Newsletter of the Halifax River Audubon Society

February 1994

OFFICERS 1993-94

President

Robert L. "Roy" Stevenson 112 Oak Lane, Orm Bch, 32174

Ph 673-1838

1st Vice President

John J. Williams

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Ph 255-8631

2nd Vice President

Angelo Cerrito

6065 Hensel Rd Prt Orange 32127

Ph 767-5397

Treasurer

Vivian F. Smith

542 S Lanvale Av Day Bch 32114

Ph 253-3815

Recording Secretary

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Carl J Lentz

Ph 252-5053

Carlton M Smith

Ph 253-3815

Conservation Chair

David Hartgrove

113 Centennial Ln DayBch 32119

Ph 788-2630

Education Chair

Glade Koch

RELIGION AND SCIENCE JOIN IN ENVIRONMENTAL EFFORT

Vice President Al Gore has formally announced the formation of the National Religious Partnership for the Environment. This will be a coalition of the National Council of Churches, the U.S. Catholic Conference, the Consultation on the Environment and Jewish Life, and the Evangelical Environmental Network in a three year \$4.5 million project to place issues of environmental justice at the heart of the nation's religious life.

Among other activities, the partnership will sponsor the distribution of education and action kits to 35,000 congregations, a 1-800 number Green Congregation Hotline, and leadership training programs for laity and clergy.

It has also established a consultative relationship with the Union of Concerned Scientists and a science office within the partnership.

PRESERVATION PROSPECTS

State Senator Curt Kiser has sponsored a bill to permanently fund Preservation 2000 through growth in the Documentary Stamp Tax. So far, scrambling to find a temporary revenue source for acquiring lands for open space and environmental protection has been an annual frantic event for P2000 supporters. P2000 has funded acquisitions in Volusia County and Flagler Counties. Environmentalists are asked to urge their State Legislators to support or cosponsor the Kiser Bill.

"ENVIROCOPS" OFF THE CASE

In January, The Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission reassigned its Environmental Enforcement Section unit from pollution detective work to more traditional tasks. The 45-member "Envirocops" team had helped prosecute an average of 1,000 cases per year since 1989 and acquired tremendous expertise in environmental investigation with a 90% success rate.

THE IRONY OF IT ALL

The proposed vast Blockbuster Sports Complex would straddle the Dade and Broward County line and include a 36-hole golf. course. The 2500-acre tract includes wetlands and wildlife habitat. The professional baseball and hockey teams that would call the complex home are, respectively, the Florida Marlins and the Florida Panthers.

- From the Environmental Council of Volusia and Flager Counties.

Vanishing Habitats

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Vanishing Habitats

Between 1780 and the 1980's The lower 48 have lost (on the average) 60 acres of wetlands for every hour. That equals one acre per minute. Think about it!

Each year, the Interior Appropriations bill determines how much of the money credited to the Land and Water Conservation Fund will actually be spent to acquire and protect land. The appropriations process begins with the Interior Appropriations subcommittee holds hearings between February and March. The bill is marked up in the spring and moves to the floor in the summer or fall. - Keep your eyes and ears open.

Letters From Our Members

Members input on environmental issues or other subjects for the good of the society are earnestly solicited. They should be brief, normally not more than 200 words. The right of the editor to edit, shorten or reject is reserved. The use of your name, Initials or a pseudonym is allowed, however, your letter must be signed

From a Life Member now a resident of Wesley Manor in the Jacksonville area.

The enclosed check is for Audubon Adventures, the second one is for general expense and to help with the mailing of "The Pelican" to me. I do enjoy it.

We have had two pied bill grebes along with our regulars. The Little blue heron, Great blue heron, Green heron, Great Egrets and now Anhingas are here. We are also happy to see Ospreys rebuilding their nest atop a high dead tree.

Our residents would be green with envy to be able to see all you, birdwatchers that is, see on field trips. I do have pleasant memories and am thankful for good past vision.

I wish a very successful and happy New Year to you all.

Sincerely, Thelma Acosta

Field Trips

By Carl Lentz

Our planned trips through March 4th are as follows:

- Saturday, Feb. 19th If road conditions permit, we will drive through Shiloh Marsh on our way to visit Black Point Drive again. This should be the height of the season for White Pelicans and ducks.
- Friday, Mar. 4th Eddie Williford, who knows all the secrets of the Wekiva River will guide us on a delightful canoe trip. It will be easy paddling and if this is too much, you may just go along for the ride. Eddie's personality and love of the river makes this a "Must" trip.

Please plan to take part in as many of these outings as possible. This is one way to enjoy seeing familiar birds, learn about ones that might be seen and not known by you and you may even just enjoy being out in God's Country. Bring a friend or friends if you like. It could be an enjoyable way to introduce them to Audubon.

Next membership meeting 7:00 P.M., Monday, February 21st Seabreeze United Church 501 N. Wild Olive Ave. Daytona Beach

Mary Keller, widely known for her success in caring for sick and injured birds in this area, will be the guest speaker at our monthly meeting, February 21st, at Seabreeze United Church. She will have birds with her and, after telling about her efforts on their behalf, will entertain questions from the audience.

Mrs. Keller can use the following items to help her continue this great work: Wild Birdseed, working heating pads, towels and frisbees (for water and seed dishes). If you can provide any of these items, please bring them to the meeting and they will be put to good use.

Socks still needed For Lake Apopka Project

Shirley Owens tells us that cotton or cotton blend socks of any size and color (white is preferred) are still needed for the Lake Apopka restoration project. For those not already familiar with this effort, the socks are filled with sand, tied to the rootballs of aquatic plants and dropped into the water. The sand filled socks keep the plants on the bottom and by the time they decompose, the plant roots have taken hold in the bottom. The plants will help cleanse the polluted water of the lake, afford habitat for aquatic life and, hopefully restore it to a prime fishing lake. Please bring any old discarded socks to the meeting and give to Shirley or Angelo Cerrito.

How to care for a marsh, or How to have a marsh and use it too!

You don't upset Mother Nature,
You work with her.
Don't drain the marsh, don't fill it,
don't rut it up, don't dam it,
and don't flood it.
That's how you do it right.
It's Swampyankee common sense!

J. Whitman Davis in National Geographic 10/92

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What is Audubon?

A compilation of thoughts gleaned from various Audubon publications; magazines, newsletters and official journals.

