

# **Friends of Huntington Beach Newsletter August 2019**

## **New Members**

Since our last newsletter we have had added 10 new members to our Friends organization! Thanks for joining us Rebecca Jordan, Jason Karr, Brenda Leslie, Jeanette Dunnell, Pete & Sue Murray, Roger & Judi Naldi, and Jim & Greta Morris.

## **President's Corner**

In our August 2016 Newsletter former Friends of Huntington Beach State Park President Sally Kelly reported to all the loss of the Nature Center in a fire. As you may recall from the news reports, in the early hours of July 16, 2016 a fire broke out at the Nature Center and all the precious animals, all the wonderful nature exhibits and displays along with the building were destroyed. Quickly, after the flames were extinguished the Friends board members got to work with Park Manager Brenda Magers and her staff to establish a special account for donations to be accepted for the purchase of displays and exhibits in a new Nature Center. As well as, use existing Friends' funds to purchase items that were needed immediately so that some of the nature programs could continue.

Three years later in early July 2019, Brenda Magers was happy to announce to the public (and in an email to all of the Friends of Huntington Beach State Park) that construction on the new Nature Center would begin. Visitors to the Park are now starting to see the beginnings of construction on the building, however Brenda and her team have been working tirelessly with the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism on all facets of the new Nature Center since 2016. Thanks to all the efforts of the State of South Carolina, Brenda and her team and you the Friends of Huntington Beach State Park a new Nature Center is scheduled to open in the spring of 2020.

To date, local organizations and the Friends of Huntington Beach State Park have raised via donations and fundraisers approximately \$145,000 of the \$187,000 needed to complete the displays and exhibits at the Nature Center. Many thanks and kudos to all of you for your efforts! Let's keep going!

Your President,  
*Sandra Barnes*

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**The Friends of Huntington Beach State Park Election  
of Board Members Held in July 2019**

At the all members picnic held on June 12, 2019, our annual board member election results were finalized. Thanks to all of you who attended and / or sent in your completed ballot.

Board Members Elected for a two-year term are:

Charlie West – Treasurer  
Laurie Johnston – Secretary  
Marty Cook – Board Member (Membership)  
Ron Hartman – Board Member  
Emma Nodine – Board Member  
Peg Pysar – Board Member

Existing Board Members are:

Sandra Barnes – President  
Karen Korszeniewski – Vice President  
Carol Dankosky – Board Member  
Jeri Reuss – Board Member

Thanks to all the board members for their service!

**Atalaya Arts & Crafts Festival Clean-up Day (Tuesday)  
September 10, 2019**

A message from Assistant Park Manager Brandon Bowers:

As many of you are aware prepping for the 44<sup>th</sup> annual Atalaya Arts & Crafts Festival being held on September 27-29, 2019 is well under way.

In prepping for this event we would like to hold our annual Atalaya clean-up day on Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> @ 9am.

As in the past, this a general cleaning of Atalaya that consists of things such as knocking down spider webs, sweeping and vacuuming rooms, weeding the courtyards, etc.

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The Park will provide all needed tools and other items such as gloves, dust masks and drinking water.

For planning purposes, if you can help please send an email confirmation and number attending to [bbowers@scprt.com](mailto:bbowers@scprt.com) or call 843-237-4440 and leave a message for Brandon.

Thanks for all you do to support Huntington Beach State Park!

Brandon Bowers

## **Calling All Friends for the Arts & Crafts Festival**

The 44<sup>th</sup> annual Arts & Crafts Festival will be held on September 27, 28 and 29, 2019. The Friends group will once again host a booth all 3 days of the event. If you can volunteer in our booth or donate cookies / baked goods please contact Karen Korzeniewski at 843-650-6666 or [korsz@sccoast.net](mailto:korsz@sccoast.net)

The Friends organization will also sell Arts & Crafts logo t-shirts at the Festival. This year's t-shirt is deep purple with aqua and gold lettering. There is also a new Atalaya logo on the t-shirt this year. As we sold all of the available t-shirts at last year's event we have increased our order to 160 but have kept the cost of the shirt to \$15. Get to the Festival early and purchase your t-shirt early!

## **Huntington Beach State Park Arts & Craft Festival Volunteers Needed**

The Park is also looking for volunteers for the Arts & Crafts Festival on September 27, 28 and 29, 2019. If you haven't already contacted Ranger Carley Wenderlich to tell her that you would like to volunteer as a part of the Park volunteer team for the event please contact Carley at [cwenderlich@scprt.com](mailto:cwenderlich@scprt.com)

## **Turtle Nests**

As reported to you in our May 2019 newsletter, the turtle-nesting

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season started early this year. Huntington Beach State Park has over 40 nests to date. Many of the nests are now hatching so continue to be careful as you walk along the beach and if you see anything unusual at the nests please report the nest location and what you saw to a Park Ranger.

### **Using Amazon Smile for Donations to the Friends of Huntington Beach State Park**

Our treasurer Charlie West has set up a charity donation account in Amazon Smile. Amazon allows purchasers to support causes they care about. With qualifying purchases via [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the charitable organization you designate. Our organization is listed as Friends of Huntington Beach State Park. Amazon Smile is the same as Amazon however, you must sign into [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) in order for charitable donations to be made on qualifying purchases. If you have already designated a charitable organization on Amazon Smile you can change it. Please choose us! If you have any questions please contact Charlie West at [westdale@sccoast.net](mailto:westdale@sccoast.net)

### **The Friends of Huntington Beach State Park Website**

Please be sure to bookmark on your computer or tablet our website [www.friendshbsp.com](http://www.friendshbsp.com)

If you would like to make a monetary online donation to the Nature Center Building Fund click on the Donation Tab on the far right at the top of any of our website pages or you can click on the underlined Heading (that will take you to the page for the Friends PayPal account).

If you wish to mail in a donation, please make the check out to the Nature Center Rebuilding Fund and mail to the following address:

Friends of HBSP  
PO Box 3019  
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576