THE PELICAN
Information Bulletin

Halifax River Audubon Society
Daytona Beach, Florida

Volume 22, Number 4 January 1977

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PROGRAM - JANUARY 17TH MEETING

Our program this month will be color slides of the Galapagos Islands, presented by world traveler, freelance photographer and our member, Richard Weiss. He and his wife, Leonora, visited there during February this past year. They were particularly impressed by the appearance this area gives that it is the last frontier where native fauna has not yet learned the fear of man. Their trustfulness will allow a photographer to approach to within three feet or closer if one wanted to. This trait, coupled with the inquisitive mind of Mr. Weiss, a former science teacher from New York City, and his skill as a photographer, allows us to enjoy his presentation of "Galapagos, Hotbed of Evolution".

PROGRAM - FEBRUARY 21ST

This is to urge you not to put off selecting your Nature Arts and Crafts for our Members' Show next month. I will be happy to discuss ideas, make recommendations, or just plain listen to anyone who calls me at home, 253-3815. I hope to close out entries at the February Board Meeting, or soon after. Please call me.

- Carlton Smith, Program Chairman

BIRDING ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, AT TITUSVILLE

Some of our best birding trips are in the Titusville area. Join us on the Saturday outing. Meet at City Island Library parking lot at 8:00 a.m., or at Scotties in New Smyrna at 9:00 a.m. Mike Brothers, Field Trip Leader for the West Volusia Society, will lead the trip.

TREE ORDINANCE OF DAYTONA BEACH BEFORE CITY COMMISSION, JANUARY 19

If you were unable to attend the City Commission meeting on December 22, or write letters in support of the tree ordinance, you have a second chance. The City Commission of Daytona Beach will have another hearing on January 19 at 9:30 a.m. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please write Mayor Lawrence J. Kelly, 1144 Barbara Drive, Daytona Beach, FL 32017. Urge him to support a worthy tree ordinance that will protect trees when possible as land is developed, and set standards for landscaping parking areas of commercial property. Send a copy of your letter to Gary Walters, Box 551, Daytona Beach, FL 32015.

COUNTY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE ON STORM WATER MANAGEMENT

The County Council will be taking up "The Storm Water Management and Conservation Ordinance of Volusia County" on January 20 at 1:30 p.m. The purpose of this Ordinance is to conserve water resources on the surface and beneath the ground of Volusia County, Florida, by establishing a storm water management program designed to alleviate the adverse environmental effects associated with storm water runoff, erosion, sedimentation and flooding. We have been without this protection for over a year. This Ordinance will need your support to pass. If you attend the County Council meeting some time in the year, you will become familiar with the members of the Council. Several of the Councilmen are new. Christmas is over and the spring work hasn't started, neither have the summer vacations. Isn't it a good time of the year to get to know some of the officials we elected? (Personal tip: Get some friends together and have lunch. Make a fun outing out of your experience.)

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT SEMINAR, JANUARY 28

The purpose of the seminar is to familiarize elected and appointed officials, and the general public, with the proper beach management. In the spring of 1977 the public will be asked to approve policies for coastal zone planning. The seminar will take place at the Community College, January 28 at 9:30 a.m. There will be a registration fee of $3.50 which will include lunch. Additional information will be available at the January meeting.

FIELD TRIPS - NO TRIPS JANUARY 21 and 28, 1977

First, because of a conflict of dates, we will cancel the scheduled field trips on January 21 and 28. On the 28th the seminar on Coastal Zone Management will be held at Daytona Beach Community College. All Audubon members are urged to attend, if possible. Then, because we are having a Titusville trip on January 22, it seems unnecessary to have a trip the day before. So remember - no trips January 21 and 28.

We did not go on the scheduled long trips December 3 and 17, having instead fairly productive days near town. On December 10 we traveled to Blue Springs and Lake Helen, stopping also at the Port Orange Bridge. At Blue Springs at 9:00 a.m., we saw 14 manatees. As we ate our lunch a pair of Carolina wrens flew around in the bushes only about 50 feet away. A pair of red-shouldered hawks also put on a good show for us in plain sight nearby. At Lake Helen we caught a brief glimpse of a purple gallinule and then at the Port Orange Bridge 32 oystercatchers were lined up on a sandbar in the Halifax River.

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE FOR WINTER-SPRING 1977

January 22 - Cocoa-Merritt Island. Leaders: Bob Barber, Johnny Johnson
February 19 - St. Marks N.W.R.-Wakulla Springs, Leader: Red Giddens
March 19 - Everglades National Park. Leader: Bill Robertson
April 9 - Ft. Desota County Park (Mullet Key). Leader: Steve Pickett
May 21 - Pensacola Area. Leaders: Bob Kingberry, Bob and Lucy Duncan

Chairman for the Field Trip Program is Steve Pickett, Jr., 404 Highland Ave., Brooksville, FL 33512, Phone (904) 796-2198 (home) or (904) 796-2773 (office).
Please contact him for more information on the field trips.

