

THE PELICAN



"We need to be the stewards of this natural world, not its destroyers!"

VOL. 55 - NO. 7 NEWSLETTER OF HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON

JANUARY 2010

CONSERVATION NOTES

David Hartgrove

The news has been somewhat good on the development front lately. Tom Pelham, the Secretary of the Florida Department of Community Affairs, the agency which has to sign off on amendments to county comprehensive growth management plans, issued a request that all of the regulators in DCA be thorough in their reviews of proposed amendments. This is a marked change in direction for the agency. For many years, amendment requests were given little if any scrutiny and approvals were handed out like lollipops in the school nurse's office on shot day.

The Farmton-Green Key plan, which would plop 29,000 new homes down into the area straddling the Volusia/Brevard County line west of Oakhill, required amendments to the comp plans of both counties. DCA responded to both requests with detailed outlines of why the requests were a recipe for disaster. Brevard County had filed its request first. So when they got the response from DCA, their County Commission promptly voted to approve the amendment anyway. This sets in motion a request for a hearing before an administrative law judge. Then, on Christmas Eve, DCA handed down its opinion on Volusia county's request. The response took thirteen pages to outline why the proposed development was a bad idea. Volusia has sixty days to respond.

My guess is that they too will vote to ignore the DCA ruling. We are watching this issue and, in spite of the plan having received Audubon of Florida's enthusiastic endorsement, continue to oppose it, along with our sister chapter, the Southeast Volusia Audubon Society.

In spite of the eloquent plea by Audubon of Florida's, Charles Lee, the Port Orange City Council voted unanimously to approve, on final reading, the zoning changes needed to construct the Intra Coastal Oasis Marina between the boat ramps at Port Orange Causeway Park and Seabird Island mobile home park. The developer now has to make formal requests to the Department of Environmental Protection and to the Army Corps of Engineers for the permits necessary for the dredging that the project requires. Approval of those permits is by no means guaranteed. In fact, in recent memory, no such permit has been issued except for established commercial ports, like Port Everglades and Miami's cruise ship facilities. We're going to try to keep it that way.

NOTICE

Our January meeting will be at a different location.

We will meet at

**Trinity Lutheran Church,
1205 Ridgewood Ave., Holly Hill.**

DECEMBER BOARD MEETING

- Checking balance is \$3,297.47.
- Golden Dog sales profit is \$261.98. Willie Burns will man a sales booth at Manatee Festival January 4 & 25.
- Current chapter membership is 526.
- Conservation Chair David Hartgrove reported on Florida Audubon Regional Conservation Committee meeting. Water issues and oil drilling off the Florida coast will be issues this year.
- Audubon Adventures kits are being delivered and a new school has been added.
- Board moved to support a chapter e-bird account to record bird counts and where found on specific locations on field trips.
- Newsletter will include article on the Great Backyard Bird Count. Members without a computer may phone count data to Paula Wehr who can report it via computer.
- In response to a request by a Third Grade teacher at Tomoka Elementary school Peggy Yokubonus will teach a birding class January 6.
- Board moved to give Christmas present of \$20 to Sica Hall custodian.
- Willie Burns will apply for renewing our request for the use of the Dickerson library room for Board meetings. We will meet every first Monday: exceptions are July 12 and September 13.

Welcome to new members W.R. Appenzellar, Nancy Beville, James Carlin, June Carlson, Paul Costello, Mary Cruitt, Sean Daily, Susan Goree, Sandra Hagopian, Bob and Annajean Hardesty, Edwin J. and Bernice Jackson, Mark Janker, Leon and Lynn Kruse, Ann Taylor Moore, Carol V. Moore, G. W. Phillips, Crystal Richardson, Helen Rose, Gene Schoonmaker, Diane Scot, June L. Siebert, and Sylvia Soldo. We are looking forward to meeting you at our program meetings and field trips.

AUDUBON AT WOODRUFF

Edito's Note: John James was not only a great naturalist, but a fine writer. I think you'll enjoy this book excerpt.

On January 6, 1832, the party started to visit a famous spring near the sources of the St. John's River, which was described in his third letter to Featherstonehaugh as well as in a later "Episode." There his host, Colonel Rees, who utilized the abundant flow from this curious spring for grinding the whole of his sugar cane, took them down the Spring Garden Creek to a series of muddy lakes which emptied into the St. John's. The mud on this occasion was the cause of great disappointment to the naturalist for it made it impossible for him to recover what he believed to represent a new species of Ibis, which was shot in one of those bottomless pits. "Being only a few yard distant from us," to quote from Audubon's third letter, "and quite near enough to ascertain the extend of my loss, I submitted to lose a fine pair of a new species, the which if I ever fall in with it again, I shall call Tantalus fuscus."

When they had reached the borders of Woodruff's Lake, after noon, fatigued and hungry, he continued:

"We landed on a small island of a few acres, covered with a grove of sour orange trees, intermixed with not a few live oaks. The oranges were in great profusion on the trees – everything about us was calm and beautiful and motionless, as if it had just come from the hand of the Creator. It would have been a perfect paradise for a poet, but I was not fit to be in Paradise; the loss of my ibis made me as sour as the oranges that hung about me. I felt unquiet, too, in this singular scene, as if I were almost

upon the verge of creation where realities were tapering off into nothing. The general wildness, the eternal labyrinths of waters and marshes, interlocked, and apparently never ending; the whole surrounded by interminable swamps – all these things had a tendency to depress my spirits, notwithstanding some beautiful flowers, rich looking fruits, a pure sky, and ample sheets of water at my feet. Here I am in the Floridas, thought I, a country that received its name from the odours wafted from the orange groves, to the boats of the first discoverers, and which from my childhood I have consecrated in my imagination as the garden of the United States. A garden, where all that is not mud, mud, mud, is sand, sand, sand; where the fruit is so sour that it is not eatable, and where in place of singing birds and golden fishes, you have a species of ibis that you cannot get when you have shot it, and alligators, snakes and scorpions.

Mr. Bartram was the first to call this a garden, but he is to be forgiven; he was an enthusiastic botanist, and rare plants, in the eyes of such a man, convert a wilderness at once into a garden.

When we had eaten our humble repast at the sweet little Orange Grove Island, we left it 'alone with its glory,' but not without a name. It was determined, nolens volens, that it should be called Audubon's Island, on the St. John's river. Lat. 29° 42'.

Audubon the Naturalist: A History of his Life and Time.
Francis Hobart Herrick, Ph.D., Sc.D. D. Appleton-Century Company. 1938. Vol. II, Chapter XXVI, p 21.

JOHN JAMES AUDUBON

Stephen Vincent Benét

Published 1933

Some men live for warlike deeds,
Some for women's words.

John James Audubon
Lived to look at birds.

Pretty birds and funny birds,
All our native fowl
From the little cedar waxwing
To the Great Horned Owl.

Let the wind blow hot or cold,
Let it rain or snow,
Everywhere the birds went
Audubon would go.

Scrambling through a wilderness,
Floating down a stream,
All around America
In a feathered dream.

Thirty years of traveling,
Pockets often bare,
(Lucy Bakewell Audubon
Patched them up with care).

Followed grebe and meadowlark,
Saw them sing and splash.
(Lucy Bakewell Audubon
Somehow raised the cash).

Drew them all the way they lived
In their habitats.
(Lucy Bakewell Audubon
Sometimes wondered "Cats?")

Colored them and printed them
In a giant book,
"Birds of North America"--
All the world said, "Look!"

Gave him medals and degrees,
Called him noble names,
--Lucy Bakewell Audubon
Kissed her queer John James.



LUCY BAKEWELL AUDUBON

AFTER A SIGNATURE PAINTED BY FREDERICK O. SHANK IN LONDON, ABOUT 1831. FORWARDED BY COURTESY OF CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS.

BIRDING IN PANAMA Part I

David Hartgrove

In the early morning hours of November 18th, our group came together at the Orlando Airport for our flight to Panama. We were scheduled to spend 7 days birding there at both Canopy Tower and Canopy Lodge. Our flight down was pleasant, with a tasty breakfast and "Julie & Julia" as the in-flight movie. Panama is in the same time zone. So there was no jet lag and no watches to reset.

We got through customs with only a few holdups and met our bus driver for the 90 minute ride to Canopy Tower. Liz Abrams found our first lifer while we were still in the airport, a **Mangrove Swallow**. Situated in the southern end of Soberania National Park, the Tower has hummingbird feeders around the property. There was a **White-necked Jacobin** that had staked out the feeder nearest the front door as his. He spent a lot of energy guarding it from the other hummingbirds that vied for space at the feeders, like the **Blue-chested, Violet-bellied, White-vented Plumeleteer, and Long-billed Hermit**. By 12:30 we were in the dining room atop the Tower eating lunch and jumping up to race to the open windows to see birds like **Green Honeycreepers, Red-capped Manakins, and Palm, Golden-hooded, and Bay-headed Tanagers** as they moved about in the tree tops a few feet away. We ended up seeing 16 species of hummers altogether, and 15 species of tanagers.

Our guide was Carlos Betancourt, head guide at Canopy Tower. His 6-year-old daughter was having her first ballet recital that afternoon. So he left us in the very capable hands of Domi Alveo, another of the guides. We went for a walk down the long, Signal Hill Road that leads up to Canopy Tower. Using an *i*-Pod, Domi called out things like **Broad-billed Motmot, Cocoa Woodcreeper, Western Slaty-Antshrike, and Checker-throated and Dot-winged Antwren**. Even though it was downhill, it was a long walk. So we were happy to hear the truck coming to pick us up for the ride back up to the Tower. We had showers and then went up to cocktail hour. It was during this nightly event that we went over the checklist before sitting down to the delicious dinners we enjoyed each night we were in Panama.

The next 2 days were very busy. The general schedule was breakfast at 7:00 a.m., in the truck at 8:30 for a ride to wherever we were going, back at the Tower by 12:15 for lunch, an hour and a half for siesta or birding around the Tower grounds, back on the truck at 2:45, another drive to a birding spot, and back to the Tower by 6:00 p.m. for showers and cocktail hour. On Thursday, we got a late start due to heavy morning rain. When we arrived at Summit Ponds it was hot and muggy. This is where we got the **Amazon Kingfisher, Boat-billed Heron, and Spectacled Owl**. After lunch we went to a

place called the Ammo Dump. It's an old leftover from the days when the Canal was run by the US. Here we got **Rufescent Tiger-Heron, White-throated Crake, and Bat Falcon**, among others.



Photo by David Hartgrove

Male Thick-billed Euphonia

Friday morning was an early breakfast call since we were going to the famous Pipeline Road. Here we got **Broad-billed Motmot, White-necked Puffbird, and Scaly-throated Leaf-tosser**. After walking a good distance down the road Carlos decided to try calling in a bird he'd heard in the distance: an **Ocellated Antbird**. There are whole families of birds there called antbirds, antshrikes, antthrushes, etc. These birds spend most of their day following swarms of army ants. They aren't interested in eating the ants. They wait for the various creatures that are unlucky enough to be in the ants' path to flee for their lives. Then they move in for the kill. Carlos stepped off the road and into the jungle and soon came back saying he'd found the moving horde. We followed close behind on the slippery track, crossing a small stream. The Ocellated Antbird popped out right on cue and everyone got good looks at the bird. Then Carlos' eyes widened and he said in an excited whisper that we had one of the most difficult to find birds in Central America nearby: a **Rufous-vented Ground-Cuckoo**. We stood silently and swatted the occasional mosquito waiting for Carlos to sneak around and drive the bird toward us. Again, we all got great looks at this ghostly bird that has frustrated so many birders to the tropics.

We dined under the stars that night. Then we boarded the truck for a drive down the hill looking for owls. We saw none but heard a couple. Carlos told us a ghost story and we saw a **Great Tinamou** and a pair of **Hoffman's Two-toed Sloths** he found using a large spot light.

JANUARY PROGRAM MEETING

Our local climate and soil composition provide Florida with very unique plants and wildlife. Paul Rebmann, nature photographer and long-time Florida resident, will present "The Flora and Fauna of Wild Florida in Photos" on Monday evening, January 18.

Join us at 6:30 p.m. for light refreshments. Paul's presentation begins at 7:00 p.m. NOTE: The meeting will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1205 Ridgewood Avenue, Holly Hill. Sica Hall is not available that evening.

February 12-15, 2010

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

New York, NY and Ithaca, NY—Bird watchers coast to coast are invited to take part in the 13th annual Great Backyard Bird Count, Friday, February 12, through Monday, February 15, 2010. Participants in the free event will join tens of thousands of volunteers of all levels of birding experience to count birds in their own backyards, local parks or wildlife refuges.

Each checklist submitted by these "citizen scientists" helps researchers at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society learn more about how the

birds are doing—and how to protect them. Last year, participants turned in more than 93,600 checklists online, creating the continent's largest instantaneous snapshot of bird populations ever recorded."

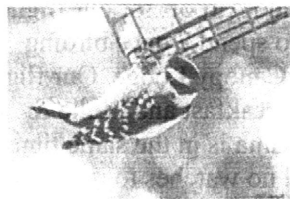
"Taking part in the Great Backyard Bird Count is a great way to get outside with family and friends, have fun,

and help birds—all at the same time. Anyone who can identify even a few species can provide important information that enables scientists to learn more about how the environment is changing and how that affects our conservation priorities," said Audubon Education Vice President, Judy Braus.

Top 10 most commonly reported species in GBBC 2009 were

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Northern Cardinal | 6. Blue Jay |
| 2. Mourning Dove | 7. House Finch |
| 3. Dark-eyed Junco | 8. Tufted Titmouse |
| 4. American Goldfinch | 9. American Crow |
| 5. Downy Woodpecker | 10. Black-capped Chickadee |

Participants count birds for as little as 15 minutes (or as long as they wish) on one or more days of the event and report their sightings online at <http://www.birdcount.org/>.



Downy Jerry Kerschner

Bird populations are always shifting and changing. For example, 2009 GBBC data highlighted a huge southern invasion of Pine Siskins across much of the eastern United States. D Participants counted 279 Pine Siskins on 18,528

checklists, as compared to the previous high of 38,977 birds on 4,069 checklists in 2005. Failure of seed crops farther north caused the siskins to move south to find their favorite food.



On the <http://www.birdcount.org/> website, participants can explore real-time maps and charts that show what others are reporting during the count. The site has tips to help identify birds and special materials for educators. Participants may also enter the GBBC photo contest by uploading images taken during the count. Many images will be featured in the GBBC website's photo gallery. All participants are entered in a drawing for prizes that include bird feeders, binoculars, books, CDs, and many other great birding products.

For more information about the GBBC, visit the website at <http://www.birdcount.org/> or the Cornell Lab of Ornithology at (800) 843-2473 or gbbc@cornell.edu, or Audubon at citizenscience@audubon.org or (215) 355-9588, Ext 16. And if you don't have a computer, call Paula Wehr at 673-5332. She will enter data for you.

JANUARY 2010 CALENDAR

Trip difficulty ratings. (1) Easy or no walking.

(2) <1 mile walk. (3) > 1 mile walk and/or uneven path.

Thursday, January 7, 2010

Flagler Audubon Society program meeting. "Pelagic Birds Seen from Shore" by Michael Brothers.
Meeting Room A or B, Florida Hospital Flagler (west of I-95 on SR100 Palm Coast). 6:30pm.

Friday, January 8

Southeast Volusia Audubon Society field trip. Merritt Island NWR. Black Point Drive. Meet 7:00am at Market Square parking lot, Edgewater. Ridgewood Ave. & 442 between Dunkin Donuts & Chic-Fil-A. Gail Domroski 1-386-428-0447. Bring lunch. (1)

Saturday, January 9

Southeast Volusia Audubon Society field trip. Merritt Island NWR. Biolab Road. Meet 8:00am at Market Square parking lot, Edgewater. Ridgewood Ave. & 442 between Dunkin Donuts & Chic-Fil-A. Contact Gail Domroski 1-386-428-0447. Bring lunch. (1)

Sunday, January 10

Halifax River Audubon field trip. Dunlawton Bridge. Meet 4:00pm under Dunlawton Bridge, Port Orange. Led by Elizabeth Abrams, 299-4727. (1)

Friday, January 15

Halifax River Audubon field trip. Viera Ponds. Meet 7:00am at Lowes parking lot, Dunlawton Ave, east of I-95, Port Orange. Led by John Roessler, 212-6957. Bring lunch. (2)

Saturday, January 16

Flagler Audubon Society field trip. Orlando Wetlands. Contact 904-540-2433.

Monday, January 18, 2010

Halifax River Audubon program meeting. "The Flora and Fauna of Wild Florida in Photos" by Paul Rebmann. **Trinity Lutheran Church**, 1205 Ridgewood Ave., Holly Hill. Refreshments at 6:30pm; program at 7:00pm. **Note new location**,

Saturday, January 23

Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. "Shore Birds" by David Hartgrove. 9:00am to 11:00am. 2045 Mud Lake Road, DeLeon Springs. 386-985-4673 or -0926.

Saturday, January 23

Flagler Audubon Society bird walk - Shorebirds. Meet 8:00am at Matanzas Inlet. Contact 904-540-2433.

Saturday, January 23

Southeast Volusia Audubon Society field trip. Viera Wetlands. Meet 7:00am at Market Square parking lot Edgewater. Ridgewood Ave. & 442 between Dunkin Donuts & Chic-Fil-A. Contact Gail Domroski 1-386-428-0447. Bring lunch. (1)

Tuesday, January 26

West Volusia Audubon Society program meeting. "Ecology of the DeLand Ridge" by Steve Strawn.

Women's Club of DeLand, 128 West Michigan Ave., DeLand. Meet 6:30pm for program and refreshments.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORMS

If you see a red circle around your expiration date on *The Pelican* newsletter mailing label, it means it is time for you to renew your membership.

APPLICATION TO JOIN

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

\$15.00/ year Senior Citizen (62 or older) or Student.

\$20.00/ year Introductory Rate. \$30.00/ 2 year rate.

As a member of National Audubon you will receive bi-monthly issues of *AUDUBON* magazine, membership in **Audubon of Florida**, their publication *The Naturalist* and membership in **Halifax River Audubon, Inc.** and our newsletter, *The Pelican*.

Name _____

Address _____

Apt _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

email address _____

Make check out to **National Audubon** and mail with this form to John W. Carr, 359 Brookline Ave, Daytona Beach, FL 32118-3311 COZE410Z

APPLICATION TO JOIN

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON, INC

Chapter-Only Annual dues are \$20.00/ year, and \$15.00/ year per senior citizen or student. All of your membership dues go to Halifax River Audubon, Inc., a Chapter of National Audubon Society. As a member of Halifax River Audubon, you will receive 12 issues of our newsletter *The Pelican*, and have full membership privileges. You will not receive the National Audubon bi-monthly magazine, *Audubon*, nor will you receive *The Naturalist*, the publication of Audubon of Florida.

Name _____

Address _____

Apt _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

email address _____

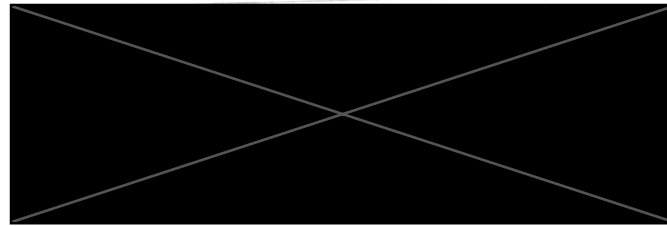
Make check out to **Halifax River Audubon**, and mail with this form to John W. Carr, 359 Brookline Ave., Daytona Beach, FL 32118.

THE PELICAN



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Elizabeth Abrams	Vice President	299-4727	
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Fran Carr	Newsletter Editor	255-9360	franniep@juno.com
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Bird Information and Web Site

Injured Birds			
Mary Keller Rehab. Ctr. of			
The Marine Science Ctr.	Chris Wise	304-5545	chriswise@co.volusia.fl.us
	Phyllis Lamborn	386-423-1434	plamborne@cfl.rr.com
	Gina Holt	386-299-5890	hunt4gloria@hotmail.com
	Dee Ann Snyder	386-761-3262	dedesnyder41@aol.com
Bird Identification	David Hartgrove	788-2630	
Birds of Prey Center	Maitland, FL	407-644-0190	
Halifax River Audubon	Web Site	www.halifaxriveras.org	
Florida Rare Bird Alert		http://listserv.admin.usf.edu/archives/frba.html	

JANUARY 2010

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON
appreciates the support of the newsletter
The Pelican by
FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT, INC.
In Recognition of David Hartgrove

HALIFAX COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB

ORMOND BEACH GARDEN CLUB

COLONIAL COLONY

Thank you

For support of our 2010 activities

For Your Information – All articles for *The Pelican* should be sent to Fran Carr, 359 Brookline Ave., Daytona Beach, 32118. Articles for publication in next month's issue must be received by the third Monday of the month.

Chapter Meetings – Meetings are held the Third Monday JANUARY and FEBRUARY at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1205 Ridgewood Ave, Holly Hill, at 6:30 p.m. Members and Guests welcome! Board meets at Dickerson Heritage Library at 411 S. Keechi St., Daytona Beach, at 1:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month. All are welcome. See Calendar for dates and time.

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"We need to be the stewards of this natural world, not its destroyers!"



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FEBRUARY 2010

CONSERVATION NOTES

David Hartgrove

We've been concentrating on local issues over the past several months. I thought it was time to see what's going on in the rest of the country in birding news. Massachusetts Audubon has a monthly electronic newsletter called the "Birding Community E-Bulletin", by Paul Baicich and Wayne Petersen. Here are a couple of brief bits you may not have heard about.

In California, several Audubon chapters, along with the American Bird Conservancy and others, went to court to halt Los Angeles County's plan allowing a Trap, Neuter, and Release program that encourages the establishment of feral cat colonies. In June 2005, the L.A. Board of Animal Services Commissioners adopted TNR as the "preferred method of dealing with feral cat populations as its official policy." The lawsuit filed by the above mentioned groups sought a cease and desist order until an environmental assessment is completed. Such an assessment is required under state law there and Los Angeles County chose not to follow the law in this case. Scientists estimate that domestic cats may be responsible for as many as 1 billion bird deaths annually.

That claim will be one of many now subjected to scientific review during the environmental assessment required under the California Environmental Quality Act. All parties in this debate claim science is on their side. I'm afraid the plaintiffs are about to learn a lesson about kicking a hornet's nest when it comes to stirring up the cat lovers of the country. Here's what one of our founding fathers had to say on the subject: "[T]ouch a solemn truth in collision with a dogma of a sect, though capable of the clearest proof, and you will soon find you have disturbed a nest, and the hornets will swarm about your legs and hands, and fly into your face and eyes." - John Adams, 1814.

Also from the Bulletin comes news that some of our migrant birds stop over in Mexico for a second nesting opportunity. In an article published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, researcher Sievert Rohwer and his colleagues, have discovered that at least five species - Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Orchard Oriole, Hooded Oriole, Yellow-breasted Chat, and Cassin's Vireo - regularly engage in a second breeding season

during their stopover in the lowland thorn forests of coastal Sinaloa and Baja California Sur before reaching their western Mexico wintering destination. This second nesting occurs during the local monsoon season, which lasts from June through August. How this discovery will impact bird conservation plans remains to be seen. You can find the archives of the Bulletin at www.refugenet.org/birding/birding5.html. It's well worth a look.

February 15 Program Meeting

BOSQUE DEL APACHE

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

"I saw them first many Novembers ago and heard their triumphant trumpet calls, a hundred or more Sandhill cranes riding south on a thermal above the Rio Grande Valley, and that day their effortless flight and their brassy music got into my soul." Charles Kuralt

The Friends of Bosque del Apache website states that "Charles Kuralt loved the Bosque del Apache NWR. He visited the Refuge many times and featured it on his Sunday Morning television show often. His vivid memory of first experiencing the Sandhill Cranes rings true with all of us who also love this beautiful oasis."

Join us for our February 15 meeting when David Baker, retired teacher of Earth and Environmental Sciences, will present a photographic show about the birds of Bosque del Apache at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will begin at 6:30 p.m.

NOTE: The location of the meeting is changed from Sica Hall to Trinity Lutheran Church, 1205 Ridgewood Avenue, Holly Hill.

Welcome to new members Abbie Alexander, Jerry Ballard, Chesley Bennett, Joye Berger, Elizabeth Brown, Andy Corriveau, Kate Counts, Lori & Darrell Doughty, Dianne Edgar, Betty Goldkamp, Marie Herrmann, William Klug, Patricia A. Lang, Debora MacDonald, Lois McDaniel, Jessie A. Partington, George R. Patingre, Sylvia Richey, Conrad A. Roberts, Eleanor Rossero, Katie Rodgers, Betsy Smith, Josh Tomlinson, Jan Turp, and Dottie Viorde. We are looking forward to meeting you at our program meetings and field trips.

AUDUBON ADVENTURES FOR KIDS

Marion Monaghan and Becky Tate

Thanks to the generous donations of HRA membership, fourth graders in 21 Volusia school rooms are enjoying *Audubon Adventures* this school year.

This year's *Audubon Adventures* program "Action for Planet Earth" is designed to engage and inform young people about America's natural treasures - our rivers, streams, and wetlands, our forests, prairies, and mountains, our lakes and oceans. The focus is on "action for planet Earth".

FEBRUARY 2010 CALENDAR

Trip difficulty ratings. (1) Easy or no walking.

(2) < 1 mile walk. (3) > 1 mile walk and/or uneven path.

Thursday, February 4, 2010

Flagler Audubon Society program meeting. "Beach Combing: Not Just the Seashells" by Maia McGuire. Meeting Room A or B, Florida Hospital Flagler (west of I-95 on SR100 Palm Coast). 6:30pm

Friday, February 5

Flagler Audubon Society bird walk. Shorebird survey. Flagler pier. 7:30am. Contact 904-540-2433.

Friday, February 12

Halifax River Audubon field trip. Biolab Road at Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. Meet at 7:00am at Lowes parking lot on Dunlawton Ave, east of I-95, Port Orange. Led by John Roessler, 255-9826. Bring lunch. (2)

Saturday, February 13

"Bird Bonanza" at Lyonia Environmental Center. Michael Brothers leads expedition to find flighty Florida Scrub-Jay and co-habitants of the scrub. 9:00am. Free with paid admission to LEC. Reservation required - call 386-789-7207.

Monday, February 15

Halifax River Audubon program meeting. "Birds of Bosque del Apache" by David Baker, Retired Earth and Environmental Science teacher. **Note new location: Trinity Lutheran Church, 1205 Ridgewood Ave., Holly Hill.** Refreshments at 6:30pm; program at 7:00pm.

Saturday, February 20

"Reptiles of Lake Woodruff" by Boyd Blihovde, Refuge Manager. Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. 9:00 to 11:00am. 2045 Mud Lake Road, DeLeon Springs. 386-985-4673.

Saturday, February 20

Florida Scrub-Jay Festival. Lyonia Preserve Environmental Learning Center. See article.

Saturday, February 20

Southeast Volusia Audubon field trip. Orlando

Wetlands Park. Meet at 7:00am at Market Square parking lot Edgewater, Ridgewood Ave. & 442 between Dunkin Donuts & Chic-Fil-A. Contact Gail Domroski 1-386-428-0447. Bring lunch. (3)

Tuesday, February 23

West Volusia Audubon Society program meeting. "Birds and Bird Anatomy" Dr. David Stock, Stetson University. Women's Club of DeLand, 128 West Michigan Ave., DeLand. 6:30pm, program and refreshments.

JANUARY BOARD MEETING

- Checking account balance is \$5,789.05.
- Golden Dog December sales profit was \$172.
- Current membership is 526.
- John Roessler will lead February 12 field trip to Merritt Island NWR.
- Letter from Tom Pelham, Dept. of Community Affairs was read. This was in response to HRA's letter opposing approval of Comp Plan change requests by the Miami Corp. for the Farnton project. DCA has responded to Brevard & Volusia Counties with recommendation to reject the change requests.
- The City of Port Orange approved the re-zoning for the Port Orange Marina. However, Dept. of Environmental Protection & Corp. of Engineers has not yet replied regarding additional permits needed.
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission plans to establish a Volusia Shorebird Partnership. Board discussed whether to focus study on winter birds or nesting shorebirds.
- Volusia County Science & Engineering Fair will be held on January 30 at Atlantic High School. Halifax River, SE Volusia and W Volusia Audubon chapters will each send a judge and \$100 check. Fred Mosher and Tom Arbogast are judges from HRA..
- Chapter's 24-month CD is maturing. Treasurer will check on current rates and decide whether to reinvest or let it roll over.
- Ray Scory will man a table to promote the Beginner Birding Class at the Port Orange Library's Clubs & Hobbies Fair on January 23.
- Chapter received a thank you letter from ARK's Wildlife Rescue and Education Center in DeLand regarding HRA's donation.
- Celine Sullivan will man the Membership Table at monthly meetings during Joan Anderson's absence.
- David Hartgrove will send a letter of support to The Nature Conservancy about the failure of the 2009 legislature to fund the Florida Forever Coalition.
- DeDee Blanchard is unable to provide refreshments at the January meeting.

BIRDING IN PANAMA - Part 2

By David Hartgrove, on his November 7-day trip to Panama

Saturday was relocation day. We were off to Canopy Lodge. We took a 2 hour stop at the Panama Canal, at Mira Flores Locks, to tour the museum and watch a small boat transit the locks. Located at around 2,500 feet, at the base of the cloud forest, it's a bit cooler and it rains more frequently at the Lodge. The facility is beautiful. A mountain stream flows through the property and platform feeders are kept stocked with bananas. So the **Clay-colored Robins**, **Thick-billed Euphonias**, and **Scarlet backed Tanagers** are constantly in view, along with **Collared Aracari**, and **Chestnut-backed Oropendula**. Sunday morning we headed out in a slight drizzle to a spot further up the mountain and got **Yellow-faced Grassquit**, **Rufous-capped Warbler**, and some of "our" birds that winter in Panama, like **Tennessee Warbler**, and **Eastern Wood Pewee**.

