



THE PELICAN

Information Bulletin

Halifax River Audubon Society
Daytona Beach, Florida

VOLUME 25, NUMBER 4

JANUARY 1980

Harold J. Nett, President
3 Sunny Shore Drive
Ormond Beach, FL 32074
Phone: 677-8647

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

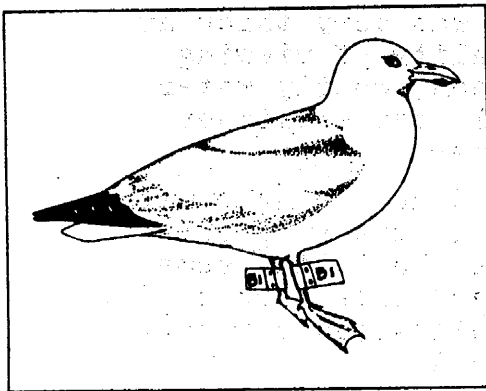
Florida Audubon Society has made available to us their new sound movie film "The Predators." It will be shown at our first meeting of the New Year, January 21st, 7 P. M. at Seabreeze United Church.

This fifty minute film, narrated by Robert Redford, was shown at the FAS spring conference, and its beautiful and exciting sequences were enjoyed by all. It examines the predator/prey relationship and its role in a balanced ecosystem. It also includes a sequence devoted to the most successful predator of all--man.

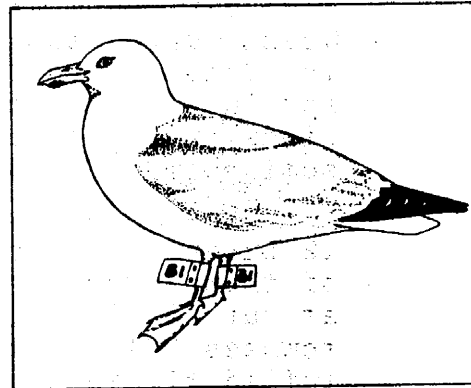
Birds of prey--bald eagle, peregrine falcon, osprey and everglades kite--are shown and their adaptations explained. The smallest North American predator is the shrew, the largest the grizzly bear. Both of them, along with otters, alligators, wolves and pelicans are shown. The final sequence stresses the importance of preserving the predators as part of the beauty, mystery and diversity of life. I hope that you will enjoy it and that we all heed its message.

Carlton Smith,
Program Chairman

FROM THE CANADIAN WILDLIFE SERVICE



Great Lakes Herring Gulls have been marked with numbered and lettered green, orange, blue or pink leg ribbon - one on each leg. If you see any Herring Gulls so marked, please note number, letter and colour of each ribbon and date and place of sighting. Contact Dr. D. V. Chip Weseloh or Mr. Pierre Mineau, Canadian Wildlife Service, Box 5050, Burlington, Ontario, Canada, L7R 4A6. Tel. (416) 637-4264.



CHANGES IN BYLAWS. Because of a change in dues schedule of both National Audubon Society and Florida Audubon Society, and

Because each corporation must sets own dues schedule in its by-laws, and amendment to the bylaws of Halifax River Audubon Society is imperative. The following is presented for your consideration:

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Para. 1 -- No change

Section 1 - which defines the primary class of membership shall be changed to read:

The Society's membership shall be "joint membership" which is offered by special arrangement between National Audubon Society and Florida Audubon Society and which provides for membership in the National Audubon Society, the Florida Audubon Society and the local chapter, the Halifax River Audubon Society, Inc., under the dues schedule set by National Audubon Society. The dues of this Society, which shall be included in the total "joint membership" dues, shall be:

Student	\$ 1.50
Individual	3.35
Family	4.50
Sustaining	6.00
Supporting	12.00
Contributing	25.00
Donor	50.00
Life	100.00
Dual Life	100.00

a, b, c, d, e - unchanged

Section 2 - unchanged

BIRDING NOTES

Our December 14, 1979 trip went to WROD, Conrad Street, the Coast Guard Station and Port Orange Bridge. Fog was very thick at the Coast Guard Station, subtracting from the quality of viewing for the 10 participants. Among the 40 species seen, mostly water birds, were horned grebe, great black-backed gull, oystercatcher, semi-palmated and Wilson plovers, western sandpiper.

