

# THE ORANGE BLOSSOM

FEBRUARY 27TH, 2024



## STATE PROJECT

This year's State President Project is to raise \$5,000 for the Right Whale Program at the Clearwater Marine Institute. With less than 350 right whales left, the goal is to prevent boating accidents and finish entanglement. The State President's Theme is "Being A Kid Is My Superpower." The point of this is to promote kids in C.A.R. to learn leadership skills and promote independence.



## NATIONAL PROJECT

This year's National President Project is to raise \$15,000 with the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum to restore The First Report of the United States of Department of Agriculture and Abraham Lincoln's Leather Portfolio. The second part of this project is to connect local societies to N.S.C.A.R. with a goal of 30,000 volunteer hours. This year's National Theme is "Cultivating Tomorrows Leaders."

# PRESIDENT'S NOTES

## PRESIDENT MESSAGE



Hello everyone! I have had such a wonderful time this year. I am so proud of all the work we put into this conference. On Friday, we had a meet the candidates party and played 2 rounds of bingo featuring the National Project with the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and state project Right Whale trivia. On Saturday we held the business meeting and the banquet. At the business meeting we elected the new officers for the 2024-2025 year. I cannot wait to see what Caleb Golden has ready for the upcoming year.

In the evening I had so much fun dancing and getting together with everyone. Our state enthusiast, Sean Ireland, joined us on the dance floor. Sunday morning was the memorial service. If you can attend the National Conference in Arlington, Virginia please do. Caleb Golden will be sworn in to office at Mount Vernon. I hope to see everybody at the next packet meeting when we learn about the new president projects!

Sydney Wagnstrom  
F.S.C.A.R State President  
wagnstrom2010@gmail.com

## PRESIDENT'S NOTES

## SENIOR PRESIDENT MESSAGE

Greetings members and seniors!

What a great year we had! Don't forget to continue logging your volunteer hours on the C.A.R. national website as part of the National President's project. We'd like to have all Florida societies represented.

We were so excited to celebrate you all at our recent State Conference! What a great time we had. I was really grateful to all of you and for all of your help in making it happen. I especially enjoyed seeing the bobbleheads of the past four State Presidents during my time as Senior State President, as well as receiving my own. What a special gift that was, and the blanket with all four State President project logos on it! The custom C.A.R. vase meant a lot to me also. I am looking forward to National Convention in April and Summer Regional meetings.

This year, I am so thankful to State President Sydney Wagnstrom! She had a great year and I was so honored to work with her. She is going to do big things in her life! I look forward to seeing her continue to develop in her leadership. I learned so much about Right Whales this year and she inspired me to volunteer! I will definitely miss working with her, but I know that she is destined for greatness.



Lastly, I wanted to say thank you to all of you for your help in the four years of my time as Senior State President. It has been truly fulfilling to be a part of the state organization and to be able to work with all of the members, seniors and the societies. I know that the state will be in great hands with incoming Senior State President JoAnn "Nana Jo" Welker! It has been an absolute pleasure for me to serve the state and I look forward to seeing what State President-Elect Caleb Golden has in store for the new year. Thank you all for a great time!

Holly Hamilton  
Senior State President (2020-2022,  
2022-2024)  
floridasociety@yahoo.com  
(772) 453-3314

# WELCOME OUR NEW OFFICERS



## MEMBER OFFICERS

**State President Elect:** Caleb Golden, Billy Bowlegs Society  
**State 1st Vice President:** Olivia Schopf, Vaughan-Latham Society  
**State 2nd Vice President:** Jaelyn Tillman, Billy Bowlegs Society  
**State Chaplain:** Levi Golden, Billy Bowlegs Society  
**State Recording Secretary:** Sydney Rigaud, Treasure Coast Society  
**State Corresponding Secretary:** Colin Matthews, Sugar Mill Society  
**State Organizing Secretary:** Sarah VanNederynen, Battle of Thomas Creek Society  
**State Treasurer:** Kayley Kelly, Treasure Coast Society  
**State Registrar:** Landon Alexander, Vaughan-Latham Society  
**State Historian:** Eli Maddox, Vaughan-Latham Society  
**State Librarian:** Ezekiel Martin, Ponce de Leon Society  
**State Curator:** Phelan VanNederynen, Battle of Thomas Creek Society