After lunch we went to the town down the mountain, Valle De Anton. We stopped in at a house that belonged to Domi's in-laws to view their resident **Tropical Screech Owl**. We then went to the market for souvenirs and on to a last stop where we got **Lineated Woodpecker**, and the real prize of the day, a **Tody Motmot**. This is another of those very difficult to see Central American birds and it took a long time to find it. While we were waiting for the motmot to appear, we were treated to yet another lifer, the **Violet-crowned Woodnymph**. This striking little hummer (are there any other kinds?) was at times no more than 10 feet from us.

Breakfast was at 5:30 on Monday morning. We were heading out on a long trip to El Cheru. This area is in dry forest and pasture, where we got **Fork-tailed Flycatcher**, **Savanna Hawk**, and **Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl**. Raúl Arias de Para, our host and owner of both the Lodge and Tower, has a lovely beach house at Santa Clara. We went there for lunch and most of us took a swim in the Pacific for the first time. Fishermen were hauling nets nearby and we had fresh fish appetizers that night at dinner.

After lunch we drove through a pouring rain to some rice fields at a spot called Juan Hambron. Here we got **Gray-necked Wood-Rail**, **Striated Heron**, and **Lance-tailed Manakin**, among many others. There were more **Crested Caracara** here than I've ever seen in one place. After another harrowing ride up the too narrow mountain road, dodging pedestrians, bicycles and oncoming traffic, we had a delicious dinner and it was off to bed. We did stop to watch the **Orange Nectar Bats** as they worked to empty one of the hummingbird feeders.

Our last full day started out near the top of the mountain where we got the **Orange-bellied Trogon**, **Black-faced Grosbeak**, and **Scarlet-thighed Dacnis**. As we were finishing lunch, a steady rain began to fall. That

made for a damp ride for those who rode the zip line at the nearby Canopy Adventure. I opted out at the last minute and relaxed at the lodge. This decision meant that I missed seeing the **White-Hawk** and **White-ruffed Manakin** that the others saw after their exciting ride down the line in the rain. Dinner that night was a memorable affair with lots of laughter and the sharing of memories.

Our flight home started with a wake up at 4:00 a.m. It's a long ride from Canopy Lodge to the airport through morning rush hour traffic. Aside from the men hawking lottery tickets to drivers at traffic lights, it's pretty much like any rush hour here. We arrived in Orlando as a cold front blew into town with a rain storm. That drop in temperature felt very good after a week in the tropics. Our hosts were gracious, the food was good and we all came home with a much longer list of life birds, mine by 162. Yes, I would go back.



Photo by David Hartgrove

Collared Aricari



FLORIDA SCRUB-JAY FESTIVAL

February 20th will be the first year of the Florida Scrub-Jay Festival dedicated to celebrating the Florida Scrub-Jay, the **only** bird **only** found in Florida! Learn more about this charismatic bird, which is a threatened species, and its unique scrub habitat, and other interesting wildlife.

The festival will offer live music in the Deltona Amphitheater, guided nature walks in Lyonia Preserve, presentations and activities for children in the Environmental Learning Center (LEC), and environmental displays in the Deltona Regional Library auditorium

The festival will be held at the Lyonia Preserve LEC from 9am to 3pm. Admission to the festival, the environmental center and Lyonia Preserve will be free.

Indoor activities

- Kids Activities
- Scrub-Jay Habitat
- Scrub-Jays at Lyonia Preserve
- Prescribed Fire
- Scrub Insects
- Jay Watch

Field Trips

- Prescribed Fire
- "Early Bird" Scrub-Jay Walk
- Scrub-Jay walks (6 walks scheduled)
- Kids Walks (2 scheduled)
- Natural History Walk (I and II)
- On-Site Land Management
- Plant Walk

Entertainment

Susie Cool, Stuart Hall, Vic de Giorgio, KZ
Zuckerman, Matt Tuten's Flat Mountain Band.



Also available at the Lyonia Environmental Center are the Bagel King Café and a gift shop.

The Preserve is at 2150 Eustace Ave., Deltona. Directions from Daytona Beach area: West on I-4, Left on Howland Blvd (#472, exit 114), Right on Providence Blvd (#4155).



Photo by Danny Bales

BIG NEWS ABOUT WETLANDS RESTORATION

Eric Draper – Audubon of Florida

This January 55,000 acres of land were reclaimed and will be restored to wetlands and panther habitat. Many organizations joined Audubon of Florida at the ground breaking on the Picayune State Forest failed development at the south end of the western Everglades about two miles east of Naples.

The 70,000 acre Forest is comprised of two recreational tracts, the Belle Meade Tract (an equestrian tract) and the Sabal Palm Hiking Trail. Another tract is the infamous South Golden Gate Estates Tract.

Florida Division of Forestry Article excerpt

"Picayune Strand State Forest was originally logged for cypress trees in the 1940's and 1950's, and then in the 1960's, a developer purchased over 57,000 acres to create the largest subdivision in American to be called "Golden Gate Estates". A massive system of canals and roads were built and thus began the infamous "swampland in Florida" scam.

"Potential buyers were flown over the area during the dry season then subjected to high pressure salesmen who were selling lots averaging 2.5 acres apiece. Most of the land south of Interstate 75 could never be developed due to the summer flooding, and the development eventually went bankrupt.

"In 1985, a plan was put into place to purchase South Golden Gate Estates using Conservation and Recreation Lands (CARL) funds under the "Save Our Everglades" program. This was an incredibly large undertaking as it involved acquiring land from 17,000 landowners. In 1998, the federal government gave 25 million dollar in aid to the state of Florida to help bring the land acquisitions to a completion. Once the land acquisition is completed, hydrological restoration activities will begin in earnest. This will restore the sheetflow of freshwater that is necessary for the continued existence of the ecologically sensitive Ten Thousand Islands and the Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve."

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

FEBRUARY 12-15

From **Sharing our Recipes**, published by Halifax River Audubon Society, Inc. 1999.

BIRDS EAT TOO

Garden Recipe for Birds and Butterflies Mary Keller

Fresh water (still and moving)

Trees, shrubs and bushes of different heights

Flowering vines

Colorful flowers

Bird feeders and bird houses

Fallen leaves

Wild area

Small area of moist mud

Small bare area with exposed dirt

Have clean water in high and low bird baths. A pond, small or large, with running water or waterfall is also excellent. Plant trees around the area, then place shrubs and bushes of different height levels to afford cover, protection and even food for birds and butterflies. Blackberries, elderberries and raspberries are good to plant among the trees. Flowering vines, like Trumpet Vine, along with other colorful flowering plants not only add beauty to the yard, but make a good food source for birds and butterflies. Bird feeders can be stocked with seeds, fruit and suet treats and hung from poles or trees. Apples and oranges are especially good fruit treats. Fallen leaves, if raked off the yard, should be piled in an area under trees or in borders and left for butterflies which over winter in leaf litter. The leaves will provide shelter for bugs and larvae under them. Leave a small part of your yard wild where a lot of weeds can grow and produce seeds that birds eat. Butterflies love to get salt from moist mud. Birds love dust baths which you can provide by leaving a small clear place for that purpose.

NOTE: The Mary Keller Seabird Rehabilitation Center at Ponce Inlet is named for long-time bird rehabilitator.

Bird Bread

Pat Mihalic

3 lb can lard

2 C peanut butter

2 24-oz pkg corn meal

2-3 lbs sunflower seeds or hearts (optional)

2½ lb wild bird seed (optional)

1½ lb cracked corn (optional)

1 lb raisins (optional)

Flour

In a large kettle over medium heat melt shortening and peanut butter. Remove from heat. Stir in the cornmeal. Add sunflower seeds or hearts, birdseed, cracked corn and/or raisins, if desired. Add flour to thicken if necessary. Pack into 32-oz yogurt cartons or other plastic containers. Store in the refrigerator.

Fruit Spikes

Pat Mihalic

Any fruit such as oranges, apples, bananas, etc.

Finishing nails

Put finishing nails on tree. Spear fruit that has been cut in half onto nails. Watch for Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Downy Woodpeckers, Yellow-rumped Warblers, Northern Mockingbirds, Northern Cardinals, grackles, Red-winged Blackbirds, Bluejays and may other species to enjoy this special treat.

Suet Cakes for the Birds

Madeline Shaddix

1 lb lard (no substitution) 1 C flour

28 oz crunchy peanut butter ¼ C sugar

4 C oats

1 C raisins (optional)

4 C corn meal

Melt lard and peanut butter in large pot over low heat. Remove from heat and add oats, corn meal, flour, and sugar and mix well. Soak raisins in a little water until they are plump, drain and add to mixture. Pour mixture into a flat pan that leaves the mixture 1 to 2 inches thick.

Chill in the refrigerator until firm enough to cut into pieces. These pieces can be any size you wish, preferably about 3- or 4-inch squares, small enough to be eaten before they can spoil. Wrap pieces with plastic wrap, put into a plastic bag and freeze until used. Wrapping them individually keeps them from freezing together and makes them easier to handle later. Put the pieces on a platform feeder.

NOTE: There is a problem with the cakes; the birds love them and quickly devour them, especially during the time they are feeding nestlings. Therefore, it is a good idea to double the recipe. Raisins attract Mockingbirds, Carolina Wrens and other birds that do not usually frequent seed feeders.

Pine Cone Treat

Marie Oglesby

Pine cone

Bird seed

String

Raisins (optional)

Peanut butter

Tie string securely to pine cone. Smear cone with peanut butter, then roll cone in bird seed and raisins. Tie to a tree branch.

Popcorn Treat

Marie Oglesby

Unpopped popcorn

Needle

Heavy thread

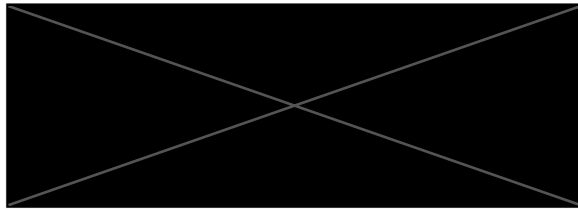
Pop unbuttered, unsalted popcorn. Using long needle and thread make strings of popcorn and drape over tree limbs and bushes. May also be placed loose in feeding area.

THE PELICAN



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Elizabeth Abrams	Vice President	299-4727	
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Bird Information and Web Site

Injured Birds			
Mary Keller Rehab. Ctr. of			
The Marine Science Ctr.			
Chris Wise	304-5545	chriswise@co.volusia.fl.us	
Phyllis Lamborn	386-423-1434	plamborne@cfl.rr.com	
Gina Holt	386-299-5890	hunt4gloria@hotmail.com	
Dee Ann Snyder	386-761-3262	dedesnyder41@aol.com	
Bird Identification	David Hartgrove	788-2630	
Birds of Prey Center	Maitland, FL	407-644-0190	
Halifax River Audubon	Web Site	www.halifaxriveras.org	
Florida Rare Bird Alert		http://listserv.admin.usf.edu/archives/frba.html	

FEBRUARY 2010

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON
 appreciates the support of the newsletter
The Pelican by
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 In Recognition of David Hartgrove

HALIFAX COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB

ORMOND BEACH GARDEN CLUB

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Thank you

For support of our 2010 activities

For Your Information – All articles for *The Pelican* should be sent to Fran Carr, 359 Brookline Ave., Daytona Beach, 32118. Articles for publication in next month's issue must be received by the third Monday of the month.

Chapter Meetings – Meetings are held the Third Monday, FEBRUARY, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1205 Ridgewood Ave, Holly Hill, at 6:30 p.m. Members and Guests welcome! Board meets at Dickerson Heritage Library at 411 S. Keach St., Daytona Beach, at 1:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month. All are welcome. See Calendar for dates and time.

THE PELICAN

"We need to be the stewards of this natural world, not its destroyers!"



VOL. 55 - NO. 9 NEWSLETTER OF HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON

MARCH 2010

CONSERVATION NOTES

David Hartgrove

If any one issue in the past several years has galvanized in agreement the environmental community, it's the proposed restoration of the Oklawaha River. While the name sounds like it has a Native American origin, that's only partly true. It's actually a corruption of the Creek word for muddy, "ak-lowaha." The river was used extensively by paddlewheel steamers in the late 19th century for tourists and freight. Its lovely, tannin stained waters were a liquid highway for lumber, citrus, and those on their way to see Silver Springs.

The idea of building a canal for barges across the state was first put forth by Philip II of Spain in 1567. Numerous others heard of the idea through the centuries and pushed its adoption. Early on, the economics of the proposal couldn't be made to fit the realities of its construction. But bad ideas often find determined champions. During the Depression, local politicians lobbied for construction as an economic recovery project. Then in 1963 President Kennedy lent his support to the idea. In 1964 President Lyndon Johnson pushed a button that set off the explosives that started construction of the Cross Florida Barge Canal. The Army Corps of Engineers set about destroying a wide swath of Florida's beauty in the name of "progress."

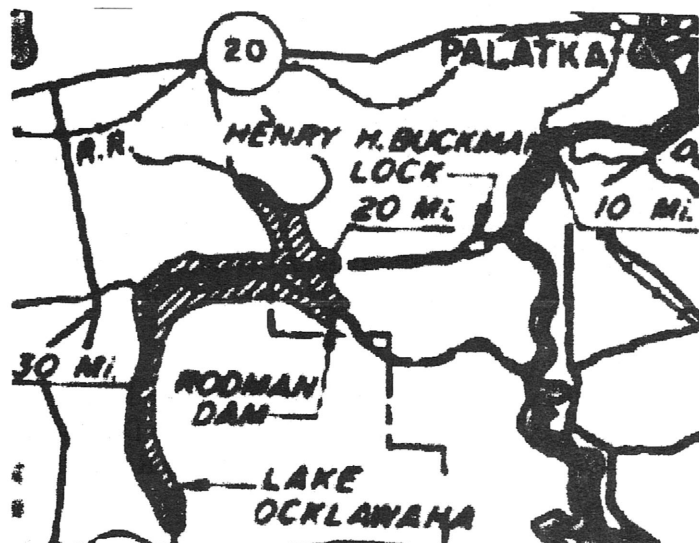
Marjorie Harris Carr (whose husband, Archie, was famous for sea turtle research) was the first woman in Florida to hold a position as a "wildlife technician." She was instrumental in saving Payne's Prairie as a state park and saw early on that the Cross Florida Barge Canal was an idea that would destroy Florida's aquifer and wreck its environment. She began working to defeat the canal in 1962. In 1969 she founded the Florida Defenders of the Environment (FDE) which, along with other groups, went to court seeking an injunction to halt the canal. The following year, they presented an environmental impact statement demonstrating just how damaging the canal would be. Finally, common sense and science won out over greed and ignorance. On January 19th, 1971, President Richard Nixon issued an executive order halting all work on the canal. But it took twenty more years for the wheels of a reluctant government to grind out an agreement deauthorizing the canal and dealing it a final death blow.

Part of the construction that was completed before work was stopped is Rodman Dam. When this gross miscalculation was completed and Rodman Reservoir

filled up, a large section of the flood plain there was submerged. Tree stumps fill the area now and this is part of the reason the reservoir has a reputation among bass anglers. A small but influential group of locals in Palatka has been fighting removal of the dam since that was first proposed. Over the years a number of powerful state legislators have made the decision to stand against the will of the majority and tried to enshrine this expensive, ecological disaster as a state recreation area.

The latest to do so is our own, Senator Evelyn Lynn. In spite of the fact that FDE long ago presented a petition with thousands of signatures requesting immediate restoration of the river, she's filed 2 bills making the place a state park! There was a unanimous decision by the Governor and the Cabinet asking for restoration. There have been repeated deaths of manatees crushed in the locks of the dam. Remove the dam, no more manatee deaths there. Finally, the cost of maintaining the reservoir is somewhere between 500,000.00 and 1.2 million dollars annually. The cost of restoration has been estimated at 12.4 million dollars. That's a one time cost. A restored river will take care of itself. We'll stop spending all that money every year to maintain a system that's damaging the environment every day.

Please, take a minute and call Senator Lynn's office. Tell the staff person who answers your feelings about the Senator's actions on this issue and ask that she reconsider trying to make this place a state park. Here's the number: 386-238-3180. It'll only take a few minutes and you'll know you did your part to help restore a once beautiful river. Thank you.



March 15 Program Meeting – **Back to SICA Hall**

**THE BIRDS OF CHILE
FROM PATAGONIAN ICEBERGS TO THE
DRIEST DESERT IN THE WORLD**

One of the most well-known regions in Chile is Patagonia, a dramatic landscape on the southern tip of South America which includes islands, glaciers, icebergs and the southernmost portion of the Andes Mountains as well as plateaus and low plains to the east. This varied habitat is home to birds of the sea, the steppes, rivers and lagoons and even rain forest.

In northern Chile lies the Atacama Desert, a virtually rainless plateau covering a 600-mile strip of land along the Pacific, west of the Andes. According to NASA, National Geographic and many other publications, the Atacama is the driest desert in the world--50 times drier than California's Death Valley.

Don't miss the March 15 meeting when Frank Brandt will discuss the birds that live in these varied and harsh habitats.

The doors open at **Sica Hall**, 1065 Daytona Avenue, Holly Hill, at 6:30 p.m. for refreshments and socializing. Mr. Brandt will begin his presentation at 7:00 p.m.

WELCOME to new members Juliet E. Bain, Frances Bellm, Bernadette Devery, Fred Favorite, Jr., Gertrude E. Ferguson, Margaret Fulkerson, Marie Harrison, Gale Luchterhand, Joanne T. Miller, Roger Pelletier, Robert Nelson, Jennifer Stockman, Test Testy, Joy E. Wurl, Richard S. Zellely. We are looking forward to meeting you at our program meetings and field trips.

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING

- Checking balance is \$5,679.64.
- Willie Burns and Carol Branch manned a Golden Dog sales booth at the Manatee Festival.
- Current chapter membership is 530.
- Board passed motion to appoint Rob Bowden and Bob Coleman as Honorary Members of the chapter.

MARCH 2010 CALENDAR

Trip difficulty ratings. (1) Easy or no walking.

(2) <1 mile walk. (3) > 1mile walk and/or uneven path.

Thursday, March 4, 2010

Flagler Audubon Society program meeting.

“Whooping Cranes” by John Cantor. Meeting Room A or B, Florida Hospital Flagler (west of I-95 on SR-100 Palm Coast). 6:30pm.

Friday, March 5

Halifax River Audubon field trip. Lake Monroe. Meet at 7:00am at Lowes parking lot on Dunlawton Ave., east of I-95, Port Orange. Led by Ray Scory, 763-4260. Bring lunch. (3)

Friday, March 5

Southeast Volusia Audubon Society field trip. Ravine Gardens. Meet at 7:00am at Market Square parking lot Edgewater, Ridgewood Ave. & 442 between Dunkin Donuts & Chic-Fil-A. Contact Gail Domroski 1-386-428-0447. Bring lunch. (2)

Saturday, March 6

Flagler Audubon Society field trip. Kanapaha Gardens. Contact 904-540-2433.

Sunday, March 14

Halifax River Audubon field trip. Dunlawton Bridge. Meet at 4:00pm under Dunlawton Bridge, Port Orange. Led by Ray Scory, 763-4260. (1)

Monday, March 15

Halifax River Audubon program meeting. “From Patagonian Icebergs to the Driest Desert in the World: The Birds of Chile” by Frank Brandt, Master Birder. **Sica Hall**, 1065 Daytona Ave., Holly Hill. Refreshments at 6:30pm; program at 7:00pm.

Thursday, March 18

“Fins to Limbs and Back Again” by Martin Cohn, Ph.D., Professor of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, Howard Hughes Medical Institute. 7:00pm. Whitney Lab's Center for Marine Studies, 9505 Ocean Shore Blvd., St. Augustine, FL 32080. Call 904-461-4000.

Saturday, March 20

Flagler Audubon Society field trip. Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge. Contact 904-540-2433.

Saturday, March 20

“Birds of St. Johns River” by Arnette Sherman of West Volusia Audubon Society. Lake Woodruff NWR. Visitors Center 2045 Mud Lake Rd. DeLeon Springs. 9-11 am. Contact 386-985-4673.

Saturday, March 20

Southeast Volusia Audubon Society field trip. Tosohatchee WMA. Meet at 7:00am at Market Square parking lot in Edgewater. Ridgewood Ave. & 442 between Dunkin Donuts & Chic-Fil-A. Contact Gail Domroski 1-386-428-0447. Bring lunch. (3)

Tuesday, March 23

West Volusia Audubon Society program meeting. “Florida's Wading Birds and Rails” by Faith Jones of Seminole Audubon. Women's Club of DeLand, 128 West Michigan Ave., DeLand. 6:30pm program and refreshments.

Friday, March 26

Halifax River Audubon field trip. Tiger Bay. Meet at 7:30am at International Square Shopping Center, International Speedway Blvd, east of I-95, Daytona Beach. Led by Ray Scory, 763-4260. Bring lunch. (1)

Saturday, March 27

Lake Woodruff NWR. Night Hike. 8:00pm. Parking Lot 2, 2045 Mud Lake Rd. DeLeon Springs. Call 386-985-4673.

VOLUSIA AUDUBON CHAPTERS JOIN FOR AWARDS

Marion Monaghan
Halifax River, West Volusia and Southeast Volusia - the three Volusia County Audubon Chapters - combined to recognize excellence at the Tomoka Region 2009-2010 Science and Engineering Fair. The Fair is sponsored by the Science Department of Volusia County Schools to award winners of projects submitted by junior and senior students.

Audubon members judged and awarded prizes to student projects that were pertinent to our mission; earth science, conservation, and engineering

Winning projects were:

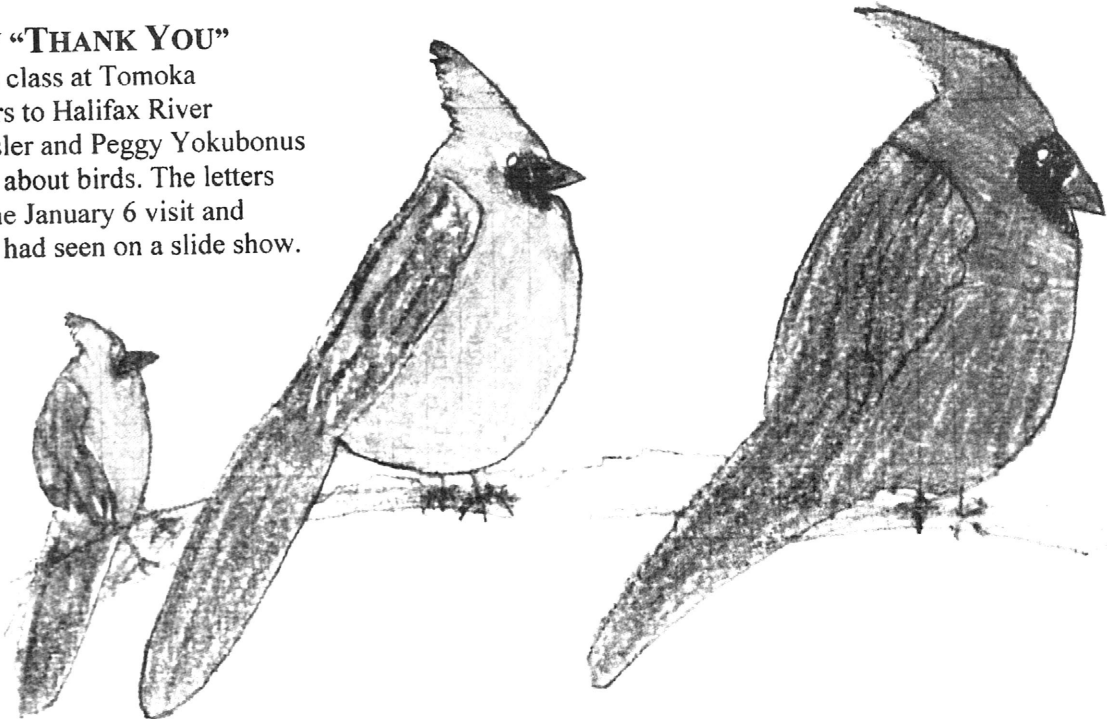
- "Environmental Effects on Banana Ripening and Sugar Content" by Kelton Williams, DeLand High School. First Place Senior Division.
- "What Duration of Ultraviolet Exposure Kills Bacteria" by Chase Antilla, Flagler Buddy Taylor Middle School. First Place Junior Division.
- "What is the Most Effective Fuel: B100 Biodiesel, B50 Biodiesel, 0 Diesel" by Katelyn Zeringue, DeLand High School. Second Place Senior Division.
- "What Are Some Natural Ant Repellents" by Michelle He. Port Orange Creekside Middle School. Second Place Junior Division.

Audubon chapters awarded \$100 to first place winners and \$50 to second place winners. Judges were Fred Mosher and Tom Arbogast of HRA, Don Picard of SEVAS, and John Eggert of WVAS.

3RD GRADERS SAY "THANK YOU"

Members of Ms. Belsky's class at Tomoka Elementary School wrote letters to Halifax River Audubon members John Roessler and Peggy Yokubonus thanking them for telling them about birds. The letters told how much they enjoyed the January 6 visit and included pictures of birds they had seen on a slide show.

Sydney



HONORARY MEMBERS

David Hartgrove

At our last board meeting, the board took a step that's rarely taken. We bestowed honorary memberships on two people. We do this when certain individuals make contributions to our organization that demand a higher form of recognition than a simple, if heartfelt, thank you.

Bob Coleman is the North Area External Affairs Manager for Florida Power and Light Company. In addition to the generous support we receive annually from FPL, Bob and his wife, Bobbie, are avid supporters of arts and cultural endeavors in our area. Other local environmental groups and schools are recipients of Bob's thoughtful activism also. The building that houses the Environmental Learning Resource Center at Rose Bay is just one example.

For an organization like ours, attracting and retaining younger members is a serious challenge. Ten years or more ago, **Rob Bowden's** mother contacted us to see if it would be okay if she and Rob and his sister joined us on a field trip. She had chosen to home school the kids and was looking for a way to incorporate science and outdoor activity into their curriculum. It turned out to be a real plus for us all. Anyone who's been in the field with Rob knows what an excellent birder he is and his skills are in constant demand on every bird count we do.

Honorary memberships aren't something we award often. We felt it was time for special recognition of the contributions of these two individuals have made to our organization. We thank them both.

