



# The Buzzard Bulletin

Notes & Information for CREW Trust Volunteers

April-May, 2023

Volume 7, Issue 4

## Notepad

### Hike and Learn

The final volunteer hike-and-learn for this season is “Birds and Bird ID” on Saturday, April 1, at FPS. Register in Track-it-Forward.

### Sweeping up

A few sweeps are still needed for the last of this season’s guided walks in April. Please sign up in Track-it-Forward.

### Special groups

New April educational programs are in need of volunteer help. Information and sign up are in Track-it-Forward.

Apr. 7: Boys and Girls Club, CMT

Apr. 13: Palmetto Ridge HS, CMT

Apr. 22: Earth Day astronomy night, CMT

### New staff member

LuLaura Day joined the CREW Trust in February as the part-time Membership Coordinator.

LuLaura earned a B.A. in Environmental Studies at Florida Gulf Coast University and is a former CREW Trust intern.



Combining her passions for education and environmental conservation, she will be working towards enriching CREW Trust membership programs and member events.

## Brooks plaque dedication at Pop Ash trail

A plaque honoring former CREW Trust Executive Director Brenda Brooks will be formally dedicated near the March 31 one-year anniversary of her retirement.

Brenda had been the CREW Land & Water Trust’s Executive Director since 2008 and served as CREW’s Environmental Education Specialist prior to that.

Volunteers will receive an email with the details of the ceremony once all of the

arrangements have been finalized. The dedication will be live-streamed for those unable to attend.



## Skulls, bones, chocolate-covered crickets help one volunteer educate, entertain young students

It’s always interesting when Ralph Czekalinski and second graders spend time together at Soil ROCKS.

Most of his time has been spent at the “Skulls Studies” table talking about different properties of skulls and

shells and how those adaptations make animals perfect for their environment.

He astonished students by bringing chocolate covered crickets which he ate in front of the kids, and he sometimes even got the teachers to sample a few.





## Two volunteer socials scheduled to end season

A pair of socials offer volunteers a chance to get together informally as the 2022-2023 season winds down.

The first will be on Monday, March 27, at SWFL Inc., the Bonita Springs Chamber of Commerce building located at 25071 Chamber of Commerce Drive in Bonita Springs.

Starting at 9 a.m., it will be an opportunity to review the season. Coffee, fruit, and other goodies will be provided.

The second will be an end-of-year social on Friday, April 21, at 6-mile Cypress Slough Preserve at 7791 Penzance Blvd. in Fort Myers.

Starting at 8:30 a.m., there will be an approximately 90-minute guided walk on the boardwalk in the preserve followed by coffee, fruit, and Danish in the Interpretive Center classroom. Please arrive a little early for the walk.

For more information, please contact Corey, and watch for emails with additional details.

## Staying connected

### People

Bob Lucius

813-236-5518

[rlucius@crewtrust.org](mailto:rlucius@crewtrust.org)

Julie Motkowicz

239-229-1088

[education@crewtrust.org](mailto:education@crewtrust.org)

Corey W. Campbell

239-382-8427

[ccampbell@crewtrust.org](mailto:ccampbell@crewtrust.org)

Angel Kelley

[ee@crewtrust.org](mailto:ee@crewtrust.org)

LuLaura Day

239-227-5377

[membership@crewtrust.org](mailto:membership@crewtrust.org)

### Web sites

[www.crewtrust.org](http://www.crewtrust.org)

[www.trackitforward.com](http://www.trackitforward.com) (hours & events)

The Buzzard Bulletin contains notes and information for CREW volunteers and is emailed six times a year (September, November, January, March, May, July). Dick Brewer, editor.

## Successes due to dedicated volunteers

Water may be our lifeblood, but you all are the heart of this organization. Your work enables us to achieve our mission to educate, and to provide access into one of the most precious parcels of land left in Southwest Florida

— the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed. It is a privilege to be able to work with such a diverse and knowledgeable group of volunteers. On behalf of the CREW Staff, thank you for all that you do. ... *Corey W. Campbell*



**Weekly guided walks:** Jack Shine welcomes a Wednesday group to BRS.



**Rusty Hinges:** George Luther, Sean Hunt, and Len Shivok install a plaque at CMT.



**Specialty programs:** Don Stohler introduces the trails to his Bike the Loop group.