

# The Limpkin Call

is the newsletter of the Oklawaha Valley Audubon Society, a chapter of Audubon of Florida and the National Audubon Society and is a not-for-profit organization. Published four times a year. Circulation-850, PO Box 641, Eustis, Fl 32727-0641. [www.oklawaha-audubon.org](http://www.oklawaha-audubon.org)  
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## Coming Events

**November 29 Saturday- Field Trip to Blue Spring State Park (31 miles from Mt Dora)**

**Meet at 8:00am at Golden Triangle parking lot Mt Dora. Leader- Bruce Phillips 315 0593**

**December 6 Saturday-Christmas Picnic- We have run out of nearby birding spots, so this year we will just have our picnic. Meet at TLNC at 11:30am**

**December 13 Saturday- Theater Benefit- *FIDDLER ON THE ROOF*- Melon Patch Players**

**Leesburg 1:30pm refreshments, 2:00pm curtain. Contact Peg Murphy for tickets, 323**

**6089 or e-mail- Pegcondor@earthlink.net. Ticket Price- \$15.**

**January 3 Saturday- Christmas Bird Count- Meet at 7:00am Emerald Wood Duck parking lot. Leaders- Peg Urban 326 3868 and Mary Remer 360 1291.**

**January 17 Saturday- Field Trip to Silver River State Park (44 miles from Eustis) Meet**

**at 8:00am at Winn-Dixie parking lot Eustis. Leader- Mary Ellen Cannon 735 2501.**

**January 24 Saturday- Field Trip to Clay Island (6 miles from Mt Dora) Meet at 8:30am at the**

**Golden Triangle parking lot Mt Dora. Leader- Margaret Carlyon 735 2505.**

**January 27 Tuesday- Regular Meeting- 2:00pm *RACING PIGEONS-history and differenes***

***in Breeds*- Dave Bacon, breeder.**

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## **Are you a Bird Feeder?**

**No, but you have one. Then perhaps you may want to sign up for Project Feeder Watch, a program to count birds visiting your feeder in support of the Cornell**

**Laboratory of Ornithology.** This is part of a scientific survey to determine the status of feeder birds.

**If you want to participate call 800 843 2473 or [www.birds.cornell.edu](http://www.birds.cornell.edu). You will receive a kit with instructions, tips, photos and a request to contribute \$15. to defray expenses.**

### **Recycling Computer Ink Cartridges**

**Audubon of Florida has arranged to partner with AAA Environmental to promote re-cycling of ink cartridges from computer printers. There is a display unit at the TLNC meeting room which holds a roll of pre-paid mailers. If you would take one each time your ink cartridge needs replacing, and use it to send the used one to a recycling center where it is re-used, Audubon of Florida receives a small donation for each cartridge sent in.**

### **Message from the President- Jerry Bohmann**

We talked at the last meeting of the need to tell your representatives of your concerns especially about the environment, a basic issue for Audubon. You can do so easily by going to the Audubon website and sign on to the Advocacy Center/Take Action.. Audubon will inform you of key issues at state and federal levels and provide you with pre-written letters to send, to which you can add your own thoughts. And send it, with the click of the mouse. It takes moments, costs nothing and if you do nothing, then please remember the famous words of Edmund Burke! \*\*

**Overnight Trip- February 9-11, 2004-** Join us on this trip which starts on Monday, Feb 9 in Winter Haven. After check-in at the Best Western Admiral's Inn, it is a short walk to Cypress Gardens and the paddle boat Southern Breeze which we will board at about 4:30pm for a dinner cruise on Lake Eloise. On Tuesday morning, after a hot buffet breakfast, we will head to Lake Kissimmee State Park, a great spot for scrub jays, caracaras, bald eagles, turkeys as well as mammals and reptiles. We plan to have a park guide part of the day.

Other birding opportunities on Wednesday include Street Nature Center, Bok Tower Gardens and Peace River Park..

Costs at the motel are \$60. per room per night including breakfasts; the boat including cruise and dinner buffet \$22.per person. We need to have a deposit of just \$50 per person by January 10 latest. checks payable to OVAS . If you have not yet signed up, please contact Elizabeth Ballard 735 2623 or Nancy McAleer, 735 0354. Further information will be provided at our November and January meetings.

### **Wetlands Day- Lake County- November 24**

We should all be concerned about wetlands since they are crucial to how water affects our lives. So that the next generation understands this even more, Wetlands Day will be part of the curriculum of 8,000 elementary school children thanks to Audubon Adventures "Wetlands: Where Water Works" and the Lake County Water Authority. The project is

also sponsored by the Lake County Commission, the St Johns River Water Management District, the Lake County School Board and OVAS..

Mary Anderson, our vice-president for education, is responsible for Audubon's role in the program which will teach the fundamental importance of wetlands for survival of crucial species of flora and fauna. In addition, students will take part in an essay competition on the subject.

A ceremony to initiate the program will take place at 9:00am Nov 24 at the School Board offices in Tavares and all members are invited to be present.

**Deaf and Hearing Services**

Alysse Rasmussen is one of the Audubon members who makes sure that you get a copy of this Limpkin Call and our annual Program, as a key part of our Membership Committee. She is also very busy helping the DHS serving those people who are hearing-impaired. So we would like to announce that that if you are a Florida resident and have difficulty hearing high-pitched voices, gravelly voices or any voices at all, you are entitled to an amplified telephone, at no charge.

DHS is at 420 W.Main St., Leesburg and you can call them, 323 0757 for more information.

They are qualified non-profit organization within United Way.

**Conservation News- Wekiva River Basin**

Keep informed on this key issue by reading the newspapers and contacting your local officials as well as those people who serve on study committees. Some groups, such as the Sierra Club, are in favor of construction of an environmentally designed limited access beltway from Apoka to Seminole County as opposed to an extension of Route 429. As Audubon of Florida states, "an attempt.....to protect the..Wekiva Springs ran into developer interests masquerading as private property rights advocates."

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\*\* "All that's necessary for evil men to triumph is for good men to do nothing."

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**Membership- If you are a National Audubon member, you will receive a renewal notice from them. The fee is \$20 or \$15 for seniors and includes the quarterly magazine.**

**Or you can start or renew an OVAS membership independent of any other Audubon.**

**If you would like to be a local member (all privileges except magazine), please complete the form below and include \$10 for family membership. Please renew this before Dec. 31**

**Send check payable to OVAS**

for  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

**\$10 to- OVAS- Treasurer**

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**P O Box 641**

City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Eustis, Fl 32727-0641**

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_