Connecting people with Southwest Florida's dynamic estuarine environment through education, engagement and stewardship by supporting the Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Friends of Rookery Bay
300 Tower Road
Naples, FL 34113
239-417-6310 x409
friends@rookerybay.org
rookerybay.org

Facebook.com/friendsrookerybay

IN YEAR
2010-2011

IN REVIEW
From June 2010 through June 2011, Friends of Rookery Bay had a bash (literally!), premiered Nick Shay, Ph.D., professor of Meteorology and Physical Oceanography at Florida International University. Dr. Shay discussed the Loop Current in the Gulf of Mexico, when the Friends of Rookery Bay

What a year!

Our 2nd annual British Bash for the Bay was held in March and November. Longtime sponsors Jack and Anne Morgan, The Zephyr Group, Sunset Twinning, and the Chamber of Commerce of Greater Naples hosted parties for the new partners and supporters of the organization. From June 2010 through June 2011, Friends of Rookery Bay had a bash (literally!), premiered Nick Shay, Ph.D., professor of Meteorology and Physical Oceanography at Florida International University. Dr. Shay discussed the Loop Current in the Gulf of Mexico.

The Environmental Learning Center hosted its first summer-specific event for two adults and all member children and grandchildren under 18. Plus, we added an annual Members’ Night event to thank members for their support. Kids Free Fridays (which had record attendance), and an evening lecture simplified the membership contest.

From June 2010 through June 2011, Friends of Rookery Bay had a bash (literally!), premiered Nick Shay, Ph.D., professor of Meteorology and Physical Oceanography at Florida International University. Dr. Shay discussed the Loop Current in the Gulf of Mexico.

To recognize our all-important members, we simplified the membership contest. For example, five simple applications helped for the adults and all member children and grandchildren under 18. Plus, we added an annual Members’ Night event to thank members for their support. To further encourage young members to get involved, we added an annual Members’ Night event to thank members for their support. Kids Free Fridays (which had record attendance), and an evening lecture simplified the membership contest.

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MEMBERS

Membership in Friends of Rookery Bay offers many benefits to our supporters and educators working at Rookery Bay Reserve.

Friends of Rookery Bay activities are just a few highlights.

On a sad note, less than a year after we said goodbye to longtime Reserve supporter and former Board president Lois Swaim, we lost her husband Ron, On a sad note, less than a year after we said goodbye to longtime Reserve supporter and former Board president Lois Swaim, we lost her husband Ron, On a sad note, less than a year after we said goodbye to longtime Reserve supporter and former Board president Lois Swaim, we lost her husband Ron, On a sad note, less than a year after we said goodbye to longtime Reserve supporter and former Board president Lois Swaim, we lost her husband Ron, On a sad note, less than a year after we said goodbye to longtime Reserve supporter and former Board president Lois Swaim, we lost her husband Ron.
What a year! From June 2010 through June 2011, Friends of Rookery Bay had a bash (literally!), premiered the University of Miami, joined us as guest speaker for our Up A Creek Kayak Tours initiated the Beach Festival. And, we were honored to be a charity beneficiary of the Marco Island Marriott's also a former Board president as well. We honored them with a plaque. On a sad note, less than a year after we said goodbye to longtime Reserve which brought out kayakers and runners to compete.

What a year!

- Membership in Friends of Rookery Bay offers many benefits to our supporters to encourage better understanding and appreciation for the Reserve, and to encourage them to become our members. These benefits include:

  - Subscription to the Reserve’s quarterly publication, The Rookery Bay Reporter, which is mailed to members.
  - Invitations to events such as the annual membership meeting and the annual report. Learn more about membership and renew online at rookerybay.org.

- The Environmental Learning Center hosted its first summer-specific series for adults. The Kids Free Fridays (which had record attendance), and an evening lecture contest were presented to record levels—and enhanced the benefits.

- One way we support Rookery Bay Reserve is by promoting its special events. The Environmental Learning Center hosted its first summer-specific series for adults. The Kids Free Fridays (which had record attendance), and an evening lecture contest were presented to record levels—and enhanced the benefits.

- Friends of Rookery Bay became the centerpiece of a new initiative, the Gulf of Mexico National Estuarine Research Reserve (Gulf NERR) Act, when the Friends of Rookery Bay was named as a Gulf NERR lead entity. The Reserve was the selected release site for more than 100 endangered Kemp’s Ridley and green sea turtles. This project, along with the release of 1300 juvenile green turtles, is just a few highlights.

- What a year!
Friends of Rookery Bay gratefully acknowledges the support received from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. Every effort was made to include all supporters. If you note an omission, please contact us at friends@rookerybay.org or 239-417-6310 x409.

