



2020 Event Sponsorship Opportunities

To Support the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge

One of the top tourist destinations in Lee County with nearly 1 million annual visitors from around the world, the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge is recognized for its conservation mission. In celebration of the Refuge's 75th Anniversary, the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society will be hosting a number of events in 2020 for which we are hopeful you will consider becoming a sponsor. Your support will help the refuge continue its work of conservation and wildlife protection and increase your visibility among your customers and potential customers.

The federal government continues to cut funding for the refuge system nationwide. As a result, non-profit friends groups, like the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society, work to find additional support to fill those gaps and help protect the wildlife and keep this refuge a top destination and a place to inspire future generations about the importance of conservation. This does not happen by accident. Gifts, memberships and sponsorships of events and programs to the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society help make the Refuge even stronger year after year. By becoming a sponsor of one or more events or programs, it is a win-win for you and the Refuge.

Below is a brief description of the events and/or programs. Sponsorships range from \$750 to \$10,000 depending on the event. Please call Executive Director, Birgie Miller at 239-292-0566 for more information or send an email to director@dingdarlingsociety.org for specific sponsorship levels tied to the events.



November 13 - February 5 - Clyde Butcher Photographic Exhibition - Often tagged "the Ansel Adams of Florida," photographer Clyde Butcher has made for himself a big reputation based on large black-and-white nature photographic images.

One sponsorship available: **Committed**



January - April 2020 - Friday Lecture Series - Now in its 16th year, the weekly lecture series, which lasts for eleven weeks, is free and open to the public. Featuring a wide variety of experts and authors revolving around mission related topics important to the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge. Weekly coverage about the current lecture in local papers; website and electronic e-newsletter. Anticipated attendance: 2,500+. Two Co-Sponsorships available at \$5,000 each. **Committed**



January - April, 2020 - Bi-Weekly Film Series - Similar to the lecture series, but half the number (6), this film series features informative documentaries about conservation and wildlife protection. Held every two weeks in the education center, this series is free and open to the public. This sponsorship is very visible, in that there are regular press releases listing the sponsor, weekly e-newsletters with sponsor links etc.

One Sponsorship Available: \$5,000

GO WILD FOR DING
LOVIN' SPOONBILLS



CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF PROTECTING WILDLIFE

Wednesday, February 12 - Go Wild for “Ding” - Lovin’ Spoonbills - This unique event celebrates the importance of protecting our wildlife and lands. Proceeds of this event will go towards conservation and education efforts at the refuge. Similar to last year’s sold-out event, it will be held at the Sanibel Community House. With another anticipated sold-out event, this will be a casual, fun atmosphere with live music, food, drinks, a special program and live and silent auctions. Anticipated attendance: 250. Sponsorship Levels Available: \$10,000 - \$750.

project

REFUGE

A Couture Fashion Show Using Trash

Tuesday, March 10 - Project Refuge - A Couture Fashion Show Using Trash – Similar to the television program, Project Runway, this event makes a play on the title, but will be focusing on couture fashion using trash. There will be an exciting runway fashion show and “Twist Tie Optional Luncheon” held at exclusive Sanctuary Golf Club which we anticipate will be a sold-out event. Anticipated audience: 250. Sponsorship Levels Available: \$10,000 - \$750.



Friday, March 20 – An Evening with Author Michael Grunwald - With our coastline now under siege from red tides, algae, and rising seas, Michael Grunwald’s award-winning book about the Everglades - *The Swamp: The Everglades, Florida, and the Politics of Paradise*, has never been more relevant or urgent. An exclusive cocktail reception with a meet-and-greet with the author starts at 5:30 p.m. for a limited number of ticket holders at \$125. Reception tickets also include reserved VIP seating at his 7 p.m. lecture. Tickets for the lecture only are \$30. Held at the Community House on Sanibel. Anticipated audience: 300. Sponsorship Levels: \$10,000 - \$750.



Thursday and Friday, May 21 and 22: 9th Annual “Ding” Darling & Doc Ford’s Tarpon Tournament – Celebrating the history of the first documented Tarpon caught at “Ding” Darling in Tarpon Bay, Doc Ford’s and “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society have partnered to host this Tarpon Tournament which combines the love of sport fishing and the protection of the tarpon through responsible fishing and research. A Captain’s Dinner, which has an auction and entertainment is held on Thursday, May 21. The tournament is on Friday, May 22, with the awards banquet and celebration that same evening. Open to the public, this event includes dinner; music and an auction. Ticket prices will vary depending on activity. Anticipated attendance: 300+. Sponsorship Levels: \$10,000+ - \$750 available.



Tuesday, December 1: 75th Anniversary Gala: Celebrating J.N.”Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge’s 75th anniversary. This black-tie gala celebrating the history begun in 1945 will be held at the exclusive Sanctuary Golf Club. Anticipated audience: 250. Sponsorship Levels: \$10,000 - \$750.



General Sponsorship Level Overview

(All sponsorships are tax-deductible)

Call of the Wild (\$10,000+ in-kind or cash donation)

Benefits: A BIG thank you! Logo with hot link on the www.dingdarlingsociety.org website, prominent logo included on the invitation, prominent logo in event signage. Listed in all press releases. Mention in the DDWS newsletter and featured with logo and link in their weekly “*Ding*” on the *Wing* e-newsletter which is sent to nearly 11,000 people. Social media postings with individual Facebook and Instagram postings with link. Personal and on-site recognition during event.

Champion (\$5,000 in-kind or cash donation)

Benefits: Logo with link on the www.dingdarlingsociety.org website, logo included on the invitation, logo in event signage. Listed in all press releases. Mention in the DDWS newsletter and featured with logo and link in their weekly “*Ding*” on the *Wing* e-newsletter. Social media postings with individual Facebook and Instagram postings with link. Personal and on-site recognition during event.

Guardian (\$2,500 cash donation)

Benefits: Logo with link on the www.dingdarlingsociety.org website, logo included on the invitation and event signage. Listed in all press releases, mention in the DDWS newsletter and featured in their weekly “*Ding*” on the *Wing* e-newsletter. Social media posts including individual Facebook and Instagram postings with link. On-site recognition during event.

Protector (\$1,500 cash donation)

Benefits: Logo with link on the Society website, name included on the invitation and event signage. Listed in all press releases, mention in the DDWS newsletter and in their weekly “*Ding*” on the *Wing* e-newsletter. Facebook posting with link. On-site recognition during the event.

Defender (\$750 cash donation)

Benefits: Name on the Society website with a link, name in all print and broadcast advertising, mention in the DDWS newsletter and e-newsletter. Recognition during the event.