

THE PELICAN

Information Bulletin

Halifax River Audubon Society

Daytona Beach, Florida

January, 1985

Contributions Welcomed - Space Permitting
Editor, Eleanor W. Zimmerman - 255-2828

MIKE BROTHERS TO SPEAK MONDAY

"Birds of Florida" is the subject of Mike Brothers' talk at our regular monthly membership meeting Jan. 21st at 7 p.m. The usual place: Seabreeze United Church, 501 N. Wild Olive at Oakridge Blvd., on the barrier island of Daytona Beach.

Brothers, Science Curator of the Museum of Arts and Sciences, to those of us who have accompanied him on field trips, find his enthusiasm for the birds, flora and fauna, contagious. Mike has a sharp eye and ear and the knowledge of a trained scientist.

H. Deane Smith in his talk on the pre-history of our area in terms of wildlife in December enthralled many of those present. A tooth, a bone, alligator knots were among Mr. Smith's findings, dating many thousands of years before the Timucuan Indians lived here. The ceramic period of the first known human inhabitants here goes back only 3,000 years.

HRAS SUPPORTS NATURE CONSERVANCY'S BID ON SPRUCE CREEK

Dr. Walter Boardman, in a letter to Reid B. Hughes, who is spear-heading efforts to bring into public ownership a 610-acre tract on the south side of Spruce Creek just east of I-95, wrote that our members are "pleased to learn that The Nature Conservancy" has a six-month option on the tract in "an area of minimum modern human disturbance and with considerable anthropological significance."

"..the tract is one of the few remaining productive tidal estuaries (where salt water and fresh water meet and mix) along the lower eastern seaboard," according to an editorial in the D.B. Morning Journal of Jan. 1, 1985. "Besides offering some outstanding recreational, environmental and archaeological features of its own, the envisioned acquisition could give the creek the margin of protection it needs to survive the population boom heading this way."

Eagle or Osprey's Nest?

According to a news report, what was thought to be an eagle's nest in the vicinity of Nova Rd. and Reed Canal, where land is being prepared for a development, was destroyed when a big rig bull-dozed the tree in which the nest was located. A warden of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission asked President Robert Stevenson to have Audubon members monitor the area. Since there is a nearby nest in another tree, Carlton Smith volunteered to look into the situation.

Survey of Members - Read First, then check

I prefer 8 a.m.

I prefer 9 a.m.

I am unable to join

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Survey of Members - Read First, then check

I prefer 8 a.m. starting time _____	I prefer 9 a.m. starting time _____	I am unable to join field trips _____
I favor present schedule with 3rd trip optional _____	I prefer Fridays for field trips _____	I prefer Saturdays for field trips _____

Comments: _____

Please clip and return to Harold J. Nett, Halifax River Audubon Society, 3 Sunny Shore Dr., Ormond Beach, Fl. 32074 (reverse, please)

OOPS - The Florida Power and Light has a conservation program devoted to saving the manatees. The one date for the Daytona Beach area was Jan. 10 with slides to be shown, etc. It reached your editor by mail Jan. 11!

SAVE UNIQUE WATERS AND LAND

Volusia County Commissioners rejected in December a request from an Orlando developer for a zoning change at Green Springs and the surrounding 35 acres on the northern shore of Lake Monroe. The developer planned to put a 270-unit condominium complex by the springs of reportedly fresh green water. Members of various environmental organizations cheered the Council's decision. However, the cost of the privately-owned land around the springs in Enterprise is put at about \$300,000. According to an article in the Volusia Sentinel 12/23/84, [an insert of the Orlando Sentinel], the problem is finding the money. Florida's Conservation and Recreation Lands fund already has lands on the list that add up to about 200 millions' worth. The State Legislature has authorized increasing the fund to 35 million in 1986 and to 40 million in 1987. State and County funds together brought the purchase of de Leon Springs and the establishment of the 55-acre Ponce de Leon State Recreation Area.

WHO WILL CONTROL FLORIDA'S GROWTH?

Audubon Society reported that 5400 people arrive in the State each week, many with intentions of living here permanently. In a three-feature article series, the Orlando Sentinel editorialized Dec. 18 on "The Road to Madness." Incidentally, the area between Orlando and Walt Disney World will be second to the Big Apple in the number of hotel/motel rooms, New York City having the most in the U.S.

A proposed \$200 impact fee from developers per house built in Seminole County will hardly pay the costs of widening a road from two lanes to four--three million per mile--nor the other public services required, such as schools, police protection, fire departments, sewage disposal, clean water and so forth.

NEW MEMBERS: Mr. and Mrs. John Hart; Ms. Audrey Marie Walker; Matthew Davids; Larry Davis; Ms. Mary Kress; Dr. G.A. Thompson; Barry Yaksika. Welcome!

In Honor of Dr. P.T. "Bud" Fleuchaus

A reception and "roast" this Friday, Jan. 18th, will honor two-term member of the Volusia County Council, Dr. Fleuchaus, who just recently retired, having served a second four-year term. The reception takes place at the house known at the "Battleship," 310 Ocean Shore Blvd., Ormond Beach, on the ocean front. The cost is \$5 per person from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30. Phone Pat Pastore at 767-0144 to see if reservations are still open.

FIELD TRIPS: On the Dec. 14th trip and the Jan. 5th trip, 50 species were counted on one, and 62 including avocets on the other. Auduboners will visit Blue Springs and Crows Bluff this Friday, with the trip to Hontoon Island optional. The Sat., Feb. 2nd trip, includes Pump House Road, Bulow Ruins, and the Fairchild Oak in Bulow Creek State Park. # # # #

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY
DAYTONA BEACH, FL.

