CREW Concert & Silent Auction wins with volunteers

This year's event was another success thanks in great part to the dedication and hard work of CREW Trust volunteers before, during, and after the concert.

Preliminary estimates are that the concert and silent ecoauction will have raised around \$30,000 for CREW Trust education programs. Once all of the bills and ticket sales income are received, a final figure will be announced.

Volunteer activity contributed to the evening's success.

Weeks before the concert, the team captains listed below put in many hours organizing lists and responsibilities of their volunteer crews and planning down to the smallest detail, and volunteer Barbara Centola assumed responsibility for all office work pertaining to the silent auction.

Volunteers were at the park early setting up tables, lighting, silent auction items, and lining the perimeter with tape for security before the first concert goers arrived.

Volunteer activity continued throughout the concert at various stations, and after the concert ended, more hours were spent packing up equipment and picking up the last pieces of trash and taking them to the dumpster.

Thanks, too, to the CREW Trust members and volunteers who made or donated items for the eco-auction. And special kudos to the volunteers who scrambled to set up tents when the rains arrived.

Thanks to the CREW Trust volunteers who worked the concert

Kate Bale Peggy McDevit Mary Ellen Becker John McDevit Dick Brewer Roxie McGuan Joan Buck **Terry McGuan** Hank Buckhannan Tom Mortenson **Bruce Bunch** John Norris Len Shivok Janet Bunch Barbara Centola Elise Smith Josh Smith David Cooper Nick Drummond Peter Tomlinson Ciro Farino Jan Watson Larry Kruhm Linda Zaino **George Luther** Bill Zaino

Team captains in **bold**

Check-in booth, right top: Bill Zaino, Linda Zaino, Kate Bale, Larry Kruhm; Silent auction, right center: Peter Tomlinson; VIP Cafe, right bottom: Joan Buck







Summer activities taper for visitors, volunteers

It's the end of a season that, for many, wasn't really a season at all.

Plans were blown away with Irma when program after program had to be cancelled due to trail damage.

Volunteers stepped up to help clear trails or to lead shortened versions of hikes. Those efforts are truly appreciated for both the flexibility and willingness to help displayed by volunteers.

The weekly guided walks came to a close at the end of March, and in April, the Family Fun Day and the last Strolling Science Seminar will finish the season's schedule.

For year-round volunteers, summer is a quiet time, but a few pop-up hikes and work calls will go out for summer projects. Those may include marking trails, training to lead guided walks at Flint Pen Strand, trail maintenance, and a few fun "let's go play in the water" wet walks.

Volunteers will receive updates through emails and the volunteer opportunities page on the web site.

Staying connected

People

Brenda Brooks

239-229-3948

brenda@crewtrust.org

Jessi Drummond

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education@crewtrust.org

Anne Reed

419-206-8800

anne@crewtrust.org

Web sites

www.crewtrust.org
www.trackitforward.com (hours)
www.crewtrust.org/crew-trustvolunteers (volunteer library—
the password is crew17)

Good app for smart phones weather bug (radar, lightning)

The Buzzard Bulletin contains notes and information for CREW volunteers and is e-mailed six times a year (September, November, January, March, May, July). Dick Brewer, editor.

Enjoy volunteer appreciation day activites

It's one of the favorite days of the year – Volunteer Appreciation Day!

Last year we enjoyed fantastic stories with Judge Hugh Starnes.

This year, we'll be hiking the School Board Property, a portion of CREW not open to the public. It will be an approximately three hour field trip which will begin at 9 a.m. on Friday, April 6.

The property is adjacent to Bird Rookery Swamp. Directions, details and a map will be emailed to those who RSVP "yes."

To attend, RSVP before Monday, March 26 to anne@crewtrust.org.

Bird Rookery Swamp reopens, interpetive 'What is a Watershed' signs installed at all three trails

Bird Rookery Swamp officially reopened to the public on March 6 after the contractor finished clearing and repairing damage on the trails from Irma. Walkers and a bicycler were in the parking lot and ready for the moment.

In addition, a new "What is a Watershed" sign was installed by volunteers just in time for the opening.

The sign was funded by the Big Cypress Basin/South Florida Water Management District and planned and created by Brenda, Anne, and Jessi with the help of local graphic artist Mike Donlan.

Watershed signs were installed by the observation tower at the Marsh Trails and by Jim's Pavillion at Cypress Dome the following week...



Bird Rookery Swamp volunteer sign installation crew with the finished project, I to r: Hank Buckhannan, Jim Shaw, George Luther, Len Shivok, Dick Brewer

CREW Concert Committee exploring merchandise ideas

Encouraged by the success selling the new CREW commemorative concert T-shirts at this year's concert, the Concert Committee is exploring new merchandise ideas for the 2019 concert.

Inspired by the CREW Trust's ability to select dates with clear, star-studded, moonlit skies ideal for outdoor concerts, the committee is seeking ad-

ditional input for 2019 concert merchandise items to sell.

Items currently being considered are rain ponchos, umbrellas, towels, plastic slip-on booties, and battery powered hair dryers, each of which would be CREW Trust-branded.

Please submit additional suggestions on **April Fool's Day**.