


Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve

September - October 2022

Upcoming Events

- Sep. 18 FOBCP Member's Photo Exhibit & Invitational Closing Reception
- Sep. 24 Wildflower Garden Work Day
- Sep. 25 Beekeeping Club
- Oct. 1 Native plant sale
- Oct. 15 Return the Preserve work day, 8:00 - 11:00 am
- Oct. 29 Wildflower Garden Work Day
- Oct. 29 Night Hike
- Oct. 30 Beekeeping Club



Chairman's Message

By Cathie Foster

Fall is just around the corner and with that the Friends are usually preparing for our two big fall events, the Fall Wildflower Festival and Owl-o-Ween. This fall these two popular events will again be postponed. Why? Well, it's actually good news! The County's long-awaited boardwalk repair project is underway! They are currently working on the section through the swampy area behind the classroom building. Once that is completed, work will begin on other boardwalk sections, including those leading to and between the Education Center buildings, which would impact the two festivals. Rest assured that, throughout the estimated overall 12-18 month reconstruction time, the trails and Exhibit Hall will remain open. Saturday guided hikes and night hikes will continue, as will a wonderful variety of education program, both in-person and online. And if you check out the flyer on page 2, you will see that we will hold a **Native Plant Sale on Saturday, October 1** near the main parking lot. I hope to see you there!

Native Plant Sale

at Brooker Creek Preserve

Saturday, October 1, 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

Thank you, Jane and Jeff Myers!

FOBCP Director and Treasurer Jane Myers and her husband, Jeff, are off to new adventures in Illinois. After moving to Florida from Illinois about ten years ago, Jane jumped right in, becoming a BCP reception desk volunteer and leading Thursday morning Book Times. She soon followed that up by becoming an FOBCP Director and Treasurer. As if that didn't keep her busy enough, she initiated and organized Music in the Woods, a welcome and popular addition to our FOBCP program line-up.

In the fall of 2020, Jane's husband Jeff retired and has been donating his time and talent in creating our financial reports (it sounds so much easier than it really is). As a team, both Jane and Jeff volunteered enthusiastically at our many festivals and events, and supported them financially as well. We are so appreciative of the time and energy they both have put into supporting the Friends!

And now, back to Illinois they go to be near children, grandchildren and other family members. Perfectly understandable, but we will miss them dearly. The good news is that they still have family ties here and plan to visit frequently. So, it isn't good-bye, just see you soon!



Cathie Foster and Barb Hoffman presented Jane with an award of appreciation at the July meeting of the Friends Board of Directors.

Welcome aboard, Ed Helvenston!

How fortunate we are to welcome our newest FOBCP Director, Ed Helvenston. A recently retired environmental attorney and nature lover, Ed was interested in volunteering at the Ed Center and working with the Friends. You will find Ed volunteering at the front desk in the Exhibit Hall on Sundays. At our most recent board meeting, Ed was elected to join and he became our Treasurer, filling Jane's place. He, Jane, and Jeff have been working together over the past few weeks to ensure a smooth transition. Welcome, Ed, and thank you!



Gopher tortoise, photo by Barry Andress.

Off The Beaten Path - Interior Pinelands, 7/17/22

By: Craig Huegel

We finished the fourth and last of our Off the Beaten Path hikes by walking the trails interior to the Preserve. When the Preserve was first created and I was hired to direct it in 1992, these were the trails we marked and used for our guided hiking program. Back then, there was no education center parking lot and no staff. None of the Preserve was open to the public, but our new program was generating a lot of public interest. We fostered that interest by offering walks each Saturday led by volunteers. Some of those folks are still active - Cathy Foster and Barb Hoffman most significantly.



When we began this series of hikes through the auspices of the Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve, it seemed only natural that we return to this region once more. Nearly half of the Preserve is wetland forest. The remaining acreage is pineland, but those pinelands differ by their hydrology (the length of time they are saturated). Most of the trails open to the public are in the drier pinelands, even if it doesn't seem that way during the wetter summer months. Drier pinelands have saw palmetto as a dominant plant in the understory. Truly wet (hydric) pinelands have few saw palmetto and their understories are dominated by grasses and other grass-like species. Such pinelands are common to the interior parts of Brooker Creek Preserve.