SLIDE DONATION HELPS OTHERS

When Thelma Acosta and Bea Pratt toured some of the Central American countries last fall they discovered that Belize had a real need for some bird slides to be used for bird recognition sessions in the schools and at the Audubon meetings. They requested that Halifax River donate any duplicate slides they could spare to be sent to Belize. The request was granted and the Society donated many very good slides from which 45 were selected to go to Belize. Mr. Reginald Hicks added some 60 beautiful slides to the collection which was sent in the spring.

Some quotes from the letter of thanks which we received:

"The slides are wonderful! In fact, quite frankly, some are of really professional quality, especially some of the terns and gulls. I've never seen such nice ones. One, of a Laughing Gull overhead, is so fine I'm going to have a print made of it to hang on my new study wall.

"Please thank all those who donated slides to the Belize Audubon Society for me. Our first set for the schools has been tremendously well received. I planned it for third form students, but in every town we take them, the teachers insist that all students, even secondary school ones, see it. I am hoping to be able to get out the second set this fall, and some of these slides will definitely be in it. Really, only a very few are not applicable here. It was a remarkably good choice. Congratulations to whoever did the sorting. I certainly wish I had some of those top photographers down here to take shots of our strictly tropical species."

-- Bea Pratt

REAL BOOST FOR "BOTTLE BILLS"

There were ballot proposals in four states to ban "no-deposit, no-return" beverage containers. Surprisingly, it was the normally environmental-minded state of Colorado that solidly voted down the bottle proposal, despite the fact that the state's major such producer Adolph Coors Company, maker of the popular beer, backed the measure. Massachusetts lost the heartbreaker, and Maine and Michigan were the winners, voting to institute compulsory deposits on beverage containers. Vermont, South Dakota, and of course Oregon, already have such laws, and under an Environmental Protection Agency order effective next summer, returnables will be mandatory at all Federal government installations. Bottle legislation is gaining momentum. There is a tremendous use of energy (water and metal) involved in the wasteful production of non-returnable containers of soft drinks and malt beverages. Let us look at some of the facts.

To make one aluminum can uses enough electricity to burn a 100-watt light bulb for five hours. In 1972, 60 billion "throwaways" were used. This required 22 million KWH electric energy - the energy equivalent of two billion gallons of gasoline. The returnable - reusable bottle system required thousands of small and medium-sized bottling plants serving a geographical area small enough to make pick-ups as well as deliveries. The throwaway can or bottle made it possible for the giants to force small companies out of business, with the result that the number of breweries has declined from 407 in 1950 to 64 today; soft drink bottlers have decreased from 5,200 in 1947 to less than 1,600 and are still going down. A study by Crusade for a Cleaner Environment states that a return to returnables would produce a net effect of increase in employment by some 300,000 jobs. An EPA study estimates that an outright ban on non-returnables could result in loss of about 60,500 jobs in the container industry but a gain of about 60,600 in the bottling and allied trades. A report from Maryland's Council of Economic Advisors states there would be a net

increase of 1,500 jobs, generating $18.5 million in personal income, and $1.1 million in state taxes if Maryland went to all returnable containers. It is estimated that if all soft drinks were purchased in returnables, money-back containers, Americans would save $705,000,000 in a year. If all beer were added to this there would be an additional savings of some $800,000,000 a year - that is a total consumer loss of over $1 billion. Is it logical to speak of "shortages" when we deliberately and literally discard all these values? (Information from November 19 issue of Audubon Leader and flyer from Audubon Society of Duval County.)

SMALL CB NEEDED BY MRS. KELLER

Until recently Mrs. Keller had a small CB in her car. This was used to help her locate sick birds until it was stolen. It would be help her in her care of injured birds if this CB could be replaced. If anyone has a small, inexpensive CB that they want to sell, call Mrs. Keller, 252-2794.

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY
DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

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PROGRAM - FEBRUARY 21

This is the meeting at which the talents of our own members will be demonstrated whether it be photography, painting, or needlecraft.

FIELD TRIP TO PAYNES PRAIRIE - SATURDAY MARCH 12

This outing in the Gainesville area will be a 3-mile hike along the dikes, led by the State Naturalist, Don Younkers. We hope to see in the State Preserve - buffalo, Florida sandhill cranes, greater sandhill cranes from the north country, and many other birds. We plan to meet at the City Hall in Bunnell at 8:00 a.m., and go by way of 20. If you can take passengers, or need a ride, call me at 255-9687 the week before. Hopefully, most everyone wishing to go will make his own travel plns ahead of time. If you wish to go on to the Preserve the day before, or on your own, here are the directions: Go to Gainesville by 20 from Palatka; in Gainesville turn left on SE 15th Street (Kincaid Road); go several miles; where the main road swings left, take the dirt road; thisis SE 17th Street. After a mile or so you will be at the Park headquarters.

