



# White Bird

August 21, 2002

Volume 26, Issue 2

## **SEPTEMBER 19 MEMBERSHIP MEETING - 7 pm social/7:30 meeting "GROWTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT"**

Elliot Kampert is currently the Planning Services Manager for Charlotte County. A position he has held by various titles since 1998. He began his career in Charlotte County as the Environmental Planner in 1989. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Forest Resources and Conservation with a specialization in Wildlife Ecology and Management from the University of Florida. Elliot has been involved in the State's acquisition of thousands of acres of environmentally sensitive lands in Charlotte County including the Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods and Cape Haze/Charlotte Harbor and Myakka Estuary Projects. Elliot is the creator of the Charlotte County Environmental Lands Acquisition Advisory Council (ELAAC) and was involved in ELAAC acquisition of the Tippecanoe Scrub and Amberjack Slough Projects. Though not an ELAAC Project, the County is pursuing the acquisition of 214 acres known as the Tippecanoe Scrub Phase II FCT project. In his current capacity, Elliot oversees all of the County's planning, zoning and

### **PRAS PHOSPHATE MINING POSITION . . . FOR YOUR APPROVAL AT THE SEPTEMBER 19 MEETING**

The Board of Directors of the Peace River Audubon Society feels that our Chapter should go on record as being opposed to any further large-scale strip mining in Florida. The most obvious example of large-scale strip mining is phosphate mining. At the September 19<sup>th</sup> membership meeting, we all will vote on whether the Chapter should take this position.

#### **Background:**

The Board feels strip mining is not good for plants, animals, land, and water resources in Florida. As advocates of environmental protection, we must condemn any practice that does the following:

1. Begins by eliminating all plants and animals on tens of thousands of acres.
2. Removes 40 feet or more of earth, and after extracting the ore, replaces much of it with clay settling ponds and deposits of sand tailings. This causes two things to happen:
  - A. The natural hydrology of the area is forever altered; and,
  - B. With the change in soil composition and hydrology, the original plant and animal communities cannot survive.
3. Reduces the flow of the Peace River, impacting our Charlotte Harbor Estuary, because of:
  - A. Withdrawals from rivers and the aquifer for mining operations,
  - B. Reduction in surface and base flows due to hydrology changes, and
  - C. Less flow from springs because of less aquifer recharge.
4. Jeopardizes the quality of our drinking water due to the likelihood of spills.

## **BIRDING WALKS (a repeated appeal):**

Birding walks will be scheduled the third Saturday of each month according to Gene Christensen and Dave Mathewson. Tentatively the schedule looks like this—**volunteers are needed** to lead any of these dates and they may choose the destination(s):

◇ September (?)	?
◇ October 19	Possibly lead by Dave
◇ November 16	Manatee State Park
◇ December 14	Christmas Bird Count - Cathy Olson, chair
◇ January (?)	Whooping cranes - Gene
◇ February (?)	East Coast or Shark River Valley
◇ March (?)	St Pete
◇ April 5	Birdathon - George Marks, chair
◇ May (?)	?

To pick your date(s), please call now:

Gene 575-4170  
Dave 629-6376

This schedule will be discussed at the September 19 membership meeting to add any new destinations and/or dates; of course, you may contact Gene or Dave before that! If you would like your "pick" though, call one of the coordinators now, or take your chances at the meeting.

- WHAT YOUR BOARD'S BEEN DOING.....**
- ⇒ Received a letter from Al Cheatham from CHEC thanking PRAS for the money which will assure funding for CHEC's 1-day environmental education program for 4<sup>th</sup> graders
  - ⇒ PRAS Annual Report (for NAS, i.e., National Audubon Society), including Financials, is near completion
  - ⇒ PRAS Annual Chapter Plan 2002-2003 (for NAS) is near completion
  - ⇒ PRAS Budget for July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003 approval
  - ⇒ Letter to County Commissioners re Manatee Protection
  - ⇒ Plans to have a garage sale on Jan 11 for scrub jay habitation preservation
  - ⇒ Request to NAS to assist in expanding our membership
  - ⇒ SWF Regional Meeting on Aug 17 (9-3)- call Larry Linn 637-8160 if interested in attending
  - ⇒ Calusa Regional Meeting on Aug 24 (9-12) - call George Marks 255-3318 if interested in attending
  - ⇒ Phosphate position paper was discussed and will be written for membership approval on 9/19
  - ⇒ A letter was sent to the Charlotte County Commissioners re Charlotte County Growth Initiatives

