

Florida State Parks

Monthly Newsletter, February 2008

Special Events February 2008

[Farm Plow Days at Dudley Farm Historic State Park](#) east of Newberry,
February 1 & 2,
10:00 a.m.

[Right Whales ... Wrong Direction at Gamble Rogers Memorial State Recreation Area at Flagler Beach](#),
February 9, 1:00 p.m.

[Jammin in the Hammock at Collier-Seminole State Park](#) in Naples,
February 16 & 17, 9:00 a.m.

[Barnacle Under Moonlight - Swing from the Hip at The Barnacle Historic State Park](#) in Coconut Grove,
February 21,
6:00 p.m.

Step Up, Florida!

"Step Up, Florida - On Our Way to Healthy Living!" is an annual statewide initiative that takes place during the months of February and March.

This year, Florida's state parks are hosting more events than ever to help park visitors in their quest for healthy living. From **hiking, bicycling, yoga and climbing lighthouses to canoeing, kayaking and ranger-led tours**, there are more than 60 events in Florida's state parks from Pensacola to Key West to help you participate.

Visit www.FloridaStateParks.org for the latest Step Up, Florida! events across the state. Admission to many state parks is free with participation in a Step Up, Florida! Event.



Celebrate Black History Month

There are many opportunities to celebrate Black History Month and Florida's heritage at Florida State Parks.

- Cynthia Graham, a photographer and historian in Ocala, will talk Paradise Park at **Silver Springs State Park** on February 7 at 6:00 p.m. Paradise Park was a part of Silver Springs and served as an attraction for the African-American community during Segregation. See page 4 for more information.
- Join actor, scholar and poet Phyllis McEwen in the 1838 one-woman performance of *Let Every Tongue Confess!* on Saturday, February 9 at 7 p.m. See page 5 for more information.
- The saga of the first underground railroad will be reenacted at **Fort Mose** near St. Augustine on Saturday, February 9 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Escaping slaves, hostile slave catchers, friendly Indians and militiamen bring to life the story of African Americans fleeing slavery in the English colonies to seek freedom in Spanish Florida. See page 5 for more information.
- The Battle of Olustee will be re-created at **Olustee Battlefield Historic State Park** on Friday, February 15 through Sunday, February 17. This Civil War battle was fought on February 20, 1864. See page 7 for more information.



Let's Go  Outside



Upcoming Events in Florida State Parks

GHOST WALKS

Koreshan State Historic Site in Southwest Florida

Date: Friday, February 1 & Saturday, February 2, starting at 7:00 p.m.

Description: Take a guided tour of the historic settlement at night, with mini skits being preformed by staff and volunteers portraying Koreshans. There will be four walks per night, starting at 7 p.m. and at 15 minute intervals. Space is limited and reservations are required.

Fees: Tickets are \$10 each, cash or check only.

Contact: (239) 992-0311.

TRAIL RIDE WITH ALYCIN HAYES

Gainesville-Hawthorne State Trail south of Gainesville

Date: Friday, February 1. Meet at 9:15 a.m. Ride starts at 9:30 a.m.

Description: Meet at Boulware Springs Park horse trailer parking area. Ride at your own pace or with Alycin. Everyone will meet back at Boulware Springs by noon for a picnic lunch. Bring your own food and beverages. Water is available for the horses but you need to bring your own bucket. Email [Alycin Hayes](#) for more information.

Fees: Donations to Friends of the Gainesville-Hawthorne will be appreciated.

Contact: Alycin Hayes at echohay@hotmail.com.

1ST ANNUAL GATOR-KNAP-IN

Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park in White Springs

Date: Friday, February 1; Saturday, February 2 & Sunday, February 3; 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Description: Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park in collaboration with the Osceola National Forest will hold the 1st Annual Gator-Knap-In. This event will be an educational experience geared at bringing together professional and vocational archaeologists and those interested in prehistoric technologies. Demonstrations and classes in flint knapping, ceramics, cordage and carving of stone, shell, bone and wood will be held at Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park. Featured speakers will be Dr. C. Andrew Hemmings, from the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory and Donna Ruhl, Archaeobotanist, Florida Museum of Natural History. A flint knapping competition for all skill levels will be held. Vendors and exhibitors will have displays and materials for sale. **THERE WILL BE NO BUYING OR SELLING OF AUTHENTIC ARTIFACTS.**

Fees: The event will be free to park visitors, with paid park admission. Admission to the park is \$4.00 per vehicle, up to 8 persons per vehicle.

