

April 2019

PALMETTO PAL'S PAPER

'Our community connecting YOU to Palmetto Island State Park'

A newsletter by Friends of Palmetto Island State Park, Inc.

Volume 9, Issue 4

Changing Of the Guard

Every year Friends of Palmetto hold an annual meeting to vote in board members and officers. This year has brought about big changes to the group. New blood so to speak, can lead to new ideas and can help to keep things fresh.

Below is a list of the 2019-2020 board members:

Standing: Ovide Mercure- Treasurer, Sammy Babineaux - President, and Butch Meaux

Sitting: Mandy Crosby, Shannon Neveaux, Kelly Hebert - Secretary and
Roxanne Burnette - Vice President



On a sad note, leaving the board is Carla Foley- Treasurer, Marietta Harrington - Secretary, Carlene Meaux and Brandy Babineaux. They have volunteered many selfless hours in helping this organization to be successful. A big **Thank You** for your service as board members.

Friends of Palmetto Island publishes this electronic newsletter on the 1st of each month. To receive a copy please e-mail info@friendsofpalmetto.org
To 'un-subscribe' e-mail the above. **Only current members without an e-mail address will receive a copy of this newsletter by mail.** Thank you!
Please feel free to share.

Blooming has Begun!

Palmetto Island State Park is the only public place in Vermilion Parish to see the rare Abbeville Red Iris (*iris nelsonii*) in bloom!

The Abbeville Red Iris is visible during it's SHORT blooming season at the board walk behind the Nature Center.

Park entry fees apply.

Ask staff at the park's entrance station for a color brochure about the Abbeville Red Iris.



The Lagoon Trail

Submitted by Roxanne Burnette

The weather has been beautiful, and Spring is in full swing. No better weather to hike the trails out at Palmetto. My son and I decided to do just that. The Lagoon Trail is located by the boat launch and it is 1 mile long. Remember if you walk the entire trail, you must walk back to your

vehicle, meaning that you will have walked 2 miles unless you cheat and call someone to pick you up at the end of the trail.

The entrance to the trail opens to a stunning view of lush greenery with the beginning of the lagoon to your left. This lagoon is home to many wildlife. If you walk quietly down the trail you will hear many sounds that will alert you to some of the wildlife. We could hear the sounds of busy beavers. We followed their sound to find that they have built a dam across the lagoon! There are many signs of deer. Look for the scraping marks they make on the trees. We also saw many small wild pigs crossing the trail to drink from the lagoon. Luckily, we didn't meet up with the parents!

The entire trail is beautiful and peaceful. The many wildflowers are growing along the trail as if to guide you along the path. The trees are starting to sprout leaves but if you look up into them you may be able to spot a few birds and see a nest or two.

We really enjoyed our adventure on the Lagoon Trail and hope that you don't pass up seeing this hidden treasure of Palmetto Island State Park. Look for the sign before you get to the boat launch.





The winner of the 10 gallon pot, lid, burner, hose and regulator is

N.R. "Bubba" Broussard Jr.!

This item was donated by

Concepts of Care Home Health

Friends would like to thank everyone for supporting us so we can support events and projects at Palmetto Island State Park.

The **Krewe of Palmetto** would like to thank everyone who came out to celebrate the **Mardi Gras Golf Cart Parade**. Good weather and fun people made this year a huge success. The official count of decorated golf carts was 44. That is amazing!! The campground was sold out and many people came just to spend the day with us. So many beautifully decorated carts and costumes made this years parade even bigger and better!!

Congratulations to this years King Cake III and Queen Moon Pie III, Brad Comeaux and Joan Borges both of Lafayette. Thanks to Friends of Palmetto for donating T-shirt's and to C&J Outfitters for the fishing lures to throw!! Let's all keep making the event fun and



Welcome!

We want to welcome Judd to the park staff! Judd is a resident of Kaplan, and he graduated last year from Kaplan High School. He has experience as a farm hand and as a lawn service provider. He was hired as a park buildings and grounds attendant. His main duties will be keeping up the grounds at the park, but he will also be performing maintenance and repairs as needed.



Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 13 - Pictures with the Easter Bunny - Pavilion 2

Saturday, April 13 - Dutch Oven Gathering (Cooking Spaghetti)

Sunday, April 21 - Easter

Saturday, April 27 - Stir The Pot Festival

Tuesday, April 30 - Board Meeting 6:00 p.m. Abbeville Library

Saturday, May 18 - Delcambre Seafood and Farmers Flash Market at Palmetto



Buy Direct From the Source at the Delcambre Seafood and Farmers Market.

Their first market of the year will be **April 6th** at the *Bayou Carlin Cove Pavilion* in Delcambre.

Follow the signs to 605 S. Railroad. The Market starts at 9 a.m. and ends at 1 p.m.. There will be live music and plenty of food vendors to fill your belly.



Saturday, **May 18**, Delcambre Direct will hold a special flash market at Palmetto Island State Park, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the boat launch. Vendors will be on location and a small acoustic band will be there for entertainment. Come on out and enjoy shopping for fresh, locally grown produce and handmade items.

