



THE PELICAN
Information Bulletin

Halifax River Audubon Society
Daytona Beach, Florida

Harold J. Nett, President
441-5584

January 1984
Vol. 29, No. 4

FLORIDA BUTTERFLIES -- EVE A. HANNAHS

Eve A. Hannahs on Monday, January 16th, will give a program entitled "Florida Butterflies." Through her work as a plant taxonomist she became interested in butterflies in connection with their role in plant pollination. The Florida Federation of Garden Clubs adopted as a project butterfly conservation five years ago, and the National Council of Garden Clubs has done likewise. Eve G. Hannahs is both Florida Chairman and National Chairman for this project. She is also a member of the Endangered Species Plant Council. The recently published book "Florida Wild Flowers" by Bell and Taylor has many of her flower photographs.

Join us for this outstanding program at Seabreeze United Church January 16, 1984 at 7 P. M.

SPECIAL MEETING FEBRUARY 20TH

Peter R. Mott, President of Florida Audubon Society will give a talk on Endangered Species and Audubon aims at our meeting of February 20th. There will also be a special mailing to our members prepared by Florida Audubon; its aim is to arouse greater interest in our activities. A newspaper advertisement is proposed, and efforts will be made to get publicity from radio and television stations.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

At our board meeting January 3rd, a nominating committee was appointed; Carleton M. Smith (253-3815), Norris A. Kahn (255-8715) and Harold J. Nett (441-5584). Offices to be filled include president, first vice-president, second vice-president, treasurer, recording secretary, membership secretary, historian and three members at large. It is hoped suggestions will be received from members to fill these positions.

FIELD TRIPS

The first field trip of 1984 on January 6th took us to Blue Springs first and after lunch to Hontoon Island. As soon as we arrived at Blue Springs we walked along the run looking for manatees and succeeded in finding 15 of them. After an interval of birding around the park we attended the lecture on manatees given by one of the rangers. Birds seen at Blue Springs included sapsucker, flickers, titmouse, phoebe, ospreys, etc. When we left the park we turned left at the entrance and down at the St. Johns River we saw two more manatees. At Botts Landing there were 3 sandhill cranes in the nearby

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The next two trips will be changed somewhat. On January 20th the trip will go to Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge, so as to avoid possible heavy traffic due to a space shuttle launch in early February. On February 3rd we'll try a new place, Seminole Ranch in the afternoon after morning stops at Conrad Street, Edgewater, Oak Hill. This will be in lieu of the Cape Canaveral trip; your leader pleads ignorance exactly where to go, besides it is quite distant.

sident, and Robert Bullard, was made on the Environmental Council's behalf, and received praise even from the "other side" of the issue... No official position was taken by the County Council on the Environmental Board's proposal that the ban on Temik use be continued in 1984 in Volusia County; but it is hoped that the discussion started that night, particularly on the topic of monitoring wells on a long term basis, will continue. (Environmental Council newsletter January 1984)

LEGISLATIVE OUTLOOK FOR 1984. Wetlands protection, Growth Management, the Governor's "Save Our Everglades" plan, and another package of water bills will clearly be on the agenda next year. As a matter of fact, some committees in the legislature have already begun to hold meetings to consider these issues. In August, the House Natural Resources Committee held a special wetlands seminar. The Growth Management Committee has been meeting, and has established subcommittees to deal with various issues. On September 12th, the House Agriculture Committee held a meeting to hear a presentation on the Governor's "Save Our Everglades" plan. At the apparent urging of agricultural interests that would like to see destruction of the Everglades continue, a number of the Agriculture Committee members were extremely and unfairly critical of the Governor's efforts. (FAS Legislative Letter).

MIGRATORY BIRDS THREATENED BY FWS PROPOSAL. The Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed a change in migratory bird possession regulations to allow personal trophies of protected migratory nongame birds if the birds are "accidentally killed." The enforcement of such a measure is impossible. Furthermore, Audubon believes that if individuals are allowed to have nongame birds mounted as trophies, a tremendous number would be killed strictly for that purpose. Audubon has commented in opposition to this proposal and is awaiting further action by the Fish and Wildlife Service. (National Audubon Society Update).

