



**Vol 4 Issue 7
Winter 2022**

Tigertales Friends of Tigertail Newsletter

Presidents Message :

We all can agree that the last year has proven to be difficult and discouraging for many organizations. Rest assured we were still staying on top of any changes at the beach. The most noticeable change was the loss of Tony's beach rentals and Café. However, a new vendor is in place.

We thought it best to cancel many of our activities. Despite COVID, the majority of our beach cleanups did take place and were well attended. Guess people just needed to get out onto the beach again!

Our Ken Kubat Camperships has been postponed as well. When the Conservancy opens up their summer camps, we will resume them.

FOTT is hopeful that Breakfast & Birds and Discover Tigertail will be able to start again in November 2022 and February 2023.

On a happier note, Friends of Tigertail was able to donate two new benches for the park's use. On April 16, 2021 a small ceremony was held. One bench is positioned on the lower level of the viewing tower and the other inside the playground. This way parents can observe comfortably. Hope that you have an opportunity to visit the tower.

New signage has been placed by Collier County in many areas of the park as well as a new direction sign informing drivers that the parking in the rear parking lot affords them closer beach access. We hope this helps to ease the trip for people who come to Tigertail for a swim in the Gulf. FOTT had been suggesting this for longer than I care to remember. Thank you, Collier County.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022

Officers

President	Linda Colombo
Vice President	Joanna Metzger
Secretary	Gwyn Goodman
Treasurer	William Rodgers

Linda Colombo/Gwynn Goodman
Butterfly Garden
Russ Colombo Membership
Allie Deventhal
Publicity/Beach Stewardship
Shorebird Alliance Liason
Susan LaGrotta
Facebook/Beach Stewardship/
Flyers/Newsletter
Lynn Livingston
Website
Susan Kubat
Bulletin Boards/Camperships
Joanna Metzger
Permits
Harriette Tax
Special Events

*** NEXT BOARD * of DIRECTORS MEETING**

**Tuesday February 8, 2022
10 am
Marco Island Library
Quiet Room**

All Members Welcome

Presidents Message continued: They also answered another request. We asked for and received a new fishing line recycle receptacle. In case you are a fisherman; this is located off of walkover #1 as you near the lagoon. We will continue to work with Collier County to improve the park. Our Commissioner Rick LoCastro is very receptive to our suggestions and appreciates our organization. Melissa Hennig of the county has also been very helpful.



FOTT happily replaced many of the plant identification signs that are located on the first walk over and by the tower. Thank you to Russ Colombo for his time to replace them. The sun does a number on the protective seal on the plaques.

As you know we have been involved in the Lagoon/Sand Dollar restoration project for several years now. Please read the update below. I was asked to participate in a video which will be out on our Face Book page in the very near future. Just hope I can keep Hollywood from calling, LOL Please watch for that and pass it onto your fellow Marco Islanders.

News of a member field trip should be out by the time you receive this. It will be a guided tram tour in the **Fakahatchee Preserve off of Rt 29**. Details will be included for you. We hope to see many of you there and perhaps enjoy lunch afterwards. The date is **February 17, 2022**. The following month, March will be our month for the annual meeting /members appreciation event. Save the date for **March 15th**. Details will be out in February.

Your Board of Directors is excited to begin working on a special event.

The year 2023 will be our “Silver” anniversary of 25 years.

FOTT would like to make it an outstanding celebration to be enjoyed by members as well as the community of Marco Island. If you would care to be involved please let us know. We often receive monetary donations. This past year we received one from Mr. John Salvino of Chicago, Illinois. Another one from Lynn and Kevan Rehm in honor of Lynn Wiggert and Duane Schmitz.

A big thank you to them.

I will end my message with a sincere thank you to each of you.

Friends of Tigertail is very thankful for your continued support through your membership. It is your membership and interest that keeps us motivated to continue preserving and protecting this wonderful priceless environment that is known as Tigertail.

Linda Colombo

What Else Does the Friends of Tigertail Do ????

Community Outreach Programs

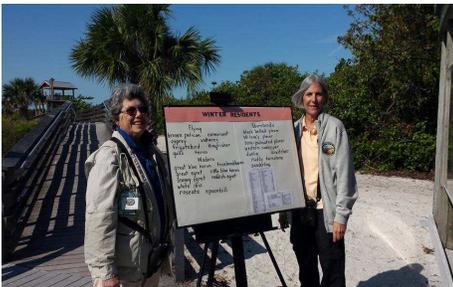
Breakfast and Birds from 2012 to the present

Naturalists and Members Susan Kubat and Fran Huxley host this popular program, Fall and Winter. Guiding the participants to observe anywhere from 12 to 27 different species of birds that forage, wade, nest and rest on the sands and dunes of Tigertail Beach Park. About 700 have attended.



Discover Tigertail from 2012 to the present

Naturalists and FOTT Members Fran Huxley and Susan Kubat, enlist fellow experts in the fields, representing the wildlife that reside on Tigertail Beach Park. Presenting to over 1500 members of the public. Volunteers assist with the interactive Scavenger Hunt, Question Quest, pail decorating & raffles.



