

Minutes
Annual Meeting
Friends of the Lower Suwannee & Cedar Keys National Wildlife Refuges
Saturday, February 28, 2015

1. The meeting was convened at 10:15 a.m. by Bob Hudson, President.
2. Larry Woodward, Deputy Manager of the Refuge, provided opening remarks, introductions of other Refuge staff, and a welcome to all.
3. Andrew Gude, Refuge Complex Manager, thanked the Friends group for its support, and in particular thanked Ron Black for his tireless efforts maintaining the Shell Mound area. Andrew reminded the group that Pam Darty would be retiring, and commended her for her many years of excellent service to the Refuge. He noted that, due to budget cuts, her vacant position might not be filled. Andrew concluded by recognizing the skill and hard work of all the Refuge staff.
4. Bob Hudson reviewed the accomplishments of the Friends group over the prior year in the following areas:
 - Science initiative.
 - Education, Recreation, Arts.
 - Refuge enhancement.He then provided a financial summary, and thanked all the hard-working volunteers that do so much for the Friends group and the Refuge.
5. Bob Hudson convened the business portion of the meeting by asking all existing Board members to stand and be recognized. He then reported that the financial review committee had found everything in order.
6. The election of new officers and Board members was then held. Bob Hudson first noted that, after many years of excellent service, Jay Bushnell would be retiring from the Board. He then presented the following nominations from the nominating committee:

Returning Board Members: Ed DeHaan, Jaime Jerrels, Roger McDaniels.
New Board Members: Kit Lane, Bill Dummitt.
President Elect: Maria Sgambati
President: Greg Lang

It was asked whether there were any nominations from the floor. There being none, a motion was made and seconded to elect the slate as presented above. The motion passed by a voice vote.
7. Donna Bushnell performed the swearing in of the new officers and members.

8. Maria Sgambati introduced Dr. Coleman Sheehy, who spoke on the ecology of islands in the Cedar Key area.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.