



www.dingdarlingsociety.org

SPRING 2016

Society Pages

News from Friends of the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge

ABOUT THE SOCIETY

"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society, the nonprofit Friends of the Refuge organization, supports environmental education, services, and conservation at the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge Complex. Education and conservation efforts may extend beyond the complex's borders. We partner in these efforts where possible with like-minded conservation organizations.



Tarpon Tournery Filled

Registration has closed in the fifth annual "Ding" Darling & Doc Ford's Tarpon Tournament on May 7, 2016. Limited to 50 boats, the tournery pays out every penny of entry fees (\$500 per boat of up to four) as tournament awards. The Captain's Dinner takes place the evening prior, May 6, at Doc Ford's Rum Bar & Grille on Fort Myers Beach. Visit dingdarling-tarponentourney.org for information.

Thanks to our tournament sponsors: **Title Sponsor:** Doc Ford's; **Presenting Sponsor:** Diversified Yacht Services; **Platinum Sponsors:** Congress Jewelers,
continued on page 2



Our latest campaign strives to acquire the outlined tract of land along Wulfert Road.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Adding to Refuge Land Holdings

At the Go Wild for "Ding" fundraiser on February 23, Board President Doris Hardy announced a campaign to acquire 8.51 acres on Sanibel Island's Wulfert Road, near the exit of Wildlife Drive, as part of a crucial wildlife corridor for the Refuge.

DDWS must raise \$2 million in private funds to purchase the parcel, which lies between SCCF land and the Refuge. Donors have already committed \$500,000 of needed funds, so the goal is to raise the remaining **\$1.5 million by February 2017.**

If not preserved by the Refuge, the land could be developed with as many as five dwellings and one boat

dock into Pine Island Sound, as already approved by the City of Sanibel. Construction of new homes and the increase in boat traffic would have significant impact on the habitat of 80 different land and marine species that live or feed on or near this property.

Species that would be seriously threatened by development of the uplands, mangrove, and estuarine habitat include the Gopher Tortoise, American Oystercatcher, Black Skimmer, Little Blue Heron, Reddish Egret, Mangrove Cuckoo, Florida Manatee, Smalltooth Sawfish, and Green and Loggerhead Sea Turtle.

continued on page 2



Florida Manatees and Gopher Tortoises are among the crucial creatures the Wulfert acquisition will benefit.

PHOTOS BY TERRY BALDWIN

LAND HOLDINGS

continued from page 1

In 2013 the Society successfully completed a \$1.4 million land acquisition campaign for the historical Woodring Homestead, which protected the water entrance to the Refuge on Tarpon Bay. In late 2015, we accepted a land donation of 9.1 acres near Clam Bayou. Refuge administration has earmarked the Wulfert Road parcel as a top habitat priority.

“The Board feels it’s important to help the Refuge preserve as much of the dwindling island habitat as it can, since federal budget cuts preclude the Refuge from government acquisitions in this area,” said Doris Hardy. “We will be extremely grateful to donors who will help us meet these goals.”

“Based on recent sales of waterfront property in the neighborhood, we have determined that \$2 million is a very fair market price for the Wulfert Road parcel,” said DDWS board member and island real estate agent Sarah Ashton.

“With a time-sensitive fundraising deadline of February 2017 to purchase the Wulfert Road property, we will need major gift commitments to this campaign in order to be successful,” said Immediate Past President John McCabe. “We look to our supportive community to help us save another environmentally crucial piece of Sanibel Island — one of the last remaining undeveloped parcels.”

For more information, contact DDWS Executive Director Birgie Miller at 239-292-0566 or director@dingdarlingsociety.org.

TARPON TOURNAMENT

continued from page 1



Florida Weekly, Hogy Lures, Lee County Sports Development, Raiser’s Edge, Sanibel Gear, Sun-coast Beverage; **Gold Sponsors:** Anisa Stewart Jewelry, The Bait Box, Bella Signs & Designs, Fort Myers Marina, The Gresham Family, Island Inn, Island Sun, Jensen’s Marina, John Grey Painting, Media Source, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank, Sanibel Island Fishing Club, Semmer Electric/Bonita Bill’s Waterfront Cafe, Janet Strickland Law Office, VIP Realtors, Whitney’s Bait & Tackle; **Silver Sponsors:** Bailey’s General Store, Fishin Diva, Shoreline Lumber.

