



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.

VOLUME XXII

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2006

NUMBER 2

COMING EVENTS:

December 9 Saturday 11:30am

This is our Christmas Picnic, held together with Trout Lake and is our only time to be together at the holidays.

The picnic will be indoors at Trout Lake. Please bring enough food to share with others who attend.

Last year we had a very good turn-out and a fine holiday lunch. OVAS and TLNC will provide table decorations, settings and drinks..

December 15 Friday

The annual Christmas Bird Count. This is an important Audubon event held throughout North America each year and we are a key part of it. Can never be too many volunteers for this so please try to make it.

Meet at Wood Duck parking lot at Emerald Marsh at 7:00AM. Leader- Peg Urban 326 3868. Refreshments at the Blue House, Sunnyhill Farm, at conclusion of the count.

January 10 Wednesday

Field Trip to Blue Spring State Park. This is timed to see manatees in their winter resort and includes a two hour boat trip on the St Johns River. Boat capacity is limited, and so sign-up in advance is REQUIRED. Boat fee- \$14. State Park fee- \$5 per vehicle.

Meet at the Golden Triangle parking lot Mt Dora, 8:30am. Leader- Peg Urban 326 3868.

January 16, Tuesday

Regular Meeting- 200:pm. Beautiful Birds, Beautiful Music. This is a photographic event presented by a well-known wildlife and outdoor photographer, based in Florida, Kevin Doxstater. Visit the web-site- www.naturalvisionsphoto.com to have an idea of his work.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to Audubon, and hope that you will join in as active participants at our meetings, field trips and especially as volunteers at our chapter.

Janne Ackerman
Selena Bogiatzidis
David Boyce
Terrence Browning
Helen Carr
Matthew Chesson
Robert Creamer
Joseph Dasher
Lillian Dayett
Virginia Faw
Thomas Ferrill
Alice Horst
Kathi Hunt
Walter Johnson
Mark Magagna
Laura Oakes
George Parker
Carol Prikett
Jody Rehman
Frank Skvarek
Sarah Collup
James Durham
Florence Goethe
Wade King
James Loflin
Joann Nitschke
Helen Pauly
Frances Wollman
George Rivera

CHAPTER WINS EDUCATION AWARD

Thanks to the untiring efforts of our Education Chair, Mary Anderson, our chapter has won the Audubon of Florida award for best education program in 2006. We were selected based on the Audubon Adventures program organized in April for Lake County schools based on the theme The Watery World of Waterbirds. An essay contest was held as part of the program, and the winners of the third, fourth and fifth grades, together with their family members, were awarded a boat trip on Lake Eustis courtesy of Heritage Lake Tours. A columnist of the Orlando Sentinel also wrote an article on the success of this environmental activity. Thanks go to officials of the school board and the county

commission, other members of OVAS, but especially to Mary Anderson who did almost all the hard work as a committee of one!

PHOTOS BY PEG AND PEG

You may remember from last season some great greeting cards produced by Peg Lindsay and Peg Urban and displayed at OVAS meetings. This year there will be opportunities to enjoy their photography again.

At the Christmas Picnic on Saturday, December 9, they will have a selection of cards in time for the holidays. Remember too that 15% of sales are contributed to our chapter.

THE MUSIC MAN

And speaking of Christmas, tickets to this theater benefit will be available in December at the Picnic, so that if you would like to offer tickets as gifts, \$ 20 buys admission as well as pre-performance food and drink offered by OVAS volunteers.

The Music Man date is Saturday, March 24, 2007 at the Melon Patch, Leesburg.

OVERNIGHT TRIP- JANUARY 25-27

This is the first time we have combined this trip to coincide with a birding festival. It will be in Titusville at the 10th Annual Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival which is a five day event, though we spend just two nights. There is a wealth of activities provided by the festival, including field trips, workshops, seminars and speakers. Most of these functions require fee payments varying from \$10 to \$40, while others are free. If you have not signed up yet, there is still time, but not much. We have reserved limited rooms at the Best Western Space Shuttle Inn in Titusville at \$ 69 per room.. When these are sold, space is still available at other convenient hotels. To reserve and pay deposits, contact Peg Lindsay 326 2045 who is the trip leader.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fast Food has been around for some time, but Slow Food, a movement started in Italy to counter factory farming , industrialized agriculture and junk food, is now twenty years old and has been so successful that many people accept that food should be natural instead of processed from a factory farm.