Contact: (386) 397-7005.

FARM PLOW DAYS

Dudley Farm Historic State Park east of Newberry

Date: Friday, February 1 & Saturday, February 2, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Description: Mule teams and draft horses demonstrate old-time farming prior to tractors. The Florida Draft Horse, Mule, and Pony Association partners with the Florida Park Service helping to prepare the farm soils for spring planting. Wagon rides are provided from the Visitor Center and visitors may tour the 1880s pioneer farmstead. Friday, February 1 is especially for school children. Make reservations for groups one month in advance.

Fees: Regular park admission of \$4.00 per vehicle.

Contact: (352) 472-1142.

EXOTIC PLANT SPECIES PULL

Fort Clinch State Park in Fernandina Beach

Date: Saturday, February 2, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events in Florida State Parks

Description: Many of Florida's unique plant and animal communities are found nowhere else in North America. Invasive non-native plants disrupt Florida's natural environment by altering ecological processes that permit native plants and animals to survive. Join Fort Clinch State Park to remove invasive non-native plants. We will meet at the Ranger Station parking area. Sturdy footwear, a sun hat and long pants are suggested attire. Be prepared to get dirty. If you have work gloves and a water bottle please bring them with you. Minimum age to participate is 12 years old. The maximum group size is 15 people so call to reserve your spot!

Fees: Participation is free.

Contact: Cliff Joyce, Clifford.joyce@dep.state.fl.us, (904) 277-7274.

FIRST SATURDAY COFFEEHOUSE

Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park in White Springs

Date: Saturday, February 2, 7:00 p.m.

Description: Songs, stories, music or poetry may be performed at this open stage night held in the park auditorium. Coffee and desserts available for sale.

Fees: This event is free.

Contact: (386) 397-4331.

GUIDED HORSEBACK TRAIL RIDE

Lake Kissimmee State Park east of Lake Wales

Date: Saturday, February 2, 9 a.m.

Description: Saddle up and bring your favorite horse to Lake Kissimmee State Park to join a park ranger on a guided horseback trail ride around Buster Island! The ride will last approximately 2 hours, meandering around the 6.7 mile long Buster Island Loop Trail. Passing through pine flatwoods, and skirting cow pastures, this ride is considered easy for most riders. Keep your eyes open for some of the wildlife you might see along the way: bald eagles, Florida scrub-jays, white-tailed deer, wild turkeys and more! Proof of a negative Coggins test for each horse is required. Participants are required to register by calling (863) 696-1112.

Fees: \$6.00 +tax for an individual, \$14.00 +tax for a family

Contact: Kiersten.L.Wilson@dep.state.fl.us.

ASTRONOMY PROGRAM

Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park in White Springs

Date: Saturday, February 2, 9:00 p.m.

Description: Park Ranger Wesley Gant will present an interpretive program, "Stars over Stephen Foster," about stars, planets and their mythology in two parts. Weather Permitting. The program is for astronomers of all skill levels. Participants are asked to bring a blanket, a telescope and an active imagination. The first part of the program will involve the folklore of the constellations that appear in the winter skies over Florida. The second part of the program will involve the observations of the solar system, stars and star clusters. Meet on the lawn of the Stephen Foster Museum.

Fees: This event is FREE.

Contact: (386) 397-4331.

ORANGE BLOSSOM SPECIAL

Alafia River State Park south of Plant City

Date: Wednesday, February 6 to Sunday, February 10. The star party will begin on February 6 at 3 p.m. and will end February 10 at noon.

Description: Hosted by the St. Petersburg Astronomy Club, Inc. (SPAC, Inc.), the Orange Blossom Special Annual

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International Star Party 2008 will be held at Alafia River State Park. The agenda for the star party along with deep sky and solar observing includes lectures, mirror lab demonstrations, our popular telescope tour, a group hike on the park trail, Hee Haw Hayride, Orbiting Music Jam Session, our famous good food, great door prizes, telescope raffle and much more. All attendees must be pre-registered (no walk-ins) whether they plan for one day or the full event. Registration fees are all inclusive for the four days (except meals and drinks).