I look forward to hiking this area each year with the Friends and we purposely plan it to occur during the summer rainy season because it is much more fascinating at this time of year. We may get wet feet, but we get to see the area in its most beautiful state. This year was no different than past ones. Though we had room for a few more hikers, our stalwart group had a wonderful morning exploring the interior trails. Because this area is now so seldom used, we "lost" the trail a few times before finding the orange blazes on the trees once more. In my mind, this made the day's exploration even more interesting. We were in places where possibly no one had been since the last time we hiked here, more than a year previously. Once while we were temporarily "lost," we encountered the ground nest of a chuck-will's-widow - the southern equivalent of a whippoorwill. The half-fledged chicks remained still while



Chuck-will's-widow chicks.

their mother attempted to lead us away. It had been a great many years since I last had that experience and it will remain memorable.

As we both began and left this area by walking along the "diagonal" powerline, we were met with a great diversity of wildflowers, butterflies and other pollinators. It was as I expected it would be, since the lack of a tree canopy and the full sunshine generates this kind of community. It was a wonderful way to end our walk. We will renew the Off the Beaten Path series sometime in the winter of this year and I would encourage you to do the entire series of four walks. It is the only way you can experience the best parts of Brooker Creek Preserve, and it is the most fun way you can support the Friends financially.



Little metalmark butterfly



Few-flowered milkweed

Friends  of Brooker Creek Preserve

ACRE ADOPTIONS FOR BROOKER CREEK PRESERVE

Many thanks for these Acre Adoptions:

One acre in memory of
Jeanne Cameron

By Barbara Genthner Moritz

One acre in honor of
Elizabeth Elyoussef

By Patricia Lee

One acre in honor of
Sherry Hawley

By the Friends Board of Directors

One acre in honor of
Sherry Hawley

By Jane, Julie, Margaret, Nancy, and Paul

One acre in memory of
Robert Lindstrom

By Friends Board of Directors

Two acres in honor of
Jane & Jeff Myers

By the Friends Board of Directors

One acre in memory of
Betsy Vinson

By Barb & Eddie Hoffman

Three acres from
Roger Wilson

AUDITORIUM GALLERY

by Lynn Whitelaw

ON VIEW IN THE GALLERY

Closing Reception: Sunday, Sept. 18, 1-3 pm (open to FoBCP members and the public)



Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve

MEMBER'S PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION AND INVITATIONAL

Stop by the Auditorium Gallery on Saturdays from 9 am to 3 pm, or Sundays 11 am to 3 pm, to see the **FOBCP Member's Photography Exhibition**, or better yet attend the Closing Reception for the exhibit on Sunday, September 18 and meet the artists. This year's participants include **Barry Andress, Laurie Angyn, Jon Burr, Barbara Hoffman, Ray Poynor, Cathy Vogelsong, and Lynn Whitelaw**. Each has captured some unique view of the landscape, flora, fauna, or ecosystems of Brooker Creek Preserve. Also on view are four photographers invited to participate this year because of the inspiration, wonder and beauty they have found in the Preserve. These include: **Carl and Kathleen Nichter**, FOBCP'S "official" nature photographers extraordinary; **Renato Rampolla**, a portrait photographer from Tampa who often finds solace in the Preserve; **Sue Thomas**, beloved Tarpon Springs photographer and FOBCP member who passed away last year; and, **David J. Wright**, a photographer from Pasco County well known for documenting area events.



The Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve want to thank all of the photographers who have participated in this year's annual exhibition and honor their artistic eye to showcase the beauty of Brooker Creek Preserve. Please come out and show your support on September 18.

UPCOMING EXHIBITS IN THE GALLERY

Because of the on-going boardwalk project and concerns over access to the Auditorium Gallery, the fall exhibition this year will be selections from the growing **FOBCP Permanent Art Collection** which includes works by artists and photographers inspired to artistically document Brooker Creek Preserve, many of whom have exhibited in the Gallery over the years. While the Gallery will not have weekend hours open to the public, the works can be viewed when there are programs in the Auditorium. FOBCP is also working with BCP staff and the County to create an art gallery in a hallway alcove in the Education Center as a permanent location to showcase the FOBCP Art Collection on a rotating basis. This will introduce visitors to the art collection and serve as an inspiration for artists and photographers (including us amateurs) to think of the Preserve as a special place for artistic expression to document the unique fauna and flora found here.

Future shows in the Auditorium Gallery for the 2022-2023 Exhibition Season include:

- *Paintings and Calligraphy by Bill and Linda Renc* (Jan - Mar)
- *Plein-Air 2023 Weekend* (Mar)
- *24 Hands Printmaking Collaborative* (Apr - June)
- *FOBCP Member's Annual Photography Exhibition & Invitational* (July - Aug)
- Other exhibitions currently under consideration, based on accessibility to the Gallery.