The National Audubon Society's mission is to protect ecosystems for the benefit of wildlife and humankind. Dr. Peter A.A. Berle, AUDUBON, March-April 1994.

Florida Audubon Society was formed March 2, 1900 to "Save the wild birds of Florida." The immediate goal of the Society was to stop the slaughter of birds to supply plumage for ladies hats. In one year alone, during the 1800's, more than 130,000 Snowy Egrets were killed for their feathers.

Within a year, the Society helped pass a Florida bill to outlaw the killing of some wading birds, the first time state protection of nongame birds had been considered. As the society gained in stature, it located rookeries, lobbied for state preserves, and called for the establishment of the state Game and Fresh Water Game Commission. Over the years, the goals of the Society broadened to include the protection of all wildlife and its habitat.

Halifax River Audubon Society, originally The Halifax River Bird Club founded by Prof. Rubert J. Longstreet, incorporated and became a chapter of the National and Florida Audubon Societies in 1972. Its purpose, according to the 1972 By-Laws, "is to promote an understanding of and interest in wildlife and the environment that supports it and to further the cause of conservation of all natural resources."

Mission Statement

- To heighten the awareness of the young and old that they may come to enjoy the beauty of the natural world and share in conserving its wonders.
- To protect wildlife and preserve its habitat and to encourage wise use of nature's storehouse of resources.
- To insure clean air, water and wisely managed growth for sustained quality of life, through conservation action.
- To support (the) achieving of ... Audubon Goals and objectives.
- To continue to serve as the voice of conservation, ... to assure a legacy of high quality environment for the future.

(Adapted from the Mission Statement of the Florida Audubon Society as published in The Flagler Audible, newsletter of The Flagler Audubon Society, March 1994, Gerri Peevers - editor).

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All aboard for "Adventures"

First, Thanks to you who responded to our Audubon Adventures appeal inserted in the last Pelican! It is great to have you aboard.

If you would like to sponsor a class set of National Audubon's bimonthly environmental newspaper for 5th graders, please send your tax deductible check for \$35.00 made payable to Halifax River Audubon Society (marked "Audubon Adventures") to Glade Koch, 128 Fiddlesticks Cir., Daytona Beach FL 32114. Your gift in any amount will help us reach our goal of 52 classes (all 5th graders in the Halifax area) receiving the Audubon Adventures for the school year 1994-95.

Science and Religion Join in Environmental Effort

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— From the Environmental Council of Volusia

and Flagler Counties

Next

Membership Meeting

7:00 P.M., Monday, March 21st

Seabreeze United Church 501 N. Wild Olive Ave. Daytona Beach

Field Trips

By Carl Lentz

Past Trips

The 15th of January trip to Deland started with a bang as John and Ruth Hough lead us to a pair of Eagles they had spotted on Beach Street, practically in down town Daytona Beach. After that the sightings became very slow but thanks to the keen eyes of Larry Griffin, the toll of sighted species reached 54 and included a Sandhill Crane.

The 12th of February trip to Lake Woodruff was outstanding. Barbara Samler of the West Volusia Audubon Society did a superb job in bringing together birders from Central Florida. Almost a hundred birders joined forces to enjoy a memorable birding experience. Besides the good fellowship, a Sora Rail that posed in the open for the best part of two hours and a Snipe that did its best to hide but to no avail due to the sharp eyes of one of the birders, made the trip especially enjoyable.

On the 19th of February rain prevented us from birding Shiloh Marsh. We had to be satisfied with Black Point. Many Widgeons and Pintails were seen but only a few Mottled and Ring-necked ducks. Blue -winged Teal were conspicuous by their absence. We have since learned that there was a 25% reduction in nesting teals. We looked in vain for Avocets but thanks to Vivian Smith, we did see one Black-necked Stilt.

On the 4th of March the Wekiva River provided a peaceful haven for a few of us. Only a few species were seen but no matter as the solitude and beauty of the Wekiva made us glad that we live in Florida.

Upcoming trips

Please note two changes have been made to our previously published schedule.

Saturday, March 19th: David Hartgrove will lead us to his favorite birding spots in the Deland area. This should be an excellent time of the year to observe indigenous birds and the first of the ones. He promises to show us many Red-headed Woodpeckers.

Saturday, April 16th: This is one of the best trips of the year. Captain Hopkins takes us on a two hour birding cruise aboard his 50- passenger pontoon boat on the St. Johns River. The price is \$9.00 each. Coffee and doughnuts will be served. Reservations are requested by calling 252- We will depart promptly at 8:00 A.M. from the east end of the Court House Annex parking lot on City Island.

Saturday, April 23rd: We will take a new trip this year to Salt Springs in the Ocala National Forest with the special mission of sighting the Red-Cockaded Woodpecker. There may be a lot of waiting so it is recommended that you bring a light stool. We will also visit Juniper Springs. It is recommended that senior citizens obtain a Golden-Aged Passport from a National Park Service location to save 50% of the entrance fee to National Parks.

Saturday, May 7th: Our bi-annual visit to one of Florida's outstanding attractions, the Alligator Farm at St. Augustine. Here you are within an arms length of nesting her 303 QMd egrets. Be sure to bring a camera. Bring a friend or friends if you like and introduce them to Audubon.

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New Treasurer for H.R.A.S. Vivian Smith Resigns

Vivian Smith, long time member of Halifax River Audubon Society who has served on the Board of Directors for some 20 years and served as Treasurer for the past 12 years, about two months ago submitted her resignation to be effective April 1st, the end of our 1993-94 year. Her resignation was accepted and at its March meeting the Board, in appreciation of her years of service,. presented her with a copy of The Audubon Society's ENCYCLOPEDIA OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS.

This monumental work is really a milestone in bird literature. It was published by Wings Books, a Random House company, has over 1100 pages, nearly 6,000 alphabetical entries, 875 full-color photographs and 800 black and white drawings. Needless to say, Vivian was very surprised and almost broken-up. She accepted the gift with Thanks.

Angelo Cerrito first accepted the appointment as Treasurer pro tem until the Board can make a permanent appointment.

