



A National Park Service, Canaveral National Seashore Quarterly Publication

*Editors: Michell Woulard and Joyce Dykes*

## *It's Time to Run with the Rangers Again!*



***This year's Run With the Rangers will be on February 4. Contact Dick Tucker (423-7758) or Laura Henning (386-576-7526) for more information.***

***Volunteers are needed!***

On Saturday, February 4, 2012, the Friends of Canaveral National Seashore and Coronado Elementary School PTA, will partner again to present the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual **Run with the Rangers 5K Run/Walk and Jr. Rangers Fun Run**. This phenomenal event will benefit both the school and the Seashore. All proceeds will assist in strengthening the physical education program at Coronado Elementary, as well as the Environmental Education Program at the Seashore.

Our VIP volunteers can assist in multiple ways:

- 1) We need corporate sponsors for the t-shirts (\$1,500) and the awards (\$500). We also need sponsors for \$100 whose logo will go on the registration forms. Please let us know of any potential sponsors that we can contact.
- 2) Encourage folks to register for the event. Application forms will be available on the Friends of Canaveral Website: [www.friendsofcanaveral.org](http://www.friendsofcanaveral.org).
- 3) On the morning of the run, we will need at least 10 volunteers to assist with registration, course set up and monitoring, course timing, transportation of participants from parking lot #1, and other course details. Volunteers should report by 7 a.m. to the Eldora parking area. All volunteers will receive a run t-shirt with a specially designed turtle logo.

To volunteer or to provide contact information about potential sponsors, please contact Dick Tucker at 423-7758 or Laura Henning at 386-576-7526.



## *From the Desk of Myrna Palfrey*

It is hardly believable that this year is so quickly coming to an end! As we reminisce on 2011, our minds may tend to focus on some of those unaccomplished tasks or projects, and we can be left with a sense of sadness.

I want to challenge you to allow your minds to focus rather on all the positive actions we have all taken that have enriched the lives of our community and our visitors.

We should all be extra proud of the efforts made towards accomplishing the mission, in spite of the operational and budgetary challenges faced this year. Staff, volunteer and friends have all worked together and we can say that Canaveral has succeeded!

Thank you all for a great year -- for allowing us once again to put forward our best as you support the daily operation with a smile for our visitors and for the staff. I'll never stop saying we couldn't do it without our volunteers.



## *Annual Holiday Open House At the Eldora State House*

As a holiday gift, the Friends of Canaveral, National Park Service and volunteers are giving an open house. You are invited for an afternoon of holiday spirit, refreshments and music on Sunday, December 18, from 1 to 4 PM. The State House was beautifully decorated (thanks to Lindley's Nursery). Music will be provided by Ray Guiser, and there will be lots of fun and good things to eat.

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## *Volunteer Picnic*

Mark your calendars for the annual picnic to thank our volunteers. It will be held February 18, 2012. CANA will provide great grilled chicken and cold drinks. Volunteers may bring a covered dish to share. The festivities will begin at 11 a.m. Don't miss the fun!



## *From the desk of Laura Henning*

Here we are in the homestretch of another year, 2011 has been so busy and gone by so fast it is hard to believe it is almost over! We just finished our 2<sup>nd</sup> Canaveral Seashore Paint-Out and our thanks go out to all of the Friends of Canaveral, the Volunteers and park staff for another super successful event. The painter's workshops were really well received and the park saw a big increase in visitors that week. And we have a beautiful painting donated by the Friends to hang in our new Visitor Center. But as usual we don't have time to sit back and reflect, we are always moving forward and on to the next season or event here in the seashore. As we move into December and January we welcome our "snowbird" volunteers back home and look forward to a great winter season. We hope to tackle some great projects with the winter volunteers this year, like refurbishing the bulletin boards, cleaning up the island campsites and adding the new kayak/canoe launch at parking area 6. And as always we will be doing our walks, talks and lagoon paddles, all presented by you and the interpretive staff.

As we move into the holiday season and we are reminded of the economic situation many families are in and the military that are away from their families, it makes me thankful for all of you. We are a special family here in the seashore that I am so proud to be a part of, each of you gives of yourself each time you come to work and I thank you. Have a great holiday season with your friends and family and I'll see you at the seashore!