To become a sponsor, please contact Birgie Miller at 239-292-0566 or director@dingdarlingsociety.org.

FOLLOW AND LIKE US

DDWS is currently active on three social media platforms. Please “LIKE” us on **Facebook** (join our 8,800+ fans!) by searching “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society. (You can also “LIKE” the Refuge by searching for its “Official” page.)

Instagram users can find us at [@dingdarlingwildlifesociety](https://www.instagram.com/dingdarlingwildlifesociety). On **Twitter**, our handle is [@DingDarlingWS](https://twitter.com/DingDarlingWS).



Effects of the discharge in Tarpon Bay

Water Quality Efforts

The record January rainfall in South Florida caused the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to again discharge massive amounts of water from Lake Okeechobee into the Caloosahatchee River and estuary. As a result, the water in San Carlos Bay, along the Sanibel shoreline, and in the Refuge’s Tarpon Bay has become nutrient-laden and turned a deep brown.

“Ding” Darling Wildlife Society is committed to assisting in efforts to remedy local water quality issues by helping to fund water testing equipment, sharing our findings, and urging everyone to become vocal about the issue. To learn how to make your voice heard where it matters, please visit dingdarlingsociety.org/water-voice.

Thanks to Our Sponsors Who Made Go Wild a Success

CHAMPION LEVEL Mark & Gretchen Banks, John & Kathy McCabe, Jim & Patty Sprankle; **GUARDIAN LEVEL** Matzaluna Italian Kitchen, South Seas Island Resort; **PROTECTOR LEVEL** Sarah Ashton & Jim Metzler, Peter & Paula Bentinck-Smith, Jay & Cindy



Brown, Amanda Cross, George & Wendy’s Seafood Grille, Island Cinema, Sanibel Catering by Bailey’s, Trader’s Store

& Café, Don & Ann-Marie Wildman;

DEFENDER LEVEL Big Red Q Quick-print, Cast About Charters, Mike & Terry Baldwin, Doug & Sherry Gentry, Greenwood Consulting Company, Phyllis & Glen Gresham, Gulf Coast Landscape Supply, Hightower Advisors Fort Myers, Dick & Emily Muench, Queenie’s Ice Cream, Sanibel Sweet Shoppe, TradeMarky Films, Vortex Optics.

Thanks also to our generous auction donors: 50% Off Framing, Anisa Jewelry, Terry Baldwin, Laura Ball, Mark & Gretchen Banks, BIG ARTS, Billy’s Bike Shop, Blue Coyote Supper Club, Broadway Palm, Bubble Room, Cast About Charters, Luc Century, Disney World, Doc Ford’s Rum Bar & Grille, Jerry Edelman, Florida Repertory Theatre, Florida Weekly, George & Wendy’s Seafood Grille, Gulf Coast Landscape Supply, Judy Hicks, Al Hoffacker Half-Cracker Photo, Island Cinema, Island Pizza Company, Island Therapy Center, Richard

Johnson, Sarah Lathrop, Lazy Flamingo, Lighthouse Café, Pat Lussier, Matzaluna’s Italian Kitchen, John McCabe, Birgie Miller, Lyn Morningstar, Over Easy Café, Ann Peay, Queenie’s Ice Cream, Rosie’s Café and Grill, Carol Rothman, Sanibel Art & Frame, Sanibel Catering by Bailey’s, Sanibel Fish House, Sanibel Seashell Industries, Sanibel Sweet Shoppe, South Seas Island Resort, Jim & Patty Sprankle, Sunset Grill, Synergy Sportswear, Tarpon Bay Explorers, Traders Store & Café, Vortex Binoculars, Ralph & Jean Woodring.



One highlight of the Go Wild fundraiser – the “Line Dance of the Reddish Egret,” created with the help of DDWS and Tarpon Bay Explorers staff and interns.

‘Ding’ Doings Season 2016



Six wetland experts from China visited the Refuge on December 14 as part of a weeklong delegation to Southwest Florida arranged by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Refuge in partnership with the Chinese State Forestry Administration. Right: Amanda Cross congratulates Adrian Dougherty, winner of the third annual “Ding” Darling-Theodore Cross High School Photography Contest named for her father.



