

Friends of Huntington Beach State Park Newsletter March 2018

Please Welcome

We did not have any new members during the month of February 2018.

President's Corner

A big, big thanks to the Huntington Beach State Park staff and all of you that volunteered and / or attended our annual 3 in 1 Day celebration this past Saturday, March 10, 2018! What a wonderful day we had! And the weather cooperated! Volunteers from our Friends' organization and Huntington Beach State Park staff got up early on Saturday morning and cleaned winter weather debris from Atalaya while others began to set up for the event. We were in "high gear" opening the gates shortly before noon.

This year's event focused on Anna and Archer's love for nature and their commitment to conservation. Park staff headed up nature programs and alligator tours. Yes, those alligators were out on Saturday. Our members helped with the guided tours of Atalaya and directed guests to the different program areas. What a team effort!

Brookgreen Garden annually partners with the Friends organization for this event and this year's partnering was bigger and better! Several Brookgreen Zookeepers provided an animal presentation and Brookgreen Vice President Robin Salmon wowed everyone with her presentation on Anna and Archer Huntington's commitment to conservation. We can't thank Robin and Brookgreen for all the support they provided this year and in previous years to help keep this special day tradition going strong.

We also couldn't make this day a success without the support of several corporate neighbors. The cupcakes and punch served at the event were all donated.

All proceeds from the event are added to our fund for the Nature Center displays. Every dollar counts! Thank you for your continued monetary support too!

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Go to our Friends website www.friendshbsp.com to see pictures of the celebration taken by our own Friends member, Sandra Barnes.

Your President,
Sally Kelly

Information from Mike Walker, Interpretive Ranger

There will be three training sessions in April for Friends members who would like to get involved with these projects:

- Mon. April 2nd @ 9 am: Alligator Program tour leaders (1 hr.)
- Tue. Apr. 3rd @ 9 am: Sea Turtle Beach Walkers (1-1/2 hr.)
- Wed. Apr. 4th @ 9 am: Atalaya Tour guides (1 hr.)

All three of the different training sessions will meet in the stables at Atalaya. Participants who are already involved and would like a refresher or a chance to meet fellow Friends are all welcome! Coffee and refreshments will be served, but please bring your own coffee cup. Please RSVP to Mike Walker @ mwalker@scprt.com

The Park is also looking for volunteers interested in participating in the Spring Tide 2018 cleanup. This is a Murrells Inlet event, but we would love to have more participation at the Park this year. Please RSVP to Mike Walker @ mwalker@scprt.com

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Spring Tide 2018!

Mark your calendars for
April 22nd - *EARTH DAY!*

Mark your calendars for
this year's Spring Tide,
community clean-up event
for Sunday, April 22nd! We
are excited to announce
that this year's Spring Tide
event will be held on Earth

Day! The event was a HUGE success last year and we can't
wait again for this year's event. Tell your friends and family
and mark your calendars for the annual community clean-up
day that is followed by the "Best Damn Chowder Cook-Off,"
live music and libations from Hot Fish Club!



Birds of Prey Day @ Huntington Beach State Park Saturday March 24, 2018

10am – 11am – Bird Walk

Take a guided walk along the causeway in search of wading
birds, waterfowl, eagles, and more. Meet at the Causeway
Parking Lot.

10:30am – 12:30 pm – Meet the Animals

Join the zookeepers from Brookgreen Gardens to learn about
some of their residents during this informal meet and greet. A
variety of animals will be on hand. Meet at Shelter 1.

1pm – 2p – Free-Flight Live Raptor Show

Join the staff and some of the residents of the Center for Birds of
Prey for an awe-inspiring free-flight aerial display. Watch live
raptors soar above the flying field as you learn about their
unique hunting and flying techniques. To ensure the safety of
the animals used in this program, please: NO PETS! You may
wish to bring a folding chair or blanket to sit on.

2pm – 3p – OWL Pellet CSI

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Explore the contents of an owl pellet during this guided, hands on activity. Learn, first hand, about the diet of owls.

3pm – 4pm – Children’s Nature Craft
Craft your own pinecone owl to take home.

Shell Crafts – April 21, 2018

Join the Park staff and members of the Grand Strand Shell Club at Shelter # 2 on Saturday, April 21, 2018 starting at 1:00 p.m. Enjoy a variety of beautiful and educational displays created by members of our local shell club and a guided beach walk. After the beach walk members of the local shell club will show you how to make a unique souvenir of your visit using your new found seashell treasures. Supplies will be provided on a first-come, first served basis.

“Central to Their Lives”

Brookgreen Garden’s Vice President Robin Salmon will be the guest speaker on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at Carefree Catering as a part of The Moveable Feast of Pawleys Island. The cost is \$30 pp and the event starts at 11:00 a.m. Contact The Moveable Feast at classatpawleys.com or via telephone at 843-235-9600. The cost includes lunch. More details can be found on their website.

The Friends of Huntington Beach State Park Website

Please be sure to bookmark on your computer or tablet our website www.friendshbsp.com