Snowbird Corner: Tony and Barbara Ungetheim are from just below the Nashville, Tennessee area and have been RVing for 25-30 years. She is a retired school teacher and he retired from the forestry industry. He is a Vietnam Veteran. Their son is a Lt. Col. in the Army and was just assigned Brigade Commander in Germany. They had a farm and cattle but sold everything and are now RVing full time. This is their first visit to Palmetto. They love the wildlife, walking trails and the trees and vegetation. They also mentioned that they thought the park was very clean.. They also love the friendly Cajun people and of course the Cajun food. They committed on how the park staff were helpful and friendly. From here they head to Texas to visit friends. They said they will come back to Louisiana and Palmetto Island State Park.



LATANIER COOKERS' D.O.G. 'CHOW'



Chef Bourque is a special Friend and member of Latanier Cookers. He has supported both our organizations by making small videos and helping us promote what we love doing on Facebook and YouTube. We suggest you follow his personal Facebook page and his group Cajun Cooking on the Bayou. You can purchase Chef Bourque's

Beignet Mix, Gumbo Mix and more at Fresh Pickins in Lafayette, on Amazon or at the Lafayette Farmers and Artisans Market.



SHRIMPY CORN submitted by Chef Ted Bourque

2 lbs. raw shrimp (cleaned)	2 cans white shoepeg corn (strained/res. liquid)
2 cans whole kernel corn (strained/res. Liquid)	1 stick butter
1 medium tomato (chopped)	1 medium yellow onion (chopped)
1 stalk celery (chopped)	6 sprigs parsley (chopped)
1/2 large green bell pepper (chopped)	6 stems green onions (chopped)
1/2 cup chicken broth	1 Tbsp. Cajun seasoning of your choice
2 bay leaves	1 tbsp. paprika
1/2 tsp. chili powder	1/4 tsp. thyme
1/2 tsp. garlic powder	1/2 tsp. sugar
1/4 tsp. celery seed	Salt to taste
	1/2 tsp. tomato bouillon (optional)

In a 10 qt. Dutch oven, melt 1/2 stick of butter. Sauté onions, peppers and celery. Add corn without liquid and stir to allow corn to dry out and brown a little. Add tomatoes and continue stirring to melt the tomatoes down into the veggies and butter. On a low heat, add Cajun spice chili powder, garlic powder, paprika, celery seed and thyme. Continue stirring as the corn cooks in with the tomatoes. Add the corn liquid, chicken broth, parsley and shrimp. Let boil for 10 minutes. Add tomato bouillon. Add bay leaves and remaining 1/2 stick of butter and let cook. Add sugar. Add green onions. Check salt level and adjust as desired. let it cook until you reach the gravy level you desire. May be served over rice or as a side dish. This recipe will provide 8-12 servings

Meeting, Greeting, Cooking & Eating

Gathering on the 2nd Saturday of each month at Palmetto Island State Park



337-893-2470 or 337-501-1535
meauxdp@yahoo.com



Hop over to

Palmetto Island State Park

Saturday, April 13



Pictures with the Easter Bunny

10 a.m. - Noon

Join us at Pavilion #2, near the splash pad.

Entry fee into the park does apply.

Donations are welcome.



Don't forget your Camera!
We expect the Easter Bunny
to surprise us with a visit
at 10:30 a.m.



For more information call 652-2484 or 654-6242



Friends keeping you connected to Palmetto Island State Park !
Email info@friendsofpalmetto.org to get our free
electronic monthly newsletter or find us on Facebook.

Come out for great food, music, live auction, and family fun in the park!

Festival admission allows you to sample all the cook-off food while it lasts!

Sat., April 27
10am-5pm

Music by:
DJ from 10am-1pm
Layne Touchet from 1-5 pm



9th Annual Stir the Pot seafood cook-off & festival

Palmetto Island State Park Abbeville
Admission \$10; kids 4-12 \$5, kids 3 & under, free

Proceeds benefit Palmetto Island State Park

Call 523-5224 or www.friendsofpalmetto.org for information

Festival Gates open at 10am
Talks/Demonstrations 10am-5pm
DJ from 10am-1pm
Live Music from 1-5pm
Cook-off judging begins at 11am
Food tasting begins after judging

No ice chests, bikes, golf carts or pets allowed



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
BLAKE MIGUEZ





P.O. Box 33, Perry, LA 70575

The splash pad will open April 12, pending needed repairs.



Please Mail To:

Gulf Coast Golf Carts Sales & Rental



Free delivery with two day rental. (Call for details)

Don Derouen
Owner/Operator

Bus: (337) 522-4210
2810 Veterans Memorial Dr.
Abbeville, LA 70510



Park Hours of Operation:

Gates are open 6am-9pm (Sun-Thurs) and 6am-10pm (Fri & Sat). **Entrance station** is open: 8am-5pm (Sun-Thur) 8am-10pm (Fri & Sat). All park sites close at 10pm on Friday, Saturday and days preceding holidays. **Entrance Fees:** \$3 per person; Free for Seniors (62 and older) and children age 3 and under. **Canoe** rentals are \$25 per day or \$7 per hour. The **Splashpad** is open April-September, Tuesday –Sunday from 8am to 8pm. **Golf cart** entry fees are \$10 per day or \$100 for annual pass (*proof of insurance is required*). Palmetto Island State Park has **96 camp sites**, 6 cabins, 4 pavilions, 4 primitive backpack sites, 1 primitive group site and a meeting room to rent. **Reservations** for overnight accommodations at Palmetto Island State Park can be made [online](http://www.lastateparks.com) or through the Call Center at 877.226.7652. For more information about the Park, visit www.lastateparks.com, call 888.677.0094 toll free or 337.893.3930 locally.