





# **FRIENDS OF SIX MILE CYPRESS SLOUGH PRESERVE**

**ANNUAL MEETING**

**MARCH 22, 2011**

**INTERPRETIVE CENTER**

# Agenda

Welcome

Carolyn Babb, President

Announcements

Annual Report

Nancy Johnson, Secretary

Nominating Committee Report

Dr. Charles O'Connor, Vice President

Election

General Membership

Introduction of Board of Directors

Carolyn Babb

Introduction of Charles Sobczak, author, Sanibel Island

# Board Election – Nominating Committee Report

The current board members are proposed for re-election for an additional term of two years.

Carolyn Babb

Jeff Key

Charles O'Connor

The following member is proposed for election for a term of two years.

Bernie MacDonald

# President's Message

Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve  
Annual Meeting 2011

Message from President of Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve  
To all of the Friends,

The Friends have certainly had a wonderful and busy year. Just take a look at the list the accomplishments in 2010, from the Photography Contest to Camp Scholarships to more signage for the trail. Our mission and goals are obviously clear to all of our members and anyone from the outside looking in at our organization. Friends is ***committed to preserving, protecting and promoting Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve for future generations through education and community partnerships, working together with Lee County and South Florida Water Management District. Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve is a critical wetland system having positive value in inspiring and educating its visitors about wetlands and their roles in preserving the environment and local quality of life. Friends' vision is to maintain the Preserve's positive community influence in perpetuity.***

Highlights of this year had to include the success of the first photo contest and the start of the second photo contest! The pictures from both years are great, and we have already made plans that we think can even improve on the contest! Everyone loves to show off the pictures of this wonderful place, me included!

I was even more excited about the summer camp scholarship program that was started in 2010. Thirteen campers were able to have their fees paid to attend camp. We plan to fund 20 or more this year as the need may arise. We are able to fund ten of those due to the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Bernstein.

Funds from the Blake Cadkin Memorial Fund are being used to still add to the Blake Cadkin Memorial Library, the volunteer resource room. Great books and DVDS are being purchased as the staff at the Slough identifies the needs. We even purchased a solar oven for use at camp. It is being used for demonstrations for various programs. As the staff identifies needs at the Interpretive Center and on the boardwalk, the Board of Directors responds with each and every resource that is available from the members of Friends and the donors at the Slough. We can do nothing without that support!

Friends Corner is a success! The volunteers at the store are the greatest bunch of workers in the world! They can manage anything that that blasted computer and register can try to do! I cannot begin to thank them for all of their hard work and enthusiasm.

Take an important look at the page for Advocacy information. Included is a copy of a letter that was generated by our organization in 2010. This is just to emphasize how important our voice is to Lee County when the preservation and health of the Six Mile Cypress Slough is involved.

Friends' treasurer, Frank Murray, has provided details of our financial status. The Friends helped with over \$13,000 in support to the Slough and Staff in 2010. Again we can do nothing without the members of Friends and the donors at the Slough.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the opportunity to be President of this great organization. It just keeps getting better and better. Now, on to 2011!

Carolyn Babb

President

Friends of the Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve

# FRIENDS in 2010

- Friends first **Photo Contest** attracted 35 entrants with 135 photographs
- Added books and video materials identified by Slough staff to the **Blake Cadkin Resource Center**
- Provided **summer camp scholarships** for 13 campers
- Funded camping **supplies and games** needed for the campers enrichment and learning experience, including a Solar oven
- Funded **Signage** throughout the Slough, including the Great Blue Heron Pavilion and Pop Ash Pond
- **Special Events Crew** attended and manned the Friends exhibit at the Charlotte Harbor Nature Festival, the Burrowing Owl Festival in Cape Coral, the CREW Wildflower Festival and the Koreshan Earth Day
- Supported Lee County in the addition of over **1200 acres** to the Slough
- Sponsored **Wet Walks** in June, August and September
- Volunteers for **Adopt a Road** picked up trash every third Saturday of each month of the year
- The **Friends Corner** volunteers manned the store for at least 20 hours each week
- Four “**Gatherings of Friends**” with educational and informative speakers
- Participated in **Environmental Education Day** in May
- Participated in research projects with **Florida Gulf Coast University**
- Produced four issues of **Connections**, the Friends newsletter
- Friends volunteers manned the **Front Desk** at the Interpretive Center