## SENIOR OFFICERS

**State President Elect:** JoAnn Burns Welker  
**First Vice President:** Carol Bryant-Martin  
**Second Vice President:** Katy Peterson  
**State Chaplain:** Debbie Cook  
**Recording Secretary:** Roberta "Bobbie" Schofield  
**Organizing Secretary:** Cathy Paunov  
**Corresponding Secretary:** Holly Hamilton  
**Treasurer:** Rhonda Rigaud  
**Registrar:** Richard "Dick" Young  
**Assistant Registrar:** Diane Libertini  
**Historian:** Theresa Peterson  
**Librarian:** Tiffany Ireland  
**Curator:** Melissa Pena

# WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Congratulations to,

Ainsley C.

Caiden C.

Ripley S.

Alanna A.

Anthony A.

Abigail G.

Nathan M.

Sophia M.

Elliott R.

Julian R.

Audrey R.

Henry R.

Conrad B.

Frank B.

Aria H.

Layton T.

Marcus H.

Roselynn H.

Ruby H.

Xander H.

Jayden B.

Cierra T.

William B.

Olivia H.

Cali P.

Camden P.

Braeden S.

Mary G.

Abigail S.

Emily S.

We are so happy to recruit new members and grow our state society. Don't forget to recruit people you think would be a good fit for C.A.R.!!!

One fun way our state society promoted member growth was making fun take-home packets at the conference to give to possible members! Small activities like this can go a long way into growing our group.

# DESCRIPTION OF THE CONFERENCE

The F.S.C.A.R. held their 93rd State Conference from February 16th to February 18th in Melbourne, Florida.

On February 16th, we began the weekend by having a meet and greet with the state board candidates. We dressed up in superhero attire and played bingo that related to the state and national projects. While playing bingo, we also had an ice cream party and decorated recruitment cards.

On February 17th we began the morning conference with a complimentary breakfast where people got to enjoy each other's presence before the business meeting began.

We began the morning meeting with the Opening Ritual and continued with the greetings from the Vaughan-Latham Society and the Governor of Florida. After all the reports we had the Patriotic Minutes where members got to speak about their ancestors. After the candidate speeches we went on to do the Oath of the Tellers and then voting. We went through the Unfinished and New Business then were invited to the National and Southeastern Regional Meeting. We finished the morning off with the C.A.R. song, Report of Tellers, announcements, and then the Benediction.

Saturday Afternoon, we went to the Green Gables house which is summarized on the next page of the newsletter.

On Saturday Night, we began the evening with the precision, ritual, and invocation. This year we had a new twist and our Honorary State Presidents were given Bobbleheads of themselves to place with the President to lend their support throughout the meeting.

This year we introduced the "Next Step Initiative" to help C.A.R. members transition to D.A.R./S.A.R./S.R. when they are of age. The Dual and Junior S.A.R./D.A.R. members came forward and were given the "next Step Initiative" pins, based on the transition between the future leaders growing up and to their proceeding organizations.

After the banquet we continued on with the meeting and had everyone's favorite time of the night, the Basket Drawings. We continued the fun with the State Award Presentations, introduction of Florida State Enthusiast, the Special State Award Presentations, the Pin Presentations, and Presentation of Pages, Aides, and Flag Bearers.

A bit later we had the Installation of the 2024-2025 State Board and the 2024-2026 State Senior Board and got invited to the 94th Florida State Conference by Jaelyn Tillman, a member of the society hosting us next conference! After the announcements, the Benediction was given and we retired the colors. After a long day, Madame President Sydney Wagnstrom gave the adjournment to the 93rd annual F.S.C.A.R. Conference.

