

Friends of Fakahatchee Strand State Preserve

SUMMER NEWS, July 2003

STAR-GAZING

The Everglades Astronomical Society will be hosting a "star party" at the Harmon Rock Quarry on Janes Scenic Drive on **Friday, August 29**, for anyone wishing to see Mars at its closest to earth in 60,000 years. Bill Fries states that the best time to view the stars will be around midnight but the telescopes will be available for viewing earlier in the evening. Since this would be an August (summertime in the glades) showing, bug spray will be needed.

In order to assure a fairly good-size gathering for this event, we would appreciate a commitment from members who plan to attend. Please e-mail back to us **prior to August 5** if you would like to participate. Plan to meet at the Preserve Office at dusk. Thank you!!

Our Condolences

We would like to extend our sympathy to Mike Owen whose mother recently passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

E-MAIL Newsletter

To save on postage and time, we will be sending out the *Ghost-Writer* Newsletter via email unless you notify us that you would like to continue receiving through the U.S. Mail Service. Our next full issue will be in September.

QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES

A note of thanks to everyone who responded to our questionnaire. Many of you have offered your services, and we will be getting back in touch with each of you in the fall. If you have not responded and still wish to volunteer or participate in some capacity with the *Friends of the Fakahatchee*, please feel free to contact Patty Huff at snookcity@hotmail.com. Have a great summer!!