Beach Cleanups 2006 to the present

Members hold cleanups 4 x per year since the incorporation of FOTT in 1998. Statistics kept since 2006, reveal over 6000 lbs. of debris collected by 2429 volunteers, as well as 21 tires. 652 certificates were distributed to youth participants in appreciation for their volunteerism.



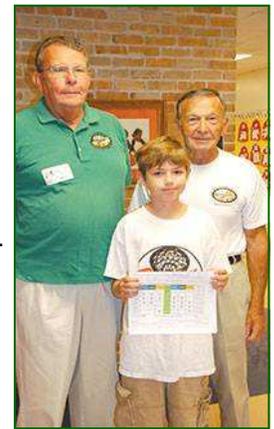
**News from the Beach Stewards: Allie Deventhal and Susan LaGrotta
Annual International Coastal Cleanup held on 9/18/2021**

The 76 energetic participants gathered to rid Tigertail Beach and the park of debris. Of particular note is that 42 of the volunteers were students from the MIA/Key Club. 94 lbs of debris was collected. Other noteworthy participants included Rick LoCastro, Collier County Commissioner, Barry Williams, Director of Collier County Parks and Recs, John Lafakis from City of Marco Public Works, members of Rookery Bay, MICA.

Quarterly cleanup held on 12/04/2021. The 59 volunteers, removed 79 lb trash and 17 student certificates awarded. The Noontime Rotary participated and donated 6 new grabbers. They arranged for Starbucks to be on hand donating coffee, water and cups to all attendees. Visitors from Switzerland were among the participants as well as City of MI Public Works Andrew Wright. Special Shout out to Collier Cty. Park Attendant Lee Gunderson who walks the beach off duty to keep the beach clean. Friends of Tigertail greatly appreciates all of your support.



Unusual Item recovered by MIA students. Wig on a Stick !



Camperships Awarded by Friends of Tigertail

In 2012 a Scholarship Committee was formed to award summer camp scholarships “ Camperships” to students in the 4th grade. The committee chair coordinates this effort with the principal at TBE on Marco Island. The students submit an essay, with subject matter relating to the environment/conservation. Two winners are chosen to attend the Conservancy of Southwest Florida’s week long summer camp, paid for by the FOTT Scholarship Fund., named the “ Ken Kubat Camperships” in memory of past Board Member Ken Kubat, who chaired the committee since its inception. Also a third scholarship donated by members MaryAnn and Matthew Maniace. To date 18 camperships have been awarded to students. Donations are always welcome!



**Friends of Tigertail Donates Benches to the Tigertail Beach Park
Submitted by Member Allie Deventhal**

A small ceremony was held at the Tigertail Beach Park on Monday, August 16, 2021 for the presentation of two benches donated by Friends of Tigertail to the county park. Friends of Tigertail board members were on hand, with the county represented by Melissa Hennig, the Regional Manager of Beaches and Water for the Collier County Parks and Recs. The new playground is an exciting recent addition to the park. With new equipment donated by the county through TDC funds and a lovely shade structure provided through a grant from the Community Foundation of Collier County, the playground area is now state of the art. Friends of Tigertail and Collier County continue to support improvements to the park with the mission to provide an enjoyable experience for residents and visitors .

**2022 Events
Please Join Us**

**Farmers Market Mackle Park
Meet and Greet**

**Wednesday February 2, 2022
from 8 am to 1 pm**

**Please stop by our table and meet
some of the members providing
informational handouts
and surprises!**

**Tues Feb 8, 2022
Board Meeting
10 am**

Marco Island Library

**Annual Member
Field Trip**

**Thurs. February 17, 2022
Fakahatchee Preserve
9:30 to 12:30**

**Annual Meeting and
Member Party**

**Tues. March 15, 2022
4 pm to 6 pm.
Invite will be sent**

**Beach Cleanups
Saturdays**

**8 am to 10 am
March 5, 2022
July 16, 2022
September 17, 2022
December 3, 2022**

**Friends of Tigertail
25th Anniversary
March 2023
Details TBD**

**Tigertail Beach Park
Butterfly Garden
Visitor !**



Important Notice : Membership Information
Many of our members' dues are due January
You will be receiving a notice shortly from
Russ Colombo, the membership chair.

If you are not sure if your dues are do at this
time , please contact him at :

rskipperna2@comcast.net

Thank you.



Application
Friends of Tigertail
P.O. Box 722
Marco Island, Fl. 34146

One year membership: \$ 20.00 ____

Three year membership: \$ 50.00 ____

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

Your dues and any donations go to
support our programs, events and summer camp
scholarships. Your membership is
tax-deductible, as are your contributions.

**Please go to PayPal to pay your dues !
Its easy ! Click on link below:**

[http://www.friendsoftigertail.com/
friendsoftigertail.com/Pay_Pal.html](http://www.friendsoftigertail.com/friendsoftigertail.com/Pay_Pal.html)

For all Events and Photos:
www.FriendsofTigertail.com

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FriendsOfTigertailBeach](http://www.Facebook.com/FriendsOfTigertailBeach)