While the meetings were over for today, we still had so much fun left for us in the evening. While the members danced and socialized at the Member Dance, the Seniors headed over to the Senior State President's Reception.

On February 18th, we finished off the weekend with the Annual Memorial Service, led by Jaelyn Tillman, State Chaplain and Teri Peterson, Senior State Chaplain. It was a beautiful service in which we had the processional, invocation, scripture readings from different members, hymns, the remembrance of seniors, prayers, the benediction, and then the recessional.

This year's conference was wonderful. President Sydney Wagstrom and Senior President Holly Hamilton did an amazing job organizing a extraordinary event and I cannot wait to see what next year holds.

Olivia Schopf - 17 years old  
F.S.C.A.R. 2nd Vice President 2023-2024

CONFERENCE PHOTOS



# NATIONAL THEME: CULTIVATING TOMORROW'S LEADERS

## THE GREEN GABLES HOUSE

In 1896, William and Nora Wells built Green Gables as their winter home. While in Melbourne, the Wells built a local high school, a library, a theater, roads, closed off land to make a park, and donated property to move a church. Green Gables has 1.15 acres of green land which is where we spent the time of our service project.

While in Green Gables during the conference, we removed weeds, planted seeds, and cleaned up the green space around Green Gables. Keeping the environment in Green Gables healthy is important to the site because it is home to endangered species, fish (on the river), birds, and many more.

