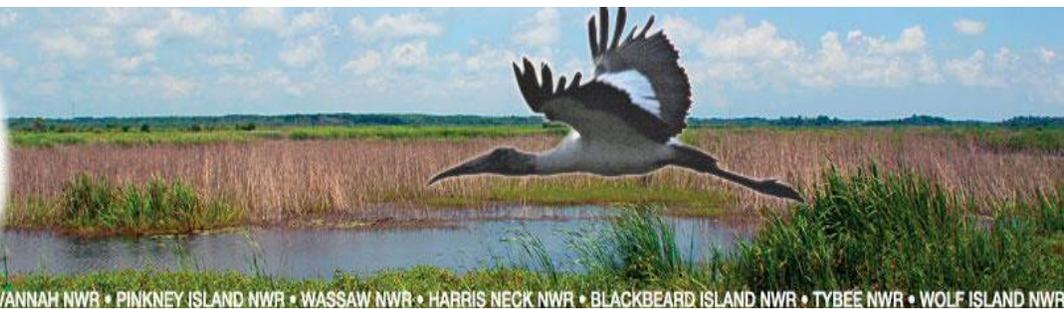




SAVANNAH NWR • PINKNEY ISLAND NWR • WASSAW NWR • HARRIS NECK NWR • BLACKBEARD ISLAND NWR • TYBEE NWR • WOLF ISLAND NWR



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## Message from the President

**Rick Shields**

This year has proved to be an interesting and productive one. Fundraising for the **Kingfisher Pond Discovery Center (KPDC)** project continues to ramp up. We hope to break ground on the Center before the end of the year. One way you can contribute is to purchase a KPDC t-shirt from our online store or at the Gator Hole. You can also donate using our new web page on [The Giving Marketplace](#).

We are now offering a **10% discount at The Gator Hole** for members of the Friends of the Savannah Coastal Refuges. Tell the store clerk you are a member and the 10% will be applied to your purchase. The only exceptions are Duck Stamps and sale items.

**Refuge Week** events are from October 9th to 11th. The events include: a Savannah River paddle trip with Swampgirls Paddle Club on Friday morning, a bison burger dinner with Teddy Roosevelt (Joe Wiegand) the evening of Friday, the 9<sup>th</sup> at Sgt. Jasper Park in Hardeeville; a full day of activities at the Savannah NWR Visitor Center on Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup>; the popular yearly riverboat cruise on the Savannah River on Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup>; and “An Evening with TR” on Sunday evening at St. Peter’s Episcopal Church on Skidaway Island. Mark your calendar now!

**Volunteers Needed!** We are a volunteer organization, and we rely on the willingness of our members to donate their time and energies to fulfill our mission. There are many great opportunities to volunteer your services from clerking at The Gator Hole to joining a Friends Committee, to assisting in one of the educational activities supported by the US Fish & Wildlife Service and the Friends. Please contact us if you want to become a volunteer. Remember: “Work to make a living...volunteer to make a difference!”

**Your Recommendations.** Would you like to have your input into the Friends group activities and priorities? Please fill out our new member annual **survey** provided below. Survey results will help us understand the preferences of our members.

**Your Articles.** We would also like to see articles generated by you, our readers, especially those of you who are volunteering on the refuges. In addition, if you have favorite web sites or articles in other publications that you think our readers might find interesting, let us know and we will consider providing links to selected sites.

So, read the newsletter, send us your comments, and consider joining the Friends, or making a contribution to the KPDC project. Finally, get out to your local refuge and enjoy these wonderful islands of wildness within our midst!