Non-Profit Organ.
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Permit 395



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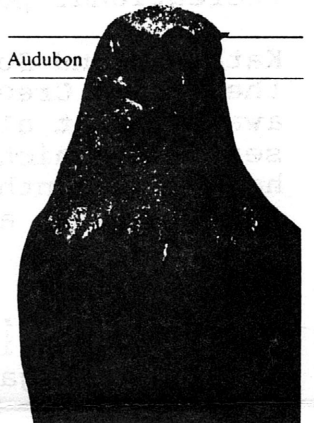
FILM FROM NATURE CONSERVANCY At Monthly Meeting

Following a brief business meeting at 7 p.m., "Garden of Eden" will be the feature of our membership meeting Monday, Feb. 18th, at Seabreeze United Church, 501 N. Wild Olive at Oakridge Blvd., Daytona Beach.

IT'S AN EAGLE NEST - Eaglets in the Spring?

Carlton and Vivian Smith were the first to confirm that Mrs. Eagle was occupying a nest in the vicinity of Nova Rd. and Reed Canal. The Smith's advise a scope for viewing the nest. President Roy Stevenson announced that two additional Audubon members have viewed the nest. Indeed, daily monitoring is assured, Roy reported, but evidence that the nest has been disturbed should be reported at once to our President. His phone- 673-1838.

Audubon



IN MEMORY OF THE LATE BERTHA CONKLIN

HRAS officers voted to donate \$100 to the County Library Center as a memorial to Bertha Conklin, former Membership Secretary and production manager of The Pelican. The unrestricted gift will also express the present Board's gratitude for the use of a Library room for our Board meetings.

**ON MARCH 21,
THE "WORLD OF AUDUBON"
BRINGS THE OUTDOORS IN**

This Spring, Audubon Brings Your Television to Life Once Again. You'll be Immersed in Nature's Rare Beauty and Get Closer to our Most Vital Environmental Issues:

- Puffins
- Acid Rain
- Loggerhead Turtles
- Profile of Rachel Carson
- Robert Redford's Institute for Resource Management
- Clean-up of Cleveland's Cuyahoga River
- Interview with Walter Cronkite



CLIFF ROBERTSON IS THE COMPELLING HOST
IN THIS SECOND OF THE SERIES "WORLD OF AUDUBON"

PRODUCED BY THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
AND SUPERSTATION WTRS

PARKS ALONG HALIFAX RIVER

Mrs. Marion Bigelow, Board member-at-large, has prepared an inventory of public parks along the east side and west side of Halifax River.

Space does not permit her description of each park and comments, but your editor thinks that the list alone might be helpful to members.

East of Halifax - Start Highbridge Rd., going south

1. Sea Bridge Riverfront Park
2. Casements Riverside Park

West of Halifax - Start at Edgewater, going north

3. Edgewater Park
4. New Smyrna Park (next to Senior Citizens Center)
5. Port Orange Causeway
6. South Daytona Riverfront Park (on

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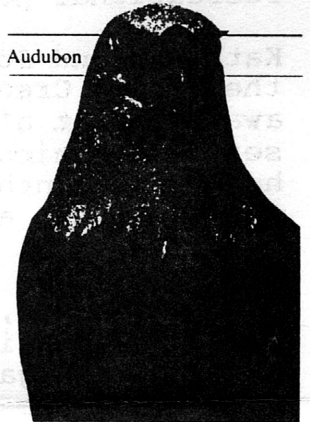
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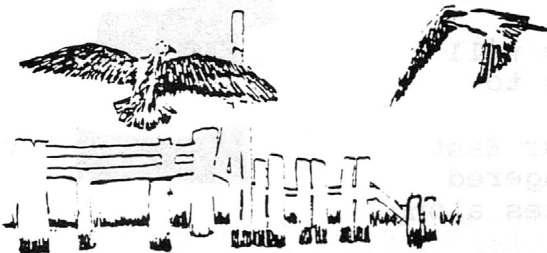
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AND SUPERSTATION WTBS.

MARCH 21, 8:05 PM Eastern
MARCH 24, 6:05 PM Eastern
MARCH 30, 4:05 PM Eastern
APRIL 1, 9:05 PM Pacific

Check cable listings for channel

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS!

Robert L. Carter, Rachel K. Ramsey,
R. J. Thompson, and R. C. Upson.
Ken Doremus transfer into HRAS.

(over, please)

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3. Edgewater Park
4. New Symrna Park (next to Senior Citizens Center)
5. Port Orange Causeway
6. South Daytona Riverfront Park (on Palmetto Ave. near Big Tree Rd.)
7. Bethune Point Park, D.B. (end of Bellevue Ave.)
8. Marina, Daytona Beach
9. City Park and Annex Area, Library and Downtown Park
10. Ross Point, Holly Hill
11. 11th Street Park, Holly Hill
12. Big Tree Park, Holly Hill
13. Ormond Beach Park
14. Ormond Beach Recreation Park
15. Granada Bridge Park
16. Park at Melrose St. on Beach St. (closed)
17. Tomoka State Park

RESTORE OUR RIVER

As a first step toward restoring the Halifax River to a less polluted state, authorities say that a thorough hydrological study should be made. The impact of the Port Orange Causeway on the river's flow has concerned Port Orange officials in addition to conservationists and other residents. Dr. Walter Boardman reported that the Ponce de Leon Port Authority will pay half the cost of such a study--\$25,000--and it is hoped that municipalities along the river will contribute the other \$25,000.

TAKE A WALK THIS SUNDAY

In addition to public officials at various levels of government, including U.S. Rep. Bill Chappell, interested persons of the general public are invited to walk in the natural, wooded areas of the 610 Spruce Creek-acreage of environmentally sensitive land.

As the D.B. Morning Journal pointed out in a lengthy editorial Feb. 6th, "The land eyed for acquisition is exceptionally rich in environmental qualities." It provides a habitat for wildlife, trees and plants; borders significant wetlands; provides a buffer for the creek, and "is equally rich in historic significance and recreational possibilities."

