

Reflections by Dan and Dallas

Dan has been an Intern' at the Patch since June of 2008. He has been involved in various projects around the Patch. He worked on landscaping the front yard of the cottage with the help of Jake. He tried reviving the Paletology project by creating seating with industrial cast-offs. He worked on organizing the recycling area. He cleared the shed with help of Brian, Roger and Hal. The tools, craft supplies and miscellaneous items are all organized in that area. It is also "the lost boys" hangout area. Mind you there is more than one "Wendy," at the Patch.



at the Patch. He also does prepping and cleaning of the Patch four times a month before Patch events. For e.g. trash pick-up, washing rugs, blowing off path ways and tables, making sure the trash cans are empty and monitoring the parking lot. He worked on the haunted house which scared everyone out of their wits on November 1st. Dan and Emily have been involved in painting the cottage.

He would like to see the Patch legitimized and appreciated by the Gulfport community. He would love to see more volunteers on weekends. He feels the ratio of patch-night guests to volunteers on Saturdays is pitiful. He would love to see permanent structures that can house some of the materials so that things wouldn't wither and weather away. His artist's eye sees some of the found objects in their context that can be used for sculpture, assemblage, painting or photography

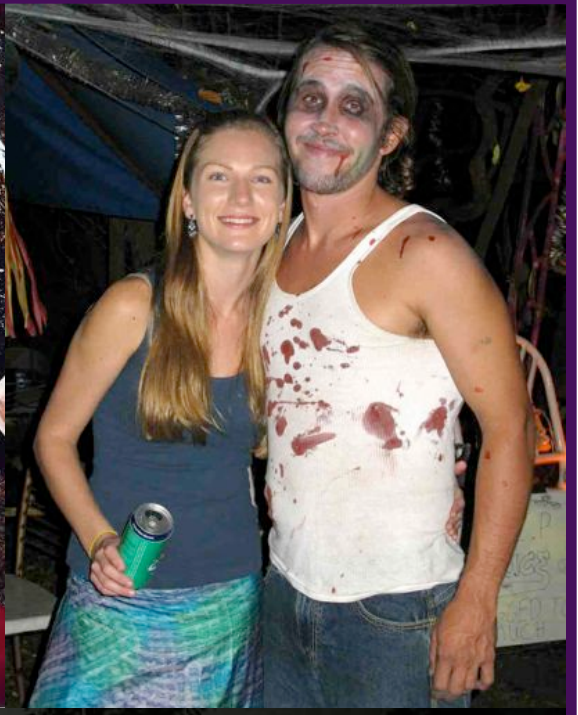
Dan: Since I have been here I have seen a lot of progress due to the fact that Anna reached out to Eckerd college to start the internship program. We owe that to Anna for her generosity. Interning here as a resident artist has inspired me greatly and has opened opportunities that would not have been available otherwise. I love the Blueberry Patch and my friends here. I intend to be a lifetime Patch Pal.

Dallas: Dan, when he is on, he is on. He is one fine young man, that has a perspective for what needs to be done at the Patch. And sometimes he does it. And sometimes he does not, but then again he remembers later on to do it. He really is a fine young man and I am really going to miss him. In particular because he brings so many beautiful young ladies to the Patch. He is extremely conscientious and definitely an asset to the Patch. Can we get him back? Can we also get Emily back? The choice of Eckerd students for the Patch needs an award.

By Dede Van Hagt



Say hello to our other Eckerd intern, Emily!



Halloween lasted a day longer at the Blueberry Patch with a costume party and a spooky haunted house on November 1st!



Primo Patch Pals Dan and Juju

by Dede Van Hagt

When did you come to Florida and from where?

Juju: Six years ago after taking my furniture on a two year tour of the East coast via Atlanta, the East village and Ship bottom, New Jersey after twenty years in New Orleans.

How did you find the Patch?

Juju: By searching the web when I was searching for law schools to work at. I was tired of living in the frozen yankee wasteland.

How did you meet Dan?

Juju: In front of Tipitina's in New Orleans and then I saw him again at the "Monkey ball" in West Palm Beach and we have been together ever since.



Has Dan always been a musician and how would you describe his music?

Dan: They are American folk songs inspired by the life I have lived. I don't know how much I write them. I am more like a conduit, it just comes out of me. I have been playing guitar since 1966. But I have had to supplement my music by being a working person for 30 years. I have one song that sums it all up.

"I've partied with Pirates, poets and madmen
You might not believe it but most of it's true"

It is from the song "My life of Adventure". It is about the wilderness I have survived for some unknown reason.

Tell me about a little bit about what you do for the Patch.

Juju: I redesigned the web page so that there is some consistency about the way it feels and looks, so that it is

more like coming home. I have taken over from Mike, booking bands and now Hal's taken over that task from me. I choreographed the "myspace" and "facebook" accounts, so that they are easier to handle. I organized the Easter hat contest and help with "Burning Brother". I also donate pieces of art for the silent auction.

Is there anything else that you would like to add?

Please play nice with the other children. Respect the Patch, respect yourself and respect other people.

December Events

1st - Open Mic

7th - Sing-a-Long

11th - Open Jam

12th - Burning Brother

22nd - Cope