As of this writing, Morrell Robinson has agreed to serve and his appointment is pretty much assured. He is a retired Methodist minister who years ago served as Minister of the Community United Methodist Church here in Daytona Beach. Upon retirement he was serving in the Miami area. He is the husband of Lois Robinson, our Refreshment Chair. They live on the south peninsula and their Phone No. is 760-8480. Call him to offer your thanks or condolences. We do appreciate having him. - CMS

> Membership Meetings, Oct. - Mar. Seabreeze United Church 501 N. Wild Olive Ave. Daytona Beach Next meeting, October 17th, 7:00 P.M.

Field Trips

By Carl Lentz

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YOU STILL HAVE TIME to help with our project Audubon Adventures, the National Audubon's elementary school environmental newspaper. HRAS has a goal of providing it, during the 1994-95 school year, to every fifth grade class from Ormond Beach through Port Orange. The cost is \$35. per class. If you have meant to send your check and have not as yet, please make it out now, payable to HRAS and send it to Glade Koch, Education Chair, 128 Fiddlestick Circle, Daytona Beach FL 32114, or call her at 253-8438 with any questions you may have.



Songbirds Shine in Springtime

This spring, have you seen a large tree with visitors that fly thousands of miles each spring to our yards and parks? They are wood warblers, little songbirds we some times call "the butterflies of the bird world." Like butterflies, their feathers seem to reflect the colors of the rainbow - red, green, yellow, blue, or orange. They fill our trees with brightness and song.

Most warblers spend the winter in Central or South America. When spring comes, and insects begin to hatch in our fields and forests, more than 50 kinds of warblers fly north to the United States. The wood warblers are part of the sping's glory.

The names of the warblers in the picture are (in clockwise order beginning at the upper left) worm-eating, MacGillivray's (reaching for spider), yellow warbler, redstart, yellow-rumped, hooded, chestnut-sided, black-and-white (upside down), common yellowthroat, and Wilson's warbler.

The Honorable Robert Graham U.S. Senator Washington, D.C.

CONSERVATION

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the 480 members of the Halifax River Audubon Society in Daytona Beach, I'm writing to appeal for your support of a strong Clean Water Act.

As a native Floridian I'm sure you are aware of the ever present threats to our wetlands. And having watched the decline of the Everglades and Florida Bay you're cognizant of what can happen when our wetland ecosystems are overwhelmed by pollution.

In many cases the federal government is the last line of defense for these fragile environments. Therefore it is of the utmost importance that federal protection of these areas be maintained through vigorous enforcement of section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act. Delegating this important wetlands program to the states or weakening of the authority of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to block permits which threaten endangered species will mean further setbacks in the quest for clean water and a healthier environment for us all.

When the portions of S.1114 which weaken federal oversight are addressed, we hope you will raise your voice along with our's in opposition. for this and future generations it's the wise thing to do.

Thank you, S/ David Hartgrove, Conservation Chair, Halifax River Audubon Society

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SPECIAl: Note change in Alligator Farm trip on page 2

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Carlton M Smith

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David Hartgrove

113 Centennial Ln DayBch 32119

Ph 788-2630

Education Chair

Glade Koch

128 Fiddlesticks Cir DayBch 32114

Ph 253-8438

Refreshments Chair

Kerresnments C Lois Robinson

Lights Out For Turtles It's that time again!

Sea turtle nesting season begins in early May and continues through October. We in Volusia County are fortunate to have them visit us during this period. So remember, make them welcome by turning off or shielding any beach front lights that illumine the beach. Turning lights out will provide an inviting beach for nesting turtles, make it safer for emerging hatchlings, and it is required by law.

Volunteers for the Volusia Turtle Patrol have begun patrolling the beach to mark and monitor sea turtle nests. Most of the nests the patrol will find will be Loggerhead nests. Rare visits by Leatherback and Green sea turtles are also possible. A nesting turtle will crawl onshore during the night. She will lay an average of 120 eggs resembling ping pong balls in a flask-shaped nest that she digs in the sand.

Beginning in mid-July, the eggs will start to hatch. The hatchlings usually emerge at night in a united effort. Their crawl to the water is believed to imprint upon them and enable them to return to the same beach to reproduce some 20 years or so later. Unfortunately, many hazards await the small hatchlings. In addition to disorientation by beach front lighting, they also may be run over by beach traffic or eaten by predators.

It is very important for each of us to do our part to make sure sea turtles are around to be enjoyed for years to come Please turn out your lights! If you are driving on the beach at dusk, be especially careful to watch for hatchlings. If you see a nesting turtle, do not disturb her because that might cause her to return to the water without laying. Instead, contact a beach ranger or call Beth Libert at 767-5257.

Submitted by Jo Ellen Rivenbark who is a member of HRAS and serves the Volusia Turtle Patrol as their secretary.

Membership Meetings, October thru March Seabreeze United Church

501 N. Wild Olive Ave. Daytona Beach

Next meeting, October 17th, 7:00 P.M.

Welcome to New Members

We are most happy to extend a hearty welcome to the following and hope they will be able to join us at our first membership meeting in the fall so that we might properly introduce them.

Margarite V. Ainsworth, Mrs. Helen L. Brady, Mrs. Sandra

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HRAS now tops 500 for the first time in our history. Our latest report showed 502 members. HURRAH!

Field Trips

By Carl Lentz

Recent Activities

Saturday, March 19th - David Hartgrove led us on a real birding trip to the Deland area. It was great to get out of the cars and stroll slowly looking for the birds. Kinglets and warblers were out in force. Unfortunately Red Headed Woodpeckers failed to show up. Hontoon Island provided an excellent spot for our picnic.

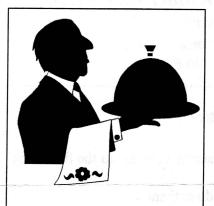
Saturday, April 16 - The pontoon boat trip on the St. Johns River was once again most enjoyable. Balmy weather, smooth sailing, and many birds made it a trip to remember. Lunch at the new Spruce Creek Park brought the day to a successful conclusion. After lunch, a few of us returned to the pond off Conrad Rd. in New Smyrna to look for Black-Crowned Night Herons. We were rewarded for our extra efforts by sighting a LEAST BITTERN, thanks to the sharp eyes of Lois Pauchey.