There are no Federal regulations for meat processors, so hormones, antibiotics and pesticides can be used without any control. Not though, if you buy organic products whose farmers are not allowed to use any of the above and still label it organic.

Yes, it costs more to grow food this way, without polluting your body or the earth but you can still save money by cooking from scratch.

The industrial processing of food, packing in plastic, shipping vegetables from New Zealand and water from Europe all contribute to producing yet more carbon emissions and global warming. The inconvenient truth is, in the words of a famous opossum...

“We have met the enemy, and he is us!”

FLORIDA HOMETOWN DEMOCRACY AMENDMENT

A reminder to sign a petition to have this amendment placed on the ballot. We have a supply of petitions at each meeting. If you sign it then, we will pay the postage to mail it. What is it about? It obliges developers to obtain the approval of the voters of a district to proceed instead of the current situation where the mayor, city council or county board of commissioners can grant this, despite the disapproval of the majority of voters. It places the decision making process where it belongs, with you!

CATS AND BIRDS

No one is a more eager bird watcher than your cat! They do it best through the window or the screen. It not only is better for the birds that way, but for your cat. While Audubon is a society whose primary focus is birds, many of us are cat people too. The best way to keep all happy and healthy is for cats to live indoors. Cats living indoors survive at least three times longer than outdoor ones. In Florida, a major killer of roaming cats is coyotes. Birds face enough obstacles in their habitat without adding cats to it. Save lives of both by keeping your cat indoors. Everyone wins that way, except the coyotes!

OFFICERS * DIRECTORS * COMMITTEES

President

Jerry Bohmann 575 Seneca Oaks Cir. Mt Dora, 32757. 735 5922 jerrelk@aol.com

1st- Vice President

Nadine Foley PO Box 88 Umatilla, 32784. 669 2398 diney37@aol.com

2nd-Vice President

Nancy McAleer 6025 Spring Creek Ct. Mt Dora 32757 735 0354 nmcaleer@digital.net

Secretary

Judi Ross 26612 Racquet Cic. Leesburg, 34748 360 1737 katzandus@aol.com

Treasurer

Joyce Wutke 5 Royal Dr Eustis 32726 589 2837 wutke@webtv.net

Directors

Darleen Wilson 142 Pine Ridge Dr Leesburg 34788. 357 0498

Fawn Vocci 34324 Park Lane, Leesburg 34788 360 0507 mj86@aol.com

Linda Bystrak 110 Oakridge Dr. Leesburg 34788 357 2207

lindabystrak@netzero.com

Fran Yokel 313 Pond Road , Mt Dora 32757. 383 0501 BJY313@iag.net

Mary Ellen Shuey 28229 CR 33 Leesburg 34788 360 1778 dhs@aol.com

Committees

Program- Nadine Foley

Annual Dinner- Mary Ellen Shuey

Christmas Bird Count- Peg Urban

Conservation- Open

Education- Open

Field Trips- Peg Lindsay 26805 Racquet Cir Leesburg 32748 326 2045

pegcondor@earthlink.net and Peg Urban 142 Azalea Trl Leesburg 34748 326 3868

Hospitality- Nancy McAleer, Alice Michaels, Mae Onachuk

Membership- Peg Lindsay

Overnight Trip- Peg Lindsay

Publicity- Fran Yokel

Newsletter Editor- Jerry Bohmann

Theater Benefit- Fawn Vocci

Trout Lake Nature Center- Bernie Yokel- President 383 0501

Web-Master- Stan Boothby - 12115 Nest Ct Grand Island 32735. 357 9521

stanb@atlantic.com

Telephone area code is 352 for all .

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

A word of explanation about membership renewal. If you renew with this chapter, the cost per family is \$15 per year and the entire amount supports the chapter. This includes all Audubon benefits except the Magazine. If you wish to renew with National, they will send you a notice of the time due and amount.

Names _____

Address _____

City _____ **St** _____ **Zip** _____

**Make the check to OVAS and
send \$15 Per family to:**

**Peg Lindsay,
Membership Chairman OVAS
P.O. Box 268
Eustis, FL 32727**