



Turtle Tracks

Winter 2015-2016
Friends of Lovers Key



Professional photographer Joe Fitzpatrick teaches a group about landscape photography

Images of Nature photography sessions a smashing success!

Here's what they said:

"After this program, you will never shoot on AUTO again."

"John Brady is not only one of the best landscape photographers in Florida, but also is friendly, helpful and articulate. Well worth the price of admission. He's a class act!"

*"Great way to get acquainted with such a beautiful place."
MJ, Cape Coral*

"Part of the joy of photography is that enriches your visual

understanding of a place. There is much to see, understand, appreciate and enjoy at Lover's key."

*"A great way to support Lovers Key, hone your photo skills and enjoy the wonderful Lovers Key."
Steve, Fort Myers*

"Really informative. The pro photographers were the best!"

*"Capture the beauty and light of Lovers Key"
Carmen, Fort Myers*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Check
www.friendsofloversonkey.org for
even more events!

January 19, 6:30—8:30 pm:
FOLKS Annual Meeting and
Artificial Reef Presentation.
Conservation Room at Bass Pro
Shops, Estero. Members Only.

January 26, February 18 and
March 15 : Americana Commu-
nity Music Association (ACMA)
Concert on the beach. Starts 2
hours before sunset. Free with
park entry.

February 14: Vow Renewal
Ceremony. Reservations
required. Call Judy at
708-359-0466

March 18-20: Nautical Flea
Market. To learn about being a
vendor, visit
www.loverskeynauticalmarket.com.
All are welcome to enjoy the
exhibits, food and beer!

VOLUNTEERS HAVE ALL THE FUN!

There are so many ways to volunteer with FOLKS and support Lovers Key State Park! All the great programs are due to the work of dedicated volunteers. We would love you to join us! What is your talent?

Writing, editing/layout, event reporting, event planning and/or coordination, event support, teaching, food prep and/or serving, selling, accounting, marketing, advertising, public speaking, fund raising, traffic control, transportation, and administration just to name a few.. we can use it all!

Please call Joe Maccarone, board member at 239-947-2742 for more information!



Volunteers teaching at Great Outdoor Adventure Day, clearing trails, selling t-shirts. Volunteer party planner and guest enjoying a fundraising event, teaching photography


Join FOLKS! Visit www.friendsoflovkey.org for details on different membership levels and benefits.



**Vow Renewal
on the beach
February 14
\$75 per couple**

Contact Judy at 708-359-0466

FOLKS Cookbook
Now available! \$15 each.
To order, contact Flo at
630-542-2435




March 18-20, 2016

An intimate experience with local ACMA artists sharing their original Americana/Acoustic songs and back-ground stories. The concert, at the Beach Gazebo, is free with paid admission to the park.



CREATURE FEATURE: MANATEES

The gentle, slow-moving manatee fascinates most visitors to Florida. These large gray mammals average 10 feet long and weigh 800 to 1,200 pounds. They are easily seen by humans because they prefer the shallow waters of estuaries where they feed on grasses and other sea plants.

The estuary and canals at Lovers Key State Park are home to approximately 20 manatees who reside there full time during the summer months, according to Todd Richards, owner of Lovers Key Adventures. As the water begins to cool in the Fall, manatees

migrate north-east to Manatee Park in Fort Myers where the water is warmed by the FPL power plant. These mammals migrate back and forth during the day, coming back to Lovers Key State Park to eat, then going back to the warmer waters.

West Indian manatees in the United States are protected under federal law by the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, and the Endangered Species Act of 1973, which make it illegal to harass, hunt, capture, or kill any marine mammal.



Photo by Al Hufschmidt, FOLKS member who explains that "our kayak was approached by a few manatees, and one of them slowly pushed our kayak around - full circle - with its nose."



When you use one of these online services for shopping and dining, a percentage goes to help FOLKS!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: JACK DELANCY

Jack DeLancy, originally from Clinton, Illinois, now lives full time in S. Fort Myers. After splitting time between Illinois and Florida for 12 years, Jack has lived here full time now for 4 years. Jack worked as a Materials Inspector of hot mix asphalt for the State of Illinois Department of Transportation for over 30 years. For the past 11 years, Jack has been a volunteer at Lovers Key State Park. He works as a handyman on maintenance projects in the park and is invaluable in this position.

Jack eventually got involved with FOLKS, first as a member, and then as a Director and Treasurer.

Jack married his next door neighbor, Judy 13 years after they first met, and has been married for 54 years. He has 2 daughters and 3 granddaughters. His favorite spot in Lovers Key State Park is down at the South beach. He loves the view from there. His favorite animal in the park is the manatee, and on one of the overlooks had the privilege of once viewing a manatee mother with 2



nursing calves. In his free time, Jack is researching his family ancestry on the web. He has been fortunate to discover that his branch on the DeLancy family tree is of French origin.

Business Partners help support the environmental education mission of the Park.

[Thank You Business Partners!](#)

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