Kathleen and John Hill, a young couple in New Smyrna Beach, consider the Spruce Creek area a favorite place for peaceful walks "to get away from it all...so we decided to get involved." The Nature Conservancy, which cannot afford the 1.8 million purchase price alone, has a six-month option to buy for public ownership. The option could run out as early as June.

DIRECTIONS FOR SUNDAY WALK: Take Rt. 1 as far as the New Smyrna Police Station, turn right, and continue until the road terminates in Pioneer Trail. Continue on Pioneer Trail to Martin Dairy Rd., driving to a gate on Martin Dairy Rd. The walking tour will begin at the gate at 2:30 p.m. this Sunday, Feb. 10.

FIELD TRIPS

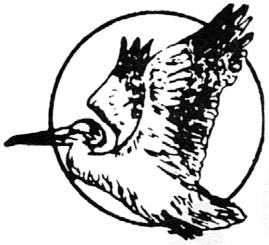
On our Feb. 2nd trip, the number of different birds ranged from 47 to 52, including both the black-crowned night heron and the yellow-crowned night heron. But the most dramatic in President Stevenson's view were the white pelicans at Jones' Island.

On Friday, Feb. 15th, we go to Merritt Island and Titusville, where some bird-watchers plan to dine at Holiday House. Others prefer to picnic.

On Saturday, March 2nd, we hope the azaleas will be in full bloom at Ravine Gardens; then on to the fish hatchery at Welaka.

The brown pelican has made a comeback on our East Coast and is no longer on the federal endangered species' list. Not so in the Southern states along the Gulf.





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March, 1985

GLORY OF SPRING

This is the theme of longtime member, Carlton M. Smith's slide presentation at our March monthly meeting. A slight change in the order of things. Mr. Smith will show his slides first at 7 p.m., the business and social meeting to follow afterwards.

DATE AND PLACE: Monday, March 18, Seabreeze United Church, 501 N. Wild Olive, one block south of Seabreeze Blvd. The public is invited.

---REMINDER OF AUDUBON TV SERIES---

On Thursday, March 21, the second national TV series, "World of Audubon Brings the Outdoors In," begins on independent TV station WTBS, out of Atlanta. If you don't have cable, perhaps you can join a friend or neighbors who have.

Cliff Robertson is the "compelling host;" Robert Redford's Institute of Resource Management is described; and Walter Cronkite's abiding affection for the outdoors among the features. Schedule as follows:

Thurs. 3/21 - 8:05 p.m. Eastern
Sunday 3/24 - 6:05 p.m. Eastern
Sat. 3/30 - 4:05 p.m. Eastern
Monday 4/1 - 9:05 p.m. PACIFIC (12:05 E.)

AN EAGLET AMONG US!

Personal friends of the editor, Carl Lentz and wife, Kay Thompson Lentz, have not once but twice verified an eaglet's presence in that bald eagle's nest. This was several weeks ago. We hope it fully matures into our national bird.

WELCOME to NEW MEMBERS:

Scott Albers, Heidi Brooks, James Brumbaugh, J.C. Dauksch, Dory A. Dunn, Rev. M. J. Frank, E. M. Gorman

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

A WALK ON A BRIGHT SUNDAY

Among those who did walk or canoe--some 300--on the 610 acres of beautiful Spruce Creek, on Feb. 10, the illuminating fact was that this land and waterway could be saved for \$1.8 million dollars.

Some of the owners would like to see it as a "natural preserve." But there's a deadline--June, to be exact.

There are high bluffs where Indians buried their dead; lovely trees and sub-tropical vegetation; valuable wetlands and one of the few remaining estuaries where salt and fresh water mix on the lower Eastern seaboard.

We parked our cars and walked a sandy road. Those in canoes found a low bank where they could tie up their canoes. Here we found peace and beauty--a place to get away from it all, as one of the speakers said.

Many voices must be heard to save this pristine land. It should be preserved from the point of view of wildlife, fish, water and fresh air.

So phone your elected officials--your Mayor and city commissioners--and ask if they are aware this huge acreage can be bought for a song...so long as it's preserved. If you don't know the names of your local elected officials, phone 258-7000, ask for the Elections Dept. and get their names.

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* * *

Returns on last month's questionnaire indicate that members prefer to keep field trips on Fridays at 8 a.m. Saturday trips conflict with Sierra Club outings.

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On Page 31 of your new phone directory, you will find the names of your U.S. and your State legislators. Phone or write them--even if it's just a post card.

This is a unique opportunity not to be missed. But we must act now and act fast. Public funds and possibly private donations will be needed.

(Over, please)

FIELD TRIPS

Interesting birds spotted on the Feb. 15th trip to Merritt Island and Titusville were bald eagles, scrub jays, a red-tailed hawk, green-winged teal, pileated woodpecker, white pelicans, least sandpiper, and black skimmers. This report comes from Harold Nett, Recording Secretary, and leader of the field trips.

Although the azaleas were not at their prime at Ravine Gardens, Auduboners enjoyed being driven by Park rangers and viewing entertainment in the amphitheater. At Welaka Fish Hatchery several flocks of water pipits were noted, among other birds.

On Friday, March 15, the next trip is scheduled for Osteen and Mullet Lake. Saturday, March 30, we visit Smyrna Dunes Park at Ponce Inlet and Seminole Ranch.

The checklist of Florida birds we use--published by Florida Audubon Society--had 58 species of birds counted. These break down into nine separate orders and 23 separate families. Some categories were blank on the Merritt Island trip, as to be expected.

WE REGRET TO REPORT

Governor Bob Graham recently gave orders for land to be cleared for a parking lot Canaveral National Seashore. In the vicinity of Eldora Rd. and Turtle Mound, the lot will be paved.