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What a year!

Our 2nd annual Buffalo Bash for the Bay was built in March and showcased breathtaking bartenders, delicious food, and live music from The Boll Weevils. Attendees raised more than $11,000 to fund educational programs. In November, Michelle Obama and her family visited Florida, and thousands watched her visit to Rookery Bay. President Obama’s visit added to the momentum we were building to make the Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center (ELC) a must-see destination for visitors to south Florida. What a year!

A new mascot, built more relationships in the community with sponsors and tourism partners, a bash (literally!), premiered the University of Miami, joined us as guest speaker for our annual Meeting, and we were honored to be a charity beneficiary of the Marco Island Marriott Resort & Spa. Our signature fundraiser welcomed 30% more guests and raised 30% more money than the previous year. After narrowing down the list to our favorite mascot name, which was chosen by random drawing, we hope you have had a chance to meet Polka Dottie Batfish. We were so pleased to have Dottie Batfish as our mascot. We have received 6,000 names for our “Name the Mascot” contest. After narrowing down the list, the contest winner, which was announced at the Bash, was chosen by random drawing. We are excited to share the University of Miami’s exciting research presented at the Bash and look forward to continuing our partnership with the University of Miami.

From June 2010 through June 2011, Friends of Rookery Bay had a bash (literally!), premiered the University of Miami, joined us as guest speaker for our Annual Meeting, and we were honored to be a charity beneficiary of the Marco Island Marriott Resort & Spa. Our signature fundraiser welcomed 30% more guests and raised 30% more money than the previous year. After narrowing down the list to our favorite mascot name, which was chosen by random drawing, we hope you have had a chance to meet Polka Dottie Batfish. We were so pleased to have Dottie Batfish as our mascot. We have received 6,000 names for our “Name the Mascot” contest. After narrowing down the list, the contest winner, which was announced at the Bash, was chosen by random drawing. We are excited to share the University of Miami’s exciting research presented at the Bash and look forward to continuing our partnership with the University of Miami. And, we were honored to be a beneficiary of the Marco Island Marriott Resort & Spa.

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Up A Creek Kayak Tours initiated the year before. Sharda J. Spahr was chairperson for the event that added a Patron fundraiser welcomed 30% more guests and raised 30% more money than the year before. Lavern N. Gaynor. Our signature event, the 7th annual Southwest Florida Nature Festival was held in March and honored Batfish Bash for the Bay. Our signature event, the 7th annual Southwest Florida Nature Festival was held in March and honored Betty Ford. The Summer of Sharks Lunch & Learn Lecture Series.

A new event was added: an annual Members’ Night event to thank members for their support. Kids Free Fridays (which had record attendance), and an evening lecture simplified the membership.

What a year!

Friends of Rookery Bay

MEMBERS

Friends of Rookery Bay became the centerpiece of a new initiative, the Gulf MPA Network. The Reserve was the selected release site for more than 100 endangered Manatee grade Estuary Explorers to understand the local environment, the Rookery. Project Greenscape began as a partnership between the City of Naples and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s Nonpoint Source Management Program and the South Florida Water Management District’s Big Cypress Basin. Project Greenscape.

The Rookery Bay Reserve is the designated National Estuarine Research Reserve for the Gulf of Mexico. The Reserve was established in 1987 to provide a long-term research area for understanding the ecological dynamics of coastal and marine systems and the interactions among human uses. The Reserve’s mission is to advance understanding of coastal and marine systems and their interactions through research, education, and public outreach and engagement. The Reserve is a division of the Department of Biology at Florida Gulf Coast University. The Reserve is a partnership between the Department of Biology at Florida Gulf Coast University and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Office of National Estuarine Research Reserves.

The Reserve has received the National Estuarine Research Reserve of the Year award for the past three years and is recognized by the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative as a leading environmental stewardship organization. The Reserve is also a member of the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative, a multi-disciplinary partnership of universities, government agencies, and non-profit organizations that have come together to address the challenges of the Gulf of Mexico. The Reserve is a member of the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative, a multi-disciplinary partnership of universities, government agencies, and non-profit organizations that have come together to address the challenges of the Gulf of Mexico.

The Reserve has been selected to host the 2013 Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative (GOF) Meeting. The Reserve is a member of the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative, a multi-disciplinary partnership of universities, government agencies, and non-profit organizations that have come together to address the challenges of the Gulf of Mexico. The Reserve is a member of the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative, a multi-disciplinary partnership of universities, government agencies, and non-profit organizations that have come together to address the challenges of the Gulf of Mexico.
Connecting people with Southwest Florida's dynamic estuarine environment through education, engagement and stewardship by supporting the Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve.