

# New President of OSFR, Merrillee Malwitz-Jipson!

December 31, 2008

OSFR convened as a board last week. Russ Augspurg turned in his verbal resignation as President of OSFR. Our board has terms of 2 years and they have just about run their course and Russ is looking for a full time job. I thank him for his tremendous help and many long hours of conference calling. Russ has an incredible skill for quiet strength in his convictions and a laugh out loud sense of humor. He will be missed as a formidable lecturer on behalf of the Santa Fe River. He will still be attending regular meetings in Gilchrist County and in Live Oak as a citizen and member of OSFR.



New President of OSFR

The board appointed Merrillee Malwitz-Jipson, myself, to replace his position. I am a willing and capable participant. In this time of need to protect the environment more strongly than ever, I am honored our group chose me to task. I hope I can live up

to the expectations of my past participation with this group. Honestly, not much will change except for title. I am involved on a daily basis with many critical concerns that have the potential to change how we treat nature (and WATER) in terms of our own survival. None of these are new ideas to any of us who are old enough to remember the very first and only convenience store, fast food restaurant or large grocery store that moved into our neighborhood. Or the field out back where you could walk forever and not see another sign of a human being, house, or car for that matter. In the 43 years I have lived on this planet my personal upbringing has taught me about protecting nature for future generations. I made mistakes and still do everyday. It's a tedious task to always do the "right" thing for us, our kids and their kid, or simply for future generations. We stand at a cusp, some would say too late, yet I am hopeful that we can reverse our misunderstandings of how to live with nature. Instead of trying to dig, capture and harness it for our own bigger than necessary needs we might be able to come to terms with what we might need to simply live and allow our future generations to reap the benefits of what we leave behind untouched and/or possibly touched and in return nurtured. I encourage you to take your shoes off, walk in a park, revel in the sunlight on your back and for goodness sakes jump into those beautiful cool blue springs and get wet.



YIPPEE!

photo by Merrillee Malwitz-Jipson

Thank you for all of your support throughout these years. For all the letters written, phone calls made and attending the government meetings to let your concerns be known and to stand up for what's needed in your community. Everyone who had the capabilities to help ...let it be known that you have done this, and OSFR on behalf of the Santa Fe River is very grateful to you. Keep up the good work. Now more than ever...get involved. Learn the process of your government and the powers that govern you and make your presence known. It is your United States of America and it's time to act accordingly.

Merrillee Malwitz-Jipson

President of Our Santa Fe River, Inc.

Board Openings for OSFR

p.s. All volunteer OSFR has Board positions open. Please e-mail us if you are interested and have some free time.

In need of:

Kind and generous people

Fundraiser with possible grant writing capabilities (501c3 is still actively being pursued)

Event organizer