Central Region Update

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FMNP Honors 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. It is fitting that Steve's memory is honored through the Florida Master Naturalist Program (FMNP) with the creation of the Steven Gaul FMNP/FANREP Memorial Scholarship.

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 and expand his/her appreciation and knowledge of our state's natural resources.

The Steven Gaul FMNP/FANREP Memorial Scholarship

The Steven Gaul FMNP/FANREP Memorial Scholarship is open to all Florida Master Naturalists. The scholarship is available for one core course or one 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.

Applications are encouraged from educators employed in public or private K-12 institutions and NGOs. Applicants should have completed the Coastal Systems module or the Florida Ecosystems module of the FMNP and be a current FMNP member. Applicants must have completed the FMNP program within the past six years and will be considered based on their essay to Bryan Fluech at fluech@ufl.edu 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. Applicants should put “Steven Gaul Memorial Fund” in the subject line.

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

Everglades Area Tours.com Seeking Tour Guides

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

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 willingness 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 willingness 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.

Candidates are encouraged to submit their applications for either the USCG Captain/Kayak Guide position and a Kayak Guide position.

FMNP Webstore: Great Holiday Gifts for Master Naturalists

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/.

Seminole County Freshwater Wetlands Class

Seminole County Library is offering a Freshwater Wetlands class. The class is open to all Florida Master Naturalists and will meet weekly on Tuesday evenings. The course code is fw13.

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For more information, please visit www.masternaturalist.org.