THE BIG CHILL. The sudden, hard freeze of Christmas Day was devastating to Florida's agricultural community, and the economic damage is still being assessed. A lot of preventable property damage occurred, too, mostly to building and homes where the frozen water pipes burst. In Orlando, the fire department answered dozens of burst pipes calls, and in the Pan AM Building alone, hundreds of thousands of dollars of water damage resulted. The suddenness of the freeze, and the fact that it came on a holiday, contributed to the unnecessary loss, but it raises the question of how well our state will respond to other natural Florida phenomena, such as hurricanes. (Environmental Council newsletter January 1984).

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY
DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

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THE PELICAN

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Daytona Beach, Florida

Harold J. Nett, President
441-5584

February 1984
Vol. 29, No. 5

SPECIAL MEETING -- PETER R. MOTT WILL SPEAK

At our meeting at Seabreeze United Church, 7 P. M. Monday, February 20, 1984, Peter R. Mott, President of Florida Audubon Society, will give a talk on endangered species and Audubon aims. Other FAS officers will also attend. Included among the most likely endangered species to be discussed are the Florida panther, seaside sparrows, manatees and bald eagles. Audubon literature will be available. Watch for announcements in the media and for an interview with Mr. Mott in the newspaper.

OFFICER NOMINATIONS

Most of the slate of officers has been completed, except for president and historian. Nominations for these posts will be gratefully accepted. The duties of the president are to preside at meetings of the society and its Board of Directors and to appoint committee chairmen. The historian keeps a running record of the Society's activities.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Friday, February 17th, a field trip will leave City Island at 8 A. M. for Juniper Springs.
- Monday, February 20th, at the members' meeting at 7 P. M. at Seabreeze United Church, 501 N. Wild Olive Ave., south of Seabreeze Blvd. on the Peninsula, Peter R. Mott, President of Florida Audubon will speak.
- Friday, March 2nd, a field trip will leave City Island at 8 A. M. for the Coast Guard Station, New Smyrna Beach, and Edgewater Park.
- Friday, March 16th, a field trip will leave City Island at 8 A. M. for Osteen Bridge and Mullet Lake Park.
- Monday, March 19th, a members' meeting will be held at 7 P. M. at Seabreeze United Church. This will be a pot-luck dinner with the program to be announced later.

NEW PORT ORANGE BRIDGE

Last Wednesday (February 8th) the Environmental Council of Volusia County held a meeting at the Port Orange Civic Center and heard Henry Fuller of the Florida Department of Transportation give a talk on the proposed high level bridge on Dunlawton Avenue over the Halifax River. The various problems involved in this were discussed, among them the brown pelican site nearby and the question of the causeway blocking tidal flow.

As to the brown pelican nesting site Mr. Fuller stated that 10%

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As to the brown pelican nesting site Mr. Fuller stated that 10% of the state's brown pelicans nested there. One danger to be averted was erosion of the island which would drastically cut down the actual size of the nesting area. He did not believe that the brown pelicans would find a completed high bridge structure any disturbance in their flight habits. Work that otherwise might be disturbing to the nesters would be done in the non-nesting months. All this would have to be monitored by the appropriate wildlife agencies and Audubon.

Commenting on the editorial in the Sunday Daytona News-Journal of January 29th on the MIT study of Department of Transportation and the Port Orange Bridge situation, Dr. Boardman wrote a letter printed in the Daytona Beach Evening News of February 1st. Here it is:

The public interest is well served by the editorial in the Sunday News-Journal about the Florida Department of Transportation. The concluding paragraph says it all: "All things considered--common sense, contradictions and the questions of competence raised by the Massachusetts Institute Technology report--we'd feel a lot better if the causeway issue itself were submitted to independent study, before another potential blunder is cast in concrete."

The "contradictions" refer to the two studies of the river by the DOT. The first placed the blame for stagnation upon the Port Orange Causeway. It was prepared to show that opening up the approaches to the new bridge on Granada Avenue in Ormond Beach would be of little benefit. Now, in a new study, it is claimed that the present roadway does little or no harm.