RARE BIRD SIGHTINGS?

If anyone wishes to be informed of a rare bird reported in this area, or if you think you have seen an unusual bird for this area, please contact Roger Harshaw, 252-8257, 672-9132.

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY CONVENTION

This convention takes place at the YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, Colorado, adjacent to Rocky Mountain National Park, June 9 - 12, 1977. There will be many fun and educational workshops and field trips. It sounds like loads of fun. If anyone can make it, contact President Harold Nett for more information.

SAVE TIGER CREEK

March 1 is the deadline. The 1100 Florida Garden Clubs are trying to raise anough money to buy the beautiful and still unspoiled acreage around Tiger Creek. Two hundred sixty dollars buys an acre; please give any amount you can. Your HRAS has made a contribution, as well as other Audubon Societies. Make checks payable to the Nature Conservancy (tax deductible). Mail to Ken Morrison, Tiger Creek Committee, P. O. Box 268, Lake Wales, FL 33853.

MUSEUM SERIES TO INCLUDE RICHARD KERN

The Museum of Arts and Sciences will present a series of slide lectures through the spring. The series begin Wednesday, March 2. Pat Caulfield, photographer for National Geographic and Florida Naturalist, directing. Local talents taking part are as follows: March 30 - Joe Kenner, District Interpretive Naturalist for Department of Parks; April 6 - Bob Eikum, County Forester; April 13 - Elton Woodward, Marine Biologist; April 20 - Harold Webb, Microphotographer. On May 4 - Richard Kern, of Audubon Tour fame, will narrate a film, The Big Cypress, which he produced. This will be held in the Humanities Building of the Community College. On May 11 - Keith Beatty of the Florida Solar Energy Center will present "A Focus on Solar Energy". May 18 - Ralph Heath, Jr., Founder and President of Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary in Indian Shores, Florida, will present a film and lecture on care of injured wildlife. Admission is free to members of the Museum, and $1.00 to nonmembers.

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

TREES SAVED -- On January 19 the Daytona Beach City Commission unanimously passed the tree preservation and landscaping requirements for commercial property, which many of you supported by writing letters Doesn't that make you feel good?

PROGRESS REPORT ON WATER ORDINANCE FOR COUNTY

Recently the County Council has renewed its efforts to establish protection for one of our most basic resources - water. The intent of "The Storm Water Management and Conservation Ordinance of Volusia County" is to prevent a change in rate or volume of runoff when land is cleared for development, or the use of the land changes, so that as much of the water as possible goes into the aquifer, and to prevent erosion, sedimentation and flooding. Representatives of the various cities, business interests, environmental organizations, interested citizens have taken part in two workshops to learn about the ordinance and make suggestions. The first workshop covered the consumption of water and the recharge areas. The second workshop was dominated by representatives from the business interests and citizens asking questions, making critical remarks and suggestions about the ordinance as it is now written. The staff will consider any suggestions and solicit others in the next few weeks, and then redraft the ordinance. The County Council will then hold another workshop and seek public opinion.

It is important that anyone who is concered about the spectrum of life that depends upon good water support this ordinance. We must not let special interest groups or short-sighted officials delay the passage or weaken the ordinance. We need it today - because without it tomorrow the water we depend on will be worse - from salt intrusion, pollution, sedimentation, and flooding.

CROSS-FLORIDA BARGE CANAL

On December 17 the Governor and Cabinet voted 6 - 1 to recommend deauthorization of the CFBC, and that a task force be set up to determine what is to be done with the lands purchased for the canal and the parts of the canal that have been completed. The Cabinet urged that the Oklawaha River be restored and designated as a wild and scenic river and its inclusion into the Ocala National Forest. The Cabinet

further urged that the remaining lands be used for public recreation and environmental purposes and that the Canal Authority be abolished by the Legislature. The major battle has been won, but the war is not yet over. Legislation must be passed by both the Florida Legislature and the Congress before the canal project is finally ended and the restoration of the Oklawaha River is begun.

COMPLETE RESTORATION OF KISSIMMEE IS NEEDED

In 1963 the Corps of Engineers dug a straight ditch through the meandering Kissimmee River and added six dams to replace the natural flood control thus lost. (It doesn't pay to play with Mother Nature.) The project was an ecological and engineering disaster and in 1976 the Legislature established a council to recommend and implement approved approaches to restoring the river, its floodplain and habitat. The original mistake was wasteful both in tax dollars and of the environment. There are several suggested plans for restoration; many of them would cause additional waste. Urge Representatives Conway, Brown, and Bell, and Senator Dunn, to support complete restoration.