We Also Rejoice

After viewing the destruction of our coastal beaches after last Thanksgiving's storm, Governor Graham stated that owners of homes and other buildings constructed over the dunes or fortified by sea walls cannot expect public funds to repair the damage. The dunes and their vegetation provide a natural barrier to storms and hurricanes, if our beaches are not to be washed away. It is said that sea oats can sink roots 25 ft. into the sand.



Longtime member, THELMA ACOSTA, says she has found Mirakel Optical Co. reliable and trustworthy in making repairs. She has had two pairs of binoculars and a spotting scope repaired by this company.

Mirakel sells binoculars and Zoom telescopes and other accessories for the bird-watcher.

For a catalog or other information, the address is 331 Mansion St., West Coxsackie, N.Y. 12192. Phone 518-731-2610.

Rob Morse, who writes with tongue in cheek a column for the Orlando Sentinel, reported several months ago.. "The construction crane is the Florida State bird, so it behooves us to occasionally do some bird-watching.. On Wednesday crani-thologists observed no fewer than 15 cranes between (Rt.) 434 and Colonial Dr. (Orlando).

Informed Source (column in Orl. Sentinel) reports that laboratory tests show birds have nearly perfect biological clocks. Even when cut off from all natural light, they know within 15 minutes in a 24-hour period when to trip clocked feeding devices.

* * *

Volusia County Council, as speaker. Dr. Fleuchaus will discuss the impact of the County Council on our immediate environment, a subject dear to our hearts.

Dr. Fleuchaus has been an outspoken member and Chairman of the County Council. We urge you to bring neighbors and friends Monday night at 7 p.m., Seabreeze United Church, 501 N. Wild Olive, Daytona Beach.

AUDUBON'S 200th BIRTH DATE

April marks the 200th anniversary of John James Audubon's birth. The son of a French Naval Officer, who received land in Pennsylvania for assisting George Washington in defeating the British at Yorktown, Audubon arrived in the new nation at the age of 18.

Talented in half a dozen skills, Audubon's dream was to explore the wilderness and paint America's birds--an interest shared by his wife and her support, despite poverty and loneliness.

Paintings Once his scientifically accurate birds were viewed and published in Europe, he and his wife Lucy were honored at the White House. In his later years, Audubon became a living symbol of conservation and the protection of all wildlife.

So have the National Audubon Society and its State and local groups expanded from what many casual observers considered just "bird-watchers" and counting and identifying birds to an organization of conservationists.

What is progress if man-made abuses of the environment turn out to be harmful to living things and ultimately, of course, to human beings also?

Since both Easter and Passover are upon us in the spring of the year, we quote:

Proverbs 1, vs. 17: For in vain is the net spread; In the eyes of any bird.

We meet at the Cerrito's at 3 p.m. Bring beach chairs or something to sit on. In the event of rain, come at the next day, Sunday, April 21st.

Members are asked to bring a dish for four--a salad, dessert, or covered dish. The Cerrito's will furnish the barbecued chicken and non-alcoholic drinks plus plates and eating utensils.

We will feast around 5:30 p.m. If you plan to attend, it's ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL to let the Cerrito's know at 767-5397 or at Harold Nett's at 441-5584. Give them the courtesy of phoning several days' ahead.

DIRECTIONS: Angelo and Jean Cerrito live at 6065 Hensel Rd., Port Orange. You may take 1-95 to the Taylor Rd. exit, drive past Spruce Creek High School, and make a quick right turn on Hensel Rd. Continue to 6065.

ANOTHER WAY: Take Nova Rd. south (Rt. 5-A) to Spruce Creek Rd. for about .9 of a mile; turn right on Taylor Rd. for about 1 1/4 miles until you make a left turn on Hensel Rd. Continue on Hensel Rd. for 1 1/2 miles to 6065.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS!

We hope you will join us at the April 15th meeting or at our picnic the following Saturday (rain day or Sunday).

Ms. Jessie Brown, M.B. Friday, R.T. Galloway, Mrs. Laverne M. Hunt, Ms. Marsha E. Palitz, J. P. Trepasso, Mrs. M. Boyd Alexandre, M. Burton, Larry D. Groger, Theodore D. Howard, Ms. Kathleen M. Keneborus, L. Dale Sheets, Dr. and Mrs. Gerald Williams, Earle S. Wilson, Mrs. H.M. Mitchell, and Ms. Bonnie M. Robinson.

(over, please)

ROBERT C. OWENS HONORED

At our March meeting "Bob" Owens was presented a plaque in recognition of his many years of service as an "environmentalist activist."

Bob and Wife Shirley have driven to Palatka for the monthly meetings of the St. Johns River Water Management District for some years. As volunteer observers, they reported back to environmental organizations in the county and interested individuals if newsworthy actions occurred. Indeed, after months of debate as to whether the SJWMD should buy the Seminole Ranch, Bob spoke up from the audience and said he would give \$300 for the first acre. This started the ball rolling, and the Seminole Ranch, formerly under private ownership, is now under the SJWMD

Shirley suggests that HRAS on its field trips there be sure to note the number in our group at the entrance. We approve of the District's management in saving wetlands, birds, fish and cleaning up the St. Johns.

PRESIDENT ROY STEVENSON REPORTS

Our President said recently that the young eaglet in that nest near Nova Rd. and Reed Canal is almost as tall as its mother. The owner of the property has placed a fence with a No Trespassing sign around the area of the nest. This was done to give not only Mother and chick some privacy but also residents were complaining about the increased traffic generated by the eagle's nest.

BOARD APPROVES CONSOLIDATION PLAN

At its April 1st Executive Board meeting, members voted to approve the proposed charter on consolidation because of its excellent provisions on Growth Management. (These were reprinted in a recent Sunday News-Journal.) A referendum on the charter is expected in the fall.

