



Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve

A photograph of a cypress swamp. The foreground is filled with water reflecting the sky and surrounding trees. Several cypress trees with their characteristic knees are visible. In the background, a wooden boardwalk or bridge spans across the swamp. The overall scene is lush and green.

**FRIENDS OF
SIX MILE CYPRESS
SLOUGH PRESERVE**

**ANNUAL MEETING
MARCH 22, 2017
INTERPRETIVE CENTER**

Agenda

**Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve
Annual Meeting - March 22, 2017
Interpretive Center**

Welcome

Carolyn Babb, President

Announcements

Annual Report

Theresa Roake, Secretary

Nominating Committee Report

Terri Krass, Board Member

Election

General Membership

Introduction of Board of Directors

Carolyn Babb, President

**Introduction of Bob Repenning, Coordinator, Land Stewardship
*"State of the Slough"***

Jennyhsu47

Board of Directors

Carolyn Babb

President

Charles O'Connor

Vice President

Theresa Roake

Secretary

Frank Murray*

Treasurer

Lyn Brown**

Donna Cressman

Jeff Key

Terri Krass

Jean Labriola Scholz*

Steve Tutko

Sabine Vandenhende**

Heather Gienapp, Lee County Parks and Recreation Liaison

*Jean Labriola Scholz is completing Frank Murray's term as Treasurer as of January 1, 2017 due to Frank's retirement from the position.

** Appointed by Board in October, 2016 as Directors. These directors will be formally elected at Annual Meeting.

Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve Staff

- Annisa Karim, Manager
- Christine Bailey, Senior Supervisor
- Heather Gienapp, Supervisor
- Andrea Naccarato, Senior Program Specialist
- Bob Repenning, Land Steward
- Andy Gurri, Senior Maintenance Specialist
- Dave Mitchell, Senior Maintenance Specialist

President's Message

Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve
Annual Meeting
March 22, 2017

Congratulations to the Friends members, Board of Directors and the staff at the Slough. We have had another fantastic year at the Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve. During the busy season we often feel that we are going in circles but we always end up at the right place, helping to preserve and protect the Slough while promoting it to all of the visitors who can see why we love the Slough so much. This Board of Directors puts in many hours to keep our organization a success and one of the best Friends group anywhere.

The Friends provided \$19,000 in support of the staff and the Slough in 2016. While the monetary support is greatly appreciated by staff, the hours that our members spend at the Slough provide so much support it is hard to compute. The Board of Directors and the members put in many, many hours at and for the Slough. The list of accomplishments is getting longer and longer.

Local television viewers are still seeing our 30 second television public service announcement about the wonders of the Slough. Camp scholarships were awarded to 21 deserving campers. Books were added to the volunteer resource library. The Rock and Stroll Garden has many new rocks. The master gardeners keep the garden beautiful. Trash pick up on Six Mile Parkway continues. Field trips were so much fun. The list goes on and on and on.

We had another successful photo contest. The postcards made from the winning photos that are sold in the Friends Corner store are big sellers. People always like to see their art appreciated by the visitors.

Friends Corner volunteers sold merchandise with a profit of over \$9,500 in 2016. The store is staffed by many eager and talented Friends members and volunteers. Thanks to all of the workers for their efforts. We couldn't do it without their hard work.

Frank Murray, the long time Friends Treasurer, retired this year. Those are big shoes to fill, to say the least. Our new treasurer, Jean Scholz, a board member for five years, has taken on this new responsibility. Thanks so much to her.

Thank you to the Lee County Parks and Recreation staff and to Lee County for our continued successful partnership. It is strong and we all work well together with the common goal of protecting, preserving and promoting the Slough.

To Heather Gienapp, Andrea Naccarato, Bob Repenning, Andy Gurri, Dave Mitchell, Annisa Karim and Christine Bailey thank you for all you do for the Friends and for the Slough. I hope our partnership continues to be as successful and productive as it has been in 2016.