IAN McHARG, RENOWNED ECOLOGIST TO SPEAK AT PEABODY

Ian McHarg, a distinguished lecturer, author, ecologist and landscape architect, and Chairman of the Department of Landscape Architects at the University of Pennsylvania, will lecture March 17, 8:00 p.m., at Peabody Auditorium. Dr. McHarg has undertaken a number of ecological studies for metropolitan regions in the United States and abroad. Best known for his book, Design With Nature, he has also written Ecological Determinism, Plan for the Valley, An Ecological Method for Landscape Architecture, Man and Environment, and many others. His work has been made noteworthy by guest appearances on the "Today Show" "Mike Douglas"; and "Public Citizen" in Life, Time, Readers' Digest and others.

Dr. McHarg is a dramatic and stimulating lecturer. It will be interesting to hear what he has to say about our little piece of the earth. His topic is "Planning for Survival" based on his book, Design With Nature. Daltons Book Store in Volusia Mall is stocking this book.

FIELD TRIP NOTES - 23 Birders went on the trip. Weather cool, clear.

Our field trip of January 22 was a great success! Mike Brothers of the Deland Museum is an outstanding ornithologist. He found and identified many birds for us. Our route led from Daytona and New Smyrna to the Log Cabin Orange Groves, then to the Black Point Wildlife Drive, and we wound up at the North Shiloh Marsh section of the Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge. A total of 82 species were recorded. At the Log Cabin Groves Mr. Brothers pointed out a gorgeous painted bunting up in a tree; other birds there included sapsucker and yellow-rumped warblers.

At our first stop at Black Point we observed through the scopes a great horned owl sitting at the eagle's nest. As we continued on the drive, we saw 9 species of ducks and numerous white pelicans. Mike identified for us an orange crowned warbler, which is a comparative rarity. We proceeded to Playlinda Beach but found [illegible] there. Finally, at Mid Shiloh Marsh there were a profusion of small birds. The flock of 30 or more avocets were at some distance, but we could make out their appearance with the scopes. Then a bald eagle flew low across the marsh, the coots scuttling in terror at its approach. The eagle caught a coot, but was set upon by a red-tailed and a [illegible] hawk so dropped it.

WATER POLLUTION IS OUR CHALLENGE

When we consider all our needs, hardly anything is more basic than water. Everyone is affected by water quality whether they enjoy swimming, fishing, boating, or simply use water for drinking, cooking, bathing. As birders we are well aware of the effects of water pollution on birds and other wildlife as well as the effect it has on the supply of seafood and our own health. Many of the birds we enjoy seeing in our area depend on fish that cannot live in polluted water. Fortunately we have large quantities of water that have not been irreparably damaged. We can still fish in the rivers of the Cou nty as can the egrets, herons, pelicans, and ospreys, but changes have taken place over the years that are directly related to pollution of our water bodies. Those of you that have lived here for many years know the losses we have suffered. You know the places where birds were bountiful and now there aren't any. You know about our fish kills, and lakes choked with aquatic weeds. You are aware that fishing isn't as good as it was in the past. This degradation of the environment is caused by pollution.

The major source of pollution is people. Pollution comes from our sewer treatment plants, or lack of them; runoff from cities, farms and forests, and industry. Nature can eliminate some pollution, but man overloads nature's system. The overload of pollution introduced by man destroys the system. As an area is developed, the source of pollution increases. It is projected that the population of Volusia will double in the next 25 years. If the present quality of life is to be maintained, plans for pollution abatement must be implemented soon.

There is a program going on now to study sources of water pollution and develop a plan for water pollution abatement in the years to come. This study is being done through the Volusia Council of Governments by the staff of the 208 program for Water Quality Management Planning. A program of implementation will be proposed by the staff to the general public and the local government by next winter. You can have an input into those plans by taking part in the Citizens Advisory Committee. The next meeting will be April 14, at 7:30 p.m., at City Island Court House Annex, Room 307.

One unique feature at the 208 program is that it encourages public participation before the final plans are made and public hearings are held. We have been given an opportunity. We can sit back and let the professionals and the politicians make the decisions, or we can get involved and insist that plans be implemented to upgrade our water.

FIELD TRIPS

We have only three more field trips left: April 15, 22, and 29. As of April 1 we have logged 134 species of birds. This is most likely down from other years. The most productive trips were to Black Point Drive and Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge and Mid-Shiloh Marsh, with 71 species logged November 12, and 81 species logged January 22. According to John Edscorn's article of Florida birds in the Florida Naturalist, the cold weather this winter killed many of the smaller birds. It is hoped we will have a better year next year. How many trips will be scheduled next year depends on the soon-to-be announced Energy Policy, and then we shall have to decide if we should cut down in the number of trips we have, in order to conserve energy.

