

Very clear. Three cheers for Ernest! He also is willing to lead all four walks, and approves inviting the public to join us, via "mass media". A third and fourth walk will probably be half-day ones on April 5 and 29. See later issue of PELICAN.

GIRL SCOUTS: Citrus Council of Girl Scouts, Inc., sponsoring a wider opportunity for 48 Cadette Scouts of 9th and 8th grades called "Audubon Adventure", planned a 5-day trip to the Everglades from December 29 thru January 2. They were to start at Highlands Hammock State Park, stop for a visit to the Corkscrew Swamp and conclude at Naples with two boat trips into the Everglades. The purpose of this event was to stimulate interest in all phases of conservation, but naturally with emphasis on birds. Miss Carol Beck, Conservation Specialist with the Florida Board of Parks, planned to accompany them. In preparation for this event, each Council took their Scouts for two training week-ends enabling them to become better acquainted with each other as well as receive an introduction to birds. Alexander Springs provided an adventure-filled weekend in October. On an early morning boat trip they had their first birding expedition. The November week-end was held at Dummitt Cove on the coast. Scouts from Halifax River Area are: Sandra Brock, Lynn Chatley and Elizabeth Cary, all of Ormond Beach. These three, with Mrs. Helga Powell, troop leader, have been invited to come to our January meeting and let us know how their big adventure turned out.

* * * * *

THE BY-LAWS OF THE HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY, as revised in 1968, provide for two-year terms for all elected officers. The members-at-large, however, are on a staggered schedule with one elected each year for a term of two years. The offices to be filled this year are one member-at-large and an historian. The nominating committee, appointed by the Board of Directors, is: Beacom Rich, Chairman, George Single, and Nettie Ross. You are invited to suggest to them names for candidates for these two offices. Elections will be held at the Annual meeting in March.

FIELD TRIPS by Margaret Branch

Short sermon (before exulting over field-trips that we so enjoy). A large hourglass, with the sands nearly running out, illustrates the theme of Michigan Audubon's annual meeting in Grand Rapids, due the same January 30 as ours of Florida Audubon Society at Cocoa. M.A.S. chief topic is: "Endangered Species - Including Man." Do not doubt that the danger applies to every one of us. Men plus machines and chemicals are proliferating at an appalling rate, are stripping this Earth of its green cover and its wildlife, and ruining vital air and water in Florida, as in Michigan, and it is later than we think.

Field trips to date have all faithfully followed your green program folder's promises, as planned last Summer, with a few small modifications. Stormy weather cancelled the very first one on October 3. The Duda Farms half of the November 14 trip, after a good look at mud and rain there, was reluctantly abandoned as several cars made for Rock Springs and a good picnic shelter. After lunch came sunshine. Duda could not get a second try, like the one we made to reach Lake Harney, on December 26. Having decided not to have a "Christmas Count" tentatively set for that day, but a regular all-day trip, several cars braved very unpromising weather and started out to see if the floods that had stopped progress on October 31 had subsided. This time we got

far enough to see the big lake, such a charming place for a picnic last May, but, once more, lunch had to be on the well-raised, deserted road, with our cars, and after retreating too, to a portion of it where trees thick on each side, gave us a solid windbreak. For, it was about 50 degrees, dark and with a mean North wind, and would have been a poor day indeed for a Christmas count. With so many of the "regulars" still away, over the holidays, some North (!), more Southward, it had been a surprise to find six cars assembled, before 7:30 A.M., at the starting place. Christmas Day had been so lovely, still and warm; before dawn next morning winds had shifted from South to Northwest winds, strong and cold, and a line squall even hit with thunder and lightning, so cold winds were forbidding the beach where yesterday hundreds had been so happily wading, strolling, even swimming, with ocean below 60, men women, children - and dogs. To go back to the trip of December 12, to Welaka fish hatcheries ponds, there, thanks to 'scopes and binoculars, we collected a quite respectable list of species; including Common snipe and Water pipit, by looking most carefully, in quietest corners, and a few drained, muddy ponds, that had some water left. But numbers were way down, there, as road right through that whole project was being noisily and busily widened and paved, with surroundings torn up or built up. Men and machines. So, we have come into 1970, with only half-day trips scheduled, weekly, for two months. January 2 gave another surprise. With so many regulars still absent here were thirteen cars at the starting place, before 7:30. Cold, windy, dark, even a bit damp, but clearing. After compacting into 7 cars, leaving the rest to be picked up, on return at noon, by owners whose homes are scattered for several miles along these shores, we took the beach southward for an hour or two where there were real numbers of gulls and terns - hundreds into thousands were resting and digesting at the water's edge, or flying, farther out over the surf, with fishing boats beyond, and with the gulls and terns a few Brown pelicans, plunging for fish, and our first two gannets of this season, all testifying that plenty of food was there, to be worked for. The clusters of birds at water's edge, including sanderlings, turnstones, Laughing gulls, Royal and Forster's terns, paid no attention as our whole line of cars paused like a string of "hides", to study them, with binoculars scarcely needed. Stopped short by the Inlet, where sea runs into river, and, again, men and machines are changing the whole picture, with money outlay of millions (mostly U. S. Government), with dredging and huge rock breakwaters. Wide sand and mud flats now join seascape and a very few rarer shorebirds may still be found there. Friday morning we had Semipalm. and Piping plovers and Black-bellied ones, dunlins, and Semipalm. sandpipers. Coming home, inland, we found a flock of Purple finches, very rare for us, and another remnant of a favorite hunting ground, several miles away, had given us Clapper and King rails, Common and Snowy egret, Caspian tern, and a Black-crowned night-heron. Our totals, in recent weeks, have been in the 60's and 70's for all trips. And George Murray reports that our total of species, for trip days only, since season started in October through January 2, was 152.

URGENT REQUEST: Please write a brief personal letter to mail now, to Representatives Ted Alvarez and Richard S. Hodes. The following is from the editorial page of the Daytona Beach Evening News, January 2, 1970:

AFRAID OF DDT?

"Eight members of the Legislature will conduct a hearing January 21 in the House Chamber at the Capitol in Tallahassee which will have a great bearing on whether the Legislature will ban the use of DDT and other so called 'hard pesticides' or allow them to be used extensively on six widely grown crops as now permitted by State Agriculture Commissioner Doyle Conner.

"It is certain that the interests which wish to continue the use of these poisons that are so persistent in the environment that many species of wildlife are being driven to extinction, will be there to argue their case.

"They will claim that they must use DDT and other similar pesticides or suffer the loss of crops. They will insist that nothing has 'been proved' about the damaging effects of DDT. They will say they should be permitted to use the persistent insecticides while further study is made on DDT effects. They will say that a complete ban on DDT and related chemicals would raise the price of food.

"They will be there forcibly with their arguments, for the question is a pocketbook issue with them. DDT is cheap. If farmers are forced to use other insecticides, their costs will increase.

"We hope equally forceful arguments will be made by friends of man and wildlife who wish to stop the destruction of species that will be sorely missed once the point of no return is reached.

"From many reports we have read, there seems to be ample grounds for belief that DDT is killing fish, birds and animals. It interferes with reproduction of fish eating birds, the Bald Eagle for one, which used to be rather common in Florida, but which now has all but disappeared.

"Adverse effects on man have not been proved to the same degree, but there are grave suspicions that the DDT which gets into the food we eat isn't doing us any good, to say the least.

"The trouble with DDT and certain other commonly used pesticides is that sun, wind and rain do not act to break them down quickly into harmless substances. DDT has been known to persist 10 years after first applied. Other available insecticides break down readily and become harmless.

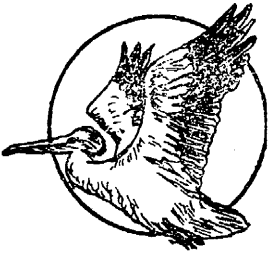
"Should you be concerned enough to write a letter to the place where it may do some good, we suggest that you write to two Florida House committee subchairmen who will preside over that January 21 meeting in Tallahassee.

"They are Rep. Ted Alvarez, 13937 Duval Road; Jacksonville, 32218; and Rep. Richard S. Hodes, 116 Ladoga Ave., Tampa, 33606.

"Rep. Alvarez, a dairyman, is on the House Agriculture Committee which traditionally is sympathetic to agricultural interests. Rep. Hodes, a physician, is a member of the House Public Health and Welfare Committee. He probably is sensitive to the possible health impairment effects of continued use of DDT.

"We also would hope that the Halifax River Audubon Society and others throughout the state will send citizens to the hearing to state the case for preserving our wildlife and keeping our environment as free as possible from persistent poisons."

Mrs. Ralph M. Branch, Editor
711 N. Halifax Ave.
Daytona Beach, Fla. 32018



THE PELICAN

Information Bulletin

Halifax River Audubon Society
Daytona Beach, Florida

Volume 15, Number 5

February 1970

DATES AHEAD:

MONTHLY MEETING: February 16, third Monday, Seabreeze United Church House on Wild Olive. Our study slides of the birds of our own area 7 to 7:30 P.M. Then, after business period; Mr. Howard Orians has promised to show one of his outstanding films, such as we have been enjoying, now and then, on "OF LANDS AND SEAS", on television.