# Treasurer's Message



## FRIENDS OF SIX MILE CYPRESS SLOUGH PRESERVE

7791 Penzance Boulevard  
Ft. Myers, Florida 33966

[www.sloughpreserve.org](http://www.sloughpreserve.org)

### Advisory Board

Jacquelin Cadkin  
*Cadkin Foundation*

Carolyn Delizia Swift  
*Henderson, Franklin, Starnes  
& Holt, P.A.*

Dr. William Hammond  
*Florida Gulf Coast  
University*

Wiley M. Parker, A.I.A.  
*Parker/Mudgett-Smith  
Architects, Inc.*

Carol Newcomb-Jones  
*Kitson & Partners, LLC*

### Board of Directors

Carolyn Babb, President

Charles O'Connor  
Vice President

Nancy Johnson, Secretary

Frank Murray, Treasurer

Jeff Key

Molly Meadows

Joyce Sanders

Jean Scholz

Stephen D. Tutko

### Parks and Recreation Liaison

Mary Rude, Supervisor

March 10, 2011

### TREASURER'S REPORT for 2010

In this very difficult financial year, total revenue was \$14,397, down from \$24,876 the year before. Membership revenue remained strong while Donations Box support on the Boardwalk lagged. Bookstore operations produced sales for the year of about \$9,800 with much of that used to reshape our inventory of goods for sale.

During 2010 Friends provided assistance totaling \$13,383 to supplement programs and needs of the Interpretive Center and Slough.

At year-end 2010 Friends had \$69,227 cash on hand and \$14,544 in store inventory for sale. A Balance Sheet and Income Summary are provided.

Meeting Update: So far the view for 2011 seems brighter, led by the number of members renewing at higher donation levels. As of February 28, 2011 revenue totals almost \$8,000.

Submitted by,

Frank Murray, Treasurer

# Balance Sheet

## Friends of Six-Mile Cypress Slough Preserve Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2010

	Dec 31, 10
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1000 - Current Assets	
1050 - Bank of America accounts	
1050.1 - BoA Main Checking	4,136.39
1050.2 - BoA Savings MM	32,225.73
1050.3 - BoA Bookstore check	1,885.78
1050.4 - Time Deposits CDs	30,000.00
Total 1050 - Bank of America accounts	68,247.90
1300.1 - Bookstore petty cash	721.50
1300.2 - Bookstore inventory on hand	14,544.01
Total 1000 - Current Assets	83,513.41
Total Checking/Savings	83,513.41
Other Current Assets	
1040 - Petty cash	258.03
Total Other Current Assets	258.03
Total Current Assets	83,771.44
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>83,771.44</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
2001 - Liabilities	
2001.1 - Interpretive Ctr & Displays	12,250.60
2001.2 - Blake Cadkin Memorial Fund	11,520.58
2005 - State Sales Tax payable	138.27
Total 2001 - Liabilities	23,909.45
Total Other Current Liabilities	23,909.45
Total Current Liabilities	23,909.45
Total Liabilities	23,909.45
Equity	
3001 - Opening Bal Equity	13,983.57
3010 - Unrestrict (retained earnings)	33,980.90
Net Income	11,897.52
Total Equity	59,861.99
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>83,771.44</b>