- Harold Nett

A NOTE FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Did you know that you have an individual identification number in the National organization? It will appear on the mailing label when you receive your Audubon magazine, and should be used in any communication you may have with National. A duplicate of the mailing label follows with all numbers identified:

Membership Identification Number	Member Category	Expiration Date	No. of copies of Audubon sent	Chapter Number
012-658-001	3	7742	01	5004

Mr. and Mrs. John J. Audubon
Street Address
City State Zip

The following are the categories of membership:

1	Individual	$15	
2	Family	18	
3	Sustaining	30	
4	Supporting	50	
5	Contributing	100	
6	Student	8.50	
7	Life	1000	
8	Affiliated Club	50	(for organizations only)
9	Subscriber to Audubon	13	
0	Donor	250	
A	Senior Citizen	12	(Individual)
B	Senior Citizen	15	(Family)

A and B categories are not available in Florida.

As you see, there is a category to fit every pocketbook, and at any time we have the privilege of increasing our contributions and changing our category. We have seven Sustaining members, one Contributing member, and seven Life members in our local Chapter. This means not only more money for National Audubon to help with their important work, but also more funds in our own treasury. Keep in mind that we should all be seeking to make our membership grow, not that everyone will be an active member, coming to meetings and going on the walks, but the funds they add to the treasury will be power in the hands of those carrying on the environmental crusade. Our present membership of 256 is pitifully small for such a large city. There are several things each of us can do to promote the Audubon idea:

- Leave copies of Audubon in your doctor's or dentist's office, or take them to your office or job for coworkers to look through. Or give them to Jeri Wyly for distribution.

- Suggest Audubon membership as gifts - in the office, to our young - and old - friends or relatives, as prizes in competitions, at parties, etc.

- Bring friends to meetings.

- Submit a list of people who might be interested in the Audubon causes.

- Suggest gifts to Audubon as memorials at the death of a family member, friend or neighbor.

- Leave folders on Audubon (of which we have a plentiful supply) on bulletin boards wherever you see one - schools, offices, churches, etc.

Florida has been described as the most ecologically damaged of all the states. Unfortunately, money is power if we are to compete with those who are doing the damage - so do everything you can to put money into the treasuries of Audubon.

TRINIDAD - TOBAGO

Marion Fisk returned recently from a nine-day National Audubon Ecology Workshop tour of Trinidad and Tobago. The tour consisted of 16 individuals, most of whom are ardent and knowledgeable Audubonists from various parts of the U.S. The bases of operation were two lodges in the mountain regions of both islands - the one in Trinidad in the center of an enormous beautiful bird sanctuary. An evening boat trip through rivers and swampland was of particular interest where the group saw huge flocks of scarlet ibis and egrets coming in to roost.

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DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

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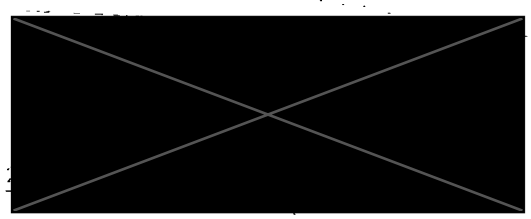

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FLORIDA AUDUBON CONVENTION

The Florida Audubon Society Convention October 27-29, at Sarasota had phosphate mining as its main topic. As I went for only one evening and the following day, I may have missed some interesting talks on the subject. Senator Stone was held in Washington by an important vote so he did not address the convention as scheduled. October 28th Colonel Wisdom of the Army Corps of Engineers was given the Conservation Award, which the papers reported a few days later. On October 29th, I went on a field trip to a phosphate mine which was a most interesting experience. Presently, phosphate is mined by a sort of strip mining method in Polk and Hillsborough Counties; it is proposed to extend the mines into Manatee and Hardee Counties.

Environmental problems occur, such as poor or no reclamation of mined lands and muddying of streams by slime from the phosphate plants, the Alafia River being mentioned in an article in the Tampa Tribune. The talks I missed probably discussed many other such problems.

Other articles in the Tampa Tribune reported an air pollution alert in Tampa that week, to which the chemical plants associated with phosphate no doubt contributed, and outlined a proposal to build a regional wellfield in Hernando County to the north to supply the Tampa-St. Petersburg-Pasco County Area. Incidentally, two speakers at the convention said that the phosphate plants draw heavy amounts of water from the aquifer; as of 1975--I think it was--they took 47% of the water taken, agriculture 41%, municipalities 8%, other industry 4%.

-Harold J. Nett

NOVEMBER MEETING - COME TO SEE A NATURE MOVIE NOVEMBER 21

The November 21st program will be a 16mm color motion picture "Quest-An Artist and His Prey", by Guy Coheleach. Mr. Coheleach is a renowned nature artist whose paintings are featured regularly in Audubon Magazine and have also appeared in the Florida Naturalist. Signed and numbered prints of his paintings are distributed nationally by Regency House Art, Inc.

This film features a charge of a wild bull elephant in which Mr. Coheleach almost lost his life. The film is exciting, has a conservation message, and is artistically satisfying. I hope you will be present to enjoy it.