NATURE WALK: For the first of the scheduled Nature Walks, at Bulow Ruins State Park, February 15, Sunday 2-5 P.M., our group will be meeting Mr. Stadelmann, the leader, at mainland end of Ormond Bridge at 2, to drive to the park, where there will probably be demanded an entrance fee of 25¢ per person.

WILDLIFE FILMS: February 14, Saturday, 7:30 at Peabody Auditorium, William Anderson's "THE EVERGLADES - OUR UNIQUE WATER WILDERNESS". Fifth and last of 1970 series, February 28, same time and place, Robert Hermes, "THE LIVING JUNGLE". Don't miss them!

WEEKLY TRIPS: All half-day (until all-day ones begin again, with March 6 and 13), 7:30 A.M., should see seven or eight cars setting forth from the gathering place at mainland end of South Bridge, on Saturday, February 7; Friday February 13; Saturday February 21; and Friday February 27. The cold dark mornings of January trip days did not deter 7 or 8 or 9 from the prompt start.

RESCUE COMMISSION

Mr. Don Bammettler has prepared instructions for care and feeding of injured or helpless birds.

As a known Audubon member, you may find yourself called upon for advice to nature lovers on bird rescue missions. Any member could offer such assistance or refer the caller to our "Rescue Commission" listed below.

CARE OF INJURED OR HELPLESS BIRDS

If an apparently helpless bird is observed on the ground try to determine whether it is a nestling, diseased or injured.

If a nestling, withdraw some distance and watch to see if one of the parent birds comes to feed the fledgling. If this occurs do not interfere as everything may be normal or, in any event, the parent birds will usually do a better job of caring for the fledgling than the would-be rescuer could. If the fledgling is in the street or on the sidewalk move it to the nearest hedgerow or thicket and hope for the best.

If the observer is reasonably sure that the fledgling has been deserted by its parents and if he, or someone in the family, has the interest and perseverance to feed the bird on schedule, he may confine the bird and feed as follows:

1. Birds such as mockingbirds, blue jays, cardinal, sparrows, will have to be fed small quantities about every 15 or 20 minutes from dawn to dark. Do not "stuff" the fledgling. Once it recognizes its benefactor as its source of food it will usually announce its desire for food by excited hunger cries and a wide open mouth when approached. If these manifestations are not evident, or if food is refused, wait a while and try again.

Fledglings in this category should be fed the following:

Chopped earthworms, grubs, maggots, ant "eggs" and mealworms. The maggots can be raised on liver exposed to flies. Mealworms and ant "eggs" can be purchased from pet shops.

Small amounts of fruits or berries, such as pokeberries, lantana berries or blackberries may be given for food and moisture. These natural foods can be supplemented with canned dog foods and chopped beef.

Another substitute is a mixture of one part lean raw beef, two parts scraped carrot, one part shredded wheat and three parts of crushed bird seeds. Hard boiled eggs may be substituted for the meat. The mixture should be moistened with whites of egg and run through the coarse grinder of the meat chopper. As the mixture comes out of the chopper it looks like worms and can be broken into desired lengths and fed to the young birds. If possible, alternate each feeding with natural foods.

2. Fledglings of doves and pigeons may be fed a mixture of ground oatmeal cooked in milk to a consistency that can be fed to the birds with an eye dropper. The instant baby food oatmeal is already ground and can be prepared by adding warm milk.

3. Fledglings of quail are able to forage for themselves as soon as hatched and may be fed chick feed, chopped hard boiled eggs and bird seeds.

If a helpless bird is mature and shows no sign of injury the observer may decide that it is fatigued, starving or diseased. In an emergency the bird may be revived by bringing to a warm room and there covered with a wool cloth and fed scraped beef, liver and hard boiled egg or custard. A few drops of cod liver oil should also be given. Later berries or raisins and other dried fruit may be offered or the mixture described earlier may be offered depending on the diet of the particular species.

Hawks, owls and some of the other predators may be given scraps of meat, fish, mice and rats.

It should be remembered that it is unlawful, without a permit, to keep captive any of the wild birds, resident or migratory. All should be given their liberty as soon as they are able to care for themselves.

Frequently a bird is found with a broken leg or wing or other injury. If it has been stunned by flying into a window or other object let it lie for awhile. It will usually recover. If it is not stunned it will naturally be fearful of your approach. Approach quietly with patience, and when it has settled down and is still, go to it and with a quick move grasp it firmly but not so tightly as to injure it. If its leg is broken let it hang between the fingers. The injured bird may be taken to the local pet shop or veterinarian for care or treatment. Or, if it is decided that the rescuer, or someone in the family, has the experience to care for the injured bird, home care may be the answer. A broken leg or wing may be splinted with small splints fastened firmly with soft bandages. The wings should be tied down with soft cloth ties and the bird put in a cage, placed in a shady spot. Place in the cage a saucer of water and food according to species as described above.

For help in identifying the species of bird and for additional needed information call on the following:

BIRD RESCUE ADVISORS

Mr. Donald Barnettler - 677-4333
 Mr. and Mrs. Frank Berger - 252-8204
 Mrs. Elizabeth McCandless - 253-3450
 Mrs. Dorothy Vickert - 252-3227
 Mr. and Mrs. Alvin R. Pratt - 677-0289
 Mrs. George R. Single - 677-7415

Remember:

- 1- Keep the above information and your Peterson Guide handy to the telephone.
- 2- There is no facility in the Audubon Society for bird care. We are happy to assist in identifying the species and to share our information regarding appropriate care.
- 3- Emphasize the importance of delaying action until certain that the mother bird or "Mother Nature" cannot cope with the problem.
- 4- Assistance or information beyond this may be obtained by calling the Humane Society - 255-5364.

Mrs. George R. Single

FIELD TRIPS - By George S. Murray

On January 16 on our way to Tomoka Farms Road we were able to locate the Brown-headed nuthatches and quite a few Bluebirds. They were forced to give way to the wheels of progress when the airport expanded its runways. They moved across the road into another stand of pine trees. About the middle of March we will be listening for the beautiful lilting song of the Pinewoods sparrow and the loud clear trilling song of the Pine warbler.

The pastureland with its green fields, dappled everywhere with cows makes a fine pastoral scene. Here the Cattle egrets are found with their friends. A group of adolescent White ibis was seen with mama and papa in attendance. Snipe were flushed from the drainage ditch along the road. At the milking shed the air becomes quite pungent with the scent of Eau de Cologne de Cow Manure. With this heady scent the cows are sometimes serenaded with music. It turns them on, so to speak. Beethoven or Mozart, it isn't. They seem to like Rock and Roll. Pianissimo is the rule when they are going to pasture, and fortissimo when coming into the milking shed. One cow caught between the pianissimo and the fortissimo became so confused she started producing something resembling strawberry yoghurt, which is no mean trick. This is the udder truth. I can hear someone saying "boy, oh boy, this is a lot of bull." They just could be right. The Boat-tailed grackles, Cow-birds, Rusty blackbirds, Brewsters blackbirds, and the House and Savannah sparrows seem to be very fond of the atmosphere near the milking shed. One Savannah sparrow became so infused with this cologne he was nominated the sparrow of distinction when he returned to his group. A few more miles along the road we heard and saw a number of Meadowlarks. Close your eyes and listen to their song. It is truly a song of eternal spring. Our trip ended with 59 species with the weather temperature in the mid-thirties.

On January 24, 50 White pelicans were seen at the starting point. They came soaring over the bridge in V formation studying the different

species of bird-watchers. We were alerted to this rare invasion by Mrs. Bonner who lives in the Bose Bay area. The word that the fleet had arrived was welcome news to the residents with homes along Rose Bay and the Halifax River area. Thirty degree weather had killed many schools of warm water fish, such as mullet and jack crevalle. The White pelicans were doing their part in clearing the water and shoreline of dead fish. It was estimated that 150 of these birds (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) were in our area. I dare you to spell it backwards. At the Port Orange bridge we saw 5 Oystercatchers (*Haematopus palliatus*). Fifteen were seen by one of our members. Four Loons were seen on our way to the Rose Bay area. Not far away we saw two beautiful male Hooded mergansers. We had a much closer look at the White pelicans at Rose Bay. The battleships had taken over and everything was well in hand. Sixty-eight species were seen on this trip.

The January 30 trip produced 61 species, nothing extraordinary. However, I had a very convincing discussion about a Dowitcher and a Lesser yellowlegs. The lady from Maine knows her Dowitchers down to the last stitching. I never have been able to find out what these birds are stitching. We saw a number of Wood storks in flight. The Arnhead, as it is sometimes called, would never win a beauty contest while perched. His beauty is displayed on the wing.

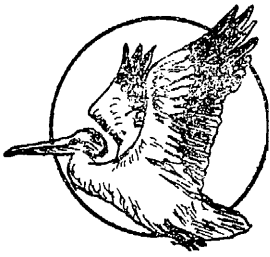
Many surprises come on some of these trips. I remember one such trip. The professor sneaked up behind me and said, "That is a *Petalostemum Feayi*." I asked him to write it down on a piece of paper, which he did. It didn't look any better to me on paper than when it was pronounced. I still thought I had received a prescription for snakebite. Then he told me the common name is Prairie Clover. Our professor is forging ahead in the field of botany and I am still having trouble with some of the Passeriformes.