The January 4, 1980 trip traveled direct to Blue Springs, with 12 birders in the party. There were 21 manatees in the run, some of them juveniles. Among the 52 species of birds, including some at our starting point, we had a large flock of cardinals (about 15), towhees (8), white-throated sparrow, kinglets, white-eyed vireos, tufted titmice and snipe at a pond along Route 15-A.

BIRDING NOTES (cont.)

Carlton Smith saw the purple gallinules at the Orange City Pond December 17th; on our trips we have not had the good luck to see them, but they are there nevertheless. Also, Carlton states, "Sandhill cranes can still be seen, often in large numbers, most any time of day, at Lenholt's Farm." Carlton and Vivian add that they saw an adult bald eagle soaring in the Botts Landing area Christmas day.

CONSERVATION REPORTDr. Fleuchas Elected Council Chairman

Dr. P. T. "Bud" Fleuchaus has been elected Chairman of the Volusia County Council for 1980. His recognized leadership ability together with his understanding of, and support for, environmental issues makes his election doubly important.

Halifax Plantation

Chances for a happy solution to the Halifax Plantation issue seem brighter than we dared to hope last July. The Department of Natural Resources has given the position of No. 2 on a list of ten areas to be recommended to the Florida Cabinet for consideration when it meets on January 22nd. When we reflect that it was not on the total list of one year ago, this appears to be a phenomenal achievement.

Special thanks should go to House Speaker Hyatt Brown for the strong support he has given the project. The many letters sent in support of the purchase have also made a difference.

Turnbull Hammock - Unexpected Trouble

Turnbull Hammock is an 1168-acre flatwoods area of great environmental importance in Southeast Volusia. Just when we thought the purchase with federal funds that had been allocated was assured, the St. Johns River Water Management District Board of Directors held up the acceptance. The stated reason was that some members of the board thought that the purchase should be with local funds instead. This, it was claimed, would eliminate any state and/or federal strings that might be attached to the grant. It is suspected that the real reason is the lobby of developers and landowners of nearby tracts who see in public ownership a limitation on their options to develop. It is the old clash between public interest and private greed.

Management of Volusia County Beaches

The Conservation Committee, HRAS, has decided to make a special study of the problems of the beaches of Volusia County. Litter, irresponsible operation of motor vehicles and cost of maintenance are the more visible evidences of management. How-

CONSERVATION REPORT (Cont.)

ever, there are other more subtle factors that also need attention. Damage to dune vegetation must be controlled. Variances on building requirements have caused serious problems in other areas. Uses of the beach as parking field and scenic drive versus bathing beach enjoyment is, perhaps, the most serious of all of our issues. Are there compromises possible? What can we do?

Walter S. Boardman
Conservation Committee

PELICAN SUBSCRIPTIONS

Those individuals who subscribe to our newsletter, "The Pelican", are advised to renew now. Checks should be made payable to the Halifax River Audubon Society and given to an officer at the next meeting or sent to our treasurer, Mrs. Joe S. Little, 1148 Cordova Avenue, Daytona Beach, Fla. 32014.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- January 18, half-day field trip leaves City Island 8 A. M.
 " 19, Museum beach walk 9 A. M. from Granada exit, Ormond Beach
 " 21, HRAS general meeting 7 P. M., Seabreeze United Church
 " 23, Museum beach walk, Turtle Mound, 9 A. M.
 " 30, Museum "Snow Birds", Coast Guard Sta. 9 A. M.
 February 1, all-day field trip to Merritt Island
 " 9, Museum beach walk, Ponce Inlet Lighthouse, 9 A. M.
 " 13, Museum bird watching trips start, call 255-0285
 " 14, Museum ecology tours start, call 255-0285
 " 15, half-day field trip leaves City Island 8 A. M.

FIELD TRIP STARTING POINT

Because of traffic problems, field trips henceforth will leave from the Courthouse Annex parking lot City Island, across the street from the usual meeting place. This will get rid of the difficulty in making left turns into the busy traffic on Orange Avenue.