-Carlton Smith
Program Chairman

FIELD TRIPS

Eight people went on our first field trip October 8, and we saw 55 species of birds. We stopped at most of our favorite places to the south of town and ate lunch at a county park in Oak Hill. Log Cabin Groves had not opened for the season, as yet. We met three researchers near Lopez Fish Camp who were following the southward flight of a peregrine falcon that had been equipped with a radio transmitter. Among the birds seen were black and white warbler, white-eyed vireo, house wren, oystercatcher and spotted sandpiper.

The first stop for seven birders on October 21 was at Ormond Memorial Gardens where we saw a redstart, catbird and a gray-cheeked thrush. Jones Island near the Ormond Oak did not show the birds in the mud flats on our trip that were there the afternoon before. After a picnic lunch at Washington Oaks, the pier near the Anastasia Lighthouse gave us a couple of marbled godwits and a large flock of willets Homeward bound, we stopped at the Flagler Recreation Area and saw many yellow-rumped (myrtle) warblers in their immature or autumn plumage but still with their distinctive yellow rump. The total count was 41 species.

Fifteen birders braved what seemed a most unfavorable day for a trip to the Merritt Island Wild Wildlife Refuge's Black Point Trail November 5. As we drove through South Daytona the rain pelted down but as we sped southward it eased off. Our first stop was the pond off Conrad Street near the New Smyrna airport; there we had, believe it or not, the only coots for the day, just two. Afterwards at Edgewater Park, we spotted with our 'scopes, quite a few skimmers and various terns. The Log Cabin Groves showed us a pileated woodpecker and others of the woodpecker group, as well as a solitary vireo. We atelunch at Playlinda while the ubiquitous myrtle warblers flew about. Following that, on a leisurely drive around Black Point in bright sunshine, the lagoons were empty; coots and ducks were only scattered here and there. Still we were able to list five species of ducks, ruddy duck, mottled duck, blue-winged teal, pintail, lesser scaup. A reddish egret thrilled us with his antics. As a climax, we estimated that all the white pelicans massed in a long row must have numbered 300 or more. The total count was ~~65~~ 77 species.

Carlton Smith had a Swainson thrush and Mr. & Mrs. Little had four rose-breasted grosbeaks in their yards.

REPORT FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL OF VOLUSIA COUNTY

The Environmental Council is an organization that meets the second Wednesday of each month at the Museum of Arts and Sciences. Its members are representatives of various clubs, and individuals with environmental concerns. Anyone who desires to learn more about the dangers that threaten our environment are invited to attend. Your HRAS sends two representatives.

The speaker for the October meeting was William K. Howell of the County Legal Staff. He showed a map of the state-acquired lands in the potential recharge area and told of the experimental work being done. Wells are being installed and water drawn from them in order to see if there is any change in surface conditions. If changes are noted, the pumping will be stopped. If there are no changes, it will be known what can be done to meet the fresh water demand of the various municipalities of the County.

At the September meeting, Rep. William Conway told of research being undertaken relative to the landspreading of treated waste water. One of the alternatives discussed was deep well injection. Mr. Greg Camp of the Volusia Environmental Control Office has since reported that Lake County has made a study of the deep well injection system and has adopted a resolution urging everyone to join efforts in encouraging our Legislature to outlaw deep well injection of any kind in the State of Florida.

The Planning Board and staff are working on management plans for the Tomoka River and Spruce Creek basins as directed by the County Council. They are finding that much of the needed data is already available from the work of established agencies, that there are significant regulations already on the books only needing implementation, and the main task is simply to put it all together. These are two areas that need protection to maintain a high quality of life for all.

BIRDS OF BREVARD COUNTY

From a leaflet on "Birds of Brevard County", we excerpt the following:

DUDA RANCH. Red-winged blackbirds, Savannah sparrows, meadowlarks, and rarely, yellow-headed blackbirds and Brewer's blackbird are found around the cow pens during the winter. Hawks may sometimes be found in the trees around the pens. The Duda Ranch is located south of Rockledge. Drive south on Fisk Blvd., cross over I-95 and follow the dirt road on the right to the cow pens. Park by the cow barns approximately 0.6 of a mile from the A. Duda and Son entrance sign. Visitors are welcome between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

ULAMAY WILDLIFE REFUSE. The 461 acres of saltwater marsh of Ulamay on Merritt Island provide feeding grounds for wading birds and migrating ducks. To reach Ulamay, drive north on Sykes Creek Blvd. from 520 Causeway. Ulamay will be on your left shortly after crossing the Sykes Creek Bridge. There are two nature trails for public access to the marsh. (The leaflet map shows Fisk Blvd. running south of SR 520, west of US 1 and Sykes Creek Blvd. running north of SR 520 east of SR 3.)

BOOK REVIEW

The Last Eagle, written by Dan Mannix, is the biography of a bald eagle from birth to maturity. I found this book so delightful I recommend it to anyone who enjoys nature or has an interest in birds. It is a short book that can be read in a few hours and it is enjoyable, light reading. It is educational too, as it gives information about the family problems of the eagle, how they learn to fly, obtain food, migrate and make nests.

