

A Message from the President

Fall is here! Cooler temperatures and more reasons to get out and take a walk on our new trails or just sit in the park and watch the wildlife. Take a swim in the river, canoe or have lunch. Take a boat tour to Trapper Nelson's historic camp up river.

While you are here, please visit the Elsa Kimbell Environmental Education and Research Center and see our new exhibits.

The Friends of Jonathan Dickinson have bricks on sale for our new walkway in front of the Center.

Remember to renew your membership for the 12 free entrance fees for the park —Best deal in town.

Always keep in mind how lucky we are to have *the Real Florida* right here for all to enjoy.

Pat Magrogan, President

Friends of Jonathan Dickinson State Park, Inc.

Biologist's Corner

By Rob Rossmanith, JDSP Park Biologist

Animal Name: Bobcat or Wildcat
Genus/Species: *Lynx rufus*
Family: Felidae (Cats)

Can be found at JDSP: Everywhere – from the floodplain of the Loxahatchee River to the scrub by US1. Bobcats are seen regularly within JDSP (especially around dawn and dusk), but they require anywhere from 5 to 15 square miles of habitat (JDSP is ~18 square miles).

Food: The bobcat is a strict carnivore, eating small mammals such as rats, rabbits, squirrels and birds, but rarely bigger prey such as deer.

Status and Range: The bobcat is not a listed species in Florida and is actually trapped as a furbearing animal. Some bobcats will kill poultry or domestic animals and nuisance trappers can move the cats out of harm's way. Bobcats are found in all of the United States, most of Mexico, and southern Canada (which also has Lynx). In some of the United States, bobcats are a listed species.

Interesting Facts:

1. Coyotes (*Canis latrans*) have moved to Florida since Europeans settled here and some are worried that they will out-compete bobcats. However, coyotes are also more catholic in their diets, eating vegetable material such as fruit in addition to meat.
2. Bobcats give birth from spring to fall in litters of 2 to 4 and kittens will stay with the mother for up to a year. Dens are made out of hollow logs, hollowed out trees, or any opening in the ground for shelter.
3. Bobcats get their name from their short "bobbed" tail, weigh up to 35 lbs. (smaller in their southern range), have reddish brown to light grey fur coats, ruffs on their cheeks, and black ear tufts with white spots on the back of the ear. In the southern area of their range (i.e. Florida) bobcats have more vibrant spots on their coat. In fact, Florida is the only place where melanistic, or black, bobcats are found. A melanistic bobcat was recently trapped from a private person's home where it had killed a turkey.



Credit: Robert Savannah, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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Friends of
Jonathan Dickinson
State Park, Inc.

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What's new at JDSP?

Lots of exciting action has been taking place in the park recently, with much of it "centering" around the Kimbell Center. Our own **Club Scrub** and Treasure Coast Racing held an all-day road racing event on their new criterion bicycle racing course. 305 bicycle racers and over 600 total folks attended this very successful event. We've had several conservation-minded groups helping out in the park lately, as typified by Boy Scout Troop 305, who on September 22nd filled two whole dumpsters with invasive exotic plants that they removed from the area around the Kimbell Center. Our thanks sure go out to these guys! My staff tells me we have several more groups of scouts, school groups and the like scheduled for similar contributions to "the Real Florida!" Coming up Saturday, September 29th is National Public Lands Day, billed as "...the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands Americans enjoy." We will be hosting a couple of events in which citizens will be giving back to their park and to their community. Thanks to all of you for all you do!

What's new at the Kimbell Center?

Our Family Adventure programs have been going great! Dip-netting in Pine Grove Lake is certainly the most popular, and the kids (and parents!) love taking a closer look at what lives in the lake under our microscopes and on our big screen TV! For this fall, we are looking forward to the 7th and 11th grade students from the new Pine School in Hobe Sound coming out for our Freshwater Ecology program, and in November we have two school groups of over 150 children coming for a variety of programs from nature walks to scavenger hunts.

September 8th was International Literacy Day, and we celebrated at the Kimbell Center with a *Discover Reading* program that included a scavenger hunt through books and *Adventures in Story Time*. Children who participated in the scavenger hunt won a prize and were eligible for a drawing for a book or a canoe rental. And thanks to all of the volunteers who helped out and made it a fun, eventful day!

If you are interested in volunteering in the education center or with our programs contact the Kimbell Center at: 561-745-5551.

Gumbo Limbo Planting

On September 15th volunteers from the Friends planted eight small Gumbo Limbo trees around the retention pond by the Elsa Kimbell Environmental Education and Research Center. More trees were scheduled but we ran into rocky ground. The Gumbo Limbo is a fast growing canopy tree averaging 25' to 40' tall and 25' to 30' wide and it holds up well in high winds. It has reddish flaking bark and a common name is "tourist tree". We hope it won't be too long before we enjoy the shade from these beautiful native trees!

Thanks to the members who participated: Claire Fenton, Seija Nordling, Herb Jebb, Pat Jebb and John Ford. Joe, Lynn & Mack McGrew had volunteered but couldn't make it because of illness. Special thanks to Libby Reinert for coming in on her day off to guide placement of the trees and helping with planting.

