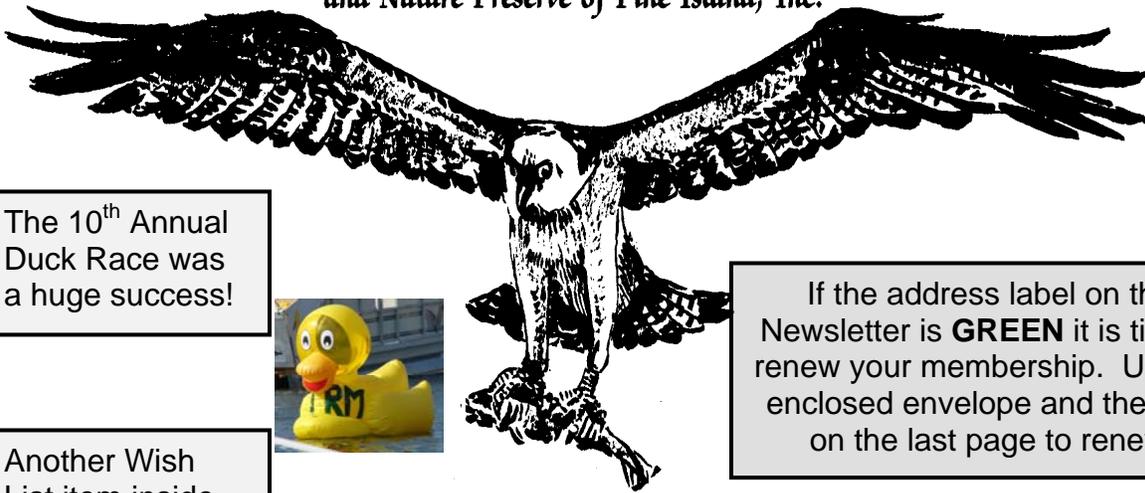


# Calusa Land Trust

and Nature Preserve of Pine Island, Inc.



The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Duck Race was a huge success!

Another Wish List item inside.

If the address label on this Newsletter is **GREEN** it is time to renew your membership. Use the enclosed envelope and the form on the last page to renew.

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## Newsletter #58

Founded 1976

## April 2008

[www.calusalandtrust.org](http://www.calusalandtrust.org)

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### Fund Raising

by Ron Wesorick (283.7249)

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual Rubber Duck Race was held at Woody's Waterside pub on March 8<sup>th</sup>. This year's race was dedicated to the late Norm Gowan, "Big Duck", to commemorate all of his hard work and dedication to this event and to the Calusa Land Trust.

The weather was breezy, but the sun finally came out and hundreds of people congregated at Woody's for a day of fun. The day started out with a marine yard sale in the morning, was followed by music, games, raffles, auctions, great food, and finished up with the big rubber duck race.

At 3:30pm, 2,500 numbered ducks were released onto the water and raced to the finish line aided by a good strong wind. Leading the 2500 racing ducks was a large "Big Duck" with the name "Norm" prominently printed on him. Cheering was intense as the "Big Duck" led the racers down the canal to finish line

where the speedy winners were plucked from the water.

This year's race was the most successful ever raising \$19,800 for the Calusa Land Trust.



### Corporate Gift Matching Programs

Many larger corporations have programs where they will match employee donations to eligible charities. The Calusa Land Trust qualifies for these matching contributions. If you are an employee or retiree of one of these corporations, remember to follow up and ask for the matching gifts for your recent and future donations. This is a great way to augment your charity and make a significant impact on CLT funds.

Although we are not experts, contact Ron Wesorick or Phil Rosenberg if you would like more details.

## President's Message

by Harold Bruner (464.2436)

### New Trends in Fertilizer Usage

Water quality problems are one of the top environmental issues for Pine Island and all of Southwest Florida. Red drift algae piling up on gulf beaches, fish kills from red tide, and the pollutants flowing from the Caloosahatchee River as a result of Lake Okeechobee discharges are of great concern. More people and more development mean increased fertilizer usage. Nutrient runoff from excessive or improperly applied fertilizers results in excess nutrient loads in coastal waters. This can cause a host of water quality problems including algae blooms.

Lee County is considering a fertilizer ordinance. Sanibel actually adopted an ordinance in March 2007. Some of the highlights of that ordinance are:

- Total nitrogen content can not exceed 20%
- At least 50% of the nitrogen content must be in a slow release form
- No more than 1 pound of actual nitrogen per 1000 sq ft per application
- No more than 4 pounds of actual nitrogen per 1000 sq ft per year
- Total phosphorous content can not exceed 2%

Please consider adopting these guidelines if you fertilize or if you hire a lawn service.



