



## THE LIMPKIN CALL

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### COMING EVENTS

#### OCTOBER 23 TUESDAY

**Members Meeting- 2:00pm – The Florida Envirothon.** Find out what it is and why we should participate in it. Since it a major program for natural resource education for high school students, nothing could be more appropriate today. Cindy Strickland, a Florida native and well-experienced in Lake County government activities, will present this program. She is currently with the Lake Soil and Water Conservation District.

#### OCTOBER 24 WEDNESDAY

**Field Trip – A cruise on the Oklawaha River,** a major water resource for Central Florida. Two hours on the river with an experienced Captain Erika Olenick \$10. The boat sails from Eureka Landing which is just north of Ocala on the border with the Ocala National Forest, reached via US Route 19 and Marion County Route 316. Meet at Winn-Dixie Eustis parking lot at 8:30am. Leader- Peg Urban 326 3868.

#### NOVEMBER 11 SUNDAY

**Members Meeting- 2:00pm- Birding the Dry Tortugas.** This is quite a trip even from Key West but worth it for avid birders, as well as for scuba divers, snorkelers and history buffs. Peg Lindsay will mostly talk and show photos of birds seen on three trips to these keys.

#### NOVEMBER 13 TUESDAY

**Field Trip- Sawgrass Island Preserve,** a Lake County Water Authority property just north of Eustis on CR 452, passing a scrub jay habitat en route. Free entry. This is a marsh area with hammocks which serves as a water source for Lake Yale. Cranes are a common feature here. Meet at Winn-Dixie parking lot Eustis at 8:30am. Leader- Dennis O'Neil 383 6309

**Wouldn't it be great to have 100 people on the Emeralda levee enjoying the beautiful views, excited by the alligators and other wildlife, and amazed by the numbers of migratory birds**

to be seen. What a wonderful way to let folks know about one of Lake County's natural treasures. Please tell a friend, scout troop, youth group and join us for the -

Third Annual

# Birds & Bicycles

October 27

8:00 AM – 12:00AM

**Wood duck parking area – Emeraldal Marsh**

Trout Lake Nature Center, and Lake County Parks and Trails, and Oklawaha Valley Audubon are planning an activity we are calling, "Birds and Bicycles", at Emeraldal Marsh on **October 27**. Emeraldal Marsh is a St. Johns River Water Management District property purchased to protect and preserve the water of Lake Griffin and the Oklawaha River. We are inviting individuals from the community to **bicycle** or **walk** the driving loop, and if they are feeling extra adventurous the extension which goes out to Lake Griffin. There will be birders and biologists stationed at rest stops on the route to tell you about the natural systems, plants, water and wildlife you are passing. The short loop is about 4 miles of firm but natural surface. Ibini Tera will provide snacks and drinks at the rest areas. Participants may begin between **8:00 and 11:00AM**. All participants must be signed off of the official ride by 12:00 noon.

There is a \$2.00 fee for this activity and registration is requested. Call Trout Lake Nature Center 357-7536 for more information or to reserve a space.

**To reach the Wood Duck parking lot at Emeraldal, travel east of Haines Creek Canal on SR 44, turn north onto Lisbon Rd. When Lisbon Rd T's onto Emeraldal Island Drive turn left. You are now on Emeraldal Island Dr.; it will make a 45 degree turn to the right. Immediately after that turn you will turn left into Wood Duck Parking lot.**

**AUDUBON ASSEMBLY- COCOA BEACH- NOVEMBER 2-3**

This is the annual meeting of Audubon of Florida and is open to all members. The registration fee is \$ 115 up to Oct 2 and \$10 additional after. This includes beachside reception Thursday , Friday lunch and dinner, Saturday lunch, and all workshops and programs. The speaker invited to the Friday reception and banquet dinner, is a favorite among readers everywhere and especially in Florida, the Miami columnist and author, CARL HIAASEN.

The event is held at the Hilton Cocoa Beach and rooms are available at the AofF rate of \$ 119 per night

Register on-line at [www.audubonof florida.org](http://www.audubonof florida.org) or by mail to Aof F, 444 Brickell Ave. #850, Miami, Fl 33131; check or Mastercard/Visa.