Dustin Angell Exhibit Closing Reception, July 23, 2022

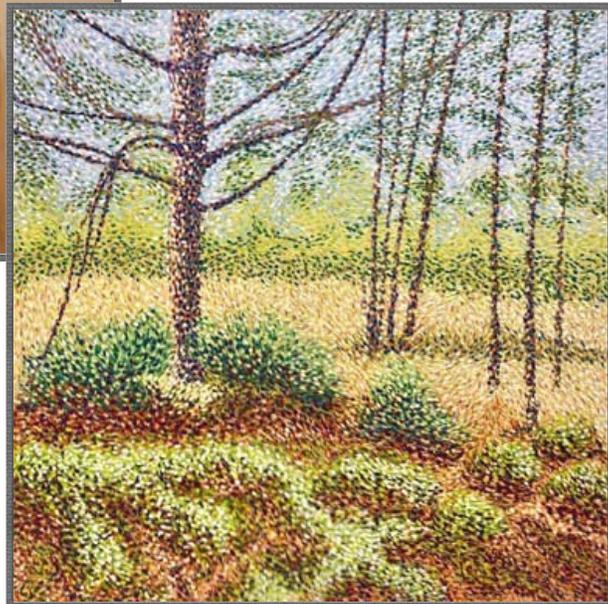
We so enjoyed the photography of Dustin Angell who photographs what he called the "unsung heroes" of Archbold Biological Station in central Florida. Dustin said that if you believe in the importance of land preservation, then thank the scientists who work so hard behind the scenes to conduct sound land management, biological surveys, and natural history studies for that property. Dustin studied the works of artists who painted the twelve apostles, noting that they are identified by their clothing and what they are holding in their hands. Dustin employs these same techniques by photographing scientists in the field, in their work attire, and holding the equipment they use for their work. The resulting photographs were beautiful and each told a story without words. Dustin uses the photographs, among other things, for his work as an environmental educator, teaching children the importance of science careers and science itself. Thank you, Dustin!



Selected works from the FOBCP Permanent Collection recently added to the collection:



Victoria Block (Canadian/American)
Trunk, 2019
Print, oil pastel on canvas, 4 x 3 ft.
Gift of the artist



Jeff Nabors
The Pines of Brooker Creek,
2019
Oil on canvas, 30 x 30 in.
Gift of the artist



Taylor Ikin
Glimpses of Light, 2016
Watercolor on YUPO paper, 20 x 28 in.
Gift of the artist

What Does It Mean To Be Native?

By: Craig Huegel

It might seem like I've always been here, but I will never be a Florida native. I was born elsewhere and was introduced into this state later on. It's the same with plants and wildlife, except that we have chosen an arbitrary year for when their arrival date matters. That date is the arrival of non-indigenous people, the Spaniard invasion of Florida in 1492. No matter that Columbus did not reach our shores in that year or that native peoples most certainly introduced plants like the Okeechobee gourd (*Cucurbita okeechobeensis*) and spiny hackberry (*Celtis pallida*) well before the arrival of the Europeans. Humans have been moving plants around the world for food and medicine since the dawn of agriculture. It's part of what we do as a species. For the sake of determining nativity, however, we've chosen to consider the species introduced by the "First Peoples" as native and those introduced after the arrival of Europeans as non-native.

It also applies to animals. It makes no difference if those species arrived here without any help from humans. We have good documentation that cattle egrets were blown over into Florida by African-generated tropical storms. If this had happened prior to 1492, they'd be considered native, but this occurred after that date so they will forever be considered not to be. Nine-banded armadillos have been working their way east from Texas for centuries, but they are not native. Horses were a common part of Florida's fauna during the Age of Mammals, 65 million years ago, but they disappeared like so many others - elephants, camels, and giant hogs. They weren't here before the Spaniards reintroduced them once they finally found our shores. They are not native.



