



The Pelican

NEWSLETTER OF THE HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY

A CHAPTER OF NATIONAL AND FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETIES

JANUARY 1991

C H A L L E N G E S for 1991
by Peter A. Berle, President
National Audubon Society

FLA'S

Gov. CHILES

An (AP) release in the Daytona Beach Sunday News-Journal of Nov. 11th, stated that the chances of settlement of the federal suit over Everglades pollution was increased by the election of Lawton Chiles for governor. It is said that he favors negotiating a settlement. The governor elect also, on Dec. 17th announced that Carol Browner, a former U.S. Senate environmental aide, had been named to head the FLA. Dept. of Environmental Regulations. His selection met with the approval of conservationist leaders, who said that it marks the chance to reverse the perception that the agency plays down protection of natural resources in favor of economic development. "The people of FLA. are the clients here," Miss Browner said. She added that the DER will not necessarily see developers as adversaries but her top priority "will be to stop the degradation of our environment." Chiles, who since has appointed another woman to a top leadership position, now his third, joked that "We are not going to appoint just women. We need to find qualified men, not tokens, but that takes a little longer."

First came the summer of 1988: garbage on the beaches, holes in the ozone layer, drought in the Midwest, a nation awakening to the reality of environmental troubles.

In the dog-days of 1989 we fared little better. Angry shrimpers refused to comply with the law, costing the life of thousands of sea turtles. The impact of the country's worst oil spill, the Exxon Valdez, reverberated throughout the land.

* Citing "national security," the oil industry and some congressman renewed their call for drilling in the Arctic Ntl Wldlf Refuge while the oil spills continued to proliferate.

* Following the listing of the northern spotted owl as a threatened species, the administration worked feverishly to circumvent the Endangered Species Act, to allow continued high rates of logging in the Pacific Northwest. Developers continued to spend millions of dollars lobbying for the disastrous Two Forks Dam on the Platte River, despite an almost sure veto by the EPA.

However, 1990 will also be remembered for its victories, many engineered by Audubon Chapters/Activists:

* Revisions to the Clean Air Act passed both houses of Congress, that, over time, should stop acid rain.

* Oil spill liability legislation was signed requiring tankers to have double hulls and to make oil spillers pay more of the true costs of spills.

(Continued on page 3)

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

This is a special note to advise those who missed the December meeting that "You are out of it." Angelo Cerrito really did a fine job in preparing the ham. So delicious! And there was so much of it. There was enough food prepared by Angelo and the other good cooks that brought their special dishes, that we fed our guests, the Senior Chorus, 35 strong, and still had food left over.

Speaking of the "Senior Chorus," what entertainers they were. You could really tell that they enjoyed their work. Excellent singers, dancers, and just all-round jolly good folks. They really started our Christmas season with a bang.

JANUARY PROGRAM

Please note, in January we get back to nature, the enjoyment and preservation of it. We will have a slide presentation of an African Safari to Kenya, Nairobi and Tanzania. HERB BORMAM will present this special program showing scenes of the Massai Moro Game reserve, the Serengetti National Park, the Nogorangoro Crater, and Lake Manyara National Park. This will be a most interesting evening.

NOW COMES THE BIGGIE!

WALMART Corporation, through their Beville Rd store, donated to Halifax River Audubon Society, for environmental purposes, a check for \$1,000. There are apparently no strings attached and as this is being written before the January HRAS board meeting, information is not available as to how it is to be expended. Anyway, we are mighty thankful for this donation and commend the Walmart Corp. for their dedication to our cause. (Editor's note - one suggestion is that it might be used as matching funds for donations to the Audubon Adventures program. Just think how many school children we could reach this way.)

We've Come a Long Way!

The National Audubon Society has grown from a small group of concerned citizens protecting wading birds to one of the world's largest and most influential environmental organizations, in little more than a hundred years. Auduboners have been active in the century's most critical environmental battles, from achieving a ban on DDT due to its effect on wildlife to today's struggle to save the last ancient forests. And they include unforgettable personalities such as Roger Tory Peterson, Oscar Arias, and others.

Audubon's story has now been published and is available in bookstores across the country. Longtime Audubon magazine field editor Frank Graham, Jr. has written a 352-page book, entitled *The Audubon Ark: A History of the National Audubon Society*, published by Alfred A. Knopf. Royalties from its sale will benefit National Audubon Society programs.



HELP WILDLIFE

Snip rings on 6-pack holders. They end up in dumps and waterways where birds and other wildlife get caught in them and strangle. ☉ Plant berry and fruit producing shrubs and bushes to feed wildlife. ☉ Don't buy products made from wild animals that are endangered or threatened in their country of origin. When in doubt, don't buy at all. ☉ Wild animals don't make good pets. If you want an exotic pet, buy captive-bred.

(CHALLENGES from Page 1)

* More than 120 representatives signed on to Rep. Jim Jontz's Ancient Forest Protection Act of 1990.

* Audubon chapters in Florida participated in unprecedented training workshops on wetland preservation, sponsored by National Audubon. Many of the most crucial battles ahead of us will be fought at the local chapter level and your letters, phone calls, and appearances before public agencies will continue to make the difference on a whole host of local and national issues. Now is our chance to save the world. We can make a difference AND WE WILL.

Halifax River Audubon Society
Daytona Beach, Florida

December 17, 1990

Dear Members:

The Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior,, is conducting a winter census of the Piping Plover in the in the southeastern United States. It has requested the Halifax River Audubon Society to conduct the census from Ponce Inlet to five miles north of Ormond Beach.

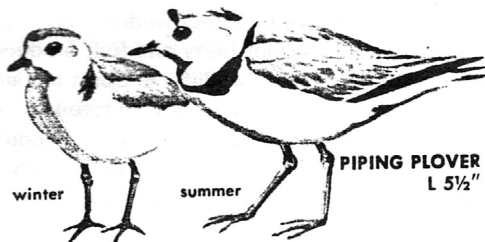
a. The Piping Plover was listed as an endangered threatened species in 1986. It is rare in this area, and would be a feather in our cap if we could find several during the census.

b. Saturday, January 19, 1991, has been selected as the date for our census.

c. Ten teams of two or more members will be required for the land portion of the census.

d. Five teams with boats will be required to cover the mudflats and beaches of islands in the Halifax River.

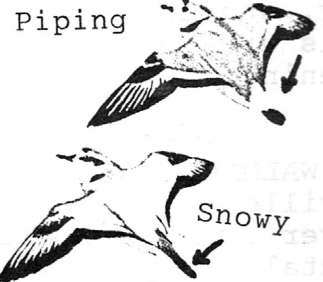
If you are interested in participating in this census, providing a team or water transportation, call Carl Lentz at 252-5053. Detailed information as to time, place, and entertainment will be provided in time for the census.



Sincerely,

Roy

Roy Stevenson



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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"THE PELICAN" Newsletter of HRAS
Carlton M. Smith - Editor
542 S. Lanvale Av
Daytona Beach FL 32114-3943



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Newsletter of The Halifax River Audubon Society

A Chapter of Florida and National Audubon Societies

February 1991

CONSERVATION NEWS from HERE AND THERE

DOES NATURE CARE WHO POLLUTES? - Environm'l Council, Vol. & Flag. Cos.
Rush Limbaugh, a radio personality on WNDB, has said that the reason no one has heard an outcry from environmental groups about the oil-spill in the Persian Gulf is that the blame can not be laid directly at the feet of the Capitalist System. Mr. Limbaugh's thesis is that unless an ecological disaster can be interpreted to be the result of corporate greed, decrying the event is not on the environmentalists' agenda. (Let us be glad that Mr L. does not speak for the majority of U.S. citizens or, for that matter, the population of the world. -Editor).

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY - Florida Chapter Enlarges Preserves
Apalachicola Bluffs: For almost a decade TNC has been acquir'g land along the eastern bank of the Apalachicola River. This Oct. purchase added 14.6 acres to the 6,300 acre preserve.
Torchwood Hammock: TNC added the 68 acre Nichols tract to this preserve on Little Torch Key. This \$39,000 purchase increased its size to 189 A.
Enchanted Forest of Brevard County: To protect century-old oaks and several imperiled species, TNC purchased 237 acres at a foreclosure auction for 3.9 million dollars. The owner's previous low asking price was \$10M. Note-HRAS last year gave \$500 to TNC.

MEMBER INPUT NEEDED

The HRAS Governing Board at its Feb meeting. voted to give \$100 ea to the

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY
Meets Third Mondays, Oct. thru Mar.
SEABREEZE UNITED CHURCH
501 N. Wild Olive Ave, Daytona Bch.

NEXT MEETING - 7:00 PM, FEB. 18, 1991

PROGRAM will be a slide presentation on "MANATEES" by Deborah Croak of the Fla Power & Light Co. FP&L, with its several power stations in our state, has developed an enormous amount of knowledge about the habits and habitat requirements of the West Indies Manatee. This species, that was once numerous and now is quite threatened within coastal and tidal waters of the southeastern United States, is observed and extensively studied during the winter months at Blue Spring State Park. On our Jan 18th field trip there, 15 of them were seen quite clearly. We were told by the ranger on duty that there were at that time, 45 of them within the run.

HRAS OFFICERS

President Robert L "Roy" Stevenson
112 Oak Ln OrmBch 32174 Ph 673-1938
Vice Pres Angelo Cerrito
6065 Hensel Rd PrtOrg 32127 767-5397
Vice Pres Robert C. Owens
22 Ponce DeLeon Dr OrmBch 32176 677-0385
Education Chrmn
Treasurer Mrs Carlton M (Vivian) Smith
542 S Lanvale Av DayBch. 32114 253-3815
Mbrshp Secy Mrs George (Audrey) Christie
1333 Margina Av DayBch 32114 255-7253
Rcrdg Secy Mrs Harry C (Jean) Lesh
8 Golden Gate Cir PrtOrg 32119 761-6893
Member-at-Large Carl Lentz
1215 S Peninsula Dr DayBch 252-5053
Member-at-Large Harold Nett

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The HRAS Governing Board at its Feb meeting, voted to give \$100 ea to the Volusia Botanical Gardens and The Volusia Historical Society. These gifts were for environmental projects and the increasing of environmental awareness of Volusia County Citizens.

During March, additional grants will be proposed and voted upon. It is the desire of your board, that if any member has an environmental project or organization that they wish to nominate for one of these awards, drop a note to the secretary or notify one of the officers by phone.

