

Birch Bulletin

Birch Park Retro Sign Funded by Friends' Board



From left: Friends' Director of Development and Membership Michelle Schmitz, Board Members Patrick Daoud and Steve Morse, Fort Lauderdale Commissioner Steven Glassman, Park Manager LeAnn Hinson, Fort Lauderdale Chamber President Dan Lindblade, Friends' Board President Chris Madsen, Board Members Andy Caldwell, Lisa Davis and Nancy Theis, Past Board President Jim Ellis, Friends' Executive Director Gale Butler

Rangers (in background): Bill Oliver and Eric Kiefer

Thanks to a number of generous board members, the Hugh Taylor Birch State Park Retro Sign is in place at the corner of East Sunrise Boulevard and ATA. Our commissioner, Steven Glassman, was on hand to help celebrate the unveiling of the 35 foot-long, eight feet high sign.



"Thousands of cars pass this corner daily and now people will know what all our green space is".

— Chris Madsen, Board President

Florida Power & Light Donates ADA Compliant Tram to Park

Thanks to an FPL Grant to the Florida State Parks Foundation, Birch Park now has an official "limitless" tram. The tram is designed so that anyone who is physically challenged in any way will be able to access the tram for a tour around the Park or easy beach access.

Trams also pick up visitors from their cars in one of the parking lots and take them to Hugh Taylor Birch's home built in 1940, or to the Park's open-air restaurant, Park & Ocean. For more information, contact the ranger station at 954-564-4521.



From left: Eric Keifer, Assistant Park Manager, Park Manager LeAnn Hinson, Juliet Rhoulac, Director of External Affairs FPL, Katherine MacGregor, VP-Environmental Services FPL, Friends' Executive Director Gale Butler, Meredith Rollo, Sustainability and Outreach Manager - Environmental Services, FPL, Kevin Jones, Bureau Chief, District 5, Florida Parks Service



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Gale M. Butler GButler@BirchStatePark.org 954-566-0660

DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP AND **DEVELOPMENT**

Michelle Schmitz MSchmitz@BirchStatePark.org

We are a 501c(3) non-profit organization formed to help preserve, conserve, enhance, and promote Hugh Taylor Birch State Park through community support.

(954) 566-0660 birchstatepark.org







Board President's Message

The board and Friends of Birch State Park enter 2022 having survived a two-year interruption from Covid with a sense of accomplishment. We continue to work on projects and fundraising throughout the pandemic resulting in a solid financial footing. Thank you to all our sponsors who stuck with us and helped us navigate through two Garden Parties, the first annual Camp Birch BBQ Family Day and the Birdies for Birch golf tournament. We are blessed and grateful to our long-time, loyal supporters such as Ellis Diversified, Inc., UKG, JM Family, Bank of America, The Hudson Family, the Community



Foundation of Broward, Water Taxi, Conrad & Scherer Trial Lawyers, One World Properties, and Rick Case Automotive to name a few.

While I will be turning over the reins after my two-year-term is up in January, I will remain a stalwart friend and supporter of Birch State Park and will remain as past president of the Friends of Birch State Park board of directors. Thank you all for your support.

Friends' Message



Our goal for the past two years has been to not just survive but to thrive. We focused on moving forward with park projects and the funding of programs such as the Live Animal Program, the maintenance of the trams, the bench campaign and the ongoing repair work at Terramar itself.

Along the way we gained new Terramar Society members (thank you!) and added new board members. Our mission is always to preserve and upgrade the Park in whatever way is needed. Thanks to our supporters, grants from individuals and organizations, and a new energetic Park Manager, LeAnn Hinson, the wind is at our backs!



We look forward to serving all of you who love Birch Park by paying attention to the small needs as well as the big projects. It all matters! Happy 2022 and thank you for your faith in our ability to succeed in our mission.

Gale and Michelle

Friends' Board Holiday Gathering

We are so grateful to our board of directors for their support during this challenging year.







Park Manager LeAnn Hinson



Terramar Society Holiday Gathering

Thank you to our generous and loyal Terramar Society members, some of whom were able to attend our Holiday Gathering at Casa d'Angelo's on Tuesday, December 14th. Many are long-time members while others are new this year. We are proud to say we have over 35 members who continue to support our efforts to address Park needs and fund enhancements. You are the reason Birch Park continues to serve the community 365 days a year and improve its amenities on an ongoing basis. Thank you!



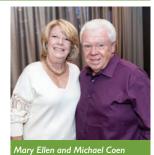














Randy Pohlman and Gale Butler



For more information about becoming a Terramar Society member, visit birchstatepark.org or call us at 954-566-0660.

SAVE THE DATES!



Janie and Doug Egan







Thank You! Terramar Society Members

Suppporting Friends of Birch State Park and their efforts to preserve and improve Hugh Taylor Birch State Park for future generations

Banyan Level - \$5,000

Joe & Wini Amaturo Pamela Braden & Admiral James McManamon Jim Ellis & Olya Salehi Steve & Jeannie Hudson Carlos & Lisa Rodriguez Bill & Anne Scherer S. Donald Sussman & Michael Howland

Manatee Level - \$2,000

Monica & Michael Maroone The Mastriana Family The Miniaci Family

Sea Turtle Level - \$1,000

Stephen & Kari Botek Bill Brown Gale M. Butler Andrew & Connie Caldwell Connie Chaney & Al Rothstein Tyler & Sarah Chappell Michael & Mary Ellen Coen Ed Cumisky & Amanda Hunt Dorian & Pat Damoorgian The Dettman Family Ted Drum & Kathy Molinet Doug & Jane Eagon Martin Lesser & Linda Groene Gary & Roberta Karch Jon & Elaine Krupnick Lee McDonald Mark McGuire & Craig Wilson Don & JoAnn Medalie Ed & Sherry Meehan Bruno Mejean & Martina Hund-Mejean Mari Mennel-Bell & Joel Greenbaum Traci Miller & Troy McHatton Randy Pohlman Bill & Nancy Thies E.C.Traver

Marti's Garden Club - \$1,000

loe & Wini Amaturo Gale M. Butler Rick & Rita Case Michael & Mary Ellen Coen Dorian & Pat Damoorgian Ted & Kathy Drum Jim & Janet Jordan Lisa Kitei

Monica Maroone

Ed & Sherry Meehan Mari Mennel-Bell & loel Greenbaum Bill & Anne Scherer

FEBRUARY 27, 2022

APRIL 25, 2022

NOVEMBER 4, 2022

Friends Holds 6th Annual Garden Party

The Garden Party was started when Marti Huizenga contributed funds to build a meditation garden, now named Marti's Meditation Garden. The event raises funds to maintain the Garden and support Friends. This year it was held during a long rainy spell inside the Fort Lauderdale Garden Club's center. Over 100 attendees enjoyed a two-hour get together with many seeing old friends for the first time in at least a year due to Covid. We thank our Presenting Sponsor UKG, and all our sponsors: Rick Case Automotive, Conrad Scherer Trial Lawyers, EDI, JM Family, One World Properties, Bank of America and La Croix.



















Kim Bentley, Kim Cavendish, Nancy Theis









Caldwell, Gale Butler











State Rep. Chip & Elaine LaMarca





ustin & Katherine Koenig







