

Central West Region Update

In This Issue:

- 1. FMNP Honors Steven Gaul with Memorial Scholarship
- 2. FMNP Webstore: Great Holiday Gifts for Master Naturalists
- 3. Everglades Tours.com Seeking Tour Guides
- 4. Hernando County Upland Habitats Class
- 5. Pinellas County Environmental Interpretation Class
- 6. DeSoto County Upland Habitats Class

1. Steven Gaul Memorial Scholarship

FMNP Honors Instructor Steven Gaul with Memorial Scholarship

It is with great sadness that the FMNP has had to say goodbye to longtime colleague and friend Steve Gaul, who passed away unexpectedly in August of this year. Steve joined the FMNP as an instructor in the Northeast Region in 2007. In addition to his role as instructor, Steve served as the UF/IFAS Natural Resources and Agriculture Extension Agent in Nassau County for the past six years and was an active member of the Florida Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals (FANREP).

To honor the memory of Steve Gaul, the FMNP and FANREP have created The Steven Gaul FMNP/FANREP Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship embodies Steve's passion for educating others about Florida's ecosystems by providing a Florida educator the opportunity to participate in the FMNP and expand his/her appreciation and knowledge of our state's natural



environments. Scholarships will cover the cost of one FMNP core module or Special Topics course of the recipient's choice. In addition to the scholarship provided by the FMNP, a memorial scholarship fund is open for those who would like to contribute and will be used to award additional scholarships. If you wish to donate, you can do so securely online at https://www.uff.ufl.edu/onlinegiving/FundDetail.asp?FundCode=003287&AppealCode=SA1K. Please be sure to indicate the gift is in memory of Steven Gaul in the Memorial/Honorary Information tab. Donations are tax deductible.

Educators employed in public or private K-12 institutions and NGOs are eligible to apply. Eligible applicants should write a one-page essay (500 words or less) explaining why they are interested in the Florida Master Naturalist Program, how they plan to use the information they learn, and how they would benefit from this opportunity. Applicants should email their essay to Bryan Fluech at Fluech@ufl.edu and include their full name, mailing address, employer, email address, and telephone number. Please put "Steven Gaul Memorial Fund" in the subject line.

FMNP Webstore

Bring a Little Happy to Your Favorite Master Naturalist's Holidays with a Gift from the FMNP Webstore



Not sure what to get your favorite Master Naturalist for the holidays? The FMNP Webstore offers a wide variety of items including FMNP apparel and gear and reference materials. A portion of the proceeds from every sale directly supports the FMNP. Visit the Webstore at http://fmnp-store.myshopify.com/.

3. Everglades Area Tours.com Seeking Tour Guides

Everglades Area Tours.com is seeking candidates for a USCG Captain/Kayak Guide position and a Kayak Guide position.

Candidates for the USCG Captain/Kayak Guide position must possess a USCG "six pack license" or better, interpretive guide experience and kayak guide experience (or the wiliness and ability to learn to lead kayak tours). This position is full-time during the winter season, possibly leading to year-round full-time employment. On-site housing is available if needed.



Candidates for the Kayak Guide position must possess interpretive guide experience and kayak guide experience (or the wiliness and ability to learn to lead kayak tours). This position is full-time during the winter season, possibly leading to year-round full-time employment. On-site housing is available if needed.

Candidates must also have completed the Coastal Systems module of the FMNP to be considered for either position.

Everglades Area Tours.com is an eco-tour operator providing guided experiences in Florida's Everglades National Park, Big Cypress National Preserve, Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park, Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge and Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve.

For more information, or to apply, please contact Capt. Charles Wright at charles.evergladesareatours@gmail.com .

Hernando County Upland Habitats Class

January 5 – February 9, 2013 Registration closes at 9:00am on April 3, 2013 (Course Code: uh13-05)

Facility Information Chinsegut Conservation Center

23212 Lake Lindsey Road, Brooksville, FL 34601

Instructors Information Pamela Murfey

Organization: Chinsegut Conservation Center/Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Phone: 352-754-6722 Fax: 352-540-6032

Email: Pamela.Murfey@myfwc.com

Web site: http://www.myfwc.com/chinsegut

5. Pinellas County Environmental Interpretation Class November 28-December 15, 2012

Registration closes at 9:00am on November 26, 2012 (Course Code: I12-04) **Facility Information**

Honeymoon Island State Park: Osprey Center

1 Causeway Blvd., Dunedin, FL 34698

Instructors Information

Jeanne Murphy, Wildlife Biologist and Brian Lane, Ecologist

Organization: Sensing Nature, LLC Phone: 727-397-2306

Fax: 727-320-0842 Email: <u>imurphy@sensingnature.com</u>

Website: www.sensingnature.com 6. DeSoto County Upland Habitats Class

January 12 - February 16, 2013

Registration closes at 9:00am on January 7, 2013 (Course Code: uh13-03)

Max of 18 students

Facility Information DeSoto County Extension Office: Multipurpose Room

2150 NE Roan St, Arcadia, FL 34266 **Instructors Information**

Ken Johnson, Jerry Waters & Linda Waters Organization: UF/IFAS DeSoto County Extension Phone: 863-993-4846 Fax: 863-993-4849

Web site: http://desoto.ifas.ufl.edu/

Email: kenjohnson@ufl.edu