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Member-at-Large	Harold Nett
	3 Sunny Shore Dr OrmBch 32176 441-5584
Mbr-at-Lrg	Mrs Windsor W (Mildred) Esten
	135 Valencia Dr OrmBch 32176 672-9132

FIELD TRIPS

Leave the east end of the County Courthouse parking lot, City Island, 8.00 AM on scheduled dates. Upcoming trips will be as follows:

Fri., Feb 15th - Ravine Gardens
and Welaka Fish Hatchery
Sat., Mar 2nd - Black Point and

ATTRACTING BLUEBIRDS

Winged lute that we call a bluebird,
You blend in a silver strain
The sound of the laughing waters,
The patter of Spring's sweet rain,
The voice of the winds, the sunshine,
And fragrance of blossoming things.

Ah! you are an April poem,
That God has dowered with wings.

-Rexford

Prominent on farms, as well as cities some years ago, was that noted symbol of spring, the bluebird. These members of the thrush family were often spotted over the open fields and around the orchards. Frequently during the summer the bluebirds could be seen perched on some post or branch, occasionally dropping to the garden below to harvest a caterpillar or weevil, or perhaps taking a mosquito midflight. With their bright blue color and their warbling song, the bluebird has been a symbol of gentleness and love and held a friend of man.

Bluebirds have always nested in a cavity. It might have been a hole chiseled by woodpeckers or in a dead limb, or possibly in the cavity of a weathered fencepost.

But the same clean, efficient farming practices that have given us low cost, high quality foodstuffs have led to a decimation in the bluebird population. Some ornithologists have speculated that all three species of the bluebird - eastern, mountain, and western - could be nearly extinct by the turn of the century. Venomous insecticides in use since the 1940's have contaminated food supplies for wild birds and may directly affect the fragile bluebird as well. Wooden fenceposts have been replaced with metal or plastic posts. In addition, orchards are trimmed more carefully, thus removing dead, hollow limbs.

Perhaps even more seriously, the bluebirds' well being has been threatened by man's introduction of the English house sparrow and the European starling to this continent. These antagonistic birds have been known to kill the bluebirds and pilage their nests without provocation.

ST JOHN'S RIVER WATER MANAGM'T DIST.

- To have an OPEN HOUSE at their Headquarters Feb 16th, 10 AM til 2 PM. A "brunch-lunch" with refreshments will be served FREE. The Hq is located near Palatka on Rt 100, about one mile West of Hwy 19. Come out and get acquainted! You will be welcome.

- Bob and Shirley Owens

PIPING PLOVER WINTER CENSUS

HRAS, at the request of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Dpt/Interior, conducted a census of the threatened-endangered Piping Plover on Jan 19th. None were found but an uncommon Merlin and two Horned Grebes were seen. A special treat was a flock of 50 White Pelicans. Just to see these magnificent birds is sure to raise one's spirits.

The thanks of the society goes to the following who graciously gave their time to make the census a success: Cecelia Anderson and West Gonzales of the County Beach Trust;; George Carson, Sylvia Bollinger and Bill Krull of the Fla. Park Service; M/M John Hough, Mary Haigh and M/M Carlton Smith of HRAS. - Carl Lentz

But friends of the bluebird have proven that this favorite native can be rescued. In 1959, a retiree in Canada took it upon himself to begin a conservation project of erecting nesting houses that eventually produced as many as 3500 chicks a year. More recently, similar large-scale projects have been undertaken by the Audubon Naturalists Society of the Central Atlantic States and other conservation-minded groups.

Individuals can use similar techniques to bring the bluebird back to their communities on a smaller scale. The Audubon Society provides nesting boxes made of weather resistant cypress for interested individuals or groups. A single ready-made box is available for \$13 and each additional is only \$11, postage paid. Kits are also available for the same price. Make checks payable to "Bluebirds Across America" and mail to BBAA, c/o National Audubon Society, PO box 123, Horatio, SC 29062.

(See related article on Bluebird Housing in the PELICAN, March '89).

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 1333 MARGINA AV

9/90

The Pelican



Halifax River Audubon Society

March 1991

FIELD TRIPS

Past, Present and Future

- by Carl Lentz, Field Trip Director

Meets Third Mondays, Oct. thru Mar.
SEABREEZE UNITED CHURCH
501 N. Wild Olive Ave, Daytona Bch.

NEXT MEETING - 7:00 PM, MAR 18, 1991

PROGRAM will be presented by Marylou Weiner. She will take us on a slide presentation trip into the lost world of Venezuela. It is a world of forgotten horizons, laced with adventure and unparalleled wildlife. You will be exposed to AN abundance of flora and fauna. It is a land of great topographical and biological diversity.

Travel to the high elevations of the Andes and the Paramo, a high treeless plain located entirely within the tropics at elevations between 8,000 and 16,000 feet above sea level.

Descend to the Carribean coast of Venezuela to see the beauties of Morrocoy National Park, much like Fla. in habitat. Visit the unique treeless savannahs of the Llanos. These are permanent wetlands combined with a forest that alternates between wet and dry. We will also visit Angel Falls, the World's highest waterfalls, falling 3,200 feet.

This promises to be a very enjoyable evening so come out and enjoy.

- Angelo Cerrito

The trip to Black Point, March 1st, was great fun. The weather was threatening a good deal of the time but it held off. Admittedly there were some cool winds at picnic time but they were overcome by good fellowship. There were quite a few new faces on the trip that added a great deal of pleasure. The birds also did their part by coming out to be seen. Sixty two species were observed. The list was led by a roseate spoonbill which was a life bird for three of the birders.

There will be a change in the Mar. 15th schedule. The North Circle area will be changed to the Woodruff NWR which, due to rain, we missed on Feb. 2nd. There should be many species of ducks as well as snipe and limpkins there. At Deleon Springs an attempt will be made to attract barred Owls and warblers. It should be great fun especially if we get another influx of new faces.

The first trip in April will have a change in date, from the 6th (Sat.) to the 5th (Fri.). This is due to the Annual Picnic being scheduled on the 6th, which you will see noted elsewhere in this newsletter. On that Friday, we will go to Mullet Lake via Tomoka Farms Rd. This should be most interesting as we cover the habitats of passerines, waders and birds of prey. The count could be exceptional.

The April 19th trip to Washington Oaks and Matanzas Inlet could also be exceptional. Besides the many species and large numbers of birds, the flowers - particularly the roses - should be outstanding.

On May 4th, a conducted canoe trip from Wekiya Springs down the Wekiya



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On May 4th, a conducted canoe trip from Wekiva Springs down the Wekiva River will be held. In the past this has been the outstanding trip of the year. It is fun and informative. While the canoes have to be paddled, it is not really too strenuous. As the canoes have to be reserved it is necessary to call me at 252-5053 for reservations as soon as possible. There will be a charge of \$3. to \$5. depending on how many persons are in each canoe. Privately owned canoes may be used but let me know. You will see the real Florida, an area that is



**WRITE! TELEPHONE! JOIN!
CONTRIBUTE!**

Keep passing the word. Communication keeps ideas alive.

⊗ Express your views to your friends; tell them what you are doing. ⊗ Write to your local newspaper and your elected officials. Keep environmental issues in the forefront.

⊗ Become part of the Audubon Activist Network. Join more than 12,000 citizen-activists who are doing something about big environmental problems. ⊗ Support the conservation organization(s) of your choice. Add your name

AUDUBON ADVENTURES

The National Audubon Society has a program to instill in fifth grade students an appreciation of the environment, the important part it plays in their lives and how they can help to protect it. This program, consists of a bimonthly news letter for each student and a lesson guide for the teacher.

Last year HRAS underwrote this program for 12 area classes at a cost of \$30 per class. The membership was most generous in providing the necessary funds.

The program was most successful. All teachers were very enthusiastic about the program and felt it was making a worthwhile impression on the students. The Volusia County Board of Education graciously presented to HRAS a plaque for its role as a partner in education.

This program was so successful that it should not only be continued but expanded. Glade Koch of HRAS has volunteered to relieve Carl Lentz of the responsibility he undertook last year for this program. She is now interviewing prospective class teachers to be included next year. Your help is needed. Please send donations to our treasurer, Vivian Smith, 542 S. Lanvale Av, Daytona Bch, FL 32114.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Halifax River Audubon Society is fortunate to have within its membership many who are talented and experienced in fields that are pertinent to the environment and natural history. A new program is being inaugurated to utilize these assets in future programs for the benefit of all members. If you would be willing to present a lecture or conduct a field trip in your specialty, call Roy Stevenson at 252-0466. Every effort will be made to provide the administrative support that you might need to relieve you of details. In addition, if there is any particular trip that you might like the society to conduct, let Roy know that also.

HUGS ARE BETTER THAN DRUGS - PROTECT
OUR COUNTRY'S FUTURE WITH LOVE

WHAT: H.R.A.S. ANNUAL PICNIC

FOR WHOM: All Members and guests

WHEN: Saturday, April 6th, 12-4 PM

WHERE: The Cerrito's - 6065 Hensel Rd., Pt. Orange (see map)

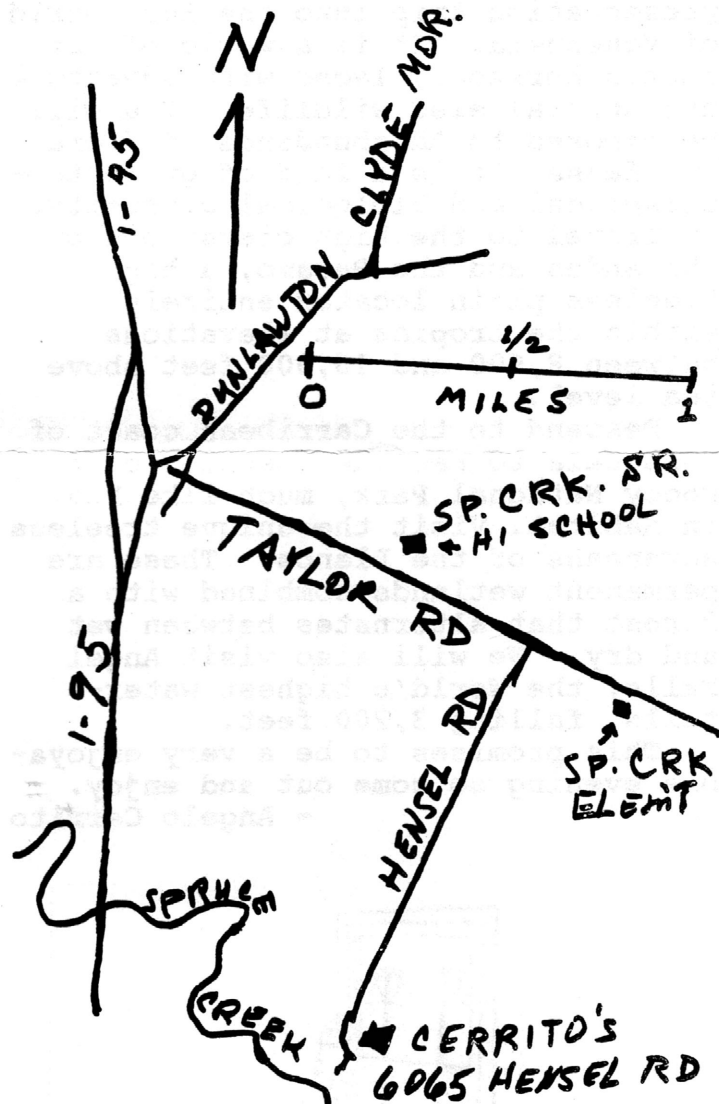
MENU: Bar-B-Q Chicken, by Carl Lentz
Cofee or Soft Drinks, by HRAS

U Bring: Salad, vegetable, dessert or other items as desired.