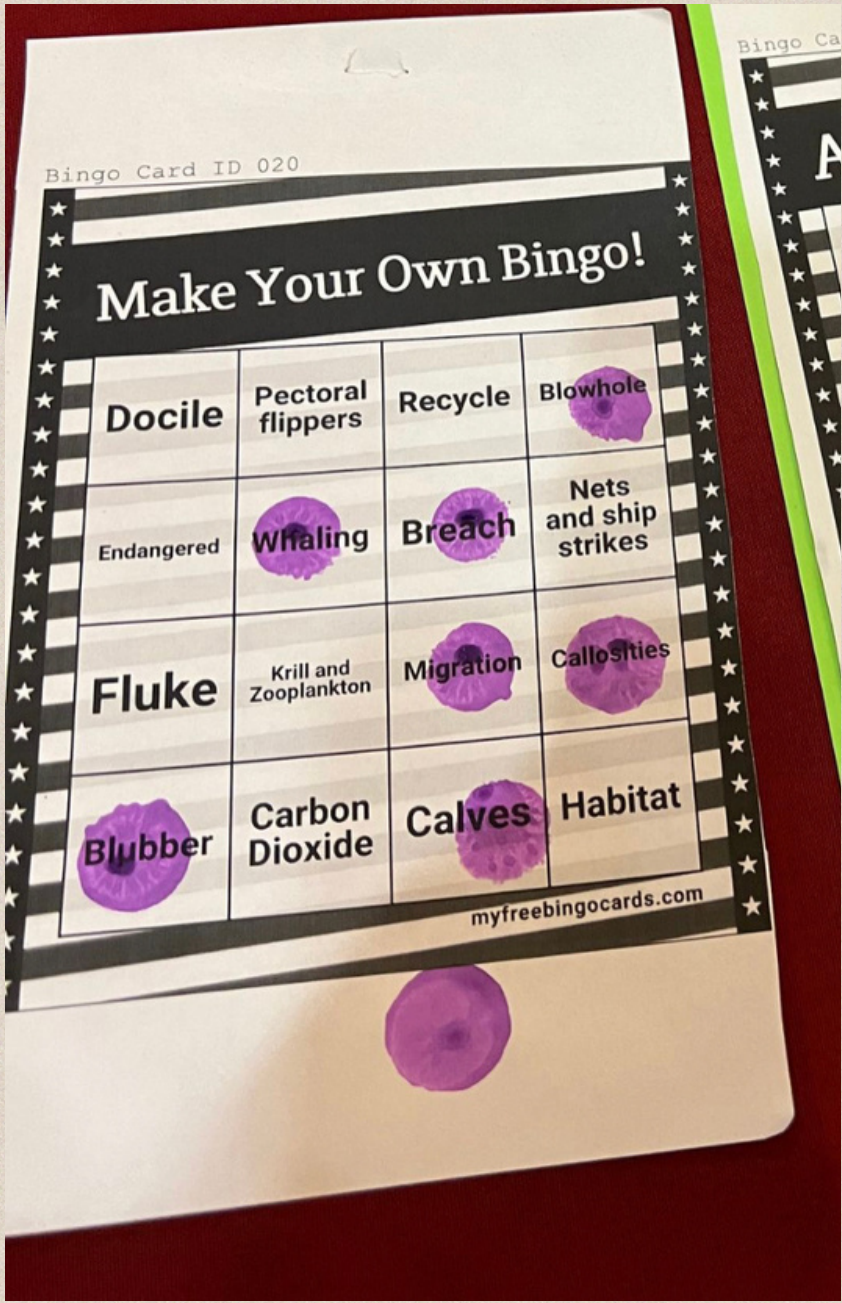
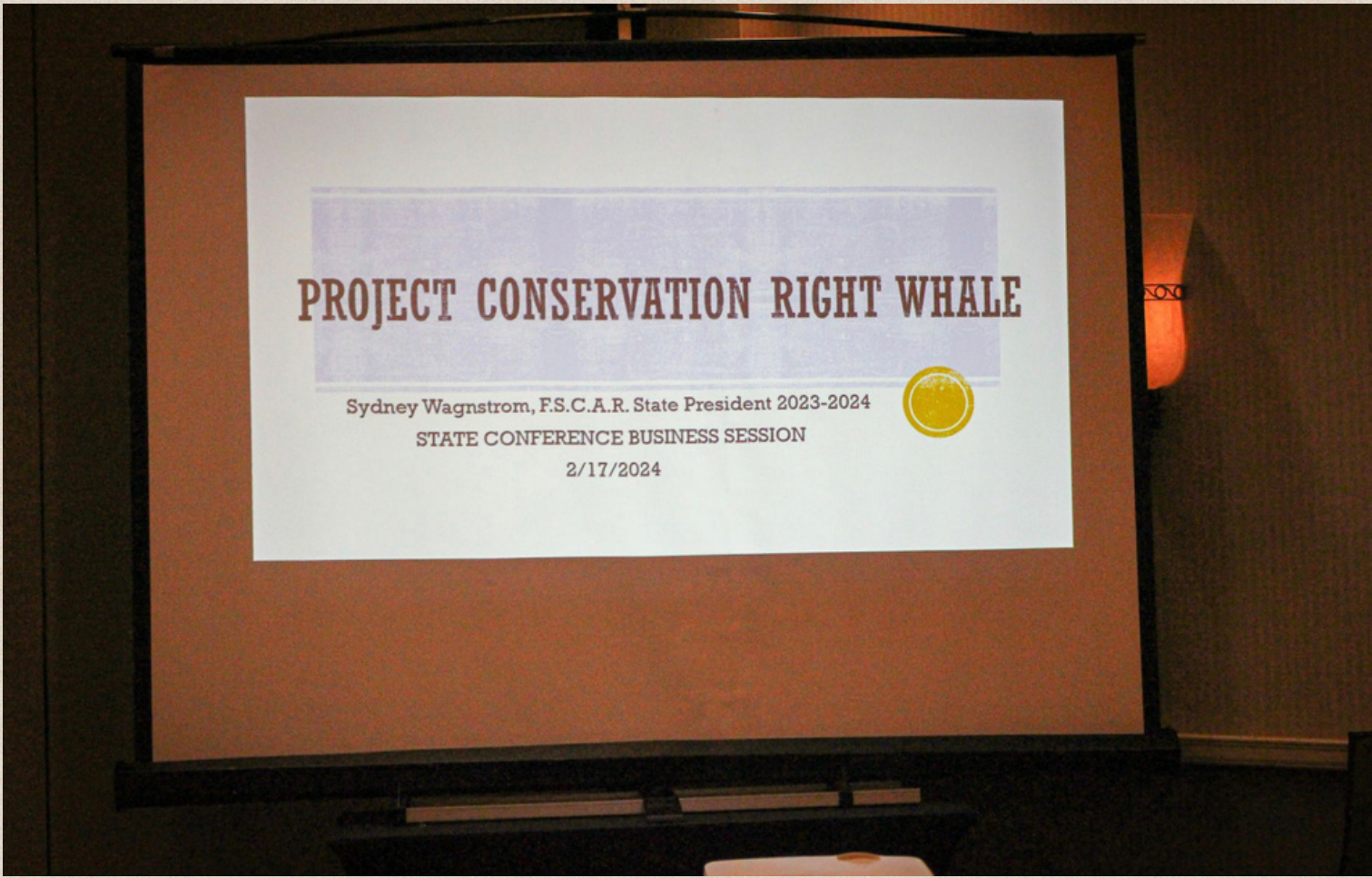
This project was wonderful in demonstrating this year's National Theme, "Cultivating Tomorrow's Leaders" because it took young C.A.R. members out of the business rooms and into an agricultural space where we learned about this historic site and its contributions to the local community.

