The Friends of the Hammock Board of Directors and the Hammock City Advisory Board meets the second Monday of every month at the Dunedin Community Center, Room 161, 1920 Pinehurst Road at 7 P.M.

All members and public are welcome. Friends of the Hammock of Dunedin, Inc. is an IRS-recognized nonprofit organization.

Mosquitos Beware!

Boy Scouts from Troup 135 in Dunedin will be constructing a half a dozen bat houses to be erected in Hammock Park. As an Eagle Scout project, scout member Patrick Conlon will be leading the group building residences to house thirty bats each. With every bat consuming two thousand or more mosquitoes a day, the impact on this pesky insect population will be significant.

Community help for the project will come from Progress Energy, with the donation and installation of a power pole across from Lake SueMar. The bat houses, which will be installed fourteen feet high on the pole, are located at a perfect site for a bat population, with a clear landing area and a nearby water source. Lowe’s will donate the special untreated wood and other construction materials needed for the houses.

K-9 Mantrailing Partnership in the Hammock

Nine search and rescue agencies from around the State recently participated in a three day event utilizing the Hammock as one of their training sites. K-9 Training Centers, Inc. taught law enforcement personnel and volunteer rescue personnel and their dogs search strategies, such as scent discrimination, tracking and other topics related to finding missing children, lost adults with dementia and other “non apprehension” situations requiring search and rescue. In one of the scenario, a missing man with a broken leg was lost in a deep swampy area off Cedar Trail. K-9 trainer, DJ Beddow used Acki, a German Shepherd to scent and find the “victim” trapped in a tree in less than eight minutes.

Non-profit teams, such as the participating Southwest Florida K-9 Search Unit, are highly trained volunteers, support personnel, K-9 handlers, trainers and their canines who assist law enforcement agencies, fire departments and EMS units in times of disaster or community need.
Upcoming Events

Air potato roundups
Saturday, December 8, 2012
Air potato roundups will be held on Saturday, December 8, 2012 and January 19, 2013 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. Volunteers will be treated to a hotdog cookout following the events. Bring gloves and plastic bags and digging tools. In the past over a ton of air potatoes has been collected at each event and with community help this record can be maintained or even surpassed!

Annual meeting
January 24, 2013
Details will be announced in the Winter newsletter.

Volunteers Needed
Board of Directors
To fill one vacancy on The Friends of the Hammock Board of Directors
Contact Jim Polgar 734-5057

Butterfly Garden
Several people to help maintain the Butterfly Garden
Contact Theresa Polgar 734-1323 or 698-1133 (cell)

Friends of the Hammock, Inc.
c/o Parks & Recreation
1920 Pinehurst Road
Dunedin, FL 34698

Find us on the web at hammockpark.org & on Flickr.com as Dunedin’s Hammock Park

Pot Luck Picnic in the Park
Saturday, October 20, 2012 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
All the members of Friends Of The Hammock are invited to a pot luck picnic in the Hammock on Saturday, October 20, 2012 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Dr. Tom Cuba, a biologist with Delta 7, the company tasked with the removal of invasive plants from the Hammock, will be leading an exploratory walk in the park before lunch. Dr. Cuba is a dynamic speaker who has extensive knowledge about the Hammock and a delightful way to impart it to others. The event will be held at the picnic shelters in the main entrance to the park.

This is a wonderful opportunity to socialize with other Friends of the Hammock and the volunteers who protect and care for it. Member of the Board of Directors, Sue Wallace is coordinating the event. Please contact her at (727)736-2986 or silberkinder@aol.com if you plan to attend. Please let her know what food you will be bringing — either a meat dish, side, salad or desert.

Friends Of The Hammock will supply plates, cups, utensils and liquid refreshments.