RESERVATIONS: (So that we will know how much chicken to buy) Call Vivian Smith, Ph. 253-3815 by April 1st.

This will be the last general membership gathering until fall. Field trips will continue as scheduled. The Pelican to be published every month.

This will be our last chance to have Fellowship with Angelo and Jean as they leave for Michigan for the summer within the week.



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SUMMER RECESS

NEXT MEETING - OCTOBER 21 1991

Newsletter to continue every month -

Watch for Environmental action needed

THOUGHTS ON OSPREYS

By Dr. Bob Loftin of Duval Audubon
in "The Duval Observer" - Jan 91

Ospreys are found all over the world and wherever you find them, are pretty much the same. An osprey in New Guinea belongs to a different subspecies than an osprey in Palatka but it is about the same size and behaves in much the same manner.

I've often wondered why there isn't more variation in ospreys. When you look at the accipters, for example, you see an array of sizes from the large goshawk through the medium sized Cooper's hawk down to the small sharp-shinned hawk. When you look at the genus throughout the world there is more variation than we see here. The same thing is true of falcons. There are very large falcons (the gyrfalcon), very small falcons (the kestrels) and everything in between. Endless variation in color, habitat, and ecology throughout the world. But not with ospreys. I've often imagined small ospreys, the size of a kestrel, plunging into the water and coming up with a minnow. I wonder why they don't exist. Maybe they did at one time. There are many examples of fossil species which once filled out the range of variation but now no longer exist. Is the modern osprey the sole survivor of a varied group that once existed? Or did fish eating hawks never evolve because competition filled those niches? Perhaps they could not compete with the kingfishers.

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FIELD TRIPS

- by Carl Lentz, Field Trip Director

Leave the east end of the County Courthouse parking lot, City Island, 8.00 AM on scheduled dates. Upcoming trips will be as follows:

The April 19th trip to Washington Oaks and Matanzas Inlet should be exeptional. Besides the many species and large numbers of birds, the flow-ers, particularly the roses, ought to be outstanding.

On May 4th, a conducted canoe trip from Wekiva Springs down the Wekiva River will be held. In the next this

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THOUGHTS ON OSPREYS

By Dr. Bob Loftin of Duval Audubon
 in "The Duval Observer" - Jan 91

Ospreys are found all over the world and wherever you find them, are pretty much the same. An osprey in New Guinea belongs to a different subspecies than an osprey in Palatka but it is about the same size and behaves in much the same manner.

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Be that as it may, I love to watch an osprey plunge into the water. Ospreys don't dive. Loons and grebes dive. Ospreys plunge! Fish can see well to the side but can't see directly overhead. Neither can you. When I try to see what is directly over my head, I realize I would be completely at the mercy of a silent predator coming directly down on me from above and the mystery of how the osprey catches fish becomes less puzzling. Now I wonder why fish haven't evolved better vertical vision.

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On May 4th, a conducted canoe trip from Wekiva Springs down the Wekiva River will be held. In the past this has been the outstanding trip of the year. It is fun and informative. While the canoes have to be paddled, it is not really too strenuous. As the canoes have to be reserved it is necessary to call me at 252-5053 for reservations as soon as possible. There will be a charge of \$3. to \$5. depending on how many persons are in each canoe. Privately owned canoes may be used but let me know. You will see the real Florida, an area that is being much fought over these days by developers and environmentalists.

AUDUBON ADVENTURES



Educational News

Audubon Adventures is a classroom based club program for 4th, 5th and 6th grades. The program develops an interest in the natural world by providing information and opportunities for exploring nature. Topics included are songbirds, mammals, endangered species, recycling and more. Sponsor cost, is \$30.00 per classroom per school year. This includes news letters for each student and a lesson guide for the teacher.

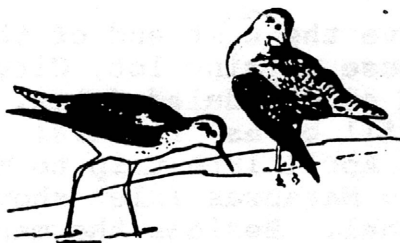
H.R.A.S.'s involvement is only two years old. Last year we gave almost \$400 to this program, estimated to have reached over 300 students for a cost of about \$1.25 per pupil.

Your society has budgeted \$600.00 for next years program. If enough donations come in, we will give more. Our goal is to reach every 5th grade classroom in our area.

Glade Koch, a former 5th grade teacher is heading up this program for us and has already started lining up classroom teachers for next year. Unfortunately, this years donations are lagging behind last years. This is a request for the consideration by every member of our chapter for a special gift for this worthy cause.

Please make your checks payable to Halifax River Audubon Society, mark it for "Audubon Adventures" and mail to Vivian F. Smith, treasurer, 542 S. Lanvale Av., Daytona Beach, 32114.

Thank you!



We're pleased to announce the new NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY VISA Gold and Scenic VISA cards!

The new Audubon VISA Gold and Scenic ("Puffin") VISA cards provide our members with many valuable benefits including \$1,000,000 in Travel Accident Insurance, high initial credit lines, buyers' protection, free additional cards, and much, much more! And to make it as easy as possible for you to try out the new Audubon VISA cards there's no annual fee for the first year.

What's especially important about these cards is that *every time they're used*, a portion of the purchase price is donated to the Audubon Society at no cost to the cardholder. Audubon also receives royalties for every account that's opened or renewed.

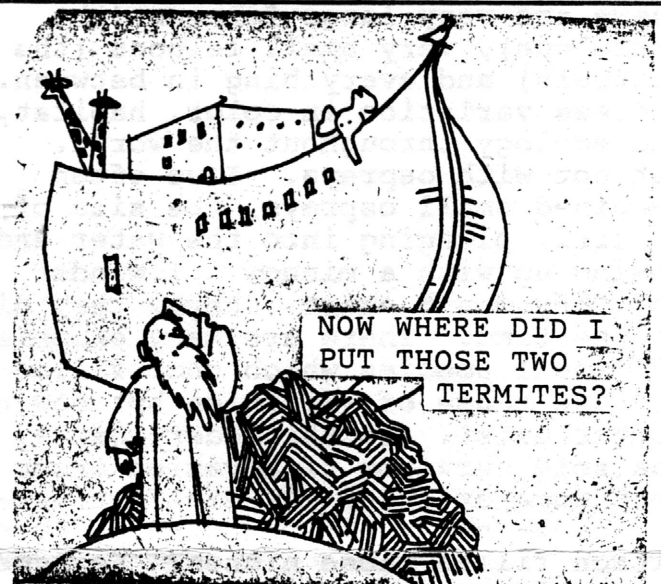
Applying for and using the Audubon VISA cards are wonderful ways to show your support for Audubon.

The bank, MBNA America, is the fourth largest credit card issuer in the country - widely respected for its success in affinity credit card programs like ours.

To apply for the card over the phone, call MBNA America anytime at **1-800-847-7378 ext. 5000**.

Or for more information, please call or write to:
Stacy Weller - Marketing Department
National Audubon Society
950 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10022
(212) 546-9143

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!





The Pelican

Halifax River Audubon Society

May 1991

WILL THE EVERGLADES BE SAVED?

Adapted from an article in ENFO, issue 90-3 by Paul Parks and an (AP) item in THE NEWS-JOURNAL 5/8/91.

It is hard to find anyone who does not want to protect the Florida Everglades. It is sacred ground to Floridians and to many other Americans. But we seem to have a difficult time getting started. The South Fla Water Management District (SFWMD) has the combination of a regulatory authority and the ability to raise funds to bring about remedial action. The Fla. Dept. of Environmental Regulation (DER) has the responsibility to oversee SFWMD's actions and to ensure that water quality laws are enforced.

In Oct. 1988, the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Fla. filed a complaint against the SFWMD and DER in an effort to protect the Everglades National Park et.al. from the effects of polluted drainage water. The DER is charged with failure to regulate SFWMD pumping stations. SFWMD is charged with failure to regulate growers whose activities produce the contaminated water.

From the grower's perspective, any litigation that delays the implementation of remedial action pays for itself many times over. The annual losses from a remedy are potentially much greater than litigation costs.

Add to all this, The Fla. Legislature this past session, passed a clean-up bill for the Everglades, heralding the state's get tough policy on farm pollution endangering the Everglades Natl. Pk. But even as

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ANNUAL PICNIC

On April 6th, H.R.A.S. had a real fine picnic at the home of Angelo and Jean Cerrito. Those present had a very enjoyable time. The Society is deeply indebted to the Cerrito's for hosting such an event, especially at a time so close to their departure for their summer home in Michigan. We hope they are doing well and enjoying the birding of that area.

In the rush of events, we are afraid that a big "Thank You" due our

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In the rush of events, we are afraid that a big "Thank You" due our Master Chef, Carl Lentz, was overlooked. Certainly the oversight was not intentional. He did an excellent job in preparing the chicken or "Barbecued Limpkin," as he called it. Nothing but compliments were heard from those present. Let us hope that the thrills and happiness that comes with the reassembling of his family, from the war in the Middle East, will overshadow our oversight. Thank you, Carl.

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Add to all this, The Fla. Legislature this past session, passed a clean-up bill for the Everglades, heralding the state's get tough policy on farm pollution endangering the Everglades Natl. Pk. But even as Gov. Chiles, at the home of Marjory Stoneman Douglas, was signing this bill into law, U.S. Attorney Dexter Lehtinen said, "The state has failed to present any concrete plans to save the Everglades and ... the reason for the lawsuit ... remain. We are committed to action". Gov. Chiles is reported to be agitated that Lehtinen is pushing ahead with the suit. "Sometimes," he said, "It is hard to wean yourself off a good lawsuit."