Thank you to all of the Friends members. The monetary support, moral support and volunteer efforts by the members enable the Board of Directors to continue in our mission for the Slough. 2017 promises to be as big and beautiful as the past year.

See you in the Slough.
Carolyn Babb, President

Friends Accomplishments 2016

Direct Support to the Slough of \$19,000 including:

Public wet walks for over 150 people

Camp scholarships for 21 campers

Camp supplies

Camp intern stipend

Camp speakers honoraria

Friends Field Trips including:

Clinic for the Rehabilitation Of Wildlife

Gordon River Greenway in Naples

Babcock Webb Wildlife Management Area

Fort Myers Beach Fishing Fleet

Funding for school field trip buses and teachers

Rocks added to Rock and Stroll Garden

Photo contest 55 photographers, 150 photos

Books for Blake Cadkin Resource Library

Four new rocking chairs for deck

Web site development and design

Seasonal displays Interpretive Center

Gathering speakers including:

Dr. Win Everham, Florida Gulf Coast University

Dr. Serge Thomas, Florida Gulf Coast University

Robert Repenning, Land Steward, Lee County

Alexis Horn, Sierra Club Panther Habitat ,

Campaign Coordinator

Volunteer of the Year

Volunteer thank you gifts

Accomplishment pins volunteer education

Funded staff education opportunities

Friends Corner sales

Butterfly garden maintenance and plantings

University of Georgia students support

Funding for trail signage and markers

Funding for new guidebooks for boardwalk

Adopt A Highway Participation

Resource library reorganization

**Complete 2016 Annual Report Available at
www.Sloughpreserve.org**

Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2016

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

1000 · Current Assets

1050 · Bank of America accounts

1050.1 · BoA Main Checking 19,883.43

1050.2 · BoA Savings MM 21,924.56

1050.3 · BoA Bookstore check 7,640.69

1050.41 · Time Deposit CD 8787 02/12/2017 10,000.00

1050.42 · Time Deposit CD 8826 11/14/2016 10,000.00

1050.43 · Time Deposit CD 8758 5/16/2016 10,000.50

1050.44 · Time Deposit CD 0113 7/29/2017 25,000.00

Total 1050 · Bank of America accounts 104,449.18

Total 1000 · Current Assets 104,449.18

Total Checking/Savings 104,449.18

Other Current Assets

1300 · Other Current Assets

1300.3 · Inventory on hand IC store 15,502.60

1300.4 · Cash on hand Bookstore 1,120.00

Total 1300 · Other Current Assets 16,622.60

Total Other Current Assets 16,622.60

Total Current Assets 121,071.78

TOTAL ASSETS **\$121,071.78**

**Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2016 (cont'd)**

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity

3001 · Opening Balance Equity	13,983.57
3010 · Unrestricted (retained earnings)	98,140.16
Net Income	8,948.05
Total Equity	121,071.78

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY **\$121,071.78**

Membership

Annual Membership Snapshot

	As of 3/24/13	As of 3/9/14	As of 3/20/15	As of 3/20/16	As of 3/5/17
Annual Membership Snapshot					
Lifetime	3	3	3	3	3
Honorary	11	13	5	4	3
Donor	8	8	4	5	1
Guest	0	8	8	12	10
Patron \$1000	2	3	5	6	5
Sustaining \$500	6	6	6	7	8
Corporate Sponsor \$500	1	0	0	0	0
Associate \$250	4	4	7	13	13
Supporting \$100	36	41	45	44	45
Contributing \$50	59	54	52	51	45
Individual \$20	76	78	97	102	107
Student \$10	3	1	0	0	1
Inactive 2+ years	2	2	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Membership	211	221	232	247	241

Communications

Connections – Friends newsletter was published four times in 2016 in January, April, July and October.

