

Halifax River Audubon Society Daytona Beach, Florida

#### FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

January seems to have pushed its way into Florida all too quickly, and now 1987 is upon us! I reach out to all members of the Halifax River Audubon Society with greetings.

To those members who make it possible to carry out the business end of HRAS, thank you:

To those members who love birding, share your interests with others. The fascination that birds hold for millions of people is difficult to explain. There are many reasons why the lure of birds often becomes irresistible. In the field of natural history are many beautiful subjects, any one of which helps the amateur find his place in the universe.

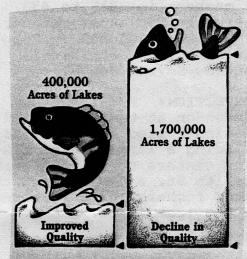
In your bird-viewing around wetlands, here is something practical you may contribute. Keep notes or a journal; jot down the date and general location of the wetlands area; birds or other wildlife. You see what you jot down but don't worry if you can't identify the species. Such facts may prove helpful to our County Environmental Office. A State law seeks to preserve wetlands that from developers' point of view--not all developers, we must add--are just weeds in the path of progress. State law requires that through "mitigation" any wetlands destroyed must be planted on a one-toone basis elsewhere.

Our County Environmental Planning Office is now engaged in looking over permits for dredging and filling.

Send your notes to: Bob Soklaski,
Environmental Control Office, 1250
Indian Lake Rd., Daytona Beach, F1. 32014 more than 500 slides that have been Your observations may be all that saves wildlife habitat.

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December meeting. He looked over given to HRAS in past years to select those he thought best to show on

Best wishes for great birding in the New Year,



Troubled waters
Between 1972 and 1983, water quality
declined in 1.7 million acres of lakes,
according to a recent survey of 45
states. It improved in just 400,000 acres.

(From: National Wildlife Fed.)

MEMBERSHIP MEETING is the third Monday, Jan. 19th, at Seabreeze United Church, cr. of Oakridge and Wildo Olive, one block south of Seabreeze Bldv. at 7 p.m.

GUEST SPEAKER: David Griffis, who has worked for the Agriculture Dept. of Volusia County for the past eight years, will speak on Soil and Water Conservation. He is a graduate of the University of Florida.

Come one and all. For rides, phone Ann Steed at 673-2904, preferably evenings.

Harold Nett, Secretary, took on another extra responsibility when he was the program for HRAS's December meeting. He looked over more than 500 slides that have been given to HRAS in past years to select those he thought best to show on the screen. "It was an eye-bulging job," Harold told your editor later.

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P.S. If the wetlands are outside of Volusia County, the County Environmental Office may forward your notes to the proper authorities.



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But how many of us today would ever be lucky enough to snap a picture of 50 white pelicans in one close encounter (meeting?):



#### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS!

Thad Adamek D.B.
Ms. Dorothy Kennedy O.B.
Mrs. William Nixon D.B.
Mrs. C. O'Connell D.B.
L. Payne D.B.
Mrs. Lucille Tavares D.B.

This brings the total number of members in HRAS to 430. There are two other chapters of National Audubon in Volusia County: West Volusia and New Smyrna Beach.

CORRECTION: President Roy Stevenson at the Jan. Board meeting stated that talk of building a large sports complex centers on an area north of 11th St. and east--not the water recharge area mentioned in the last issue.

The Volusia County Council voted recently to order lights turned off in the unincorporated areas along the Atlantic coast. Baby sea turtles who in the dark would naturally crawl toward the white waves of the ocean become confused by the lights over the dunes. The law applies from May to October only during the birth period of the hatchlings.

#### GOOD AND BAD NEWS FROM 1986

The Florida Game and Fresh Water Commission reports that 18 species of common backyard birds are decreasing, due to the state's rapid growth. (12/19/UPI, Orlando Sentinel)

Among the species showing the biggest drop were turtle doves, Eastern bluebirds, Eastern kingbirds, and loggerhead shrikes.

The state commission took over the study from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Between 1969 and 1983, some 80 species were monitored once a year.

Only ospreys, hooded warblers, blue grosbecks and mourning doves showed strong increases.