(See EVERGLADES, Back Page)

AUDUBON ADVENTURES



Halifax River's Audubon Adventures program continues at an ever increasing pace. By providing information and exploring opportunities, we are attempting to develop an interest in the natural world by school children of our area. Our goal is to reach every local fifth grade classroom. Sponsor cost, is \$30.00 per classroom per school year. This includes news letters for each student and a lesson guide for the teacher.

This is only the second year that H.R.A.S. has been involved so have not yet reached our goal. BUT, we are growing.

A very special THANKS goes to the following who have already made generous contributions:

Mr and Mrs John Hough
Mr and Mrs Dick McCue
"Pokey" Coleman
Audrey Christie
Mrs Cecile Smith
Mr and Mrs Bill Francis
Mary Haigh
Evelyn Schouw

If you wish to add your name to this list of people who are helping make this program possible, mark your checks "Audubon Adventures" and mail to Vivian F. Smith, treasurer, 542 S. Lanvale Av., Daytona Beach, 32114.

Thank you!

(From EVERGLADES, Front Page)

There is a longing to recreate the Everglades of the past, but is that possible? Most wetlands on the east side of the Everglades has been lost to urban development. Much of the present farming acreage is going to be valuable farm land for a very long time. Nevertheless, we can work toward protecting and restoring what remains. Though much has been lost, the remaining is very valuable to us and to future generations.

We certainly don't want to give up because we can't make it perfect.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

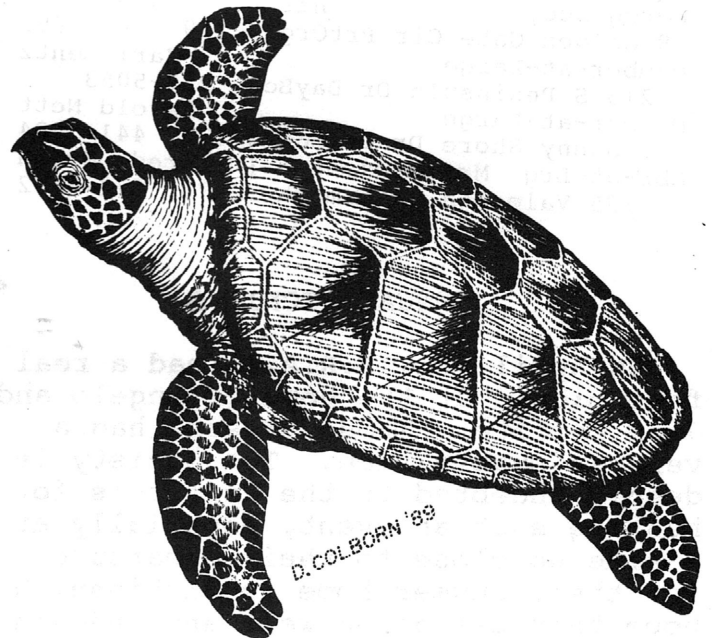
The Adopt-A-Highway program is a partnership between civic clubs and other civic minded organizations and the Department of Transportation to help cleanup highways in the State of Florida and to keep them clean.

The club, business, organization or individual volunteering, agrees to remove litter at least four times a year on a two mile section of highway, to dedicate at least two years to the program and to attend two safety meetings per year. These are the minimum requirements of the program. A group may expand on these responsibilities if they wish.

The Fla. Dept. of Transportation (DOT) agrees to pick-up litter at specified locations, provide safety vests and warning signs displaying the groups name.

According to The Florida Gardener, bi-monthly magazine of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, groups may participate in DOT's Wildflower Program by purchasing wildflower seeds for the DOT to plant.

For more information on this program contact the Clean Florida Commission 605 Suwannee St, MS-2, Tallahassee FL 32399-0450 or, in Volusia County, the DOT office in DeLand.



Halifax River Audubon Society

June 1991

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RAGE OVER TREES

Tracts of ancient forest in Oregon, Washington and Idaho are being logged at a rate faster than the Brazilian Rain Forest. The clear cutting is killing the forests. It's squeezing loggers too; for more and more unprocessed timber is being exported meaning less work for timber mills.

We must face the facts. If these destructive logging industry practices are not halted, within ten years we will be faced with the loss of an entire ecosystem. The loss will be incalculable. At the least it means no more spotted owls, no more 250-foot tall 300-year-old trees and, no more timber industry jobs.

In the early 1980's, Audubon activists discovered that the U. S. Forest Service was granting the timber industry a free hand in logging of ancient forests. They found it difficult to stop this practise because there was little knowledge of how much ancient forest was actually left. The timber industry and the Forest Service said there was plenty. Audubon activists knew there wasn't.

Our response was to go out and actually map the forest acre by acre. Since its reception, over 200 volunteer activists have participated in our Adopt-A-Forest program, fanning out through the ancient forest to help us take inventory, providing the building blocks for a conservation program that has become a national crusade. With knowledge obtained, our staff and our grassroots lobbyists went to work on Congress and the Forest Service.

Our most notable success was demanding protection of the spotted owl, whose numbers had dwindled to just a few thousand. Because the spotted owl, a wide ranging hunter, lives only in the ancient forest, the decimation of the forest is pushing it to extinction. Now the spotted owl is officially a threatened species, and logging is prohibited from areas where spotted owls are concentrated.



AUDUBON ADVENTURES

Halifax River's Audubon Adventures program continues at an ever increasing pace. By providing information and exploring opportunities, we are attempting to develop an interest in the natural world by school children of our area. Our goal is to reach every local fifth grade classroom. Sponsor cost, is \$30.00 per classroom per school year. This includes news letters for each student and a lesson guide for the teacher. We are now preparing for classes that open in September.

Recent contributors include Bob & Shirley Owens and Carol Branch. If you wish to add your name to those helping make this program possible, mark your check "Audubon Adventures" and mail to Vivian Smith, treasurer,

Birding Is Big Business, Says American Birds

Birders "constitute an important economic and political force" in the United States, according to an article in the Summer 1990 issue of *American Birds*, the birding journal of the National Audubon Society.

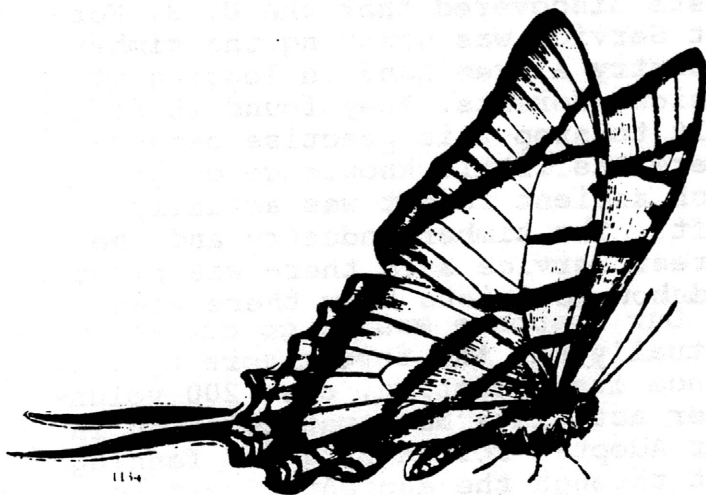
The article, co-authored by ornithologists David Wiedner and Paul Kerlinger, is based on a survey of a thousand "active" birders—in this instance, participants in Audubon's Christmas Bird Count—and their spending habits. Among other things, it found the amount of travelling done by birders "staggering": by car alone, each birder travels more than 2,700 miles a year, just for birding. And the average birder spends a total of \$1,852 annually for birding travel, accommodations, and products ranging from binoculars to bird books.

In all, the authors conclude, the participants in the Christmas Bird Count (43,000 in 1989) can be expected to spend a total of \$79.6 million dollars a year. And with an estimated 61 million birders of varying levels of interest living in this country, the figure runs into the tens of billions of dollars!

For information about subscribing to *American Birds*, write to American Birds, 950 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022.

RECENT SIGHTINGS

MARY LYNCH REPORTS that on/near the grounds of the Atlantic Shores Hospital, 800 blk of Jimmy Ann Dr, Holly Hill, there is a small pond. Here a Mute Swan can be found almost daily. She also reports an active Osprey nest in a tree near the SE corner of Nova and Big Tree Roads, South Daytona.



Join the Audubon Activist Network!

Oil spills. Ancient Forests. Endangered Species. Do you want to do something about these issues? You can--by joining the Audubon Activist Network. The Network is Audubon's corps of concerned citizens who want to make a difference in the environment. You will join over 20,000 activists who want to make their voices heard through letters and phone calls on local, state, national, and international issues. As part of the Network, you will receive the new *Audubon Activist*, now published on a monthly basis, as well as *Action Alert* bulletins on key votes in Congress. You'll also have access to the Actionline phone number with updates on late-breaking news. To join the Network, simply fill out the form below and send to: *Audubon Activist*, 950 Third Ave., NY, NY 10022.

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-41

Chapter: HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY

Signature: _____

Gas Mileage and Air Pollution

Improving motor vehicle gas mileage standards can lower the amount of carbon dioxide, a major contributor to global warming, that cars and trucks emit each year.



Source: American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy
All figures are for yearly emissions
© Safe Energy Communication Council



The Pelican

NEWSLETTER OF THE HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY

A CHAPTER OF NATIONAL AND FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETIES

July 1991

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FELLOW AUDUBON BIRDWATCHERS, Note:

- By Kathy Giddings

There is a place not far away, where the birds are ... nesting, raising babies, learning to fly ... and all within closeup range. No binoculars are necessary. Great photo opportunities! Where? Don't laugh! The St. Augustine Alligator Farm on AlA, east side of the Bridge of Lions.

The Alligator Farm is no tourist trap - it's beautifully landscaped and maintained and with an extremely capable and friendly staff.

The birds are in "The Swamp". You

CRITICAL ISSUES

BY DR. PETER BERLE, NAS PRESIDENT
-Excerpts from his letter of
June 20th to Chapter leaders

Audubon Magazine has been recognized as an outstanding publication for years. Its design, its color photos, its columns and articles and its editorial positions have pioneered the field. We plan to continue this tradition in the 1990's.

There is an urgent message that the magazine needs to convey to our members and the world at large. This message is simple yet stark: like it or not, human beings are defining nature. We are losing it to the activities of man, and if we are to save it, it will be through human actions. The magazine should explore the issues of our relationship to nature and at the same time, inspire our readers to protect it.

