



FROGG

Friends of the River of Grass Greenway

Volume I Issue 3

ROGG, P O Box 5031, Everglades City, FL, 34139

Fall 2015

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

South Miami / South Florida WHEELS

*“Advancing Florida’s
Mobility Future”*

November 11–15, 2015

Spotlighting the link between
cycling, transit and trails
www.wheelsflorida.org

SWAMP HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Big Cypress Swamp
Welcome Center
December 5, 2015

**FESTIVAL
IN THE WOODS**
Picayune Strand
January 23, 2016

EVERGLADES ULTRAS

Fakahatchee Strand
February 20, 2016

www.evergladesultras.com

ANNUAL EVERGLADES RIDE

March 13, 2016

Everglades City

REGISTER NOW

[www.caamevents.com/event/
everglades-ride/](http://www.caamevents.com/event/everglades-ride/)



The *new* re-organized **FROGG**

FROGG has grown up and is now its very own 501(c)(3) organization, completely separate from NPC. In 2006 the Naples Pathways Coalition (NPC) proposed a multi-use pathway across the Everglades and established the Friends of the River of Grass Greenway Committee to help organize this project.

ROGG’s Mission Statement: The River of Grass Greenway is a safe, non-motorized transportation and recreation corridor across the Everglades between Naples and Miami that provides opportunities for education, stewardship, and preservation of the environmental, historic, and cultural assets of this unique area.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE SO FAR

In 2010 the Federal Transit Administration of the National Park Services awarded a grant to complete a Master Plan and Feasibility Study for the entire US41 corridor from CR92 to Krome Avenue in Miami. This project is now close to completion and ROGG has received support for this project from individuals throughout the State of Florida and beyond. Due to this response, the Friends of the River of Grass Greenway re-organized in October 2015 as a separate non-profit corporation.

WHAT WE PLAN TO DO

FROGG will promote the establishment, preservation, and safe use by the general public of a non-motorized transportation and recreation corridor across the Everglades between Naples and Miami. We will continue to focus on safety and environmental education and stewardship for those hiking, walking, or cycling through south Florida and the Everglades.

OUR GOALS

To meet these goals, FROGG has established new by-laws and a Board of Directors with representatives throughout south Florida (*see page 2*).

HOW YOU CAN HELP

FROGG is now accepting memberships so that we can continue with our efforts to work together with the Everglades restoration project, sponsor our annual Everglades cycling event, publish facility maps for those hiking/biking through the Everglades and quarterly newsletters to keep you up to date about ROGG.

With this in mind, we wish to extend an invitation to all our current and past supporters to join the new FROGG. A membership form is included with this newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you!

Thank you for your continued support for safety in south Florida.

Meet the Board



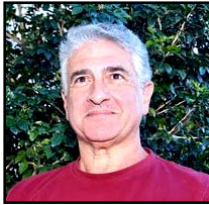
Dayna Fendrick (Naples)

In pursuit of her career path and desire to live in a sub-tropical climate, Dayna became a resident of Naples in 1986 and a weekend resident of Everglades City in 2003. As a Landscape Architect and Land Planner, she has designed numerous parks & recreational facilities and streetscape projects. One of her most rewarding experiences was to be involved with the Master Planning of several public parks in Homestead after the devastation of Hurricane Andrew in 1992. Dayna is an advocate for walkable communities and creating safe and enjoyable bike & pedestrian facilities. After forming her own firm in 2008, she was able to focus on sustainable design and green development techniques. She is a recreational cyclist and enjoys on and off-road biking in the Everglades area, as well as fishing and exploring the Ten Thousand Islands and points south. Dayna has served on the Pathways Advisory Committee of the Collier County MPO since 2009 and as Chair of the PAC since 2012.