Olivia Schopf  
Age 17



# STATE THEME: PROJECT CONSERVATION RIGHT WHALE

This year, our State President raised \$5,000 for the Clearwater Marine Aquarium Research Institute to help fund their Right Whale Protection Program. Our State President reached her goal for this year's project.



DONATION PINS

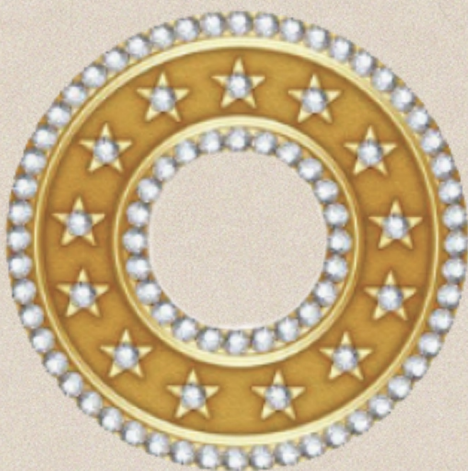
**Star Supporter:** A recurring donation each month to support the National Endowment Fund, the General/Operating fund, or the Niebell Endowment fund. (\$5 minimum monthly).



**Niebell Fund Pin**  
Support ongoing operations at National Headquarters through a donation to the endowment fund of \$50.



**Endowment Fund Pin**  
Donate \$100 to the endowment fund and receive a pin.



**Endowment Benefactor Pin**  
Donate \$500 to the endowment fund and receive a pin.



**Endowment Legacy Pin**  
Donate \$1,000 to the endowment fund and receive a pin.



**Apple Slice Pin**  
Any individual making a contribution of \$50 or more to the N.S.C.A.R. museum will receive the apple slice pin.



**Museum Major Benefactor Red Apple Pin**  
A contribution of \$1000 or more to the N.S.C.A.R. Museum is awarded with this pin.



**Voyager Fund Pin**  
A \$50 donation assists with travel expenses for National Officers, State Presidents, and National Chairmen.



**Magazine Fund Pin**  
Donating \$100 to receive the pin helps lower our costs for the magazine.



**Mountain Schools Pin**  
Show support for the mountain schools by donating \$25.



**Library Fund Pin**  
Donate \$100 to the N.S.C.A.R. Library