The bald eagle is not an accomplished hunter like her cousin, the golden eagle. The bald eagle's main food is fish; she is not above eating carrion, and she ordinarily will not hunt game if there is an easier way to obtain food, such as taking it away from another; but she can hunt as well as the golden eagle if she has to. As you read the book you have the feeling that you are experiencing the hardships and joys that the eagle experiences of hatching, learning to focus, competing for feed in the nest, maturing, migrating, finding a mate and building a nest. Beside the basic facts you learn something about the personality of the bald eagle. Did you know bald eagles like to play and tease one another, or other animals, and that they often have toys or ornaments such as golf balls and electric bulbs in their nests? It is the author's hope that a novel about the personality of an eagle would create more interest in the general public than a more formal treatise.

Mr. Mannix has written the book after much research, observations of eagles on nests, and the knowledge he has obtained from having his own pet eagle, Aguila. The author attempts to interpret how a bald eagle thinks, which makes the book interesting, but may be grounds for criticism of the book. I encourage you to read it and decide for yourself.

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THE PELICAN

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Daytona Beach, Florida

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ONLY TWO MORE PROGRAMS THIS SEASON

February 20 - THE BEST OF ALL OF US - This program provides an opportunity for each member to display his or her talents. All types of nature are suitable for this show. Please bring paintings, photos, and crafts to the meeting. Please get slides to Carlton Smith Program Chairman, by Friday, February 17. The meeting will be held at the Seabreeze United Church, 501 North Wild Olive Ave., corner of Oakridge Blvd., on the Peninsula at 7:00 p.m. as usual.

March 27 - Dinner Meeting - The annual meeting will be held at the Town House Buffet, 132 S. Beach Street. The program will be a 45-minute narrated movie Wings Over the Eastern Shore, by Jeffery Kuhn of York, Pa. This film features the Chincoteague Island off the Virginia coast. The price of the buffet dinner and program is $4.00. Try to bring a friend as we hope to have at least 100 persons attend this annual meeting. Tickets will be available at the February meeting. It will be helpful if you buy them at that time.

REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee wishes to report that it was unable to find anyone among those canvassed who was willing to serve in an administrative capacity. This means that the running of the Chapter is being left to the small group now serving as officers, many of whom have, in one capacity or another, served for years - not because they sought office, but because they were unwilling to see the organization go under. It is realized that the larger part of our membership joins Audubon simply to make a contribution to a worthy cause - the others join because they want to participate in meetings and field trips, and it is to this latter group that this plea is addressed: Won't you do your part to keep the organization going, and volunteer to serveon the Board for at least one term? The willing horses are getting very tired of carrying the whole load.

SLATE NAMED BY NOMINATING COMMITTEE

President, Harold Nett; Vice President, Carlton M. Smith; Membership Secretary, Mrs. Mildred Esten; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Alvin Pratt; Treasurer, Mrs. Joe S. Little; Historian, Mrs. Carlton Smith; Directors, Mrs. Thelma Acosta and Robert Hunter.

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE MARCH 16-18

This conference will be held at Camp Keystone, Odessa, Florida. The topic is Water Management 1978. Write Spring Conference, Florida Audubon Society, P.O.Drawer 7, Maitland, FL 32751 for registration.

ORNITHOLOGY TRIP TO EVERGLADES AND CORKSCREW SWAMP

The Museum of Arts and Sciences is sponsoring a birding trip to South Florida for four days, under the leadership of Mike Brothers, a well qualified birder. The $115.00 includes travel, rooms, instruction. This exciting outing is scheduled for March 10-14. The selected observation list includes caracara, Everglade kite, smooth-billed ani, wood storks, white-crowned pigeon, roseate spoonbill, white pelican, bald eagle, short-tailed hawk (rare), Cape Sable seaside sparrow, purple gallinule and reddish egret.

LECTURE TO FOCUS ON NATURAL HISTORY IDENTIFICATION

This series of lectures are conducted at the Museum of Arts and Sciences at 8:00 p.m., Tuesdays, March 7 through April 18. Members free; nonmembers $1.00.

WATER MANAGEMENT CLASSES TO BE HELD AT DBCC

These sessions will be conducted weekly on Wednesday, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. The first session, February 15, will be a talk on environmental control and problems by Greg Camp. Call 672-5921 for more information.

GOOD NEWS ABOUT CANAVERAL NATIONAL SEASHORE

Members of the Conservation Committee, HRAS, were pleased to note a recent editorial and quotes from Congressman Bill Chappell that indicated his support for keeping the Canaveral National Seashore in a largely natural state.

CONSERVATION TEACHER AWARD

The Volusia Soil and Water Conservation District is accepting nominations for the "Conservation Teacher of the Year Award". PELICAN readers who know of a teacher that ought to be considered are asked to notify Mr. Albert L. Bouie, Science Supervisor, Volusia Public Schools. His address is: J. H. Smiley Development Center, PO.Box 1910, Daytona Beach, FL 32015.