NEW PARK IN SOUTH DAYTONA

Marion Bigelow's report for HRAS described parks along the Halifax River. Alma Miggins reports on the opening of

the new Reed Canal Park. By exchanging parcels of government-owned land, the new park covers 35 acres, with lovely trails, a pond, parking area, picnic facilities and so forth. It's open to the public.

A group of 25 or more, however, should phone Rosemary Prince at 761-7196 to make reservations. This is the number of the South Daytona Park and Recreation Dept.

PLANS EVOLVE FOR SPRUCE CREEK

Rather than a natural preserve, city officials and civic leaders think it advisable, if possible, to buy the 610 Spruce Creek acreage for a State Park.

The purchase price of 1.8 million would be spread over three years, bringing the total to \$2.1 million at 10 per cent interest.

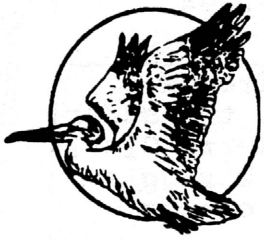
If a cooperative effort can be achieved, cities in the eastern part of the county would share the costs along with the State and the Ponce De Leon Port Authority.

Nature-lovers hope this unique tract can be saved from commercial development. The wheels of government will have to grind faster to meet a June deadline. (The owner lives in North Carolina.)

* * * * *

Volusia County Council members approved by a 4-3 vote plans submitted for "Breakaway Trails." a development to be built west of I-95. Not altogether in keeping with the County's Comprehensive Plan, nevertheless proposed density was reduced to 1.33 units per acre--considered a plus.

REMINDER: FIELD TRIPS
Friday, April 12, Blue Springs, etc.
Saturday, April 27, Lake Woodruff, etc.
Friday, May 10, Wash. Oaks, Matanzas,
and Anastasia State Park



THE PELICAN

Information Bulletin

Halifax River Audubon Society

Daytona Beach, Florida

October, 1985

EDITOR'S NOTE: This first issue of our new 1985-86 season is being rushed to you in the hope you receive it before Friday, Oct. 11th, our first field trip. This is a half-day trip, led by Mike Brothers, of the Museum staff, to Spruce Creek Preserve, an undeveloped 610 acres--rare with its high bluffs--for which we local environmentalists have our State legislators, County officials, and many others to thank.

As usual, we meet at City Island, east of the Courthouse Annex's parking lot at 8 a.m. We carpool. Those who prefer to drive directly to Spruce Creek Preserve may obtain directions from Harold Nett at 441-5584, or your editor at the above phone number before Friday. Or just follow the caravan from City Island.

WILDFLOWERS at OCT. 21st MEETING

As usual, we meet on the third Monday of the month at Seabreeze United Church, 501 N. Wild Olive Ave., corner of Oakridge, one block south of Seabreeze Blvd.

Following the business meeting at 7 p.m., Harold Nett will show his slides of wildflowers. We may encounter some surprises, according to a Board member. Meeting is open to the public.

BROCHURE on SEASON'S FIELD TRIPS

Members will receive soon a brochure on the entire season's field trips. They are divided into half-day trips on Friday and day-trips on Saturdays, which usually end about 3:30 p.m. or 4.

Washington Oaks is the destination of our second field trip in October, Saturday, the 26th. If few birds are seen at beautiful Washington Oaks, west off AIA and south of St. Augustine, we drive to some more natural habitats of water birds. A bag lunch and beverage are advisable. We usually return around 3:30 or 4 p.m.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

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

VOTE TUESDAY, Oct. 15th!

If you've been reading the D.B. News-Journal in recent months, you are probably aware of all the pro's and con's on seven cities becoming one with a unified government. They are all linked to the Halifax River area and the Atlantic Ocean. Those residents who want to keep their separate identity, such as Port Orange and Ormond Beach, may do so, according to what I've been told by the Postal Service, or at least it was reported to me in my absence.

Our own, Dr. Walter Boardman, who is our Conservation Chairman, started his career in Oceanside, N.Y. as a biology teacher. He rose to principal and superintendent. He also was an early director of the Nature Conservancy when he decided to retire once and for all seven years ago in Port Orange. But he could not when he learned the city of Port Orange was planning to put an asphalt plant in the center of town!

Dr. Boardman, treasurer of the Halifax Unity Group, has been an indispensable leader in the role to save our fragile peninsula--or scientifically, a barrier island--from the big money developers! It's a democratic proposal. If you want to stay small with your own local government, then be prepared to pay higher taxes.

That's what happened when a reform group in the City of Jacksonville decided the entire County of Duval should "throw the rascals out." so three beach

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THE National Audubon Society's series on Public Broadcasting (here Channel 24) has resulted in both national and local memberships--a good increase! Those who joined thru' National will not only receive mailings of national interest but also the beautiful Audubon magazine, professionally written and edited, with photographs so enchanting, you might wish to clip for framing. If you decide on a local membership rather than National, phone our local Membership Chairman, Mrs. W. Esten at 672-9132 re: the lesser dues.

(On the right, an ocean dune's wildflower is actually pink and white in color.)

(--See reverse, please)

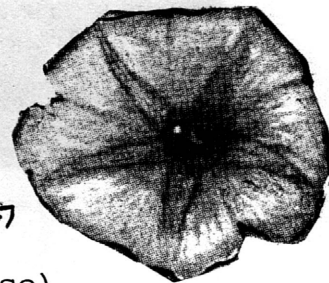
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That's what happened when a reform group in the City of Jacksonville decided the entire County of Duval should "throw the rascals out," so three beach cities and the small town of Baldwin in the western part of the County pay more taxes to support their local governments. Miami Beach Shores is another example, of "separatism." "United we stand, divided we fall."