Daytona Beach Christmas Bird Count

Count Area: 7 1/2 -mile radius of Tomoka River Bridge on I-95

200	2006	200	200	2009	BIRD
4	4			11	Loon, Common
13	15	19	35	18	Grebe, Pied-billed
	11	6	5	8	Grebe, Horned
4	180	195	160	600	Gannet, Northern
1	7	7	14	1	Pelican, American White
115	69	436	65	304	Pelican, Brown
81	154	355	217	321	Cormorant, Double-crested
20	22	45	23	26	Anhinga
1					Bittern, American
13	23	39	39	32	Heron, Great Blue
20	24	79	39	79	Egret, Great
4	21	25	35	18	Egret, Snowy
12	17	44	38	19	Heron, Little Blue
2	8	18	74	10	Heron, Tricolored
74	15	396	54	125	Egret, Cattle
1	2	2	1	1	Heron, Green
		8			Night Heron, Black-crowned
		4		2	Night-Heron, Yellow-crowned
169	83	772	30	85	Ibis, White
23					Ibis, Glossy
13	14	16	21	22	Stork, Wood
	3			25	Duck, Muscovy
	3	1	3	2	Duck, Wood
23	7	1	2	17	Mallard
				2	Teal, Blue-winged
55					Teal, Green-winged
				14	Duck, Ring-necked
	3100	171	226	2450	Scaup, Lesser
	1				Eider, Common
1	21				Scoter, Surf
	2				Scoter, White-winged
	1		3		Scoter, Black
	6				Bufflehead
28	9	118	123	43	Merganser, Hooded
3	17	8	20	21	Merganser, Red-breasted

195	252	133	165	183	Vulture, Black
173	155	208	168	178	Vulture, Turkey
	3	10	25	26	Osprey
	3	6	10	6	Eagle, Bald
		2	1	5	Harrier, Northern
		2	3	4	Hawk, Sharp-shinned
	2	1	4	2	Hawk, Cooper's
	21	24	42	38	Hawk, Red-shouldered
	1	5	7	4	Hawk, Red-tailed
	12	16	28	11	Kestrel, American
			2	1	Merlin
		1			Peregrine
	44	37	12	39	Turkey, Wild
				1	Rail, Black
	14	20	19	32	Rail, Clapper
	1		1		Rail, Virginia
			8	10	Sora
	14	7	27	2	Moorhen, Common
	65	30	105	46	Coot, American
				1	Limpkin
	4	6	4	8	Crane, Sandhill
	13	19	28	14	Plover, Black-bellied
	56	48	42	71	Plover, Semipalmated
			6	15	Killdeer
	1				Oystercatcher, American
			1		Yellowlegs, Greater
	47	41	4	27	Yellowlegs, Lesser
				48	Willet
	47	59	83	69	Sandpiper, Spotted
	62	66	5	101	Turnstone, Ruddy
	243	104	173	138	Knot, Red
			4		Sanderling
					Sandpiper, Least
			35		Sandpiper species
			80	2	Dunlin
	12	1	3	4	Snipe, Wilson's
		6		1	Jaeger, Pomarine
				1	Jaeger, Parasitic
134	700	497	164	2700	Gull, Laughing
	5		3	3	Gull, Bonaparte's

848	1350	207	180	1950	Gull, Ring-billed
18	22	16	16	85	Gull, Herring
6	1	3	2	8	Gull, Great Black-backed
	2	3	1	3	Tern, Caspian
153	129	149	45	198	Tern, Royal
107	22	3	22	45	Tern, Sandwich
7	27	4	11	106	Tern, Forster's
				1	Skimmer, Black
620	356	325	240	493	Pigeon, Rock
59	35	55	389	75	Collared-Dove, Eurasian
352	166	285	171	266	Dove, Mourning
	2	3	3	7	Ground-Dove, Common
2	2	8	35	14	Screech-Owl, Eastern
		2	3	4	Owl, Great Horned
	2	2	6	6	Owl, Barred
		1			Whip-poor-will
		1			Hummingbird, Ruby-throated
8	15	9	15	16	Kingfisher, Belted
				1	Woodpecker, Red-headed
22	39	34	36	65	Woodpecker, Red-bellied
3	8	11	5	11	Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied
7	28	19	25	27	Woodpecker, Downy
	7		3		Flicker, Northern
				4	Flicker, Yellow-shafted
4	21	16	21	28	Woodpecker, Pilated
16	40	31	23	29	Phoebe, Eastern
5260	65	159	290	2800	Swallow, Tree
21	33	15	68	39	Jay, Blue
66	44	71	48	60	Crow, American
261	32	10	20	67	Crow, Fish
3	8		5	14	Crow species
5	4	3	4	3	Chickadee, Carolina
13	31	32	64	59	Titmouse, Tufted
1					Nuthatch, Red-breasted
	6	15	8	1	Nuthatch, Brown-headed
7	45	11	38	38	Wren, Carolina
5	13	2	27	16	Wren, House
		1	7	5	Wren, Sedge
		3		5	Wren, Marsh
18	73	40	46	60	Kinglet, Ruby-crowned

19	13	49	45	67	Cnaticatcher, Blue-gray
8	7	12	17	6	Bluebird, Eastern
	3		2	8	Thrush, Hermit
132	6500	635	107	1550	Robin, American
16	71	28	64	65	Catbird, Gray
23	60	49	82	40	Mockingbird, Northern
			1	1	Thrasher, Brown
	200		79	405	Waxwing, Cedar
11	8	22	19	29	Shrike, Loggerhead
532	52	92	87	496	Starling, European
5	14	6	4	13	Vireo, White-eyed
6	7	6	12	21	Vireo, Blue-headed
1	1		4	7	Warbler, Orange-crowned
			1	2	Parula, Northern
632	4500	980	123	1550	Warbler, Yellow-rumped
	2			5	Warbler, Yellow-throated

17	14	33	37	49	Warbler, Pine
			1	2	Warbler, Prairie
32	32	63	31	102	Warbler, Palm (western)
1	6	2	4	3	Warbler, Yellow Palm
7	5	8	14	13	Warbler, Black-and-white
26	76	43	69	68	Yellowthroat, Common
				2	Cardinal, Northern
				2	Painted Bunting
4	4	1	8	6	Towhee, Eastern
2	9	26	42	38	Sparrow, Chipping
1					Sparrow, Field
				2	Sparrow, Vesper
35	68	8	34	24	Sparrow, Savannah
			1		Sparrow, Grasshopper
	2				Sparrow, Henslow's
		2			Sparrow, Saltmarsh

1				1	Sparrow, Song
1	10	20		19	Sparrow, Swamp
		1			Sparrow, White-throated
109	80	38	110	118	Blackbird, Red-winged
			5		Meadowlark, Eastern
54	153	38	114	14	Grackle, Boat-tailed
9	56	310	220	105	Grackle, Common
85	200	43			Cowbird, Brown-headed
				1	Oriole, Baltimore
	8	22	2	1	Finch, House
				1	Siskin, Pine
18	14	89	8	70	Goldfinch, American
1	1	16	3	34	Sparrow, House

Entry printed **BLACK** is new species found.

Christmas Bird Count Data 2005-2009 - Daytona Beach, Florida

Date	Tot Spec	Tot indiv	Obs	Parties	Time	Owl Hrs	Owl Mi	Foot Hrs	Foot Mi	Car Hrs	Car Mi	Temp	Wind	%Cloud	Precip
12-18-05	101	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	-	48-63	-	Cldy	lt rain
12-23-06	114	20,264	16	5	0300-1730	4.5	48	-	-	40	211	68-80	WSW9-12	Cldy	rain
12-22-07	107	17,548	21	-	0300-1730	4.5	48	18	10.5	31.5	285	60-68	NE5-15	80-100%	0-lt rain
12-27-08	111	13,319	21	5	0300-1830	8	85	19	11	28.5	205	59-79	SSE10-15	80-30-50	0
12-26-09	127	19,479	28	7	0200-1730	9.25	69	35	20	20	241	46-58	NW6-NW15	100-70	.2"

2009 Observers: Rob Bowden, Mike Brothers, Renate Calero, John Carr, Dan Cimbaro, David Hartgrove, Rise Harty, Bill Horton, Ken Hunter, Patsy Hunter, Susan Jarosik, Barbara Kieran, Luddy Lambertson, Mike Meisenburg, Bob North, Laura Ostapko, Vivienne Powis, Paul Rebmann, John Roessler, Jane Rogers, Charlie Snider, Susanne Snider, Celine Sullivan, Chuck Tague, Joan Tague, Becky Tate, Meret Wilson, Peggy Yokubonus.

2008 Observers: Linda Bouffard, Rob Bowden, John Carr, Jack Fuller, David Hartgrove, Ken Hunter, Patsy Hunter, Barbara Kieran, Michael Meisenburg, Bob North, Paul Rebmann, John Roessler, Ray Scory, George Sibley, Celine Sullivan, Chuck Tague, Joan Tague, Becky Tate, Larry Wallberg, Meret Wilson, Peggy Yokubonus.

2007 Observers: Michael Brothers, Rob Bowden, Renate Calero, Jake

Hanson, David Hartgrove, Rich Hugel, Ken Hunter, Patsy Hunter, Barbara Kieran, Luddy Lambertson, Veronica Merenda, Phyllis Myers, Bob North, Paul Rebmann, Ray Scory, Ingrid Swenson, Becky Tate, Paula Wehr, Meret, Peggy Yokubonus.

2006 Observers: Kitty Albee, Michael Brothers, Chandra Bruce, Matt Bruce, John Carr, David Hartgrove, Barbara Kieran, Michael Meisenburg, Veronica

Merenda, Robert North, Steve Petruniak, Rachel Ramsey, Paul Rebmann, Ray Scory, Meret Wilson, Peggy Yokubonus.

2005 Observers: Michael Brothers, Chandra Bruce, Matt Bruce, Kevin Doxstater, David Hartgrove, Rachel Ramsey, Paul Rebmann, John Roessler, Ken Russell, Ray Scory, Larry Wallbert.

THE PELICAN

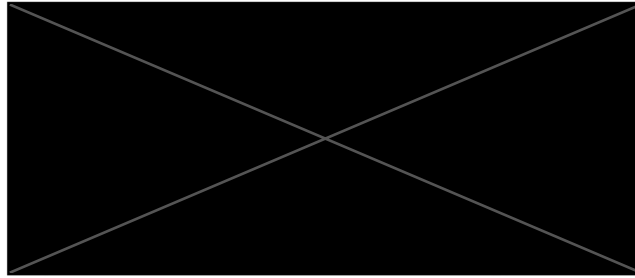


HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON

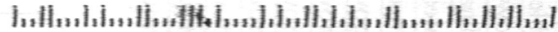
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Bird Information and Web Site

Injured Birds			
Mary Keller Rehab. Ctr. of			
The Marine Science Ctr.	Chris Wise	304-5545	chriswise@co.volusia.fl.us
	Phyllis Lamborn	386-423-1434	plamborne@cfl.rr.com
	Gina Holt	386-299-5890	hunt4gloria@hotmail.com
	Dee Ann Snyder	386-761-3262	dedesnyder41@aol.com
Bird Identification	David Hartgrove	788-2630	
Birds of Prey Center	Maitland, FL	407-644-0190	
Halifax River Audubon	Web Site	www.halifaxriveras.org	
Florida Rare Bird Alert		http://listserv.admin.usf.edu/archives/frba.html	

MARCH 2010

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON
appreciates the support of the newsletter
The Pelican by
FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT, INC.
In Recognition of David Hartgrove

HALIFAX COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB

ORMOND BEACH GARDEN CLUB

COLONY CLUB

Thank you

For support of our 2010 activities

For Your Information – All articles for *The Pelican* should be sent to Fran Carr, 359 Brookline Ave., Daytona Beach, 32118. Articles for publication in next month's issue must be received by the third Monday of the month.

Chapter Meetings – Meetings are held the Third Monday of each month, September through June at Sica Hall, Holly Hill, 1065 Daytona Ave., at 6:30 p.m. Members and Guests welcome! Board meets at Dickerson Heritage Library at 411 S. Keech St., Daytona Beach, at 1:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month. All are welcome. See Calendar for dates and time.

THE PELICAN

"We need to be the stewards of this natural world, not its destroyers!"



VOL. 55 - NO. 10 NEWSLETTER OF HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON

APRIL 2010

CONSERVATION NOTES

David Hartgrove

With mounting deficits and some members of Congress screaming we need more tax cuts, the Obama administration has proposed cutting the budget for national wildlife refuges. These refuges are an economic engine for communities in all 50 states and neglecting them further will damage their ability to attract visitors with money to spend. In addition, many of these refuges have mandated roles in the recovery of endangered and threatened species. Without funding for these critical management issues the species in need of protection will be at greater risk. A number of environmental organizations are working to get funding increased for all of the National Wildlife Refuge System. We'll keep you posted on any developments.

Exxon-Mobil, the largest oil and chemical company on the planet, plead guilty in federal court to violations of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act in six states. Nearly 100 birds, including hawks, owls and water birds died after exposure to natural gas well reserve pits, oil tanks, and waste water ponds at company drilling and storage sites. The company was fined 400,000.00 and ordered to pay another 200,000.00 in community service fees to bird rehabilitation facilities. Six hundred thousand dollars might seem a hefty fine. However, based on Exxon-Mobile's financial statement for the first half of 2009, which stated their net earnings for the period at 8.6 billion, that works out to what the company earned in about 20 minutes. The good part is that the rehab facilities get a much needed funding boost and Exxon-Mobil must fund research into ways to prevent bird deaths at their facilities in the future.

There's word from Tallahassee that Senator Evelyn Lynn has withdrawn the two bills to enshrine Rodman Dam and reservoir as a state park. Whether or not our calls and e-mails to her office were instrumental in getting the bills withdrawn or not, I doubt we'll know. However, this is not the end of the story. Charles VanZant, Representative from Putnam County, where the dam is, has filed HB 695 which does the same thing the senate bill was slated to do. Senator Lynn's bill is now listed as, "pending withdrawal." Does this mean that it could be placed back on the active list if Representative VanZant's

bill advances beyond the committee hearing stage, where it is currently? I believe it does. So we need to keep an eye on this issue until the end of the session. Those last few days are when the most egregious legislation is usually passed. When everyone is anxious to go home and they can't be bothered to actually read what they're voting for.

Finally, some of our members spend their summers in North Carolina and others of us visit that area often. 2010 has been proclaimed "The Year of the Birds", by the North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation. They have partnered with Audubon North Carolina to produce educational programs highlighting the importance of birds in agriculture, recreation, and other aspects of our lives. If you're up that way, look for an event near you.

CELEBRATE

EARTH DAY WITH A BBQ

David Hartgrove

The newest member of the board of Audubon of Florida is Ann Moore, of Flagler County. Ann and her husband, Tom, live on Lake Disston and had invited us to their place several times for birding trips some years back.

She and John Hankinson, Chairman of the Board for Audubon of Florida, have invited us, along with members from the other two Audubon chapters here in Volusia County and other environmental organizations we often partner with, to a picnic and informal get together.

It will take place on Sunday, April 25, 2010, from 3:00 to 7:00 pm, at SPRUCE CREEK PARK, 6250 Ridgewood Ave. (US 1) Port Orange.

Mr. Hankinson is a barbecue chef of some renown (he has a very large grill in the shape of an armadillo, his "Armagrillo"). Audubon of Florida will provide the main course and beverages, and we are all asked to bring a side dish or dessert. This will be a fun way to get all of the environmental groups together to break bread and discuss ways we can be more effective on issues of importance to us all.

Please RSVP by April 19th to David Hartgrove at 788-2630, Paula Wehr at 673-5332, Elizabeth Abrams at 299-4727 or at the chapter meeting so we can get an idea of how many are planning to attend. We'll have a couple of bird walks too, so bring your binoculars. Please plan to attend. You'll be glad you did.

APRIL CALENDAR

Trip difficulty ratings. (1) Easy or no walking.

(2) <1 mile walk. (3) > 1 mile walk and/or uneven path.

Saturday, April 3

Flagler Audubon field trip. Bird walk at Lehigh Trail, Palm Coast. This paved trail follows an old railroad spur across Graham Swamp. An elevated boardwalk crosses Colbert Lane and Old Kings Road and back. Expect to see raptors, woodland and wading birds. Meet at the Lehigh trailhead on Colbert Lane at 8:00am. Call 1-386-313-6095 (Walt or Angela) or www.flaglerlibrary.org/audubon/audubon1.htm

Wednesday, Thursday, April 7 and 8

Halifax River Audubon field trip. Fort DeSoto Pinellas County Park. See migrating warblers and shorebirds. Call John Roessler by **APRIL 5** for details at cell phone 386-212-6957. For overnight reservation at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg call 727-864-8249. For more info visit [Pinellas County Parks](http://www.PinellasCountyParks.com). (3)

Thursday, April 8

Flagler Audubon Society program meeting. "Birds of Prey: Falcons and Hawks" by Lynda White of Audubon Center for Birds of Prey in Maitland. Special guests are: Spike, a Red-tailed Hawk; Picasso, Red-shouldered Hawk; and Elvis and Olivia, American Kestrels. Bunnell Elementary School. 800 East Howe St., Bunnell at 6:30. More information? Call 1-386-313-6095 (Walt or Angela) or email www.flaglerlibrary.org/audubon/audubon1.htm

Thursday, April 8

"Ocean Acidification: The Other Shoe for Climate Change. What could happen, what is likely, and what should we be doing?" by Andrew Stamper, D.V.M. SeaWorld. Free. 7:00pm. Whitney Lab's Center for Marine Studies, 9505 Ocean Shore Blvd., St. Augustine. Call 904-461-4000 for further details.

Friday, April 9

Flagler Audubon Society field trip. Tiger Bay Forest. This 27,315 acre forest of wetlands with scattered pine islands and large pine ridge Rima Ridge lies 7 miles west of Daytona Beach. Expect to see assorted warblers, Brown-headed Nuthatch and Bachman Sparrow. For details on the forest visit http://www.fl-dof.com/state_forests/tiger_bay.html. Meet the group at International Square shopping Center (near Staples) east of I-95 on ISP (SR-92) at 7:30. Bring lunch. Call 1-386-313-6095 (Walt or Angela) or email www.flaglerlibrary.org/audubon/audubon1.htm

Friday, April 9

Southeast Volusia Audubon Society field trip. Tiger Bay State Forest. Meet at 7:00am at Market Square parking lot Edgewater, Ridgewood Ave. & 442 between Dunkin Donuts & Chic-Fil-A. Contact Gail Domroski 1-386-428-0447. Bring lunch. (1)

Sunday, April 11

Sugar Mill Gardens Spring Fling. Noon to 4:00. Free. Plants for sale. Child-related crafting. Vendors. Crafts and art. Refreshments. 950 Old Sugar Mill Rd., Port Orange.

Friday, April 16

Southeast Volusia Audubon Society field trip. Washington Oaks State Park. Meet at 7:00am at Market Square parking lot Edgewater, Ridgewood Ave. & 442 between Dunkin Donuts & Chic-Fil-A. Call Gail Domroski 1-386-428-0447. Bring lunch. (2)

Saturday, April 17, June 12, and October 2

Bird Count at Restoration in Edgewater. See Article.

Saturday and Sunday, April 17-18

21st Annual Earth Day Celebration at Washington Oaks Gardens State Park. 10:00am-4:00pm. \$10.00 per vehicle. Located two miles south of Marineland, off A1A.

Monday, April 19

Halifax River Audubon program meeting. "Least Terns" by Monique Borboen, NE Florida Policy Associate, Audubon of Florida. Sica Hall, 1065 Daytona Ave., Holly Hill. Refreshments at 6:30pm; program at 7:00pm.

Friday, April 23

Halifax River Audubon field trip. Orlando Wetlands. Meet at 7:00am at Lowes parking lot on Dunlawton Ave., east of I-95, Port Orange. Led by Elizabeth Abrams, 299-4727. Bring lunch. (3)

Sunday, April 25

Flagler Audubon field trip. Bird and wildlife survey. Gamble Rogers MSRA, Flagler Beach. Visit <http://www.floridastateparks.org/gamblerogers/default.cfm> for park details. Meet in the parking lot near the picnic area on the Intracoastal Waterway side of the park. 8:00am. Call Laura at 1-386-445-8653.

Sunday, April 25

Sugar Mill Gardens program meeting. 2:00pm. Speaker: "Darwinian Gardener" Mark Lane of Daytona Beach News-Journal. Free. 950 Old Sugar Mill Rd., Port Orange.

Tuesday, April 27

West Volusia Audubon Society program meeting. "The Whooping Cranes' Story" by John Canter, author. Women's Club of DeLand, 128 West Michigan Ave., DeLand. 6:30pm program and refreshments.

Friday, April 30

Halifax River Audubon field trip. Spruce Creek & Buschman Parks. Meet at 7:30am at Spruce Creek Park, US-1 south of Port Orange. Led by Ray Scory, 763-4260. Bring lunch. (2)

Saturday, May 1

Flagler Audubon Society field trip. St. Johns River boat trip. Contact Walt or Angela at 1-386-313-6095.



April program meeting

LEAST TERNS

With more people living and playing along Florida's shoreline protecting critical beach habitat for, *Photo by Danny Bales* Wildlife becomes an increasing challenge. Beach-nesting birds, among other species, are heavily affected by loss of coastal habitat.

Join us on April 19 when Monique Borboen, Northeast Florida Policy Associate with Audubon of Florida, will discuss Least Terns.

Join us at Sica Hall, 1065 Daytona Avenue, Holly Hill. Refreshments are served at 6:30 p.m. Ms. Borboen will begin her presentation at 7:00 p.m.

MARCH BOARD MEETING

- Checking balance is \$5,306.50.
- Golden Dog items will be for sale at Sugar Mill Gardens Spring Fling on April 11.
- Postcards were sent to teachers at Audubon Adventures classes requesting feedback on the materials.
- Newsletters and Thank-You letter will be sent to Ms Belsky's 3rd grade class for bird pictures and letters.
- DeDee Blanchard resigned as Hospitality Chair. David Hartgrove and John and Fran Carr will provide refreshments at April meeting.
- Sica Hall shall remain our meeting place. Letter was sent to Trinity Lutheran Church thanking them for the use of their facilities and informing them that we will no longer meet there.
- Board approved purchasing HRA business cards to be distributed at our event booth.
- Audubon Chapter BBQ announced. See article.
- HRA will participate in the Washington Oaks Earth Day celebration.

BIRD COUNTS AT RESTORATION

West Volusia Audubon Society will be conducting bird counts in Edgewater at Restoration in partnership with Halifax River and South East Volusia Audubon chapters. The next count dates are: April 17th, June 12th and October 2nd.

We welcome the help of anyone who has basic knowledge of birds and is capable of walking up to 3 miles on grassy tracks.

To get there from Daytona Beach area, take I-95 south to the first (Edgewater) exit; turn right onto a dirt road; go

west for over one mile to the first open gate on your right. Meet at 7:30am just inside the gate. Bring water

That is the basic info. If you wish to help, please contact Harry Robinson at sirharrydeland@gmail.com or 386-943-8342 and leave a message with your email address or telephone number. We will be sending out an orientation package before each count.

MERET AT TOMOKA

Meret Wilson bands birds at Tomoka State Park,

A pair of Great Horned Owls has lived at the park for years and takes every opportunity to run off Ospreys to take the nests for themselves. This year the pair is in an old Osprey nest that they commandeered several years ago but have not used consistently since. They have 2 owlets now that are large enough to sit up and be seen. Last year the owl ran the Ospreys off their nest by the banding station, laid eggs and was in the middle of incubating when they were harassed off by the fledgling eaglet, at which point the Fish Crows ate the owl eggs. Very interesting dynamics among all.

NOTE: March 21. Owlets have disappeared. Meret suspects eagles got them.

WELCOME to new members Linda Boccarossa, Jean Deegan, Caprice Edwards, Berton Ehret, Joan Garber, Barbara Gehlbach, Robert Haviland, Victoria Herring, Frank Huck, Andrew Jadlock, David Jennison, Russ Kirkley, Marguerite Knowlen, Christine La Voie, Kendall R. Lutz, David Lyons, Gerald C. McHugh, Kaj Oldenburg, Joan Paoletti, Dorothy Parker, Robert Poirier, Richard G. Pumphrey, Paul Sawyer, Margaret R. Snyder, Cynthia Talbert, Sarah L. Tippins, Holly Wehmeyer, Eleanor White and Jodee Whitman. We are looking forward to meeting you at our program meetings and field trips.

MAKING A BEE HOUSE

The orchard mason bee (*Osmia* spp.) is a small gentle bee that is a great pollinator. It does not make holes in wood but will use existing cavities. In Florida, it is usually a beautiful iridescent green.



To make your bee house, collect untreated scrap lumber. Then, using a 5/16 inch drill bit, drill holes 3 to 5 inches deep but not all the way through. If you cover the holes with chicken wire

it will help keep birds away. Place the bee house facing south on trees, buildings or fence posts.

Females lay up to 11 eggs in cells per nest. The female lays male eggs closer to the entrance hole. This way, the males are more accessible to predators than females. If the female "at the back of the line" emerges first, she opens the cell of the next female and nips at her to urge her out of the nest. This continues down the line until all females have emerged from a single nest tube.

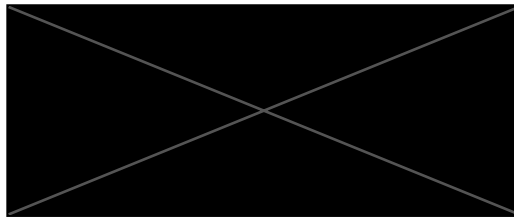
THE PELICAN



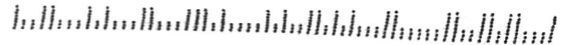
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APRIL 2010

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Karen Mosher	At-Large Class of 2012	322-3790	frederickmosher@att.net
Holly Zwart-Duryea	At-Large Class of 2012	672-8788	hollis1000@aol.com
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Paula Wehr	Webmaster	673-5332	paulawehr@cfl.rr.com
Fran Carr	Newsletter Editor	255-9360	franniep@juno.com
Joan Anderson	Membership and Retention Ch.	761-2888	jnanderson3@juno.com

Bird Information and Web Site

Injured Birds			
Mary Keller Rehab. Ctr. of			
The Marine Science Ctr.	Chris Wise	304-5545	chriswise@co.volusia.fl.us
	Phyllis Lamborn	386-423-1434	plamborne@cfl.rr.com
	Gina Holt	386-299-5890	hunt4gloria@hotmail.com
	Dee Ann Snyder	386-761-3262	dedesnyder41@aol.com
Bird Identification	David Hartgrove	788-2630	
Birds of Prey Center	Maitland, FL	407-644-0190	
Halifax River Audubon	Web Site	www.halifaxriveras.org	
Florida Rare Bird Alert		http://listserv.admin.usf.edu/archives/frba.html	

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON
 appreciates the support of the newsletter
The Pelican by
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 In Recognition of David Hartgrove

HALIFAX COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB

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Thank you

For support of our 2010 activities

For Your Information – All articles for *The Pelican* should be sent to Fran Carr, 359 Brookline Ave., Daytona Beach, 32118. Articles for publication in next month's issue must be received by the third Monday of the month.

Chapter Meetings – Meetings are held the Third Monday of each month, April through June at Sica Hall, Holly Hill, 11000 Daytona Ave., at 6:30 p.m. Members and Guests welcome. Board meets at Dickerson Heritage Library at 411 S. Keesh St. Daytona Beach, at 1:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month. All are welcome. See Calendar for dates and times.

THE PELICAN

"We need to be the stewards of this natural world, not its destroyers!"



VOL. 55 - NO. 11 NEWSLETTER OF HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON

MAY 2010

CONSERVATION NOTES

David Hartgrove

Many of the meetings I've attended over the years are dry, mostly boring events where everyone can't wait to leave. The one I attended the other night at Stetson University was not like that. The title of this event was "A Forum on the Public's Role in Planning for Growth and Development." Over 120 people were seated at 7 large tables. Each table had a moderator from the Political Science Department staff and a student to assist. Those seated at the tables were representative of a broad cross section of the community and included county staffers, attorneys, members of the environmental community and interested residents. The idea was to discuss the issue from 4 different points of view:

1. Let the people choose.
2. Elect public officials that will make the right policy decisions.
3. Allow property owners to make their own decisions.
4. Create a new, ongoing process for citizens and government to work together.

While it wasn't stated in so many words, the real purpose of the event was to gauge support and understanding of Amendment 4, the Hometown Democracy amendment. At the table with me were other representatives from environmental groups, a land use attorney, several Volusia County staff people, both active and retired, an unemployed construction worker and a couple who had recently become active in community issues when a new development wiped out the woods they'd valued near their home.

Our moderator kept the process moving and prevented any one person from speaking too long on a subject. That way everyone had a chance to be heard on the issues. We were not there to debate, which implies a winner and loser, but to discuss the options we had been offered. The land use attorney, a very pleasant man named James Stowers, made a very important observation that I'd never thought of. Cities like Charleston, Savannah, and Boston were developed in the years before the automobile. So they tend to be more people friendly. They were designed to be walked in. Florida's history extends back a long time but its real development was begun in the early 1920's, after the onset of a transportation revolution where people began to think they needed roads for their vehicles.

As a result our development pattern has tended to gobble more and more of the habitat necessary for wildlife.

Some of the conclusions reached at the various tables included:

1. We need to question the sustainability of continued growth.
2. Can we balance private property rights and the public good?
3. Offer civics education in schools again so that students will grow into responsible, engaged adults willing to work for better communities.

Before the forum began we were given a short questionnaire. One of the questions asked, "If the election was being held today, how would you vote on Florida Amendment 4 (Hometown Democracy)?" There were 4 options in the multiple choice answer. Here's how the vote broke down:

1. 11% "I don't know what the amendment is."
2. 7% "I know what the amendment is, but I do not know how I would vote."
3. 41% "I would vote for the amendment."
4. 41% "I would vote against the amendment."

As you can see, the issue is very close. It's for this reason that we can look forward to an election season full of disinformation, obfuscation, and out right lies. It won't be easy separating the truth from the fiction but that's our job as voters.

June General Membership Meeting

VOTE FOR YOUR BOARD OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee has reported the following slate of officers for the two open Board positions: At-Large Class of 2013.

Willie Burns: Currently At-Large Class of 2010, this position will expire in June. Willie has accepted the nomination for 2013. Willie conducts sales for Golden Dog at meetings and County events.

Meret Wilson: Meret has accepted nomination for At-Large Class of 2013. She is a long-time Halifax River Audubon member, conducts bird-banding at Tomoka State Park, and writes about her bird-banding activities for our newsletter.

Members may make nominations from the floor at the June General Meeting provided permission has been given by the person to be nominated.

OWLS AND THE NON BIRDING PUBLIC, ETC.

Editor Note: David Hartgrove posted this account on BRDBRAIN right after the Earth Day celebration. BRDBRAIN is a UF web site for dedicated and professional birders to tell each other where the bird action is.

This past weekend was Earthfest, the annual Earth Day celebration and fund raiser for the friends of Washington Oaks Gardens State Park, in Flagler County. Though this park is located in north Flagler County on A1A a few miles south of the Flagler/St Johns County line, our chapter from Volusia County has participated in the event each year setting up a table to sell books, T-shirts, etc. and to provide birding information. One year we had our scope set up on a Red-bellied Woodpecker nest with 3 hungry chicks. The constant parade of the parents flying back and forth feeding the chicks made for a host of oohs and aahs from the park visitors as they stepped up for their first ever look at a bird through quality optics. Many nearly fell over backwards at that first look. All of us on this list serve have experienced this life changing event ourselves.

Another year it was a Red-shouldered Hawk nest with 2 chicks. We had the same scenario with the park visitors then.



Photo by Joyce Stefancic

This weekend it was a Great Horned Owl nest. The surviving chick is about 6 weeks old and branching. The nest, such as it was, was on a large horizontal limb of a huge live oak. The limb has years of accumulation of resurrection fern and a cactus growing from it. The nest was next to the cactus. The chick, now at the extreme edge of cuteness, was quite visible as it peered down at its

adoring audience. Today we had 3 scopes set up to tempt the non birding public and those who happened to have their binoculars too. Walt Mahler, from Flagler Audubon, and Bob North, from our chapter, joined me in sharing the thrill of showing folks who often don't realize what they're missing by not looking up more, the wonders above their heads. The two adults sat quietly perched in separate trees nearby while Junior mugged for the cameras, both digital and cell phone types. There were easily 250+ digiscoped photos of the chick and its parents taken with every kind of camera and cell phone imaginable. We raised and lowered the scopes many times to accommodate the kids and their parents. Many people said repeatedly that this was their first time looking at a bird in this manner and they were bowled over by the experience.

I looked around on Saturday and found 2 fresh pellets with what appeared to be juvenile opossum bones in them. I also found what I think was the foot and leg of a Clapper Rail. Not being easily digestible by the chick, those appendages are torn off and discarded before feeding. Several years ago at a different GHOW nest I found the feet from a Common Moorhen.