### **NEW MEMBERS**

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

Richard Jean	Thomas Stolworthy	Edward G. Ceiga
Betty Kahler	Cliff Little	Robert J. McDole
Fenton Fitzpatrick	Carol Correard	Mildred Atkins
Sandi Hanlon	Gary Fields	Don Tillery
Marjorie Murray	Philip D Campbell	Karen Jones
Giles Paget-Wilkes	Lynn Crane	Dorothy Hummell
Richard Jackson	Leora M. Waybright	Joyce Moroney
Aldo Grecco	Robert E Carr	Claude McGinnis
C. G. Green	Leslie G. Huff	Alice Jones
Margueritte Kraft	F P Silver	Karen Parks
William J. Davidson	Nancy G. Richardson	Sharon Kuester
Murray Tucker Jr	Michael A. Yatsko	Willard Radcliff
Patricia A. Krell	Johnna Jane Jones	Elizabeth Woodhall
Ruthe G. Shoop	John Whisenant	Bell Brin
Julie Arcaro	Myrtle Amott	Helen G. Giegerich
Richard Parkinson	Carol Russell	Seymour Doctor
Bradford J. Willerton	Virginia Bigelow	Dorothy Temain
Marion Johnson	Anita Disisto	Ellis Barns
Kathryn Sheppard	Maryann Chantos	
Rose Marie Fowler	Rudolph Vucic	

## **A TRIP TO PANAMA 2009?**

Clyde “banana man” Stevens is investigating the possibility of leading an OVAS-sponsored field trip to Panama. The event would be 7 to 10 days duration, mid-February 2009.

He’s also checking the possibility of hiring a nationally-renowned Panamanian birding guide for 1 to 3 days of the event, for those of us who are dedicated birders. The rest of the group would perhaps visit museums or go shopping.

He guesstimates the total cost would be under \$2000 per person. The trip would be limited to 20 people and we anticipate a long waiting list, so put your names on the list early. To apply, you must be physically fit, a non-whiner/non-complainer and be willing to eat Panamanian food.

If you want to go, e-mail Peg Lindsay at [pegcondor@embarqmail.com](mailto:pegcondor@embarqmail.com) and get your shots and your passport up-to-date.

### **FIELD TRIP REPORT- LONGWOOD BIG TREE PARK & ORANGE REGIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM April, 2007**

Big Tree Park has the oldest and largest bald cypress tree in the US. The tree is 3,500 years old! The sister tree is only 2,000 years old! They were both pretty big around, but short, due to numerous hurricanes, tornados and lightning strikes during their lives. And “short” is a relative term. They were still pretty tall. The trees are in a lovely little park surrounded by tall pines and other trees, with a short boardwalk through the woods to the trees. Songbirds were calling in the woods. We all had a picnic lunch in the pavilion.

From there we drove into Orlando. At the History Museum, we learned about the Native Americans who were the first humans in Florida, the early white settlers, slavery in Florida, and the interactions among all the groups. Not a history to be proud of.

I kind of breezed through the “air and space” wings of the museum – had seen that before and wasn’t very much interested to see it again. One whole floor was devoted to a Civil War exhibit, and it was exceptionally well done. They presented all the political, economic and personal reasons why the war began. Who tried to make compromises to prevent the war, how the politics evolved, the slavery issues, stories about the lives of women and children left behind: black, white, north and south. I had to leave when my head got too full.

The Museum is an exceptional resource for the region. I recommend everyone to visit.

It was a long drive, but we had a carpool of friends, and that was fun, too, talking while we drove there and back.

Peg Lindsay

### **FLORIDA HOMETOWN DEMOCRACY AMENDMENT**

There is still time and certainly a need, to sign this a petition to put this on the 2008 ballot. To remind you of the purpose, It obliges developers to obtain the approval of voters to proceed instead of the current situation where elected officials, who often represent developers and not you, can grant permission to build even in the face of the disapproval of the majority of voters. There are numerous examples of this in the county. It places the decision making process where it belongs.... With you!

AND this petition has the developers so frightened, they have created a lobby to try to cancel out this amendment. So you know that it is in your interest to see it passed!

Copies are available at our meetings; if you are a registered voter, please sign and we will mail.

### **OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

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### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

I would like to begin this season with a message of thanks. Thanks to all those members who contributed not just financially, but especially with their time. There are a few dedicated members who serve on the board of directors and give the chapter at least two hours of their time nine times a year! Thanks to the members who organize field trips and give their time to lead them; last year we had eleven, including the overnight trip which is a major project to manage. Thanks to those who locate and convince key people in the conservation field, to come to our meetings and speak.

I wish I had even more members to thank because the ones mentioned anonymously above are just a very few. Our latest list of members shows just short of 600. I would like to ask just ten of you to come forward and volunteer your time a few hours a month and help us make this chapter function. Without additional volunteer effort we will be unable to continue.

### **ABOUT AMAZON**

Please remember when you buy from Amazon, that your chapter is an associate of Amazon. We earn a percentage of their sales to you but only if you buy through our web-site, [www.oklawaha-audubon.org](http://www.oklawaha-audubon.org), where you see the Amazon logo on the home page and you simply click it. If you already buy from them directly, this is no problem if you go through our web-site; the same customer information they have stored comes through without change. Please ask your family and friends to use this method too as it generates modest but needed income for OVAS.