Birds and wildlife are the indicators of the health of the planet. They are at the heart of the Audubon Cause and we are committed to their protection and preservation. Spotted owls, endangered wood storks, whooping cranes, diminishing numbers of shorebirds and songbirds - to name a few - are central to our most important programs. Our High Priority Campaigns - to protect the ARTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, save the last ANCIENT FORESTS of the Northwest, guarantee a future for the fabulous wildlife of the PLATTE RIVER, and protect WETLANDS across the nation - demonstrate an organization on the cutting edge of critically important issues to protect our threatened

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 - By Kathy Giddings

There is a place not far away,
 where the birds are ... nesting,
 raising babies, learning to fly ...
 and all within closeup range. No
 binoculars are necessary. Great
 photo opportunities! Where? Don't
 laugh! The St. Augustine Alligator
 Farm on A1A, east side of the Bridge
 of Lions.

The Alligator Farm is no tourist
 trap - it's beautifully landscaped
 and maintained and with an extremely
 capable and friendly staff.

The birds are in "The Swamp". You
 walk on a boardwalk over where the
 alligators are and the birds are
 almost within arms reach and very
 used to people. Not a great variety,
 but they change - lately there have
 been Louisiana Herons, Snowy and
 Cattle Egrets and a big group of
 Roseate Spoonbills "passed through".

Admittance is \$7.95 (less for
 seniors) but if you think you might
 want to go more than once, get the
 annual pass at \$11.95.

Travel up A1A or take I-95 to Rt 1
 (just after you cross into St John's
 County - it's marked). Take Rt 1 to
 312 and follow signs.

CRITICAL ISSUES

BY DR. PETER BERLE, NAS PRESIDENT
 -Excerpts from his letter of
 June 20th to Chapter leaders

Audubon Magazine has been recognized
 as an outstanding publication for
 years. Its design, its color photos,
 its columns and articles and its
 editorial positions have pioneered
 the field. We plan to continue this
 tradition in the 1990's.

There is an urgent message that
 the magazine needs to convey to our
 members and the world at large. This
 message is simple yet stark: like it
 or not, human beings are defining nature.
 We are losing it to the activities
 of man, and if we are to save it,
 it will be through human actions.
 The magazine should explore the
 issues of our relationship to nature
 and at the same time, inspire our
 readers to protect it.

Birds and wildlife are the indicators
 of the health of the planet. They
 are at the heart of the Audubon
 Cause and we are committed to their
 protection and preservation. Spotted
 owls, endangered wood storks,
 whooping cranes, diminishing numbers
 of shorebirds and songbirds - to name
 a few - are central to our most important
 programs. Our High Priority
 Campaigns - to protect the ARTIC
 NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, save the last
 ANCIENT FORESTS of the Northwest,
 guarantee a future for the fabulous
 wildlife of the PLATTE RIVER, and
 protect WETLANDS across the nation -
 demonstrate an organization on the
 cutting edge of critically important
 issues to protect our threatened
 wildlife habitats. We are about to
 add a fifth major campaign to this
 list: strengthening the ENDANGERED
 SPECIES ACT as it is being considered
 for reauthorization by Congress.

We cannot save birds and wildlife
 habitat unless we address the issue
 of people. It is people who are
 destroying wildlife habitat around
 the world - forest "harvesting" for
 people, new highways for our cars,
 shopping centers, farm drainage,
 housing developments - all these
 moving across the land and bringing
 death to the ecosystems so important
 (Continued on back page)

AUDUBON ADVENTURES

This month we would like to share a couple notes from participants.

From a teacher:

Your generosity in providing AUDUBON ADVENTURES for my students this year has meant a lot to us. What a super way to preserve our environment, to educate our youngsters and instill in them a sense of appreciation and responsibility! Thanks very much for your essential role in this.-Sincerely, Lisa Shuffle

From a donor:

This seems like the best \$30.00 investment in a long time. Now, if the kids will just teach their parents... David Hartgrove

If you would like to contribute to this very worthwhile program, our cost is \$30.00 per classroom per school year. Please make your check payable to HRAS, mark it for "Audubon Adventures" and mail to Vivian Smith, treasurer, 542 S Lanvale Av., Daytona Bch 32114. Our goal is to be able to reach every local fifth grade class and are now preparing for the school year that starts in September.

SINKHOLES

Sinkholes and caves are similar to springs in some ways, for they are all "holes in the ground".

Sinkholes occur when a crack grows in the clay that lies under the sand and over the limestone. Cracks may be caused by water seepage wearing away the clay and eroding the limestone. When a crack breaks through to sand, the sand runs through it like sand in an hourglass. This can happen when the water level in the aquifer drops because there is too little rain or when we pump too much out. Or it can happen when heavy rains add too much weight to the sandy soil above, causing the "roof" to crash in. Then the ground above and everything on it — trees, sometimes roads and houses — falls into the hole. A sinkhole can be shallow — only a few feet deep, or it can be "bottomless" — no one knows how deep.

Many of Florida's lakes are ancient sinkholes, and new ones occur frequently. Sometimes From "The Florida Naturalist" Vol.62, No.4

This nice letter was received from Mr. Richard Shuler, Project Chairman for the Florida Trail Association:

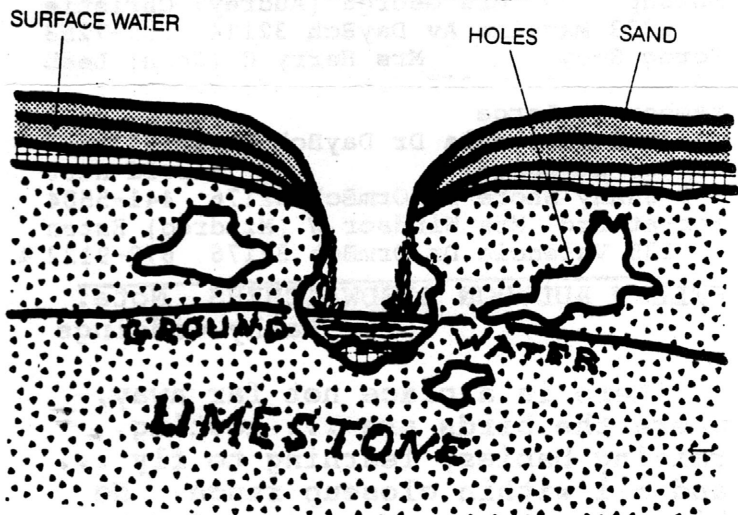
Thank you very much for the \$50.00 contribution from the Halifax River Audubon Society made to our Chapter of the Florida Trail Association. It is being placed in our treasury to be used for trail building projects.

Your interest in our trail work and conservation is very much appreciated. Hope to meet you on the trail sometime. Perhaps your Chapter could join us for one of our workhike breakfasts.

Sincerely yours,
s/Dick



(CRITICAL ISSUES, from front page) to our own as well as wildlife survival on the planet. "I am proud to be a part of the first environmental organization that, nearly a decade ago, took up the issue of population growth." - Sincerely, Peter



Collapse Sinkhole — Collapse sinkholes occur when an eroding cavity underground grows in size until the roof caves in. It usually happens suddenly, sometimes creating deep holes with overhanging walls.

AMERICA'S RAIN FOREST GOES TO PULP

Still largely wild and pristine, North America's last temperate rain forest blankets the rugged coastline of Alaska's southeastern panhandle. Incorporated into the 17-million acre Tongass National Forest, spruce and hemlock often 800 years old shelter an area of incredibly abundant wildlife and unparalleled scenery.

Despite these rare qualities, current federal law and Forest Service contracts with two southeast Alaska pulp mills mean the continuing destruction of hundreds of thousands of acres of virgin timber. Ironically, American taxpayers fund the chainsawing. Because of the terms of their 50-year contracts, stumpage rates paid by the mills are only a fraction of the timber's value. In addition, the federal government annually spends around \$50 million to build logging roads and prepare sales for the two mills, one of which is wholly Japanese-owned.

In May hearings, Audubon vice-president Brock Evans called upon Congress to support legislation, the Tongass Timber Reform Act, that would eliminate the subsidy and 4.5 billion board feet per decade cutting goal established under the Lands Act in 1980. The timber program resulting from these unusual provisions, according to Evans, destroys crucial habitat for a range of wildlife including grizzly bear, Sitka black-tailed deer, and five species of salmon. In addition, the thousands of acres of clearcuts and hundreds of miles of logging roads adversely affect the region's healthier resource industries -- commercial fishing and tourism.

Despite these devastating environmental consequences, Evans noted that the government has spent over \$287 million on the Tongass timber program since 1982. In return, the Forest Service has collected only \$32 million in timber receipts. Because of the combined fiscal and environmental loss, Evans asked Congress to cancel the Forest Service's unprecedented 50-year contracts with the two mills and to consider adding several prime scenic and wildlife areas to existing wilderness.

About half of the largest, oldest trees still stand on the Tongass. **Virtually none of them are protected in wilderness.** Your help is needed to ensure that some are protected for future generations.

AUDUBON ADVENTURES

Previous notices have informed you that H.R.A.S. hopes to reach every 5th grade classroom in the Halifax area with with this nationally acclaimed program. This coming year we hope to reach at least 20 classes, an increase of 75% over last.

The cost of 20 classrooms at \$30.00 each will be \$600. Since March we have sent National \$480, leaving only \$120. to reach this goal. Since March donations from members have amounted to a whopping \$460. If you wish to contribute towards this very worthy project, make your check payable to H.R.A.S., mark it for "Audubon Adventures" and send IT to Vivian Smith, treasurer at the address listed below.

Contributions received but not previously acknowledged were from:

Dorothy Kenney
Elsie Kinsey
Nancy Long
Fred and Alma More
Madeline Shaddix
Ed and Mary Williams

Your society thanks you very much.

HRAS OFFICERS

President	Robert L "Roy" Stevenson
112 Oak Ln	OrmBch 32174 Ph 673-1838
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WHAT OTHERS SAY

— THE NEWS-JOURNAL Thursday, August 8, 1991

Forum tackles managing and defining of county wetlands

By DENISE O'TOOLE

DAYTONA BEACH — Volusia County officials hit a few snags trying to enforce wetlands preservation laws that took effect in the middle of a drought, Environmental Management Director Steve Kintner said Wednesday.

"We were standing with people on sites that were bone dry, trying to convince them it was a wetland. No one's happier about the rains than the environmental program,"

Kintner told developers, city planners and others who gathered at Indigo Lakes Hilton Banquet Center for a forum sponsored by the Volusia County Association for Responsible Development.