More than 200 people attended our Go Wild for “Ding” February 23 event. We raised nearly \$100,000 for Reddish Egret research, our latest acquisition campaign (see page 1), and other Refuge concerns.

STAFF NEWS

Welcome Bio Interns

Two new biology interns joined the team effort at “Ding” Darling in January. Patrick Fuller and Lindsay Partymiller plan to stay through June 2016 as part of the Refuge’s intern program supported by the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society.



Patrick and Lindsay

Lindsay, originally from York, Pennsylvania, most recently lived in Bend, Oregon, where she worked for Bird Research Northwest, a project studying the impact of Caspian Terns on the survival of juvenile salmonids in the Columbia Basin and elsewhere along the Pacific Coast. A 2012 graduate of Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, Lindsay holds a degree in marine science and plans to concentrate on Gopher Tortoise research locally.

Patrick hails from Boone, North Carolina, and moved here after a summer in Yosemite National Park as part of the Aquatic Restoration crew. He then spent two months cycling across the country. Fuller earned his bachelor of science degree from Clemson University in South Carolina in 2010, followed by a master’s degree in population biology from the University of California, Davis, in 2013.

“The intern program not only fulfills the Wildlife Society’s mission to educate a new generation of conservation stewards, but it also fills a government budget void by providing valuable manpower to assist the Refuge’s overworked staff,” said DDWS Executive Director Birgie Miller. “We are pleased we can help the Refuge in this capacity.”

Each year DDWS supports 10 or more intern positions in the fields of biology, education, visitor services, and non-profit support with stipends and other perks. The Refuge provides on-site housing for the interns.

Congrats ‘Guests First’ Grads!

Congratulations to DDWS interns Anna Grubb and Carrie Alexander for completing the six classes, 15 hours required to be certified graduates of the Guests First program offered by the



Carrie and Anna

Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau. The Guests First Customer Service Training refreshes and sharpens skills for tourism and hospitality employees through non-traditional, interactive sessions.

Volunteer Awards

“Your help makes ‘Ding’ Darling National Wildlife Refuge successful and helps us earn the reputation for outstanding volunteerism and customer service nationwide,” Refuge Manager Paul Tritaik told the gathered volunteers. “Your dedication has made all the difference in our meeting our mission.”

The Refuge reports that in fiscal year 2015, 280 volunteers worked 49,990 hours at the Refuge, representing a labor savings of \$945,639 or almost 20 full-time staff members.

“Refuge staff has been slashed by more than 50 percent in recent years,” said Birgie Miller, DDWS Executive Director. “We would be facing cuts in visitor services and maintenance if not for our wonderful volunteers.”

Below is a list of volunteers who won awards for reaching hour and year achievement levels.



Marilyn Kloosterman earned her 8,000-Hour Award.

YEARS AWARDS

30 years: Frank Fallert

20 years: Is Cloak, Ken Poulson

10 years: Doug Albert, Paul Albert, Barbara Broadhurst, Susan Cassell, Gary Dutton, Millicent Heeney, Toom Mehalic, Latham Morris, Bill Porter, Edith Rood, Ed Sessa, Elaine Swank, Bill Zack

HOURS AWARDS

8,000 hours: Marilyn Kloosterman

6,500 hours: Frank Fallert

6,000 hours: James Sprankle

5,500 hours: Judy Davis, Doris Hardy

5,000 hours: Doris Hardy, Ann Wollschlager

4,500 hours: Ed Combs

4,000 hours: Terry Baldwin

3,500 hours: Latham Morris, Jack Wettstein, Patty Wettstein

3,000 hours: Betsy Doonan, Miriam Hursey, Jack Wettstein, Patty Wettstein

2,500 hours: Susan Harpham, John McCabe, Ken Poulson, Richard Willis

2,000 hours: Patsy Dicken, Robert Dicken, Ben Klause, Mary Klause, Alan Parker, Linda Parker, Jeanne Tyrer