Fees: Contact the St. Petersburg Astronomy Club for fees.

Contact: Contact the St. Petersburg Astronomy Club at <http://home1.gte.net/hoffmanc/index.html>

PARADISE PARK

Silver River State Park in Ocala

Date: Thursday, February 7, 4:00 to 7:00 pm

Description: The Story of an African-American Park at Silver Springs. Join us for a Museum Open House and Evening Program on Paradise Park. Paradise Park was part of Silver Springs and served as an attraction for the African-American community during Segregation. Local photographer and historian Cynthia Graham will be our guest speaker. Ms. Graham is writing a book on Paradise Park and we encourage the public to bring stories, photographs or memorabilia relating to the subject. Museum Open House is 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 pm and the program will be 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 pm. There is no admission charge but reservations are required due to limited seating.

Fees: No charge.

Contact: deborah.wilson@dep.state.fl.us, (352) 236-5401.

CIVIL WAR HERITAGE DAYS

Fort Zachary Taylor Historic State Park in Key West

Date: Friday, February 8 to Sunday, February 10, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Description: Event features reenactors portraying life in the 1800s at Historic Fort Zachary Taylor. Mock battles, ship battles, cannon fire and a trial of a confederate blockade runner are just some of the activities that take place during this annual event. For more information, please go to www.FortTaylor.org.

Fees: There is a special event fee above general park admission. Adults - \$4.00; Children 10 and older - \$2.00; Children under 10 - Free. Proceeds go to Friends of Fort Taylor, Inc. to help preserve Fort Taylor.

Contact: (305) 292-6713.

THE STONE AGE AND PRIMITIVE ART FESTIVAL

Ochlockonee River State Park south of Sopchoppy

Date: Friday, February 8 to Sunday, February 10, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Description: Ochlockonee River State Park is hosting the First Annual Stone Age and Primitive Art Festival. Visitors will experience "hands-on" learning, as experts demonstrate techniques that were used thousands of years ago in day-to-day life. Visitors will also see projectile point fashioning, also known as flint-knapping which is the art of chipping stone into tools, bow and arrow construction, basket weaving, early pottery methods and more. According to archeological research, Ochlockonee River's rich history of humans interacting with nature goes back 12,000 years.

Fees: Event free with paid park admissions.

Contact: (850) 962-2771.

RIGHT WHALES...WRONG DIRECTION

Gamble Rogers Memorial State Recreation Area at Flagler Beach

Date: Saturday, February 9, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Description: Participants will learn the history, background, behavior and nature of the right whale and its

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environment. This endangered species is on the brink of extinction. Come discover what these beautiful creatures are all about and learn how you can play a role in ensuring their future. Join us for an amazing story of survival and have an adventure in the 'Real Florida!'

Fees: Regular park admission fees apply.

Contact: (386) 517-2086.

MY FLORIDA CULTURAL HISTORY SERIES

Myakka River State Park east of Sarasota

Date: Saturday, February 9, 7:00 p.m.

Description: Friends of Myakka River presents My Florida Cultural History Series. Join Phyllis McEwen Actor/Scholar/Poet in Let Every Tongue Confess!

In this one woman performance, set in 1938, we find Zora Neale Hurston, one of Florida's most celebrated writers and folklorists, at the high point of her life. She has just returned from Haiti, where she was ordained a voodoo priestess, and completed her second book. Zora is the toast of Harlem Renaissance. Through story, song and wisdom we get a sample of what this brilliant and controversial woman was like.

Fees: No charge for all who wish to step back in time.

Contact: (941) 361-6511 or (941) 373-7839.

SILK PAINTING WORKSHOP

Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park in White Springs

Date: Saturday, February 9, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Description: Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park will host a silk painting workshop to learn the basics of traditional silk painting. The class will be taught by Susan Ruda of Live Oak. Participants will learn the basics of traditional silk painting with fabric dyes and decorate two separate silk squares with a Valentine's Day theme to be used as a scarf or pillow.

Fees: Cost of the workshop will be \$25.00, which includes supplies and park admission.

Contact: (386) 397-1920 or Stephen Foster CSO.

