



Friends of St. Sebastian River

P.O. Box 284 ❖ Roseland, Florida 32957-0284 November 2015

website: www.fssr.org email: info@fssr.org ph: 772-202-0501

The mission of the Friends of St. Sebastian River is to maintain and improve the health and beauty of the St. Sebastian River and its watershed.

INDIAN RIVER LAND TRUST HELPING TO IMPROVE THE LAGOON

Since 2010, the Indian River Land Trust has acquired nearly 1,000 acres of important conservation land along the Indian River Lagoon. These properties contain critical wetland and upland habitats for a diversity of fish and wildlife, and are located on the Atlantic Flyway, a major corridor for millions of migrating birds. The Land Trust continues to acquire key parcels of land on, and buffering these coastal wetland areas.

Ken Grudens, Executive Director of the IRLT will be the guest speaker at the Friends' meeting this month. He will provide an update of lands acquired and also describe how they are partnering with local institutions, non-profit organizations, and government agencies, to study and restore a variety of habitats along the Lagoon in order to improve the life cycles of important fish and bird species. Ken will also talk about a new trail project the Land Trust is coordinating on the Lagoon shoreline.

The meeting will be **Tuesday, November 24**, 7:30 pm at the North Indian River County Library, 1001 Sebastian Blvd., and all are welcome to attend. For more information visit our website at the address above, or call 772-202-0501.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER

October is our membership renewal month. All our memberships run from October through September each year, and are pro-rated, depending on the time of year you joined. The date following your last name on the mailing label of our newsletter is the month/year in which our records reflect that your membership either did or will expire.

For more information on membership, please see the membership application on the back of this newsletter, or visit our website. You may also renew your membership online using a credit or debit card, via our website.

You are receiving this newsletter as a benefit of membership, but did you know that it is also available in digital format? Current members may opt to only receive the electronic/e-mail version of our newsletter, which adds to your support, and saves us time, money, and paper, although we use only 100% post-consumer recycled paper. Our newsletters are also available on the "Library/Newsletters" page of our website.

Additional benefits of our online newsletter are that you receive it earlier than the mailed

copy, web addresses are “active” links and can be clicked on, and you can zoom in to make for easier reading. Be sure and check it out and let us know if you would like to receive the e-mail/electronic only version of our newsletter. And thanks for your continued support!

YARD SALE

We are holding a yard sale once again this year, to help raise funds for our annual George Schum Memorial Award, presented to a graduating Sebastian River High School senior each year. We would greatly appreciate anything you may have to donate to the sale. The event will be held Friday, February 5th, and we will be accepting items the week prior to the sale. If you have items you need to get rid of prior to that time, or something large that needs to be picked up, let us know and we will work on arranging for pickup and storage.

If you would like to help with the sale, we would welcome any assistance. And be sure and stop by and buy! The event will be held at About Storage, 25 Airport Dr. West, across from Dale Wimbrow Park on Roseland Road.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS

We hold the election for our Board of Directors at our annual meeting in January each year. The slate of nominees will be announced in our January newsletter. There are openings available on our Board and we welcome new ideas and help. If you are interested in being a Board member, the only requirements are to maintain a current membership, and having the time and interested to participate – let us know!

There are opportunities to help in other ways too. If you are interested in more information, see the “Contact Info/Volunteer” page of our website, or contact us – see the contact information on the front page of each newsletter.

NEW FRIENDS’ WEBSITE HOME

Our website has a new home! Just the location of the hosting of our website has changed. That may not be good news to some – I know, the design of our website is the same as it always has been. While ours may not be the flashiest website, we hope that it provides useful information to our users. Do you have graphic design skills and ideas of what you think our website should include? Let us know. We will always entertain new ideas and any volunteer assistance.