An independent study is fine, but let us also listen to common sense. If the condition of the Halifax River is ever to be improved, the Dunlawton (Port Orange) Causeway has to be opened up in a substantial way.--WALTER S. BOARDMAN, Port Orange.

Some additional items: the Federal Government refuses to assist in funding a 1500 feet, half million dollar relief bridge. The causeway, built by Volusia County in 1949-50, totally blocked the river's original channel. Spoil islands were thrown up along the river with little thought of the consequences. The water in the river falls in Class 3.

FIELD TRIPS

The field trip of January 20th to Merritt Island ran into rain and car trouble, so we returned early. Among the 54 species were horned grebe, white pelicans, clapper rail, reddish egrets, more than a hundred glossy ibises, pintails, shovelers and 13 avocets. A bald eagle was seen flying to the nest south of Oak Hill.

On the afternoon of February 3rd we spent a couple of hours at Seminole Ranch, about 52 miles from City Island. There were 30 birds or so there, black skimmers, Caspian terns, glossy and white ibises, marsh hawk, lesser scaups. In the morning at Turnbull Bay we saw a bald eagle and a clapper rail and in the North Indian River near Oak Hill some white pelicans. The total count was 53 species.

National Audubon Society

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
CHAMBER: HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY
DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

YES, I CARE. Enroll me as a member, start my subscription to AUDUBON, and send me my membership card which entitles me to all the benefits and privileges of National Audubon Society membership.

Check enclosed Please bill me

Check membership category desired.

- Individual/\$30
 Family/\$38
() Sr. Ind. \$20
() Sr. Fam. \$23

If the membership application alongside is used, mail to:

National Audubon Society
Membership Data Center
P. O. Box 2667
Boulder, Colorado 80321

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Local birdwatchers have been treated to some rare sights this winter. Two **Masked Ducks** were seen on Lake Wales and four Tundra (Whistling) **Swans** on the St. Johns River. During the second week of January, Ornithologist Dr. Herb Kale reported seeing two immature ferruginous hawks in the Zellwood area n.w. of Orlando. (They **are** considered stragglers east of the Mississippi.) Also on our March 2nd trip, a number of persons driving on Black Point Drive said they were looking for a reported European Widgeon.

IN MEMORIAM

Two of our longtime faithful members died recently. Hazel Walker was our program chairman for five years in the 1960's. Bertha Conklin served as membership secretary, a member of the Conservation Committee, and for many years, typed and mimeographed our newsletter.

LOCAL AND STATE ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Of \$5 million in Federal funding for 26 park projects under the Land and Water Conservation Fund program sought by Gov. Bob Graham and the State Cabinet, only one pertains to local interests. That is a request for \$415,000 from the National Park Service for the Halifax Harbor development, Daytona Beach.

Of continuing concern to members of the HRAS and the Volusia/Flagler Sierra Club, in addition to other organizations, is the possible development of an unincorporated area of the North Peninsula. County Planning officials predict salt water intrusion if the zoning classification is not upgraded. A study under the direction of Barry Appleby, environmental control officer, is underway. Present zoning would permit the construction of 1,000 new homes. Environmentalists have proposed for some years that this area be made a park, adjoining Bulow State Park.

WETLANDS: Florida's Soul

With the State Legislature due to convene in April, a compelling need is to give further protection to Florida's few remaining wetlands. (Nowhere in Florida Statutes does the word wetlands appear.) Developments have destroyed millions of acres. Yet wetlands are the kidneys and nurseries essential to replenish water supplies and nourish life at all levels. Scientists now agree that wetlands provide water infiltration and storage, aquifer recharge, flood protection, and fish hatcheries. They are also essential to many species of birds, as a recent visit to Seminole Ranch under the St. Johns Water Management District made clear. (HRAS field trip, Feb. 3rd.)