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY
DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

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Mr. & Mrs. Carlton Smith
542 S. Lanvale Avenue
Daytona Beach, Fl. 32014

Harold J. Mettr, President
3 Sunny Shore Drive
Ormond Beach, FL 32074
Phone: 677-8647

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

Our speaker for the evening of February 18th will be Mike Brothers, interpretive naturalist of the Museum of Arts and Sciences, president of West Volusia Audubon Society, and past curator of the Deland Museum. He is a member of Florida Ornithological Society and a confidant of Dr. David A. Stook, Professor of Biology at Stetson University. Together, they are now working on a study involving the limpkin with the results due for future publication.

Mike has just returned from a Museum Ornithological trip to the Everglades National Park. This is his third year in leading that trip and he says birding has been more spectacular each time. This year the highlight was the sighting of six Everglade Kites. They were in all varieties of plumage, adult male, adult female, sub-adult and juvenile. Hopefully this is a good sign for the future.

He is working up a special program for us on birds. I have seen a good number of his slides and they are excellent. If you mix his knowledge of birds, his ability as a speaker, and his superb photography, you come up with a wonderfully entertaining evening. I hope to see you there.

P. S. Mrs. Branch will not present her usual instructional slides this month. Our regular business meeting will start at 7:00 P. M.

Carlton Smith,
Program Chairman

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- Feb. 15, Friday, half-day field trip leaves City Island 8:00 A. M.
- Feb. 18, Monday, general meeting, Seabreeze United Church, 7:00 P. M.
- Feb. 20, Wednesday, Energy Forum, Kettle Hall, Bethune-Cookman College, 7 P. M.
- Feb. 29, Friday, half-day field trip leaves City Island 8:00 A. M.
- March 6, Thursday, Surgeon General Richmond speaks on "Rising Hospital Costs and the Energy Issue", Heyn Chapel, Bethune-Cookman 11:00 A. M.
- March 14, Friday, all-day field trip to Lake Woodruff Wildlife Refuge and Blue Springs State Park leaves City Island 8:00 A. M.

FIELD TRIP NOTES

Our January 18 trip went to Lake Woodruff. For the day we counted 40 species, 25 of them at the refuge. Along the dike near Spring Garden Lake we found phoebe, yellowthroat, gnatcatcher and palm warbler, besides some of the usual water birds on the rest of our walk. A ten-foot alligator lay in the water when we returned to our starting point. Later at Lenholt Farm we were thrilled to find 45 to 50 sandhill cranes.

Nine hardy souls journeyed to Merritt Island on a very chilly and windy day February 1st. Nine ducks--canvasback, mallard, pintail, ring-necked, ruddy, scaup, shoveler, blue-winged teal and widgeon--were among the 58 species of the day. Hundreds of robins flew from thicket to thicket along the road to Black Point Drive, and a swarm of tree swallows numbering in the thousands wheeled over the drive itself

CONSERVATION REPORT

Members of the informal coalition that campaigned for public ownership of Halifax Plantation deeply appreciate the support given by the Halifax River Audubon Society. One of the fringe benefits of that endeavor was the experience, in cooperation of the civic, governmental, social and specific interest groups that joined in the effort. We became more conscious of the many other problems which are being created by the growing population. The need for an over-all land use plan for Northeast Volusia became evident. Two of the immediate and pressing issues are: the push by the Department of Transportation for the four-laning of ALA and for the protection of the sand dune north of Granada Avenue.

We need to support strongly SCENIC in its efforts to bring the DOT to a more sensible solution to the highway question along ALA. They thought that they had won but the people in the bureaucracy cling to their notions of what should be done.

We must also join those dedicated persons who have labored so long to protect the fragile sand dunes between the roadway and the tidal waters on the seven-mile stretch to the Flagler County line. (Our friends in Flagler are also seeking our help in their efforts toward the same end).

The first objective is the enforcement of the vehicular restrictions now on the books but ignored by both law enforcement and the courts. This is vital to the survival of the dune protecting vegetation.

It is hoped that the cooperative spirit that characterized the final drive for Halifax Plantation can be carried forward and address itself not only to these issues but also to the need for a comprehensive land use plan for Northeast Volusia.