Saturday, April 23 - The trip to the Ocala National Forest to seek the RED COCKADED WOODPECKER was a great success, once again, thanks to Lois Pauchey. After visiting the Ranger Station at Salt Springs to see the fine display on the red cockaded, Lois led us directly to a group of five trees marked with painted white circles around their trunks. They were located near the road so we could watch them closely. The woodpeckers first came singly, then in pairs, and finally six at a time. Needless to say, this added a new bird to the life-lists of several birders. On the way home, Lois provided us an extra thrill by finding six huge WILD TURKEYS in a field on route 40 near the Camp Winona cutoff..

Looking to the Future

Saturday, May 7 - It has been necessary to cancel the escorted group trip to the alligator farm at St. Augustine. It is strongly recommended that all birders make a trip there some time during the next four weeks on their own. Herons and egrets are nesting in great numbers. They are protected from predators by the alligators below the nests. Be sure to take along a camera. Some of the nests are only an arms length away.

(Editors note: Carl's description of the alligators keeping predators away reminds me of a trip we made to a White Ibis rookery some time back on Seahorse Key. That is off the coast over near Cedar Key. Larry Griffin, Harold Nett and Shirley Owens will remember it. It was said there were 10,000 White Ibis nesting in the mangroves protected by 20.00 rattlesnakes beneath. There were no poachers there! - cms)



THANKS

Florence Waldman, Dorothy Weller, and Vivian Smith provided a fine selection of goodies that were enjoyed by all present at our last meeting of the season. (March). Thank you so much!

Audubons *Birds in the Balance* Program

In some parts of North America, scientists are calling attention to evidence that migratory bird populations, while currently secure, are beginning to decline. Ornithologists are concerned about the birds' habitat at both ends of their migratory journey. The biggest single cause of declines in migratory birds is the destruction of habitat, both here in North America and in their wintering grounds in Latin America and the Caribbean. Woods are logged and fragmented, shorelines and open areas are developed and wetlands are drained and filled and polluted.

National Audubon Society has launched an unprecedented international campaign - Birds in the Balance - to save the habitat most desperately needed by migratory birds. Audubon is cooperatively within the structure of the Partners in Flight program. Partners in Flight is a government program which is coordinating research and compiling information top target the problems facing migratory species and set appropriate conservation priorities. This partnership of federal and state agencies, universities, and non-government organizations have offered their scientific expertise and administrative support to build the basic framework for a hemisphere-wide monitoring program. Audubon staff and activists currently participate in a number of Partners in Flight "working groups." Several regional groups are helping to compile existing data, identify key habitat and target policy areas needing reform. Audubon, with its unique combinations of scientific research advocacy and grassroots involvement can translate the recommendations of the Partners in Flight working groups into practical conservation campaigns assuring the widest possible impact and effectiveness.

Audubon's chapters in seven southeastern states (North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida) have been surveyed to determine which chapters are currently participating in activities that deal with migratory birds and which chapters would like to increase their involvement with the *Birds in the Balance* program. Thirty four chapters have responded and results are now being tabulated.

Saturday, May 14, 1994 has been designated as the second International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD). It is being recognized by hundreds of organizations who are raising public awareness about migratory birds and recent declines in their

The above edited from the current issue of "The Audubon Leader" published by National Audubon So-

Newsletter of the Halifax River Audubon Society

June - July, 1994

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FLA. RAPTOR NEWS MADALYN BALDWIN CENTER

FOR BIRDS OF PREY

GETS A FACELIFT



by Dianna Flynt

We were able to purchase all the needed supplies to refurbish the main aviary at the center, thanks to a gift from the Folke H. Peterson Charitable Foundation.

In the last week of April the supplies started arriving: A truck-load of builder's sand, pressure treated lumber, 100 ft rolls of plastic coated wire, nails, screws, and hinges.

The birds started getting suspicious of all the material being brought in. They sensed things were amiss when large numbers of volunteers arrived and began removing them from their nests. It was bad enough, they must have thought, that this was the day of their annual veterinary checkup but they didn't get to go home afterwards. instead they were moved behind the display area into temporary housing. On Thursday afternoon the aviary sat empty for the first time in fifteen years while volunteers and staff pressure washed the main structure.

On Friday morning trhe entire staff of Ivey, Harris and Walls, a planning and engineering firm in Orlando. converged upon the center with hammers, prybars, wire cutters, work gloves, saws, rakes,, shovels, ladders and wheel barrows. (cont'inued on back page)



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George R. Bever

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George R. Beyer Harriet H. Hallock Larene Mitchell Virginia Synhoff Anthony Jean Pagano

Membership Meetings, October thru March Seabreeze United Church 501 N. Wild Olive Ave. Daytona Beach Next meeting, October 17th, 7:00 P.M.

Field Trips

Though the field trip to the St. Augustine Gator Farm on May 7th was officially cancelled, several members of HRAS took advantage of the occasion to enjoy and photograph some of the spectacular birding activities occurring there this time of the year.

Herons, egrets and wood storks were nesting there in large numbers. Many of the nests were so close to the board walk over "The Swamp" that they could be photagraphed with a standard lens. We were told that this is the first year that woodsorks have nested there and it was a surprise to find them that far noprth. Historically they nested qs far north as Volusia County but this writer, until this year, has not known that to happen.

Some of the HRAS people known to have been at the Gator Farm May 7th, and I believe they were all taking pictures, were Florence Waldman, Lisa Stein and her mother, Al and Kathy Giddens and Carlton and Vivian Smith. Maybe we will be able to see some of these pix at a meeting during our next season or, better still, have a program centered around them. Carl Lentz, our Field Trip Director and Glade Koch, our Education Chair, could get together on it. How about it?

- CMS, Editor

AVIARY GETS A FACE LIFT

(Continued from front page)

One day a year Ivey, Harris and Wells closes its doors and donates its entire staff for a full day of work that will improve the community. The Birds of Prey Center was fortunate to be accepted as their 1994 Community Service Project.



Pin-tailed whydah

(Vidua macroura) Native of East Africa

Believe it or not! One was spotted and identified, in Ormond Beach near the corner of Neptune Drive and Hwy A1A Monday afternoon, June 6th, by Mrs. Sang Roberson. Mrs Roberson notified Carl Lentz who in turn notified several others of the Extra Special find. Carl was then able to locate the bird and agreed with the identification. Glade Koch, who will be going to Africa soon, found it sitting on a power company wire Tuesday afternoon. On Wednesday, Carlton and Vivian Smith tried twice to find it but could not. Glade, with her sister and their sister-in-law tried again without luck. David Hartgrove also tried on Wednesday, could not find the Whydah but did identify a flock of Bachman's Sparrows in the area...

