

*Upcoming Events*

**AIA Volunteer News Briefs**

- 2/27 Friends of Washington Oaks Gardening Forum
- 3/13 GTM Research Reserve Nature Walk at Marineland
- 3/15 Events by the Sea, US Army Band concert at Vilano Beach Pier Park
- 3/20 St. Augustine Lighthouse Festival
- 3/26 Florida Scenic Highway Day
- 4/10 Flagler Beach Turtle Festival
- 4/17-18 Washington Oaks Earth Days
- 4/17 St. Johns Turtle Festival

**Win-Win for Volunteers**

Thinking of helping with beach clean up but need a little push? Receive a Free Disney pass for helping out your favorite charity (us of course) thanks to the Hands on Network and Disney volunteerism.

Spearheaded by Sharon Sidas of the Phun Coast Parrot Heads, the Friends of AIA has become part of the Hands on Network. We can not thank Sharon enough for her efforts.

Since the volunteer opportunities have been offered online through this program, participation in our beach clean-ups has jumped from 3-20 volunteers per cleanup to over 60!

Wendy Thompson, Beach Clean-up Coordinator stated,

" We will continue to use this program for beach clean-ups for as long as Disney offer the Free tickets."

This program has encouraged us to imple-

ment a similar program locally after the Disney program ends. "Once the local program is in place, we will be able to help local business promote and enhance their traffic. This will be a strong opportunity to engage local partners for a win, win program," noted our own volunteer coordinator Susie Kontul.

**Funding for Beach Cleanups is made possible through the Florida Coastal Management Program and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.**



Taken near Flagler Hospital by Sallie O'Hara

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**Come to the Fair on May 1st**

The First Annual Environmental Fair will be held at the University of Florida Whitney Labs in Marineland on May 1st.

Mark your calendar, this day long event will feature interactive workshops including vendors and other like minded organizations, as well as music and

fun for all ages.

The purpose of this event is to bring like-minded organizations together for one day to convey to the public the need to educate themselves about the responsibilities of protecting our coastal environment.

Nationally acclaimed speaker,

Michael Klubock will be the keynote speaker. Go to [www.youtube.com/watch?v=nkAhnqdbNmg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nkAhnqdbNmg)

to get inspired by Michael.



*Become a Member of Friends of AIA*

See our website at: [ScenicAIA.org](http://ScenicAIA.org) for the membership application.