## *My CANA Place*

*by Del Appleby*

In this issue of *As The Tide Flows*, we are launching a new feature. We want to know the areas in the park that are special to you, the VIP. In each issue we hope to have a VIP tell us about a place in CANA that has significance for him or her. To kick it off, I thought I would tell you about a place that is special to me: the Visitor Center.

Every Sunday morning I have an opportunity to meet new people and talk about CANA. Our temporary VC - "the box", as we fondly call it - offers meager accommodations. Nonetheless it is a very

exciting place to be. You never know what you might see or who you might meet. I have talked with people from China, Vietnam, India, Italy, France, Germany, Brazil, Canada, and at least half of the fifty states. Visitors who stop at the VC want to ask questions and tell their own stories about nature, history, science, their lives – you name it. They are nearly all delighted to be visiting the park, and excited and inspired by what they find here. They do not seem to notice the limited facilities, but instead enthusiastically focus on the wonders they are about to discover. In

my impatience to move to the new VC, I have to remind myself that even an old trailer can be a great place to be if it is in Canaveral National Seashore.

Where is your special place? Write your own article in 300 words or less, or contact Michell and we will write it up for you. Many of us volunteer regularly, but our paths rarely cross. By sharing our stories in this newsletter, we can get to know one another better, and maybe learn something new about this place we all hold so dear.





## *Make Your Holiday Charitable Contributions Count*

*By Edwin Correa*

On behalf of the Law Enforcement Rangers we want to wish you Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year. We want also to provide you some advice to avoid charity scams this holiday season.

Here are five ways to avoid charity scams this holiday season:

- ✚ Research the charity -- be sure that it is a charity that you can trust or a charity that is familiar to you. Consider asking friends and family for suggestions, but still do your homework by calling or checking out the website. Look for past accomplishments and years in business. The larger the donation, the longer you should think about it before transferring funds to a charity.
- ✚ Don't give in to pressure to give on the spot -- whether it is by phone, with a credit card, or a runner coming to get the donation. The charity that needs your gift today will welcome it tomorrow. Ask for a pledge card instead, this will give you time to do your research.
- ✚ Never give out credit card information over the phone -- if a solicitor claims that the charity will support a local organization that you are familiar with, this is not a green light to give all of your information. Do not give your credit card or any other banking information over the phone. Call the charity in question directly to verify the claim. Phony charities will use familiar names of charities that are located in the area code that donors are calling from so that it appears that contributions are going to support local causes. People like to help their neighbors, especially during the holidays, and scam artists won't hesitate to exploit a donor's kindness.
- ✚ Make your monetary contributions by check -- when giving a monetary donation, use a check instead of cash. This is the most secure method of tracking your donations. Be sure to make your checks payable to the charity and not to an individual.
- ✚ Check the IRS and Better Business Bureau -- most states require charities to register and file annual reports showing how they use donations. Ask your state or local consumer protection agency how to get this information. The Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance also offers information about national charities. Visit this website for more information:  
[www.give.org](http://www.give.org)

Have a Safe and Wonderful Holiday.

## *December Calendar of Events*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>NSB Holiday Parade</b>
<b>4</b> <b>Coastal Cleanup*</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <b>Canoe Mosquito Lagoon</b>	<b>9</b> <b>Lagoon to Ocean Hike</b>	<b>10</b> <b>Edgewater/Oak Hill Christmas Parade and Seminole Rest Open House*</b>
<b>11</b> <b>Coastal Cleanup*</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>Eldora Walk</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Make a "Beachy" Holiday Ornament</b>
<b>18</b> <b>Eldora Open House*</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <b>Canoe Mosquito Lagoon</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

# *Saving Turtle Mound*

*By John Stiner*

Canaveral National Seashore (CANA) has almost 200 known archeological sites, some dating back over 2,000 years. Many are just an obscure scatter of shells while others, like Turtle Mound, Castle Windy and Seminole Rest are quite noticeable. Turtle Mound, rising almost 40 feet, offers one of the premier views of the park from its summit. One of the highest archeological sites on the Eastern Seaboard, it was on some of the earliest Spanish maps of Florida and served as an important navigation point.