Kintner's comments reflected the frustration regulators and developers have encountered in the name of wetlands protection. As he and other seminar speakers pointed out, a wetland isn't always wet. And federal, state, regional and county agencies have different ideas about which wetlands are worthy of protection.

"If it's important to regulate wetlands, perhaps everyone should be talking about the same thing," said emcee Bob Riggio, of Owens & Associates, a local law firm representing a number of land developers.

Kathryn Mennella, assistant general counsel for the St. Johns River Water Management District, said state lawmakers may attempt in the coming session to streamline the process

of getting permits for development in and around wetlands. A state panel studied the differences between the wetlands delineation methods used by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the state Department of Environmental Regulation, she said.

"What came out of that group was an understanding of what the overlaps are," she said, adding that some legislators hope to simplify the process by asking the Corps to delegate its permitting program to the state.

AUDUBON OFFERS SERIOUS FUN

by Peter A.A. Berle

President, National Audubon Society

There are outstanding people and programs throughout the National Audubon Society, and it is our ability to tie these strengths together that makes us such an effective conservation organization. The 504 local chapters are a key component of this network. Your Audubon chapter gives you an opportunity to meet with others in your community who share your interest in wildlife and your concern about the environment.

Can you devote an hour a month to the Audubon Cause? An hour a week? Or some part of every day? Chapters are flexible and welcome any level of commitment. Audubon also adapts to many different *kinds* of involvement. Would you like to help arrange field trips? Write for the newsletter? Analyze forest management plans? Survey local wetlands? Lobby in the state capital? Or participate in the Birdathon?

The Audubon chapter that sends you this newsletter will appreciate whatever time, interests, and skills you have to offer. Your contribution will be amplified by the entire National Audubon Society. And, while you are helping protect wildlife, you will enjoy the high-spirited camaraderie that characterizes Audubon chapters.

The Audubon Activist

From the outside, conservation issues often seem complicated and impregnable. Many Audubon members want to help stop pollution and the destruction of wildlife habitat, but do not know where to begin. Whether you are new to the environmental front lines or a savvy veteran, the *Audubon Activist* is your ticket to greater effectiveness. This bimonthly newspaper, published by National Audubon Society, gives you background information on important conservation issues, the latest legislative picture, and advice from other Auduboners who are fighting the same battles.

As a member of Audubon's Activist Team, you will also receive occasional "Action Alerts," which are one-page summaries of issues that need your urgent attention. This system works; your voice will be heard.

For a free sample issue of the "Activist" (subscriptions are \$9 a year), write: *Audubon Activist*, National Audubon Society, 950 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. □

Florida Audubon Society ANNUAL CONVENTION

Theme: Restoring Florida Rivers: the Oklawaha River as a case study.

November 1-3, 1991

Camp Ocala, Ocala National Forest

By DENISE O'TOOLE

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"THE PELICAN" Newsletter of HRAS
Carlton M. Smith - Editor
542 S. Lanvale Av
Daytona Beach FL 32114-3943

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

MRS AUDREY CHRISTIE 9/90
1333 MARGINA AV
DayBch FL 32114



The Pelican

Halifax River Audubon Society

A Chapter of The Florida and National Audubon Societies

September 1991

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HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY
 meets Third Mondays, October
 through March at SEABREEZE UNITED
 CHURCH, 501 North Wild Olive
 Avenue, Daytona Beach, Florida.

NEXT MEETING, OCTOBER 21, 1991

WETLANDS MITIGATION

Mitigation of wetlands is an inadequate theory of justification for destroying wetlands. It is a tragic mistake, promoted by developers whose interests are personal gain.

Nature designed wetlands from the underground upward, depositing layers of soil types impervious to water percolation. Most Florida soils consist of sand, shell and other porous materials. Clays and organic matter from decayed plants combine to form underground saucers that retain rainwater. Destruction of these pans by breaking

DEFINING AWAY THE WETLANDS

A News-Journal Editorial of 8/15/91

How wet does land have to be in order to be a wetland? That may sound like a silly question, but some of the nation's most valuable wetlands do not always look like swamps. They are not necessarily next to lakes and rivers and may not be very wet except in time of heavy rain.

Lands such as these filter wastes from water, hold water that might otherwise cause flooding, help recharge underground water supplies and provide an irreplaceable habitat for animal life of all kinds. They are not always scenic, misty marshes, and often are a vital part of the natural balance.

It is estimated that Florida has lost 54 percent of its wetlands.

(Last month) President George Bush announced his administration's policy on wetlands protection. As part of the policy, he changed the definition of wetlands so that millions of acres now considered wetlands no longer would be protected. Land would need to be a good deal wetter to be considered a wetland under the new definition.

Development, oil and farming interests are thrilled with the move and have pronounced it good and sensible. Others aren't so sure. To environmentalists it looks as though the administration is getting out of its "no net loss of wetlands" pledge by defining wetlands very narrowly.

Although not in force yet, it looks as if the new policy is going to put greater responsibility on state and local water management districts to

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Unless wetlands are protected from initial destruction, the benefits we derive from them are permanently lost. As a Florida Agriculture Agent once told me, "Florida may become the sand bar in the Atlantic that it once was if destruction continues." - From a Reader's Editorial in the News-Journal

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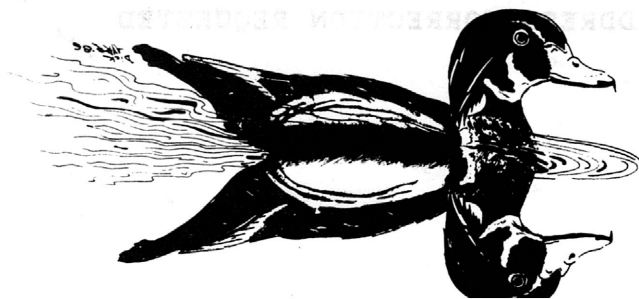
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Although not in force yet, it looks as if the new policy is going to put greater responsibility on state and local water management districts to watch over the wetlands wisely because the federal government is shifting its rules to favor development.



HELI-HIKING
IN THE CANADIAN ROCKIES
By Georgie Carleton

Astounding! Awesome! Fabulous! Spectacular! Beautiful! Call it what you wish. Heli-hiking in the Canadian Rockies is a "once-in-a-lifetime" experience. My friend, Bill Gundy, and I did anticipate such an experience, but we did not fathom the intensity of it.

We joined our group in Calgary, Alberta on June 22, 1991 and realized that we were two of 34 ranging in age from 12 to 70 plusers. As we motor-coached to our rendezvous with the helicopter in British Columbia, we saw grizzly bears, mountain goats, deer and elk.

Our guide gave us an indication of what to expect. One important part was the "huddle." We had to get on our knees in a huddle so the 60 MPH wind from the propellers would not blow us away! We were to quickly board, buckle our safety belts, and then, off to the lodge where there were no telephones, radios or TV.

Upon arriving at the lodge, we were outfitted with parkas and hiking boots. Each day, after a hearty breakfast, our breath-taking "drop" by 'copter took us to remote mountains of snow, glaciers, rocks and alpine flowers. We hiked, assisted by ski-poles, on the uneven terrain and ate lunch brought to us by 'copter. Our guides were knowledgeable and caring people whose goals were to provide us with rewarding experiences, safely and by still protecting the environment.

Nights were short, from 11:00 PM until 4:30 AM. One evening, about 10:30, we were flown from the lodge (elev 5200 ft.) to a height of 9200 ft. to observe a gorgeous sunset. What an unforgettable sight!

Bill and I are now back to reality, but our "heli-hiking" in the Canadian Rockies will be remembered as a "dream-come-true" for the rest of our days.

AUDUBON ADVENTURES

Donations received this month were from Mrs. John H. Wood,
Mrs M. L. "Martie" Lee

and Mr. Harold Nett.

Bringing our total donations since March to \$580., only \$20. short of our announced goal. Checks will still be accepted and credited towards next years classes. Maybe we can start 1992 classes fully funded and not have to play catchup. This has been a very successful project from which Mother Earth will reap rewards for years to come. THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH!

READERS' EDITORIAL - NEWS-JOURNAL
8/27/91

Environment and wildlife

I'm glad I'm not a member of a Florida endangered species. If I were a manatee living in the rivers, some people would make speed laws to help protect me. Then another group would want the laws changed to take that protection away. If I were a wood stork and lived in the wetlands, a group would want to make a road right through my home. They say they will build man-made wetlands. Man-made doesn't work as well.

Every year I tell people — sometimes the same ones — to cover their chimneys in the winter with wire. That way, when chimney swifts come back in the spring to nest, they won't nest in a chimney where they're not wanted. No one seems to hear me, and I raised more than 100 babies this spring and summer. They need a safe place to nest. These small black birds eat bugs and mosquitoes every evening at dusk. They don't pollute the environment.

Can't laws be made to put protection on boat propellers? Can't we go around a small piece of wetland to save a beautiful bird and our water? A small piece of wire could save many baby chimney swifts. The parents raise them best. At the rate scrub jays and the Florida panther are bowing out, I'm scared.

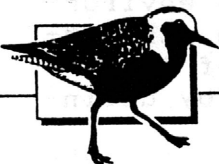
As air and water go, so go all of us. Will our grandchildren be an endangered species? Thanks to The News-Journal for writing about our environment and wildlife.

MARY KELLER.

Holly Hill.

The life you save...

could last forever.





The Pelican

Halifax River Audubon Society

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OCTOBER 1991

HRAS OPENS ITS 1991-92 WINTER SEASON

MEMBERSHIP in the Halifax River Audubon Society is open to all who wish to promote the objects of the society and meet the dues requirements. Membership is either 3-way or 2-way. 3-way includes National and Fla. Audubon Societies (NAS and FAS) and HRAS (Dues set by NAS. 2-way includes FAS and HRAS (dues set by FAS)

SOCIETY MEETINGS will be held the 3rd Monday of each month, October through April at the Seabreeze United Church, 501 N. Wild Olive Av., Daytona Beach. The dates for this season are Oct. 21st, Nov. 18th, Dec. 16th, Jan. 20th, Feb. 17th, Mar. 16th & Apr 20th.

PROGRAMS - Meetings will begin at 7:00 PM and usually include a brief illustrated talk on identification of birds. After a short business session, Our program will include speakers on timely environmental matters and/or interesting films of that nature.