## Membership

by Phil Rosenberg (283.3871)

We have finally jumped over the 500 hurdle in paid up memberships. 506 members are current in their dues. There are 411 members who have not made a contribution to the Land Trust in more than a year. If your address label is "GREEN" it is time to consider renewing your membership. An envelope is included and the back page of the Newsletter is a renewal form.

Remember that besides contributing money, all members are welcome to contribute time and energy to the Land Trust. We have work parties at our many preserves and fund raising events all year round. We appreciate help on any of these activities.



by Ed Chapin (392.0090)  
Chief Calusa Land Trust Ranger  
and Gracie, the Ghost Writing Gopher Tortoise

**F**irst a big **THANK YOU** to all the volunteers. The Calusa Land Trust is still an *all volunteer organization* with no paid staff! So we need your help if we are going to continue this important work of conserving the lands of Pine Island. We very much appreciate all your enthusiasm, your commitment to conservation, your hard work and generous financial support.

**Restoration work at the recently acquired "Norm Gowan" Trailhead**

**Vista in the St. James Creek Preserve in St. James City: Phase One** of the massive undertaking of invasive exotic vegetation removal and native habitat restoration of this property has just been completed. As described in an earlier newsletter, Rob Egan of Habitat Restoration Resources Inc. did a great job of removing the huge Australian Pines and other invasive exotics from this property using environmentally sensitive equipment and techniques. We are planning **Phase Two** of the restoration and shaking the bushes for the necessary funding. In the future we are hoping to install an information kiosk, add trails, restore the native hydrology by filling in the old mosquito ditches, eradicate the remaining invasive exotics and hopefully create a canoe/kayak launch along the St. Jude trail. Stay tuned for details. With the beginning of **Phase Two**, we are fortunate to have the St. Jude Homeowners Association (SJHA) stepping up to the plate to “sponsor” and co-manage the St. James Creek Preserve. The SJHA has been very supportive financially as well as with their time and labor in offering stewardship of the St. James Creek Preserve as a neighborhood, as well as an Island-wide resource. We look forward to a good working relationship with the SJHA and hope this will serve as a model for other individuals and/or groups to also step up to the plate and “sponsor” a preserve or trail. Come on – you know you want to! Imagine how much satisfaction there would be in sponsoring a preserve.

**Baxley Preserve Fence Project:** The Baxley Preserve is a wonderful but not well known CLT Preserve located south of Pine Island Center, next to Pine Island Creek at the north end of Redwood St. We have had ongoing

problems at Baxley with ATV’s and 4 wheel drive trucks. These problems have been resolved with substantial, permanent fencing recently installed around the perimeter of the Preserve. A big thank you goes out to A.J. Watson, Surveyor and his crew; Jeff Rogers of Rustic Fence Services and to our dedicated volunteers who worked hard to complete this important project. Now that we can protect the property, Baxley will become a terrific little Preserve as it is restored to healthy, native habitat. Watch for it to become a jewel of a destination.

**Calusa Island:** The Bokeelia Boat Club, (BBC) a “sponsor” of Calusa Island, continues to help us clean up and improve our flagship Calusa Island Preserve. On recent work outings, the BBC have been burning the never-ending remains of Hurricane Charley debris, trimming trails, and rounding up and removing old scrap metal and abandoned motors. The BBC plans on rehabbing and painting the old island work shed and picnic tables in the near future. We appreciate their time, effort and enthusiasm, especially when they come dressed in pirate costumes! Actually it doesn’t take much for most Bokeelians to look like pirates -that’s a compliment!

## RANGER REPORT

March 1<sup>st</sup> - We went out to our **York Island, Coconut and Long Cut Preserves** in St. James City. The Calusa Land Trust co-manages these Preserves with the Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF). We had maybe ten enthusiastic volunteers show up for this work party in an amusing range of watercraft from kayaks to sailboats. Part of the group went out to Coconut and Long Cut, picked up some trash and checked up

on our last effort at invasive exotic removal. Our efforts appear to have worked well - no re-emergence where we had worked before. The majority of the volunteers went out to York Island which we had not worked on for at least two years. York was challenging as the dense growth on the Island had wiped out the trails. But after several hours of hard work we managed to get around and cleaned up 8 bags of garbage, not too bad considering how long it's been since we worked this site. We monitored invasive exotic plants on York and re-emergence also seemed under control here. We could do some work along the coastal ridge trail in the future. It was an enjoyable work day. The weather was beautiful and everyone had fun. **That's why we call 'em work parties...!**