ANHINGA

A common waterbird found in Florida's freshwater swamps, ponds and lakes. It is also called the "snakebird" and "water-turkey."

It is a large black and white plumed bird with a long neck and tail. The bird swims with only his head and neck above water. He eats fish, frogs and snakes that he spears with his long, sharp bill.

Like the cormorant, the Anhinga's plumage contains no natural oils as most water-birds do. After swimming he perches in a bush or low tree with his wings outstretched to dry.

In breeding season the bill and bare facial skin of the male become brightly colored. The female has buffy neck and breast. Immatures resemble adult females but are browner overall. Anhingas fly high overhead with slow regular wing beats alternating with flat wing soaring. Cormorants normally fly much lower and appear to be flying uphill.

Newsletter of the Halifax River Audubon Society

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Three Weeks

in Kenya's Parks

By Glade Koch

What a beautiful country! It took my breath away, Mt. Kenya, Kilamanjaro, Serangeti Plains, Indian Ocean beach, Lake Nakuru, Shimba Hills, Mzima Springs. Though the equator passes through it, much of Kenya is highlands, around 5000 feet elevation, so its average temperature ranges from 83 degrees in summer to 70 degrees in the winter.

Our party of 17 was lead by Marvin, Temma and Larry Pistrang (father, mother and son) who were Peace Corps volunteers in Kenya in the mid 1970's. They are "Auduboners" who have conducted parties of Americans, stressing the animals and national parks of Kenya for nearly 20 years.

The Pistrangs acquainted us with Wildlife Clubs of Kenya, a non-government charitable organization established in 1968 to spread interest and knowledge about wildlife, the environment and natural resources in high schools. The clubs, on meager budgets, have been and are being effective in molding awareness of Kenya's unique natural resources.

The Head Warden of Tsava, a huge national park known for its increasing elephant population, spoke to us one evening. He is a former Wildlife Club member who was a student when the Pistangs were working in Kenya. He explained that poachers are severely dealt with. Indeed, it was common to see armed rangers during our three weeks.

Safari game drives were scheduled at 8 A.M., 4 P.M. or 8 P.M. I was able to see 52 mammals. (We saw all "the big five") and 160 birds, from the pintailed Whydah bird to the African fish Eagle. Our vehicles were Toyota vans with roofs that battened down in the city and highways but lifted for picture taking and observing lions on a kill or scenic vistas.

Our three Kenya guides were knowledgeable about wildlife, patient, had a sense of humor and were wonderful drivers in sand, mud or city traffic.

"Mzuri Safari, Asante Santa! ("Good safari, Thank you very much!)

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Board Members - 1st meeting - October 3rd



Welcome to our new members

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Toni Arduini
Warren J. Armstrong
Ms Donna Burley
Michele Cooper
Mr John Desimone
Mr John Dunn
K. Duren
Ms June R Grab
Ms Patty J. Huff
Mr Donald Karshan
Mr Paul Kosakowski
Mrs Ethel E Machovec
Martin Marietta

Edward Marusa
Mr John F McGillian
J. Miles, Jr
Mr/Mrs Robert Pepper
Thelma Price
Jan Rowe
Kevin Ruffing
Mrs June Siebert
Glen L Turner
W J Wareham
J Warren
Rita R Waterbury
Thomas W Westlake



Our Thanks are extended to all participants in our Audubon Adventures project (AA) which is National Audubon Society's elementary school environmental newspaper. Our Spring project was to provide AA to each pupil in every 5th grade class in the Halifax area. The cost, \$35.00 per class, covers six issues of AA for the 94-95 school year. Every teacher who responded to our offer will be receiving the papers and related materials this school year.

Louise/Richard McCue
Fulvia M. Russo
Bruce/Nancy Spiller
M/M John W. Wood
Glade Koch
Madeline E. Shaddix
John/Ruth Hough
Mary Lou Weiner
Esther J. Davis
Genevieve A. Novotny
Harold D. Hartgrove

Robert L. Coyle
Julia F. Minard
Audrey L. Christie
Harold J. Nett
Alma Moore
John A. Gray
M/M Willard Whiteman
Jessups' of Daytona
Fraternal Order Eagles
of Ormond Beach
Masonic Lodge No. 270

Recommended Reading

From "The Peligram" Newsletter of The Pelican Island Audubon Society," August 1994., and contains their abstractions from the publication. - Editor

SAVING WHAT'S LEFT is a recent publication authored by FAS staff members Dr. Peter Pritchard and Dr. Herbert W. Kale, with a grant from Waste Management, Inc. It is a citizen's guide to the need, process, and politics of environmental land acquisition. Don't let that scare you from ordering a copy for \$4. from Fla. Audubon Society, 460 East Hwy 436, Casselberry FL 32707.

Florida's best kept secret, they say, is the states's program to save natural areas. This is an entry level primer for those who want to help, as we all must if we save it before it's gone.

It is a given fact that if we are to save it, we must purchase it. We are talking of course about places that are worth saving such as habitat for rare or endangered species, wetlands, places that assure good water and air quality, and corridors that allow wild things to move about.

Land acquisition in Florida has a short history beginning in 1963 when the Legislature established a Land Acquisition Trust Fund (LATF) using a 5% tax on outdoor recreational equipment which raised \$1.5 million per year.

In 1968 LATF turned to taxing documentary stamps, and a one-time bond issue \$20 million. Next came Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL Bonds) in 1972 to be replaced in 1979 by a program we know today as CARL (Conservation and Recreational Lands Act.)

The Carl program receives only 50% of the Preservation 2000 (P2000) allocations. Thirty percent of the remaining money goes to Save Our Rivers administered by the five Water Management districts. The Florida Communities Trust (Dept. of Community Affairs) receives 2.9 % as do the following state agencies: State Park System (Div. of Recreation and Parks), Forest Lands (Div. of Forestry), Wildlife Management Areas (Fla. Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission), Rails to Trails Fla. Scenic Trails (Dept. of Environmental Protection) gets 1.3 %. In 1981 Save Our Coast was financed by \$275 million in bonds, debt serviced by some LAFT money. Save Our Rivers got \$30-\$40 million per year, and CARL bonding about \$200 million, ALTHOUGH LESS THAN ONE QUARTER OF THIS HAS BEEN USED SO FAR.