The park was also filled with the sounds of Great-crested Flycatchers. I heard at least 4 pairs this morning as I looked in vain for a reported Pileated Woodpecker nest. Then when I arrived home another pair was calling nearby.

Finally, both American Oystercatcher nests at the Port Orange Bridge have hatched. The 3 chicks from nest # 1 are 10 days old at least and growing fast. Nest # 2 has just hatched in the past 2 days and I have yet to actually see the chicks but based on the female's body position on the nest, she has something squirming under her. It was a great weekend.

David Hartgrove,
President & Conservation Chair,
Halifax River Audubon

WELCOME to new members Patricia Allan, Marilyn Becher, Ruth Brasol, Harold T. Butts, Niki Byram, Ann R. Cekowski, Jennifer Cole, Shirley Conn, Barry Davidson, Glenna Doyle, James I. Eden, Susanne P. Flynn, Cathy Gallagher, Sarah Garguilo, Barbara Glenn, Marianne Hagerman, Evelyn Lamotte, Judy W. Legg, Annie Marsh, Laurel Ohern, Joyce M. Parks, Mari Petrillo, Jean Sirchia, Margit Sjoberg, Hedy Soper, Susan L. Squibb-Kates, Frederica Scharf, Judith Stein, Christine Talifaerro, Robert L. Volker, Marlene Wagner, Elizabeth Wheeler, Chamara Whitley, David Wright. We are looking forward to meeting you at our program meetings and field trips.

April Program

LEAST TERNS & OTHER BEACH-NESTING BIRDS

Presented by Monique Borboen

Monique Borboen, Northeast Florida Policy

Associate with Audubon of Florida, began her presentation with charming photos of Least Terns participating in a mating ritual where the male presents the female with the gift of a small fish.



She then described the three main risks to beach-nesting birds, which in Florida include five tern species, two plovers, American Oystercatchers, Black Skimmers and Willets:

- **Predation** - Beach-nesters depend on camouflage to hide from predators, but becoming nearly invisible on the beach increases the risk of being stepped on by humans.
- **Weather** - Storms and tides can wash away nests, eggs and/or chicks. The hot sun and lack of shade can kill an unprotected egg or chick in 20 minutes.
- **Disturbance** - Human beach recreation activities and the trash left behind as well as development on barrier islands and beach armoring, seawalls and other changes or destruction of dunes are all disturbances which often reduce the success of nests on the beach.

Audubon of Florida supports public outreach and education by using volunteer beach monitors at identified nesting sites. Many people don't know that birds nest on the beach. Volunteers set up scopes so visitors can see the camouflaged birds from a safe distance. Dog owners are reminded that nesting birds view dogs as potential predators and leave their nests (and eggs/chicks) unprotected when dogs run through their colonies. With shrinking beach habitat availability, 80% of beach-nesting birds are using gravel rooftops as an alternative. If you see activity on a flat-roofed building which may indicate that shorebirds are nesting there, contact David Hartgrove with the location of the building. David can be reached at birdman9@earthlink.net or 386-788-2630.

The Florida Shorebird Alliance (FSA) is a statewide partnership of government and non-government organizations committed to advancing shorebird and seabird conservation in Florida. Through coordinated and collaborative work FSA helps identify and address important needs with regard to research, management, education, outreach, and public policy. See <http://www.flshorebirdalliance.org/index.html> for more details or to become involved.

Bird Bander Meret Wilson conducts a long term study of the birds in Tomoka State Park.

MIGRATION IS WELL UNDERWAY

April 19 Had the excellent good fortune to be at the right spot at the right time this evening about 6 PM. While sitting on the side of the road along the marsh at Tomoka State Park (TSP), a small group of nine male Bobolinks dropped down on to the reeds for around 30 seconds about 30 feet in front of my car. They took off to the south and landed much further out in the marsh for about 3 minutes and then all took off again and flew northward and out of my sight.

Upon investigation Friday by kayak, we found out that our TSP eagle pair has twins! And the osprey pair are now parents as well.

April 13 Mixed in with large numbers of Barn Swallows over TSP were two Northern Rough-winged Swallows. A Merlin also managed to intercept one Barn Swallow ... a journey not to be completed.

Have had a male Painted Bunting at my home feeder for three days, but was not observed afterwards. A pair of Brown Thrashers were harassed at the bird bath by a Gray Catbird as they attempted a bath. Such drama!

APRIL BOARD MEETING

- Checking Balance is \$4,281.43.
- Membership is approximately 600.
- Conservation Chair David Hartman reported that two lawsuits have been filed by the Edgewater Citizens Alliance for Responsible Development (ECARD) regarding the proposed developments of Restoration and Farmton.
- County employees installed new signs at the rookery island south of the Dunlawton Bridge.
- Letters with return postcards enclosed were sent to teachers who received Audubon Adventures kits asking them if they wanted kits this fall.
- The Chapter's CD with Wachovia Bank has matured. Board will check for possible reinvestment sites.
- Willie Burns and Meret Wilson agreed to run for election for the Board At-Large Class of 2013 position.
- Hospitality Chair will be solicited for program meetings via the newsletter.
- Thank you letters from Volusia County Science Fair recipients were read.
- Report was made of Go Green Rally at Bethune Cookman College.
- Board changed monthly meeting location to City Island Library for the same date/time.

NEIL BLANCHARD - April 18, 2010

Our dear friend and husband of DeDee has gone. We will miss Neil's smiling face and faithful attendance with Hospitality Chair DeDee at our monthly meetings. Our condolences go out to DeDee at her loss.

May 17 Program Meeting

THE COYOTE IN FLORIDA

Brian Scheick, Certified Wildlife Biologist with Florida Fish & Wildlife Research Institute, will present information on coyotes in Florida. (John and Fran Carr saw one at Airport Sport Complex on Hull Road in Ormond Beach a few years ago). The expansion of the coyote's range is extensive. They have been found in the middle of New York City on the campus of Columbia University.

Coyotes are a danger to our wildlife because they compete with our native foxes and bobcats. They may replace the Florida Panther where it can no longer range. In northern Florida coyotes eat eggs of endangered sea turtles. Coyotes kill and eat calves and small domestic animals and pets. What's more, they love watermelons and can devastate a patch.



The Coyote (*Canis latrans*): Florida's Newest Predator, published by S.F. Coates, M.B. Main, *et al.*, documents that the coyote is becoming a common occurrence in Florida.

Join us at Sica Hall, 1065 Daytona Avenue, Holly Hill, at 6:30 p.m. for light refreshments. Our speaker will begin his presentation at 7:00 p.m.

MAY 2010 CALENDAR

Trip difficulty ratings. (1) Easy or no walking. (2) <1 mile walk. (3) > 1 mile walk and/or uneven path.
Saturday, May 1

Environmental Fair, hosted by Friends of A1A. Family event at UF Whitney Labs in Marineland. There will be indoor and in-the-field workshops, exhibitors and vendors, science fair projects, environmental activities, storytelling, music. Box lunches and beverages available. 8:30-4pm. Whitney Lab, 9505 Ocean Shore Blvd., St. Augustine. Info Susie Kontul, susiek@scenicala.org.

Friday, May 7

Halifax River Audubon field trip. Lake Woodruff. Meet at 7:00am at International Square Shopping Center, International Speedway Blvd, east of I-95, Daytona Beach. Led by David Hartgrove, 788-2630. Bring lunch. (3)

Saturday, May 8

Halifax River Audubon field trip. International Migratory Bird Count. Meet at 7:00am at Southeast end of City Island parking lot, Daytona Beach. Led by David Hartgrove, 788-2630. Bring lunch. (3)

Saturday, May 8

Baby Owl Shower. Celebrate Mother's Day at the Audubon Center for Birds of Prey. See article.

Thursday, May 13

"The Invasion of Florida by Six-Legged Aliens" by John L. Capinera, Ph.D., Professor and Chair of Entomology, University of Florida. Free. 7:00pm. Whitney Lab's Center for Marine Studies, 9505 Ocean Shore Blvd., St. Augustine 32080. Call 904-461-4000 for further details.

Monday, May 17

Halifax River Audubon program meeting. "Coyotes in Florida" by Brian Scheick, Certified Wildlife Biologist, Fish & Wildlife Research Institute. Sica Hall, 1065 Daytona Ave., Holly Hill. Refreshments at 6:30pm; program at 7:00pm.

Saturday, May 22

Kayak for a Cause. Paddle back in time and see some of "old Florida" on the beautiful and wild Hontoon Dead River in DeLand. Guided tours at 10am & 1pm. A benefit for St. Johns Riverkeeper. Cost \$60. Kayak reservations: www.rippleeffectecotours.com or 904-347-1565. Hontoon Landing Resort and Marina is offering special Riverkeeper rates on rooms. For reservations: www.hontoon.com or 1-800-248-2474.

Sunday, May 23

Halifax River Audubon field trip. Dunlawton Bridge. Meet at 5:00pm under Dunlawton Bridge, Port Orange. Led by Elizabeth Abrams, 299-4727. (1)

April 6-9

FORT DESOTO OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP

Peggy Yokubonus

Fort DeSoto Park on Florida's Gulf Coast is a prime migrations stopover for birds heading north across the Gulf of Mexico.

Led by John Roessler, 18 of us made our way to Fort DeSoto for a little birding and what great birding it was. Among the favorite things we saw was the Long-billed Curlew. This was a new bird for many of us. We thrilled to watch a magnificent chase by a Peregrine Falcon. The falcon gave us a demonstration of its great speed and power by knocking a White Ibis out of midair. The ibis did escape, by a feather, and rushed into hiding under mangroves where it sat preening and recovering from a close call. When we left the peregrine was sitting in a nearby tree, just waiting.....

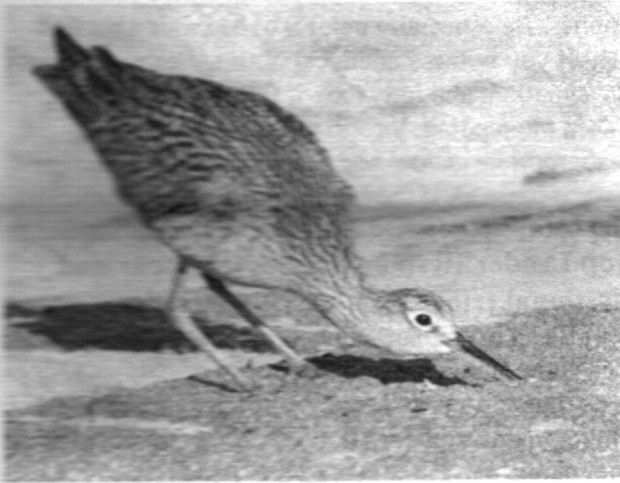
We birded up and down the park all day on Wednesday and a half day on Thursday. There were large areas of the beach that have been reserved for shore birds

where we saw Wilson's and Semi-Palmated Plovers, Black Skimmers, Royal, Caspian, Sandwich and Forster's Terns. The waters edge produced Dunlins, Shortbilled Dowitchers, Willets, Reddish Egrets, Marbled Godwits and others.

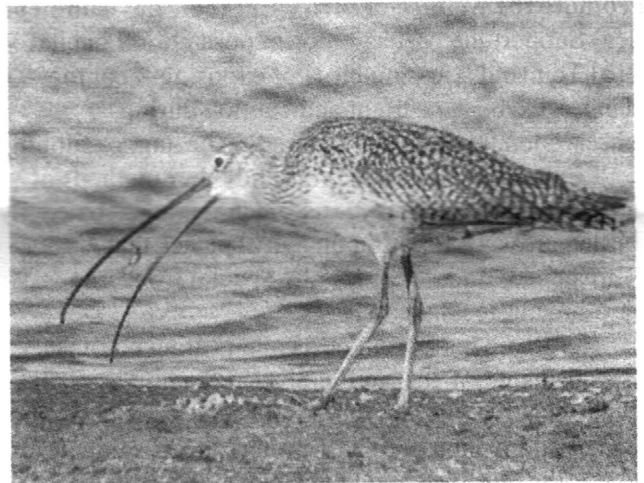
The birders on Tuesday at Fort DeSoto had seen an amazing number of Hooded Warblers. They were all over the ground, according to the reports. Unfortunately, the next day only one was spotted.

On our way over on Tuesday, four of us stopped by Florida Botanical Gardens in Largo. The gardens had suffered the same fate as my backyard from the harsh winter, but they were still beautiful. A visit there is definitely worth it if you're in the area.

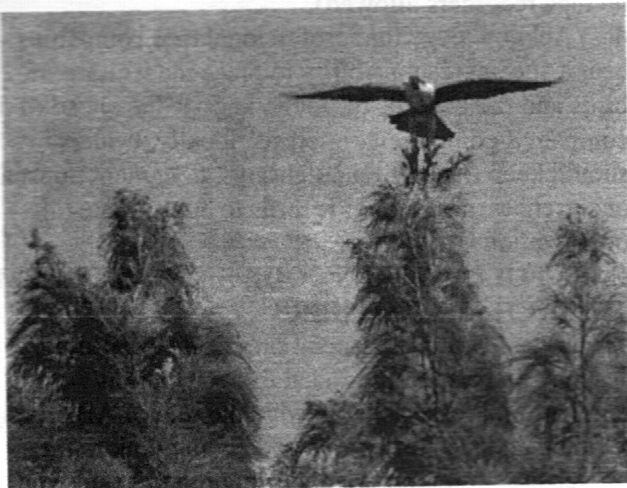
The list of sightings has been posted on our halifaxrivers.org website. Liz Abrams and I compiled our list on the way home and the two of us had spotted 61 species for the two days and also added a couple of life birds. Not bad! Thanks again, John, for leading. It was great fun.



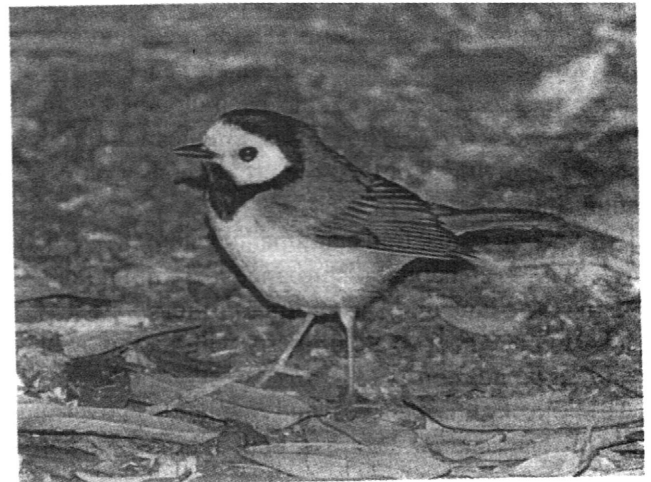
Long-billed Curlew hunting in the sand



And result with tiny crab in his mouth – Chuck Tague



Peregrine Falcon waiting for the next meal – Chuck Tague



Hooded Warbler – Danny Bales



AMERICAN BIRDING ASSOCIATION PRINCIPLES OF BIRDING ETHICS

Everyone who enjoys birds and birding must always respect wildlife, its environment, and the rights of others. In any conflict of interest between birds and birders, the welfare of the birds and their environment comes first.

CODE OF BIRDING ETHICS

1. Promote the welfare of birds and their environment.

- 1(a) Support the protection of important bird habitat.
- 1(b) To avoid stressing birds or exposing them to danger, exercise restraint and caution during observation, photography, sound recording, or filming.

Limit the use of recordings and other methods of attracting birds, and never use such methods in heavily birded areas, or for attracting any species that is Threatened, Endangered, or of Special Concern, or is rare in your local area;

Keep well back from nests and nesting colonies, roosts, display areas, and important feeding sites. In such sensitive areas, if there is a need for extended observation, photography, filming, or recording, try to use a blind or hide, and take advantage of natural cover.

Use artificial light sparingly for filming or photography, especially for close-ups.

1(c) Before advertising the presence of a rare bird, evaluate the potential for disturbance to the bird, its surroundings, and other people in the area, and proceed only if access can be controlled, disturbance minimized, and permission has been obtained from private land-owners. The sites of rare nesting birds should be divulged only to the proper conservation authorities.

1(d) Stay on roads, trails, and paths where they exist; otherwise keep habitat disturbance to a minimum.

2. Respect the law, and the rights of others.

- 2(a) Do not enter private property without the owner's explicit permission.
- 2(b) Follow all laws, rules, and regulations governing use of roads and public areas, both at home and abroad.

2(c) Practice common courtesy in contacts with other people. Your exemplary behavior will generate goodwill with birders and non-birders alike.

3. Ensure that feeders, nest structures, and other artificial bird environments are safe.

3(a) Keep dispensers, water, and food clean, and free of decay or disease. It is important to feed birds continually during harsh weather.

3(b) Maintain and clean nest structures regularly.

3(c) If you are attracting birds to an area, ensure the birds are not exposed to predation from cats and other domestic animals, or dangers posed by artificial hazards.

4. Group birding, whether organized or impromptu, requires special care. Each individual in the group, in addition to the obligations spelled out in Items #1 and #2, has responsibilities as a Group Member.

4(a) Respect the interests, rights, and skills of fellow birders, as well as people participating in other legitimate outdoor activities. Freely share your knowledge and experience, except where code 1(c) applies. Be especially helpful to beginning birders.

4(b) If you witness unethical birding behavior, assess the situation, and intervene if you think it prudent.

When interceding, inform the person(s) of the inappropriate action, and attempt, within reason, to have it stopped. If the behavior continues, document it, and notify appropriate individuals or organizations.

Group Leader Responsibilities [amateur and professional trips and tours].

4(c) Be an exemplary ethical role model for the group. Teach through word and example.

4(d) Keep groups to a size that limits impact on the environment, and does not interfere with others using the same area.

4(e) Ensure everyone in the group knows of and practices this code.

(4f) Learn and inform the group of any special circumstances applicable to the areas being visited (e.g. no tape recorders allowed).

4(g) Acknowledge that professional tour companies bear a special responsibility to place the welfare of birds and the benefits of public knowledge ahead of the company's commercial interests. Ideally, leaders should keep track of tour sightings, document unusual occurrences, and submit records to appropriate organizations.

PLEASE FOLLOW THIS CODE AND DISTRIBUTE AND TEACH IT TO OTHERS

The American Birding Association's Code of Birding Ethics may be freely reproduced for distribution/ dissemination. Please acknowledge the role of ABA in developing and promoting this code with a link to the ABA website <<http://americanbirding.org>>. Thank you.

Audubon Center for Bird of Prey
Saturday, May 8th ---- 10AM-2PM

BABY OWL SHOWER



Baby Barred Owl drawing
 © Maria Bolton-Joubert

Join us for a day of fun educational activities, crafts and baby birds to celebrate Mother's day and spring! Non-releasable baby raptors will be available to view (pending).

This event is held at 1101 Audubon Way, Maitland.

More info available at www.audubonofflorida.org or 407-644-0190

Admission to the Center on May 8th is **FREE** with a "Baby Gift."

Donations are used toward caring for these young, beautiful Raptors.

Suggestions for donations/Baby Gifts are: Cash for Food, King/Queen Size Bed Sheets, Recycled Paper Towels, Baby Receiving Blankets, Eco-Friendly Economy Size Laundry Detergent, Scotch-Brite Heavy Duty Sponges, Gauze Rolls/Vet Wrap, Stainless Steep Multi-Purpose Scissors, Heating Pads, Bleach, Bath Towels, Lawn Car/Wagon, Writeable CDs, Rakes and Shovels, and Any & All Eco-Friendly Cleaning Products.

All Funds raised will help offset the cost during baby bird season. Funds will be used to buy food, medications, medical care and other essential supplies. To give you an idea of what it takes to care for these youngsters, a typical season looks like this:

- **FOOD**...287 pounds of fish, 148 quail, 595 chicks, 679 mice, 93 rats, 5000 crickets and 4000 mealworms. We went through 2 knives and three pairs of scissors cutting it all up into baby-size portions!
- **HYDRATION**...12,000ml of fluids were administered.
- **CLEAN-UP**...we washed 956 baby blankets and used 150 pounds of newspaper.
- **LABOR**...500+ volunteer hours were donated to rescue, feed, clean cages and care for the babies.

During "baby season" the clinic receives about 20% of our annual patient load. Most of these young birds have been temporarily displaced from their nests. The Center's ultimate goal is to get all these babies back into the wild! Many of these babies will be reunited with their families or placed in foster nests. Others that are orphaned or that cannot be returned with their families are being raised and prepared for life in the wild.

**APPLICATION TO JOIN
 HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON, INC**

Chapter-Only Annual dues are \$20.00/ year, and \$15.00/ year per senior citizen or student. All or your membership dues go to Halifax River Audubon, Inc. Chapter of the National Audubon Society. As a member of Halifax River Audubon, you will receive 12 issues of our newsletter *The Pelican*, and have full membership privileges. You will not receive the National Audubon bi-monthly magazine, *Audubon*, nor will you receive *The Naturalist*, the publication of Audubon of Florida.

Name _____

Address _____

Apt _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email address _____

Make check out to **Halifax River Audubon**, and mail with this form to John W. Carr, 359 Brookline Ave., Daytona Beach, FL 32118-3311.

**APPLICATION TO JOIN
 NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
 NEW MEMBERS ONLY**

\$20.00/ year Introductory Rate.

As a member of National Audubon you will receive bi-monthly issues of *AUDUBON* magazine, membership in **Audubon of Florida**, their publication *The Naturalist* and membership in **Halifax River Audubon, Inc.** and our newsletter, *The Pelican*.

Name _____

Address _____

Apt _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email address _____

Mail check made out to **National Audubon Society** and this form to John W. Carr, 359 Brookline Ave, Daytona Beach, FL 32118-3311.

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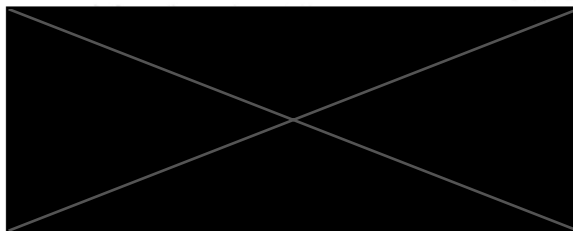
THE PELICAN



HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON

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David Hartgrove	President	788-2630	birdman9@earthlink.net
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Paula Wehr	Vice President	673-5332	paulawehr@cfl.rr.com
Elizabeth Abrams	Vice President	299-4727	
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	Ways and Means		
Peggy Yokobonus	Recording Secretary	673-7619	yokobonus@bellsouth.net
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Bird Information and Web Site

Injured Birds			
Mary Keller Rehab. Ctr. of The Marine Science Ctr.	Chris Wise	304-5545	chriswise@co.volusia.fl.us
	Phyllis Lamborn	386-423-1434	plamborne@cfl.rr.com
	Gina Holt	386-299-5890	hunt4gloria@hotmail.com
	Dee Ann Snyder	386-761-3262	dedesnyder41@aol.com
Bird Identification	David Hartgrove	788-2630	
Birds of Prey Center	Maitland, FL	407-644-0190	
Halifax River Audubon	Web Site	www.halifaxriver.org	
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MAY 2010

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON
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THE PELICAN

"We need to be the stewards of this natural world, not its destroyers!"



VOL. 55 - NO. 12 NEWSLETTER OF HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON

JUNE 2010

CONSERVATION NOTES

David Hartgrove

Pelagic birds are those that spend nearly their entire lives far out at sea, returning to land only to mate. So a pelagic birding trip involves an ocean voyage. I've been on six pelagic birding trips. The first departed the frigid waters of the Bay of Fundy for the open Atlantic in late May, 2002. We were on our way to Machias Seal Island, off the coast of Maine, to see nesting Atlantic Puffins. The water temperature was in the mid 40's and those of us on the boat were glad there was hot chocolate. You gain a great deal more respect for the folks who provide the lobsters you see in the tanks at restaurants when you've spent a day on the water where they work.

The rest of the trips have been off the coast here in Florida. Some of those trips have been in November or January. For insurance reasons, most captains won't leave the dock in a charter fishing boat with passengers if the seas are above 6 feet. Even then most would be reluctant to set out. It's just asking for an injury since someone is likely to be tossed into a bulkhead or some other hard surface. One trip several years ago left the dock with a forecast of 4 to 6 foot seas. By the time we got out there it was more like 6 to 9 feet. If you're at all prone to motion sickness that's a recipe for spending the day about as miserable as you can be. And if you're not, if you're holding onto your binoculars with one hand and the rail with the other to keep from being flung overboard, it makes focusing on a tiny Wilson's Storm Petrel 100 yards out somewhat problematic.

So the most recent trip, on May 15th, was about as good as one could expect here in Florida. The sun was warm. The seas were 3 to 4 feet, and after a slow start we finished with a bang. We located the west wall of the Gulf Stream at about 37 miles out. The winds had dispersed the sargassum weed lines that usually announce your arrival at this point. So the birds weren't there either. We continued on eastward and finally began to pick up a few Leach's and Wilson's Storm Petrels. Then a Band-rumped Storm Petrel appeared briefly. The Wilson's are probably my favorites. Slightly smaller than a Northern Cardinal, though with longer wings, they seem to tip toe along the surface of the water while looking for tidbits. Later we saw what may be the largest number of Arctic Terns ever recorded off the state's coast in Spring. Six Pomeraine Jaegers were seen too,

along with Cory's Shearwaters, Bridled and Sooty Terns and a lost American Coot.

The crew was trolling for dolphin (mahi-mahi) as we were on our way out. Finally, they hooked two at once. The blue, yellow, and silver of these fish in that azure blue water as they approached the boat was enough to take your breath away.

About 3:00 p.m. we headed back west toward home. Many of the birders were now in the cabin trying to catch a nap. We had left the dock in New Smyrna Beach at 4:30 in the morning. Then, the cry went up, "Tropicbird!" We all raced to the deck and stood amazed as this gorgeous, adult White-tailed Tropicbird cruised back and forth above the boat, its long tail feathers streaming behind. It was the first of three we saw before darkness caught up with us. There was also an immature Masked Booby and an immature Northern Gannet that made our trip back to the dock more of an event. With a following sea, the ride back in was as smooth as a cruise across a calm lake. For me, the Black-capped Petrel, Audubon's Shearwater, and White-tailed Tropicbird were lifers. Others, who hadn't gone on as many pelagic trips, had a higher number. It was a great day, if a bit long, and I'd do it again tomorrow given the chance.

June 21 Program Meeting

FLORIDA BLACK BEAR SCENIC BYWAY

Connecting Silver Springs with the city of Ormond Beach, the Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway (SR 40) traverses some of Florida's most pristine ecosystems, centered on the Big Scrub, the world's largest scrub forest. Providing access to a wide array of public lands, including the Ocala National Forest, the Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway runs through the heart of Florida black bear habitat.



Join us at Sica Hall, 1065 Daytona Avenue, Holly Hill on Monday evening, June 21 when Tony Erlich, Chairman of the Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway Corridor Management Entity will present highlights of the natural resources along the 60 miles of scenic highway. Refreshments will be served at 6:30 p.m. The presentation begins at 7:00 p.m.

Welcome to new members Victoria & Kerry Babcock, Walter Ellis, Barbara Green, Dan V. Gribbin, David W. Harris, Marsha B. Lahue, John S. Root, Karen Seiler, Sara J. Story, Gerald & Anne Williams. We are looking forward to meeting you at our program meetings and field trips.

VOTE

Members present at our June General Membership Meeting will vote for two Board members to replace expired terms. Members may make nominations from the floor provided permission has been given by the person to be nominated.

Your nominating committee has reported two names for Board positions At-Large Class of 2013: Willie Burns and Meret Wilson.

April 30 Field Trip

SPRUCE CREEK PARK

Ray Scory

"Go out and play in the woods," my mother said so many times when I was a little boy. We lived on top of a Connecticut hill in a small neighborhood of modest homes surrounded by woods. In the woods my little friends and I found adventure - a walk to Death Rock, named because it was so high (about five feet, but over our heads), a hike to Warner's Pond or over the hill to Duck Pond and float on our tiny raft. Critters, creatures, plants and birds kept us company as we explored the forbidden darkness of the woods and searched for mysterious things. Singing birds entertained us and squirrels leaped from tree to tree. All great fun, all so exciting, all so new and we would be home for lunch.

I was reminded of those glorious, distant years as seven of us on a Halifax River Audubon field trip leisurely walked along soft, meandering paths through the woods of Spruce Creek Park looking for birds. "Déjà vu" could caption my experiences that day as I watched the present and recaptured the past. I watched birding friends kneel low to study the ways of fiddler crabs scurrying over moist, sandy openings, and smiled knowingly as they observed through a magnifying glass a spider, as small as a blueberry.

Unmatchable sightings demanded our attention, such as the Roseate Spoonbill roosting majestically on the rail of the Spruce Creek Pier with four Snowy Egrets unconsciously providing a perfect composition of light, color and harmony. Also, the discovery of an Eastern Screech-Owl (brown form) in a palm tree hole discovered by Bob North excited our attention for the longest time. All seven of us got wonderful looks as the owl shifted positions to satisfy our every heart beat.

The dream was in front of me and I could hear the chatter of little children delighted in their unbelievable discovery so many years ago. This day I knew I was in the woods. We were excited and we were having fun.

Thirty-seven species of birds were observed that morning. A full complement of water birds, a Roseate Spoonbill, an Eastern Screech-Owl, five species of Warblers, a Least Tern, a Ruby-throated Hummingbird,



Eastern Screech Owl

Photo by Ray Scory

Chimney Swifts and Sedge Wrens focused our interest. The raucous sounds of a Pileated Woodpecker and the staccato-like chatter of Clapper Rails capped an eventful day at Spruce Creek Park.