A non-native plant, Brazilian pepper

The concept of nativity is important for a great many reasons, but it is still a bit arbitrary. When we talk about the value of natives and the impacts of others, realize that ecosystems change constantly, and that change is the norm. The difference is that this change was always "natural" - plants and animals found their way here over time and they generally changed the ecosystem minimally - at least slowly. What is happening now, here in Florida and elsewhere around the world, is occurring rapidly without time for the natural systems to adjust the way they would have historically. This inability to



A "native" landscape, pine flatwoods

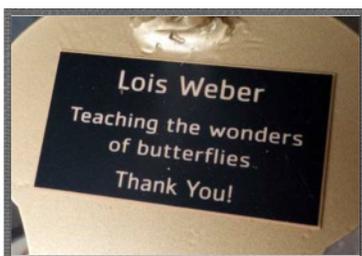
adjust "naturally" has caused massive impacts to the condition of various plant and animal communities that were here in 1492. Armadillos have for all intents and purposes, done very little to change things, but pythons, lionfish, Brazilian pepper and carrotwood have.

The question that faces us as land managers and as a species is what, if anything, we do about it. Like climate change, the changes that are occurring now are the result of our actions. Are we morally responsible to stem those changes or do we accept that change is inevitable and that the future face of Florida (and elsewhere) will be radically different - that many species of plants and animals we've always accepted as part of our greater community will disappear, the way wild horses did? Land managers are faced with the monumental task of trying to eradicate the non-natives from our wild places, like Brooker Creek Preserve. They do this as so many of us introduce non-native species to our landscapes and dump non-native wildlife into our backyards and waterways when we tire of them or they get too large for us to safely keep as pets. All of us have some responsibility in this. If nothing else, plant native species, do not plant ones that can leave your yard as seed, in the belly of birds or in the air, and never purchase animals that you might release from your care - on purpose or by accident, that will spread and impact the lives of species that are "supposed" to be here.

Butterfly Bench Gets a Makeover

If you have visited our Wildflower Garden or the Auditorium at the Education Center, you have surely noticed the really cool and unique butterfly bench just outside the auditorium porch. This popular photo spot for visitors was donated to the Education Center many years ago by long-time FOBCP member, Lois Weber. Lois has long been known as "The Butterfly Lady," sharing her love and knowledge of butterflies with school children and nature groups throughout the County. She has been a large part of our annual Fall Wildflower Festival, bringing her collection of live butterflies, larvae and chrysalises for a true hands-on experience.

You may have noticed that the bench went missing for a short time recently. But it is back and looking better than ever after a new paint job! It looks like new and is ready for the next photo op!



Friends Outreach

By Julie Wade

Once again Brooker Creek Friends joined the Tarpon Springs Recreation Department for the City's Ecofest and Back to School Splash. More than 20 vendors displayed their wares and presented materials at the free event on August 20. It was a beautiful day for the children to enjoy the water slides, splash park amenities, free hot dogs and drinks. We met with more than 200 folks who were introduced to the trails and education materials that Brooker Creek Preserve offers. They and their families also learned about the programs offered at the Preserve. Additionally, the City gave away free trees to attendees. A side benefit, for Brooker and all of you, the extra trees are now on "the porch" outside of our Friends Nature Store and you are welcome to take one home!



As the photos show, families explored our touch tables and tried to guess which bird the feathers were from. I also took a picture of the biodegradable baggies, tape and dental floss at one of the City displays. Perhaps you, too, can find such eco-friendly products to replace the less than Earth friendly items you currently use. These were new to me, as even the packaging was recyclable!

If you didn't make it this year, we hope you look for it next August. You can also stop by and say hello to our "Outreach" crew each month at Tarpon Springs First Friday. Our tent is right across from Mother Meres Park and we'd love to see you.



Alligator enjoying the sun,
photo by Barry Andress.

News from the Wildflower Garden, By Pam Brown

We are seeing lots of the sunny yellow *Coreopsis*, Partridge pea and Rosinweed blooming along with an occasional lovely purple Ironweed. The Blazing Star seems to be sending up their bloom stalks earlier this year possibly since we have had some rain. We found a new volunteer plant in the garden, most likely a *Crotalaria* species (see picture). A seed was probably brought by a critter of some kind. It has pretty pinkish flowers and seed pods that look like beans. It is most likely not a native and will need to be removed from the garden.

We missed our regular work day in June due to my two broken wrists, but the garden looked great when we came back in July. There were six volunteers dead heading, pulling things that didn't belong, and removing seedling oaks.

If you can help in the garden, our next workday is September 27. The workdays are on the last Saturday of each month from 8:00 -10:00 am (summer hours). Bring your gardening tools, gloves, hat, sunscreen, bug spray and wear closed-toed shoes. We will provide breakfast snacks, orange juice and coffee. Hope to see you there!



Non-native *Crotalaria* (rattlebox) in the Wildflower Garden.

