

# Dagny Johnson Key Largo Hammock Botanical State Park

## Presents our 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Lecture Series

### *THE DELICATE BALANCE OF NATURE 2009*

WEDNESDAY evenings from 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at **JOHN PENNEKAMP CORAL REEF STATE PARK Visitor Center** at MM 102.5 Oceanside Overseas Highway. Park gate opens at 7 p.m. Admission is free. **Seating is limited.** Bring a cushion for your added seating comfort. For more information call the Visitor Center at 451-9570.

- January 7**      **BUTTERFLY GARDENING IN THE KEYS**  
Learn how to plant a butterfly garden. Park Volunteer and Upper Keys Garden Club President **Julie Mead's** love of gardening began as a child in her native Indiana. She will share her passion for butterflies and native plants in the Florida Keys.
- January 14**      **OFFSHORE CORAL NURSERIES AND CORAL RESTORATION**  
**Ken Nedimyer**, President of the Coral Restoration Foundation, will talk about the Key Largo coral nursery, coral restoration programs underway, and how volunteers can get involved in restoring our reefs.
- January 21**      **NEW PERSPECTIVES ON NATIVE PALMS OF THE FLORIDA KEYS**  
**Scott Zona**, Curator of Greenhouses and Conservatory at Florida International University, will discuss the Florida Keys' native palm populations, including a new discovery about the Key Thatch Palm.
- January 28**      **THE WINTER NIGHT SKY**  
**Member of the Southern Cross Astronomical Society** will bring their telescopes and illuminate us on the stars and planets of Key Largo's heavens. Guitarist and vocalist **Lenny Batista** will add his delightful sounds to the celestial visions.
- February 4**      **THE AMERICAN CROCODILE IN FLORIDA: RECOVERING AN ENDANGERED SPECIES IN AN ENDANGERED ECOSYSTEM**  
**Frank Mazzotti**, Associate Professor of Wildlife Ecology at the Everglades Research and Education Center, will review crocodile monitoring program results that are being used to determine the current status of the animal and its endangered ecosystem.
- February 11**      **WOMEN CONSERVING THE FLORIDA KEYS**  
**Susan Nugent**, one of the founders of FAVOR – Florida Keys' Friends and Volunteers of Refuges, will share stories of women who have worked to conserve the Florida Keys, including our Dagny Johnson, the park's namesake.
- February 18**      **THE PROBLEMS WITH CONCH IN THE CONCH REPUBLIC**  
This presentation will review the history, population decline, and recovery efforts of Florida's conch. **Bob Glazer**, Associate Research Scientist with Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission's Fish and Wildlife Research Institute, will share his expertise as Principal Investigator of Florida's queen conch research program since 1990.
- February 25**      **CONVERTING OUT OF USE SEPTIC TANKS TO CISTERNS**  
Unused septic tanks are an ecological opportunity, according to Keys resident **Fran Wagner**, a retired engineer. He will discuss the rationale, method, requirements, costs and benefits of converting the tanks to cisterns used for garden irrigation.
- March 4**      **SAN PEDRO UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRESERVE STATE PARK: PROMOTING FLORIDA'S MARITIME HISTORY**  
**Kira Kauffman**, Marine Archaeologist for the Florida Public Archaeology Network at Florida Atlantic University, will explain the relevance of maritime history to today's cultural norms, values and ideas. A Florida Keys' example, the San Pedro Underwater Archaeological Preserve State Park, demonstrates the connection between then & now.
- March 11**      **SEA TURTLES OF THE FLORIDA KEYS**  
Six of the seven sea turtle species live in the waters of the Florida Keys. Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission's **Sue Schaf** will talk about the issues, such as injuries and nesting problems, facing sea turtles in the Keys.
- March 18**      **THE BIOLOGY AND ECOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE OF SEAGRASS**  
Seagrass is ecologically and economically vital to Florida. Florida Park Service Biologist **Janice Duquesnel** will discuss seagrass biology, safeguarding this fragile habitat and the park's role in restoring seagrass beds damaged by boat grounding events.
- March 25**      **FLAMINGOS-FLORIDA'S FORGOTTEN FLOCK**  
Many people don't know that large flocks of flamingos once existed in Florida Bay and the Florida Keys. Join Everglades National Park Naturalist **Bob Showler** for a discussion on the history of flamingos in the Sunshine State.