Contributors included Heather Gienapp, Andrea Naccarato, Annisa Karim, Bob Repenning, Mary Murray, Frank Murray, Jean Scholz, Charles O'Connor, Janet Bunch, Dotty Brown, Theresa Roake, Terri Krass, Steve Tutko, Jeff Key, Jeff Montgomery, Lyn Brown and Carolyn Babb, editor and Bruce Bunch, copy editor.

Email communication is used for messages and information to the membership for meetings and events and other information. An email listing of membership is maintained for this purpose.

Events and meetings are publicized in local newspapers including the News Press, the Naples Daily News, the Florida River Weekly and the Daniels Corridor publication.

Education

A person wearing a bright yellow short-sleeved shirt and dark shorts is crouching on the ground next to a body of water, likely a slough. They are looking down at something in their hand. The background is a shallow, rippling body of water with some fallen leaves and debris floating on the surface.

Slough Summer Camp Scholarships 2016

21 scholarships were awarded to local youngsters. A good time was had by all. In addition, Friends provided many of the supplies for camp.

School Field Trips 2016

Funded field trips for North Myers Academy of the Arts. Students participated in wet walks, led by Joelle Hammes, a science educator in the Lee County school system.

Photo Contest

Another year for our very popular and successful contest – each continues to showcase amazing images taken in the Slough.

Education cont'd

Summer Public Wet Walks 2016

13 public walks were led by Education Chair Charles O'Connor and volunteers. Over \$1,100 in donations was collected.

Speakers for 2016

January – **Dr. Win Everham**, Professor, FGCU, Effects of Mosquito Control on Non-mosquito Population

February – **Dr. Serge Thomas**, Professor, FGCU, *Biology of Retention Ponds*

March – **Bob Repenning**, Land Steward, *State of the Slough*

April – **Alexis Horn**, Sierra Club Panther Habitat Campaign Coordinator, *Panther Habitat*

Friends Corner Store



TOTAL SALES FOR 2016 **\$24,235**

INVENTORY VALUE **\$15,000**

32 VOLUNTEER WORKERS

**To all of the volunteers at the Corner
THANK YOU!!!**



Rock and Stroll Garden – 2016

Rock and Stroll Report

2016 was another productive year for the Rock and Stroll Garden with the addition of five new stones. This brings the total stones to date to 30. The Garden is beginning to fill in with the many sentiments engraved for all to enjoy.

Under Donna Cressman's continued excellent Master Gardner experience, and with the help of her assistants; Nancy Olson, Carolee Drotos, Kelly Bishop and Suzanne Frechette, the plants in the garden are thriving. The Team has cultivated over 25 native species of plants; many that attract butterflies. This gives the garden a very refreshing feeling and makes for a great picnic spot as visitors may sit and watch the many butterflies. In addition, Donna has added a seasonal program titled Butterfly Gardening Questions and Answers to the schedule.

There is still plenty of room for more stones. Order forms are located at the front desk in the Interpretative Center. I will be happy to help you select text, graphics or with any other detail. This is the perfect way to "own" your piece of the Slough. All proceeds go to support the Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve educational programs.

Terri Krass, Board Member

Minutes of Annual Meeting

March 23, 2016

**Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve
Board of Directors
March 23, 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m. by President Carolyn Babb

Everyone was welcomed and Carolyn Babb read her message and presented reports from 2015.

**Frank Murray, Treasurer
Theresa Roake, Secretary
Donna Cressman, Board Member
Terri Krass, Board Member
Jean Labriola Scholz, Board Member
Steve Tutko, Board Member
were re-elected for an additional term of two years.**

Board of Directors was introduced.

Bob Repping, Coordinator, Land Stewardship presented "State of the Slough"

BOARD ELECTION

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee proposes the election of the following Board Members for a term of two years:

- Theresa Roake, President
- Sabine Vandenhende, Vice President
- Lyn Brown, Board Member
- Jeff Key, Board Member
- Charles O'Connor, Board Member
- Bud Schopp, Board Member

Additional nominations from the Floor may be submitted at this time.



2016 Annual Report

www.sloughpreserve.org

Photo by Carolyn Babb