

# FOOTPRINTS & PADDLEDRIPS

Volume 2, Issue 6, August 2000



Articles of interest should be sent to the newsletter editor by the last Monday of each month.

The Georgia Nature-Based Tourism Association  
P.O. Box 305  
Folkston, GA 31537

#### Association Officers

Sheila Willis, President  
912-285-0419  
Jeremy Hill, Secretary  
912-681-0872

## The Georgia Nature-Based Tourism Association

### October Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 17 at Stephen C. Foster State Park near Fargo. The host will be Barbara Metz, Assistant Manager, of Stephen C. Foster State Park. The featured speaker for the day will be Jackie Clay, SFSP Naturalist, who will present a short program on the area. In the afternoon, those attending the meeting will be given a choice of a complementary 1-1/2 hour boat ride on Billy's Lake and to Billy's Island which would feature the nature and history of the area, or a car caravan to the Suwannee River Sill where Jim Burkhart of Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge will discuss the future of that structure and the impact upon the Okefenokee Swamp. Please plan to attend this meeting and bring a guest or two. Please contact the park office (912-637-5274) by Oct. 13 to register. There will be a charge of \$5 per person for lunch and a minimum of 10 people are needed. There is a \$5 per car entry fee for the refuge where the park is located (or free admission with a Federal Duck Stamp, Golden Age Passport, or Golden Access Passport). Bring appropriate weather gear, comfortable walking shoes, etc.

### Directions

Follow the signs to the Fargo area, and then the signs to Stephen C. Foster State Park which is located 18 miles north of the junction (2 miles south of Fargo) of U.S. Highway 441 and GA Highways 177 & 94. The meeting will be held in the park museum/program building which will be on your right as you approach the parking lots and boat basin. Call 912-637-5274 if you need assistance.

### October Agenda

9:00 a.m. Committee Meetings  
9:30 a.m. Morning Refreshments/Social Period  
\*note new time\*  
10:00 a.m. Introductions/Business Session  
11:30 a.m. Featured Speaker, Jackie Clay  
12:00 p.m. Lunch (reservations required)  
1:00 p.m. Exploring the Okefenokee Swamp  
(Billy's Lake & Island and/or Suwannee River Sill)  
SFSP staff & Jim Burkhart

### Stephen C. Foster State Park

This well-known park is located in the heart of the Okefenokee Swamp, and is near the outlet for the famous Suwannee River which begins in this beautiful wetland. The scenery on this side of the swamp consists of deep-water lakes, islands formerly inhabited by Native Americans and white settlers, and dense forests of cypress and black gum. Billy's Island was once the center for the major logging efforts during the early 1900s. Those stately trees which remain should be providing a spectacular Fall color display.

### Officer Elections

Members voted to postpone elections until the October meeting. The Nominating Committee will be contacting members to request volunteers for service. We need dedicated individuals in these leadership roles to help keep the Association going. Please give this request your serious consideration. Again, all positions are open to members-in-good-standing. Contact Sheila Willis at 912-285-0419 for further information.

Volume 2, Issue 7, October 2000

# Educational Highlights



*Ask at the hardware store. Patronize stores that have agreed not to sell hardwoods logged in the rainforest and help eliminate the economic incentive to destroy the rainforest.*

At the September meeting on Jekyll Island, two remarkable women from St. Simon's Island headlined the educational portions of the gathering. Elaine Young, a most entertaining naturalist, gave the featured program at the September meeting on Jekyll Island. She brought specially-prepared specimens of coastal birds to illustrate her talk which gave those attending a chance to examine their unique features up-close.

Members learned many interesting facts about species such as Osprey, Cedar Waxwing, Pied-billed Grebe, Painted Bunting, and Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Coastal Georgia has one of the highest species list for any area of the state due to its location on the Atlantic Migratory Flyway.

As another preview of the afternoon's activities, attendees enjoyed viewing the beautiful bird artwork of fellow member Lydia Thompson which decorated the room. The gifted naturalist then took a group to the south end of the island for a birding adventure where scores of gulls, terns, skimmers, and other species were observed thru a spotting scope.

## Reminders

### Send Us Your Information

Member information is need for the Association web site and reference file. Please send two sets of all your printed information, such as brochures, hand-outs, etc. Send all information to the P.O. Box. Please include your phone number and e-mail address.

### Send Us Your Events

If you have, or know of, any nature-based events, festivals, classes, conferences, etc. that would be of interest to association members, contact the editor by the newsletter deadline. The newsletter deadline for items is the last Monday of each month. Please include your phone number and e-mail address.

### Association Scrapbook

We are collecting media coverage, photos and other news and information about association events for a scrapbook that will be available for viewing at the general meeting. Send items of interest to the Post Office Box or bring them to a meeting. ■

### Appreciation Corner

The GNBTA offers its thanks to the following for their assistance in helping the Association maintain its communication network during the recent months: the Waycross Tourism Bureau and the Waycross-Ware County Chamber of Commerce which have contributed critical access to office equipment and staff assistance on a routine basis

(Vickie Leverette, Staci Tucker, Jennifer Carter, Amy Bradham, Vanessa McElroy, Jennifer Zeigler), and Georgia Southern University's Bureau of Business Research & Economic Development which has generously borne the cost of newsletter production and acquired staff aid. Dr. Phyllis Isley, Jeremy Hill, and Kelley McGonnell).