Patricia A. Huff (Everglades City)

After settling in the Everglades in 1994, Patty became involved in several environmental and historical organizations, including the Friends of the Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park, the Everglades Association, the Everglades Society for Historic Preservation, the Friends of the Museum of the Everglades, Collier County Historic and Archaeological Board, the Citizens Advisory Committee of the Collier County MPO and the Everglades Area Chamber of Commerce Board. Patty and her husband have cycled over 28,000 miles in the past 16 years, including two tours across the United States and four trips around Europe. Her commitment to safe alternative transportation and love of the Everglades encouraged her to help organize the Friends of the River of Grass Greenway with Maureen Bonness in 2008.



Alan J. Musico (Marco Island)

A transplant from New York City, Al and his wife Linda settled on Marco Island in 2003 following a career as a Technology Executive at a major multi-national Bank. As a founding member of Marco Island's Bike Path Committee in 2006, Al developed the Bicycle Pathways Master Plan for Marco Island; and has served as the Committee Chairman since that time. Al joined the Collier County MPO Pathways Advisory Committee in 2007, where he currently serves as Vice-Chair. Al is a strong advocate of responsible use and stewardship of the natural environment; and believes that both Motorists and Bicyclists must behave responsibly.



Oscar Rattenborg (Ft. Myers)

Oscar believes that providing safe facilities for long distance riding will encourage bicycle riding generally and touring specifically. He loves to explore the state of Florida by bike and its rivers by kayak and has biked from Ft Myers to Key West a number of times. He has spent his life supporting the bicycling community in many ways, currently serving as the President of the Caloosa Riders Bicycle Club and helping to provide safe organized rides for all levels of expertise including new riders. Oscar is also involved with the SMART ride which goes from Miami to Key West (last year collecting 1 million dollars for support of HIV/AIDS services across Florida). In the past, he helped to start up a bicycle racing club (Allegheny Cycling Association) in Pittsburgh, Pa, as well as

helping to lay out the logistics for the Pittsburgh to Lake Erie MS 150 ride. One of the impediments to getting people out on bicycles is the issue of safety. Even though Oscar says he is comfortable touring open roads, most people may not be. There are many challenges with the ROGG project. Some people want to have a totally separate trail while others want to have the shoulders and bridges widened to provide safe passage. Whatever we do we should respect the nature and people of the Everglades. As always, bicyclist should strive for a minimal footprint, especially in a delicate cultural and physical environment.



Judy Waldman (Homestead)

Judy served on the Homestead City Council for 14 years beginning in 2001. During that time she paved the way and supported many events and organizations in Homestead. Her Council committees included Parks and Recreation, Elected Officials Pension Board, Economic/Business Development/Marketing & Public Relations, and Management Review and Beautification. Judy received numerous awards including the Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year, Athena Awards, the American Cancer Society Volunteer of the Year Award, the American Cancer Society Woman of the Year Award, the American Business Women's Association

Woman of the Year Award, Beta Sigma Phi Woman of the Year, Little Angels Foundation Woman of the Year, and Fresh Start Family Services Rising Star Award among others. Under her leadership, Councilwoman Waldman's accomplishments during her years in public office included the establishment of the City's first Tourism Committee, the adoption of the first city-wide Parks Master Plan, the development of and support for the Biscayne-Everglades Greenway Project that consists of a multi-purpose park and trail system that connects Biscayne National park to Everglades National park. Judy also organized the first Biscayne/Everglades Greenway Bike Festival that has become an annual city event.

WHEELS

“Advancing Florida’s Mobility Future” November 11-15, 2015

Spotlighting the link between
cycling, transit and trails

www.wheelsflorida.org

WHEELS is a program to make
transportation change now.

- Change that improves personal lives.
- Change that improves how we get where we’re going around South Florida.
- Change that requires no spending of tax dollars.
- Change that asks us only to consider more affordable, healthful, money-saving ways of getting around already in place and ready to use.

WHEELS is all about helping people get ready to switch from their cars to another mode of transportation at least some of the time. Using transit and learning to bicycle safely will benefit you directly and our entire South Florida community.

November 11 to 15, the five-day hub of WHEELS, will be South Miami, the only city in South Florida where trains and trail directly pass through downtown.

•Ride transit throughout the tri-county area to reach daily trail rides, the conference, the Family Festival, the first-ever South Miami Bike-In Street Bash with live bands and a beer on the house.