Wild morning glory



(Incidentally, Dr. Boardman is the subject of a lengthy interesting interview in a recent issue of The Nature Conservancy's magazine.)

FIGHT OVER SUBMERGED LANDS

The Marketable Record Title Act, known as MRTA, became law in 1963 by vote of the State Legislature to simplify deeds to real estate transactions that had not been challenged in 30 years. The titles were therefore considered valid.

So, attorneys for special interests, such as agribusiness, phosphate, and land developers discovered a loophole. In 14 cases owners of land on navigable lakes and rivers have been awarded rights to submerged lands.

"In my six and a half years as Governor," Bob Graham says, "there have not been many times I've had trouble going to sleep at night. This has been one of those issues that has got me out of bed at three o'clock in the morning. The idea of this and future generations of Florida losing this birthright that came to us almost 150 years ago at statehood is just intolerable. I think we have a responsibility to the people to take every step possible to protect it."

About 50,000 acres, valued at about \$165 million have gone to private owners. Kevin Crowley, general counsel for the Department of Natural Resources, estimates that 5,000 miles of rivers and 3,000 lakes are at stake. These waterways will be lost unless state legislators correct flaws in the 1963 act.

"BIRD LADY" Requests HELP

Mary Keller, known as the Bird Lady, reports that a least tern, whose tail feathers were stuck together from black pitch, was restored to health and set free. She was nursing three birds and a wounded owl was being delivered to her when this writer phoned. Baby birds have to be fed every 15 minutes.

She can use old towels, blankets, cotton materials that are absor-

bent, plus old shower curtains. Mary lives in Holly Hill at 1216 Deneeze Ter. Phone: 252-2794.

Estella Seymour, a retired R.N., member of HRAS and former treasurer of the Volusia/Flagler Sierra Club, finally lost her valiant struggle of several years against cancer.

We regret to report her death last August. Hers was a generous spirit and a dedicated conservationist.

AUDUBON EXHIBIT AT LOCAL MUSEUM

If you haven't yet seen the exhibit concerning John James Audubon's experiences painting birds in Florida, you have until Dec. 31st, according to Mike Brothers, science curator at the Museum of Arts and Sciences.

Drew Murphy, News-Journal Fine Arts Writer, described the exhibit as "outstanding" in a review September 14th. This is one of many being held throughout the U.S. in celebration of what would be Audubon's 200th birthday.



A dusky seaside sparrow, one of three being saved at Disney World's Discovery Island, has died of old age, but it left a legacy.

The habitat of five duskies was being destroyed in 1980. Disney World moved them to Discovery Island, which approximated their former habitat, and gave them the best care modern science has developed.

The five males were mated with their close cousins, Scott's seaside sparrows. It sired two of four hybrids, 75 per cent dusky. The other two hybrids are 87.5 per cent dusky, born during the past mating season. Other eggs were infertile--not unexpected with aged males. From Orlando Sentinel 9/28/85.

to different sites, then park wherever a goodly number of birds may be seen.

Some of us plan to eat lunch in Titusville at Holiday House; others may prefer to carry lunch and a beverage.

As usual, we meet on City Island, east of the Courthouse Annex, and carpool, if convenient. TIME: 8 a.m. Friday, Nov. 8th.

MONTHLY MEETING NOV. 18th, MONDAY

"New Partners and Environmental Activities" is the subject of our guest speaker, George Shotwell, FPL. After a business meeting at 7 p.m. at Seabreeze United Church, Mr. Shotwell will speak. A social hour follows with Thanksgiving as theme.

WELCOME TO PETER BERLE, NEW

AUDUBON NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Admittedly "not much of a bird-watcher" Peter Berle knows his way around in a state legislature because he's led an environmental fight in the New York State Assembly as a member, and as former State Environmental Commissioner in New York, "He'll be a real scrapper," according to Retiring President Russell W. Peterson.

As a state assemblyman from 1968-74, he led the floor fight to establish the nation's most comprehensive land use controls for the six million acre Adirondack Park. His Manhattan law firm handled the landmark litigation that stopped Consolidated Edison from building a pumped storage plant on the Hudson River. More recently, his firm won a class action suit in which Union Carbide agreed to fit about 2,000 Long Island homes with filters because of pesticides in their water.

Under Peterson's six-year leadership, Audubon members have become more active conservationists. Audubon's grants and contributions have increased six fold during Peterson's six years.

... died recently at the age of 82. An employee of General Electric for 29 years before retirement, Mr. Ford had moved from Windsor, Mass. to Port Orange 12 years ago.

THOUGHTFUL GIVING

Last May when a number of houses were burned or badly damaged by fire, Mildred Esten, Membership Chairman, bought \$40 worth of groceries and donated them thru' the Halifax Urban Ministries in the name of the Halifax River Audubon Society. President Stevenson donated \$10 for the same purpose.
* * * * *

FROM: Treasurer Vivian Stevens

HRAS' Executive Board donated \$60 to the Environmental Information Center;

The Board also donated \$500 to the Mahogany Committee Fund of the Florida Chapter of the Nature Conservancy in honor of Dr. Walter Boardman, our retired Conservation Ch.

FROM: Nathaniel P. Reed, Former Cabinet Officer, Prior to the Reagan Administration, Now Chairman of National Audubon Society's Executive Committee, and Chairman of Conservancy's Mahogany Fund Committee writes to us as a resident of Martin County, Florida:

Florida Chapter, The Nature Conservancy, in 24 years through "volunteers and staff...and your generous support have preserved over 170,000 acres of Florida's precious natural heritage. ...

"The recordalready in 1985 (as of Sept. 18th) we have saved 4,013 acres including:

Peacock Springs: 240 acres surrounding the nation's longest mapped underwater cave system...