FIELD TRIPS primary mission are to provide practical experience in the identification of birds, both local and migratory. Trips begin at the east end of the parking area at the court house annex, City Island, Daytona Beach. Departure time is scheduled for 8:00 AM on scheduled dates. Cars not needed for the trips may be parked at the starting point. Car pooling is requested. Those who do not drive their own cars are given the opportunity to share the cost of transportation with those whose cars are used. The suggested contribution

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY CENTER FOR BIRDS OF PREY CELEBRATES TWELFTH ANNIVERSARY

Casselberry---The Florida Audubon Society's Center for Birds of Prey will celebrate its twelfth anniversary the week of Oct. 11 - 19 with "Return to the Wild Week" hosted by the Center's Friends of the Aviary volunteer committee. The week will kick off with a Twelfth Anniversary Tribute dinner and culminate with an Open House on Oct. 19th. Throughout the week there will be owl prowls, tours of the aviary, bird walks and more.

The tribute dinner will be held at the Sheraton Orlando North Hotel in Maitland Center Oct. 11th at 7:00 PM. The cost is \$30 per person and reservations should be made with Charlene Sammon at 407-260-8300 no later than Oct 7th. The tribute will celebrate twelve years of dedication of the center staff, volunteers and supporters. The Honorable Darcy Bone, Mayor of the City of Maitland, will be on hand as will other noted speakers.

The Friends of the Aviary volunteer committee also welcomes sponsors of the Twelfth Anniversary Tribute dinner. To become a patron (\$150 donation) or a Sponsor (\$100 donation) please call Florida Audubon Society. Upon request, Patrons and Sponsors receive two meal tickets.

Since 1979, The Florida Audubon Society's Center for Birds of Prey has taken a leadership role in efforts to treat, rehabilitate and release raptors that have become injured or orphaned. Having admitted more than 3,000 hawks, owls and eagles in that time, the Center has become one of the

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OCTOBER 1991

HRAS OPENS ITS 1991-92 WINTER SEASON

MEMBERSHIP in the Halifax River Audubon Society is open to all who wish to promote the objects of the society and meet the dues requirements. Membership is either 3-way or 2-way. 3-way includes National and Fla. Audubon Societies (NAS and FAS) and HRAS (Dues set by NAS. 2-way includes FAS and HRAS (dues set by FAS)

SOCIETY MEETINGS will be held the 3rd Monday of each month, October through April at the Seabreeze United Church, 501 N. Wild Olive Av., Daytona Beach. The dates for this season are Oct. 21st, Nov. 18th, Dec. 16th, Jan. 20th, Feb. 17th, Mar. 16th & Apr 20th.

PROGRAMS - Meetings will begin at 7:00 PM and usually include a brief illustrated talk on identification of birds. After a short business session, Our program will include speakers on timely environmental matters and/or interesting films of that nature.

FIELD TRIPS primary mission are to provide practical experience in the identification of birds, both local and migratory. Trips begin at the east end of the parking area at the court house annex, City Island, Daytona Beach. Departure time is scheduled for 8:00 AM on scheduled dates. Cars not needed for the trips may be parked at the starting point. Car pooling is requested. Those who do not drive their own cars are given the opportunity to share the cost of transportation with those whose cars are used. The suggested contribution is currently \$4.00.

Trips normally will end from 1:30 to 3:30 PM, depending on the distance to our birding destination Rest stops will be made as appropriate. Individuals should bring lunch and beverage as desired. Stores, restaurants etc. are not always within the range of picnic areas.

BOARD MEETINGS are held the first

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY CENTER FOR BIRDS OF PREY CELEBRATES TWELFTH ANNIVERSARY

Casselberry---The Florida Audubon Society's Center for Birds of Prey will celebrate its twelfth anniversary the week of Oct. 11 - 19 with "Return to the Wild Week" hosted by the Center's Friends of the Aviary volunteer committee. The week will kick off with a Twelfth Anniversary Tribute dinner and culminate with an Open House on Oct. 19th. Throughout the week there will be owl prowls, tours of the aviary, bird walks and more.

The tribute dinner will be held at the Sheraton Orlando North Hotel in Maitland Center Oct. 11th at 7:00 PM. The cost is \$30 per person and reservations should be made with Charlene Sammon at 407-260-8300 no later than Oct 7th. The tribute will celebrate twelve years of dedication of the center staff, volunteers and supporters. The Honorable Darcy Bone, Mayor of the City of Maitland, will be on hand as will other noted speakers.

The Friends of the Aviary volunteer committee also welcomes sponsors of the Twelfth Anniversary Tribute dinner. To become a patron (\$150 donation) or a Sponsor (\$100 donation) please call Florida Audubon Society. Upon request, Patrons and Sponsors receive two meal tickets.

Since 1979, The Florida Audubon Society's Center for Birds of Prey has taken a leadership role in efforts to treat, rehabilitate and release raptors that have become injured or orphaned. Having admitted more than 3,000 hawks, owls and eagles in that time, the Center has become one of the largest raptor facilities on the Eastern Seaboard. Some 1,200 birds of prey -- including more than 70 Bald eagles and two Peregrine falcons -- have been returned to the wild.

Public environmental education is also one of the major goals of the Center. Through tours of the aviary, programs to schools and civic groups, attendance at special events and the

SPECIAL NOTICE!!!

Our next meeting will be 7:00 PM October 21st as scheduled. The place will be Seabreeze United Church, 501 N. Wild Olive Av., as scheduled. For this time only, we will meet in the Lounge, downstairs, directly across the hall from the church office. Enter from the courtyard. It is in the part of the building that is along the west side of the courtyard between the Sanctuary and Mosely Hall. The place will be well lighted and someone will be there to direct you. Alcoholics Anonymous will be meeting upstairs. Do not go there. The church will be having a dinner in Mosely Hall. Do not go there. Meet in the lounge!

Our guest speaker will be Ms Latane Donelin, Senior Project Manager for the St. John's River Water District (SJRWD) who will be speaking to us on the need for nature preserves. This is a vital subject to all the people of Fla. Invite a friend or more and plan to be there.

FIELD TRIPS

Carl Lentz, our Field Trip Director, has scheduled the following birding outings to start our season with a bang:

Sat. Oct. 19 - Tomoka Farms Rd. to Mullet Lake. We hope to see migrating birds as well as SandHill Cranes, Wood Storks and other waders.

Fri. Nov. 1 - Lake Woodruff Wildlife Preserve. By this time some ducks should have returned and various woodpeckers should be out in force.

Sat. Nov. 23 - Tomoka Marsh. This is an excellent spot to see herons, egrets and to look for rails.

See the front page for instructions.

This year Carl is going to try something excitingly new and different. Starting in January, he'll be scheduling Special Trips to Special Areas to be led by Special People (Volunteers). Think of an area for birding that you know and would like to show others. Call him at 252-5053.

H. R. A. S. OFFICERS 1991-92

President	Robert L "Roy" Stevenson	112 Oak Ln OrmBch 32174 Ph 673-1838
Vice Pres	Angelo Cerrito	6065 Hensel Rd PrtOrg 32127 767-5397
Vice Pres	Robert C. Owens	22 Ponce DeLeon Dr OrmBch 32176 677-0385
Education Chrmn	
Treasurer	Mrs Carlton M (Vivian) Smith	542 S Lanvale Av DayBch, 32114 253-3815
Mbrshp Secy	Mrs George (Audrey) Christie	1333 Margina Av DayBch 32114 255-7253
Rcrdg Secy	
	8 Golden Gate Cir PrtOrg 32119	761-6893
Members-at-Large (3)		
Carl Lentz	1215 S Peninsula Dr	252-5053
Harold Nett	3 Sunny Shore Dr	441-5584
Mrs Windsor W (Mildred) Esten		
	135 Valencia Dr	672-9132

ENVIRONMENTAL SPENDING "OUT OF CONTROL" (?)

D. Dixon Sutherland, Director of the Stetson Institute for Christian Ethics, in a guest column in THE NEWS-JOURNAL of Sep. 25th, makes some points that are worthy of consideration by all of us. He apparently was 'seeing through' some of the recent claims of an editorial writer that recently claimed business is spending too much for environmental concerns. I will try to report a few quotes of his and try not to get them out of context.

He lays the groundwork by stating "Business and industry use environmental concerns in their own behalf. ... eco-marketing attempts to convince consumers that ecological concerns are of top priority to producers." Such is not the fact. Many "exploit the crisis for a buck - and contribute to more need for regulation spending." He points to the "manipulating" of some big business, particularly dealing with the question of drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. He points out that their actions are definitely not for environment but for money. "It's no longer merely an issue of balancing a ledger sheet. The issue ... is really about values: How much do we value our Earth, our quality of life, and in the end, ourselves." I think he stated it very well. -cms



The Pelican

Halifax River Audubon Society

A Chapter of The Florida and National Audubon Societies

NOVEMBER 1991

A NEIGHBOR'S ADVICE

Eternal vigilance is price of not only freedom, it is also the price of conservation. Each time we think we have won an environmental battle, we later find that someone wants to chip away at what was won. They find every possible loophole and every phony excuse for modifying, limiting or making exceptions. If that doesn't work, they attack the funding for implementing our victory or may attempt to get one of their folks put in charge. They file suits, drag their feet, obscure, propagandize, and sometimes lie, cheat and steal to negate the law, rule, regulation or program.

One of the important functions of our organization locally, statewide, nationally and internationally is to maintain vigilance and to cry out with a loud voice against violations, subversions or evasion of sound conservation laws, regulations or practices. Now as the Bush administration is trying to relax the protection of wetlands is a time to cry out! - Andy Dillman. Preident of West Volusia Audubon Society in "The Hummer," Vol 24 No 2, October '91.

AUDUBON ADVENTURES

by Glade Koch

Nearly 500,000 youngsters nationally are actively participating in AUDUBON ADVENTURES this school year. Sixteen fifth grades in the Halifax area are sponsored by H.R.A.S.

The following topics will be presented in packets provided each class:

August/September

Rate

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY PRESENTS 1991 STATEWIDE AWARDS

Casselberry, Nov. 3 - The Florida Audubon Society, last night, honored its 1991 Conservation Award winners at the banquet capping the society's annual membership convention at Camp Ocala in the Ocala National Forest.

Awards were presented by Dr. Bernard Yokel, President of the society, as follows:

Conservationist of the Year, Government Sector- Suzanne Hill Ponzoli, Asist. U.S. Atty. Gen. for S. Fla. for her work in the case against the S. Fla. Water Management District and the Fla. Dept. of Environmental Regulation re their neglect of water quality problems in the Everglades.

Conservationist of the Year, Private Sector- Eric Draper of The Nature Conservancy, who led successful grass-roots campaigns that resulted in land acquisition local bond issues.