Results were to be published in the Jan. Florida Field Naturalist and in the quarterly publication, the Skimmer, of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Commission.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in cooperation with other Federal agencies—NOAA, Marine Fisheries Service and the Minerals Management Service—are trying to determine if exploding oil and gas platforms in the Gulf of Mexico have detrimental effects on the lives of sea turtles and marine mammals. These are platforms located within nine miles (nautical) of the Florida coast. Explosives are often used to destroy them after they have served their purpose.

The Executive Board has donated \$700 to The Nature Conservancy in its successful efforts to buy 70 miles of coastal lands known as Big Bend on the Gulf coast. The land was owned by a subsidiary of Proctor and Gamble, and the state has agreed to pay 21 million for the land, once money is available from the Save Our Coasts bond issue. HRAS's Treasurer, Vivian Smith, read the grateful acknowledgements from both the State staff and the national staff of The Nature Conservancy for HRAS's gift.

#### HELP! HELP! WE NEED YOU

Only five to six members of your Executive Board perform the nitty-gritty jobs of HRAS's eight-month season out of the year. Some Board members wear two or three hats, and Harold Nett, Secretary and Field Trip Director wears about six hats. So we need more volunteers. Out of 430 members we feel sure that some of you could give 3-4 hours per month to one of the following committees: (Remember we close down in June, July, August and September.)

Refreshments Committee--Need 3-4 members to bring cake or cookies once a month to the membership meetings third Monday night of the month at Seabreeze United Church.

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Telephone Committee -- This varies with Board decisions.

The Pelican—As the current editor will be away most of the three months of the 1987 year, beginning in Jan., we may need a typist, writer, and editor.

Mail Committee--This involves folding the <u>Pelican</u>, putting on mail labels, and dividing addresses by Post Office.

Please	clip	and	mail	to	Ann	Steed,	640	N.	Nova	Rd.,	Ormond	Beach,	32/104
												37	2074

Name Phone Committee willing to help

## SCORECARD

The 99th Congress compiled a solid record on environmental quality and public lands issues. In many instances bipartisan majorities supported the improvement of key laws despite resistance from President

The Superfund was reauthorized for five years with provisions that devote \$8.5 billion to the cleanup of abandoned hazardous waste sites and that establish stringent cleanup standards.

A coal-leasing bill intended to weaken antispeculation provisions of existing law failed to pass.

Wilderness areas totaling 98,000 acres were designated in Georgia, Kentucky, Nebraska, and Tennessee. A small Great Basin National Park was established in Nevada.

The Safe Drinking Water Act was renewed for five years. While it provides no safeguards for private wells, the law establishes a program for the protection of public wells and drinking water supplies.

Wild and Scenic River designation now protects stretches of the Black Creek in Mississippi, the Cache la Poudre in Colorado, the Horsepasture in North Carolina, and the Saline Bayou in Louisiana.

Oil and gas leasing decisions affecting the California coast will be delayed until at least 1989.

The Pacific Northwest's Columbia River Gorge is now protected after more than a decade of work by environmentalists. An 80-mile section of the gorge encompassing 270,000 acres has been designated the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area.

Reagan. Encouraging levels of support were realized for action on additional issues—notably, strengthening all provisions of the Clean Air Act—when the 100th Congress convenes in January.

Tropical forests and biological diversity were addressed by two laws: One prohibits the Agency for International Development from funding projects that destroy rainforests, the other requires the agency to work to prevent species loss.

Important bills on acid rain control, the California Desert, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and oil and gas leasing on federal lands were introduced.

Clean Water Act reauthorization supported by environmentalists was passed unanimously by Congress but vetoed by President Reagan. The bill almost certainly will be passed again easily in 1987.

National appliance standards that could have reduced energy consumption and brought significant savings to consumers were vetoed by President Reagan although they represented an unprecedented cooperative effort among environmental organizations, consumer groups, and the appliance industry.

Road construction in the national forests (which effectively removes lands from consideration as wilderness) was given a \$229-million budget, \$199 million more than environmentalists advocated and \$50 million more than the Forest Service requested.

House and Senate conferees failed to agree on the terms reauthorizing the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.