Walter S. Boardman
Chairman, Conservation Committee

MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fun Vacations, Volusia Mall, is offering a three day, two night natural history field trip to Lehigh Resort (just east of Fort Myers), Sanibel Island, Corkscrew Sanctuary and Lee County's Nature Center, April 15, 16 and 17. The tour will be conducted by George R. Campbell, President of Sanibel Audubon Society. The cost is for couple \$179.00 per person, single add \$18.00. Call Mr. DuPree at 258-7774.

Limpkins have been banded with color leg bands in Florida. Birders are encouraged to report sightings (and locations)--noting the color code: Top color first, right leg first. Dana Bryan, Tall Timbers Res. Sta., Rt. 1, Box 160, Tallahassee, Florida 32312.

Florida Audubon Society's Coastal Canoe-a-thon begins (or has begun) February 6 at Pensacola Beach with Wayne Mixson, Florida's Lieutenant Governor, accompanying Peter Quincy on the first 5 miles. Debbie Fritz, of the Florida Audubon Staff, is scheduled to be the "bowperson" March 31st for the 19 mile stretch from Daytona Beach to Flagler Beach. The canoe-a-thon will follow the entire coastline of Florida from Pensacola Beach to Ft. Clinch State Park at the Georgia-Florida border, 904 miles. The purpose is to highlight the tremendous economic, environmental and aesthetic values of the coast. Donations can be sent to

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HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY
DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

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Mr/Mrs Carlton M. Smith
542 S. Lanvale Ave.



THE PELICAN

Information Bulletin

Halifax River Audubon Society
Daytona Beach, Florida

VOLUME 25, NUMBER 7

APRIL 1980

Harold J. Nett, President
Phone: 677-8647

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have come to the summer pause in the activities of the Halifax River Audubon Society. Next fall our meetings and field trips will resume. ~~At our last board meeting, it was voted, bearing in mind the ever-increasing~~ cost of gasoline, riders on the field trips should contribute \$4 for the long trips and \$3 for any short trips. A resolution was passed to make Mrs. Ralph Branch an honorary member of the society. The board voted to ratify the new association between National Audubon, Florida Audubon and this chapter. Another development has been that Dr. Llewellyn Ehrhart of the Florida Audubon Board of Directors will be our liaison with FAS.

So have a happy and healthy summer everybody.

Harold J. Nett

FLORIDA ORNITHOLOGICAL MEETING

The Florida Ornithological Society has accepted our invitation to hold their fall meeting at Daytona Beach October 17, 18, 19, 1980. Our members will lend a hand it is hoped to make the meeting a success. By September arrangements will have been completed and a newsletter sent out.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Now, at the conclusion of the year's work, I want to express appreciation to all members of the Conservation Committee for the cooperation given in the numerous endeavors undertaken.

What has been accomplished this year?

1. The rescue from developers of 2,700 acres of Halifax Plantation, by the county and state agreement to purchase the land, must be considered as one of the outstanding achievements in environmental protection for Florida. All that Audubon stands for will be greatly enhanced by this decision--but it did not come easy!

The \$500 donation by HRAS to the Florida Audubon to enlist the active participation of its staff made a great difference in the final decision of the developers to sell.

The letters, attendance at meetings and other work of members also helped.

2. HRAS has been an active force in the stated determination of the St. Johns River Water Management District to acquire the 1168-acre tract of Turnbull Hammock in Southeast Volusia.

This is another truly landmark decision for Volusia County and serves the highest purpose of Audubon.

Harold J. Nett, President
Phone: 677-8647

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3. HRAS, via the Environmental Council of Volusia County, has sparked a concerted drive to protect the beaches of Volusia and southern Flagler counties. The start has been made, but we have a long way to go on this one.

What lies ahead?

1. Better management of Ormond to Ponce Inlet Barrier Beach will be coming up at every meeting.

2. We must push the developers out of the area as its efforts to secure mib-

on the Florida Audubon sponsored canoe trip by Peter Quincy around the state. There were several interesting passages but this one is home.

"I came by your sewage outfall yesterday," he said referring to the Bethune Point plant. "What a boil! The birds love it. And what a stench!"

It is suggested that our secretary be asked to write Mr. Tipton, City Manager, and ask his comments upon Mr. Quincy's observations.

The same paper carried a story with the following headline: RAMADA INN SUED FOR TOMOKA POLLUTION.