### New Meeting Time

It was decided at the recent meeting that Committee Meetings will now be held from 9:00—9:30 a.m. While the Morning Refreshments/Social Period will start at 9:30 a.m. and end at 10:00 a.m. Please make note of these changes. ■

## Association Schedules

Association meetings are currently held on third Tuesdays of selected months. The Annual Meeting is in September with officer elections conducted in alternate years. Educational Focus Sessions are held periodically throughout the year.

The Association attempts to highlight different areas of the state by moving the meetings to a new location each time. Thanks to all who have generously offered to be hosts. If you would like to host a future meeting, please contact the current President no later than the 15th of the month preceding the appropriate gathering.

**Special Notice:** Due to special circumstances, at the September meeting, it was voted that the following changes would be made: October 17 will be the last general meeting of 2000; beginning in 2001 general meetings will be held on alternate months

for a trial period of 1 year. Members will be updated via newsletter, e-mail, and regular mail during the intervals.

### Year 2000 (date/location/host)

October 17—Stephen C. Foster State Park  
(Fargo)—Stephen C. Foster State Park

### Year 2001 (date/location/host)

January 16—Okefenokee National Wildlife  
Refuge (Folkston)—Okefenokee National Wildlife  
Refuge & Okefenokee Adventures  
March 20—General Coffee State Park (Dou-  
glas)—General Coffee State Park  
May 15—Woodbine Waterfront Pavilion  
(Woodbine)—Kingsland Convention & Visitors  
Bureau ■

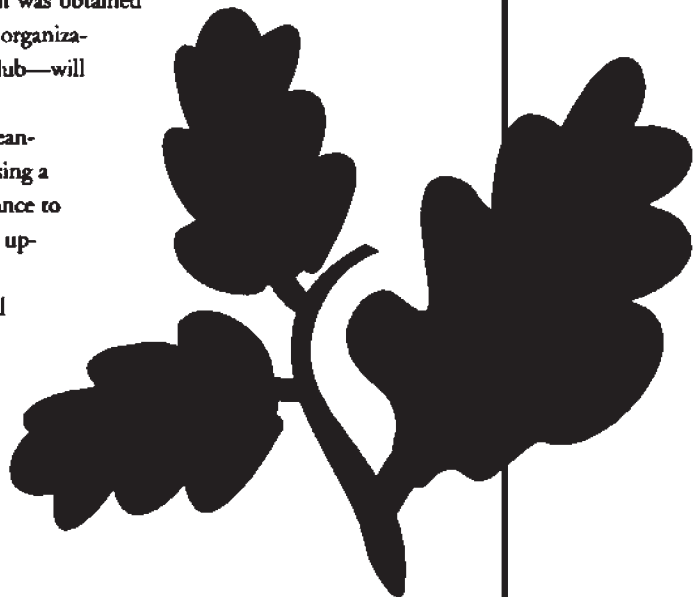
Note: All dates and locations are subject to change due to scheduling conflicts. Watch

*Wave at the folks in the SUV – as you drive on by the gas station in your fuel-efficient compact car.*

## Project Updates

A number of the GNBTA's projects are interconnected, and competition of one often depends on the outcome of another. At the top of the list is the effort to secure federal non-profit status for the Association (501 (c) (3)). Currently, the IRS, the ad-hoc committee, and our accountant are in discussions over this, and we should, hopefully, obtain a final ruling within the next month or so. The exact nature of our final status will then drive any future funding efforts, such as certain grant applications. Connected with that will be the

putting into motion the final development phase of the website. Dispersal of the remainder of the original grant which was obtained by our "founding" organization—the Sierra Club—will hinge on the status outcome. In the meantime, they are releasing a portion of that balance to bring our accounts up-to-date as much as possible. Additional progress reports will be given at the October meeting.



### Changes to previous listings:

Add to : Center for a Sustainable Coast  
[dkksusdev@gate.net](mailto:dkksusdev@gate.net)

## GNBTA Member & Resource Directory Attachment (October 2000)



*Know the rest of the story... does the recycled product you just bought contain post-consumer materials (stuff you and I recycled) or only manufacturers waste?*

*Sheila Willis, President  
912-285-0419  
Lynn Carter, Vice-  
President  
912-367-7731  
Beth Nunley, Treasurer  
912-232-0032  
Jeremy Hill, Secretary  
912-681-0872*

The following information should be attached to the September issue.

### Hurricane Helpline

In an effort to assist those members of GNBTA who have to evacuate their homes in the event of a hurricane, the following members have offered to provide temporary shelter.

Genna Wangness  
509 W. Main St., Folkston, GA 31547  
Home phone: (912) 496-3764  
other #: (912) 496-6256  
email: [genna@innatfolkson.com](mailto:genna@innatfolkson.com)  
She is able to accommodate 10-15 guests (no pets, provide own bedding & meals)

Carl Glen, Okfenokee Bed and Breakfast  
210 S. Magnolia St., Folkston, GA 31547  
Home phone: (912) 496-3918

### Welcome New Mem-

Southern Properties, Inc.  
104 W. Love St.  
Folkston, GA 31537  
Contacts: Lawanda Jones  
912-496-7653  
912-496-4598 fax  
[lajones@plantel.net](mailto:lajones@plantel.net)  
[www.southernpropertiesinc.com](http://www.southernpropertiesinc.com)

Primary: Real Estate Sales  
Resources: Charlton Co.  
Rentals: yes

Three Rivers Expeditions  
13 Victor St.  
Hazelhurst, GA 31539  
Contacts: Charlie Ford

912-375-1371

\* the complete listing was not available at presstime, but will be added in the next edition

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