

2008 Fall Spotlight

Mimi Searle started with the Environmental Lands Division in April 2002 when she became a Shell Key Twiner. Twiners protect the Bird Preservation Area (BPA) on Shell Key Preserve, which is located just north of Fort DeSoto Park. They assist the Division by helping to replace the signs and posts around the BPA and repairing the twine that delineates the BPA. In



order to accomplish her job, Mimi spends long hours on hot sandy beaches. She also assists the Research Section by counting everything she sees in the environment: birds, sea turtles, other animals, and people. As a Twiner, Mimi Searle, has been a great asset to these efforts. When the new Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center was opened in December 2002, Mimi started volunteering once a week as a Docent. Mimi is so dedicated to the mission of the Weedon Island Preserve and that of the Cultural and Natural History Center itself, she is now working up to 3 shifts a week. She takes the public for tours around the center and answers any questions they might have concerning the construction and orientation of this remarkable facility, which incorporates Native American features into the unique architecture. Her eagerness to help in many projects though, shows her loyalty and unfailing support of Weedon Island Preserve. Mimi shines in her ability to connect with the public and to educate visitors of all ages about nature, culture and the Center.