NOTES: Two speeding cars have recently managed to touch our indignant members. One really hit Nellie Rich. Returning from usual early morning walk on the beach, she was knocked down by a car careening around the corner and spent two days in hospital. Badly bruised, but nothing broken, and Beacom was only grazed, but even more furious than Ruth Curry, who could not even manage to get the license number of the red car full of youths who thought it fun to zip through the little cloud of gulls, to which Ruth was tossing bread from her car, near the ocean's edge, and 8 were hit. She gave chase, 10 m.p.h. forgotten, but scooting up the University Avenue approach, the red car fled through a green light, which turned red against her.

TRAVELLERS: Dorothy Vickert is off on a six-weeks flying trip to include Australia and New Zealand. Lillian Shields and Ethel Monroe have all plans made to fly to Venezuela before the end of this month for 3 weeks of exotic birding there. Having just happily and safely returned from 3 weeks with their same remarkable leader, birding in Guatemala and Panama, your editor can positively state that their 3 weeks will be wonderful, but also very strenuous.

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY convention at Cocoa Beach drew 8 members of HRAS, including our President, the end of January. Even though FAS has such important projects, and so many thousands of members, more than any other chapter of National Audubon, some of us feel that Thursday evening to Sunday noon is too long for its convention, especially at Florida Gold Coast prices. When Winter Park was the place, and numbers much smaller, our members always were well represented there for one long main day. One all-day post-convention boat trip on the Oklawaha will always be a cherished memory.

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THE PELICAN

Information Bulletin

Halifax River Audubon Society
Daytona Beach, Florida

Volume 15, Number 6

March 1970

DATES AHEAD:

ANNUAL MEETING (also March and final monthly meeting): March 16, Monday, 7 P.M., Church House, Seabreeze United Church on Wild Olive Avenue. Bill Dyer, who has twice before at annual meetings shown us some of his delightful bird pictures, is bringing a new film. Refreshments first, business next, and film last. We hope some pictures will show the colony near Bok Tower, where he now lives, and birds near him.

FIELD TRIPS: All-day: March 6, Friday, The Cape and Titusville. This is our longest picnic trip. We look over Canaveral Harbor, and may see godwits, avocets and stilts, then return to Titusville for lunch stop and the ponds on Merritt Island which may have many different ducks, soon to be going North. March 13, Friday, Lake Ashby, Osteen Marsh - Osceola. Again the 'scopes will be needed. Far views over lake and marsh. March 20, Friday, Indian River groves, above Titusville, and only as far as Titusville for noon. March 28, Saturday, Alexander Springs, not only nature trail but the hour's boat trip while there, including Limpkins, available. April 3, Friday (before next PELICAN is sent to you), beautiful Wekiva Springs, then Rock Springs for picnic. (Four final trips will be listed in final PELICAN). Lakes, springs, harbors and ponds - are why we may check 90 species on one March, or April, day. Rivers, already, are our most endangered waters.

NATURE WALKS: Ernest Stadelmann's second "Nature Walk", Wednesday, March 4, was enjoyed by 44, on a beautiful day, at Alexander Springs where 33 lingered for more enlightenment after the picnic lunch. This is a last-minute bulletin, and your editor would be pleased to use more for THE PELICAN. There were 50 at the first one, only a half-day for Bulow Ruins State Park, it is reported, including many strangers, but not being able to be present at either, she lacks any write-up. Someone please note, as #3 will be just in time to get into the final PELICAN in April. On Sunday, April 5, meet at 2:30 at Washington Oaks, the flowery State Park south of Marineland, off ALA, or meet at 2:00 P.M., those who need to be led, at the Happy Whale and fishing pier on ALA. Perhaps someone can be Ernie's aide? Hard to explain along a trail to 40 people at once. #4, on April 29, should be well worth planning to join, too. DO NOT PICK anything in the park, and next month we will give you a whole page of wildflowers not to pick anywhere. With this list Don Barmettler reminds us that there are endangered species of plants, as well as animals.

MEMBERSHIP: Some who joined National and/or Florida Audubon might even be surprised to find that they are thus members of our Chapter. Some we may never see. Sad to think that probably not more than one in five of our present 270 members will enjoy sharing a field trip.

Since the beginning of the new year, the following new members are welcomed into our THRAS group:

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Bradshaw, Ormond Beach
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Daley, Holly Hill
Mrs. Olga Hoppe, Princess Issena Hotel
Mr. C. W. Candee, Daytona Beach
Gordon G. Reichold and Family, New Smyrna Beach
Mr. L. E. Bachelder, Pointe Claire, Quebec, Canada
Dr. and Mrs. James W. Clower, Daytona Beach
Mrs. Marion L. Fisk, Ormond Beach
Mr. Alan T. Gregory, Daytona Beach
Mr. and Mrs. Orval D. Hinman, New Smyrna Beach
Mrs. C. S. Linde, Ormond Beach
Mrs. Kenneth T. Newbound, New Smyrna Beach
Mrs. Edgar Pierce, Daytona Beach
Capt. Howard S. Smart, New Smyrna Beach
Mr. and Mrs. Eric A. Corkhill, Daytona Beach
Mr. Albert G. Shaw, Ormond Beach
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bonner, Daytona Beach
Mr. and Mrs. Joe S. Little, Daytona Beach
Mrs. Helen H. Chambers, North Carolina

We trust that these new members will be happy in our Society.

Bertha B. Conklin, Membership Secretary

GENESIS - LAST CHAPTER

In the end, there was Earth, and it was with form and beauty. And man dwelt upon the lands of the Earth, the meadows and trees, and he said: "Let us build our dwellings in this place of Beauty". And he built cities and covered the Earth with concrete and steel. And the meadows were gone, and man said, "It is good".

On the second day, man looked upon the waters of the Earth. And man said, "Let us put our wastes into the waters that the dirt will be washed away". And man did. And the waters became polluted and foul in their smell. And man said, "It is good".

On the third day, man looked upon the forests of the Earth, and saw that they were beautiful. And man said, "Let us cut the timber for our homes and grind the wood for our use". And man did. And the lands became barren and the trees were gone. And man said "It is good".

On the fourth day man saw that animals were in abundance and rain in the fields, and played in the sun. And man said, "Let us cage these animals for our amusement and kill them for our sport". And man did. And there were no more animals on the face of the Earth. And man said, "It is good".

On the fifth day, man breathed the air of the Earth. And man said, "Let us dispose of our wastes into the air for the winds shall blow them away". And man did. And the air became filled with the smoke and the fumes could not be blown away. And the air became heavy with dust and choked and burned. And man said, "It is good".

On the sixth day man saw himself; and seeing many languages and tongues, he feared and hated. And man said, "Let us build great

machines and destroy these, lest they destroy us". And ~~an~~ ~~will~~ ~~great~~ machines and the Earth was fired with the rage of great wars. ~~And~~ ~~he~~ said, "It is good".

On the seventh day man rested from his labors, and the ~~Earth~~ ~~was~~ still for man no longer dwelt upon the Earth. And it was good.

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Kenneth Ross
Upper Moreland H.S., Pennsylvania

FOUR FIELD TRIPS OF FEBRUARY

By - Margaret G. Branch

However light and witty his finished results, George Murray takes the writing of our field trips quite seriously. He felt it was kind to call my attention to how short might be this task that this month he has assigned to me. So little to write about, says he, of four such short, cold trips with no exciting new finds. Little does George know how much I enjoy writing, talking, or thinking about the joys of birding trips. The difficulty comes in being modestly brief. Like Wordsworth's remembered daffodils, my birds "flash upon that inward eye which is the bliss of solitude" along with pines, ponds and other lovely pictured places where we saw them. I can see anhingas, with wings spread to dry, on bushes at the far edge of that borrow-pit pond with lots of good cover on two sides, at the corner of Route 1 and Reed Canal Road. Many a time we drew off the road, there, to watch water and land birds. All cleared off and filled in, in the years between, that is the very corner where, today's paper tells, an arsonist robbed and burned down a trailer sales office, and where I can see Fred Ackermann trudging through the rough grass that day he was intent on flushing a rare Winter wren. Just so, on our last half-day trip, February 27, did Connie Ekdahl pursue and flush a rare Grasshopper sparrow, near a little pond, way out in the boondocks. Before going farther westward, inland, we all had our binoculars catching small, difficult, flitting things. Busy at the sunny edge of "our" special woods of tall pines, behind the airport were Brown-headed nuthatches, Bluebirds, Tufted titmice, and Pine, Palm, Myrtle and Yellow-throated warblers, and more. Over near Lake Helen, beyond DeLand, our friends who guard and feed the gallinule families on their own small lake, welcomed us all to watch the fun. Those Purple gallinules, so rare in our area, have plenty of company now, competing for the food. Common gallinules, and numbers of coots, are joined by several much larger tame ducks, introduced by someone. One beautiful Purple gallinule flew up to walk along the tops of bushes edging the lake, carrying off, safely, his large morsel of white bread. We guessed the one flying up to follow, not pursue, was his mate. It was 38 degrees when 8 cars started out at 7:30 A.M. on the 27th, but quiet, a day, at last, without the biting wind of other February trips, and sun soon warmed things up. Red-tailed hawk and osprey sailed above us, and meadowlarks, Brown thrashers, and Killdeer crossed the side roads where we meander and climb out to explore woods paths. February 21 was windy, and that road past Lake Winona will be even more beautiful on a warmer day, when orange blossoms are out and more birds visible; any time now. The Ormond marl pits, on the 13th, looked unpromising, but gave one delightful surprise, good view of a very early male Painted bunting. February 7 was cold, too, along Tomoka Farm Road, but we totalled 60 or 70 species, even then, finding a little mixed crowd of chickadees, titmice and warblers pausing to forage in one sheltered woods or another where we walked. March has come in like a lamb, and our weekly "all-days" may total 90. Watch the car behind, not to let it go astray if our route changes. Good hunting!