1,500 hours: Charles Dunham, Lynda Dunham, Glen Gresham, Phyllis Gresham,

Ken Kopperl, Ginny Kopperl

1,000 hours: Doug Albert, Paula Albert, Sally Barsley, Carol Herr, John Herr, Peggy Hupfeldt, Marge Keller, Ken Kopperl, Ginny Kopperl, Fred Monick, Jim Newes, Arland Oleson, France Paulsen, Bill Porter

500 hours: Pat Appino, Joyce Barney, Kathy Boyd, Frances Holmes, Randy Holmes, Jim Jackson, Irene Raber, JoAnn Reece, Sally Stranahan, Carol Strange, Roger Tosch

250 hours: Mike Baldwin, Judy Barberi, Jim Bennight, Jan Cohen, Marion Evans, Michael Galloway, Frances Holmes, Randy

Holmes, Barb Kennedy, Janet Lucree, Ilona Menzel, Nancy Riley, Nancy Sebree, Gerri Sylliaasen, Amanda Wilkinson

150 hours: Jim Bennight, Stan Bunsick, Carole Ecker, Mike Ecker, Michael Galloway, Louise Guertin, Tom Guertin, Frances Holmes, Randy Holmes, Krizan Zdenko, Alice Lavimoniere, Gary Lavimoniere, Janet Lucree, Kim Milling, Linda Naylor, Michael Rice, Marvin Richards, Gus Santos, Orlene Shimberg, Anne Suss, Cathy Swerdlick, Pat Taylor, Ray Vazquez, Tom Ware, Wanda Werner, Amanda Wilkinson, David Wright



Recipients of their 10-Year Award with Deputy Refuge Manager Joyce Palmer and Supervisory Refuge Ranger Toni Westland.

IN THE REFUGE NATURE STORE

New and gorgeous, the artful wooden bowls of Sanibel Island artist Marianne Ravenna now grace our store shelves. Made from beechwood and individually decorated with acrylic paint then coated with polyurethane, they are safe for use with cold foods. The small, shell-themed bowls cost \$95; the large fish bowl is \$275. The Nature Store is also taking orders for custom bowls and bowl sets.



Good-bye plastic and glass bottles, hello Corkicle. Made of triple insulated stainless steel, this chic can-

teen keeps beverages cold for up to 25 hours or hot for 12. Vacuum sealed, the easy-to-grip bottle is perfect for cool winter and hot summer days in Southwest Florida.

BPA- and lead-free Corkicle also has a non-slip bottom and fits in most car cup holders. The Refuge Store carries the 16-ounce model (\$27.95) in a variety of colors as well as the 25-ounce Vinnebago edition (\$32.99), which can hold a standard bottle of wine for beachgoers and boaters who don't want to hassle with glass and wine openers.

Porcelain Garden Lithophane Night Lights: Artwork that comes to life when you plug them in. Made in the U.S.A., the handcrafted night lights are created using techniques from the 1800s called lithophanes. Light shines through the varied thicknesses of porcelain and causes beautiful images to appear.



The night lights come in styles including cardinals, sea turtles, sand dollars, sunsets, and dragonflies for \$34.99 each.

Visit, email bookstore@dingdarlingsociety.org, or call 239-472-1100 ext. 241 to purchase your gifts today. Remember, proceeds from all Nature Store purchases directly benefit Refuge wildlife, research, and education projects.



Jaye Boswell, "Mother of the Junior Duck Stamp Program," judges a recent Florida-wide competition at "Ding" Darling, where the state judging is held annually.

SAVE THE DATE

Federal Junior Duck Stamp Judging

On April 22, 2016, the Refuge celebrates Earth Day with an exciting, first-ever event: the judging of the Federal Junior Duck Stamp Contest. Started right here on Sanibel Island by elementary art schoolteacher Jaye Boswell, the Junior Duck Stamp program involves thousands of entries nationwide. The final federal-level judging selects a winner from Best of Show winners throughout the 50 states and territories. The winner's work selected at "Ding" Darling will grace the 2016-2017 Junior Duck Stamp.

The public is invited to attend the judging at the Refuge Visitor & Education Center. Seating will be limited and on a first-come basis. Times will be announced closer to the date, so please stay tuned to "Ding" on the Wing emails or call the Refuge for up-to-date information.