Outstanding Journalism- Leesburg Daily Commercial for its insightful editorials on wetlands, pollution and conservation issues.

Outstanding Journalist- Michael McClellan who brought to the fore the issue of habitat protection being rejected by the Fla. Fresh Water Fish and Game Commission.

Legislative Excellence (2)- Sen. W.W. "Bud" Gardner and Rep. Ron Saunders for their leadership in continued funding for Preservation 2000.

Corporate Awards (2)- Tampa Electric Co. and Fla. Power Corp. for their seeking environmental advise in locating the best possible sites for proposed new power plants.

AMBROSE O...

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- August/September Bats
- October/November Decidious Trees
- December/January Owls
- February/March Amphibians
- April/May Butterflies and Moths
- Audubon Month Oceans/The Atlantic
- Special Issue Recycling

The first issue on Bats, contained plans for building a bat house for a total material cost of about \$5.00.

Bats throughout the world provide extremely valuable service as major predators of nocturnal insects. They

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Polly Redford Memorial- Marjory Peters of Bradenton for her personal dedication to helping preserve the environment of Manatee County.

President's Award- Trudy Bernhard of Tequesta, current vice chair of the F.A.S. Board of Directors, who has dedicated a total of 15 years to service on the board.

One reason that bats are in trouble in the U.S. is that they have fewer

FIELD TRIPS

By Carl Lentz

Only twenty-five species of birds were observed on the 19th October outing. The water was so high at Osteen Bridge and Mullet Lake that even a Great Blue Heron would have had trouble keeping his head above water. Other waders didn't have a chance. In spite of this, thanks to Mary Lou Weiner, it was a great trip. First, she spotted a seldom seen Merlin flying near the court-house annex. Second, she made arrangements for our group to visit a farm near Pioneer Trail. In a copse on the farm we saw ten wild turkeys. A whoop of delight set them to running across a meadow and then into the air to fly into the next woods.

Mary Lou moved to this area two years ago from Baltimore Maryland and is an accomplished birder. She has kindly agreed to lead a trip in the near future.

The Nov 1st trip to Lake Woodruff Wildlife Refuge was an excellent one also. There were 17 birders. So many eyes made sure that a large number of species were seen. There were two outstanding sightings. A Cooper's Hawk flew within 30 feet of the group and a marsh wren prominently displayed itself on a reed in the open for several minutes. Two adult perched bald eagles were observed also. A total of forty-four species were recorded.

On future trips it is suggested that we wear more subdued clothing and I promise to stop talking to give everyone a chance to see the birds.

Coming trips are scheduled for:

Sat. Nov. 23rd. - Tomoka Basin region where we hope to see herons, egrets, wood storks and ibis. We also hope to spot crows and other rails.

Sat. Dec. 14th. - Black Point Wildlife Refuge. This should be an excellent chance to see many ducks and waders.

Please try to join us for an enjoyable and educational outing.

Call me at 252-5053 to volunteer to lead one of these excursions to one of your favorite spots.

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MEETING NOTICE

Our next meeting will be at 7:00 PM, Monday, November 18th at the Seabreeze United Church, 501 N. Wild Olive Ave., Daytona Beach. As of this writing, the program had not been announced.

ACTION LINE

AUDUBON TV SPECIAL CAUSES STIR

The scheduled showing of the TV Special "The New Range Wars," has displeased the Natl. Cattlemen's Asc. This group and the cattle lobby, with the Natl. Inholder's Asc., are seeking the boycott of GE products and deluging the Company with mail. They have launched an all-out campaign to try to persuade GE to drop its underwriting of Audubon Television.

It is urgent that GE hear from the other side. Please send a letter to GE as a private citizen praising them for underwriting Audubon TV Specials and ask them to continue to do so. It is hoped that you will ask your friends to write also. Here is where to write: Mr Jack Welch, Chrmn of the Board, GE, 3135 Easton Turnpike Road, Fairfield CT 06431. Thank you.



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The field trip on Nov. 23rd to Tomoka Basin started out beautifully. Eighteen species of birds were spotted in the parks along the Halifax in Holly Hill and Ormond. Then at the bridge just north of the Tomoka State Park, a sedge wren was seen. Also a beautiful mature bald eagle soared a hundred feet over our heads. The light and atmospheric conditions were just right to intensify all the colors of the bird so they were more beautiful than usual.

From then on, we saw only ten more species. It started to rain and the road to Tomoka Basin was a disaster.

COMING trips are scheduled for:
Saturday Dec. 14th - Merritt Island Wildlife refuge and Black Point. If the ducks and waders cooperate, we should see about sixty species.
Friday Jan. 10th - South Route Circle. We will revisit the areas where unusual bird sightings will have been made during the Christmas bird count.
Saturday Jan. 25th - Blue Spring State Park to see the Manatees. We will probably meet some West Volusia Audubon people there. They will be helping the rangers show films etc.



ALOHA

and MERRY

CHRISTMAS

ANNUAL POT LUCK SUPPER (DINNER)

December 16, 6:00 P.M.

SEABREEZE UNITED CHURCH

501 N. Wild Olive Ave., Daytona Beach

Come and enjoy good food, good entertainment and good camaraderie!

Please bring a choice of salad, vegetable casserole or dessert AND your table service. Meat and beverages will be provided.

We will be entertained by Jerry Hall's Kolona Wahines in "Christmas with a Hawaiian Flavor."

Mark your calendar, 6 P.M. sharp, Monday, December 16th.

**DO THE WRITE THING
GOVERNOR CHILES WANTS YOUR OPINION**

Now is the time for all Floridians concerned about growth management and the environment to let their voices be heard. The time between now and the



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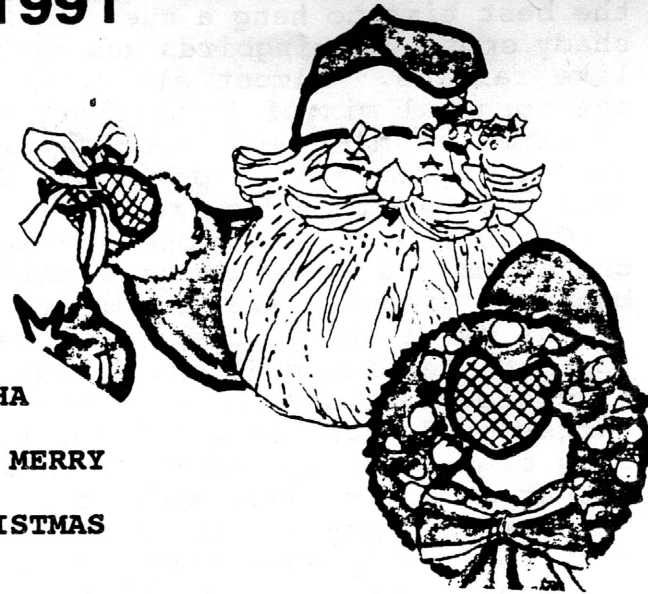
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Now is the time for all Floridians concerned about growth management and the environment to let their voices be heard. The time between now and the start of the '92 legislative session, not to mention the upcoming special session, will be hectic.

Gov. Chiles has said that special interest groups are looking for "instant gratification" at the expense of long-term solutions to Florida's environmental and growth challenges. The 1992 session begins in January. It is important that our letters are received before then. Write to House Speaker T.K. Wetherell, Senate Presi-



IN MEMORIAM

ROBERT C. OWENS - OCT. 11, 1991

environmental activist.

FEEDING BIRDS

The winter bird season is upon us and time to prepare for more species of birds at your feeders. With extra feeders it is possible with different foods, separately presented, to feed birds that would not come to one lone feeder filled with mixed seed.

In addition to the usual titmice, jays and blackbirds, you may want to see red-headed, red-bellied and downy woodpeckers, mockingbirds, northern orioles, indigo and painted buntings, chipping and white throated sparrows. This requires more organization but not much more time or expense.

Woodpeckers like suet and winter is the best time to hang a suet cage in a shady spot. Mockingbirds and catbirds like raisins. Almost all birds like the cornmeal mix of 1 cup sugar to 8-10 cups cornmeal with cooking oil or bacon drippings to moisten. Serve onto a covered wooden tray.

Orioles and woodpeckers come to orange halves (impaled on a nail) or bananas, grapes, cake or donuts.

The small chipping sparrows need a separate feeding station. I buy bulk finch seed and put it in a cage that larger birds can not get into, an old bird cage with the wires pinched together or a wire cage made of 1"x2" or 1"x4" wire. Buy a piece 2 ft wide by 6 ft long; clip ends together to form a circular cage. Put a lid on it and occasionally move to fresh ground. Buntings, in migration, like it.

Goldfinches flock to a feeder with niger (thistle) seed or hulled sunflower bits, while millet, thrown on the ground near open shrubbery, will attract white-throated sparrows along with the doves.

For bird study and enjoyment, the feeders should be in line with a convenient window with binoculars near at hand. You can see a male cardinal hull a sunflower seed and feed his mate, watch them bring their young to the feeders or glimpse a rare bird visitor. It is exciting to join the bird wonderland in your garden.

-Adapted from BIRDING NEWS by Virge Markgraf, first printed in the DUVAL OBSERVER by the Duval Audubon Soc. in 1983 and again in the Nov. '91 issue.

COMPOSTING DECREASES LANDFILL WASTE

It's hard to believe, but kitchen scraps and garden debris alone account for an incredible 20-30% of the trash in our landfills. We can minimize this number greatly by composting some of our trash at home. Composting reduces solid waste by recycling organic materials. It creates a useful soil supplement and improves the capacity of sandy soils to hold nutrients.

Many types of solid materials are readily composted such as fallen leaves, remains of garden plants, non-woody plant trimmings and grass clippings. Other items that may be added are kitchen wastes such as vegetable or fruit scraps, coffee grounds and even egg shells, but they should be mixed in immediately to avoid odors.

A compost pile works best in a spot in your yard out of direct sunlight, in a well drained area and in a location convenient to add wastes and mix the material. The size of the pile may vary greatly with the amount of materials on hand. It should not be less than three feet high and three feet wide or it may not maintain the high temperatures for necessary for rapid decomposition. You can construct a wooden box with wire sides or use an old plastic trash can with holes drilled in the sides or just a simple wire fence structure to keep the compost in one area.

The compost pile should be periodically mixed to incorporate oxygen and to expose seeds, insect larvae and pathogens to the high temperatures at the core of the pile. It should be turned immediately to prevent the pile from becoming anaerobic. Add water if the pile seems dry. The compost is ready to use when the material is crumbly in texture, fairly dry and has an earthy odor.



HAPPY NEW YEAR