

# Harbor Lights

# NEWS

Summer 2006



## Quarterly Newsletter of The Greater Charlotte Harbor Group



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Charlotteharbor

This has been a year of great activity for the Greater Charlotte Harbor Sierra Club Group, the newest Group in the Florida Chapter. From our first Gathering on the shores of the Peace River to our Spring fundraiser on a Nav-A-Gator cruise, our mission has remained strong: Explore, Enjoy, and Protect our planet.

We've attended festivals, meetings and charrettes, helped the YMCA beautify its property, offered outings leader training and a steady selection of wonderful Outings for our 341 Charlotte County members and friends, usually led by our great Outings Chair, Dave Allen.

We've worked to preserve our County's Comp Plan and density ordinance with regard to the Babcock Ranch purchase, while supporting the State purchase of conservation lands.

We've been welcomed by our local "sister" conservation groups and also by the Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce, which we joined this Summer. We established [www.florida.sierraclub.org/charlotteharbor](http://www.florida.sierraclub.org/charlotteharbor).

### Our Elections, Too....

GCH's own elections are coming up as well... Elections will be held in November, 2006. The Executive Committee consists of 9 committed Sierra Club members. Nominations for the Excom should be made to the Nominating Committee at (941)276-2859 or [gch-webmaster@florida.sierraclub.org](mailto:gch-webmaster@florida.sierraclub.org) no later than August 18th, please. A full schedule of election activities is available at [www.florida.sierraclub.org/charlotteharbor](http://www.florida.sierraclub.org/charlotteharbor). To volunteer for the Elections Committee for the Fall, call Sue at (941)276-4219.

which highlights meeting dates and great speakers, as well as "action" items for all of us to take.

Speaking of action, we've met with a Senator's aide and corresponded with Fish & Wildlife Commission, CC Commissioners and the Governor's Board of Trustees on

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issues such as eagle nest destruction, Charlotte Harbor preserve dredging and phosphate mining.

Late this Summer, we'll hear more about an Area-Wide Cumulative Impact Study which is being proposed to study the future impacts of proposed phosphate mines on our Peace and Myakka River watersheds. We encourage letters to the editor of local newspapers & calls to Commissioners in support of this, as the "Peace River Study" scheduled for release in August does not encompass future impacts.

Lastly, our Political Committee - under Chair Ruth Bromberg's hard-working leadership - endorsed Adam Cummings for Charlotte County Commissioner District 2 and Dick Loftus for the Republican primary for District 4. Anyone interested in helping these candidates, please contact Ruth at 629-4908. Remember to vote in the Primaries September 5, 2006!

Until then, stop by our meetings for an informative and fun time. The schedule is on the back of this newsletter and on the website. Come Explore, Enjoy and Protect the Planet.

*Sue Reske*