Smithsonian Exhibit Coming to 'Ding'

Mark your calendars for October 29 through December 9 for an exciting Water/Ways traveling exhibit in partnership with the Museum on Main Street (MoMS) program supported by The Smithsonian and Florida Humanities Council.

Water/Ways will take a global look at water relative to the environment, culture, and history. In collaboration with other local nature and art organizations, it will also examine the issues and context facing our liquid assets here at home. The Southwest Florida Fine Craft Guild is planning an artful wa-

ter and nature exhibition during the event. In design right now, the first-of-its-kind Water/Ways will visit only six locations in Florida, including "Ding" Darling.



Smithsonian



Three More Lectures

Thanks to High Tower Fort Myers and Mike and Terry Baldwin for sponsoring the 2016 lecture series with support from the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society. The morning and afternoon lectures usually filled the auditorium to capacity. Three lectures remain this season:

April 1 — Joe Wiegand - "Teddy: The Conservation President" Repraisal

*April 8 — John H. Hartig, *Bringing Conservation to Cities: Lessons from Building the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge*

*April 15 - Sandra Friend and John Keatley, *The Florida Trail Guide*

*starred lectures indicate a book-signing to follow



Author Martha Kendall signed copies of her *The Plant World of the Calusa* at a lecture earlier this season.



Nature photography is one component of Nature Explorers Day Camp.

Summer Day Camp 2016

The Refuge will host its second annual day camp program for the summer of 2016. This year the camp has been extended to six consecutive weeklong Nature Explorers Day Camp sessions, starting on June 20, 2016. Campers may attend only one session.

Each session is limited to 14 middle school students (completed fourth, fifth, or sixth grade) from the Lee County and surrounding school districts or homeschool equivalent. Students attending Title 1 schools receive preference. Lottery drawings determine the remaining spots. Cost per one-week session per student is \$100. Financial assistance is available based on need.

The camp program was made possible by a \$15,000 grant from an anonymous donor to the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS). The donation covers costs of lunch and transportation for day campers, scholarships, T-shirts, digital cameras, and other program materials. It also underwrites stipends for one education intern to assist with the program. Tarpon Bay Explorers will be assisting with water-related activities.

"The refuge feels that our Nature Explorers Day Camp

fills an urgent need in our community," said Ranger Becky Larkins, who oversees the program as Refuge Education Specialist. "Existing day camps fill quickly, so we felt we could provide an excellent alternative that gets kids out in nature. By targeting Title 1 schools, we hope to reach children who cannot otherwise afford summer camps."

Becky designed day camp programming to reflect the mission and purposes set by the National Wildlife Refuge System. Weekly activities will include nature photography, wildlife observation, saltwater fishing, kayaking, a beach walk, nature sketching, biking, and nature crafts.

"Last year in the inaugural kickoff of our day camp program, students and parents told us that the experience was life changing," said Becky. "By adding two weeks this summer, we hope to influence even more kids with the message of nature."

Students interested in applying for Nature Explorers Day Camp should visit dingdarlingsociety.org/day-camp for a printable application. To receive an application by mail, please call Becky at 239-472-1100 ext. 236 or Toni Westland at ext. 237. Deadline for application is April 29, 2016.

Three Special Gifts

When planning your philanthropic giving, please consider these three wonderful stories of donors who wanted their legacy kept alive by wildlife.

Roni Freer, a Sanibel retiree, loved spending time at "Ding" Darling and showed it by including DDWS in her will, so that her advocacy for wildlife and the Refuge would survive her. Her legacy gift adds more than \$50,000 to benefit the Refuge.



Roni Freer

Chris Glancy was a devoted volunteer at the Refuge and later became a DDWS employee. After she passed away last fall, her sister, Ruth Rachel, decided to honor her memory with an endowed fund for Refuge education that friends and families can contribute to.



Chris Glancy



The Harkeys with Refuge interns

Longtime 'Ding' visitors **Bill and Laura Harkey** from Pennsylvania recently established a permanent endowed fund of \$10,000, the earnings from which will provide funding for special intern work projects.