# Income and Expenses

## Friends of Six-Mile Cypress Slough Preserve Income & Expenses Summary January through December 2010

	Jan - Dec 10
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
4000 - Revenue	
4000.1 - Contributions, Gifts, Grants	
4001.1 - Interpretive Ctr & Displays	740.00
4001.2 - Blake Cadkin Fund donations	2,500.00
4001.5 - Unrestricted Donations	310.00
4002 - Program rev, govt grants fees	367.00
4008 - Donations box	3,419.38
<b>Total 4000.1 - Contributions, Gifts, Grants</b>	<b>7,336.38</b>
4000.9 - Transfer to designated accts	-3,240.00
4003 - Membership dues	
4003.1 - Membership, Student \$10	10.00
4003.2 - Membership, Individual \$20	1,120.00
4003.3 - Membership, Contributing \$50	1,650.00
4003.4 - Membership, Supporting \$100	3,000.00
4003.5 - Membership, Sustaining \$500	500.00
4003.7 - Patron \$1000	2,000.00
<b>Total 4003 - Membership dues</b>	<b>8,280.00</b>
4004 - Interest earned	421.56
4006 - Special events	
4006.1 - Photo Contest	330.00
<b>Total 4006 - Special events</b>	<b>330.00</b>
4009 - Bookstore-Interpretive Center	
4009.01 - Bookstore sales	
4009.1 - Bookstore credit sales	6,046.06
4009.2 - Bookstore cash sales	4,368.14
4009.4 - Charges to Sales	
4009.41 - Chargebacks Refunds	-12.67
4009.81 - Fla Sales tax collected/paid	-594.11
4009.82 - Sales tax collection fee earn...	12.36
<b>Total 4009.4 - Charges to Sales</b>	<b>-594.42</b>
<b>Total 4009.01 - Bookstore sales</b>	<b>9,819.78</b>
4009.5 - Bookstore Overhead	
4009.51 - Credit processing fees	-838.38
4009.52 - Insurance Bookstore	-1,116.63
4009.55 - Misc expenses	-186.82
4009.7 - Commissions on crafts	-87.60
<b>Total 4009.5 - Bookstore Overhead</b>	<b>-2,229.43</b>
4009.6 - Purchases for resale	-6,726.34
4009.9 - Adjust inventory asset account	405.36
<b>Total 4009 - Bookstore-Interpretive Center</b>	<b>1,269.37</b>
<b>Total 4000 - Revenue</b>	<b>14,397.31</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>14,397.31</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>14,397.31</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
5000 - Expenses	
5009 - Grants, etc. paid	
5009.1 - Displays and Slough	7,708.95
5009.2 - Interpretive Center support	3,457.33
5009.3 - Cadkin Fund Resource Purchases	1,493.31

# Income and Expenses

## Friends of Six-Mile Cypress Slough Preserve Income & Expenses Summary January through December 2010

	Jan - Dec 10
5009.5 • Program Expenses (other)	
5009.51 • Summer Camp Scholarships	483.00
5009.5 • Program Expenses (other) - Ot...	240.74
Total 5009.5 • Program Expenses (other)	723.74
Total 5009 • Grants, etc. paid	13,383.33
5009.9 • Charges to Designated Accounts	-13,383.33
5016 • Other Expenses	
5016.1 • Permits Taxes Fees	58.00
5016.2 • Office supplies	243.99
5016.3 • Postage	581.80
5016.4 • Printing, shipping	380.11
5016.5 • Insurance (Main org)	1,235.89
5016 • Other Expenses - Other	0.00
Total 5016 • Other Expenses	2,499.79
Total 5000 • Expenses	2,499.79
Total Expense	2,499.79
Net Ordinary Income	11,897.52
Net Income	11,897.52

# Membership

- **Membership Committee Report**

- Annual Meeting, March, 2011
- Membership Activity January – December 2010
- **Renewing Members: 108**
- **New Members: 10**

- **Membership Activity January & February 2011**

- **Renewing Members: 45**
- **New Members: 17**

- **Membership Snapshot as of March 6, 2011**

- **Total Membership 222**

- Lifetime 3
- Honorary 6
- Donor 4
- Patron \$1000 5
- Guest 9
- Sustaining \$500 1
- Associate \$250 2
- Supporting \$100 39
- Contributing \$50 49
- Individual \$20 80
- Student \$10 3
- Corporate Sponsor \$500 0
- Inactive 2+ years 21