**April 5<sup>th</sup>** - We worked on our **Kreie Preserve and the Peter Ordway Tropical Hammock and canoe trail** in Bokeelia. We had eleven volunteers who braved high winds and a cranky, incoming tide to work on the Kreie Preserve spoil island at the end of the Lobeau canals, removing invasive exotics and burning slash wood. The other part of the crew went out and worked on opening up the old, legendary "Post Office Cut" canoe trail, still blocked with trees brought down by Hurricane Charley. Not an easy task. We worked hard for several hours, and managed to open up about 300' of the hardest part of this canoe trail. Our work will continue. It is an interesting part of the island. Not too well known, secluded and beautiful.

Just watch out for the "creature" rumored to hang out in the old Post Office Cut.

## **Acquisition News** by Harold Bruner (464.2436)

### Conservation 20/20 Sets New Priorities

**M**y how times have changed! Three years ago the Lee County Conservation 20/20 program could hardly find anything to buy. As a willing-seller-only program it relied on nominations as a source of properties to consider. The demand for all kinds of real estate was still red hot and buyers outnumbered sellers. The due diligence required for purchases by the county meant that closings could take a few months to complete. With plenty of cash buyers ready to close quickly, the program was often unable to compete for prime properties. Then the real estate market changed direction.

The downturn is now in its third year. Sellers far outnumber buyers. Real estate developers have plenty of inventory. Individual investors are skittish. Loans are tougher to get. Suddenly the county finds itself as one of the few cash buyers of real estate. Willing sellers to 20/20 are everywhere, and there is a flood of nominations for county staff to review.

The recent approach by the committees that review nominations has been to establish new priorities. There are some unique situations in other parts of Lee County, but here is what now receives the most serious consideration on Pine Island:

- Larger tracts of 40 acres or more
- Properties that are contiguous to land that is already preserved
- Lands that are adjacent to any of the open waters that surround Pine Island

The CLT reviews all Pine Island nominations. We can give a nomination an extra boost by offering matching funds and/or co-management. But without meeting these new criteria a property is likely to be passed over. If you would like to discuss how your property might fare as a 20/20 nomination please give me a call.

## MEMORIALS

Few tributes are so lasting as a memorial gift that helps preserve our Island's heritage for future generations. We, in the Land Trust, are privileged to carry on our work in the memory of individuals so honored. Memorials may consist of cash donations in the name of a departed loved one, a memorial carving on the St. Jude Trail in a rail or bench or even a memorial planting of a tree in one of our preserves.

Arlo Abraham	Arthur Cohen *	Kenneth Grudzien *
Edward J. Abramwoske	John B. Cook *	Alfred Woodhull Guibord *
Hildegard Abramowske	Jerry Cotterill *	Kate Guthrie *
Martin Adamaszek *	Ben Counselman *	Betty Gutowski *
W.E. Adams	Sylvia & William Cyzewski Sr	Richard J. Haberle Sr. *
Johan C. F. Andersen *	Harriet M. Crammatte *	Robert Hallen *
Josephine Anderson *	George Darnell	Ash Hallett *
Melvin Atkin *	Doyle Davison *	Joe Hanson *
Arthur L. Augenstein *	Jon Davison *	Bill Harmon *
Vesta Bailey *	Nellwyn de Funiak *	Paul J. Haar *
William Webb Baker *	Louis Del Signore *	Steven Patrick Hart *
"Tootsie" Barnes *	Woodie Dillon *	Lois Havener *
John David Bawcom	Louis Dupré	Grace Heatherington
Ralph & Ruby Beabout *	George M. Elliott *	Raymond W. Heidorn *
Larry Behrens *	Ruth Elliott *	Pamela Marie Heimann *
James G. Beriault	Dorothy R. English *	Charles J. Heimann II *
Lyall Beving *	W.L. English Sr. *	Mike Herbert *
Frank Bopp	C. Frank Estelle *	R.E. "Pap-Pap" Hohing *
Marge Borton *	Dr. Ambrose C. Estes *	Frank Holfelner Jr.
Barbara Bosley *	"Hap" Everdell *	Jo Holmes *
Marguerite Irene Bostrom	Linwood T. Ford III *	Verda Holmes *
Betty B. Bouwes *	Linwood T. Ford IV *	Bennie R. Hook *
Ralph Brimacombe *	Margaret Foster	Wyatt Hooks *
Don Burr *	Michael David Fox	Minnie & A.B. Hoover *
Margaret L. Burman *	Bernice Francavilla *	Earl Hord *
Richard R. & Ruth Callahan *	Phil Freeman *	Allen Houglund *
George Campbell	Carl H. Frost *	Jack Houis *
Jack Campbell	Lucille Frost *	Ken Houpt *
John M Campbell *	Frederick O. "Pop" Gabriel *	Wayne "Bud" House
Ruth B. Campbell	Jack C. Gaddy *	Robert Howell *
Rev. Cam & Helen	Rob Gannon *	Earl R. Hunchberger *
Carmichel *	Joyce Gasow *	Grace Hunchberger **
"Hanni" Carver *	Jack Gates *	E.S. (Red) Ingram *
Terez "Terri" Carver *	Carolyn George *	Lezlee Jean Ingram *
Arnold S. Celmalnieks *	Nancy Gilmore	Dotty Jennings *
Antonette Cerny *	Loren "POP" Gowan *	Hinda & J.B. Johnson *
Tony Cerny *	Marie Gowan *	Belmont Kappmeyer *
Ray Cherry *	Norman Gowan	Rudy Kara *
Alice M. Clark	Anne Grace *	Walt Karkut *
C. F. "Chuck" Clark *	Robert "Bob" Griest *	Walter R. Kaune *
Jack Clyburn	Dr. Carl W. Grosspietsch	Janette King *