## **YOUR 2002-3 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS ARE...**

<b>OFFICERS:</b>	
<b>President</b>	Cathy Olson 613-6753
<b>Vice President</b>	Kathi Rader-Gibson 474-3065
<b>Secretary</b>	Peggy Kampert 235-3160
<b>Treasurer</b>	Larry Linn

<b>DIRECTORS:</b>	(941)
John Aspiolea	575-7788
Betty Coombs	639-4961
Chuck Froman	743-5204
Joan Froman	743-5204
Dennis Hungerford	627-5405
Peggy Kampert	235-3160

<b>COMMITTEE CHAIRS:</b>	
Archivist	Dennis Hungerford
Audubon Pennington Park	Roger
Blackmore	
Back yard Bird Count	TBA
Birdathon	George Marks
CHEC Representative	Cathy Olson
Christmas Bird Count	Cathy Olson
Columbus McLeod	George Marks
Conservation Calusa	George Marks
Conservation SWF	John Aspiolea
	Larry Linn
	Peggy Kampert
	Kathi Rader-
Education	

<b>Committee Chairs (contd):</b>	
ELAAC rep	John Aspiolea
Field Trips	Gene Christensen
	Dave Mathewson
Finance	George Marks
Hospitality	Cyndi Marks
Membership	Betty Coombs
Nature Festival	Cathy Olson
Programs	Peggy Kampert
Publicity	Joy Linn
Silent Auction	Kathi Rader-
Gibson	
Web Master	Bill Coombs
White Bird Editor	Joy Linn

## **SAVE THESE DATES: AUDUBON ASSEMBLY: OCT 24-27**

Plan to join hundreds of Audubon members, volunteers, leaders, allies, scientists, community leaders, conservationists and fellow birders for Florida's largest conference designed to connect our communities and nature. Connect with nature yourself on our myriad field trips in addition to an array of interactive workshops, and plenary sessions. Hear renowned speakers emphasize the importance of Florida's water and Audubon's mission of connecting our communities with nature.

The Audubon Assembly is an annual Audubon event that finalizes a year long process of setting Audubon of Florida's Conservation Priorities. Using suggestions from 43 chapters, the Assembly is a forum to learn, discuss, and set conservation priorities that represent environmental issues of statewide and regional significance.

Audubon of Florida's 2002 priority conservation list is the product of our chapters, staff and Board working together to define ecosystem and watershed issues. These priorities provide an outline for mobilizing Audubon's members, volunteers and allies for legislative and local conservation work. They will help set Florida's conservation agenda for years to come.

Speakers, workshops, field trips, etc. have not been listed as of now.

### **REGISTER**

Early Registration Price will be \$95

After September 9, late registration fee is \$125

### **LOCATION - Orlando Airport Marriott**

\$99 per night, single or double. Mention you are with Audubon of Florida to get this rate.

Reservations: (407) 851-9000 or 1-800-766-6752.

**Registration form** - PDF format :: Download, Print out, fill out, and mail (with check, money order, or credit card info) to:

**Audubon of Florida**  
**Atten: Assembly Registration**  
**444 Brickell Ave., Suite 850**  
**Miami, FL 33131**

Or FAX to (305)371-6398



**SOMETHING YOU MIGHT LIKE TO KNOW:**  
**YOU (AND ANY ONE ELSE) MAY DONATE TO**  
**PRAS AT ANY TIME YOU WISH...**  
**AND THIS INFO APPLIES ----- >>**

The following information must now appear on all solicitation requests:  
"The Peace River Audubon Society is a 501 ( c )(3) non-profit organization. Our Federal tax ID number is 59-2190872. We do not engage a professional solicitor and 100% of the funds generated by this request will be used to support our Chapter programs. Our registration number with the FDA Division of Consumer Services is SC-040701. "

### ***Condolences to Ruth Pulfrey Family:***

Ruth Anna Pulfrey passed away on August 2 in Punta Gorda...she was a special lady whose biography included:

Teaching—kindergarten, Univ. of MD (elementary & intermediate education), and Edison CC(parliamentary procedure);

"Who's Who in American Education" 1966;

Engineering blueprint drafting and inspector of WWII Warhawk P-40 Fighter planes;

President of **Peace River Audubon**, Charlotte Co Genealogical Society (she did extensive genealogical research and documentation of ancestors inc. 7 Revolutionary soldiers, Pilgrims such as John Alden, royalty and more), Charlotte Co Chapter of Parliamentarians, and others;

Community service including Charlotte Regional Medical Center and 4-H;

Extensive traveler, boat skipper, airplane pilot, and more.

**Ruth will be missed by many!**