House Speaker (designate) Jon Mills, also Chairman of the Select Committee on Natural Resources, and a member of the Select Committee on Growth Management, hopes to get a Flood Plain Management law passed this session. We would also like to see amendments to give teeth to the Coastal Barrier Safety Act and the Infrastructure Policy Act--both concern coastal management, barrier islands and peninsulas.

The Clean-Up '84 Campaign workers are circulating petitions for a constitutional amendment. At least 300,000 signatures of registered voters in Florida must be obtained. Then the State Legislature must vote to place it on the ballot in November.

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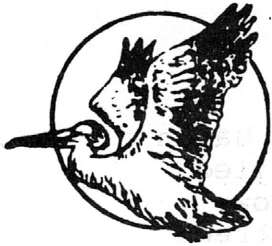
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The Clean-Up '84 Campaign workers are circulating petitions for a constitutional amendment. At least 300,000 signatures of registered voters in Florida must be obtained. Then the State Legislature must vote to place it on the ballot in November. The proposed amendment calls for the right-to-know, standing to sue on health-threatening situations, and provide public trust status for the state's wetlands and water.

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY
Daytona Beach, Fla.

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Daytona Beach, Florida

April-May 1984

Editor, Mrs. Eleanor Zimmerman-255-2828
Contributions Welcomed

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President, Robert L. Stevenson
Vice-President, Angelo Cerrito
Vice-President, Robert C. Owens
Treasurer, Mrs. Carlton M. Smith
Recording Secretary, Harold J. Nett
Membership Secretary, Mrs. Windsor W. Esten
Member-at-Large, Norris Kahn
Member-at-Large, Mrs. Marion Bigelow
Member-at-Large, Carleton M. Smith

CHANGES in BYLAWS

Because of a change in the dues schedule of both the National Audubon Society and the Florida Audubon Society, and

Because each corporation must set its own dues schedule in the bylaws, an amendment to the bylaws of the 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 with the 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 the local society, which shall be included in the "total membership" dues, shall be:

Student	\$2.75	Supporting	\$12.50
Individual	4.75	Contributing	25.00
Family	6.00	Donor	50.00
Senior Citizen Single	4.75	Life (or Dual)	62.50
Senior Citizen Family	6.00	Sustaining	7.50

a, b, c, d, e remain unchanged

Section 2 - unchanged

BIRDS SIGHTED on FIELD TRIPS

The last three field trips were not too productive, but we did enjoy some good moments.

CURRENT OFFICERS:

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 Vice-President, Angelo Cerrito
 Vice-President, Robert C. Owens
 Treasurer, Mrs. Carlton M. Smith
 Recording Secretary, Harold J. Nett
 Membership Secretary, Mrs. Windsor W. Esten
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On the March 16th trip to Osteen and Mullet Lake, we saw white pelicans, wood storks, sandhill cranes, and cowbirds among some 43 species.

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agreed that the H.R.A.S. might well extend its field trips to May and also hold two meetings in April and May to encourage new members and in recognition of their interest.

CONSERVATION NEWS

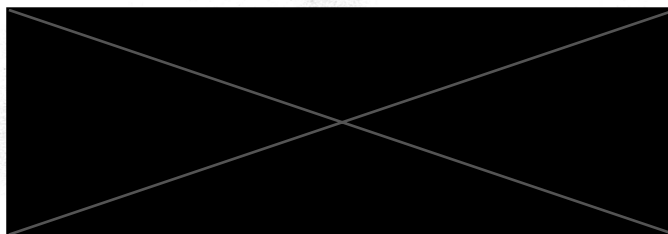
The Environmental Council of Volusia County consists of delegates and members of citizens' organizations concerned with environmental problems. The Council meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Communications Center, Indian Lake Rd., and interested persons may attend.

At its April 11th meeting, Council members discussed a revised land development map drawn by County planning staff members. The map had been revised slightly from a 1980 map rejected by elected County Council members in 1980. Staff members said that objections to the general map might be eased when the planning staff presented more detailed maps of specific areas during the next two years. With an opponent, Alice Cyler absent, and Dr. P.T. Fleuchaus voting against it, the general planning map was accepted by the elected Council April 19th.

