

Upcoming Events

- 9/10-11/09 Florida Book Festival
- 9/12-13/09 St. Augustine Cycling Festival
- **9/22/09 Scenic AIA Workshop, 5:00 Palm Coast Villa's (Coquina Hotel)**
- 10/3/09 Flagler Beaches Volunteer Services Bed Races
- 10/10-11/09 Creekside Festival at Princess Place
- 10/11/09 Corvette Club Event Flagler Beach
- 10/22-24/09 FL State HOG Rally, St. Augustine Beach

Friends of AIA's offices need newer (old) computers to keep up!

Please consider giving us that old equipment you have stored.

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

AIA Volunteer News Briefs

Volunteer of the Month— Charles Debski

At 5:00 a.m. most every morning Charles begins his service by walking along the highway and parking lots by his home to pick up trash. Then Charles makes his way to the beach to continue his efforts.

Amazingly Charles is not complete until he moves to the shelter areas. He will pick up a big hose from the South Beach Grill and hose down the entire area. He spends 5 to 9 hours a day in

the clean up.

If you ask him why he does this he will say, "Everyone likes a clean place to eat and I hope that the others will see me as a leader by example and think before they throw something on the ground. I especially hope that young people see what I am doing. Cleaning up public areas is my way of making a difference in the world."

If you ask this amazing man what he

needs he will say that he has everything in life that he needs except a telephone. It seems that Charles was turned down for a security job due to the lack of phone service. Anyone seeing Charles Debski out there at work in Crescent Beach please shake his hand, give him a hug and say thank you for being the guardian of Crescent Beach. He is looking after you, be sure you look after him.

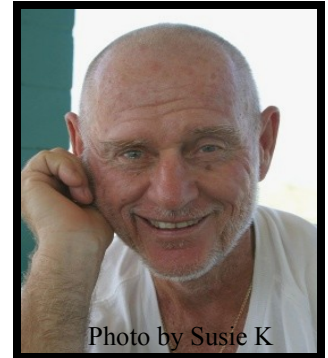


Photo by Susie K

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Exposing Coquina Thefts

It all started with an email from a concerned citizen who witnessed and reported coquina rock being taken from the Marineland beaches in broad daylight. Within a matter of days there was a lead story in the St. Augustine Record as well as television coverage on Channel 4 news.

When Sallie O'Hara, Byway Program Administrator received the first email, she had a news release prepared that was picked up by both the St. Augustine Record and Channel 4 news.

Sallie and others have continued to follow up on this issue trying to identify those involved. This is just an exam-

ple of the ongoing efforts of Friends of AIA Scenic & Historic Coastal Byways to educate the public on the issues that affect the byway.

If you witness illegal activities at the beach such as this you should contact the State Warning Point by calling 1(877)272-8335 or 1(877)2-SAVE-FL.