Our responses in these matters do make a difference.

Until we meet again, it is suggested that a special committee of Harold Nett, Jane Brennan and Walter Boardman be authorized to speak or write for the Conservation Committee on any issue where it seems a stand should be taken and the three are in agreement as to position and action.

Thanks again to all of you, and have a good summer!

Walter S. Boardman, Chairman
Conservation Committee

FIELD TRIP NOTES

On March 14 14 observers compiled a total of 48 species on a trip to Lake Woodruff and Blue Springs, among them swallow-tailed kite near the refuge and limpkin and snipe at the refuge. Among the 42 species seen on the March 28 trip by 17 observers to Washington Oaks, Matanzas and Anastasia Park the most interesting were the 11 gannets over the ocean off Washington Oaks. The trip of April 11 visited Blue Springs again and wound up at Hontoon Island. The final count for the 11 birders was 40 species, with the climax to everything being two purple gallinules at Hontoon Island. This was off the shore past the picnic tables. To date 131 species have been checked off. Looking back, this compares with 170 species reported for the 1966-1967 season in the March 1967 Pelican. However, they had trips every week then, and our area has seen tremendous development.

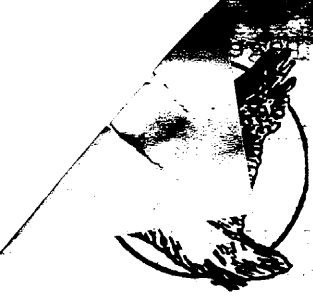
FROM FLORIDA AUDUBON

On April 5 Peter Quincy completed his canoe trip of almost a thousand miles around Florida. During the trip 133 species of birds were observed.

HELP! Response to the Bald Eagle Stamp Program has been overwhelming! In order to get the best possible price from stamp dealers, all U.S. stamps must be soaked off the paper and sorted by type. Volunteers are needed to help in this project. We can supply you with instructions and all the stamps you can handle. Contact FAS, P.O. Drawer 7, Maitland, FL 32751 or call (305) 647-2615. April 19 is FAS day at Sea World.

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DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

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THE PELICAN
Information Bulletin

Halifax River Audubon Society
Daytona Beach, Florida

VOLUME 26, NUMBER 1

SEPTEMBER 1980

Harold J. Nett, President
3 Sunny Shore
Ormond Beach, FL 32074
677-8647

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Once again the hot summer days have passed by and the Halifax River Audubon Society will resume our varied activities. This will be a special year for us, as we are hosting the fall meeting of the Florida Ornithological Society, October 10-12. See details on a following page. Our first general meeting will be held at Seabreeze United Church, on the Peninsula, October 20th at 7 P. M., and our first field trip will take place October 3rd. Because of these forthcoming events this early newsletter is being sent out. Dr. Boardman gives a summary of summer activities from the conservation standpoint.

Harold J. Nett, President

"BIRDING WITH MIKE BROTHERS"

You will remember that Mike was scheduled to show slides and talk to us last year but was prevented from so doing by illness. Now this well known local naturalist and leader of bird tours has realigned his program and will present it to us, under the above title, at our October 20th meeting.

Mike is the resident naturalist at the Museum of Arts and Sciences, is a past president of West Volusia Audubon Society and has led birding trips to Everglades National Park and other parts of Florida. He will come to us fresh from the Florida Ornithological Society fall meeting where he and Dr. David Stock of Stetson University are scheduled to present a paper on the nursery nest behavior of the Limpkin.

We are fortunate that he can work us into his schedule again. His will be wonderful program. Don't miss it.

Carlton M. Smith
Program Chairman

F.O.S. FALL MEETING, October 10-12, 1980.

Place: Hawaiian Inn, 2301 S. Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach, Florida
 Host: Halifax River Audubon Society

Note schedule and registration form below. Membership in the society is not necessary but is solicited. There are still a few places open on the Pelagic trip, a real opportunity for those interested. Volunteers are needed to man the registration booth. Donations of homemade cookies or other dessert are requested for the Saturday afternoon break.

PROGRAM

Friday, October 10th.