A long-range program for cleaning up and restoring the Halifax River was approved by the citizens' Environmental Council. Its eight objectives include removal of 1500 feet of the Port Orange causeway; eliminating sewer plant discharges into the river and urban and highway run-offs that pollute the river; require a comprehensive water use plan, with tertiary biological treatment, and the return of high quality water to the central swamps; stop bulkheading, river fill, and mangrove destruction; obtain an "Outstanding Florida Waters" designation for Spruce Creek and the Tomoka River, with eventually a high water quality designation for the Halifax River--once the above objectives are attained.

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Eleanor W. Zimmerman, Editor
255-2828

TOM BROWN TO SPEAK MONDAY, Oct. 15th 1984

At our first members' meeting of the 1984-85 season, the Hon. Tom C. Brown, State Representative from District 30, will speak on conservation legislation. Tom Brown enjoys the distinction of having introduced more conservation bills in the State Legislature than any other member, and although those that passed were amended somewhat and weakened, we can proudly speak of him as "Mr. Environmentalist."

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. at the usual place, Seabreeze United Church, 501 N. Wild Olive, one block south of Seabreeze Blvd. on the peninsula (barrier island!). The public is invited.

FIELD TRIPS

Mike Brothers, Curator of Science at the Museum of Arts and Sciences, will lead us on a birding trip in the Spruce Creek Preserve of the Nature Conservancy Friday, Oct. 12th. Mike, who lives in a house on Spruce Creek, says he has recorded 29 members of the warbler family, and he is adding new species of birds to the list all the time.

DIRECTIONS: We meet at the east end of the Courthouse annex (City Island) at 8 a.m. and should arrive at the Preserve about 8:45 a.m. We carpool. Drivers go to I-95, then south on I-95 to Taylor Rd., which is Rt. 421. After exiting there, drivers should go 1.3 miles west past the Spruce Creek Nursery and a row of five mail boxes. Then turn left between the red mail box in the row and another red mail box farther on. At a Nature Conservancy sign, another track leads right to the Preserve Manager's residence and parking. The rest of the trip will include a visit to the New Smyrna Dunes Park at Ponce deLeon Inlet or a visit to the Bicentennial Youth Park near Deland.

NOTE: The trip replaces the Washington Oaks visit, which has been re-scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 27. The Saturday Oct. 27th field trip will leave City Island at 8 a.m. and include Washington Oaks and Matanzas.

Friday, Nov. 9th: This field trip will leave City Island at 8 a.m. and proceed to Osteen and Mullet Lake.

LOOKING BACKWARDS: The late Judge Nippert, married to a Gamble, had joined the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity in earlier days at college. He invited active and alumni members of the SAE in this area to a party at least once a year. At that time the Nippert's lived in a large white house on the river south of the Silver Beach Bridge. Your editor, who called Daytona Beach home from the Age of seven to 22, recalls that her father and brother, both SAE's, always looked forward to the Judge's parties.

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A grandson of a founder, James N. Gamble, of Proctor and Gamble, Louis Nippert and his wife, donated the Spruce Creek Preserve to Nature Conservancy in 1983. According to family legend, a member of the Gamble family, being thirsty, stopped at a house on Spruce Creek for a drink, then bought the property in 1912.

And 20 Years Ago: Audubon files reveal that HRAS held 12 half-day trips and 16 full day trips between Oct. 10 and May 1, most of them on Fridays. The late George Murray was trip director. Two destinations we have not visited in recent years are Silver Glen Springs and Villano Marsh.

(over)

The Conservation Committee of HRAS met September 10 to review environmental issues that flared during the summer.

* A proposal to establish a helicopter port near a restaurant on the Port Orange causeway faced widespread opposition. Dr. Herbert W. Kale, representing the Florida Audubon Society, cited the proposed location as hazardous to a nearby island, crowded as a brown pelican nesting site. Private P.O. citizens objected on the grounds of traffic jams on the causeway and beyond and the noise generated by 'copters. The P.O. Planning Commission rejected the proposal as did other P.O. officials later.