CITRUS HARVEST WORKSHOP

Washington Oaks Gardens State Park south of Marineland

Date: Saturday, February 9, 10:00 a.m to 2:00 p.m.

Description: The historical gardens within the park contain a citrus grove with several varieties of oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, lemons and limes. Event activities will include citrus-themed presentations; including the history of citrus and troubleshooting citrus problems. Also scheduled for the event are a citrus fruit sale, a citrus baked goods sale, citrus grove garden tour, second Saturday plant sale and Friends merchandise sale. Flying Dragon Citrus Nursery of Jacksonville will be selling cold-hardy citrus trees in 3 and 5 gallon containers. All event proceeds will benefit the Friends of Washington Oaks Gardens State Park.

Fees: Regular park admission fees apply.

Contact: (386) 446-6780.

FLIGHT TO FREEDOM

Fort Mose in St. Augustine

Date: Saturday, February 9, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Description: First person interpreters tell and reenact the saga of the first underground railroad. Escaping slaves, hostile slave catchers, friendly Indians and militiamen bring to life the story of African Americans fleeing slavery in the English colonies to seek freedom in Spanish Florida.

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Fees: Regular park admission fees apply.

Contact: (904) 775-3663.

5TH ANNUAL AIR POTATO RODEO

Ravine Gardens State Park in Palatka

Date: Saturday February 9, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Description: The Friends of Ravine Gardens would like to invite new and previous potato pickers to come enjoy a day of resource management fun, refreshments and community involvement. The first 100 volunteers will receive a free tee-shirt. Gloves, trash bags and tools will be provided. Prizes will be given for the largest potato, smallest potato and the most unusually shaped potato. This resource management project is held each year to control the air potato vine that is invading the park. Our focus is to control the air potato vine that blankets parts of the ravine. This vine is an invasive exotic plant that spreads rapidly in the warmer weather. During the colder months, the vine dries up and drops its potato-looking tubers onto the ground. This year there is an abundance of tubers littering the ravine. Volunteers assist the park staff in collection the tubers in efforts to control the spreading vines. Our goal is to bring in around 200 volunteers and beat last year's record for potatoes collected. Last year, volunteers collected around 2,000 pounds of tubers. Together we can keep our gardens' natural beauty!

Fees: Park entrance is free to participants.

Contact: (386) 329-3721.

TOMOKA REMEMBERS

Tomoka State Park north of Ormond Beach

Date: Saturday, February 9, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Description: Each month, discover a different piece of the past, from Seminoles to Civil war. Visitors can talk to and learn from Living Historians. Our goal is to provide access to the event for people of all abilities. If you have any special needs, please contact park staff at (386) 676-4050 before your arrival. Accessible parking and walkways are provided in the event area. East Central Florida history comes to life!

Fees: Regular park entry fee \$4.00 per car.

Contact: (386) 676-4050.

OLD TIME DANCE

O'Leno State Park north of High Springs

Date: Sunday, February 10, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Description: Learn the steps to Circles, Squares and Contra dances that were all a rage in the mid 1800s when the town of Leno thrived! Dance to live music by the *Flying Turtles String Band* in the 1930s recreation hall on the banks of the Santa Fe River in O'Leno State Park. Located 6 miles north of High Springs on Hwy. 441.

Fees: Regular park admission plus Tickets: \$5.00/adults, \$3.00/child.

Contact: (386) 454-1853.

FORT FOSTER RENDEZVOUS

Fort Foster State Historic Site north of Tampa

Date: Thursday, February 14 to Sunday, February 17

Description: The Hillsborough River State Park will present its Annual Rendezvous at the Fort Foster State Historic Site. This event is a living history reenactment featuring military, Seminole and civilian reenactors, sutlers, traders and craft demonstrations. Registration forms are available at the park or by calling (813) 987-6771. The public is welcome on 2/14/08 and 2/15/08, but no battles will be fought on these days. On Saturday, 2/16/08 and Sunday 2/17/08 there will be skirmishes, as the reenactor Seminoles try to burn the bridge and the reenactor

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soldiers defend it. Refreshments will be available for visitors' enjoyment. The Fort Foster State Historic Site is located adjacent to Hillsborough River State Park on U.S. 301 North, 9 miles north of Fowler Avenue and 6 miles south of Zephyrhills.

