

Friends of Sebastian Inlet State Park, Inc.
c/o McLarty Treasure Museum
13180 North Highway A1A
Vero Beach, Florida 32963



McLarty Museum 772-589-2147
www.friendsofsebastianinletstatepark.org

October 16, 2011

As volunteers, would you like to join our Friends of the Sebastian Inlet State Park, Inc. group? You know, that as volunteers you have “bought the piano”. Why not “buy the stool” and join the Friends? Remember, the Friends are volunteers, whereas volunteers are not necessarily members of the Friends. With 50 hours of volunteer service there is no cost for membership. The Friends are the Citizens Support Organization (CSO) that provides support to individual parks by volunteering, educating visitors, hosting events and raising funds for specific park projects.

As examples:

- (1) Generating support for the Sebastian State Park and two museums
- (2) Seeking funding for projects and special needs that are beyond the State’s ability to support
- (3) Supporting Sebastian Inlet State Park Volunteers and park staff in their activities

We do this through:

- (1) Gift shops
- (2) Dues
- (3) Published Cookbook
- (4) Donations
- (5) Telescope revenue
- (6) Aluminum can sales

Friends Accomplishments:

- Pay for brochures: McLarty visitors (10,000 annually) and the camper brochures. We spend about \$1000 each year on them.
- Purchased the folding display panels in the fishing museum @\$1200 - \$1500. Previously they had some very rustic panels that were attractive but difficult to move. The Friends replaced them with lightweight panels that the volunteers can easily move and set up without injuring themselves. Now the main room can be used for meetings and ranger presentations on short notice. The old panels were traded to another park for something needed by the Park Manager for the Park.
- Funding of Night Sounds Concerts.
- Volunteer appreciation cookouts \$1200 - \$1500 annually
- Volunteer tee shirts, caps, and uniform shirts. The Friends \$2400+ on this each year.
- Supply John Deere Tractor bush hog
- The Park can't buy used stuff. Therefore, the Friends buy used vehicle seat, tailgates, misc. parts, etc. for them. Otherwise they would frequently have vehicles "down for parts"
- Ice Machine

- The Friends paid for and built surfer showers
- Paid for and built ADA compliant ramp for #3 Rest Rooms
- Funded and built ADA hand rails for a lot of the boardwalks. The issue is, at the time, materials to meet ADA requirements weren't available. So the Friends did the best they could to meet the specs with materials on hand.
- The Friends paid for and built city blocks of board walks around the park
- Shelving, storage closet area funded and built over several years
- Henry Carlberg built louvers for the 2&3 washrooms, materials funded by the Friends.
- Friends paid for the materials and rebuilt the barns at the Buffer preserve
- Friends funded numerous picnic tables (in the hundreds) -- Karl Chop and Pete Burke have headed up this effort and they're still at it!
- Funded and built the gazebo after the hurricanes
- Funded and built RV pads for camp ground hosts
- Funded and built concrete work for "monument signs", visitor turn around at South Gate
- Funded display cases for Fishing Museum gift shop
- Purchased cash registers at both gift shops
- Fund the purchase of 90% of the fasteners that the park uses each year. This includes thousands of Stainless Steel screws, carriage bolts, nuts, washers, etc. We spend somewhere in the range \$1500 - \$2000 annually of the Friend's funds doing this.
- We have a Friends account at Staples for office/computer stuff the park can't get through their channels
- BJ's account with a discount for Friends members.
- Funded Osprey Nest project at the buffer preserve.
- Purchase TV's, DVDs, DVD players, etc. for the museums
- Museum displays - purchased Stuffed Bob Cat
- Paid for the Mural in the Fishing Museum
- Purchased and installed Security cameras at McLarty
- Funded carpet project at McLarty office.
- College Scholarships for high school students
- Sound System for park events
- Computer for Friends website
- Bus trip to some park events
- Special turtle programs sponsored by the Friends
- Maintain Friends website

You can become a Friend and be more involved with the internal workings of the park by attending our meeting once a month as members. See the home page for the next FSISP board of directors meeting.

Sincerely,

Hank Kriss, President
 Erick Wickstrom, Vice President
 Roger McKay, Secretary
 Fred Marshall, Treasurer