Loxahatchee River: Florida's only Wild and Scenic River, a gift of 902 acres here protects this stream's most natural pristine area;

Tiger Creek: addition of 1600 acres protects the watershed and uplands around the Conservancy's preserve on this Central Florida stream.

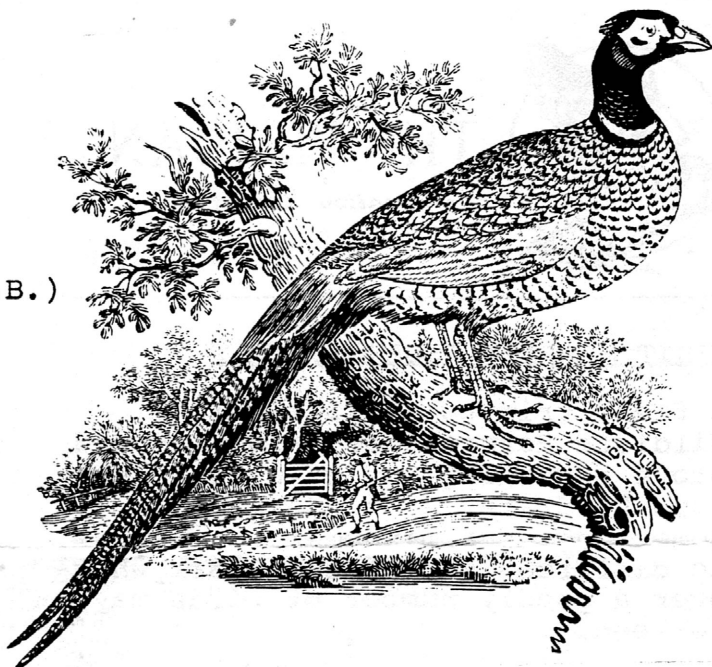
(See reverse, please)

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Since our last report in the April Pelican, Membership Chairman, Mildred Esten reports:

Mrs. Lucia Latour (OB)
Mrs. Linda McCormick (OB)
Ms. Suzanne Ottman (HH)
Ms. Bettie Steves (DB)
Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Fowler Jr. (D.B.)
Donald Hamilton (DB)
Mrs. Charles L. Hicks (P.O.)
Ms. Jeanette A. Perkins (OB)
T. J. Wetherell (D.B.)
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Korb (OB)
G. R. Kochon (DB)
Gerald Williams (HH)
D.A. Adler (DB)
Erwin Connelly (O.B. by the Sea)
Jack Croasmun (OB)
Mrs. Margaret Davis (DB)
Richard Dudley (OB)
Mrs. L.M. Ewing (OB)
Mr. and Mrs. William Feeney (OB)
Mrs. G. W. Harvey (DB)
Ms. Lucie Huber (HH)
Mrs. F. Kolloff (DB)
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Lacatski (D.B.)
Pat Race (D.B.)
Mrs. B. J. Shinn (OB)
Ms. Ginny McMichael (DB)
Joseph D. Phillips (P.O.)
George B. Powell (D.B.)
David M. Tanton (OB)
Clay Thompson (HH)
John Wall (DB)
Troy Alan Buck (OB)
Ms. Maria Duval (OB)
Ms. Tara L. Hofmann (PO)
Ms. Eliz. Knapp (PO)
Mrs. F. Butchwidman (DB)
Ms. Edna K. Clifton (PO)
Ms. Sherry Degenfelder (OB)
Mrs. J. E. Elliott (DB)
Thomas I. Gwin (DB)
Ms. Christa Haick (DB)
B. Heller (DB)
Ray F. MacDouall (OB)
Ms. C. L. McCown (DB)
Gilbert R. Moore (OB)
Mrs. Jack Oakes (OB)
David Monaco (OB)
Eduardo Munoz (DB)

Father Nature's, Inc.



Pleased as a bird with new members!

From the Informed Source, Orlando Sentinel:

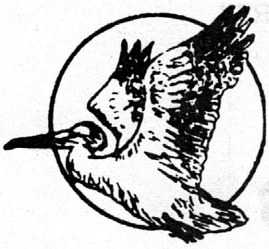
The pelican's pouch is so elastic that the bird can pack said pouch with the weight of more fish than it can lift into flight.

* * *

How migratory birds can forecast the weather 12 hours in advance still isn't understood, but it's known that they do.

* * * * *

Bob Owens, who is serving as Conservation Chairman on Dr. Boardman's retirement, is deeply conversant on the St. John's Water Management District's history. He has been a volunteer observer at its monthly meetings for years. Indeed, he got the ball rolling some years ago when he offered to pay \$300 for some land that the SJWMD badly needed to begin saving the St. John's from death. He pointed out at our last Board meeting, more of our taxes go to the Ponce Inlet Port Authority, which still plans to build a marina, than to the St. Johns Water Mgt. District. Your editor, reporter, typist must add that rank amateur bird-watcher as she is, she has seen more birds in one place on field trips to Merritt Island and Seminole Ranch on the St. Johns, than on any other field trips. Well, it's a long, expensive trip to correct man's defilement of nature, but the chemical age has brought us to the front line troops. "No," we say.



THE PELICAN

Information Bulletin

Halifax River Audubon Society
Daytona Beach, Florida
December, 1985

MIKE BROTHERS ON KENYA

At our last 1985 members' meeting, Mike Brothers will show slides and comment on his fascinating drive thru' seven wildlife preserves in Africa this past summer. The meeting is open to the public.

Following a short business meeting at 7 p.m., Mike, curator of science for the Museum of Arts and Sciences, will present his program.

Meetings take place the third Monday of the month, Dec. 16th, at Seabreeze United Church, one block south of Seabreeze Blvd., cr. of Wild Olive and Oakridge, D.B. An informal get-together with refreshments follows the meeting. Invite your friends.