The following is quoted verbatim from the February edition of THE SEA HORSE, the monthly publication of the Women's Guild of the Museum of Arts and Sciences:

"LIBRARY NEWS"

"BIRDS OF THE NORTHERN FOREST, and BIRDS OF THE EASTERN FOREST, with text by John Livingston, and illustrated by Fenwick Landsdowne. Fenwick Landsdowne is ranked among the best wildlife artists of all time. He is often compared with John James Audubon. Landsdowne's stunning bird studies now command \$2500 or more in New York. He portrays birds with pinfeather precision, plus a poetic sense of beauty. We are most fortunate to have Miss Ilse Frank donate these two gorgeous books to our library."

Miss Frank is a member of our Halifax River Audubon Society, and her gift should inspire some of our members who own authoritative and up-to-date books on wild life, and are considering disposing of them now or in the future. The Women's Guild of the Museum of Arts and Sciences is pledged to raise money for the Museum Library, and therefore, greatly appreciates such donations.

For further details or information, call Mrs. Marion Dando, Secretary, Museum of Arts and Sciences, phone 253-6352.

Nan Thompson

TWO METHODS FOR TREATING OILED WATERBIRDS: The first article given to us, especially Xeroxed by Lillian Shields, tells of long-time experiments after thousands of birds were collected, 1968, after big oil spill off the Massachusetts coast. Method may prove to be satisfactory some day, but as it now takes from six months to a year of care and feeding before a bird can be returned to the wild, it is obviously not for our use. Second possibility, do not use detergent, but fuller's earth to remove the sticky oil and this does not destroy the feathers' natural oil, without which the bird sinks, says Florida Audubon Society, Maitland.

* * *

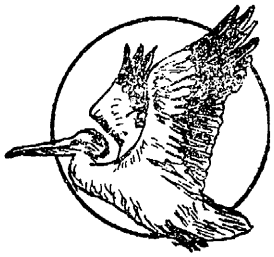
From the Ann Arbor (Michigan) News, January 25, 1970, we quote one recent comment, and one, far older, from the Detroit Audubon Society Newsletter:

"Conservationists who demand that strip miners do a better job of restoring what they tear up are 'stupid idiots, socialists and commies who don't know what they are talking about. I think it's our bounden duty to knock them down and subject them to the ridicule they deserve.'" - James D. Reilly, Vice-President, Consolidation Coal Co.

The law doth punish man or woman
That steals the goose from off the common,
But lets the greater felon loose,
That steals the common from the goose.

-Anonymous, 1764

Mrs. Ralph M. Branch, Editor
711 E. Halifax Ave.
Daytona Beach, Fla. 32018



THE PELICAN

Information Bulletin

Halifax River Audubon Society
Daytona Beach, Florida

Volume 15, Number 7

April 1970

We come to Season's End. As I look back over the year, I feel that it has been a good one. Our membership has reached another all-time high. We have been actively concerned with various environmental problems and plan to continue this active participation through the summer months. It has been a great joy to have the youth at Daytona Beach Junior College organize a College Branch of Florida Audubon, under the sponsorship of the Halifax River Audubon Society. They will sign up their charter members on April 22nd when they will present an "Environmental Teach-In" at the College. A college or youth branch is a new venture for Florida Audubon, designed to give young people a channel through which they may direct their concerns for the environment in which they will have to live and employ the vigor of youth in an attempt to preserve and enhance that environment. Our congratulations to Bruce BonFleur and Mr. Edward Hallman, faculty sponsor, who have guided the group through planning sessions to an organization of young people "on their way". Have a good summer. Come back in the fall as early as you can, refreshed and enthusiastic.

Mrs. Alvin R. Pratt, President

THE EAGLE SCREAMS: Don't forget me this summer! Please save all foreign stamps and domestic commemorative stamps and bring them into our Audubon meeting. They are sold by Florida Audubon and the proceeds used for the posting of Bald Eagle Sanctuaries, etc.

Mrs. Willard S. Whiteman, Chairman

MEMBERSHIP: At the end of my first year as Membership Secretary, I want to thank each one of you for having patience with me. There have been delays in getting the PELICAN into the mail promptly, and a few addresses have been incorrect. However, I promise to do better next year. Our membership at the close of the year is 284. Let's all try to increase this next year as we need members in order to carry on projects successfully. May each and every one of you have a healthy, happy summer.

Bertha B. Conklin, Membership Sec'y.

NATURE WALKS: The third of Ernest Stadelmann's nature walks which was to take place Sunday afternoon, April 5, at Washington Oaks State Park, was rained out. --- The fourth and last nature walk will take place in the morning of Wednesday April 29, and will be led by Miss Carol Beck, Chief-Biologist of the Florida State Parks. The group will meet at 9:30 A.M. inside Tomoka State Park opposite the pay-booth. The admission fee is 25¢ per person. The walks will be over by noon, but those wishing to do so may bring their lunch and make use of the picnic area.

Several of us did that,
including B. Jacobs (Aisen, with Parks
admission tickets on car) & Delmar guide
& me, her 2 passengers & guests.

As wild flowers at this season cover our roadsides and countryside, wherever spared, Don Barmettler gives this timely warning:

Before Ernest Stadelmann makes botanists of all of us let's not forget that there are endangered species of plants as well as animals, and that the following species are protected in Florida by Conservation Laws providing punishment for persons possessing, transplanting or selling protected materials.

These are the forbidden materials:

Bromeliads, all species of the bromeliad family, sometimes known as air plants, or wild pines, native to the State except *Tillandsia usneoides*, (Spanish Moss), which is specifically excluded.

Orchids, all species of the orchid family, both epiphytic and terrestrial, native to the State.

Ferns, all species of the fern family native to the State except the following:

Acrostichum (leather swamp fern)
Blechnum (swamp fern)
Nephrolis (Boston fern)
Osmunda (cinnamon and royal fern)
Polypodium
Dryopteris normalis
Dryopteris Thelypteris (marsh fern)
Pteris cretica (small bracken fern)

These are specifically excluded from the law.

Palms, all species native to the State, except the sabal palmetto.

Peperomia, all species native to the State.

Zamia (coontie), all species native to the State.

Cercis canadensis (redbud)

Epigaea (trailing arbutus)

Erythrina arborea (Cherokee or coral bean)

Eugenia confusa and *E. Simpsonii* (redberry and Simpson eugenia)

Gelsemium sempervirens (yellow jasmine)

Gordonia lasianthus (loblolly bay)

Guaiacum sanctum (Roughbark lignum vitae)

Guilandia crista (nicker bean)

Ilex cassine, *I. Myrtifolia* and *I. Opaca* (dahoon, myrtle leaved and American holly)

Kalmia latifolia (mountain laurel)

Jacquinia keyensis (joewood)

Lobelia cardinalis (cardinal flower)

Nemastylis floridana (celestial lily)

Rhododendron austrinum and *R. Canescens* (wild azaleas)

Pinckeya pubens (fever tree)

Salpingostylis coelestina (Bartram's ixia)

Sophora tomentosa (necklace pod)

Taxus floridana (Florida yew)

Tetrazygia bicolor (tetrazygia)

Torreya taxifolia (Florida torreyia)

Tournefortia gnaphalodes (sea lavender)

Vierna baldwinii (dwarf clematis)

Cornus Florida and *Cornus alternifolia* (dogwood)

Finally, laws extend to protect sea grape and sea oats (*uniola paniculata* and *coccolobis uvifera*) for a distance of 200 feet from the edge of any beach or shore in the State.

AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILMS - 1971: This year (1970) 638 Season Tickets were sold. Below is the detail:

1. Sold by Audubon members	246
2. Sold by a non-Audubon member	14
3. Cash sales at monthly meetings	95
4. Cash sales at Tourist Club programs	73
5. Cash sales at Peabody Box Office	210
Total	<u>638</u>

Although we have 270 members in our Society, only 27 of them sold tickets. These 27 did a fine job in selling 246 tickets (see summary above) BUT 27 people represent only 10% of our membership.

Peabody Auditorium can seat approximately 2500 people. On an average we fill about 1250 of these seats or only one-half of capacity. Our goal for this year (1970) WAS "Standing Room Only at Peabody". We could have achieved this goal if more of our members had sold tickets. Don't you agree?