- 2:30 PM Registration opens - lobby. Special Treat--Ted and Lucy Mack of Tampa will have a display of most unusual and beautiful presentations of carved birds against painted backgrounds. Plan time to enjoy it - highly recommended.
- 6:30 - 8:00 Board of Directors meeting - Suite no. to be announced-Open to members and guests.
- 8:00 - 9:30 Welcome and announcements, followed by Photographer's Roundup. Bring your slides and join the fun - Convention Rm.

Saturday, October 11th.

- 7:00 AM Registration desk opens - To be manned til 6:00 PM
- 7:00-12:00 Field Trips
 - #1 - Inlet Flats - New Smyrna Coast Guard Station area, via Bird Island Sanctuary, Pt. Orange -- Mike Brothers
 - #2 - Samantha the Sloth Display - Museum of Arts and Sciences, short walks in the woods at Tusawilla Park and Sugar Mill Gardens. Return via Bird Island Sanctuary, Pt. Orange.
 - #3 - Birding on the beach on your own.
- 12:00-1:00 Lunch on your own
- 1:00 - 2:00 General membership meeting - Convention Room.
- 2:00 - 4:30 Papers. Participation solicited. - Convention Room
- 3:00 - 3:30 Coffee Break
- 5:00 - 6:00 Social Hour - open bar at pool side
- 6:00 - 7:00 Hawaiian style LUAU - Pool side. Menu consists of BBQ Spare Ribs, Hawaiian style chicken wings, Fried Shrimp, Fried Rice, Beef Chow Mein, Chinese noodles, Fresh fruit bowl, Coffee or tea. Price \$10.50/person, incl tax & tip. Reservation req'd.
- 7:30 - 9:30 Mrs. DORIS MAGER will present her program on the American Bald Eagle. This program is a must and we are very fortunate that she could work us into her busy schedule.

Sunday, October 12th.

- 5:30 AM PELAGIC trip leaves Inlet Harbor aboard Snow White III, returns 2:30 P.M. All birding-no fishing. The charge will be \$30.00 per person and limited to the first 40 people - The Athertons
- 7:00 - 12:00 Repeat of the Saturday trips for those not taking the Pelagic

Name	No. in Party
Address	
Registration Fee: \$3.00/person, \$5.00/couple, \$1.50/Student	
LUAU: Saturday evening \$10.50/person	
Pelagic Trip: Sunday \$30.00/person	
Total	

Make checks payable to; FLA. ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Mail to: Carlton M. Smith, 542 S. Lanvale Av., Daytona Beach, 32014

CONSERVATION REPORTTHE SENATE HAS APPROVED A GOOD ALASKAN LANDS BILL

The State of Alaska, in support of its exploiters, put on a multi-million dollar campaign to turn the Senate against a strong resource protection bill. Thanks to the good work of Audubon, Sierra and other organizations, the drive was blocked and a good bill came through. There are differences between it and the House approved bill which have to be ironed out, but the outlook is good.

The National Office of Audubon has thanked both Senators Chiles and Stone for their support of the good bill. HRAS has also thanked the Senators for their votes.

TURNBULL HAMMOCK IS SAVED

The St. Johns River Water Management District has finally purchased the 1168-acre Turnbull Hammock in Southeast Volusia. It is both outstanding bird and wildlife habitat and makes possible the protective control of many thousands of acres of adjoining wetland. We owe much to the Trust for Public Land for keeping it from falling into the hands of developers.

PONCE DE LEON SPRINGS

Nine thousand signatures have been secured on the petition for public ownership of this prime recreational attraction of Volusia County. The State is considering what priority it should have on its list of new acquisitions. We are handicapped by the lack of a firm commitment (an option) on the part of the owner as to terms upon which he will sell.

The County Council and Congressman Chappell have expressed interest in the effort.

WELCOME TO PETER RHOADES MOTT

Peter Rhoades Mott, the new president of Florida Audubon Society met with the presidents of the three chapters in Volusia County to discuss Ponce de Leon Springs, memberships and closer cooperation in Audubon work.

Walter S. Boardman
Chairman, Conservation Committee

IN MEMORIAM

We regret that three of our faithful members have passed away, Miss Velma Hayes, Mr. Joe S. Little (husband of our society treasurer), Mrs. Frank A. Kittredge. We offer our condolences to their survivors.