Fees: School Days: Admission is a \$2.00 donation per student. Scholarships may be available for home school students and for classes of students from area schools. Teachers/chaperones are free. Public admission for this event is a \$5 donation per person ages 13 and over. 12 years and under free.

Contact: (813) 987-6771.

OLUSTEE BATTLE REENACTMENT

Olustee Battlefield Historic State Park east of Lake City

Date: Friday, February 15 to Sunday, February 17, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Description: The Battle of Olustee was fought on February 20, 1864. Full-scale artillery, mounted cavalry, and three African American regiments, including the 54th Massachusetts took part in the fighting that day. The Battle of Olustee was Florida's largest Civil War battle, resulting in 2,807 casualties and a Confederate victory. More than 2,000 living history reenactors gather each year at Olustee Battlefield Historic State Park to present historically accurate portrayals of the war's toll on both civilian and military life. Medical demonstrations are planned twice daily on Saturday and Sunday. Period music concerts, military camps and drills, and the lives of both soldiers and civilians during the war are portrayed by reenactors. The living history weekend features a Civil War-era battle reenactment on Saturday, as well as the reenactment of the Battle of Olustee on Sunday. Food concessions will be available. Pets are not allowed at Olustee Battlefield Historic State Park during the reenactment. Educational programs are planned for Friday's School Day when both public and private school students are invited to attend the reenactment. Saturday's battle begins at 3:30 p.m. and Sunday's battle is at 1:30 p.m.

Fees: Admission on Saturday and Sunday is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children over age 5. Student fees are \$1 on Friday's School Day.

Contact: (386) 397-7005. School Groups: (386) 397-4461.

SAN FELASCO RC GLIDER FESTIVAL

San Felasco Hammock Preserve State Park northwest of Gainesville

Date: Friday, February 15, 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Saturday, February 16, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; & Sunday, February 17, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Description: This event will focus on the flying of hand launched radio controlled gliders. Workshops and clinics will emphasize flying skills development. Proceeds from this event will benefit San Felasco Hammock Preserve State Park.

Fees: \$20.00.

Contact: (386) 462-7905.

PANCAKES IN THE PARK

Silver River State Park in Ocala

Date: Saturday, February 16, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm

Description: Come on out for Pancakes in the Park! Local author and CSO member Lucy Tobias will be presenting her new book *50 Great Walks in Florida*. She will be signing books and she will even offer a guided walk on one of the parks' trails. Pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice and coffee will provide a hearty breakfast. Breakfast will be served from about 8:30 until 11:00 a.m. First nature walk at 8:00 a.m.

Fees: Park entry fee waived for the morning. Breakfast \$5.00 per adult and \$4.00 per child under 12.

Contact: deborah.wilson@dep.state.fl.us or (352) 236-7148.

Upcoming Events in Florida State Parks

JAMMIN IN THE HAMMOCK

Collier-Seminole State Park in Naples

Date: Saturday, February 16 & Sunday, February 17, 9:00 a.m. to 10 p.m

Description: A Bluegrass Festival at Collier-Seminole State Park. Featuring music by The Carolina Rebels, The Doerfel Family, The Fleas, Flat Mountain String Band, Bluegrass Stagecoach Band, Palms Bluegrass and Stoney Brook. Fun for the whole family. Join us for great music and more. Please, no pets or coolers. Hosted by Friends of Collier-Seminole State Park.

Fees: Saturday only entry fee \$14.00/Person; Sunday only entry fee \$12.00/Person; Children 13 and under Free. Buy a 2-day pass and enjoy the whole weekend for only \$22.00.

Contact: (239) 394-3397.

8TH ANNUAL SCRUB JAY 5K

Oscar Scherer State Park in Osprey

Date: Saturday, February 16, 7:30 a.m.

Description: Sponsored by the Friends of Oscar Scherer. Open the following link for event information and registration form: [5K Information and Registration](#). The event starts at the Lake Osprey Picnic Area

Fees: Information on the attached flyer.

Contact: (941) 483-5956.

CITRUS WATERCOLOR CLUB SHOW AND SALE

Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park in Homosassa Springs

Date: Saturday, February 16 & Sunday, February 17

Description: Annual exhibit and sale of the work of many area watercolor artists in the Florida Room at the Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park. The show starts at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday and 10:00 a.m. on Sunday.