Looking ahead to next year (1971) and again a "Standing Room Only Goal at Peabody" will YOU, starting right now, give serious thought to the job of YOU selling tickets. By helping those 27 members who sold tickets this year, I am sure, and I think you will agree, that we can meet our "Standing Room Only" goal.

If you have any new ideas in selling tickets, please let me know. I will give serious consideration to all suggestions. So during the next few months (time passes quickly) let us all think about selling Season Tickets for the 1971 Wildlife Films.

Flash - as your Ticket Chairman I promise myself to take some tickets and sell them.

Al Pratt, Ticket Chairman

FIELD TRIPS

By - Margaret Branch

Expect new calendar mailed in September, and first meeting, and PELICAN, in October, also weekly trips, starting anew. One nature walk, and four more Friday trips are all remaining to complete our green calendar, of October 3, 1969 to May 1, 1970.

For the Branches, weekly trips are more important than all the rest put together, and may George Murray continue to scout, and plan them along with Connie Ekdahl and Chet Childs, and Ike Merrill who helps scout, too. Without Connie's eagle eye, and Norma's trained sharp ear, along with George's eye and ear, trips just are not complete. We need the Dearbornes, too, for more months, and as birds get harder to find, keen spotters are ever more welcome. We regret some busy people who can come only on Saturday trips, for, as parks get more crowded, and roads, Fridays prove much better for our sizeable group, especially for our picnic spots. As your calendar shows, we go to Silver Glen Springs April 10, with picnic at Juniper (or maybe at Salt) Springs; April 17, Mead Gardens, Orlando; April 24, Matanzas Park and picnic at Washington Oaks; final picnic May 1, Henry Levi Park, after Lake Ashby and Osteen Marsh.

FIELD TRIPS PAST: "We saw a Golden plover. You won't believe it, but we did". So did we all, who went, 7 cars of us, on the beautiful April 3 all-day trip to Rock Springs. Certain people like to scout out ahead and show up later, and this time, waiting at Rock Springs picnic tables, to surprise the main group with a startling announcement; that couple got the surprise. We all echoed, having a few miles back, right on our route, studied that same lone, migrant straggler, almost unheard of in our area. Probably it was somehow injured, like the one which lingered, was it in the 50's?, for Fred Ackermann to report it at Port Orange and to show it to a number of birders for their life-lists. In both cases the find was unmistakable, and one that could nimbly get about, busily feeding at the margin of pond on small lake near a road. Ours was not yet in full breeding plumage, but was distinctly golden. There are almost always outstanding bits to make our weekly trips worthwhile, but seldom one so exciting. Rock Springs added several warblers, hummingbirds, and a Pileated woodpecker's nest, with babies. Friday was a beautiful day, while Saturday would have ended with return in a down pour, as the previous Saturday had, from Alexander Springs. Avoiding Good Friday, we had found happy young vacation crowds; and almost no birds, there, but pleasant nature trail walk, and picnic, though crowds and clouds cancelled our plans for the boat trip. And, in spite of all, our trip check-list total was 78 species, including 3 Swallow-tailed kites, at the expense of some hard going, on the two or three miles of our cherished wild Dupont Road, being torn up for black-top paving, where development demands. Solid bridges already had replaced the old wooden ones. We might have known. As expected (to complete this going-backward report, on trips since last PELICAN) the Indian River groves we drove through and past for miles, on March 20, gave us entrancing wafts of orange blossom fragrance, and never too heavy, coming on the breezes. Several species of ducks had left the Titusville ponds, by then, but we had a fine day, and a long list of 75 species. Warblers are coming by now, mostly right by, and in the night, but some linger, to feed by day, and we must be on the alert to glimpse the tiny, darting things, so often in tallest and most leafy trees. George Murray's Hooded warbler stayed for a bit, and nicely low and in sight. Beacon Rich saw one too, in Pinewood Cemetery. Our check-list shows a total of 175 species for field trip days. Regretfully, for all of April, turned lovely at last, will be likely to bring surprises to write about, I must say goodbye, until October.

Margaret Branch

At the April meeting of the Executive Board of HRAS, the following notice for THE PELICAN was presented on behalf of our Conservation Committee, voted upon, and approved.

WE, the members of the HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY of Daytona Beach, Florida, wish to go on record as being averse to the commercial development of the City Island Park and recreational area, located north of Orange Avenue between Beach Street and the Halifax River in the City of Daytona Beach, Volusia County, Florida,

For the following reasons:

1. It deviates from the original purpose for which it was given; i.e., use as a park and recreational area.

2. The proposed commercial development would require extensive dredging and filling which would contribute further to the already serious pollution of the Halifax River.

3. We believe the use of City Island for commercial purposes is totally unnecessary as the "Superblock" development will do more to revitalize the downtown business district. Furthermore, the "Superblock" development is the only plan that will afford room for future development and expansion. The "Superblock" is the modern concept in city planning. The destruction of downtown open green parks and recreation areas belongs in the past and is backward and obsolete thinking by more than a decade.

4. The claim that the city will never have sufficient funds to develop the full recreational potential of City Island is negative thinking and totally without point. With proper management it could be made to be self-supporting and be a great drawing item for tourists and conventions with huge water regattas, championship tennis matches, national shuffleboard tournaments, national lawn bowling tournaments and baseball jamborees, just to mention a few.

5. The area with the greatest concentration of population would be deprived of park and recreational facilities. Many of the people in the area, those in the Windsor, the new Windsor, Landmark, Louttit Manor, and many other apartments and hotels, as well as those who will be added later by forecasted developments and the projected increase in population, will be without recreational facilities. Many of these people in the area are unable to drive a car, or unable to own a car. Many are not physically able to journey to outlying districts to recreational facilities nor are they able to bear the additional expense of public transportation, even if reliable public transportation were available.

Existing facilities are in constant use night and day every day of the week. Demand for all the facilities is greater than the accommodations afforded.

Many cities are spending millions of dollars trying to make their downtown areas modern and livable by buying open green areas for parks and recreation. Daytona Beach has this magnificent and beautiful area already - right in the area where it belongs - and where it is needed and used the most.

It is lack of foresight and totally unnecessary to wantonly destroy this area, for once lost it can never be regained.

For all these reasons stated

We are opposed to any commercial development of City Island - and against any use of it - or any part of it - for anything other than a park and recreation area - the purpose for which it was given to the City and the purpose for which it was originally intended.

Mrs. Ralph M. Branch, Editor
711 N. Halifax Ave.
Daytona Beach, Fla. 32018

MEMBERSHIP: During the summer we have received the following new members and herewith extend our welcome to them, hoping they will attend our meetings so that we may welcome them in person:

Mr. Jerome Burgman, Daytona Beach
 Mr. & Mrs. C. V. Daniels, South Daytona
 Mr. & Mrs. A. D. Davis, " "
 Mr. J. R. DeBerry, New Smyrna Beach
 Mr. F. E. Mansfield, Daytona Beach
 Mr. Arthur Monahan, " "
 Miss Virginia Norman, " "
 Mr. & Mrs. E. R. Williams, " "

Since membership cards are issued by Florida and National we are omitting the Halifax River Audubon Society membership cards unless requested. Membership cards for Associates (2. members) are enclosed in this mailing.

Bertha B. Conklin, Membership Secretary

MONTHLY MEETING at the Seabreeze United Church House on Monday, October 19 at 7:30, after slides of our local birds at 7:00, will feature a FALL motion picture. Hazel Walker has made us a combination of films which include a sequence at Point Pelee, the far-famed Canadian National Park, for observing migrations. For a number of years the Branches managed to be there, finding many birders from afar, before dawn of one mid-May morning at the height of spring migration, 80 miles from Ann Arbor and home. Another memorable dawn there was a foggy one in September when, trudging toward the farthest unstable point of land, we found that a big hawk migration was in progress, and right then various hawks which had spent the night on the outermost low trees and bushes were still perched, fog-bound, practically at our shoulders. As the day turned sunny, it was fun to see various hawk-watching Audubon people giving necks a rest, lying flat, to watch the frequent hawks passing over, or circling and darting for food, while smaller birds hid.

THE FIELD TRIP On October 16 will again be inland. Next week, on October 23, to Titusville, down the coast. October 30, Lake Harney, inland. November 6 and 13, two more all day Friday inland trips with picnics at two Springs. Meantime, try the beaches and causeways.

George Murray tries to find new and rare birds for us all, every trip, and felt that about 57 for the Anastasia trip and 47 species for the second, Juniper Springs, one disappointing. Numbers were very low, in a hot, dry spell. But every trip has some high spots and is enjoyable anyway.

OBITUARIES: We have lost two members recently. Frances Childs, wife of "Chet" Childs, the ex-president we all know and love, had been ill so long and out of our whole picture that many newer members never knew her.

Helen Boulanger Shaw, a recent member, was wiped out in a bad motor accident.

SUMMER AT HOME EAST - Florida
By Hazel Walker, Vice President and Program Chairman

My migrant Audubon friends often ask, "Do you see any bird activity in Florida during the summer?"

This was really my first entire summer here and it was a surprise to me, and - I didn't even go far from my own back door (except for Cedar Keys, my next account).

Of course there are the regular residents, but even these behave differently - almost like humans do during their "breeding season" - a bit frenzied.

