



# The Limpkin Call

Oklawaha Valley Audubon Society Volume XVIII No. 1 August – September 2002

## Message from the President

Elizabeth Ballard, OVAS President

Once again, welcome back for another year of good birding and interesting programs. We will continue to combine our meetings with Trout Lake Nature Center, three on Tuesdays and three on Sundays. Please check your program and make notes on your calendar. We will serve refreshments at 1:00 prior to the 1:30 meetings. Remember, guests are always welcome. I look forward to seeing you then.

Elizabeth

## Membership Options

Starting last Spring the Oklawaha Valley Audubon Society offers you a choice of membership plans.

**Local** — You may now join the Oklawaha Valley Audubon Society independent of other Audubon memberships. It is good for all local activities and newsletters. Annual cost is \$10 per household. Chapter membership lists will be submitted to NAS. You can start your Chapter membership by completing the form below and enclosing the membership fee. Please made a check out to OVAS and send it along with your application.

**National** — You may continue as a National Audubon Society member which includes OVAS and Audubon of Florida memberships, plus *Audubon* magazine. National's continuing annual membership fee is \$35 or \$15 for seniors 62 and above. The introductory National Audubon membership fee is \$20, \$15 seniors

Forms for either type of membership are available at Chapter meetings, on our web site or upon request.

## Lake Cleanup Ibini Tera

Saturday, Sept. 21, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. (noon).

The *Daily Commercial*, Florida Power, LCWA and the City of Leesberg are sponsoring a Lake Cleanup on Saturday, Sept. 21, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Start at one of 13 points, including Hickory Point Park (Little Lake Harris), Singeltary Park (Lake Harris), Herlong Park (Lake Griffin), Gilbert Park (Lake Dora), Tavares Recreational Park (Lake Harris), Lake Eustis Marina and Lake Griffin State Park. A BBQ celebration at Hickory Point Park will follow the pickup. Help our water birds enjoy a cleaner home. Call Carman Cullen at 365-8240 to volunteer.



## Audubon Adventures

Mary Anderson, Edu. Chr..

Vernita Nelson, Executive Director of Environmental Education for Audubon of Florida, and Marjorie Murray, dedicated 5th grade teacher, presented an OVAS workshop on the use of the Audubon Adventure kits to an interested group of Audubon members and teachers on Friday morning, July 26.

The workshop was part of the Lake Cty School Board academy prior to the opening of school each summer. Both Marjorie and Vernita did an excellent job of explaining the correlation of Audubon's material to the Sunshine State Standards creating enthusiasm for the application of Audubon Adventures in the classroom.

(This teacher training event was an effective means to expand the use of Audubon Adventures. Thanks go to Mary for creating the event and for obtaining a grant to cover its cost. – editor)

## Coming OVAS Events

Tuesday Oct. 22 , 1:30 p.m. – Regular Meeting: "How the District is Restoring Your Birds - Apopka and Emeraldal", Dr. Gian Basili & Mr. David Walker, St. Johns River Water Management District.

Thursday thru Saturday, Oct. 24-27 – Audubon Assembly (Annual Conference), Orlando Airport Marriott

Saturday November. 9, 8:00 a.m. – Field Trip to Hidden Waters Preserve, Leader Kathy Day, 383-4564

Sunday November 10, 11:30 p.m. – Regular Meeting: “Conserving Amphibians and Reptiles of the South-Eastern United States”, George Heinrich, Field Biologist and Naturalist.

Wednesday Nov. 20 9:00 a.m. – Field Trip on the Wekiva River Jungle Cruise. Call Ruth Duesing for reservations 323-1310

## OVAS Chapter Membership Form

Please print clearly

Person(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I (we) wish to join the OVAS for \$10 per year. Check is made to OVAS.

Please return check and this application to:

O.V.A.S. Treasurer

P.O. Box 641

Eustis FL 32727-0641

## Audubon Assembly 2002

### Creating a Culture of Conservation You Make the Difference

Audubon of Florida is holding its annual Assembly at the Orlando Airport Marriott Hotel on Oct. 24 thru 26, with extra field trips on Oct. 27th (Thursday thru Sunday). The Assembly is a conference to set the conservation priorities for 2003. There will be great speakers, workshops and birding field trips. Meet and greet Audubon people from all of Florida. A dinner and show at Disney's Animal Kingdom is included. Contact AoF at 305-371-6398 (Fax) or use the form at [www.audubonofflorida.org/leadership/assembly.htm](http://www.audubonofflorida.org/leadership/assembly.htm) Cost is \$95 until Sept. 8, thereafter \$125, includes all workshops plus all Friday and Saturday meals. Hotel reservations 407-851-9000, request \$99 Audubon rate.

## The Florida Scrub Jay Festival

### Sept. 28, 2002

The 2002 Florida Scrub Jay Festival will be held rain or shine, on Sept. 28, 2002 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm at Fox Lake Park in Titusville. Live music, free kayak and airboat rides, scrub habitat tours, educational displays and a native plant sale. Tickets are \$12.00. Directions: 1-95 to SR 50 east, left on SR 405, left on Fox Lake Rd to park. Contact Amy at [abmosher@earthlink.net](mailto:abmosher@earthlink.net), or Beverly at 321-631-4004.

## Q & A

### Q. What if a bird has fallen out of its nest?

**A:** Gently pick up the bird and place it in its nest. If you cannot find the nest, leave the young bird in a box or basket lined on the bottom with grasses, pine straw or moss. Place it out of reach of predators (cats, dogs) and let the parents continue to feed their young. Birds have a very poor sense of smell and will not abandon an egg or baby handled by humans. Over 75% of young wild birds "rescued" do not need help. Often, parents are nearby watching the young. Injured or orphaned birds may be taken to Uncle Donald's Farm, in Lady Lake FL. Birds of prey will be accepted at the Center for Birds of Prey in Maitland, (407) 644-0190.

**Oklawaha Valley Audubon Society, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 641  
Eustis FL 32727-0641

## Rodman Dam Update

Yvonne Rice, Conservation Chair

**Great News!** The U.S. Forest Service will now be in charge of that part of the Rodman Dam and Ocklawaha river reservoir that is in the Ocala National Forest. It is the stated intention of the Forest Service to remove the dam and drain the impoundment. Plus, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection has refused to sign the special permit that has allowed the state-owned portion of the dam and reservoir to continue to occupy part of the Ocala National Forest. This takes a third of the dam and about a square mile of the submerged forest out of state hands and politics. Although Gov. Bush and the three preceding governors have supported the removal of the dam, the legislators have refused to approve the necessary funds for removal. Much of the restoration on state-owned land will be along the original river channel and will be natural growth.



## New Bird Photographs

at [www.oklawaha-audubon.org](http://www.oklawaha-audubon.org)

The OVAS web site now has over 60 new bird photographs for your viewing pleasure. We thank Stan Boothby, Frank Miller, Bob Rogers and Peg

Urban for contributing these photos. They cover our 2002 field trips, water birds, field birds and scenes from our Overnight Trip to Brevard County. Also featured are flower, butterfly and moth photographs by Peg Urban. Last August 2, notice of these new photographs and an advanced listing of the 2002 Program was sent to all who have given the editor their email addresses. If you want to get your advance announcements, just send your email address to Frank Miller at [fmiller@eos.net](mailto:fmiller@eos.net).

### THE LIMPIN CALL

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