Fees: This event is FREE.

Contact: (352) 628-5343.

VALENTINE'S CRUISE & DINNER

Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park south of Tallahassee

Date: Saturday, February 16, 5:30 p.m.

Description: Snuggle with your Valentine as you cruise down the scenic Wakulla River at dusk. Followed by a delicious buffet dinner in the historic Wakulla Springs Lodge.

Fees: \$29.00 per person. Reservations Required.

Contact: (850) 224-5950.

A DAY IN OLD FLORIDA

Faver-Dykes State Park in St. Augustine

Date: Saturday, February 16, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Description: The event activities will offer living history demonstrations, including Pine Needle Basketry, 1700s Trapper Trader Camp, mullet net knitting and many more. Special programs for children will be provided, which include a nature's painting wall exhibit where kid's can participate by painting a natural habitat. A kid's environmental activity center will offer kids a chance to explore and make different arts and crafts. There are a variety of interpretive programs scheduled including a birding walk, an estuary walk and a Native American program. Some of the live entertainment will include The Morse Family and The Dunehoppers. Cultural and Environmental clubs will include the Minorcan Society, Florida Native Plant Society, and the St. Johns County Audubon Society. The Friends of Faver-Dykes will be featuring their homemade Minorcan Clam Chowder along

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with hot dogs, BBQ and baked goods.

Fees: Regular park admission fees apply.

Contact: (904) 794-0997.

GEOLOGY AND SINKHOLE WALK

Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park south of Gainesville

Date: Saturday, February 16, 9:00 a.m.

Description: A gentle stroll through time, covering about two miles and 24 million years, with a look at how Florida got its funny shape, a glimpse of the Official State Rock of Florida, a short explanation of how water gets from the sky to your faucet, and an outline of why the rocks under our feet are so important to our lives in Florida. Side comments will deal with any wildflowers we find in bloom, other wildlife past and present, and the significance of Alachua Sink in English Literature. The trail is soft and sandy in places, so sturdy shoes are a good idea. Long trousers are advised because we will hike through some brushy areas. Clothes should be appropriate for the weather, and comfortable for walking. Depending on the season, bug repellent, water, and sunscreen may be a good idea. If you want to carry them, field guides and binoculars can be useful. Start at 9:00 a.m. from the District 2 parking lot at the North Rim Interpretive Center. By reservation only, and there is a limit of 10 persons without special arrangement. Suitable for children 10 and older.

Fees: \$5.00 suggested donation.

Contact: (352) 466-4100.

STAR PARTY

Sebastian Inlet State Park in Melbourne Beach

Date: Saturday, February 16, 7:00 p.m.

Description: Join the Indian River Astronomy Society for a Star Party. Telescopes provided, or bring your own.

Fees: Free.

Contact: (321) 984-4852.

MOON OVER MYAKKA CONCERTS

Myakka River State Park east of Sarasota

Date: Thursday, February 21, 7:00 p.m.

Description: The Friends of Myakka River are working hard to combine for you a natural and cultural experience that is both beautiful and rare. Here is what is coming your way... Vicki Genfan, one of the top female guitarists in the world, known for her fiercely original contemporary jazz and funk singing and playing style. Visit VickiGenfan.com. The series continues March 30.

Fees: Tickets sold day of concert. Cost \$8.00 per person, (Friends members are \$6.00 per person). Park entrance fee is waived and all proceeds go to resource management projects at the park.

Contact: Lisa Bramlage, (941) 373-7839.

BARNACLE UNDER MOONLIGHT - SWING FROM THE HIP

The Barnacle Historic State Park in Coconut Grove

Date: Thursday, February 21, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Description: Bring a picnic, bring your friends and come enjoy a lovely evening concert under the moonlight at The Barnacle. Swing from the Hip delights with jazz favorites. No Pets.

Fees: \$7.00 - 10 years and older; \$3.00 - ages 6-9

Contact: (305) 442-6866.

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FULL MOON CANOE/KAYAK GUIDED TRIP

Manatee Springs State Park south of Chiefland

Date: Friday, February 22, 8:00 p.m.