FIELD TRIPS

On an earlier trip to Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge, we saw hundreds of American coots in almost perfect military formation. On Dec. 6's trip, we saw a plethora of other birds (about 61 species), including white pelicans, wood storks, an eagle, and hundreds of robins.

The half-day trip Sat., Dec. 21st, will be up to the group's choice of destination. We meet at 8 a.m. at City Island, east of the Courthouse Annex. Carpools may be arranged. Bring a snack bag and beverage, if so inclined.

SAVE THE WETLANDS

Wetlands, which include bogs, vegetation in shallow waters, marshes, and swamps, have been termed the progenitors of life. A hundred years ago American Indians whose religion

taught them to live in harmony with nature realized that. (Unfortunately several leaders of Florida tribes have accepted the white man's philosophy that money is more important than respect for the natural habitat.)

According to a recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling (AP article 12/4/85) a developer who wishes to add dirt fill to wetlands near navigable waters must obtain a permit from the U.S. Corps of Engineers. (We hope the Corps of Engineers have learned something about conservation and ecology in recent years!)

* * * *

As many as 450,000 acres of wetlands are being destroyed every year, according to estimates. The 1985 Farm Bill now working its way thru' the U.S. Congress would deny subsidies to farmers who plant highly erodible lands or convert wetlands to crop production. Marginal farm lands--up to 30 million acres--are eligible for a permanent conservation reserve.

"Those who break new erosion-prone land or convert wetlands for crop production will lose eligibility for federal subsidies and loans on any land they farm," according to an editorial in Audubon Action, Dec. issue, by our new President Peter A. A. Berle. We are indebted to both Democratic and Republican Senators for the proposed legislation. However, it has not yet become law.

MORE POLLUTION IN THE HALIFAX?

Conservation Chairman Carlton Smith reported at the Dec. Executive Board meeting--first Monday of the month in Board Room 2 a m



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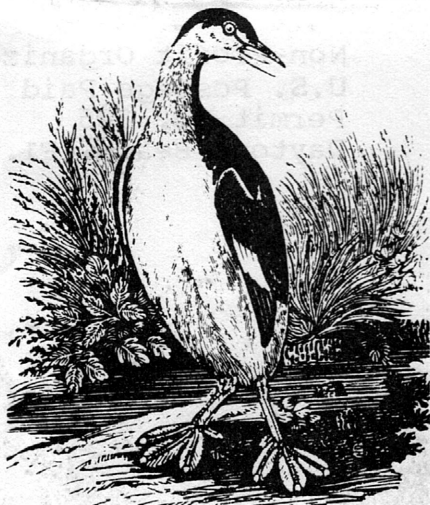
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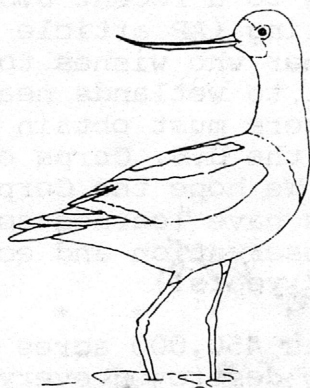
Conservation Chairman Carlton Smith reported at the Dec. Executive Board meeting--first Monday of the month in Board Room, 3 p.m. County Library HDQ., members welcomed--on a request for a permit to extend a pipeline for sewage effluent into the Halifax River.

A small treatment plant in the unincorporated area of the South Peninsula has requested the permit.

The Executive Board voted to write letters of protest to the local officials involved in the grant of permits.

BIRDS AND WILDLIFE AT NOVEMBER MEETING

After the usual Executive Board members' reports, Carlton Smith showed with comment on his own beautiful slides of birds one might see in our own area. Lisa Stein has given us a pen sketch of the avocet--just a dot on the map in our vicinity--but a slender bill that tips slightly upward instead of going straight down or curves down as most water birds' bills do. (?) Your editor is no bird expert!



A public relations' representative for Florida Power and Light showed a movie on the power companies' efforts to save Florida's vanishing wildlife, especially the manatee. Preserves have been established around some FPL power plants for deer and other species.

A booklet was available with illustrated drawings of fish, animals, and birds in the endangered category, threatened, and those of special concern.

It was a joint effort by several divisions of the U. of Fla., U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Department of Agriculture and FPL. Good booklet.

A workshop on Manatee Awareness will be held March 4th in Daytona Beach (NEDO) from 7:30 to 9 p.m. for teachers and other educators. FREE. For additional information, phone Peter A. Quincy, Environmental Affairs (305) 863-3646.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS!



Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Johnson (P.O.)
Ms. Jane Fotch (O.B.)
Ms. Carol Dunn (H.H.)
Ms. Marie L. Oglesby (D.B.)
Ernest R. Gilian (H.H.)

* * *

Happy to see Mrs. Walter Boardman (Betty) out of the hospital following a heart attack, and back on board at the Dec. Exec. Board meeting.

We REGRET to hear that Thelma Acosta, long-time Audubon member and a fledged bird-watcher, has returned home after a fall that took her to the hospital! We miss you, Thelma, and hope you will soon join us again on field trips.

LOOKING FOR A WINTER TRIP?

More than 500 exhibitors, including some of America's most noted wildlife artists, will display their works in Charleston, S.C. at the Southeastern Wildlife Exposition Feb. 14-16.

Among the special events will be the opening of the Audubon exhibit the evening of Feb. 12th. Our Regional Vice-President, W. Carlyle Blakeney, Jr., states the exhibit will include some original paintings of Audubon as well as prints, study skins he used, and a copy of the double elephant folio of Birds of America. Specimens of extinct species..Seminars will be held on subjects from carving to conservation.

For further information, get in touch with: Donna L. Breting
The Southeastern Wildlife Expo
606 Old Trolley Rd.
Summerville, S.C. 29483
Phone: (803) 875-3170