FIELD TRIPS: This may not reach you in time but the destination has been changed for the Jan. 10th bird-viewing trip. It was been changed from Hensel Rd., in the vicinity of Angelo (V-P. of HRAS) and Jean's home, because Jean is in the hospital. Harold Nett will discuss another location with you bird-viewers who meet at 8 a.m. Saturday, on City Island, east of the Courthouse Annex. Bring a sack lunch and beverage.

The Friday, Jan. 23rd trip, is planned for Blue Spring State Park, where the manatees go for warmth and vegetation in the winter months. Other viewing stops are usually planned along the way. We carpool, but it's not required.

NOTE for Those who don't walk well. You may view birds from inside or outside the car.

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY Daytona Beach, Fla.



A full-page article about Dr. Walter Boardman, of our Conservation Committee, also known as "Mr. Environmentalist," appeared in the Volusia County section of the Orlando Sentinel, Dec. 30, 1986. Dr. B is most concerned about National Gardens Trust's plans for development.

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Permit No. 395 Daytona Beach, F1.

arthSurface Graphics



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Roy Stevenson, President 673-1838

February, 1987

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We owe thanks to many members who give unselfishly of their time and talents. I cannot mention each name but the appreciation is felt throughout the club. Taking a job is the best way to really enjoy an organization—sure it means effort—and we have all many demands on our time but working with this group is rewarding and fun. It's the only way you can get to know your fellow birders. If you are asked to take an office or help out—say yes. You will meet a new friend.

Happy birding Roy Stevenson

## NONGAME WILDLIFE TRUST FUND

When you receive the forms for renewal of your vehicle registration turn them over and read this message on the back:

"Effective October 1, 1984, you may voluntarily contribute \$1 to Florida wildlife conservation when you pay your vehicle registration fees. Contributions will be deposited in the Nongame Wildlife Trust Fund and are to be used exclusively for research, conservation, restoration and management of Florida birds and other native wildlife not classed as game animals.

"The trust fund is administered by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission with the guidance and assistance of the Governor's Nongame Wildlife Advisory Council.

"If you wish to contribute add 31 to your vehicle registration fees at the time of payment."

### HELP: HELP: WE NEED YOU

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#### CAROL SWAIN FEBRUARY 16TH

For our next members' meeting Monday February 16th, Carol Swain of Edgewater will speak to us. She takes care of injured birds and she will bring some of her bird friends with her. She has worked with injured animals both wild and domestic for 20 years and has specialized with birds the last year. She is a member of National Audubon Society, National Wildlife Federation and Sierra Club. Her medical background is as a licensed emergency technician. By all means bring your friends for this interesting talk. Our meetings are open to the general public. Seabreeze United Church on Wild Olive south of Seabreeze Blvd. is the place, February 16th at 7 P. M.

#### IN MEMORIAM MARGARET BRANCH

A death notice printed in the Daytona Beach News-Journal Wednesday January 28th informed us that one of our long-time members Margaret Branc (Mrs. Ralph) died the previous Saturday in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Mrs. Branch served the Halifax River Audubon Society in many capacities, notably as editor of our newsletter (The Pelican) and as a lecturer on birds to school children. She had charge of our slide collection and frequently gave talks on bird identification at the start of our meetings. Mr. and Mrs. Branch after retirement divided their time between a residence on North Halifax Avenue, Daytona Beach and Michigan. They spent summer months at Neebish in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

#### FIELD TRIPS

On our field trip of January 23rd to Blue Spring State Park there were 7 or 8 manatees in the run. After our lunch we drove down the dirt road adjoining the park to the St. Johns where we saw some additional birds. On February 7th despite constantly threatening skies we birded at WROD and at the Port Orange Bridge before going to the new Lighthouse Park. At the Port Orange Bridge we enjoyed sighting of several oystercatchers. Some of us had not as yet visited the new park and they were much impressed with it. Because of the weather the party broke up early. Forthcoming trips will go on Friday February 20th to Merritt Island, then on March 7th to Lake Woodruff Wildlife Refuge. Trips will leave as usual from the east end of the Courthouse Annex parking lot on Orange Avenue at 8 A. M. Bring lunch.

