

Tigertales



President's Message

Debbie Roddy

The Friends of Tigertail Board of Directors wishes you and your family a happy, healthy and safe holiday season.

The FOT Board is excited about the programs we have scheduled January through March of next year. **All programs will start at 7:00 p.m. at the United Church of Marco, 320 N. Barfield Dr.**

Jan. 20th: Sea, Sand & Sky with four of FOT's own guides, Ken and Susan Kubat, Susan Purvis and Carole Talkowski. Join us for a virtual tour to learn about some of the highlights of Tigertail Beach, including an overview of what can be found in the water, on the shore and in the sky.

Feb. 18th: Everything You Wanted To Know About The Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission with Lt. Mitts Mravic and Officer Marc Shea of the FWC. Come and learn more about fish and wildlife regulations,

as well as insights on past illegal violations in the Marco Island area.

March 18th: Wild About Wildlife with Joanna Fitzgerald of the Conservancy of Southwest Florida. Join us to learn the causes of injury, how staff and the Conservancy's Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic volunteers treat injured wildlife, how you can help prevent injuries and why these animals are a critical part of our southwest Florida ecosystem.

Many thanks to Burt Robbins, our Program Committee Chair, for planning this outstanding line-up!

Mark your calendars for all three of these educational events! All programs are open to the public so tell your friends and neighbors. Admission is free and refreshments are provided.

Looking forward to seeing you at Tigertail and at all of our programs!!

Board of Directors 2009-2010

Debbie Roddy — President
Burt Robbins — Vice President
Susan Kubat — Secretary
Ken Kubat — Treasurer
Kathy Apy
Linda Colombo
Susan LaGrotta
Susan Purvis
Betty Rosa
Carole Talkowski

The 6th Annual Southwest Florida Nature Festival is Jan. 15 — 17. To register for presentations and field trips go to: www.rookerybay.org or call (239) 417-6310 Ext. 401

Go to: www.friendsoftigertail.com for the latest news and information about Friends of Tigertail.



HELP WANTED FOR FOT'S BUTTERFLY GARDEN

The Butterfly Garden at Tigertail Beach was installed by FOT members more than twelve years ago and has been maintained by us ever since. During this time of year, we reevaluate the garden, buy and put in new plants as needed.

Again we are reaching out to you, our members, to identify those of you who are willing to volunteer their time as part of Friends of Tigertail's Butterfly Garden Committee. FOT wants to put together a list of people we can count on occasionally to work in the garden at a mutually agreed to date and time. If you are interested in "planting, snipping and weeding" for an hour or so a few times a year and have new ideas about the garden, please contact Linda Colombo via email at: Lindadeec@embarqmail.com or call her at 642-6845.

September 19th Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Beach Cleanup

Friends of Tigertail participated in the 24th Annual International Coastal Cleanup, hosted by the Ocean Conservancy and partnered with Keep Collier Beautiful who supplied the T-shirts and garbage bags. FOT provided volunteers with gloves and bottled water donated by Kinetico Water Systems.

Susan LaGrotta, FOT Board Member & Beach Cleanup (Stewardship) Chair reported 47 volunteers, including 12 members of Girl Scout Troop 389 along with 5 accompanying adults, filled over 20 bags of debris.

As usual, the number one item collected was cigarette butts, followed by food wrappers, beverage cans, pieces of clothing (including underwear), shoes, toys, plastic and glass bottles, diapers, rope, twine, fishing line spool, sunglasses, a towel and blanket. The more unusual items picked up by our volunteers were a five foot beach umbrella encased in a plastic cover, a plastic crate, an eight inch PVC pipe that was ten feet long, a metal sign, two planks of wood, a beach chair, three buoys and a roll of toilet paper.



Volunteer registration.



Girl Scout Troop #389 with their new T-shirts and volunteer certificates.



Some of the results from our cleanup.

2010 Beach Cleanup Schedule

Susan LaGrotta, FOT Board Member & Beach Cleanup (Stewardship) Chair, has scheduled our cleanups for the upcoming year.

Saturday, April 10: Bay Days — Keep Collier Beautiful — Earth Day Beach Cleanup

Saturday, July 17: Quarterly Friends of Tigertail Beach Cleanup

Saturday, September 18: Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup

Saturday, December 4: Quarterly Friends of Tigertail Beach Cleanup

All of the beach cleanups are scheduled from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. Call Susan at 239-394-1470 to register. Bottled water, garbage bags and work gloves will be provided.

Illegal Netting at Tigertail Beach

During the evening of Sept. 14th, four men were arrested by the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) at Tigertail Beach. Each one of them was charged with netting without a license and using an illegal monofilament seine net. The men were netting fish by burying poles on each side of the net into the lagoon's bottom. If you are ever there and see illegal netting please call the FWC at 888-404-3922. Remember it is still legal to cast the appropriate net to catch bait fish at Tigertail.

September 29th Fish Kill on Sand Dollar Island

This fish kill included nine Bonnet Head sharks, two Black Tip sharks, four Gafttopsail catfish and one dead Southern Stingray. Water samples and fish tissues were collected and sent to the Florida Fish & Wildlife Research Institute for further analysis. It was determined that this kill was not related to the *Guinardia flaccida* (a non-toxic silica-based algae) bloom found on Naples beaches the week before. Tissue results are not yet available.