TARPON BAY EXPLORERS SCHEDULE

(tarponbayexplorers.com; call ahead to 239-472-8900 to confirm schedule and make reservations)

Tram Tours of Wildlife Drive: Apr 1-30 Mon-Thurs 10am - 4 pm hourly; Sat-Sun 10am 11:30am 1pm 2:30pm and 4pm May 1 - Jun 30 Mon-Thurs 10 am 11:30 am and 1 pm 2:30 pm and 4 pm Sat-Sun 10am 1pm and 4pm

Kayak Trail Tour: Apr 1-30 Mon-Fri 8:30am 10am 11:30 am and 1 pm, Sat-Sun 10am and/or 1 pm (tide permitting)

Sunset Rookery Paddle: Apr 1-30 every evening; May 1 - Jun 30 Mon Wed Fri and Sat or Sun two hours before sunset

Standup Paddleboard Tour: Apr 1-30 Mon-Sat 9 am; May 1 - Jun 30 Tues Thurs Sat 9 am

Breakfast Cruise: Mon Wed Fri 8:30am

Nature and Sea Life Cruise: Daily at 11 am and 1:30pm

Evening Cruise: Daily two hours before sunset

Aquarium & Touch Tank: Daily at 11 am, 1:30pm and 3pm

Rentals and fishing charters: Daily 8am - 6pm

Deck Talks: Mon-Fri 12:45pm

2016 Board of Directors



A big thanks to the serving and emeritus board members who work hard to make DDWS one of the top Friends groups in the U.S. and "Ding" Darling a shining star among the more than 560 national wildlife refuges in the country.



WILDLIFE SPOTLIGHT

Here we showcase the best shots of wildlife taken recently at the Refuge by photographers, volunteers, staff, and others. Congratulations to Refuge photography contributor Al Hoffacker (Half-crackerphoto.com) for taking first place the 2015 Florida Federal Wildlife Federation photo contest with one from his series of American Flamingo images he shot this season at the Refuge and Bunche Beach.

If you have a wildlife picture to share, please contact Sarah Lathrop at sarah@dingdarlingsociety.org.

Reddish Egret Study

Researchers from the Avian Research and Conservation Institute (ARCI) in Gainesville, Florida, were busy in January outfitting three more birds with satellite transmitters partially funded by the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society. Proceeds from Go Wild for “Ding” – Dance of the Reddish Egret on February 23 helped support this important, first-of-its-kind Reddish Egret study.

The tagging of three more Refuge birds brings the total to five that are being tracked. The bird “Bunche,” a white morph, was tagged January 6 in the Bunche Beach area adjacent to Refuge waters. “San Carlos,” a dark morph, was tagged January 25 in the same general area. Researchers tagged another dark morph named “Darling” on January 29 near Wildlife Drive.

“We are happy to be able to support this important research, to assist where government budgets fall short,” said DDWS President Doris Hardy. “We also currently support water quality research on the islands, and in the past funded a groundbreak-



This map shows satellite-tracked movements in 2016 of five Reddish Egrets that ARCI captured around the Refuge.

ing Mangrove Cuckoo study. We are committed to furthering education through research.”

Research Ecologist and Coordinator Gina White with the one white morph the team tagged.



Leave a Legacy and Support ‘Ding’ Darling in Your Estate Plans

“Ding” Darling Wildlife Society (DDWS) is proud to be mentioned in many of our departed benefactors’ Last Wills and Testaments and as beneficiaries of retirement and other estate plans. It’s quite simple to do.

You may name DDWS in your will as follows: “I, [name], of [city, state, ZIP] give, devise, and bequeath to the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society, Inc., a Florida non-profit corporation located on Sanibel Island, Florida” [written amount or percentage of the estate or description of property] for [designate the purpose, if desired, or leave blank for gifts to be used to address the greatest need].”

The IRS has granted DDWS tax-exempt status and any gift to our organization is tax-deductible and will help offset inheritance taxes your family or friends might otherwise be obligated to pay. **For more information, visit our Web site at www.dingdarlingsociety.org/bequest.**



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars, and join us! Visit dingdarlingsociety.org for details.

