



DIPpings

from
The Friends of
Deerfield Island Park

October 2022

FoDIP Calendar

Member/Board Meeting : Thursday,
October 13 10:00 am
Deerfield Island Park.
Details to Follow.



Upcoming Events - Watch for More Information

Butterfly Garden Clean-up - Early November
Nature's Canvas: Rudolf Heads - Dec 3 (Prep: Nov 18)



FROM THE PRESIDENT

We have survived the heat of another summer and look forward to a cooler autumn (hopefully without hurricanes). Things will start getting busier on Deerfield Island with the return of snowbirds. We have some fun plans in the works including our Nature's Canvas Event - "Rudolf Heads", cleaning up the existing Butterfly Garden in advance of its ultimate expansion, school visit craft events, a new Fairy Door project, and plans for a kayak tour of the island. Watch our future newsletters for more information on all these events.



Meanwhile our Board has been busy with elections for new Board Members and new Officers for the coming year. (see the [minutes](#) on our website for details).

We will continue staffing our Ambassador Kiosk on Friday, Saturdays and Sundays from 11:00 am until 2:45 pm as long as we have enough volunteers. If you are interested in becoming an Ambassador, contact me (Helenewec@gmail.com). It is a fun way to learn about the history, flora and fauna of the island, and meet lots of people from many different places. We will pair you with experienced Ambassadors. If you already have Ambassador experience and want to sign up on the schedule, contact Fred (fred.kraske@gmail.com).

Our next meeting will be Thursday Oct 13.

Stay safe and cool.

Helene

FLORA and FAUNA



Reflections of Deerfield Island Park on Sanibel Island

by Phylis Philipson

I have visited Sanibel a few times, but never did I enjoy it as much as my last visit. That's because of what I learned on Deerfield Island Park serving as an Ambassador to Deerfield Island visitors.

Being involved as a Friend of DIP, I learned about varied plants native to Florida as well as learning that Deerfield Island Park (DIP) is a sanctuary for Gopher Tortoises.

While at Sanibel, I stayed at a place where gardeners posted signs at various plants. I managed to take pictures of just a couple of the signs including the Coontie Cycad plant (necessary for attracting butterflies, and very healthy as shown in the picture), the Gumbo Limbo Tree (originating in Southern Florida) and prolific and thriving Red, White and Black mangoes, and Sea Grape Trees. There were many more prolific native plants on the Island.

But the biggest surprise was seeing many signs posted allowing for Gopher Tortoise Crossings. I couldn't believe it!. I didn't see any Gopher Tortoises but knowing the DIP Gopher Tortoises have "cousins" on Sanibel Island was certainly a treat.

I'm happy I was able to enjoy my stay even more, having learned a bit about wonderful native plantings and Gopher Tortoises because of being a Volunteer and Friend of Deerfield Island Park.



Sea Grapes

You can now view the past 2021,2022 newsletters on our website.

[Click here](#)

Friends of Deerfield Island Park (FODIP)

Formed in March 2015

We are dedicated to preserving and protecting our unique green island as a natural habitat for native plants and for the



island's animal inhabitants. We have been approved by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization for this purpose.

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