Jack Kirmer \*  
 Therese Kirmer \*  
 Jim Kiser \*  
 Fredda Lashley \*  
 George Lassanske  
 Edward J. & Amanda Lever  
 George Lever  
 Franklyn C. Lippmann  
 Roy F. Lippmann, Sr. \*  
 Russell Little \*  
 Hector Magnuson \*  
 Doug Mac Elroy \*  
 Neil & Ruthie MacIntyre \*  
 James W. Mahaffey \*  
 Dorothy M. Maloney \*  
 Earl J. Maloney, Sr. \*  
 Lyle Patrick Maloy \*  
 Lewis W. McAllister \*  
 Marie Maraviglia \*  
 Gertrude C. Martin \*  
 Stella Martin \*  
 Jamie Martucci \*  
 Joanne Dutcher Maxwell \*  
 Ethel McDonough \*  
 M. Kathleen Mellon \*  
 Donald Meng \*  
 Helene Mierendorf  
 Edwin Mierendorf  
 Michael L. Miller \*  
 Robert H. Miller \*  
 John Moran  
 Thelma Mufich \*  
 Robert Musgrave  
 Donald N. Muske \*  
 Jim Neer \*  
 Arthur & Ida Newberg  
 Edward Newton  
 Frank Nine \*  
 Marjorie Pray Nubel \*  
 Mildred V. O'Brien \*  
 Mary (Lever) O'Connell  
 John O'Connell  
 Paul Olding \*  
 Peter Ordway \*\*  
 Earl Ott \*  
 Richard Palmtag  
 Gertrud Palmtag  
 Sally Parisi \*  
 Jane F. Pate \*  
 C. Bertrem Pate \*  
 Fred Patterson \*

Anthony Pecora  
 Mary Grace Peloso \*  
 James Pence  
 Emily Perkins \*\*  
 Charlie Perry \*  
 Charles & Anna Perry \*  
 Donald R. Peterson \*  
 Mabel Phillipson \*  
 Barbara Plourde \*  
 Frank Polaski \*  
 Pete Polverari \*  
 Roscoe Query \*  
 Jean Rafferty \*  
 Yolanda Mae Reppa \*  
 John F. Reynolds Jr.  
 Jacob Henry Riehm  
 Stanley Rozycki IV \*  
 Gertie Rudd \*  
 Doc Salisbury  
 Mr & Mrs Sherwood Sampier \*  
 Reese Sarda \*  
 Larry & Nancy Savage \*  
 Betty M. Schlosser \*  
 Chevy Schutz \*  
 Dorothy Seeling  
 Murray & Edith Seyler \*  
 Phil Shaw \*  
 Susanne Shaw \*  
 William Sherwood  
 Dan Shockley \*  
 Carl H. Shupert \*  
 Ronald L. Shupert \*  
 William Sloane  
 George W. Smith  
 Walter & "Rusty" Smith  
 Agnes Jane Snyder  
 Mike Sofranko  
 Michael Sofranko Sr. \*  
 Eugene Spatz \*  
 Todd Jeffrey "TJ" Speckman \*  
 Ed Stegman \*  
 Florence Stark  
 Ed Stegman \*  
 David A. Stevig \*  
 Raymond W. Stober \*  
 Francis Sullivan  
 Barry Swanson \*  
 Don Szuminski \*  
 Frank Taugner, Sr. \*  
 Kay Taugner \*  
 Sharon Taugner

