



Volunteer



THE EYES AND EARS OF THE CLEARWATER
POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Chip Collins, Editor

Volunteers For The Birds

Protection of Bird and Sea Life

Also the Role of Volunteers



**Audubon Society
President Paul Trunk**

There are dozens of species of birds that call Clearwater and Clearwater Beach home.



Gull-billed tern

disturbed by curious citizens enjoying the beach.

Trunk explained the Audubon Society holds frequent meetings at Mocassin Lake Park to educate the public about

the various species of birds in the parks. He urged that if a Volunteer happens to see an injured bird, make sure that the bird is protected and to call the Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary for rescue and rehabilitation.

Also discussed at the meeting was the Sea Turtle nesting. The turtles are endangered species and as such, it is illegal to disturb their nests. Each year the turtles come to shore, bury their eggs and hopefully the infant turtles will make their way back to the water. Members of the Sand Key Patrol are active in helping secure the turtle nesting sites and to warn the public to be careful around the nests.

This from Paul Trunk of the Clearwater Chapter of the Audubon Society at the July meeting of the Volunteers. Appearing at the invitation of Volunteer Paul Ingham (SK-7) who is active with the Sand Key Patrol, Trunk described



Caspian Tern

the various types of birds that complete their life cycles on the beach and mainland. He urged the Volunteers to keep their eyes open when patrolling the beach to ensure that the nests of the various birds are not



Sandwich tern





Eyes and Ears

On July 18, Volunteer Captain Glenn Garte spotted a swimmer off Sand Key in distress with arms flailing . He informed bystanders who were friends of the swimmer and they went after the victim. Captain Garte called a lifeguard. The female swimmer was saved, taken to the fire department and luckily, she was okay. Earlier in the month. Volunteer Al Demitri (SK-2) became a valuable participant in the search and attempted rescue of a youth who drowned off Sand Key early in July. Using the “Mule,” Demitri transported rescue workers back and forth to the search scene.

HOW ARE WE DOING? June 2004 Statistics	
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS . .	1,106
Park, Beach & Homeland Security .	173 Hrs
Administration & Meetings	61 Hrs
Sand Key Patrol	231 Hrs
CID & In-House Administration . . .	253 Hrs
Trail Patrol	48 Hrs.
Training	55 Hrs
Special Events/Special Operations	272 Hrs
Quick Response Team (1 Activation)	13 Hrs
TOTAL PARK SITES PATROLLED	272
TOTAL HOMELAND SECURITY SITES . .	423

Largest 4th in History



Traffic at Clearwater’s Fourth of July activities caused major backups for hours after the fireworks as thousands of revelers made their way home. Lt. James Steffens reported that officers worked traffic on that day from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 A.M., but he was pleased that there were no major incidents and everyone made it home safely. He thanked the volunteers for what they do. Sgt. Gregory Stewart also praised the volunteers and specifically mentioned the Quick Response Team activities describing them as “Fabulous!”



Volunteer Activity Details

During the month of June, some of the duties completed by the Volunteers included handling traffic at five auto accidents, issued 16 courtesy notices for improper parking and expired registrations, assisted with two disabled vehicles, helped in the installation of child safety seats for citizens, discovered and reported a homeless campsite along the East-West Trail, assisted in training new dispatchers at the Communications Center, assisted 517 citizens at Sand Key and conducted Radar Traffic Surveys. These are a sample of the activities the Volunteers are involved with each month. There is an activity for every interest!



Summer is almost over and the school bells will be ringing early next month. Thousands of children will be pouring back into the schools and motorists will once again be dealing with slowing down in school zones. Officers will be enforcing the 15 miles per hour speed limits and Volunteers need to be alert for speeders in school zones as you conduct patrols.