I missed the Red-bellied Woodpeckers, because I hadn't known they seek more privacy during nesting. One bird I didn't miss, even though I saw their blue flashing about, was the Blue-jay. The peace and quiet that results during their secretive nesting period was a most welcome change for those mornings I wanted to sleep late. No other bird so loud and raucous keeps its voice down to a whisper while having young to protect. My friends of several summers, the Thrashers were missing, but this was due to new neighbors with boys and guns.

The Cardinals were a real joy. Being so generous by nature (with that call they have to share everything they find) may be why they get so frenzied with their hungry babies. I almost felt some days that I should "peel the sunflower seeds". So, because the mourning doves seemed fond of cornbread, I tried it when the Cardinals came for the late feeding and couldn't get their offspring to go to sleep. They were more than willing to accept me as their Grandmother helper. The end result: I eventually had three pairs of parents and six babies, and to see that many Cardinals together is a real thrill.

My other regular boarders were a pair of Mockingbirds. The one, (I can't tell Mama from Papa) would come to the garage roof edge so near the back door and break into his beautiful song until I came out with cornbread or raisin bread.

Birds are not the only nature busy in summer. If anyone tells you that our land turtles don't need water, I discovered differently. By landlord restrictions I am forced to use a large, heavy pie pan for my "bird bath". Most mornings when I opened the blinds, my turtle was sitting right in the pan of water; he may be some sort of NUT on cleanliness.

So, as you can see, Florida has its busy summer too, and I am glad I could be a part of it for this year.

-- -- -- -- --
CEDAR KEYS - Florida

If you ever yearn for a few days in a place with a tempo of the 1900's try CEDAR KEYS. It is on the Gulf, almost straight west of Daytona Beach. You won't be lonely because the water-birds have discovered it and are there in even greater numbers than in the Everglades. There are close to a hundred Keys in those waters, and so far commercially useless enough to be left undisturbed. From a boat that can circle some of these, the sights, sounds and excitement of birds is so great it is even difficult to focus fast enough for photography -- it would almost have to be movies. One Key was weighted down with FRIGATE birds in all stages from solid black, white heads, and even great numbers with their orange red pouches extended.

On others were hundreds of Pelicans in all their stages. As our boat would round a Key, the water seemed black with Pelicans, Cormorants, and even Coots gliding along, and then all off like a cloud as we neared. Other Keys were bent under the weight of Ibis and Herons. It was all so unexpected and exciting I am afraid our group of six did so much shouting we broke all our rules for birding.

Cedar Keys was once a booming town with much commercial fishing and shipping while the railroad still ran there. Even more boom came during the years that the Faber Pencil Company stripped the area of all its cedar forests. One thing that attests to its busy past are the several small cemeteries. There is still permission to take a space here without buying it. The graves are marked mainly with heavy clam shells covering a mound, which keeps the weeds out, and a few even have handmade wood markers. There are signs that others are finding this peaceful spot appealing because a few of the old frame houses that have stood lonely for years are having new owners lift them back to their former use and pride.

Hotels are few but good, and three restaurants serve every fish in the Florida waters. I did draw the line on "turtle-burgers" though. The poor turtles need as much help as the alligators.

It's a place where one visit is not enough.

STAMPS: Keep the Memorial Stamps pouring in for Peggy Whiteman to process and send to Haitland to swell the Bald Eagle Fund. Bring them to her on the 19th, or mail us an envelope full.

CONFERENCE: Don't forget the Florida Audubon Society Fall Conference at Winter Park on October 22, 23, 24 and 25. Try to make it, if only for one day - just a nice ride from here.

WORLD TRAVELERS: Here're a few hints of some very interesting lives to follow, when you see the following:

Give Margot St. Onge a real chance to tell of her three months of entirely self-guided and delightful travel in Europe, April through June, principally France, followed by her native Gaspé, Quebec, in August.

Ask Dorothy Vichert about Russia. Memories of her Greek Islands trip, and even Fiji, later, must have faded while she studied Russian and, as for all her trips, did careful reading, in preparation for that most recent one. But what we prefer is the story of personal experiences.

Isabel Barbee is hard to start, but she may relate some of her times with party of 18 in East and South Africa, just safely over.

If any or all three will give THE PELICAN a page for future numbers, all of us could have a taste of their adventures.

Mrs. Margaret G. Branch, Editor
711 N. Halifax Avenue
Daytona Beach, Florida 32018

Greetings to All of You!

Summer has gone and our fall season soon will be in full swing.

Last spring the Board of Directors voted to delay issue of the first Pelican until mid-October because the Editor, Mrs. Ralph Branch, will be out of town until then. However, you will find enclosed the 1970-1971 Program.

Please mark these dates to remember:

October 3 - first field trip (full day trip on a Saturday)
this will be followed by 4 full day trips on Fridays during October. These Saturday trips have been planned especially for those members who are interested in attending but who are employed on week days.

October 5 - first meeting of the Board of Directors at Seabreeze United Church at 3:00 p.m. All board members who are in town are urged to be present.

October 19 - first General Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in Seabreeze Church House. The usual interesting program planned by Program Chairman Mrs. Hazel Walker.

October 22-26 - Fall Leadership Conference of the Florida Audubon Society at Langford Hotel in Winter Park. All Florida members are invited to register and attend these meetings. Conservation will be the main consideration, with outstanding speakers and good fellowship.

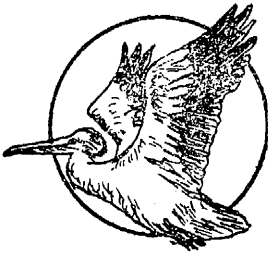
Associates (\$2.00 members) - now owe dues for the current year. Please mail promptly to the Membership Secretary as listed on page 1 of the program. All others are due when billed by National or Florida Audubon.

Start thinking of selling Nature Theater Tickets! It is not too soon. Tickets will be available for you to sell at the October meeting. Every member should sell some !!

Have you been catching the spot announcements on Channel 2 which have been inviting people to join our Halifax River Audubon Society? These are a public service contribution to our work, given to us by Channel 2. Our sincere gratitude to them for this boost. Listen for them!

You migratory members, please hurry back; WE NEED YOU!

Beatrice Pratt
President



THE PELICAN

Information Bulletin

Halifax River Audubon Society
Daytona Beach, Florida

Volume 16, Number 2

November 1970

DATES AHEAD

Field Trips on November 13 and 20 are all day Friday; the two following, November 28 and December 5, will be all day Saturday; and December 11 back again to all day Friday. Be sure to plan on the right day. The first two will be extra long, in miles, especially November 20, when we stretch our weekly trip as far down the coast as Canaveral Harbor. November 13 is, first to a rather unusual place to wind into, and around among its irrigation ditches which will be good or uninteresting, depending on migration, weather and state of the crops and work of that huge Duda Farms complex. We sometimes feel privileged intruders seeing the big machines and many busy workers in distant areas. Of course, when it is rainy we don't attempt to go in at all on its narrow dirt roads. November 28 and December 5 will be both inland and not so far.

MONTHLY MEETING - November 16, Monday evening at 7:00 some bird study slides from our collection. When you see the slides Dr. Herbert Riggs shows as the program feature, you will wonder that we have any birds left to study. He is speaking on anti-pollution with his own excellent slides of our river. Short business meeting starts at 7:30, before our speaker. Monthly meeting is in the social hall of Seabreeze United Church on Wild Olive Avenue (formerly Tourist Church).

NATURE WALK - On Saturday, November 14 at 10:00 a.m., at Ormond Memorial Park, across from the Post Office on Granada Avenue, Ernest Stadelmann will lead the next of his series of nature walks. He points out that this will be one especially welcome to people who like short walks rather than the mile or two usually involved, and few realize the varied possibilities at that park.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Membership in the Audubon Society - National, State and Local - is a real privilege. It offers an opportunity to learn the ills of our society and leadership for action to correct these ills. The recent Fall Conference inquired deeply into what the Florida Audubon Society can do to help solve some of these problems. A series of 38 resolutions, calling for specific actions, was adopted, by Florida Audubon Society.

Some thoughts from the Conference: "We must turn from a 'they' philosophy, in which we expect someone else to do what needs doing, to a 'we' philosophy in which we ourselves become involved in conservation action." - "The real tragedy is that we have a chance to do something about our environment, but just don't do it. We must face the fact that we must devote a great deal more time and effort to conservation or join the dinosaurs." - "If youth doesn't see some hope of better conservation commitment, the present unrest could turn to revolution." Two young people at the conference, at different times, commented in amazement: "The words 'bird watching' have not once been mentioned." Even though we are seriously involved with improving our environment, we do still indulge in the sheer joy of bird watching and nature study. Join us on our Field Trips and our Nature Walks.

Beatrice E. Pratt

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS welcomes two new Chairmen to its ranks: Mrs. Margaret Long on, replacing Mrs. Joseph Gillette as Conservation Chairman; and Miss Dorothy Aimey, replacing Mrs. Richard Graham as Youth Education Chairman.