An ageless wind soothingly drifted through the woods.

MAY BOARD MEETING

- Checking balance is \$3,993.15.
- Board moved to donate \$250 to Edgewater Citizens Alliance for Responsible Development (ECARD) to help defray legal expenses in two lawsuits regarding the proposed developments of Restoration and Farmton.
- Board approved motion to provide \$25 per program meeting to cover cost of beverage and light snack at meetings and continue to look for a Hospitality Chairperson to coordinate volunteers.
- President David Hartgrove will write a letter to the City of Orlando asking that the city keep the Orlando Wetlands Park open to the public. (Response received from facility's manager stated there were no plans to close the Park to the public.)
- President David Hartgrove will write a letter in response to Volusia County request for Chapter input regarding Orange Avenue Bridge.
- Golden Dog sales for the year are 99 books, 53 calendars, 17 magnets, 19 bags of coffee and miscellaneous stuffed animals, T-shirts, etc.
- Board preformed initial planning for 2010-2011 field trips.
- Audubon Adventures kits will be placed in 18 classrooms in 8 schools.

JUNE CALENDAR

Trip difficulty ratings. (1) Easy or no walking.

(2) <1 mile walk. (3) > 1 mile walk and/or uneven path.

Saturday, June 5

West Volusia Audubon Society field trip. Lake Apopka. Look for singing Blue Grosbeaks, Indigo and Painted Buntings, Orchard Orioles, Yellow-breasted Chats and Least Bitterns. Car Pool from DeLand Post Office parking lot on East New York Ave. 8:00am. Bring lunch and water. Led by Harry Robinson, 943-8342.

Monday, June 21

Halifax River Audubon program meeting. "Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway" by Tony Erlich, Chairman, Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway. Sica Hall, 1065 Daytona Ave., Holly Hill. Refreshments at 6:30pm; program at 7:00pm.

Saturday, June 12

Bird Count at Restoration by Halifax River, South East Volusia and West Volusia Audubon chapters. Contact Harry Robinson at 386-943-8342 or sirharrydeland@gmail.com and leave a message.

Monday through Friday, July 19-23 & July 26-30

Lyonia Environmental Center Summer Camp. Children ages 7-12 can experience the wonders of scrub habitat through guided hikes, field studies and games. They also will learn about the plants and animals that live in Lyonia Preserve through classroom and field activities. 9am -3pm, Monday - Friday. Cost: \$65/week, plus a one time \$25 registration fee. Call 386-789-7207, ext. 252 to pre-register by Monday June 28. 2150 Eustace Ave., Deltona. 9am-3pm. Directions: W on I4, L on Howland Blvd (#472, exit 114), R on Providence Blvd (#4155). www.lyoniapreserve.com.

Saturday, July 24

West Volusia Audubon Society field trip. Lake Apopka. Look for flocks of Swallow-tailed Kites. Car Pool from DeLand Post Office parking lot on East New York Ave. 8:00am. Bring lunch and water. Led by Harry Robinson, 943-8342.

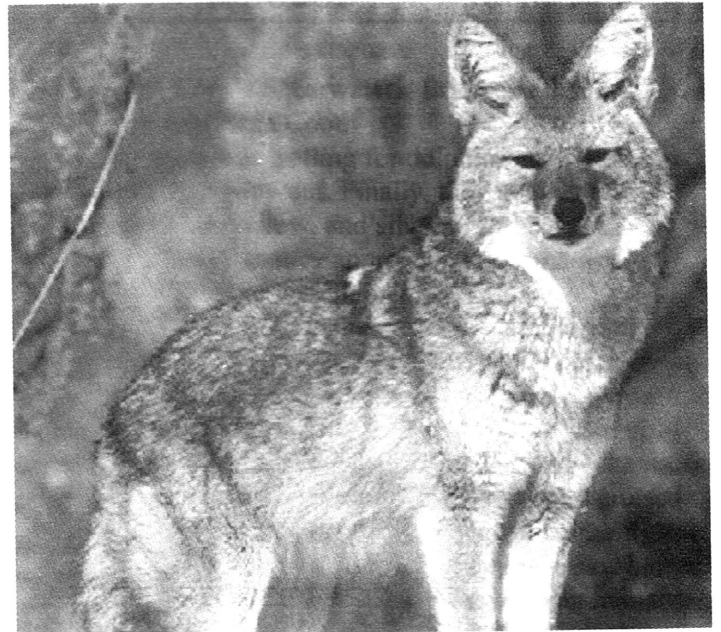
May Program meeting

COYOTES IN FLORIDA – THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE UGLY

Brian Scheik, Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission, delivered a presentation prepared by Marty Main, Ph.D., IFAS, on coyotes (*Canis latrans*). Originating in southwestern US, coyotes weigh about 35-40 pounds and are usually found in pairs. Coyotes are found in every state of the union and in nearly every large city. They vary in color from grey to tan or warm brown. A normal life span is 10-12 years. Coyotes spend a great portion of each day walking or roaming their territory in search of

food. The offspring from each pair generally leaves the territory.

The Good: Coyotes control the populations of smaller predators such as opossum, fox, raccoon, and mice. They also eat eggs of nearly all species living in their territory – birds, snakes, ducks, etc. Egg predation may be considered good or bad, depending on the species being affected.



The Bad: Coyotes also kill and eat cats – both feral and house cats that are allowed to roam outside. Small pet dogs which are left unattended can also become prey to coyotes. Coyotes may compete with endangered predators such as panthers or bobcats if the food source in the overlapping territory is limited. Generally though, coyotes eat more ungulates and fewer rodents and rabbits than bobcats, so the two species can co-exist.

The Ugly: Coyotes can kill calves, sheep and goats. Farmers and ranchers haven't complained significantly to FWC because they can trap and shoot rogue coyotes year round. Coyotes must learn to hunt domestic animals – as opposed to naturally gravitating toward smaller wild animals. Farmers can eliminate the one or two nuisance coyotes, and when new coyotes move into the territory they will not cause the farmer problems because they will not have learned to predate domestic animals.

A problem can develop if a coyote finds a food source such as a full garbage can or pet food which emboldens the animal to come closer and closer to humans. Without a food source, the coyote will pass through a neighborhood backyard and run away if confronted by humans.

Advice: Never feed coyotes (or any other wildlife), restrict outdoor access to garbage cans and pet food, keep cats indoors and dogs on leashes. Never approach wild animals. If you have a nuisance coyote in your neighborhood, check <http://myfwc.com/trappers> for a list of licensed trappers by county.

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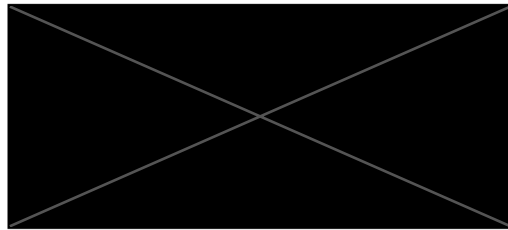


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JUNE 2010

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VOL. 56 - NO. 1

NEWSLETTER OF HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON

JULY 2010

CONSERVATION NOTES

David Hartgrove

So, how does an "accident" like the one unfolding daily in the Gulf of Mexico happen? To begin with, it's an accident only in that no one wanted this outcome. The responsible parties: British Petroleum, Halliburton, Transocean, the Minerals Management Service, and our Congress did all in their power to facilitate rapid expansion of deep water drilling with little or no thought of the potential for an "accident".

BP has the worst safety record in the energy business. Of the 761 serious violations citations issued by OSHA in the oil industry, BP earned 760 of them. Time and again, worker safety, and thereby environmental safety, has been placed at risk by decisions based solely on economic reasons. Several of the drilling rig workers who survived the explosion that killed 11 and seriously injured 17 others, said that 5 hours before the fire the crews asked to stop the drilling to investigate dangerously high pressure readings in the drill casing. The BP manager on the scene ruled that out saying they were behind schedule already.

Halliburton, the company on the rig whose job it was to cement the well casing, and Transocean, the owner and operator of the platform, both deferred to their client, BP, when decisions were made regarding safety. These were all experienced people. They knew they were taking serious risks with safety. Yet, they chose to allow BP's management decisions to place all of those lives at risk and to silently become partners in the largest environmental disaster this country has ever faced.

The Minerals Management Service (MMS) is an agency of the US Department of the Interior. Its task is to oversee and regulate extraction industries on the outer continental shelf in Alaska, the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific. It's hard to imagine a more corrupt place to work than MMS. MMS honchos have been convicted of taking bribes, drug use and sex parties with oil industry executives, routinely over-ruling safety and environmental objections by MMS staff members trying to do their jobs correctly, and allowing oil company flacks to fill out inspection forms in pencil and then turning them in as completed inspections. As with many state and federal regulatory agencies, there has long been a revolving door between this agency and the industries it's supposed to regulate.

Of course, MMS couldn't have gotten away with the egregious violations it did if there hadn't been collusion with our Congress and the executive branch. Throughout the 8 years of the Bush administration, the appointees named to regulatory agencies were all former extraction industry executives or attorneys for those industries. In many cases the Obama administration left these same self-interested regulators in place. They now gasp in mock horror at the violations of ethics these people are guilty of. In Congress, the very generous campaign contributions from oil companies guarantee that they'll be treated with kid gloves whenever it comes to writing laws that involve safety inspections, environmental impacts, liability for oil spills and accidents or paying the taxes and royalties they owe us, the American people. On camera, Congress members speak tough about the need for regulations. Then they allow the lobbyists to write the legislation, vote to weaken it at every opportunity and apologize to their corporate masters when someone does try to hold them responsible.

In the meantime, BP's publicity machine continues to crank out false assessments of the damage and oil washes into wildlife refuges and onto beaches across the Gulf. There is a gross lack of coordination in the cleanup efforts. The American Birding Association posted a video on its website of large trucks driving through the middle of a Least Tern colony (see site below, and then click on video listed on right beside text). Oil soaked booms have been left piled along the edges of Queen Bess Island, an important rookery. No one seems to be quite sure what to do next. Scenes on television show Tyvek-suited workers out in the blazing sun picking up tar balls while nearby, a five year old plays with a pail and shovel. In this atmosphere of confusion there's money to be made, and every sleezeball within 2,000 miles is hot footing it to the region to try and get a share. The billions of gallons of oil and the dispersants (which are outlawed in British waters) already spreading across the Gulf have reached the Loop Current, which eventually becomes the Gulf Stream. In the not too distant future we may be seeing oil wash ashore here. There's plenty of blame to go around. Unfortunately, we may have decades to sort out the who, why and what of this disaster while we try to deal with its consequences. <http://birding.typepad.com/gulf/2010/06/grand-isle-beach-madness.html>



"WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A BUMPY RIDE"

NOAA is projecting a 70 percent probability of 8 to 10 Hurricanes and 3 to 7 Major Hurricanes.

A terrific preparedness checklist and guide can be down-loaded from volusia.org/storm. Lots of neat things to stock up on can be found for sale at Emergency Essentials site at beprepared@net

Advice From Beprepared.

1. Your kit should be in a portable container located near an exit of your hour. This is so you can grab it on your way out of the house in a serious emergency. Do not overload your kit – you may have to carry it long distances to reach safety or shelter.
2. Each family member should have their own kit with food, clothing and water. Distribute heavy items between kits.
3. Keep a light source in the top of your kit, so you can find it quickly in the dark.
4. Personalize your kit. Make sure you fill the needs of each family member.
5. Enclose the extra clothing, matches, personal documents, and other item damageable by smoke or water in plastic to protect them. If it's raining when you have to evacuate, you will appreciate them
6. Inspect your kit at least twice a year. Rotate food and water. Check children's clothing for proper fit. Adjust clothing for winter or summer needs. Check expiration dates on batteries, light sticks, warm packs, food and water.
7. Consider the needs of elderly people as well as those with handicaps or other special needs. For example:

for babies, store diapers, washcloth, ointment, bottles and pacifiers, and other special supplies.

NOAA also suggests you have a family disaster plan.

- Determine escape routes from your home and places to meet. These should be measured in tens of miles rather than hundreds of miles.
- Have an out-of-state friend as a family contact, so all your family members have a single point of contact.
- Plan now for what to do with your pets if you need to evacuate.
- Prepare a Grab and Run Kit.

Welcome to new members Kathryn Hood, Arlene Marans, and Ralph Vosdinh. We are looking forward to meet you at our program meetings and field trips starting in September.

PREVIEW OF HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON 2010-2011 FIELD TRIPS

09-18	Saturday	International Migratory Bird Count
10-03	Sunday	Dunlawton Bridge
10-08	Friday	Guana River State Park
10-22	Friday	Princess Place
11-19	Friday	Lake Woodruff Natl Wildlife Refuge
12-03	Friday	Merritt Island Natl Wildlife Refuge
12-17	Friday	Emeralda Marsh
12-19	Sunday	Dunlawton Bridge
12-26	Saturday	Christmas Bird Count
01-14	Friday	Merritt Island Natl Wildlife Refuge
01-28	Friday	Viera Wetlands
02-11	Friday	Lee Tract, St Johns Water Mgmt District
02-25	Friday	Ocklawaha Prairie Restoration Area
03-11	Friday	Lake Monroe
03-25	Friday	Tomoka State Park
04-03	Sunday	Dunlawton Bridge
04-06	Wednes	Tiger Bay/Rima Ridge
04-15	Friday	Welaka State Forest & Hatchery
04-19	Tuesday	Spruce Creek Park
05-14	Saturday	International Migratory Bird Count

BIRD INFORMATION AND WEB SITE

Injured Birds - Mary Keller Rehab Center at

The Marine Science Center, Ponce Inlet

Chris Wise 304-5545

chriswise@co.volusia.fl.us

Gina Holt 386-299-5890

hunt4gloria@hotmail.com

Bird Identification

David Hartgrove 788-2630 birdman9@earthlink.net

Birds of Prey Center, Maitland, FL 407-644-0190

Halifax River Audubon Web site www.halifaxriveras.org

Florida Rare Bird Alert

<http://listserve.admin.usf.edu/archives/frba.html>

June Program meeting

FLORIDA BLACK BEAR SCENIC BYWAY

Tony Erlich, Chairman of the Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway CME, provided brochures and copies of the quarterly newsletter before introducing At Large Executive Committee Member Jim Thorsen who made the presentation. Jim is the former District Ranger on the Seminole Ranger District, Ocala National Forest, having served in that post for 23 years before his retirement in about 2004.

The Corridor Management Entity, a volunteer group of citizens, applied for and received official Florida Scenic Highway status in April 2008 and National Scenic Byway designation in October 2009. The corridor is approximately 126 miles of unique habitat running through Ocala National Forest, St. John's River WMD conservation lands, four magnitude 1 natural springs, and state parks. To qualify for Florida Scenic Highway status, corridors must possess at least one of six criteria – cultural, historical, archeological, recreational, natural or scenic resources. Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway possesses all six!



The name of the scenic corridor was selected because the Florida Black Bear is the umbrella species for all the wildlife living along the corridor – coyotes, foxes, Sandhill Cranes, gopher tortoises, turkey, and more. All this wildlife needs a way to cross highways. Route 40 has two wildlife crossings – underpasses with native vegetation and a wide, high opening with clear visibility through the tunnel. FWC cameras keep track of all the species using the wildlife crossings. A recent inventory of the western crossing showed 1,866 individual animals using the tunnel – only a few of which were human.

Seven different ecosystems can be found along the Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway – longleaf pine/wiregrass (home of the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker); pine flatwoods; prairies (home to Sandhill Cranes); oak hammock; swamp and bottomland hardwoods; aquatic springs; and sand pine scrub, sometimes called a desert with rain. The very sandy soil of the sand pine scrub percolates 18 inches of rain per hour.

The CME set priorities for future projects with installation of additional wildlife crossing at the top of their wish list. At a cost of about \$1 million each, grant

money will be sought. Educational kiosks, scenic pull-offs and a visitor center at Pioneer Settlement in Barberville are other projects high on the “to do” list.

For more information about the Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway, visit <http://floridablackbearsenicbyway.org/>.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED AT JUNE PROGRAM MEETING

Meret Wilson was unanimously elected to serve as a new member of the Halifax River Audubon Board for a three-year term. Meret has spent most of her spring and fall days mist netting and banding birds at Tomoka State Park in Ormond Beach.

Willie Burns was also unanimously elected to serve a further three-year term on our Board. Willie has created Golden Dog sales to sell bird and nature related items at festivals and events in our area. He gives all the proceeds to our Chapter.

JUNE BOARD MINUTES

- Checking account balance is \$3,153.40.
- Membership is 586.
- Golden Dog sales for the year is \$1,735.10.
- 2010-2011 field trip schedule is finalized.
- Dues are paid to Environmental Council.
- Total of \$300 is sent to Marine Science Center. \$294 came from our 50/50 and special raffle, and an additional \$6 was approved by Board. (Local wildlife rehabilitators, our previous recipients, have retired.)

JULY 2010 CALENDAR

Trip difficulty ratings. (1) Easy or no walking.

(2) <1 mile walk. (3) > 1 mile walk and/or uneven path.

Monday through Friday, July 19-23 & July 26-30

Lyonia Environmental Center Summer Camp. Children ages 7-12 can experience the wonders of scrub habitat through guided hikes, field studies and games. They also will learn about the plants and animals that live in Lyonia Preserve through classroom and field activities. 9am -3pm, Monday – Friday. Cost: \$65/week, plus a one time \$25 registration fee. Call 386-789-7207, ext. 252 to pre-register by Monday June 28.

Saturday, July 24

West Volusia Audubon Society field trip. Lake Apopka. Look for flocks of Swallow-tailed Kites. Car Pool from DeLand Post Office parking lot on East New York Ave. 8:00am. Bring lunch and water. Contact Harry Robinson, 386-943-8342 or sirharrydeland@gmail.com and leave a message.

Spring Migration Count 2010

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Name of Bird
	2			1	Loon, Common
7		2	5	1	Grebe, Pied-billed
	64	1			Gannet, Northern
			2	2	Pelican, White
1136	615	1049	1073	1007	Pelican, Brown
130	70	59	52	132	Cormorant, Dbl-crested
67	41	33	44	30	Anhinga
50	91	28	65	62	Heron, Great Blue
	1				Great White Heron
353	250	195	386	380	Egret, Great
237	213	482	160	354	Egret, Snowy
60	58	125	111	61	Heron, Little Blue
49	21	30	65	22	Heron, Tricolored
	3	1	1	2	Egret, Reddish
1					White phase
1009	796	1125	838	848	Egret, Cattle
16	10	19	15	15	Heron, Green
	3	29	17	49	Night-Heron, Black-crowned
3	5	8	4	18	Night-Heron, Yellow-crowned
195	203	481	765	625	Ibis, White
18	9	7	10	9	Ibis, Glossy
1	3	2	6	7	Roseate Spoonbill
116	26	14	23	8	Stork, Wood
			1	4	Goose, Canada
40	88	83	68	92	Duck, Muscovy
73	82	35	38	51	Duck, Wood
14	10	6	7	21	Duck, Mottled
29	23	35	28	10	Mallard
	2			10	Teal, Blue-winged
1	3				Duck, Ring-necked
	1				Scaup, Greater
				4	Scaup, Lesser
		3			Merganser, Red-breasted
367	292	684	529	399	Vulture, Black
139	135	214	330	184	Vulture, Turkey
74	108	68	101	102	Osprey
15	29	25	22	36	Kite, Swallow-tailed
15	4	5	8	25	Eagle, Bald
	1	1			Harrier, Northern
	2	3	2	1	Hawk, Sharp-shinned
3	3	2	2	2	Hawk, Cooper's
74	73	69	61	90	Hawk, Red-shouldered
		1			Hawk, Broad-winged
11	0	10	15	16	Hawk, Red-tailed
	1				buteo sp.
2	1	1	2	4	Kestrel, American
	2	1		1	Merlin
33	20	23	33	55	Turkey, Wild
5	6	15	18	11	Bobwhite, Northern
				1	Rail, Black
1	7	14	7	7	Rail, Clapper
1					Rail, Virginia
1					Sora
	3		1		Gallinule, Purple
75	57	17	40	32	Moorhen, Common
10	28	3	20	3	Coot, American

5	2	1	2	4	Limpkin
104	205	70	92	116	Crane, Sandhill
37	78	71	43	40	Plover, Black-bellied
	2				Golden-Plover, American
7	12	15	1	3	Plover, Wilson's
211	385	43	76	62	Plover, Semipalmated
48	53	48	58	73	Killdeer
5	11	8	7	12	Oystercatcher, American
7			4	27	Stilt, Black-necked
				6	Avocet, American
2	18	2		1	Yellowlegs, Greater
10	4		1	4	Yellowlegs, Lesser
18	18		3	5	Sandpiper, Solitary
73	49	19	5	23	Willet
19	58	7	9	14	Sandpiper, Spotted
		1			Sandpiper, Upland
	7				Whimbrel
253	180	131	485	186	Turnstone, Ruddy
6	22		13		Knot, Red
1474	692	408	941	768	Sanderling
15	431	15		55	Sandpiper, Semipalmated
29	31	7	40	197	Sandpiper, Western
	81	3	10	12	Sandpiper, Least
	1				Sandpiper, White-rumped
3					Sandpiper, Pectoral
1	250	9		5	Dunlin
60				31	peep, sp.
1	17	2			Dowitcher, Short-billed
1					Snipe, Common
1663	950	1547	451	1007	Gull, Laughing
15	53	70	33	68	Gull, Ring-billed
6	16	3	2	4	Gull, Herring
1	1	4	1	2	Gull, Great Black-backed
	3	2	3	5	Tem, Caspian
3	607	285	268	134	Tem, Royal
	22			21	Tem, Sandwich
	5				Tem, Common
	21	3	2	116	Tem, Forster's
114	88	69	17	30	Tem, Least
2					sterna, sp.
	14		1	8	Skimmer, Black
164	224	185	208	148	Pigeon, Rock
24	45	69	47	136	Collared-Dove, Eurasian
22					Dove, White-winged
505	469	439	620	527	Dove, Mourning
6	19	18	31	18	Ground-Dove, Common
1	11		10	3	Cuckoo, Yellow-billed
2	5	19	11	27	Screech-Owl, Eastern
	3		1	12	Owl, Great Horned
6	7	6	22	33	Owl, Barred
1	1	1	12	16	Nighthawk, Common
27	27	11	47	48	Chuck-will's-widow
		1			Whip-poor-will
220	261	79	105	130	Swift, Chimney
10	9	6	3	15	Hummingbird, Ruby-throated
2	6		2		Kingfisher, Belted
23	13	22	55	42	Woodpecker, Red-headed
82	123	167	169	223	Woodpecker, Red-bellied

11	11				Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied
49	70	41	51	42	Woodpecker, Downy
1	13	13	17	12	Flicker, Northern (Yellow-shafted)
46	47	40	71	56	Woodpecker, Pileated
				1	Wood-Pewee, Eastern
1			1		Phoebe, Eastern
106	107	102	107	190	Flycatcher, Great Crested
	7	1	2	6	Kingbird, Eastern
	1			1	Kingbird, Gray
50	37	13	58	30	Martin, Purple
47	112	25	6	38	Swallow, Tree
	3		1	28	Swallow, N. Rough-winged
5	110	55	32	492	Swallow, Barn
136	128	101	164	176	Jay, Blue
4	11		11	4	Scrub-Jay, Florida
47	49	128	134	194	Crow, American
172	194	234	206	166	Crow, Fish
	46		54	8	crow, sp.
1	7	7	12	19	Chickadee, Carolina
199	175	204	311	256	Titmouse, Tufted
	9	5		7	Nuthatch, Brown-headed
33					Creep. Brown
113	224	217	307	342	Wren, Carolina
				1	Wren, Marsh
2	7		1		Kinglet, Ruby-crowned
27	61	48	76	37	Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray
4	13	24	24	32	Bluebird, Eastern
				1	Thrush, Gray-cheeked
		2			Thrush, Hermit
		1		1	Robin, American
5	19	7	6	6	Catbird, Gray
333	331	361	411	447	Mockingbird, Northern
27	35	31	25	38	Thrasher, Brown
	232	22			Waxwing, Cedar
23	12	12	18	43	Shrike, Loggerhead
197	194	169	255	199	Starling, European
14	23	15	42	34	Vireo, White-eyed
	3				Vireo, Blue-headed
	6	1	3	2	Vireo, Yellow-throated
6	28	24	24	35	Vireo, Red-eyed
	1				Warbler, Tennessee
110	187	114	178	180	Parula, Northern
4			1	1	Warbler, Yellow
1	1		1	1	Warbler, Magnolia
	1			3	Warbler, Cape May
3	11	3	10	11	Warbler, Black-throated Blue
1		1	1	2	Warbler, Yellow-rumped
	2				Warbler, Blackburnian
1	6	9	4	6	Warbler, Yellow-throated
27	36	22	35	24	Warbler, Pine
2				1	Warbler, Prairie
10		3		1	Warbler, Palm
28	59	20	6	76	Warbler, Blackpoll
13	18	3	1	18	Warbler, Black-and-white
45	21	74	34	81	Redstart, American
1	1			1	Warbler, Prothonotary
				1	Warbler, Worm-eating

1	1	3	4	5	Ovenbird
1	1	1	6	1	Waterthrush, Northern
1		4	1		Waterthrush, Louisiana
		1			Warbler, Connecticut
18	19	59	41	38	Yellowthroat, Common
9	5	10	3	5	Tanager, Summer
				1	Tanager, Scarlet
337	472	399	513	582	Cardinal, Northern
2					Grosbeak, Rose-breasted
1		2			Grosbeak, Blue
26	20	22	57	93	Towhee, Eastern
5		4	2	5	Sparrow, Bachman's
45	35			2	Bobolink
267	197	160	159	205	Blackbird, Red-winged
5	16	4	4	14	Meadowlark, Eastern
329	330	275	299	380	Grackle, Boat-tailed
101	119	114	145	135	Grackle, Common
7	7		5	6	Cowbird, Brown-headed
1					Cowbird, Shiny
5					blackbird, sp.
1	2				Oriole, Baltimore
8	13	19	22	8	Finch, House
3	1		1	2	Goldfinch, American
47	76	35	15	23	Sparrow, House

2010 Spring Count Data

Date	05-08-2010
Species	153
Individuals	13,970
Observers	39
Parties	20
Hours foot	82
Hours car	91
Hours boat	5.5
Miles foot	56
Miles car	926
Miles boat	6
Night hours	17.25
Night miles	118
#parties night	7
#observers night	8
Time start	0200
Time stop	2100
Temperature	69-91
Wind	NE5-15
% Clouds	20-30
Precipitation	None



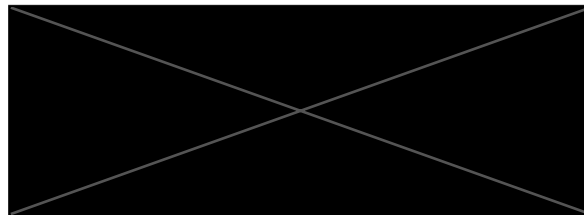
2010 Observers: Liz Abrams, Cyndy Barrow, John Carr, Roger Cutler, Dick Domroski, Gail Domroski, Randall Evanson, Ken Gunn, David Hartgrove, J.V. Hayes, Jacqui Hayes, Randy Hitchcock, Sarah Ho, Karen Hoffman, Tom Lee, Andrea Lux, Janet Marks, Jean McNeal, Fern Murphy, Sheldon Murphy, Ken Park, Roger Peterson, Don Picard, Vivienne Powis, Ralph Risch, Harry Robinsdon, Jane Rogers, Eli Schaperow, Ray Scory, Arnette Sherman, David Stock, James Stock, Steve Strawn, Yvonne Teistworth, Fred White, Nancy White, Meret Wilson

THE PELICAN

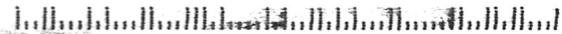


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JULY 2010

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Elizabeth Abrams	Vice President	299-4727	
Rachel Ramsey	Treasurer	673-1037	gmamimi@cfl.rr.com
	Ways and Means		
Peggy Yokubonus	Recording Secretary	673-7619	yokubonus@bellsouth.net
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John Carr	Membership Secretary	255-9360	jcarr14@juno.com
	Historian, Publication Ch.		
John Roessler	Past President	255-9826	birdman3651@bellsouth.net
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Open	Hospitality Ch.		
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Celine Sullivan	Co-Member Recruitment And Retention	257-1980	celinesul@aol.com

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Thank you

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THE PELICAN

"We need to be the stewards of this natural world, not its destroyers!"



VOL. 56 - NO. 2

NEWSLETTER OF HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON

AUGUST 2010

BIRD WATCHING CLASS

Learn how to identify birds, how to find birds, how to develop birding skills, how to improve your binocular use and many other birding facts. Halifax River Audubon member Ray Scory will again teach this very popular class.

Registration is now open for the Fall 2010 class. Download a copy of the registration form from <http://www.halifaxriveras.org>. Click on the Bird Watching Class link. Or call Paula Wehr at 386-673-5332.

Classroom instruction will be held at the Port Orange Public Library Auditorium, 1005 City Center Circle, Port Orange on Friday October 22, October 29 and November 5 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Birding field trips to local birding hotspots will take place on Tuesday mornings following the Friday morning class: Tuesday, October 26 – 8:00 a.m. at Port Orange Bridge; Tuesday, November 2 – 8:00 a.m. at Spruce Creek; Tuesday, November 9 – 7:00 a.m. at Merritt Island NWR

Donation: \$25.00 check, payable to Halifax River Audubon, is due October 15, 2010. Mail to: Halifax River Audubon. P.O. Box 166. Daytona Beach, FL 32115-0166.

Bring your binoculars to all classes, especially the first class, as well as to all field trips. Class size is limited to 24, so sign up early. You do not have to be a member of Halifax River Audubon to attend.