•Sunday, celebrate Florida’s pioneer cycling heroes in a parade led by King Mango Strut founder Glenn Terry.

It’s all free!

November 13-14, 2015:
WHEELS Advancing Florida’s
Mobility Future will include the
East Coast Greenway Alliance Fall
Summit in Miami, FL.

<http://flgreenway.org/article/getting-wheels-rolling-advance-floridas-mobility-future>

SWAMP HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Big Cypress Swamp Welcome Center December 5, 2015

10:30 am – 4:00 pm

Celebrate the history and culture of South Florida at the 4th annual Swamp Heritage Festival! Learn about the history of this rugged, yet beautiful, environment through park rangers, volunteers, local experts and residents that will share their love of the swamp through programs, activities, and thought-provoking presentations. This FREE family-friendly event shines a spotlight upon the inhabitants of early South Florida, whose rugged strength and pioneering spirit contributed to the shaping of today’s unique and diverse culture. Through living history demonstrations, informative presentations, and exhibits everyone can learn what daily life was like in such a remote, and at times, inhospitable place.

FESTIVAL IN THE WOODS

Picayune Strand January 23, 2016

The festival will include Kim Dryden, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Janet Starnes, Principal Project Manager, South Florida Water Management District and Monica Folk, Wildlife Ecologist, Milliken Forestry Co. as the guest speakers. In addition to presentations, there will be guided hikes and bike tours. Two new tours of the Merritt Pump Station have been added to the list of activities. SFWMD is making this possible.

The festival will be held in the Picayune Strand State Forest. Entrance is at the Sabal Palm Hiking Trail Trailhead which is 3.3 Miles East of Collier Blvd. on Sabal Palm Rd. For more information about the event, contact Heather L. Ferrand at (239) 690-8021.



EVERGLADES ULTRAS February 20, 2016

Trail Races through the Everglades: 50 m, 50K & 25K REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Are you an ultra-runner? A half-marathoner? Looking for a great trail race in South Florida? The 5th annual EVERGLADES ULTRAS will take place in the wilderness area of Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park – a Florida treasure - in Copeland, FL, near Everglades City. Nearly seventy miles of trails are cleared for race day. Register early: the overall runner limit for 2016 will be 300. For more information and to register, visit website: <http://www.evergladesultras.com>

ANNUAL EVERGLADES RIDE



for the Benefit of The Friends of
Fakahatchee (FOF) and
the Friends of the River of Grass
Greenway (FROGG)

Sunday, March 13, 2016

Everglades City

On-Road Bicycle Rides

Opportunity to customize the
distance of your ride available

Off-pavement Bicycle Ride

A combination of paved and gravel
roads, this route goes through the
beautiful and wild Janes Scenic

Drive in Fakahatchee

Registration starts at 7:30 am or
register early online at

www.caamevents.com/event/everglades-ride/

\$40 Registration Fee includes SAG-
supported ride, continental
breakfast, snacks and lunch
ALSO, a visit to the historic
Smallwood Store & Museum
\$5 early registration discount
(< March 4)

plus a \$5 discount for FOF and
FROGG members



FRIENDS OF THE RIVER OF GRASS GREENWAY

Dedicated to providing a safe multi-use pathway across the Everglades with the focus on environmental education and stewardship.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Date _____

Individual	\$ 25
Student	\$ 15
Family	\$ 35
Business	\$ 50
Donor	\$100
Sponsor	\$500
Life Member	\$1000

(FROGG T-shirt with donation of \$100 or more)

Please make check payable to "FROGG" and send to FROGG, P.O. Box 5031, Everglades City, FL, 34139

NAME _____

EMAIL _____

STREET / P.O.BOX:

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

Months at alternate address _____ Alternate address

Membership Benefits:

Quarterly Newsletter with updates on pathway progress.

Discount for Annual Everglades Bike Ride.

Satisfaction in knowing that your support will provide safety and facility information for cyclists riding across the Everglades with a focus on environmental education and stewardship of the Everglades