

Tigertales



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Friends of Tigertail Beach, Inc. Marco Island, Florida

FOT President's Report

Unexpectedly, our president, Joanna Metzger, recently tendered her resignation for personal reasons. As vice president, I was thrust into the role as acting president. The position will remain vacant until the Board of Directors elects a replacement.

Joanna was a true activist and leader and will be missed. As we have stated previously, the Directors on the Board have been serving as volunteers for years and have done an absolutely fabulous job in keeping the Friends of Tigertail non-profit organization functioning at a high level. HOWEVER, we desperately need some new blood, willing to take a position on the Board of Directors and/or actively help in some of the events that we sponsor. Unless we get help from a few new members, some of the events and activities we sponsor will have to be cancelled. Please see the "call for volunteers" on the last page of this newsletter. There are many ways to help our organization and many volunteer opportunities available. Allie Delventhal is our volunteer coordinator and point of contact should you want to contribute.

Quarterly Beach Cleanups

Friends of Tigertail hosted 2 beach cleanups this summer on July 15 and September 16.

Despite the lower July population, 23 volunteers, including 10 students, worked together to collect 12 bags of debris, totaling about 30 pounds.

The September 16 was part of the International Coastal Clean-up Event.

The International Coastal Clean-up is a global effort sponsored annually by the Ocean Conservancy to collect and tabulate types of trash from beach, lake, and river shores. Started in 1986, the event has grown to include many U.S. states and territories and more than 150 countries. Hosted by Friends of Tigertail, Tigertail Beach is one of several local sites to participate each year, and Keep Collier Beautiful lends support with organization and supplies.

For the September 16 clean-up, 99 volunteers came to Tigertail, scouring the park, mangroves, and sand for debris as they charted the items collected. 65 students were among the volunteers, hailing from MIA, MICMS, and Lely, East Naples, and Golden Gate High Schools. Student groups included the

Board of Directors and Officers

President - Vacant

Vice President - Lynn Livingston

Secretary - Gwynette Goodman

Treasurer - Bill Rogers

Linda Colombo

Allie Delventhal

Susan Kubat

Russ Colombo

Susan LaGrotta

Harriette Tax

MIA Key Club, SWAT (Students Working Against Tobacco), and Youth Haven. Marco Island and Naples residents and visitors were in attendance with several organizations participating: employees of Collier County and Marco Island City, Cardinal Health, Starbucks, Department of Health, and Esplanade community residents.

115 pounds of trash were collected, and with the clearance of that much debris the area appears revitalized, benefiting beach lovers as well as wildlife.

Those interested in viewing the results of the global clean-up can refer to Oceanconservancy.org.

Beach Restoration

At the end of May Tigertail Beach restoration was completed, returning the area to near pre-2017 condition prior to the deterioration caused by Hurricane Irma and subsequent storms. Opening Big Marco Pass to the lagoon permitted renewed tidal flow, with berms constructed along Sand Dollar Spit to limit the over-wash which had previously choked off the pass. Hurricane Idalia caused some damage similar to other area beaches, and follow-up repairs are being assessed with consideration for beach restoration and wildlife habitat



Post Idalia Drone Photos by
John Cavanaugh



Friends of Tigertail will be hosting their last beach cleanup for 2023 on Saturday, December 2nd at 8am. See our website at friendsoftigertail.com for more details. We look forward to seeing our old friends and returning snow birds!

Our Mission Statement:

“The Friends of Tigertail Beach, Inc. is dedicated to preserving, protecting and enhancing the natural features of Tigertail Beach”.

Welcome Back party for members!

Friends of Tigertail is planning a welcome back party for members and family in December at a local park. We will be announcing the date, location and details in our next newsletter and on our facebook page and website. Stay tuned for details and be sure to like and follow us on facebook!



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Friends of Tigertail Board of Directors are doing much of the work to sustain our organization. As we age, we are in need of volunteers to step up and handle some of the duties. We will identify opportunities at each of our events, both public and members only. See examples below for Beach Steward volunteers.

BEACH STEWARD

FUNCTIONS:

1. Coordinates 4 beach cleanups annually. Picks up and brings the supplies to the event early to set up before the volunteers arrive. 2 of the cleanups (April and September) are aligned with Collier County and Keep Collier Beautiful.
2. Participants sign in at the start of the event and sign out at the end. Certificates of appreciation are given to students.
3. Trash bags are consolidated and weighed after the trash and recyclables are separated and statistics regarding types of trash and total weight are created.
4. The statistics as well as thank you notes are sent out as needed.

VOLUNTEERS WILL HELP WITH:

1. picking up supplies.
2. set-up tables and supplies.
3. assist with participant registration and sign-out.
4. fill out certificates for students.
5. instruct participants about areas to clean.
6. separating, consolidating, weighing the trash.
7. tabulating statistical information about the trash collected.

PLEASE VOLUNTEER - YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

FOT Board liaison is Allie Deventhal - akd50@earthlink.net