Unfortunately, Turtle Mound and several of CANA's other archeological sites, located along the edge of Mosquito Lagoon, are being threatened by wakes generated by storms and speeding boats. The park's archeological heritage is literally being washed away. Predicted sea level rise will only increase the problem. To combat this, CANA turned to several partners, including University of Central Florida, NPS Southeast Archeological Center, Brevard Zoo, Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program and Coastal Conservation Association.

In past years, hard armoring was generally used to combat such erosion. In fact, a wall was constructed along the northwest face of Turtle Mound in the 1960's, a decade prior to CANA's creation. However, subsequent experience has shown that such structures eventually fail as the water eats around the edges. Just as important, edge habitat utilized by many species is destroyed.

Instead of hard walls, a new approach to shoreline stabilization at Turtle Mound is being employed. Called "living shoreline" restoration, it involves planting mangroves and salt marsh cordgrass along the edge, something that has been done before, but



this time oyster restoration mats are being deployed just "seaward" of the plants to protect them from wakes. And unlike a sterile wall, the plants and reef will create valuable habitat for aquatic species.

The first step to implement the project was to create a pathway to the fishing point at Turtle Mound so that anglers would not have to walk over the restoration site. On April 3, 2011, a group of 20 volunteers cleared brush, set up stanchions and installed rope guides.

Then on the weekend of April 30, approximately 200 volunteers deployed 2000 oyster mats and planted over 400 mangroves and 400 saltmarsh cordgrass plants along the eroding face of Turtle Mound. An outline of the project was submitted by CANA volunteer Greg Harrison to Field and Stream Magazine's "Hero for a Day" program. It was chosen from a nationwide list of applicants and the magazine sent a reporter and film crew to chronicle the event. They even passed out prizes to participants. UCF TV and several local newspapers were also present.

In conjunction with the above, the Southeast Archeological Center has been collecting archeological data on Turtle Mound in case portions of it are lost to major storm events or sea level rise. In July, an excavation unit was put in that revealed the sand base below the mound, a level that has not been exposed for over 1,000 years. Finally, once the shell is data, we will know the actual age of Turtle Mound!

So far the site is looking great. Thanks to hardworking scientists and volunteers, it will continue to be an important landmark for many more years.

## *2nd Annual Plein Air Paint Out*

The second annual Canaveral Seashore Plein Air Paint Out was held October 24<sup>th</sup> through 29<sup>th</sup>. The Friends of Canaveral welcomed over 2,000 visitors. This fund raiser brought in about \$10,000 for the Canaveral National Seashore. A painting by Linda Blondheim, "View from Turtle Mound," was purchased by the Friends of Canaveral and presented to Myrna Palfrey, Superintendent of Canaveral National Seashore, at the Eldora Gala on Saturday, October 29. The painting, a 24"x 20" acrylic, will become a part of the National Park Service's permanent collection in the new Visitor Information Center. The Information Center is now under construction in the park.

Blondheim, who lives in Gainesville, is a Florida artist whose mission is "to record this beautiful land while it is still with us, unmarred by development. I believe that to paint a subject well, an artist must have a deep respect for the land and the people who own and nurture it."

Ms. Blondheim, was one of 25 artists who "Painted the Park, Painted the Town" during the week-long event, sponsored by the Friends of Canaveral to raise funds to enhance and support the children's Environmental Education Pavilion and associated programs conducted by the Park Service and their Volunteers. Each year, approximately 2000 children from schools throughout Central Florida and neighboring states are served by these programs.