Gordon Teter \*  
 Dave Thomas \*  
 Jim Thomas \*  
 Minnie Lee Thompson  
 Robert Tutza \*  
 Glenn P. Twigg \*  
 Doris C. Twigg \*  
 Dan Tynan \*  
 Joseph Venesky \*  
 Mary Venesky \*  
 Leonore M. Vondervor \*  
 Patricia Ann "Pat" Waite \*  
 William Walsh \*  
 Hazel Ward \*  
 Harriet L. Watson \*  
 William Webster \*  
 Wayne Weeks \*  
 Dorothy Welch  
 Elizabeth Whalen  
 Bert & Mildred Wildman \*  
 Edith Williams \*  
 "Fishin" Bud Williams \*  
 Richard Williams \*  
 George Williams \*  
 Joseph E. Williams  
 Bernard Willoughby \*  
 Margaret L. Wilson, M.D.  
 Walt Woodhead \*  
 Bruno & Theresa \*  
 "Grandma Dot" \*  
 AUNT EBBIE \*

\* Indicates name on the  
 St. Jude Trail Memorial  
 Observation Deck or  
 Memorial Bench or in  
 Fritts Park Memorial.



## The Wish List

by Harold Bruner (464.2436)

**S**econd Fritts Park Shed Needed: We have one shed at Fritts Park that is currently used for the storage of equipment, herbicides and similar items. Because of additional storage needs we have been renting a second storage unit at a cost of \$80 per month. It is used for the storage of clothing items we sell and other things that can not be put in the Fritts Park shed. A second shed at Fritts Park would allow us to store those items there and save the monthly storage fee. We've tried to get places like Lowes and Home Depot to donate a shed, but to no avail.

Does someone have a shed in fairly good condition they don't need that could be moved? Or, is someone willing to donate the funds (or half the funds) to purchase a shed? The estimated cost for the size we need is about \$1,200. We try to use the funds that we have as much as possible for the acquisition of new land and the maintenance of existing preserves. Thanks for any help you can give!

## Merchandise Committee

by Gloria Andrews (888.301.5020)

**A**s we come to the close of a great "season" of merchandise sales, I have to thank all the members and supporters of the CLT for their support in buying our products. You have made it the best year ever! If it wasn't for all the volunteers that help sell, inventory and prepare items for sale every single week, this fete could not have been accomplished. A wholehearted **THANK YOU** to all of you that put in many volunteer hours to make this the best year yet!

The "Fuzzy Mango" clothesline will continue at least another year as they are very popular items. They can be seen again in December, with new designs, at which time the "House Parties" will start up & run thru the end of March 2009.

If you are looking for a Calusa Land Trust Tee shirt this summer, you will be able to find the Calusa Canal Tee shirt at the Randell Research Center gift shop in Pineland. We have a good working relationship and mutual interest in archaeological sites.

Wishing everyone, North & South, a great summer from the Merchandise Committee! See you in the Fall.

### Work Party Schedule - 2008

June 7<sup>th</sup> - Big Jim Creek Preserve

July 5<sup>th</sup> - Planting at the Trailhead Vista - St James Creek Preserve

August - Vacation

Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> - Picnic Island, Back Bay, and Sister Keys Preserves

Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> - Pine Island Flatwoods Preserve

Nov. 1st - Dean Easment, Redux

Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> - Cayo Pelau 20/20

Send an E-Mail to [ecalusaed@aol.com](mailto:ecalusaed@aol.com) and ask to be added to the work party notification list.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ 15 Individual Member      \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Contributor  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 25 Family Member        \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 Patron  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 50 Donor                    \_\_\_\_\_ \$1000 Benefactor  
  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 50 Plunk-a-Plank  
 (fill in lettering) \_\_\_\_\_

**CREDIT CARD #:**                      **Visa or MasterCard only**

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**EXPIRES:** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_                      Alt Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Second Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Second City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

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**Calusa Land Trust & Nature Preserve  
 of Pine Island, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 216  
 Bokeelia, Florida 33922**