* HRAS endorsed the long-range 8-point plan of the Environmental Council of Volusia County to clean up the Halifax River.

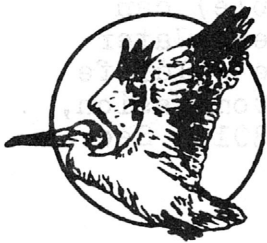
* HRAS also supported the efforts of the Volusia-Flagler Sierra Club to have the Tomoka River and Spruce Creek designated "Outstanding Florida Waters."

* Dr. Walter Boardman reported on a letter he had written to the Army Corps of Engineers opposing an application from a New Smyrna group who desire permission to build houses on stilts over wetlands.

* "Trails" developers have applied for a DRI (Development of Regional Impact) to build on land adjacent to Rt. 40, now classified as agricultural in the County's Master Plan. Some of the land lies in the 100-year flood plain. Audubon members should urge County officials to adhere to the Master Plan. Ironically, the proposed development is referred to as "Break-away Trails."

* Bob and Shirley Owens are inveterate observers at monthly meetings of the St. Johns Water Management District, Palatka. Recently, jurisdiction over storm water rules was transferred from the State Department of Environmental Regulation to the St. Johns WMD, Bob reported; funding will be needed. Dr. Alex Dickinson, of Florida Audubon Society and a committee member of St. Johns WMD, spoke on problems of the middle St. Johns that will not be mitigated by present plans for correcting the upper St. Johns.

KUDOS to: Marion Bigelow, former secretary of HRAS, now a member of its Conservation Committee; Vivian (Mrs. Carleton) Smith, who lent a small diorama of a bird and its nest plus other birds she constructed for display at the Cornelia Young library this summer; Thelma Acosta, who reported two yellow-crowned night herons near Main Street pier about 8 p.m., and also a news clipping from Thelma, who visited the Fiji Islands in May. The article reports the capture by a naturalist of a MacGillivray's Fiji Petrel, one of the rarest members of the albatross family--last recorded in 1855.



THE PELICAN

Information Bulletin

Halifax River Audubon Society
Daytona Beach, Florida

Eleanor W. Zimmerman, Editor
255-2828

TOM LEHMAN MONDAY NOVEMBER 19TH 84

For our program the evening of Monday November 19th Tom Lehman, a former ranger in the Florida Park Service, will present a program on bird and animal adaptation. Remember the time: 7 P. M., and the place: Seabreeze United Church, 501 N. Wild Olive Ave., on the peninsula Daytona Beach.

EDITOR HOSPITALIZED

The Pelican newsletter editor, Mrs. Eleanor Zimmerman, has just returned home after an operation in hospital. All of us wish her a safe and speedy recovery. Meanwhile, Harold Nett has whipped up this present issue in an effort to get it in the mail promptly.

FIELD TRIPS

On October 12th a group of 13 met at the Spruce Creek Preserve of the Nature Conservancy where Mike Brothers, Manager of the Preserve, guided us on a birding walk. There were 17 warblers in the area, plus other birds such as a female indigo bunting, peewee, white eyed vireo, titmouse, sapsucker. Afterwards, some of us went to the new Smyrna Dunes Park for lunch and additional birding. There we found some more species in the shore bird line such as reddish egret and pipit. Total for the day was 54 species.

October 27th dawned a rainy day so that only one car set out for Merritt Island, which seemed a more promising direction with blue sky to the south. The ducks and white pelicans had not as yet arrived there, but we found 45 species of birds at the refuge and at Edgewater and Port Orange Bridge where we went on the way back.

Future field trips are scheduled as follows: Friday November 9th the trip will go via Tomoka Farms Road to Osteen and Mullet Lake Park. On Saturday December 1st the scheduled trip is to Smyrna Dunes and Seminole Ranch. By Friday December 14th, the ducks and white pelicans should have landed at the Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge. We hope there will be no conflict with the space shuttle. As usual, trips will leave the east end of the Courthouse Annex parking lot at 8 A. M. Please note trips are going alternately on Friday and Saturday.