The Friends of Canaveral is a non-profit volunteer group that supports the Park Service in its mission to preserve, protect and interpret the 57,000 acres of pristine shoreline, dunes and wilderness that are Canaveral National Seashore. More information on the Friends and its goals can be found on the website:

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*25 artists "Painted the Park, Painted the Town" during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Canaveral Seashore Plein Air Paint Out, October 24<sup>th</sup> through 29<sup>th</sup>. The event was sponsored by the Friends of Canaveral to raise funds to enhance and support the children's Environmental Education Pavilion and associated programs conducted by the Park Service and their Volunteers.*

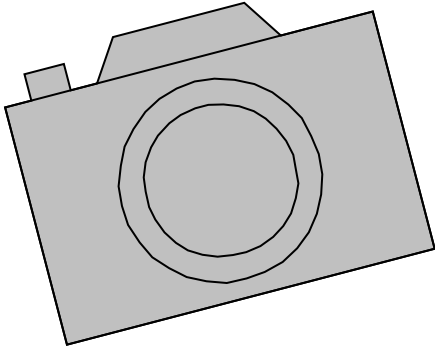


## *VIP in the Spotlight*

**CINDY LEWIS:** Our VIP in the Spotlight is known for her energy and passionate love of nature. Looking back on her life, Cindy Lewis cannot remember a time when she did not love the outdoors and the wild creatures she found there. Growing up on the Gulf around Tampa Bay, she and her family frequently took day trips to enjoy nearby State Parks. By the time she was 6 or 7 years old, Cindy fished regularly with her Dad, canoed, swam, hiked, and rode horses. When she was 12 she got her very own horse, a handsome dapple gray by the name of Rock Candy. As she would do many times in her life, Cindy put her laser like focus on something she felt passionate about, and set out to be the best rider she could be. Together Cindy and Rock Candy competed in hunter/jumper events throughout her teen years. Adulthood meant turning her attention to other pursuits, but her love of nature never waned. Her brother, Lawrence, shared her love. He was the first one to move to this area, and he immediately began pressuring his sister to visit

him soon so he could show her an amazing place he had found, Canaveral National Seashore. Cindy's first visit to CANA was for a bike ride with her husband. Jim liked to set a fast pace on those rides. Whizzing along with him, Cindy wondered what it was that people saw in the endless miles of palmetto scrub. When health concerns kept Jim from his rides, Cindy rode alone. Without a need to keep up with Jim, she found herself moving at a slower and slower pace, taking time to observe and explore. She would take her bike to the top of Turtle Mound and spend a long time looking out over the ocean and estuary. She loved the view of all that water. She made up her mind that she wanted to spend as much time as she could exploring the beach and paddling the lagoon. When she became a VIP, she offered to help anywhere she was needed - and she has been true to her word. Cindy has volunteered for every job and every program the park offers. Her special favorite is sea turtle preservation during the nesting season. Working at night screening and marking nests is a joy.

Since she has seen so much of the park, we asked where her favorite spot is. "Anywhere there are manatee," she said without hesitation. Her passion for our great aquatic grazers is something she loves to share with visitors during CANA canoe tours. That is another of Cindy's passions: showing CANA visitors all that she has discovered here. "I want to share with everyone the wonderful resources here. It's not just palmetto scrub." She is active too in recruiting and training new VIPs for the park's Environmental Education program. She tells them, "You don't know how many lives you may touch, and change forever, during the brief time we have with the school children who participate." Cindy's enthusiasm is contagious. She loves to share it and only wishes there were more hours in the day (and night) to pursue her passion. Thanks, Cindy, for all you do.



Have a great photo you'd like to share? Send it to [joyce.dykes@gmail.com](mailto:joyce.dykes@gmail.com).

These photos were taken by participants in Neil Folsom's photography walks. Check out the monthly activity schedules to see when the next one is scheduled.



*This young man's brother laid down on the sand to get this shot*

*This lovely morning glory attracted another young photographer*



*His tracks reveal that a ghost crab makes his home here*





## *Editors' Corner*

*By Michell Woulard*

*“What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal.” ~Albert Pike*

A big “thank you” to all the VIPs for everything you have accomplished this year. Volunteers gave 10,000 hours in 2011 – that’s 417 days! We’ve had good coverage of the Visitor Center and Eldora. The activities have been plentiful and well appreciated by our visitors. Whenever we have asked for help, there has been a volunteer there to provide it. From monitoring sea turtles, to leading canoe

trips, to helping clean up the beach, our VIPs have been there for us.

I know I speak for all the staff when I say “We couldn’t have done it without you. Thank you.”

I hope everyone enjoys a great holiday. We’re looking forward to a wonderful new year.