FIELD TRIPS

The enclosed brochure gives the route of our first field trip as Washington Oaks, Matangas and Faver-Dykes Park. On a scouting trip to the last named place we heard reports from campers and park rangers of Carolina chickadees and brown-headed nuthatches in the camp-ground area, so it was decided by our field trip committee to reverse the trip order and visit Faver-Dykes first in the hope of seeing some of these particular birds. They have not been seen on any of our trips for a while, and possibly there might be a good contingent of migrant warblers also. Faver-Dykes is about 40 miles from our starting point (the parking lot to the east of the Court-House Annex on Orange Avenue), and if we go straight up to this park in southern St. Johns County we should arrive about 9:30 A.M., with plenty of time to have a good look around. All trips start at 8 A.M.

NEW PRESIDENT OF FLORIDA AUDUBON

The Board of Directors of Florida Audubon Society announced the selection of Mr. Peter Rhoades Mott as the Society's new president. Mr. Mott comes to Florida Audubon from his position as headmaster at St. Luke's School, New Canaan, Connecticut, and prior to that served as headmaster at Moses Brown School, Providence, Rhode Island... "I'm looking forward to the challenge this multi-faceted position offers," commented Mott. "I'm gratified that I have the opportunity to put to work my life-long concern for protection of the environment."

(News release of the Florida Audubon Society, May 22, 1980)

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DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

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CARLTON M SMITH
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Sept 1980

FOS MEETING

The FOS meeting hosted by HRAS at the Hawaiian Inn last weekend is history and quite a successful one it was. The accolades for our chapter were many and came from a large number of participants. A more detailed report will be given in the next Pelican, but for now special thanks are due Harold Nett, our president, and Mike Brothers for leading field trips, Dr. Walter and Betty Boardman for hosting the sloth presentation at the Museum, and the following for either baking cookies or manning the registration desk or both: Bob and Shirley Owens, Matilda Owens and "Auntie Marie", her sister, Henry and Louise Bonner, Marion Bigelow, Mildred Esten, Thelma Acosta, Jane Brennan, Alpha Little and Norris Kahn.

Carlton and Vivian Smith

NATURE'S STOREROOM

Estuaries are one of our most productive ecological communities and unfortunately, some of the sites most attractive to many developers.

An estuary is the area where fresh water flow from a river mixes with the briny ocean water. Estuaries have no definite boundaries, their upstream limit fluctuates with the incoming and outgoing tides. The diversity of organisms found in an estuary is amazing. Some organisms, such as the salmon, can live in the entire length of the estuary, others are restricted to a particular zone of salt concentration.

Plankton and larvae from insects and shellfish grow in the shallower waters of the estuary and feed the larger ocean life forms. An estuary is an important energy source for other aquatic life.

But almost one-third of the world's population lives along estuaries. In the process of building riverside and beachfront homes the salt marshes which harbor many different food forms are ripped up because they are unattractive and smelly. The clean, neat shoreline is very unproductive.

SALT WATER INTRUSION

Salt water intrusion is not only a problem along the coastal areas of Volusia County, but also throughout the county. Studies have shown that in 1965 one well in Osteen had a salt level of 25 parts per million (PPM.) In 1977 water from the same well had jumped to 640 PPM. Drinking water should not exceed 250 PPM. Plants begin to suffer at about 400 PPM. The overall shortage of rainfall the past 15 years, increased urban development, and an increased demand for water all contribute to the salt water intrusion problem.

(Above from the Volusia Soil and Water Conservation District.)

AIR POLLUTION

In 1979 according to the Florida DER the cities with the dirtiest air on the average were Miami and Tampa. This is for "total suspended particulates" or various kinds of dirt in the air. The largest air pollution reading was the "unhealthy" one of 144 for ozone in Jacksonville. The table giving these figures does not include anything for Daytona Beach. (Information taken from "Florida's Environmental News".)

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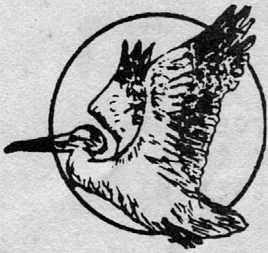
(Above from the Volusia Soil and Water Conservation District.)