In the meantime, the only change you may notice is, if you have previously saved our website as a “Favorite” or “Bookmark,” that old link will no longer work – you will get an error message saying that our page cannot be found. To update the link, just visit our website once again by typing our web address, www.fssr.org, into your browser, and save it as a new Favorite or Bookmark. That should overwrite and update any previous link you had saved. If you have any problems, let us know – see the contact information on the front of our newsletter.

While you are visiting our website, check out the new resources we’ve added to our St. Sebastian River Research Project, on the “Library/Newsletters” page. We have added a few

new items over the summer. One of the most recent additions to the list of resources is a “tour” of the St. Sebastian River area, developed by the mapping department of the Indian River County government. Look for the link entitled “St. Sebastian River Access & Amenities.” If you are interested in helping with this research project just let us know!

WATER BLUES GREEN SOLUTIONS

Discover ways of protecting and restoring our rivers and sources of drinking water. Water Blues Green Solutions tells stories from across the country of communities that are adopting new ways of thinking about how to protect, restore, and preserve our rivers and sources of drinking water. Check it out at <http://waterblues.org/explore/stories>.

MARINE RESOURCES COUNCIL LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Marine Resources Council always has a need for volunteers. They have various ongoing projects and programs and can always use your help, for both indoors/operational activities, as well as in-the-field, get-your-hands-dirty projects. One of their current needs is for Indian River Lagoon water quality monitors. If you are interested you can visit them at the Lagoon House, 3275 Dixie Hwy NE (US 1) in Palm Bay, or call them at 321-725-7775.

THE CLIMATE-FRIENDLY GARDENER

Millions of Americans with a lawn or garden know that even small shifts in weather can affect their outdoor plans. Unchecked global warming, however, could force gardeners to deal with more droughts and floods, and a profusion of pests and weeds. *The Climate-Friendly Gardener: A Guide to Combating Global Warming from the Ground Up*, shows you how to reduce the impact of climate change in your own backyard.

Climate-friendly gardening practices can also help protect our watershed. Learn more, and learn how to compost, by downloading the guide free from the Union of Concerned Scientists at www.ucsusa.org/food_and_agriculture/what_you_can_do/the-climate-friendly-gardener.html

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, November 18, 7 PM
Studying the IRL: How Little Animals Can Help the Health of the Lagoon
Harbor Branch
Oceanographic Institute
5600 US 1 North, Ft. Pierce
info: <http://www.fau.edu/hboi> or
772-242-2559



Thursday, November 19, 7 PM
Native Plants in Container Gardens, Chris Waltz
FL Native Plant Society,
Eugenia Chapter
195 Oslo Rd at the Audubon House



Tuesday, November 24, 7:30 PM
Ken Grudens, Indian River Land Trust
FSSR
North IRC Library
1001 Sebastian Blvd.
info: www.fssr.org or
772-202-0501



Wednesday, December 9, 7 PM
The Celestial Sea – Jon Bell, IRSC
Harbor Branch
Oceanographic Institute
5600 US 1 North, Ft. Pierce
info: <http://www.fau.edu/hboi> or
772-242-2559

Please visit the “Meeting Info/Events” page of our website for more events!

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Roseland, Florida 32957-0284



NOTE: The date on your mailing label is the month/year when your dues are next due. Thank you.

APPLICATION FORM

The Friends of St. Sebastian River depends on member support for programs of conservation and education.

Youth (under 18) free — Individual \$10/year

Family \$15/year — Corporate \$50/year

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Special interests, concerns or expertise: _____

Please mail your completed application and dues to:
P.O. Box 284, Roseland, Florida 32957-0284

This newsletter is available on our website and delivery by email for current members. We encourage email-only delivery to save funds and paper! Email us at the address on the front to request email delivery.

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Officers for 2015

President Tim Glover
Vice President Buzz Herrmann
Secretary Gayle Heath
Treasurer Bill Brennan

Directors for 2015

Tom Bauer Jane Schnee
Lynn Stieglitz Bruce Zingman

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

CORPORATE SPONSORS

About Kayaks
Roseland Community Association
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