Lisa Stein attended the Manatee Festival at Valentine Park in Orange City and saw several red-headed woodpeckers along the road leading to Blue Spring State Park.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. Frances L. Distasio, Ormond Beach
Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Hatton, Ormond Beach
Mr. M. K. Heaton, Ormond Beach
Mrs. Owen Peters, Ormond Beach
Mr. Michael Turner, Daytona Beach

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEADLINES

"Barge Canal Deat at 44" (FDE The Monitor)

"Ocala Effluent Threatens Oklawaha River" (FDE The Monitor)

"Virgin Cypress Protected in Marion County" (Florida Chapter, The Nature Conservancy)

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"Virgin Cypress Protected in Marion County" (Florida Chapter, The

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"Wakulla Springs Purchased" (Florida Chapter, The Nature Conservancy)
"The Growing Threat of Plastics Adrift at Sea" (EDF Letter)
"Tough Toxics Law Passed 2 to 1 by California Voters (EDF Letter)

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542 S. LANVALE AVENUE
DAYTONA BEACH, FL.

Non-Profit Organization U. S. Postage Paid Permit No. 395 Daytona Beach, FL

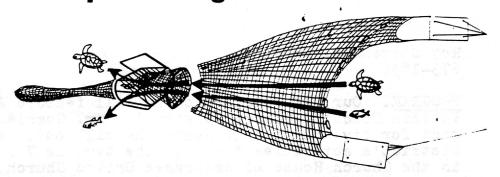
MRS BEATRICE P CHILDS 118 MILTON RD DAYTONA BEACH FL 32018 Mrs. Ken Brate, Ormond Beach
Mrs. Georgina Butts, Ormond Beach
Mrs. R. M. Campbell, Daytona Beach
Ms. Aldine S. Coleman, Port Orange
Mrs. Edward Collier, Ormond Beach
Ms. Linda S. Drob, Port Orange
Ms. Beatrice Dufford, Daytona Beach
Ms. Gretchen Fink, Ormond Beach
Mr. Pat Foske, Ormond Beach
Mr. Robert J. Foster, Ormond Beach
Ms. Hazel Harred, Daytona Beach

Mr. D. R. Hart, Holly Hill

Mrs. Rosella Mackey, Daytona Beach
Mr. Dennis T. Maguire, Holly Hill
Mr. C. Skerrett, Ormond Beach
Mr. Al Spencer, Ormond Beach
Mr. Gunnar O. Tonnessen, Daytona Beach
Mr. Edwin C. Weber, Daytona Beach
Mrs. R. J. Westerling, Daytona Beach
Ms. Helen Whitmore, Daytona Beach
Ms. Thelma Williams, Daytona Beach
Mr. R. R. Wing, Port Orange

SEA TURTLES. The Daytona Beach News-Journal printed an editorial on TEDs to be used by shrimpers to prevent sea turtles being drowned in shrimp trawl nets. The drawing appeared in the Environmental Defense Fund news letter. It is reported that Flagler Beach has adopted an ordinance to protect nesting sea turtles and their hatchlings by banning beachfront lighting which disorients the turtle mothers and their young ones. How-

# **Helps Endangered Sea Turtles**



The TED is a box or barrel-shaped device that is placed just ahead of the end of a shrimp trawl. A series of widely spread, slanted bars prevents the turtle from entering the end, forcing it instead out a special opening or trap door. Meanwhile, the much smaller shrimp pass through the bars and are swept into the closed end. The National Marine Fisheries Service has designed a highly effective TED (above) that reduces the incidental capture of sea turtles by 97% and totally eliminates drownings.

Illustration by Jill Perry, for the Center for Environmental Education.

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OIL SPILL. Former Interior Secretary James Watt charged that Florida

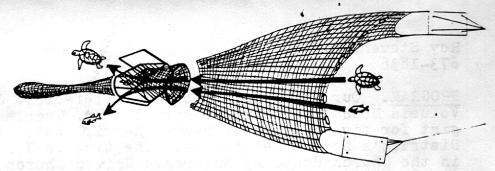
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TIGER CREEK. The Nature Conservancy announces an Open House at the Tiger Creek Nature Preserve on Saturday, March 28th, from 10 A. M. until 3 P. M., rain or shine, with guided nature walks from 10 A. M. until 2 P.M. Wear comfortable shoes, long pants and bring insect repellent and binoculars. No picnic areas and restrooms are available in this natural area. Directions: From U. S. 27 go east on Highway 60 for approximately nine miles, then turn right (south) on Lake Walk-in-the-Water Road. Continue three and a half miles and turn right (west) on Wakeford Road. Go one mile to preserve entrance and park on roadsides according to signs.