In addition to the officers listed on the first page of the Program, the following are also members of the Board of Directors: Past President, Conrad H. Ekcahl; Historian, F. Deacom Rich; PELICAN Editor, Mrs. Ralph M. Branch; Audubon Nature Films, Joe S. Little; Field Trips, Conrad Ekcahl and George S. Murray; Nature Walks, Ernest Staelmann; Program, Mrs. John (Hazel) Walker; Projects, Chester H. Childs; Sanctuaries, Mrs. Fred W. Vichert; Stamps for Bald Eagles, Mrs. Willard S. Whitman; Transportation, Donald J. Barmettler; and Bruce Bon Fleur, President of the Daytona Beach Jr. College branch of the Halifax River Audubon Society.

COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS. In an effort to stimulate sales of Audubon Wildlife Films tickets, the Board of Directors has developed a plan for the distribution of Complimentary Tickets for the first film on January 9, 1971. Enclosed with this PELICAN is one complimentary ticket for each member of the Society. Please give this ticket to someone who has never attended an Audubon Film and who will be willing to use it. If there are two members in your family membership, you will receive two tickets. Please do not give them both to one family. We are trying to reach as many people as possible.

You will note that the tickets are larger than regular tickets, and are white so that we can easily spot these used in order to evaluate this program. It will help if you also complete the information requested on the back of the ticket before passing it on.

SEASON TICKETS. May I remind you that calling me on the phone or mailing me a postcard "prior to our meeting", advising me as to the number of season tickets you want, will make it possible for me to have your tickets "ready for you to pick up" on meeting night. Don't forget that for every ten tickets you sell, you get one ticket free.

Phone: 677-0289; address 64 River Shore Drive, Ormond Beach, 32074
Al Pratt, Ticket Chairman

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING. Time to make plans now and soon reservations to attend the FAS Annual Meeting in Naples, January 14 through 17. If it is rather chilly around the Halifax at that date, Naples, west coast and south, should be pleasantly warmer. Florida now has 44 of the 187 chapters of the National Audubon Society and FAS boasts 17,969 members, and wants many more.

NEW MEMBERS. The following are welcomed into our HRAS membership: Mrs. Eleanor Lichtenwelter, Daytona Beach; Mr. Stanley Shepard, Jr., Daytona Beach; and the Port Orange Elementary School Library.

Bertha B. Conklin, Membership Secretary

DAYTONA BEACH JR. COLLEGE. I was pleased to have this opportunity to inform you, the members of Halifax River Audubon, of the origin and development of the Daytona Beach Jr. College Audubon Society, which you sponsor.

The DBJC Audubon Society was organized last March, several weeks prior to Earth Day '70 which was held on April 22nd. At that time we had a small "core" of enthusiastic students and an enthusiastic sponsor. This small group worked intensely for three weeks and "put over" what we thought was a highly successful Earth Day program at the college.

Here is briefly how it went: During the morning several hundred elementary students, and an equal number of junior college students, viewed students' displays and film strips on pollution, in the Student Center. Later, starting at 1:00 o'clock in the Humanities Auditorium, students and faculty members spoke on the problems confronting our environment and showed slides on pollution in the Halifax River. Another 100+ students attended this program. We received excellent press coverage on our program through the News Journal as well as WESH TV.

After Earth Day final exams came, and the remainder of the semester was lost in the way of our group doing any other projects. We disbanded during the summer and regrouped this October. Due to increased classes and work, Mr. Edward Hallman, our sponsor, suggested that we obtain another sponsor to assist him and the club. We did so and Mr. Elton Woodward, a biology instructor, is our new co-sponsor. He is young, energetic and enthusiastic, and we all feel that he will be a great asset to our club.

We have had our share of "growing pains" but I think we have the major problems licked, and we are fast becoming an active organization on campus. There were two reasons for our slow start this year. One was the \$5.00 student membership dues required by Florida Audubon. This was too high for many students to afford. I wrote letters to the State Audubon President, the Executive Director, and the Membership Chairman, concerning this problem and as a result the student dues were lowered from \$5.00 to \$3.00, while still including the "Florida Naturalist". I appreciated the support of the Halifax River Audubon.

The second problem was "Audubon" - the name itself. It is the misconception of many people that all that Audubon members do is watch birds. Those in conservation circles know that this is not the case and that the Audubon Society is the Number One conservation group in the country. Anyway, it is a problem in signing up new members for fear they might be called a "birdwatcher". We are planning to initiate a campaign on campus called, "WHAT'S IN A NAME?", in which we shall inform students just exactly what Audubon is for -- conservation.

As you can see, we've had our problems but things are looking up and we are on our way. Some of our planned projects include a "Can Collection Contest" (to acquaint the public with waste recycling), the donation of Ecology books to our school library, and an ecological survey of the Halifax River and surrounding estuaries. We are also selling tickets for your Audubon Wildlife Film Series, at Peabody Auditorium next year.

I would like to thank the members of the Halifax River Audubon Society especially your President, Mrs. Pratt, for helping us to get started and for keeping us going in this new venture for Audubon and us. Thank you.

THE PUBLIC HEARING on the Sanford-Titusville Canal will be on November 20, 1970 in the Sanford Municipal Civic Center on the corner of Sanford and Lakefront Roads, at 10:00 a.m.

Bruce Bon Fleur, President
DBJC Audubon Society

NOTE: Mr. and Mrs. Berton G. Hubbard are back in Florida. Since Mr. Hubbard is confined to a wheelchair he would welcome letters and cards from our members who remember him and his fine slide programs. Their address is P. O. Box 5351, Jacksonville, Florida 32207.

DAYS AFIELD - By Margaret Branch

But yes! We go anyway, rain or shine. Last season one day was too much like a flood, and also the year before just one was cancelled, because of an impending hurricane, but on an "open and shut" day like this October 30, six cars got their loads adjusted and faree forth by 7:30 a.m. to try shower-hopping. For three weeks before that summer was still with us - over warm - and birds rather scarce. So, the total had been 64 species on October 23, but including two unusual items, a single female rose-breasted grosbeak, and, in the 'scope, two white-rumped sandpipers, along with some commoner shore-birds for comparison. We watched the sky a lot on October 30, and between patches of blue sky, gentle showers and downpours, achieved a list of 85 species. This included some clapper rails at Edgewater Beach, and both yellow-crowned and black-crowned night herons, close along the breakwater at New Smyrna, a deserted drive on a rainy, gray 2:00 p.m.

Lake Harney lures us, while lacking all "facilities", but on October 30 we again found it too wet and low ground and retreated to picnic by the cars, or in them, on the solid pavement. Plenty of facilities at Alexander Springs on November 6 when 20 people went, and seven cars, but few birds. The Nature Trail there is a real botanical pleasure, where most of us strolled, and we did see two pileated woodpeckers and two limpkins. But where are all those tit-mice and yellow-throated warblers that we used to toss our crumbs to, right from the sheltered picnic tables? Perhaps much spraying has disposed of the birds as well as the insects?

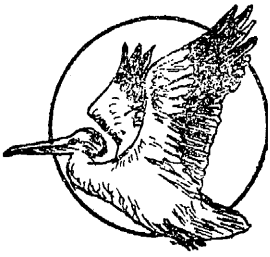
Again, on the Alexander Springs trip, two cars found the early start too early, and while one caught up, the second deviated widely and thereby checked in a wild turkey down in New Smyrna direction.

Florida Aucubon's outstanding conservation information for us last month emphasized what a disaster to the State the Barge Canal promises to be. This month the pleasant information in the FAS "Conservation Bulletin" is that a second thorough rain of powdered poisoned corn-cob from above is to be again sprayed on the fire ant in nine southern states including Florida, costing 200 million dollars, in spite of many protests to our U.S. Department of Agriculture. The other time, in 1957, they covered the same nine states and the effects on wildlife, especially in Alabama, were devastating. So, to see songbirds in any numbers we already must go far, far from our Halifax area, into strange countries; say, in winter to Yucatan? or to Spain, in spring, for the songs.

AFRICAN ADVENTURE - By Isabelle P. Barbee

In August 1970 the writer went on an East African Safari - Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, via New York, London and landing in Nairobi. At the first luncheon we were greeted by mousebirds in the treetops. My records show that we saw them 15 of the 21 days. Their feathers are hairlike and, with a long tail, they are correctly named. All told I personally saw 300 birds. The group saw about 400. There were 21, including the American and the African leader; incidentally there were many expert "birders". It was a World Nature Club tour (Crowder); we traveled in three minibuses. Most of the birding was done in National Parks and Game Preserves. Accommodations and food were excellent. Three nights spent in a tent on Serengeti Plains was, to put it mildly, a change of pace. The entrance and exit was closed by full length zippers. It made one appreciate (cors.

(Continued in December PELICAN)



THE PELICAN

Information Bulletin

Halifax River Audubon Society
Daytona Beach, Florida

Volume 16, Number 3

December 1970

DATES AHEAD - Our first Wildlife Film at Peabody Auditorium will be January 9. Have you already marked those five important Saturday nights on your '71 calendar? January 9, 23; February 20; March 6 and 20.

MONTHLY MEETINGS - And mark the monthly meeting each third Monday evening, too. Our December 21 program will show us the Adelle Penguins of the Antarctic and an added trip to see what birds and creatures live in the wildest part of the Scottish Highlands, following study slides at 7:00 p.m. at the Seabreeze United Church House on Wild Olive.