The 1990 Legislature provided first-year funding \$300 million for P2000, which is a 10-year program requiring annual reauthorization. The 1994 proposal to make reauthorization automatic failed in the Legislature

From the earliest EEL programs through 1992, expenditures for environmentally sensitive lands have totaled more than \$772 million.

Newsletter of the HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY

A Chapter of the National and Florida Audubon Societies

Our purpose is to promote an understanding of and interest in wildlife and the environment that supports it and to further the cause of conservation of all national resources

October 1994

Bird Trips

By Carl Lentz

The field trips for the first three months of the 1994-1995 season are listed below. I hope that this year our members who join Audubon to obtain the magazine or to aid the environment will join us on field trips to see the Florida environment close-up. It is beautiful. You should have fun.

Trips will leave at 8:00 A.M. on the dates listed from the parking area at the east end of the Courthouse Annex, City Island, Daytona Beach. Cars not needed for the trip may be parked at the starting point. Those who do not drive are given the opportunity to share the cost of transportation. with those whose cars are used. The suggested contribution is \$4.00.

Picnic lunch and beverage should be brought as stores may not be located near the picnic area. Rest stops will be made as appropriate.

Trips currently scheduled are as follows:

Saturday, October 15th - David Hartgrove has kindly volunteered to lead the first trip this season. on the back trails to the west of Daytona. This will be a pleasant, safe drive with short walks. He will try to find some BROWN-HEADED NUTHATCHES.

Friday, November 4th- Mary Lou Weiner has moved her turkey hunt from Thanksgiving to early November to get away from hunters with guns. Besides turkeys we hope to see migrating birds and many indigenous birds around Tomoka Farms Road and Pioneer Trail.

Saturday, November 19th- The trip to Lake Woodruff is always a success especially if the ducks have had a good nesting period up north. Thanks to Carlton Smith, last year's trip was very successful and he has agreed to lead this one.

Friday, December 2nd- The trip to Black Point needs no comment. It is always fun and also instructive.

Saturday, December 31st will be a combined

National President Resigns

Letter tendered to Board of Directors Effective date August 7, 1995

Dr. Peter A. Berle gave the following letter to Donald O'Brien, Board Chairman, at the board meeting in mid-September.

"Dear Don,

Next summer I will have completed ten years as President and CEO of the National Audubon Society. It has been a blast! But by then it will be time to give someone else a chance. Consequently I will resign as of August 7, 1995.

In the meantime I look forward to helping lead a zesty strategic planning process and an efficient transition.

Peter A. A. Berle

Between now and next August, I will continue to serve as CEO with all the energy and intensity which I possess. I am proud that Audubon is in a position of strength on many fronts -- membership, finance, program. Our membership numbers are exceeding projections. ... we are producing both the savings and revenue called for in our fiscal program. Plans are underway for a campaign, launched by a major challenge grant, to expand the Corkscrew Sanctuary. State Department Counselor Tim Wirth, heading the U.S. delegation to the UN Conference in Cairo singled out Audubon in a conference before the world press as an example of a nongovernmental organization having an impact on national policy and providing leadership to volunteer organizations around the globe. At a convention of recent scientists Audubon's Restoration Plan was heralded as the most credible and viable means of saving the Everglades.

Now that we are coming out of a period of hard choices and personal sacrifices on everyone's part, we are in a good position to define Audubon's future. ...We have secured a substantial grant to help us plan our future and strengthen our institution. ... I plan to work hard to see that we make the most of it. I want to liberate the best

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Membership Meetings
Seabreeze United Church
501 N. Wild Olive Ave.
Daytona Beach
Next - 7:00 PM, October 17th

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1	1994-95		
President	Roy Stevenson	673-1838	
1st V. President	John Williams	255-8631	
2nd V. President	Angelo Cerrito	767-5397	
Rerd'g Secretary	Marie Oglesby	767-5553	
Mbrshp Sect'y	Audrie Christic	255-7253	
Treasurer	Morrell Robinson	760-8480	
Historian	Harold Nett	441-5584	
Members at Large	Bill Francis	672-6897	
	Carl Lentz	252-5053	
	Carlton Smith	253-3815	
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Hot Lines		, y	
Bird Welfare	Roy Stevenson	673-1838	
Bird Trips	Carl Lentz	252-5053	
Injured Birds	Marry Keller	252-2794	
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Minutes Board of Directors Meeting, October 3, 1994

The October meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by President Roy Stevenson at 3:00 p.m. in the lounge of the Seabreeze United Church. Those present were Audrey Christie, David Hartgrove, Glade Koch, Carl Lentz, Harold Nett, Marie Oglesby, Lois Robinson, Morrell Robinson, Carlton Smith, Roy Stevenson and John Williams.

Minutes: Marie Oglesby, Secretary, gave members copies of the minutes. Lois Robinson moved to accept the minutes as printed. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Morrell Robinson, Treasurer, provided a detailed financial report to the board. To summerize, assets as of October 1, 1994 are as follows: Checking Account (8/31) \$6,398.50; Savings (6/30) \$2,218.48; Investments (Barnett Bank) \$8,897.52

Certificate of Deposit \$6,764.04;

Total Assets \$24,278.54

John Williams moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Standing Committee Reports:

Membership: Audrey Christie, Chairperson, said that the National Audubon Society sent her the wrong report last spring. She has now counted all cards in the membership file and has an accurate account of the current HRAS membership. At the end of September there were 359 National Audubon Society members, 19 Florida Audubon Society members, and 1 Honorary member making a total of 385 members. Mrs Christie constantly pulled cards of persons whose memberships have not been renewed. She asked the Board how long she should keep them.

David Hartgove moved that Mrs Christie retain membership records for three years after expiration and then dispose of them. The motion was seconded and passed.

Conservation: David Hartgrove, Chairperson, reported that one of the constitutional amendments to be on the November ballot needs our attention. He will get copies of the legislation (for) the October ... membership meeting.

AUDUBON ADVENTURES this year. The program was 100% funded from donations with a small surplus to start the program next year.

Field Trips: Carl Lentz, Chairperson, announced that the trip schedule through December will be published in *THE PELICAN* next week. David Hartgrove will lead the first trip October 15th.