- **New membership incentives (effective January 2011)**

- - Associate and above: parking sticker for 18 Lee County facilities, coordinated with Mary Rude
  - Sustaining/Corporate Sponsor and above: parking sticker + choice of wet walk or moon walk for ten guests, coordinated with Carolyn Babb
  - Patron: parking sticker + walk + bench or rocking chair naming opportunity, coordinated with Carolyn Babb

- **Membership committee administration (effective August 2011)**

- - Mary Murray maintains master copy of membership database, generates monthly and annual report information, and forwards weekly deposit lists
  - Jean Scholz mails letters welcoming new members or acknowledging renewals

# Communications

Annual Meeting 2011  
Communications  
Carolyn Babb, Editor

In 2010 there were two six page and two eight page issues of *Connections* that were developed, printed and mailed.

January 2010  
March 2010  
June 2010  
September 2010

Distribution of each issue averaged 200 copies in the mail and 42 recipients by email is.

Contributors include Mary Rude, Supervisor Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve, Bob Repenning, Land Steward, Heather Gienapp, Senior Program Specialist, Mary Murray and Jean Labriola Scholz Membership Co-Chairs, Frank Murray, Treasurer, Charles O'Connor, Education Chairperson, Dotty Brown, Steve Tutko, Bill Sanders, Joyce Sanders, Janet Bunch, Special Events Chairperson, Alouise Skehan Pyle, Bruce Bunch, Flo Kornman, Alan Cadkin, Molly Meadows and Lee County Parks and Recreation staff.

The newsletter is printed at the Lee County Parks and Recreation Office.

Post Card Invitations and email messages were sent to members as reminders of meetings and events.

The Photography Contest was publicized in four local newspapers including the News Press, the Naples Daily News, the Florida River Weekly and the Daniels Corridor.



# Education

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**Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve**  
**Annual Education Report**  
**3-23-11**

## Summer Public Wet Walks 2010

This past summer Charles O'Connor led four wet walks for the general public.

All the walks were very well attended with walker numbers ranging past 20, and included Six Mile Slough guides and volunteers, many local teachers and a good number of youngsters. The trail was lovely and verdantly green, with perfect temperatures and cool water. The spacious changing rooms were much appreciated, and many visitors toured the Interpretive Center.

## Speakers for 2010

January – John Cassani – Lee County Hyacinth Control District – Exotic Flora and Fauna in Florida

February – Cheryl Black , Professor, Edison College – Sharks and the impact that human activities are having on shark populations

March – Bob Repenning, Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve Land Steward, State of the Slough, 2011

April – Sally McPherson, South Florida Water Management District – Water Conservation Month

## Speakers for 2011

January - Allyson Webb, FGCU (Bats)

February - Dr. Jamie Ellis, Professor of Entomology, University of FL (Where Have all the Honeybee Colonies Gone?)

March - Charles Sobczak, author of *Living Sanibel* and other fascinating books

April - Bob Repenning, Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve Land Steward, State of the Slough, 2010

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Photography Contest

The slough photography contest was a huge success with 136 images entered by 36 photographers. The reception on February 5 was very well attended, and generated a lot of new interest in photographing the beautiful slough.

# Special Events

## Special Events Annual Report 2010-2011

The Special Events calendar really starts in November of each year with the **Charlotte Harbor Nature Festival**. This event gets bigger and better every year, thanks to the hard work of Maran Hilgendorf and her cadre of enthusiastic volunteers. It is held at the Charlotte Sports Park, and hosts visitors from several counties. The Friends are always excited to participate in the event, to introduce the Slough to many new people, and to familiarize folks new to Florida with the varied natural systems that work to provide the state with food, recreational opportunities and clean water. This past November, Janet Bunch, Amy and Tim Denger manned the display booth from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

The second activity in which Friends participated was our own **Wonders of the Slough** in January. Besides the official Friends display manned by Janet Bunch, other Friends provided additional displays and activities to brighten up the day. Amy Denger presented her Alligator program to families young and old, and Phoebe Obdyke set up the most beautiful floral arrangements, highlighting the glories of Florida's native plants with both skill and humor. Other Friends helped out in the parking lot, gave guided walks, helped out with spotting scopes and in general provided lots of assistance and information to the hundreds of new visitors to the Slough.