Federal Junior Duck Stamp Judging at the Refuge/Earth Day – April 22, 2016

Fifth Annual “Ding” Darling & Doc Ford’s Tarpon Tournament – May 6-7, 2016

27th Annual “Ding” Darling Days – Oct. 16-22, 2016

Smithsonian Water/Ways Exhibit - Oct. 29-Dec. 9, 2016

MEMORIAL AND HONOR GIFTS

December 1, 2015 – February 29, 2016

Memorial gifts and gifts made in honor of special occasions are a wonderful way to pay tribute to family and friends who are important to us. Throughout the year, the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society has received gifts in memory and in honor of loved ones. Thank you to everyone who supported the Refuge in this thoughtful and meaningful way.

We recently received gifts in MEMORY of the following:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| John and Kathy Allen | Benjamin David Kelley |
| Valorie Babb | Gertrude Kivett |
| Vernon and Claka Baltus | Dr. Ned N. Kuehn |
| Bill Black | Floranna May Lathrop |
| Jane and Frank Bopp | Bertrand O. Letendre |
| John Bottjer | Lisa Schill |
| Cynthia Bouchard | Wilfred Gardner |
| Mickey A. Bowers | Francine Litofsky |
| Jeffrey Case | Gertrude Macomber Kivett |
| Elizabeth Custer | Mr. and Mrs. McLelland |
| Dr. Randall Deming | Dave Powell |
| Mary Rose and Ernest Doke | Carole Park |
| Richard L. Bailey | W. Steven Robb |
| Richard Eldredge | George Sterling Rogers |
| Milly Ellis | Florence Savage |
| Louise Fer Horst | Mary Lou Schadt |
| Ginny and Bob Ferrier | Bobbie Sharp |
| Christine Glancy | Leonard Siegel |
| George Graham | Barbara Sisler |
| Elizabeth Hoag | Gene Steele |
| Mary and Arnold Hobbs | Nora Wells |
| Diane Norfray and Jenny-Norfray Lenz | Dot Whitehouse |
| | Bill Wollschlager |

We received gifts in HONOR of the following:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Melinda Sue Andrews | Karen Lewis |
| Abraham | Robert Meeker |
| Sarah Ashton | Kim Milling and Joyce Barney |
| Amelia Berg | Patricia Robinson |
| Reese and Betty Bogle | Jim Sprankle |
| Allison Burger and Mary Beth Grady | Susan and George Sprehn |
| Liz Dauten | Joe Stack |
| Doris Hardy | Pam Weiner and Jim Wittenberg |
| Marilyn Kloosterman | Dr. and Mrs. Philip Weyman |
| Wanda Kucera-Eksteen | John and Martha Wolf |
| Carol and Alan Landholt | |



One Wildlife Drive
P.O. Box 565
Sanibel, FL 33957

Forwarding Service Requested

Phone: (239) 472-1100, ext. 233

Fax: (239) 472-7803

WEBSITE

dingdarlingsociety.org

E-MAIL

dingdarlingoffice@yahoo.com

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Doris Hardy

Vice President Mike Baldwin

Secretary Jim Scott

Treasurer Vasanta Senerat

Members At Large

Sarah Ashton Mark Banks Jim Hall
Wendy Kindig Jen McSorley
Mike Mullins Kirstin Sawicki Dan Wexler
Don Wildman Richard Yanke

Immediate Past President John McCabe

SOCIETY STAFF

Executive Director Birgie Miller

Business Office Manager Gary Ogden

**Assoc. Director of Community Outreach
and Development** Sarah Lathrop

**Refuge Nature Store
Manager** Alison Conger

ADVISORS TO THE BOARD

Marc Giattini Bill Rankin

Refuge Manager Paul Tritaik

Supervisory Refuge Ranger Toni Westland

EMERITUS BOARD

Terry Baldwin Susan Cassell Millie Ford
Don Heidorn Dick Hulit

Joseph Kelley Marilyn Kloosterman
Chip Lesch Cindy Pierce Jim Sprankle
Jeanne Rankin Mary Ruth Stegman

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Editor Chelle Koster Walton

Photography Chelle Koster Walton,
Al Hoffacker, Refuge & DDWS Staff

Design and Production Susan Holly,
Lynne Egensteiner

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO.
5752
Ft. Myers, FL



2nd place by Dablia Lillestatten

**2016
'Ding''Darling -
Theodore Cross
High School
Photography
Contest Winners**



3rd place by Carolyn Lineban



1st place by Adrian Dougherty