Pam's Thoughts

Weeds! I normally do hand weeding in my landscape on a regular basis so that they do not get out of control. I have Sunshine Mimosa as a ground cover in my front yard and no grass. I have not used irrigation in my landscape in three years. I broke both of my wrists on June 12, my right one pretty badly. As of this writing (August 20), I still do not have full use of my right wrist and hand. It is amazing to me how rampant weeds can grow in two months time. I had some gardening help, but I still received a letter from my HOA about the weeds. I am finally getting the weeds pulled, but it is a slow process using just my left hand.

A professor that I had for a weed science course once said that "weeds are just wildflowers with a people problem," which is a nice sentiment, but I am fairly certain that these weeds that I have are not native wildflowers! I could use an herbicide on the weeds in some of the areas, but the chemicals would most likely kill the Sunshine Mimosa also in the lawn.

Hopefully, my hand will be better soon, and the weather will get cooler eventually and I can get this problem under control!

Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve Readers Club

By Jon Burr

Bye, y'all. Kathleen and Karl Nichter and I hosted our last club get together in August. The club has been going for about 10 years with the three of us

being facilitators for the last 8 years. At the moment no decisions have been made about continuing the club. Some issues - Covid, construction, etc. - have caused a break in the usual Friends' routine for the Fall. The three of us want to thank the Friends for giving us the opportunity to share our love of reading with like-minded folks. I want to thank K&K for being such wonderful, thoughtful, knowledgeable companions to share this experience with. (Note: all good sentences should end with a preposition!)



Nature Store News- FREE TREES!

After a typically slow summer, our dedicated store volunteers have gotten the store spruced up and well-stocked, ready for fall visitors and our 4th grade school program. The Plant Porch is currently home to many trees, donated by the City of Tarpon Springs. They are each looking for a good home. We have cypress, slash pine, red mulberry and sycamore - FREE for the taking!



Some of the free seedlings on the Nature Store Plant Porch. Above right, sycamore leaves. Below right, red mulberry, photo by Shirley Denton.

Volunteer News

Education Center Updates & More

By Julia Myers, Education Support Specialist, Brooker Creek Preserve



The Boardwalk Project: It's happening. Our boardwalk repair project has begun and is going well! They will be repairing the boardwalk in sections and the first section is the boardwalk area behind the classroom. We have maps at the front desk and on the trails showing exactly where the trail closures currently are. We can expect this reconstruction to take anywhere from 12 to 18 months. Scott will be our liaison to the boardwalk project.



Baby Milligan #2: We're getting excited for our soon-to-be newest addition! Lara's due date is September 15th and her last day in the office is scheduled to be September 9th. Lara will be on maternity leave through the end of this calendar year and will return to the office starting in 2023.

Book Time Shout Out: Over the past year, our weekly Thursday morning Book Time has become one of our most popular offerings! This summer it really took off and there were many Thursdays that we welcomed up to 30 children. This is all thanks to our fearless Thursday morning Book Time volunteers, Alex Wojcik and Julie Wade. Alex chooses a new book each week and creates a fun and interesting poster to go along with it. Alex and Julie work on an interactive craft to accompany the book, and the kids always LOVE it. The kids (and their caretakers) get to enjoy a peaceful morning in nature all while enjoying the book and craft. THANK YOU, Alex and Julie, for all your efforts to make this possible and engaging our littlest visitors.



2 Video Spotlights: The County recently put together an incredible video about discovering nature in Pinellas County, and it highlights Brooker Creek and Weedon Island Preserves! There's even an interview with our Lara in it, view it here: https://youtu.be/IRSprk2_aJs

The County also recognizes individual employees for going above and beyond, and recently they honored our Tony! Tony has been a ranger for over 30 years, and he is such an asset to the Preserve. View his well-deserving video here: <https://youtu.be/di16VDaavmo>

New Wedding Vendor: We have a new contracted vendor for all weddings and private events. They are called LogiPlan Global and their contact information will be updated at the front desk and on our website.

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 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

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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

info@FriendsOfBrookerCreekPreserve.org

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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
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 Newsletter 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 2022

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
Barbara Schultz: Publicity
Cathy Vogelsong: Newsletter Publisher
Julie Wade: Communications/Outreach
Mark Yeager: Night Hikes/Star Party

Further Leadership

Mona Gardner & Dixie Mills: Nature Store
Bookkeepers
Sandra Miraglia: Nature Store Committee
Cathy Ordiway: Website Master
Lynn Whitelaw: Art Gallery Curator

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