Hospitality: Lois Robinson, Chairperson, will not be at the November Board meeting so tentative plans for the Christmas Buffet were discussed. HRAS will furnish ham, chicken wings and beverages. Members will be asked to bring their favorite covered dishes. Full details will be given later in *THE PELICAN*.

THE PELICAN: Carlton Smith, Editor, said that the next PELICAN early next week in time for members to receive the news about the first bird trip and the October 17th General Meeting. Mr. Smith also suggested that the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting be published in THE PELICAN.

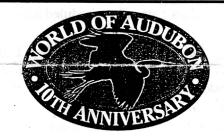
Special Committee Reports:

Finance and Budget Committee: Discussion of this committee report was deferred to next month when Angelo Cerrito, Chairperson, would be present to explain it fully.

Program: John Williams announced that the program for the October 17th meeting would include commentaries and photos of the fabulous trips taken by two members this summer. Glade Koch took an extensive trip to Africa while Carl Lentz enjoyed Russia.

There was no Old or New Business to discuss, so with the reminder that the next Board meeting would be November 7th at 2:00 p.m., President Stevenson adjourned the meeting at 4:00 P.M.

Submitted by Marie L. Oglesby, Recording Secretary



National Audubon Society &
Turner Broadcasting present

The World of Audubon 10th Anniversary Special

Premieres on TBS SuperStation Sunday, November 20, 1994 at 9:00PM (EST)

Encores: Monday, November 21 at 12:00AM (EST) Saturday, November 26 at 10:05AM (EST) Monday, November 28 at 2:35AM (EST)

BE SURE TO WATCH!

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A Chapter of the National and Florida Audubon Societies

Our purpose is to promote an understanding of and interest in wildlife and the environment that supports it and to further the cause of conservation of all national resources

November 1994

Bird Trips

By Carl Lentz

Field trips scheduled for the remainder of 1944 are listed below. All Auduboners are interested in the natural environment and one of the best ways to become better acquainted with it in our area is to join us on our bird trips. You are cordially invited to join us

Trips will leave at 8:00 A.M. on the dates listed from the parking area at the east end of the Courthouse Annex, City Island, Daytona Beach. Cars not needed for the trip may be parked at the starting point. Those who do not drive are given the opportunity to share the cost of transportation. with those whose cars are used. The suggested contribution is \$4.00.

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Saturday, December 31st will be a combined effort with the Southeast Volusia Audubon Society. More details about this later.

Christmas Bird Count, tentatively scheduled for December 31st. If you care to participate, please call 252-5053 by December 1st.

Birding Identification Tip

According to The Audubon Encyclopedia of

Membership Meeting
Seabreeze United Church
501 N. Wild Olive Ave.
Daytona Beach
7:00 PM, November 20th

We will be very fortunate to have Pat Halliday, an experienced and well known photographer of Florida birds to share her photographs with us this evening. Her subject will be "Birding in Florida" and should last 30 to 40 minutes, just the right time frame for us.

Pat has been interested in nature and wildlife photography for some ten years or so and during that time has traveled quite a lot around the state of Florida in pursuit of her favorite subject, Birds.

Sharing her photographs with those who appreciate nature and wildlife is one of her greatest pleasures and it shows in her presentations. As said earlier, we are very fortunate to have her share them with us. Try to take advantage of this opportunity by being present.

There will be refreshments afterwards, of course.

News from ECVF

The Environmental Council of Volusia and Flagler Counties

■ FSP Launched: A coalition of academics, biologists, environmentalists, feminists and business people have launched "Florida for a sustainable population," whose stated purpose is to make Floridians aware of the disadvantages of unrestricted population growth and the advantages of a stable population. They propose population stabilization and sustainable development to assure a reasonable quality of life for this and future generations.

Wran It Un: The Florida Department of

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Birding Identification Tip

According to *The Audubon Encyclopedia of North American Birds* by John T. Terres, Lesser Yellowlegs are usually found in flocks and feed by picking food off the surface of the mud. It does not swing its bill. The Greater Yellowlegs is vary wary and can be identified by its loud ringing cry when disturbed. It feeds by swinging its bill from side to side in shallow water, does not probe but may peck or dab at water to pick up food. - Adapted from an article in *The Skimmer*, newsletter of the Southeast Volusia Audubon Society, Nov. 1994, Catherine Bidgood - editor.

501 N. Wild Olive Ave. Daytona Beach 7:00 PM, November 20th

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■ Wrap It Up: The Florida Department of Environmental Protection offers a free consulting service that gives companies no-risk advise from engineers and chemists who conduct on-site "waste audits" and suggest improvements. Known as "Wrap," it shows business owners environmentally friendly improvements that may pay off financially.

■ Turn-around: The Deartmentp. of Environmental Protection now says that it will issue permits for construction of Harbor Village Marina in Palm Coast.

H.R.A.S. Officers & Boards 1994-95

	1994-99	1
President	Roy Stevenson	673-1838
	Bus.	252-0466
1st V. President	John Williams	255-8631
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1 -		

Editorial

Their stated The Nature Conservancy mission is to preserve plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. The Conservancy's Florida Chapter has protected 470,000 acres of habitat throughout the state since it was established in 1961.

Dr. Walter Boardman, now Deceased, a well known conservation activist of his time and chairman of our Conservation Committee for several years, was one of its founding members. Reid Hughes, one of our present members, is on their Florida State Board.

HRAS has been a strong supporter of theirs for a very long time and it is the strong opinion of this writer that we, HRAS, should continue or preferably increase that support, not decrease it.

S./ Carlton M. Smith

Do you Know

Also from The Skimmer

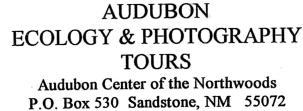
The difference between Dolphins and porpoises? In an article by Cynthia King in FATHOM, she states that the best way to tell them apart is by the shape of their head. Dolphins (not to be confused with the fish called Dolphin or Mahi-Mahi) tend to have a large, rounded head with a well defined snout while porpoises tend to have a smaller, rounded head and a very short, indistinct snout or beak.

