

MEMBERSHIP FORM



The Friends of Camp Helen is a Florida Citizens Support Organization (CSO) which assists the Park Service in the preservation, restoration and improvement of Camp Helen State Park.

A not-for-profit 501 (c) (3) organization, the yearly Friends membership is from April 1 to March 31.

Payment can be made on-line by going to www.friendsofcamp Helen.org or with a personal check.

Please fill out the form below and send a check for the desired membership to:

Friends of Camp Helen State Park
P. O. Box 19338
Panama City Beach, FL 32417

(Please print all information.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Check type of membership desired:

- Winter Visitor (Nov.-March) \$ 10.00
- Student or Military Family \$ 15.00
- Individual \$ 25.00
- Family \$ 35.00
- Club or Civic Organization \$ 50.00
- Patron \$ 100.00
- Business (15 free passes) \$ 250.00
- Legacy/Life (20 free passes) \$2,000.00
- Donation \$ _____

ABOUT CAMP HELEN STATE PARK

Within the 185 acres, the park comprises a wide variety of uplands, wetlands and shoreline habitats which include beach dunes, maritime hammock, sand pines, scrub oaks, mesic flat woods, tidal and depression marshes.

Surrounded by water - Lake Powell on the east and north, a salt marsh on the west and the Gulf of Mexico on the south, Camp Helen is unique in many ways. Lake Powell is the largest of the rare coastal dune lakes in NW Florida flowing in Bay and Walton counties.

A large area near the beach is a favored nesting area for nine protected species of birds. A large population of Least Terns return annually for nesting. Small numbers of Snowy Plovers as well as turtles also nest on our beach. Protected areas are clearly marked and should be avoided during the nesting season.

PARK GUIDELINES

Park hours are 8 am to sunset 365 days a year. An entrance fee is required.

Alcoholic beverage consumption, fireworks, and hunting are prohibited.

Pets are not permitted on beach. Where allowed they must be kept on a hand-held leash no longer than 6 feet. Fishing, boating, and swimming are allowed in designated areas only. Lifeguards are not provided. A Florida fishing license may be required.

PADDLE BOARD & Kayak Rentals
at Camp Helen State Park

On-line paddle board & kayak reservations
www.friendsofcamp Helen.org

Rentals Phone: (850) 890-6981 23937 Panama City Beach Parkway
 Park Phone: (850) 233-5059 Panama City Beach, FL 32413

This complimentary guide is provided by the Friends of Camp Helen.



Photograph by Emily Ellis

CAMP HELEN STATE PARK WALKING TOUR

To better enjoy hiking at Camp Helen State Park you may wish to become acquainted with the area's natural wonders - the very same wonders which first attracted prehistoric man to this place as well as their Native American descendants.

The Hiking Trail throughout Camp Helen State Park is called the Oak Canopy Trail. It provides access to the environmental wonders of the park and is noted on the map by the dotted lines. One section of the trail (1.25 miles) runs to the west from the central area and provides access to the beach near Phillips Inlet. It also winds beneath giant magnolias and live oaks before circling back. Another trail section, which is .5 miles, heads north under the Lake Powell Bridge (Phillips Inlet) and runs along the west side of the Lake Powell.

In 1928, Robert E. Hicks purchased 185 acres of land overlooking Phillips Inlet where he built a summer home for his wife Margret May. Margret named the compound Loch Lomond. Construction of the lodge and out buildings began in the 1930s.

Avondale Textile Mills of Sylacauga, AL purchased the property from the Hicks family in 1945 as a resort camp for employee families. They named it Camp Helen. Twelve duplex cottages and a recreation hall were built.

The State of Florida purchased the park in 1996. Camp Helen State Park opened in March 1997.

The park's national registered historic structures are numbered 1-9 on the map with descriptions in this leaflet. It is an easy walk to view these structures.



CAMP HELEN STATE PARK

Walking Tour Guide & Friends of Camp Helen Membership Form

It's always such a pleasure to visit Camp Helen State Park. I am very happy to have been able to contribute to the enjoyment of the sights to be seen and trails explored, by painting the trail guide map.

JOAN VEUOT



Historical Buildings

- 1 Garage
- 2 Lodge
- 3 Water Tower
- 4 Rainbow Cottages
- 5 Caretaker House
- 6 Kitchen
- 7 Recreation Hall
- 8 Horse Stable
- 9 Maid's House

Visitor Facilities

- A Visitor Center
- B Picnic Pavilion
- C Restrooms
- D Covered Benches

Oak Canopy Trail

Phillips Inlet

FRIENDS MEMBER BENEFITS

- 10 free passes into the park
- Business memberships receive 15 free passes into the park and recognition in the newsletter
- Winter visitor membership is from November through March with four free passes
- A 15% discount on paddle board & kayak rentals
- A Friends membership card
- All membership monies and donations remain at the local level and are used solely to benefit Camp Helen
- Volunteer opportunities
- Friends newsletter
- Annual business meeting and lunch in April
- Annual Christmas party
- Satisfaction of supporting the park

FRIENDS PROJECTS

- Paddle Board & Kayak Rentals
- Movies and More summer program
- Americana Concerts winter program
- Various other fund raising projects as determined by the Board
- International Coastal Cleanup
- Flower beds and gardens maintenance
- Grant applications to restore historic buildings and for park improvements
- Assist park staff as needed
- Decorate the Lodge for Christmas

LEARN MORE

The Friends provide assistance through volunteer work and financial support. To learn more about the Friends and to make a paddle board & kayak reservation go to the website www.friendsofcamphelen.org.

 Friends of Camp Helen State Park
 info@friendsofcamphelen.org