

WAKULLA RIVERFRONT

Citizens Support Park Needs and Explore Evidence of Human Populations

Our Best Wishes To You

This fall the river reflected the trees's brilliant reds, oranges, yellows and pinks. River aster blooming along the river boat tour and the tree colors bring a new sense of appreciation for this National Natural Landmark.



Manatees also seem to appreciate the spring right now. We wish all the Friends of Wakulla Springs State Park a very relaxed season and look forward to seeing you at the events listed in this edition.



Archaeologists Survey 50 Acres

For the second year we are supporting archaeological surveys at the park. With help from volunteers and professional archaeologists, Dr. Jim Dunbar is leading the Wakulla II effort to document human habitations at this National Historic and Archaeological District.

A large block excavation west of the lodge begins in February. The public is invited to volunteer or to watch at several events that are planned to discuss what is being learned. Please see the events listed on the next page for details.

The areas tested have numerous archaeological cultures present, including Paleoindian, Early and Middle Archaic, Weeden Island, Fort Walton including a potential early contact period occupation, and early 19th century historic. All of these occupations are potentially important archaeologically and historically.

Support is provided in part by the Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, State of Florida. The Aucilla Research Institute, Monticello, provides additional help.



Events Begin Now

On Saturday, **Dec. 17** a historic **sunset river boat cruise** departs at 5 p.m. There might be a seat or two left. Call 850-561-7286.

Sweethearts Forever, Saturday, Feb. 11. A fundraiser for Friends. See article.

(A Holiday Gift, maybe?)

The **Annual Membership Meeting, Sunday, Feb. 26** begins at 11 a.m. with a short walk to the archaeological site. Hors d'oeuvres, business and boat tour follow.

Lunch With Archaeologists provides you with insights into the lifestyles of people who lived here 10,000, 4,000 and 200 years ago. This **campfire program** invites you to bring a picnic either on **Saturday, Feb. 25 or March 25** at 11:30 a.m. Free with park admission.

Wakulla Wildlife Festival, Saturday, April 15.

Sweethearts Forever

A special event for your special person

Saturday, February 11, 2017

5:00-8:00pm



Valentine's Day is upon us. Looking for the perfect romantic event for you and your partner? Only 15 couples will be able to enjoy this rare and elegant evening on the Wakulla River and in the Lodge at Wakulla Springs. The night begins with a wine tasting on the patio of the Waterfront Visitors Center. From there, guests take their places on a river boat and float gently along while bathed in the golden rays of a setting sun. Upon return, they will casually stroll to the lodge for a difficult choice between scrumptious options on a special Valentine's menu. Spaces for the event can be reserved by visiting www.wakullasprings.org. Donations are nonrefundable.

Please call 850-561-7286 for more information.

\$99 donation per couple

To reserve/buy your tickets click here:

<http://wakullasprings.org/news-events/>

INCLUDES:

One-Year Family Membership to The Friends of Wakulla Springs State Park

Wine Tasting for Two

River Boat Tour for Two

Dinner in Lodge (1 Appetizer, 2 Entrees, 2 Desserts)

Optional additional purchases: Dinner beverages, gratuity.

Thank You for your membership, your contributions and volunteerism.

To renew for 2017 you may do so online: <http://www.wakullasprings.org/membership>