INTERNATIONAL CARIBOU AGREEMENT. An agreement between the United States and Canada designed to help protect the great migratory Porcupine Caribou Herd awaits the signature of Interior Secretary Donald Hodel. You can send letters in support of the Seattle Agreement to the Honorable Donald P. Hodel, Secretary of the Interior, 18th & C Streets, N. W., Washington,

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PONCE INLET MARINA. Our Conservation Chair, Ann Steed, attended a recent meeting in the town of Ponce Inlet on the proposed marina. She spoke on behalf of the Halifax River Audubon Society. Lee Bidgood of New Smyrna Audubon Audubon gave a very good presentation; he and some scientists visited islands proposed to be included in mitigation plans. They found flourishing vegetation on the islands and some very large trees. The Ponce Inlet Council voted against the marina. If the thousand acres of wetlands north of New Smyrna is broken into, other owners of property there will want to start developments also. Dr. Boardman has written a letter to the County Manager suggesting that instead of putting money in the marina funds should be put to use into cleaning of the Halifax River, also to buy property for beach-goers' parking.

Roy Stevenson, President 673-1838

Our March 16th program will feature John Gamble of the East Volusia Mosquito Control District. Mr. Gamble has been an entomologist for five and a half years; he will outline the Moscuito Control District's activities for us. The time is 7 P. M., Monday March 16th, in the Church House of Seabreeze United Church, on Wild Olive just south of Seabreeze Blvd., on the Peninsula, Daytona Beach.

CHAPTER PICNIC. Our annual picnic will take place April 11th, Saturday, at 1 P. M. It will take place at 6065 Hensel Road, Port Orange, which is the residence of Angelo and Jean Cerrito. Bring a covered dish, salad or dessert, also folding chairs. Plastic plates, knives, forks, spoons will be supplied, as well as coffee or tea. This picnic is for members.only, who should call one of the following numbers for reservations: Ann Steed 673-2904, Harold Nett 441-5584, Angelo Cerrito 767-5397. DRIVING DIRECTIONS: Hensel Road runs south of Taylor Road in Port Orange between Spruce Creek High School and Spruce Creek Elementary. To reach Taylor Road take I-95 to the Taylor Road exit, drive east past the High School, turn right on Hensel Road for 1 miles. Or take Nova Road to Spruce Creek Road, go a little less than a mile south, turn right on Taylor Road,



then go a little over a mile past the Spruce Creek Elementary School, then left on Hensel Road. See Map alongside. Please call.

MEMBER NEWS. We regret to inform you that our regular Pelican editor, Eleanor Zimmerman, was taken seriously ill while on a trip to New Zealand and Australia. She has returned to Daytona Beach and has been admitted to Halifax Medical Center. Norris Kahn is recuperating at home after an operation. Thelma Acosta recently had an operation on her foot. Bea Childs, a past president of our chapter, has moved from Milton Road to Ormond-in-the-Pines. Carlton and Vivian Smith will take a trip west in April. Sang Roberson has a liseum exhibit in May.

SUMMER/VINTER ADDRESS CHANGES. NAS has a special program in Florida to change addresses for members who change their place of residence with the change of seasons. In order for these changes to be made, National Audubon needs the exact months in the spring and fall in which these changes should be made . Each year National Audubon will automatically change the member's mailing address in the spring and fall until the member notifies National Audubon of a change in the mailing dates and/or address. Clearly mark Summer/Winter change of address and sent to:

The National Audubon Society Membership Department 950 Third Avenue New York, NY 10022

# Information Bulletin THE PELICAN

Daytona Beach, FL Permit No. 395 U.S. Postage Paid Non-Profit Org.

Daytona Beach, Florida Holifax Kiver Audubon Society

Roy Stevenson, President 673-1838

March 1987

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