LEAVE A LEGACY!- BRICK ORDER FORM

The Jonathan Dickinson State Park Environmental Education and Research Center is underway. This center belongs to us all, from here to international visitors! It will house our *Visitor Center, classrooms* for students and adult programs, *research labs* for ongoing environmental studies, *interpretive displays, special events, administrative offices* and a meeting place for the Friends and volunteers! **AND NOW YOU CAN BE A PART OF IT ALL!**

Three lines, 20 characters per line, spaces and punctuation count.

1st Line (20)

2nd Line (20)

3rd line (20)

Your information:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Fax _____ Email _____

Signature _____ Date _____ Check enclosed

Youth Brick-----	\$35.00
Adult Brick-----	\$50.00
Business-----	\$250.00

Holiday Gift ideas!

The holidays are just around the corner. Give a gift that will be a lasting legacy. Buy a brick to celebrate an occasion or to commemorate a loved one.

A membership to the Friends is another great gift. You will be supporting a great organization and your friends will be thrilled with the 12 free visits to the park!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

New Friends

- Chuck & Vicky Brox
- Rolando & Elena Cabrera
- Fred & Cindy Cone
- Aubrey Felton
- John & Regina Glynn
- Jolene Gross
- Lucea Keller
- Cheryl Lachance
- Barbara McFall
- Charles & Regina Montana
- Seija Nordling
- Beth Snyder
- Bonnie Walker
- Jay Weinberg

Friends Renewed

- Robert Banks & Vicki Silver
- Ron & Norma Bock
- Denise Burrus
- Helen Copeland
- Marian Davis
- Alex & Rose Doska
- Scott Fitzsimmons
- Pat Jebb
- Karen Kerwin
- Roy Kimbell
- Rob MacGregor
- Lois Madrid
- Paul Nunley
- Joe & Teresa Palumbo
- Richard Pereira
- Jeff, Lisa & Delaney Ridgway
- John & Janet Schick
- Anky Siegel
- Howard Stirling
- Joanne Talley
- Bridget Titone
- Kit Tomalka

**Friends of Jonathan Dickinson State Park, Inc.
Membership Application**

A not-for-profit Citizen Support Organization (CSO)

- Lifetime Corporate: \$2500 Lifetime Patron: \$1000 Corporate: \$500 Patron: \$100
 Organization: \$50 Family: \$25 Individual: \$15

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

I am interested in volunteering with the Friends.

Please send this application along with your donation to:

The Friends of Jonathan Dickinson State Park, Inc.
 16450 SE Federal Hwy
 Hobe Sound, FL 33455

For more information on the "Friends" please call (561) 744-9814

A copy of the official registration and financial information of the "Friends" may be obtained from The Division of Consumer Services by calling 800-435-7352



The Harvest Moon Hoedown!

Mark Saturday, October 27 on your calendar and join us for what's going to be our best fall social ever!

Come to the Kitching Creek Pavilion at 6 p.m. and bring a dinner dish. We'll supply the drinks.

After dinner we'll have us a heap of square dancing, hosted by Burt and Carol Summers. Whether or not you've ever square danced, you'll learn fast from a couple widely known to be Florida's finest callers. And you'll be outdoors under a lovely full harvest moon!

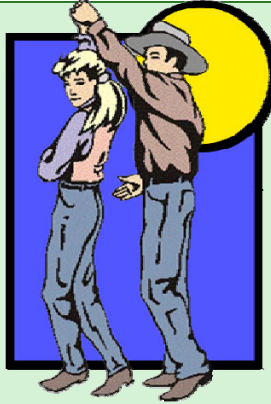
When darkness settles in, Halloween hobgoblins will lay in wait when you walk the Scary Trail being sponsored by Club Scrub, our mischievous mountain bikers. It's guaranteed to spook all ages.

What you bring: yourself in country garb, a dinner dish or dessert, and \$10 for our donation pot. No charge for kids under 12.

What we furnish: drinks, caller, music, a full moon.

Space will be limited, so please make your reservation by contacting:

- Pat Magrogan at 746-7353 or pmmagrogan@att.net or
- Jim Snyder at 575-3350 or jdsnyder1@comcast.net.



Scheduled Activities at the Park

Fire and Forest Fest—Join us on October 6th from 10am-2pm

- Live Fire Demonstrations
- Meet a Firefighter
- Fire Equipment
- Fire Safety Demonstrations
- Forest Products
- Nature Walks
- Refreshments
- Smokey Bear & Games

Call 561-745-5551 for more information.

Hike with a Ranger

Every Sunday morning JDSP offers a hike with a Ranger. Check for location at the Ranger Station. Hikes begin at 9:00 am. No reservation necessary.

Loxahatchee River Adventures

Spend a couple of hours sightseeing on the Wild and Scenic Loxahatchee River. Board the Loxahatchee Queen at the concessions area. Pontoon tours depart the boat dock daily at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. Cost for the tour: Adults-\$14.50, Children (6-12)-\$9.50 and Children under 6 are free.



The Friends of Jonathan Dickinson State Park, Inc.
16450 SE Federal Hwy
Hobe Sound, FL 33455

The Friends of Jonathan Dickinson State Park, Inc. is a volunteer-based, non-profit organization whose role is one of advocacy for the historical, educational and ecological enhancement of Jonathan Dickinson State Park. Its mission is to assist park management in meeting the natural and cultural resource management objectives established for the park.