BROCHURE CORRECTIONS

There are a couple corrections on the first page of our 1984-1985 brochure. The correct telephone number for President Robert L. Stevenson is 673-1838. The address for Mrs. Marion Bigelow is 918 Reed Canal

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NONGAME WILDLIFE FUND

Near the close of its last session, the Florida Legislature passed a bill to create the **Nongame Wildlife Trust Fund** for the protection and management of wildlife not classed as game animals.

There will be two main ways of funding this trust fund. One is a \$4.00 charge on vehicles brought into Florida the first time. The other is a voluntary \$1.00 amount added to the motor vehicle fees, effective October 1, 1984. A statement as to the voluntary \$1.00 contribution is to be printed on the back of the registration form.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Carlton Smith, longtime HRAS member and prize-winning photographer, has presented four programs on birds this fall; three in schools and one to a Garden Club.

FIELD TRIPS NEAR HOME

Saturday, Dec. 1st., we headed for Smyrna Dunes Park, bordering the south side of Ponce Inlet. Several veteran bird-watchers were amazed at the work completed since their last visit. Wooden boardwalks circled over the dunes for what appeared a mile or more. An observation post had been built and also picnic shelters. We saw a hundred shore birds, particularly black-backed gulls, on a narrow stretch of beach. On to Edgewater, where talk about oystercatchers actually produced one. After lunch, we drove to "Eagle's Nest," seeing nary an eagle but a red-shouldered hawk. There was some disagreement as to whether a peregrine falcon had been spotted. On to Seminole Ranch where 23 bird families were counted and coots filled the shallow waters.

An earlier trip Nov. 9th to Tomoka Farms Road (immature bald eagle); Osteen Bridge (mature bald eagle); and at Mullet Lake a solitary white pelican was swimming. Speculation was that it had been injured. Total birds seen on this trip: 44 species.

Our next trip takes place Friday, Dec. 14th, with destination Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge. First trip in 1985 occurs Sat., Jan. 5th.

FIELD TRIPS BEYOND

In addition to far-away places, the Florida Audubon Society has scheduled some interesting three-day trips to favored Florida haunts, ranging in price from \$80. to \$280. They include Wakulla Springs, Amelia Plantation, the Oklawaha, the Everglades and the Dry Tortugas. For the brochure with details, write: Field Trips, FAS, 1101 Audubon Way, Maitland, Fl. 32751, or phone 305-647-2615.

ACTIVE AUDUBONERS, PLEASE NOTE: The Florida office of the National Audubon Society has been moved to Tallahassee (32303); 930 Thomasville Rd., Suite 206. Phone: 904-222-2473

Speaking of the FAS trips, Vivian and Carlton Smith were among the 150 Audubon members boarding the Star of Sanford at 7 a.m. Dec. 1st. They were among 150 Audubon members from other groups. The 2-1/2 hour cruise left Lake Monroe for the St. Johns River as far as Guyon Cove and return. Breakfast served aboard. Dr. Herbert Kale, of FAS, was the expert bird guide, and the Smith's were enthusiastic about this shortest trip FAS had scheduled for the 1984-85 season.

SEASON for GIFT-GIVING: What to give your children or grandchildren?

Ken Morrison's Mountain Lake Almanac is recommended by Roger Tory Peterson and Marjorie Stoneman Douglas as an event "everyone should have." Described as bright and stimulating--never dull. Autographed copies may be obtained by writing: Mountain Lake Almanac, P.O. Box 673, Frostproof, Fl. 33843. Soft cover, \$8.95; hard cover, \$11.95; add \$1.50 for cost of mailing and 5% tax for Fl. residents.

If you haven't already received notices of the Audubon Ecology Camps and Workshops to be held next summer in Maine, Connecticut, Wisconsin, and Wyoming, you might wish to write for their booklet: Audubon Center, 613 Riversville Rd., Greenwich, Conn. 06830. Some are adult sessions; some for youth between ages of 10 and 15; others are for families.

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY # # #
DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

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