong: Newsletter Publisher  
Julie Wade: Communications/Outreach  
Mark Yeager: Night Hikes/Star Party

### Further Leadership

Jon Burr & Kathleen Nicher: Readers Club  
Mona Gardner & Dixie Mills: Nature Store  
Bookkeepers  
Sandra Miraglia: Nature Store Committee  
Jeff Myers: Financial Manager  
Cathy Ordiway: Website Master  
Lynn Whitelaw: Art Gallery Curator

Registration Info: FEID #59-3302182 tax-exempt, non-profit corporation

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