FIELD TRIPS

January 7 we went on our initial field trip for 1978 with 18 persons participating. Our first stop was at WROD where horned grebes were seen. Then we took off for Tomoka Farms Road but we did not see too much along Route 415 until we reached the new Osteen Bridge. While the new bridge was under construction, this spot, formerly one of the most productive for sightings, remained in "limbo" as it were. On this trip, however, we found many birds there, including marsh hawk, water pipit, greater and lesser yellowlegs, common snipe and glossy ibis. A section of the old highway has been left, which we used as a parking place with no traffic to contend with. Drivers going straight across the new bridge will find themselves on a new road heading straight to SR 46, a considerable short-cut compared to our old route to Mullett Lake. Our total count for the day was 60 species.

On January 20 our group of 14 headed straight to Blue Springs State Park. On arriving there we were informed that the program on the manatee is now being given at 11:00 in the morning instead of 10. We used the interval to search for the manatees and were immediately rewarded with sighting six of them in the Blue Springs run. Then one of the rangers gave a slide program on the manatees and answered questions regarding them afterwards. Some of the pictures showed the horrifying damage done them by motor boat propellers. Other pictures included some interesting underwater shots. The only place in the whole United States where manatees are found is from central Florida southward; at one time they flourished up north to

the Carolinas and west to Louisiana. They generally have only one calf at birth. This year, of the 22 individuals counted, no calves have come into Blue Springs. The most unusual bird seen was a long billed marsh wren spotted by Mrs. Cooper in tall grass along the bank of the St. Johns River. On our way home we stopped at Lake Helen, but were disappointed to learn from Mrs. McLain that the purple gallinules we used to see there have unaccountably disappeared. The count for this trip was 40 species.

Saturday, February 4, 12 observers started out in a near gale for the long drive to Titusville and the Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge. Because of the strong wind, birds were scarce and we recorded only 43 species. White pelicans, many wood storks, cedar waxwings and a sapsucker were among the sightings. Areas visited were Black Point Drive and Shiloh Marsh; also Log Cabin Groves where we watched three ospreys flying about.

MORE BIRD NOTES

Robert Hunter reports 100 white pelicans at Ponce Inlet, and hooded mergansers at Rose Bay.

Mrs. Lillian Gruber, on a visit in the Lake George area, spotted some interesting small birds: Carolina chickadee, ruby-crowned kinglet and short-billed marsh wren (sedge wren). There were also many Bonaparte gulls.

The Roger Harshaws had two purple finches in their yard.

Carlton and Vivian Smith saw a bald eagle up close - only 70 ft. away - at Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge.

Mrs. Mildred Esten sees chipping sparrows frequently in her garden.

Mrs. Alpha Little has cedar waxwings and titmice at her feeder and a sapsucker and a sharp-shinned hawk bathing at the bird bath.

FLORIDA AUDUBON NEED ACTIVIST

If you are willing to write, telegraph or telephone members of the Legislature during the 1978 legislative session, please give your name, address and telephone number to your president, Harold Nett. If you are willing to contact your legislator on critical conservation issues, you and other environmentally concerned individuals can turn the tables against the special interest groups.

ALASKA - THE LAST FRONTIER - NEEDS HELP

If you haven't sent your letters of support for HR 39 and S 1500 to Senators Lawton Chiles and Richard Stone (c/o US Senate, Washington, DC 20510) and Representative Bill Chappell, please do so immediately. Let them know you want all 115 million acres and all the wilderness designations provided in original HR 39 and S 1500. Some basic points: HR 39 would establish 115 million acres of new national parks, wildlife refuges, and wild and scenic rivers in Alaska. These lands have been identified to contain complete eco-systems, essential for long term survival of native wildlife, many of which are endangered species. These lands are approximately one-half of the federally owned lands in Alaska that belong to all of us. The basic question is whether we want to preserve this last treasure of the American frontier unspoiled for the benefit of all Americans, including generations to come, or let Congress give (or wheel and deal) it away to special interests looking for a quick profit.

Opponents claim that HR 39 would lock up land forever. This is untrue. In reality it would keep the resources of these lands in trust for later use, if needed. In the meantime the environmental values of the lands will be fully protected.

FREE PUBLICATION - "INVITE BIRDS TO YOUR HOME"

THE USDA Soil Conservation Service has published an attractive pamphlet, "Invite Birds to Your Home", It tells what to plant to attract different species to the home or garden. As wild areas diminish, it becomes more important to do what we can to increase the natural food supply of our birds.

Copies may be obtained free by writing USDA Soil Conservation Service, 3100 East New York Avenue, DeLand, FL 32720.

TIGER CREEK Donations - Checks payable to Nature Conservancy. Send to Dr. Morrison, P.O.Box 68, Lake Wales, FL 33853.

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