As mammals, dolphins and porpoises all breath air and bear live young. They have the same up-and-down movement of their tails for swimming, a single nare (blowhole) at the top of the head for breathing, and some ability to emit sound either to navigate, locate their prey or to communicate with each other. Dolphins and porpoises also have a strong instinct for community. Dolphin herds travel together for life as do porpoises. Porpoises are very rare south of North Carolina, but dolphins are common in both our inshore and offshore waters.

(Editor's note: During the school year of 1934-35, during my senior year at Daytona (now Mainland) High School, I was briefly on the staff of our school newspaper. The name of our paper was "The Porpoise" and our motto "We come to the top to blow." I edited a short column for which we dug up supposedly little known facts about any subject that caught our fancy and the title of the column was "DO YOU KNOW?"

Now YOU know why this column in "The Skimmer" caught my attention and why I just had to slip it in here. It allowed me to reminisce about events of 60 years ago. No, I have not known the difference between dolphins and porpoises until now. We always called them porpoises. - Editor.

Note new address!



Audubon Center of the Northwoods P.O. Box 530 Sandstone, NM 55072 FAX (612) 245-5272 (612) 245-2648 Write or call for full trip itineraries

Bird Trips

By Carl Lentz

Field trips scheduled for the remainder of 1994-95 season are listed below. All Auduboners and their friends are invited to join us.

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There was only one trip scheduled for December so as not to conflict with the Christmas Holidays.

Trips currently scheduled are as follows:

Saturday, December 31st, Christmas Bird Count. If you desire to participate, and we hope you do, please call Roy Stevenson at 673-1838 or Brian Carey, after 5:00 PM at (904) 428-4373, Edgewater.

Saturday, January 7th - Once again Barbara Samler of West Volusia Audubon Society has arranged a joint field trip with four Audubon Chapters to the Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge. This is an excellent opportunity to meet other birders and to swap information on fine birding spots.

Friday, January 20th - This trip will be to the best birding spots in the DeLand area with lunch at Hontoon Island. Sandhill Cranes will be the Piece de Resistance.

Saturday, February 4th - A drive through Shiloh Marsh, if the road is open, then to Black Point Refuge.

Friday, February 17th - This trip will be to the best birding spots in south Volusia County. We will concentrate on waders but will not neglect the passerines.

Saturday, March 4th - Tomoka Farms Road to Mullett Lake. This use to be one of our best trips. There are indications that the birds have returned.

Friday, March 17th - After her successful trip last year, Lois Pauchey will once again lead us through parts of the Ocala National Forest to find Red Cockaded Woodpeckers with lunch at Juniper Springs

Seabreeze United Church
501 N. Wild Olive Ave.
Daytona Beach
6:00 PM, December 19th

This is our Christmas meeting and we will celebrate with a Covered Dish Dinner with Entertainment. Lois Robinson, our Chair person for refreshments is in charge and relays the following information.

The main course, consisting of Ham and/or Chicken will be furnished by the Chapter along with Coffee, Tea, and Rolls. Members should bring a covered dish, enough to serve about eight, of Vegetable, Salad, or Desert and your own silverware.

We will be entertained by "The Clodbusters," a well known local singing group. We are very fortunate that they could fit us into their busy Christmas Schedule. We have tried for them previously but always missed the boat. Angelo Cerrito arranged for them this year.

Please come out and enjoy!

Biannual Nominations are Open

In accordance with Article IX of the By Laws of the Halifax River Audubon Society, the Board of Directors has named the following, members

Carl Lentz. Ph. 353-5053 John Williams, Ph. 255-8631 Lois Robinson, Ph. 760-8480

to a committee to nominate members to serve from March 1995 to March 1997 in the following positions:

(See NOMINATIONS, Page 2.)

Saturday, April 8th - Captain Hopkins takes us birding on the St John's River on his 50 passenger pontoon boat. Coffee and Donuts will be served. The price is still \$9.00. Note: Watch for a possible earlier starting time for this one.

Friday, April 21st - We will travel the back roads to the west of Daytona. Migration should still be underway. We will especially look for nesting Blue Grosbeaks.

Saturday, May 6th - A must trip to the St. Augustine Alligator Farm to see nesting herons and Egrets. Hopefully, the Wood Storks will repeat their last year nesting and fledge young. There is an entrance charge for this one but it is surely worth it. Photographic opportunities are boundless.

Good News for Everglades Restoration

submitted by Edwin Moure, acting Executive Director, NAS Everglades Campaign

Florida's Governor and Cabinet recently voted to confer condemnation authority to the South Florida Water Management District to acquire the western half of a South Dade tomato field, known as the Frog Pond. Acquisition will enable the District to provide emergency freshwater releases into Taylor Slough (southern Everglades) and ultimately Florida Bay (which is rapidly approaching a state of ecological collapse).

The move comes after more than 9 years of contested water management practices in the area. The District and Corps of Engineers had managed a canal separating the Frog Pond from Everglades National Park/ Taylor Slough to provide drainage for the tomato fields, thereby draining huge quantities of water out of the Everglades during critical nesting periods for wading birds. Last Fall and this Spring the Everglades Campaign intervened successfully in three separate legal actions by the Frog Pond farmers, and through subsequent lobbying efforts before the District, a state lands agency and now the Governor and Cabinet, have finally assured some emergency relief for Florida Bay.

Stay tuned, though. Acquisition of the western half of the Frog Pond will allow only partial restoration of flows to Florida Bay. The battle continues for acquisition of at least a flowage easement over the eastern half.

More good news. Scarcely 10 months after the Campaign issued its "Report on Water Supply Preserves" recommending creation of a continuous buffer between the Everglades and urban areas, the Water Manage-

ment District's Governing Board officially accepted its staff's fully developed plan for the Lower East Coast Buffer—the District's expanded version of Water Supply Preserves.

The plan calls for acquisition and inclusion of virtually all remaining wetlands in the westernmost development corrider for Palm Beach, Ft. Lauderdale and Miami. The plan is hotly opposed by development interests. Recognizing these lands are critical to providing aquifer recharge for urban drinking water wells as well as providing a tool for raising Everglades water levels, however, the District voted to move the plan forward. This is perhaps the boldest wetlands stand taken by a state agency in the history of Florida. While much work remains to be done to convert the District's plans into a state water management/wetlands/Everglades restoration tool, this is, nonetheless, a huge step forward.

The campaign team thanks all of you for your continuing support of this critical wetlands/ecosystem campaign.



HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON SOCIETY

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