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THE PELICAN

Information Bulletin

*Halifax River Audubon Society
Daytona Beach, Florida*

VOLUME 26, NUMBER 3

NOVEMBER 1980

Harold J. Nett, President
3 Sunny Shore
Ormond Beach, FL 32074
677-8647

PROGRAM BULLETIN

Our program for this month will be the color movie "Wellsprings" and is provided to us by Florida Audubon Society. It shows several series of shots by Bernie Yokel of Rookery Bay in Southwest Florida. It deals with the value of mangrove trees as well as many other conservation themes. The film is on permanent loan to Florida Audubon from Florida Power & Light Company. This film will be sort of a prelude to our December program which will be about zoning and conservation and will be brought to us by Dr. Keith Hansen of Stetson University.

Carlton M. Smith
Program Chairman

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- November 17 - Monday - HRAS meeting Seabreeze United Church 7 P. M.
- November 28 - Friday - Field trip to Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge and Titusville, leaving City Island 8 A. M.
- December 12 - Friday - A short trip, destination to be announced, leaving City Island 8 A. M.
- December 15 - Monday - HRAS meeting Seabreeze United Church 7 P. M.

Any changes will be announced in the Pelican.

NATIONAL AUDUBON FILMS

Season tickets for the three National Audubon Society Wildlife Films to be presented early next year in Humanities Auditorium, Daytona Beach Community College, will be available at our future meetings. The cost is \$6.00.

Tuesday, January 27, 1981, at 8 P. M., John Wilson, "Galapagos". The Galapagos Islands are an irresistible temptation for wildlife photographers and cinematographers. Scattered over some 23,000 square miles of the Pacific Ocean, the islands are known for their varieties and associations of wildlife. Amid the assemblage of albatrosses, iguanas, flamingoes, sea lions, et al., John Wilson filmed on several of the more than 60 islands in the chain and chronicled the adventures he and his two assistants experienced while filming. The result is an excellent program on the special wildlife and wilderness of a unique world.

Tuesday, February 24, 1981, at 8 P. M., Dennis Holt, "Okefenokee, Land of Trembling Earth". The Okefenokee Swamp in southeastern Georgia is one of the largest and most primitive swamps in the United States. Its Choctaw name refers to the trembling of the marshy land, for what seems solid

On the national level, please write your senators and representatives in support of the Alaska Lands bill, H. R. 8311. Second on our most important legislation is the Superfund bill, S. 1480, which Audubon also supports. Thirdly, if you have not already done so, write your senators and representatives, stressing the urgency of barrier island protection. The few remaining undeveloped islands of the Atlantic and Gulf coasts must be saved from further development--at taxpayer expense.

BIRDING NOTES

The field trip of October 17 went to Hontoon Island and Blue Springs. The 11 participants saw 43 species, including 10 sandhill cranes at Botts Landing and gnatcatcher, several pileated woodpeckers, 5 species of warblers at Hontoon Island. Blue Springs had hardly any birds, probably because of the heat that afternoon.

On October 31 10 observers traveled to Tomoka Farms Road, Osteen Bridge and Mullett Lake. Among the 52 species seen were 5 (possibly 6) bald eagles, 7 limpkins, 4 species of warblers, bluebirds, ruby-crowned kinglet, yellow-billed cuckoo.

Bea Childs reports that a variety of sparrows visited down on Milton Road. A pair of vesper sparrows stopped off for a day. A lark sparrow came in morning and evening for a whole week to feed. Also, a white-throated sparrow showed up for a day.

Norris Kahn drove a group down to Merritt Island Friday October 7. Among the 71 or so species were hundreds of common and snowy egrets, white ibis, white pelicans, also several glossy ibis. There was a reddish egret and the dark phase of the snow goose. This particular bird was formerly known as the blue goose; it was seen in a pond south of the causeway and east of the bridge from Titusville. Among ducks, there quite a few widgeons, blue winged teal, pintails and an occasional canvasback.

POTABLE WATER

Regarding the potable water supply, the Environmental Council of Volusia County newsletter states: "There is a reservoir of good water under Volusia County. It can serve for a long time to come if it is managed on a sound basis, or it can be ruined in a few years by political and shortsighted economic considerations. (The editorial in the Morning Journal of November 5 said it all)."

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