THE BIRDS' CHRISTMAS TREE - We have been invited by Miss Judy Gross of New Smyrna Beach to attend their program on December 19 at 10:00 a.m. All the Girls Scouts in the area are decorating the big cedar tree in Library Park, next to the new South Bridge, with goodies for the birds. Our members are welcome to help trim the tree with apples, oranges, suet, seed balls, etc.

NATURE WALK - Sunday, December 12 at 3, Ernest Stadelmann and Connie Ekdahl will be leading Nature Walk No. 2 in the Ormond marl pits area. Meet at the west end of the Ormond bridge. In spite of a long dry spell and some frost they will find plenty of material there.

SAVE PAPERS FOR RECYCLING - Papers, tied in bundles, may be left on the loading platform at the American Legion Post at 475 Walker St., Holly Hill, just west of the District 3 and 4 Commissioners' Offices. They are collected by the proper persons and taken to paper companies in Jacksonville. Members who cannot take the papers to the collection point may contact a member of the Collection Committee who lives in their area for pick-up. Mrs. Conklin volunteers to pick up papers at several addresses one day a week - Monday forenoon preferred. The initial committee consists of:

Mrs. Conklin (South Daytona) 767-3419
Mr. Ekdahl (mid-Daytona) 252-1051
Mr. Childs (South Peninsula) 253-5527
Mr. Rich (mid-Peninsula) 252-8072
Mrs. Nan Thompson (Silver Beach) 252-6849

Three members of the committee are ex-presidents of HRAS, and the other two presently officers. More volunteers are invited to help.

FIELD TRIPS - By Margaret Branch

Through giving a program with the Holden bird-slides, which included a pleasant luncheon, Walker and Branch had to virtuously and very enjoyably forego the November 20 trip to Canaveral Basin. That day's list of species, we learned, was 91, and included a stray western bird, new for many of the group, the Bar-tailed godwit. Bowling pretty

fast down Route 95, straight to Canaveral, the group still managed to get disconnected, and at the Titusville Ponds there were some fierce mosquitoes, but every trip has some different spice!

Trip the week before had been to Duca Farms and only one disconnected car managed to picnic at the designated Rock Springs. The belated rest were shown a very pleasant closer park near Mt. Dora, by Ira Weigley, who had come to "Duca" to be our guide for the morning, on his favorite near-home birding grounds. Among the wide fields and many irrigation ditches of that huge truck garden operation there were few choice sights closer than for the spotting 'scopes. Avocets were our best find.

On the 28th, twelve cars collected at the starting place, but only five started forth, about four to a car, at 7:30, and a 6th joined later. Personnel varies greatly, but the next week, December 5, just the same, twelve cars there and six on the road, though two cars had ~~gone off for a week-end stay at the Inn at Wakulla Springs, with a tour of St. Marks U.S. Fish and Wildlife's large, rich miles close by.~~ Rich in birds - including among many ducks, a rare European widgeon having its third winter there with numbers of American ones, and both blue and snow geese, with the great numbers of Canadas. 46 limpkins, they report.

Meantime, we near home saw few birds, compared to that other territory, but to their 86 we got at least 78 species, and had a nice sociable time, and picnic spot on a beautiful day. Faver Dykes Park lacks birds, but has fine facilities for picnicking; plenty of tables for us and for one big load of youngsters plus one load of decidedly hippy type. These last were disappointed that our numbers included so few from whom to buy cigarettes and that we each thriftily bring our own sandwich and thermos, providing no leftovers for them. Our outstanding find for the 25th was a pair of Red-cockaded woodpeckers, in pines quite near the road, where we could continue to watch their activities. This pair, unlike the ones we saw at the same place two years ago, were happily free from the harassment of the larger Red-bellied woodpeckers.

Our next trip, Friday, December 10, will be to Welaka Fish Hatcheries and is always most fruitful if more rearing ponds are wet, and less entirely drained. We hopefully go to see, each December, and sometimes have species there not found on any other trip. It has no picnic tables, but shelter and even warmth for any less hardy souls are in the little aquarium, with some interesting tank-dwellers to study.

December 18, Friday, we are scheduled for Silver Glen Springs, not too far, and inland. This probably means we picnic a bit farther on at Salt Springs, where we are now more welcome. Even if birds are scarce both Springs are worth the visit and a walk.

Then, on the 26th, weather permitting, we plan to explore a new site not far from DeLand, called Montoon Island State Park. This will end our all-day trips, to be resumed in March. For all the half-day ones between, see your calendar folder as to whether Saturday or Friday (which alternate); places unspecified, and never decided on until uncertain weather and numbers proving hardy enough to take them are considered. The alternating is an experiment. My vote is for all Fridays.

Please send THE PELICAN some contributions, nice and brief, that will be of interest to many of the 247 who could come but are indifferent to the field trips that mean so much to so few of us - never more than a fraction of the cars that could join - and perhaps luckily so, as traffic gets so thick, and more and more roads with favorite overlooks are marked "Minimum 40 MPH - No Stopping".

FAS ANNUAL MEETING - As your FLORIDA NATURALIST has shown in detail - the Annual Meeting of the Florida Audubon Society will be in Naples, Florida, on January 14 - 17. This is considerably south of us, over on the Gulf, and there will be field trips included, into even more tropical areas. It seems a fine chance to visit Naples.

HAVE YOU MISSED reading "The Windward Road" by Archie Carr, a 1956 book of personal Caribbean adventures by a University of Florida professor whose favorite unofficial collection is of frog-songs? Maitland keeps it on hand, at the Florida Audubon headquarters. They have many interesting things for sale there -- worth a trip.

MEMBERSHIP - We are happy to welcome eleven new members, plus three Jr. College associate members:

Miss Dorothy L. Alay, Daytona Beach
 Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Spencer, Daytona Beach
 Mrs. Samuel McFall, Daytona Beach
 Dr. Sterling Dimmitt, Ormond Beach
 Mrs. Arthur Kennedy, Ormond Beach
 Mr. and Mrs. Clifford H. Wheeler, Ormond Beach
 Mr. John D. Byrd, Holly Hill
 Mr. Francis Barrington, Charleston, S.C.
 Miss Marjorie M. Frost, Wyckoff, N.J.

and Students at Daytona Beach Jr. College:

Bruce Bon Fleur
 Louis G. Galanos
 William Mitchell

Bertha B. Conklin, Membership Sec'y.

AFRICAN ADVENTURE - By Isabelle P. Barbee (Continued)

We were in about a dozen National Parks; they were all different, as we were in a variety of habitats, from an altitude of 10,000 feet, mountains, lakes, marshes, forests and plains, lush tropical and pitifully dry areas. The weather was moderate and delightful; it was early spring and before the rains began.

I had been in the same territory in 1965 in January and February, when the land was green. One of my treasured memories was the Amboseli Game Preserve, with Mt. Kilimanjaro in plain view - so many animals and so much beauty. I was taken aback by the grassless plains, so overgrazed by Masai cattle and the game animals which were fewer in number, of course. Ngorongoro crater, another of my favorite places, was not changed. It is a spectacular game haunt and one of the world's

largest craters - 9 miles across and 2500 feet deep - arrived at by a rather precipitous one-way road via Landrover. The lodge is on the rim and cold because of the altitude and it is hot down in the crater. All kinds of animals galore on the grassy plains, dotted with lakes.

Probably the most awe-inspiring memory is of Lake Nukuru and its millions of Flamingoes. (Yes, that is correct. Look up February 1970 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC.) It is an unforgettable memory. One remembers the metallic beauty of the sunbirds; the brightly colored kingfishers, seven varieties we saw; the beautifully colored rollers; the noisy starlings with brilliant metallic plumage, 9 different ones; the many little weavers with their little basketlike nests swinging in the breeze; the awkward-looking hornbills; the various storks, hundreds of maribou and the whale-headed with its gigantic shoe-shaped bill was a funny looking fellow.

~~-----Murchison Falls was a beautiful area. The Falls are spectacular, a launch ride on the Nile, with game animals and birds on the banks, large crocodiles basking on the sand-bars in the river, the big-mouthed hippos, many fish eagles perched on trees, their white heads and brown bodies reminding one of our Bald Eagle. The floating islands in the river were most interesting, just a mess of greenery and of considerable size.~~

I have not mentioned the shore birds, the hawks, the bustards, the secretary bird, the francoline and many others. The animals are always a thrill, my favorite the giraffe, and the warthog, to say nothing of the lion, the impalas, the wildebeast, the monkeys, the baboons and all the rest.

We did not get to Treetops but instead went to the ARK, a similar viewing place. It is a newer lodge in the bush and birds are abundant. We went to Okuvai Gorge, the site of the Leaky "diggings" where traces of primitive man have been found recently.

It was a great trip; a bit tiring I will admit, but well worth the effort. I would advise one not to return via Kennedy Airport on Labor Day weekend. However, I finally made it home.

Mrs. Margaret G. Branch, Editor
711 N. Halifax Avenue
Daytona Beach, Florida 32018

NOTE TO ASSOCIATE MEMBERS -- Unless your current dues are paid, this will be the last PELICAN you will receive.

Membership Secretary