The **Burrowing Owl Festival** sponsored by the Cape Coral Friends of Wildlife is held every February and it gets more popular with the public every year. It's a long and exhausting day answering questions, providing information about the Slough, and handing out informational brochures, but the Dynamic Duo of Tim and Amy Denger won the day, representing the Slough with humor and expertise.

**CREW** holds its annual **Wildflower Festival**, last year in March and this year on April 2, to celebrate the wonderful burgeoning of our native flowers and butterflies. All the experts on Florida's wildflowers are there to sell their books, autograph them, and lead guided hikes. While it's one of the shorter events, from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m., it attracts a large group of the native plant folks and butterfly aficionados. Janet Bunch has handled this with help from Mary Murray and Carol Hampton.

The last event of the season last year was the **Earth Day** celebration at Koreschan State Park, sponsored by the Sierra Club. This event has started to attract a smaller crowd each year, and it was decided this year not to participate. Janet Bunch, Judy Schele, and Mary Murray have manned the Friends display at various times.

Attending these events has always been interesting. New friends are made, the Slough is introduced to many new people who might have previously been unfamiliar with what and where it is, and it's always rewarding to spend time with visitors who choose to spend their free time learning about the true nature of the places we all call home.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Bunch, coordinator

# Advocacy



## Advisory Board

Jacquelin Cadkin  
*Cadkin Foundation*

Carolyn Delaria Swift

Dr. William Hammond  
*Florida Gulf Coast  
University*

Wiloy M. Parker, A.I.A.  
*Parker/Mudgett/Smith  
Architects, Inc.*

Clyde Dabbs  
*South Florida Water  
Management District*

## Board of Directors

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Jeff Key

Molly Meadows

Jeanne Labriola Scholz

Joyce Sanders

Steve Tutko

## Parks and Recreation Liaison

Mary Ruda, Supervisor

## FRIENDS OF SIX MILE CYPRESS SLOUGH PRESERVE

7791 Penzance Boulevard  
Ft. Myers, Florida 33966  
[www.sloughpreserve.org](http://www.sloughpreserve.org)

Dear Mr. Ault,

Thank you for your patience in waiting for a reply from Friends of the Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve in regards to T-Mobile's zoning request for a proposed radio cell tower located in the area of the Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve on Six Mile Cypress Parkway in Lee County, Fort Myers, Florida.

The Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve have a mission to preserve and protect all aspects of the preserve's fragile ecosystem. Since the organization's beginning our members have been involved in the Lee County's zoning process for any construction that may have an adverse effect on the wildlife in and around the Six Mile Cypress Slough.

T-Mobile's request for a zoning permit to build a radio tower so close to the slough causes concerns as to the effect it may have on the birds in this area of Southwest Florida and any migrating species using the 2,500 acres of the preserve during their migration.

After careful study and evaluation we will not raise any objections as long as the tower meets these criteria.

- It is not a Guide Tower.
- The structure is no higher than 90 feet.
- There are no lights.
- All antennae and/ or wires are inside the tower.
- There are no guide wires.

We have spoken with Mattie Richardson of the Lee County Department of Community Development and have stated that we will raise no objections to an Administrative decision if the Lee County Department of Community Development agrees that this tower meets the above environmental criteria.

Thank you for including the Friends of the Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve in the decision making process. And again, thank you for your patience.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Babb  
President  
Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve

cc: Lee County Department of Community Development

*Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation.*

# Board of Directors

Carolyn Babb

President

Charles O'Connor

Vice President

Nancy Johnson

Secretary

Frank Murray

Treasurer

Jeff Key

Molly Meadows

Joyce Sanders

Jean Labriola Scholz

Steve Tutko

Mary Rude, Lee County Parks and Recreation Liaison



# Slough Staff

- Jim Geissler
- Mary Rude
- Heather Gienapp
- Bob Repenning
- Andy Gurri

# Annual Report

[www.sloughpreserve.org](http://www.sloughpreserve.org)