Welcome to new member Meredith Brown. We look forward to meet you at our program meetings and field trips starting in September.

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON

2010-2011 MEETING PROGRAM SCHEDULE

All meetings are held on the third Monday of the month.

September – The Seasons of Tomoka Basin, by Charley. DuToit, Biologist, HRA member.

October – Herpetology for the Ornithologist, by Terry Farrell, Professor, Stetson University.

November – Birds of Arizona: A General Survey, by Frank Brandt, co-author, "Birding the Flagstaff Area".

December – Observing and Understanding Water Fowl, by Chuck Tague, creator/author "The Nature Observer's Journal", HRA member.

January – Fish of Volusia County, by William Greening, Environmental Specialist, Volusia County. (meeting will be on the fourth Monday.)

February – Critters, Cows & Cowboys: A Photographic Exploration into the Wildlife & Work of a Florida Cattle Ranch, by Bob Montanaro, Pelican Island NWR.

March – Salt Marsh Restoration, by Barbara Roberts, Manager, North Peninsula State Park.

April – Birding the Everglades, by Loretta Lynn Leda, Orange Audubon Society.

May – Pelagic Birds of Florida's Northeast Coast, by Michael Brothers, Director, Marine Science Center, HRA member...

June – Uplands, by Randy Sleister, Manager, Land Management, Volusia County.

JULY BOARD MEETING

- Treasurer reported a checking account balance of \$3,595.72. Edie Fiske will be contacted again this year to audit treasurer's books.

BIRD BANDING START UP

Bird bander Meret Wilson announced that she will start her 7th year mistnetting and banding birds the week of August 16. Visitors can join her at the banding station at Tomoka State Park in Ormond Beach at 8:00am. Check our website halifaxriveras.org for exact time/date.



Male Black and White Warbler

evolution sucks

bait that targets all three pests. Later, teams will shoot, fumigate and trap the remaining rabbits, she said. Some of the earlier critics are now behind this latest eradication effort, saying it should help the island's ecosystem fully recover because it would remove the last remaining invasive species.

"Without this action, there will be serious long-term consequences for the majestic seabirds which nest on the island including the four threatened albatross species, and for the health of the island ecosystem as a whole," said Dean Ingwersen, Bird Australia's threatened bird network coordinator.

"We believe that the process they are going to follow uses best practice for this type of work," Ingwersen said. "And that all possible ramifications have now been considered."

62 million years ago



50 million years ago

40 million years ago

30 million years ago



20 million years ago

10 million years ago

5 million years ago



present day



Used by permission - Rosemary Mosco

www.birdandmoon.com

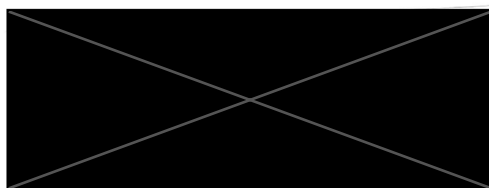
1. GRACKLEBOAT = Boat-tailed Grackle
2. NNUGTTB = Varied Bunting
3. IDLEBL GREBE = Pied-billed Grebe
4. HAWKRED = Red-tailed Hawk
5. CHOUSE FH = House Finch ("HOUSE F" in "CH")
6. SOLITAIRETOWNS = Townsend's Solitaire
7. SAVNAC = Canvasback
8. RUDDY ENOTS = Ruddy Turnstone
9. WRLR = Black-and-white Warbler
10. BIS = White-faced Ibis
11. REDAMERICAN = American Redstart
12. SCS CSCS CSCS CSCS CSCS WARBLE = Tennessee ("SC") Warbler
13. CHESTS P U RNUT = Chestnut-sided Longspur
14. KALBGULL = Greater Black-backed Gull

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AUGUST 2010

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THE PELICAN

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VOL. 56 - NO. 3 NEWSLETTER OF HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON

SEPTEMBER 2010

CONSERVATION NOTES

David Hartgrove

We just returned from a trip out west. That explains the absence of an article from me last month. I thought I'd write of my experience seeing three birds that I was hoping to see out there.

Many of the seabird nesting colonies are on huge rocks very near the shore. And for those of you who haven't been there, the west coast beaches, especially north of San Francisco, are about as different from Florida as standing on another planet. On the top of my wish list though were Tufted Puffin and White-headed and Lewis' Woodpeckers. There's a story to go with all three.

Coquille Point is part of Oregon Islands NWR and is the southern most spot where Tufted Puffins nest. It's just south of Coos Bay. The day we were there, July 24th, it was cold, in the mid 50's, with a northwest wind blowing 30+ mph. The winds were so strong I was nearly blown off the walkway. I found a depression in the trail, obviously used by many others. There was some softer sand in which to kneel and be just below the edge of some rocks. So the wind was howling just above my head instead of blowing the scope off the cliff. I scanned back and forth as the fog came and went. I was about to give up since all I'd seen were lots of Western Gulls, cormorants, Common Murres and Pigeon Guillemots. I tried one last scan of one of the sunnier parts of the rocks and there was our bird, its black breast and honking big, multicolored bill announcing its presence. I cranked the scope up to 50x and watched as the bird stood guard at the entrance to its nest burrow. The wind shifted a little and it was now shaking the scope and blowing sand into my face. I tried to reposition the scope and lost the bird. I found a 2nd bird soon and then, in a brief time when the fog almost cleared on the rock, I got looks at both birds. Their nests were within 15 feet of each other. Then, as soon as it had cleared, the fog returned and enveloped the rocks and that was the end of seeing anything over there.

We found the White-headed Woodpecker right near where the Birder's Guide to Oregon said to look. Indian Ford Camp Ground is in Deschutes National Forest about 10 miles west of Sisters, Oregon. We were standing along a road near the camp ground watching a pair of Western Bluebirds feeding fledged young on a barbed wire fence. I noticed 2 couples on bicycles standing along the road some distance from us. They

rode up and asked us what we were looking at. I pointed out the bluebirds and one of the guys said, "Oh, we were just watching a White-headed Woodpecker." He was happy to go back up to the tree where they'd seen the bird and there it was, still feeding among the cones of a small lodge pole pine. It was a female, and though we looked in several other places for this species again. This was the only one we saw.

Having struck out on several of the woodpecker spots that were lauded by the book, I tried one last spot when we went looking for the Lewis' Woodpecker. We were now in Portland and nearing the end of our trip. So this was to be the last chance. We left early in the morning for a drive through the spectacular Columbia River Gorge and across I-84 towards La Grande. Spring Creek Road is said to be the woodpecker capitol of Oregon due to an infestation of spruce bud worm and several other insects that make for excellent habitat for the birds. We were standing there in the woods waiting and waiting. At one point wife Dennise called out that she'd found a bird. It turned out to be a kestrel. Then she said, "Honey, there's a bird on that limb." There, in the late afternoon sun, in all his pink bellied, green backed, red faced glory sat a Lewis' Woodpecker. The bird stayed in view for 15 minutes or so, long enough to get great scope views and some digiscoped photos that didn't turn out well. No matter, the image of that bird in the scope is burned into my brain. It was late and we had to leave for the long drive back to Portland. So we didn't see any other woodpeckers that day. It just means we'll have to go out there again some time.

BIRD INFORMATION AND WEB SITES

Injured birds - Mary Keller Rehab Center at the
Marine Science Center, Ponce Inlet

Chris Wise 304-5545 chriswise@co.volusia.fl.us

Gina Holt 386-299-5890 hunt4gloria@hotmail.com

Bird Identification

David Hartgrove 788-2630 birdman9@earthlink.net

Birds of Prey Center Maitland, FL 407-644-0190

Halifax River Audubon www.halifaxriveras.org

Florida Rare Bird Alert

<http://listserv.admin.usf.edu/archives/frba.html>

Welcome to new members Michael B Ables, Sherri G. Anderson, Joseph Babila, Alice Bende, Jill Bodine, Elaine Brayton, Misti Camelin, Mary R. Carpenter, Lori Clausman, Barbara Clinton, Ursula Dobbie, Marlene Estep, Bernice Faust, Fred Favorite Jr., Carol Felton, Larry Frank, J. Frey, C. Fuller, Berry Gentry, Gloria Givens, Alex Gyarfas, Robert J. Haab, Betty Hendricks, Cathryn E. Holt, Jennifer Houston, Alan Jorczk, Timothy Karr, Joanne King, William Klug, Herbert Lazarus, Mary Leahy, Fred Loeser, Ruby Maalouf, Clarie MacBrayne, James MacKey, Jacqueline McCarthy, Michael J. McLaughlin, J & C Morris, Suzanne B. Murray, Ruth Neetz, Albert O'Neall, Rolland Olin, Martha Opelt, Dorothy Orton, William Rispoli, Margaret Rowley, Linda Schechter, Linda Simms, Sigrid Smith, Annette M. Sowder, George Standley, L. Taylor, Helga M. Van Note, Dustin Weeks, John Williams. We look forward to meet you soon at the start of our new Audubon year.

Birds Banded Aug 16-20, 2010

	New	Recapture
Northern Cardinal	2	2
Carolina Wren	1	

One of the recaptures, a female who was caught at the same time as her fledgling, was banded back in the fall of 2005 as a hatchling herself. She is still going strong.

The following is the September Banding Schedule. Fridays will be my "day off". Saturdays will be my Loggerhead Shrike banding day. Sundays will be a special project I will be doing with my banding trainee, Carla Vanderbilt. Monday through Thursdays will be pretty much the schedule for the entire fall season.

Sept 1 and 2 (Thurs and Fri)

Sept 6 - 9 (Mon - Thur)

Sept 13 - 16 (Mon - Thur)

Sept 20 - 23 (Mon - Thur)

Sept 27 - 30 (Mon - Thur)

The park opens its gate between 7:30 and 8:00.

2010 FALL BANDING SEASON STARTS

Meret Wilson

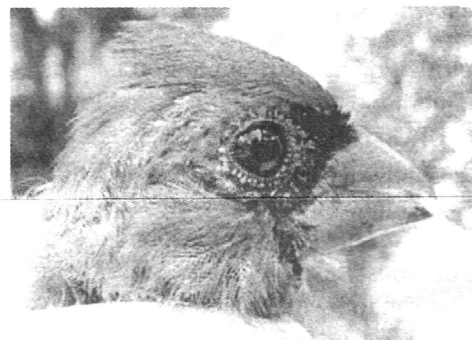
2010 fall banding season has gotten off to a hot, muggy, buggy start. Typical for this time of year. The rains brought in the mosquitoes and fortunately the winds the last couple of days have taken a few of them out. I have only caught local birds and even they seem to have more sense than I do about this heat and are keeping pretty well under cover.

Despite the heat, though, there have been a few true migrants in the station area (but not in the nets) that give me hope we are soon to be on our way. I have seen a Black and White Warbler (BAWW), American Redstart (AMRE), Yellow-billed Cuckoo (YBCU), 2 Spotted Sandpiper juveniles (SPSA), Red-eyed Vireo (REVI) and heard a Northern Waterthrush this AM (NOWA). The skies haven't been much better with only one Northern Rough-winged Swallow (NRWS), very few Barn Swallows (BARS) and a high flying flock of 8 Great Blue Herons (GBHE).

Much to my surprise not having heard any Chuck Will's Widows (CWWI) in the park this spring, I heard a probable young CWWI doing an incomplete call yesterday morning. It has a ways to go to learn the whole thing. I was encouraged to know at least one pair must have nested not far from the net lanes.

Another exciting bird, the Red-eyed Vireo, I believe is a confirmed nester in the park as well. This bird continues to sing all summer on its nesting grounds and I have heard one sing in July on the south side of the park and one sing the first part of this week on the banding grounds. Carla Vanderbilt spotted the first REVI on Monday. I have long suspected this bird to nest near the area because I have heard one continue to sing long after the migrating vireos are gone in the spring.

Northern Cardinal in fall molt



FALL MIGRATION COUNT

David Hartgrove

Saturday, September 18th, is the date for our Audubon Fall Migration Count. Once again we will fan out to cover as much of Volusia County as possible. Teams from our sister chapters, West Volusia Audubon and Southeast Volusia Audubon, will cover their respective areas while we look for as many species and totals as we can find.

We will meet at 7:00 a.m. at the east end of the Courthouse on City Island, in downtown Daytona Beach. Bring a lunch and remember, this is an all day event. However, if you're unable to join us for the whole day, we can easily arrange for you to get back to your vehicle.

The more people we have that join us, the more successful the count is. Also, I can't stress enough that you don't have to be an expert. This is an excellent opportunity to hone your birding skills and to participate in a citizen science project that contributes to the national biological database. Please, if you're planning to participate, call or send me an e-mail so I can begin putting together teams: 386-788-2630, birdman9@earthlink.net.

GOLDEN DOG BOOKS

Captain Willie Burns

After raising \$1735.10 in profits for Halifax River Audubon, the Golden Dog spent most of the summer snoozing under the porch. With the onset of Autumn she roused herself, stretched, yawned, shook herself in a small dust cloud, scratched her ear, and scurried away to start planning for the coming season of meetings and Holidays.

We once again have the lovely Audubon calendars, augmented by a couple of new additions. We now have Manatee and Golden Retriever calendars and one novelty calendar. Our collection of magnets is alive and well, as are our plush animals.

The assortment of Nature books has a new addition, Tracks in the Sand. This covers seas turtles in general and our friend Beth Libert and the Volusia County Turtle Patrol specifically. It gets raves, as does Florida's Living Beaches, a detailed journey completely covering everything on and near our beaches.

Our Shade Grown Coffee has added whole bean decaf to the usual assortment. Our selection of Nature books and the Pelican Pete series of children's books are bright and shiny, waiting like puppies for new homes.

Stop by at the meetings and check out our wares!

EDUCATORS GROUP'S EVENING TRIP

Ray Scory

There is a different world out there when the sun begins to set below the horizon and night creatures begin to stir to the rhythms of the eternal clock. At this special time, called the golden hour, day creatures turn to rest and close another day of activity, leaving the land to a far different nightly life.

I had the good fortune in June to lead 14 educators in the study of statistics on a field trip to the Dunlawton Bridge and Ponce Preserve. They were in Daytona Beach for a week to grade the exams of "Advanced Placement" high school students. They came from all parts of our country, including one from Hawaii, and needed a break by Wednesday from their rigorous exam testing. So rigorous that a gong from a bell signified the end of one session and again the beginning of another with a half hour for lunch. Since they all were excellent birders, what better way than the cleansing relief of birding a new spot. Thus, a call from Paula Wehr set me up with a very interesting evening of birding.

I have always maintained that at the Dunlawton Bridge at any time of day, any week, or any month of the year within two hours, if not one hour, a birder can observe twenty-five to thirty bird species. Presenting this challenge to the group, they fulfilled my prediction and recorded 28 bird species by 7:30 PM. American Oystercatchers, both Night-herons, Black-bellied Plovers,

Common Ground-Doves and White Ibis were some of the birds sighted.

Now it was on to Ponce Preserve at the suggestion of Michael Brothers to hear the songs of the Clapper Rails. Michael was an unexpected but very welcomed addition to the group's birding experience. Auto caravanning to the Ponce Preserve parking lot, we began our walk to the Halifax River along a well designed boardwalk which tops a healthy wetland area. As night covered a receding sunset behind a storm-laden sky, Clapper Rails began to sing in chorus to the beat of their universal calling, "*kek, kek, kek, kek*" in descending notes. Studying the edges of the wetland waters, we began to see the slinking shadow birds in their nightly quest for nourishment. They were alert, secretive and in concert with their fragile domain.

Everyone got good and long looks at two Clapper Rails in different spots. One was particularly entertaining as it vigorously bathed in ankle deep water. Submerging itself under water, shaking its feathers with purpose, prancing, raising its wings above its head, shaking again, bounding back under water, it reminded me of my early childhood splashing in an old-time bathtub. The group of educators were mesmerized by the antics of the rails and whispered so quietly that Chimney Swifts could be heard twittering overhead.

As I watched this scene unfold, for a fleeting moment, I was transported to a thought that while we follow our nightly routine, a whole different world goes on its nightly way and we aren't even aware of it.

Thirty- one species of birds were observed that evening between six and nine o'clock. Many life birds were added to the lists of some very fine birders.

EXPLORING OUR ENVIRONMENT - FROM THE OCEAN TO THE RIVER

To learn more about the coastal environment of NE Florida, check out this program. Join biologists from the University of Florida, GTMNERR (Guanabacoa National Estuarine Research Reserve), and many other locations as they team up to provide hands-on learning experiences in this one-week program. The program combines field studies (outdoors), lectures and educational crafts (indoors). Topics covered include beaches, sea turtles, estuaries, water quality monitoring, invasive species, coastal uplands and marine mammals. The week long program is scheduled November 1 - 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the GTMNERR Marineland Office. The fee is \$100 for the week long series. For additional information or to register phone 904-209-0430 or visit mpmccg@ufl.edu. A brochure to be printed can be downloaded at: http://stjohns.ifas.ufl.edu/SEA/documents/EoEbrochure-Nov10_000.pdf.

September 20 Program Meeting

THE SEASONS OF TOMOKA BASIN

Charles DuToit, retired field biologist for DEP, will present a PowerPoint program, "The Seasons of Tomoka Basin" based on a decade of exploring the coastal wetlands of the Tomoka Basin, where he was field biologist.

The program retraces personal discoveries, as Charles traverses the salt marshes, tidal creeks, and low islands of the Tomoka Basin through wet and dry years, and after the tropical storms and arctic freezes of the past decade. We are delighted to view a new program presented by our own Halifax River member, Charles DuToit

Join us at Sica Hall, 1065 Daytona Avenue, Holly Hill on Monday evening. Refreshments will be served at 6:30 p.m. The presentation begins at 7:00 p.m.

THE BIG SIT 2010

Ray Scory

The time has come again when John Carr and I beeline for the Dunlawton Bridge one Sunday each year (this year, October 10th) to take part in THE BIG SIT. Long before daybreak we set up our imaginary 17 foot circle near the pavilion ready to count the birds we see or hear during our 10 - 14 hour search.

The BIG SIT offers memorable birding events all from a stationary position. This day, amazing birding stories will be added to your bird lore repertoire. I have sat The BIG SIT for fifteen years. Two of the many memorable birding experiences happened before daybreak. Years ago, in Connecticut a whirling flock of America Woodcock occupied the very space we had set up for our circle. Quite a show.

At my first BIG SIT under the Dunlawton Bridge I witnessed two Great Horned Owls during their mating display flying back and forth between the abutments of the bridge. When the sun peaked above the horizon, they silently disappeared.

Take a chance, create your own BIG SIT day or visit John and me at the bridge. For more information, click on our link to The BIG SIT on our website www.halifaxriveras.org. Make sure to play the Bill Thompson3 video.

Have a great BIG SIT day and have FUN.

AUGUST BOARD MEETING

- Checking account balance is \$3,505.47.
- Chapter membership is 563.
- Board approved this year's contract with Sica Hall to \$160/month for 10 months.
- Board approved moving the date for the January meeting to January 24 due to Sica Hall conflict.
- Board approved formation of committee to search for alternate monthly meeting location. Members interested should contact David Hartgrove.

- Board approved \$950 available to purchase Audubon Adventures kits for 20 classrooms if donations fall short.
- Board approved purchase of scales for the use of Meret Wilson to weigh mist netted birds.
- Board approved changing the date of field trips because of conflict. (Emeralda Marsh: now March 25; Tomoka State Park: now December 17.)
- End-of-year Chapter Report has been submitted to Florida and National Audubon.

SEPTEMBER 2010 CALENDAR

Information for Halifax River Audubon Field Trips

- Trip difficulty ratings. (1) Easy or no walking. (2) Walking <1 mile - flat terrain. (3) 1+ mile walking and/or uneven terrain.
- Equipment: Binoculars, hat, sunscreen, bug spray, sturdy walking shoes, and drinking water.
- Call leader before trip to confirm details.

Thursday, September 3

Flagler Audubon Society Program Meeting. Meet in Room A or B. Florida Hospital Flagler, Palm Coast (195 west on SR100). 6:30pm.

Saturday, September 11

Lyonia Environmental Center. "Heads are Turning" 10-11am. See what changes take place when juvenile scrub jays turn into adults. Fee: adults \$3, seniors \$2, children \$1. Pre-registration required - call 386-789-7207. LEC, 2150 Eustace Ave., Deltona.

Saturday, September 18

Halifax River Audubon Field Trip. International Migratory Bird Count. Meet at 7:00am, east end of City Island parking lot, Daytona Beach. Led by David Hartgrove, 788-2630. Bring lunch. (3)

Saturday, September 18

Lyonia Environmental Center. "Scrub Detectives" 9:30am-noon. Exploratory guided hike along trails of the preserve. Record your observations and share your findings with others. Fee: adults: \$6, seniors \$5, children \$4. See September 11 listing.

Monday, September 20

Halifax River Audubon Program Meeting. "The Seasons of Tomoka Basin" by Charley DuToit, Biologist and HRA member. Meet at Sica Hall, 1065 Daytona Ave., Holly Hill. Refreshments at 6:30pm; program at 7:00pm.

Sunday, September 26

Flagler Audubon Society Field Trip. Bird walk at North Peninsula State Parks. Meet at Smith Creek Landing (Highbridge Road) parking lot, Ormond-by-the-Sea. 8:00am.

Sunday, October 3

Halifax River Audubon Field Trip. Dunlawton Ave. Bridge, Port Orange. Meet at 5:00pm under bridge. Led by David Hartgrove, 788-2630. (1)

THE MOURNING MOURNING DOVE

Bernice J. Knocke, HRA member

Our home in the Illinois countryside was the site of many bird happenings. A thud coming from the sunroom always meant trouble. Once when we ran to check out a thud there was a smear on the window meaning a severe bird crash.

We looked at the bird feeder which was about fifteen feet from the porch. We saw a Mourning Dove peering down. We followed his intense gaze and saw another dove lying motionless on the ground. We checked the fallen bird and found it had a broken neck. The male watched our inspection from a nearby tree.

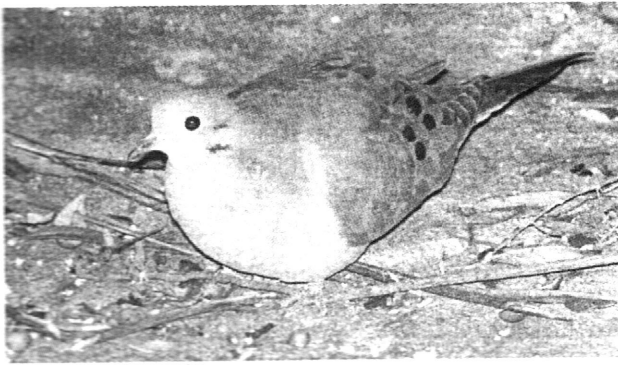


Photo by Danny Bales

We left the bird while we finished some yard work, and then returned to bury her. The male was sitting next to the female. He let us come to within about twenty feet, then stood up, cooed at his mate and preened himself. Then he did a little running – tail up, head lowered, and strutted up to the dead female. Then he hunched over and gave a low guttural sound.

Several tiny feathers had fallen from the female. The male picked them up and tossed them about. Another pair of doves tried to land on the feeder but the distraught male chased them off.. After flying after them he landed on the roof of the house and started singing a normal dove call. The new pair returned again and again for the next quarter hour but the male chased them away each time. He returned to the feeder, ate and preened himself for about ten minutes. The male allowed blue jays, sparrows and grackles to feed but no other doves.

After feeding, the male dropped down to his fallen mate and preened her. He preened her and himself for an hour. He occasionally mounted the female, as if trying to awaken her.

The next time the male went off chasing away doves we moved the female's body to a site for burial. The male watched intently so we left her on the ground. He then went there and repeated the whole ritual of cooing and preening and mounting. We checked the body to see if he had caused any damage to it. No, he had smoothed her

feathers and the female's body looked lovely.

After sunset we put the dove's body into the grave, uncovered. The mate flew down, walked around the grave then left. We covered the body and the male flew down again, picked up a few feathers that had fallen from her and threw them into the air. He spent all of the next day at the feeder, eating and chasing away other doves.

A week later he was not as diligent and allowed other doves to feed. Soon he blended back into the group of doves that inhabited our yard.

We were honored to have shared mourning with a Mourning Dove.

AUDUBON ADVENTURES IN SCHOOL

Marion Monaghan and Becky Tate

Halifax River Audubon members currently support twenty 4th grade teachers in eight elementary schools with **Audubon Adventures**. With your monetary assistance, we intend to continue this support for the 2010-2011 school year.

Audubon Adventures material helps 4th graders form positive attitudes about nature and supports teachers with instructional content aligned with national standards for Social Studies (with an emphasis on Civics), Science, and Language Arts.

The new 2010 resource kit title is Wildlife on the Move. Students will enjoy an exploration of the amazing journeys and fascinating life cycles of migratory animals: Migrating birds of the Americas; Monarch butterfly and dragonfly migration, and whales and sea turtles.

Each teacher receives an **Audubon Adventures** classroom resource kit for use with students in the classroom. The cost of each kit is \$45.00. Please send your generous contribution to the following address: Halifax River Audubon, P.O. Box 166, Daytona Beach, FL 32115-0166.

PAST PRESIDENT JOHN WILLIAMS

David Hartgrove

John Williams, who served on the HRA Board as a Member At Large, Vice President, and President passed away on August 2nd. The obituary in the News-Journal said he was 92.

It's hard to believe. He was spry and active right to the end. He was fixture at City Commission meetings at the Daytona Beach City Hall where his pointed questions often made more than a few commissioners squirm in their seats.

He will be remembered by those of us who've been attending our meetings for a while for his spiced green beans. He brought those to nearly every chapter meeting and though they weren't the treat of the evening for everyone, they had their staunch admirers.

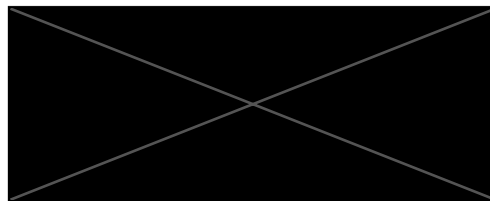
So long John. Thanks for all you did for us.

THE PELICAN



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SEPTEMBER 2010

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HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON
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HALIFAX COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB

ORMOND BEACH GARDEN CLUB

COLONY CLUB

Thank you

For support of our 2010 activities

For Your Information – All articles for *The Pelican* should be sent to Fran Carr, 359 Brookline Ave., Daytona Beach, 32118. Articles for publication in next month's issue must be received by the third Monday of the month.

Chapter Meetings – Meetings are held the Third Monday of each month, March through June at Sica Hall, Holly Hill, 1065 Daytona Ave., at 6:30 p.m. Members and Guests welcome! Board meets at City Island Library at 105 E. Magnolia Ave., Daytona Beach, at 1:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month. All are welcome. See Calendar for dates and time.

HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON

Presents

BEGINNER BIRD WATCHING CLASS



Cardinal



Crow



Sanding Duck



Dove



Finch

2010

Learn how to identify birds, how to find birds, how to develop birding skills, how to improve your binocular use and many other birding facts. Join our class for fun, information and fellowship.

Donation: \$25.00 check, payable to **Halifax River Audubon**, is due **October 15, 2010**. Mail to:

Halifax River Audubon
P.O. Box 166
Daytona Beach, FL 32115-0166

Place: Port Orange Public Library Auditorium, 1005 City Center Circle, Port Orange. After class, enjoy the beautiful grounds outside the library – and spot some of the local birds.

Classroom instruction will be held on Friday October 22, **October 29** and **November 5** at 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Sign up with a friend, or make a new one, and have lunch after the class.

Birding field trips to local birding hotspots will be held on Tuesday mornings following the Friday morning class: i.e.:

Tuesday, October 26 – 8:00 a.m. at Port Orange Bridge
Tuesday, November 2 – 8:00 a.m. at Spruce Creek
Tuesday, November 9 – 7:00 a.m. at Merritt Island NWR

Bring your **binoculars** to all classes, especially the first class, as well as to all field trips.

For more information, call **Paula Wehr** at **386-673-5332**.

Class size is limited to 24, so sign up early. You do not have to be a member of Halifax River Audubon to attend.

<Cut here and mail with your check----->

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

THE PELICAN

"We need to be the stewards of this natural world, not its destroyers!"



VOL. 56 - NO. 4

NEWSLETTER OF HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON

OCTOBER 2010

CONSERVATION NOTES

David Hartgrove

Here we are in election season again and for the next four weeks you won't be able to turn on a radio or television without being subjected to an assault on your senses.

Thanks to a recent Supreme Court decision, unlimited amounts of corporate funds can now be used to persuade voters into voting against their own best interests. All kinds of sleazy accusations and outright lies will be made against candidates and issues. As a tax exempt organization, we don't advocate for or against individual candidates but we can and do take positions on issues like Amendment 4, or Florida Hometown Democracy as it's also known.

The avalanche of negative advertising against this common sense approach to land use decisions will gradually increase to deafening proportions the closer we get to Election Day, November 2nd. So let's see if we can sort out the truth from some of the lies you'll be hearing regarding Amendment 4.

One of the distortions most often mentioned by the opponents of Amendment 4 is that voters will be required to approve any and all zoning changes or development proposals. This is not true. The language of the amendment limits it to proposed changes to a county's Comprehensive Growth Management Plan. This is a published document that is required under state law that outlines how the area will be developed. The problem comes when a real estate speculator decides to turn farm land or forests that are designated as such, into an apartment complex or shopping center. If the speculator would confine himself to land that's already zoned for such a development, there'd be no problem. The problem arises when he wants to change the rules of the game so that he gets rich at our expense. This requires an amendment to the CGMP and that's what we voters would be asked to approve or reject.

