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Walkabout: Discover scrub bugs at Archbold Biological Station

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Courtesy photo Entomologist Dr. Mark Deyrup will lead the Scrub Bug Discovery Walkabout at Archbold, at 1 p.m. Sunday.

VENUS — What is your first reaction when you hear the word bug? Maybe something small creeping across a floor or table? Maybe a crawling critter or flying pest? Or maybe even a critical flaw in a computer program.

None of these descriptions apply to Dr. Mark Deyrup. He has spent his entire career studying bugs and will deliver some of his expansive knowledge, focusing on scrub

insects, in a special Discovery Walkabout at Archbold Biological Station at 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11. This event is free to the public. Families are encouraged to attend.

“Anytime you go outside the insects present themselves and you don’t have to go far. My goal for these discovery walks is to try to get out of the parking lot,” Deyrup commented with a laugh. “We will discover and discuss as we stroll along.”

Deyrup also encourages attendees to bring bugs to the event if you want to find out more about it.

Not only is Deyrup an expert entomologist but he is also an accomplished scientific artist. He draws every species he collects. Currently, Deyrup has some of his bug drawing collection on display in the Science Bugs exhibit at the Museum of Florida Arts and Culture at South Florida State College. The exhibit runs through March 5.

Archbold Biological Station is an independent, not-for-profit research facility and lies within the Northern Everglades, the lands that drain south into Lake Okeechobee. The Station is dedicated to long-term ecological research, conservation, and education. It’s all part of the global effort to understand, interpret, and preserve the world’s natural heritage. It is eight miles south of Lake Placid. The entrance is 1.8 miles south of State Road 70 on Old SR 8. Visit www.archbold-station.org or call 863-465-2571.

Photos:

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