Description: Venture with others as night crawls in and the full moon rises on a guided canoe/kayak trip. Under the silvery light of the moon, your guides will share secrets of the Suwannee River as you paddle through the nocturnal world. Participation is limited and based upon **first come- first served** so arrive early; only 10 boats are allowed and the estimated time of paddle is two hours followed by refreshments and fire-side program provided by our Citizen Support Organization, Friends of Manatee Springs Parks, Inc. Don't forget to bring flash light , whistle and life jacket. These trips are free with regular paid camping fees. Day use visitors will need to pay regular day use fee and advise the guide that they will need assistance with the entrance gate upon departure. Only 10 boats are allowed; **DON'T BE LATE as the adventure begins promptly at 8:00 p.m.** Canoes can be rented the day of the trip at the *Manatee Springs Café* located inside the park.

Fees: These trips are free with regular paid camping fees. Day use visitors will need to pay regular day use fee and advise the guide that they will need assistance with the entrance gate upon departure.

Contact: (352) 493-6072.

MS. LUCY'S PIONEER DAY CELEBRATION

Savannas Preserve State Park in Port St. Lucie

Date: Saturday, February 23, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Description: Join the Friends of the Savannas Preserve State Park as we celebrate life along the Indian River during the early pineapple plantation days. We'll be selling old-fashioned food, giving hay rides, guided nature walks and kayak trips. There will also be music, dancing and plenty of old-fashioned fun for the whole family,

Fees: Free with park admission. Some activities will require a fee.

Contact: (772) 398-2779.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY REGATTA

The Barnacle Historic State Park in Coconut Grove

Date: Saturday, February 23, Noon (Park hours: 9 - 4:00 PM)

Description: This revival of Commodore Ralph Munroe's original Washington's Birthday Regatta takes place on beautiful Biscayne Bay just off shore of The Barnacle. Open to traditional style shoal-draft sailboats (fiberglass boats permitted). The race is followed by an after-hours awards ceremony at the park. Contact the park for registration information. No Pets.

Fees: \$10/boat entry fee for participants. Park admission for observers.

Contact: (305) 442-6866.

BIRD WALK ON PEPPER CREEK TRAIL

Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park in Homosassa Springs

Date: Saturday, February 23, 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. (Meet at 7:45 a.m.)

Description: Novice and experienced birders are invited to take a guided bird walk on Pepper Creek Trail. Bring binoculars and field guide if you have them. This leisurely-paced walk is on an accessible paved trail winding through a hydric hammock along Pepper Creek.

Fees: This event is FREE.

Contact: (352) 628-5343.

LAKE MANATEE WALK A MILE SCAVENGER HUNT

Lake Manatee State Park east of Bradenton

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Date: Saturday, February 23, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Description: Walk a mile, find all the coins to gain an entry into a drawing for a prize or Jump Rope for an elapsed time, to be announced, and gain an entry into a prize drawing at Discover Lake Manatee.

Fees: Fees are waived for participants.

Contact: (941) 741-3028.

SCULPTURE KEY WEST

[Fort Zachary Taylor Historic State Park](#) in Key West

Date: Sunday, February 24 to Saturday, April 19

Description: 19th Annual Sculpture Key West features large outdoor sculptures by local artists and artists from around the world. Sculptures are also exhibited at East and West Martello Towers as well as other sites in Key West. For more information, please go to www.SculptureKeyWest.com.

Fees: Free with park admission.

Contact: (305) 292-6713.

ELDERHOSTEL

[Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park](#) in White Springs

Date: Sunday, February 24 through Friday, February 29

Description: Explore North Florida's natural beauty and local culture along the Suwannee River in our learning programs for adults age 55 and older. Leisure, active or service programs are available. Learn more about the life and music of Stephen Foster. Enjoy church suppers, local musicians and craftsmen, or canoe and hike along the Suwannee. Register at [Elderhostel](#).

Fees: Registration fees will apply.

Contact: (386) 397-4478.

OLD TIME DANCE

[The Barnacle Historic State Park](#) in Coconut Grove

Date: Friday, February 29, 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Description: Kick up your heels to traditional American music played by the Flying Turtles while Rae Newoman calls traditional American folk dance steps. Dances such as circles, squares, contras and waltzes were all the rage in the 1800s, so come dance like it's 1891!

Fees: \$8.00 - 10 years and older.

Contact: (305) 442-6866.