Another bit of misinformation being spewed out by the opponents' "astroturf" grass roots organizations is that huge tax increases will be necessary to fund extra elections because voters will be asked to come out every other month to decide questions of growth management. Again, this is not true. On average, there are two or three plan amendments requested per year. These can be added to the ballot during a regular election. So no special elections are necessary and therefore no extra taxes to cover this imaginary cost.

How about the dire predictions that Florida's economy will be demolished? The state's economy is in pretty bad shape now and the reason is the disaster in the housing

market and its wild eyed, over the top belief that all growth is good. The Chamber of Commerce labors under the delusion that if we just get government out of the way and open up thousands of acres of prime forest to developers, we'll be able to build our way out of this depressed economy. If you believe that, perhaps you'd be interested in this bridge I have for sale.

Then there's the argument that we elected our representatives to make these decisions for us and we should trust them to do their jobs. Amendment 4 is necessary because we can't trust our elected officials to act in our best interests. They've proven this time and time again. We just barely have enough fresh water for the population that's here now. Is it in our best interest to have our politicians try to sell us on the idea that we have to spend billions of tax payer dollars on desalinization plants so that more people can move here? That's what's being debated in Flagler County right now.

If we vote for Amendment 4 we'll be able to restore some accountability and sanity to the growth management process. We can still save a lot of what made moving to Florida a good idea for so many people. We can have enough fresh water for the people who are here and for the wildlife and the environment that depend on it. But we need to take actions to do this. Voting "Yes" Amendment 4 is a good first step. I hope you'll do just that.

October 16 Chapter Meeting Program

HERPETOLOGY FOR THE ORNITHOLOGIST

It can be argued that a deep understanding of Florida's birds must involve considering their interactions with reptiles. Consider questions such as these:

- Why do Burrowing Owls occur in Florida?
- Why do warblers in Florida create a variety of unusual; nest types?
- How to rattlesnakes benefit birds?
- Why do Great Crested Flycatchers use the skins shed by snakes as a nesting material?
- Why do woodpeckers prefer to make their nests in dead pine trees without bark?

Dr. Terry Farrell, Professor at Stetson University, answers these questions and discusses other features of reptile-bird interactions at our meeting on Monday evening. Join us at Sica Hall, 1065 Daytona Avenue, Holly Hill at 6:30am for light refreshments. Dr. Farrell will begin his presentation at 7:00pm.

ADVICE FROM ONE VERY BAD BIRDER

Dee Fairbanks Simpson, from *The Limpkin*
Newsletter of Space Coast Audubon.

Used by permission.

Recently, I was going back through my birding journals from the last ten years. I have been given a lot of advice since moving to Florida a decade ago. Some of the advice made me laugh at the time, but in hindsight, despite that I am still a Very Bad Birder, I am not nearly as bad as I was when I started. I thought I would share with you some of the wisdom that has been imparted to me.

On my very first trip to Merritt Island, I was looking at a bird in a bush, having no idea what it was. A guy pulled up behind me and asked if I knew that it was. I told him no. He then proceeded to introduce himself (Doug Johanssen) and tell me what the bird was (Prairie Warbler), and then he had me follow him around the refuge. We were somewhere out on Haulover canal when a Tern came along, at which point, Doug said, "Wait for a minute; another Tern will come along." I of course, took the bait and asked how he knew that. To which he replied, "Well, everyone knows one good tern deserves another." That day, Doug taught me about birds, he put me in touch with Travis MacClendon (and hence the Indian River Audubon Society), and he also taught me that birders are capable of terrible, terrible puns.

At my very first IRAS meeting (before we became SCAS) I brought in a photo album I had put together of my bird pictures. I proudly showed it to Travis MacClendon, and asked if he could help me identify the birds therein. The sage advice that I received from Travis that day was, "That's a Laughing Gull. That's another laughing gull. That's another laughing gull. That's another laughing gull. That's another laughing gull". Etc. It turned out that I had about 75 pictures of laughing gulls (young, old, winter, summer, breeding). I had no idea that they changed color throughout their lives. The lesson learned from this experience was to buy Sibley's *Guide to Birds*, which I don't leave home without now. (I also learned that Travis has the patience of a saint!)

After joining Audubon, I started birding regularly with Pat and Bill Meyer. I have learned a lot from them over the years, but I think the advice that has improved my birding the most was when Bill told me, "Palm Warblers pump their tails when they perch." From this I started to notice how important behavior, not just color and shape, is to identifying birds. I was able to add the Dowitcher (sewing machine bird), Ruddy Turnstone, and many others to my life list once I started to notice behavior.

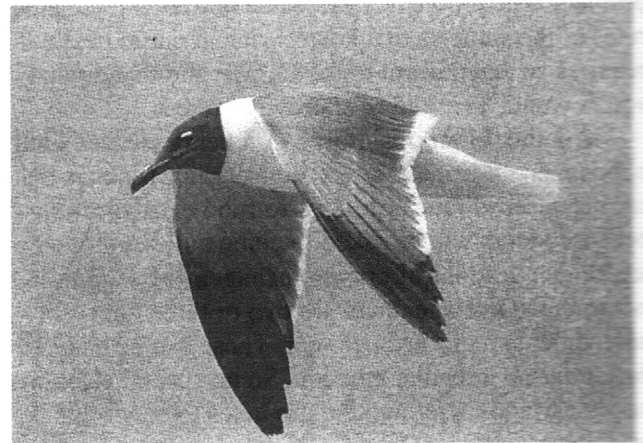
One fateful day at an IRAS Meeting, some insanely handsome guy came in and said they needed volunteers for the Cocoa Christmas Bird Count. I knew nothing about counting birds, but hey, I figured, this really cute guy needs volunteers, so I signed up. A few days before the count, I was feeling a bit apprehensive and called my dad for advice. The advice he gave me was, "The easiest way to count a flock of birds is to count their eyes and then divide by two."

I guess this wasn't so much a birding lesson as a life lesson; I learned that insanity runs in families.

Eventually, I started dating that cute guy from the bird count. One day, before we were married, David and I were out birding. He pointed out a bird to me and asked me what it was. I don't remember exactly what I guessed, but it was something along the line of "Little Blue Heron?" David looked at me incredulously and said, "You are not getting back into my truck." I knew I had something very very very wrong. I opened my Sibley's and started searching. That day I learned how to identify Blue-grey Gnatcatchers, and he finally let me get back into the truck. To this day, they are one of the few birds that I don't get wrong. Ever.

Despite getting lots of advice, I eventually came up with my own ways of identifying birds. I tend to anthropomorphize a lot, or to find objects that birds look similar to. Belted Kingfishers, to me look exactly like the cartoon character Bart Simpson – I can always tell one on the wires remembering that. I kept this to myself for the most part though, as I assumed that real birders don't need to associate birds with something else to remember them. One day, while birding with Travis McClendon, he pointed to some birds and said there was a Chimney Swift in the flock. I asked him how he knew, and he replied, "Chimney Swifts in flight look like cigars with wings." I was so relieved to find that "real" birders use less than scientific descriptions too. Eventually, as part of the Florida Master Naturalist course, I developed a presentation on Non-Scientific Birding that, although quite silly, seems to strike a chord with other bad birders.

After I'd been birding for a while, although I was enjoying it, I was still pretty self conscious of the fact that I just wasn't very good at it. One day, Carroll Holland gave me some advice that I think has really made all the difference to me: "If you want to see more birds, have a few drinks before you start birding, that way you will see two of everything." I laughed at the time, but it also made me realize that I was taking birding way too seriously. I learned from Carroll the most important birding advice: just because it's a scientific endeavor, it doesn't mean it can't be fun.



Laughing Gull

Photo by Jerry Kerschner

NEIL BLANCHARD

Neil Blanchard, 69, of Ormond Beach, passed away Wednesday, April 14, 2010, at Hospice of Volusia/Flagler in Port Orange. He was the beloved husband of Beverly A. Korda Blanchard.

Neil and Beverly (DeDee) were members of HRA where DeDee was a Board member and Hospitality Chair. She and Neil hosted delicious refreshments for our Chapter meetings. They also volunteered countless hours to The Casements Guild. DeDee continues as an HRA member.

To honor Neil, the HRA Board voted to purchase a Memorial Brick inscribed as follows:

**NEIL BLANCHARD
MEMBER HALIFAX
RIVER AUDUBON**

The brick is installed on the newly-constructed patio outside the ballet room at The Casements, 25 Riverside Drive, in Ormond Beach. The Casements is the historic former winter home of John D. Rockefeller.

SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING

- Treasurer reported balance of \$712.12. Current membership is 604.
- Golden Dog has year 2011 calendars available for sale.
- Conservation - EarthJustice, representing Friends of Earth, Sierra Club and Audubon, has filed a lawsuit against the state of Florida for not enforcing clean water regulations. Web site is www.earthjustice.org.
- Audubon Adventures – list of Grade 4 teachers will be updated when class assignments are sure. Target is to provide for 20 classrooms.
- Joan and Chuck Tague have been appointed as Co-Chairs for Field Trips. All current Board members were reappointed.
- Chapter will hold a raffle for a donated Bird Stepping Stone at the Earth Day celebration at Washington Oaks in the spring. Advance tickets may be purchased beforehand.
- Fran Carr resigned as Editor of the Pelican effective July 1, 2011.
- John Carr resigned as Publication Chair effective July 1, 2011. He will continue as Membership Secretary.
- Newsletter will publish a request for Hospitality Chair volunteers.
- Paula Wehr will continue to donate the cost and upkeep of the Chapter web site.
- Board members Holly, Meret and Willie will create a list of requirements for a new meeting location. The goal is to secure a new venue for 2011-2012.
- DeDee Blanchard thanked HRA for donating a memorial brick in honor of Neil.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

David Hartgrove

Our chapter is in need of a few volunteers. Now, don't all of you raise your hands at once. That would truly be a problem any president would hope for.

At our recent board meeting, our **newsletter editor**, Fran Carr, announced plans to retire. She has been the main reason we have what I think is one of the best newsletters of any Chapter in the state. But she's done more than her share and it's time to give someone else a chance to make their mark on the Chapter's long history. Desktop publishing was barely in its infancy when she took over the duties. Now, anyone with a home computer, a bit of technical prowess, and most important, knowledge of the language and its rules of grammar, can turn out a good newsletter. We need you.

Fran has offered to remain at her post until next June. If you're the wonderful person who steps forward to volunteer for this position, she'll be there to guide you through the learning process. If you're the person we're looking for, contact Fran (her contact info is in the Pelican and on our website) for a brief overview of the duties.

Our **Publications Chair**, John Carr, (yes, they're a team) has also tendered his retirement papers. He too will stay on until June to assist whoever steps forward to take over those duties. Contact John for a summary of the duties of the office. For the time being John will remain our Membership Secretary and Chapter Historian.

Finally, we need a **Hospitality Chair**. This is a position that doesn't need to take much time. It involves coordinating the efforts of others. After a period where our last Hospitality Chair, DeDee Blanchard, spoiled us rotten with what bordered on gourmet meals, we're going back to what we'd done for all of the previous years: simple snacks, coffee and other beverages. These will be provided by volunteers who respond to the call at our regular meetings. The Hospitality Chair asks for these volunteers and keeps track of who volunteered for what. Of course, if no one volunteers when the call goes out, then we'll skip having refreshments at the next meeting.

Please, if you enjoy our meetings and the benefits you derive from membership in the Chapter, think about volunteering for one of these positions. If you're one of those many members who've never been to a meeting (we have a membership of over 500 and around 10% attend meetings) but would like now to become more involved, we welcome your interest and participation. You'll be rewarded with a great experience.

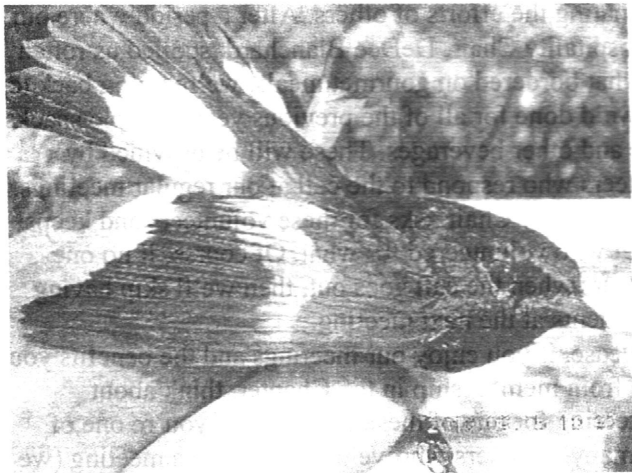
"Both the cockroach and the bird would get along very well without us, although the cockroach would miss us most."
Joseph Wood Krutch - American Naturalist and Writer,
1893-1970

BIRD BANDING IN SEPTEMBER

Board Member Meret Wilson bands birds at Tomoka State Park in Ormond Beach. She summarized her goals for her long-term study in her September 12-16 report.

"This past Sunday I started 5 nets going on the south side of the park to get a picture of what is in that habitat that is so different from the Helicopter Island habitat. More hard woods, denser, more pine. I plan to band over there on Sundays for several years in addition to the banding on Helicopter for comparison, which is right in line with my overall project for banding: What species use the park during migration and during overwintering? What are the percentages of males versus females in that usage? How important is Tomoka State Park as a route for birds, if at all? What percentage overall do juveniles use TSP as a route? And, a new question has occurred to me recently: What pressure does banding put on the local population of birds? Will they move away from Helicopter? Will they go as far away as the other side of the park? Or are they affected at all? Continued surveys will help answer this as I look for bands on the local residents."

This 7th year of banding, her banding days on Helicopter Island will be Mondays through Thursdays throughout October. People are also welcome to drop by to observe what we are doing on the south side of the park on Sundays, October 3, 10, 17, and 31, and on Saturday, October 23. Check our website [halifaxriveras.org](http://halifaxriververas.org) and check out Meret's weekly reports with pictures and statistics.



Male American Redstart

Welcome to new members Robert and Patricia Auth, Richard E. Bicknell, Jennifer Christen, Janice Darr, Marlene Ester, Mildred Gearity, Mike Helton, Charles B. Hill, Wendy E. Hollingsworth, Thelma Holt, Amanda M. Kowal, Horst Lerch, Richard Loh, William Loucks, Clara Loesch, Susan T. Lund, Nona Maynard, Beverly Miller, Carol Tagle, James Murphy, Beverly Nascimbeni, Catherine Seaman, Richard Smith, Allan Wieland. We look forward to meeting you at our program meetings and field trips.

OUR NEW FIELD TRIP LEADERS

David Hartgrove

First, on behalf of the membership (especially those who attend field trips) I want to express my thanks to John Roessler for serving as our Field Trip Chair over the past year. His first words to me when I called him upon arriving at Ft. DeSoto, were, "David, I have the Long-billed Curlew in the scope." That says it all when you're trying to think of superlatives to apply to a Chapter field trip chair.

And no doubt the team coming on board to take over as Co-Field Trip Chairs will provide us with some great memories too. It would be hard to imagine two more qualified people to take over as field trip leaders for our Chapter. Chuck and Joan Tague are a wonder in the field. Her hearing and eyesight would make a Red-tail jealous. Chuck recently retired as the Education Curator at the Pittsburgh Aviary and has been an environmental educator and wildlife photographer for the past 25 years.

To say that we're lucky to have them in our midst is an understatement. So come out and join us on a field trip. You'll be glad you did.

OCTOBER 2010 CALENDAR

Information for Halifax River Audubon Field Trips

- Trip difficulty ratings: (1) Easy or no walking. (2) Walking <1 mile - flat terrain. (3) 1+ mile walking and/or uneven terrain.
- Equipment: Binoculars, hat, sunscreen, bug spray, sturdy walking shoes, and drinking water.
- Call leader before trip to confirm details.

Friday, October 1

"Deep Ocean Exploration" Dr. Barbara-Anne Battelle. "Alvin" study how animals use their visual senses in places where light does not penetrate. GTM Research Reserve Environmental Education Center Brown Bag Lunch Lecture. Noon. Admission to EEC: Adults \$2, Children 10-17 \$1. 505 Guana River Road, Ponte Vedra Beach. (A1A, 8 miles north of Vilano Beach/St. Augustine) 904-823-4500.

Saturday, October 2

West Volusia Audubon field trip. Washington Oaks, Look for migrating warblers and shore birds. Moderate walking. Bring lunch. Contact: Harry Robinson 943-8342 or www.westvolusiaaudubon.org. (A1A north of Flagler Beach, south of Marineland.)

Sunday, October 3

Halifax River Audubon Field Trip. Dunlawton Bridge, Port Orange. Meet at 5:00pm under bridge. Led by David Hartgrove, 788-2630. (1)

Thursday, October 7

Flagler Audubon Society Chapter Meeting. "Birding Around Daytona" Ray Scory. Meet in Room A or B, Florida Hospital Flagler, Palm Coast, 6:30pm. (I-95, then west on SR-100).

Friday, October 8

Halifax River Audubon Field Trip. Guana River State Park. Meet at 7:00am. Publix parking lot, Granada & Williamson Blvds., Ormond Beach. Led by John Roessler, 212-6957. Bring lunch. (3). (Park is on A1A 8 miles north of Vilano Beach/St. Augustine. 505 Guana River Road, Ponte Vedra Beach in. St. Johns Co.)

Friday, October 8 – November 12

Freshwater Wetlands Master Naturalist Program. See www.masternaturalist.org to register or for more information.

Saturday, October 9

"Youth Birding Festival" at Faver-Dykes State Park for ages 8 to 15. 9:00am-Noon. Registration is required by October 1st. Fee: \$20. Contact park for more information at 904-794-0997. 1000 Faver-Dykes Rd., St. Augustine. (Exit I-95 at #298 (US1). Go north 300 yards, right on Faver-Dykes Rd. Go 1.5 mile to Park.)

Saturday, October 9

ARK Wildlife Rescue & Education Center workshop. "Wildlife Photography" Marylou Weiner, WVAS. 10:00am at Center, 441 S. Woodland Blvd., DeLand. 386-738-2771. (SR-92 (ISB) to Deland, south on SR-17 (S. Woodland Blvd.)

Saturday, October 9

Space Coast Audubon field trip. Family Fun Trip at Canaveral Locks. Bring the kids. See manatees, dolphins, sea turtles, and awesome birds. Scavenger hunt for kids. Benches, picnic tables. Easy walking 30 yards from smooth pavement. Meet at McDonalds on A1A in Cape Canaveral at 9:00am. Contact: Jason Frederick at 321-449-9678.

Saturday, October 9

Lake Woodruff NWR program. "Lessons Learned from Birds" Lynn Bowen. 10:00am at Refuge Center, 2046 Mud Lake Road, DeLeon Springs. (US-17 near DeLeon Springs. Following signs in DeLeon Springs, west one block to Grand Ave., south to Mud Lake Rd.. Refuge Headquarters and Park are on this road. 386-985-4673)

Saturday and Sunday, October 9 & 10

Flagler Audubon Society bird walk. Creekside Festival in Princess Place. 10:00am. (from I-95, exit #298 south on US-1 (back under I-95) for a mile, then turn left on Old Kings Rd., follow it back over I-95. Turn left on Princess Place Rd., follow it to 2500 Princess Place Rd.) 386-313-4020.

Sunday, October 10

The BIG SIT. See article in September *Pelican*. More information at link to The BIG SIT on our website www.halifaxriveras.org.

Friday, October 15

Deadline for registration for Bird Watching Class. Mail \$25.00 donation to Halifax River Audubon, P.O. Box 166, Daytona Beach FL 32115-0166. Class is limited to 24 persons; sign up early to Paula Wehr, 386-673-5332 or paulawehr@cfl.rr.com.

Friday, October 15

Space Coast Audubon chapter meeting. TBA. Watch <http://www.SpaceCoastAudubon.org> for update.

Saturday, October 16

West Volusia Audubon field trip. Merritt Island NWR all day trip. Bring lunch and snacks. Contact Harry Robinson in Deland at www.westvolusiaaudubon.org or 943-8342. (I-95 south to exit #220 Titusville, SR-406, east on Garden St. 4 miles, go over Max Brewer Causeway Bridge. Refuge begins at the east side of the causeway.)

Monday, October 18

Halifax River Audubon Chapter Meeting. See article.

Tuesday, October 19

"Wrap-up of Sea Turtle Season" Scott Eastman, GTM Research Reserve Biologist. 10-11am at Marineland, Reservations required. (A1A north. 9741 Ocean Shore Blvd, St. Augustine.) 904-823-4500.

Wednesday, October 20

Southeast Volusia Audubon chapter meeting. "Gardening with Native Plants" Lisa Roberts. Florida Wildflower Foundation. Edgewater Library. (US-1 and Indian River Blvd). 7:00pm.

Friday and Saturday, October 22-23

2010 Audubon Assembly. "Protecting Florida's Resilient Coasts and Special Places" Carillon Hilton Hotel, St. Petersburg. Contact: 305-371-6399 ext 122, or www.audubonoffloridanews.org

Friday, October 22

Bird Watching Class by HRA. Meet at Port Orange Public Library Auditorium, 1005 City Center Circle, Port Orange. 9:30 to 11:30 am. Registration required.

Friday, October 22

Halifax River Audubon Field Trip. Princess Place. (Flagler Co.) Meet at 7:30am at Publix parking lot, Granada & Williamson Blvds., Ormond Beach. Led by David Hartgrove, 788-2630. Bring lunch (2). (from I-95, exit #298 south on US-1 (back under I-95) for a mile, then turn left on Old Kings Rd., follow it back over I-95. Turn left on Princess Place Rd., follow it to 2500 Princess Place Rd. 386-313-4020.)

Saturday, October 23

Flagler Audubon Society Field Trip. Marine Discover guided boat tour. Sails from Marine Discovery Center, south of North Causeway, New Smyrna Beach. Boat sails at 10:00am. Cost \$14.

Saturday, October 23

"Oceanwise: an Evening for the Estuaries". GTM Reserve. Contact Janet.Zimmerman@dep.state.fl.us or 904-823-4500.

Tuesday, October 26

Bird Watching Class field trip. Meet under Dunlawton Bridge, Port Orange. 8:00am.

Tuesday, October 26

West Volusia Audubon program meeting. "Gopher Tortoises" Danielle Dangleman. Woman's Club of DeLand, 128 W. Michigan Ave. 6:30pm mix and mingle. 7:00pm meeting, program, refreshments. (I-92 to DeLand, then SR-17 south to area around Stetson U. then west (right) to 128 W. Michigan Ave. 386-734-8387.)

Friday, October 29

Bird Watching Class by Halifax River Audubon. Meet at Port Orange Public Library Auditorium, 1005 City Center Circle, Port Orange. 9:30 to 11:30 am. Registration required.

BIRD INFORMATION AND WEB SITES

Injured birds - Mary Keller Rehab Center at the Marine Science Center, Ponce Inlet
Chris Wise 304-5545 chriswise@co.volusia.fl.us
Gina Holt 386-299-5890 hunt4gloria@hotmail.com

Bird Identification

David Hartgrove 788-2630 birdman9@earthlink.net

Birds of Prey Center Maitland, FL 407-644-0190

Halifax River Audubon www.halifaxriveras.org

Florida Rare Bird Alert

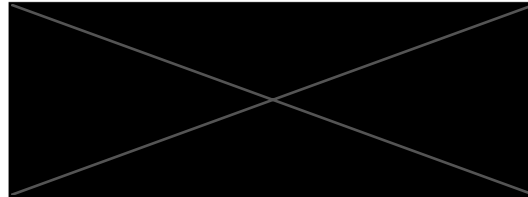
<http://listserve.admin.usf.edu/archives/frba.html>

THE PELICAN

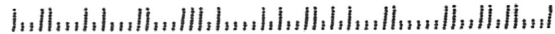


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OCTOBER 2010

President and Board

David Hartgrove	President	788-2630	birdman9@earthlink.net
	Conservation Ch.		
Paula Wehr	Vice President	673-5332	paulawehr@cfl.rr.com
Elizabeth Abrams	Vice President	299-4727	
Rachel Ramsey	Treasurer	673-1037	gmamimi@cfl.rr.com
	Ways and Means		
Peggy Yokubonus	Recording Secretary	673-7619	yokubonus@bellsouth.net
Karen Mosher	Corresponding Secretary	322-3790	frederickmosher@att.net
John Carr	Membership Secretary	255-9360	jcarr14@juno.com
	Historian, Publication Ch.		
John Roessler	Past President	255-9826	birdman3651@bellsouth.net
Marion Monaghan	At-Large Class of 2011	760-2747	nautilus411@aol.com
Becky Tate	At-Large Class of 2011	677-5255	tatebm@aol.com
Karen Mosher	At-Large Class of 2012	322-3790	frederickmosher@att.net
Holly Zwart-Duryea	At-Large Class of 2012	672-8788	hollis1000@aol.com
Willie Burns	At-Large Class of 2013	253-2150	wwillie@juno.com
Meret Wilson	At-Large Class of 2013	672-2625	mileybug@aol.com
Marion Monaghan	Co-Education Ch.	760-2747	nautilus411@aol.com
Becky Tate	Co-Education Ch.	677-5255	tatebm@aol.com
Chuck Tague	Co-Field Trip Ch	412-841-8813	kingrail@mac.com
Joan Tague	Co-Field Trip Ch	253-6611	
Open	Hospitality Ch.		
Paula Wehr	Webmaster	673-5332	paulawehr@cfl.rr.com
Fran Carr	Newsletter Editor	255-9360	franniep@juno.com
Geri Arbogast	Membership Recruitment and Retention	761-2283	arbofish@att.net
Celine Sullivan	Membership Recruitment and Retention	257-1980	celinesul@aol.com

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HALIFAX COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB

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Thank you

For support of our 2010 activities

For Your Information – All articles for *The Pelican* should be sent to Fran Carr, 359 Brookline Ave., Daytona Beach, 32118. Articles for publication in next month's issue must be received by the third Monday of the month.

Chapter Meetings – Meetings are held the Third Monday of each month, March through June at Sica Hall, Holly Hill, 1065 Daytona Ave., at 6:30 p.m. Members and Guests welcome! Board meets at City Island Library at 105 E. Magnolia Ave., Daytona Beach, at 1:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month. All are welcome. See Calendar for dates and time.

THE PELICAN

"We need to be the stewards of this natural world, not its destroyers!"



VOL. 56 - NO. 5

NEWSLETTER OF HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON

NOVEMBER 2010

CONSERVATION NOTES

David Hartgrove

I have written in this space before about the amazing migration patterns of Red Knots. Now comes even more proof of the incredible feats this tiny bird performs annually. In May, 2009 43 Red Knots were trapped and banded along the Delaware shore as they fattened up for the last leg of their journey to the Canadian Arctic to breed. Along with the bands they were fitted with tiny, sun sensitive geolocators.

This past May, 3 of those same birds were recaptured and the geolocators retrieved. To the amazement of the researchers, the data recorded by one of the devices showed that the bird's flight path was straight across the Amazon from southern Brazil, across a wide swath of the Atlantic and Caribbean and finally to the coast of North Carolina. The data also showed that he flew non stop for 6 days and nights in order to cover that 5,000+ miles. The recorder also showed that this same bird flew non stop for 8 days to cover a distance of 3,167 miles on its southbound migration in the late summer of 2009. For a bird that weighs just 6 ounces these are phenomenal numbers. We only see Red Knots here as they migrate through our area. The next time you see a group of these birds feeding along the surf line, ponder for a moment how far they may have just flown.

...

In spite of the best efforts of the PR flacks touting the capping of BP's oil well in the Gulf of Mexico as a case of all things returning to normal, oil continues to wash ashore and to ooze up through the sands along those glistening white beaches. In addition, there are at least 2 large plumes of oil/dispersant mixture trapped several hundred feet deep out in the Gulf. One of these is 22 miles long and 6 miles wide! The other has yet to be accurately measured. At some point this stuff will find its way ashore. We will be dealing with this situation for decades to come

...

No doubt there are some readers who feel as I do that you can never have too many birding field guides. Well there's a new one just out designed to tempt us with new photos and helpful information. Donald and Lillian Stokes (who will be keynote speakers at the upcoming Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival) already published a field guide some years ago. Now they have a new one out that covers 854 species with

over 3,400 photos. At nearly 3 pounds this may not be something you'll want to tote around with you while hiking. But as an extra resource back in the car it could be just the ticket to help you identify that immature Herring Gull or Pectoral Sandpiper.

...

Finally, when I attended the recent Florida Ornithological Society Fall Conference in Tallahassee I learned that we will soon be launching a new Breeding Bird Atlas project. For those of you who were around for the last BBA, in the late 1980's, this will be a new approach. Then we turned in small data cards. Now you'll be entering the count information directly online. This project is still in the tentative phases of organization. I doubt we'll actually start observations until 2012. But this is an exciting opportunity to contribute to a citizen science project with a long and storied history. We'll keep you posted as to new developments.

AUDUBON ADVENTURES

The start of the school year means we are now soliciting sponsors for the classroom sets of Audubon Adventures. If you have been a sponsor in the past you know how important this program is to Volusia County students. For some children it's the first exposure to learning about the environment, wild birds, and other animals. Who knows? In one of the classrooms you sponsor there may be a future ornithologist who one day may say, "I became interested in birds back in elementary school from a publication called *Audubon Adventures*."

The Audubon Adventures program is aimed at third, fourth and fifth grade classrooms. Each sponsored class receives four sets of newsletter with materials for 32 students in each set. They are filled with information and learning activities. There is also a teacher's manual with support ideas, activities, and evaluations.

Send your donation to Halifax River Audubon, P.O. Box 166, Daytona Beach FL 32115-0166. Any donation is welcome; \$45 will supply a classroom. Please specify on your check that your donation is for Audubon Adventures.

THE 2010 FALL MIGRATION COUNT FOR VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

David Hartgrove

It was just a tad cooler the morning of September 18th when we met at the City Island Court House for the Fall Migration Count. Some of us had already been out for several hours counting owls in the dark by listening for their calls. Meret Wilson's team alone had 24 Eastern Screech Owls in the Tomoka State Park area. The folks from the West Volusia Audubon Society's owling team had 3 more for a total of 27 counted that day.

In all, 139 species were seen by teams from all three Audubon chapters in Volusia County. That totals out to 24,759 birds. This includes 8,568 Laughing Gulls, 2,069 European Starlings, 1,160 Brown Pelicans, 22 Bald Eagles, 175 Ruddy Turnstones, 22 Clapper Rails, 5 Common Ground Doves, 47 Red-headed Woodpeckers (in DeLand), 197 Carolina Wrens, 7 Prairie Warblers and 2 White-tailed Tropicbirds.

These last two were an extra treat. These are pelagic birds that are almost never seen near shore. Don Picard was standing on the boardwalk at parking lot #4 in Canaveral National Seashore when the birds flew into view with their long, streamer like tails.

In the past we've printed the entire totals for all of the counts in which we participate. At our most recent board meeting we decided that since we also put this information on our website, we're going to suspend publishing it in the *Pelican*. We came to this decision after extended debate. We are after all a scientific organization. However, the realities of budget and use of resources has to factor in too. So if you're interested in seeing the total results of this count and how they relate to earlier counts, check out our website: www.halifaxriveras.org and click on the "Bird Counts" link at the top of the page.

We will continue to thank the volunteers who spend long hours out in the elements by publishing their names in the *Pelican*. As county compiler for both the Spring and Fall Migration Counts I extend my heartfelt thanks to all of them for their time and dedication to our mission of citizen science. Here they are: Elizabeth Abrams, Daria Bern, Lynn Bowen, Chandra Bruce, Roger Cutler, Gail Domroski, Richard Domroski, David Hartgrove, J V Hayes, Randy Hitchcock, Roger Hoefler, Karyn Hoffman, Bill Horton, Ken Hunter, Patsy Hunter, Cheryl Johnson, Faith Jones, Jim Jones, Barbara Kieran, Bettye Leidigh, Betty Mager, Bill Mager, Janet Marks, Fern Murphy, Sheldon Murphy, Laura Ostapko, Sylva Parrillo, Ken Park, John Park, Don Picard, John Pierce, Vivienne Powis, Rachel Ramsey, Ralph Risch, Harry Robinson, John Roessler, Jane Rogers, David Stock, James Stock, Mark Strawn, Steve Strawn, Becky Tate, Sara Taylor, Meret Wilson, Peggy Yokubonus.

"I HOPE YOU LOVE BIRDS TOO. IT IS ECONOMICAL. IT SAVES GOING TO HEAVEN."

~EMILY DICKINSON - US POET (1830 - 1886)

Welcome to new Members are Martha Beachell, Susie Bennett, John Beres, Roberta Bowling, Anne Catinna, Don Christian, Bernadette Ciastko, Carol German, Barbara Harrison, Gordon Hart, Helen Hartnett, Ruth Kent, Janet Kesel, Marti King, Maurice Lamee, Fred Lloyd, Marjory Monat, Jean Morris, John Norton, Brett Sampson, Kenneth B. Sipes, Sue Smith, Sue Vogel. We look forward to meeting you soon at our monthly program meetings and field trips.

November Chapter Program Meeting

BIRDING ARIZONA: MORE THAN JUST TROGONS AND HUMMERS

Anyone who has been birding very long soon hears how fabulous Arizona's birds are, and "You really must go to Southeast Arizona." True enough, but there's much, much more.

Frank Brandt, who lived in Flagstaff for 16 years and presented a program last year on the birds of Chile, will explain why Arizona's birds are so interesting and diverse, just like the state itself. He and his wife, Linda, co-authored a book, "Finding Birds in the Flagstaff Area" (it also includes the South Rim of the Grand Canyon and Navajo and Hopi Reservations). Their home for years in Flagstaff was at a 7,100 feet elevation had a list of 100 plus species. Of course it included few eastern birds and no shorebirds, waders or ducks.

Frank will give a quick survey of this land-locked, desert state illustrating how geography, topography, climate and vegetation result in such diverse avian life and with a state list of 523 species compared to Florida's total of 481.

Why does it have the highest population of Peregrine Falcons of any state in the lower 48? What are "sky islands" and how the heck do you get a "Hudsonian Life Zone" in a desert state? What are California Condors doing at the Grand Canyon? Where are the best places to go birding and when? Frank will use ample slides of his own and others to present an overview of the state and its birds.

Join us at Sica Hall, 1065 Daytona Avenue, Holly Hill at 6:30 p.m. for light refreshments. Frank Brandt will begin his presentation at 7:00 p.m.

BIRD INFORMATION AND WEB SITES

Injured birds – Mary Keller Rehab Center at the Marine Science Center, Ponce Inlet

Chris Wise 304-5545

chriswise@co.volusia.fl.us

Gina Holt 386-299-5890 hunt4gloria@hotmail.com

Bird Identification

David Hartgrove 788-2630 birdman9@earthlink.net

Birds of Prey Center Maitland, FL 407-644-0190

Halifax River Audubon www.halifaxriveras.org

Florida Rare Bird Alert

<http://listserve.admin.usf.edu/archives/frba.html>

THE BIG SIT 2010

Ray Scory

The **Big Sit** is a birding adventure in a 17-foot circle. Where the circle is placed is your choice. Put it anywhere you want and watch birds during a 24-hour period. You then count the bird species that you hear and see from that 17-foot circle.

My circle is on the northwest side of the river under the Dunlawton Bridge. I generally get to the bridge around 6:15 in the morning. This gives me at least an hour of darkness sitting under the bridge. Night-Herons are active and, at times, a Great Egret or a Great Blue Heron flies by. People fishing are silhouetted dramatically against the increasing glow of an impending sunrise. Then - daybreak. It explodes from the night; a new day has begun and life under-the-bridge is active.



Thousands of bird, mostly White Ibis, burst from "Bird" Island. Lumbering Brown Pelicans rise from the island to begin their sail back and forth along our beaches. If the tide is down, oyster bars surrounding the bridge will be covered with hundreds of Laughing Gulls and many Brown Pelicans, Caspian Terns, American Oystercatchers and a handful of Black-bellied Plovers. For that special birding treat an uncommon bird may appear, possibly an American Avocet.

The birding highlight of the day happened at midday when I observed a Northern Harrier flying north just above the Halifax River, and following close behind was a stunning Roseate Spoonbill.

It is good when you have someone with you for the count. I enjoy having people stopping by and sitting for a while, explaining to them just what I'm doing. Boats going by. A cool breeze. Super Autumn Florida weather. Sitting by a beautiful river. Spending 8 hours in the circle and counting 36 different species of birds. A very good day.

The Big Sit is held the second Sunday of every October. Ray Scory has been sitting The Big Sit since it started 15 years ago by The New Haven Bird Club in Connecticut. Today they partner with Bird Watcher's Digest. Please go to their website, www.birdwatchersdigest.com to see the results of this year and read more of the history of The Big Sit.

NOVEMBER 2010 CALENDAR

Tuesday, November 2

Bird Watching Class field trip. Meet at Spruce Creek Park, Port Orange. 8:00am.

Tuesday, November 9

Bird Watching Class field trip. Meet at Visitor's Center, Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, at 7:00am.

Saturday, November 13

"Wings on the Wind" Migratory Bird Festival" at Marine Science Center, Ponce Inlet. 10:00am-3:00pm. Free. Live birds of prey demonstrations, lectures, information booths, and children's activities. 3:00pm release of rehabbed birds(s) at Lighthouse Point Park, Ponce Inlet. Call 386-304-5545.

Saturday, November 13

Native Plant Society. Annual garden sale at Museum of Arts and Science, Nova Road. 10:00am -3:00pm.

Saturday, November 13

Lake Woodruff NWF program. "Wading Birds" Chuck Tague. 10:00am. Refuge Center, 2046 Mud Lake Rd., DeLeon Springs. (Take ISB to DeLand, US-17 north 7 miles near DeLeon Springs, west to Grand Ave., south about 3 blocks Mud Lake Road. 386-985-4673.)

Sunday, November 14

Pelagic Birding Trip. The Pastime Princess, 100-ft boat (<http://www.pastimeprincess.com>). Depart 6:00am (5:45 deadline to be ON BOAT), return 6:00pm. Leaves dock beside the Dolphin View Restaurant on Riverside Drive, downtown New Smyrna Beach (386-427-5393). Cost: \$125/person. To sign up contact Michael Brothers at mbrothers@co.volusia.fl.us or 385-304-32127. Bring warm clothes, rain gear, seasick meds, sunscreen. Bring food or buy breakfast and lunch on board. Send check payable to "The Friends of the Marine Science Center" at 100 Lighthouse Drive, Ponce Inlet, FL 32127.

Monday, November 15

Halifax River Audubon Chapter Meeting. "Birds of Arizona: A General Survey" by Frank Brandt. See article. Meet at Sica Hall, 1065 Daytona Ave., Holly Hill. Refreshments at 6:30pm; program at 7:00pm.

Friday, November 19

Halifax River Audubon Field Trip. Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge. (Volusia Co) Meet at 7:00am. International Square east of I-95 behind Krystal Drive in Daytona Beach. Led by Chuck and Joan Tague, 412-841-8813. Take ISB to DeLand, US-17 north 7 miles towards DeLeon Springs, west to Grand Ave., south about 3 blocks to Mud Lake Rd. 386-985-4673. Bring lunch. (1)

Sunday, November 28

"Christmas at the Gardens" Sugar Mill Gardens Herbert Street, South Daytona. Noon-4:00pm.

NOTICE Change to Bird Banding Schedule:

Board member and bander Meret Wilson will band birds at Tomoka State Park through the end of November. South side on Sundays. Helicopter Island on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

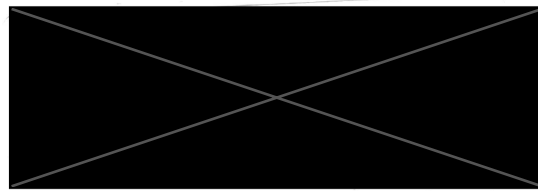
Needed for Banding Station: Old metal stakes used for setting up tents. Bent up is okay. Stores carry only plastic type which she can't use.

THE PELICAN

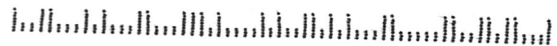


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NOVEMBER 2010

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Rachel Ramsey	Treasurer	673-1037	gmamimi@cfl.rr.com
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John Carr	Membership Secretary	255-9360	jcarr14@juno.com
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HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON
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Thank you

For support of our 2010 activities

For Your Information – All articles for *The Pelican* should be sent to Fran Carr, 359 Brookline Ave., Daytona Beach 32118. Articles for publication in next month's issue must be received by the third Monday of the month.

Chapter Meetings – Meetings are held the Third Monday of each month, March through June at Sica Hall, Holly Hill, 1066 Daytona Ave., at 6:30 p.m. Members and Guests welcome. Board meets at City Island Library at 105 E. Magnolia Ave. Daytona Beach, at 1:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month. All are welcome. See Calendar for dates and time.

THE PELICAN

"We need to be the stewards of this natural world, not its destroyers!"



VOL. 56 - NO. 6

NEWSLETTER OF HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON

DECEMBER 2010

CONSERVATION NOTES

David Hartgrove

Well, the election is over and the people have spoken. The vote on Amendment 4 was an overwhelming defeat. This was the amendment sponsored by the Florida Hometown Democracy group which would have required that all changes to Comprehensive Growth Management Plans be approved by the voters. The outright lies and obfuscation shown by the amendment's opponents were well funded. They spent 16 million dollars to prevent us from having a say in our future.

Some of that money came from your pocket, in the form of the taxes we all pay. In spite of all of the crocodile tears and angry words we've heard about the stimulus package passed by the Congress, when corporate America saw the money being doled out they were first in line. Yes, General Motors and the other auto manufacturers got the lion's share. But there was plenty left over for the development industry.

Lennar Homes received over 250 million and donated \$367,000 to keep us from having a vote. Pulte Homes received 800 million. They sent in \$567,000. KB Homes got nearly 192 million and donated \$255,000. We know these facts because of campaign finance laws (lax though they are) and financial reports to the Congressional Budget Office.

For those of you keeping score that's nearly \$3.70 for every person who voted, including those of us who voted for the amendment. So there's no way a grass roots group can hope to compete with that kind of opposition. It doesn't mean we weren't right.

....

All too often we see science trumped by politics in the public arena. Once in a while we see a success though. The reintroduction of wolves into the Yellowstone ecosystem has been a resounding success on a number of levels. The main one being water.

When wolves were extirpated from Yellowstone in the early 1900's, all kinds of unintended consequences set in. No wolves meant less water in the form of wetlands and streams. When wolves disappeared, the elk population exploded. The Elk settled down on the stream banks where the grass was green. They ate all of the grass and moved onto the willow and aspen seedlings. Beavers utilize willows for both food and building materials, so fewer willows meant fewer beavers. They weren't out there building dams, impounding water and enriching the

soil. The birds and other animals that depended on healthy wetlands began to decline too.

In 1995-96, when the wolves were reintroduced into Yellowstone National Park, there was just one beaver dam in the whole park. Today there are 12, and they're busy building dams and creating wetlands.



Of course, one of the main problems with any species of wildlife we try to control is their habit of straying from where we put them. The 66 Canadian wolves that were released into

Yellowstone and the Idaho wilderness have now expanded to over 1,700. Now there are cries all over the west to again exterminate the wolves.

Wolves feed on elk and that makes the elk, which had evolved for nearly 100 years without wolves, suddenly very wary and harder to hunt. The big game hunters who fly in with just 2 days to bag an elk aren't happy if they have to fly back home empty handed. A whole industry arose around those dumber, fatter elk that were so much easier to hunt.

In addition, wolves occasionally eat a cow or a calf. About 1% of the cattle losses in the northern Rockies is caused by wolves. And the ranchers are compensated by the government and by wolf conservation organizations for each loss. But wolves are a source of profound fear in humans. So wolf populations are under serious threat, even though they were just re-listed under the Endangered Species Act.

Will science continue to prevail in the argument over the benefits of wolves in the ecosystem? The story is being written now. We'll have to wait to see how it comes out.

NOVEMBER 2010 BOARD MEETING

- Checking account \$1876.63 includes FPL donation of \$1400. A thank-you letter was sent to FPL.
- Chapter membership is approximately 600.
- Golden Dog sales in October was \$271.19.
- Audubon Adventure kits are ordered.
- Board moved that Stepping Stone \$1 raffle tickets sales shall start at November meeting.
- Board moved that December meeting will include a potluck dinner.

WHY MELTING ICEBERGS MATTER TO FLORIDA

Lee Bidgood., Jr., special to
The Gainesville Sun, 09-27-2010

Former House Majority Leader Dick Armev testified before Republican Congressional members that manmade climate change is no threat because God would never allow mankind to destroy His creation.

Armev's argument might comfort some people, but he failed to say that if God were concerned about mankind destroying creation, He could simple eliminate mankind.

I think we are risking eliminating ourselves without the Almighty's help.

Meanwhile Florida could become a national sacrifice to worsening climate change.

The first eight month of this year tied the record high global temperature set in 1998, as the Arctic continues warming at twice the global rate. The greatest Arctic menace to Florida is 624,000 cubic miles of ice atop Greenland where melting is accelerating. Recently a giant ice cube the size of Manhattan broke off a glacier in northwest Greenland and may threaten shipping in northern seas.

I have difficulty visualizing 624,000 cubic miles of ice, but can imagine an enormous island the area of all 26 states east of the Mississippi and 80 percent covered with ice averaging over a mile thick. That's Greenland!

If that colossal ice sheet melts completely, it would raise sea level around 23 feet.

The West Antarctic ice cover is likewise thinning. Continued mountain glacier melting worldwide along with expanding warmer seas also raise sea level.

Even a 10 or 15 percent Greenland melt, with our usual destructive coastal storms, would destroy the economy and ecology of Florida's coastal counties where 77 percent of Floridians live and work. Without effective political action here, nationally and internationally, Florida after several millennia or even centuries could become a submerged memory.

Virtually all scientists have concluded that humans are responsible for increased greenhouse gas emissions that are raising global temperatures and destroying 8,000 years of climate stability that fostered our rise to global dominance. Recent wild weather and climate research strengthen those conclusions.

Research on Ellesmere Island northwest of Greenland indicates that atmospheric carbon dioxide greenhouse gas levels about four million years ago were only slightly higher than now, but Arctic temperatures were 34 degrees F warmer than now. These findings add to many scientists' concerns that we may soon reach a "tipping point" when Arctic melting becomes irreversible. Worldwide extreme weather should have erased any remaining doubts that we have destabilized our climate while overheating the planet with greenhouse gases.

Record Russian heat, drought, fires and smoke have killed thousands and halted exports of a severely damaged wheat crop. Luckily, most of Russia has cooled with welcome rain.

Unfortunately, tragic flood damage continues in Pakistan with thousands lost or starving and millions homeless. Devastating Chinese landslides and floods have killed thousands and destroyed countless homes. Heat, drought and floods have ravaged Africa.

In this nation, we have suffered record heat, drought and lethal floods in many different places, but are better able to cope with weather disasters than Russia, Pakistan, China or Africa.

Our nation should take prompt, drastic action to become a global renewable energy leader and require that we use energy far more efficiently. That would provide healthier air, less greenhouse gas emissions, increased energy independence and not least, far more jobs than the equivalent fossil fuel energy.

Florida could and should be preserved for our descendants.

Lee Bidgood, Jr. lives in Gainesville and is a member of South East Volusia Audubon Society.

THE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

David Hartgrove

As you may know, there are three CBC's held here in Volusia and one in Flagler. I hope you'll be looking to take a break from the hustle and bustle of the holiday to come out and help out with ours. The Daytona Beach count will be held on Saturday, December 26.

We'll meet in the Publix parking lot on the corner of Granada Blvd. (SR 40) and Williamson Blvd. at 7:00 a.m. Dinner will follow at the Royal Dynasty Chinese Restaurant in that same shopping center where we'll exchange bird stories and collect the data sheets.

Please contact me if you're going to attend. It makes planning so much easier. As always, we can make arrangements if you can't make the whole day.

There are three other CBC's to participate in locally and the compilers could certainly use your help on those if you're so inclined.

- The Flagler CBC will be held on Friday, December 17. Contact Walt Mahler, 386-313-6095 or by e-mail, walter.mahler@gmail.com.
- The West Volusia CBC will be held on Saturday, December 18. Contact David Stock, 386-736-1893, dstock@stetson.edu or Harry Robinson, 386-943-8342, sirharrydeland@gmail.com.
- The Ponce Inlet CBC will be held on Sunday, January 2. Contact Gail Domroski, 386-428-0447, rdomroski@cfl.rr.com.

Please come out and join us on one or all, but especially ours.

Have a great holiday!

OBSERVING AND UNDERSTANDING WATER FOWL

From November to March, Halifax River Audubon birders live for waterfowl. We scan the huge duck aggregations at Black Point Wildlife Drive for the handful of Gadwalls or a stray Eurasian Wigeon. We check the river and lagoons for diving ducks and scrutinize the Atlantic for migrating flocks of mergansers, scaups, scoters or maybe an eider. We glance at every retention pond for geese or swans and flock to Viera on the rumor of a tropical stiff-tail. Yet we only get a brief glimpse into the lives of this diverse order of birds.



Photo by Jerry Kerschner

Chuck Tague is the creator and author of The Nature Observer's Journal and HRA member. He will explore North America's ducks, geese and swans, their diverse life style and unique adaptations.

Join us on Monday evening, December 20, at Sica Hall, 1065 Daytona Avenue, Holly Hill at 6:30 p.m. for a potluck dinner followed by our speaker at 7:30 p.m.

.....

On Friday, January 4, 2011, Chuck and his wife Joan will lead a follow-up field trip to observe waterfowl at Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge.

Welcome to new members Nancy Aguilar, Kathy Angel, Frank Cushman, Elizabeth Epling, Korin Ferris, Ted Frank, Donald Fulford, Bernie Grandy, Edward M. Gervase, Jerry Guthrie, Denise Hourihan, David Hughes, Rebecca Montgomery, Patricia A. Page, Barbara Platt, and Jill Rotne. We look forward to meeting you soon at our monthly program meetings and field trips.



HO! HO! HO! ... or rather YUM! YUM! YUM!

HOLIDAY DINNER

You won't want to miss the fun, food, and fellowship at our annual holiday meeting on Monday, December 20. We will start arriving at 6:30 and start eating at 6:40.

A very generous donor is providing the entree, so we are asking members to bring a SALAD, VEGETABLE, OR DESSERT.

AN ELECTRONIC PELICAN?

David Hartgrove

There are any number of reasons for switching to an online distribution of the Pelican.

There would be significant savings to the Chapter since the printing and mailing of this newsletter is our biggest monthly expense.

In addition, as a conservation organization we should be cognizant of the fact that printing 600+ copies of a newsletter every month and mailing them carries a variety of environmental costs. Back long ago, when our predecessors began publishing *The Pelican*, printing and mailing was the only option available. Now, with nearly everyone in our membership having a computer and internet access, an electronic version of *The Pelican* could be published and sent to everyone for free.

The Board will be discussing this option at our next meeting, December 6th. We'll keep you advised of developments on this issue.

BIRD INFORMATION AND WEB SITES

Injured birds - Mary Keller Rehab Center at the Marine Science Center, Ponce Inlet

Chris Wise 304-5545 chriswise@co.volusia.fl.us

Gina Holt 386-299-5890 hunt4gloria@hotmail.com

Bird Identification

David Hartgrove 788-2630 birdman9@earthlink.net

Birds of Prey Center Maitland, FL 407-644-0190

Halifax River Audubon www.halifaxriveras.org

Florida Rare Bird Alert

<http://listserve.admin.usf.edu/archives/frba.html>

NOT A ZERO DAY

Meret Wilson, Bird Bander at Tomoka State Park

Joe and Judie Dziak of Flagler Audubon come faithfully every Monday and Thursday from Palm Coast. Along with me, in this very slow fall banding season, they watch the skies for interesting flyovers. We walk a bit checking nets, read a bit, and occasionally band a bird. We always gloat that, if we get just one bird, even a very common cardinal or wren, we are NOT A ZERO DAY.

On Monday, October 25, we were having just one of those days. Very little activity except an occasional flyover of a Belted Kingfisher, Great Blue Heron, Peregrine Falcon and a Clapper Rail walking past us. Exciting but not what we were there for. A new employee at the park, Joanna Kasey, came by in her truck and visited for a moment and went on. It was time to check nets again. We were just getting up from our chairs when we heard Joanna yell, "There's a bird in the net back here!"

Was there ever! Never in my wildest dreams would I expect to catch this bird! For 7 years I have watched them fly high over the nets from the marsh side to Helicopter Island. I just knew that was one bird I would never catch. Too smart, too high, too sure. Until a hatch year female miscalculated the passage way and flew right smack into the net. What was in her mind we can't tell but the net she flew into made no sense since she would have had to go through trees and brush the route she was on. I think this was one time the net was a good thing! There, dangling in the pocket 2 tiers up was a young female BELTED KINGFISHER!

Getting her out of the net was the easy part. The first thing she did with her very long and sharp bill was poke a large hole through the bird bag. Getting her out of the bag wasn't difficult using the bander's grip. And then! She wanted to stab me with that beak so badly. Holding her and trying to band and measure her was harder than doing the Pileated Woodpecker in the spring of 2009 by myself. Thanks to Joe, who grabbed her beak, I was able to get all my data and a band on her.

This female Belted Kingfisher weighed 136 grams. Her right wing measured 156 centimeters. Her feather pattern for her rufus belt was incomplete and her upper blue "belt" was a mix of white, blue and rufus feathers. Everything fit the bander's bird ID descriptions by Peter Pyle. One of the amazing things was the feathers around the eyes, a kind of checkerboard pattern of white and blue. The beak actually was very long, pointed and sharp and had tiny saw-like projections along the edges of the upper and lower mandible for holding on to the fish it caught. But she was just gorgeous and we couldn't stop exclaiming the whole rest of the morning.

We went on to catch our first of the fall season Myrtle Warblers (yellow-rumps), a House Wren, a White-eyed Vireo, and a Northern Cardinal. We left for the day still floating on Cloud Nine (we still are) and all agreed

that this day not only met the criteria, it far surpassed a NOT A ZERO DAY!

Editor: Meret stopped banding November 22 for the winter. She will announce the spring startup date in the February issue of The Pelican.



2010 - 2011 CALENDAR

Information for Halifax River Audubon Field Trips

- Trip difficulty ratings. (1) Easy or no walking. (2) Walking <1 mile - flat terrain. (3) 1+ mile walking and/or uneven terrain.
- Equipment: Binoculars, hat, sunscreen, bug spray, sturdy walking shoes, and drinking water.
- Call leader before trip to confirm details.

Thursday, December 2

Flagler Audubon Society Chapter Meeting. Annual holiday dinner, member's photos and tales. Meet in Room A or B, Florida Hospital Flagler, Palm Coast (I-95 west on SR-100). 6:30pm.

Friday, December 3

Halifax River Audubon Field Trip. Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. (Brevard Co.) Meet at 7:00am. Lowes Parking lot, Dunlawton Ave., Port Orange, east of I-95. Led by Chuck and Joan Tague, 412-841-8813. Bring lunch. (1)

Saturday, December 4

Flagler Audubon Society Bird Walk. Identifying shorebirds at River to Sea Preserve. 8:00am.

Saturday, December 4

West Volusia Audubon field trip. Merritt Island NWR. Contact Harry Robinson at 386-943-8342 or sirharrydeland@gmail.com.

Saturday, December 4

Lake Woodruff NWR program. "Birds in Our Area" David Hartgrove. 10:00am at Refuge Center, 2046 Mud Lake Road, DeLeon Springs.

Wednesday, December 15

Southeast Volusia Audubon chapter meeting. "Ospreys at Pelican Island" Bob Montanaro. Edgewater Library, US-1 and Indian River Blvd. 7:00pm.

Friday, December 17

Halifax River Audubon Field Trip. Tomoka State Park. Ormond Beach. Meet at 8:00am at Park. Led by Peggy Yokubonus, 316-4085. Admission fee \$4. (2)

Sunday, December 19

Halifax River Audubon Field Trip. Dunlawton Bridge, Port Orange. Meet at 3:00pm under bridge. Led by Elizabeth Abrams, 299-4727. (1)

Monday, December 20

Halifax River Audubon Chapter Meeting. See articles on page 3.

Sunday, December 26

Halifax River Audubon Field Trip. Christmas Bird Count. Meet at 7:00am. Publix parking lot, Granada & Williamson Blvds., Ormond Beach. Led by David Hartgrove, 788-2630. Bring lunch. (3)

Sunday, January 2, 2011

111th Ponce Inlet Christmas Bird Count. Call Gail Domroski at 386-428-0447 if you can help.

RENEWING YOUR MEMBERSHIP

You may join National Audubon using the form below. Renewing your membership in National Audubon is handled by National Audubon. Our chapter does not renew National memberships.

Join or renew your Chapter-Only membership in Halifax River Audubon using the form below. (Your Pelican newsletter mailing label shows the month-day of your membership expiration date and the letters CO.)

APPLICATION TO JOIN

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

\$20.00/ year Introductory Rate. As a member of National Audubon you will receive bi-monthly issues of *AUDUBON* magazine, membership in **Audubon of Florida**, their publication *The Naturalist*, membership in **Halifax River Audubon, Inc.**, and our monthly newsletter *The Pelican*.

Name _____

Address _____

Apt _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Mail check made out to **National Audubon Society** and this form to John W. Carr, 359 Brookline Ave, Daytona Beach, FL 32118. **COZE410Z**

APPLICATION TO JOIN OR RENEW HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON, INC.

Chapter-Only dues are \$20.00/year.\$15.00/year for senior citizen or student. All your membership dues go to Halifax River Audubon. You will have full membership privileges and receive 12 issues of our newsletter *The Pelican*.

You will not receive the National Audubon Society bi-monthly magazine *Audubon*, nor will you receive *The Naturalist*, the publication of Audubon of Florida.

Name _____

Address _____

Apt _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email address _____

Mail check, made out to **Halifax River Audubon** with this form to John W. Carr, 359 Brookline Ave., Daytona Beach, FL 32118.

THE PELICAN

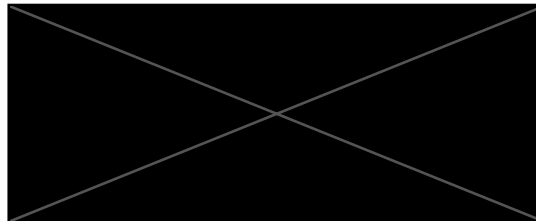


HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON

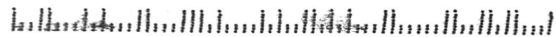
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DECEMBER 2010

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HALIFAX RIVER AUDUBON
appreciates the support of the newsletter
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In Recognition of David Hartgrove

HALIFAX COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB

ORMOND BEACH GARDEN CLUB

COLONY CLUB

Thank you

For support of our 2010 activities

For Your Information – All articles for *The Pelican* should be sent to Fran Carr, 359 Brookline Ave., Daytona Beach, 32118. Articles for publication in next month's issue must be received by the third Monday of the month.

Chapter Meetings – Meetings are held the Third Monday of each month, March through June at Sica Hall, Holly Hill, 1065 Daytona Ave., at 6:30 p.m. Members and Guests welcome! Board meets at City Island Library at 105 E. Magnolia Ave., Daytona Beach, at 1:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month. All are welcome. See Calendar for dates and time.